



केन्द्रीय माध्यमिक शिक्षा बोर्ड

(शिक्षा मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार के अधीन एक स्वायत्त संगठन)

CENTRAL BOARD OF SECONDARY EDUCATION

(An Autonomous Organisation Under the Ministry of Education, Govt. of India)



CBSE/ACAD/AP&AD(AC)/2026

Date: 04.06.2026

Circular No: Acad-36/2026

All the Heads of Schools affiliated to CBSE

Subject: Observance of World Environment Day & Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam 3.0 campaign - reg.

World Environment Day is observed every year on 5th June across the globe to promote awareness and action for environmental protection. The theme for World Environment Day 2026 is “**Climate Change.**”

In alignment with the vision of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 and the initiatives under Eco Clubs for Mission LiFE, all schools are requested to organize following activities promoting environmental awareness and sustainable practices among students.

1. Green Summer Camps (5th June – 30th June 2026)

Schools are requested to organize Green Summer Camps under the aegis of Eco Clubs for Mission LiFE during the above-mentioned period. These camps may include sustainability education, outdoor learning, and nature-based activities centered around the following seven themes of Mission LiFE:

1. Adopt Healthy Lifestyle
2. Adopt Sustainable Food Systems
3. Reduce E-Waste
4. Reduce Waste
5. Save Energy
6. Save Water
7. Say No to Single Use Plastic

Adequate number of days may be devoted to each of the above seven themes. A list of suggestive activities based on these themes is enclosed as **Annexure-A**.

2. Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam 3.0 Campaign

The third edition of the nationwide tree plantation drive, Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam 3.0 will be conducted from 5th June to 30th September 2026. The plantation data may be uploaded on the portal. In case adequate space is not available within the school, the plantation drive may be undertaken on available space at home, roadside, appropriate public space, road leading to school. Steps may be taken to ensure the survival, maintenance and periodic monitoring of saplings planted by students during the current and previous campaigns.

All activities conducted during this period may be uploaded on the Eco Clubs for Mission LiFE portal: <https://ecoclubs.education.gov.in/>

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Further, students and teachers may also be encouraged to take the Mission LiFE Pledge through the same portal.

In addition to the same, schools are also requested to submit the details of the activities on the Eco Clubs for Mission LiFE portal as well as on the google link: <https://forms.gle/goxVftbiMPDH5xzH6>

Further, in order to sensitize students regarding the significance of NDCs and India's Climate commitments, grade-wise write-up and infographics on India's NDCs are enclosed as **Annexure-B**.

You are requested to ensure effective implementation and wide dissemination of the above activities to maximize participation and strengthen environmental consciousness among students.

With best wishes!

(Dr. Praggya M. Singh)
Professor & Director (Academics)

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Copy to the respective Heads of Directorates, Organisations and Institutions with a request to disseminate the information to all the schools under their jurisdiction:

1. The Commissioner, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, 18 Institutional Area, Shaheed Jeet Singh Marg, New Delhi-16
2. The Commissioner, Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti, B-15, Sector-62, Institutional Area, Noida-201309
3. The Secretary, Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS), Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India.
4. The Secretary, Sainik Schools Society, Room No. 101, D-1 Wing, Sena Bhawan, New Delhi-110001
5. The Chairman, Odisha Adarsha Vidyalaya Sangathan, N-1/9, Near Doordarshan Kendra, PO Sainik School Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar, Odisha-751005
6. The Director of Education, Directorate of Education, Govt. of NCT of Delhi, Old Secretariat, Delhi-110054
7. The Director of Public Instructions (Schools), Union Territory Secretariat, Sector 9, Chandigarh-160017
8. The Director of Education, Govt. of Sikkim, Gangtok, Sikkim –737101
9. The Director of School Education, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar –791111
10. The Director of Education, Govt. of A&N Islands, Port Blair – 744101
11. The Director of School Education, Ladakh, Room No.101-102, Ground Floor, Council Secretariat, Kurbathang, Kargil – Ladakh
12. The Director of School Education, Andhra Pradesh, 3rd Floor, B block, Anjaneya Towers, VTPS Rd, Bhimaraju Gutta, Ibrahimpatnam, Andhra Pradesh – 521 456
13. The Director, Jharkhand Education Project Council, Old HEC High School, JSCA Stadium Road, Jagannathpur, Sector-III, Dhurwa, Ranchi-834004 (Jharkhand)
14. Navy Education Society, Dte of Naval Education, Naval Headquarters, Ministry of Defence, West Block-V, RK Puram, New Delhi-110066
15. The Additional Director General of Army Education, A –Wing, Sena Bhawan, DHQ, PO, New Delhi-110001
16. The Secretary AWES, Integrated Headquarters of MoD (Army), FDRS Building No. 202, Shankar Vihar (Near APS), Delhi Cantt-110010
17. DS to Chairperson, CBSE
18. Secretary/ Controller of Examinations/ All Directors, CBSE
19. All Regional Directors/ Regional Officers of CBSE with the request to send this circular to all the Heads of the affiliated schools of the Board in their respective regions
20. All Joint Secretary/ Deputy Secretary/ PPS/SPS/Under Secretary/ Assistant Secretary, CBSE
21. All Head(s)/ In-Charge(s), Centre of Excellence, CBSE
22. In charge IT Unit with the request to put this Circular on the CBSE Academic Website
23. In-Charge, Library
24. Record File

Professor & Director (Academics)

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Suggestive activities for Schools

Adopt Healthy Lifestyle

- Take Mission LIFE Pledge.
- Organize nature walks for students to nearby ecosystems, biodiversity parks, thereby learning about environmental conservation practices.

Metric: Number of Nature walks organised

Adopt Sustainable Food Systems

- Involve students to create, revive and manage kitchen gardens in the school premises.
- Use compost created from the school's wet waste for the kitchen gardens, thereby avoiding chemical fertilizers and pesticides.
- Organise exciting competitions like millet fancy dress to show students lifelong health benefits and environmental advantages of incorporating these super grains into their diet.

Metric: Number of kitchen gardens created, amount of organic produce generated(kg)

Reduce E-waste

- Conduct e-waste collection drives/ awareness sessions related to disposal and reuse of electronic waste and set up e-waste collection point in school to drop off old electronic gadgets.
- School authorities may collaborate with authorized e-waste collectors for safe disposal of collected items and maintain record of the collected e-waste.
- Schools may set up educational booths to show impact of e-waste on our planet as part of this activity.

Metric: amount of e-waste collected and handed over to the authorised dealer (number/kg)

Reduce Waste

- Organise cleanliness drives involving students and community to inculcate responsibility towards environment.
- Teach waste segregation for appropriate waste disposal.
- Install two-bin system in all classrooms - for wet and dry waste.
- Construct compost pits in schools to encourage waste segregation and use compost generated in the kitchen garden of the school.

- Organise recycled waste art contests in schools to promote 3Rs i.e reduce, reuse and recycling of waste.

Metric: number of compost pits constructed, amount of organic waste generated.

Save Energy

- Encourage students to carry out energy saving activities like switching off tube-lights, bulbs, electronic gadgets when not in use.
- Conduct energy audit in schools.
- Create posters, banners and other visual materials and paste on the school notice board to raise awareness about the importance of energy conservation.

Metric: reduction in electricity bills in school, units of solar power generated (incase solar panel installed in school)

Save Water

- Involve students in tabulating water wastage in school (water audits)
 - Check for leaks in flush systems, faucets and water pipes and report to Eco Club for Mission LiFE teacher incharge.
- Students along with their teachers can collect water from storage systems and carry out practicals related to testing water purity.
- Organise water awareness sessions/conservation rally along with the community. Grandparents of the students may be called in the schools, where they can share water conservation practices adopted in the past and how students can be made more active towards saving water.

Metric: number of leaks detected, reduction in water consumption over a week.

Say No to Single Use Plastic

- Organise Plastic audits in the school premises.
- Generate awareness regarding hazardous impact of single use plastic on our planet through activities eg. poster making, debates, slogan writing, essay writing etc.
- Awareness campaigns to mobilize community for adapting ecofriendly habits like use of jute bags, saying no to single use plastic, buying local and nature friendly goods and so on.
- Find out eco-friendly substitutes eg. replacing plastic tiffin boxes with steel tiffin boxes.

Metric: amount of single use plastic collected, no. of plastic tiffin boxes replaced with steel tiffin boxes.

Eco Club for Mission LiFE incharge teacher to collate all the activity details and upload on the portal <https://ecoclubs.education.gov.in>

India's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)

India's Promise to Fight Climate Change

Introduction

The Earth is getting warmer due to the build-up of greenhouse gases, such as carbon dioxide (CO₂) and methane, caused by human activities such as burning coal, petrol, diesel, and cutting down forests. This rise in the Earth's temperature is known as global warming, which in turn drives broader changes in the Earth's climate, collectively referred to as climate change. Climate change disrupts weather patterns and can lead to more frequent heatwaves, floods, droughts, melting glaciers, and rising sea levels. These changes have wide-reaching effects on people, animals, plants, and natural resources across the world.

To protect the planet, countries are working together to reduce pollution and take care of the environment. As part of this global effort, India has made important climate promises called Nationally Determined Contributions, or NDCs.

What are NDCs?

NDCs are India's promises and plans to fight climate change and build a cleaner and safer future. These plans explain how India will reduce pollution, increase the use of clean energy, plant more trees, and encourage people to adopt environmentally friendly lifestyles.

India updated its NDCs in 2022 and later announced even more ambitious goals for 2035. These goals are part of India's long-term plan to achieve Net Zero emissions by 2070.

What Does "Net Zero" Mean?

Net Zero means balancing the amount of greenhouse gases released into the atmosphere with the amount removed from it. For example, vehicles and factories release carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases, while trees absorb carbon dioxide from the air. However, trees alone are not enough – achieving Net Zero mainly requires reducing emissions at source such as switching to cleaner and renewable energy. When the total amount greenhouse gases released and absorbed becomes equal, it is called Net Zero.

India aims to achieve Net Zero by the year 2070 through cleaner energy, sustainable development, and protection of forests and natural resources.

Understanding India's NDCs for Different Age Groups

Grades 6–8

For younger students, India's NDCs can be understood as the country's promise to help the Earth become healthier. Imagine that the Earth has a fever because of too much smoke and pollution. India is trying to cool the planet by using cleaner energy, planting more trees, and encouraging people to make better choices for the environment.

One important part of India's plan is increasing the use of clean energy such as solar power and wind power. Solar panels use sunlight to generate electricity, while windmills use the power of wind. These methods create less pollution than burning coal and oil.

India also wants to plant more trees and protect forests. Trees absorb carbon dioxide from the air, which helps reduce global warming. Trees can be compared to giant sponges that soak up harmful gases and make the air cleaner.

Another important idea is LiFE, which stands for Lifestyle for Environment. LiFE encourages people to adopt simple habits that protect nature. Students can help by switching off lights when not needed, saving water, carrying reusable bottles, avoiding plastic waste, and walking or cycling for short distances.

These small actions may seem simple, but when millions of people follow them, they can create a very big positive impact on the environment.

Grades 9–10

For middle school students, India's NDCs can be understood as a national action plan to reduce pollution while continuing economic growth and development.

Climate change is affecting many parts of India. Heatwaves are becoming stronger, floods and droughts are increasing, glaciers in the Himalayas are melting, and coastal regions face rising sea levels and cyclones. India's NDCs aim to reduce these risks while ensuring that development continues in a sustainable way.

One of India's major goals is to increase electricity generation from non-fossil fuel sources such as solar energy, wind energy, hydropower, and nuclear power. By using cleaner energy, India can reduce pollution and improve air quality.

India also plans to reduce the amount of pollution linked to economic growth. This means industries and transport systems will use cleaner technologies and become more energy efficient.

Forests play an important role in India's climate plans. Forests absorb carbon dioxide and act as natural carbon sinks. They also protect wildlife, improve rainfall patterns, and prevent soil erosion. India aims to increase forest cover and create larger carbon sinks in the coming years.

Another important part of India's climate strategy is adaptation. Adaptation means preparing for the effects of climate change that are already happening. India is improving farming systems, conserving water, strengthening healthcare systems, and protecting coastal and Himalayan regions from climate-related disasters.

India is also encouraging citizens to adopt sustainable lifestyles through the LIFE movement. Simple actions such as recycling, conserving water, reducing waste, and using public transport can help reduce pollution and protect natural resources.

Grades 11–12

For senior students, India's NDCs can be understood as part of a broader global effort to address climate change while ensuring sustainable development.

Under international climate agreements, countries submit Nationally Determined Contributions that describe their climate goals and actions. India's NDCs reflect the country's commitment to balancing economic growth with environmental responsibility.

A major focus of India's climate strategy is clean development pathways. This means India aims to continue developing its economy while gradually reducing dependence on fossil fuels. The country is investing in renewable energy, electric vehicles, energy-efficient industries, and sustainable infrastructure.

India's renewable energy expansion is one of the largest in the world. Increasing electricity generation from non-fossil fuel sources will help reduce pollution, improve public health, and create green jobs for the future.

Forests and green cover are another key part of India's climate strategy. Forests absorb carbon dioxide and store it naturally. Because of this, forests are known as carbon sinks. Increasing forest cover not only helps slow climate change but also protects biodiversity and improves ecosystems.

India's NDCs also focus strongly on climate adaptation and resilience. Climate adaptation refers to preparing for climate-related problems such as floods, droughts, cyclones, and heatwaves. Resilience means the ability of communities and systems to recover from such disasters. India is strengthening agriculture, water management, healthcare systems, and disaster preparedness to improve resilience.

Climate finance and technology are also important. Climate action requires investment, scientific innovation, and access to clean technologies. India supports research, innovation, and international cooperation to achieve climate goals effectively.

Another important idea in India's climate strategy is LiFE, or Lifestyle for Environment. LiFE encourages mindful and responsible living. It promotes reducing waste, conserving resources, and making environmentally responsible choices in everyday life.

Before vs Now: India's Climate Targets

Climate Goal	Earlier 2030 Target	Updated 2035 Target
Reduce pollution linked to economic growth	45% reduction	47% reduction
Electricity from non-fossil fuel sources	50%	60%
Carbon sink through forests	2.5–3 billion tonnes CO ₂	3.5–4 billion tonnes CO ₂
Long-term vision	Strong climate action	Net Zero by 2070

Why India's NDCs Matter

India's climate goals are important not only for the environment but also for people's lives and future development. Cleaner energy can improve air quality and reduce health problems caused by pollution. Protecting forests can conserve biodiversity and natural resources. Sustainable development can create new jobs and support long-term economic growth.

Climate action also helps protect vulnerable communities from disasters such as floods, droughts, and cyclones. By preparing for climate change and reducing pollution, India is working toward a safer and healthier future.

Why This Matters for Students

Students are future citizens, scientists, teachers, engineers, policymakers, and leaders. The future of the planet will depend greatly on the decisions and actions taken by today's young people.

Understanding climate change helps students become more aware of environmental challenges and encourages them to make responsible choices. Students can play an important role in spreading awareness and inspiring others to adopt sustainable habits.

Young people have the power to become climate leaders and contribute to building a greener future.

What Students Can Do

Students can contribute to climate action through simple daily habits. Saving electricity and water, reducing plastic use, planting trees, recycling waste, and using public transport are all helpful actions. Students can also spread awareness among friends and family about protecting the environment.

Small changes in daily life can create a large positive impact when practiced by many people together.

Classroom Activity

Students can participate in a "Green Week Challenge." During this activity, they can follow eco-friendly habits for one week and record their actions each day. At the end of the week, students can discuss which habits were easy to follow, which were difficult, and how small actions can help protect the environment.

This activity encourages students to connect climate action with their everyday lives.

Conclusion

India's Nationally Determined Contributions are an important part of the country's effort to fight climate change and build a sustainable future. These goals focus on cleaner energy, greener development, forest protection, climate resilience, and responsible lifestyles.

The success of these climate goals depends not only on governments and industries but also on citizens, especially young people. Every student can contribute by making thoughtful choices and caring for the environment.

By working together, India can create a cleaner, healthier, and more sustainable future for coming generations.