



Sustainable Development

Apr'23 – Aug'23



Overview

The world is facing a critical challenge in achieving the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and protecting the planet. The deadline to meet these goals is less than a decade away, and urgent action is needed to make the world more sustainable. The recent years have witnessed extreme weather events worldwide, from droughts and wildfires to flooding and hurricanes, affecting millions of people and exacerbating the impact of climate change, including the recent unusually heavy rains in India that have been linked to the El Niño phenomenon.

The El Niño effect, characterized by the warming of sea surface temperatures in the central and eastern equatorial Pacific Ocean, often leads to disruptions in weather patterns across the globe. In the context of India, El Niño can contribute to shifts in the monsoon season, leading to periods of excessive rainfall and flooding in some regions and droughts in others. These irregular weather patterns pose significant challenges to sustainable development efforts, affecting agriculture, water resources, infrastructure, and the overall well-being of communities.

ASSOCHAM has been playing a crucial role in promoting sustainable development and supporting businesses to transition to a more sustainable future. As an official UNFCCC observer, ASSOCHAM has facilitated various interventions and advocated for India's focus on just climate action at the COP conferences. The recent impact of heavy rains in India further underscore the urgency of these efforts. It highlights the importance of building resilience in communities, updating infrastructure to withstand extreme weather events, and promoting sustainable practices that can mitigate the adverse effects of such climatic phenomena.

One of the critical areas that need urgent attention is halting and reversing forest loss and degradation, especially in the face of changing weather patterns. Forests play a crucial role in mitigating climate change by sequestering carbon and supporting biodiversity. However, the world continues to be off-track on this goal, with one gigaton of emissions reduction expected to be achieved from forests by 2025 and yearly after that. ASSOCHAM's collaboration with various stakeholders, including private sector companies, becomes even more essential in the wake of recent climate changes, as these events can further stress ecosystems and exacerbate deforestation.

Technology has significantly impacted every aspect of life, and its role in addressing climate change is of prime importance. High-tech solutions, such as supply chain transparency and carbon markets, can help reduce emissions and promote sustainable practices. India, with its leadership in innovating and implementing technology solutions, has a unique opportunity to invest in this space and support the global transition to a more sustainable future. Leveraging technology to monitor and predict the effects of climate-related phenomena can enhance preparedness and response strategies, minimizing the impact on vulnerable communities.

Another critical area is sustainable food systems, which will have to be developed amidst a dynamic geopolitical scenario to ensure food and nutrition security, even in the face of unpredictable climatic events. Ecologically sound practices, such as precision farming and integrated nutrient supply, will play a critical role in achieving this goal. India's experience in managing agricultural challenges, including those brought about by changing weather patterns, positions it to share valuable insights and collaborate with other nations to build resilient food systems.

Moreover, ASSOCHAM has been working closely with businesses to promote sustainability and drive innovation in the industry. By providing a platform for dialogue, knowledge-sharing, and collaboration, ASSOCHAM is supporting businesses to transition to a more sustainable future, taking into account the added complexities posed by climate variability like El Niño. With the ongoing G20 presidency, India has a unique opportunity to promote inclusive development globally and lead the transition to a more sustainable future, emphasizing adaptive strategies that can withstand the growing influence of climate-related disruptions.



Net Zero Ambitions (1/3)

ONGC to invest INR1 lakh crore in energy transition, targets net-zero by 2038

India's top oil and gas producer ONGC will invest INR1 lakh crore by 2030 on energy transition projects as it targets net zero carbon emissions by 2038. The firm joins fellow state-owned oil and gas firms Indian Oil (IOC), Hindustan Petroleum (HPCL), GAIL and Bharat Petroleum (BPCL) in preparing roadmaps for net zero emissions as part of the nation's commitment to deal with the climate challenge.

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India has set a target of achieving net zero by 2070: Civil Aviation Secretary Rajiv Bansal

According to the statement of Rajiv Bansal, the transition towards a lower carbon and Sustainable Aviation Fuels (SAF) will be fundamental to achieving NetZero2050. The cycle for SAF production has to be supported by International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) through its implementation and support policy.

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ASSOCHAM: Series of Sustainable Architecture 2023

ASSOCHAM GEM green building council has organised two series of business-to-business engagements in Uttar Pradesh with the topic "From Blueprint to Greenprint" to continue its efforts to connect the field of architecture with industry and solution providers. Leading architects, planners, design consultants, MEP, HVAC professionals, environmental experts, regulatory authorities, and many more took part in the event.

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India and UK to jointly create India-UK 'NET Zero' Innovation Virtual Centre

India is on the fast-track move and the nation is determined to achieve its Climate Change and Environmental targets on time. Dr Jitendra Singh highlighted the close collaboration between the two countries strengthened through an ambitious 'Roadmap 2030' that provides a framework for UK-India relations across health, climate, trade, education, science and technology, and defence.

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India must reduce energy intensity to reach net zero 2070 target: RBI

India's goal of achieving the net zero target by 2070 would require an accelerated reduction in the energy intensity of GDP by around 5 per cent annually and a significant improvement in its energy-mix in favour of renewables to around 80 per cent by 2070-71, a report released by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

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Bira 91 said Mysuru brewery becomes India's first net zero brewery

Bira 91, a craft beer brand backed by Sequoia Capital India, has become India's first net-zero brewery. The Mysuru brewery is leading to significant cost savings in manufacturing efficiency, with energy costs declining by 40-50 per cent. Bira 91 raised USD70 million from a funding round led by Japanese beer company Kirin Holdings, and another USD10 million from MUFG Bank over the past five months.

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Net Zero Ambitions (2/3)

CLASP collaborates with EESL to accelerate India's net zero transition

CLASP and Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) at a side-event on "Accelerating India's Net Zero Transition through Energy Efficiency, Sustainable Cooling & Mobility" at the 14th Clean Energy Ministerial (CEM14) to support EESL's 10 million Energy-Efficient Fans programme, which will help support India's transition to Net Zero Carbon Emissions.

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Transition VC and IEEE sign MoU to launch Net Zero Warriors initiative

Net Zero Warriors sets out to address the dual concern of environmental preservation and economic growth, in keeping with India's energy security requirements.

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Tata Steel joins LeadIT to drive net-zero industry transformation

Tata Steel has joined the Leadership Group for Industry Transition (LeadIT), a global initiative to accelerate the transition to net-zero emissions in heavy industry, the company said on Wednesday. LeadIT was created by the governments of Sweden and India during the UN Climate Action Summit in September 2019 and is backed by the World Economic Forum. The group brings together governments, companies, investors, and other stakeholders to share best practices, develop new technologies, and advocate for policies that support the transition to a net-zero emissions economy.

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Plan to invest INR 1.5 lakh crore in five years to expand operations: G Krishnakumar, BPCL chairman

Bharat Petroleum Corporation plans to invest INR 1.5 lakh crore in the next five years to diversify operations as it targets net zero carbon dioxide emissions by 2040.

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SRK Pledges Towards Net Zero Emissions By 2024

Shree Ramkrishna Exports Pvt. Ltd. (SRK), a globally leading natural diamond crafting and exports company has envisioned achieving net zero emissions for both of its diamond crafting facilities – SRK Empire and SRK House – by 2024, six years earlier than India's 2030 goals of achieving sustainable development.

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🌐 International Maritime Organisation targets achieving net-zero emissions by 2050

The International Maritime Organisation (IMO) has committed to achieving net-zero emissions by 2050. The goal was agreed upon by all 178 countries who are members of the IMO, with indicative targets of a 20-30 per cent reduction in emissions from 2008 levels by 2030, and a 70-80 per cent reduction by 2040. However, environmental groups have criticised the plan for being insufficient to restrict global temperature increase to 1.5C above pre-industrial levels, as set out in the Paris Agreement.

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Net Zero Ambitions (3/3)

🌐 Ofgem welcomes proposed legal mandate to prioritise the UK's 2050 net zero target

Ofgem has welcomed the Government's amendment to the Energy Bill giving the regulator a statutory net zero duty. This will restate Ofgem's principal objective to protect the interests of existing and future gas and electricity consumers. It will add a specific duty to do so by supporting the Government meet its legal obligation to get to net zero by 2050, as required by the Climate Change Act 2008.

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🌐 Corporates must take lead in ensuring net-zero: BCG Turkey Chairman

Placing the emphasis on corporations to achieve their Net zero goals before the governments, Tansan, said that it was critical in emerging economies for companies "to make sure that they own the commitment as a whole and push the government to move in that direction. Corporates must take the lead in ensuring net-zero target achievements in emerging markets, Burak Tansan, MD & Senior Partner, Chairman, BCG Turkey.

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🌐 Government launches Maritime Council on voyage towards net zero

Transport Secretary hails adoption of clean technologies as 'maritime's biggest transformation since sail gave way to steam'. The government-appointed Maritime Council undertook its first meeting, as ministers look to accelerate efforts to deliver on the shipping industry's net zero goals.

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🌐 Asian Development Bank: 'Net Zero' benefits five times higher than costs

India could face the worst effects of climate change among the Asian economies, but a coordinated approach to net zero could outweigh the cost of mitigation, according to an Asian Development Bank report released recently. An efficient transition to achieve the Paris Agreement goals can yield benefits that are as high as five times the costs.

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🌐 Hydrogen greenwashing stalks EU net zero plans

European utilities are pushing to build power plants that would burn natural gas now and then be switched to burn clean hydrogen down the road. But the technology they're depending on wastes energy and opens the door for accusations of greenwashing. RWE AG, SSE Plc and Equinor ASA said the swap will be easy once green hydrogen becomes plentiful and cheaper.

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🌐 G7 Summit: More certainty on the phasing-out of fossil fuels

The world leaders said that in the context of a global effort, to accelerate the phase-out of unabated fossil fuels so as to achieve net zero in energy systems by 2050 at the latest, in line with the trajectories required to limit global average temperatures to 1.5°C above preindustrial levels and call on others to join us in taking the same action. COP27 was widely criticised for lacking ambition on the phase-out of fossil fuels. The G7 communiqué, therefore, represents a significant increase in ambition for the phase-out of unabated fossil fuels.

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Emission Reduction Interventions (1/2)

India eyes green hydrogen bunkering at major ports by 2035

One of the world's biggest emitters of greenhouse gases, India aims to cut emissions to net zero by 2070, and the shipping minister said three of its ports would initially have bunker facilities for green hydrogen and ammonia.

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Regulations, policies need to be updated to reduce carbon emissions: RBI report

The report titled 'Towards Cleaner Greener India' said that besides carbon taxes and and ETS standards for carbon emission rates and energy efficiency prescribed as part of regulatory policies including feebates or rebates for technologies that emit higher or lower than average emissions could also help in reducing the overall CO2 emission in an economy.

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Cummins, Tata Motors partner to manufacture low-to-zero emissions tech products in India

The low-to-zero emissions technologies developed by TCPL GES will be integrated into both on-highway and off-highway applications for domestic and international markets. The new entity will focus on the development and manufacturing of sustainable technology products that will include hydrogen-powered internal combustion engines, fuel delivery systems, and battery electric powertrains and fuel cell electric systems through the Accelera by Cummins brand.

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Green Port policy launched to catalyse carbon reduction

India's Major Ports will need to have clean fuel storage and ship refuelling facilities according to the freshly launched 'Harit Sagar' the Green Port guidelines. These norms were recently issued by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (MoPSW).

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India proposes talks on international norms for 'green, clean & low-carbon' hydrogen

India has proposed a discussion on global standards for 'green, clean, and low carbon' hydrogen at the G20 Energy Transition Working Group meeting held last week, mooted an emission limit of up to 2 kg of carbon dioxide equivalent per kg of hydrogen produced. The draft 'G20 High-Level Principles on Hydrogen', put out by India for discussion, lays down the carbon emissions standard 'at the sight of production'.

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Power, environment ministries to develop carbon credit trading scheme for decarbonisation

Union ministries of power and environment, forests & climate change will develop a carbon credit trading scheme for decarbonisation. The government plans to develop the Indian Carbon Market (ICM) where a national framework will be established with an objective to decarbonise the Indian economy by pricing the Green House Gas (GHG) emission through trading of the carbon credit certificates, a power ministry statement said.

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Emission Reduction Interventions (2/2)

World Bank approved USD1.5 billion in financing to support India's low-carbon transition

The World Bank's Board of Executive Directors recently approved USD 1.5 billion in financing to accelerate India's development of low-carbon energy. The financing will help India promote low-carbon energy by scaling up renewable energy, developing green hydrogen, and stimulating climate finance for low-carbon energy investments.

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🌐 New IEA report highlights the need and means for the oil and gas industry to drastically cut emissions from its operations

The report identifies five key levers to achieve this reduction, including: tackling methane emissions; eliminating all non-emergency flaring; electrifying upstream facilities with low-emissions electricity; equipping oil and gas processes with carbon capture, utilisation and storage; and expanding the use of low-emissions hydrogen in refineries.

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🌐 G7 Summit: Ending plastic pollution

Beyond the potential hazards posed to the marine and terrestrial environment, as well as to humans, plastics are also a substantial contributor to global GHG emissions. G7 ministers highlighted that they are committed to ending plastic pollution, with the ambition to reduce additional plastic pollution to zero by 2040.

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🌐 EU lawmakers adopt vast carbon market reform

The European Parliament adopted sweeping climate measures which aimed at massively cutting EU greenhouse emissions and including the introduction of a carbon border tax on imports. The legislative step crystallises an ambitious EU plan to reform Europe's carbon market by broadening an emissions trading scheme to more industries and lowering quotas of allowable polluting gases.

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🌐 Chile to accelerate its green hydrogen industry with World Bank support

The World Bank Board of Directors approved a USD150 million loan to promote investment in green hydrogen projects in Chile, accelerating the country's green growth, energy transition and supporting its commitment to carbon neutrality by 2050. This is the World Bank's first loan to promote green hydrogen to support climate change mitigation efforts.

[Read more](#)

🌐 Global shipping industry can halve emissions by 2030 without scuppering trade

The global shipping industry can reduce emissions by nearly 50 per cent by the end of the decade, according to a new study by CE Delft. These findings come as the UN's International Maritime Organization (IMO) is about to reach an agreement on climate targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from ships in July.

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Energy Sector (1/5)

Energy PSUs eye 38,000 tonnes per annum green hydrogen capacity

India is placing a big thrust on green hydrogen in its energy transition plan. It aims to develop green hydrogen production capacity of at least 5 million metric tonnes per annum by 2030, which would involve an investment of INR 8 lakh crore. The planned green hydrogen facilities would require setting up a combined electrolyzer capacity of 279 MW by 2024-25, according to the energy transition advisory committee of the petroleum ministry.

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Essar to invest USD3.6 billion in energy transition in India and the UK

Essar Energy Transition(EET) plans to invest USD3.6 billion in developing a range of low carbon energy transition projects over the next five years, of which USD2.4 billion will be invested across its site at Stanlow, between Liverpool and Manchester and USD1.2 billion in India.

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NHPC signs MoU with Odisha for solar energy projects

India's largest hydropower development company NHPC has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Grid Corporation of Odisha (GRIDCO) for the development of pumped storage projects and renewable energy. The MoU envisages setting up storage projects of at least 2,000 megawatts and renewable energy projects (on-ground and floating solar projects) of at least 1,000 megawatts in the state, an official release by the Ministry of Power said.

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India: World Bank approved USD200 million to increase renewable energy penetration in Himachal Pradesh

The World Bank's Board of Executive Directors approved a loan of USD200 million to the Government of Himachal Pradesh to facilitate power sector reforms in the state and increase the share of renewable energy (RE) in the state's electricity generation.

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Gautam Adani gives a peek into Adani Group's renewables roadmap

Gautam Adani, the chief of Adani Enterprise, said at the group's AGM on July 18 that the group's renewables businesses are set to play a critical role in India's net zero journey. Adani Green Energy (AGEL), the renewable energy arm of Adani Group, plans to generate 20 GW of green energy through a hybrid renewable park in Khavda, spread over 72,000 acres. Adani reaffirmed his target of 45 GW of renewable energy capacity by 2030.

[Read more](#)

Infertile lands, barren fields for livestock: India's plan for clean energy plants comes at a great cost

In the dusty mountains of eastern India, workers at the country's largest chromium deposit have mined for the essential ore, rain or shine, for around 60 years. The industry is fruitful in some ways - hundreds of trucks stacked with mineral-rich soil journey back and forth regularly between the mine and processing plants - but it is damaging in others.

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Energy Sector (2/5)

Nayara energy exports dip, just 0.07 million tonne diesel flows to Europe in FY23

Nayara Energy, India's second-biggest private oil refinery, reported a sharp decline in fuel exports as domestic sales surge on retail network expansion and demand rise, a company official said. During calendar year 2022, Nayara reported 61 per cent of sales from the domestic market and the remaining 39 per cent from exports of all products including jet fuel (ATF), diesel and petrol.

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Power ministry panel outlines roadmap to develop electricity market

A power ministry-constituted panel has suggested a roadmap outlining the interventions for the near, medium, and long term for the development of the electricity market. The interventions suggested by the panel include setting up a mechanism to monitor whether adequacy of supply is being maintained by the state utilities, enhancing the efficacy of the Day-ahead Market, introducing a market-based mechanism for secondary reserves, and implementing 5-minutes based metering, scheduling, dispatch, and settlement.

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Central Electricity Authority revises down FY30 peak power demand projection a tad

The Central Electricity Authority (CEA) has projected a peak power demand of 335 gw and 2.28 trillion units of electricity for the year 2029-30. This is slightly lower than the 340 gw peak demand anticipated by the authority in its last report in 2020.

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Nepal starts exporting electricity to India

Nepal has started exporting electricity to India, as the generation of hydroelectricity from run-of-the-river projects increased with the onset of the monsoon in the Himalayan country. Last year also, Nepal exported hydroelectricity to India from June to November. In Nepal the domestic demand for electricity increases in winter, while the supply decreases and in summer the demand decreases while the supply increases.

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Energy insecurity biggest threat to sustaining India's elevated growth rates in longer term, said CEA

Energy security is the "single-biggest worry" for India's sustained economic growth, says chief economic adviser V Anantha Nageswaran. He called on global lenders not to entirely abandon fossil-fuel projects in the name of Green economy, as developing countries must ensure affordable, sufficient energy for economic growth.

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PFC has restructured and refinanced INR 10,150 crore of JSW energy loans

Power Finance Corporation (PFC) has restructured and refinanced INR 10,150 crore of energy loans for Sajjan Jindal's JSW Energy, a senior company official said. JSW Energy had been looking to refinance INR 10,150-crore loans that it took after acquiring Mytrah Energy India's renewables portfolio for an enterprise value of about INR 11,934 crore last year.

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Energy Sector (3/5)

ReNew, Gentari collaborate to invest in 5GW renewables in India

ReNew Power and clean energy solutions provider Gentari recently announced a strategic collaboration to form a 50:50 joint venture for exploring avenues to invest in 5 GW renewable capacity in India. The collaboration between the parties follows Gentari's initial investment for a 49 per cent equity stake in ReNew's 403 MW Peak Power project in May this year.

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Green causes get less than 10 per cent of CSR money; platform launched to up climate funding

The India Climate Collaborative has launched a platform, Earth Exponential, with the backing of JSW Foundation, to increase funding for environmental causes, which accounted for less than 10 per cent of corporate social responsibility funding between 2015 and 2021. The platform will bring together funders and non-profits to highlight credible, high-impact, and India-led climate solutions.

[Read more](#)

India, US for stable, diversified clean energy supply chain: Joint statement

India and the US have called for a stable, diversified, and globally responsible clean energy supply chain to minimize risks and uncertainties, the two sides said in a joint statement after the meeting of their energy ministers. The Covid-led trade disruption and the growing geopolitical tensions have prompted a relook at the global supply chain, with several countries wanting a more resilient and reliable supply network.

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Global coal demand set to remain at record levels in 2023

Global coal consumption climbed to a new all-time high in 2022 and will stay near that record level this year as strong growth in Asia for both power generation and industrial applications outpaces declines in the United States and Europe, according to the IEA's latest market update. Coal consumption in 2022 rose by 3.3 per cent to 8.3 billion tonnes, setting a new record, according to the IEA's mid-year Coal Market Update.

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Finland's nuclear and renewable power strengths provide a solid foundation for reaching its ambitious climate targets

Finland has one of the world's most ambitious carbon neutrality targets and is in a strong position to achieve them given its already low reliance on fossil fuels. Further progress can be made by speeding up deployment of wind and solar while pushing forward efficiency measures to bring down the energy intensity of the Finnish economy.

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The Kyrgyz Republic to boost its renewable energy potential with support from the World Bank

The World Bank's Board of Executive Directors approved USD67.7 million to help finance the first phase of the Kyrgyz Renewable Energy Development Project that aims to increase renewable energy generation and promote private sector participation in the Kyrgyz Republic. The project has a multi-phase programmatic approach with a financing envelope of USD125.7 million over 10 years.

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Energy Sector (4/5)

🌐 Singapore's Energy Market Authority and IEA collaborate to enhance capabilities in regional power grids

More than 160 participants are in Singapore for the Singapore-IEA Regional Training Programme on Seizing Opportunities with Regional Power Grids. This event marks the seventh instalment of the Singapore-IEA Regional Training Hub initiative.

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🌐 Clean energy investment is extending its lead over fossil fuels, boosted by energy security strengths

Investment in clean energy technologies is significantly outpacing spending on fossil fuels as affordability and security concerns triggered by the global energy crisis strengthen the momentum behind more sustainable options, according to a new IEA report.

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🌐 IEA at the heart of world leaders' discussions on energy and climate at G7 Summit

IEA Executive Director Fatih Birol addressed leaders gathered for the G7 Summit this weekend in Hiroshima, Japan, highlighting the rapid global progress that is taking place in clean energy deployment - as well as the need to take action to ensure that the path to net zero emissions is as fast and secure as possible.

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🌐 Manufacturing plans for key clean energy technologies are expanding rapidly as investment momentum builds

Announcements of new manufacturing projects for several essential technologies for the clean energy transition - including solar PV, batteries and electrolysers - have accelerated in recent months, highlighting the growing global momentum behind the new energy economy.

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🌐 Italy's progress on energy efficiency provides foundation for meeting broader energy and climate goals

Italy is on track to meet its national emissions reduction and energy efficiency targets for 2030, according to a new in-depth policy review by the IEA, which highlights that cutting red tape further to speed up deployment of renewables should be a priority as Italy prepares to pursue more ambitious EU climate goals and reduce reliance on Russian energy supplies.

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🌐 New Zealand can use its clean electricity strengths to decarbonise its energy system

As it enters a new phase of its energy transition, New Zealand has the opportunity to provide global leadership on how to deploy renewables-based electricity across the economy. New Zealand can leverage its vast renewable energy resources to cut emissions across its economy and meet national climate goals while maintaining energy security.

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Energy Sector (5/5)

🌐 Gas price plunge brings relief to Europe

European gas prices have plunged to the lowest since mid-2021, when Russia was just beginning to squeeze supplies before its invasion of Ukraine, helping to reverse a surge in inflation and bring relief to consumers. With some traders predicting short-term prices could even go negative at times this summer, the picture couldn't be more different from May last year.

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🌐 Power system digitalisation is crucial for clean energy transitions and security in developing markets, but investment is lagging

Digital technologies can greatly improve the functioning of power grids to help successfully integrate clean energy sources, but a lack of investment in these networks could slow down the energy transition and increase costs, particularly in emerging and developing economies.

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🌐 IEA hosts symposium with IEF and OPEC on gas and coal market outlooks

More than 80 representatives from the energy industry, international institutions and academia gathered at the IEA headquarters in Paris to discuss the outlook for natural gas and coal markets worldwide, including long-term decarbonisation strategies and the implications for energy security. The 6th IEA-IEF-OPEC Symposium on Gas and Coal Market Outlooks - jointly organised by the IEA, the International Energy Forum (IEF) and Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

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🌐 Brazil aims to make a global impact on clean energy innovation

Brazil accounts for almost 7 per cent of the planet's renewable energy production - outpacing its 3 per cent share of the global population and 2 per cent share of global GDP - and has long been a leader in biofuels and hydropower technologies.

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🌐 Tripling renewable power capacity by 2030 is vital

Scenes from a world baking in record heat in recent weeks present a grim reminder that limiting the rise in global temperatures to 1.5°C is crucial to avert the worst effects of climate change. Meeting this target demands strong action in the energy sector to drive a major reduction in the world's greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 - and renewable power technologies such as solar and wind have a critical role to play.

[Read more](#)

🌐 Low-cost solutions can give billions access to modern cooking by 2030, but the world is failing to deliver: IEA

Women and children bear brunt of harm from lack of clean cooking, which can be solved with modest investment, bringing major benefits in terms of health, development, gender equality and climate. Nearly one in three people around the world still cook their meals over open fires or on basic stoves, resulting in significant damage to health, living standards and gender equality - and yet this challenge can be overcome this decade through a relatively modest amount of investment.

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Transportation Sector (1/4)

Automakers to pump USD 10 billion in building EV capacity by 2030

Automakers in India will be pumping in close to USD10 billion (INR 80,000 crore) to build infrastructure for manufacturing electric vehicles by the end of this decade, the data compiled by ETIG shows. The move comes amid the electrification trend sweeping the automotive industry globally. It is also being prompted by the government's nudge to ditch pure internal combustion engines in favour of battery-operated vehicles.

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Royal Enfield looking to roll out uniquely differentiated electric bikes: CEO

Royal Enfield is developing 'uniquely differentiated electric motorcycles' and has already started investing towards product development and creating a supplier ecosystem around its Chennai-based plant,.

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New Delhi to get more EV charging stations, some with battery swapping facilities

New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) plans to expand the availability of electric vehicle (EV) charging stations in Lutyens' Delhi, as well as introducing battery swapping facilities at some of these sites. The move is part of a larger plan to provide easy and convenient accessibility for EVs to save time, while nudging residents to opt for cleaner vehicle options.

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Hyundai Motor to invest INR 20,000 crore in Tamil Nadu

Hyundai Motor India Limited (HMIL) recently said that it will invest INR 20,000 crore over the next 10 years in Tamil Nadu to modernize vehicle platforms and expand its presence in the country's fast-evolving electric vehicle segment. The investments will be utilized to expand production capacity for internal combustion engine and electric vehicles, set up a battery pack manufacturing unit and establish charging infrastructure for EVs, among others.

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EV logistics firm Zyngo raises USD 5 million in round led by Delta Corp Holdings

Zyngo intends to deploy over 3,000 EVs across India by the end of FY23. By 2025, the company aims to deploy at least 18,000 EVs throughout India. Zyngo is also planning to launch a hyperlocal B2C delivery mobile app. The app will ensure the efficient utilisation of the fleet, it said. The startup said that the funds will be used to increase its fleet size, expand to new regions, and improve technology.

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Okinawa in talks to raise USD100 million for third manufacturing plant

Managing director Mr. Jeetender Sharma said the funds will be deployed to commission its third manufacturing facility, which will have a total installed capacity of one million units, to develop new products and to manufacture powertrains indigenously.

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Transportation Sector (2/4)

Indian truckmakers eye electric as one way to tackle pollution

India, the world's most polluted country after Bangladesh, has a truck-sized problem to tackle if it wants to meet its climate goals: a greener commercial fleet in order to limit emissions that account for a third of the nation's dirty vehicle smoke. The shift to cleaner vehicles won't be easy – the higher price of electric versus diesel trucks and a lack of charging infrastructure are large impediments, particularly for the small fleet operators who own most of India's trucks.

[Read more](#)

Tata Sons drives away from Make in India with a new GBP4 billion EV plant in the UK

The Tata Group has zeroed-in on southwest England for its new GBP4 bn electric vehicle battery plant that will supply a new range of electric Jaguar and Land Rover models. The cell factory will have an eventual capacity of 40 gigawatt hours, enough to supply roughly half a million vehicles per year depending on the size of the batteries.

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G20 member states should take lead role in decarbonising transport sector: NITI Aayog

NITI Aayog has proposed G20 member states should take a lead role in decarbonising the transport sector by eliminating fossil-fuel subsidies and adopting policies that increase the funding for green fuels while also providing guarantees for investors.

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Flurry of electric PV launches set to widen India market

A slew of electric vehicle models are lined up for launch in the next 12 months even as US-based Tesla and Fisker firm up their India entry plans. Mainstream and luxury manufacturers including BYD, Citroën, Kia, BMW, Mercedes-Benz, Volvo, Audi, Porsche and Jaguar-Land Rover plan to unveil as many as 21 new electric passenger vehicles (PV).

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Hero Motocorp and Zero Motorcycles join hands to bring Zero electric bikes to India

Hero Motocorp will partner with Zero Motorcycles to develop electric bikes. The company aims to capitalise on the anticipated 49 per cent CAGR growth in the electric vehicle (EV) market between 2022-2030. By broadening its range of EVs, Hero aims to attract more customers and take advantage of the global move towards electric transport.

[Read more](#)

Tata Motors delivers prototype of indigenous e-bus to Bengaluru transport corporation

Tata Motors recently delivered a prototype of its indigenously-developed electric bus to the Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation. The Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) has placed an order for 921 advanced e-buses with the auto major, Tata Motors said in a statement.

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Transportation Sector (3/4)

Ashok Leyland partners with Aidrivers for autonomous electric terminal trucks

Ashok Leyland has teamed up with AI solutions expert Aidrivers to produce autonomous electric terminal trucks for the port industry. The move is aimed at meeting the net zero emissions goals of the industry. The companies will leverage their knowledge and expertise to create sustainable autonomous transportation.

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Sudden reduction of subsidy of electric two-wheelers may lead to major decline in EV adoption: SMEV

Society of Manufacturers of Electric Vehicles recently said the sudden reduction of subsidy of electric two-wheelers may lead to a major decline in EV adoption, impacting the entire industry for a considerable period of time.

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Kerala-based startup GO EC Autotech announces installation of 1,000 EV charging stations across India

Kerala-based start-up GO EC Autotech Pvt Ltd has announced the installation of 1,000 electric vehicle (EV) super-fast charging stations across the country. The company is currently operating 70 charging stations in Kerala and over 33 across India. By locating the new stations in Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities and rural areas, GO EC plans to cater to customers in remote locations and make it easier for them to adopt EVs.

[Read more](#)

Delhi EV policy achieves 86 percent of targets: Transport department

Delhi's Electric Vehicle policy which will complete three years in August has so far achieved around 86 per cent of its measures and targets, according to the transport department. . Delhi transport department and Delhi Electric Vehicle (EV) cell recently kicked off the process of drafting a revised 'Delhi EV Policy 2.0' with a stakeholder consultation.

[Read more](#)

FAME scheme rejig boosts funds for e-Bus, e-Bike segments

The Centre has raised the funding support for electric buses and two-wheelers but slashed the subsidy for three-wheelers as part of a major rejig of the INR 10,000-crore electric vehicle (EV) incentive scheme.

[Read more](#)

Musashi enters Indian electric mobility market with INR70 crore investment

Japanese auto parts manufacturer Musashi has announced its foray into the electric mobility sector in India in partnership with BNC Motors. The company revealed its plans to invest INR 70 crore in the initial phase of the business. Musashi India, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Musashi Seimitsu Industries, specializes in the production of transmission components for two and four-wheelers powered by internal combustion engines.

[Read more](#)



Transportation Sector (4/4)

Electric bus maker PMI Electro in talks to raise INR400 crore

PMI Electro Mobility, India's largest electric bus manufacturer, is in talks with investors to raise INR400 crore. The first tranche of 100 buses will be delivered to the state in September 2023. PMI has a deep understanding of requirements for clean mass mobility solutions and the order will contribute to the capital city's sustainability goals.

[Read more](#)

GreenCell Mobility to invest INR1,500 crore to double EV buses supply in India

Greencell Mobility has been promoted by Eversource Capital, India's leading climate impact investor. Eversource Capital is an equal joint venture between Everstone Group, one of Asia's premier investment manager with assets in excess of USD7 billion across private equity, sustainability and climate impact, logistics, digital and venture capital; and Lightsource bp, a global leader in development and management of solar energy projects.

[Read more](#)

Uber partners with various EV makers to accelerate transition towards sustainable mobility

Ride-hailing app Uber recently announced partnerships with various electric vehicle makers and other entities in India to accelerate the transition of its partners towards sustainable mobility.

[Read more](#)

Airports of Tomorrow': More than 50 CEOs back plan to transform airports into clean energy hubs

Airbus, Boeing, and London Heathrow CEOs back new World Economic Forum push to enable net zero aviation. The World Economic Forum has launched a major new global initiative in partnership with Airport Council International that aims to transform airports into clean energy hubs.

[Read more](#)

Aston Martin, Lucid to enter into agreement to make electric vehicles

British luxury carmaker Aston Martin said that it would enter into an agreement with Lucid Group to manufacture "high performance" electric vehicles (EVs). As part of the agreement, U.S.-based luxury EV maker Lucid will supply Aston Martin with select powertrain components for initial and certain future battery-electric vehicle (BEV) models.

[Read more](#)

Bank of America joins shell-backed sustainable aviation fuel credit programme

Blockchain-powered SAF platform Avelia seeks to connect airlines with business customers to help scale demand for lower carbon flight biofuels. Bank of America has become the first financial institution to join a Shell-backed blockchain platform that allows airlines to sell sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) credits to business customers.

[Read more](#)



Climate Transition Initiatives (1/3)

India called upon BRICS nations for urgent, concrete climate actions

Union minister of environment Bhupender Yadav called upon the BRICS nations to take urgent, concrete climate actions to save the planet. The Union minister elaborated on the efforts made by India for the protection of the environment and for combating climate change, pollution, and biodiversity loss.

[Read more](#)

AEPC promoting sustainable manufacturing practices in garment clusters to boost exports

The Apparel Export Promotion Council of India (AEPC) is advocating the use of sustainable manufacturing practices in various garment clusters across the country to boost exports. The AEPC is holding meetings with stakeholders, including brands and industry associations, to encourage sustainable practices such as water and energy conservation, water management and monitoring of carbon emissions.

[Read more](#)

ASSOCHAM hosted the 'Global ESG Conclave' on July 26, 2023, in Dubai, UAE.

ASSOCHAM hosted its flagship event, the 'Global ESG Conclave,' on July 26, 2023, in Dubai, UAE. The conclave showcased thought leaders from both the industry and government sectors, aiming to foster discussions, debates, and the exchange of perspectives regarding the transformations in Environmental (E), Social (S), and Governance (G) aspects.

[Read more](#)

ITC commits to tackling plastic waste through innovative solutions

On World Environment Day, the ITC reaffirmed its commitment to address the issue of plastic waste management through its multi-dimensional initiatives. The company is setting targets like being carbon neutral, scaling up investments in sustainable packaging, reducing the usage of plastic in packaging and harnessing green energy.

[Read more](#)

Need to increase scope of discussion, PM Modi on climate change

Underlining that climate change, environmental security and energy security are among the biggest challenges, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said recently that there is a need to increase the scope of discussion and change behaviour to solve these problems.

[Read more](#)

India eyes nationwide use of 1 per cent sustainable aviation fuel by 2025, said Oil Minister

India plans to mandate the use of 1 per cent of sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) for domestic airlines by 2025 in a bid to cut emissions from the sector. Unlike the United States and the European Union, India does not have policies governing sustainable aviation fuel yet, so the mandate for SAF could rise to 4-5 per cent if more volumes of biofuels are available. An Indian panel had suggested for the rollout of 1 per cent SAF in the country by 2025.

[Read more](#)



Climate Transition Initiatives (2/3)

🌐 World Bank Approves USD400 million to help increase reliable, green and affordable energy in the Dominican Republic

The World Bank approved a USD 400 million loan to support the Dominican Republic Government's measures to broaden transparency, accountability, and efficiency in the energy sector, increase access to reliable and affordable energy, and support the transition to cleaner, low-carbon energy sources.

[Read more](#)

🌐 Green light for global greenhouse gas tracking network

A hundred and ninety-three countries have unanimously approved the creation of a global greenhouse gas monitoring mechanism, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) announced recently. The landmark decision comes as heat-trapping greenhouse gas concentrations are at record levels.

[Read more](#)

🌐 Developing countries face USD4 trillion investment gap in SDGs

A green future will remain out of reach if the world doesn't help developing countries close a USD 2 trillion gap in investment towards an energy transition, during the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). UNCTAD Secretary-General Rebeca Grynspan said that a "significant increase" in material support for renewable energy in developing countries is "crucial" for the world to reach its climate goals by 2030.

[Read more](#)

🌐 Sustainability in upstream industries imperative for steel industry, said WSA's Andrew Purvis

The steel industry accounts for 7-9 per cent of carbon emissions globally even as continued innovations in technology have helped cut down on the energy consumption by the industry by as much as 60 per cent over the last 50-60 years.

[Read more](#)

🌐 Weathering climate change in Sudan

Women in Sudan's southern White Nile State, who are disproportionately affected by these natural and manmade hazards, are being encouraged to take a more active decision-making role in community projects which include building a water harvesting reservoir and planting drought-resistant and higher yielding crops.

[Read more](#)

🌐 World Bank approves EUR591.9 million for continued support of inclusive and green growth

The World Bank Group Board of Executive Directors recently approved the second Inclusive and Green Growth Development Policy Loan (DPL) for Romania in the amount of EUR 591.9 million. This loan is the second of two financing operations supporting the Government's key structural reforms to enhance inclusion, strengthen fiscal management, and foster decarbonization and climate resilience. The first development policy financing, for EUR622.2 million, was approved in June 2022.

[Read more](#)



Climate Transition Initiatives (3/3)

Transformative power of food production in Mauritius

Transforming the way food is produced on the Indian Ocean archipelago of Mauritius could help to fight climate change as well as accelerate progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), according to the UN's most senior representative in the country. This visible effect of climate change combined with our geographical remoteness, small scale of economies, and high import costs have grave consequences for our island's food security.

[Read more](#)

Extreme weather highlights need for greater climate action

Scorching temperatures are engulfing large parts of the Northern hemisphere, while devastating floods triggered by relentless rainfall have disrupted lives and livelihoods, underscoring the urgent need for more climate action.

[Read more](#)

Drones, reaching new heights in Nepal's fight against climate change

Drones, once used for earthquake response efforts, are now being used across Nepal to assess climate and disaster risk impacts including flood damage and future landslide risks. The World Bank is helping governments across South Asia improve their capacity to mainstream the use of technologies like drones and automated processing of remote imagery to enhance climate resiliency and improve development outcomes.

[Read more](#)

At Caribbean Summit, UN chief calls for climate action, debt relief, and urgent aid for Haiti

The UN chief advocated for climate crisis solutions, debt relief mechanisms, and urgent assistance to Haiti, addressing world leaders at the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Summit in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago.

[Read more](#)

Urban planning must factor in needs of migrants, sustainable development forum hears

Cities and towns have become the drivers of economic growth and now account for more than 80 per cent of global GDP. Yet, in 2020, over one billion inhabitants of urban areas were still living in slums or informal settlements, predominantly in Asia and sub-Saharan Africa. As urban populations grow, slums expand even faster, UN data shows.

[Read more](#)

High-stakes UN operation underway in Yemen to avert catastrophic oil spill

The UN recently began siphoning one million barrels of oil from a decaying supertanker off the coast of war-torn Yemen, a crucial step in the race against time to prevent a potential environmental disaster. The stranded rusting vessel holds four times the amount of oil spilled by the Exxon Valdez - enough to make it the fifth largest oil spill from a tanker in history.

[Read more](#)



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