



Role of Developing Countries in Global Climate Governance



INTERNSHIP REPORT BY

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Executive Summary

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This report, which has been guided under the aegis of RIAF (Research Innovation and Analysis Foundation) analyses the emerging role that developing countries play in the field of global climate governance. This report will examine the intersections and impacts of how developing countries have engaged with the international community, and more specifically with international climate meetings, expectations, and commitments such as the UNFCCC (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change), the Kyoto Protocol, and the Paris Agreement. This report will also concern itself with the Indian experience as a case study, the case study will also be vital in understanding India's role in global climate governance. This will be undertaken through the analysis of India's actions domestically in lieu of fulfilling climate commitments, India's stance on environmental issues, and the potential challenges and roadblocks that are faced by India in domestic and global climate governance.

The report will consist of the following sections:

- Definitional categorization of Developing countries and Climate protocols
- Background and History
- India's Role in Climate Governance:
 - India's climate policy and its progress
 - Diplomatic position within the sphere of global climate governance
 - Challenges regarding domestic climate governance

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1. Definitional categorization of Developing countries and Climate protocols

While the previous section was a comprehensive look at the background and history of climate governance which had evolved from it being primarily driven by the concerns of the developed countries to it gradually evolving towards collaboration with developing countries driven by recognition of moral responsibility and assistance by the first world.

However, it is important to define what constitutes the developing developing countries and climate protocols to get a better understanding of the experience of the respective developing countries when it comes to their role in the field of climate governance.

There are several definitional challenges when it comes to defining the developing countries as the category of developing countries is diverse with it ranging from countries that have immense economic, political and military influence one end with the other end of countries being microstates with lack of influence or voice in the sphere of diplomacy.

The definition of developing countries is generally considered to be countries that are less industrialized in proportion to their population as well as low HDI indicators as compared to the developed countries. The developing countries are said to generally consist of high poverty, high unemployment, high amounts of underemployment, existence of child labor, lack of human resources development, brain drain, high incarceration rate, high amounts of crime, political instability, lower literacy levels, lower enrollment rates and high dropout rates. The developing countries are considered to have very high statistics of poor health indicators such as high infant mortality rates, maternal mortality rates, high amounts of undernutrition under the age of 5, lower sex ratio, violence against women, low educational standards of women and low female workforce participation. Levels of pollution, access to drinking water, housing, gentrification issues are aslo reported to be more severe than the developed countries.

However, this definition of developing countries is criticized to be defined as compared to the developed countries. This above definition of developing countries also ignores the nuance that can exist of these indicators in the said country, this can be seen how a developing country may have outstanding performance in many indicators while pointing to a dire situation in the other indicators. However, economists have identified the common features that exist between the countries that are classified as developing countries. These include

a. Concentration of Urban population

Where 43% of the urban population resides in developing countries. The slums point to the obvious existence of a large informal economy, high unemployment, migration between villages and cities, lack of urban planning, and gentrification.

b. Violence against Women

Violence of Women is also a major factor that is common across all of the developing countries, the crimes against women include female infanticide, female feticide, dowry or bride price related deaths. Women also face increased threats to sexual crimes from both household members and strangers; women are discouraged by social sanction from pursuing an education. The massive contribution of women in the agrarian or traditional economy is also not valued, the percentage of women hired in formal secure jobs with regular pay is also very low due to lack of access to education, workplace harassment, discriminatory hiring and pay practices. Women also have to deal with lack of justice mechanisms, data shows how 35% of women in developing countries how women have experienced sexual harassment in some way or form with female genital mutilation reaching nearly 60% of the adult female population in the continent of Africa and similar levels in the middle East.

c. Poor Health Infrastructure

There is also a lack of access to sanitation, as nearly 1.4 billion people live without any form of Sanitation and nearly 2.4 billion people have no continuous safe access to sanitation facilities, according to the 2016 UNDP report. It is estimated that nearly 850 million people worldwide practice open defecation with 652 million coming from just 7 developing countries, which include the likes of India, Pakistan, Sudan, Niger, Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Nigeria, and Indonesia.

This also manifests in low life expectancy, high infant and maternal mortality rate, malnutrition, presence of HIV/AIDS, illness and diseases etc. This situation in some countries is worsened by the low number of beds per capita and poor road infrastructure which separate the hospitals from the rural population.

d. Pollution

Developing countries often suffer from poor air quality due to lack of CDM's, use of traditional electricity methods, outdated infrastructure, corruption and inability to enforce environmental safeguards. This often leads to high amounts of air pollution with high presence of pollutants such as PM 2.5 and PM 10 into the air with AQI going way past the safe indexes, it causes several respiratory, heart and cardiovascular diseases. Water pollution

is caused by encroachment into delicate areas on the river banks, excessive construction and industry, release of industrial effluents, fertilizers and sewage runoff. It was estimated that nearly 500 people lose their lives in India daily due to the drinking of contaminated water, however efforts are being taken through the Name Ganga Action Plan to combat river pollution challenges.

e. **Climate Protocols**

Climate Protocols refer to those internationally agreed frameworks that provide practical pathways for nations to reduce their climate emissions, ensure sustainable development and ensure the restoration of the world's ecosystem. The international climate protocols that are discussed are legally binding on all its signatories through the confines of international law. These primarily include the UNFCCC (United Nations Framework of Convention of Climate Change), UNCBD (United Nations Convention on Biodiversity), United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) as well as the Kyoto Protocol (1997) and the Paris Climate Governance (2015), Kigali Agreement 2016 expand the principles of Montreal Protocol from a climate protocol from solely focused on ozone layer protection. The Paris Climate Agreement has also given the principles of Sustainable Development Goals which include the 17 SDG'S and 169 targets till the year 2030 as laid out in the United Nations Sustainable Development Summit.

a. Kyoto Protocol

Kyoto Protocol is the first addition to the UNFCCC 1992 convention., the Kyoto Protocol aims to actively combat the process of climate change through the reduction of emissions such as Carbon Dioxide (CO₂), Methane (CH₄), hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons and many others have a tendency to negatively impact the climate of the earth through the release of Greenhouse Gases which cause an increase in the temperature of the Earth through the greenhouse gas effect which trap more and more heat into the planet which negatively affect the climate system which has an detrimental impact of all life on Earth. To humanity this may lead to the destruction of cropping and agriculture, extinction of vital species in the food chains, increase in sea level, desertification of lands, inundation of coastal cities,

communities and economies and some micro-Island nations. The Kyoto Protocol had laid out institutional gateways and processes for reduction of Greenhouse Gas emissions through the quantification of such emissions. There was also the further enshrining of institutional provisions of common but differentiated responsibilities that was previously stated in the UNFCCC in Article 3 and Article 4. The developing countries were largely exempt from signing the treaties due to low contribution to global emissions.

The protocol had provided mechanisms such as “Sinks” which refer to natural processes such reforestation for the planting of trees, Clean Development Mechanisms which involve the use of natural gas, bio diesels, clean coal technologies, renewable energy methods to ensure the twin needs sustainable economic growth and emissions trading where countries can trade their emissions.

b. Paris Climate Agreement

The Paris Climate Agreement is one of the most comprehensive climate agreements; it is an agreement that aims to reduce the global temperature well below 2 degrees Celsius and ideally up to 1.5 degrees Celsius above the pre-industrial era. To achieve this goal the climate agreement has expanded upon the mechanisms of UN sanction of NDCs (Nationally Determined Contributions), which give countries a national policy framework to reduce the emissions of greenhouse gases. The NDC’s also have an element of international cooperation as they are based on financing, technology transfer, and capacity building to build up infrastructural, social, and administrative apparatus to assist the fruitful execution of the NDC’s for a global cohesion in emissions reduction.

The agreement also coincided with the conception of SDG goals which include – No Poverty, Zero Hunger, Good Health and Well Being, Quality Education, Gender Inequality, Clean Water and Sanitation, Affordable and Clean Energy, Decent Work and Economic Growth, Industry Innovation and Infrastructure, Reduced Inequalities, Sustainable Cities and Communities, Responsible Consumption and Production, Climate Action, Life Below Water, Life on Land, Peace Justice and institutions, Partnerships for the Goals. People lose their lives in India daily due to the drinking of contaminated water; however, efforts are being taken through the Namami Gange Action Plan to combat river pollution challenges.

2. Background and History

Global climate governance has taken the international center stage in the arena of

international diplomacy and governance. This can be seen in the increased amount of UN-sanctioned institutional actions in the sphere of global climate governance from the last half of the 20th century. Global climate governance has been increasingly viewed as a collaborative process which consists of nations, communities, international bodies, and regional and local bodies.

The collaborative process has been agreed by consensus to be an endeavor that will better enable humanity to deal with the multifaceted problems associated with climate change which include climatic, socio-economic, political, and technological arenas of climate change. Global Climate governance is spearheaded by bodies such as UNEP (United Nations Environment Programmed), UNFCCC (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change). Coordination with other international governance bodies which include WHO (World Health Organization), UNHCR (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Societal and Cultural organization), The United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII) and other organizations under the larger umbrella of United Nations Economic and Cultural Council has taken place to streamline coordination, communication and awareness regarding global climate policy. UN resolutions, better statistical accessibility of indicators, formation of committees, reports, collaboration with governments and local communities have been vital for inclusive climate governance.

It is integral to understand the background and history of global climate governance to decipher trends and evolution of institutional and social aspects of global climate governance. This historical chronology will help us gain a better holistic contextual understanding of contemporary developments in this terrain, which aid us in piecing together the role of developing countries in global climate governance.

The importance of climate issues in the international community can be traced back to the late 1960's and early 1970s by various welfare organizations which had pressured for international action led by the U.N on the said agenda. Many works, such as *Silent Spring* (1962) by Rachel Carson which had dealt with themes of damage to the human environment, harms of excessive pesticide use, and especially DDT, which included side effects such as pesticide poisoning, cancer risk, and bioaccumulation. *Population Bomb* (1968) by Paul R. Ehrlich had predicted global famines and increasing death rates due to massive population growth, with food production not being able to match the growing population. This work was later criticized for it being Neo-Malthusian and inaccurate predictions. *Limits to Growth* (1972) was another work on early climate change that was published by the Club of Rome and was influential in bringing on a global introspection on climate awareness. It showed the dangers of exponential population growth, economic activity, and the subsequent impacts of the outstripping of resources. The *Limits to Growth* had also used the Web 3 computer model to draw estimates of world population growth and the associated drain of resources. The book had received a lot of criticism on the fact that it had pinned the fears of resource outstripping primarily on the rapid population growth that would be experienced by the developing countries. However, despite the criticisms of the said work, it was a watershed moment when it came to climate issues being given center stage in the arena of global climate governance. International efforts for climate governance through an institutional framework had been initiated from the RAMSAR convention (1971), which was for the protection of wetlands. United Nations Conference on Human Environment (1972) was the first UN conference, which led to the creation of the UNEP (United Nations Environment Program) and the creation of the Stockholm Declaration, which linked the issues of the environment with human dignity, control of natural resources, development, population control, assistance to developing countries, international cooperation, intergenerational equity and state responsibility. In India the effect of the conference was manifested through passing through the 42nd Amendment in 1976 where Article 48(A) and 51(G) had mandated the accountability of the state in protecting nature and wildlife and also imposed similar responsibilities on individuals as well. Many landmark laws regarding natural conservation, including the Wildlife Act (1972), Water Act (1981), Forest Act (1980), Environmental Protection Act, have been initiated for the purposes of safeguarding wildlife, environment, and ecosystem. The sphere of global climate action and governance had shifted from mere scholarly concerns to an actionable framework that provided for sustained,

systematic, multilateral and cost effectiveness for the purposes of preservation and restoration of Earth's nature and climate.

The convention had also revealed another aspect that would prove and still proves to be one of the hurdles when it comes to effective global climate governance is the politics of the environment. The 1972 Stockholm conference had seen a clear divide between the developing countries and developed countries that had different priorities. While the developed countries had pushed for full commitment for action of global climate protection through reduction of emissions, pollution and commitments regarding immediate safeguards in contrary to the developing countries that voiced their concerns against such measures, as they had believed that the majority of current and historical global climate emissions were undertaken by rapid, unchecked industrialization supported by imperialist expansionist policies. The 1972 convention had also become a battleground for Cold War-era geopolitics, where the Soviet Union had boycotted the conference due to the exclusion of East Germany. Pakistan, China, and Chile had condemned the actions of USA on Indo- China with regard to Agent Orange, which was an herbicide and defoliant which was used by the USA against North Vietnamese forces to primarily reduce the forest cover which was used by the Viet Cong forces. India also was one of the major voices for the global south in Stockholm which was pointed out by Indira Gandhi through her famous remark in the conference stating, "Are not poverty and need the greatest polluters emphasizing the need for developing countries to deal with challenges of poverty and institutional apathy for the realization of fruitful climate policy."

Thus, one of the main issues that the developing countries attempted to address in this era of nascent international environmental concern was the unfair notions held by developed countries of environmental degradation being driven by rapid population explosion and subsequent industrialization policies by developing countries, this would require environmental policies that had to enforce strict commitments, regulations over the countries that were in their phase of industrial and socio- economic development. This theme would be constant recurrence when it comes to global climate governance to this day.

The decades of the 1980's and 1990's would be the most pivotal decades for international climate governance with the emergence of the Brundtland Report (1987), Earth Summit (1992), UNFCCC (United Nations Framework) 1992, Kyoto Protocol (1997). These climate

protocols had extended the scope of climate governance from management of resources, intergenerational equity, and preservation of Earth's climate to many horizons and domains that were untouched previously.

The Brundtland Report (1987) and the Earth Summit (1992) are pivotal for understanding the shift in roles for the developing countries for global climate governance at the world stage. This can be attributed to an introspective understanding by the first world countries of equivalent responsibility due to their history of environmental destruction through overextraction of resources, reduction of forest cover for cultivation, industrialization, unchecked carbon emissions during industrialization and further environmental damage caused by wars and imperialist policies which led to deforestation of tracts in the colonized countries, extinction of species and displacement of indigenous communities. This was also coupled with the understanding the need to exempt developing countries from climate commitments because of the very low number of emissions per capita produced by countries that are categorized as developing. The Earth Summit at Rio De- Janeiro is considered to be the most important international action for the combat of climate change, as it has set a precedent for all continuing climate action with its principles, ideas, and commitments being prevalent when it comes to the content and purpose of the Kyoto Protocol (1997) and the Paris Climate Agreement (2015).

The Brundtland Report (1987), which is also known as “Our Common Future” was based on the findings of the World Commission on Environment and Development or the WECD, formed in 1983. The Commission was formed due to the need for reviving international dialogue on environmental issues, as the world had seen an increase in the scale of problems such as increasing inequality, lack of focus on environmental issues, which was seen by the increase in environmental degradation. Both the developing and the developed world did not want to give up on economic development as their primary aim; at the same time, environmental issues such as pollution, acid rain, desertification, ozone layer depletion, deforestation were becoming very hard to ignore.

Thus, the commission had formed with a given mandate which included [1] re-examine the critical issues of environment and development and to formulate innovative, concrete, and realistic action proposals to deal with them; [2] strengthen international cooperation on environment and development and assess and propose new forms of cooperation that can

break out of existing patterns and influence policies and events in the direction of needed change; and [3] raise the level of understanding and commitment to action on the part of individuals, voluntary organizations, businesses, institutes, and governments.

The commission had envisioned a new definition for intergenerational unity through the concept of sustainable development, which had emphasized doing away with the distinctions between environment, which was outside the domain of human activity, and development, which was political and economic progress. The Brundtland Commission had suggested considering these two spheres are interlinked as human action is based on the environment and the latter is also influenced by the fallouts of the said action. Thus, the integration of the two worlds would lead to constructive action in the sphere of environmental protection, conservation and regeneration of earth's environment and ecosystem.

The commission and its report would have served important purposes of bridging gaps in the international community, dealing with the issues of inequity, environmental problems and to enshrine the concept of sustainable development as the leading principle of environmental governance. The policy impact of this report can be seen with the Rio Summit in 1992.

The Rio Summit was officially named the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held in Rio De Janeiro between 3rd June to 14th June was the largest UN conference on the environment at that time. This could be seen with the participation of nearly 170 nations, and thousands of MNC's and NGOs. This represented the representative character of the conference and, by extension, the requirement of such a global coalition for assertive climate policy. The Summit had led to the adoption of the of 3 major climate conventions which include the United Nations Convention on Conservation on Biodiversity(CED) which was formed for the conservation of biodiversity, sustainable use of the components of biodiversity and to ensure the equitable distribution of the resources provided by the earth's biosphere, the United Nation Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) had been formed in order to stabilize the production of the Earth's Greenhouse Gases to prevent any Anthropogenic change in the Earth's climate system. The UNFCCC had also aimed to food production not to be threatened by climate change, with economic development proceeding according to the ideas of sustainable development.

The United Nations Framework Convention on Combating Desertification (UNFCCC) has made its goal to combat land degradation and institutionalize sustainable practices for land management. The convention consists of 197 parties that avoid, minimize, and reverse land desertification/ degradation. The UN also aims to achieve LDN (Land Degradation Neutrality) as well as the drought and land degradation action plan (DLDD) through a 2018-20230 strategic framework that is consistent with the 2030 Agenda.

3. India's Role in Climate Governance

This section will talk of India's interactions with the climate protocols through its diplomatic postures, the challenges faced by it as well as the progress that has been achieved by the country in its climate policy.

India's diplomatic position on the issues of climate governance has centered around the doctrine of common but differentiated responsibilities; it has rested on the belief that the developed nations have a moral role in the journey towards sustainable development by reducing their emissions. India has tried to act as the bridge between the Global North and the Global South as it lobbies with both sides in order to ensure equitable capacity-building measures such as climate finance, transfer of technologies which include CDM'S, renewable energy infrastructure, urban planning facilities and energy efficiency methods. It also tried building multilateral partnerships in the banking sector to build credible financial networks for combating climate change. India's climate diplomacy has also seen an impetus on increasing cooperation among the Global South countries themselves and the creation of south-to-south multilateral mechanisms to assist other Global South countries in their battle against climate change through the provision of exchange of clean energy technologies, training and capacity building initiatives.

India's role as a bridge between the Global North and the Global South as a leading diplomatic player in the field of climate democracy could be seen from the position it has taken in COP 29, which took place in Baku between 11th and 22nd of November 2024, and COP 30, which took place between 10th- 21st Beleme Brazil 2025. These two committees were integral to addressing the peculiar global problem of financing climate action, which has been a roadblock for effective climate action and governance. This can be seen in how annual requirements of the climate budget had risen to nearly 2 trillion in 2021/22 and are expected to rise to nearly 8 trillion by 2030. COP 29 had discussed the role of Climate Adaptation, Climate Mitigation, Loss and damage response, and just transition as the main objectives.

Climate Finance for developing countries has received renewed importance with the agreement for the New Collective Quantified Goal which involves a target of setting 1.3 trillion for developing countries annually by 2035 and a target of nearly 300 billion annually to be set aside for the developing countries by the developed countries. It was agreed upon in COP 29, and its institutional modes of implementation came into force from November 2025. This could be seen at the conference, where there were large-scale agreements on Blended Finance focusing on the role of stakeholders, which involved both public sources as well as private sources. The concerted efforts for multilateral stakeholder cooperation were seen with many multilateral development banks, which include the likes of the World Bank and the European Investment Bank, which had pledged to raise nearly 120 billion dollars for the lower-middle-income countries, while the Asian Development Bank had nearly raised nearly 7.5 billion, with 3.5 billion dollars being raised for the adaptation program to prevent glacial melting in the Southern Caucasus and in Central Asia. Private initiatives such as non-profit investor Acumen pledged 300 million for agricultural adaptation in Africa, Asia and Latin America. While the Climate Investment Funds launched a 75-billion-dollar insurance bond on the London Stock Exchange, the Association of Banks of Azerbaijan had also pledged nearly 1.2 billion dollars to support the country's low-carbon transition. Measures were also taken such as the ratification of Article 6.4 of the Paris Climate Agreement, which had led to the establishment of a UN-backed body that would regulate carbon credits, which is seen as a required boost in the field of climate finance. There were also some tensions between the developed and the developing countries, as the latter had believed that the amount of 300 billion that was pledged to be raised by 2035 was insufficient and had demanded that 500 billion should be the stipulated amount that would be necessary for developing countries to effectively tackle climate issues through access to finance, technical help, knowledge and awareness. The developed countries had also believed that countries such as China and

economic blocks such as the Gulf Cooperation Council, which the developed bloc believed had a greater role when it came to contributions to the figure of 300 billion raised to assist developing countries tackle climate issues. COP 30 which had taken place between from the 10th of November to the 21st of November 2025, had its issues that were extensions of those flashpoints which were agreed to by countries in the previous COP summit. The three main issues which were of importance in the Brazilian Climate summit was

- (i) How the developed countries would provide the 300 Billion which were set aside for the developing countries as part of climate finance initiatives
- (ii) In order to reduce fresh commitments to new investments on fossil fuels and to transition to a just mechanism allowing the developed countries to transition to low carbon economies in a socially just way
- (iii) more ambitious commitments from countries aiming to go beyond their existing commitments and to submit suitably ambitious future climate change plans.

The summit however has revealed a fresh set of flashpoints and shortcomings when it comes to the field of climate mitigation, climate finance and other climate change initiatives. This could be seen that only 113 countries had submitted their NDCs in the summit, it was estimated that the emissions in 2035 would only reduce by 12% as compared to 2019 with it falling short of the target of nearly 60% reduction in the emissions that would be required to reduce the global temperatures by nearly 1.5 Celcius. Another unfulfilled commitment was the Climate Coalition that was proposed by Brazil. Brazil had advocated for creation of a climate coalition that would integrate all of the carbon markets and include border carbon adjustment for the non- members. The plan aims to introduce a global emissions cap that starts at the current levels and will gradually reduce to Net Zero by 2050. The activity that produces emissions would lead to the purchase of allowances and the reduction of the cap would further lead to the increase in allowance prices and as result they would also have an incentive to decarbonize. There was also the recognition of the broader adjustment mechanism that was required that would require joint administration by all countries. The developing countries would be exempted from some of the costs and would also face limited caps as compared to the developed countries, these costs would be further used in order to further the needs of the developing countries. The idea remained critically acclaimed as a report jointly produced by Harvard University as well as the Massachusetts Institute of Technology revealed that how the carbon initiative would reduce the emissions nearly 7 times faster than

previously possible, 200 Billion USD per year raised for clean energy and climate action , a moderate rise in prices in certain industries and minimal losses for producers. Other important outcomes of the summit in Belem was the creation of the Gender Action Plan for women as it had pointed out how women and young girls are disproportionately impacted and the pivotal role they play in climate adaptation, finance , resilience and local grassroots leadership. The agency has emphasized that governments that were participating in COP 30 to pursue SDG 5 which aspires to achieve Gender Equality when it came to policies of climate mitigation , adaptation and climate finance. COP 30 also saw the agenda of Global Initiative on Information Integrity on Climate Change which sought to combat the disinformation on the issue of Climate Change, such a push in the field of information integrity where Brazilian President Lula De Silva had called for action “against the climate change deniers”. The declaration on Climate Change Information Integrity, the countries signing the declaration committed to addressing false and misleading information against climate change, the declaration was initially signed by 12 countries which had also included the hosts as well. However, the summit had seemed to falter on its key objectives, the outcome of the COP summit was the agreement to raise the amount that was raised for climate action for the developing countries to rise by 1.3 Trillion by 2035 without providing a clear roadmap, no commitment on the reduction of non renewable resources such as oil, gas and coal and the creation of 59 new indicators in order to track progress on climate adaptation

India’s participation in the last two COP summits was multifaceted and complex, this is due to the multilocking priorities that India has in lieu of its climate adaptation policies, these include the threading the path between prioritizing socio- economic development as well as ensuring that the country undertakes a long term low carbon transition. India seeks to achieve this by enhancing climate finance, operationalizing equitable finance networks as well as aiming for comprehensive technology transfers in accordance with the doctrine of (CBDR) , Common But Differentiated Responsibilities. Thus, India’s role in COP 29 could be seen where it has rejected the NCQG(New Collective Qualified) which only pledged 300 Billion for the developing nations, India had strongly objected to the NCQG target as it had called it a mere optical illusion. India asserted that the developing countries require nearly 1.3 Trillion when it comes to substantive climate finance aid. India’s claim was also deeply resonated by the negotiators of the LDC’s (Least Developing Countries) as well as AOSIS(Association of Small Island States) had walked out at COP 29 to express the fact that they had been completely overlooked and neglected when it came to the discussions of climate finance.

India had expressed that according to Article 9 of the Paris Climate Agreement that the developed nations had to shoulder responsibilities when it came to providing climate finance for the developing nations, however the agreement had drifted from that principle to a principle of “contributions by all”.

India’s response in COP 30 was rooted in its climate principles that it has sought to protect. This could be seen with the warm response that India had expressed with the inclusive presidency undertaken by Brazil and new initiatives and agreements that were agreed under the COP 2025 summit in Brazil. It appreciated the Just Transition Mechanism that was agreed by the signatories of the Convention of Climate Change where the parties had agreed to develop a Just Transition Mechanism “to enhance international cooperation, technical assistance, capacity-building and knowledge-sharing, and enable equitable, inclusive and just transitions. India had also expressed satisfaction at the fact that the presidency had given the space to discuss the Unilateral Trade-restrictive Climate Measures. These measures are increasingly affecting all developing countries and are violative of the principles of equity and CBDR-RC, enshrined in the Convention and its Paris Agreement.

India has also repeatedly encouraged the global south countries to speak in one voice to uphold the principles of climate equity and responsibility. This can be seen with it emphasizing the role of multinational organizations which include the likes of BRICS, ASEAN and more importantly the African Union where India has tried to display its global reach through providing lines of credit to African countries such as Rwanda, Malawi, Tanzania and Mozambique for training of African technicians, renewable infrastructure under the umbrella of the ISA(International Solar Alliance) that was co- founded by India and France with its headquarters in Gurugram .The ISA represents India’s role as a major climate in global climate governance, the initiatives such as Green Grids Initiative- One Sun , One World and One Grid by India, France and United Kingdom to build a global green energy guild with a special focus on wind and solar energy. The global level inclusivity could be seen with the first phase that seeks to integrate South East Asia, South Asia and Middle East Grids with the second phase followed up by connecting the Asian and African grid with the last phase being the creation of a global grid. Other initiatives such as Global Solar Atlas at the World Future Energy Summit in Abu Dhabi displayed the annual solar power potential in

a region which thus laid groundwork for future solar projects that would enhance renewable energy capacity. India also endorsed the role of ISA in developing renewable energy technology within developing countries. Thus, the principled actions sticking to the philosophy of climate equity, responsibility, and sustainable development had ensured that India is able to position itself as a power in climate technology, energy security, climate change mitigation, economic influence and prospects in the field of job creation. with ease of doing business and land acquisition. Similar problems of policy, administrative and infrastructural bottlenecks in the ecosystem prevent mass generation of power through other renewable means. Problems of lack of storage facilities further dent India's climate transition. The country has also had a shortage of many important resources such as oil and rare earth materials, which place it at risk of being dependent on other countries; these resources are highly volatile to price fluctuations. The dependence on traditional energy points to India's challenges with achieving NDCs regarding the Kyoto Protocol and Paris Climate Agreement

A. Challenges in Domestic Climate Policy

While India's diplomacy has focused on securing national, regional and multilateral interests, it also faces challenges of immense scale and proportion which impede its climate action abilities; the following are presented below-

Lack of a transition plan

While India has made remarkable progress when it comes to the large-scale adoption of renewable energy, it has continued to rely massively on coal. This can be seen in how the carbon emissions are expected to rise beyond 2030. The progress on NEP 2023 has been slower as India needs more than 100 GW of renewable capacity by 2026-2027 to meet the interim milestones numbering 350 GW. While India has been able to achieve nearly 50% installations of renewable energy capacity five years before the NDC target that it was slated to achieve in 2030. Another evidence of this newly developed capacity was seen on the 29th of June renewable energy had provided for the 50% of the electricity demand. However, 70% of the electricity is generated by fossil fuels and nuclear sources while the other 30% is generated by sources such as hydroelectric, solar, wind and run of the river despite possessing sufficient capacities of renewable production as it possesses the third largest renewable capacity in the world.

This is attributed to the fact that transitioning from coal immediately would jeopardize the national grid's electricity due to coal-based power being used as must-run sources in India. This has been due to the peak demands of electricity in the summer, which break records every year, completely overwhelming electricity demand, which ultimately requires switching back to thermal power plants. The country also has attempted to build new coaling electricity stations or upgrading previous ones to deal with the unprecedented power requirements, there is a requirement of carbon emissions to be reduced from 17-19% if India has to achieve its 2030 target and analysts are generally worried that India may embroil itself in a carbon trap if the power demand isn't dealt with fossil fuels without a coal transition action plan which may result the temperature increase more than 1.5 degrees Celsius.

Other risks include the lack of EV adoption in transport, which includes only 2.5% of all of the vehicle purchases in 2025 due to it requiring material dependence on China for rare earth materials, lack of dedicated supply chains, industrial facilities not being present and problems with ease of doing business and land acquisition. Similar problems in policy, administrative and infrastructural bottlenecks- in the ecosystem prevent mass generation of power through other renewable means. Problems of lack of storage facilities further dent India's climate transition. The country has also had a shortage of many important resources such as oil and rare earth materials, which place it at risk of being dependent on other countries; these resources are highly volatile to price fluctuations. The dependence on traditional energy points to India's challenges with achieving NDC's regarding the Kyoto Protocol and Paris Climate Agreement.

Red Tape and lack of strong justice institutions

India's climate policies are also impeded when it comes to its execution by the presence of bureaucratic red tape. The red tape refers to the excessive existence of rules, regulation and bureaucratic regulations that lead to increasing financial and time compliance costs. The red tape often slows down the completion of projects, reduces productive efficiency, leads to enterprises and investors resorting to political lobbying, corruption, creates an atmosphere for increased corruption and leads to the trust deficit between the private players and bureaucratic apparatus of the government. The effect of the excessive red tape can also be witnessed through the delayed completion of targets; targets not being met. The SDG indicators such as lack of progress in Gender Equality and Peace, Justice and Institution which include SDG indicator 5 and SDG indicator 16. The ripple effects can be seen in land

acquisition delays and development of an infrastructural base. The lack of strong justice institutions primarily due to dualist systems of laws being translated into domestic law and legislations leads to slow institutionalization of necessary safeguards, regulation and process. The legal system slow judgement delivery due to outdated laws and legal nuance creates a situation where the aggrieved which includes organization, communities, individuals which disproportionately involve the marginalized and women.

Historic Inequalities

Climate Change seems to disproportionately impact communities, regions and sections of the society that have been marginalized and stigmatized. This can be seen how the Tribal population are characterized (Schedule Tribes or ST) and untouchables which largely come under the criteria of Schedule Castes) are disproportionately affected by climate change which dents India's climate action policy as well as their progress on sustainable development goals. The Schedule Tribes constitute nearly 10% of India's population, however due to the population being located in Central India which include resource rich areas consisting of coal reserves, mining reserves for minerals, plenty of rivers and water bodies for the creation of dams, huge forest areas for factories that house capital goods and many more. While Tribals were not isolated in pre-colonial India and had a relation of cooperation, sharing common economic networks in artisanship, similar occupation and large-scale co-existence with mainstream caste Hindu society had led to a complicated existence with the mainstream, there were relations of both cooperation and hostility as Tribes often found themselves gaining political power in pre-colonial India which was due them serving as mercenaries in armies, with also the forests and hills providing advantages of quick raids into the plains. However, the colonial era policy which saw British engaging themselves in strict forest laws had taken away their traditional means of shifting cultivation, use of land as a commodity and unable to use any resource from the forests that they used to inhabit. The colonial period also saw the large influx of plains people that had led to marginalization of these groups due to them being debt bonds and tied to moneylenders. The same policies continued after independence, while these groups have gotten constitutional protection through reservations in all forms of public life and policies of cultural autonomy have succeeded to some extent. This can be seen through the creation of states with significant tribal populations, tribal languages being enshrined in Scheduled languages and the persistence of a tribal political class. However, institutional barriers of access in terms of accessing public infra and institutions of education, profession, low pay, stigmatization, lack

of judicial access have led to them being the most displaced community due to megaprojects in central India with little to no possibilities of rehabilitation. They are unable to recover from a loss of habitat and livelihood and have to face increasing pauperization risks.

The situation of Schedule castes is similar as they have to face much more visible form of social and at times economic sanction because of their perceived impurity vis a vis the castes that were above in the political, social, economic and ritual hierarchy and that oppress them. These castes have very little access to productive land and are often bound by forms of traditional hereditary bondage to financial bondage to politically powerful castes also known as the dominant castes that vary with region. The lack of land and ineptness leads to very little social insurance in the case of price depression, apart from these concerns the exclusion from public sphere from wells, schools, local grassroot governance, economic dependence on higher castes, lack of access to police and justice institutions make these communities less resilient to climate change. Similar problems can be found in economically less prosperous areas such as Bihar, West Bengal and Odisha which have been under the constant threat of floods that have a disproportionate impact on marginalized populations. Similar patterns can be seen during times of drought, water scarcity in the North West and Western parts, the same impacts of climate-based natural calamities such as landslides in the Himalayan regions show disproportionate death, displacement and heavy losses of money and property for the SCs in these parts of the country.

Women also face the impact of climate change; this can be particularly seen in areas of high-water pollution and water scarcity and in economically less developed areas. Patriarchal norms have been seen to control women and as a result heavily impact their education, undervaluing their work and their economic value, very less autonomy and control of finances, risk of gender violence during times of disasters and lack of information heavily impact women. Women also face the increased risk of health diseases such as death from exhaustion, heat stroke, and reproductive diseases.

India's Progress in Climate Policies

India's climate policy with relation to the 2015 Paris Climate Agreement and the SDG goal. This could be seen with the country embarking on its commitments towards positive climate actions, India has been periodically raising its ambition towards mitigating greenhouse gas emissions and after the update in 2022, has now announced its targets for 2031-35 marking a

significant step towards the goal of achieving net-zero by 2070. India's original climate commitments i.e. NDC submitted in 2015, laid a strong foundation, with targets by 2030 of 33–35% reduction in the emissions intensity of GDP and 40% share of non-fossil resources based electric power installed capacity, both of which were met, 11 years and 9 years ahead of the committed timelines, demonstrating a credible and action-oriented approach to climate governance.

The intensity of the emissions has since reduced by 36% during 2005 to 2020, and the target has now been enhanced to 47% to be achieved by 2035. Towards the updated NDC's goal on enhancing share of non-fossil fuel energy resources in installed electric power capacity, the country has achieved 52.57 % non-fossil capacity (February 2026), successfully meeting the target five years ahead of the timeline and now the ambition has been further raised to 60% share of non-fossil fuel-based energy resources in installed electric power capacity to be achieved by 2035. Further on the NDC goal of creating additional carbon sink through forest and tree cover, India has already created 2.29 billion tons of CO₂ equivalent by 2021. Afforestation and ecosystem restoration efforts continue to contribute towards India's carbon sink targets while supporting rural livelihoods. Our afforestation efforts have been duly acknowledged by independent agencies such as Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) which has ranked India as third in terms of net gain in forest area and ninth in terms of area under forest. This progress is a testimony to the fact that India has maintained a balance between economy and ecology even as it maintains a high GDP growth rate. The country enhanced the ambition of creating carbon sink through forest and tree cover to 3.5-4.0 billion tons of CO₂ equivalent by 2035 from 2005 level. India's climate strategy is implemented through a series of measures including those on large-scale renewable energy expansion, battery storage systems, and green energy corridors, cleaner manufacturing, ensuring reliable and sustainable infrastructure across the country.

The country has also benefitted from various schemes such as Green Hydrogen Mission, PM Surya Ghar: Mufti Bijli Yojana; Production Linked Incentive (PLI) schemes, PM-KUSUM (Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha Evam Uthaman Mah Abhiyan); push for Carbon Capture, Utilization and Storage (CCUS); and nuclear energy. Further India is pursuing a positive climate action agenda by forging partnerships at international levels through initiatives such as Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI), Global Bio-fuel

Alliance (GBA) and Leadership Group for Industry Transition (Lead-IT) etc. These organizations whose creation was spearheaded by India have reaffirmed its position as a voice of reason in a geopolitical order that is torn apart due to differences between the global south and the global north in the issue of climate action, policy and finance. India's domestic issues with climate change in the field of natural disasters(floods, droughts, tsunamis, landslides) and subsequent response, harnessing solar energy and shifting to renewable energy infrastructure and production had led to the international organizations which began with ISA to now more recently CDRI, GBA and at the end Lead IT. CDRI which acts as a global forum for research through collaborations between nearly 50 heads of states, UN agencies, NGOs and private organizations that seek to establish a channel for long lasting repository of knowledge and institutional response when it comes to disaster response and climate adaptation. GBA 's efforts at the global stage despite only 30 member states and 12 major international organizations finds its origin at the G-20 Presidency that was held by India between September 9th-10th is significant as India is the third largest producer of Biofuels in the world after USA and Brazil. The alliance seeks to increase capacity building, technical support and sharing of policy lessons from the experience of the use of biofuels. Lead IT (Leadership Group for Energy Transition) co-founded by Both India and Sweden refers to one of the initiatives to Net zero carbon emissions in the field of heavy industry. It found support from the World Economic Forum with it trying to harness public and private cooperation. Lead IT 2.0 was initiated for the period 2024-2026 which had pledged to provide an institutional mechanism for just industry transition and co -development of low carbon technology. It also aims to provide financial support for emerging economies to aid their process of energy transition. Its role has been to initiate public - private sector flows , its secretariat is hosted in the Stockholm Environment Institute.

The country's climate action policy also includes the element of adaptation which is outlined in the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) and its nine national missions, as well as the State Action Plans on Climate Change (SAPCC). The framework is implemented in convergence with various schemes and programs of the central and State Governments ensuring a coordinated, whole of government approach for climate-resilient and low-carbon development. It is through these mediums through which India has legally operationalized its NDC.

The schemes and progress to achieve each SDG will be shown through the data given by the NITI Ayog as part of its SDG India Index-

Table 1.1: Goal-wise Key Programmes/Initiatives of Government of India

Goal 1: No Poverty  ● Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) ● Deen Dayal Antyodaya Yojana (DAY)-National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) ● Deen Dayal Antyodaya Yojana (DAY)-National Urban Livelihood Mission (NULM) ● Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana ● Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana ● PM Awas Yojana ● DDU - Grameen Kaushalya Yojana ● PM Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana ● National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) ● Atal Pension Yojana	Goal 2: Zero Hunger  ● Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana/ National Food Security Act, 2013 ● Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) ● National Food Security Mission ● PM POSHAN Abhiyan ● Kisan Credit Card (KCC) ● PM Kisan Sampada Yojana ● PM Fasal Bima Yojana ● National Mission of Sustainable Agriculture ● Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture ● National Mission for Edible Oils - Oil Palm (NMEO-OP) ● National Livestock Mission ● Soil Health Card Scheme ● Scheme for Modernization and Reforms through Technology in Public Distribution System (SMART - PDS)
Goal 3: Good Health and Well-being  ● National Health Mission ● Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (Ayushman Bharat) ● Mission Indradhanush 5.0 ● Saksham Anganwadi and POSHAN Abhiyan 2.0 ● Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan (PMSMA) ● PM Matru Vandana Yojana ● PM Jan Aushadhi scheme ● National Ayush Mission (NAM) ● Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana ● Pradhan Mantri TB Mukta Bharat Abhiyaan ● Anaemia Mukta Bharat ● Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY)	Goal 4: Quality Education  ● Samagra Shiksha ● New India Literacy Programme ● Mid-day Meal Scheme (PM POSHAN) ● Pre and Post matric Scholarship schemes for SCs ● PM SHRI (School for Rising India) ● Eklavya Model Residential Schools ● Rashtriya Avishkar Abhiyan (RAA) ● National Means cum Merit Scholarship ● Padhe Bharat Badhe Bharat (PBBB) ● Skill Strengthening for Industrial Value Enhancements (STRIVE) - EAP ● PM Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (PM-USHA)

Goal 5: Gender Equality



- Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Scheme
- Sukanya Samridhi Yojana (Girl Child Prosperity Scheme)
- MUDRA Yojana
- Jariani Suraksha Yojana (JSY)
- Shakti Sadan
- Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalay (KGBV)
- Pragati Scholarship Scheme for Girls
- Women Helpline Scheme
- One-Stop Centre Scheme

Goal 6: Clean Water and Sanitation



- Swachh Bharat Mission
- Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)
- AMRUT 2.0 Scheme
- PM Krishi Sinchayee Yojna (PMKSY)
- Mission Amrit Sarovar
- Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain
- Atal Bhujal Yojana
- Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana
- National River Conservation Programme (NRCP)
- Namami Gange - Integrated Ganga Conservation Mission
- National Perspective Plan (NPP)

Goal 7: Affordable and Clean Energy



- SAUBHAGYA scheme
- PM Ujjwala Scheme
- Unnat Jyoti by Affordable LED for All (UJALA)
- PM-KUSUM Scheme
- Rooftop Solar Programme
- Green Energy Corridors (GEC)
- Bio-Energy Programme
- National Green Hydrogen Mission
- Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana
- National Solar Mission
- Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Electric Vehicles (FAME) Scheme
- PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana
- Electric Mobility Promotion Scheme (EMPS)

Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth



- Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme
- PM Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP)
- Skill India
- Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY)
- National Skill Development Mission (NSDM)
- Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana (PMMY)
- National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS)
- Skill Development Mission
- Deendayal Upadhyaya Antyodaya Yojana
- National Urban Development Mission
- Udyami Bharat Scheme

Goal 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure



- Digital India
- PM GatiShakti - National Master Plan for multi-modal connectivity
- Industrial Corridor Development Programme
- National Logistics Policy
- North East Industrial Development Scheme (NEIDS)
- Udyami Bharat Scheme
- Bharatmala Project
- PM Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel (PM MITRA)
- Border Area Development Programme (BADP) (ACA)
- Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY)
- Make in India/ Start up India
- Ease of doing business initiatives
- PM Gram Sadak Yojana

Goal 10: Reduced Inequalities



- Aspirational Districts and Blocks Programme
- Vibrant Village Programme
- Pradhan Mantri Vishwakarma Scheme
- Umbrella Programme for Development of Minorities
- Umbrella Programme for Development of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribe and other vulnerable groups
- Scheme for Development of Other Backward Classes and Denotified, Nomadic and Semi-nomadic Tribes.
- PM Development Initiative for North East Region
- Scheme for development of Economically Backward Classes (EBCs)
- Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram (PMJVK)

Goal 11 Sustainable Cities and Communities



- Smart Cities Mission
- PM e-bus Seva Scheme
- Atal Mission for Rejuvenation of Urban Transformation (AMRUT)
- Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban
- Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Urban
- National Heritage City Development and Augmentation Yojana (HRIDAY)
- Prime Minister's Street Vendors' Atmanirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANIDHI)
- MRTS and Metro Projects
- National Livelihood Mission - Aajeevika
- PM Awas Yojana
- City Investment to Innovate, Integrate and Sustain 2.0 (CITIIS 2.0)
- Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY)

Goal 12: Responsible Consumption and Production



- Lifestyle for Environment (LIFE)
- National Policy on Biofuels
- PM-KUSUM Scheme
- Renewable Energy: Renewable Energy Global Investment Promotion Meet and Expo (RE-INVEST)
- National Clean India Fund (NCEF)

Goal 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure



- Digital India
- PM GatiShakti - National Master Plan for multi-modal connectivity
- Industrial Corridor Development Programme
- National Logistics Policy
- North East Industrial Development Scheme (NEIDS)
- Udyami Bharat Scheme
- Bharatmala Project
- PM Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel (PM MITRA)
- Border Area Development Programme (BADP) (ACA)
- Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY)
- Make in India/ Start up India
- Ease of doing business initiatives
- PM Gram Sadak Yojana

Goal 10: Reduced Inequalities



- Aspirational Districts and Blocks Programme
- Vibrant Village Programme
- Pradhan Mantri Vishwakarma Scheme
- Umbrella Programme for Development of Minorities
- Umbrella Programme for Development of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribe and other vulnerable groups
- Scheme for Development of Other Backward Classes and Denotified, Nomadic and Semi-nomadic Tribes.
- PM Development Initiative for North East Region
- Scheme for development of Economically Backward Classes (EBCs)
- Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram (PMJVK)

Goal 11 Sustainable Cities and Communities



- Smart Cities Mission
- PM e-bus Seva Scheme
- Atal Mission for Rejuvenation of Urban Transformation (AMRUT)
- Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban
- Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Urban
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- Prime Minister's Street Vendors' Atmanirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANIDHI)
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- National Livelihood Mission - Aajeevika
- PM Awas Yojana
- City Investment to Innovate, Integrate and Sustain 2.0 (CITIIS 2.0)
- Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY)

Goal 12: Responsible Consumption and Production



- Lifestyle for Environment (LIFE)
- National Policy on Biofuels
- PM-KUSUM Scheme
- Renewable Energy: Renewable Energy Global Investment Promotion Meet and Expo (RE-INVEST)
- National Clean India Fund (NCEF)

Goal 13: Climate Action



- National Action Plan on Climate Change
- National Mission for Sustaining the Himalayan Ecosystem
- National Clean Air Programme
- National Mission for a Green India
- National Solar Mission
- National Mission for Enhanced Energy Efficiency
- National Water Mission
- Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA)
- National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture
- National Cyclone Risk Mitigation Project

Goal 14: Life Below Water



- Neel Kranti Mission (Blue Revolution)
- National Plan for conservation of Aquatic Ecosystems (NPCA)
- Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana
- Sagarmala Project
- Interlinking of Rivers
- National Coastal Mission
- Ocean Services, Technology, Observation, Resources, Modelling and Science (OSTORMS)
- Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats & Tangible Incomes

Goal 15: Life on Land



- National Afforestation Programme (National Mission for a Green India)
- Integrated Development of Wild Life Habitats
- Project Tiger
- Project Elephant
- Nagar Van Yojana
- National Action Programme to Combat Desertification
- National Agroforestry Policy

Goal 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions



- PRAGATI 2.0: Pro-Active Governance and Timely Implementation
- Modernisation of Police Forces
- RTI (Right to Information Act)
- Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan
- Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS)
- Development of Infrastructure Facilities for Judiciary including Gram Nyayalayas

Possible Solutions

Given the twin realities of meaningful progress and subsequent hurdles that exist when it comes to a sustainable implementation for Climate Action initiatives, there needs to be creation of lasting structural changes and measures that need to be undertaken to solve the extraordinary issues that exist. The few possible solutions are listed below-

Expansion of PRAGATI system

PRAGATI (Pro Active governance and Timely Implementation) refers to the platform that has been used to fastrack nearly 340 infrastructural projects. It is a multi purpose and multi modal Information and Communication technology under the umbrella of the Digital India program. Its main goals have been to streamline supervision and tracking progress of projects, highlighting the principle of cooperative federalism as it facilitates exchange between the secretary of the Central Government and State government. The real time digital dashboard and the digital video conferencing create an atmosphere of E- transparency and E-accountability with real time exchange among the stakeholders, it has enhanced the ability of the administrative apparatus to establish grievance redressal, programme implementation and project monitoring. This system has helped to fuse the technologies of digital data management, video conferencing and geo spatial technology. It mainly has boosted the integration of various departments and also revitalized projects that had been stuck in a loop of never ending clearances. While PRAGATI has advocated sustainable clearance and approval regimes when it comes to identifying ecological sensitive zones, the platform itself has to be expanded, setting up renewable infra projects and plans that involve transition to renewable energy away from thermal based power generation. PRAGATI's role will be vital when it comes to establishing cooperation between various govt environmental bodies such as the CPCB(Central Pollution Control Board), SPCB(State Pollution Control Board), Nation Green Tribunal, National Biodiversity Authority, National Mission for Clean Ganga, Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority which is under the nodal agency Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoeFCC).

Bureaucratic Flexibility: One of the best ways of mitigating the bureaucratic inertia has been the suggestion to include more and more experts through the process of lateral entry. While the regular generalist bureaucrats have an important role to act as a facilitator and ensure coordination between the various government authorities of concern. The recruitment of environmentalists , environmental lawyers and managers specializing in the field of sustainable management should be brought into decarbonization methods as well as be made

part of larger measures of climate mitigation and adaptation. The fusion of specialist knowledge in the field of problem identification and innovative solutions with the deep knowledge of bureaucratic functioning and social sensitivity of the legacy bureaucratic apparatus thus ensures that the main mechanism of policy implementation is aided by new knowledge, technology and developments in the field of climate finance, environmental law and sustainable management practices.

Enhancing PPP(Public Private Partnership): The role of PPP's has become crucial when it comes to achieving national policies, NDC's (Nationally Determined Contributions) and SDG commitments . This is due to the scale and demand of the country's transition to a low carbon economy, government initiatives alone are not sufficient . The prominent and ever strengthening role of PPP's have several advantages , these include the sharing of risks involved, improve project bankability and attract long term private investments. The Union Government cognisant of the profitability of PPP's . The success of the partnerships could be seen with the policy- backed financial instruments such as Viability Gap Funding(VGF), blended finance and sovereign guarantees as catalysts for large scale private participation and VGF has proven vital in areas where commercial returns alone would be insufficient to spark confidence. The National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF) represents a quasi-sovereign approach to crowding in foreign and domestic capital. It has proven vital in reducing investment risk and also aid in boosting investor confidence. The Rewa Ultra Solar Park in Madhya Pradesh is a shining example of the potential of public private partnerships in domestic environmental policy solutions.

Conclusions

The conclusion of this report is as follows:

-The role of developing countries in global climate governance has evolved from a top down approach dictated by the global north with developing countries led by a powerful Brazil, China and India as active participants in the field of global climate governance. This could be seen from the voicing of vocal dissatisfaction against western dominated climate policy and

through substantive measures such as the ISA(International Solar Alliance) and encouraging developing countries to speak in one voice.

- India has established itself as the leading frontrunner when it comes to acting as the bridge between the global south and the global north when it comes to issues of transparent climate finance and technology transfers. The country also has to some extent also seen progress when it comes to its domestic climate policies as evident it having achieved 50% installation of the country's electricity capacity and reduction of emissions by 36% from 2005 which is expected to reach a near 45% in 2035. However, the nation also faces serious problems when it comes its domestic policies which include lack of a clear transition plan as only 22% of the country's electricity is generated through renewable energy means, high demand for thermal power, red tape in the bureaucracy, lack of strong justice institutions as well as continuing historic socio- economic inequalities.

-Thus, India's ability in order to manage a climate transition through the adaption to a low carbon energy economy while also successfully dealing with the problems of inertia, continuing historical inequalities and slow justice system would provide a benchmark and a practical roadmap for all of the countries for the global south to undertake a gradual policy of decarbonization.

Methodology

Data Collection Sources

- Primary Sources: Multilateral treaties (UNFCCC, Paris Agreement, Kyoto Protocol), official government reports (NITI Aayog's SDG India Index, PIB press releases on updated NDCs), and international declarations (G20 declarations, COP briefings).
- Secondary Sources: Scholarly books, peer-reviewed journals (e.g., Navroz Dubash's India in a Warming World), and reports from policy think-tanks (E3G, CAT).
- Explain how the data is analyzed (e.g., Content Analysis of policy documents, Qualitative Comparative Analysis between developed vs. developing state positions).

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