



GREEN GROWTH INTERVENTIONS MADE BY GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

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Abstract

Green growth refers to continuous availability of resources, with environment intact along with economic growth and development. Green Growth ensures delivery of natural assets on sustainable basis, makes provision of clean air, water, protecting biodiversity which ensure food production and good health. Natural assets are not infinitely available to us. According to the 2020 Environmental Performance Index, India ranks 169 out of 189 countries. India is emerging as the one of the fastest growing economy in the world. It is the sixth largest economy globally by GDP and the third largest economy in Asia. According to World Bank the Indian economy would grow 8.3% and 7.5% in 2021 and 2022, respectively. To meet its development goals, the Indian economy has to continuously grow which would have huge impact on environment and would also affect the delivery of natural resources which would create roadblocks in growing India economy, as envisaged in EPI report 2020 India ranks in Air Quality (179), Sanitation & Drinking Water (139), Waste Management (103), Biodiversity & Habitat (149), Fisheries (36), and Climate Change (106). The concept of Green Growth spans much beyond climate mitigation and adaptation and aims at achieving economic growth that is socially inclusive and environmentally sustainable. The Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change recognized green growth in its vision. In this paper we will study the Green Growth interventions made by Government of India. It is a descriptive research and secondary sources would be tapped to collect the data.

Keywords: Sustainable Development, Green Growth, Economy, Environment, World Bank, Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change.

Introduction:

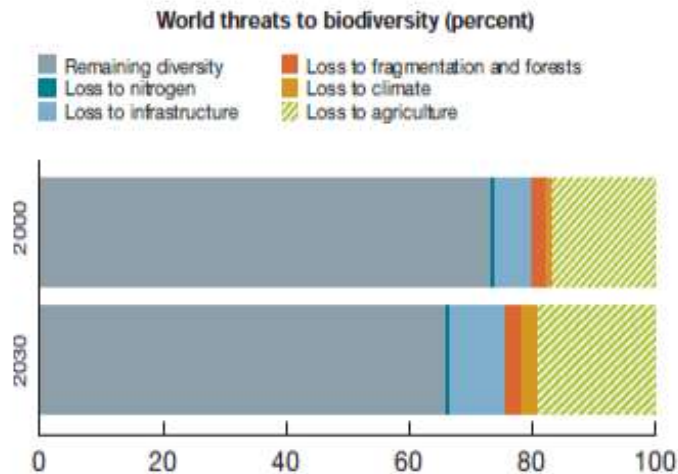
A Green economy can be defined as one that results in improved human wellbeing and social equity while significantly reducing environmental risks and ecological sacrifices. A green economy is characterised by substantially increased investments in economic sectors that build on and enhance the earth's natural capital or reduce ecological sacrifices and environmental risks. These sectors include renewable energy, low carbon transport, energy efficient buildings, clean technologies, improved waste management, improved freshwater provisions, sustainable agriculture, forestry and fisheries.¹

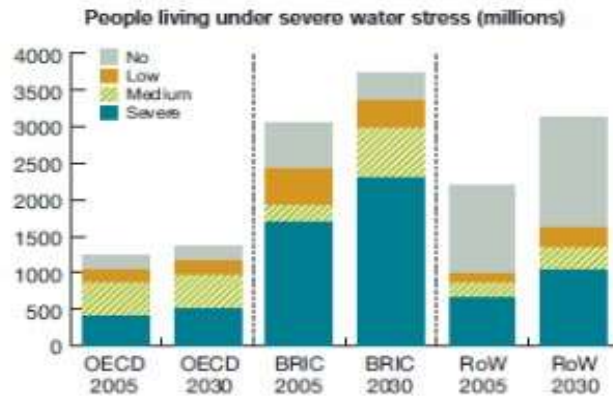


The Green economy is a central concept on the global sustainable development agenda. The concept was first mentioned in a British government-commissioned sustainable development report from 1989. However, it was only during the late 2000s' global economic crisis that green economy was brought to international attention as an economic recovery strategy focused on creating "green jobs" and tackling climate change and creating real investments.²

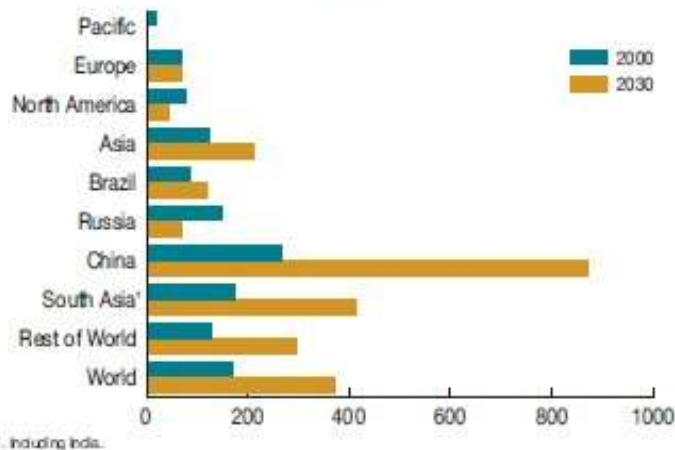
Green growth means fostering economic growth and development, while ensuring that natural assets continue to provide the resources and environmental services on which our well-being relies. We need green growth because risks to development are rising as growth continues to erode natural capital. If left unchecked, this would mean increased water scarcity, worsening resource bottlenecks, greater pollution, climate change, and unrecoverable biodiversity loss. These tensions undermine the future growth prospects for at least two reasons: It is becoming increasingly costly to substitute physical capital for natural capital. For instance, if water becomes scarcer or more polluted, you need more infrastructure to transport and purify it. 33% of the world's population could be affected by water scarcity by 2025 and 10% of biodiversity will be lost by 2030.

If we want to ensure that the progress made in living standards in these past fifty years does not grind to a halt, we have to find new ways of producing and consuming things, and even redefine what we mean by progress and how we measure it.³





Premature deaths from PM10 air pollution (per million inhab.)



Source: OECD (2008), OECD Environmental Outlook to 2030 and OECD (2000), The Economics of Climate Change Mitigation: Policies and Options for Global Actions beyond 2012.

Objectives of the Study:

1. To understand the concept of 'Green Growth' and 'Inclusive Growth' which is being used in the strategic plan for Indian public policy.
2. Various Policies and Schemes to address the challenges of Inclusive and Green Growth in India.

Research Methodology:

The study's methodology might be described as exploratory. By introducing the concept of Inclusive and Green Growth, policymakers made a significant contribution to the literature that helped academics, researchers, and those who implement policies. Additionally this study is based on secondary data from numerous articles, journals, websites and desk study.

Principles of Green Economy:

Furthermore, the green economy is based on various sustainability principles. Some of the principles present in relevant literature and discourse are:

- The earth integrity principle: every human has the duty to protect the earth and its ecosystems.

- The polluter pays principle: polluters are responsible for the environmental damage they have caused.
 - The dignity principle: every human has the right to livelihood.
 - The justice principle: benefits and burdens should be shared fairly among all stakeholders.
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The resilience principle: diversity and diversification are preconditions for sustainability as well as quality of life.

- The governance principle: establishment of policies, rules and regulations requires a transparent and participatory process that includes all affected people.
- The planetary boundaries: humans are crossing the “planetary boundaries” that define our safe planetary operating space. According to scientists, we have already crossed these limits for climate change, biodiversity loss and interference with the nitrogen cycle, and are heading towards the Earth’s boundaries for ocean acidification, freshwater use, changes in land use, and interference with the phosphorus cycle.²

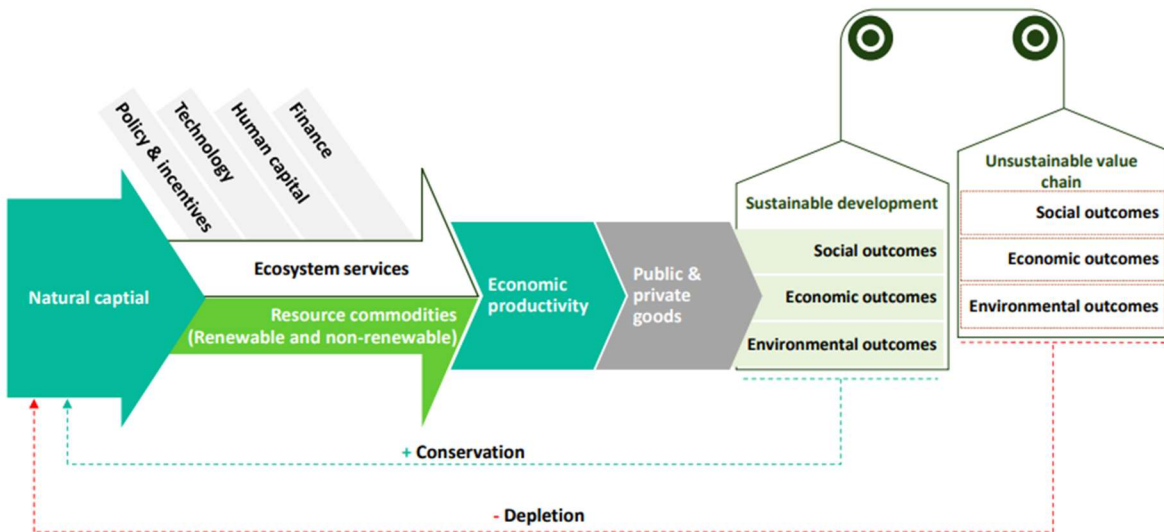
The concept of Green growth is a paradigm in which green policies, innovation, and investments drive sustainable economic development. More broadly, green growth is an approach for achieving a number of simultaneous objectives for achieving true sustainable development: through avoiding and curbing greenhouse gas emissions, building resilience to climate extremes and longer term change, using resources more efficiently, providing sustainable and equitably-distributed increases in GDP and standards of living, and valuing the often economically invisible natural assets that have underpinned economic success over the centuries. How natural capital drives growth The drivers of green growth, or the green growth “theory of change”, can be summarized in terms of an integrated approach to sustainable economic prosperity that typically is characterized by:

- Increases in the quality and quantity of natural resources and environmental services; as these are factors of production their availability is critical to higher long run economic growth;
- Increases in the productivity of resources; as higher growth can be generated by fewer resources;
- Increases in investment in new technology and innovative applications of existing technologies; as economic growth has historically always been driven by technological change;
- Removing market failures in the pursuit of economic, social and environmental goals; as economic growth is catalysed by more efficient allocation of resources. This green growth theory of change can also be illustrated through a green growth value chain which emphasizes the way in which natural capital catalyses sustained economic growth through the generation of resources commodities and resource amenities (Krautkraemer 2005):
- Resource commodities are those natural resources directly used in the production of goods and services; these may include non-renewable resources, such minerals, but also renewable ones, such as wood; their exploitation is governed by the law of demand and supply with a price signalling their relative scarcity; however, this may not reflect all social costs and benefits associated with their exploitation.

- Ecosystem services or resource amenities include those natural resources that are not traded in markets but are directly or indirectly used to produce goods and services or contribute to human welfare in other ways; these include resources such as air, fresh water, carbon, nitrogen, and nutrient cycles, but also the climate, the sinks where production and consumption waste are deposited and the ecosystem services that support our agricultural and other economic activities; they are often pure public goods and in the lack of a well-functioning market, resource amenities tend to be undervalued and overused. Both resource commodities and resource amenities tend to be undervalued and overused.

Both resource commodities and resource amenities underpin economic productivity and generation of public and private goods and services, although this process needs to be underpinned by an enabling environment that includes good policies and regulations, access to finance, technological innovation, strong institutions and governance, and investment in human capital. The economic, social and environmental outcomes produced by natural capital then in turn, through feedback loops, can enhance or destroy the natural capital assets themselves dependent upon the extent to which the unsustainable drivers for growth can be managed through green growth interventions. The net outcome will, therefore, depend on the balance between green growth and unsustainable development. This green growth value chain is illustrated in the figure below.⁴

Figure 1: Green Growth Value Chain



Factors that complicate the implementation of inclusive green growth policies are as follow:

- High dependence on natural resources for both livelihoods and economic growth
- High degree of vulnerability to climate change Lack of basic infrastructure and services

- Large informal economies
- High levels of poverty and inequality
- High population growth rates
- Rapid urbanization processes and growth of urban areas
- Limited capacity for policy development, financing and implementation
- Limited public and private capacity for technological innovation and investment severe economic, social and ecological threats from energy, food and water security, premature deaths due to pollution, poor water quality and diseases associated with a changing climate.
- Underdeveloped financial markets and limited access to savings, credit and insurance products.⁵

Initiatives taken up by international organizations to support inclusive green growth:

The African Development Bank (AfDB) is taking inclusive green growth to the heart of its Long Term Strategy and designing its operations to account for the African specificities, notably (i) addressing the infrastructure gap as a fundamental enabler for economic growth, (ii) managing more efficiently Africa’s natural resources as its stock of wealth and main source of income, (iii) and boosting economic and social resilience to exogenous shocks. In addition to its suite of green financing instruments such as ClimDev–Africa, Congo Basin Forest Fund (CBFF), African Water Facility (AWF) and Sustainable Energy Fund for Africa (SEFA), AfDB is developing an Africa Green Growth Facility for upstream work and capacity development on inclusive green growth.

The OECD is actively engaged with developing countries in many areas closely related to inclusive green growth. It has synthesized good practices on topics such as Environmental Fiscal Reform, Strategic Environmental Assessment, Climate Change Adaptation, and Capacity Development for Environmental Management and Governance to support efforts towards inclusive green growth. OECD tracks development co–operation support with environmental objectives and is currently also working with its members to mainstream green growth in areas of development co–operation as diverse as private sector development, infrastructure investment, and trade–related assistance.⁶

The UN system is a major provider of support; the system itself represents the different elements of inclusive green growth—for example, with IFAD focusing specifically on eradicating rural poverty, FAO promoting sustainable agricultural practices, WFP fighting hunger worldwide, ILO promoting green job creation, UNEP protecting the environment and providing advisory services on green economy, UNDP working to reduce poverty and inequality and strengthen governance and environmental sustainability, UNICEF and UNFPA promoting youth empowerment, UNIDO supporting sustainable industrial development, the UN Secretariat looking at broader economic development and investment aspects (UN–DESA, UNCTAD etc.), and WHO addressing health issues.

The World Bank is working to mainstream inclusive green growth in its operations and knowledge activities. Its report on “Inclusive Green Growth: The Pathway to Sustainable Development”⁷ sets the framework for this mainstreaming. The World Bank has launched a series of complementary

activities with partners. Such initiatives include: WAVES (Wealth Accounting and the Valuation of Ecosystem Services), LEDs (Low Emission Development), Climate Finance Options Knowledge Platform, to name a few.

In addition, the Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI), the OECD, UNEP and the World Bank jointly launched in early 2012 the GGKP, a global network of researchers and development experts seeking to identify and address major knowledge gaps in green growth theory and practice.⁴

India's Green Growth: A Way

Over the last decade, India's strong growth has increased employment opportunities and allowed millions to emerge from poverty. India's remarkable growth record, however, has been clouded by a degrading environment and growing scarcity of natural resources. Mirroring the size and diversity of its economy, environmental risks are wide ranging and are driven by both prosperity and poverty. The UNEP has developed a working definition of a green economy as one that results in improved human well-being and social equity, while significantly reducing environmental risks and ecological scarcities. In its simplest expression, a green economy can be thought of as one which is low carbon, resource efficient and socially inclusive.²

The 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda with 17 sustainable development goals and 169 targets that were adopted in September 2015. The Constitution of India contains specific provisions for the protection and improvement of environmental equality. Article 48-A of the Constitution says that "the state shall endeavour to protect and improve the environment and to safeguard the forests and wild life of the country." Article 51-A (g) says that "It shall be duty of every citizen of India to protect and improve the natural environment including forests, lakes, rivers and wild life and to have compassion for living creatures." These provisions highlight the national conscience on the importance of environment protection. The National Environment Policy of the Ministry of Environment, Forests, and Climate Change highlights important principles around sustainable development such as social justice, polluter pays, and entities of incomparable value. The National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) along with the State Action Plan on Climate Change are important milestones for mainstreaming climate in development processes at the national and state levels. NAPCC has eight national missions that outline priorities for both mitigation and adaptation to combat climate change. The current eight missions are on the areas of solar energy, energy efficiency, sustainable habitat, sustainable agriculture, Green India, water, Himalayan ecosystem, and strategic knowledge. The government is proposing to set up new missions on wind energy, health, waste-to-energy, coastal areas, and also redesigning the National Water Mission and National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture. Under the Copenhagen Accord, India communicated its domestic mitigation action as an endeavour to reduce the emissions intensity of its GDP by 20–25% by 2020 and 33-35% by 2030 in comparison to the 2005 level. The concept of Green Growth spans much beyond climate mitigation and adaptation and aims at achieving economic growth that is socially inclusive and environmentally sustainable. The Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change recognized green growth in its vision, wherein 'poverty

eradication' along with green growth is seen to be central. The Finance Commission of India articulated green growth as involving "rethinking growth strategies with regard to their impact(s) on environmental sustainability and the environmental resources available to poor and vulnerable groups." It is clear—from the articulation by the Finance Commission as well as the Ministry of Environment, Forests, and Climate Change—that inclusivity is central to green growth in India. The Fourteenth Finance Commission has introduced a forward-looking incentive-based grant rewarding the states with quality forest cover measured by moderate and very dense forest cover. The Government of India has an ambitious renewable capacity target of 175 GW by 2022. In the last 15 months, the government quadrupled the coal cess from ₹50 per tonne to ₹200 per tonne, the proceeds of which will go towards the National Clean Energy Fund. The Smart Cities Mission of the Government of India aims to promote cities that provide not just infrastructure but also give a good quality of life to its citizens, a clean and sustainable environment through application of 'smart' solutions.⁸

Interventions by Government of India for Green Growth:

• Environmental Policies and laws in India

No.	Name of Policy and Year	Aim/Target
1	National Water Policy, 1987, 2002, 2012	To govern the planning and development of water resources and their optimum utilisation
2	National Forest Policy, 1988, 2018, 2019	To maintain ecological balance and safeguarding the interest of tribal and forest-dependent people by involving them in timber production and other local livelihood opportunities
3	National Conservation Strategy and Policy Statement on Environment and Development, 1992	To regulate the utilisation of natural resources through joint efforts of local communities and other stakeholders by incorporating traditional knowledge for environmental protection
4	Policy Statement for the Abatement of Pollution, 1992	To strengthen the environmental compliance and enforcement of pollution control norms in India through CPCB and SPCBs
5	National Population Policy, 2000	To achieve a stable population by 2045 through strategically managing the Total Fertility Rate (TFR)
6	National Environment Policy, 2006	To achieve sustainable development, by incorporating environmental consideration into the development process

7	National Agroforestry Policy, 2014	To increase sustainable agricultural production by combining tree farming with agriculture
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Goals of Environmental Laws and Policies in India:⁹

1. The forest conservation act 1980, aims at checking deforestation and deflection of forest land.
2. The Environmental protection act in 1986, legislation of environment in India imparts focus in order to conserve the environment and the purpose of plugging the rules in the existing legislation.
3. The Wildlife protection act in 1972 introduced rational and modern wildlife management.
4. The air prevention and control of pollution act in 1981, to monitor air pollution.
5. The water prevention and control of pollution act, 1974 provides for the formation of pollution control boards at centre and states in order to act as safeguards for preventing and controlling water pollution.
6. The public liability act in 1991 provides compulsory insurance to provide immediate relief to the people who are affected by accidents while handling any dangerous substance.
7. The Biological diversity act in 2002 for the security of threatened species to hold back from bio-piracy and water scarcity, it also performed for the regularization usage of natural resources and to avoid its over-fatigue.
8. The National green tribunal act in 2010 provides the effective and immediate results for the disposal of instances which are related to protection of forests, environmental conservation and implementation of any legal rights which are relating to the environment. The act also provides proper compensation and reassurance to the people and property and their connected matters. The act is all about proper point on the jurisdiction power and proceedings of the tribunal and penalties of the actions against the law.

General Environment Acts:¹⁰

The National Environment Appellate Authority Act, 1997: The National Environment Appellate Authority Act has been created to hear appeals with respect to restrictions of areas in which classes of industries etc. are carried out or prescribed subject to certain safeguards under the EPA

The Biomedical waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 1998: The Biomedical waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 1998 is a legal binding on the health care institutions to streamline the process of proper handling of hospital waste such as segregation, disposal, collection, and treatment.

The Environment (Siting for Industrial Projects) Rules, 1999: The Environment (Siting for Industrial Projects) Rules, 1999 lay down detailed provisions relating to areas to be avoided for siting of industries, precautionary measures to be taken for site selecting as also the aspects of

environmental protection which should have been incorporated during the implementation of the industrial development projects.

The Municipal Solid Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules, 2000: The Rules apply to every municipal authority responsible for the collection, segregation, storage, transportation, processing, and disposal of municipal solid wastes.

The Ozone Depleting Substances (Regulation and Control) Rules, 2000: The Ozone Depleting Substances (Regulation and Control) Rules, 2000 have been laid down for the regulation of production and consumption of ozone depleting substances.

The Batteries (Management and Handling) Rules, 2001: These rules shall apply to every manufacturer, importer, re-conditioner, assembler, dealer, auctioneer, consumer, and bulk consumer involved in the manufacture, processing, sale, purchase, and use of batteries or components so as to regulate and ensure the environmentally safe disposal of used batteries.

Hazardous Wastes (Management, Handling and Transboundary) Rules, 2008, brought out a guide for manufacture, storage and import of hazardous chemicals and for management of hazardous wastes.

The Noise Pollution (Regulation and control) (Amendment) Rules, 2010: These rules lay down such terms and conditions as are necessary to reduce noise pollution, permit use of loud speakers or public address systems during night hours (between 10:00 p.m. to 12:00 midnight) on or during any cultural or religious festive occasion.

Coastal Regulation Zone Notification:¹¹ The Ministry of Environment and Forests had issued the Coastal Regulation Zone Notification *vide* Notification no. S O. 19(E), dated January 06, 2011 with an objective to ensure livelihood security to the fishing communities and other local communities living in the coastal areas, to conserve and protect coastal stretches and to promote development in a sustainable manner based on scientific principles, taking into account the dangers of natural hazards in the coastal areas and sea level rise due to global warming.

The energy conservation act, 2001: It was enacted as a step towards improving energy efficiency and reducing wastage. It specifies the energy consumption standards for equipment and appliances. It prescribes energy consumption norms and standards for consumers. It prescribes energy conservation building codes for commercial buildings. **Bureau of energy efficiency (BEE)** is a statutory body established under the act.

Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 (FRA): The act recognizes and vests the forest rights and occupation in forest land in Forest

Dwelling Scheduled Tribes (FDST) and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (OTFD) who have been residing in such forests for generations. This act comes under the aegis of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

List of Various Environmental Conventions and Protocols:

1. Ramsar Convention

- It is called the Convention on Wetlands
- It was adopted in the city of Iran, Ramsar in 1971.
- It came into force in 1975.

2. Stockholm Convention

- It is a convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)
- It was adopted in 2001 in Geneva, Switzerland.
- It came into force in 2004.

3. CITES

- It is a convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora
- It was adopted in 1963.
- It came into force in 1975.

4. Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

- It is a convention for the conservation of biological diversity.
- It was adopted in 1992
- It came into force in 1993.

5. Bonn Convention

- It is a convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals.
- It was adopted in 1979.
- It came into force in 1983.

6. Vienna Convention

- It is a convention for the Protection of Ozone Layer.
- It was adopted in 1985.
- It came into force in 1988.

7. Montreal Protocol

- It is an international environment protocol on substances that deplete the Ozone Layer.
- It was adopted in 1987.
- It came into force in 1989.

8. Kyoto Protocol

- It is an international protocol to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- It was adopted in 1997.
- It came into force in 2005.

9. United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

- It is an international environmental treaty governing actions to combat climate change through adaptation and mitigation efforts directed at control of emission of Greenhouse Gases (GHGs) that cause global warming.
- It was adopted in 1992.
- It came into force in 1994.

10. Rio Summit

- It is a United Nations Conference on Environment and Development.
- It was held in 1992 at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

11. UNCCD

- It is a United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification.
- It was adopted in 1994.
- It came into force in 1996.

12. Basel Convention

- It is a convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal.
- It was adopted in 1989.
- It came into force in 1992.

13. Cartagena Protocol

- It is an international environmental protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity.
- It was adopted in 2000.
- It came into force in 2003.

14. UN-REDD

- It is a United Nations Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation.
- It was created in 2008.

15. Nagoya Protocol

- It is an international environment protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization (ABS) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).
- It was adopted in 2010.
- It came into force in 2014.

16. COP24

- It is the 24th meeting of the conference of parties (COP) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.
- It took place in 2018.

17. COP21

- It is the 21st meeting of the conference of parties (COP) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.
- It took place in 2018.

18. Kigali Agreement

- It is an amendment to the Montreal Protocol.
- It was adopted in 2016.
- It came into force in 2019.

19. Minamata Convention

- It is an international environmental treaty intended to protect health and the environment from the adverse effects of mercury.
- It was adopted in 2013.
- It came into force in 2017.

20. Rotterdam Convention

- It is an international environmental convention on Prior Informed Consent (PIC) Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade.
- It was adopted in 1998.
- It came into force in 2004.

21. COP25

- It is the 25th meeting of the Conference of Parties (COP) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).
- It took place in 2019.

List of International Conventions, Treaties and Institutions where India is a Signatory Member:¹²

- Ramsar Convention
- International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources
- International Whaling Commission
- The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation
- Convention on Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals
- United Nations Forum on Forestry
- United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
- International Network for Bamboo and Rattan
- International Tropical Timber Organisation
- Asia Pacific Forestry Commission
- United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

Governmental Schemes and Policies for Inclusive Growth:

- Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana- National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM)
- Swachh Bharat Mission
- Mission Ayushman
- Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana
- Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act Scheme (MGNREGA)
- Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP)
- Mudra Bank scheme
- National Rural Health Mission (NRHM)
- **Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA)**
- SETU(Self Employment and Talent Utilization)
- Skill India
- Kisan Card
- Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY)
- National Agriculture Market (NAM)
- Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Beema Yojana
- Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Suraksha Yojana
- Atal Pension Yojana(Social Security Schemes)
- Digital India programme(for delivering benefits even to the last person)
- Bharat Nirman

Governmental Schemes and Policies for Inclusive Green Growth:¹³

Green growth is one of the seven top priorities of the Union Budget 2023-24 for ushering green industrial and economic transition, environmentally friendly agriculture, and sustainable energy in the country. The Union Budget 2023-24 has envisaged several projects and initiatives spread across various sectors and ministries like as follows:

The National Green Hydrogen Mission: It was approved by the Union Cabinet on 4 January 2022, with the intended objectives of: Making India a leading producer and supplier of Green Hydrogen in the world. Creation of export opportunities for Green Hydrogen and its derivatives

Gobardhan Yojana launched in 2018, is an important component of India's biofuel strategy. In this budget, the government has announced plans to set up 500 new waste-to-wealth plants under the Gobardhan Yojana.

PM-PRANAM The government will promote and facilitate one crore farmers to adopt natural farming through Prime Minister Program for Restoration, Awareness, Nourishment, and Amelioration of Mother earth (PRANAM).

Bhartiya Prakritik Kheti Bio-Input Resource Centres - The main objective of this scheme is to reduce the use of chemical fertilizers and promote the balanced use of chemicals, promote green growth, and reduce the negative impact on the environment.

MISHTI: 'Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats & Tangible Incomes' or MISHTI, which will involve planting mangroves along the coastline and on salt pan lands, wherever feasible, through convergence between MGNREGA, CAMPA Fund, and other sources.

Amrit Darohar is another new scheme that will be implemented over the next three years to "encourage optimal use of wetlands, and enhance biodiversity, carbon stock, eco-tourism opportunities, and income generation for local communities".

Green Credit programme: A Green Credit program to encourage behavioral change will be notified under the Environment (Protection) Act. This will incentivize environmentally sustainable and responsive actions by companies, individuals, and local bodies, and help mobilize additional resources for such activities.

PM-KUSUM (Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan) Scheme is aimed at ensuring energy security for farmers in India.

Vehicle Scrappage Policy launched on August 13, 2021, is a government-funded program to replace old vehicles with modern & new vehicles on Indian roads. According to the new policy, commercial vehicles aged >15 years and passenger vehicles aged >20 years will have to be mandatorily scrapped if they do not pass the fitness and emission tests. The policy is expected to reduce pollution, create job opportunities and boost demand for new vehicles. Following the principle of Reuse, Recycle, and Recovery gives new strength to our circular economy.

Hydrogen Energy Mission - The initiative involves generating hydrogen from green power sources, which has the potential to transform the transport sector. It would also promote the use of clean fuels in India. The budget emphasis on green hydrogen is consistent with the technological advancement and long-term goal of diminishing reliance on batteries of minerals and rare earth elements for energy storage.

Public Transport - For the first time, the cabinet has allocated private financing of INR 18,000 crores (USD 2.43 billion) for 20,000 buses, along with innovative financing through public-private partnerships, which would completely alter the way public transport system works in India. The initiative aims to minimize dependence on personal vehicles, and thereby reduce the carbon footprint.

Deep Ocean Mission - The mission would undertake deep ocean survey and exploration as well as carry out projects that would protect deep sea biodiversity. A budget of over INR 4,000 crore would be allocated within five years for this program.

Urban Swachh Bharat Mission 2.0 - The government intends to effectively manage waste from construction and demolition activities and bioremediate all inherited landfills, focusing on integrated management of manure, sludge, and sewage treatment; the classification of waste sources; the reduction of disposable plastics; and reduction of air pollution.

Consumer preference for Greener Products: Several FMCG players have committed themselves to sustainable development and have opted for sustainable packaging materials will move the country and world towards an “environmentally conscious lifestyle”. India is moving forward firmly for the panchamrit and net-zero carbon emission by 2070 to usher in green industrial and economic transition.

Conclusion:

An envisaged in EPI report 2020 India ranks in Air Quality (179), Sanitation & Drinking Water (139), Waste Management (103), Biodiversity & Habitat (149), Fisheries (36), and Climate Change (106). The concept of Green Growth spans much beyond climate mitigation and adaptation and aims at achieving economic growth that is socially inclusive and environmentally sustainable. The Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change recognized green growth in its vision. The government appears to be extremely concerned about Green and inclusive growth, which with properly implemented policies could make a difference in the inequalities of the quality of life between the rich and poor. Inflation, especially food inflation has severely affected the poor and denied them access to proper education, healthcare and nutrition. From 2010 onwards, food inflation has been in double digits with only seasonal respite. However, inflation has decreased in recent months due to a global fall in prices. Even though extreme poverty may have fallen in recent years and the middle class grown in size, the lack of effective governance in

India's poorest districts and states, the dearth of public goods accessible to the poorest households and the failure to give them capabilities have prevented inclusive growth from taking root¹⁴. Lifestyle for Environment, will move the country and world towards an "environmentally conscious lifestyle".

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