

## India at COP-28: Highlights of 28<sup>th</sup> Conference of Parties

(Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change)

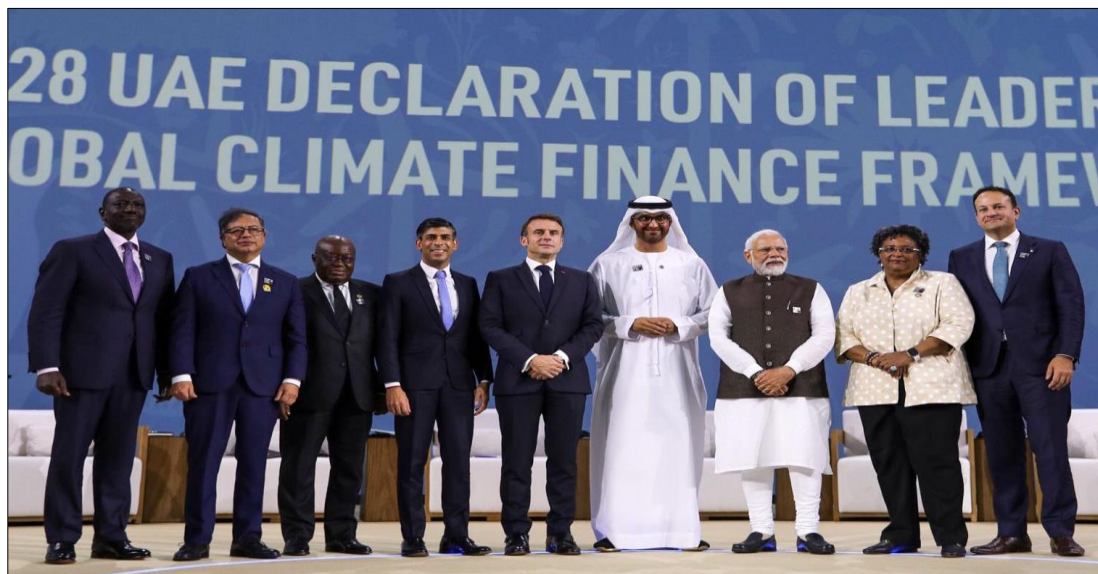
December 12, 2023

The [28<sup>th</sup> Conference of Parties](#) (COP-28) was held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates (UAE), from 30<sup>th</sup> November to 12<sup>th</sup> December 2023, where the representatives from 197 countries showcased their efforts to limit global warming and held discussions to prepare for future climate change. This was the first time when the countries formally assessed their progress under the 2015 Paris climate agreement. The delegates at [COP-28](#) also discussed the adaptation and mitigation efforts required to achieve significant positive outcomes in the coming years towards tackling climate change. Such efforts are especially crucial for countries that are highly vulnerable to climate change and also for the fragile ecosystems of the world such as the Himalayan Mountain range in Asia.<sup>1</sup>

### India's engagements at COP-28

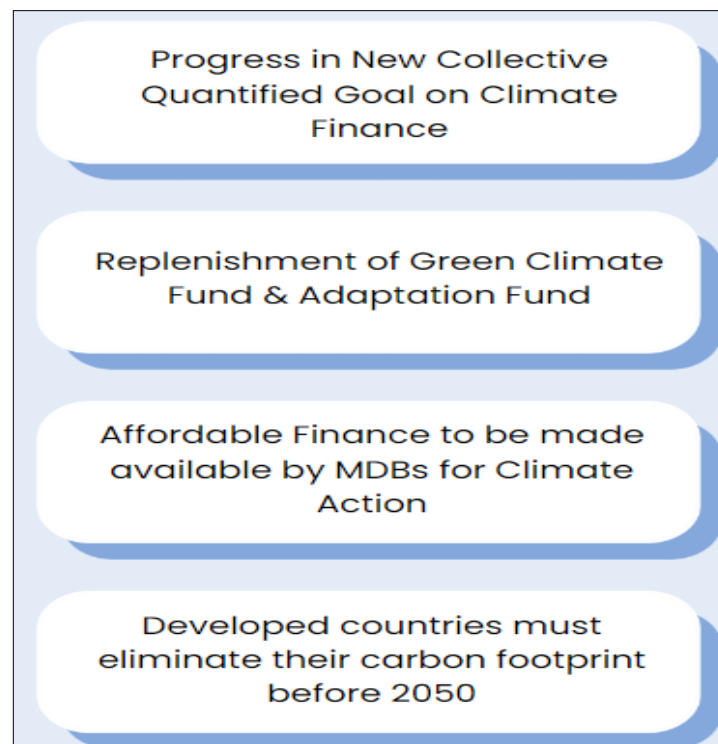
#### PM Narendra Modi at the COP-28 Presidency's Session on "Transforming Climate Finance"

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi participated in the **COP-28 Presidency's Session on "Transforming Climate Finance"** on December 1, 2023, in Dubai, UAE. The event focused



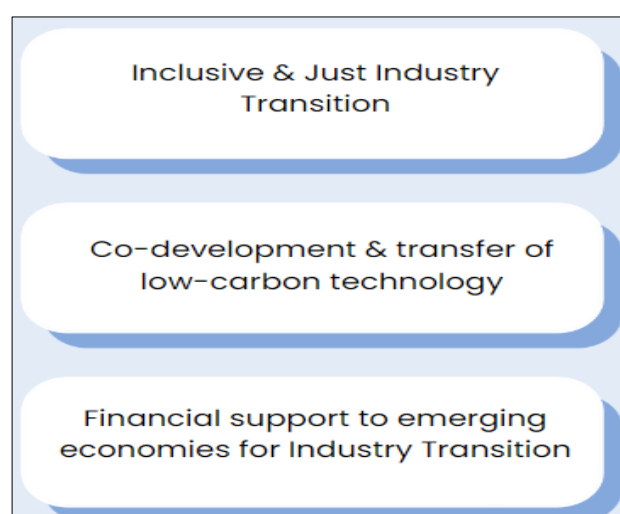
<sup>1</sup> <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1982425>

on making climate finance more available, accessible, and affordable to developing countries. During his address, the Prime Minister voiced the concerns of the Global South and reiterated the urgency of making the means of implementation, particularly climate finance, available to the developing countries to achieve their climate ambitions and implement their NDCs. PM Modi also welcomed the operationalisation of the Loss and Damage Fund and establishment of the [UAE Climate Investment Fund at COP-28](#) and called for the COP-28 to deliver on the following issues related to Climate Finance :<sup>2</sup>



### Co-launch of the Phase II of the Leadership Group for Industry Transition (LeadIT 2.0)

Prime Minister Narendra Modi along with Prime Minister of Sweden H.E. Mr. Ulf Kristersson, co-launched the Phase II of the [Leadership Group for Industry Transition \(LeadIT 2.0\)](#) for the period 2024-26, at COP-28 in Dubai. India and Sweden also launched the **Industry Transition Platform**, which will connect the governments, industries, technology providers, researchers and think tanks of the two countries. During the event, Prime Minister highlighted that LeadIT 2.0 will focus on inclusive & just industry transition, co-development and transfer of low-carbon technology, and financial support to emerging economies for industry transition.<sup>3</sup> India and



<sup>2</sup> <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1981733>

<sup>3</sup> <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1981722>

Sweden had co-launched LeadIT at UN Climate Action Summit in New York in 2019.

### Co-hosting the High-level event on ‘Green Credits Programme’ at COP-28

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi together with the President of UAE Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, co-hosted the High-level event on ‘**Green Credits Programme**’ at COP-28, on December 1, 2023, in Dubai. The event saw the participation of H.E. Mr. Ulf Kristersson, Prime Minister of Sweden, H.E. Mr. Filipe Nyusi, President of Mozambique, and H.E. Mr. Charles Michel, President of the European Council. Prime Minister invited all nations to join this Initiative.<sup>4</sup>

The [Green Credit Initiative](#) has been conceptualized as a mechanism to incentivize voluntary pro-planet actions, as an effective response to the challenge of climate change. It envisions the issue of Green Credits for plantations on waste/degraded lands and river catchment areas, to rejuvenate and revive natural eco-systems.



During the event, [a web platform](#) which would serve as a repository of policies and best practices that incentivize environment-friendly actions, was also launched. This initiative aims to facilitate global collaboration, cooperation, and partnership through the exchange of knowledge, experiences, and best practices in planning, implementation, and monitoring of environment-positive actions through programs/mechanisms like Green Credits.

### Side event hosted at the India pavilion at the UN Climate Conference COP-28

Impacts and implications of Climate Change Vulnerability in the Himalayan Region and ways of creating ‘Climate Resilient Development in the Indian Himalayan Region by making mountain communities green and resilient were discussed in the side event hosted at the India pavilion at the UN Climate Conference COP-28 on December 3, 2023.

<sup>4</sup> <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1981719>

The climate of India is highly dependent on Himalayan range and Indian Himalayan region (IHR) has been a shelter for more than 50 million people. Any impact in the Himalayas would mean an effect on the life of millions of people not only of India but also of entire subcontinent.

These include changes on account of natural causes, climate change resulting from anthropogenic emissions and developmental pathways. Hence it becomes crucial to assess the vulnerability of the Indian Himalayan region.

The experts at the side event elaborated on the importance of the National Mission for Sustaining the Himalayan Ecosystem (NMSHE) launched as part of National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC), to better understand the linkages between climate change and the Himalayan ecosystem for improved adaptation.<sup>5</sup>

### Quad Climate Working Group (QCWG) Side Event on Localised Climate Action

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India organised a side event under the Climate Ambition Pillar of Quad Climate Working Group (QCWG) on “Localising Climate Action” at the India Pavilion on the sidelines of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) COP-28 at Dubai on December 9, 2023. The event focused on recognizing and amplifying the role of local communities, local and regional Governments in supporting sustainable lifestyles.



During the event, a publication on India’s climate action journey from COP-21 in Paris to COP-28 in the UAE was also released. The publication highlights the rapid strides the country has made in a decade since the Paris Agreement. It reinstates India’s steadfast commitment to UNFCCC.<sup>6</sup>

### India at Mangrove Alliance for Climate Ministerial Meeting at COP-28 Summit

Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Shri Bhupender Yadav while addressing the Mangrove Alliance for Climate Ministerial Meeting at COP-28 Summit on December 9, said, “Working under the leadership of Hon’ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, India has adopted a holistic approach towards conservation. We are not just focused on

<sup>5</sup> <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1982425>

<sup>6</sup> <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1984396>

*reducing emissions to tackle temperature rise but are also working towards arresting land degradation, accelerating ecosystem restoration, and enriching biodiversity. The value of biodiversity to humankind also lies in its economic dimension alongside the cultural and social aspects.”*

*“As part of this effort, in Budget 2023-24, the Indian government, building on India’s success in afforestation, rolled out the [Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats and Tangible Incomes or, MISHTI](#). Under this scheme, mangrove plantations along the coastline and on salt pans are being taken up,” the Minister added.<sup>7</sup>*

## India’s National Statement at COP-28

Shri Bhupender Yadav presented India’s national statement at COP28 in Dubai on December 9, 2023. He reaffirmed India’s commitment underlined by PM Narendra Modi to work together for the common objective of a greener, cleaner, and healthier planet as we have One Earth, we are One Family



and we share One future. He said, *“India has been at the forefront of supporting action-oriented steps at the global level in response to climate change. We have always held the view that people and the planet are inseparable and that human well-being and Nature are intrinsically linked. In our endeavour to decouple economic growth from greenhouse gas emissions, India has successfully reduced the emission intensity vis-à-vis its GDP by 33% between 2005 and 2019, thus achieving the initial NDC target for 2030, 11 years ahead of the scheduled time. India has also achieved 40% of electric installed capacity through non-fossil fuel sources, nine years ahead of the target for 2030. Between 2017 and 2023, India has added around 100 GW of installed electric capacity, of which around 80% is attributed to non-fossil fuel-based resources. We have therefore revised our NDCs upwards indicating our deep commitment towards enhanced climate action.”<sup>8</sup>*

Highlighting India’s significant role and contribution towards climate action at the international level, he added, *“In addition to its domestic initiatives, India’s contribution to climate action has been significant through its international efforts such as International Solar Alliance (ISA), Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI), creation of LeadIT, Infrastructure for Resilient Island States (IRIS) and the Big Cat Alliance. The Global Biofuel Alliance, launched*

<sup>7</sup> <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1984551>

<sup>8</sup> <https://x.com/byadavbjp/status/1733471806676426928?s=20>

*when the G20 leaders met in New Delhi earlier this year, seeks to serve as a catalytic platform fostering global collaboration for advancement and widespread adoption of biofuels.”*

To read the complete statement, click [HERE](#).

### **Highlighting the significance of lending to MSMEs in Renewable Energy sector**

During a session on "Pioneering Sustainability in MSMEs: Envisioning Global Growth and Local Impact" organized by the International Solar Alliance and CII, as part of COP-28 in Dubai on December 10, 2023, Chairman & Managing Director of the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited (IREDA) Shri Pradip Kumar Das reiterated IREDA's commitment to promoting environmental sustainability. He highlighted the significance of lending to Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in the Renewable Energy sector, emphasizing both its economic and environmental contributions. The commitment involves increasing the participation of MSMEs in the Renewable Sector through accessible loan facilities, reinforcing the organization's dedication to a sustainable future.<sup>9</sup>

### **Conclusion**

India's engagements at COP-28, led by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, showcase a comprehensive and proactive approach to tackling climate change. Emphasizing the urgency of accessible climate finance for developing nations, Prime Minister Modi highlighted the need to implement Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and voiced concerns on behalf of the Global South. The initiatives launched, including LeadIT 2.0 for industry transition, the Green Credits Programme incentivizing pro-environment actions, and the focus on the Himalayan region's vulnerability, demonstrate India's commitment to diverse strategies for sustainable development.

Furthermore, India's involvement in the Quad Climate Working Group and the Mangrove Alliance illustrates a recognition of the pivotal role played by local communities and regional governments in fostering sustainable lifestyles and holistic conservation efforts. The National Statement by Union Minister Shri Bhupender Yadav emphasized India's comprehensive approach to environmental conservation, addressing not only emissions but also land degradation, ecosystem restoration, and biodiversity enrichment. The commitment to lending to Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in the Renewable Energy sector, as highlighted by IREDA, underscores India's focus on driving economic and environmental sustainability.

Overall, India's active participation at COP-28 positions the country as a proactive and influential player in the global fight against climate change, showcasing a commitment to collaborative, innovative, and localized solutions.

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<sup>9</sup> <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1984787>

**References:**

- PIB Press Release on [Dual Financing Approach being adopted to Elevate MSMEs' Contribution in Renewable Energy Transition: IREDA CMD at COP-28](#) dated December 10, 2023.
- PIB Press Release on [Statement by Union Minister Shri Bhupender Yadav at Mangrove Alliance for Climate Ministerial Meeting at COP-28 Summit](#) dated December 9, 2023.
- PIB Press Release on [Quad Climate Working Group \(QCWG\) Side Event on Localised Climate Action](#) dated December 9, 2023.
- PIB Press Release on [Climate Resilient Development in Indian Himalayan Region discussed at Indian side event at CoP 28](#) dated December 4, 2023.
- PIB Press Release on [Prime Minister participates in the COP-28 Presidency's Session on Transforming Climate Finance](#) dated December 01, 2023.
- PIB Press Release on [India and Sweden co-host the Phase-II of Leadership Group for Industry Transition at COP-28](#) dated December 1, 2023.
- <https://www.cop28.com/en/>

**Twitter links:**

- [https://x.com/COP28\\_UAE/status/1730698980395303251?s=20](https://x.com/COP28_UAE/status/1730698980395303251?s=20)
- <https://x.com/byadavbjp/status/1733471806676426928?s=20>

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