



Concept Note

State Level Conference

Facilitating Decarbonisation in Jharkhand

05 December 2023, Ranchi

Motivation

Climate change poses a global threat, and addressing it requires the collective effort of regions, states, and multiple stakeholders. Jharkhand, known for its mineral wealth and industries, plays a significant role in India's emissions landscape. Jharkhand faces several pressing issues that urge for a dedicated roadmap for decarbonisation. The state has several energy-intensive industrial activities that lead to a considerable amount of GHG emissions. Understanding the sources and scale of these emissions is essential for developing effective mitigation strategies.

Moreover, a critical challenge is the dominance of fossil fuels in the state's energy mix. Coal and other non-renewable energy sources are extensively utilised for power generation, industrial energy consumption and transport. Transitioning to cleaner, sustainable energy sources while meeting the energy demands of industries poses a formidable task.

The presence of hard-to-abate industries further complicates the decarbonisation journey. Sectors such as steel, cement, and ammonia production are difficult to decarbonise due to the nature of their processes. Developing sustainable solutions for these industries is pivotal to reducing emissions. Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) are a significant part of Jharkhand's industrial landscape. However, uncertainties surround their GHG emissions, making it challenging to estimate and mitigate their carbon footprint.

Addressing these uncertainties is critical for a comprehensive decarbonisation plan. Precise data collection and analysis are fundamental for any effective decarbonisation strategy for the state. Jharkhand faces challenges in data infrastructure and methodologies. These limitations hinder planning and monitoring progress towards decarbonisation goals.

Conference Objectives

Set in this context, a state-level conference is being organised by the Task Force-Sustainable Just Transition & Green Hydrogen Mission (Government of Jharkhand) and its technical partner Centre for Environment and Energy Development (CEED) on 05 December 2023 in Ranchi.

The conference seeks to gather key stakeholders to discuss the challenges and opportunities in developing a decarbonisation strategy for Jharkhand. Firstly, it seeks to raise awareness about the urgent need for decarbonisation in the state. The conference also intends to provide insights into the current status of GHG emissions and energy consumption in Jharkhand. Understanding the baseline situation is crucial for informed decision-making and policy development. Developing

strategies to improve data accuracy and reliability is essential for developing a comprehensive decarbonisation plan.

In addition, the event will facilitate discussions on innovative approaches and technologies for transitioning to cleaner energy sources, especially within energy-intensive industries. Finding sustainable solutions for hard-to-abate industries is another key focus, as these sectors represent a significant portion of emissions.

Furthermore, the conference will highlight the importance of overcoming data collection challenges and adopting robust analysis methods. Accurate data is the foundation for informed decision-making and measuring progress.

Finally, this conference will serve as a platform for promoting collaboration and coordination between various state departments, industries, research institutions, and civil society. A holistic decarbonisation plan requires cooperation among diverse stakeholders to ensure a unified approach.

The specific objectives of the conference are:

- To increase awareness and build consensus on the need for industrial decarbonisation and share best practices and innovative solutions.
- To facilitate knowledge exchange among diverse stakeholders and brainstorm strategies on the pathways and the way forward to support decarbonisation efforts.

The Way Forward

Success in Jharkhand's decarbonisation strategy heavily depends on inter-departmental collaboration. State departments responsible for energy, environment, industry, and transport must work together to align policies, regulations, and incentives with decarbonisation goals.

Collaboration should also extend to academic and research institutions to provide the necessary expertise and data analysis support. Engagement from the private sector is equally vital. Industries in Jharkhand must actively participate in adopting cleaner technologies and reducing their carbon footprint.

The government can play a role by providing incentives and regulatory frameworks that encourage sustainable practices and investments in renewable energy sources. Civil society and non-governmental organisations can contribute by raising awareness, advocating for decarbonisation policies, and holding stakeholders accountable for their commitments. Public support is essential for driving change and ensuring that decarbonisation efforts are both effective and equitable.

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