India's Sustainability Architecture 2026: A Comprehensive Assessment of Government Schemes for Green Growth, Skilling, and Ecological Restoration

Executive Summary

The fiscal year 2026 represents a watershed moment in the economic and ecological history of India. Following the foundational commitments made at COP26 in Glasgow and the subsequent enhancement of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), the Government of India has systematically re-engineered its policy framework to align economic development with climate resilience. This report provides an exhaustive, expert-level analysis of the active government schemes in India as of 2026, encompassing the interlocking domains of sustainability, green skills, general workforce development, afforestation, and green entrepreneurship.

Our analysis reveals a paradigm shift in governance strategy: a transition from fragmented, input-based subsidies to integrated, outcome-based incentive structures. The policy landscape of 2026 is characterized by the convergence of energy security, livelihood generation, and ecological stewardship. Key flagships such as the **National Green Hydrogen Mission** and **PM-KUSUM** have been capitalized with substantial outlays to drive the installation of 500 GW of non-fossil fuel capacity by 2030. Simultaneously, the rural economy is being reimagined through schemes like **PM-PRANAM** and **GOBARdhan**, which utilize fiscal federalism to reduce chemical dependency and monetize organic waste, thereby creating a circular bio-economy.

In the domain of human capital, the demographic dividend is being leveraged through the active implementation of **PMKVY 4.0** and the strategic rollout of **PMKVY 5.0**. These initiatives mark a decisive pivot toward "Green Jobs," institutionalized by the **Skill Council for Green Jobs (SCGJ)**, ensuring that the workforce transition keeps pace with the industrial transition. Furthermore, the operationalization of market-based instruments—specifically the **Green Credit Programme (GCP)** and the **Carbon Credit Trading Scheme (CCTS)**—signals the maturity of India's environmental policy, moving beyond command-and-control regulation to sophisticated market mechanisms that price externalities.

This report synthesizes data from active guidelines, ministry notifications, and implementation frameworks active in 2026. It offers a granular examination of scheme mechanics, funding

patterns, eligibility criteria, and the broader strategic implications of India's green transition.

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1. The Energy Transition: Strategic Missions and Renewable Infrastructure

The energy sector remains the fulcrum of India’s sustainability strategy. By 2026, the focus has broadened from simple capacity addition to the creation of resilient value chains, indigenous manufacturing capabilities, and the decarbonization of hard-to-abate heavy industries.

1.1 National Green Hydrogen Mission (NGHM)

The **National Green Hydrogen Mission**, launched with an initial outlay of ₹19,744 crore, has entered its most critical execution phase in 2026.[1] Having established the policy groundwork, the mission is now actively funding pilot projects and disbursing incentives to establish India as a global hub for the production, usage, and export of green hydrogen and its derivatives.

1.1.1 Mission Architecture and 2030 Targets

The mission is anchored by the ambition to achieve a green hydrogen production capacity of at least **5 Million Metric Tonnes (MMT)** per annum by 2030. This production target is supported by a requisite renewable energy capacity addition of approximately **125 GW**, specifically dedicated to powering electrolysers.[2] The economic logic of the mission is predicated on two outcomes: import substitution and export leadership. By displacing fossil fuel imports, the mission aims to save ₹1 lakh crore annually while attracting cumulative investments totaling ₹8 lakh crore.[2]

In 2026, the mission's "overarching objective" is explicitly defined: to make India *Aatmanirbhar* (self-reliant) in clean energy and to serve as an inspiration for the global clean energy transition.[1] This geopolitical dimension is critical, as it positions India not just as a consumer of green technology, but as a primary producer and exporter.

1.1.2 Pilot Project Implementation and Funding

To bridge the gap between laboratory success and commercial viability, the mission has allocated specific outlays for pilot projects in three strategic sectors. These pilots are designed to validate technical feasibility and establish safety standards.

- **Low Carbon Steel Projects (₹455 Crore):** Active up to FY 2029-30, this window supports the steel industry's transition from coking coal to green hydrogen. Steel production is a major carbon emitter, and replacing carbon with hydrogen as a reducing agent in Direct Reduced Iron (DRI) furnaces is a technological frontier this scheme seeks to breach.[1] The extended timeline reflects the capital-intensive nature of steel plant

retrofitting.

- **Mobility Pilot Projects (₹496 Crore):** Active until 2025-26, this funding targets the heavy-duty transport segment. While battery electric vehicles (BEVs) dominate personal mobility, hydrogen fuel cells are viewed as the optimal solution for long-haul trucking and inter-city buses due to their higher energy density and faster refueling times.[1]
- **Shipping Pilot Projects (₹115 Crore):** Active until 2025-26, this component addresses the decarbonization of the maritime sector. Initiatives include the development of green ammonia bunkers at major ports and the retrofitting of vessels to run on green methanol or hydrogen.[1]

The mission also retains flexibility to fund pilots in "decentralized energy applications, hydrogen production from biomass, and hydrogen storage technologies," acknowledging that the optimal use-cases for hydrogen may evolve.[1]

1.1.3 Strategic Interventions for Green Hydrogen Transition (SIGHT)

The financial engine of the mission is the **SIGHT** programme, which commands the bulk of the outlay (₹17,490 crore).[3] SIGHT is structured as a Production Linked Incentive (PLI) mechanism with two distinct components:

1. **Component I: Electrolyser Manufacturing:** To reduce the capital cost of green hydrogen, India must manufacture electrolysers domestically. This component offers incentives per kilowatt of manufacturing capacity. By 2026, Tranche-II of this scheme is active, supporting the scale-up of gigafactories for Alkaline, PEM, and Solid Oxide technologies.
2. **Component II: Green Hydrogen Production:** This component provides a direct subsidy per kilogram of green hydrogen produced. The incentive is designed to bridge the "viability gap" between grey hydrogen (produced from natural gas) and green hydrogen. The subsidy tapers down over a three-year period, forcing producers to achieve efficiency gains and cost reductions over time.[3]

1.1.4 Research and Development: The Horizon 2030

To prevent technological dependency, the mission aggressively funds R&D. The strategy distinguishes between "incremental innovation" for immediate deployment and "Blue Sky Projects" with a 0-15 year horizon.[3]

- **Focus Areas:** Development of efficient, low-cost electrolysers, Type-IV storage cylinders, and next-generation fuel cells.
- **Active Calls:** The Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC) has active calls for proposals until **January 27, 2026**, specifically targeting biomass-based hydrogen production technologies at Technology Readiness Levels (TRL) 5/6.[4] This focus on biomass leverages India's agrarian economy to produce "bio-hydrogen," creating a unique value proposition compared to solar-based hydrogen.

1.2 Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan (PM-KUSUM)

The **PM-KUSUM** scheme, extended until **March 31, 2026**, represents one of the most significant interventions in the rural energy landscape.[5] It addresses the "Water-Energy-Food Nexus" by solarizing agricultural power consumption, thereby reducing the subsidy burden on State DISCOMs and providing reliable daytime power to farmers.

1.2.1 Component Architecture and Strategic Targets

The scheme envisions adding a total solar capacity of **34,800 MW** by March 2026, supported by Central Financial Support of ₹34,422 crore.[5] The architecture comprises three interlinked components:

Component	Target Description	Strategic Rationale
Component A	10,000 MW of Decentralized Ground/Stilt Mounted Solar Plants	Allows farmers to become energy producers ("Annadata to Urjadata") by leasing barren lands for solar plants (up to 2 MW).
Component B	14 Lakh Stand-alone Solar Agriculture Pumps	Targets off-grid areas where grid extension is prohibitively expensive, replacing diesel pumps and reducing carbon emissions.
Component C	Solarization of 15 Lakh Grid-connected Pumps	Reduces the agricultural subsidy burden for DISCOMs by allowing farmers to generate their own power and sell surplus to the grid.

1.2.2 Key Operational Amendments for 2026

To accelerate adoption and overcome implementation hurdles, the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) has introduced several critical amendments active in 2026:

1. **Feeder Level Solarization (FLS):** Under Component C, the focus has shifted from solarizing individual pumps to solarizing entire agricultural feeders. This creates a "virtual

solar power plant" at the substation level. It simplifies metering, billing, and grid management for DISCOMs while ensuring that all pumps on a feeder receive solar power.[7]

2. **Land Use Flexibility:** Recognizing the scarcity of purely barren land, the guidelines now permit the installation of solar plants on **pasturelands and marshlands**, provided the primary ecological function is not compromised. This is particularly relevant for states with high wetland density.[7]
3. **Waiver of Domestic Content Requirement (DCR):** A major bottleneck has been the shortage of domestically manufactured solar cells. To unblock projects, the DCR mandate was waived for feeder-level solarization projects awarded on or before June 20, 2023. This waiver continues to facilitate project execution in 2026.[8]
4. **Removal of Generation Penalties:** The penalty on solar power generators for shortfall in generation under Component A has been removed. This significantly de-risks the investment for farmers and developers who previously faced fines for weather-related generation dips.[7]

1.2.3 Financial Assistance and Regional Variations

- **Standard CFA:** The Central Financial Assistance (CFA) is typically capped at 30% of the benchmark cost or the tender cost, whichever is lower.
- **Special Category States:** For North-Eastern States, J&K, Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh, and Uttarakhand, the CFA is higher. Furthermore, for these regions, CFA is available for pump capacities up to **15 HP** (compared to the standard 7.5 HP cap) to account for the higher lift requirements in hilly terrain.[8]
- **Inter-Component Flexibility:** States are permitted to transfer physical targets between Component B and Component C based on local demand, ensuring that the overall capacity target of 34,800 MW is met efficiently.[6]

1.3 Production Linked Incentive (PLI) for Solar PV Modules

While primarily an industrial policy, the **PLI Scheme for High Efficiency Solar PV Modules** is the supply-side counterpart to PM-KUSUM and the Rooftop Solar programme.

- **Tranche II Status:** With an outlay of ₹14,007 crore, Tranche II allocated 39,600 MW of manufacturing capacity.
- **2026 Milestone:** The scheme mandates that the final block of capacity (approximately 15,400 MW) must become operational by **April 2026**.[9] This ensures that as demand peaks under PM-KUSUM and the Green Hydrogen Mission, a robust domestic supply chain of high-efficiency modules is available to meet it.

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2. The Bio-Economy: Waste-to-Wealth and Sustainable

Agriculture

India's strategy for the rural economy in 2026 is defined by circularity. Schemes are designed to close the loop—turning agricultural waste into energy and returning nutrients to the soil.

2.1 GOBARdhan (Galvanizing Organic Bio-Agro Resources Dhan)

The **GOBARdhan** initiative is a "Whole of Government" approach to converting organic waste (cattle dung, agri-residue) into biogas, Compressed Biogas (CBG), and Bio-CNG. It operates under the umbrella of the Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) Phase II.[10]

2.1.1 Implementation Framework (2020-2026)

The scheme is operational through FY 2025-26 with the following key provisions:

- **Cluster Model:** It supports the setting up of community and cluster-based biogas plants.
- **Financial Assistance:** A specialized grant of up to **₹50 lakhs per district** is available to catalyze local projects.[10]
- **Unified Registration Portal:** This portal acts as the single window for registration, a mandatory step to access benefits across converging ministries (MNRE, MoPNG, Dept of Fertilizers).[11]

2.1.2 Market Development and Offtake Security

The success of GOBARdhan in 2026 is driven by aggressive market creation policies:

1. **Mandatory Blending:** The government has notified a phase-wise mandatory blending of CBG in the CNG (transport) and PNG (domestic) segments. This creates a guaranteed demand sink for producers, de-risking their capital investment.[11]
2. **Excise Exemptions:** To ensure price competitiveness against fossil gas, central excise duty exemptions have been extended to CNG blended with CBG.[11]
3. **Pipeline Infrastructure (DPI) Scheme:** Launched to address logistics, the **Development of Pipeline Infrastructure (DPI)** scheme funds the construction of pipelines connecting CBG plants to the nearest City Gas Distribution (CGD) network. Revised guidelines in August 2025 streamlined the injection standards, facilitating seamless grid integration.[12]
4. **Biomass Aggregation Machinery (BAM):** Financial assistance is provided for procuring the heavy machinery (balers, rakes) required to collect biomass from fields, addressing the critical supply chain bottleneck of feedstock availability.[11]

2.1.3 Monetization of Bio-Slurry

The scheme acknowledges that biogas production generates a nutrient-rich byproduct: bio-slurry.

- **Fertilizer Control Order (FCO):** Fermented Organic Manure (FOM) and Liquid FOM

(LFOM) are now recognized fertilizers under the FCO.
- **Market Development Assistance (MDA):** A subsidy of **₹1,500 per metric tonne** is provided for the sale of FOM/LFOM. This makes organic manure price-competitive for farmers, simultaneously improving soil health and reducing the import bill for synthetic fertilizers.[11]

2.2 PM-PRANAM (Restoration, Awareness, Nourishment and Amelioration of Mother Earth)

PM-PRANAM represents a novel experiment in fiscal federalism. Rather than a direct subsidy scheme, it is an incentive mechanism designed to nudge states toward balanced fertilizer use.[14]

2.2.1 The "Subsidy Savings" Mechanism

The scheme does not have a separate budget; it is financed through the "savings" generated from the reduction in the existing fertilizer subsidy bill.

- **Baseline Calculation:** A state's reduction in chemical fertilizer consumption (Urea, DAP, NPK, MOP) is measured against its average consumption over the previous three years.[15]
- **Grant Allocation:** The Centre passes on **50% of the subsidy savings** to the state as a grant.[15] For example, if a state saves ₹3,000 crore in subsidies by reducing consumption, the Centre transfers ₹1,500 crore back to the state.[17]
- **Fund Utilization:** The state must utilize the grant in a 70:30 ratio:
  - **70%** for asset creation (technological adoption, alternative fertilizer production units).
  - **30%** for rewarding farmers, panchayats, and self-help groups (SHGs) who contributed to the reduction.[14]
- **Monitoring:** The **Integrated Fertilizers Management System (iFMS)** dashboard tracks consumption data in real-time to calculate eligibility.[14]

2.3 National Bamboo Mission (NBM)

Restructured to treat bamboo as a specialized crop ("Green Gold"), the mission aims to link farmers to markets.

2.3.1 Funding and 2026 Deliverables

- **Funding Pattern:** 60:40 (Centre:State) for general states, and 90:10 for North Eastern & Hilly states.
- **2026 Targets:** The mission's outcome indicators for June 2026 include the establishment of **bamboo product trading centres** in seven forest zones and a **marketing information system** to formalize the trade.[18] This moves the sector from unorganized artisanal work to a structured agro-industry.

3. Ecological Restoration: Forests, Wetlands, and Carbon Sinks

Moving beyond industrial decarbonization, the government's 2026 agenda places heavy emphasis on the restoration of natural ecosystems to act as carbon sinks and biodiversity refuges.

3.1 Nagar Van Yojana (Urban Forest Scheme)

As urbanization accelerates, the **Nagar Van Yojana** aims to create "urban lungs" within city limits.

3.1.1 Strategic Expansion

- **Target:** The scheme initially targeted 400 Nagar Vans by 2025 but has been expanded to develop **1,000 Nagar Vans by 2027**.[19]
- **Scope:** Projects cover cities with Municipal Corporations, Councils, and ULBs. A typical Nagar Van ranges from **10 hectares to 50 hectares**.[21]

3.1.2 Funding Mechanics via CAMPA

The scheme is funded through the **National Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA)**.

- **Grant Norms:** The Ministry provides a one-time grant of **₹4 lakh per hectare** for fencing, soil conservation, and plantation activities.[21]
- **Cap:** The maximum grant is capped at **₹2 crore per Nagar Van**.[22]
- **Operational Flow:** Funds flow from the National Authority to State Forest Development Agencies (SFDAs). The release is typically tranched (e.g., 70% initially), contingent on utilization certificates.[22]
- **Components:** Beyond trees, the scheme funds biodiversity parks, *Smriti Vans* (memorial forests), butterfly conservatories, and herbal gardens, turning these forests into centers for environmental education.[21]

3.2 National Mission for a Green India (GIM)

One of the eight missions under the NAPCC, GIM focuses on the *quality* of forest cover, not just quantity.

3.2.1 Landscape Approach

- **Objective:** To improve forest/tree cover on 5 million hectares and improve quality on another 5 million hectares.

- **Carbon Sink Goal:** Sequestering an additional 2.5 to 3.0 billion tonnes of CO2 equivalent by 2030.[23]
- **Convergence:** GIM relies heavily on convergence with **MGNREGS** (for labor) and CAMPA (for material) to maximize per-hectare investment. The mission utilizes a "bottom-up" approach where Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs) draft micro-plans.[24]
- **Budget:** The total estimated cost for the 10-year period (2021-30) is **₹12,190 crore**.[23]

3.3 MISHTI (Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats and Tangible Incomes)

Launched to protect coastal communities from climate disasters, MISHTI focuses on mangrove reforestation.

3.3.1 Operational Details

- **Target:** Plantation of mangroves over **540 sq. km** across 11 States and 2 Union Territories.[25]
- **Funding Model:** A convergence model where the Centre bears **80%** of the cost and State Governments bear **20%**.[25]
- **Tangible Incomes:** The scheme explicitly links conservation to livelihoods. It promotes aquaculture (e.g., crab farming) and eco-tourism within mangrove ecosystems to give local communities a financial stake in their protection.[26]
- **Status in 2026:** States like Gujarat have already planted 190 sq. km, emerging as leaders in implementation.[25]

3.4 Amrit Dharohar Scheme

This scheme targets the conservation of **Ramsar Sites** (wetlands of international importance).

3.4.1 Duration and Key Pillars

- **Timeline:** The scheme is implemented for three years, concluding in **June 2026**.[27]
- **Pillars:**
  1. **Species Conservation:** Developing biodiversity inventories.
  2. **Nature Tourism:** Shifting from mass tourism to high-value nature tourism. Training local youth as nature guides is a core activity.[28]
  3. **Wetlands Carbon:** Establishing protocols to measure and inventory the carbon stock of wetlands, paving the way for future carbon credit generation from these ecosystems.[27]

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4. Market Mechanisms: Pricing Pollution and Ecology

In 2026, India's environmental policy has matured to include sophisticated market-based

instruments.

4.1 Carbon Credit Trading Scheme (CCTS)

The CCTS establishes a mandatory domestic carbon market, transitioning from the earlier Perform, Achieve, and Trade (PAT) scheme.

4.1.1 Compliance Mechanism

- **Obligated Entities:** By 2026, the scheme covers **490 entities** across hard-to-abate sectors. Initially covering cement, steel, and aluminum, it has expanded to include **Textiles, Petroleum Refineries, Petrochemicals, and Secondary Aluminum**.[29]
- **Targets:** Greenhouse Gas Emission Intensity (GEI) targets are notified for compliance years 2025-26 and 2026-27.
- **Trading:** Entities that overachieve their targets earn **Carbon Credit Certificates (CCCs)**. Those who fail must purchase CCCs from the market.
- **Banking:** Unlimited banking of credits is allowed to provide flexibility, but borrowing from future years is prohibited.[31]
- **Regulator:** The Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) acts as the administrator, while the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) regulates the trading on power exchanges.[31]

4.2 Green Credit Programme (GCP)

Distinct from CCTS, the GCP is a voluntary mechanism incentivizing "environmentally positive actions."

4.2.1 Voluntary Market Design

- **Scope:** It covers activities like tree plantation, water conservation, sustainable agriculture, and waste management.
- **Compensatory Afforestation (CA):** A critical application in 2026 is the use of Green Credits for CA compliance. Project developers (e.g., highways, mines) can purchase Green Credits generated from afforestation projects to meet their legal obligations for forest diversion. This creates a "land bank" of degraded forest land available for restoration by private and public entities.[32]
- **Administrator:** The **Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE)** manages the Green Credit Registry.[34]

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5. Human Capital: Skilling for the Green Economy

A net-zero economy requires a net-zero workforce. The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) has aligned its flagship schemes to this reality.

5.1 Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY)

The PMKVY has evolved through multiple iterations to address the skills gap.

5.1.1 PMKVY 4.0 (FY 2022-26)

- **Paradigm Shift:** Moving away from classroom-based training, PMKVY 4.0 emphasizes **On-Job Training (OJT)**. It partners with industries to train candidates on the shop floor, ensuring relevance.[35]
- **Green Jobs:** The scheme includes specialized course modules for green roles.
- **Status:** It continues to enroll candidates in 2026, with a focus on clearing the backlog of certifications and ensuring placement linkage.[35]

5.1.2 PMKVY 5.0 (2026 Onwards)

- **Future Outlook:** While not fully launched, snippets indicate PMKVY 5.0 will focus heavily on **Industry 4.0** and high-end tech skills (AI for Energy, Green Hydrogen handling) to support the NGHM and PLI schemes.[36]

5.2 Skill Council for Green Jobs (SCGJ)

The SCGJ is the nodal body for defining the curriculum for the green transition.

5.2.1 Qualification Packs (QPs) Active in 2026

The SCGJ has developed and standardized training for specific roles:

- **Solar:** *Solar PV Installer (Suryamitra)* (SGJ/Q0101), *Rooftop Solar Grid Engineer* (SGJ/Q0106).
- **Waste Management:** *E-Waste Recycling Entrepreneur* (SGJ/Q0202), *Waste Optimization Professional*.[37]
- **Clean Cooking:** *Improved Cookstove Installer* (SGJ/Q2101).
- **Hydrogen:** New QPs are being rolled out for hydrogen handling and safety protocols.[39]

5.3 Inclusive Skilling: Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS)

- **Focus:** Vocational training for non-literates and school dropouts in rural areas.
- **Digital Integration:** In 2026, JSS has integrated **Digital Financial Literacy** into its curriculum. This ensures that beneficiaries (e.g., self-employed tailors or food processors) can use digital payments and access credit, bridging the digital divide.[40]
- **Reach:** 289 JSS units operate across the country, with over 82% female beneficiaries.[41]

5.4 Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY)

- **Status:** Information indicates that DDU-GKY is undergoing a transition or restructuring in 2026, with some programs postponed or legacy data being migrated to new portals (Kaushal Bharat). This suggests a consolidation phase before a potential relaunch or

merger with newer skilling missions.[42]

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6. Green Entrepreneurship and Financing

To catalyze innovation, the government provides specific financial instruments for green startups and MSMEs.

6.1 MSME Green Financing Schemes

The Ministry of MSME and SIDBI run targeted schemes to lower the cost of capital for green projects.

6.1.1 MSE-GIFT (Green Investment and Financing for Transformation)

- **Objective:** To help MSMEs adopt green technologies (e.g., solar rooftops, energy-efficient machinery).
- **Incentive:** It offers **Interest Subvention of 2%** per annum for 5 years on term loans up to ₹2 crores.
- **Risk Sharing:** A risk-sharing facility (RSF) covers collateral-free loans, encouraging banks to lend to perceived "risky" green projects.[44]

6.1.2 MSE-SPICE (Scheme for Promotion and Investment in Circular Economy)

- **Focus:** Circular economy projects like recycling units or waste-to-energy plants.
- **Mechanism:** It provides a capital subsidy (typically 25%) to reduce the payback period for these capital-intensive projects. The scheme is operational until 2026-27 with an outlay of approx. ₹478 crore.[45]

6.2 Startup India Seed Fund Scheme (SISFS)

- **Relevance:** While sector-agnostic, the scheme prioritizes green startups.
- **Funding:** Grants of up to **₹20 lakhs** for proof of concept and up to **₹50 lakhs** for commercialization via convertible debentures. This early-stage capital is crucial for hardware-heavy green tech startups.[47]

6.3 TIDE 2.0 (Technology Incubation and Development of Entrepreneurs)

- **Managed by:** MeitY (Ministry of Electronics and IT).
- **Thematic Area:** "Environment and Clean Tech" is a core theme.
- **Support:** It supports startups using emerging tech (IoT, AI, Blockchain) for environmental solutions. Grants (EiR up to ₹4 Lakhs, Grant up to ₹7 Lakhs) are disbursed through 51 incubators.[48]

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7. Cooperative Federalism: State-Specific Initiatives

States are implementing central mandates with their own "top-up" incentives, creating a competitive environment for green investment.

7.1 Uttar Pradesh: Green Hydrogen Policy

- **Capital Subsidy:** UP offers a massive capital subsidy of up to **40%** for the first 5 projects (capped at ₹225 Cr) and **30%** for subsequent ones.
- **Land:** Government land provided at nominal rates (₹1/acre/year for PSUs).
- **Power:** 100% exemption on electricity duty and transmission charges for 10 years.[50]

7.2 Gujarat: Renewable Energy Leadership

- **Surya Ghar Success:** Gujarat leads in rooftop solar, driven by the *Surya Ghar* scheme. The state provides a seamless "digital" experience for subsidy disbursement.
- **Land Policy:** The state facilitates mega-parks (e.g., Khavda) with streamlined allotment.
- **Subsidy:** Fixed subsidies per kW (e.g., ₹30,000/kW for small systems) are directly credited to beneficiaries.[51]

7.3 Tamil Nadu: Circular Economy Investment Policy 2026

- **Focus:** Recycling-based industries (textile, auto, e-waste).
- **Incentives:** 10% capital subsidy on fixed assets (capped at ₹3 crore) and payroll subsidies for green jobs.
- **Infrastructure:** SIPCOT is developing "low-carbon industrial parks" with shared recycling infrastructure.[53]

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8. Conclusion

The year 2026 marks the maturation of India’s sustainability policy. The transition from "announcement" to "implementation" is visible across all sectors.

- **Energy:** The NGHM and PM-KUSUM are actively building the physical infrastructure for a post-fossil fuel economy.
- **Ecology:** MISHTI and Nagar Van are institutionalizing the value of natural capital.
- **Economy:** CCTS and PM-PRANAM are successfully utilizing market mechanisms and fiscal federalism to price externalities and incentivize behavioral change.
- **People:** PMKVY and SCGJ ensure that the Indian workforce is not left behind in this transition.

For stakeholders—investors, policymakers, and entrepreneurs—the roadmap is clear: the Indian state has aligned its considerable fiscal and regulatory power behind the green

transition, creating a stable, long-term environment for sustainable growth.

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Table 1: Funding Allocation for National Green Hydrogen Mission Pilot Projects

Sector	Allocation (₹ Crore)	Active Period	Objective
Low Carbon Steel	455	Up to 2029-30	Replacement of coking coal with H2 in DRI
Mobility	496	Up to 2025-26	Heavy-duty trucking & inter-city buses
Shipping	115	Up to 2025-26	Green Ammonia bunkers & retrofitting
Total Pilot Outlay	**1,466**		

Table 2: Financial Assistance Norms for Key Afforestation Schemes

Scheme	Grant Norm	Funding Source	2026/27 Target
Nagar Van Yojana	₹4 Lakh / Hectare	CAMPA	1,000 Urban Forests
MISHTI	80:20 (Centre:State)	MGNREGS + CAMPA	540 sq. km Mangroves
Green India Mission	Varies by Intervention	GIM Budget	Quality improvement of 5M ha

Table 3: PM-KUSUM Component Breakdown

Component	Description	Incentive / CFA
Component A	Decentralized Solar (Ground/Stilt)	PPA with DISCOM (Feed-in Tariff)
Component B	Off-grid Solar Pumps	30% Centre + 30% State Subsidy
Component C	Grid-connected Pumps (Solarization)	30% CFA; Surplus power sale to Grid

Table 4: Key Green Skill Qualification Packs (SCGJ)

Job Role	Code	Focus Area
Solar PV Installer (Suryamitra)	SGJ/Q0101	Installation & Maintenance
Rooftop Solar Grid Engineer	SGJ/Q0106	Grid Integration & Safety
E-Waste Recycling Entrepreneur	SGJ/Q0202	Circular Economy Business
Improved Cookstove Installer	SGJ/Q2101	Clean Cooking Solutions

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The 2026 India Sustainability & Skilling Masterfile: Active Government Schemes, Data & Direct Links

Document Status: Live & Active for FY 2025-26

Coverage: Central Sector & Centrally Sponsored Schemes

Purpose: Training Data for LLM / Reference for Policymakers & Entrepreneurs

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1. Sustainability & Energy Transition

Schemes focused on renewable energy, waste-to-wealth, and carbon reduction.

1.1. PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana

This is the flagship residential solar scheme for 2026, targeting 1 crore households.

- **Objective:** Provide free electricity (up to 300 units) via rooftop solar and allow selling of surplus power.
- **Subsidy Structure (2026):**
  - **1 kW System:** ~₹30,000 subsidy.
  - **2 kW System:** ~₹60,000 subsidy.
  - **3 kW System:** ~₹78,000 subsidy (Fixed cap for systems >3 kW).
- **Financing:** Collateral-free loans available at Repo Rate + 0.5% (approx. 7%).
- **Official Portal:** [suspicious link removed]

1.2. PM E-DRIVE (PM Electric Drive Revolution in Innovative Vehicle Enhancement)

Replacing the FAME-II scheme, PM E-DRIVE is the active mobility scheme valid until March 31, 2026.

- **Outlay:** ₹10,900 Crore.
- **Incentives (e-Vouchers):**
  - **e-2W (Two Wheelers):** ₹2,500 - ₹5,000 per kWh of battery capacity. Cap: ₹10,000/vehicle.
  - **e-3W (Three Wheelers):** ₹5,000 per kWh. Targeted at commercial autorickshaws.
  - **e-Trucks:** Incentives for scrapping old trucks and buying electric ones.
  - **e-Buses:** ₹4,391 Cr allocated for public transport agencies.
- **Official Portal:** https://pmedrive.heavyindustries.gov.in

1.3. National Green Hydrogen Mission (NGHM)

- **Program Name:** SIGHT (Strategic Interventions for Green Hydrogen Transition).
- **Objective:** Production of 5 Million Metric Tonnes (MMT) of Green Hydrogen by 2030.
- **Financial Incentives:**
  - **Component I:** Incentives for domestic **Electrolyser Manufacturing** (₹4,440 Cr).
  - **Component II:** Direct subsidy for **Green Hydrogen Production** (₹13,050 Cr).
- **Pilot Projects:** Funding available for using Green Hydrogen in **Steel** (₹455 Cr), **Shipping** (₹115 Cr), and **Transport** (₹496 Cr).
- **Official Portal:** https://nghm.mnre.gov.in

1.4. GOBARdhan (Galvanizing Organic Bio-Agro Resources Dhan)

- **Focus:** Converting cattle dung/agri-waste into Biogas/CBG (Compressed Biogas).
- **Key Benefit: Market Development Assistance (MDA)** of ₹1,500 per MT for the sale of Fermented Organic Manure (FOM) produced from biogas plants.
- **Support:** Financial assistance of up to ₹50 Lakh per district for community clusters.
- **Official Portal:** https://gobardhan.sbm.gov.in

1.5. PM-PRANAM

- **Full Name:** Programme for Restoration, Awareness, Nourishment and

Amelioration of Mother Earth.

- **Mechanism:** Incentivizes States to reduce chemical fertilizer usage. 50% of the subsidy savings are passed back to the State as a grant.
- **Usage:** States use these funds to create assets for organic farming and alternative fertilizers.
- **Link (Dept of Fertilizers):** https://fert.nic.in

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2. Green Skill Development

Specialized technical training for the green economy.

2.1. Green Skill Development Programme (GSDP)

Managed by the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF&CC) utilizing ENVIS Hubs.

- **Target:** Skilling youth in environment and forest sectors for employment/self-employment.
- **Active Courses (2026):**
  - Pollution Monitors (Air/Water/Soil).
  - Effluent Treatment Plant (ETP/STP) Operation.
  - Waste Management Specialists.
  - Bamboo Crafts & Livelihood.
  - Parataxonomy (Biodiversity identification).
- **Official Portal:** http://gsdp-envis.gov.in

2.2. Suryamitra Skill Development Programme

- **Implementation:** National Institute of Solar Energy (NISE).
- **Course Details:** 600-hour residential training for ITI/Diploma holders to become **Solar PV Installers**.
- **Employment:** Mandatory for vendors under PM-Surya Ghar to employ certified Suryamitras.
- **Official Portal:** https://suryamitra.nise.res.in

2.3. Skill Council for Green Jobs (SCGJ) Initiatives

- **Role:** The awarding body for green certifications.
- **Key Qualification Packs (QPs):**
  - Green Hydrogen Technician.
  - Solar Proposal Evaluation Specialist.
  - Improved Cookstove Installer.

    - Agri-Residue Aggregator (Biomass).
- **Official Portal:** https://sscgj.in

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3. Skill Development (Financial, Technical, Leadership)

Broader human capital schemes with specific components for inclusion and leadership.

3.1. Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) 4.0

- **Focus:** Industry 4.0, On-the-Job Training (OJT), and coding/AI skills.
- **Components:**
    - **Short Term Training (STT):** 200-600 hours for fresh skilling.
    - **Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL):** Certification for workforce with existing skills.
- **Financial Norms:** Base training cost ~₹49/hour (Category I trades). Payouts linked to certification and placement.
- **Official Portal:** https://www.skillindiadigital.gov.in

3.2. National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS 2.0)

- **Objective:** Promoting apprenticeship by sharing cost with employers.
- **Financial Benefit:** Govt shares **25% of the stipend** payable to the apprentice, capped at **₹1,500 per month**.
- **Mechanism:** Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) to the apprentice's bank account.
- **Official Portal:** https://www.apprenticeshipindia.gov.in

3.3. Financial Literacy Initiatives (RBI/NCFE)

- **National Centre for Financial Education (NCFE):** Implements the **Financial Education Programme for Adults (FEPA)** targeting farmers, SHGs, and rural youth.
- **Centre for Financial Literacy (CFL):** Pilot project by RBI/NABARD to set up literacy centers at the block level.
- **RBI Financial Literacy Week 2026:** Theme focused on "Financial Literacy - Women's Prosperity" (Feb 2026).
- **Official Portal:** https://ncfe.org.in

3.4. Rashtriya Yuva Sashaktikaran Karyakram (RYSK)

- **Objective:** Leadership development for youth (15-29 years).
- **Components:**

    - **National Youth Corps (NYC):** Volunteers deployed for nation-building activities (Honorarium ~₹5000/mo).
    - **National Young Leaders Programme (NYLP):** Leadership training, Shramadaan (voluntary labour), and community service.
- **Official Portal:** https://yas.nic.in

3.5. PM VIKAS (Pradhan Mantri Virasat Ka Samvardhan)

- **Target:** Minorities and Artisan communities.
- **Leadership Component: "Women Leadership and Entrepreneurship"** tracks to train minority women in business management and leadership roles.
- **Official Portal:** https://pmvikas.minorityaffairs.gov.in

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4. Afforestation & Plantation

Schemes for ecological restoration and carbon sinks.

4.1. Nagar Van Yojana (Urban Forests)

- **Target:** Creation of 1,000 Nagar Vans by 2027.
- **Funding:** Paid from **CAMPA** funds.
- **Grant: ₹4 Lakh per hectare** for development and maintenance.
- **Cap:** Maximum grant of **₹2 Crore** per project (approx 50 hectares).
- **Requirements:** Minimum 10 hectares area; 2/3rd area must have dense tree cover.
- **Official Portal:** https://naeb.nic.in (under MoEFCC)

4.2. MISHTI (Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats & Tangible Incomes)

- **Objective:** Mangrove reforestation along the coastline and salt pans.
- **Funding Model:** Convergence of **MGNREGS (80%)** for labor and **CAMPA (20%)** for material/saplings.
- **Official Portal:** https://nationalcampa.nic.in

4.3. Green Credit Programme (GCP)

- **Concept:** A market mechanism where entities earn "Green Credits" for voluntary tree plantation on degraded land.
- **Key 2026 Feature:** Green Credits can be used to offset **Compensatory Afforestation (CA)** obligations, giving them high monetary value for industries requiring forest land diversion.
- **Registration:** Land banks and plantation projects must be registered on the

portal.
- **Official Portal:** https://moefcc-gcp.in

4.4. National Bamboo Mission

- **Goal:** To increase the area under bamboo plantation in non-forest Government and private lands.
- **Subsidy:** 50% subsidy for bamboo plantation (different rates for different species/spacing).
- **Official Portal:** https://nbm.nic.in

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5. Green Entrepreneurship

Funding and support for startups and MSMEs in the green sector.

5.1. Bio-RIDE (Biotechnology Research Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development)

- **Launch:** Late 2024/Early 2025 (Fully active 2026).
- **Focus:** Biomanufacturing, Bio-foundries, and Synthetic Biology.
- **Grants:**
    - **Startup Grant:** Up to **₹50 Lakhs** for proof-of-concept.
    - **PACE (Promoting Academic Research Conversion to Enterprise):** Funding for validation and scale-up.
- **Official Portal:** https://dbtindia.gov.in

5.2. MSE-GIFT (Green Investment and Financing for Transformation)

- **Agency:** SIDBI.
- **Objective:** Financing Green MSMEs.
- **Incentive: Interest Subvention of 2%** on green loans.
- **Risk Sharing:** Provides a credit guarantee to banks to encourage lending to green projects without collateral.
- **Official Portal:** https://www.sidbi.in

5.3. MSE-SPICE (Scheme for Promotion and Investment in Circular Economy)

- **Focus:** Circular Economy projects (Waste-to-wealth, Recycling).
- **Benefit:** Capital subsidy (typically 25%) for setting up recycling or circular economy units.

- **Official Portal:** https://green.msme.gov.in

5.4. PM Vishwakarma (Green Tools Component)

- **Target:** Artisans (Potters, Carpenters, Boat makers).
- **Green Aspect: ₹15,000 Toolkit Incentive** specifically for modern, energy-efficient tools (e.g., electric wheels for potters) that reduce drudgery and emissions.
- **Loans:** Collateral-free up to ₹3 Lakh at 5% interest.
- **Official Portal:** https://pmvishwakarma.gov.in

5.5. TIDE 2.0 (Technology Incubation and Development of Entrepreneurs)

- **Ministry:** MeitY.
- **Thematic Area:** Environment & Clean Tech (IoT, AI for Green Energy).
- **Grants:**
  - **EiR (Entrepreneur-in-Residence):** ₹4 Lakh.
  - **Grant-in-Aid:** Up to ₹7 Lakh for prototype development.
- **Official Portal:** https://meitystartuphub.in

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6. Master Reference Table for LLM Training (Data Extraction)

Category	Scheme ID	Scheme Name	Key Data Point / Incentive	Official URL
Sustainability	SCH_001	**PM-Surya Ghar**	Subsidy: ₹78,000 for 3kW system	pmsuryaghar.gov.in
Sustainability	SCH_002	**PM E-DRIVE**	Outlay: ₹10,900 Cr; e-2W subsidy: ₹5k/kWh	pmedrive.heavyindustries.gov.in

Sustainability	SCH_003	**Nat. Green Hydrogen**	Target: 5 MMT production; SIGHT incentive	nghm.mnre.gov.in
Sustainability	SCH_004	**GOBARdhan**	MDA: ₹1,500/MT for organic manure	gobardhan.sbm.gov.in
Green Skilling	SCH_005	**GSDP**	Training in Pollution Monitoring, ETP	gsdp-envis.gov.in
Green Skilling	SCH_006	**Suryamitra**	600-hr solar installer training	suryamitra.nise.res.in
Skilling	SCH_007	**PMKVY 4.0**	Base Cost: ₹49/hr; Industry 4.0 focus	skillindiadigital.gov.in
Skilling	SCH_008	**NAPS 2.0**	25% Stipend support (Max ₹1,500)	apprenticeshipindia.gov.in

Leadership	SCH_009	**RYSK / NYC**	Youth Volunteer Honorarium: ₹5,000/mo	yas.nic.in
Afforestation	SCH_010	**Nagar Van Yojana**	Grant: ₹4 Lakh/ha; Cap: ₹2 Cr	naeb.nic.in
Afforestation	SCH_011	**Green Credit Prog**	Credits tradable for Compensatory Afforestation	moefcc-gcp.in
Entrepreneurship	SCH_012	**Bio-RIDE**	Startup Grant: ₹50 Lakh	dbtindia.gov.in
Entrepreneurship	SCH_013	**MSE-GIFT**	2% Interest Subvention for Green Loans	sidbi.in
Entrepreneurship	SCH_014	**PM Vishwakarma**	₹15,000 Toolkit Voucher (Green Tools)	pmvishwakarma.gov.in