



Asia-Pacific Climate Report 2024

Source: [BS](#)

Why in News?

Recently, the [Asian Development Bank \(ADB\)](#) released its **Asia-Pacific (APAC) Climate Report 2024**, highlighting alarming economic impacts of [climate change on the Asia-Pacific region](#).



What are the Key Highlights of the Asia-Pacific Climate Report 2024?

- **Economic Impacts of Climate Change:**
 - Under high-end [greenhouse gas emissions](#), the APAC region could see a 17% reduction in [Gross Domestic Product \(GDP\)](#) by 2070.
 - By 2100, this figure may surge to 41% under high GHG emissions.
 - India may experience a 24.7% GDP decline by 2070. Bangladesh faces a potential 30.5% loss, while Vietnam could see a 30.2% reduction, and Indonesia a 26.8% decline.
- **Main Drivers of Economic Losses:**
 - **Sea Level Rise:** Up to 300 million people are at risk of [coastal flooding](#) due to [sea level rise](#) by 2070. Annual damages could climb to USD 3 trillion by 2070.
 - **Labour Productivity Decline:** The APAC region is expected to suffer a 4.9% GDP loss due to [reduced labour productivity](#), but **India's loss could be as high as 11.6%**.

- **Cooling Demands:** Rising temperatures could reduce regional GDP by 3.3%, while India's GDP may face a sharper decline of 5.1% due to [cooling requirements](#).
- **Climate Change Impact on Natural Disasters:**
 - **Riverine Flooding:** By 2070, annual [river flooding](#) could lead to USD 1.3 trillion in damages across the APAC region, impacting over 110 million people.
 - India's projected losses include residential damages exceeding USD 400 billion and commercial damages surpassing USD 700 billion.
 - **Storms and Rainfall:** Increased intensity of tropical storms and rainfall is expected to worsen floods and [landslides](#), especially in mountainous areas like the [India-China border](#), where [landslides may increase](#) by 30-70% under severe warming.
- **Implications for Forests and Ecosystems:** Climate change is projected to reduce forest productivity in the APAC region by 10-30% by 2070 under high-emission scenarios.
 - India faces losses over 25%, alongside Vietnam and Southeast Asia, while regions like China and Central Asia may see losses under 5%.
- **Steps Needed for Improvement:**
 - **Net-Zero Targets and Gaps:** 36 out of 44 economies in Asia have set [net-zero emission targets](#). However, only four countries have legally enshrined these targets, and most lack detailed plans.
 - India and China aim for 2070 and 2060 targets, lagging behind many [Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development \(OECD\)](#) economies, of which 32 out of 38 have net-zero targets and 23 are legally committed and many aiming for 2050.
 - To enhance its climate ambitions, developing Asia **requires clearer policies and increased financing support**, with institutions like ADB poised to assist in achieving these goals.
 - **Climate Finance:** The region needs USD 102-431 billion annually for climate adaptation, a significant leap from the USD 34 billion tracked from 2021 to 2022.
 - Greater private investment and enhanced policies are necessary to meet these targets. Enhanced recognition of climate risks and regulatory reforms can help attract private climate investment.
 - The report emphasises the need to accelerate adaptation responses and scale up adaptation-focused climate finance.
 - **Renewable Energy:** The report underscores the region's potential to leverage [renewable energy for a net-zero transition](#).
 - Embracing domestic and international carbon markets is highlighted as a cost-effective means for climate action.

Asian Development Bank (ADB)

- ADB is a **regional development bank** founded in **1966** to promote economic growth and **reduce poverty in Asia by providing loans**, technical assistance, and grants for projects in infrastructure, education, health care, and climate change.
 - ADB has 69 shareholding members including 49 from the Asia and Pacific region. **India, a founding member of ADB, is now ADB's fourth largest shareholder and its top borrower since 2010.**
- It is committed to **achieving a prosperous, inclusive, resilient, and sustainable Asia and the Pacific while sustaining its efforts to eradicate extreme poverty.**
- **Headquarters:** Manila, Philippines.

“ Asian Development Bank (ADB)

what is ADB?

- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) is a multilateral institution that aims to reduce poverty in Asia and the Pacific through environmentally sustainable growth.

When was it founded?

- The ADB was founded in 1966 and is headquartered in Mandaluyong, Philippines.

What is the spread of ADB?

- The ADB has 31 field offices around the world and 68 members, including 48 regional members and 19 non-regional members.

The ADB's work includes:

- Supporting projects in developing member countries that create economic and development impact
- Providing loans and technical assistance for various development activities
- Advisory services and knowledge support
- A Climate Change Action Plan that promotes a just transition to a low-carbon and climate-resilient future

India is a founding member.



UPSC Civil Services Examination, Previous Year Questions (PYQs)

Q. The Global Infrastructure Facility is a/an (2017)

- (a) ASEAN initiative to upgrade infrastructure in Asia and financed by credit from the Asian Development Bank.
- (b) World Bank collaboration that facilitates the preparation and structuring of complex infrastructure Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) to enable mobilization of private sector and institutional investor capital.
- (c) Collaboration among the major banks of the world working with the OECD and focused on expanding the set of infrastructure projects that have the potential to mobilize private investment.
- (d) UNCTAD funded initiative that seeks to finance and facilitate infrastructure development in the world.

Ans: (b)

US Sanctions Indian Firms for Supporting Russia's War Efforts

[Source: BS](#)

The United States imposed sanctions on nearly 400 entities and individuals, including 19 Indian firms and two Indian nationals, for allegedly aiding [Russia's war efforts in Ukraine](#).

- This action highlights the US effort to restrict Russia's military by limiting access to **critical technology** and supplies.
- Sanctions **restrict or terminate economic relations** and can include trade bans, asset freezes, and denial of access to financial systems.
 - Types of sanctions include comprehensive (e.g., US embargo on Cuba) or targeted (specific individuals or companies).
- **Global Mechanisms:** Sanctions can be imposed by individual countries or international bodies like the **United Nations**, although enforcement is carried out by member states.
 - Despite extensive sanctions, Russia's economy remains resilient, supported by **trade with nations like India and China**.
- Historically, India faced international trade restrictions after its **nuclear tests in 1974 and 1998**, India also sanctioned other nations.
 - India targeted **South Africa's apartheid regime(1946)**. More recently, **India revoked Pakistan's Most Favoured Nation (MFN) status in 2019** following a terrorist attack in Kashmir and **banned over 100 Chinese apps**, including **TikTok**, since 2021 after **India-China border clashes**.

Read more: [U.S.A's Position on CAATSA](#)

Civil Registration System (CRS) Mobile Application

Source:TH

Recently, the Union Home Minister launched [the Civil Registration System \(CRS\) mobile application](#) to integrate technology with governance.

- It is **developed by** the [Registrar General and Census Commissioner of India \(RGCCI\)](#) which is responsible for conducting the decadal **census** in India.
- The **application will streamline the registration process for births and deaths, ensuring a hassle-free experience** by allowing citizens to register these vital events at any time, from anywhere, and in their state's official language.
- **About CRS:**
 - The [Registration of Births and Deaths \(Amendment\) Act, 2023](#) mandates **digital registration of all births and deaths in India from 1st October 2023**, through the Centre's portal.
 - It will serve as a **single document for verifying date of birth** for services like school admissions, government jobs, and marriage registration.
 - A centralised database will **aid in updating the National Population Register (NPR) , ration cards, property registration, and electoral rolls**.
 - NPR data, **first collected in 2010 and updated in 2015**, includes details on 119 crore residents and is a precursor to the [National Register of Citizens](#) under [the Citizenship Act, 2019](#).

Read More: [Supreme Court Notice on Birth Registration](#)
