



**JUNE 2025 DITION**

# **ENVIRONMENT & BIODIVERSITY**



## **SECTOR SPECIFIC REPORT**





# **01 | INDIA CELEBRATES WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 2025 WITH SPECIAL CAMPAIGN 'ONE NATION, ONE MISSION: END PLASTIC POLLUTION'**

India commemorated World Environment Day on June 5, 2025, with a **landmark national campaign titled “One Nation, One Mission: End Plastic Pollution”** led by the **Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change in collaboration with MyGov**. India is one of the top global contributors to plastic waste i.e. around 9.3 million tonnes annually and accounts for nearly **20% of global plastic pollution**. Thus, the initiative was aligned with the global **“Beat Plastic Pollution”** theme and supports India's **Mission LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment)**, encouraging conscious consumption and responsible waste management.



Source: <https://www.mygov.in/campaigns/one-nation-one-mission-end-plastic-pollution>

Launched in late May, the **campaign promotes a “Whole-of-Government” and “Whole-of-Society”** approach to addressing plastic pollution across sectors and communities, ensuring widespread impact and participation. It focuses on **four key pillars** while marking the 53rd World Environment Day celebration across India.



A major national event was held at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi, where officials emphasized **linking innovation with India's Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) framework** and boosting recycling infrastructure. A special address underscored India's proactive approach to environmental stewardship, **emphasizing key policies like the Plastic Waste Management Rules 2021, nationwide bans on single-use plastics, and the EPR portal, which had facilitated the processing of over 1.03 billion tonnes of plastic waste by December 2024.**

State and local efforts were equally significant. In Uttar Pradesh, over 22,000 government schools engaged students through painting competitions, street plays, and eco-art installations, followed by massive plantation drives. **In Arunachal Pradesh, public appeals encouraged the use of biodegradable alternatives**, reflecting the nationwide mission's objectives.

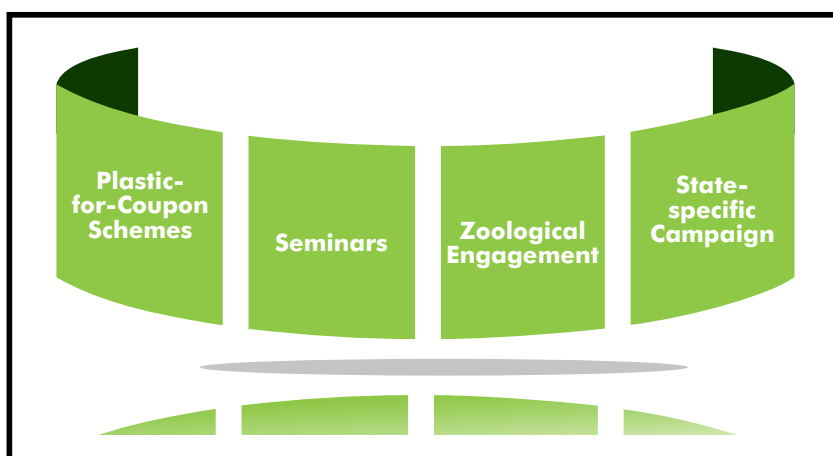
Community-led actions were central to the campaign, including beach clean-ups, awareness webinars, quizzes, hackathons, and the **"National Expo on Eco-Alternatives,"** which featured over 150 startups and recyclers showcasing sustainable innovations. The campaign also spotlighted successful local models, such as **compostable packaging and cloth-bag programs in towns like Kamalpur and Trichy.**

This campaign amplifies the need for integrated action from policy reforms and producer accountability to community engagement and individual behaviour change. Thus, driven by widespread public participation, policy support, and a unified national vision, One Nation, One Mission stands as a transformative movement committed to eradicating plastic pollution and establishing India as a frontrunner in global sustainability efforts.



Source: <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2134392>

### KEY ENVIRONMENT-FRIENDLY INITIATIVES ACROSS INDIA



Source: <https://static.pib.gov.in/WriteReadData/specificdocs/documents/2025/jun/doc202564562201.pdf>

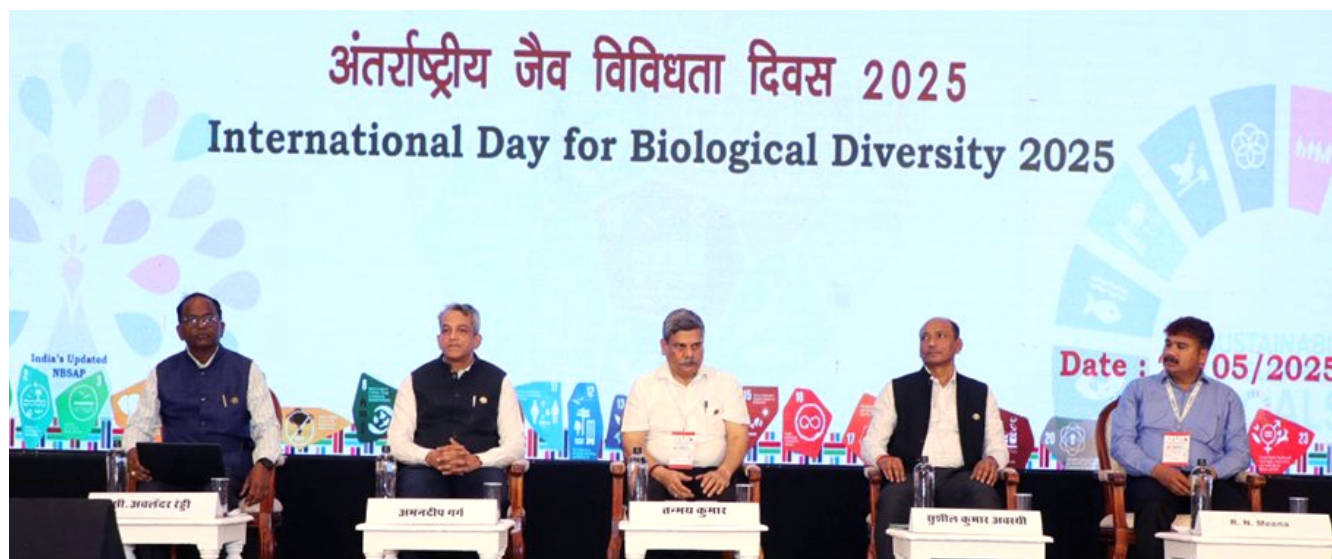




**02**

**INDIA MARKED  
INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR  
BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY (IDB)  
2025 WITH THE EXHIBITION  
ON BIODIVERSITY AND  
BIORESOURCES**

India celebrated the International Day for Biological Diversity (IDB) 2025 with a dynamic national exhibition on biodiversity and bioresources in Udaipur, Rajasthan. The event was hosted by the **Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change (MoEFCC)** together with the **National Biodiversity Authority** and the **Rajasthan State Biodiversity Board**. The celebration highlighted the theme of **“Harmony with Nature and Sustainable Development.”**



Source: <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2130587>

The exhibition showcased a rich array of biodiversity-related displays, including indigenous medicinal plants, crop varieties, eco-friendly products, and traditional conservation knowledge. It brought together twelve State Biodiversity Boards, Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs), forest departments, academic institutions, and grassroots organizations. **The event served as a platform to showcase India's commitment to community-led conservation and sustainable utilization of biological resources.**

Senior officials from the MoEFCC, have inaugurated the exhibition. In its inaugural speech, Shri Tanmay Kumar highlighted India's important role in advancing global biodiversity frameworks. He referred to **India's proactive participation in COP-16 of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the submission of its revised National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) aligned with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.**

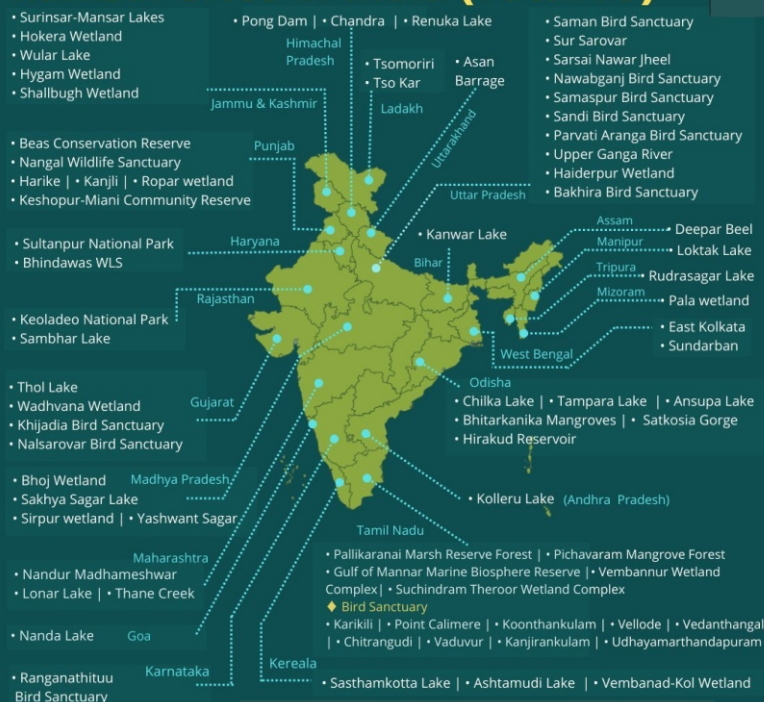


Source: <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2130587>



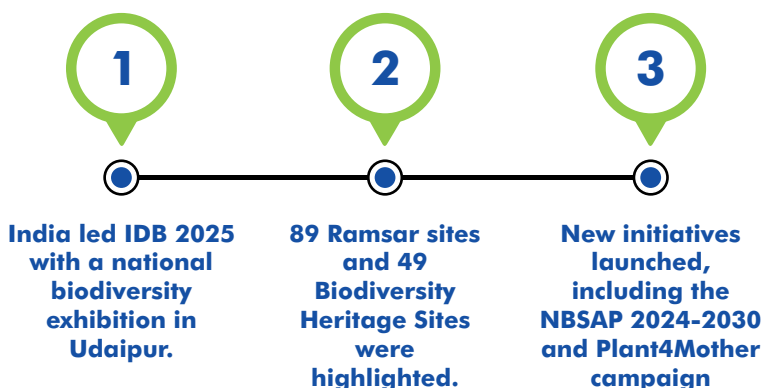
India's achievements in biodiversity conservation were spotlighted, including the declaration of 89 Ramsar sites covering over 1.35 million hectares and the notification of 49 Biodiversity Heritage Sites under the Biological Diversity Act, of 2002. The exhibition witnessed the launch of several documents including the **updated NBSAP (2024–2030)**. It will be India's Seventh National Report to the CBD and a curriculum on Business and Biodiversity Conservation.

### Ramsar sites in India (Total 75)



Source: <https://lotusarise.com/ramsar-sites-in-india-upsc/>

## KEY FACTS



The event also highlighted the success of the Plant4Mother campaign, which led to the planting of 142 crore saplings after World Environment Day 2024. The celebrations set the stage for a fortnight-long campaign leading up to World Environment Day 2025, reinforcing India's commitment to biodiversity, sustainability, and environmental stewardship.



### How AG Group Resources Can Help You

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# National Conference on Environment-2025

29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> March, 2025 | Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi



## 03

## NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENT 2025 BY NGT



On **March 29–30, 2025**, the **National Green Tribunal (NGT)** hosted the **two-day National Conference on Environment – 2025** at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. Inaugurated by the President of India, the event brought together top judiciary members, government officials, environmental experts, civil society representatives, and students to discuss pressing ecological challenges and long-term sustainable solutions.



Source: <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2116543>

In the keynote address, the President emphasized the need for an **environmentally sensitive lifestyle**, stressing that environmental protection must be integrated into everyday practices. A poignant question was raised: “What kind of air will our children breathe? What kind of water will they drink?” Highlighting that **environmental care is both a moral responsibility and a generational duty**, the address called on all citizens to adopt habits that **safeguard rather than degrade nature** and to foster a culture of sustainability.

A senior government representative echoed this sentiment, affirming India's commitment to responsible, growth-oriented development. It was noted that **the country has achieved several of its environmental targets ahead of schedule, particularly in renewable energy, and is focussing on innovation in green technology to drive sustainable employment and inclusive economic resilience.**



Source: <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2116543>



The conference facilitated dialogue among legal professionals, policy-makers, academics, and youth, emphasizing the importance of multi-stakeholder engagement in addressing environmental concerns. **It examined key issues such as climate change, biodiversity loss, plastic pollution, and environmental justice while proposing actionable strategies to strengthen environmental jurisprudence and policy implementation.**



Source: <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2116868>

During the valedictory session, the Vice President of India emphasized the nation's deep-rooted cultural ethos of living in harmony with nature. **The address stressed the importance of international cooperation in tackling global environmental crises and called for collective responsibility across nations and generations.** The event reaffirmed the NGT's pivotal role in aligning legal, ethical, and scientific approaches to sustainability, laying the groundwork for a future where environmental protection and development go hand in hand.





## **04 | THE INTERNATIONAL BIG CAT ALLIANCE (IBCA) CAME INTO FORCE OFFICIALLY**

The International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA) has officially come into force as a treaty-based intergovernmental international organization, marking a significant milestone in global wildlife conservation efforts. After **the Government of India and the IBCA signed the Headquarters Agreement on April 17, 2025**, the Alliance was officially set up as a global legal organization with its main office based in India.



MINISTRY OF  
ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND  
CLIMATE CHANGE  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA



my  
GOV  
मेरी सरकार



Source: <https://www.iasgyan.in/daily-current-affairs/international-big-cat-alliance-ibca-officially-comes-into-force>

The IBCA was launched by the Prime Minister in 2023 to protect and conserve the world's seven major big cat species. **With India as a founding member, the alliance now boasts participation from over 100 countries across Asia, Africa, North America, and Latin America**, reflecting strong international consensus and shared commitment to biodiversity protection.

## SEVEN BIG CAT SPECIES

01	02	03	04	05	06	07
Tiger	Lion	Snow	Leopard	Puma	Jaguar	Cheetah

Structured around a collaborative model, the IBCA seeks to foster cooperation among countries, conservation organizations, and scientific communities.



## OBJECTIVES OF THE INTERNATIONAL BIG CAT ALLIANCE

To prevent the illegal wildlife trade involving the seven big cat species.

To promote the conservation of natural habitats for these seven big cats.

To mobilise financial and technical resources to support and implement their conservation and protection efforts.

To mitigate the adverse effects of climate change.

Advocate for policy initiatives that align biodiversity conservation efforts with local needs and contribute to UN's Sustainable Development Goals within member countries.

Its vision is rooted in sustainable development and the restoration of big cat populations through policy advocacy, technical support, research, capacity building, and sharing of best practices in conservation science and habitat management.



## INTERNATIONAL BIG CAT ALLIANCE

- Cabinet approves establishment of International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA) with headquarters in India
- One-time budgetary support of Rs.150 crore for a period of five years till 2027-28

Source: <https://globalgreenews.com/2024/02/29/cabinet-approves-establishment-of-international-big-cat-alliance-ibca/>

One of the Alliance's first major steps was the signing of the Headquarters Agreement, which grants IBCA the immunities and privileges of an international organization under Indian law. The headquarters will facilitate the coordination of global efforts and host various capacity-building, research, and policy dialogue programs. Environmentalists and conservationists have lauded the move, noting its potential to reshape international cooperation on biodiversity. As big cats face increasing threats from habitat loss, poaching, and climate change, the IBCA offers a unified platform to address these concerns.



Source: <https://eia-international.org/report/big-cats-big-impact/>

**The Alliance's formalization also aligns with global goals under the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, emphasizing urgent and collective action.** With the IBCA now officially in force, the global community enters a new era of transboundary big cat conservation, symbolizing hope for the survival and resurgence of these majestic species.



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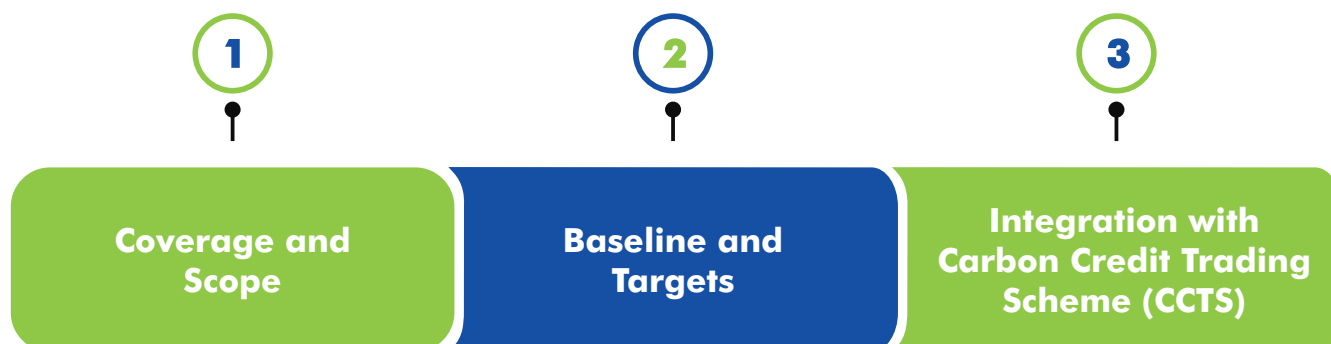




# 05 | **MOEFCC, GOI NOTIFIED THE GREENHOUSE GASES EMISSIONS INTENSITY (GEI) TARGET RULES, 2025**

In a significant milestone for India's environmental policy, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) notified the Greenhouse Gases Emissions Intensity (GEI) Target Rules, 2025 on April 16, 2025.

## KEY FEATURES OF GEI RULES, 2025



These **Rules**, linked to the **Carbon Credit Trading Scheme (CCTS)** initiated in 2023, establish India's first legally binding industrial greenhouse gas intensity benchmarks.



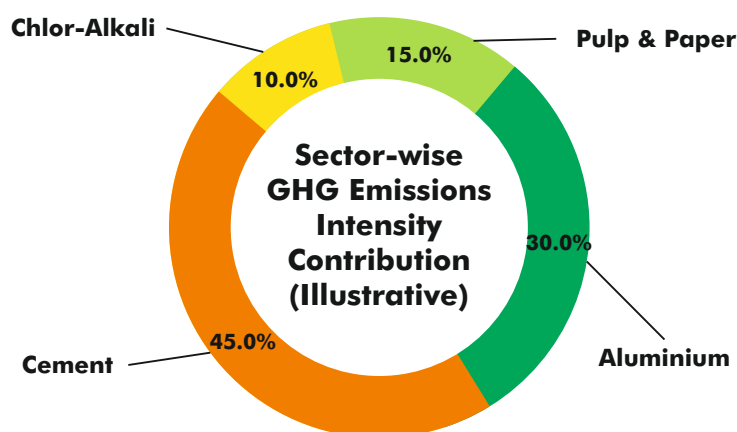
### Greenhouse Gas Emission Intensity (GEI) Targets rules, 2025

Source: <https://forumias.com/blog/greenhouse-gas-emission-intensity-gei-targets-rules-2025/>

GEI measures greenhouse gas emissions per unit of industrial output—typically in tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent per tonne of product manufactured or processed. **By anchoring 2023–24 as the baseline emission year for calculations. Further, the rules mandate phased targets for 2025–26 and 2026–27 across four high-emission sectors: aluminium, cement, pulp & paper, and chlor-alkali industries operating in India.**



A total of 282 “obligated entities”—including major companies like Vedanta, Hindalco, UltraTech, and Grasim—must achieve specified intensity reductions: roughly a 40% cut in the first year, escalating to about 60% in the second. Facilities that outperform earn tradable carbon credits; those falling short face penalties, often calculated at twice the average market credit price, enforceable by the Central Pollution Control Board.



Source: <https://www.iasexpress.net/greenhouse-gases-emissions-intensity-gei-target-rules-2025/>

### SIGNIFICANCE OF GEI TARGET RULES, 2025

- *Attainment of India's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)*
- *Aligns with Article 6 of the Paris Agreement to voluntary cooperate in carbon market*
- *Adoption of Sustainable and Cutting-Edge Technology*

**Experts view this as India's “inflection point” toward market-driven decarbonization.** Dhanpal Jhaveri, the CEO of Eversource Capital, calls it a critical move that “raises the bar for accountability” and over time will strengthen industrial low-carbon resilience in India. Supported by extensive stakeholder consultation and technical reviews, the approach blends robust science with practical feasibility.

### Timeline of GEI Target Rules, 2025 - Key Milestones



Source: <https://www.iasexpress.net/greenhouse-gases-emissions-intensity-gei-target-rules-2025/>

This step operationalizes India's commitments under the Paris Agreement and builds upon earlier efforts like the Perform, Achieve, and Trade (PAT) scheme. **By embedding economic incentives within regulation, India positions itself alongside other nations with active carbon credit markets, including Europe and China.** The comprehensive framework signals India's transition to a compliance-based carbon market poised for a 2026 launch—transforming industrial emissions reduction from voluntary goodwill into enforceable national policy.



## 06 | EXPERT INSIGHT



India's remarkable economic growth has come with consequences for its environment and its citizens' well-being. But it's also true that India's leaders have opened their eyes to its environmental challenges, and they are taking steps to overcome them.

**Ambassador Mark A. Green (Ret.)**  
President Emeritus  
Wilson Center



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