



India calls for Flexibility, Pragmatism and Mutual Respect to secure Ambitious and Balanced Outcomes at upcoming UNFCCC COP31

Shri Bhupender Yadav underlines Scaled-up Climate Finance, Technology Transfer and Capacity-building

Need to Move beyond Rhetoric towards Implementation and Convergence, while respecting Nationally Determined Pathways: Union Environment Minister

Posted On: 08 OCT 2026 11:55AM by PIB Delhi

India has called for greater flexibility, pragmatism and mutual respect among Parties to bridge remaining differences and secure ambitious and balanced outcomes at UNFCCC COP31. Speaking at the Plenary Discussion on Political Landing Zones and Outcomes at the Pre-COP31 meeting in Fiji, Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Shri Bhupender Yadav said the intensifying impacts of climate change demand moving beyond rhetoric towards implementation and convergence.

Addressed the Plenary on Political Landing Zones at Pre COP 31 in Nadi, Fiji. Called for an ambitious and balanced outcome at COP 31, where higher ambition is matched by climate finance, technology transfer and capacity-building, and implementation respects nationally determined pathways.

— Bhupender Yadav (@byadavbjp) October 8, 2026

Reflecting on discussions during the Pre-COP, Shri Yadav said that the shared ground among Parties was “far greater than our divisions”. He highlighted broad convergence on remaining collectively anchored to the aspirational goal of limiting global warming to 1.5°C; recognising that higher ambition requires proportionally higher commitments, particularly through scaled-up climate finance, technology transfer and capacity-building; and shifting the collective focus decisively towards implementation. India, he said, firmly believes that implementation must respect nationally determined pathways, allowing each country to transition according to its unique national circumstances and development imperatives.

The Minister stressed on the urgent need for innovative solutions and continued reforms to accelerate climate action. He stated that while global goals are shared, greater convergence is needed on approaches to achieving them. “The time has come to demonstrate flexibility on all sides,” he said, calling for optimisation of the tools already available under the Convention and the Paris Agreement. He highlighted the inclusion of Article 9.1 on the provisional agenda as a vital formal opportunity to address the matching of finance to country needs, while also emphasising the strategic use of Article 6 cooperative approaches to plug critical gaps in finance and other means of implementation and unlock market-driven resources for sustainable development.

Shri Yadav said India expects COP31 to chart a definitive way forward to enhance engagement, technical cooperation and targeted support for building capabilities. He stated that India stands ready for open and transparent dialogue to resolve these issues in the run-up to COP31 to ensure “a balanced, equitable, and historic outcome” for the global community, particularly the most vulnerable. He further emphasised that climate multilateralism can be strengthened at COP31 through an inclusive, consultative and consensus-based approach.

Concluding India's intervention, Shri Yadav said, “As we leave Fiji, our objective should be clear: to carry the constructive elements of these discussions into Antalya”. He added that the landing zone should be an outcome that is ambitious and balanced, advancing mitigation and adaptation while delivering the means of implementation that developing countries need. He reaffirmed India’s readiness to work with the Presidency, Chairs and all Parties towards this objective.

In the end, the Union Minister thanked Mr. Chris Bowen, President of Negotiations, for his efforts in ensuring open and engaging discussions during Pre-COP31, and extended best wishes to the COP31 President for the success of COP31. The Pre-COP is a preparatory meeting held a few weeks before the annual UN Climate Change Conference, which this year will be held in Antalya, Türkiye, in November.



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