Pre-COP29 Consultation Report
on

Global Action for Climate Change – Contribution of States to India's Commitment

Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh, India
(October 28, 2024)

Atal Bihari Vajpayee Institute of Good Governance and Policy Analysis

Pre-COP29 Consultation Report on

Global Action for Climate Change — Contribution of States to India's Commitment

Organized by

Atal Bihari Vajpayee Institute of Good Governance and Policy Analysis (AIGGPA)

Madhya Pradesh Council of Science and Technology (MPCST)

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Disclaimer

This report is based on discussions held during the consultation and contains translations from Hindi to English where necessary. While every effort has been made to ensure accuracy, the report may contain minor errors or omissions.

“Mother Earth is looking towards us to protect her future. We have to succeed.”

Shri Narendra Modi
Prime Minister of India

Vision from Leadership

Chief Minister, Madhya Pradesh

As we gather for this landmark Pre-COP consultation titled Global Action for Climate Change: Contribution of States to India's Commitment, I am honoured to reflect on our collective journey towards addressing one of the most pressing challenges of our time—climate change.

India is emerging as a global leader in climate action, guided by the mantra of "One Earth, One Family, One Future" Our commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals underscores our determination to balance progress with nature. It is imperative that we build a robust, environmentally conscious nation that advances our values and ideas with unwavering conviction.

In line with our vision, we are enhancing solar energy production as outlined by our Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi. We are also dedicated to protecting our invaluable natural resources, including safeguarding the Narmada River and its banks while ending illegal mining activities in our state.

Madhya Pradesh is working towards achieving the SDGs and aligning itself with India’s NDCs. Our priority remains clear: achieving a harmonious balance between progress and nature. By respecting our environment while pursuing sustainable development, we pave the way towards a bright and sustainable future for all.

The suggestions from our discussions today will be actively implemented by the Government of Madhya Pradesh. Together, let us continue to lead by example and work towards innovative solutions that will benefit our state and contribute significantly to India's global commitments.

I congratulate the organisers of this first-of-its-kind consultation, let us work hand in hand to create a sustainable legacy for future generations, ensuring that our efforts today lead to a healthier planet tomorrow.

Thank you for your dedication and commitment to this vital cause.

Best wishes,

(Dr. Mohan Yadav)
Chief Minister, Madhya Pradesh

List of Abbreviations

AIGGPA	Atal Bihari Vajpayee Institute of Good Governance and Policy Analysis
BIOFIN	Biodiversity Finance Initiative
BMC	Biodiversity Management Committee
CDRI	Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure
COP	Conference of Parties
CECOEDECON	Centre For Community Economics and Development Consultants Society
CRISP-M	Climate Resilience Information System and Planning
EPCO	Environmental Planning & Coordination Organization
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
GRAP	Graded Response Action Plan
HLPF	High-Level Political Forum
IRIS	Infrastructure for Resilient Island States
ISA	International Solar Alliance
Lead-IT	Leadership Group for Industry Transition
LiFE	Lifestyle for Environment
MISHTI	Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats & Tangible Incomes
MPCST	Madhya Pradesh Council of Science and Technology
NAP	National Afforestation Programme
NAPCC	National Action Plan on Climate Change
NDCs	Nationally Determined Contributions
OSL	Optically Stimulated Luminescence
PAIRVI	Public Advocacy Initiatives for Rights and Values in India
SAPCC	State Action Plan on Climate Change
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
UNEP	UN Environment Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
VNR	Voluntary National Review

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1. Background

With the world confronting a mounting sustainability crisis—characterised by continued greenhouse gas emissions, intensifying climate events, widespread biodiversity loss, and escalating pollution—global ambitions for climate action have never been more critical. While Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) have reduced some mitigation gaps, the current measures still fall short of the targets set by the Paris Agreement to limit global temperature rise to below 1.5 degrees Celsius. The UN Environment Programme (UNEP) report warns that the world may see a 2.5-2.9°C temperature rise above pre-industrial levels by the end of the 21st century and the world has only 14% chance to limit temperature rise to 1.5°C. The 1.5°C temperature threshold could avoid the worst impacts of climate change. We have achieved some progress, as GHG emissions were projected to increase by 16% in 2030 at the time of the Paris Agreement, 2015, which is now projected as 3%. But it is not sufficient.

The Conference of Parties (COP) is the apex decision-making body responsible for monitoring and reviewing the implementation of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The first COP meeting was held in March 1995 in Berlin, Germany and the upcoming COP29 will be held in Baku, Azerbaijan from 11 to 22 November 2024. The Kyoto Protocol, which was adopted in December 1997 is based on the principle of “common but differentiated responsibility and respective capabilities”. It sets binding emission reduction targets for 37 industrialised countries and economies in transition and the European Union. Now, there are 192 parties to the Kyoto Protocol. The Paris Agreement, 2015 places states’ nationally determined contributions (NDCs) at the center of global climate politics. The Agreement includes commitments from all countries to reduce their emissions and work together to adapt to the impacts of climate change.

India stands at the forefront of this challenge, demonstrating proactive climate action and achieving two key goals from its 2015 NDCs: reducing emission intensity by 33% and attaining 40% cumulative installed electric power capacity from non-fossil sources by 2023, well before the 2030 target. In its updated NDCs (August 2022), India committed to an even greater ambition: a 45% reduction in emission intensity by 2030, achieving 50% non-fossil electric power, installing 500 GW of renewable energy capacity, and reaching net zero by 2070. Nonetheless, sustainable development remains an uphill battle, with the UN projecting only 17% of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to be achieved by 2030. India’s SDG progress remains mixed, with areas of progress but notable gaps due to challenges like capacity, financing, and technology access, especially among developing and least-developed countries.

At COP26, Hon’ble Prime Minister Modi presented a blueprint for the future in the form of "Panchamrit" — five major commitments that will lead India toward a greener and more sustainable future. However, achieving these commitments requires the contribution of each state, and with its unique strengths, Madhya Pradesh has an essential role to play in this journey.

Madhya Pradesh has played a pivotal role in advancing climate goals and SDGs. While the State Action Plans on Climate Change (SAPCCs) provide a robust framework for climate action, implementation has been hindered by financial limitations, institutional gaps, and lack of long-term objectives. With some states excelling in targeted climate actions, such as sector-based greenhouse gas inventories, net-zero commitments, and innovative financing models, others have yet to realise their full potential in climate resilience and sustainability efforts.

In 2025, India will present its updated NDC to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and submit its Voluntary National Review (VNR) at the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF). This milestone offers an opportune moment to strengthen state-level contributions and foster a synergistic approach that aligns both climate action and sustainable development objectives.

2. Objectives

This Consultation seeks to achieve the following objectives:

1. Strengthen NDC-SDG Nexus at State Level: Explore pathways for aligning state-level actions with national and global climate and sustainability processes.
2. Showcase Madhya Pradesh's Achievements and Innovations: Highlight Madhya Pradesh's progress in climate action and SDGs, focusing on achievements in water management, forest conservation, sustainable agriculture, and renewable energy.
3. Leverage COP29 for Subnational Climate Action: Prepare for COP29 by identifying areas where states can drive meaningful climate action and sustainable development.

3. Rationale

The consultation has been vital for enhancing the role of states in India's climate and sustainable development journey. With a diverse group of stakeholders including experts, CSOs, tribal and indigenous peoples, women's organisations, and environmental advocates, this platform enables a holistic exploration of the potential challenges and opportunities for states in meeting India's NDCs and SDGs.

The consultation has served as a preparatory ground for formulating a comprehensive, state-specific plan to support Madhya Pradesh's commitment to climate resilience and sustainable development. By building on these discussions, the consultation has paved the way for a cohesive framework that leverages Madhya Pradesh's strengths and addresses its unique climate challenges, creating a roadmap to achieving a sustainable, climate-resilient future for the state.

4. Importance of State-Level Pre-COP consultation

Two weeks before the COP29, Madhya Pradesh hosted a state-level Pre-COP consultation on October 28, 2024 at Kushabhau Thakre Hall International Convention Centre in Bhopal. This consultation is a result of the collaborative efforts of the Atal Bihari Vajpayee Institute of Good Governance and Policy Analysis (AIGGPA), Madhya Pradesh Council of Science & Technology (MPCST), Narmada Samagra, Public Advocacy Initiatives for Rights and Values in India (PAIRVI), and Centre for Community Economics and Development Consultants Society (CECOEDECON).

The consultation witnessed the participation of stakeholders from varied fields like academia, research, public sector and civil society including policymakers, scientists, journalists, youth and environmental advocates summing up to a total of 217 participants and marks a significant step forward in aligning the state's ambitions with India's Nationally Determined Contributions to combat climate change. It is a call for action and a unique opportunity to explore how Madhya Pradesh, as a key state in India's diverse landscape, can take a leading role in global climate action.

5. Expectations from the COP29

5.1.1. **The New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG);** with the Paris Agreement, countries committed to setting a new climate finance goal before 2025, building from a floor of USD 100 billion to support the developing countries to develop low-carbon pathways, to help adapt better, and to address loss and damage. India, along with other developing nations including the Africa group and the Arab Group, demanded for USD 1 trillion per year through 2030, based on the experience and lessons of the USD 100 billion goal, which proved to be highly insufficient. The goal should prioritize grants and concessional finance mainly in the form of public finance over loans and have time-bound targets to support mitigation, adaptation, and loss and damage. As regards the structure, we would expect that finance goals will include time bound sub goals to support mitigation, adaptation and loss and damage in developing countries. We strongly resist any effort to expand the contributors base beyond developed and industrialized countries, which we believe is the violation of the principles of the CBDR-RC of the UNFCCC and is tantamount to renegotiating the UNFCCC, which is beyond the scope of the NCQG negotiations. We also believe that all the developing countries should be able to access climate finance, as UNFCCC is very clear that there are only two categories of countries developed and developing. Any effort to narrow down the recipient countries will raise apprehensions among the developing countries and would further erode the trust impeding the resolution on climate finance goal. We are also of the opinion that we should have a clear definition of climate finance, which should be ambitious and appropriate, new and additional and should be delivered in a time bound manner.

5.1.2. **Enhancing overall ambition in the NDCs;** Nations must submit their overall mitigation ambition and updated NDCs by early February 2025. The first Global Stocktake (GST) conducted in COP28 at UAE, concluded that we are far behind in making our collective progress towards the Paris Agreement Goals. Current emission targets of the developed countries are insufficient. The UNEP Emission Gap Report, 2024 tells us that if nothing (significant) is done the temperature might rise to 3.1 degrees and that the current policies are insufficient to achieve even the NDCs. The global emissions must be reduced at the rate of 7.5% per year to remain within the reach of the 1.5 degrees target. Developed countries should lead in deep and sustained emission cuts as many of them have failed to honor their pre 2020 commitments. The NDCs of the developed countries should lay down near term emission reduction across sectors to encourage the rest of the countries to do so.

5.1.3. **Making the Loss and Damage Fund meaningful and operational;** a positive outcome from COP28 was the operationalization of the Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage (FRLD). FRLD has identified Philippines as the Secretariat, hired an ED, and made working relations with the WB, which the COP29 is supposed to approve. However, bigger task is to create synergistic relation among the WIM, SNLD and FRLD. The third review of the WIM should harness lessons on creating this relation. However, the most important decision expected is how to grow the FRLD to make it fit for the purpose. The current pledge of USD 660 million is dwarfed by the estimated need, which is likely to rise to USD 650 billion by 2050.

5.1.4. **Making progress on the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA);** The COP28 also made some progress on the GGA, critical for the developing countries but has been languishing in neglect since the Paris Agreement. The GGA is aiming to enhance adaptive capacity, resilience & reduce vulnerability. We welcome the UAE-Belem Framework adopted in 2023 which set 7 thematic targets including attaining climate resilient food systems, accelerating the use of Ecosystem based adaptation (EbA) and Nature Based Solutions (NBS), protecting cultural heritage, reducing climate impact on poverty reduction, and strengthening resilience to water related climate hazards. The framework also asks all countries to submit their National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) before Belem COP in 2025. Adaption finance is a persistent concern. The Adaptation Gap Report (UNEP, 2023) estimates that required adaptation finance will be in the range of USD 194 billion to USD 366 billion per year by 2030, and that the adaptation finance needs to be increased by at least 10 to 18 times of what is available now. Generous and quality support through Adaptation Fund, LDC Fund, the GCF and other sources of climate finance is expected to make concrete progress in this regard.

5.1.5. **Develop clear guidelines for the Market Based Approaches;** Operationalization of the Market based Mechanisms, (Art. 6.2 and Art. 6.4) of the Paris Agreement is urgent to enhance market confidence and contribute towards raising desired investment. Market based mechanism seek to reduce emissions by putting a price of carbon and by trade of reduced/avoided carbon emissions credits. While Art. 6.2 relates to the bilateral carbon trade between the countries, Art 6.4 is the foundation of the erstwhile CDM in the Kyoto Protocol rechristened as sustainable development mechanism where market players can trade carbon credits in the form of Internationally Transferred Mitigation Outcomes (ITMO). Though the trade under Art 6.2 has already begun, the rules are yet to be framed. Countries are supposed to ensure that they have surplus carbon reduction credits before trading it under this bilateral mechanism, however, there is no way that countries can ensure they have surplus credits. What is agreed that the countries selling credits will not account for these sold credits in their national emission reduction. The countries are yet to establish national registry, and many small countries do not have the capacity to develop national registries, which can inform and link up with international registry under Art 6.2. There is yet no consensus on reporting formats, tables and timelines. IPCC says that the price of carbon per ton should increase to USD 170/t in 2030 and USD 430 by 2050 to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees. Appropriate and timely framing of rules and guidelines will be critical to support carbon markets.

6. India’s Actions Speak- India's Current Role and Achievements

India plays a crucial role in leading global efforts to address climate change, consistently offering constructive solutions to pressing issues such as global warming. When addressing greenhouse gas emissions, India advocates for a self-driven approach to climate action rather than imposed measures. The nation upholds that each country's climate commitments—its Nationally Determined Contributions—should reflect its priorities and capabilities, allowing each nation to determine its goals based on its unique strengths and limitations.

While India’s carbon emissions are currently increasing, they remain significantly lower than those of developed countries. India upholds the principle that "polluters must pay," asserting

that those who have historically emitted the most carbon should bear a greater responsibility in addressing the impacts of global warming.

India’s approach aligns with the UNFCCC principle of "Common but Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities." This principle recognises that while all nations share a responsibility to combat climate change, those that benefited most from the industrial revolution—and whose energy use and carbon emissions are highest—have contributed the most to atmospheric carbon levels. Consequently, climate solutions should be shaped by each country's development level and capacity. India's 2023 G20 Presidency was guided by the theme "One Earth, One Family, One Future," a phrase derived from the ancient Sanskrit scripture, the Maha Upanishad, which translates to "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" This theme emphasizes the interconnectedness of all life on Earth and underscores the importance of global cooperation in addressing shared challenges.

During COP28 in Dubai, Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi proposed that India host COP-33 in 2028. In his address, he emphasized the need for significant climate financing and technological transfer to developing countries. He also highlighted India's achievements in reducing emission intensity and increasing renewable energy capacity. Additionally, PM Modi co-launched the Phase II of the Leadership Group for Industry Transition (LeadIT 2.0) and co-hosted a high-level event on the Green Credits Programme.

Union Minister Shri Bhupender Yadav, representing India at COP28 in Dubai, reaffirmed India's commitment to a greener, cleaner, and healthier planet, echoing Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of "One Earth, One Family, One Future." He emphasized India's proactive role in global climate action, highlighting the nation's successful decoupling of economic growth from greenhouse gas emissions. India achieved its initial NDC target of reducing emission intensity by 33% between 2005 and 2019, a decade ahead of schedule. Additionally, the country has significantly increased its non-fossil fuel-based electricity capacity, reaching 40% of total installed capacity well before the 2030 target. This impressive progress reflects India's unwavering dedication to climate action and sustainable development.

Under the leadership of our Hon’ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, India has always demonstrated strong global leadership for climate justice with its constructive involvement, self-driven climate commitment and problem-solving attitude. We have stressed on following important aspects related to climate actions and international negotiations: -

a) Our nation believes that in terms of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), every nation should independently decide its own priorities and commitments. This self-driven approach allows each country to decide its own commitments based on its unique capacities and priorities.
b) Climate equity demands that those historically responsible for carbon emissions, the "polluters," should bear the burden of addressing climate change, while recognizing the "common but differentiated responsibilities" of all nations. Historically, those who have emitted more GHGs should contribute more regarding their climate commitments, climate financing and technological support to developing countries. The per capita emission of India (2.07 tons) is far below the global average (4.86 ton) as of 2023. Per capita energy consumption is already low in India compared to developed nations. Some regions suffer from energy poverty and lack basic energy services such as electricity. When we compare

with developed countries, India must acknowledge that it needs to increase per capita energy consumption to accelerate the development pace and meet our citizens' basic developmental needs.

c) India has advocated for Climate Justice which focuses on the uneven effects of climate change. It addresses the fact that the poor and vulnerable people and communities bear the brunt of climate change. If we look at extreme weather events like flooding, drought, rising sea levels, or rising temperatures, those most impacted by climate change effects are the poor, vulnerable and developing nations and their citizens.

d) To minimise our carbon footprint, we must follow a sustainable lifestyle that emphasizes sustainable production and consumption. Indian traditional lifestyle already has a low carbon footprint. The mission LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment) of GoI is a public movement mobilising people to adopt mindful pro-planet lifestyle choices at individual and collective levels.

6.1. India’s Global and National Green Initiatives

India's leadership resulted in International Solar Alliance (ISA) under the theme "India Rise to World Rise", Leadership Group for Industry Transition (Lead-IT) aiming to achieve net-zero carbon emissions from industry by 2050, Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) a multi-stakeholder global partnership to promote disaster-resilient infrastructure, Infrastructure for Resilient Island States (IRIS) is a flagship programme of the CDRI, Green Credit Initiative and International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA) is a global initiative to conserve the world's seven big cat species. The Global Biofuel Alliance, launched when the G20 leaders met in New Delhi in 2023, seeks to serve as a catalytic platform fostering global collaboration for advancement and widespread adoption of biofuels.

From promoting electric vehicles to providing clean cooking fuel (Ujjwala cooking gas connections), India's policies and programs reflect a dedication to environmental conservation. Some of the flagship national programmes of the government of India on environment and green development are as follows: -

6.1.1. Lifestyle for Environment (LiFE) Mission: The Prime Minister introduced the "Lifestyle for Environment" (LiFE) concept to the world, promoting a lifestyle in harmony with nature.

6.1.2. "One Sun, One World, One Grid": India has taken a major step toward establishing a global network for solar energy.

6.1.3. One Tree in the Name of Mother (एक पेड़ माँ के नाम) initiative symbolises our environmental commitment.

6.1.4. Focus on Climate Adaptation: India has significantly emphasised climate adaptation, benefiting developing and poorer countries globally.

6.1.5. National Green Hydrogen Mission: National Green Hydrogen Mission, aiming to make India global leader in production, use, and exports of green hydrogen by establishing enabling ecosystem to support scaling and development.

6.1.6. The Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission (JNNSM) aims at development and deployment of solar energy technologies in the country to increase grid connected solar capacity.

6.1.7. The Green Credit Programme (GCP): launched by Hon'ble Prime Minister on the side-lines of COP28, aims to establish a dynamic land bank for voluntary plantations on degraded land, waste land, watershed area etc.

6.1.8. Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats & Tangible Incomes (MISHTI): aimed to promote and conserve mangrove along coastlines and saltpan lands to improve ecological health, develop bio-shield to protect against natural disasters, and support local livelihoods. Mangroves have high biological productivity and carbon sequestration potential.

6.1.9. Wetlands Rejuvenation Programme: aims to systematic rejuvenate wetlands across India.

6.1.10. National Afforestation Programme (NAP): aiming for ecological restoration of degraded forests and to develop the forest resources through participatory approaches.

7. Madhya Pradesh's efforts, achievements and innovations

7.1.1. Madhya Pradesh has been proactive in taking action regarding climate change. The State established a pioneering institute the Environmental Planning & Coordination Organization (EPCO) in 1981 to embed environmental planning into the statewide development process. The EPCO has revised the State Action Plan on Climate Change (MP SAPCC 2.0) for Madhya Pradesh and significantly contributed to the national consultations on climate change. The State Action Plan on Climate Change (SAPCC) for Madhya Pradesh is a document that outlines strategies to address the impact of climate change in the state. The Renewable Energy Policy-2022 was created to develop a holistic environment for renewable energy project development in the state.

7.1.2. The Madhya Pradesh Council of Science and Technology (MPCST) established in 1981 actively addresses climate change and environmental issues through innovative research and technology. By leveraging advanced tools like remote sensing and AI/ML, MPCST is monitoring crop yields, assessing drought vulnerability, and tracking forest biomass. These initiatives contribute to sustainable agriculture, water resource management, and carbon sequestration. MPCST has developed the Climate Resilience Information System and Planning (CRISP-M) tool for integrating climate information in GIS-based watershed planning under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA). The Council has also established a modern laboratory for luminescence dating as part of its Climate Change Research Centre. This is the first OSL (Optically Stimulated Luminescence) laboratory in Madhya Pradesh. The laboratory is used for determining the age of archaeological and geo- archaeological events and aiding paleo-climate research. Luminescence dating allows for the dating of geological events up to one million years old, contributing significantly to research in paleo-climate and environmental changes. The organisation's commitment to spatial data-driven solutions and collaboration with various stakeholders' positions Madhya Pradesh as a leader in climate action and sustainable development.

7.1.3. Madhya Pradesh has emerged as a global leader in renewable energy, particularly solar power. In 2012, the state's renewable energy capacity was approximately 500 MW, which has increased 14-fold to 7,000 MW. The share of renewable energy in the total energy

capacity of the state has increased to 21 per cent, with the state government aiming to boost renewable energy production capacity to 20,000 MW by 2030.

7.1.4. Madhya Pradesh is committed to achieving its renewable energy targets and contributing to India's ambitious goal of 500 GW of renewable energy by 2030. The state is actively working to complete the installation of solar rooftops on all government buildings under the PM Surya Ghar Yojana by the end of 2025. Additionally, the Morena Solar Park is set to become a major hub for renewable energy storage, with the ongoing 440 MW × 4 Hr energy storage project and the upcoming 2000 MW × 6 Hr pump hydro energy storage project.

7.1.5. The state's innovative approach, exemplified by the Rewa Solar Project in a vast area of 1590 hectares, has set new benchmarks for large-scale solar power generation. Seventy-six per cent of the energy generated by the project is utilised by the Power Management Company. At the same time, the remaining 24% is supplied to the Delhi Metro through open access, a first-of-its-kind achievement. This innovative approach has significantly reduced carbon emissions, preventing the release of 15.7 lakh tons of CO2 annually, equivalent to planting 2.6 crore trees. The project's groundbreaking success has earned international recognition, being featured in publications like the Government of India's "A Book of Innovation: New Beginnings" and being adopted as a case study at prestigious institutions such as Harvard University and Singapore Management University. Additionally, the project has been honoured with the World Bank President Award and the Prime Minister's Award for Innovation. Notably, it is India's first solar power project to achieve lower electricity tariffs compared to traditional coal-based power generation.

7.1.6. The state's commitment to renewable energy is further evidenced by the ongoing development of the 1500 MW solar park in Agar-Shajapur-Neemuch and the 250 MW solar park in Mandsaur. These projects will contribute to India's renewable energy goals and bolster the state's energy security and economic growth.

7.1.7. Moreover, Madhya Pradesh is pioneering the development of floating solar power projects. Once fully operational, the 600 MW Omkareshwar Solar Project will be the world's largest and offer numerous environmental and social benefits, including reduced water evaporation, land conservation, and carbon emissions.

7.1.8. The state has emerged as a leader in sustainable water management and environmental conservation. The state's recognition as the best state for water conservation and management by the Ministry of Jal Shakti underscores its commitment to water sustainability. Additionally, its extensive network of about 4.6 lac women's self-help groups (SHGs) empowers rural communities to adopt climate-resilient practices and promote green solutions. Madhya Pradesh's pioneering efforts in organic and natural farming have further solidified its position as a leader in sustainable agriculture with the largest certified organic farming area in the country.

7.1.9. As the state expands 4G and 5G networks in this era of information revolution, it is equally dedicated to increasing the forest cover. The 'One Tree in the Name of Mother' campaign aims to transform our commitment to the environment and the state has made it into a mass movement by planting 5.5 crore saplings with Indore alone setting a world record

by planting 1.2 million saplings in a single day." Similar efforts are also being made under the state's Ankur Abhiyan.

7.1.10. The state has banned single-use plastic to reduce pollution and promote eco-friendly alternatives. Additionally, Indore boasts Asia's largest bio-CNG plant, which is a significant stride towards renewable energy solutions. Furthermore, Sanchi has been designated India's first solar city, showcasing the state's commitment to harnessing solar power and promoting sustainable urban development. These initiatives highlight Madhya Pradesh's role as a driving force in India's transition to a sustainable and low-carbon future.

8. Summary of Pre-COP Consultation held in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh

The pre-COP consultation was organised as a structured, state-level event to align regional climate action with India's national environmental goals. The program methodology facilitated diverse perspectives on climate policy and action through an organised sequence of sessions and speakers. The august presence of the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Government of Madhya Pradesh, Dr. Mohan Yadav, graced the pre-COP consultation.

The event opened with the traditional lamp-lighting ceremony and introductory remarks by Mr. Lokesh Sharma, CEO of AIGGPA, setting the stage for the consultation. Mr. Ajay Jha, Director of PAIRVI, provided context, followed by an international perspective from Mr. Erik Solheim on the significance of state-level consultations. The Hon'ble Chief Minister, Dr. Mohan Yadav also addressed the gathering on this vital issue of climate change and environmental protection and showed the commitment of the government of Madhya Pradesh to implementing the suggestions that emerged from this discussion on climate change. Subsequent sessions featured various stakeholders, including policymakers, scientists, and environmental advocates, who presented the Indian approach to climate resilience, sustainable practices, and global climate negotiations. Mr. R.S. Prasad, former IAS; Dr. Anil Kothari, Director General, MPCST; Dr. Vivekananda Pai, National Secretary, Vigyan Bharati, Kochi; Mr. Rajesh Dave, President, Narmada Samagra and Ms. Manju Bala Joshi, Secretary, CECOEDECON shared the dais in the inaugural session.

Two Panel discussions enabled dialogue on state contributions to national climate goals, moderated by experts, with participation from journalists, government officials, and environmental specialists. These discussions focused on India's climate commitments, positive international climate efforts, and policy frameworks.

The key points raised by the leadership and experts are summarised in the following sections:

8.1. Alignment with National Policies and SDGs

8.1.1. Climate change is such a significant issue that it requires continuous reflection and action. Strong strategic plans must also be created and updated regardless of state action plans. Environmental, agriculture, energy, health, rural development, and urban development must coordinate and work together. Additionally, we all need to work on this consistently, as only through sustained efforts can we collectively reduce the impact of climate change.

8.1.2. Aligning India's NDCs with SDGs and localisation of SDGs can be impactful.

8.1.3. States are expected to adopt national policies and enforce them in the state in spirit. The states should work towards localising SDGs through participatory planning, Gram Panchayat Development Plan and Local Area Planning in cities.

8.1.4. Governments alone cannot fund climate actions; thus, private investment should be mobilised. Thus, States should provide a level playing field to attract investors.

8.1.5. Rules of the game like monitoring, accounting and review should be clear and acceptable to all.

8.1.6. Innovations and best practices should be disseminated across states and citizens.

8.1.7. Green Washing should be restricted as companies do make false or misleading statements about the environmental benefits of a product or practice.

8.2. Adopting Indian Traditional Lifestyle

8.2.1. The Eastern and Western models of development differ a lot in nature. The Western model looks at nature/environment as a resource that should be exploited without considering its sustainability. In contrast, the Eastern model (Indian Traditional Lifestyle) is attuned to nature and considers it an integral part of life to be respected, protected and preserved.

8.2.2. The traditional Indian lifestyle is low in carbon footprints. Thus, the world must shift from the Western to the Eastern development model. If everyone on Earth adopted the average American lifestyle, we would need approximately six Earths to sustain our resource consumption and waste absorption, meaning that adopting an American lifestyle would require roughly that many planets worth of resources. It is very challenging to move out of the consumerism-driven model of development.

8.2.3. In 2023, India's per capita emissions are the lowest in the G20, and its contribution to historical cumulative CO2 emissions is only three per cent. However, India's emissions have increased in recent decades due to a growing population, economy, and fossil energy consumption.

8.2.4. The Prime Minister introduced the Lifestyle for Environment (LiFE) mission at COP26 in Glasgow to mobilising people to adopt mindful pro-planet lifestyle choices at individual and collective levels and encourage them to live sustainably and protect the environment. This highlights our lifestyle of integrated living with nature.

8.2.5. Individuals should alter their lifestyles by adopting mindful consumption and pro-planet choices.

8.3. Fostering Citizens' Engagement and Collective Local Actions

8.3.1. Climate change is a global issue, but it has solutions at the local level. Global warming is a problem that all people can only solve together.

8.3.2. The government itself is the biggest stakeholder in climate change action and there is a need to change the perspective of various stakeholders towards conserving natural resources and mindful consumption and pro-planet choices.

8.3.3. Collaborative, collective, and participatory approaches are needed for holistic climate actions.

8.3.4. The need for targeted efforts to raise awareness about climate change among youth is crucial to establishing an attitude and perspective for environmental protection and climate actions. Educating them to build green perspectives on climate change can enhance citizen engagement in climate actions.

8.3.5. Individuals can contribute to climate action by adopting sustainable practices based on the 3Ps - Personal, Professional, and public levels. This includes conserving water (Paani), reducing plastic (Polythene) usage, and promoting tree (Ped) plantation.

8.3.6. We should develop more and more nature volunteers for local actions and behaviour change/green perspective building for each stakeholder.

8.3.7. Climate actions are our collective responsibility to avoid severe climate disasters. There is a need to work strongly towards achieving the goals of the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) and the State Action Plans on Climate Change (SAPCC) along with all the stakeholders including NGOs, CSOs, government and citizens.

8.3.8. Climate change requires continuous reflection and action; strong strategic plans must be created that coordinate various departments such as agriculture, energy, forest, environment and health etc.

8.3.9. Local actions for climate change are essential. For instance, composting household waste, saving and conserving water at the household level and promoting mindful pro-planet consumption is vital. A family can save up to 2 lakh litres of water in a year by saving 1 litre of water daily.

8.3.10. Citizens should be engaged in reporting local actions by promoting citizen journalism. People do engage if we inspire them and provide them the knowledge and guidance on the subject matter.

8.3.11. There is a need to create an alternate economy and market for sustainable products like bamboo products.

8.4. Promoting Circular Economy

8.4.1. Madhya Pradesh can build on the Indore model to lead the circular economy. Indore is already a leader in the circular economy, collecting segregated waste from the source and producing biogas. The other state cities should also work towards incorporating circular economy principles in waste management.

8.4.2. The importance of incorporating Circular Economy principles in waste management is emphasised. This includes the reuse of components of phones, computers, and clothes.

8.4.3. Transitioning from a circular economy to a circular ecology would be more beneficial and sustainable.

8.4.4. The suggestion to establish an alternate economy and market for sustainable products like bamboo reflects a green perspective.

8.4.5. The cities should improve stormwater and rainwater harvesting systems and develop water conservation measures for the municipal areas. They can deploy innovative solutions in water capture, storage and wastewater management at city level and interconnect them to achieve a circular water economy.

8.5. Conserving Wetland and Biodiversity

8.5.1. The state agencies have been working to save ponds in Indore, and due to their continued efforts, two RAMSAR sites have been declared in Indore.

8.5.2. Technical analysis and scientific studies are essential for developing a sound vision and goals for protecting the biodiversity. Another crucial aspect of biodiversity management and protection is the arrangement of finance. For success, integrated solutions and multi-sector planning initiatives that integrate both the natural and built environment must be considered.

8.5.3. The Biodiversity Finance Initiative (BIOFIN), a global partnership launched by UNDP and the European Commission, supports countries to enhance their financial management of biodiversity and ecosystems. Biodiversity conservation at the local level needs a robust enabling mechanism.

8.5.4. Madhya Pradesh has constituted more than 25,000 Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) in its local bodies. It has mobilised BMCs to generate funds and conserve resources, leading to numerous success stories in the state.

8.5.5. Malanjkhand BMC, District Balagaht, M.P. was the first to negotiate access and benefit sharing, Pithorabad BMC is engaged in afforestation and conservation of wheat and indigenous varieties. Keoti BMC has resorted to litigation to fight mining in illegal areas.

8.5.6. The empowerment of local bodies enabled by good, cohesive policies, convergence of schemes, enabling regulatory environment, and simple processes in Madhya Pradesh have contributed to these successes.

8.6. Developing Sustainable & Resilient Cities

8.6.1. To significantly reduce urban emissions and accelerate the energy transition, urban transportation reform and substantial government support, including investments in public transportation infrastructure, are necessary.

8.6.2. Air pollution has global implications. We need to control air pollution locally. Research has shown that dust particles get stuck in clouds and change rainfall patterns. Thus, sources of Air Pollution need to be identified, managed and controlled. Sources of dust in Delhi are mainly construction sites or unpaved roads. Madhya Pradesh should prioritise public transportation, promote non-motorized transport, and incentivise electric vehicles to enhance urban mobility and reduce air pollution.

8.6.3. Delhi has implemented a Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) to reduce air pollution, emphasising the need for inter-institutional collaboration and urban planning measures. According to this plan the air pollution rules get stringent as the situation deteriorates. The source which is highly active amongst all sources is targeted first.

8.6.4. We still rely heavily on concrete for construction, which is impacting our environment, and we have not been able to produce environment-friendly building materials. All new large public buildings in top 10 cities should be constructed as green buildings with 5-star ratings.

8.6.5. Improving building energy efficiency and reducing urban energy consumption are crucial steps towards a successful energy transition. Advancements in construction technology and innovation can significantly contribute to achieving these goals.

8.6.6. Urban planning measures are important in climate change adaptation and designing sustainable and resilient cities is essential to ensure residents' high quality of life. The state should develop comprehensive spatial plans integrating land use, transportation, and infrastructure development. It should enforce strict green and energy-efficient building codes and standards to promote energy-efficient and environmentally friendly construction. The focus should be on creating decentralised cities that are sustainable and resilient and promote walking and cycling.

8.6.7. Collective action with a broader vision including health, well-being and local action is needed to control the air pollution problem and plan and design sustainable cities.

8.6.8. The state should work towards increasing green spaces, urban forests, and rooftop gardens and bring in Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) in urban infrastructure to improve air quality and mitigate urban heat islands. The cities should develop citywide resilience strategies and find innovative ways to integrate climate scenarios and more localized impacts such as urban heat island effects into the urban planning decisions, coordinating with the state and national policies.

8.7. Climate Finance Advocacy

8.7.1. Climate finance and technology have a critical role in addressing climate change.

8.7.2. At COP15 in Copenhagen in 2009, developed countries committed to mobilizing USD 100 billion annually by 2020 to support climate change adaptation and mitigation in developing countries. This commitment was further reaffirmed through the Cancun Agreements in 2010 in the context of meaningful mitigation actions and transparency on implementation.

8.7.3. Developing countries are primarily concerned about the specific financial commitments of the new climate finance goal. Considering the needs of developing countries, the current $100 billion annual commitment is highly insufficient to meet the targets and developing countries have proposed ambitious targets ranging from $1.1 trillion to $1.3 trillion per year for the 2025-2029 period.

8.7.4. Developed nations should mobilise adequate climate finance and extend technologies to developing countries for climate action. The use of emerging technologies, clear and transparent financial models will be beneficial.

8.7.5. Climate finance is the fundamental barrier to accelerating climate actions. New, fair and ambitious climate finance targets are expected from COP29 for mitigation, adaptation, and loss and damage.

8.8. Creating Framework for Carbon Credit Market

8.8.1. Developing strong, clear protocols and frameworks to explore and promote international carbon credit markets is essential for the state's climate action strategy. Rules of the game like monitoring, accounting, and review should be clear and acceptable to all.

8.8.2. Currently, there is no policy framework for carbon credit in India. Given its abundant natural resources and performance in waste management, Madhya Pradesh can lead the way and show a path to other states in the carbon credit scheme by initiating a state-level policy framework. Madhya Pradesh can utilise its forest cover for carbon sequestration.

8.8.3. Madhya Pradesh should enter the international carbon market and develop frameworks for carbon credit markets, particularly in agriculture, and utilise its abundant forest resources and upgrade its renewable energy policies.

9. The Path Forward

9.1.1. The path forward for Madhya Pradesh lies in leveraging its abundant natural resources, technological advancements, and cultural heritage to become a global leader in sustainable development. By building on its strengths, the state can play a pivotal role in achieving India's ambitious climate goals and contributing to global efforts to combat climate change.

9.1.2. Firstly, Madhya Pradesh should continue to invest in renewable energy sources, such as solar, wind, and hydropower. The state's commitment to renewable energy is evident in its ambitious targets and successful projects like the Rewa Solar Park. By further expanding its renewable energy capacity, Madhya Pradesh can reduce its reliance on fossil fuels and contribute to a cleaner energy mix.

9.1.3. Secondly, the state can capitalise on its natural resources and cultural heritage to promote sustainable practices and carbon sequestration. By leveraging carbon finance mechanisms, Madhya Pradesh can protect its forests, wetlands, and agricultural landscapes while generating economic benefits. The state can also explore opportunities to promote sustainable tourism, highlighting its rich cultural heritage and natural beauty.

9.1.4. Thirdly, Madhya Pradesh should continue prioritising sustainable urban development and waste management. By implementing innovative solutions like the Indore model, the state can reduce waste, improve air and water quality, and create a more sustainable urban environment. Additionally, the state can promote green building practices and energy-efficient technologies to reduce its carbon footprint.

9.1.5. Finally, Madhya Pradesh should actively participate in global and national climate negotiations and advocate for ambitious climate action. By sharing its experiences and best practices, the state can contribute to developing effective climate policies and solutions. The state can also collaborate with other states and countries to foster knowledge exchange and promote sustainable development.

9.1.6. By embracing these strategies, Madhya Pradesh can position itself as a global leader in sustainable development and climate action. The state's commitment to a green and sustainable future will benefit its citizens and contribute to the planet's well-being.

Annexure I – Bio of Panelists and Speakers

S. No.	Name	Designation	Brief Profile
1	Mr. Erik Solheim	Norway's former Minister of International Development and Environment and Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)	The Sixth and former UN Environment Executive Director and Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations. Solheim holds a degree in history and social studies from the University of Oslo. Following an extensive career focusing on environment and development in government and international organisations, he was Executive Director of the UN Environment Programme between May 2016 and November 2018. From 2007 to 2012, Solheim held the combined portfolio of Norway's Minister of the Environment and International Development, and from 2005 to 2007 served as Minister of International Development. Solheim is also an experienced peace negotiator, having acted as the main facilitator of the peace process in Sri Lanka from 1998 to 2005.
2	Shri Ajay Kumar Jha	Director, PAIRVI	Ajay Kumar Jha is the Director, Public Advocacy Initiatives for Rights & Values in India (PAIRVI), a non-profit organization working at the intersections of development, rights and sustainability. He has more than 20 years of experience of working on environment, water, climate change, and sustainable development. He also coordinates a pan Indian network MAUSAM (Movement for Advancing Understanding on Sustainability and Mutuality). He has worked extensively on these issues at community engagement, practices and policies. He has experience of engaging at environmental governance in the national, regional (Asia Pacific) and global levels. Mr. Jha is Co-Chair of the Asia Pacific Regional CSOs Engagement Mechanism (APRCEM), a platform of more than 500 CSOs/MGs all over Asia Pacific. He is also elected Regional Facilitator for Asia Pacific CSOs accredited by the UNEP. He is member of the Board of Conveners of Manila based Asia Pacific Research Network (APRN). He has been immediate past Co-Chair of the Major Groups and other Stakeholders Coordination

S. No.	Name	Designation	Brief Profile
			Mechanism on the HLPF/SDGs, a platform composed of all UNECOSOC accredited organizations working on the SDGs.
3	Shri R. S. Prasad	Former-IAS	Shri Ravi S. Prasad, a retired IAS Officer from the 1990 batch, concluded his distinguished career as Special Chief Secretary of the Environment & Forest and Soil Conservation Department in Assam and Director General of Assam Administrative Staff College in 2024. From 2013 to 2021, he served as Joint Secretary and Additional Secretary in the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change and Chairman of the Central Pollution Control Board. As India's chief climate negotiator, he played a pivotal role in international climate policy, serving as the National Focal Point for the Green Climate Fund (GCF), Adaptation Fund (AF), and Climate Technology Centre and Networks (CTCN). Currently, he is a member of the Steering Committee of the IUCN Climate Crisis Commission. Ravi Prasad is also an accomplished writer, with numerous articles on climate change, adaptation, and environmental policy published in peer-reviewed journals and leading newspapers.
4	Ms. Manju Bala Joshi	Secretary, CECOEDECON	Ms. Manju Bala Joshi is a founder member of CECOEDECON. An established voice in Indian Civil Society Circles, Ms. Joshi has been an avid champion of women and has devoted her life towards promoting local development processes. A social work professional by background, Mrs Joshi has also worked in the government sector. With over 30 years of experience, Mrs Joshi is a strong advocate for community-based and community-led development processes. Under her leadership, CECOEDECON has created a strong space at national as well as international levels on development related dialogues.

S. No.	Name	Designation	Brief Profile
5	Shri Vivekananda Pai	Secretary General, Vigyan Bharti, Kerala	Shri Vivekananda Pai currently serves as Secretary General at Vigyan Bharti, Kerala.
6	Dr. Disha Sharma	Visiting Fellow, Centre for Policy Research and Governance (CPRG), New Delhi	Dr. Disha Sharma is an air pollution and environmental policy expert with extensive experience in research, consulting, and education. She holds a fellowship at the Centre of Policy Research and Governance in New Delhi and serves as a visiting faculty member at Chanakya University in Bangalore. With a strong academic background, including a Ph.D. from Jawaharlal Nehru University, she has held positions at prestigious institutions such as the United Nations ESCAP, Max Planck Institute, and Princeton University. Disha's work focuses on air quality mitigation, policy development, and sustainable environmental practices, and she has contributed to numerous high-impact publications and policy advisory roles.
7	Dr. Anil Mehta	Principal, Vidya Bhawan Polytechnic College, Udaipur	Dr. Anil Mehta, known as "Jal Purush" and "Citizen Engineer," is the Principal of Vidya Bhawan Polytechnic in Udaipur. With over 30 years of experience in protecting and conserving lakes and water resources, he is recognised for his contributions to Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) and Integrated Lake Basin Management (ILBM). He has played a key role in projects such as the eco-restoration of Udaipur's Ahar River and the National Lake Conservation Project. A respected researcher, advisor, and environmental activist, Dr. Mehta has been honoured with the prestigious Dr. Yashwant Rao Kelkar Award for Environmental Conservation and recognised by Zee News and Tarun Bharat Sangh for his outstanding contributions.
8	Shri Abhilash Khandekar	Senior Journalist	Shri Abhilash Khandekar is an eminent multi-lingual journalist of a standing of more than 35 years in the profession. He is also a leading Environmental campaigner and wildlife volunteer. He began his career as a specialised

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			sports journalist with the Free Press Journal Group of Newspapers at Indore in the early 1980s. Shri Khandekar has covered international summits such as G-20 in Germany, SAARC summit in Maldives and Rio World Earth Summit in Brazil and so on. He also covered World Cup Cricket Championship in Australia and New Zealand in 1992. He has written several books on the environment, besides a political biography of Madhya Pradesh. The book deals with the socio-economic progress of the Central Indian state.
9	Shri Vishwa Mohan	Senior Editor at the Times of India	Shri Vishv Mohan is a Senior Editor at The Times of India specialising in environmental and climate-related journalism. His reporting focuses on key areas such as climate change, agriculture, water management, clean energy, and policy developments. Mohan also covers international climate diplomacy, keeping track of India's engagement in global environmental discussions. With extensive experience reporting on both domestic and international policy, his work highlights critical issues at the intersection of sustainability and governance.
10	Dr. Alok Vyas		Dr Alok Vyas, Deputy Director in CECOEDECON, a development organization working in Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh with focus on climate change, water conservation, women empowerment, sustainable agriculture, livelihood and leadership development. Dr Vyas has expertise in building capacities of community based and grass root organizations on climate change, leadership building and sustainable development. His area of interest is to promote sustainable development and reduce the impact of climate change on the communities by cultural and traditional knowledge and practices.
11	Dr. Yogesh Kumar Dubey	Professor, IIFM	Dr. Yogesh Kumar Dubey holds a Postgraduate degree in Wildlife Sciences (Aligarh Muslim University) and Doctoral degree from FRI deemed

S. No.	Name	Designation	Brief Profile
			University, Dehradun. He had worked with Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun from 1993 to 2001. During this period, he has worked on the impacts of iron ore mining on elephants in Singhboom district, Jharkhand. He has worked in Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve, Maharashtra on establishing spatial databases for Enhancing decision making in protected areas in India as a part of his Doctoral thesis. His Postdoctoral work has been mainly in the area of the environmental impact assessment with special focus on biodiversity impact assessments and wildlife conservation.
12	Dr. Indrani Barpujari	Principal Advisor, AIGGPA, Bhopal	Dr. Indrani Barpujari is heading the Centre for Social Sector Development at AIGGPA. An alumnus of the University of Delhi, Indian Law Institute and Gauhati University, she is a social anthropologist and lawyer by training, with specialization in intellectual property rights (IPR). Her Ph.D. work, pursued under a doctoral fellowship from the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), focused on customary laws. Before joining AIGGPA in January 2016, she served as a Fellow at the Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), New Delhi from 2009-2015, as Policy Analyst at Gene Campaign, New Delhi from 2004 to 2009 and as an intern at the Anand and Anand Law Associates, New Delhi in 2003.
13	Dr. Anil Kothari	Director General, MPCST, Bhopal	Dr. Anil Kothari, a Scientist of eminence, is working as Director General, Madhya Pradesh Council of Science and Technology, an apex institution promoted by Department of Science and Technology, Government of Madhya Pradesh. He holds a Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering and an MBA in Human Resources. With 35 years of experience, he has excelled in academia, notably at Rajiv Gandhi Proudhyokigi Vishwavidhyalaya (RGPV) as Professor and Director of Placement and Corporate Affairs. As a Nodal officer for the University Skill

S. No.	Name	Designation	Brief Profile
			Development and Incubation Centre and Chief Coordinator of the Entrepreneurship Development Cell, he has driven Innovation and Entrepreneurship. He has also chaired the National Children Science Congress and served on the management committee at various Universities/Educational Institutions. Known for integrating technology in education, he launched an automated career portal at RGPV, enhancing student guidance and placements. His leadership and commitment make him an inspirational figure in Science and Technology.
14	Shri Kartik Sapre	Chief Executive, Narmada Samagra Nyas	Shri. Kartik Sapre is the Chief Executive at Narmada Samagra, a dynamic professional with diverse experience in social, managerial, administrative, and corporate domains. He has served as Legislative Assistant to Late. Anil Madhav Dave ji, Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha, and also his APS in the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Government of India. He has attended various national and international conferences and is a member of several committees. Sapre has worked in an Integrated Steel & Power Project and is currently pursuing a PhD from the Centre for Rural Development & Technology, Indian Institute of Technology.
15	Shri Lokesh Sharma	Chief Executive Officer, AIGGPA	Shri Lokesh Sharma has more than 20 years of experience and has worked in different capacities in many private and public institutions. He is currently serving as Officer on Special Duty to Chief Minister, Government of Madhya Pradesh; as Chief Executive Officer of Atal Bihari Vajpayee Institute of Good Governance and Policy Analysis (AIGGPA); Senior Principle & Practice Head – Public Health, NEMESA Region for one of the largest Healthcare consulting organisation, and as a board of directors on several international and national not-for-profit organisation.

S. No.	Name	Designation	Brief Profile
			He has held executive and leadership positions at private sector, government administrative, not-for-profit organisation on key transformational initiatives at international, national and state levels. His practicing functional areas includes Global Public Health, socio-economic development, agriculture, youth development. He has worked across Africa, Greater Mekong Region, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, UAE, Egypt, Thailand, Switzerland, Sri Lanka and India.
16	Shri Rajesh Kumar Gupta	Director, AIGGPA	Shri Rajesh Kumar Gupta belongs to State Administrative Service, GoMP with more than 30 years of administrative experience. He currently serves as Director, AIGGPA. He holds a Civil Engineering degree, LLB and MBA (Finance) and has also served in the Indian Army. He was OSD to Hon'ble Chief Minister, GoMP from 2015 to 2018 and Director Tourism Promotion Unit in MP Tourism since 2010 to 2014.

Annexure II – Brief Introduction of Organizers and Organizing Partners

1. Atal Bihari Vajpayee Institute of Good Governance and Policy Analysis (AIGGPA)

The Atal Bihari Vajpayee Institute of Good Governance and Policy Analysis (AIGGPA) is an autonomous institution under the Department of Public Service Management of the Madhya Pradesh Government. It serves as an academic think tank for the Madhya Pradesh Government, tasked with providing policy recommendations on policy reforms, research, and impact evaluation studies. The institute's governing body is chaired by the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh. AIGGPA conducts policy research and impact evaluation studies. It acts as a bridge between evidence-based policymaking, academia, and governance.

2. Madhya Pradesh Council of Science & Technology

The Madhya Pradesh Council of Science & Technology, an autonomous body under the Department of Science and Technology of the Madhya Pradesh Government, was established in 1981. The council's primary function is to oversee and manage various science and technology-related activities.

The council also houses a Climate Change Research Center. This centre focuses on research areas such as crop forecasting, land degradation and soil carbon sequestration, biodiversity, and the impact of climate change on agriculture, water, and forests. Ongoing projects at the center include luminescence dating, agricultural crop yield assessment, desertification, and drought-related assessments. Additionally, the council, in collaboration with IIED, has developed a climate change information system and the CRISP-M tool.

3. Narmada Samagra Nyas

Narmada Samagra is a renowned and dedicated organization committed to the conservation of rivers, particularly the Narmada River. For over 15 years, Narmada Samagra has actively worked to protect and restore river ecosystems, focusing on the health and sanctity of the Narmada—a prominent central Indian river often referred to as the "lifeline of Madhya Pradesh." In recognition of its invaluable contributions to environmental and water conservation, Narmada Samagra was honoured with the prestigious *Madhya Pradesh Gaurav Samman* by the Madhya Pradesh Government in 2022.

The organization works diligently to safeguard the health of the Narmada's catchment area and maintain the ecological balance within this vital river system. Narmada Samagra Works at two levels: advocacy and awareness building through various forums, activities, and events at the ground level. It is involved in activities designed towards maintaining the balance of ecosystem by taking care of the Narmada’s water and its catchment area. Also, the organization educates people about the importance of the river at regional, national, and international forums.

In addition to its regular conservation initiatives, Narmada Samagra has contributed to global discussions on climate change and river health. Some significant contributions include, National Seminar, 2015 where Narmada Samagra partnered with the Government of Madhya Pradesh to organize a two-day seminar addressing the global concern of climate change. In the year 2016, during the Ujjain Simhastha, Narmada Samagra played a vital role in organizing this international event titled ‘International Vichar Mahakumbh’**,** focusing on environmental conservation and the

sanctity of rivers. The organization has participated in various Conferences of the Parties (COPs) of the UNFCCC and has presented on environmental conservation, especially river protection, at multiple national and international platforms.

4. CECOEDECON (Centre for Community Economics and Development Consultants Society)

CECOEDECON (Center for Community Economics and Development Consultants Society) is a non-governmental organisation that has been working with marginalised, backward, and underprivileged communities since 1982. It operates in Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh, focusing on issues related to agriculture, livelihoods, climate change, education, health, and women's empowerment.

The organisation's efforts and initiatives range from building the capacities of participating communities to creating platforms for constructive dialogue at national and international levels.

In addition to raising awareness among farmers, youth, and women about the social, economic, and environmental consequences of climate change, CECOEDECON is actively involved in sustainable agriculture, water conservation, and afforestation. The organisation also supports communities grappling with the challenges posed by climate change at the grassroots level.

In recognition of its commendable work in environmental and water conservation, CECOEDECON was awarded the prestigious Dalmia Award by the renowned Dalmia Trust of Rajasthan in 2011.

5. PAIRVI (Public Advocacy Initiatives for Rights and Values in India)

PAIRVI (Public Advocacy Initiatives for Rights and Values in India) is a non-profit organisation registered under Section 8 of the Indian Companies Act in 1998. It focuses on the interconnections between rights, development, and sustainability. PAIRVI serves as a capacity-building support organisation working with grassroots organisations across India. It aims to foster a shared understanding on climate change, sustainable development, and environmental issues by engaging with grassroots communities, youth, civil society organisations, and their networks.

PAIRVI has contributed to national and state action plans on climate change and sustainable development goals at the national level by promoting public participation, influencing practices/methods, and shaping policies. It is also actively involved in international and regional (Asia Pacific) processes, advocating for the demands and expectations of the global South while connecting these processes with the lived experiences of grassroots communities.

Annexure III – Program Schedule

Global Action for Climate Change – Contribution of states to India's Commitment

(State-Level Pre-COP Consultation)

Event Flow:

Time	Session Name	Session Details	Speaker / Presenter
9:00 AM	Registration Begins		
10:00 – 10:02 AM	Opening Session	Lighting of the Lamp	Hon'ble Chief Minister, GoMP
10:02 – 10:05 AM		Welcome of the Guests	By AIGGPA / MPCST
10:05 – 10:10 AM		Welcome Address	Mr. Lokesh Sharma, CEO, AIGGPA
10:10 – 10:17 AM	Introductory Session – Context Setting	Context Setting	Mr. Ajay Jha, Director, PAIRVI
10:17 - 10:25 AM (Oslo Time: 5:47 AM)		Live Video Importance of State-Level Pre-COP Consultations	Mr. Erik Solheim, Norway's former Minister of International Development and Environment and Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
10:25 – 10:32 AM		Lifestyle for Environment - Indian Perspective for a sustainable future	Dr. Vivekananda Pai, National Secretary, Vigyan Bharati, Kochi
10:32 – 10:37 AM		Policy Framework for Climate Change	Shrimati Manju Bala Joshi, Secretary, CECOEDECON
10:37 – 10:45 AM		India's Position in International Climate Negotiations	Shri. R.S. Prasad (IAS), former Addl. Chief Secretary
10:45 – 11:00 AM		Keynote Address: State Contribution to National Environmental Commitments	Hon. Dr. Mohan Yadav, Chief Minister
11:00 – 11:02 AM		Vote of Thanks	Dr. Anil Kothari, DG, MPCST

Time	Session Name	Session Details	Speaker / Presenter
11:02 – 12:00 PM	Panel Discussion	India's Perspective on Climate Change	Moderator: Dr. Alok Vyas, Dy. Director, CECOEDECON – Mr. R.S. Prasad, Former IAS – Dr. Anil Mehta, Principal, Vidya Bhavan Polytechnic, Udaipur – Dr. Vivekananda Pai, National Secretary, Vigyan Bharati, Kochi – Dr. Disha Sharma, Air Pollution Specialist, CPRG Fellow
12:00 – 12:10 PM	Presentation Session	Presentation: Initiatives of MPSCT in Climate Change	– Dr. G.D. Bairagi – Dr. Manoj Rathore – Dr. Alok Choudhary
12:10 – 12:20 PM		Presentation: Climate change initiatives of Madhya Pradesh	Mr. Lokendra Thakkar, Chief Scientific officer, EPCO
12:20 – 1:20 PM	Panel Discussion	Positive Efforts for Climate Protection at National & International Levels	Moderator: Shri. R.S. Prasad (IAS), former Addl. Chief Secretary – Mr. Vishva Mohan, Senior Journalist, Times of India – Mr. Abhilash Khandekar, Journalist & Conservationist Editor – Dr. Indrani Barpujari, Principal Advisor, AIGGPA – Dr. Yogesh Dubey, Professor, IIFM, Bhopal

Time	Session Name	Session Details	Speaker / Presenter
1:20: 1:40 PM	Closing Session	Conclusion and Way Forward	Moderator Dr. Anil Kothari, DG, MPCST – Mr. Ajay Jha, Director, PAIRVI – Dr. Alok Vyas, Dy. Director, CECOEDECON – Mr. Kartik Sapre, Chief Executive, Narmada Samagra
1:40 – 1:45 PM		Vote of Thanks	Dr. Anil Kothari, DG, MPCST
1:45 PM	Networking High Tea		

Raja Bhoj Statue, Bhoj Wetland (a Ramsar Site), Bhopal • Photo Credit: Anshul Puriya

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