

# WITNESS 1.25

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**VOL. 89**

**I**



**CLIMATE TICKET**





**Binu Jacob**

Honorary Executive Director  
Greenpeace Environment Trust

# FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESK

**W**hen the skies turn grey with pollution, the heat becomes unbearable, and the rain floods our cities, or when our farmers look at the sky with prayers for the rains to come in time, we are reminded that the climate crisis is not a distant threat. It is here, and it is personal.

But during our journey for climate justice, we have also learned that in moments of collapse, people build. In the face of loss, communities come together. And in every corner of this country, hope refuses to be extinguished.

At Greenpeace India, we are inspired by that hope, and we act on it. Our campaigns are born from the belief that no one should have to choose between survival and dignity.

We are working to reclaim public transport because clean, affordable, and accessible mobility is one of the most powerful tools we have, not only to reduce emissions and air pollution, but to ensure that people can access education, jobs, and care without being left out.

We are also working to shift the climate conversation to where it matters most: the ground, streets, and the margins. From demanding climate-responsive policies to amplifying citizen-led solutions, our campaigns aim to make sure the climate response is fair.

This isn't about a single policy or intervention. It is about rewriting the story of what is possible. It is about refusing to accept a world where only the few are protected from extreme weather. And it is about remembering that justice is not just for the privileged but also the common folks, and the marginalised community can live with dignity in the face of extreme weather events. At the same time, we still work on climate mitigation, but if our community is already facing the weather impacts, then it is urgent to work on climate justice...

In a time of accelerating crises, resilience is not just about coping. It is about confronting the systems that created the crisis in the first place. And building something better in their place.

We believe that the future still belongs to us.  
And we believe in fighting for it, together.



# URBAN MOBILITY

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## **CITIZEN'S POLICY FOR AFFORDABLE PUBLIC TRANSPORT IN INDIA**

A bold step toward reimagining urban mobility, addressing the climate crisis, and building inclusive transport systems for everyone. This initiative champions affordable, efficient public transport and outlines how national governments can fund it. Explore the policy to see how shared investments can drive equity, sustainability, and a resilient future for all.





# URBAN MOBILITY



## IS NAMMA METRO REALLY OURS?

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To understand the impact of the Bengaluru Metro fare hike, Greenpeace India conducted surveys across metro stations, marketplaces, and colleges in the city. According to the survey, 82.4% of respondents believe that the metro fare hike was unjust and impacts their mobility.

Public transport is a public good meant to be affordable for all. The Bengaluru Metro, a daily lifeline for many, saw fares rise by up to 100% on some routes after a 50% hike was announced on 9th February. While the base fare stayed at ₹10, the maximum fare increased from ₹60 to ₹90, making travel costlier for long-distance commuters.



# HYDERABAD CLIMATE JUSTICE CAMP

As climate change intensifies, the need for climate justice becomes urgent. Greenpeace India organised a Climate Justice camp highlighting the unequal impact on marginalised communities and pushing for fair policies and environmental restoration.



## CLIMATE JUSTICE

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# CITIZEN GROUPS URGE 16TH FINANCE COMMISSION TO PRIORITISE CLIMATE ADAPTATION

In response to the 16th Finance Commission's call for public suggestions, a coalition of 12 citizen groups led by Greenpeace India has urged the Commission to prioritise climate adaptation in India's financial planning. The coalition's recommendations were developed through extensive stakeholder consultations and aim to ensure that climate-impacted communities receive the support they urgently need. The Finance Commission, set to submit its report by October 2025, will play a crucial role in shaping India's fiscal roadmap for the next five years, starting April 2026.



Lives claimed by  
extreme weather  
events

**3,238**

in first 9 months  
of 2024

**+18%**

compared to  
2022

## CLIMATE JUSTICE

Key demands from the coalition include recognising heatwaves as national disasters, creating a dedicated Climate Adaptation and Resilience Fund for vulnerable groups, devolving climate adaptation funds to states based on scientific evidence, and introducing a Climate Damage Tax to hold big polluters accountable. The recommendations also call for a national framework to ensure fair compensation for loss and damage due to climate change.

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# WE WILL NOT BE SILENCED

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A North Dakota jury has ruled against Greenpeace US, ordering it to pay over \$660 million to Energy Transfer, the company behind the Dakota Access Pipeline. The lawsuit, seen as a Strategic Lawsuit Against Public Participation (SLAPP), targeted Greenpeace for its support of Indigenous-led protests at Standing Rock. Despite the lack of evidence linking Greenpeace to illegal actions, the case sets a worrying precedent for activists

and civil society groups. In response, Greenpeace has filed a countercase in the Netherlands under the EU's anti-SLAPP Directive, challenging the verdict and defending the right to protest.

**A WORD  
FROM  
ACROSS  
THE  
WORLD**





# PLASTIC DESIGN CHANGES: A GREENWASHING TACTIC

Multinational corporations are increasingly promoting minor packaging modifications such as making plastics appear more “recyclable,” “reusable,” or “circular”, as solutions to the escalating plastic crisis. However, these superficial changes are often greenwashing tactics that fail to address the core issue: the overproduction of plastic.

With approximately 400 million tonnes of plastic produced annually, a figure projected to triple by 2060, such design tweaks are insufficient. Greenpeace emphasises that genuine solutions must focus on reducing plastic production at its source, rather than relying on cosmetic packaging changes that perpetuate environmental harm.

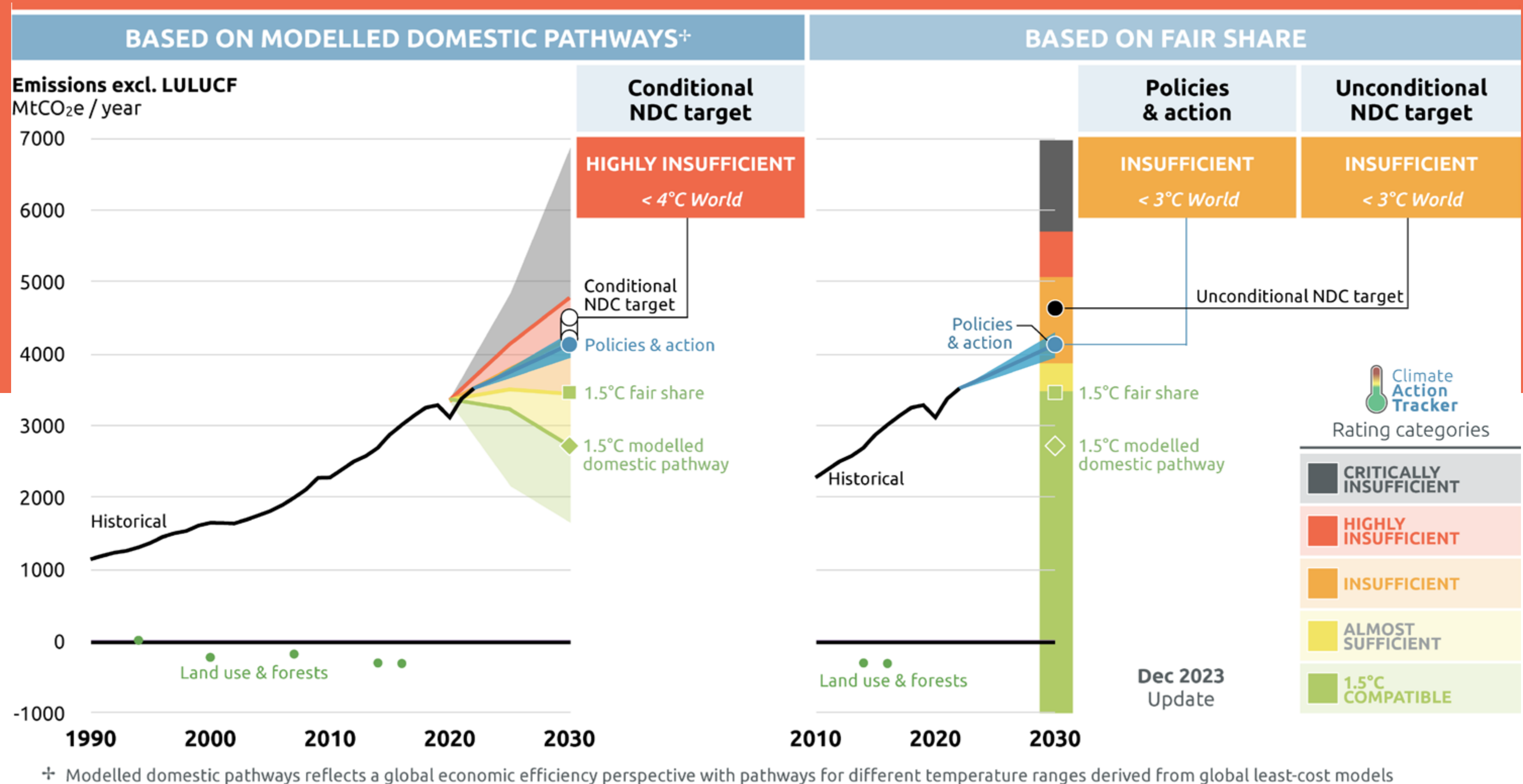
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**A WORD  
FROM  
ACROSS  
THE  
WORLD**



INDIA OVERALL RATING  
**HIGHLY INSUFFICIENT**



# INDIA MISSES UN DEADLINE FOR 2035 CLIMATE TARGETS

Under the Paris Agreement 2015, countries were required to release their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) for the period up to 2035 by February 10. India, along with most of the other countries, missed this deadline. While the nation's commitment to reducing its emission intensity by 45% of its GDP compared to 2005 levels and achieving 50% non-fossil fuel energy capacity by 2030 is commendable, the delay in submitting updated targets raises concerns about India's climate leadership.

India's future climate action needs a more balanced approach. Mitigation must be complemented by a stronger focus on adaptation, especially for vulnerable communities. Only by addressing both emissions and climate resilience can India truly meet its climate goals.

**NATIONAL  
NEWS**

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# **FEBRUARY WAS THE HOTTEST AND ONE OF THE DRIEST FEBRUARIES ON RECORD IN THE LAST 125 YEARS: IMD**

IMD data showed that February 2025 had also been one of the driest in the last 125 years, with less than half the normal rainfall. Most weather and climate experts pointed out that the Indian trend is linked to the impact of climate change, and has been consistent with the situation last year, which was established as the warmest year ever globally. Local factors, coupled with a lack of adequate western disturbances during February 2025, contributed to the trend, they added.

The phenomenon calls for urgent climate action and innovative urban planning efforts to mitigate heat risks and adapt to the changing climate. Cities like Mumbai, Delhi, and Bengaluru are particularly vulnerable, experiencing intensified heatwaves and have insufficient infrastructure to cope with extreme conditions.

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**NATIONAL  
NEWS**







A parliamentary panel has suggested that the Centre include “new and emerging” disasters, such as heatwaves, in its disaster management plans. For the last two years, Greenpeace India has been advocating for identifying heatwaves as a national disaster. This recommendation marks a critical step toward recognising the escalating climate crisis and its impact on vulnerable communities. It is time for the government to move from acknowledgement to action by prioritising early warning systems, building heat-resilient infrastructure, and protecting the lives of those most at risk.

**IMPACT  
BOX**





On 2nd March, for the first time in India, hundreds of people came together to demand better and more affordable public transport for all. Around 500 participants, including young people, civil society organisations, movement groups, Eco Clubs, NSS units, rights-based collectives, and environmental organisations, joined the march. It was a powerful and inspiring moment, with diverse voices united in the call for sustainable mobility. This public action marks a major milestone in our mobility campaign and sends a clear message: the demand for clean, accessible, and affordable public transport is growing, and it cannot be ignored.

**IMPACT  
BOX**



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