



Bihar's Greenhouse Gas Emission to Rise Five Times by 2070

Why in News?

According to the '**Climate Resilient and Low-Carbon Development Pathway**' report, Bihar's greenhouse gas emission is projected to increase 5.2 times by 2070, when India targets to achieve **net zero emission**.

Key Points

- The findings were in the report **drafted by the Bihar State Pollution Control Board (BSPCB)** in association with the **United Nations Environment Programme**.
 - The government of Bihar had initiated the process to prepare the strategy for a climate resilient and low-carbon development pathway in February 2021.
- The draft report states that:
 - Bihar's contribution to national emissions is about 3.3% of India's greenhouse gas emissions in 2018, lower than its share of national population (8.8%), even as they had doubled between 2005 and 2013.
 - The **energy sector was the highest emitter of greenhouse gases** with a contribution of 69% to the total in 2018, followed by agriculture, forest and other land use at 24%, waste management with 5% and industrial processing and product use at 2%.
 - If present trend continues, the state's emissions are projected to increase 5.2 times between 2020 and 2070.
 - The **energy sector will continue to be the highest emitter**, projected to contribute **93% of the total emissions**. Followed by construction (6%), transport (5%) and industries (5%).
 - The **dominance of the power sector in emissions** is because of the continued **dependence on coal for electricity generation**.
- Since most emissions are from the power sector, Bihar will need to **avoid opening new thermal power plants after 2030** to be consistent with India's net zero 2070 target.
 - Therefore, the state will need to secure long-term clean energy power purchase agreements with renewable energy-rich states.
 - In addition, the state will need to consider options like rooftop **solar panels**, **floating solar**, **agri-photovoltaics** and other decentralised forms of **renewable energy** proactively.
 - At the same time, end-use sectors of industry, transport and real estate will need to be electrified so that emissions from them are reduced through use of renewable energy.

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

- It is a leading global environmental authority established on **5th June 1972**.
- It sets the global environmental agenda, **promotes sustainable development** within the United Nations system, and serves as an authoritative advocate for **global environment protection**.

Net Zero Emission

- It is referred to as **carbon neutrality**, which does not mean that a country would bring down its

emissions to zero.

- It is a **state in which a country's emissions are compensated by the absorption and removal of greenhouse gases** from the atmosphere.
- More than 70 countries have promised to become Net Zero by the middle of the century i.e., by 2050.
- India has promised to cut its emissions to net zero by 2070 at the **conference of parties-26 (COP) summit**.

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