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### India's Transition from Coal

**Context:** A recent study by environmental think-tank iForest has revealed that India will need over a trillion dollars (approximately 84 lakh crore) in the next 30 years to transition away from coal mining and thermal power plants. This groundbreaking study emphasizes the scale of investment required to phase out coal dependency and underscores the necessity of a robust energy transition plan.

#### Key Findings of the Study:

- **Closure of Coal Mines and Thermal Power Plants:** The projected costs are primarily directed toward closing mines that collectively produce 1,315 million tonnes of coal per annum and phasing out coal-based thermal power plants with a capacity of 237.2 gigawatts.
- **Exclusion of New Investments:** The estimate notably excludes the investment required for establishing new green energy plants and infrastructure, which is anticipated to be in the trillions of dollars. It also does not account for the transition costs for industries like steel and cement that directly rely on coal.
- **Rehabilitation and Support Costs:** Associated costs will involve the rehabilitation and repurposing of closed coal mines and supporting nearly 60 lakh workers dependent on the coal economy. Specifically, the report mentions rehabilitation of 343,504 hectares of coal mining land and green repowering of 124,789 hectares at thermal power plant sites.

#### Breakdown of Transition Costs

The study categorizes transition costs into two main segments:

- **Green Energy Costs:** These account for approximately 52% of the total cost for transitioning and include expenses for building green energy plants, repowering existing thermal power stations with alternative energy sources, and upgrading the electricity grid.
- **Non-Energy Costs:** Comprising about 48% of the transition costs, these include “just transition costs,” which focus on supporting workers and communities in finding alternative livelihoods and diversifying the economy to create green jobs.

#### Current Coal Dependency and Employment:

- As of now, coal fulfills approximately 55% of India's commercial energy needs, and coal-based thermal power

plants account for over 70% of the country's electricity production. These sectors also employ a significant number of workers, directly and indirectly, contributing to the economic development of various districts.

- The report further highlights that there are 417 operational coal and lignite mines in India, with only 12 districts across nine states producing 72% of the nation's coal and lignite. Notably, Singrauli in Madhya Pradesh, Angul in Odisha, and Korba in Chhattisgarh contribute to 42% of India's total coal output.

### Global Hunger Index

**Context:** The Global Hunger Index (GHI), a tool used by international humanitarian agencies to measure and track hunger levels with GHI scores based on under-nourishment and child mortality indicators across 127 countries, has ranked India 105th, which places it under the “serious” category of the analysis.

#### India's rank in the Hunger Index in the last 10 years



#### Key Indicators Highlighted in the Report:

- India's 2024 Global Hunger Index (GHI) score of 27.3 reflects a serious level of hunger, underscoring critical public health challenges.
- The report indicates that 13.7% of the population is undernourished, highlighting issues with caloric intake.
- Alarming, 35.5% of children under five are stunted,

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and 18.7% are wasted, indicating both chronic and acute undernutrition.

- Additionally, the 2.9% child mortality rate before age five signifies the detrimental impact of inadequate nutrition and unhealthy living conditions.

### Role of These Indicators:

- These indicators point to a pressing need for comprehensive strategies to improve nutrition, enhance healthcare access, and address environmental factors that contribute to hunger. Tackling these issues will require collaborative efforts among government bodies, NGOs, and community organizations to ensure that vulnerable populations receive the necessary support for a healthier future.

### GHI Score Calculation:

- The Global Hunger Index (GHI) score is calculated on a 100-point scale, where a lower score indicates better conditions and zero hunger, while a higher score reflects more severe hunger.
- India's score of 27.3, resulting from the concerning indicators of undernourishment, child stunting, wasting, and child mortality, suggests significant challenges in addressing hunger.

### International and National Efforts:

- Addressing hunger requires both immediate humanitarian aid and long-term solutions. International and national efforts should focus on:
  - » **Food Security:** Ensuring access to sufficient and nutritious food for all.
  - » **Healthcare Access:** Expanding healthcare services, especially for children and pregnant women.
  - » **Sustainable Food Systems:** Promoting agricultural practices that support environmental sustainability and food availability.

### Solutions and Interventions:

- Solving these issues demands a multifaceted approach:
  - » **Government Initiatives:** Implementing policies that improve food security, nutrition programs, and social safety nets.
  - » **NGO and Community Efforts:** NGOs and local organizations should play an active role in supporting vulnerable populations through education, outreach, and direct assistance.
  - » **Collaborative Strategies:** Coordinated efforts

between governments, international agencies, and civil society are crucial for developing sustainable solutions.

## Guidelines for the Prevention and Regulation of Greenwashing

**Context:** To regulate matters relating to misleading advertisements which is prejudicial to the interest of public and consumers, Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA) has issued guidelines for Prevention and Regulation of Greenwashing and Misleading Environmental Claims to address the issue of greenwashing and misleading environmental claims.

### About Greenwashing:

- Greenwashing is the act of making false or misleading statements about the environmental benefits of a product or practice.
- It can be a way for companies to continue or expand their polluting as well as related harmful behaviors, all while gaming the system or profiting off well-intentioned, sustainably minded consumers.
- The term was coined back in 1986 in an essay by environmentalist and then student Jay Westerveld.

### Key Features of the Guidelines:

- **Clear Definitions:** The guidelines provide clear definitions of terms related to greenwashing and environmental claims, ensuring that both businesses and consumers have a common understanding.
- **Transparency Requirements:** Manufacturers and service providers are required to substantiate their environmental claims with credible evidence. This includes providing detailed information on the methodology and data used to support such claims.
- **Prohibition of Misleading Terms:** The use of vague or misleading terms such as "eco-friendly," "green," and "sustainable" without proper substantiation is sought to be prohibited.
- **Third-Party Certifications:** Third-Party Certifications are also accepted in substantiation of environmental claims.
- **Adequate Disclosures:** The companies are required to provide clear and accessible disclosures of material

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information. Claims must specify the aspect refer to (good, manufacturing process, packaging, etc.) and be supported by credible certification or reliable scientific evidence.

eco-friendliness.

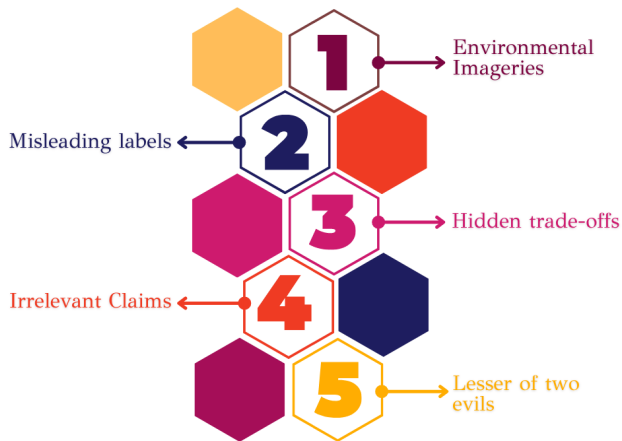
### Greenwashing:

- Greenwashing” means:
  - » Any deceptive or misleading practice, which includes concealing, omitting, or hiding relevant information, by exaggerating, making vague, false, or unsubstantiated environmental claims.
  - » Use of misleading words, symbols, or imagery, placing emphasis on positive environmental aspects while downplaying or concealing harmful attributes.

### Impact of Greenwashing:

- Misleading consumers:** Greenwashing can lead consumers to believe that a company is more environmentally friendly than it actually is. This can lead consumers to make choices that are harmful to the environment.
- Diverting resources:** Greenwashing can divert attention and resources away from genuine sustainability efforts.
- Encouraging harmful practices:** Greenwashing can encourage environmentally harmful practices by making it harder for consumers to support truly eco-friendly products and services.
- Diluting the term “green”:** Greenwashing can dilute the term “green” or “eco-friendly”, making it harder for consumers to distinguish between authentic sustainability efforts and marketing ploys.
- Exposing people to harmful products:** Greenwashing can expose consumers, employees, and the world in general to toxic, dangerous, and/or environmentally harmful products or production methods.

### TYPES OF GREENWASHING



### Key Definitions in the Guidelines

#### Environmental claims

- Environmental claims means any representation in any form regarding:
  - » Any goods (either in its entirety or as a component), the manufacturing process, packaging, the manner of use of the goods, or its disposal; or
  - » Any service (or any portion thereof) or the process involved in providing the service
  - » Suggesting environmentally friendly attributes aimed to convey a sense of environmental responsibility or

## Power Packed News

### Omar Abdullah took oath as Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir

- Recently, Omar Abdullah took oath as the Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir on 16 October 2024.
- National Conference leader Omar Abdullah was sworn in along with the Council of Ministers by Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha at the Sher-e-Kashmir International Convention Center in Srinagar.
- His party National Conference won the recently held assembly elections, which were held after a gap of 10 years. In these elections, the National Conference won 42 out of 90 assembly seats.
- Earlier, Jammu and Kashmir assembly elections were held in 2014.

### Announcement of setting up of three new AI centres of excellence

- Recently on October 15, Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan announced three new artificial intelligence (AI)

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centres of excellence in New Delhi, which will focus on healthcare, agriculture, and sustainable cities.

- These centres will be set up at AIIMS Delhi, IIT Ropar, and IIT Kanpur.
- The centre located at AIIMS Delhi will collaborate with IIT Delhi in the field of healthcare. The centre located at IIT Ropar will focus on the development of agriculture and the centre located at IIT Kanpur will develop solutions for sustainable cities.
- The main objective of these centres is to promote research and innovation, thereby improving the economy and the welfare of the people.
- These centres of excellence will be run in collaboration with industry partners and startups, which can be implemented on a large scale. New research will be done in these centres, modern technology will be developed, and scalable solutions will be created.
- Their establishment was planned in the Budget 2023-24 to rapidly promote the development of AI in India and make it useful for the country.



### NSG Raising Day

- On the occasion of National Security Guard (NSG) Raising Day, Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressed his appreciation for the dedicated service of NSG jawans and their families. The Prime Minister praised the unwavering dedication, courage, and determination of NSG personnel in protecting India against various threats, calling their bravery unparalleled.

#### About National Security Guard (NSG):

- The NSG, often referred to as the “Black Cats” due to their distinct black uniforms, was established following a Cabinet decision in 1984 and officially came into existence on September 22, 1986, after receiving presidential assent.
- The unit was created to combat terrorism and ensure internal security in India.
- Over the years, the NSG has played a crucial role in several high-profile counter-terrorism and hostage rescue operations, further solidifying its reputation as a vital component of India’s national security framework .



### 3D-Printed Post Office

- Pune is set to become home to India’s second post office, after Bengaluru, constructed using innovative 3D printing technology, with completion expected in under three months.
- Unlike traditional buildings, this new post office will not feature vertical pillars, bricks, or steel, utilizing a unique type of cement specifically designed for 3D printing.
- The site for the new facility has been identified in Sahakar Nagar, although the tendering process is still pending. Operations at the post office are anticipated to commence next year, according to Dattatray Varadhi, Assistant Superintendent of the Pune Region Post Office.
- The first 3D-printed post office in India was inaugurated in Bengaluru last year, completed in just 43 days—two days ahead of schedule—demonstrating significant time savings compared to conventional construction methods, which typically



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require 6-10 months.

- The 3D printing technique is recognized for being cost-effective and environmentally friendly, where designs are created using computer programs and executed by printers that deposit cement or other materials to shape the structure.

### e-Migrate V2.0

- The Indian government has launched e-Migrate V2.0, a web portal and mobile app aimed at streamlining overseas employment processes for Indian workers. This platform enhances transparency and safety in migration by simplifying registration, recruitment tracking, and access to authorized employers. It also includes a grievance redressal mechanism to address the concerns of workers abroad.
- Launched by External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar and Labour Minister Mansukh Mandaviya, e-Migrate reflects the government's commitment to ensuring safer and more inclusive labor mobility, protecting Indian workers' welfare, especially those in vulnerable situations.

#### Key Features:

- 24/7 multilingual helpline support
- Integration with Digilocker for secure and paperless document submission
- A job marketplace for overseas employment
- Collaboration with Common Service Centres (CSCs) to extend services to rural areas
- Zero transaction fee digital payments via State Bank of India
- This initiative aligns with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 10, promoting responsible migration.
- By offering secure migration pathways and enhancing accessibility to employment opportunities, the e-Migrate V2.0 platform marks a significant milestone in supporting Indian emigrants.



**EAM JAISHANKAR LAUNCHES  
E-MIGRATE V2.0 PORTAL**

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