

From India to the World: Climate Solutions that work

Bharat Climate Forum 2026

DRAFT AGENDA



9 January 2026, ITC Maurya, New Delhi

Agenda for Plenary Sessions (Kamal Mahal)

TIMINGS	THEME	DESCRIPTION
08:00-09:30	Registration	Delegate registration and networking tea
09:30-09:45	Guests to be Seated	All participants are to be seated in the Kamal Mahal Plenary Hall, as the VVIP security will lock the perimeter of the plenary.
10:00-10:30	Receiving the Chief Guest, Inauguration & Welcome Address	<p>Welcome by the President, Convener, Chair and Co-Chair of the BCF Governing Committee, setting the tone for the Forum and its national and global ambitions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ashwani Mahajan, President, Bharat Climate Forum, National Co-Convener, Swadeshi Jagran Manch & Board member, CIEU Meenakshi Lekhi, Convener, Bharat Climate Forum & Former Minister of State for External Affairs and Culture, Government of India (GoI) N K Singh, Chair, Bharat Climate Forum & Chairperson 15th Finance Commission, GoI & Former Rajya Sabha MP.
10:30-10:55	CHIEF GUEST High-level Inaugural Address	<p>Inaugural address by the Hon'ble Vice-President of India, highlighting Bharat's commitment to sustainable and inclusive development with an emphasis on balancing economic progress with ecological responsibility. Hon'ble Vice-President will launch the Blueprint of the national Cleantech Manufacturing Plan.</p> <p>Hon'ble Shri C. P. Radhakrishnan, Vice-President of India</p>
10:55- 11:00	Vote of thanks to the Chief Guest	Sumant Sinha, Co-Chair, Bharat Climate Forum & Founder, Chairman & CEO, ReNew
11:00- 11:15	KEYNOTE High-Level Address	<p>Address from the UN Secretary-General's Climate Envoy, reinforcing India's climate ambition and positioning India as a critical partner in mobilizing global finance and resilience efforts</p> <p>H.E. Selwin Hart, Assistant Secretary General and Senior Advisor for Climate to the United Nations Secretary-General</p>
11:15-12:00	IMMERSIVE DISCUSSION Blueprint 2035: Greening India's Growth Engine	<p>Context-setting session highlighting India's achievements and ambition for a clean, resilient, and green growth trajectory despite global geo-political uncertainties. This session will feature a moderated conversation with senior policymakers and financiers from India and around the world.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Johannes Zutt, Vice-President, South Asia, World Bank Group Bhupinder Bhalla, Former Secretary, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), Government of India (GoI) Amitabh Kant, Senior Advisor, Fairfax Financial & Former G20 Sherpa, Government of India Dr. Sanjay Jaiswal, Member of Parliament & Chief Whip of BJP & Trustee Climate Parliament Girish Tanti, Co-founder, Suzlon Group <p>Moderator: Hem Kaur Saroya, CNN News 18</p>

12:00- 12:30	Keynote Ministerial Address	Hon'ble Shri Manohar Lal Khattar, Minister of Power, Housing & Urban Affairs, Government of India (GoI)
12:30-13:00	<i>CATALYTIC DIALOGUE</i> Global High-level Policy Dialogue	A high-level fireside chat on the intersection of global and national agendas of energy, climate and economic growth. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> H.E. Damilola Ogunbiyi, CEO and Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General (UN SRSG) for Sustainable Energy for All, and Co-Chair of UN-Energy Dr Shamika Ravi, Member, Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council Moderator: Timsy Jaipuria, Policy Editor, CNBC
13:00-14:00	Networking Lunch	
14:00-14:45	<i>FEATURED SPEECH & FIRESTARTER</i> Riding the Storm: Resilience as the New Economic Strategy	This session will explore how climate adaptation and resilience are central to sustaining India's long-term economic growth and development priorities. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (Keynote) Anantha Nageswaran, Chief Economic Advisor, Government of India (GoI) Kamal Kishore, Special Representative of the UNSG (SRSG) for Disaster Risk Reduction & Head of the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) Montek Singh Ahluwalia, Senior Economist & Former Deputy Chair, Planning Commission of India Franziska Ohnsorge, Chief Economist, South Asia Region, World Bank Group N.S. Vishwanathan, Non-Executive Chairman, Axis Bank Moderator: Oren Ahoobim, Partner & Climate Practice Area Co-Lead, Dalberg Advisors
14:45-15:20	<i>FEATURED SPEECH & IMMERSIVE DISCUSSION</i> From Mines to Gigawatts: India's Cleantech Manufacturing Story	A high-level panel discussion on India's National Cleantech Manufacturing Implementation Plan and its core pillars: R&D, Skilling, Raw materials, Demand, Capital Infrastructure and Machinery, and Financing. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (Keynote) Gauri Singh, Deputy Director General, International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) Gyanesh Chaudhary, Chairman and Managing Director, Vikram Solar Diane Jegam, Regional Director- South Asia, Proparco Moderator: Sumit Chaturvedi, Founder & Editor-In-Chief, Voice of India World & Former Senior Business Editor and Delhi Bureau Chief at ET NOW
15:20-16:00	<i>IMMERSIVE DISCUSSION</i> Bharat Bankable: Investing for the Green Century	Financing deep dive on mobilizing long-term climate capital, including green bonds, blended finance, sovereign guarantees and new financing institutions to make cleantech manufacturing and green industrialization bankable. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ashwini Kumar Tewari, Managing Director (Corporate Banking and Subsidiaries), State Bank of India) Shalabh Tandon, South Asia Regional Head of Operations & Climate Change, IFC Umesh Revankar, Executive Vice Chairman, Shriram Finance Limited

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sanjeev Kaushik, Principal Financial Sector Specialist, Asian Development Bank <p>Moderator: Kristween Walia, CNN-News18</p>
16:00-16:40	<p>IMMERSIVE DISCUSSION</p> <p>The Cost of Survival: Funding India's Resilience</p>	<p>A high-level dialogue on how climate impacts and hazards affect all parts of the Indian economy, from agriculture and industry to cities and infrastructure. The session will focus on the solutions and financing needed to climate-proof India's growth.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shilpa Kumar, Managing Director and Head of India, British International Investment (BII) Manoj Mittal, Chairman and Managing Director, Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) Rajnish Kumar, Former Chairperson of State Bank of India Sivasubramanian Ramann, Chairman, Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) Ajay Seth, Chairman, Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) <p>Moderator: Kristween Walia, CNN-News18</p>
16:40-17:15	<p>IMMERSIVE DISCUSSION</p> <p>Inventing for Tomorrow: Rethinking Innovations for an Uncertain World</p>	<p>This panel will examine how India can enhance research, innovation, and early-stage development of cleantech and adaptation solutions across key sectors, including agriculture, public health, and water security. It will discuss how to fund, regulate, and scale science-led solutions from the lab to the field, addressing issues such as coordination between research and implementation agencies, and financing models that help translate innovation into real-world impact.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prof Abhay Karandikar, Secretary, Department of Science & Technology (DST) Dr Mangi Lal Jat, Secretary, Director General (DG), Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) Deepak Bagla, Mission Director, Atal Innovation Mission Prof Ashok Jhunjhunwala, IITM Vikram Shroff, Vice Chairman and Co-CEO, UPL Mirik Gogri, CEO, Spectrum Impact and Aarti Enterprises <p>Moderator: Jagjeet Sareen, India-Head, Dalberg Advisors</p>
17:15-18:00	<p>IMMERSIVE DISCUSSION</p> <p>From Mandate to Impact: Governing for a Green, Resilient and Viksit Bharat</p>	<p>A systems-focused panel that will unpack India's evolving green manufacturing, mitigation, adaptation-development priorities and the policy and governance reforms needed to deliver them. It will link these national priorities to state-level governance models for implementation, such as defining clear roles and coordinating across Union, State, and local bodies, along with practical solutions and financing models that drive the last-mile delivery of benefits.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dr Sandeep Pathak, Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha Shri Chandra Prakash Joshi, MP Lok Sabha Shri Chandan Chauhan, MP Lok Sabha Shri Gaurav Pardhi, MLA Madhya Pradesh Shri Divya Raj, MLA Madhya Pradesh Smt. Anita Bhadel, MLA Rajasthan Shri Rohit Bohra, MLA Rajasthan Dr Shikha Meel, MLA Rajasthan <p>Moderator: Simran Babbar, Senior Correspondent, CNN-</p>

		News18
18:00-18:20	Keynote Address	Hon'ble Shri Amardeep Bhatia, Secretary, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, GoI
18:20-19:00	IMMERSIVE DISCUSSION Powering the Economic Growth: The Union of Digital and Green	<p>An engaging conversation on how India's digital infrastructure can strengthen climate adaptation and resilience for sectors like agriculture and others. The session will explore how solutions, ranging from AI and ML to GIS, IoT, Drones, and DPI-backed platforms, can amplify mitigation, energy transition, and green industrialization, adaptation, and resilience solutions across agriculture, cities, and vulnerable communities. This session will also feature the launch of Climate Resilient Agriculture Innovation Grant Challenge.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sanjeev Bikhchandani, Founder and Executive Vice-Chairman, InfoEdge • Vijay Shekhar Sharma, Founder & CEO, Paytm • Shaji K.V., Chairman and Managing Director, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) • Dr Purvi Mehta, Member, Board of Advisors, World Food Prize Foundation; Director, Board, Advanta Seeds; Senior Advisor, Global Centre for Adaptation <p>Moderator: Gaurav Gupta, Global Managing Director, Dalberg Advisors</p>
19:00-19:20	Keynote Address	Hon'ble Shri Santosh Sarangi, Secretary, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, GoI
19:20-19:35	Presentation on Cleantech Manufacturing Tech and Investment Accelerator	Nivruti Rai, MD & CEO, Invest India, GoI
19:35-20:15	FEATURED SPEECH & IMMERSIVE DISCUSSION Commitments to Collaboration: Aligning Global Partnerships for Climate Action	<p>This panel will examine how India can translate national climate ambition into global leadership through deepened international collaboration. It will explore how India can align and strengthen global partnerships across governments, multilateral institutions, finance, and the private sector to accelerate climate action at scale. The discussion will highlight the technological innovations, institutional models, and implementation approaches India can share with the Global South, and the partnerships, financing pathways, and domestic readiness required to support shared transitions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (Opening remarks) Meenakshi Lekhi, Former Minister of State for External Affairs, Government of India (GoI) • Amit Prothi, Director General, Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure • Ashish Khanna, Director General, International Solar Alliance • Mohamed Nasheed, Secretary-General, Climate Vulnerable Forum-V20 Secretariat • Michael Steidl, Head of Regional Representation to South Asia at European Investment Bank • Anand Shah, Partner-US, The Asia Group • Hemang Jani, Senior Advisor to the Indian ED, World Bank Group

		Moderator: Anand Narsimham, CNN-New 18
20:15-20:30	Valedictory Ministerial Address	Hon'ble Shri Bhupender Yadav, Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, GoI (TBC)
20:30-20:40	Vote of Thanks	Closing acknowledgements to Hon'ble Minister, participants, partners, and supporters BCF, CIEU and Dalberg Advisors

Event Knowledge Partners: Shakti Foundation is the strategic partner for BCF 2026, with partnerships spanning leading think tanks, industry bodies, financial institutions, and coalitions including Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW), The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), Climate Policy Initiative (CPI), Climate Bonds Initiative (CBI), Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI), NetZero Energy Transition Association (NETRA), Indian Wind Turbine Manufacturers Association (IWTMA), National Solar Energy Federation of India (NSEFI), FIDC, Indicc, Ember, Trilegal, Coalition for Disaster Resilience Infrastructure (CDRI), Indian Energy Storage Alliance, Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers, Automotive Component Manufacturers Association of India, Indian Electrical and Electronics Manufacturers' Association, Critical minerals Association, Skill Council for green jobs, Indian Banks Association, GH2 India.

DRAFT Agenda for Roundtables

TIMINGS	VENUE	SESSION	DESCRIPTION
11:30-12:30	SAKYA	High level discussion Curtailment Crisis in High Renewable Energy States: Insights from Rajasthan	This roundtable will examine the growing curtailment crisis in high renewable-energy states, using Rajasthan as a case study to highlight gaps between generation build-out and transmission readiness.
14:00-15:00	BOARD ROOM (KALINGA)	Decongesting the Grid: Managing Concentration and Import Risk in India's Transmission Sector	The roundtable will focus on decongesting India's power grid by reforming ISTS market structures, managing concentration risk, and indigenizing critical HVDC components to reduce import-led vulnerabilities as renewable capacity scales.
14:00-15:00	SAKYA	High level discussion on SIDS – India partnership	This closed-door roundtable will focus on high level South-South collaboration including Small Island Developing States (SIDS) -India partnership. It will serve as an important anchor in strengthening the discussions and

			<p>actions around South-South partnerships and advancing climate action in the Global South.</p> <p>Knowledge Partner(s): Dialogues of East and West (DEW)</p>
14:00-15:00	CHAITYA	Enabling the Next Wave of Nuclear Energy: Policy Pathways for India's SMR Revolution	<p>India's ambition as part of the Nuclear Energy Mission to develop and deploy Small Modular Reactors (SMRs) requires a bold nuclear governance framework. This closed-door roundtable will explore the legal and policy foundations necessary to enable private sector participation in SMRs while maintaining the highest standards of safety and sovereignty.</p> <p>Knowledge Partner(s): Knowledge Partner(s): Invest India, Indian Youth Nuclear Society (IYNS)</p>
15:00-16:00	SAKYA	Early Action Economics: Insurance as a Catalyst for Climate Resilience	<p>Explore how parametric insurance can be designed and scaled to help MSMEs withstand climate shocks and avoid prolonged business disruption. The session will examine how India can build a viable market for MSME-focused parametric insurance—addressing supply–demand gaps</p> <p>Knowledge Partner(s): Climake & CKinetics</p>
15:00-16:30	CHAITYA	Lab to Market/ India's cleantech leap: Brasstacks of making India a cleantech R&D hub	<p>This roundtable will focus on the practical building blocks required to make India a global hub for cleantech R&D and innovation, with particular emphasis on financing, shared infrastructure, and talent. The discussion will examine how India can mobilise sustained R&D finance to bridge the gap from lab to market, build and open-access pilot lines and testing facilities within industrial clusters, and develop a job-ready talent pipeline aligned with mission labs and first-of-a-kind deployments.</p> <p>Knowledge Partner(s): CTIER, Spectrum Impact</p>
16:00-1700	SAKYA	India–Africa Partnership: Building a Shared Clean Energy Future	<p>This roundtable will explore how India and Africa can strengthen collaboration to accelerate renewable deployment while building resilient clean energy supply chains. Drawing on India's experience in solar scale-up, policy design, and manufacturing, the discussion will focus on practical pathways for joint deployment, financing, and co-development of solar value chains</p>

			Knowledge Partner(s): SEforAll, World Bank, International Solar Alliance (ISA)
16:30-17:30	CHAITYA	Hot Future, Cool Tech: Engineering Resilience through Domestic Innovation	<p>A discussion on indigenization of domestic cooling manufacturing (with a focus on propane-based compressors), especially RACs. The round table will focus on identifying practical pathways to scale up domestic solutions, reduce import dependence and build manufacturing and workforce capabilities for domestic production and positioning India as an export hub for new-age cooling technologies manufacturing.</p> <p>Knowledge Partner(s): National Resources Defense Council (NRDC), IORA Ecological Solutions</p>
17:30-18:30	SAKYA	High-level discussion on Cleantech Manufacturing Tech and Investment Accelerator	<p>This closed-door roundtable will be an interaction with key knowledge partners on the cleantech accelerator led by Invest India and BCF</p>