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YOJANA MAGAZINE ANALYSIS

(December 2024)

(Part 2/3)

TOPICS TO BE COVERED

PART 1/3

- VISION AND ROADMAP FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
- REAPING INDIA'S DEMOGRAPHIC DIVIDEND: STRATEGIC PATHWAYS FOR GROWTH

PART 2/3

- THE YEAR OF INDIA'S STRATEGIC EMERGENCE
- GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES IN CLIMATE CHANGE: A SUSTAINABLE PATH FOR VIKSIT BHARAT@2047

PART 3/3

- ROADMAP FOR INDIA'S GEOPOLITICAL STRATEGY
- INDIA'S MISSION TO FIGHT SICKLE CELL DISEASE

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THE YEAR OF INDIA'S STRATEGIC EMERGENCE

The year **2024** marks a significant milestone for India as it celebrates its **75th Republic Day**.

Reflecting on its incredible journey from being a "Fragile Five" economy to becoming one of the world's top five economies, India stands as a testament to the power of **reforms, political stability, and strategic initiatives**. These efforts have propelled India into a new era of global prominence.

INDIA'S ECONOMIC GROWTH & GLOBAL STANDING

From Fragile Five to Global Leader

- **Morgan Stanley**, once critical of India's economic vulnerability by labeling it a "Fragile Five" economy, now recognizes India's **strong economic growth** and the **transformative reforms** implemented in recent years.
- India's **rapid ascent** has made it a leading **destination for global investments**. As a result, its economic position has significantly strengthened, attracting international confidence and attention.

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Economic Achievements

- **Defense Production:**

- India's **defense production** has surged from **Rs. 46,429 crore in 2014-15** to **Rs. 1,27,265 crore**—an increase of **174%**.
- **Defense exports** have also skyrocketed, from **Rs. 686 crore in FY 2013-14** to **Rs. 21,083 crore in FY 2023-24**, marking a **30-fold increase**.

- **Sunrise Sectors:**

- India has emerged as a leader in **space** and **defense innovations**. Programs like **Digital India** and **Make in India** have been central to this growth, driving technological advancements and self-reliance.

STRENGTHENING STRATEGIC ALLIANCES & REGIONAL ENGAGEMENT

India's Strategic Policy Initiatives

- **Digital India**, the **International Solar Alliance (ISA)**, and India's leadership at the **2023 G20 Summit** have positioned India as a global **policy leader**.

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- India has also taken proactive steps in **counterterrorism**, with proposals like the **No Money for Terror (NMFT) Secretariat** in New Delhi, and hosted the **Interpol General Assembly** in 2022, further solidifying its commitment to international security.

REGIONAL & GLOBAL ENGAGEMENTS

India's influence is now felt across various key regions:

- **Indo-Pacific:** India has increased its presence and strategic influence in the Indo-Pacific, a region critical for global trade and security.
- **Gulf Countries:** India maintains strong **trade, investment, and energy partnerships** with nations in the Gulf region.
- **Central Asia:** Ties with Central Asian states have strengthened, enhancing regional cooperation and stability.
- **Africa:** India has also focused on fostering cooperation along the **East African coastline**, creating stronger trade and investment links.

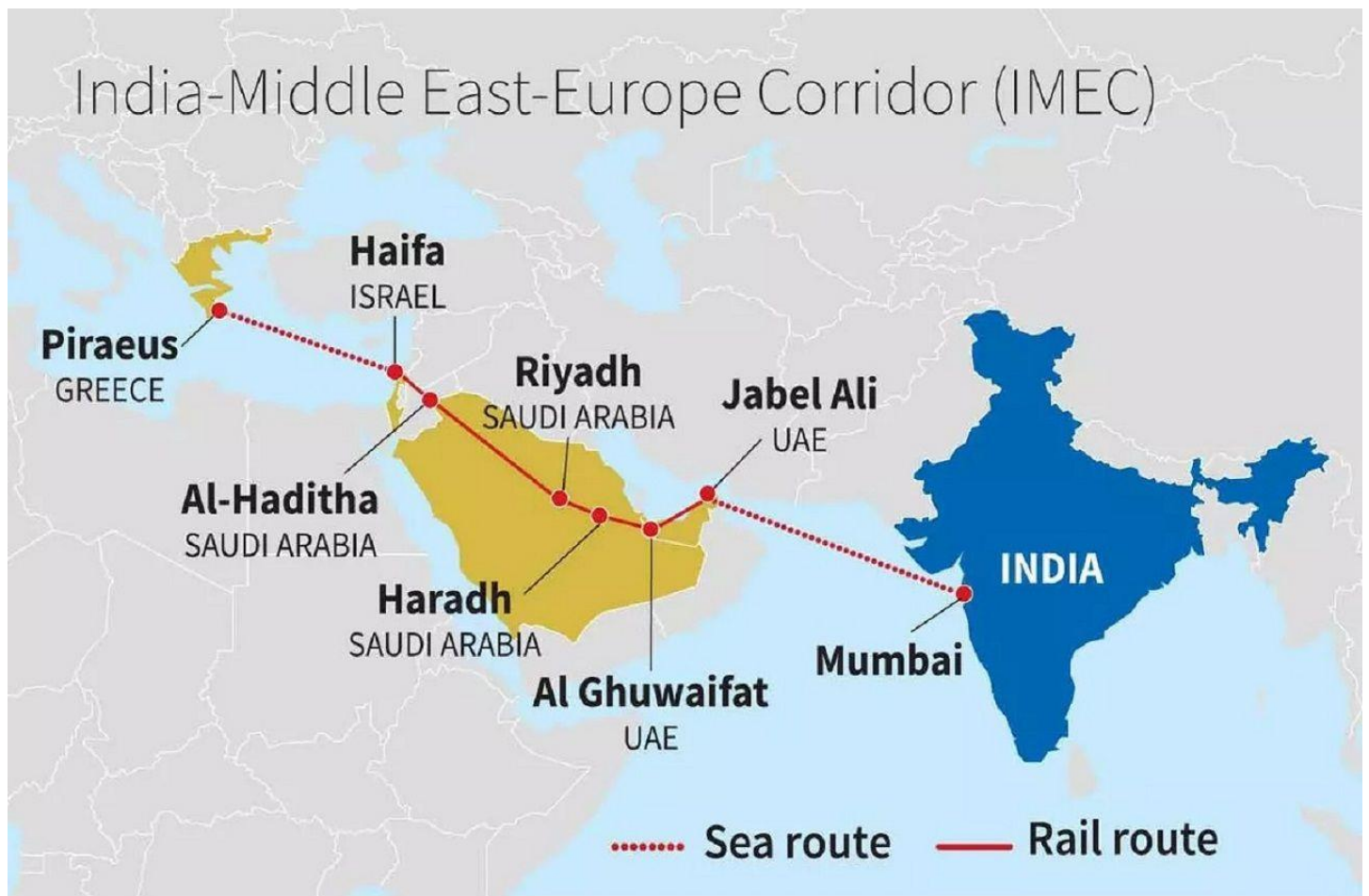
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- **India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC):**

- This ambitious project connects India to **Europe** via the **Arabian Peninsula**, facilitating trade and reducing maritime shipping risks.



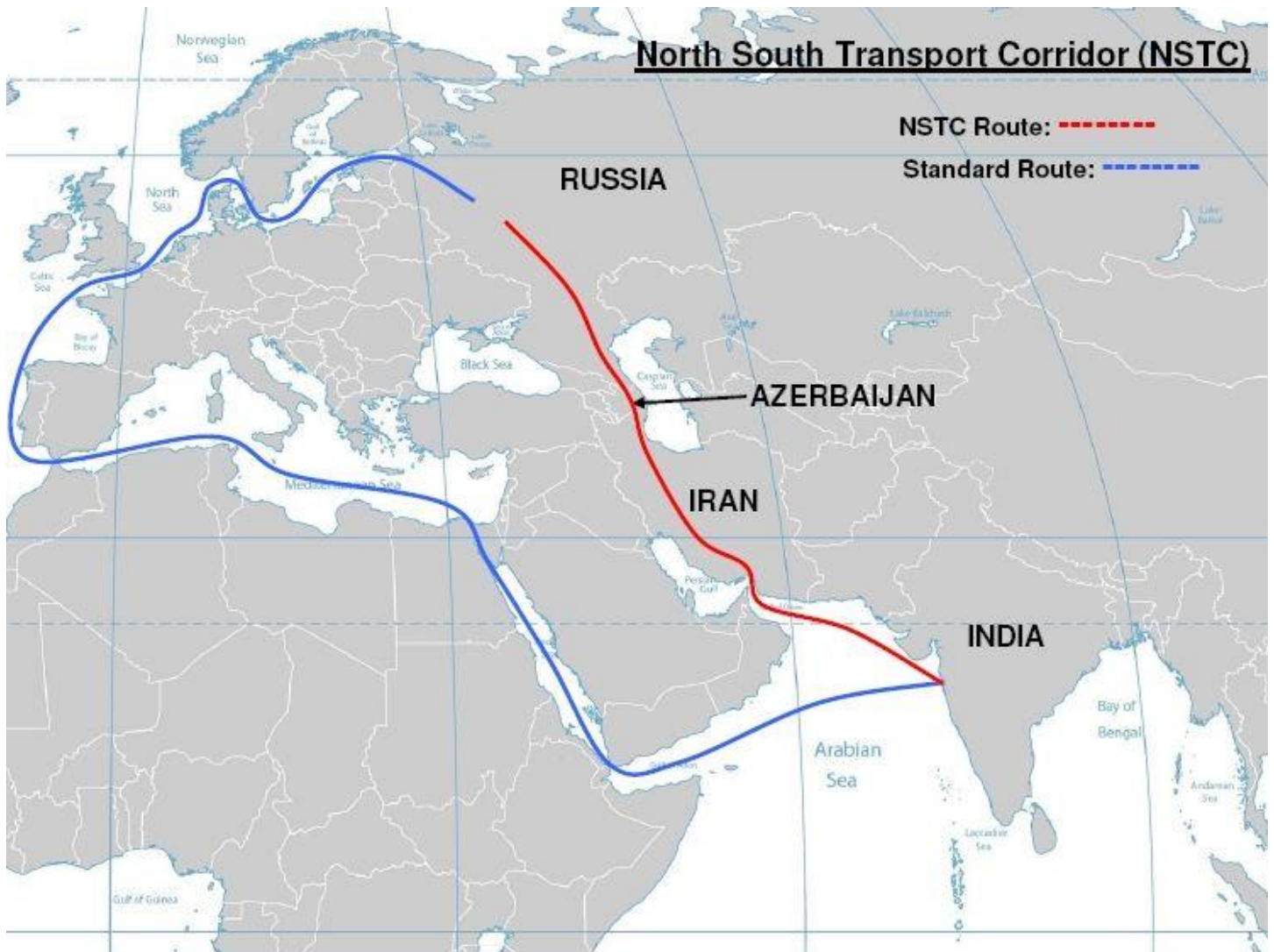
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- **International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC):**

- The INSTC provides an **alternative route to Eurasia**, enhancing India's **global connectivity**.



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INDIA'S LEADERSHIP ROLE IN THE GLOBAL SOUTH

Vaccine Diplomacy and Health Initiatives

- **Vaccine Diplomacy:** India's leadership during the **COVID-19 pandemic** is exemplified by its **vaccine equity efforts**, with **over 301 million vaccine doses** delivered to **99 countries**.
- **International Solar Alliance (ISA):**
 - India has led the ISA, with **119 countries** signing the framework and **99 countries** ratifying it by **August 2024**, reinforcing its leadership in **clean energy**.

Development Partnerships

- **\$951.22 billion USD** in grants and lines of credit have been provided to **78 countries** since **2008**.
- India has contributed **\$3 billion USD** in **financial aid** for infrastructure development in various countries, further solidifying its role as a development partner.

INFRASTRUCTURE & MARITIME EFFICIENCY

- **Port Efficiency:** India's **port infrastructure** has made impressive strides, with **nine major ports** now ranked among the top **100 globally**, according to the **World Bank**.

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- **Visakhapatnam Port** and **Mundra Port** are ranked among the **top 30 ports worldwide**.
- The **Median Turnaround Time (MTT)** for Indian ports has drastically reduced from **28 days** to **0.9 days** by **2024**, showing a major improvement in operational efficiency. For comparison:

- **US:** 1.5 days
- **Australia:** 1.7 days
- **Singapore:** 1 day



MARITIME & MILITARY ADVANCEMENTS

India as a Maritime Power

- India's growing role as a **maritime security provider** is evident in its strategic actions in the **Indo-Pacific**.
- **INS Arighaat**, India's second **Arihant-class Ship Submersible Ballistic Nuclear Submarine (SSBN)**, was commissioned in **2024**, reinforcing India's **nuclear triad**. These submarines are fully **indigenous**, showcasing India's commitment to **Atmanirbhar Bharat** (self-reliance).

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INDIA'S GLOBAL STRATEGIC & SECURITY FRAMEWORK

Five Elements of Security (Barry Busan Framework)

India's **security framework** is based on five key pillars:

1. **Military:** India's armed forces, along with its growing **deterrent capabilities**, enhance both **national** and **regional security**.
2. **Political:** As the world's largest democracy, India's ideology of **freedom, openness,** and **democratic governance** resonates globally.
3. **Economic:** India's robust economic growth and vast **resources** contribute to **global prosperity**.
4. **Social:** India's diverse cultural and social fabric fosters **inclusivity**, enabling greater **global collaboration**.
5. **Environmental:** India's commitment to **sustainability** and its leadership in initiatives like the **International Solar Alliance (ISA)** address urgent global environmental challenges.

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INDIA'S ROLE IN GLOBAL SECURITY

- India has become a key player in **global security**, with growing **deterrence capabilities** and active participation in **global security frameworks**.
- India's efforts as a **first responder** during crises, combined with its leadership in **peacekeeping missions**, further elevate its standing in the global order.

Conclusion

India's journey from a "Fragile Five" economy to a leading global power has been driven by **strategic reforms, strong leadership**, and a focus on **self-reliance**. With continued focus on **economic growth, defense capabilities, regional cooperation, and global leadership**, India is well on its way to solidifying its position as one of the most influential countries in the world by 2047.

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GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES IN CLIMATE CHANGE: A SUSTAINABLE PATH FOR VIKSIT BHARAT@2047

Introduction

India, one of the most populous countries in the world, has been actively addressing climate change while striving for **inclusive** and **sustainable economic growth**. India's commitment to reducing carbon emissions, transitioning to clean energy, and building climate resilience is reflected in various significant initiatives. These efforts aim to meet **international climate commitments** and ensure a cleaner, greener future for generations to come.

ACHIEVEMENTS AGAINST NDCs (2015)

India's progress in meeting its **Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)** under the Paris Agreement has been commendable:

- **Emission Intensity Reduction:**
 - India achieved a **33% reduction** in emission intensity from **2004-05 levels** by **2019**, surpassing the target.

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- **Non-Fossil Fuel Capacity:**

- As of **May 2024**, India reached **45.40%** of its installed electric power capacity from non-fossil fuel sources.

- **Solar Power Expansion:**

- In **2023-24**, India added **15.03 GW** of solar power, bringing its total to **82.64 GW** by **April 2024**.

REVISED INDCs (2021)

India at the **COP26 to the UNFCCC** held in **Glasgow, UK in 2021**, expressed to intensify its climate action by presenting **5-set of new targets (Panchamrit)** of India's climate action.

These were -

- India will increase its **non-fossil fuel energy capacity** to **500 gigawatts (GW)** by **2030**. (Presently it is around 167 GW)
- It will meet **50% of its energy requirements** from **renewable sources** by **2030**.
- The total **projected carbon emissions** will be **reduced by 1 billion tonnes** from now through **2030**.
- The **emission intensity** of its economy will be **brought down to less than 45%**.
- India will achieve its **target of net zero by 2070**.

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MAJOR INITIATIVES & POLICIES

1. PM Surya Ghar Yojana

- **Launch Date:** February 13, 2024
- **Budget:** Rs. 75,021 crore
- **Goals:**
 - Install rooftop solar panels on **1 crore** residential homes.
 - Provide **300 units** of complementary electricity per month.
 - Reduce electricity costs and promote **sustainable energy practices**.
- **Key Features:**
 - **Financial Assistance:** Up to **60% subsidy** for 2 kW systems and **40% subsidy** for 3 kW systems.
 - **Collateral-Free Loans:** To make solar energy more affordable.
 - **Target:** Add **30 GW** of solar capacity by 2030.
 - **Employment:** Estimated to create **over 1.7 million jobs**.
 - **Environmental Impact:** Significant reduction in **CO2 emissions**, promoting a transition to cleaner energy.

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2. Sovereign Green Bonds

- **Purpose:** Financing **climate-resilient projects**.
- **Initial Issue:** Rs. **8,000 crore** in **2024**, with an additional Rs. **16,000 crore** allocated.
- **Focus Areas:** Renewable energy, clean transport, and climate adaptation.
- **Challenges:** High-risk perception and insufficient return data.
- **Future Potential:** Mobilizing **international investments** for greater climate resilience.

3. GOBAR dhan Initiative

- **Objective:** Convert organic waste into **biogas** by establishing **500 biogas facilities**.
- **Benefits:**
 - Produces green energy from waste.
 - Reduces **methane emissions**.
 - Supports the **Swachh Bharat Mission** and creates rural economic opportunities.
- **Expansion:** Includes **urban organic waste** and strengthens industry partnerships.

4. Critical Mineral Mission

- **Objective:** Secure essential minerals like **copper** and **lithium** for critical industries.

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- **Strategies:**

- Increase **domestic production** and **recycling**.
- Reduce **import dependency**.
- Foster **R&D** for better resource efficiency.

- **Global Collaboration:** Partnering with resource-rich nations for sustainable extraction.

5. MISHTI (Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats and Tangible Incomes)

- **Launch Date:** June 2023

- **Goal:** Conserve and rehabilitate **540 km²** of mangroves across **nine states** and **three UTs**.

- **Benefits:**

- **Climate resilience:** Acts as **carbon sinks** and **storm barriers**.
- **Socio-economic:** Promotes eco-tourism and sustainable fisheries.
- **Biodiversity:** Strengthens ecosystems for marine and coastal species.

6. Amrit Dharohar

- **Launch Date:** Union Budget **2023-24**

- **Objective:** Maximize wetland use for **biodiversity**, **carbon storage**, and **ecotourism**.

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- **Focus:** Restore wetlands for improved **water quality, biodiversity, and local revenue.**
- **Extended Goals:** Expand inclusion of more **Ramsar sites** and integrate **local community conservation** practices.

7. Green Credit Programme

- **Purpose:** Promote **afforestation** and **ecosystem restoration.**
- **Mechanism:**
 - Participants earn **green credits** that can be traded in the market.
 - Supports India's **net-zero emissions** goal by **2070.**
 - Encourages **private sector** participation and increases public awareness about ecological balance.

8. Solar Park Scheme

- **Timeline:** Extended until **2025-26**
- **Goal:** Develop large-scale **solar parks.**
- **Key Projects:**
 - Establish ultra-mega solar power plants in **renewable energy zones.**
 - Collaborate with states for efficient **land use.**

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9. Ecomark Scheme

- **Revised:** Ecomark Rules 2024
- **Focus:** Label **environmentally friendly products**.
- **Future Prospects:** Expanding to include **tourism** and **healthcare** sectors.

10. Param Rudra Supercomputers

- **Launch:** 2024
- **Purpose:** Enhance **climate modeling** and **scientific research**.
- **Cost:** Rs. **130 crore** under the **National Supercomputing Mission**.
- **Applications:**
 - Precision in **climate prediction** and early warning systems.
 - Research on **renewable energy optimization**.

11. National Clean Air Programme (NCAP)

- **Launch Date:** 2019
- **Target:** Reduce **PM10** and **PM2.5** levels by **20-30%** by 2024.
- **Coverage:** 132 **non-attainment cities** under **NAAQS**.
- **Progress:** Real-time air quality monitoring integration.
- **Extended Goals:** Include rural air quality monitoring systems.

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12. National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC)

- **Launch Date:** 2008
- **Key Missions:**

National Action Plan on Climate Change

8 missions to address climate change concerns & promote sustainable development

 National Solar Mission	 National Mission on Sustainable Habitat	 National Mission for Sustaining the Himalayan Ecosystem	 National Mission for Enhanced Energy Efficiency
 National Water Mission	 National Mission on Strategic Knowledge for Climate Change	 National Mission for a Green India	 National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture

13. Energy Conservation (Amendment) Bill 2022

- **Passed:** December 2022

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- **Key Features:**

- Mandates **non-fossil fuel** energy sources.
- Introduces **carbon credit trading**.
- Strengthens **energy efficiency standards** across industries.

14. Net Zero Strategy by 2070

- **Presented at COP27 (2022)**

- **Strategic Transitions:**

- Focus on **low-carbon electricity** and **transport systems**.
- **Urban adaptation** and sustainable **urbanization**.
- Enhancing **forest and vegetation cover** and promoting **carbon removal** technologies.

- **Global Impact:** Encourages **collaboration** and **technology sharing** for low-emission pathways.

CONCLUSION

India's climate initiatives are a comprehensive effort to achieve **sustainable development** while addressing the challenges of climate change. With policies like **green bonds**,

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afforestation programs, and investments in **renewable energy**, India is making substantial progress toward its climate goals. The success of these initiatives will depend on **robust implementation, community involvement, and international cooperation**. India's leadership in climate action, including its commitment to achieving **net-zero emissions by 2070**, will be crucial in shaping a sustainable and equitable future for the country and the world.



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