



No. R-20/ 5/ 2023-PRPP
National Human Rights Commission

Meeting of the Core Group on Environment, Climate Change and Human Rights on the theme 'Heat Waves and its Mitigation in Urban Areas' held on 3rd June, 2026 in the Commission.

A meeting of the Core Advisory Group on Environment, Climate Change and Human Rights was held on 3rd June in hybrid mode at the Manav Adhikar Bhawar, New Delhi. The meeting was chaired by Hon'ble Chairperson, NHRC, **Justice V. Ramasubramanian**. Hon'ble Members, **Justice (Dr.) Bidyut Ranjan Sarangi** and **Smt. Vijaya Bharti Sayani**; Secretary General, **Shri Bharat Lal**; DG (Investigation), **Smt. Anupama Nilekar Chandra**; Joint Secretary, **Smt. Saidingpuii Chhakchhuak** along with other senior officers of NHRC, Core Group Members and Ex-officio Members, senior functionaries from various Ministries, special invitees, domain experts, representatives from civil society organisations and academic institutions attended the meeting. The list of participants is **annexed**.

The meeting was focused on the three key agenda: i.) Understanding heat waves and their impact on human rights; ii.) Governance frameworks and city-level response to heat waves in urban areas and iii.) Rights-based pathways for resilient and inclusive cooling in urban Areas



2 . Ms. Saidingpuii Chhakchhuak, Joint Secretary, NHRC, extended a warm welcome to all the participants and highlighted the Commission's initiatives on various issues concerning the intersection of environment and human rights through which the Commission realised the need to bring all relevant stakeholders

onto a common platform to collectively deliberate on the growing challenge of heat waves and identify effective responses. She emphasised that the purpose of the meeting was to hear from government officials, experts, practitioners and other stakeholders regarding the measures undertaken so far and to explore ways to strengthen and improve future interventions.



3 . In his opening remarks, **Shri Bharat Lal, Secretary General, NHRC** noted that heat waves are a visible manifestation of environmental degradation and climate change and have become an unfortunate reality affecting millions across the country. He highlighted that the most vulnerable sections of society, including the homeless, construction workers, gig workers and those engaged in outdoor occupations bear the brunt of extreme heat conditions. He further highlighted that heat waves are emerging as a serious challenge in urban areas. Referring to available data from NCRB, he stated that heat waves and sunstrokes accounted for approximately 1,832 deaths, indicating a worrying trend. He informed the participants that the NHRC had written to the concerned State Governments last year following reports of heat-related deaths and had again, in April this year, urged States to take preventive and mitigation measures. These developments provided the impetus for convening the present Core Group Meeting. He expressed gratitude to all participants, including representatives from government, academia, civil society organisations and practitioners working at the grassroots and policy levels, for contributing to this important discussion.



4. Justice V. Ramasubramanian, Hon'ble Chairperson, NHRC, in his inaugural address, reflected upon the evolution of the human rights discourse. He noted that the initial focus of human rights frameworks was primarily on civil and political rights, which was subsequently expanded to include social, economic and cultural rights. However, environmental rights entered mainstream discourse much later, particularly after the 1970s. He referred to the international developments that shaped environmental governance, including the 1972 Stockholm Declaration and subsequent global efforts that brought environmental concerns to the forefront. He observed that humanity has now reached a critical stage where limiting global temperature rise to 1.5°C has become an urgent necessity. While industrialisation has significantly contributed to climate change and the increasing frequency of heat waves, the consequences are only now being fully experienced in everyday life. He remarked that the focus today must necessarily be on remedial and adaptive measures. The Hon'ble Chairperson identified two key aspects for deliberation during the meeting: first, the increasing incidence of heat waves and their relationship with rapid urbanisation and migration to urban centres; and second, the role of expanding concrete infrastructure and shrinking green spaces in aggravating urban heat conditions. He expressed hope that the practical experiences and expertise of participants would help generate actionable recommendations for addressing these challenges.



5 . Prof. N. H. Ravindranath, Professor (retd.), Centre for Sustainable Technology, IISc, Bangalore, emphasised that the definition of heat waves extends beyond temperature and incorporates factors such as humidity, air quality and land surface conditions that contribute to heat stress. He highlighted the need for ward-level vulnerability mapping, localised forecasting and early warning systems supported by historical data, remote sensing, artificial intelligence and machine learning. He noted that remote sensing can assist in identifying urban heat hotspots and vulnerable areas through land surface, vegetation and built-up area mapping. Stressing the importance of actionable local intelligence, he recommended periodic evaluation of Heat Action Plans by expert bodies to ensure their scientific validity and effective implementation. He further suggested exploring insurance or compensation mechanisms for workers affected by extreme heat, appointing dedicated Heat Officers in major cities, promoting urban greening and heat-resilient infrastructure and emphasised the need for comprehensive heat mitigation measures for both indoor and outdoor workers, including stronger standards for schools and effective ground-level implementation of heat action strategies.

6 . Shri Rakesh Kumar, IFS, Joint Secretary and Advisor (Policy, Planning and Capacity Building & Training), National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) outlined the policy framework for heat wave management developed by the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), including the National Guidelines and the preparation of Heat Action Plans at the national, state and district levels. He informed that 23 States had been identified as particularly vulnerable to heat waves and that efforts were underway to strengthen preparedness through district-level planning, with 217 districts having prepared and implemented Heat Action Plans while several others were in the process of doing so. He noted the importance of identifying and engaging knowledge partners at the State level to support implementation efforts. Referring to NDMA's initiatives, he mentioned that national and state-level reviews had been conducted, including a national conclave focused on vulnerable groups, with inputs from the India Meteorological Department (IMD). He also suggested the designation of State-level nodal officers for coordinating Heat Action Plans. Shri Kumar stated that advisories

had been issued at both the Ministry and State levels, including targeted advisories for vulnerable populations. He further referred to the use of cell broadcasting technology and common alert platforms such as SACHET for disseminating early warnings. He noted that provisions for heat-wave mitigation funding had been incorporated into Heat Action Plans and drew attention to gaps in reporting mechanisms. He clarified that NDMA did not maintain independent data on heat-related deaths and relied on information received from the concerned national agencies and the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

7. **Shri V.K. Chaurasia, Adviser, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs**, informed the meeting that the Ministry deals with issues relating to urban development, water supply, sanitation and urban infrastructure. He stated that urban areas are particularly vulnerable to heat waves due to rapid urbanisation and changing land-use patterns. To address these concerns, he highlighted the implementation of the National Mission on Sustainable Habitat, one of the missions under India's climate action framework. The mission seeks to address challenges arising from rising temperatures and promote climate-resilient urban development. He also emphasised the importance of strengthening urban planning frameworks and policy implementation to mitigate the impacts of heat waves. Key interventions highlighted by him included city and district level planning, GIS-based master plans, urban cooling strategies and Heat Action Plans. He noted that the Ministry is actively working towards integrating such planning tools into urban governance mechanisms to enhance resilience against extreme heat events.

8. **Mr. Rajneesh Sareen, Programme Director, Sustainable Building & Habitat Programme, Centre for Science & Environment (CSE)** observed that inadequate urban planning and infrastructure deficiencies contribute significantly to rising urban heat levels, with adverse implications for public health, ecological well-being and energy consumption. He highlighted the need for establishing dedicated urban observatories for systematic data collection and monitoring, adopting performance standards for green buildings, enhancing urban tree cover and conserving water bodies as key measures to promote cooler, more sustainable and climate-resilient cities.

9. **Ms. G.S. Chitra, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare**, and **Dr. Akash Shrivastava, Additional Director, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare**, informed the participants that the Ministry is entrusted with implementing the health-related mission under the Prime Minister's Council on Climate Change. They noted that climate change has significantly influenced heat wave occurrences, altered monsoon patterns and created substantial public health challenges. They highlighted the implementation of the **National Programme on Climate Change and Human Health (NPCCHH)**, a key initiative under India's public health framework aimed at building climate-resilient healthcare systems. The programme specifically addresses extreme weather events, including heat waves and heat-related illnesses. They explained that an institutional framework has been established at the national, state and district levels since 2019 to facilitate implementation and coordination. The speakers provided a comprehensive overview of the programme's objectives, outreach mechanisms and ongoing activities. They also informed the meeting that the Ministry has developed a detailed **National Heat Health Action Plan** and is working towards strengthening similar plans at the district level. They emphasised that changing patterns of health vulnerability require continuous adaptation and the Ministry is taking necessary

steps to safeguard populations affected by extreme heat.

10. Dr. Anil Kumar Mishra, Technical Expert and Additional Secretary, National Rainfed Area Authority, highlighted that heat-wave management should prioritise preventive measures, including adjustments in working hours and adequate rest periods for outdoor and manual workers to minimise heat exposure. He noted the importance of water-based cooling measures and recommended the use of treated wastewater for irrigation of parks and green spaces, as well as the conservation of urban water bodies and drainage systems to reduce local heat stress. He further highlighted the need for a combination of short-term and long-term heat mitigation strategies, including enhancement of urban green cover through suitable heat-resilient tree species. He also advocated for rainwater harvesting, groundwater recharge and the reuse of treated wastewater for non-potable purposes such as irrigation and surface cooling. He underscored the importance of community participation in ensuring the effective implementation of these measures.

11. Dr. Aarti Khosla, Founder-Director, Climate Trends, highlighted the increasing frequency and intensity of heat waves and deteriorating air quality, underscoring the need for region-specific interventions and greater focus on vulnerable populations and high-risk areas. She observed that while several Heat Action Plans and Air Quality Management Plans have been developed, heat stress and air pollution require distinct and targeted responses. She further emphasised the importance of long-term measures, including climate-responsive building design, cool roof initiatives, expansion of urban green cover, and restoration and decentralisation of water bodies, to address rising cooling demand, strengthen urban resilience and reduce heat stress.



12. Shri Vimal Meena, Director, Directorate General of Occupational Safety and Health, Ministry of Labour & Employment outlined the provisions under the Labour Codes relating to the welfare and protection of workers in both the organised and unorganised sectors, including the provisions of Section 115 concerning the Social Welfare Fund. He stated that employers were responsible for ensuring adequate occupational safety and health measures for both contractual and regular workers. He referred to the importance of preventing overcrowding,

maintaining proper ventilation, and ensuring healthy working conditions in workplaces, while noting that factories fall within the regulatory purview of State Governments. He further stressed the need for greater awareness on the prevention of heat-related illnesses, including heat stroke and informed that dedicated programmes and awareness sessions on heat stress were being undertaken.

13. Ms. Prerna Ojha, Research Analyst, Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW) highlighted the importance of integrating passive cooling measures into urban planning to reduce heat stress and improve thermal comfort. She emphasised the utility of colour-coded heat maps for identifying cooling hotspots and supporting targeted interventions. She further advocated a multilayered approach comprising urban green spaces, enhanced tree cover and the conservation and restoration of water bodies, noting that such nature-based solutions can significantly strengthen urban resilience and contribute to the development of sustainable and climate-resilient cities.

14. Shri Sundaram Verma, Environmentalist, observed that heat waves affected both urban and rural populations and expressed concern over the continued loss of tree cover despite ongoing afforestation efforts, while highlighting the importance of strengthening plantation drives, enhancing public awareness and recognising effective environmental initiatives such as the “one litre water plantation scheme.”

15. Mr. Kshitij Singhal, Municipal Commissioner, Indore Municipal Corporation, observed that rapid urbanisation has led to a substantial increase in built-up areas, resulting in challenges such as urban flooding, financial constraints and shortages of skilled manpower for climate-resilient infrastructure development. He stressed the adoption of cost-effective measures, including reflective roofing materials, heat-resistant construction technologies and cool roof initiatives with improved thermal insulation, to address urban heat challenges. He further suggested the importance of efficient water management through the reuse of treated wastewater for gardening, along with the expansion of urban green spaces and tree cover, to strengthen climate resilience and improve urban living conditions.

16. Shri H. S. Ginwal , Deputy Director, ICFRE, Dehradun, observed that effective heat-wave mitigation in urban areas requires a combination of urban planning, infrastructure development, ecosystem-based approaches and public health measures aimed at reducing ambient temperatures and limiting human exposure to extreme heat. He highlighted the importance of increasing urban green cover through tree plantation, green belts and the use of native drought-resistant species, while also promoting water conservation, permeable pavements and heat-resistant construction materials to support urban cooling and resilience. He further stressed the need to protect vulnerable groups, including the elderly, children and outdoor workers, through improved access to cooling facilities, water and health services. He recommended integrating heat mitigation into city development plans, strengthening early warning systems and public awareness initiatives and building the capacity of health workers and other frontline personnel to effectively respond to heat-related illnesses.

17. Mr Niranjan Dev Bharadwaj, Distinguished Advisor, Global Foundation for

Advancement of Environment and Human Wellness, highlighted that Indian cities are at risk of maladaptation in responding to heat waves. Referring to Schipper's Adaptation Framework, he noted that most cities remain at the coping stage and need to progress towards proactive adaptation through continuous learning and feedback mechanisms. He cautioned that certain interventions, such as poorly designed urban beautification projects, may unintentionally worsen heat stress. He emphasised the need to strengthen Heat Action Plans by expanding them beyond metropolitan cities to Tier-II and Tier-III cities and by developing ward-level heat risk maps. He advocated for predictive and technology-driven heat governance through integrated real-time heat-health alert systems, hyperlocal heat intelligence, live urban heat dashboards and digital platforms for public advisories and emergency services. Highlighting the importance of inclusive preparedness, he recommended digitalised last-mile warning systems, Interactive Voice Response (IVR) services for vulnerable and digitally excluded populations and the introduction of mobile night clinics and heat-health vans for emergency response. Mr Bharadwaj also stressed the need to protect outdoor workers through restrictions on work during peak heat hours, mandatory cooling and rest breaks and regular inspections by Labour Departments and Urban Local Bodies to ensure compliance with heat safety measures. He further recommended integrating green and blue infrastructure into urban planning, strengthening financial and institutional preparedness, including heat waves under the National and State Disaster Response Funds and conducting preparedness audits before the onset of summer. In conclusion, he proposed the S.H.A.D.E. Framework (Sustainable Human Rights-Centred Action for Dignity and Extreme Heat), focusing on Safe Urban Spaces, Heat Health Preparedness, Accessible Cooling and Water, Digital and Data-Driven Governance and Equity, Environment, and Environmental Justice as key pillars for a rights-based and resilient response to extreme heat.

18. Shri Banchhanidhi Pani, IAS, Municipal Commissioner, Ahmedabad, shared Ahmedabad's experience in addressing urban heat challenges and stated that sustained heat-action measures had contributed to preventing a significant number of heat-related deaths. He referred to the city's efforts to reduce heat exposure through large-scale tree plantation, targeted heat-alert systems, hotspot mapping and the use of SMS-based alerts for vulnerable localities. He also highlighted innovative measures such as traffic signal management to reduce public exposure to direct sunlight and the development of shaded route canopies in collaboration with non-governmental and private-sector organisations. He informed that a substantial proportion of the city's budget had been allocated towards climate sustainability initiatives and that large-scale plantation drives were underway. Drawing from Ahmedabad's experience, he recommended expanding urban forests, linear parks, green streets, green corridors and interconnected blue-green networks to mitigate urban heat and improve liveability. He further advocated the development of city-level indicators for canopy cover, shaded streets, cooling benefits, heat vulnerability and citizen comfort, alongside the promotion of cool roofs, reflective materials, passive building design and energy-efficient infrastructure. He also emphasised the importance of community participation in greening initiatives, environmental stewardship, monitoring and local climate adaptation efforts.

19. Dr. Promode Kant, IFS, (Retd.) Adjunct Professor, Advanced Institute of Wildlife Conservation, Chennai, highlighted two key areas for urban heat-wave

mitigation. First, he emphasised the implementation of the Indian Cooling Action Plan through measures for enclosed spaces. While noting that air conditioning is effective, he pointed out that it is not universally accessible and advocated low-energy alternatives such as reflective roofing, solar-reflective panels and rooftop shading. Second, he stressed the importance of cooling open spaces through urban greening. In this context, he observed the trade-off between transplanting large, mature trees which provide immediate shade but involve complex logistics and planting saplings, which are easier to establish but take longer to deliver cooling benefits. Referring to China's large-scale tree transplantation initiatives as a useful model, he urged the prioritised planting of large shade trees around schools to protect children from extreme heat. He also recommended verifying reports of agricultural heat reductions of approximately 54 per cent in Uttarakhand to draw lessons for urban planning and heat mitigation strategies.

20 . Dr. Prerna Joshi, Assistant Professor, National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM) emphasised the need for stronger enforcement of laws, regulations and planning standards relating to heat mitigation and urban resilience. She advocated the promotion of passive cooling measures and the development of affordable cooling solutions for low-income communities, including the provision of targeted subsidies where appropriate. Referring to urban planning norms, she underscored the importance of ensuring compliance with urban green cover requirements and recommended a decentralised approach through the creation of neighbourhood parks, multi-layered urban farming systems and the conservation and development of water bodies to enhance local cooling and climate resilience.



21. Ms. Patricia Mukhim, Editor, The Shillong Times, Shillong, Meghalaya, described the unique environmental context of North-East India, noting the region's rich biodiversity and dense forests located roughly 15 kilometres from urban hubs. She emphasised that these forests act as guardians of the local environment and must be protected. She reported persistent problems with river pollution within city limits despite community efforts. Her group, Operation Cleanup, has been removing waste from rivers twice monthly for nine years but repeatedly finds the same pollution recurring. Ms. Patricia highlighted weak implementation of environmental laws and limited capacity of pollution control boards, which are poorly staffed and provide inadequate supervision. She cited examples such as people washing vehicles in rivers and ongoing encroachment of wetlands in cities

like Guwahati, which increases flood risk. Linking these governance failures to heat wave resilience, she urged protection and expansion of urban water bodies, lakes and green spaces, stronger enforcement against encroachment, improved coordination with pollution control authorities and concrete steps to ensure existing laws are implemented effectively to address climate change impacts.

22. Dr. Shalini Dhyani, Scientist-E, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, underscored the significant decline in urban green spaces and wetland buffers over the past decades, resulting in uneven access to green areas and increased vulnerability to heat stress. She highlighted the need for ecosystem-based urban planning through interconnected green corridors, scientifically guided plantation of suitable native species and the development of more natural and ecologically functional green spaces. She further emphasised improving the quantity and equitable distribution of public green spaces, particularly for vulnerable groups such as migrant workers and slum residents and recommended ensuring access to parks during heat wave periods as well as adjusting outdoor working hours to reduce exposure to extreme heat.

23. Shri Sunil Sharma, Joint Director, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, underscored the need to prioritise the protection of vulnerable groups, particularly street vendors and children, who are disproportionately affected by extreme heat and inadequate urban infrastructure. He emphasised the importance of effective enforcement of urban planning regulations to promote sustainable development, safeguard public health and enhance the resilience and safety of urban environments.



24. Mr. Gautam Talukdar, Scientist-F, Wildlife Institute of India, emphasised the importance of broadening heat monitoring and mitigation beyond air temperature to include land surface temperature. He recommended targeted measures for industrial and urban planning to reduce heat emissions and maladaptation. He urged monitoring of heat emissions from large industrial installations to understand and manage their contribution to urban heat. He noted the City Biodiversity Index is already in use in about 20 cities, including Indore and Ahmedabad, as a useful tool to monitor and track blue-green spaces within urban areas. To minimise maladaptation, he recommended re-evaluating interventions in urban heat islands and hotspots, for example, assessing whether solar panel deployment may exacerbate local heating and promoted alternatives such as

terrace gardening, reflective surfaces and other nature-based solutions to reduce heat.

25. Shri V. B. Kumar, Special Monitor, NHRC, suggested undertaking a review and rapid audit of existing provisions relating to urban planning, building regulations and heat mitigation measures. He advocated integrating heat action plans, building plans and cooling strategies on a common platform supported by a dedicated dashboard, with interventions categorised into short, medium and long-term measures. He further recommended promoting urban greening initiatives on rooftops, flyovers and other built spaces through mandatory provisions or incentive-based mechanisms. He also emphasised the importance of documenting and disseminating best practices and developing a heat-wave index to support planning, monitoring and decision-making.

26. Ms. Anupama Nilekar Chandra, DG, Investigation, noted that under the direction of the Union Minister, central armed police forces have successfully implemented a large-scale afforestation initiative. She recommended that this model be adopted and replicated by state police forces to expand urban and peri-urban greening efforts.

27. Justice Bidyut Rajan Sarangi, Member, NHRC, emphasised the urgency of addressing heat waves and commended ongoing efforts toward mitigation. He urged a collective shift from exploiting natural resources to preserving and protecting them, stressing that technological proficiency in future generations will not substitute for active conservation. He called for shared responsibility to protect the environment today for the well-being of present and future generations.



28. In his concluding remarks, Hon'ble Justice V. Ramasubramanian, Chairperson, NHRC, observed that the discussions had highlighted the growing challenges posed by heat waves and the need for a comprehensive and sustainable response. He emphasised that urban development must proceed in harmony with environmental protection and that the preservation and restoration of natural resources should form an integral part of development planning. He noted the concerns raised regarding the degradation of forests, wetlands and water bodies, and stressed the importance of strengthening institutional and policy

measures to safeguard these critical ecosystems. Summing up the deliberations, he highlighted the need for science-based planning, protection of vulnerable populations, enhancement of urban green spaces, conservation of water resources and effective implementation of heat mitigation measures. He expressed hope that the recommendations emerging from the consultation would substantially contribute towards developing more sustainable, climate-resilient and liveable cities while safeguarding the rights and well-being of present and future generations.

Annex

List of Participants

National Human Rights Commission

1. Justice V Ramasubramanian, Hon'ble Chairperson
2. Justice (Dr.) Bidyut Sarangi, Hon'ble Member
3. Smt. Vijaya Bharathi Sayani, Hon'ble Member
4. Shri Bharat Lal, Secretary General, NHRC
5. Smt. Anupama Nilekar Chandra, Director General (Investigation)
6. Smt. Saidingpuii Chhakchhuak, Joint Secretary
7. Ms. Varsha Apte, Consultant, Research
8. Ms. Radhika Goel, Research Assistant
9. Shri Rishi Kumar, Research Assistant
10. Ms. Pratyush Singh Rathaur, Junior Research Consultant
11. Ms. Avani Verma, Junior Research Consultant
12. Ms. Stuti Joshi, Junior Research Consultant
13. Ms. Vaidehi Rastogi, Junior Research Consultant

Core Group Members

1. Dr. Promode Kant IFS(Retd), Adjunct Professor, Advanced Institute of Wildlife Conservation, Chennai
2. Prof.N.H. Ravindranath, Professor (Retd.), Centre for Sustainable Technology, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore
3. Shri Niranjana Dev Bharadwaj, Distinguished Advisor, Global Foundation for Advancement of Environment and Human Wellness
4. Shri Sundaram Verma, Environmentalist
5. Smt. Patricia Mukhim, Editor, The Shillong Times, Shillong, Meghalaya

Ex officio Members

1. Dr. H. S. Ginwal, Deputy Director General, Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE), Dehradun
2. Dr. Anil Kumar Mishra, Additional Secretary, Technical Expert, National Rainfed Area Authority, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India.
3. Dr. Shalini Dhyani, Scientist, Council of Scientific Industrial Research - National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (CSIR-NEERI), Nagpur
4. Dr. Suvha Lama, Scientist, Council of Scientific Industrial Research -

National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (CSIR-NEERI),
Nagpur

5. Shri Gautam Talukdar, Scientist-F, Wildlife Institute of India
6. Shri Sunil Sharma, Joint Director, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

Special Invitees

1. Shri Akhil Srivastava, Scientist, Meteorology, India Meteorological Department, Government of India
2. Shri VB Kumar, Special Monitor, NHRC
3. Ms. G.S. Chitra, Joint Secretary (H&FW), Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
4. Dr. Akash Shrivastav, Additional Director, Ministry of Home and Family Welfare
5. Shri Rakesh Kumar, IFS, Advisor (Policy & Plan and CBT), National Disaster Management Authority
6. Shri Banchhanidhi Pani, IAS, Municipal Commissioner, Ahmedabad
7. Shri Kshitij Singhal, Municipal Commissioner, Indore Municipal Corporation
8. Shri Vimal Meena, Director, Ministry of Labour and Employment
9. Shri V.K. Chaurasia, Advisor, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
10. Dr. Aniket Chowdhury, DD, NCDC, MoHFW
11. Dr. Prerna Joshi, Assistant Professor, National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM)
12. Dr. Aarti Khosla, Director, Climate Trends
13. Shri Rajneesh Sareen, Programme Director, Sustainable Building & Habitat Program, CSE
14. Ms. Prerna Ojha, Research Analyst, Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW)