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August - September 2025

Your bi-monthly climate connection is here!

As global temperatures continue to soar, August and September 2025 brought both warning signs and hope. India is turning to Artificial Intelligence as a new ally in its climate response, using it for flood forecasting, groundwater mapping, and weather prediction, even as concerns rise over AI's energy footprint. On the renewable front, the country is sharpening its weather forecasting to better integrate solar and wind power, a crucial step toward its 500 GW non-fossil target by 2030.

Globally, power sector leaders unveiled a USD 670 billion blueprint to modernise electricity infrastructure, while August 2025 ranked among the hottest months ever recorded. Meanwhile, a new infographic by the European Lung Foundation highlights the growing link between climate change and respiratory health. With 3,099 climate cases filed across local, national and international jurisdictions, and clean energy momentum building, the need for climate action has never been clearer.

This is our bi-monthly dispatch of updates and insights on renewable energy, climate change and sustainability in general. We hope you enjoy reading it!

Happenings from home



In India, where monsoon failure can push millions into crisis and heatwaves can paralyse cities, Artificial Intelligence (AI) emerges as a potential climate ally and a possible liability. From AI-driven flood forecasting in Tamil Nadu to machine learning for groundwater mapping in Maharashtra and sharper weather prediction by the IMD, technology is empowering farmers, cities, and disaster response. Smart platforms now guide sowing, pest control, cooling strategies, and traffic management. But the flipside looms large: training giant AI models guzzles energy and water, much of it from fossil fuels. India must chart a middle path, powering AI with renewables, ensuring fairness in access, and embedding ethical frameworks so that AI becomes a force for climate justice rather than climate harm.

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From the corners of the country



In a bold move to support its clean energy ambitions, India is enhancing the precision of its weather forecasts to better align with the demands of solar and wind power generation. Traditional broad forecasts no longer suffice, as India's grid operates in 15-minute cycles and power output from renewables can shift rapidly with changing local weather. The Central Electricity Authority aims to push prediction resolution down to just a few kilometres and invest in long-range forecasting tools to guide planning. This leap is seen as indispensable for balancing supply and demand as India races toward its target of 500 GW of non-fossil energy by 2030.

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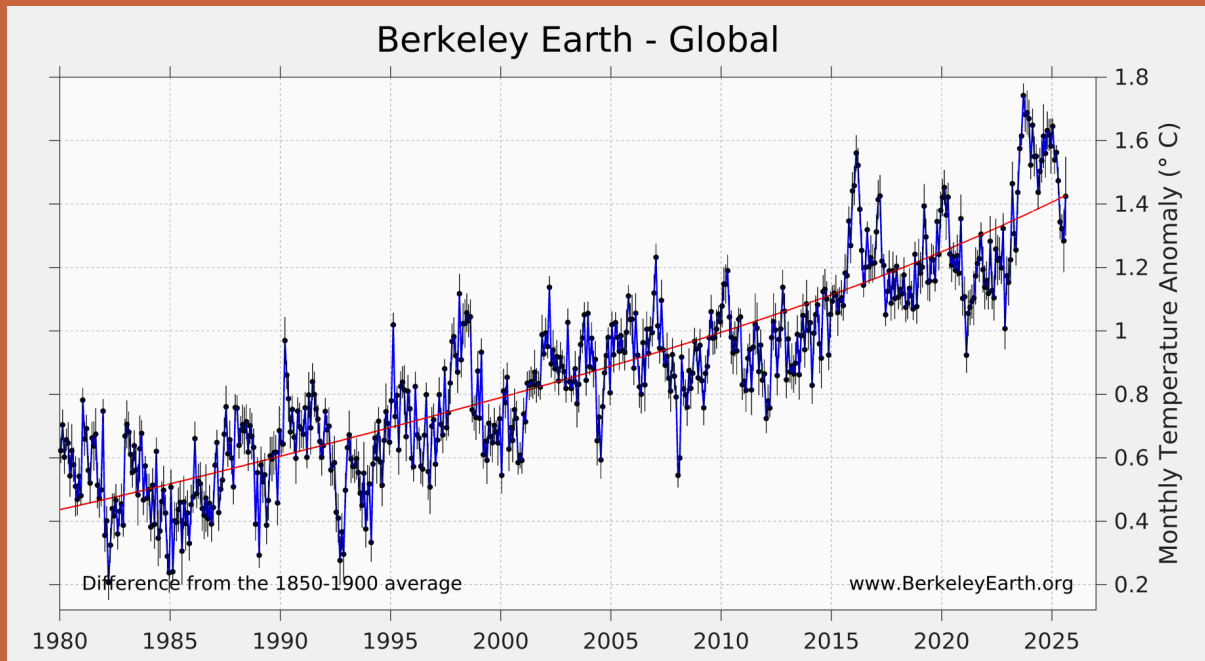
From around the world



Leading power sector companies have unveiled a blueprint to modernize global electricity infrastructure and accelerate the clean energy transition. IRENA projects that 91% of electricity will come from renewables by 2050, yet meeting the 2030 target of 11.2 TW requires rapid grid and storage expansion. In 2024, around 582 GW of new renewable capacity was added, but outdated networks and permitting delays remain key hurdles. Annual investments of USD 670 billion are needed between 2025 and 2030. Over 70 members of the Utilities for Net Zero Alliance have pledged USD 117 billion, with nearly half directed toward grid upgrades to strengthen reliability and enable large-scale renewable integration.

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Global warnings



For August 2025, global temperatures continued their upward trend, making it one of the warmest Augusts on record. Many regions experienced extreme heat anomalies, with land areas showing especially intense departures from average. Marine areas also recorded elevated surface temperatures. The pattern of persistent warming underscores the ongoing influence of climate change. In particular, high-latitude and Arctic zones saw strong temperature spikes, contributing to melting and permafrost stress. The data highlight the urgency of mitigation efforts to limit further global warming and its cascading impacts.

[Read here](#)

In a nutshell

Climate change and your lungs

Climate change is the long-term change to global temperature and weather systems. It has been sped up by human behaviour. We burn fossil fuels such as coal, gas and oil, which produce carbon dioxide and other pollutants or greenhouse gases. These build up in our atmosphere and cause global warming, which can affect your lungs.

Climate change can:

- increase the risk of developing a lung condition, or
- make pre-existing conditions worse.

Extreme heat

Extreme heat can make symptoms of lung disease worse and happen more often. High temperatures increase risks of drought and desert dust storms. This worsens air quality as dust from the ground rises up into the air we breathe. Wildfires become more common, and the smoke pollutes the air we breathe.



Flooding

Flooding can lead to damp, which increases the risk of mould growth. Mould triggers allergies, causes lung infections and can worsen lung conditions such as asthma and rhinitis.



HEALTHY LUNGS FOR LIFE



Air pollution

Air pollution and climate change are closely linked and are driven by the same sources, including traffic, industry and agriculture. Air pollution contributes to climate change and climate change increases the risks of air pollution.



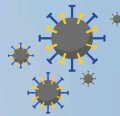
Plant pollen

Higher temperatures and more carbon dioxide mean plants produce more pollen for longer periods in more places. The pollen is also richer in the chemical that causes allergies. The spread of plants can also change with a changing climate.



Infectious diseases

Climate change can affect how well germs that cause diseases spread, reproduce and survive. We will likely see a wider spread of existing viruses and more new viruses spreading into people. There is likely to be a greater risk of epidemics and pandemics due to climate change.



The climate crisis isn't just melting ice caps, it's suffocating your lungs. Rising temperatures trigger deadly asthma attacks, floods unleash toxic mold spores, raging wildfires poison the air we breathe, supercharged pollen overwhelms airways and disease vectors thrive in our warming world. This isn't tomorrow's problem, it's happening now. But every climate action you take protects your breathing: choose clean transport, eat sustainably, demand green policies. Your lungs depend on it.

[Know more](#)

Helping you choose better

YOUR ROOFTOP SOLAR QUESTIONS...ANSWERED



SolarSeeker



Why go solar?

- ✓ Slash your power bills
 - ✓ Fixed energy cost for 25+ years
 - ✓ Clean, green energy for your home
- So why not go solar?!



What does it cost?

For a 1 KW system

- On-Grid: ₹50K – ₹80K
- Off-Grid (Lead Acid): ₹90K – ₹1.2L
- Hybrid (Li-ion): ₹1.25L – ₹1.45L

Is there any subsidy?

Yes! 🍀

Under PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana for individual homes & common facilities for RWAs.

How soon do I get the subsidy approved??

If all details are right 🍀 on an average, 15 days after request.

What's the payback time?

4 – 6 years for an on-grid systems. ⌚



Citizen consumer and civic Action Group

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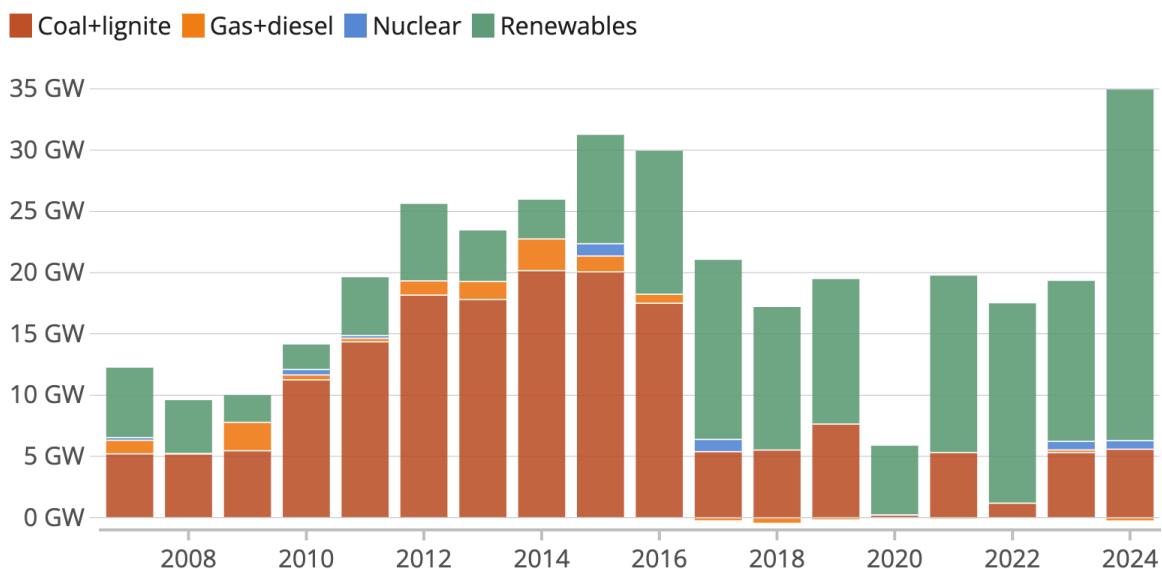
Thinking about solar for your home? Get all your questions answered on rooftop solar systems, from savings and subsidies to installation and maintenance.

Know more

Nugget

India registers record capacity additions in 2024

Annual net additions of power capacity in India, in gigawatts (GW)



Source: Global Integrated Power Tracker (coal, oil+gas net additions), Central Electricity Authority (renewables + nuclear net additions) • "Renewables" for the purposes of this briefing follows the definition of the Central Electricity Authority to include solar, wind, large and small-scale hydropower, and bioenergy.



Do you know that India added nearly 35 gigawatts (GW) of power capacity in 2024, setting a new record for the calendar year? Despite the strong year, renewables only made up around one-fifth of the total increase in power generation in 2024. Accelerating the rollout of renewable sources is essential to reverse the rise in fossil generation

[Know more](#)



Climate Connection is an initiative of Citizen consumer and civic Action Group (CAG) to assist and inform local communities, grassroots NGOs, environment and consumer groups, village representatives and media representatives on how to embrace renewable energy, navigate energy transition, mitigate climate change, and protect the environment they live in. We create change by developing and disseminating information resources on air pollution, climate change, environment and policies surrounding these issues.



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