



## **INDIA'S STANCE ON GLOBAL WARMING AND ENGAGEMENT IN ENVIRONMENTAL CONFERENCES**

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**Dr Karamjeet Kaur**

**Prof. D.A.V College, Bathinda**

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### **Abstract**

*The Indian government, which is a key participant on the international stage, has taken a diversified approach to addressing the issue of global warming and has participated in environmental conferences. India has made sustainable development a priority while also fighting for the notion of "common but differentiated responsibilities" in international climate discussions. This is despite the fact that India is one of the top emitters of greenhouse gases in the world. When it comes to climate change, Indian policies place a strong emphasis on the necessity of adopting a balanced strategy that takes into account both economic growth and environmental conservation. In the past, India has been an active participant in a number of environmental conferences and accords, such as the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Paris Agreement. India has stressed its right to pursue development goals, including the alleviation of poverty and industrialization, which may result in increasing emissions in the near term. This is despite the fact that India is committed to decreasing the intensity of emissions. Nevertheless, the nation has also achieved tremendous progress in the adoption of renewable energy, with the objective of increasing its capacity to develop renewable energy sources in order to battle climate change. The participation of India at environmental conferences is a demonstration of the country's dedication to global cooperation in the fight against climate change, while simultaneously protecting its highest priority for development. India's goal is to make a significant contribution to the global effort to counteract global warming while simultaneously ensuring that its inhabitants have access to sustainable development. This will be accomplished by striking a balance between its domestic imperatives and its international responsibilities.*

**Keywords:** *global warming, engagement, environmental*

### **Introduction**

India, which is both one of the largest and most populous nations in the world, plays a crucial role in the worldwide discourse on environmental concerns, particularly with regard to climate change and global warming. In light of the fact that India's topography is so varied, encompassing everything from the Himalayan highlands to coastal plains, the country is confronted with a multitude of environmental difficulties that need it to actively participate in worldwide efforts to mitigate the effects of climate change. The Indian government has, over the course of many years, developed policies and taken part in a number of environmental conferences in order to address these difficulties while maintaining a balance between its developmental requirements and objectives. This article examines India's position on the issue of global warming as well as its participation in environmental conferences. It also highlights India's growing policies and contributions to the ongoing discussion of environmental issues on a worldwide scale.

### **India's Stance on Global Warming:**

A diversified approach to the issue of global warming is taken by India, which reflects the country's intricate socio-economic dynamics and the importance it places on development. Over the course of its history, India has placed a strong emphasis on the concept of "common but differentiated responsibilities," claiming that wealthy nations, who have traditionally been the most significant producers to greenhouse gas emissions, need to be responsible for a bigger portion of the cost associated with battling rising temperatures. This position is founded on India's dedication to fair and sustainable development, which acknowledges the necessity of addressing climate change while also assuring continuing economic growth and the reduction of poverty among its population.

India has claimed its right to pursue economic progress and the elimination of poverty, despite the fact that it is aware of its position as one of the leading emitters of greenhouse gases in the world. In order to facilitate its transition to a low-carbon economy, the nation has placed a strong emphasis on the significance of receiving financial aid and the transfer of certain technologies from wealthier nations. On top of that, India has brought attention to the significance of adaptation strategies in order to mitigate the effects of climate change, particularly on groups who are particularly susceptible.

### **India's Engagement in Environmental Conferences:**

For the purpose of advocating for its own interests and contributing to global efforts to combat climate change, India takes an active position in organizing and participating in international environmental conferences and discussions. The nation has demonstrated its dedication to multilateral cooperation on environmental concerns by signing important international accords such as the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Paris Agreement. These agreements are examples of the country's international commitment.

At conferences devoted to environmental issues, India participates in diplomatic discussions with the goal of ensuring that the concerns of poor nations are effectively addressed in the policies that are developed to mitigate and adapt to climate change. For this reason, it is important to advocate for measures that support developing nations in terms of technology transfer, financial assistance, and capacity-building support. In addition, India has initiated a number of internal efforts in order to reduce the effects of climate change and to advance sustainable development. Among these is the National Action Plan on Climate Change, which defines measures for adaptation and mitigation across a variety of industries, including agriculture, forestry, and the energy sector. There have also been major investments made in renewable energy by India, with the objective of increasing the proportion of renewable energy sources in its overall energy mix and decreasing its dependency on fossil fuels.

### **INDIA'S ROLE IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE ON A GLOBAL SCALE**

Under the auspices of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), worldwide efforts to appropriately address the harmful consequences of climate change and the battle of the international community to create unified global momentum to address the issue have been under way for the past three decades. Since the commencement of the discussions on climate change, the divides between the diverse

viewpoints of the Global North and the Global South have been a significant factor in shaping the negotiations. It is generally acknowledged, on the basis of trends that have been observed, that the industrialized and developed economies are primarily responsible for the majority of the accumulated global greenhouse gas emissions in the atmosphere since the industrial revolution. Furthermore, developed countries have significantly higher per capita emissions in comparison to developing countries, and it is anticipated that the majority of future global carbon emissions will originate from rapidly growing developing economies such as China and India. Developed nations, developing countries, and least developed countries all have significantly varying levels of sensitivity to the effects of climate change. Furthermore, these countries do not have the same level of technological and financial capability to adapt to the effects of climate change. This is a well accepted fact.

Given India's high population density, rapidly expanding economy, and the fact that it is the fourth largest carbon emitter (after China, the United States of America, and the European Union), India's participation in climate change discussions continues to have far-reaching consequences for global cooperation on climate change. The fact of the matter is that India has continuously demonstrated its willingness to participate actively in the discussions, establishing itself as a coalition-builder and a champion of the interests of the global south.

### **Evolution of India's Position in Global Climate Change Negotiations of the UNFCCC**

In the framework of three major periods of the discussions, it is possible to observe the development of India's participation and its position in the global climate change negotiations. In the first phase, the primary focus was on the establishment of a worldwide framework and climate agenda, as well as the quantification of the emission reduction objectives of Annex I parties, which are industrialized nations, beginning with Rio in 1992 and ending with Kyoto in 1997. The principles of equity and "common but differentiated responsibilities" were strongly advocated by India. This was due to the fact that developing countries have relatively negligible contributions to total cumulative emissions and have much lower per-capita emissions. India played an important role in representing the interests and perspectives of the developing and least developed countries because of this fact. India advocated for climate finance, technology sharing, and the establishment of an adaptation fund during the second phase, which lasted from the year 2000 to the year 2009. This was done in preparation for the Copenhagen Climate Summit, which was held to establish a new climate regime after the year 2012. The goal of this phase was to expedite climate action in developing countries and to protect the least developed countries from the most severe effects of climate change. India's move towards a more flexible, cooperative, and comprehensive approach was characterized by the third phase, which took place between Copenhagen in 2009 and Paris in 2015. On the national level, India developed its National Action Plan on Climate Change and presented its Nationally Determined Contributions to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). This was done while taking into consideration the idea of shared but differentiated responsibilities and respective capacities (CBDR-RC). India addressed its voluntary commitments and established its emission reduction objectives during the 21st Conference of Parties (COP21) in Paris. Following the year 2015, India has been concentrating on the adoption of measures to attain its non-depletable contributions (NDCs) in accordance with the Paris Agreement of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). When it comes to the discussions, India has consistently demonstrated a strong political leadership during each of these times. In the following paragraphs, we will go into further detail on India's posture and activities during these periods.

**Climate Policies and Actions:** The country of India has adopted a number of measures to reduce its emissions of greenhouse gases and to adapt to the effects of climate change:

- **National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC):** During the year 2008, India initiated its National Action Plan for Climate Change (NAPCC), which defines eight objectives that address various elements of climate change. These missions include solar energy, energy efficiency, sustainable agriculture, and water conservation.
- **Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs):** With the submission of its INDCs as part of the Paris Agreement, India made a commitment to lessen the intensity of its emissions and to raise the proportion of its economy that is dependent on energy sources that do not rely on fossil fuels.
- **Renewable Energy Expansion:** The Indian government has established lofty goals for the expansion of renewable energy capacity, which includes solar and wind power, with the intention of decreasing its dependency on fossil fuels.
- **Afforestation and Reforestation:** With the help of afforestation and reforestation initiatives, the government has launched projects with the goals of expanding the amount of land covered by forests and improving carbon sequestration.

**Engagement in International Conferences:** In the context of climate change, India takes an active part in international conferences and discussions, such as the Conference of Parties (COP) that is held under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Among the most important engagements are:

- **Paris Agreement:** There was a large amount of participation from India in the discussions that led to the approval of the Paris Agreement in the year 2015. The goal of the accord is to keep the increase in global temperature well below 2 degrees Celsius over the levels that existed before industrialization.
- **COP Meetings:** Attending the Conference of the Parties (COP) on a regular basis and participating in debates on climate financing, technological transfer, adaptation, and mitigation measures are what India does.
- **International Solar Alliance (ISA):** Together with France, India established the International Solar Alliance (ISA) with the goal of promoting the deployment of solar energy around the world, particularly in areas that receive a lot of sunlight.

**Challenges and Priorities:** One of the issues that India has is striking a balance between its economic expansion and the preservation of the environment. Among the priority items are:

- **Economic Development:** One of India's primary goals is to elevate its population out of poverty and achieve economic growth while simultaneously ensuring the preservation of the environment.
- **Energy Access:** The provision of access to modern and clean energy continues to be a concern for India, particularly for the millions of people who continue to rely on traditional biomass for heating and cooking.

- **Technology and Finance:** India emphasizes the importance of technology transfer and financial support from developed countries to facilitate its transition to a low-carbon economy.

### **Air Pollution:**

India, in addition to its efforts to prevent global warming, is also actively combating air pollution, which poses enormous difficulties to both the environment and human health. In addition to implementing programs to encourage cleaner fuels and technology, the nation has also established measures to minimize emissions from automobiles, industries, and power plants.

### **International Collaboration:**

The Indian government acknowledges the significance of international cooperation in the fight against climate change and other environmental problems. In order to facilitate the sharing of information, expertise, and best practices, the nation participates in partnerships and collaborations with other nations, international organizations, and civil society groups. In addition to addressing climate change, this partnership encompasses other areas, such as the preservation of biodiversity, the promotion of sustainable development, and the mitigation of the danger of natural disasters.

### **Domestic Initiatives:**

The efforts that India is doing to combat climate change are supplemented by a variety of domestic measures that are being implemented at the state and municipal levels. A number of states have undertaken the implementation of their very own climate action plans, objectives for renewable energy, and regulations in order to advance sustainable development. At the same time, grassroots groups and community initiatives play an important part in the process of bringing attention to the issue, organizing people to take action, and putting ideas into action at the local level.

### **Continued Challenges:**

There are still obstacles that India must overcome in order to accomplish its climatic and environmental objectives, despite the fact that it has made promises and efforts. These challenges include the need for increased implementation and enforcement of environmental regulations, the need to address the social and economic impacts of climate change, the need to overcome barriers to the adoption and diffusion of technology, and the need to secure adequate funding and investment for climate resilience and adaptation measures.

### **Long-Term Vision:**

Both India's stance on the issue of global warming and its participation in environmental conferences are indicative of the country's long-term objective of environmentally responsible and sustainable growth. The government's goal is to strike a balance between its dedication to safeguarding the environment and its objectives for economic progress. Additionally, the country wants to provide a brighter future for its residents and for the global community as a whole.

### **Conclusion**

As a conclusion, India's attitude on global warming displays a diversified strategy that strikes a compromise between the imperatives of economic growth and the imperative to tackle climate change. The nation recognizes the gravity of the climate catastrophe and takes an active role in activities that take place at international forums and conferences in order to negotiate accords and initiatives that are aimed at reducing the impact of the crisis. The participation of India at environmental conferences demonstrates the country's dedication to locating global solutions to urgent environmental problems. India has demonstrated its readiness to work with other countries in order to transition towards a future that is sustainable and low in carbon emissions through the implementation of initiatives such as the Paris Agreement and the International Solar Alliance. India has achieved tremendous progress in establishing policies and programs to reduce emissions, boost the deployment of renewable energy devices, and promote environmental sustainability. This is despite the fact that the country is confronted with substantial developmental problems and the complications of striking a balance between environmental protection and economic growth. Moving forward, India will continue to play an important part in the efforts that are being made on a global scale to combat climate change and environmental degradation. India's goal is to make a significant contribution to global efforts to address climate change and to guarantee that future generations will inherit a world that is healthier and more sustainable. This will be accomplished by placing an emphasis on sustainable development, encouraging innovation, and strengthening international collaboration.

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