



THE INSTITUTE OF
Company Secretaries of India

भारतीय कम्पनी सचिव संस्थान

IN PURSUIT OF PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

Statutory body under an Act of Parliament

(Under the jurisdiction of Ministry of Corporate Affairs)

Vision

"To be a global leader in promoting good corporate governance"

Motto

सत्यं वद। धर्मं चर। इच्छते मितं त्वापि, एतद्दृष्टं लोकैः तदुच्यते

Mission

"To develop high calibre professionals facilitating good corporate governance"

ESG CATALYST

Where Sustainability Meets Innovation



AN ICSI initiative towards building awareness in
the ESG landscape

India's Nationally Determined Contribution (2031-2035)

India's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) for 2031–2035 has been approved by the Union Cabinet in March 2026, marking a pivotal advancement in the nation's commitment to the Paris Agreement and the UNFCCC.

Aligned with the vision of Viksit Bharat, this framework underscores a dedication to proactive climate action, aiming to build a Prosperous, Resilient, and Sustainable Future while upholding principles of climate justice.

Building on a strong track record of surpassing previous climate goals ahead of schedule, the new NDC introduces five qualitative targets integrating sustainability into governance and daily life, fostering an inclusive, climate-resilient transition benefitting all segments of society.

By 2026, the nation had already achieved 52.57% non-fossil fuel power capacity exceeding its 2030 target five years early and recorded a 36% reduction in GDP emissions intensity between 2005 and 2020. Building on this momentum, India has scaled its 2035 ambitions including:

Commitment to reduce Emissions Intensity by 47% by 2035

Target to achieve 60% cumulative electric power from non-fossil fuel-based energy resources by 2035

To create Carbon Sink of 3.5 to 4.0 bn tonnes of CO₂ equivalent through Forest and Tree Cover by 2035

India's climate approach extends beyond mitigation actions and focuses on scaling-up adaptation actions.

Key measures towards the achievement of goals on adaptation are:

- ✓ Protection of vulnerable coastlines through mangrove restoration, coastal regulation, and climate-resilient infrastructure;
- ✓ Early warning systems for cyclones and storm surges;
- ✓ Targeted programmes for glacier monitoring, biodiversity conservation, and sustainable livelihoods in Himalayan states;
- ✓ Climate-resilient infrastructure to address risks from landslides and glacial lake outburst floods; and implementation of Heat Action Plans across the States;
- ✓ Community-based disaster preparedness and resilience programmes, etc.

In shaping India's NDC for 2031–2035, the Government has considered the outcomes of the first Global Stocktake (GST), Principle of Common but differentiated responsibilities and Respective Capabilities (CBDR-RC), and equity with a view to harmonize national realities, developmental priorities, energy security and the need for greater ambition in climate action, in line with the purpose and long-term goals of the Paris Agreement.

ESG NEWS

UK To Scrap Carbon Tax On Power By 2028 As Coal Exit Reshapes Energy Policy

The UK government has announced that it will scrap the Carbon Price Support (CPS) levy on electricity generation from April 2028. The CPS, introduced in 2013, was designed to make fossil fuel power more expensive and accelerate the transition away from coal. With coal now fully phased out of the UK's energy mix—the last coal plant closed in 2024—the government considers the levy redundant.

Going forward, the UK will rely solely on its Emissions Trading System (ETS) to regulate carbon emissions from power generation, heavy industry, and aviation. The ETS sets a cap on emissions and allows trading of permits, currently priced around £49 per tonne of CO₂. This system is expected to continue driving decarbonisation while providing more predictable costs for businesses.

The removal of CPS is also intended to ease energy costs for households and industries, especially in light of recent global energy market volatility. Analysts note that while the levy played a crucial role in eliminating coal—once responsible for nearly 40% of UK electricity—its abolition should not undermine climate goals, as the ETS remains in place.

In essence, the policy shift reflects a new phase in UK energy strategy: moving beyond coal, reducing duplication in carbon pricing, and balancing affordability with climate commitments.

UK To Scrap Carbon Tax On Power By 2028 As Coal Exit Reshapes Energy Policy - ESG News

Apple Hits 30% Recycled Materials Across Products as Supply Chain Shifts Accelerate Toward 2030 Climate Targets

Apple has announced that recycled materials now make up 30% of the content across all of its products, marking a significant milestone in its sustainability journey. This achievement reflects the company's accelerated efforts to reshape its supply chain in line with its 2030 climate targets. Apple has been steadily increasing the use of recycled aluminum, cobalt, rare earth elements, and other materials, aiming to reduce reliance on virgin mining and cut down its overall carbon footprint.

Apple's push toward recycled materials is closely tied to its 2030 goal of achieving carbon neutrality across its entire supply chain and product lifecycle. By embedding circular economy principles into design and manufacturing, Apple is not only reducing emissions but also setting a precedent for other technology companies. The move underscores how sustainability is becoming a core part of corporate strategy, with supply chain innovation playing a central role in meeting global climate commitments.

In short, Apple's announcement signals both progress and urgency: the company is on track with its climate goals, but it also emphasizes the need for continued transformation in materials sourcing and supply chain practices to meet the 2030 deadline.

Apple Hits 30% Recycled Materials Across Products as Supply Chain Shifts Accelerate Toward 2030 Climate Targets - ESG News

Glass Lewis Launches AI-Powered Climate Intelligence to Strengthen Investment Decisions

Glass Lewis has unveiled a new AI-powered climate intelligence platform designed to enhance investment decision-making by integrating advanced environmental data into its governance and advisory services. The tool leverages artificial intelligence to analyze climate-related risks and opportunities across companies, helping investors better understand how businesses are positioned in relation to global sustainability goals.

The platform aims to provide more granular insights into corporate climate strategies, emissions trajectories, and alignment with international frameworks such as the Paris Agreement. By embedding this intelligence into proxy advice and stewardship recommendations, Glass Lewis seeks to strengthen investor confidence and encourage more informed engagement with companies on climate issues.

This launch reflects a broader trend in the financial sector, where AI and data-driven tools are increasingly being used to evaluate environmental, social, and governance (ESG) factors. For Glass Lewis, the initiative underscores its commitment to supporting investors in navigating the complexities of climate risk while promoting accountability and transparency in corporate practices.

In essence, the move signals a step toward more sophisticated ESG integration, where climate intelligence becomes a core component of investment analysis and shareholder decision-making.

[Glass Lewis Launches AI-Powered Climate Intelligence to Strengthen Investment Decisions - ESG News](#)

EU Backs Clean Transition in New Energy and Climate Diplomacy Plan

The European Union has endorsed a new energy and climate diplomacy plan that places clean transition at the center of its foreign and security strategy. The initiative is designed to reduce reliance on imported fossil fuels, strengthen resilience against global energy shocks, and promote European leadership in clean technology. By embedding climate goals into its diplomatic and industrial policies, the EU aims to align sustainability with sovereignty and competitiveness.

The plan highlights the need to secure critical raw materials, diversify energy sources, and protect infrastructure such as grids, pipelines, and ports from both climate-related risks and cyber threats. It also emphasizes building global partnerships through initiatives like the Critical Raw Materials Act and Global Gateway, ensuring that Europe's supply chains remain stable while supporting the export of clean technologies.

Geopolitical tensions, particularly Russia's war in Ukraine and instability in the Middle East, have reinforced the urgency of this strategy. The EU views clean energy deployment not only as a climate imperative but also as a safeguard for peace, economic stability, and strategic autonomy.

The new plan is a more transforming EU diplomacy: climate and energy policy are no longer treated as separate issues but as integral to security, industry, and global influence. It underscores Europe's intent to lead in climate action while protecting its own resilience in a rapidly changing geopolitical landscape.

[EU Backs Clean Transition in New Energy and Climate Diplomacy Plan –](#)

PARTNERING IN ESG

ENVIRONMENTAL

Aim for achieving carbon-neutral operations through investments in renewable energy and emission reduction projects.

SOCIAL

Focus on skill development, education, and healthcare initiatives.

GOVERNANCE

Adopt global reporting standards to ensure transparency.

JOIN THE ESG MOVEMENT

Improve home insulation to reduce heating/cooling energy wastage.

Opt out of paper and choose electronic billing

Plan meals and store food properly to avoid wastage.



Share in your ESG centric inputs via email at esgsb@icsi.edu.