

REGULATING ENERGY TRANSITION IN INDIA: UNDERSTANDING THE CHALLENGES

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ABSTRACT

India is on the brink of a renewable energy transition, with ongoing efforts shaping its polity, economy, and society. The shift towards a fossil-free energy economy aligns with India's commitment at COP26 in Glasgow (2021) to achieve net-zero carbon emissions by 2070. Key initiatives include the Energy Conservation Act (ECA) amendment (2022), which introduced a carbon credit trading scheme, and the National Green Hydrogen Mission (2023) promoting green hydrogen. Additional programs, such as grid infrastructure enhancement, solar energy expansion, and LPG promotion, reflect India's dedication to reducing fossil fuel dependency. However, while these initiatives drive energy transition, they require a strong legal framework to ensure smooth implementation. The existing legal regime must adapt to current and future needs, facilitating a structured regulatory environment for energy transition. This chapter examines four key aspects: (a) India's energy transition landscape and ongoing programs, (b) existing legal frameworks supporting the transition, and (c) gaps and challenges in regulating the transition. A well-defined legal infrastructure will be crucial in advancing India's energy goals, fostering investments, and ensuring compliance with international climate commitments. Addressing legal barriers will be key to accelerating India's transition towards a sustainable and resilient energy future.

Keywords: *Renewable energy, energy transition, ECA, Sustainable governance, regulation*

INTRODUCTION

Energy transition, a pivotal global shift from fossil fuels to renewable energy sources, is a cornerstone in creating a cleaner, more sustainable energy system (Enel green power). This strategic move, which involves a balanced energy mix

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