

India cooling action plan

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Why in news?

Recently Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change released the India Cooling Action Plan (ICAP).

About the plan:

- India is one of the first countries in the world to develop a comprehensive Cooling Action plan.
- The **overarching goal of ICAP** is to provide sustainable cooling and thermal comfort for all while securing environmental and socio-economic benefits for the society.
- It **provides an integrated vision towards cooling across sectors** encompassing inter alia reduction of cooling demand, refrigerant transition, enhancing energy efficiency and better technology options with a 20 year time horizon.
- **The ICAP seeks to**
 1. Reduce cooling demand across sectors by 20% to 25% by 2037-38
 2. Reduce refrigerant demand by 25% to 30% by 2037-38
 3. Reduce cooling energy requirements by 25% to 40% by 2037-38
 4. Recognize “cooling and related areas” as a thrust area of research under national S&T Programme
 5. Training and certification of 100,000 servicing sector technicians by 2022-23, synergizing with Skill India Mission.

Benefits:

1. Thermal comfort for all – provision for cooling for EWS and LIG housing
2. Sustainable cooling – low GHG emissions related to

cooling

3. Doubling Farmers Income – better cold chain infrastructure – better value of produce to farmers, less wastage of produce
4. Skilled workforce for better livelihoods and environmental protection
5. Make in India – domestic manufacturing of air-conditioning and related cooling equipment's
6. Robust R&D on alternative cooling technologies