

## Bharat Climate Forum 2025

*Scaling Clean Tech Manufacturing for a Net-Zero and Atmanirbhar Bharat*

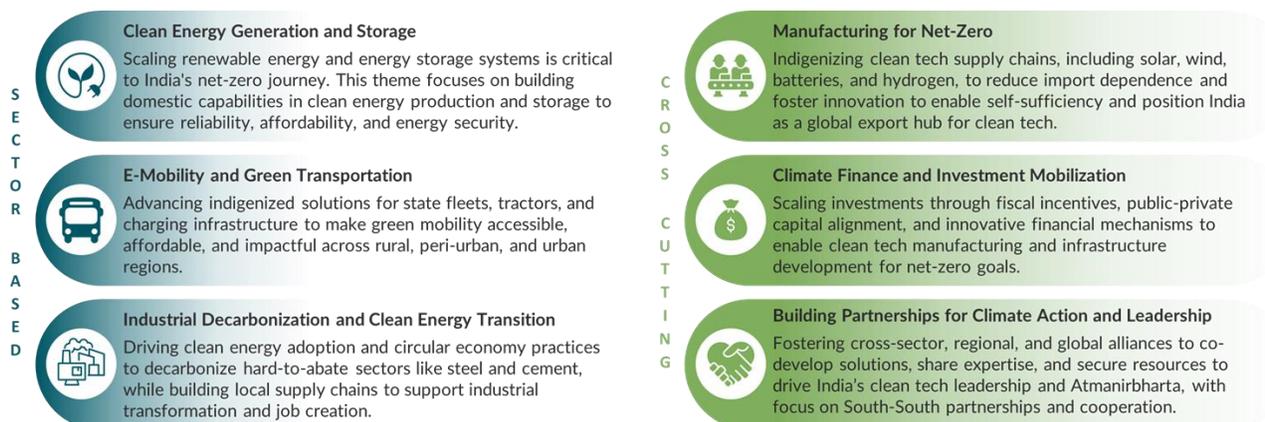
**Date:** 10 January 2025

**Location:** ITC Maurya, New Delhi

### Aim and objective

The Bharat Climate Forum 2025 aims to position India as a global leader in clean tech manufacturing, fostering self-reliance (Atmanirbharta) as the cornerstone of its journey toward a Net-Zero and Viksit Bharat. Achieving net-zero by 2070 demands not only bold climate action but also a robust domestic manufacturing ecosystem to support renewable energy, green mobility, and sustainable industries. India's ambitious interim targets—reducing GDP emissions intensity by 45% from 2005 levels, achieving 50% of installed electricity capacity from non-fossil sources, and creating a 2.5–3 billion tonne CO<sub>2</sub> carbon sink by 2030—can only be met through self-reliance. Indigenizing production across critical clean tech value chains—from solar and wind to hydrogen and battery storage—will strengthen economic resilience, create jobs, and ensure energy security to support lives and livelihoods while driving industrial growth. Atmanirbharta is not just a climate and an economic imperative. It is also a strategic necessity to reduce reliance on imports, secure supply chains, and harness India's potential as a global clean tech manufacturing hub. The Bharat Climate Forum 2025 seeks to catalyse these efforts by bringing together policymakers, industry leaders, funders, and global allies to drive investments, foster innovation, and build partnerships that align India's net-zero ambitions with a vision for sustainable development, inclusive growth, and self-reliance.

The forum will focus on six foundational themes that are critical to driving India's net-zero ambitions through self-reliance and clean tech leadership:



## Tentative agenda\*

A. Plenary session – Main venue

Time	Total duration	Session agenda and description
0915 – 1000 hrs	45 mins	<b>Registration</b>
1000 – 1030 hrs	30 mins	<p><b>Inauguration and Welcome address by Ashwani Mahajan, Sumant Sinha, Meenakshi Lekhi and N K Singh</b></p> <p>Opening the forum with an overview of its goals, significance, and the role of collective action in achieving India’s climate and development objectives.</p>
1030 – 1050 hrs	20 mins	<b>Inaugural address by Hon’ble Minister, MeitY and Railways, Ashwini Vaishnav</b>
1050 – 1120 hrs	30 mins	<p><b>Inaugural fireside chat: Bharat’s potential as cleantech manufacturing hub</b></p> <p><i>Focus areas: Indigenous manufacturing for accelerating net zero transition and to become a cleantech manufacturing hub for the world</i></p> <p><b>Ram Madhav</b>, President, India Foundation</p> <p><b>Bhupinder Singh Bhalla</b>, Former Secretary, MNRE</p> <p><b>Moderator: Jagjeet Sareen</b>, Partner, Global Climate Lead, Dalberg Advisors</p>
1120 – 1150 hrs	30 mins	<p><b><i>Viksit Bharat: A Vision for Net Zero through Atmanirbharta</i></b></p> <p>Examining how self-reliance can drive India’s journey toward net-zero, with a focus on domestic capabilities, innovation, and partnerships.</p> <p><b>Panelists:</b></p> <p><b>Ashwini Kumar Tewari</b>, Managing Director (Corporate Banking and Subsidiaries) of State Bank of India</p> <p><b>N S Vishwanathan</b>, Former Deputy Governor, RBI; Non-Executive Chairperson, Axis Bank</p> <p><b>Pratik Agarwal</b>, Chairman, Serentica Renewable; MD, Sterlite Power</p> <p><b>Sumant Sinha</b>, Founder, Chairman and CEO of ReNew</p> <p><b>Moderator: Anita George</b>, CEO, ProsperETE</p>

A. Plenary session – Main venue

Time	Total duration	Session agenda and description
1150 – 1220 hrs	30 mins	<p><b>Fireside chat: Role of government in accelerating cleantech manufacturing in India</b></p> <p><b>Suresh Prabhu</b>, Former G20 Sherpa and Cabinet Minister of India (Commerce, Civil Aviation and others)</p> <p><b>Shashank Mani</b>, Member of Parliament, Lok Sabha</p> <p><b>Yashvardhan Kumar Sinha</b>, Former Chief Information Commissioner and High Commissioner of India to the UK</p> <p><b>Erik Solheim</b>, Former Minister of Climate and the Environment of Norway</p> <p><b>Moderator: Shirish Sinha</b>, Executive Director of Programmes, Clean Air Fund</p>
1220 – 1300 hrs	10 mins 30 mins	<p><b>Panel discussion</b></p> <p><i>Delivering on the Transition: Can Bharat Become Cost-Competitive by Indigenizing Clean Tech Manufacturing?</i></p> <p>This panel will explore how India can leverage domestic manufacturing to drive cost-competitive solutions across sectors and segments of the clean energy value chain, including renewable energy generation, storage, e-mobility, and grid infrastructure.</p> <p><b>Keynote address: Amitabh Kant</b>, India's G20 Sherpa</p> <p><i>The keynote speaker would also be requested to preside over the panel.</i></p> <p><b>Panelists:</b></p> <p><b>Girish Tanti</b>, Co-founder, Suzlon India</p> <p><b>Gyanesh Chaudhary</b>, CMD, Vikram Solar</p> <p><b>Vineet Mittal</b>, Chairman, Avaada Group</p> <p><b>Bhupinder Singh Bhalla</b>, Former Secretary, MNRE</p> <p><b>Jon Creyts</b>, CEO, Rocky Mountain Institute</p> <p><b>Nagesh Kumar</b>, Director and Chief Executive, Institute for Studies in Industrial Development (ISID)</p> <p><b>Moderator: Ila Patnaik</b>, Chief Economist, Aditya Birla Group</p>
1300 – 1400 hrs	60 mins	Lunch break

A. Plenary session – Main venue

Time	Total duration	Session agenda and description
1400 – 1430 hrs	30 mins	<p><b>Panel discussion</b></p> <p><b><i>Strengthening Bharat's Clean Tech and Manufacturing Ecosystem: Connecting Ideas, Innovation, and Industry</i></b></p> <p>Investigating barriers and opportunities in building strong university-government-industry collaborations for research, innovation, and start-up growth to accelerate cleantech development and deployment.</p> <p><b>Panelists:</b></p> <p><b>Anjali Bansal</b>, Founding Partner, Avaana Capital</p> <p><b>Amit Singh</b>, Chief Executive Officer, Adani Green Energy Ltd.</p> <p><b>Gurdeep Singh</b>, Chairman and Managing Director, NTPC</p> <p><b>Prof. Ambuj Sagar</b>, Vipula and Mahesh Chaturvedi Professor of Policy Studies, Indian Institute of Technology Delhi</p> <p><b>Hemang Jani</b>, Senior Advisor to the Indian Executive Director at the World Bank Group, and Board Member of Atal Innovation Mission, India</p> <p><b>Moderator: Dhruva Purkayastha</b>, Director for Growth and Institutional Advancement with Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW)</p>
1430 – 1500 hrs	30 mins	<p><b>Panel discussion</b></p> <p><b><i>Pathways for India's transition to green mobility: Role of Hybrid vs. EVs and other technologies</i></b></p> <p>Investigating various pathways and technologies for green mobility and the role of each in India's net zero transition – hybrid vehicles, EVs, fuel cell</p> <p><b>Panelists:</b></p> <p><b>Anand Kulkarni</b>, Chief Product Officer, Passenger Electric Vehicle, Tata Motors Ltd</p> <p><b>Abanti Sankaranarayanan</b>, Chief Group Public Affairs Officer and a Member of the Group Executive Board of Mahindra and Mahindra Ltd.</p> <p><b>Anirudh Arun</b>, Co-Founder and CEO, Blu-Smart</p> <p><b>Moderator: Mahua Acharya</b>, Founder – INTENT, Ex-MD and Ex-CEO, CESL</p>
1500 – 1520 hrs	20 mins	<p><b>Keynote Address: Shri Atul Kumar Tiwari</b>, <i>Secretary, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship</i></p> <p><i>The Hon'ble Secretary, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) will deliver the keynote address.</i></p>

A. Plenary session – Main venue

Time	Total duration	Session agenda and description
1520 – 1550 hrs	30 mins	<p><b>Panel discussion</b></p> <p><b><i>From Workers to Entrepreneurs: Building Bharat’s Workforce for Clean Tech Manufacturing</i></b></p> <p>Exploring strategies to develop a skilled workforce for scaling clean tech manufacturing in India, focusing on training programs, institutional frameworks, and fostering entrepreneurship to meet industry needs and drive domestic job creation.</p> <p><b>Panelists:</b></p> <p><b>Adil Zainulbhai</b>, Chairman, Capacity Building Commission, Government of India</p> <p><b>Arpit Sharma</b>, CEO, Skill Council for Green Jobs</p> <p><b>S Sunder Manoharan</b>, Vice Chancellor, Pandit Deendayal Energy University, Gandhinagar, Gujarat</p> <p><b>Amit Singh</b>, Chief Executive Officer, Adani Green Energy Ltd.</p> <p><b>Manish Kumar</b>, Visiting Professor for Economics, Indian School of Business; Former MD and CEO, National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC)</p> <p><b>Moderator: Aakash Sethi</b>, CEO, QUEST Alliance</p>
1550 – 1620 hrs	30 mins	<p><b>High-level fireside chat on: BHARAT Manufacturing Model: Win-win for World</b></p> <p><b><i>Focus areas: Potential for cleantech manufacturing in India as a global supplier by leveraging the ‘India Plus Many’ strategy</i></b></p> <p><b>Ashok Kantha</b>, Former Indian Ambassador to China</p> <p><b>Shyam Saran</b>, Former Foreign Secretary, Govt of India</p> <p><b>Shaurya Doval</b>, Director, India Foundation and MD, Torch Investment Management</p> <p><b>Moderator: Gaurav Gupta</b>, Global Managing Partner, Dalberg Advisors</p>
1620 – 1700 hrs	10 mins 30 mins	<p><b>Panel Discussion</b></p> <p><b><i>Global Partnerships for Green Ambitions: Technology, Trade, and Resources</i></b></p> <p>Exploring how collaborations within the Global South, alongside strategic partnerships with key countries, can help Bharat indigenize clean tech manufacturing, secure financing, and access critical knowledge resources to achieve net-zero and self-reliant growth.</p> <p><b>Keynote address: Meenakshi Lekhi</b>, Former Minister of State for External Affairs, and Culture</p> <p><i>The keynote speaker would also be requested to preside over the panel.</i></p> <p><b>Panelists:</b></p> <p><b>Taranjit Sandhu</b>, Former Indian Ambassador to the USA</p> <p><b>Lekhan Thakkar</b>, Joint Secretary, National Security Council, India</p> <p><b>Lord Adair Turner</b>, Chair, Energy Transitions Commission</p> <p><b>Moderator: Sachin Chaturvedi</b>, DG, RIS</p>

A. Plenary session – Main venue

Time	Total duration	Session agenda and description
1700 – 1730 hrs	30 mins	<p><b>Fireside chat: How to make rural India climate ready?</b></p> <p><i>Focus Areas: Cleantech impact for rural India, driving adoption of cleantech in rural India – challenges and opportunities</i></p> <p><b>Prof. Ramesh Chand</b>, Member, NITI Aayog</p> <p><b>Satish Marathe</b>, Director, Central Board of Directors, Reserve Bank of India</p> <p><b>Vikram Shroff</b>, Vice-Chairman and Co-CEO, UPL Group</p> <p><b>Moderator: Komal Shah Bhukhanwala</b>, Director, SML Group</p>
1730 – 1810 hrs	10 mins 30 mins	<p><b>Panel Discussion on: <i>Financing an Atmanirbhar Bharat: Unlocking Capital for Clean Tech Manufacturing</i></b></p> <p>Exploring the right mix of fiscal incentives, domestic investments, and external financing to scale clean tech manufacturing in India, with focus on aligning public and private capital flows and building a supportive financial ecosystem to drive self-reliant growth towards net-zero by 2070.</p> <p><b>Keynote address: Jayant Sinha</b>, Former Minister of State, Finance</p> <p><i>The keynote speaker would also be requested to preside over the panel.</i></p> <p><i>Panelists:</i></p> <p><b>Nivruti Rai</b>, CEO, Invest India (<i>Special address</i>)</p> <p><b>Annika Seiler</b>, Lead – Clean Energy Supply Chains, ADB</p> <p><b>Auguste Tano Kouamé</b>, Country Director for India, World Bank</p> <p><b>Rajnish Kumar</b>, Former Chairperson, SBI</p> <p><b>Moderator: Shalabh Tandon</b>, Regional Head of Operations &amp; Climate Change, IFC South Asia</p>
1810 – 1850 hrs	40 mins	<p><b>Fireside chat: Changing Global Green Order: Opportunities for India</b></p> <p><i>Focus area: Opportunities for India at a global level for cleantech manufacturing, the potential impact of a 'India Plus Many' strategy</i></p> <p><b>Sumant Sinha</b>, Founder, Chairman and CEO of ReNew</p> <p><b>Henrik Skovby</b>, Founder and Global Chairman, Dalberg Group</p> <p><b>Dr. Ajay Mathur</b>, Director General, ISA</p> <p><b>Manjeev Puri</b>, Former Ambassador of India to the EU, Nepal and the UN</p> <p><b>Moderator: Ovais Sarmad</b>, Vice Chair of the Greenhouse Gas Protocol Steering Committee, Former Deputy Executive Secretary, UNFCCC</p>

A. Plenary session – Main venue

Time	Total duration	Session agenda and description
1850 – 1935 hrs		<b>Valedictory session and welcome of Hon’ble Minister, Commerce, Piyush Goyal</b> <i>The Hon’ble Minister will preside over the insights-sharing session, provide his remarks, and facilitate the platform launch.</i>
1850 – 1905 hrs	15 mins	<b>Insights on BCF technical roundtables by knowledge partners and industry associations - Jagjeet Sareen, Partner, Global Climate Practice, Dalberg Advisors</b>
1905 – 1935 hrs	30 mins	<b>Ministerial address and launch of Bharat Cleantech Manufacturing Platform, Hon’ble Minister, Commerce, Piyush Goyal</b>
1935 – 1945 hrs	10 mins	<b>Closing remarks: Sumant Sinha, Founder, Chairman and CEO of ReNew</b> CIEU and Dalberg will deliver a vote of thanks to the ministers, panellists, and participants of the Forum.
2000 – 2200 hrs	2 hrs	<b>Networking dinner</b>

*\*Speakers to be confirmed.*

## Technical Roundtables will be held in parallel to the Plenary Sessions

B. Technical roundtable – Sankhya Hall		C. Technical roundtable – Kalinga Hall	
1040 – 1140 hrs	60 mins	<p><b>Technical roundtable</b></p> <p><b><i>Mobilizing Investments and Financing for Cleantech Manufacturing in India- What is the role of Development Finance</i></b></p> <p>This roundtable will focus on the role of development finance in mobilizing investments and financing cleantech manufacturing in India.</p> <p><i>Focus areas: Finance, Cleantech investments, and Development Finance for Cleantech Manufacturing.</i></p> <p><b>Sujatha UG, Vice President - Global Partnerships &amp; Net Zero, Invest India and Amit Jain, Senior Energy Specialist, World Bank, will co-moderate the technical roundtable discussion.</b></p>	
1200 – 1300 hrs	60 mins	<p><b>Technical roundtable</b></p> <p><b><i>Lighting the Way: Solar Solutions for a Self-Reliant Bharat</i></b></p> <p>This roundtable will explore strategies to localize production across the solar value chain, from polysilicon to PV modules, aiming to reduce import dependency and build globally competitive supply chains.</p> <p><i>Focus areas: Polysilicon production, PV module manufacturing, supply chain localization, export readiness, solar technology innovation.</i></p> <p><b>A K Saxena, Senior Director, TERI and will moderate the technical roundtable discussion.</b></p>	
1200 – 1300 hrs	60 mins	<p><b>Technical roundtable</b></p> <p><b><i>Charging Ahead: Bharat’s Journey to Green Mobility Self-Reliance</i></b></p> <p>This roundtable will focus on strengthening India’s green mobility ecosystem by localizing the production of key components, including fuel cell engines, electric motors, batteries, and charging infrastructure, to ensure sustainability and scalability.</p> <p><i>Focus areas: Green fuel and fuel cell mobility, e-mobility, EV components, domestic manufacturing, charging infrastructure, battery technology, policy-driven incentives</i></p> <p><b>Mahua Acharya (Founder, INTENT, Ex-MD and Ex-CEO of Convergence Energy Services Limited) and Akshima Ghate, MD India, Rocky Mountain Institute, will co-moderate the technical roundtable discussion.</b></p>	
1430 – 1530 hrs	60 mins	<p><b>Technical roundtable</b></p> <p><b><i>Harnessing the Wind: Local Solutions across the Wind Energy value chain</i></b></p> <p>This roundtable will address the opportunities and challenges in localizing wind energy supply chains, focusing on turbine manufacturing, component production, and logistics optimization.</p> <p><i>Focus areas: Wind turbine manufacturing, component localization, logistics efficiency, technology advancements, workforce readiness</i></p> <p><b>Sidharth Jain (Founder and MD, MEC+) will moderate the technical roundtable discussion.</b></p>	

B. Technical roundtable – Sankhya Hall		C. Technical roundtable – Kalinga Hall	
1430 – 1530 hrs	60 mins	<p><b>Technical roundtable</b></p> <p><b>The Hydrogen Opportunity: Can India Lead the Global Shift?</b></p> <p>This roundtable will discuss approaches to scale domestic green hydrogen production, emphasizing electrolyzer manufacturing, renewable integration, and infrastructure development for storage and distribution.</p> <p><i>Focus areas: Electrolyzer production, renewable energy integration, hydrogen storage, distribution networks, technology scaling</i></p> <p><b>Deepak Yadav, Senior Program Lead, Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW) will moderate the technical roundtable discussion.</b></p>	
1550 – 1650 hrs	60 mins	<p><b>Technical roundtable</b></p> <p><b>Fuelling the Future: Localizing Bioenergy Supply Chains</b></p> <p>This roundtable will explore pathways to strengthen domestic bio-energy supply chains, focusing on feedstock availability, production technologies, and end-user adoption for biogas and biofuels.</p> <p><i>Focus areas: Bio-energy feedstock, biogas production, biofuel technologies, end-user adoption, circular economy</i></p> <p><b>Swapan Mehra, CEO, Iora Ecological Solutions and Dr. D.K.Khare, Senior Advisor, Global Green Growth Institute will co-moderate the technical roundtable discussion.</b></p>	
1550 – 1650 hrs	60 mins	<p><b>Technical roundtable</b></p> <p><b>Electrifying Bharat: The Role of Battery Storage in achieving Net-Zero</b></p> <p>This roundtable will examine strategies for building robust domestic battery storage supply chains, addressing critical mineral availability, manufacturing scalability, and recycling ecosystems.</p> <p><i>Focus areas: Battery materials, critical minerals, recycling ecosystems, manufacturing scalability, domestic supply chain resilience</i></p> <p><b>Jagabanta Ningthoujam, Principal, RMI will moderate the technical roundtable discussion.</b></p>	
1730 – 1830 hrs	60 mins	<p><b>Technical roundtable</b></p> <p><b>Role of NBFCs in supporting clean technologies</b></p> <p>This roundtable will focus on the role of MSMEs and NBFCs in supporting cleantech manufacturing and value chains in India across energy, mobility and green fuels.</p> <p><i>Focus areas: MSMEs, NBFC, the role of MSMEs in Solar value chains, Bio-energy, Green Mobility</i></p> <p><b>Vivek Sen, India Director, Climate Policy Initiative (CPI) and Raman Aggarwal, Director (&amp; Former Chairman), Finance Industry Development Council, will co-moderate the technical roundtable discussion.</b></p>	
1730 – 1830 hrs	60 mins	<p><b>Technical roundtable</b></p>	

B. Technical roundtable – Sankhya Hall

C. Technical roundtable – Kalinga Hall

**Global trade and climate dynamics: Impact and role of green tariffs, nearshoring, domestic regime and other trade shifts on cleantech manufacturing and green energy**

This roundtable will explore the export potential for India cleantech manufacturing in the global green trade with the complexities of green tariffs, nearshoring, domestic regime shifts and India Plus Many sourcing strategies.

*Focus areas: Import and export tariffs, green tariffs and taxes such as CBAM, nearshoring and domestic regime for cleantech manufacturing at a global level*

**Dr. Pritam Banerjee Professor & Head, Centre for WTO Studies Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, will moderate the technical roundtable discussion.**

## Intended outcomes

- **Launch of the Bharat Cleantech Manufacturing Platform.** Establish a dedicated platform to drive indigenization of clean tech manufacturing, with commitments secured in financial resources and in-kind contributions. This platform will serve as a hub for collaboration, innovation, and capacity-building to accelerate India's self-reliance in clean technology.
- **Roadmap for Cleantech self-reliance.** Develop strategic sectoral directions and roadmaps to localize supply chains for clean technologies, addressing gaps in manufacturing, workforce readiness, and critical resource access, while aligning with India's net-zero targets and economic growth priorities.
- **Mobilization of investments.** Identify and agree on conventional and innovative mechanisms to mobilize capital—both public and private—through fiscal incentives, domestic investments, and external financing to scale clean tech manufacturing and infrastructure development.
- **Strengthened partnerships.** Catalyze collaborations across government, industry, financial institutions, and international stakeholders to co-develop innovative solutions, with a particular focus on fostering South-South partnerships and aligning efforts for Atmanirbharta.
- **Policy and regulatory insights.** Generate actionable policy recommendations to create an enabling environment for clean tech manufacturing, including fiscal reforms, market incentives, and alignment with global best practices.
- **Knowledge and technology exchange.** Facilitate the exchange of best practices, successful case studies, and technological innovations to equip stakeholders with the tools needed to scale clean tech manufacturing and build resilient ecosystems for a net-zero Bharat.

## About the organizers

**Council for International Economic Understanding (CIEU).** CIEU is committed to fostering comprehensive research, facilitating dialogues, and curating innovative ideas that address the needs of diverse communities. In today's era of rapidly evolving progressive economies, emerging markets are seeking pathways from economies of scale to economies of scope. With a team of accomplished professionals and industry experts, CIEU identifies and cultivates opportunities to support policymakers in reconstructing economies centered on true equity and citizen empowerment. CIEU provides actionable solutions that serve as blueprints for global economies.

**Dalberg Advisors.** Dalberg Advisors is a strategic advisory firm combining the best of private sector strategy skills and rigorous analytical capabilities with deep knowledge and networks across emerging and frontier markets. We work collaboratively across the public, private and philanthropic sectors to fuel inclusive growth and help clients achieve their goals.