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# ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY



# OVERVIEW

**F**rom the times of Chief Minister Narendra Modi to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, one consistent theme in governance is the illustration that development and environmental conservation can go hand-in-hand. Under PM Modi's leadership, there has been rapid development without hurting the environment and, in fact, while protecting it.

Over the last eight years, India has emerged as a global leader in the fight against climate change. From negotiations over global climate change deals to the adoption of renewable energy, India is leading international efforts for environmental protection and shaping the global agenda.

When PM Modi took over in 2014, India was globally seen as a roadblock in climate negotiations. However, the Prime Minister has given solutions to forge a path forward. Since COP 21, the Prime Minister's principle of climate justice has ensured that equity concerns aren't ignored in climate change negotiations. India has remained focused on providing a 'fair deal'. It has ensured that advanced economies cannot abdicate their responsibility towards environmental protection. At the same time, India is also meeting ambitious climate

goals.

At the COP 26 at Glasgow last year, PM Modi shared his five-point agenda - 'Panchamrit,' for countering climate change. This provides a comprehensive approach that most countries can replicate.

India's global efforts have been accompanied by consistent steps within the country by the Modi government. The Modi government has brought transparency and objectivity to environmental law compliance. This has not only generated trust in the government but also helped in ensuring that sustainable development becomes possible.

The government's remarkable efforts for environmental protection have led to many commendable achievements. There has been a significant increase in forest cover in the country. Over the past decade, the tiger population in India has more than doubled. While many countries fail to fulfil their climate targets, India has hit targets long before deadlines. For example, the target for achieving 40% of installed electricity capacity from non-fossil sources, which was set at COP 21, was fulfilled nine years ahead of schedule.

The Namami Gange programme, a flagship initiative of the government, has

successfully arrested pollution of the holy river and improved water quality at numerous locations. This cause has been extremely close to PM Modi's heart, as evident in his decision to donate all proceeds from an auction of gifts he received to the Namami Gange programme.

The last eight years have witnessed a rapid transition towards renewable sources of energy. India has had the fastest growth rate in renewable energy capacity addition among large economies. Numerous incentives for the renewable energy sector and lower cost of inputs have led to a massive decrease in renewable energy tariffs. Further, the UJALA programme has led to thousands of crores of savings while reducing carbon dioxide emissions.

People's participation has been central to the Prime Minister's vision of providing a clean and healthy environment. From cleanliness to avoiding single-use plastic, he has often encouraged citizens to make lifestyle changes to contribute to the environment. By transforming these causes into mass movements, he has ensured impact at scale rather than a temporary shift in public habits.

\* \* \*

# SNAPSHOT

As per 2018 census **India's Tiger population** has **doubled**

Projects worth over **Rs. 30,853 crore** launched under **Namami Gange Mission**

India has pledged to achieve **net-zero emissions by 2070.**

India has achieved **COP 21 targets** **9 years ahead** of schedule

**Renewable energy capacity** has **more than doubled** since 2014

**Solar energy installed capacity** has **grown 1,900%** since 2014

Nearly **70%** reduction in **solar energy tariffs** since 2014

**20 lakh** Solar pumps to be installed under **PM-KUSUM**

**36 crore** LED bulbs distributed under **UJALA scheme**

**Over 10 Indian beaches** now have **Blue Flag Certification**

Palli in Jammu and Kashmir is India's first **'carbon neutral panchayat'**

**World's largest solar park** (Over 2,200 MW) commissioned in Bhadla, Rajasthan

# POINTS TO REMEMBER

## Ensuring sustainable development

- Modi government has demonstrated that **development can go hand-in-hand with environmental protection.**
- Environmental law reforms under PM Modi have led to **both better compliance and ease of doing business.**

## India is shaping the global climate change debate

- Unlike the past, India

is now a **leading voice** in climate change negotiations.

- India has made '**climate justice**' central to global climate change discourse.
- PM Modi's '**Panchamrit**' and '**LIFE – Lifestyle For Environment**' initiatives highlight India's position as a global role model in countering climate change.

## Transformation of India's green landscape through Jan Bhagidari

- Big targets and speedy

achievement have been hallmarks of India's renewable energy policy.

- Since 2014, there has been a 20-fold increase in solar energy capacity.
- PM Modi has encouraged people's participation in environmental protection.
- From Swachh Bharat to the end of single-use plastic, he has motivated citizens and brought a voluntary change in everyday habits.

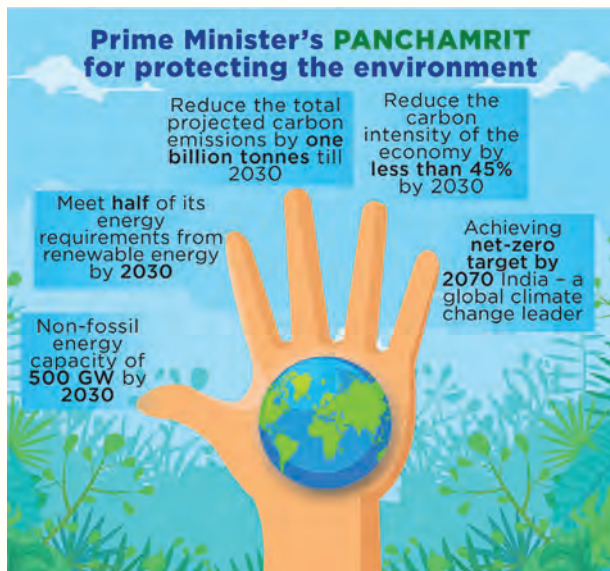
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## Did you know?

At the COP26 Summit in Glasgow, PM Modi pitched for a 'one-word movement' before the world in the form of 'LIFE' which stands for 'Lifestyle for Environment'

The Prime Minister called upon the world to make '**Lifestyle for Environment**' i.e. **LIFE** a global mission to fight climate change. The vision emphasizes not only energy production but also energy conservation and sustainable living. These solutions include energy-efficient ACs, geysers, heaters and ovens.

# PERSPECTIVE



## REALIZING THE DREAM OF A CLEAN GANGA



**Namami Gange programme launched in 2014 as a flagship initiative**

- 357 projects sanctioned at cost of Rs. 30,780 crore. Out of these 178 projects have been completed.
- Increase in Sewage Treatment Plant capacity has led to a cleaner river.
- Aquatic species like dolphins are returning.
- Millions of litres of pollutants that used to be dumped into the river stopped.



# The story of India's massive renewable energy push

PM Modi promised the world that India would hit 500 GW non-fossil fuel based energy capacity by 2030.

Ambitious? But India is already setting record pace.

Non-fossil fuel based energy is 40.1% of total installed capacity.

India's installed clean energy capacity grew a whopping  
**126%** since 2014!

As of March 2014

**72.22 GW**

was India's installed clean energy capacity.



In just 8 years, he has more than doubled that to

**163.33 GW**

Here's how India is an emerging global leader in renewable energy!

- India now has the **4<sup>th</sup> largest** clean energy capacity in the world.
- India has the **4<sup>th</sup> largest** installed wind energy capacity.
- India has the **5<sup>th</sup> largest** solar installed capacity.

The Renewable Energy Country Attractiveness Index ranks countries on attractiveness of investment and deployment opportunities. See how India jumped in ranks...



Rising up in the  
**Renewable Energy Country  
Attractiveness Index**



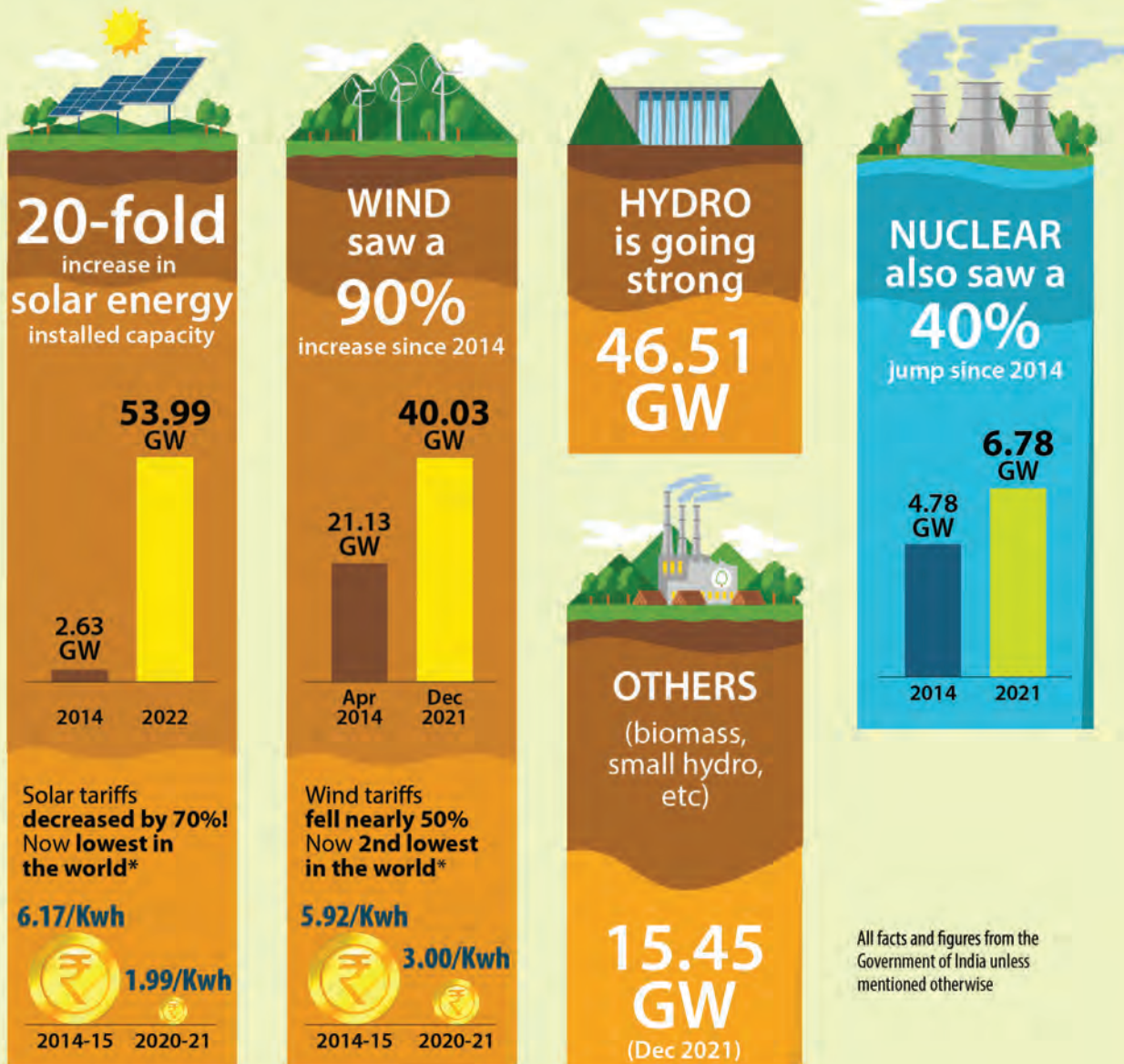
FEBRUARY  
2014



OCTOBER  
2021



## What is behind this massive surge?



It is not enough to increase capacity.

Adoption matters too. Hence, tariffs have also been reduced.

### India is leading by example

Achieved COP21 target of 40% energy from non-fossil fuel sources almost a **decade ahead of schedule**.

India remains on track to fulfil the **Sustainable Development Goals**.

### Bringing A Global Transformation

PM Modi spearheaded the global initiative to form the **International Solar Alliance** which has 86 member countries.

# MEDIA COVERAGE

**HT Hindustan Times**

**'One Sun, One World One Grid': PM Modi calls for global solar grid at COP26**

Nov 03, 2021

**Business Standard**

**PM Modi donates Rs 1.4 crore  
Seoul Peace Prize money to  
Namami Gange fund**

February 22, 2019

**THE ECONOMIC TIMES | Industry**

**US joins India-led International Solar Alliance as  
101st member**

Nov 11, 2021

**THE ECONOMIC TIMES | News**

Dec 28, 2020

**Budget 2020: Govt expands PM KUSUM scheme  
for solar pumps, targets to cover 20 lakh farmers**



From The Economic Times

## India's solar power capacity has grown 18 times in seven years: Minister

December 07, 2021



PM Modi delivers India 'panchamrit' gift at COP26 to fight climate change: Five commitments in detail here

Nov 01, 2021



Asia Edition ∨

## Modi Outshines Biden on Glasgow Climate Stage: COP26 Daily

1 November 2021



Narendra Modi pledges India will reach net zero emissions by 2070

Mon 1 Nov 2021



# 8 YEARS, 8 MODI SCHEMES,

## 8 flagship schemes of Modi government

### Swachh Bharat Mission

**2014**

Expanding access to toilets to all the rural households

**11.23 Crore**

HOUSEHOLD  
TOILETS  
CONSTRUCTED

### PMSBY: Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana

**2015**

Gol's accident insurance scheme

**28.18 Crore**

CITIZENS ENROLLED

### PMJDY: Pradhan Mantri Jan-Dhan Yojana

**2014**

Expanding universal access to banking and financial services

**45.21 Crore**  
BANK ACCOUNTS

### PMMY: Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana

**2015**

Micro-credit to small business owners of up to Rs. 10 lakh

**34.93 Crore**  
LOANS SANCTIONED



- Launch Year
- Details of Benefit
- No. of beneficiaries

# OVER 8 CRORE BENEFICIARIES

that have transformed over 8 crore lives

PM-Kisan: Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi

**2019**

Assured cash transfer of Rs. 6,000 per year to farmers

**12.04 Crore**  
FARMERS

Pradhan Mantri Ayushman Bharat Yojana Card

**2018**

Access to health insurance coverage for free

**17.9 Crore**  
HEALTH INSURANCE CARDS



PMUY: Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana

**2016**

Free connections to clean-cooking fuel (LPG)

**9 Crore**  
WOMEN

PMJJBY: Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana

**2015**

Gol's life insurance scheme

**12.65 Crore**  
CITIZENS ENROLLED



**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**