Stoppwatch

CLIMATE NEWS FROM HOME AND BEYOND

April - May 2026

Your bi-monthly climate connection is here!

As summer arrives, this edition brings together stories of institutional ambition, grassroots resilience, and global momentum in clean energy. From India, we examine whether government departments have the systems and capacities needed to translate climate commitments into on-the-ground action, a question as important as the commitments themselves. We also spotlight how rural women in Odisha are turning lived experience into local climate solutions, demonstrating that adaptation is often most powerful when it is community-driven.

From around the world, we highlight a landmark milestone: renewables now account for nearly half of all global power capacity, a signal that energy transition is no longer a distant ambition but an accelerating reality. Against this backdrop of progress, a sobering UN warning reminds us that global temperatures are set to stay at or near record levels over the coming years, underscoring the urgency of both mitigation and adaptation. We close with a visual timeline tracing how climate change has unfolded through history and policy, a useful lens for understanding how far we have come, and how far we still need to go.

This is our bi-monthly dispatch of updates and insights on renewable energy, climate change, and sustainability.

Happenings from home

Across India, climate policies and commitments are expanding rapidly, with governments introducing ambitious plans for mitigation, adaptation, and resilience-building. However, translating these commitments into coordinated action on the ground remains a significant challenge. This article by Vasudha, Intern at CAG, explores the concept of institutional readiness and its importance in bridging the gap between climate ambition and implementation. As climate risks intensify, strengthening institutional readiness emerges as a critical step towards ensuring that climate commitments lead to measurable, long-term outcomes and greater resilience for communities.

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From the corners of the country

In Odisha's rural communities, women are confronting the realities of climate change not as passive victims but as active problem-solvers. This article from IFPRI highlights how group-based exercises are enabling women to identify local climate risks, from erratic rainfall to crop failures, and generate practical, place-specific solutions. These initiatives build on women's deep knowledge of land, water, and seasonal cycles, transforming that knowledge into community adaptation strategies. The piece demonstrates that when women are placed at the centre of climate planning, responses become more grounded, more equitable, and more effective. It also reflects a broader recognition that climate adaptation in rural India must be people-centred, and that gender-inclusive approaches are not optional, but essential for long-term resilience.

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From around the world

In a significant milestone for the global energy transition, renewable energy sources now account for nearly half of total installed power capacity worldwide, according to data from the International Renewable Energy Agency for 2025. Solar and wind technologies drove the bulk of this expansion, with record additions across multiple regions reflecting the growing economic competitiveness of clean power. The pace of deployment is accelerating even as financing conditions tighten in some markets, suggesting that policy support and technological learning are creating durable momentum. This shift is not only reducing emissions but also reshaping energy geopolitics and creating new economic opportunities. While fossil fuels still dominate actual electricity generation in many countries, the trajectory is clear: the global power system is being fundamentally transformed.

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Global warnings

A new report from the World Meteorological Organisation, highlighted by UN News, warns that global temperatures are almost certain to remain at or near record levels over the next five years. The findings confirm that climate change is accelerating across both land and ocean systems, driven by rising greenhouse gas concentrations. Extreme heat events, once considered anomalies, are becoming a predictable feature of the global climate system, posing increasing risks to health, agriculture, water security, and vulnerable communities worldwide. The report reinforces that even as clean energy transitions advance, the accumulated warming from past emissions means dangerous heat is locked in for the near term. Stronger adaptation measures, early warning systems, and accelerated emissions reductions are all urgently needed to limit further risks.

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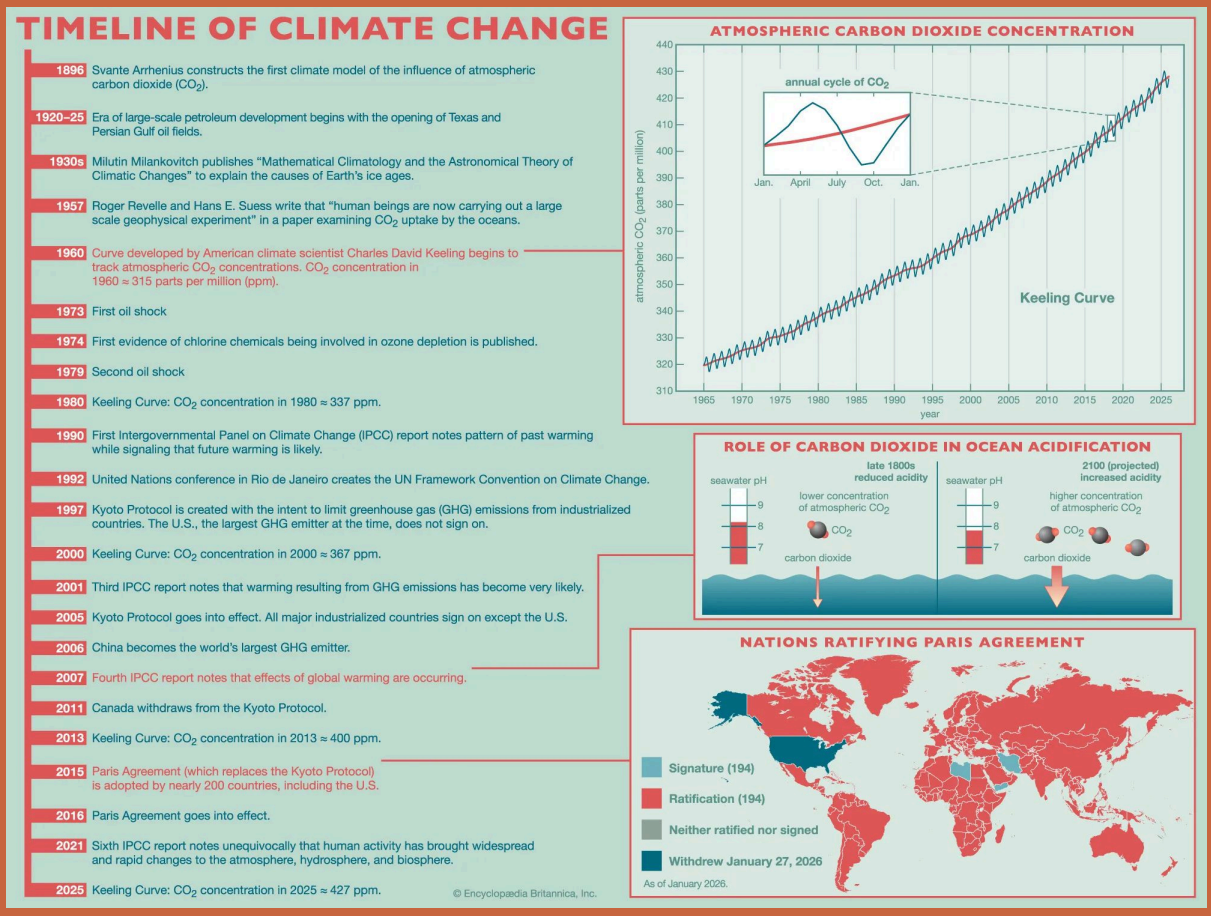
In a nutshell



Climate change has not happened overnight. It is the result of decades of rising emissions, shifting weather patterns, and hard-won scientific understanding. A visual timeline of key moments in climate history traces how global temperatures have climbed alongside industrialisation, how landmark agreements like the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement came to shape international responses, and how public awareness has grown over time. Looking back at this progression helps us understand not just where we are today, but why urgent action can no longer be deferred.

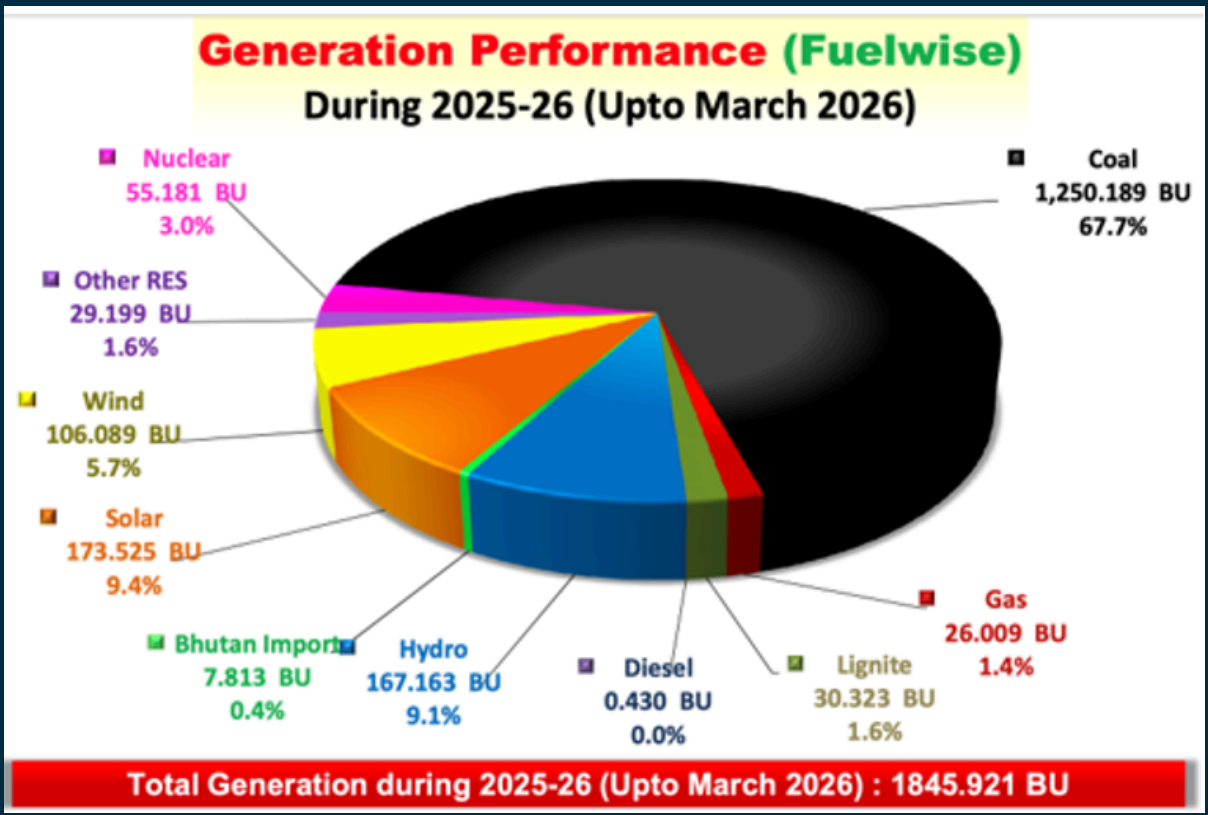
Know more

Make it happen!

Our environment is under unprecedented pressure from climate change, pollution and biodiversity loss. As environmentalist Sundarlal Bahuguna reminded us, "Ecology is the permanent economy", our future depends on the health of our planet. We call on governments, businesses, and citizens to prioritise ecological sustainability and responsible stewardship of natural resources. Together, we can drive meaningful change and build a greener, healthier future. Sign this petition to show your support for protecting our natural environment for present and future generations.

Know more

Nugget!



Do you know that India now ranks third globally in renewable energy installed capacity, surpassing Brazil? As of March 2026, India has 283.46 GW of non-fossil fuel capacity installed, with non-fossil sources meeting 51.5% of electricity demand in July 2025, a historic high.

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.

Your donation helps us expand this mission and bring reliable climate information to more people who need it most.

Donate now

CAG 40 YEARS OF ACTION

Citizen consumer and civic Action Group

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