Outcomes/ Recommendations from the Conclave

The National Climate Conclave 2025: Policy, Practice, and Performance was successfully held on 1st and 2nd December 2025 at The Lalit Hotel, New Delhi. The event brought together government officials, academics, NGOs, and policy professionals to advance India's climate action agenda. The Conclave served as a platform to review the progress of States and Union Territories in implementing their State Action Plans on Climate Change (SAPCCs), facilitate knowledge sharing among leading states, and strengthen alignment between state and national climate priorities. It also emphasized the role of international agencies and multi-stakeholder collaboration in addressing climate challenges.

Some of the Key Outcomes/Recommendations from the Conclave are listed below,

1. Legal and Statutory Mandate for SAPCC

A clear legal or statutory mandate for the State Action Plans on Climate Change (SAPCC) is critical to strengthen its authority, ensure continuity across political and administrative transitions, and guarantee effective implementation across all relevant government departments. Institutionalizing SAPCCs through a legal framework would provide a formal structure for accountability, create binding responsibilities for departments, and ensure that climate action remains a sustained priority irrespective of changes in leadership or policy focus.

2. Integrated, Climate-Smart Governance

The conclave reinforced the need for integrated governance approaches that are climate-smart and proactive. This involves breaking departmental silos, strengthening inter-agency coordination, and embedding disaster risk reduction, climate adaptation, and mitigation measures into routine planning, budgeting, and policy-making processes. By mainstreaming climate considerations into everyday governance, governments can ensure that climate resilience becomes an inherent part of all development programs and administrative decision-making.

3. State-Led Innovations and Cross-Learning

The discussion highlighted various state-led innovations and best practices that can serve as models for replication across other regions. These include early warning systems, parametric insurance schemes, digital hazard mapping, data-driven dashboards, Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), and community-based preparedness programs. Sharing lessons learned across states encourages cross-learning, promotes scalability of effective interventions, and enhances the overall capacity of governments and communities to respond to climate risks efficiently.

4. Science, Strategic Knowledge, and Evidence-Based Decision-Making

Science, strategic knowledge, and evidence-based decision-making are central to effective climate action. Robust Monitoring, Reporting, and Verification (MRV) systems, along with well-structured Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) frameworks, are essential to translate SAPCC policies into measurable, tangible outcomes. These frameworks ensure that interventions are guided by accurate data, facilitate adaptive management, optimize resource allocation, and maintain transparency and accountability in implementation.

5. Climate Finance as a Key Enabler

Access to adequate and innovative climate finance is vital for the successful implementation of SAPCCs. The conclave highlighted the importance of blended finance, dedicated funding mechanisms at national and state levels, engagement with the private sector, and risk-transfer instruments such as insurance. Sustainable financing mechanisms enable scaling of climate initiatives, support innovative approaches, and reduce the economic burden on governments while ensuring long-term resilience and sustainability.

6. Inclusive and Participatory Climate Action

The importance of inclusivity in climate action was emphasized, highlighting the need to empower women, youth, and marginalized communities. Engaging these groups in decision-making ensures that diverse perspectives, local knowledge, and unique capacities are integrated into planning and implementation. This participatory approach strengthens ownership, enhances the sustainability of interventions, and fosters socially equitable climate resilience strategies.

7. Integrating Traditional Knowledge into Education

The conclave stressed the critical role of traditional knowledge in climate resilience. One key recommendation was to incorporate traditional ecological knowledge, sustainable practices, and local environmental understanding into school curricula. Educating young people about these practices fosters environmental stewardship, reconnects communities with their heritage, and ensures that time-tested adaptation methods are preserved and applied alongside modern climate strategies.

8. Active Involvement of Women and Youth in Policy Implementation

Beyond participation, women and youth need to play active leadership roles in the design and implementation of climate policies. Their engagement is crucial in areas such as water management, energy transitions, climate security, and community resilience. Capacity-building initiatives, education, skill development, and the promotion of green entrepreneurship can empower these groups to contribute meaningfully to climate action, ensuring that policies are both inclusive and effective.