



National Action Plan on Climate Change



Introduction

- Launched in 2008 by the Prime Minister's Council on Climate Change.
- Creates awareness among public, agencies of government, academia, industry & the environment on climate change threat & its counter measures.
- 8 national missions representing multi-pronged, long term & integrated strategies.

Salient Features

- Directional policy development path & enhances programmes & technologies.
- Identifies mission promoting developmental push & addressing climate change.
- The guiding principles of NAPCC are:
 - Protection of poor & vulnerable - include and sustainable development strategy.
 - Achievements of national growth, ecological sustainability.
 - Deployment of appropriate technologies - absorption and integration of CDM resources.
 - Regulatory and voluntary mechanisms - promote sustainable development.
 - Effective implementation - unique linkages & public-private partnership.
 - Intake international cooperation - research, development, sharing & transfer of data & technologies.

The Jawahar Nehrū National Solar Mission

- Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.
- Launched in 2010 to achieve grid parity by 2022 & with cost based thermal power by 2016.
- Increase solar energy's share.
- Measures to increase R&D efforts, promote decentralised distribution of energy.
- Manufacture solar panels at local level & tie up local research with international efforts.
- Reduce the absolute cost.
- Mandatory solar water heaters to promote solar heating systems.
- Power to gear up remote village electrification programme.
- Research, application, support & facilitation of solar technologies.
- Oversee solar industry capable to compete fossil fuel options.
- By the end of third phase, 2022 estimated 20,000 MW of solar power.

National Mission for Enhanced Energy Efficiency

- Ministry of Power.
- Based on Energy Conservation Act, 2001.
- Enhance cost effectiveness, switching to cleaner fuels, commercially viable technology transfers, capacity building needs.
- Development with energy efficiency.
- Spread awareness & create demand.
- Ensure adequate supply of energy efficient products, goods & services.
- Create financing platforms.
- Formulate well thought out evaluation & monitoring mechanisms.
- Overcome market failures.
- Key areas - Energy, Efficiency, Equity and Environment.

National Mission on Sustainable Habitat

- Ministry of Urban Development.
- Manifold agenda covering energy efficiency, waste disposal & public transport.
- Multi-pronged approach to make urban areas more climate friendly & less susceptible to climate change.
- Recycling, reusing and composting of solid & liquid waste management.
- Adopt & create technologies mitigating climate change.
- Create green building code.
- Proper enforcement of law & order.
- Establish financial incentives on green rating.
- Proper treatment of waste water and use of better designed roads.
- Conversion of solid waste into energy.
- Reduce fuel consumption by pedestrian pathways with trees & bicycle ways.
- Promote use of natural gas & other renewable fuels.
- Fuel efficiency standards for new & existing vehicles.
- Comprehensive urban renewal plan with sustainable design.
- Better enforcement of UDDP guidelines.

National Water Mission

- Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Gangs Rejuvenation.
- Ensure better integrated water resource management.
- Local issues of groundwater & surface water management, domestic & industrial water management, improvement of water storage capacity & protection of wetlands.
- Monitor & data collection.
- Implement projects in climate sensitive regions.
- Promote water purification & desalination techniques.
- Bring a bill for regulation & management of groundwater.
- Research in water use efficiency in various sectors.
- Incentives for water audit & practice technologies.
- Review National Water Policy to include lift out areas.
- Open water distribution to public channels.
- Promote citizen and state action to conserve, augment & generate water.
- More focused attention to over-exploited areas.
- Improving water use efficiency by 20%.

National Mission for Sustaining the Himalayan Ecosystem

- Department of Science Acid Technology.
- To protect Himalayan ecosystems, tourism and safeguard the Himalayan glaciers, mountain ecosystems, biodiversity & wildlife conservation & protection.
- Human and knowledge capacities.
- Institutional agencies.
- Evidence based policy building and governance.
- Continuous self learning for balancing between Nature & Manland.
- Establish modern centre of glaciology, standardise data collection & map natural resources.
- Identify & train experts & specialists for sustaining the Himalayan ecosystem.

National Mission for Green India

- Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
- Mandate to revive degraded forest land, increase forest cover & density & conserve biodiversity.
- Reduce fragmentation of forests, enhance private public partnership for plantations & improve schemes.
- Plans to tackle challenges posed by climate change.
- Enhance carbon sinks in sustainably managed forests.
- Enhance resilience of vulnerable species & ecosystems.
- Enable forest dependent communities to adapt to climate variability.
- Double the area for afforestation.
- Increase greenhouse gas removals by Indian forests.

National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture

- Ministry of Agriculture.
- Develop strategies to make agriculture less susceptible to climate change.
- Identify & develop new crop varieties, use traditional & modern agricultural techniques.
- Dry land agriculture, risk management, access to information & use of technology at stress of intervention.
- Strengthening agricultural insurance, develop GIS & remote sensing.
- Collection of crop data & preparation of state-level agro-climatic atlas.
- Strategies to evolve low input agriculture.
- Nutritional strategies.
- Use of micro-irrigation systems.
- Promotion of techniques- minimum tillage, organic farming & rain water conservation.
- Capacity building of farmers & other stakeholders.
- Production of bio-fertilisers, compost & substitutes for chemical fertilisers.
- Strengthening National Agricultural Insurance Scheme.

National Mission on Strategic Knowledge for Climate Change

- Department of Science and Technology.
- Identifies challenges & requisite responses to climate change through open international collaboration.
- Strong strategic knowledge system on climate change is needed.
- Develop regional climate science.
- Leverage international cooperation.
- Efforts feeding into INCCA.
- Creation of data generation & sharing system by mapping resources.
- Identifying knowledge gaps & inspiring from global technological trends.
- Create new centres dedicated to climate research.

Achievements

- Fairly comprehensive with cross sectoral links. Focal point is following low carbon energy path without impeding economic growth.
- Balanced perspective on mitigation & adaptation ensuring knowledge exchange & informed research.

Challenges and Suggestions

- India can leapfrog to low carbon economy by using high end & emerging technologies.
- No commitment to cut the quantity carbon emissions.
- Focus on solar power mission. Equal emphasis all missions needed.
- Multi-sectoral, overlapping, multi-departmental, advisory & slow moving missions.
- Either integrate such missions or scrap to save time & cost.
- Challenge of ineffective or absent monitoring systems.
- Report progress & regular meetings by ministries with the PMCC.
- Major challenges- financial constraints, inter-ministerial coordination, lack of technical expertise & project clearance delay.
- No positive results due to cross-cutting subjects so new approach needed.
- Opportunity to discuss approaches dealing with climate change & to understand the best way ahead.

Way Forward

- India's engagement in multilateral negotiations in UNFCCC, in action, constructive & forward looking manner.
- Missions must be continuous, sustainable & global contribution is needed.
- Government's commitment towards climate change is seen by releasing NAPCC.
- Strong & effective steps needed to address global warming & climate change awareness.

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