

# TRANSITION CHRONICLES

## UNCOVERING PEOPLE-CENTRIC APPROACH

*This newsletter explores India's evolving approach to just transitions, unpacking key developments in coal & power, transport, agriculture, finance and beyond. We delve into insights from government initiatives, grassroots organisations, industry efforts, and other independent analysis by academia and experts.*

### NATIONAL LEVEL DEVELOPMENTS

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### **QUARTER HIGHLIGHT: BUDGET 2024 INCLUDES ENERGY SECURITY, MSMEs AND EMPLOYMENT & SKILLING IN ITS BUDGET PRIORITIES**

July 2024

Some significant announcements include -

- Government to bring out a policy document on appropriate energy transition pathways that balances the imperatives of employment, growth, and environmental sustainability
- Investment-grade energy audits will be conducted for MSMEs in 60 clusters and will be provided financial support to transition to cleaner energy and adopt energy efficiency measures
- A road map for moving the hard-to-abate industries from 'energy efficiency' targets to 'emission targets' will be formulated
- 1 crore farmers across the country to be initiated into natural farming in the next 2 years
- A new centrally sponsored scheme Skilling programme to be introduced which targets skilling of 20 lakh youth over a 5-year period. 1,000 Industrial Training Institutes will also be upgraded through hub and spoke arrangements.

[Read more](#)

#### **MOU SIGNED TO UNDERTAKE RESEARCH ON MINE CLOSURE AND TRANSITION RELATED MATTERS**

May 2024

IIT Kanpur and the Central Mine Planning & Design Institute Ltd. signed an MoU with an aim to establish a framework for joint research collaboration on just transition issues, including capturing specific just transition related socio-economic indicators, social impact assessments, developing inclusive mine closure framework, along with other associated activities of mutual interest.

[Read more](#)





## MINISTRY OF COAL ISSUES REFORMS IN THE DRAFT MINING PLAN GUIDELINES 2024

June 2024

The guidelines emphasize responsible mining practices that enhance operational efficiency of the coal industry while prioritizing ecosystem preservation and integrating social, and safety standards. These guideline mentions the need for “Just transformation” during the mine closure phase which involves recognizing and addressing the social, economic, and environmental challenges associated with mine closure activities.

[Read more](#)

A stakeholder [consultation](#) on the Draft Mining Plan was also held in July to facilitate an inclusive and comprehensive review process of the guidelines.

Click [here](#) to access the draft guidelines.

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## DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS PUSHES USE OF RIGHT TO REPAIR PORTAL

July 2024

The DoCA recently convened with automobile associations and partner companies to onboard them onto India’s Right to Repair [Portal](#). The portal is meant to provide consumers with access to information for repairing and reusing their products to reduce e-waste and enable a circular economy, reduction of e-waste in a hassle-free manner. It will provide access to repair information, price and warranty details, service center locations, and country of origin information etc.

[Read more](#)

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## STATE LEVEL DEVELOPMENTS

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### EVENTS

#### JHARKHAND

### WORKSHOP ON ENHANCING GENDER EQUALITY IN MILLET FOOD & MARKETING SYSTEM FOR JUST TRANSITION

June 2024

The workshop organised by UNDP with the Task Force for Sustainable Just Transition, Government of Jharkhand brought together experts, stakeholders, and community leaders to discuss sustainable practices and innovative strategies aimed at uplifting rural women through millet cultivation and proper marketing strategies. It explored providing women with technical skills in millet processing, unifying diverse stakeholders from government, academia, training institutions, and multilateral agencies to foster collaboration, and developing a strategic plan for growth of the millet value chain.

[Read more](#)



## OTHER NOTABLE EVENTS

### FIRST IN SERIES OF KNOWLEDGE BUILDING EVENT ON 'INCLUSIVE ENERGY TRANSITION IN SOUTH ASIA' HELD IN SRI LANKA

May 2024

The Nossal Institute for Global Health, University of Melbourne and Asian Development Bank (ADB) hosted a conference on inclusive energy transition to find energy solutions that are fair, with a focus on gender equality and social inclusion. Other workshops are planned in Bangladesh, India, the Maldives, Nepal and Bhutan in the future. The conference engaged with experts, NGOs (like SEWA and Gramin Shakti) and practitioners across Asia.

[Read more](#)



### MULTILATERAL PARTNERSHIP FORMED TO STRENGTHEN COOPERATION AMONG GLOBAL SOUTH FOR JUST CRITICAL MINERAL MINING

June 2024

The Council for Critical Minerals Development in the Global South, formed to foster international collaboration on critical mineral supply chain development, was launched through a partnership between SEforAll, Swaniti Global and UC Davis. The objective of the council is to support countries realize their socio-economic growth, industrialization and climate goals, through a collaborative approach which facilitates knowledge exchange and catalyses partnerships among Global South countries.

[Read more](#)

### IIT KANPUR HOLDS NATIONAL WORKSHOP ON FOREGROUNDING YOUTH FOR ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION IN INDIAN COAL REGIONS

June 2024

A two-day workshop was organised with representatives from NGOs, institutions, and funding agencies. The event was part of the youth-centric just transition dialogue series, aimed at building discourse and a network of stakeholders who can empower and engage youth to shape their future, in line with broader goals of economic diversification.

[Read more](#)



### INDIA RANKS 63RD ON ENERGY TRANSITION INDEX BY WEF REPORT

June 2024

The World Economic Forum released a report ranking countries based on the performance of their energy systems. The report also indicated that India has shown significant improvement across three performance dimensions of energy equity, security and sustainability.

[Read more](#)



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## STORIES FROM THE GROUND

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### **BRAVING THE HEAT TO BAKE BRICKS**

*June 2024*

This reportage features the story of brick kilns workers who are being forced to work in increasingly difficult and dangerous conditions during the heatwave. It also touches upon the threat to jobs as brick kilns are being closed down due to state regulations to curb pollution. While there is a push to green the sector and transition to an energy-efficient industry, the story highlights how this highly informal sector lacks access to financial assistance and technology to transition and exposes its highly vulnerable workers to income and livelihood loss.

[Read more](#)

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## MEDIA COVERAGE OF JUST TRANSITION

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- **What is the price tag of phasing-out coal? For China & India, at least \$2 trillion** published at DownToEarth on May 13, 2024 [↗](#)
- **Q&A: What do India's elections mean for coal communities and climate change?** by Aruna Chandrasekhar published at Carbon Brief on May 13, 2024 [↗](#)
- **Gender-Just Energy Transition through Self-Help Groups** by Sudipa Majumdar & Navpreet Saini published at Economic Times on May 20, 2024 [↗](#)
- **Reskilling Essential to Assist Transitioning Traditional Roles To Sustainability-Focused Positions** published at Saur Energy on May 24, 2024 [↗](#)
- **Green energy will help fight pollution and create jobs in India** published by Economic Times on May 25, 2024 [↗](#)
- **Supreme Court's simplistic view on energy production undercuts its ruling on climate justice** by Ashish Kothari & Shrishtee Bajpai published at Scroll.in on June 07, 2024 [↗](#)
- **How to phase out fossil fuels without leaving anyone behind** by Deutsche Welle published at Frontline on June 13, 2024 [↗](#)
- **More than 800 coal plants worldwide could be profitably decommissioned, research group says** published at Times of India on June 18, 2024 [↗](#)
- **Jharkhand bid to create alternative livelihoods: Going green with humble millets** by Animesh Bisoe published at Telegraph India on June 23, 2024 [↗](#)
- **Transition away from coal power poses grave challenges to marginalised groups: Report** by Nikhil Ghanekar published at Indian Express on June 27, 2024 [↗](#)
- **SC, ST & OBC communities face steepest barriers in transition away from coal — study by non-profit** by Mrinalini Dhyani published at The Print on June 27, 2024 [↗](#)
- **Energy innovation funding and social equity: Mediating role of just energy transition** published by NewsGram on July 1, 2024 [↗](#)
- **Budget 2024: "Make net zero a peoples movement stakeholders"- bat for sops for green energy-transition** by Paras Bisht published at Times Now on July 9, 2024 [↗](#)

- **Scaling climate adaptation technology for a just transition** by Sanjay Srivastava, T N Singh, Praveen Kumar, Naina Tanwar published at India Water Portal on July 16, 2024 [↗](#)
- **Just transition policy should focus on social infrastructure, apart from alternative jobs: report** by Simrin Sirur published at Mongabay on July 18, 2024 [↗](#)
- **Need a People-Centric Approach for India's Climate Finance Taxonomy, Say Experts** by Garima Sadhwani published at The Quint on July 25, 2024 [↗](#)
- **How MSMEs can transition towards more sustainable business models** published by Financial Express on July 28, 2024 [↗](#)

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## WEBINARS/TALKS/ PODCASTS

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- **Podcast: Going green: Can the global south develop without fossil fuel?** with Zaki Mamdoo and Rahul Tongia as part of Doha Debates Podcast on May 15, 2024 [↗](#)
- **Talk: Green Skills: Insights and Trends from LinkedIn's Economic Graph** by Ms Aditi Jha as part of IIT Kanpur's Just Transition Talk Series on May 26, 2024 [↗](#)
- **Webinar: Winds of Change, The Path to a just and equitable Transition**, by The Climate Group on May 30, 2024 [↗](#)
- **Interview: India's Coal Transition: Strategies and Finance** hosted by Asian Power Magazine with Gaurav Upadhyay in May 2024 [↗](#)
- **Podcast: India's Just Energy Transition** hosted by Andy Uher and with Sandeep Pai as part of The Energy Institute, UT Austin on June 12, 2024 [↗](#)
- **Interview: 'If We Get Lithium From J&K, What Do We Do with It?'** hosted by Ramananda Sengupta from StratNews Global with Dr. Rajesh Chadha and Ganesh Sivamani (CSEP) on June 14, 2024 [↗](#)
- **Video: As brick kilns close for cleaner air, a race for jobs** by Esha Roy and Deekshith R Pai for The Migration Story with support from Buniyaad on July 8, 2024 [↗](#)
- **Webinar: Navigating people-centric approaches for a fair and equitable transition to EVs**, by Vasudha Foundation on 17th July 2024

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## REPORTS LAUNCHED

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### **MANAGING ENERGY, ECONOMIC, AND ENVIRONMENTAL TRANSITION**

*Published by : Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), in partnership with IIT Kanpur in May 2024*

Objective: The report provides an overview of a workshop which discussed points on transition governance, economic revitalization and diversification, infrastructure repurposing and environmental remediation, and workforce and skill development.

*To access the report, click [here](#)*

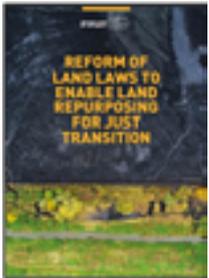


## DECOMMISSIONING OF COAL-BASED PLANTS IN INDIA AND ITS RAMIFICATIONS

Published by: ICRIER in May 2024

Objective: This working paper examines what the ideal parameters for decommissioning of coal-based generation would be and whether it would be possible for India to undertake this energy transition to become net-zero by 2070.

To access the report, click [here](#)



## REFORM OF LAND LAWS TO ENABLE LAND REPURPOSING FOR JUST TRANSITION

Published by: iFOREST in May 2024

Objective: The report examines the regulatory landscape governing land use and repurposing of land used for coal mine TPPs, analysing the relevant laws and the scope for reform to enable land reforms for a just energy transition.

To access the report, click [here](#)

iForest also released two other reports titled “Sustainability Framework for Coal Mines” and “Enabling The Use of Coal Cess For Just Energy Transition”, accessible [here](#) and [here](#), respectively.



## INNOVATIVE GOVERNANCE FOR PRIVATE SECTOR IN JUST ENERGY TRANSITION

Published by: UNDP Sustainable Energy Hub in June 2024

Objective: This action brief outlines measures for global policymakers to consider, and provides policy insights and practical examples to guide the private sector in the energy transition.

To access the report, click [here](#)



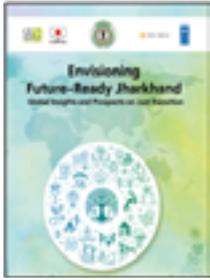
## HOW TO ENSURE A JUST TRANSITION FOR A COMMUNITY

Published by: Just Transition Research Centre, IIT Kanpur in June 2024

Objective: Based on field studies conducted in Barjora, West Bengal, the report seeks to explore and showcase innovative pathways to achieve livelihood diversification, skilling and sustainable development.

To access the report, click [here](#)

The JTRC also released a report titled “What Constitutes a Coal Economy?” focused on examining the impacts of the coal economy in Bokaro in Jharkhand, accessible [here](#).



## ENVISIONING FUTURE-READY JHARKHAND, GLOBAL INSIGHTS AND PROSPECTS ON JUST TRANSITION

*Published by: Centre for Environment and Energy Development (CEED) in June 2024*

Objective: Based on expert insights and discussions, this report offers actionable strategies for policymakers, industry leaders, and stakeholders for building a climate-resilient, sustainable, and future-ready Jharkhand.

To access the report, click [here](#)

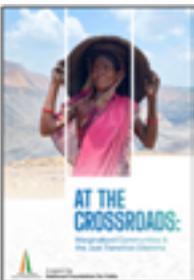


## CRITICAL MINERALS - PAVING THE WAY FOR JHARKHAND'S SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

*Published by: the Task Force-Sustainable Just Transition, Govt. of Jharkhand, and CEED in June 2024*

Objective: The report highlights Jharkhand's potential in leveraging 12 vital minerals crucial for the energy transitions to foster economic growth, create jobs, and contribute significantly to clean energy initiatives.

To access the report, click [here](#)



## AT THE CROSSROADS: MARGINALISED COMMUNITIES AND JUST TRANSITION DILEMMA

*Published by: National Foundation of India in June 2024*

Objective: The study presents the impact of the transition away from coal on marginalised communities by through surveys in Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Odisha. It finds that higher representation of marginalised communities, find it more difficult to transition due to significant disparities in education, health and discrimination. The study offers a potential framework for safeguarding their interests.

To access the report, click [here](#)



## EV READY INDIA: FEMINISING THE EV VALUE CHAINS TO PROPEL GROWTH

*Published by: Ola Mobility Institute (OMI) foundation in June 2024*

Objective: The report identifies barriers and provides recommendations to increase women's participation across the EV value chain. It suggests a multi-faceted approach to catalyse women-led development, spanning reforms around policy, skill development, infrastructure, awareness, and finance.

To access the report, click [here](#)



## **ADVANCING CREDIBLE AND ROBUST JUST TRANSITION PLANS**

*Published by: Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis (IEEFA) in June 2024*

Objective: The report provides recommendations for developing robust just transition (JT) plans. It suggests incorporating JT into national net-zero planning agendas, and advocates for financial and non-financial firms to anticipate, assess, and address social risks and opportunities within their transition planning.

To access the report, click [here](#)



## **INVESTING IN INDIA'S ENERGY FUTURE: A JUST TRANSITION CHALLENGE**

*Published by: Amundi Asset Management in June 2024*

Objective: The paper provides a broad overview of India's energy transition laying out the commitments, progress and challenges. It advocates for government support and global investor's role in financing a just energy transition.

To access the report, click [here](#)



## **REPORT ON TRANSITION FINANCE**

*Published by: Expert Committee on Climate Finance, International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA)*

Objective: The report offers strategic recommendations to IFSCA and policy makers by exploring global best practices and regulatory landscapes, to enhance international climate capital flows in order to achieve India's net-zero goal by 2070.

To access the report, click [here](#)



## **ASSESSING THERMAL POWER PLANT TRANSITIONS: A CASE STUDY OF WORKER AND COMMUNITY DEPENDENCE**

*Published by: Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW) in July 2024*

Objective: The report examines the impacts of repurposing of coal-fired TPPs on workers and dependent communities. It assesses the dependency and vulnerability of different categories of stakeholders and based on the insights provides for worker retention and livelihood improvement.

To access the report, click [here](#)

## **ACADEMIC CONTRIBUTIONS**

- Lola Nacke, Vadim Vinichenko, Aleh Cherp, Avi Jakhmola & Jessica Jewell on “Compensating affected parties necessary for rapid coal phase-out but expensive if extended to major emitters” in [Nature Communications](#) 15, in May 2024.