



# Sustainable Development

October'24 – December'24



# Overview

India is making significant progress in sustainable development, particularly in addressing the challenges posed by rapid urbanization. Over the next two decades, the country's urban population is expected to grow by more than 270 million, making it essential to integrate innovative solutions for sustainable city management.

The use of artificial intelligence (AI) in urban planning is emerging as a key enabler, improving data-driven decision-making for infrastructure development, energy distribution, and multimodal transport systems. These advancements can enhance efficiency, reduce environmental impact, and support India's broader sustainability goals.

Recognizing the importance of AI in sustainable development, initiatives have been launched to explore its applications in agriculture, healthcare, and urban sustainability. AI-driven models are being developed to optimize energy grids, predict climate-related risks, and improve governance mechanisms through digital platforms. Such efforts are expected to strengthen the foundation for smart, resilient, and eco-friendly urban environments.

At the same time, sustainable mobility is gaining momentum as a crucial element in reducing emissions and improving air quality. Investments in renewable energy storage, electric mobility, and infrastructure development are expected to play a transformative role in meeting long-term sustainability targets. Additionally, advancements in material recycling and resource efficiency are shaping the future of energy-efficient and climate-resilient industries.

India is set to reinforce its commitment to sustainable development in the 2025-26 Union Budget, with a strong focus on expanding renewable energy infrastructure to meet the 500 GW capacity target by 2030. Key policy measures are expected to drive clean energy adoption, energy-efficient industrial practices, and circular economy principles.

Emphasis on solar energy integration in households, improved urban waste management, and sustainable construction will accelerate India's transition towards a low-carbon, resource-efficient economy. These initiatives align with the broader goal of balancing economic growth with environmental responsibility.

In this evolving landscape, industry and policymakers are working together to align development priorities with sustainability objectives. By fostering innovation, promoting green skills, and encouraging responsible business practices, India is taking decisive steps towards building a low-carbon, resource-efficient, and climate-resilient economy. These efforts are essential in realizing long-term sustainability aspirations and contributing to global climate action.

ASSOCHAM continues to play a pivotal role in promoting sustainable practices across various sectors. Through its National Council on Renewable Energy, ASSOCHAM addresses challenges in transitioning to newer energy sources, facilitating the adoption of cleaner and more efficient energy solutions. Additionally, ASSOCHAM's GEM Green Building Certification Program encourages environmentally friendly building design and construction, contributing to the expansion of sustainable infrastructure in India.

Collectively, these efforts underscore India's dedication to integrating sustainability into its economic development plans, fostering a resilient and eco-friendly future.



# COP Updates

## COP29 achieves full operationalisation of Article 6 of Paris Agreement - Unlocks International Carbon Markets

The COP29 Presidency announced the end of the decade-long wait for the conclusion of negotiations on high integrity carbon markets under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement. This was one of the Presidency's top priorities for the year and it drove Parties towards this milestone achievement through intensive dual-track technical and political negotiations. This strategy broke through years of stalemate and finalises the last outstanding item in the Paris Agreement.

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## Breakthrough in Baku delivers USD 1.3 trillion "Baku Finance Goal"

The COP29 Presidency of Azerbaijan announced the agreement of the Baku Finance Goal (BFG), a new commitment to channel USD 1.3 trillion of climate finance to the developing world each year. Success on the COP29 Presidency's top priority for the UN Climate Summit represents a significant uplift from the previous climate finance goal of USD 100 billion and will unlock a new wave of global investment.

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## Historic Decision in Baku: The loss and damage fund fully operationalized

At COP29, a decision was made to ensure the full operationalization of the Loss and Damage Fund, long awaited by developing countries, including small island states, least developed countries, and African nations. Within the framework of COP29, several important agreements related to the Loss and Damage Fund were signed.

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## Global leaders reaffirm commitment to UNEP's International Methane Emissions Observatory at COP29

At COP29, representatives from the European Commission, Germany, the United States and Australia reaffirmed their strong political and financial support to UNEP's International Methane Emissions Observatory (IMEO), implementing data driven solutions to catalyse methane reductions. The increasing availability of data on methane emissions contributes to a new wave of transparency and accountability.

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## Nearly 50 countries signed Baku declaration on water

The COP29 Presidency launched Water for Climate Action, part of its Action Agenda. This programme includes a declaration, so far endorsed by nearly 50 countries, which commits to taking integrated approaches to combat the causes and impacts of climate change on water basins, paving the way for greater regional and international cooperation.

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## Countries representing nearly 50 percent of global methane emissions from organic waste pledge to reduce emissions from sector

the COP29 Presidency launched the Reducing Methane from Organic Waste Declaration, with over 30 states amongst the initial signatories (who combined represent 47% of global methane emissions from organic waste) declaring their commitment to set sectoral targets to reducing methane from organic waste within future NDCs.

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# Net Zero Ambitions

## BPCL selects Andhra Pradesh for India's last greenfield refinery project

Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL) has chosen Andhra Pradesh for a new INR 6,100 crore greenfield oil refinery-cum-petrochemical complex, potentially India's last such project as the country transitions towards net-zero emissions. BPCL's board approved pre-project activities, including land identification, feasibility studies, and environmental assessments.

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## Andhra eyes INR10 lakh crore investment in clean energy by 2047

Andhra Pradesh launched the AP Integrated Clean Energy (ICE) Policy, targeting INR 10 lakh crore investment in solar, wind, and round-the-clock renewable energy projects to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2047, creating 7,50,000 jobs. Incentives include land leases, subsidies, and waived duties.

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## European Commission approves an Italian State aid scheme to support renewable electricity production to foster the transition to a net-zero economy

Italy notified to the Commission, under the TCTF, an estimated EUR9.7 billion scheme to support electricity production from renewable energy sources to foster the transition towards a net-zero economy. The measure will support the construction of new onshore wind, solar photovoltaic, hydropower, and sewage gases electricity production installations. The plants are expected to add a total of 17.65 GW of renewable electricity capacity. Installations must enter into operation within 36 months after the date of granting of the aid.

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## Net zero target needs USD3.5 trillion in annual green energy investment

Investment in the green energy transition needs to double to USD 3.5 trillion per year if the world is to meet the Paris Agreement's goal of reaching net zero emissions by 2050, a report by Wood Mackenzie. On top of the investment gap, the consultancy's analysis said global efforts to shift to cleaner power were under pressure from concerns over energy security, and tariffs and trade barriers that are stunting electrification growth globally.

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## Britain promises up to USD28.5 billion for carbon capture projects

Britain will provide funding of up to 21.7 billion pounds (USD 28.5 billion) over 25 years to develop carbon capture and storage (CCS) projects to curb emissions from industry and create new jobs in northern England. Britain has a climate target to reach net zero emissions by 2050 and has said CCS will be needed to curb emissions from energy intensive industrial sectors.

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## Redefining net zero will not stop global warming, new study shows

The science of net zero, developed over 15 years ago, does not include these natural carbon sinks in the definition of net human-induced CO2 emissions. Natural sinks play a vital role to moderate the impact of current emissions and draw down atmospheric CO2 concentrations after the date of net zero, stabilizing global temperatures. Yet governments and corporations are increasingly turning to them to offset emissions, rather than reducing fossil fuel use or developing more permanent CO2 disposal options.

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# Emission Reduction Interventions

## UltraTech Cement Limited becomes India's first cement company to use inland waterways for gypsum transport

UltraTech Cement transported mineral gypsum via National Waterway 1. This is a first for an Indian cement company. The shipment traveled from Haldia to Patna. This initiative reduces carbon emissions. It also eases congestion on roads and railways. UltraTech aims to achieve Net Zero emissions by 2050. The company previously used waterways to transport phosphogypsum.

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## India reviews USD30 billion sulphur-cutting programme for coal plants

India is reviewing a decade-old USD 30 billion programme requiring coal-fired power plants to install equipment to cut sulphur emissions after government-backed studies showed they had little impact on curbing pollution. Nearly 540 power plant units were required by 2026 to install flue-gas desulphurization (FGD) systems that remove sulphur from the plants' exhaust gases but only about 8% have done so, including those run by state-run NTPC and privately held JSW Power.

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## Airtel-Nokia 'Green 5G' initiative to cut carbon emissions by 1.4 lakh metric tonnes of CO2 annually

The project will focus on enhancing energy efficiency across Airtel's extensive 4G/5G Radio Access Network (RAN) by leveraging technologies like artificial intelligence and machine learning, as well as a suite of advanced software features and innovative solutions.

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## 🌐 US commits to 61 percent greenhouse gas emissions cut by 2035

The United States pledged to cut net greenhouse gas emissions by 61-66 percent below 2005 levels by 2035, becoming the first nation to submit its 2035 climate plan to the UN. Despite potential challenges from a future Trump administration, sub-national governments and the private sector are expected to play a key role in achieving the target.

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## 🌐 Northern Arc secures USD 65 million debt commitment from global firms for climate fund

Northern Arc secures USD 65 million for its first climate fund. The fund receives support from DFC and OeEB. It will provide debt financing to companies in sectors like solar energy, energy efficiency, and sustainable agriculture. The fund will operate from GIFT City. It aligns with India's climate goals and aims to reduce emissions.

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## 🌐 Wealthier countries could remove 3 years' worth carbon by lowering beef production: study

High-income countries could remove 125 billion tonnes of carbon dioxide from air -- more than the past three years' global fossil fuel emissions -- if they cut down on beef production by only 13 per cent, according to a study. Researchers, including those from New York University, US, said that reducing beef production could serve as a "powerful complement" to, and not a substitute for, efforts directed at lowering fossil fuel emissions, which is core to tackling climate change.

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# Energy Sector (1/4)

## Gautam Adani launches new renewable energy brand campaign

Adani Group's new campaign, "First the fan will come, then electricity will come," highlights the transformative power of renewable energy in rural communities. Through a moving story, the ad underscores the company's commitment to clean energy and its positive social impact. With ambitious goals, including developing 50 GW of renewable energy by 2030 and establishing the Khavda Renewable Energy Park in Gujarat, the Adani Group is a leading player in India's green energy future.

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## Inox Wind bags 60 MW equipment supply order from Serentica Renewables

Inox Wind (IWL) said it has secured a 60 MW equipment supply order from Serentica Renewables. This order is for the supply of 3 MW class wind turbines. This order is to be delivered within H1 CY25 and it will be installed at the hybrid renewable energy project site being developed by Serentica Renewables in Karnataka. The power generated from this project will be supplied to Serentica's partners, including the Vedanta Group.

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## Websol Energy System to start commercial production at 600 MW cell line

Websol Energy System Limited said that the company will begin commercial production of PV cells in July 2025 at its expanded project in West Bengal. In October, the company doubled the capacity of its 600 MW cell line at its Falta plant by investing INR 220 crore. This new line is expected to be installed and commissioned in the first quarter of 2025-26, the company said in an exchange filing.

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## ReNew agrees to sell 300 MW operating solar power plant to Anzen India

ReNew Energy Global Plc has agreed to sell a 300 MW solar power plant in Rajasthan to Anzen India Energy Yield Plus Trust, part of the Edelweiss group, for USD 176 million. Additionally, it will receive about USD 17 million due to changes in customs duty, safeguard duty, and GST.

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## Waaree Energies begins trial production at US solar module plant

Waaree Energies said that its wholly-owned subsidiary Waaree Solar Americas Inc. has started trial production of solar modules at its manufacturing facility in the US. The first phase is of 1.6 GW solar module manufacturing capacity. The company plans to scale it up to 3 GW. Earlier, Waaree Energies said it had bagged two projects aggregating 398 MW for the supply of solar modules. Of these, one project is of 249 MW and the other is of 149 MW.

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## NHPC to invest INR 5,500 crore in setting up 1,000 MW solar project

NHPC Ltd, India's largest hydropower company, will invest INR 5,500 crore in setting up a 1,000 megawatt solar power project in Bihar. The firm signed an MoU with the state government for the investment at the Bihar Business Connect 2024. The project could be set up in 1.5-2 years from the date of land acquisition. The company has almost 7 gigawatts of operational hydropower plants and 9.3 gigawatts of capacity is under construction.

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# Energy Sector (2/4)

## Grew Energy gets order to supply 500 MW modules for solar project in Rajasthan

Grew Energy has secured a contract to supply 500 MW of PV modules to Jindal Renewables for a solar power project in Rajasthan. This partnership aims to support Jindal's commitment to sustainable steel production by utilizing renewable energy solutions. This initiative marks the beginning of further collaborations focused on adopting renewable energy.

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## Coal India spends INR 1,209 crore on solar projects

CIL has spent a total of INR1,209 crore on ground-mounted solar power projects having a capacity of 661 MW. Coal India Ltd (CIL) has a plan to achieve 3,000 MW solar project capacity by 2027-28 which consists of 211.59 MW in the current fiscal, 697.85 MW in FY26, 1,235 MW in FY27 and 785 MW in FY28. To ensure the timely execution of the solar projects, the PSU has taken various measures like posting of CIL Engineers at the solar project site for effective monitoring and supervising of project activities on a day-to-day basis and coordination with various statutory authorities for expediting clearances.

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## Adani Green Energy's arm commissions 250 MW solar project

Adani Green Energy said its arm has commissioned a 250 MW solar power project at Badi Sid in Jodhpur district, Rajasthan. With the commissioning of this plant, AGEL's total operational renewable generation capacity has increased to 11,434 MW.

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## Odisha govt approves 7 renewable energy projects worth INR 1,386 crore

Odisha's government approved seven renewable energy projects totaling 192.41 MW and worth INR 1,386.09 crore. These projects, including wind and solar installations, aim to bolster the state's sustainable energy infrastructure and advance the Odisha Renewable Energy Policy-2022. The single-window committee has now approved over 1,441.79 MW of renewable energy projects, representing investments exceeding INR 9,781.47 crore.

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## Lloyds Metals to foray into mine development and operations biz

Lloyds Metals & Energy's board has approved the proposal to foray into a new business line - mines development and operations. This move is in line with the company's aim to expand its capabilities within the mining sector to order to reach the overall objective of optimizing and reduction of input cost for its integrated steel business.

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## Waaree Energies secures 1 GW solar PV module supply order

Waaree Energies said it has secured an order to supply solar PV modules of up to 1 GW capacity from a domestic firm which is into renewable energy projects. According to a regulatory filing, the company has received an order for supply of solar modules up to 1 GW from a renowned customer engaged in the business of owning, developing and operating renewable power projects in India.

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# Energy Sector (3/4)

## Centre approves 2 hydro projects worth INR 3,689 crore in Arunachal Pradesh

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs greenlit two hydropower projects in Arunachal Pradesh totaling INR 3,689 crore. The 186 MW Tato-I and 240 MW Heo projects will boost the state's power supply and stabilize the national grid. The projects are joint ventures between NEEPCO and the Arunachal Pradesh government, with central financial assistance for infrastructure and equity.

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## Datta Power Infra signs MoU to invest INR 5,000 crore in RE sector in Rajasthan

Datta Power Infra has committed to investing INR 5,000 crore in Rajasthan's renewable energy sector. The company signed an MoU with the state government to establish 1,000 MW of solar, wind, and hybrid power projects. These projects, spanning six districts, namely, Bikaner, Jaisalmer, Barmer, Nagaur, Pratapgarh and Jodhpur which would generate jobs for 500-750 people.

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## Amara Raja Infra sets up India's first green hydrogen fuelling station in Leh

Amara Raja Infra completed India's first green hydrogen fuelling station in Leh, Ladakh, for NTPC Ltd. The station produces 80kg of green hydrogen daily and will power five hydrogen fuel cell buses, promoting emission-free transport in the challenging high-altitude terrain. This project marks a significant step in India's National Hydrogen Energy Mission.

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## NTPC Green Energy signs pact for RE projects worth INR 2 lakh crore in Andhra

NTPC Green Energy Ltd (NGEL) and NREDCAP have partnered to establish renewable energy projects valued at INR 2 lakh crore in Andhra Pradesh. The initiative aims to develop 25 GW of solar/wind power, 10 GW of pumped storage projects, and 0.5 MMTPA of green hydrogen, potentially generating over one lakh jobs.

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## Adani Green Energy to raise funds worth USD 2 billion in few months

Adani Green Energy is seeking to raise approximately USD 2 billion through bonds and loans in the coming months. The company plans to issue a USD 600 million bond in the near future and is also exploring a private placement for one of its subsidiaries.

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## Renewable player Sunkind bags 10.4-MW solar power project in Maharashtra

Green energy player Sunkind announced securing a solar energy project of 10.4 MW capacity from the government of Maharashtra. The project has been awarded by Maharashtra State Power Generation Company Limited (Mahagenco) under the Mukhyamantri Saur Krushi Vahini Yojana (MSKVY 2.0 scheme). The project specifically includes a 10.4 MWp capacity ground-mounted solar PV technology grid interactive distributed agriculture feeder solarization system, to be implemented at Satmane, Nashik.

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# Energy Sector (4/4)

## 🌐 Global coal demand is set to plateau through 2027

After reaching a new high in 2024, global demand for coal is set to level off in the coming years as a surge in renewable power helps to meet soaring demand for electricity around the world. The new edition of the IEA's annual coal market report shows that global coal use has rebounded strongly after plummeting at the height of the pandemic.

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## 🌐 IEA to hold major global conference on energy efficiency in Brussels in June 2025

The Annual Global Conference brings together ministers, business leaders and industry representatives to drive stronger action on energy efficiency. A key focus of the conference will be the global agreement to double energy efficiency progress this decade. IEA analysis shows that governments are not on track to achieve the doubling goal, with stronger policy action needed on energy efficiency in a range of areas such as buildings, industry and transport.

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## 🌐 Technology are unlocking geothermal energy's vast potential in countries across the globe

With global electricity demand set to grow strongly, new technologies are opening up the massive potential of geothermal energy to provide around-the-clock clean power in almost all countries around the world. Geothermal energy offers abundant, highly flexible and clean electricity supplies that can support variable renewable technologies such as wind and solar while complementing other low-emissions sources like nuclear.

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## 🌐 Clean energy transitions continue to accelerate, but progress is uneven

Despite concerns about setbacks in the global deployment of clean energy technologies, the latest data points to continued growth, according to a new update from the IEA. The report notes, however, that progress is uneven across different regions and technologies, highlighting the need for more supportive policies to enable countries to navigate the transition.

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## 🌐 Global market for key clean technologies set to triple to more than USD 2 trillion over the coming decade

The rapid uptake of clean energy technologies offers major opportunities for countries looking to manufacture and trade them but also presents challenging decisions for governments, which face tensions and trade-offs based on the industrial and trade policies they opt to pursue. The market for clean technologies is set to multiply in value in the coming decade, increasingly catching up with the markets for fossil fuels.

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## 🌐 Geopolitical tensions are laying bare fragilities in the global energy system, reinforcing need for faster expansion of clean energy

Regional conflicts and geopolitical strains are highlighting significant fragilities in today's global energy system, making clear the need for stronger policies and greater investments to accelerate and expand the transition to cleaner and more secure technologies.

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# Transportation Sector (1/3)

## BII to make INR 650 crore in final tranche of investment on M&M's EV arm

British International Investment Plc will invest INR 650 crore in Mahindra's electric vehicle unit MEAL by March 31, 2025. This is a reduction from the initially planned INR 725 crore. The investment will bring BII Group's total investment to INR 1,850 crore, giving them a shareholding of up to 4.58 percent in MEAL.

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## JSW group in talks with Chinese biggies to charge up its EV drive

JSW Group is in talks with multiple potential partners, including Chinese majors like Geely and BYD, in a quest to launch electric cars and e-trucks under its own brand, multiple people aware of the plans said. The Sajjan Jindal-owned group is looking for collaboration/s that may include potential licensing agreement or technology transfer for a full-fledged mobility company in addition to the existing JV it has with China's SAIC Motor.

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## Lohia Auto launches EV brand 'Youdha', aims to sell 3 lakh vehicles by 2027

Lohia Auto announced the launch of EV brand 'Youdha' as part of its INR 20-crore expansion plans and said it looks to manufacture and sell 3 lakh electric vehicles under the brand by 2027. The initial product portfolio of 'Youdha' includes passenger and cargo segment electric three-wheelers. The E5 passenger three-wheeler is designed for urban and semi-urban commuting, focusing on space and efficiency, while the E5 cargo model offers a reliable and sustainable solution for logistics.

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## Investments in new EV assembly line within a factory eligible for sops

The Indian government clarified that investments in dedicated EV assembly lines within existing factories will qualify for incentives under the SMEC. This clarification was sought by global EV makers, including those already present in India, who are considering participating in the scheme. Some automakers are awaiting final guidelines before committing, while others, like Mercedes-Benz, currently have sufficient local production capacity.

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## Maruti Suzuki to introduce comprehensive charging infra along with eVitara

Maruti Suzuki India recently said it will introduce a comprehensive EV ecosystem, including charging stations and home charging solutions, alongside its first offering in the segment -- eVitara. The company plans to showcase production-ready eVitara at the upcoming Bharat Mobility Global Expo 2025.

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## Bengaluru transport utility BMTC orders 148 electric buses from Tata Motors

Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) has expanded its electric bus fleet with an additional order of 148 Tata Starbus EVs. This follows a successful deployment of 921 electric buses, achieving over 95% uptime. The 12-meter low-floor buses will be supplied, operated, and maintained by Tata Motors' subsidiary for 12 years, promoting sustainable and comfortable public transport in Bengaluru.

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# Transportation Sector (2/3)

## CATL has co-developed 10 new EV models with swappable batteries

CATL is partnering with automakers to launch 10 new EVs with swappable "choco-swap" batteries. They aim to build 1,000 swapping stations next year and envision 30,000-40,000 stations eventually replacing a third of China's gas stations. The service starts at USD 51 per month, and CATL believes battery swapping will be a key EV power solution by 2030.

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## MLMM partners with Vidyut to launch battery-as-a-service financing for Evs

Mahindra Last Mile Mobility (MLMML) and Vidyut have announced a new collaboration to introduce Battery-as-a-Service (BaaS) financing for EVs. This innovative solution is aimed at reducing the upfront cost of electric vehicles, including Mahindra's ZEO (4W), Zor Grand, and Treo Plus (3Ws). With a minimal battery rental fee starting at INR 2.50 per kilometre, this program offers flexible options for customers to either continue the rental or purchase the battery outright, making EV ownership more affordable and accessible.

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## Investments in EV worth USD 40 billion are expected by 2030

India anticipates USD 40 billion in EV investments over the next 5-6 years, focusing on lithium-ion batteries and domestic manufacturing. This surge in investment, despite slower EV adoption, is expected to create significant real estate opportunities, including land for manufacturing and charging infrastructure development, potentially exceeding 45 million sq ft by 2030.

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## Investments in new EV assembly line within a factory eligible for sops

The Indian government clarified that investments in dedicated EV assembly lines within existing factories will qualify for incentives under the SMEC. This clarification was sought by global EV makers, including those already present in India, who are considering participating in the scheme. Some automakers are awaiting final guidelines before committing, while others, like Mercedes-Benz, currently have sufficient local production capacity.

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## Hyundai Motor India to install nearly 600 fast EV chargers in 7 years

Hyundai Motor India plans to set up nearly 600 public EV fast charging stations nationwide over the next seven years. By December 2024, it aims to have 50 stations. The company is investing in infrastructure to address concerns about long-distance EV travel, especially on highways. Hyundai has also partnered with Tamil Nadu to build 100 charging stations by 2027, with 10 operational by 2024.

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## Magenta Mobility to add 10,000 EVs over next fiscal; to expand to new cities

Electric mobility firm Magenta Mobility on recently said it plans to add 10,000 electric vehicles -- both three and four-wheelers -- over the next financial year and is also looking at expanding into new cities such as Nashik, Nagpur, Vijayawada, Indore and Kolkata, among others. The company also said that after establishing a strong presence in the electric three-wheeler space, it is now aggressively expanding into the four-wheeler category.

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# Transportation Sector (3/3)

## SWITCH Mobility rolls out EiV12 and E1 low floor electric city buses

SWITCH Mobility Ltd has recently launched two low-floor electric city buses- EiV12 and E1-equipped with chassis-mounted batteries, expanding its product portfolio, a top official said. The SWITCH EiV12 platform has been indigenously designed, developed, and manufactured for urban city commutes, offering global standards in performance, safety, and reliability. The SWITCH EiV12 is claimed to be the country's first low-floor city bus featuring a scalable battery capacity of over 400 kWh.

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## Delhi government extends electric vehicle incentives until March 2025 amid poor air quality

The Delhi government extends its EV policy incentives, including subsidies and road tax exemptions, until March 31, 2025, to tackle poor air quality. Purchases from January 1, 2024, onward will benefit, reversing the halted incentives from earlier. The move aims to boost Delhi's significant EV market amid challenges like high prices and limited charging infrastructure.

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## Lectrix EV looks to raise USD 100 million to fund future growth

Lectrix EV, the e-mobility division of SAR Group, aims to secure USD 100 million in external funding within the next year to support its expansion. The company, having invested INR 300 crore internally, plans to enhance its dealership network and establish charging infrastructure across 100 cities. Lectrix unveiled a new electric scooter, NDuro, to redefine urban navigation.

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## Telangana announced 100 per cent exemption on road tax, registration fees for electric vehicles

Telangana government recently announced providing 100 per cent exemption from road tax and registration fees for electric vehicles (EV) purchased and registered in the state for the initial period of two years up to December 31, 2026. Transport Minister Ponnam Prabhakar said under the Government Order (GO) 41, the new EV policy will come into place from November 18. This is aimed at making Hyderabad pollution-free.

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## Odysse to supply 40,000 EVs to Zypp as part of investment deal

Odysse Electric, an electric two-wheeler manufacturer, has secured an order for 40,000 electric vehicles from Zypp Electric, an EV-as-a-Service platform. The deal, which includes an investment from Zypp, will help Odysse expand its presence in the B2B market and dealership network. The partnership aims to meet the increasing demand for sustainable transportation solutions in India.

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## Flipkart deployed over 10,000 electric vehicles in delivery fleet

E-commerce major Flipkart on Monday said it has deployed over 10,000 electric vehicles (EVs) in its delivery fleet as part of a phased integration of EVs in the last mile delivery over the past few years. The strategic adoption of EVs has resulted in substantial operational efficiencies, lowering the cost per order at the hub level and improving the last-mile delivery speed by 20 per cent, compared to conventional delivery vehicles.

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# Other climate action initiatives

## 🌐 Bangladesh receives USD 900 million world bank financing to improve environment sustainability, urban and climate resilience

Bangladesh and the World Bank signed two financing agreements totaling USD 900 million to help the country achieve environment sustainability, inclusive growth and climate resiliency, including in urban infrastructure. The financing supports policies to reduce air pollution, improve environmental enforcement, expand access to carbon markets, enhance sustainable water and sanitation services, improve the efficiency of the Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100.

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## 🌐 World Bank helps Bhutan enhance climate and disaster resilience

The World Bank approved USD 40 million in financing to help the Royal Government of Bhutan strengthen its institutional and technical capacity to manage the increasing risks of climate change and natural disasters. The operation will support safeguarding the hydropower sector—the country's economic backbone—from natural disaster and climate risks through measures.

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## 🌐 World Bank Supports Inclusive and Sustainable Development of Amaravati City

The World Bank approved USD 800 million Amaravati Integrated Urban Development Program aimed at establishing the city as a well-managed, climate-resilient growth center in Andhra Pradesh that generates jobs and improves the lives of its current and future residents, especially the most vulnerable.

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## 🌐 Clean-tech exports from central and eastern Europe poised to bolster EU green growth, World Bank report

Clean technology exports from Central and Eastern Europe have the potential to at least triple, strengthening the EU economy and its global competitiveness. The clean-tech sector offers considerable growth potential in the four Central and Eastern European countries (4CEEs) of Bulgaria, Croatia, Poland, and Romania, which are strategically located emerging EU economies.

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## 🌐 New Program will boost climate resilience of agriculture and quality of food production in Morocco

The World Bank has approved USD 250 million for the Morocco Transforming Agri-food Systems Program, aimed at increasing the Moroccan agri-food system's resilience to climate change and strengthening food safety and quality. The agri-food sector is vital for Morocco's economic growth, contributing 16 percent of gross domestic product and 19 percent of total exports in 2023.

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## 🌐 World Bank approves USD 240 million to support investments in water, sanitation and hygiene services in Karachi

The World Bank approved USD 240 million in financing for the Second Karachi Water and Sewerage Services Improvement Project (KWSSIP-2) to provide safely managed water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) services in the city of Karachi.

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