



## **Sector Specific Report (Environment) September 2021 Edition**



### **Policies Covered In The Edition**

**1. International Blue Flag Certification  
for Indian Beaches**

**2. Smog Tower: Sustainable Protection  
to Environment**

**3. Climate Finance and Low-Cost Transfer of  
Green Technologies**

# International Blue Flag Certification for Indian Beaches

Blue flag certification is an internationally recognized eco-label for beaches. It considers about 33 separate criteria for a beach to be categorized as eco-friendly and clean. Blue flag-certified beaches are considered one of the cleanest and environment-friendly beaches across the globe. It works as a marker for tourists as well as beach-goers internationally.

**These criteria's of categorization is broadly divided under:**

- Education and awareness related to the environment.
- Water quality at the beaches.
- Management of the beach and nature in the surrounding.
- Services available at the beach.

The certification is done by members of International Organizations, including the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Denmark NGO Foundation for Environmental Education(FEE), and International Union for Conservation of Nature(IUCN). In recent years, India has also taken significant steps to launch eco-labeling organizations in the country also such as Beach Environment & Aesthetics Management Service (BEAMS), to name a few.

India secured Blue Flag Certification for 8 of its beaches on 6th October 2021. Environment Ministry marked the occasion by hosting the Indian flag at all 8 locations and celebrating the achievement. The awards for this certification were announced by UNEP, UNWTO, UNESCO, IUCN, ILS, and FEE at Copenhagen, Denmark. All of these beaches met the 33 criteria and were classified as eco-friendly. According to the Environment Minister, global assurance of eco-friendly beaches is a clear indicator that India's coastlines are in good health and can attract beach lovers from the corners of the globe.







It was further furnished that in the next 5 years, the government would be taking steps to ensure that majority of the beaches receives the Blue Flag certification and conserve the nature around them. Many beaches have launched "Jan Andolan" to reduce beach littering and keep the coastal environment clean from pollutants and non-biodegradable wastes such as plastic, bottles, glass objects, and metal scraps. The program is also famous for its aesthetic value and impact on the tourism industry that can create millions of jobs to cater the tourist needs.

By launching the "I-AM-SAVING-MY-BEACH" campaign in June 2018 that officially started to protect and conserve the beach environment. The campaign was at first launched in 13 beaches consecutively but later spread to more after encouraging response from the community and volunteers. In recent years, the Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change has planned and launched many such programs, including Beach Environment & Aesthetics Management Service (BEAMS).

In recent years, the BEAMS program has been a major success for both the tourism industry and the environment. It helped in removing about 500 tonnes of solid waste, which were all collected and recycled. It helped reduce marine litter by over 78% and reduced plastic waste-based water pollution by 83%. Under the program, about 11000 KL of water has been recycled and reused. This largely helped in conserving water which

resulted in raising footfalls by about 85% cumulative.

Some of the popular Indian beaches which received the Blue Flag certification includes.

- Shivrajpur in Gujarat
- Ghoghla in Daman & Diu
- Kasarkod in Karnataka
- Padubidri Beach in Karnataka
- Kappad in Kerala
- Pushikonda in Andhra Pradesh
- The Golden Beach of Odisha
- Radhanagar Beach in Andaman and Nicobar island groups

After the 8 beaches, two more Indian beaches have been certified with blue flags, including Puducherry and Kovalam beach in Tamil Nadu. India currently accounts for 10 blue flag certified beaches has given a boost to our tourism industry and thus contributed to the growth of the economy. It also helped the environment and allowed people to understand the need for protecting their natural surroundings.

Eden beach of Puducherry was certified in 2019. It's located between two famous tourist spots of Paradise beach and The Art and Crafts village. With a large number of coconut trees present, it has a remarkable cleanliness record. Golden Beach of Odisha also got its certification in the year 2020 which is famous for unique sand art displays, including the works of award-winning sand artist Sudarshan Pattnaik. It is named so due to the famous long sandy beach dotted with stalls selling seafood. The cleanliness of the water is especially impressive around this beach.

As precedence, the majority of the blue flag-certified beaches are extraordinary in their cleanliness records. The Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change has especially taken care of all these beaches and implemented many programs to boost environmental awareness in sustainable ways and encourage local and international tourism in these regions.





# Smog Tower

## Sustainable Protection to Environment

Currently, people worldwide between September to April observe and feel the air pollution through their naked eyes in metropolitan cities known as smog and inhale it in their breath every second. The explanation for smog and the supply of pollution is fossil fuel-based industrial production and rampant use of transport means including burning fuel smog from household stoves. The primary cause causes embrace exhaust from large factories, burning coal in furnaces, and automotive exhaust. Smog is an abnormal development directly associated with human action. The climate is turning worse and getting degraded drastically over time. On no-wind, foggy days, the smog development is the hardest to consume for town dwellers. Smog persists in European countries from November to Gregorian calendar month, throughout the heating season. The harmful impact of smog affects nearly the entire humankind. Every year, pollution causes the death of roughly 27 thousand individuals in the country. At an equivalent time, poor air quality reduces lifespan by up to a year which is contradictory to the government effort of maximizing the life expectancy through extensive medical care.

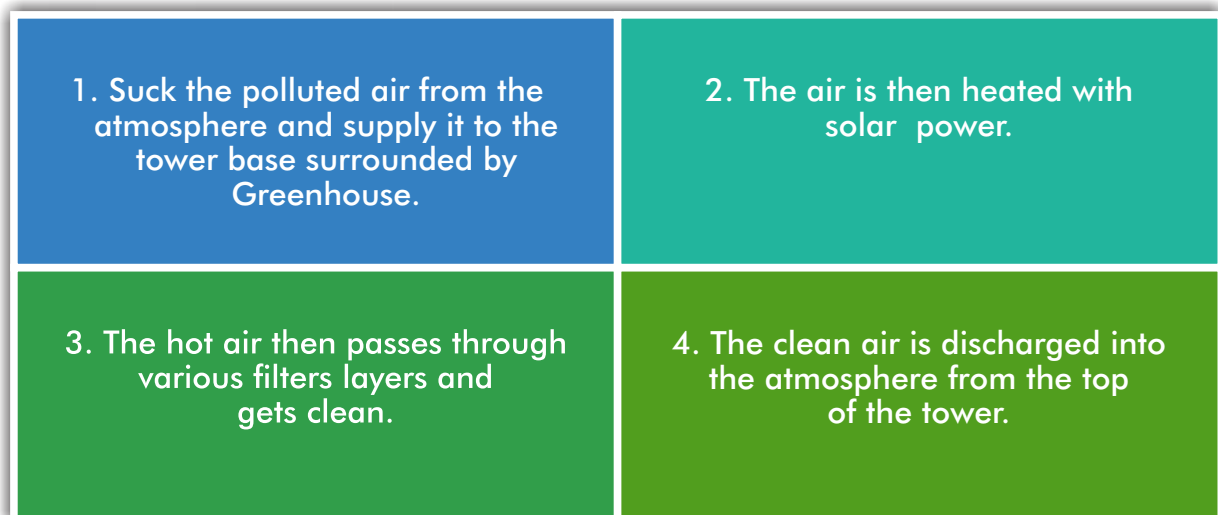
Union Minister for Environment, Forest, and global climate change has asked all stakeholders in the society to sincerely and thoughtfully contribute to achieving cleaner air and healthier lives for all. The Central Government has launched many initiatives to enhance air quality within the entire country, with the Prime Minister himself setting a goal for holistic improvement in air quality in more than a hundred cities. It showed the result and 86 cities of India have shown higher air quality in 2019 as compared to 2018, which was further increased to 104 cities in 2020, knowledgeable the setting Minister. The air pollution tower at Anand Vihar, with a height of over 20m, is of draught sort, i.e. impure air comes in from the highest of the building, and clean air comes out is meant for a localized reduction in pollution (PM level -Particulate Matter). The University of Gopher State has designed the filtration system utilized in the tower with an expected potency of the ninetieth level. Forty fan units are put in to produce a style airflow rate of 1 thousand m<sup>3</sup>/sec. Tata has engineered the tower to operate by NBCC (India) Ltd. as the project advisor. The event additionally witnessed the launch of a portal named "PRANA" – Portal for Regulation of Pollution in Non-Attainment Cities beneath the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP). Ministry of Environment, Forest and global climate change, and Central Pollution control panel (CPCB) are jointly implementing the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) within the country since 2019 with targets to attain reduction in Particulate Matter (PM10 and PM2.5) concentrations by 2024 across the country.

The polygonal shape tower referred to as smog Free Tower, a thought by Daan Roosegaarde, is seven-meter long. It's made from Aluminium and has been divided into two chambers. It filters 30Thousand M<sup>3</sup> of air per hour. The operation of the tower relies on ionization technology, i.e., capturing harmful particles. It's high-powered by solar panels. It's utterly environment friendly. The Smog Free Tower was initially bestowed on Sept 2015 ahead of the Roosegaarde design studio in Rotterdam. Following the vision of the mastermind, it travels the globe and keeps on cleansing the air quality within the most polluted cities. The twelve-tone system attenuated the concentration of suspended dirt at a distance of 10meterwith high power. However, no

improvement was recorded within a radius of 50meters. India's symbiosis Studio has developed a system of 2 varieties of smog

towers. The larger one is 60meter high towers are set up on town boundaries to soak up pollution returning from the suburban areas.

#### **Smog Tower Functional Mechanism:**



It is not enough to create smog towers to scale back smog. Neither is it enough for changing heating systems and mitigating climate change. It's additionally necessary to terminate means of transportation that turn out to be an excessive quantity of pollution and switch to hybrid and electric commutation means. Renewable energy sources should be used on large scale, waste should be reused and technological intervention should be adapted to convert it into wealth through innovative processes, and filters should be put in on chimneys. We should always begin to eliminate the causes of pollution. Then, it'll be a lot easier to fight its long-term effects and solve the problem of global warming at large to preserve nature in its best and improve the evil health effects of smog and such pollutants on the life of humans and biodiversity.

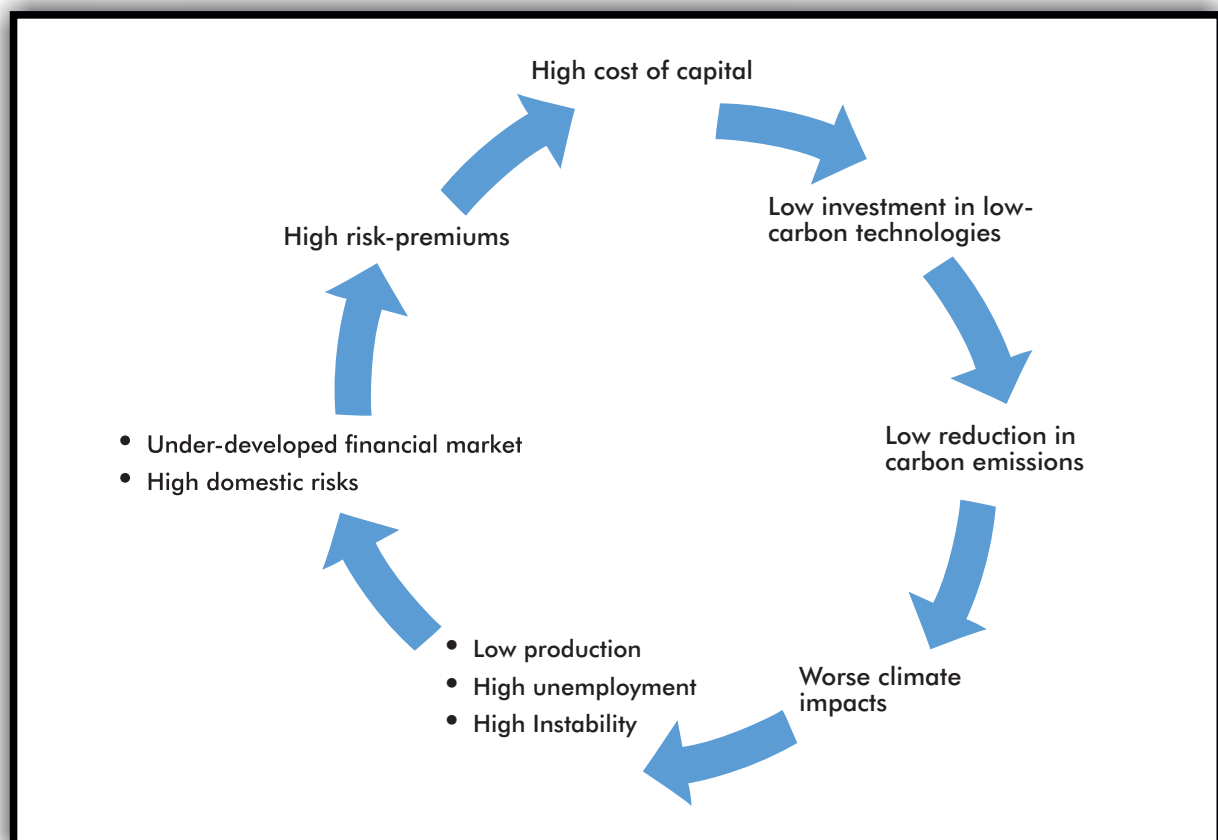




# Climate Financing and Low-Cost Transfer of Green Technologies

India has jointly represented chosen leaders on global climate change at the United Nations Secretary General's Meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> Sept 2021 along with the International Organization Secretary-General, and Prime Minister of the UK. The Minister for Environment, Forest, and Climate Change underlined the necessity for upholding the principles of the UNFCCC method, for any undefeated outcome in any global climate change negotiations as well in the future COP26. In this Meeting, crucial climate actions on finance, mitigation, and adaptation were mentioned for braving the climate crisis.

The Environment Minister has conjointly mentioned the concrete climate actions that India has been taking to mitigate climate change and the goal of achieving 450 GW of Renewable Energy generation capacity by 2030. It was mentioned that the recently held IPCC findings and the latest UNFCCC Synthesis Report, which the developed countries have together emitted pollution levels over their calculated emission allowances within 2008-2020, they must take more significant action on mitigation and supply resources to build nations across the world. It was emphasised in this meeting that even at the UNFCCC, there's an imperative need for giving due importance to adaptation and discussion on whether or not the size of resources are commensurable with the size of the requirements of developing countries.



The was mentioned by the Indian government in this forum that formidable climate action in developing countries relied on challenging support from developed countries under the Paris Agreement and referred to as upon the developed countries to meet their promise to achieve the goal of the US\$ 100Billion each year as created in 2009. COP26 should concentrate on climate finance in scope, scale and speed, and transfer of inexperienced technologies at low value.



**Source: Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change**

Climate technologies face various barriers determined by their numerous characteristics, commercialization stage, and therefore, the investment and market need in the context within which they are ready are required beforehand. Many new climate technologies need testing, demonstration, and adaptation in an exceedingly new market that necessitates a style of public support until they contend with other mature technologies embedded in long-lasting infrastructure.

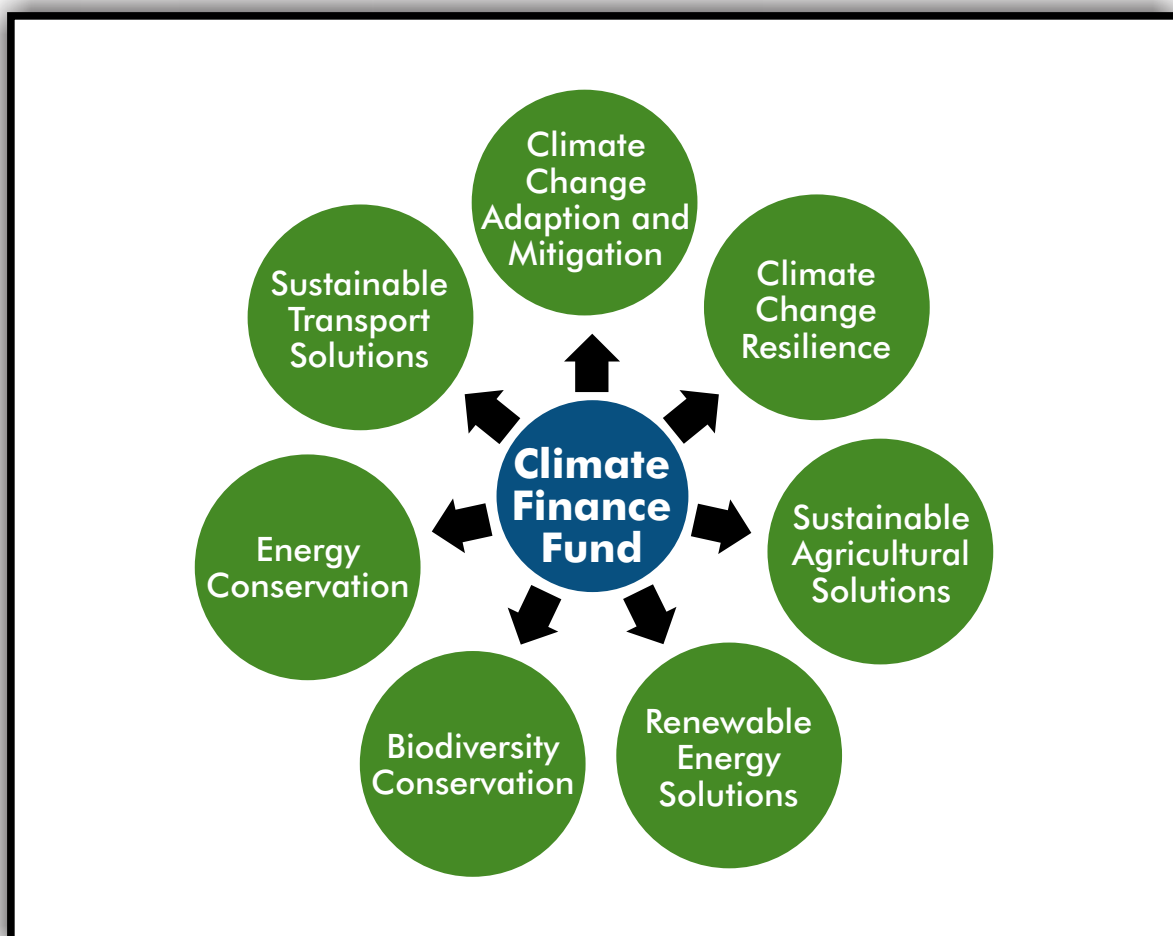
Similarly, the event and readiness of indigenous climate technologies need targeted efforts to spur innovation, support entrepreneurs, and facilitate access to seed and early-stage venture capital funds. Addressing the barriers and risks to climate technology investments required to understand the specific risks, the capacity constraints, and the



financial gaps that stop investment. Public finance actors will give necessary support and risk-sharing for climate technologies, balancing 'push' factors that strengthen innovation and technology adoption capability and 'pull' factors that draw new technologies into the market.

Public and personal sources of finance may be complemented by different sources (e.g. carbon finance, evaluation measures, and prizes). There's not a single methodology for coming up with a triple-crown incentive program or monetary instrument. Therefore the use of public resources should be designed to confirm the original acceptable allocation of risk between actors. Like those reviewed in the preceding section, Triple-crown programs and financial instruments may well be replicated and scaled up. In contrast, new approaches and monetary tools, including a broader way of risk mitigation instruments, could be piloted and evaluated under Climate Finance Fund.

Furthermore, the Conference Of Parties must resolve to boost the supply of imperative and adequate finance, technology, and capacity-building support by developed country Parties to boost the amount of ambition of pre-2020 action. For this regard, it powerfully urges developed country Parties to proportion their level of monetary support, with a concrete roadmap to realize the goal of collectively providing US\$ 100Billion annual support by 2020 for mitigation and adaptation. Whereas it is considerably important to increase the adaptation finance from current levels and to give applicable technology and capacity-building support more to the developing country parties.





## Resources

1. <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseIframePage.aspx?PRID=1663535>
2. <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1756806>
3. <https://www.outlookindia.com/outlooktraveller/travelnews/story/70636/eight-indian-beaches-recommended-for-blue-flag-eco-label>
4. <https://www.thehitavada.com/Encyc/2020/10/12/8-Indian-beaches-get-coveted-Blue-Flag-certification.html>
5. <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1752814>
6. <https://www.mdpi.com/2227-9717/9/8/1446/pdf>
7. <https://moef.gov.in/en/shri-bhupender-yadav-dedicates-first-functional-smog-tower-of-india-situated-at-anand-vihar-in-new-delhi/>
8. <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseIframePage.aspx?PRID=1756575>
9. <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1752814>
10. [https://unfccc.int/ttclear/misc\\_/StaticFiles/gnwoerk\\_static/TEC\\_documents/204f400573e647299c1a7971feec7ace/ea65db0ca9264cdbaefeb272dd30b34c.pdf](https://unfccc.int/ttclear/misc_/StaticFiles/gnwoerk_static/TEC_documents/204f400573e647299c1a7971feec7ace/ea65db0ca9264cdbaefeb272dd30b34c.pdf)
11. <https://unfccc.int/topce/the-big-picture/climate-finance-in-the-negotiationsics/climate-finan>



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