

Message from GCCA India

2025 has been a year of defining moments, as we reflect on the year for GCCA India and its member companies.

The cornerstone of our efforts this year was the publication of the **Decarbonization Roadmap for the Indian Cement Sector: Net Zero CO₂ by 2070**. Released in March 2025 and developed in collaboration with TERI, this roadmap serves as a guiding document in our aspiration to be a "Net Zero" cement sector by 2070.

The year began with renewed leadership as we welcomed Mr Joydeep Mukherjee, Managing Director of HeidelbergCement India, in January as our Co-Chair. In May 2025, we signed a significant Memorandum of Understanding with CII-GBC, further solidifying our collaborative networks.

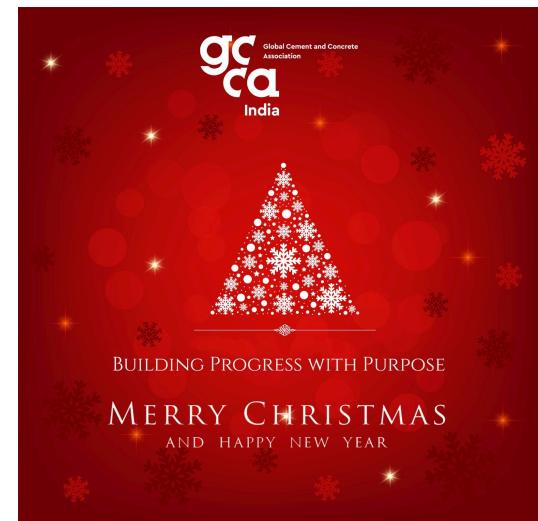
Furthermore, in September 2025, we launched the "Comparative Evaluation of Embodied Carbon of High-rise and Low-rise Buildings in India" at IIT Bombay. Released in collaboration with the Indian Concrete Institute and the Low Carbon Construct Forum, the report emphasizes the importance of addressing embodied carbon in India's building sector, which accounts for a significant share of national emissions.

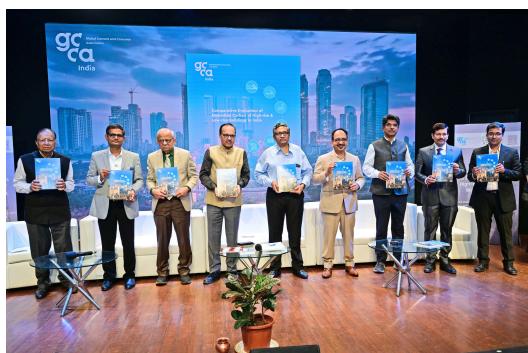
Capacity building and safety remained at the heart of our operations in 2025. We successfully conducted two "Train the Trainers" sessions on Contractor Safety Management, the first in Mumbai in March and the second in Hyderabad in June. We rounded off our training calendar in November by supporting GCCA with a Workshop on the GCCA CO₂ and Energy Protocol V 3.1, ensuring our members remain at the forefront of global reporting standards.

Finally, to close the year, in December, we released a report on "Study on Carbon Uptake by Concrete in India" in collaboration with National Council of Cement and Building Materials (NCB). This study aims to provide a value for CO₂ uptake by concrete, enabling its inclusion in India's emission reporting to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

This newsletter serves as a roundup of key highlights from July 2025.

With a lot of activities planned in 2026 ahead, we wish you a **Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year**.





Launch of "Comparative Evaluation of Embodied Carbon of High-Rise and Low-Rise Buildings in India" at IIT Bombay

GCCA India unveiled its report "Comparative Evaluation of Embodied Carbon of High-Rise and Low-Rise Buildings in India" at IIT Bombay on 13th September 2025, in collaboration with Indian Concrete Institute (ICI), Mumbai Centre IITB-ICI Student Chapter and Low Carbon Construct Forum (LCCF). The report emphasizes the importance of addressing embodied carbon in India's building sector, which accounts for a significant share of national emissions. With India's commitment to achieving Net Zero CO₂ by 2070, the findings provide actionable insights on material choices, concrete mixes, and strategies to reduce embodied carbon emissions in the built environment, specifically for high-rise and low-rise buildings.

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Release of 'Study of Carbon Uptake by Concrete in India' in collaboration with the National Council of Cement and Building Materials (NCB)

GCCA India launched a report on the 'Study on Carbon Uptake by Concrete in India,' developed in collaboration with the National Council for Cement and Building Materials (NCB), during the 63rd NCB Day celebration on December 24, 2025. This report calculates the carbon uptake by concrete in India from 1996 to 2024, using the IVL Swedish Environmental Research Institute Tier 1 methodology. This study aims to provide a value for CO₂ uptake by concrete, enabling its inclusion in India's emission reporting to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

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Panel on Reducing Embodied Carbon in Buildings at IIT Bombay hosted by GCCA India

Experts from engineering, architecture, and cement sectors discussed strategies, technologies, and policy alignment needed to cut embodied carbon in India's built environment, at the report release of "Comparative Evaluation of Embodied Carbon of High-Rise and Low-Rise Buildings in India"

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Op-ed on India's Cement Sector Decarbonization

GCCA India Co-Chair Mr. Joydeep Mukherjee along with Director General, TERI Dr. Vibha Dhawan highlight how the cement industry can meet rising demand while targeting Net Zero CO₂ by 2070, stressing the need for strong policy support.

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GCCA Cement CO₂ Protocol and Energy Workshop in Chittorgarh

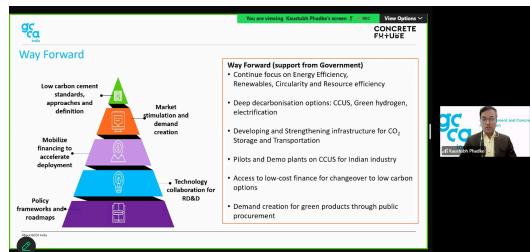
GCCA hosted its first India workshop on the Cement CO₂ & Energy Protocol, training 36 industry professionals on carbon accounting standards through technical sessions and hands-on learning, supported by GCCA India.

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Training on GCCA Water Positivity Index

On November 6, 2025, Mr. Kaustubh Phadke (Head GCCA India) and Ms. Pashmin Dee (Sustainability Manager GCCA India) conducted a training session for around 30 participants from Cement companies of Telengana & Andhra Pradesh on the GCCA Water Positivity Index and Toolkit at the Andhra Cement Plant in Dachepalli.

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Webinar for the Indian Cement Sector on Pre-NDC and Just Transition in collaboration with UN Global Compact India

Mr. Kaustubh Phadke set the context of the roundtable discussion on Pre NDCs and Just Transition webinar held on 30 September, 2025, discussing the Decarbonization Roadmap for the Indian Cement Sector and emphasising on the need for policy support for transition to technologies like CCUS followed by Presentation from various cement companies like JSW Cement, Adani Cement, JK Cement etc

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GUEST VIEW
India's cement demand will soar but emissions need not

JOYDEEP MUKHERJEE & VIBHA DHAWAN



After a decade of growth in the 2010s, India's cement industry is set to experience a period of relative stability. The market is likely to grow at a rate of 2-3% per annum, with demand reaching 3.5 billion tonnes by 2030.

With the Indian government's focus on climate action, the cement industry must take steps to reduce its carbon footprint.

First, the industry must invest in energy efficiency and renewable energy sources. This will not only reduce emissions but also save costs in the long run.

Second, the industry must embrace innovation and technology. This includes the use of advanced materials and processes to reduce energy consumption and emissions.

Third, the industry must work with government and other stakeholders to develop policies that support the transition to a low-carbon economy.

Fourth, the industry must engage with consumers and the public to raise awareness about the importance of a sustainable future.

Finally, the industry must work together to ensure that the transition is just and equitable, particularly for workers in the sector.

By taking these steps, the Indian cement industry can ensure that it remains a key part of the country's economic growth while also contributing to a sustainable future.

JOYDEEP MUKHERJEE is the Director General of TERI, a leading think tank in India. **VIBHA DHAWAN** is the Co-Chair of the GCCA India Chapter and a Director at TERI.

QUICK READ India's cement demand will soar but emissions need not



Webinar on Methane Avoidance & Nature-Based Solutions

GCCA India hosted an insightful webinar for its members on Methane Avoidance and Nature-Based Solutions (NbS), in collaboration with FICEM (Inter-American Cement Federation - Latin America & Caribbean). The webinar focused on how South America has formulated its Carbon Neutrality roadmap for the cement and concrete sector and elaborated on methane avoidance as a possible decarbonization lever, using biomass as an alternative fuel in the clinker manufacturing.

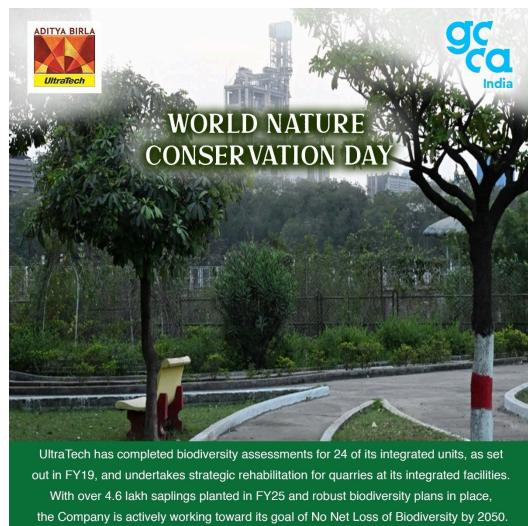
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gcca
Global Cement and Concrete
Association
India

Session on Methane Avoidance & NbS by
FICEM (Inter-American Cement
Federation - Latin America & Caribbean)

17th July 2025
Time: 5:30pm – 6:30 pm IST



Member Company Case Studies for Nature Conservation Day 2025

GCCA India shared case studies of member companies (UltraTech Cement, JSW Cements) for the World Nature Conservation Day on 28th July 2025, to showcase companies commitment to nature-positive actions across water conservation, circular economy, and biodiversity protection at Cement Plant sites.

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GCCA India at WOC India Awards 2025

Mr. Kaustubh Phadke served as one of the jury members for the World of Concrete (WoC) Awards as WoC India honored innovations, sustainability efforts, and excellence across India's concrete and construction sector.

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GCCA India at the 17th GRIHA Summit

Mr. Kaustubh Phadke highlighted the cement sector's Net Zero CO₂ progress at the GRIHA (Green Rating for Integrated Habitat Assessment) Summit. He elaborated on the vital role of blended cements, urging stronger policy support and collaboration for a low-carbon built environment.

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GCCA India at the Workshop on Circularity and Built Environment in India

Ms. Pashmin Dee (Sustainability Manager, GCCA India) presented the 'Decarbonization Roadmap for the Indian Cement Sector: Net Zero CO₂ by 2070' at the Workshop on Circularity in the Built Environment at the United Nations (UN) held at Delhi, India.

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About Global Ce

GCCA India members acco cement industry and major
GCCA India works with the
sector on climate change,
safety, and SDGs.

GCCA India Initiative at the Asia Pacific Occupational Safety & Health Organisation (APOS) 39th International Conference on Safety, Health & Environment

Mr. Kaustubh Phadke along with Mr. Ajay Sharma (Corporate Safety Head, UltraTech Cement), presented the Contractor Safety Management – GCCA India Initiative at the Asia Pacific Occupational Safety & Health Organisation (APOS) 39th International Conference on Safety, Health & Environment, held in Delhi on the 28th of November 2025.

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GCCA India at Indian Cement Review Conference 2025

Mr. Kaustubh Phadke, took part in a panel discussion on policy–market alignment for a low-carbon built environment and the sector's Net Zero goals, and also serving as a jury member for the ICR Awards.

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GCCA Water Positivity Index and Toolkit at RECEIC–UNDP Knowledge Series

Ms. Pashmin Dee spoke at the RECEIC–UNDP Knowledge Series on November 11, 2025, on "Advancing Circularity and Climate Action through South–South Cooperation." She introduced the GCCA Water Positivity Index and Toolkit, highlighting its benefits for cement companies and potential applications in other sectors.

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Stakeholder Consultation Workshop on Green Public Procurement in Steel and Cement sector

Kaustubh Phadke participated in the panel discussion highlighting on decarbonization roadmap of the Indian cement sector, the role of SCM as a decarbonization lever, and the importance of low-carbon cement and its significance in green public procurement held at India International Centre, on August 18, 2025

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GCCA Work program at JSW Jeet 2025

Mr. Kaustubh Phadke presented and elaborated the GCCA India work (water positivity protocol, roadmap, CCUS reports, etc.) at the JSW Cement Sustainability and Innovation Meet – JEET 2025 in Vijayanagar, from 3 to 5th September 2025

Panel Discussion on Is Bharat Aligned with Global CCUS?

Mr. Kaustubh Phadke participated in a panel discussion on Is Bharat Aligned with Global CCUS Policy? exploring how India can align with global Carbon Capture, Utilization & Storage (CCUS) trends while building a robust domestic ecosystem at India BioEnergy & Tech Expo on 25th September 2025, organized by Indian Federation of Green Energy & MM Activ.

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Internship Highlights at GCCA India

GCCA India had two management interns who contributed to the research work on decarbonization, alternative fuel use and sustainable concrete use. We're now inviting applications for the next internship batch.

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Concrete in Life 2025/26 Photo Contest Opens

Share your best concrete-themed photos on Instagram with the campaign hashtags for a chance to participate in this global competition, open to all. Submissions close on 31st December 2025.

[Click for Details...](#)

YOU
COULD WIN
\$10,000

JUST BY TAKING A PHOTO
OF CONCRETE

gcca / CONCRETE IN LIFE
Global Photography Competition



Roundtable on Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and Just Transition

GCCA India supported the UN GCNI roundtable on NDCs and Just Transition held at JSW Cements on 22nd December 2025. Mr. Kaustubh Phadke set the stage of the roundtable by discussing Industry Pathways to Decarbonization from both global and national perspectives and also participated in discussions focused on the policy needed to support decarbonization efforts in the sector

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About GCCA India

Global Cement & Concrete Association (GCCA) India works with the Indian cement & concrete sector on climate change, circular economy, health & safety, SDGs and communication. Sustainable development of the cement and concrete industry is at the core of the GCCA's work. The GCCA gathers and publishes data on the industry's sustainability commitments, guidelines, and initiates research. 'Decarbonization Roadmap for the Indian Cement Sector: Net-Zero CO₂ by 2070' is the collective aspiration of India's leading cement companies to contribute to building the sustainable world of tomorrow. GCCA India is affiliated to the Global Cement and Concrete Association – GCCA. More information about GCCA is available at <https://gccassociation.org/>



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