

Saturday, Dec 09, 2023


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India climate action fourth strongest, says report

India's climate actions were rated the fourth strongest in an annual performance index released by Germanwatch, a non-government organisation based in Bonn, Friday, marking an improvement of one place from the previous year. The Climate Change Performance Index ranks 59 countries and the European Union every year on their performance on climate actions. None of [...]

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Dubai | Updated: December 9, 2023 01:37 IST


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Union Minister for Environment, Forest & Climate Change Bhupender Yadav during the first day of the COP28 climate conference, in UAE, Thursday, Nov. 30, 2023. (PTI Photo)

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None of these countries have been able to achieve a "very high" rating over the last few years, because of which the first three ranks are left vacant. Like last year, Denmark's performance was rated the best and was ranked fourth. India was in the top five to have moved up this year. The two other countries with better performance than India this year are Estonia and the Philippines.

The index assesses performance on four indicators — country's total emissions, renewable energy deployment, energy use and climate policy. India received a high ranking on the greenhouse gas emissions and energy use indicators, and a medium rating on climate policy and renewable energy deployment.

The Germanwatch report noted that India needed to agree to a faster phase-out of coal, reduce reliance on gas, and further expand its renewable energy capacity.