



10 Years of NITI Aayog

On **1st January 2025**, [NITI Aayog \(National Institution for Transforming India\)](#) completed a **decade** since its establishment on **1st January 2015**, replacing the [Planning Commission](#) to align with the requirements of a dynamic, market-driven economy.

- **NITI Aayog** is an **advisory body** created through a resolution of the union cabinet (i.e. **neither constitutional nor statutory body**).

Key Achievements & Contribution:

- Shifted focus from **financial allocation to policy advisory**, promoting decentralized governance.
- **Strengthened competitive and cooperative federalism** through data-driven indices like the [SDG India Index](#) and [Composite Water Management Index](#).
- Assisted states in establishing [State Institutions of Transformation \(SITs\)](#) to improve governance and policy implementation.
- [Aspirational Blocks Programme \(2023\)](#) focused on 500 underdeveloped blocks to achieve 100% coverage of key government schemes.
- [Atal Innovation Mission \(AIM\)](#) trained over one crore students through initiatives like **Atal Tinkering Labs** and **incubation centres** to promote innovation and **entrepreneurship** and expanded innovation ecosystems to regional languages and focuses on **tribal and hilly areas**.
- Conceptualized initiatives like [e-Mobility](#), [Green Hydrogen](#), and the [Production-Linked Incentive \(PLI\) Scheme](#).

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NITI Aayog

(National Institution for Transforming India)

HISTORY- PLANNING COMMISSION

Set up in **1950**
to direct investment
activity

Replaced by **NITI
Aayog** on January
1, 2015

Composition of #NITLaayog

Chairperson

Prime Minister

Governing Council

CMs (States) and Lt Governors (UTs)

Regional Councils

Formed on need-basis, comprising CMs
and Lt Govs of the region

Members

Full-time basis

Part-time Members

Max 2, rotational, from relevant institutions

Ex-officio Members

Max 4 from Council of Ministers,
nominated by PM

Special Inviters

Experts, specialists, practitioners with
domain knowledge

Chief Executive Officer

Appointed by PM for fixed tenure
(Secy rank)

Secretariat

As deemed necessary

OBJECTIVES

- ↳ Foster **cooperative federalism**
- ↳ Develop mechanisms to **formulate credible plans (village level)**
- ↳ Interests of **national security** in economic strategy and policy
- ↳ Special **attention to weaker sections**
- ↳ Provide advice and encouragement to partnerships between **key stakeholders, national-international Think Tanks, research institutions**
- ↳ Create **knowledge, innovation and entrepreneurial support system**
- ↳ **Platform for inter-sectoral and inter-departmental issues resolution**
- ↳ Maintain **state-of-the-art Resource Centre**

NITI Aayog vs Planning Commission

NITI Aayog	Planning Commission
Advisory Think Tank	Extra-constitutional body
Wider expertise	Limited expertise
Secretaries (CEO) appointed by PM	Secretaries appointed by usual process
Bottom-up approach	Top-Down approach
No Mandate to impose policies	Imposed policies on states
No power to allocate funds	Allocated funds to ministries/state govts

Major Initiatives

- ↳ SDG India Index
- ↳ Atal Innovation Mission
- ↳ e-AMRIT Portal (electric vehicles)
- ↳ Good Governance Index
- ↳ India Innovation Index
- ↳ Aspirational District Programme
- ↳ 'Methanol Economy' programme

Issues

- ↳ **No powers** in granting **discretionary funds** to states
- ↳ Only an **advisory body**
- ↳ **No role in influencing private or public investment**
- ↳ **Politicisation of the organisation**
- ↳ **Lacks the requisite power** to bring positive change



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