

P O R T F O L I O

superFUTURES



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MA Interior Design 2024-25
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n a r r a t i v e

Halfway to Zero

- **Genre:** Socio-Political Drama | Speculative Fiction | Thriller
- **Setting:** India, 2030 – primarily in Chandigarh, the pilot city for a national environmental policy.
- **Tone:** Tense, introspective, atmospheric
- **Themes:** Environmental ethics, surveillance, truth vs propaganda, personal integrity, systemic corruption, quiet resistance

Narrative Introduction:

In 2025, the Indian government launched a bold experiment — a pilot city project in Chandigarh to accelerate carbon neutrality across its infrastructure. At the heart of this transformation lies CMS: the Carbon Monitoring System, a high-tech hub designed to track, standardize, and showcase the city's progress. But behind its glass walls and dashboards of data, a quieter tension simmers. As construction booms and policy narratives promise a sustainable future, hidden manipulations begin to distort the very numbers that define success. 'CarbonCtrl' is a story not just about systems and sustainability — but about the people within them. Meera, a young mechanical engineer and climate activist, finds herself entangled in a web of ambition, compromise, and silent rebellion. This is not just a future imagined. It's a future unfolding — one where neutrality becomes negotiable, and data decides destiny.

From the Creator's Perspective:

Through this film, I wanted to explore the uncomfortable space between intention and action — how the race toward carbon neutrality can sometimes become a spectacle of metrics rather than meaningful change. It's a critique of how systems built to solve climate problems can themselves become compromised when progress is defined only by numbers. This project is deeply personal — a way to question the narratives we're fed, the silence of complicity, and the power of individual dissent within institutional frameworks. In a world obsessed with visibility, 'CarbonCtrl' asks what remains unseen, and at what cost.

POLLUTION TO CONSUMPTION

Daily Emissions

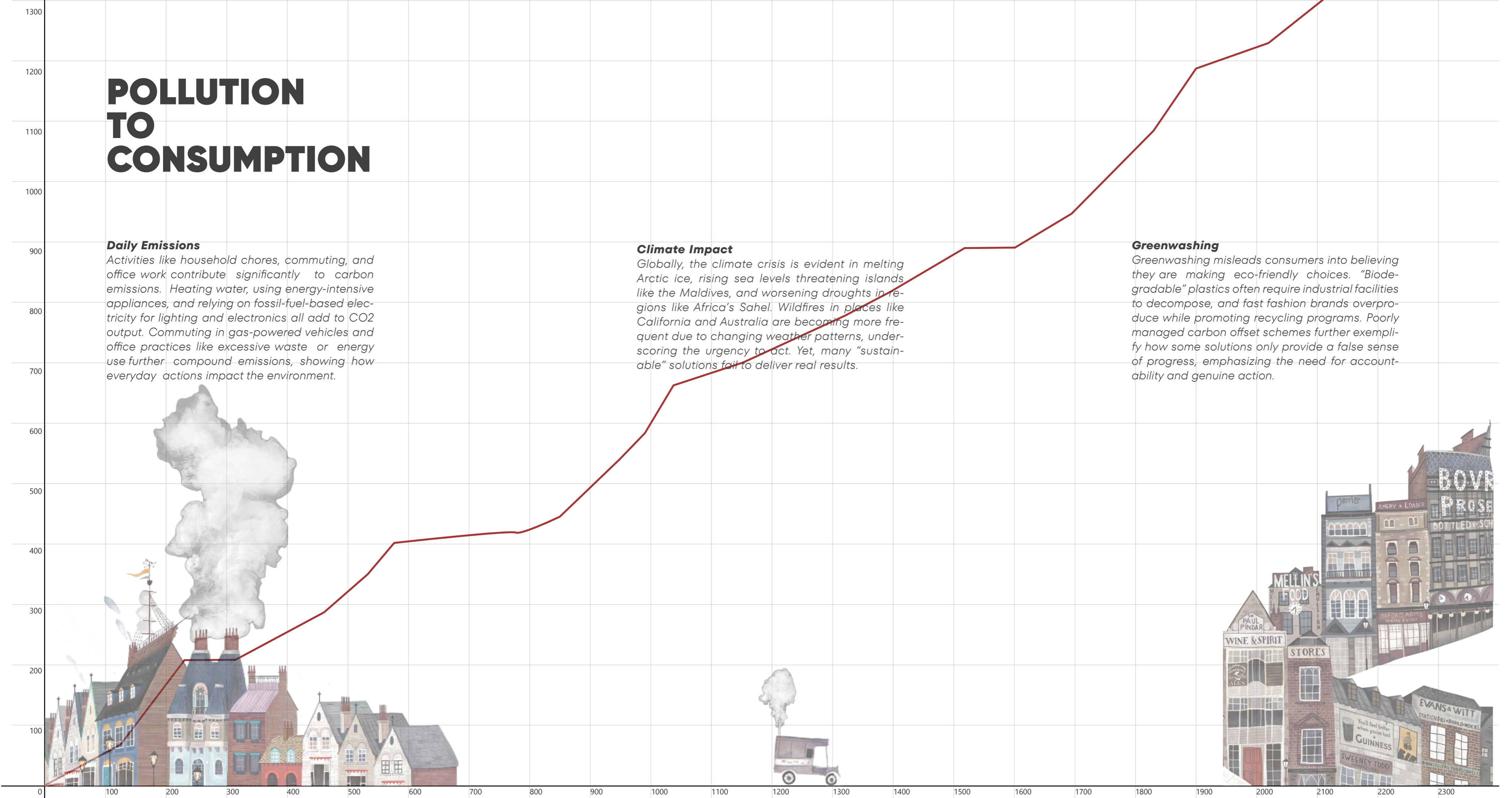
Activities like household chores, commuting, and office work contribute significantly to carbon emissions. Heating water, using energy-intensive appliances, and relying on fossil-fuel-based electricity for lighting and electronics all add to CO2 output. Commuting in gas-powered vehicles and office practices like excessive waste or energy use further compound emissions, showing how everyday actions impact the environment.

Climate Impact

Globally, the climate crisis is evident in melting Arctic ice, rising sea levels threatening islands like the Maldives, and worsening droughts in regions like Africa's Sahel. Wildfires in places like California and Australia are becoming more frequent due to changing weather patterns, underscoring the urgency to act. Yet, many "sustainable" solutions fail to deliver real results.

Greenwashing

Greenwashing misleads consumers into believing they are making eco-friendly choices. "Biodegradable" plastics often require industrial facilities to decompose, and fast fashion brands overproduce while promoting recycling programs. Poorly managed carbon offset schemes further exemplify how some solutions only provide a false sense of progress, emphasizing the need for accountability and genuine action.



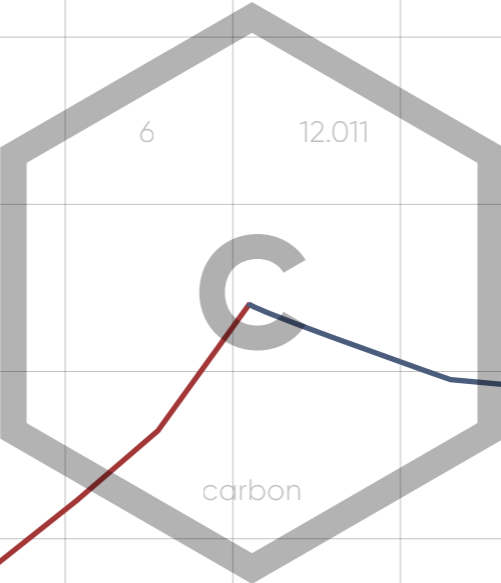
RECOGNISE AND ANALYSE

INTERMEDIARY

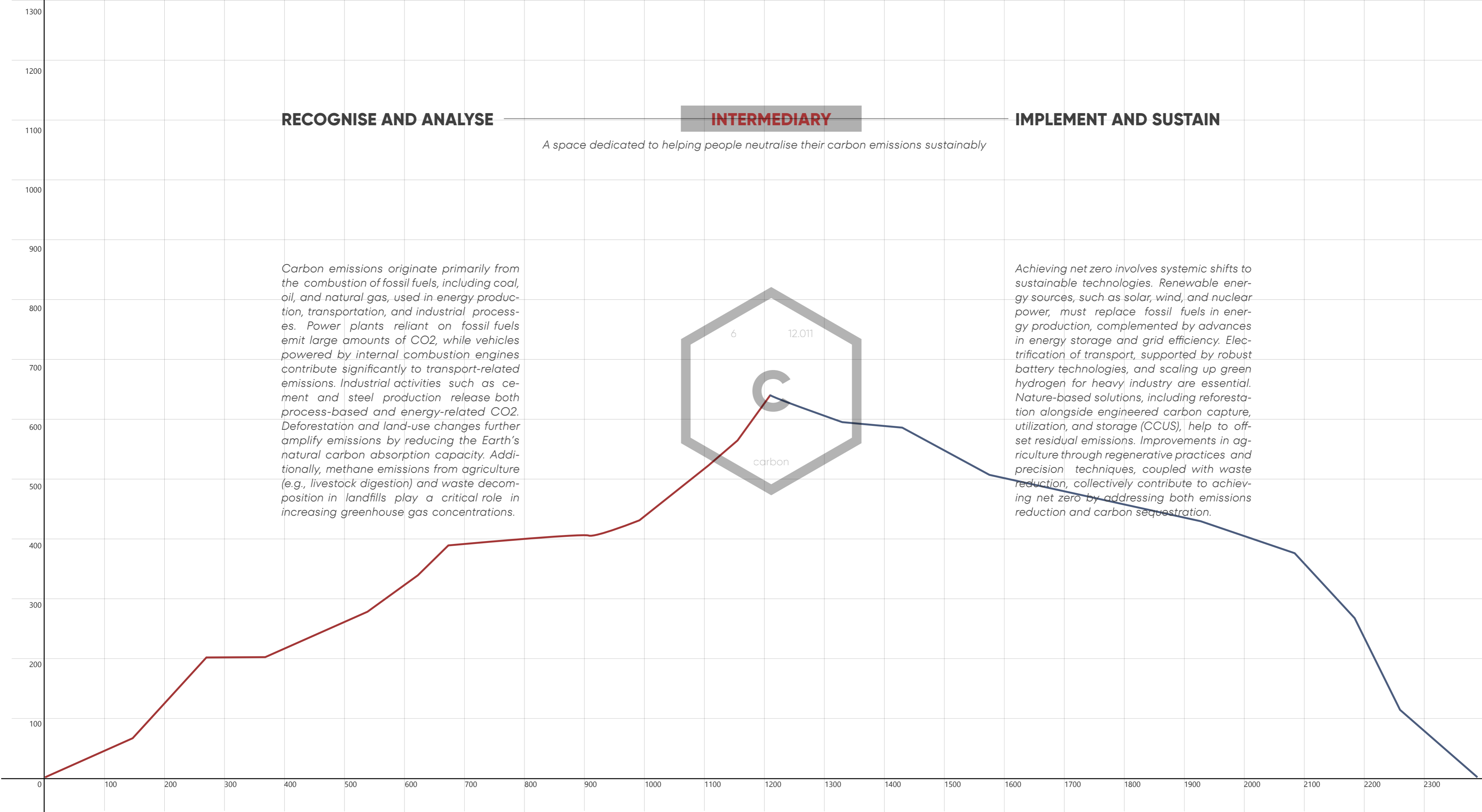
IMPLEMENT AND SUSTAIN

A space dedicated to helping people neutralise their carbon emissions sustainably

Carbon emissions originate primarily from the combustion of fossil fuels, including coal, oil, and natural gas, used in energy production, transportation, and industrial processes. Power plants reliant on fossil fuels emit large amounts of CO₂, while vehicles powered by internal combustion engines contribute significantly to transport-related emissions. Industrial activities such as cement and steel production release both process-based and energy-related CO₂. Deforestation and land-use changes further amplify emissions by reducing the Earth's natural carbon absorption capacity. Additionally, methane emissions from agriculture (e.g., livestock digestion) and waste decomposition in landfills play a critical role in increasing greenhouse gas concentrations.



Achieving net zero involves systemic shifts to sustainable technologies. Renewable energy sources, such as solar, wind, and nuclear power, must replace fossil fuels in energy production, complemented by advances in energy storage and grid efficiency. Electrification of transport, supported by robust battery technologies, and scaling up green hydrogen for heavy industry are essential. Nature-based solutions, including reforestation alongside engineered carbon capture, utilization, and storage (CCUS), help to offset residual emissions. Improvements in agriculture through regenerative practices and precision techniques, coupled with waste reduction, collectively contribute to achieving net zero by addressing both emissions reduction and carbon sequestration.



Education and Awareness

Educating people about their carbon footprint is the first step toward encouraging sustainability. Tools like carbon calculators, infographics, and educational content can help individuals understand how their daily actions impact the environment. Collaborating with influencers and experts to share simple sustainability tips can make the message more relatable and inspire action.

Incentives for Green Choices

Offering incentives can be a powerful motivator for people to adopt carbon-neutral alternatives. Financial rewards, such as discounts or cashbacks can lower the upfront cost of sustainable products, like electric vehicles, solar panels, or energy-efficient appliances. For example, providing financial incentives for using electric vehicles, installing solar panels, or purchasing energy-efficient products can reduce the financial barrier and encourage sustainable choices.

Showcasing Real Impact

People are more likely to take action when they see the tangible results of their efforts. Highlighting success stories, data-driven results, or visual campaigns that show measurable carbon reductions (such as tons of CO2 offset or trees planted) can inspire others to follow suit. Sharing these achievements builds a sense of accomplishment and urgency.

Accessibility and Affordability

Sustainability should be accessible to all. Marketing strategies should focus on making green products and services affordable and easy to adopt. Offering low-cost options for carbon offset programs or promoting affordable energy-efficient products can help ensure that everyone, regardless of their budget, can participate in reducing their carbon footprint.

Building Trust Through Transparency

Consumers need to trust that the

green products they buy are

genuinely sustainable. Transparency is key, with clear messaging about the environmental impact of products and services. Third-party certifications or independent verification can help build credibility and reassure consumers that they are making a real difference.

Fostering Community Engagement

Creating a sense of community can amplify sustainability efforts. Organizing local events or online challenges, like tree-planting days or carbon reduction goals, encourages collective action. Social media campaigns that allow participants to share their progress can also foster a sense of unity and motivate others to get involved.

MARKETING & LOOPHOLES

Electric vehicles (EVs) are often seen as eco-friendly, but their production, particularly battery mining, raises environmental and human rights concerns. In areas where electricity comes from fossil fuels, charging EVs still generates emissions. Additionally, recycling EV batteries is a challenge, as many facilities lack the capability to process them properly. Carbon offsetting is something that can seem like a quick fix, but many projects fail to meet their goals, such as insufficient CO2 sequestration or vulnerability to forest fires. Double-counting of carbon credits also inflates their impact, and short-term solutions like tree planting may not provide lasting benefits. Biodegradable plastics

Biodegradable plastics are often marketed as a sustainable alternative, but they only break down under specific conditions, like in industrial composting, which is not widely available. When disposed of in landfills, they decompose slowly and may release microplastics. The production process still requires significant energy and resources, making their overall environmental impact comparable to traditional plastics.

Plant-Based Alternatives

Plant-based foods are often seen as more sustainable than animal products, but they come with environmental challenges. Many require intensive processing, leading to high energy use and CO2 emissions. Large-scale farming of crops like soy and almonds can contribute to deforestation, while packaging and transportation further increase their environmental footprint.

Green Building Practices

Green building practices, like energy-efficient construction, are important but have limitations. The production of materials like steel, concrete, and glass is energy-intensive, potentially offsetting some of the building's efficiency gains. Additionally, ongoing energy needs for heating and cooling can still contribute to emissions if not managed properly.

Fast Fashion Sustainability Initiatives

Fast fashion brands have introduced sustainability initiatives, like clothing recycling and eco-friendly materials, but these efforts often fall short. Recycling programs typically only process a small percentage of collected clothes, while most still end up in landfills. Moreover, the overproduction of low-quality garments continues to drive environmental harm, and the labor practices behind these products are often not transparent or ethical.

p o l i c y

policy making process



This year served as the foundation of our research, where we looked into past events, policies, and social patterns. It helped us understand how the issue developed, what was previously attempted, and where gaps still exist. The goal was to ground our thinking in facts.

In 2025, we focused on current challenges and research. This is where we gathered real-time data, explored lived experiences, and defined the core structure of our policy. It was about understanding the now and building a relevant response.

2030 allowed us to make informed predictions based on current trends. We explored what the near future could look like if our policy was implemented, and how it might affect society in realistic, measurable ways.

At this stage, we speculated broader societal shifts. We considered how culture, technology, and values might evolve, and whether our policy could adapt. This helped us explore long-term impacts and prepare for change.

By 2050, we imagined more radical transformations. We questioned core assumptions, used storytelling, and envisioned futures where today's norms might no longer apply. This helped us design flexible, future-proof policies.

future policy process

studio debate 21 January

- future protection of young people's mental health: the introduction of law to create 'safe phones' for under 16s.
- future aim of Net Zero: creation of street community co-ops to incentivise household decarbonisation street-by-street.
- future easing of burden on health services: Pharmacuetical funding to delay the aging process.

In a recent future policy-making workshop held in our studio, a diverse group of students came together to explore how opinions, facts, lived experiences, and future impacts shape the creation of meaningful policies. The session was both engaging and thought-provoking, centered around the pressing topic: "Future protection of young people's mental health – the introduction of a law to create 'safe phones' for under-16s." The conversation brought out a wide spectrum of perspectives. While many advocated for regulating digital exposure through specially designed 'safe phones' that limit harmful content and screen time, I held a firm stance against children having personal phones altogether. Drawing from traditional Indian models like boarding schools or Gurukuls, I emphasized the importance of immersive, distraction-free environments focused on holistic growth. Others in the group highlighted the need for digital literacy, proposing educational reforms that empower children to use technology responsibly rather than restrict it entirely. Some believed in parental control mechanisms, while a few suggested that banning phones might isolate children from modern learning tools. This dialogue not only deepened our understanding of youth mental health but also made the process of policy-making more tangible—showing how varied viewpoints can contribute to building thoughtful, inclusive, and future-oriented policies.

p o l i c y

GreenTech Bharat Vision policy 2025

noun green smart construction

/gri:n sma:rt ken'strakfen/

supply chain

a construction industry supply chain that prioritizes environmentally friendly practices throughout the entire process, from sourcing materials to building and disposal, while also utilizing advanced technology and data analytics to optimize efficiency and minimize waste, achieving a sustainable construction approach.

Characters involved-

- Government
- middle class public
- Private Sector Engagement
- Technological Experts

The Greentech Bharat Vision Policy was implemented in 2025, aiming to make all Tier-2 cities in India 50% carbon-neutral by 2050, starting with Chandigarh. By 2030, the first CMS hub is operational, monitoring building emissions and offering sustainable solutions. The city's skyline changes with green rooftops, solar panels, and energy-efficient designs. However, while elite businesses adapt, smaller ones struggle to comply.

By 2040, the CMS hub reports a 50% drop in emissions, celebrated as a major achievement. Yet, manipulated data and greenwashing emerge, revealing loopholes and corruption. As the policy expands to other Tier-2 cities, economic disparities grow—middle-class households face increased taxes, while powerful industries exploit the system.

By 2050, India appears greener, but the policy's impact is debated. What began as a hopeful step toward sustainability has become a complex blend of progress, compromise, and skepticism.

objectives

The GreenTech Bharat Vision is a nationwide sustainability policy focused on making India a global leader in clean technology and carbon accountability. It aims to:

- Integrate real-time carbon tracking through the Carbon Monitoring System (CMS).
- Promote large-scale adoption of renewable energy and energy-efficient technologies.
- Transition to low-emission urban infrastructure and mobility solutions.
- Support innovation through green start-ups and public-private collaborations.
- Ensure inclusive climate action across urban India, with a specific goal of making all Tier-2 cities at least 50% carbon neutral by 2050.

challenges

While the policy sets ambitious targets, several obstacles remain:

- **Data Integrity:** Heavy reliance on digital tools like CMS creates opportunities for data manipulation or misrepresentation.
- **Infrastructure Gaps:** Many Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities lack the readiness and resources to scale green tech effectively.
- **Industrial Pushback:** Tensions between green reforms and industrial/economic interests, especially in fossil-fuel-heavy regions.
- **Cybersecurity Risks:** Centralized monitoring systems could be vulnerable to breaches, raising concerns about data security.
- **Public Trust:** Without visible, transparent action and local engagement, citizens may grow skeptical of reported progress.



Government of India



Ministry of Environment,
Forest and Climate
Change of India



carbon CTRL

t i m e l i n e

In 2025, the GreenTech Bharat Vision Policy introduced a much-needed shift toward addressing the carbon emissions of the construction industry, particularly focusing on both under-construction and operational buildings. The policy aimed to tackle carbon emissions across various stages of construction, from planning and material selection to building operations.

2015

Existing Framework

Policies in place: By 2015, India had established general climate policies, including the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC), Energy Conservation Building Code (ECBC), and initiatives under the Smart Cities Mission. However, these policies did not focus specifically on monitoring or regulating carbon emissions in the construction industry, especially for under-construction or operational buildings.

2025

Policy Launch & CMS Hub in Chandigarh

- *Policy Launch:* The GreenTech Bharat Vision Policy is introduced in 2025, focusing on reducing carbon emissions in the construction industry. Chandigarh is selected as the pilot city due to its planned infrastructure and readiness for innovation.
- *CMS Hub Installation:* The Carbon Monitoring System (CMS) Hub is established in Chandigarh to track emissions from both under-construction and operational buildings. A carbon calculator is installed in every building to monitor real-time emissions data.

Challenges:

- *Data Accuracy:* Ensuring the accuracy and reliability of the emissions data gathered from the carbon calculators.
- *Industry Resistance:* Construction companies may be resistant to adopting the new technology and procedures due to costs or lack of familiarity with sustainable practices.

2030

Early Results & Expansion to Other Cities

- *Chandigarh's Success:* By 2030, the pilot CMS Hub in Chandigarh shows promising results, demonstrating significant emissions reduction in construction projects.
- *Expansion:* Based on the success, CMS Hubs are installed in other Tier-2 cities, with carbon calculators added to all new and operational buildings. Advanced AI systems are integrated for better data analysis and prediction.

Challenges:

- *Scalability:* Expanding the CMS system to multiple cities presents logistical and infrastructure challenges, requiring coordination between local governments and construction firms.
- *Financial Investment:* Securing funds for CMS Hub installations and ensuring that all buildings, both old and new, are equipped with carbon calculators.
- *Training & Awareness:* There is a need for extensive training programs to ensure that construction companies understand how to use the new systems effectively.

2040

Full CMS Integration & Widespread Adoption

- *Wider Coverage:* By 2040, CMS Hubs are operational in every Tier-2 city, ensuring full-scale carbon emissions monitoring in the construction industry.
- *Policy Impact:* Data from CMS Hubs informs stronger building regulations and promotes the use of energy-efficient technologies. Sustainable construction practices become standard, and cities begin to see the impact of these changes.

Challenges:

- *Data Privacy and Security:* Ensuring the security of emissions data collected by CMS Hubs, especially as more cities and companies are involved.
- *Market Transition:* Encouraging traditional construction companies to transition to more sustainable building materials and energy-efficient processes may face resistance due to perceived high costs.
- *Infrastructure Gaps:* Not all Tier-2 cities may have the necessary infrastructure to support CMS systems, requiring additional investments in technology and resources.

2050

Nationwide CMS Network & 50% Carbon Neutrality in Tier-2 Cities

- *Nationwide CMS Hubs:* By 2050, CMS Hubs are fully operational across all Tier-2 cities, ensuring continuous emissions monitoring.
- *Carbon Neutrality Achieved:* At least 50% of construction projects in Tier-2 cities are now carbon-neutral, contributing to India's goal of net-zero emissions. Sustainable building practices are now widespread, and emissions from the construction industry are significantly reduced.

Challenges:

- *Ongoing Monitoring & Enforcement:* Continuous oversight is needed to ensure that construction projects comply with carbon reduction guidelines. This may require regular audits and penalties for non-compliance.
- *Technological Upkeep:* As the CMS network grows, maintaining and updating the technology infrastructure, especially the carbon calculators and AI systems, will be crucial to ensuring long-term success.
- *Changing Policies & Adaptation:* Adaptation to any changes in government policies or global standards on emissions will require ongoing flexibility and updates to the system.

3 x 3

failed prompts



labour union formation

midjourney prompt

A massive group of construction workers in India, all wearing worn-out uniforms and helmets, standing in organized rows on a dusty construction site. They are facing a podium where a leader, dressed in formal attire, addresses them with a microphone in hand. The workers, a diverse mix of men and women, silently listen, their faces serious and focused. The scene captures a typical union rally atmosphere, with some workers holding tools, while others have their arms crossed. The sun is setting, casting a warm golden light over the gathering, and the backdrop shows cranes and half-built buildings, symbolizing the ongoing construction effort. The mood is heavy with quiet anticipation and the weight of labor.

--ar 16:9 --style raw --iw 0.5

final image



3 x 3

failed prompts



final image

carbon calculators

midjourney prompt

A cinematic still showcasing the interior of a newly built modern home. The perspective is from the entrance, with a clean and contemporary design. On the right side wall, near the entrance, there's a small digital screen displaying a carbon calculator for the building, subtly highlighting the eco-consciousness of the home. The space is neat and tidy, with soft, ambient lighting creating a warm atmosphere. A family is seated comfortably in elegant chairs, adding life and warmth to the space. The furniture is minimal yet stylish, and the overall color palette is neutral with hints of natural elements. The room feels spacious and well-organized, emphasizing both sustainability and modern living. The shot is captured in a raw, realistic style with a 16:9 aspect ratio, creating a sense of depth and tranquility.

--ar 16:9 --style raw --iw 0.5



3 x 3

failed prompts



green construction

midjourney prompt

A cinematic still of a dynamic construction site showcasing a blend of modern and traditional architecture. In the foreground, workers are actively using modern construction equipment to build villas with green rooftops and solar panels, reflecting a commitment to sustainability and innovation. These new villas stand in stark contrast to the older, more traditional Indian-style houses scattered throughout the site. The old houses, with their vibrant colors and intricate details, provide a visual comparison to the sleek, modern villas being built. The scene captures a harmonious coexistence of the past and future, with a raw, realistic style and a 16:9 aspect ratio. The contrast of construction methods, with modern technology in action next to traditional Indian architecture, creates a thought-provoking visual narrative of progress and preservation.

--ar 16:9 --style raw --iw 0.5

final image



s y n o p s i s

Halfway to Zero

- **Genre:** Socio-Political Drama | Speculative Fiction | Thriller
- **Setting:** India, 2030 – primarily in Chandigarh, the pilot city for a national environmental policy.
- **Tone:** Tense, introspective, atmospheric
- **Themes:** Environmental ethics, surveillance, truth vs propaganda, personal integrity, systemic corruption, quiet resistance

In 2030, India stands at the forefront of a green revolution. The GreenTech Bharat Vision Policy, launched in 2025, aims to make all Tier-2 cities at least 50% carbon neutral by 2050, focusing on carbon emissions from the construction industry. The pilot city for this massive national experiment is Chandigarh—a symbol of urban planning, digital readiness, and civic infrastructure. At the core of the initiative is the Carbon Monitoring System (CMS), a network of hubs and building-integrated carbon calculators designed to track emissions in real-time.

Shadows of Progress follows Meera Aggarwal, a mechanical engineer appointed to the CMS team under project lead Nikhil, a smart, persuasive figure deeply embedded in bureaucratic networks. Initially committed to the vision of a sustainable future, Meera's ideals begin to fracture when she uncovers disturbing evidence: the CMS data is being manipulated to falsely show a sharp reduction in emissions, driven by government pressure to showcase success.

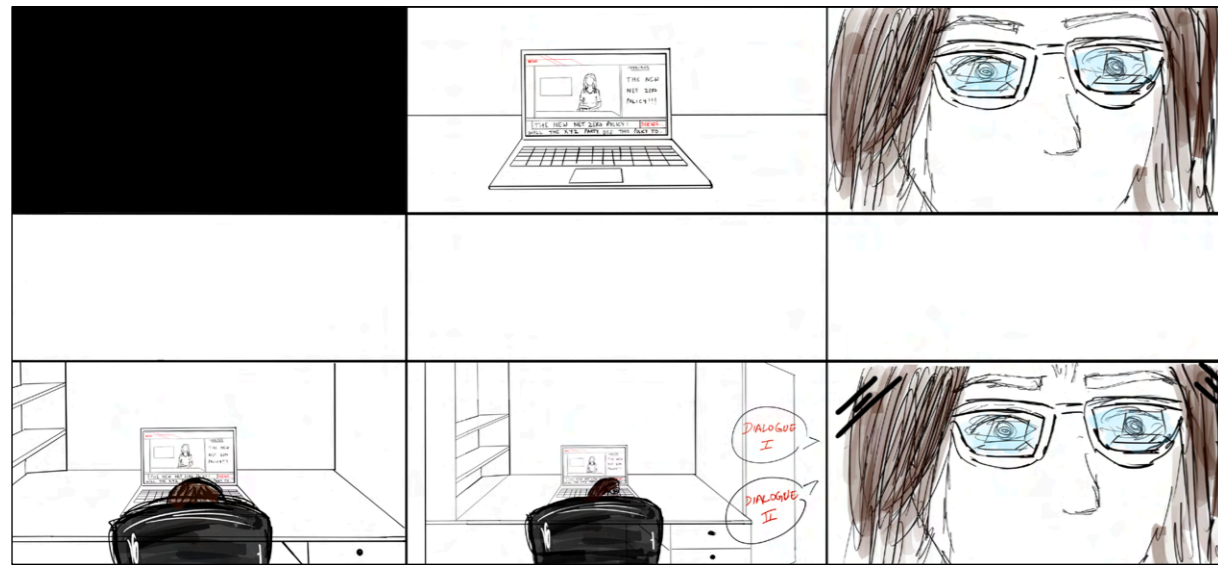
While headlines tout “historic” milestones and politicians bask in international praise, Meera watches the system's integrity quietly unravel. The media reports victory; the people rejoice—but within CMS, silence and guilt hang heavy in the air. Torn between complicity and conscience, Meera enters a spiral of sleepless nights and internal turmoil.

As the nation celebrates its “green achievement” in a televised press conference, Meera makes her move. In a suspenseful night sequence, she breaks into the CMS data hub, bypasses access codes, and sends an anonymous whistleblower email with the unaltered data, exposing the truth. Her breath catches as a cryptic reply comes in: “Received. Preparing to investigate. Be ready.”

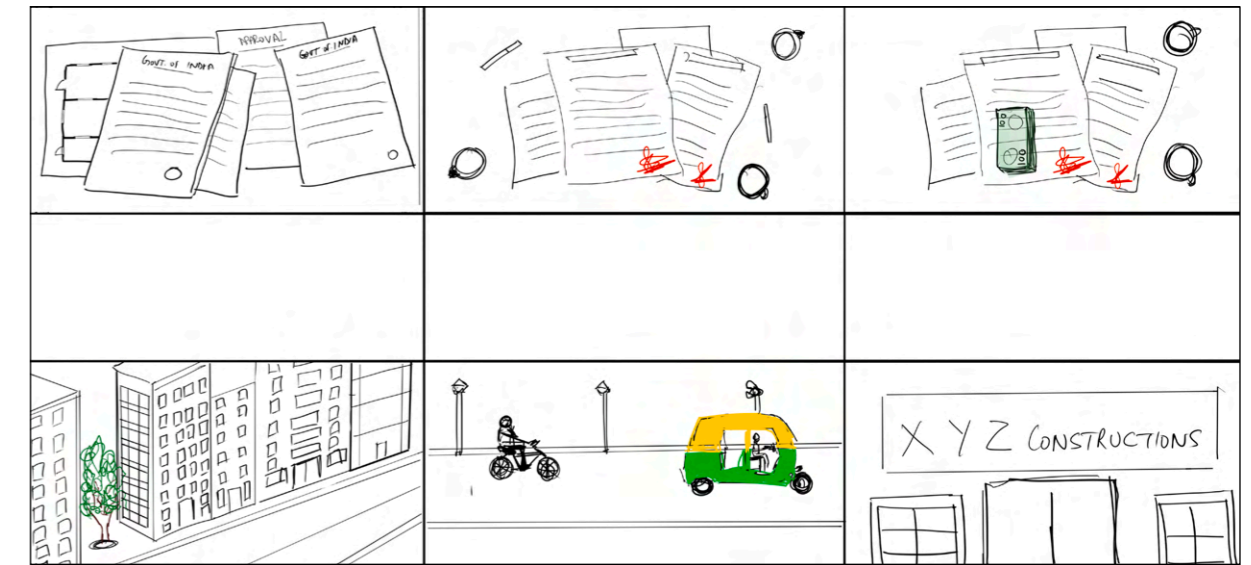
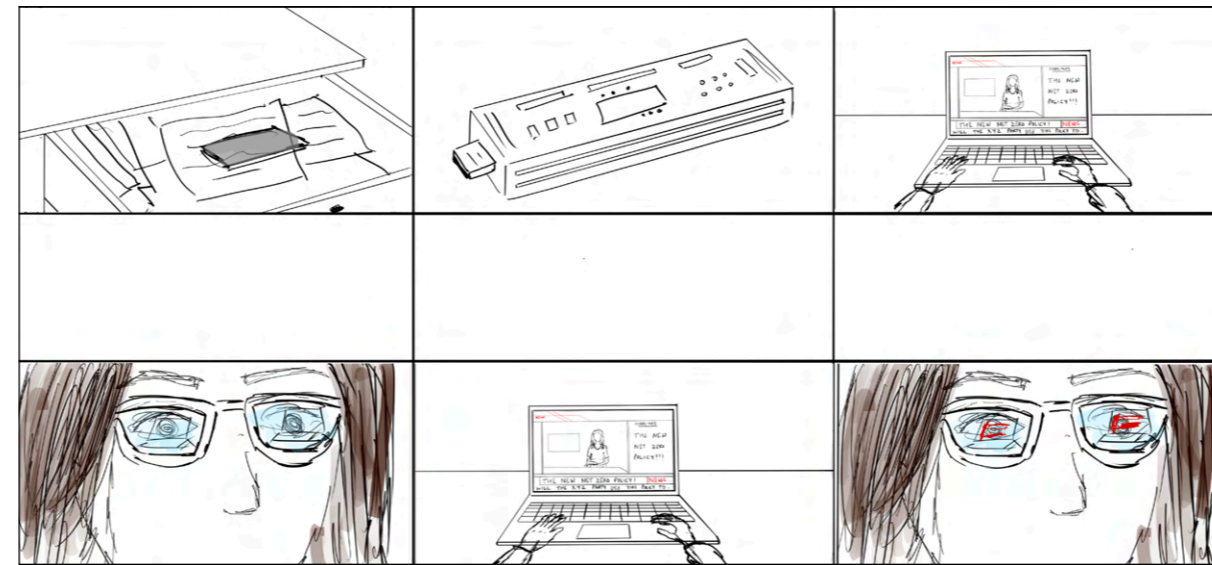
The film ends not with triumph, but with a deep breath before the storm. Alone in the dark office, Meera realizes that truth has been set in motion—but it comes at a price.

s t o r y b o a r d

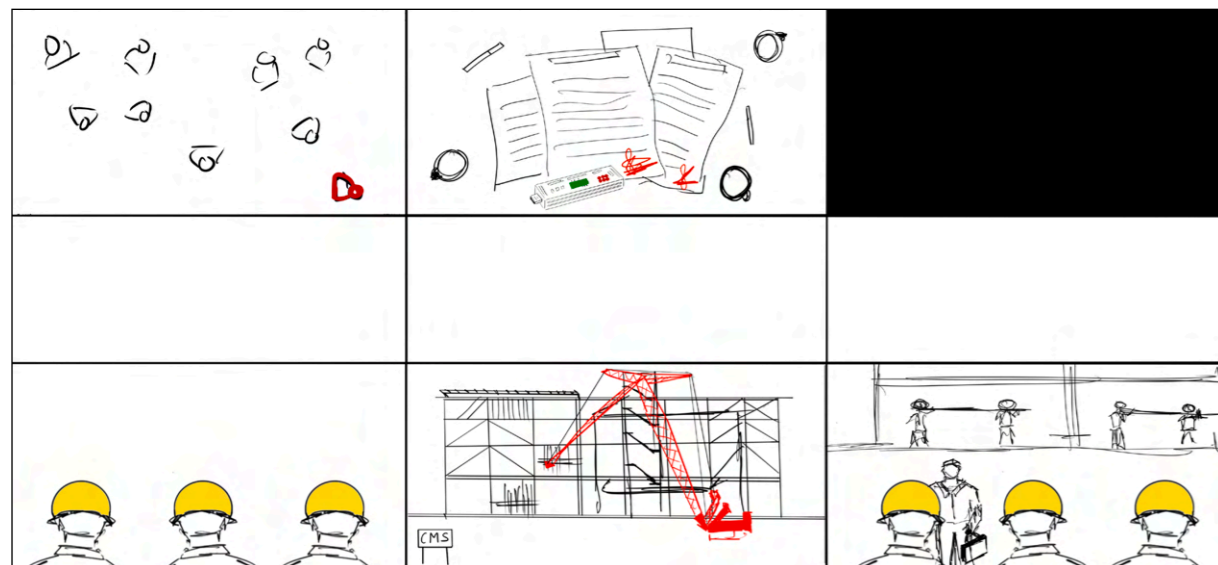
primary visualisation



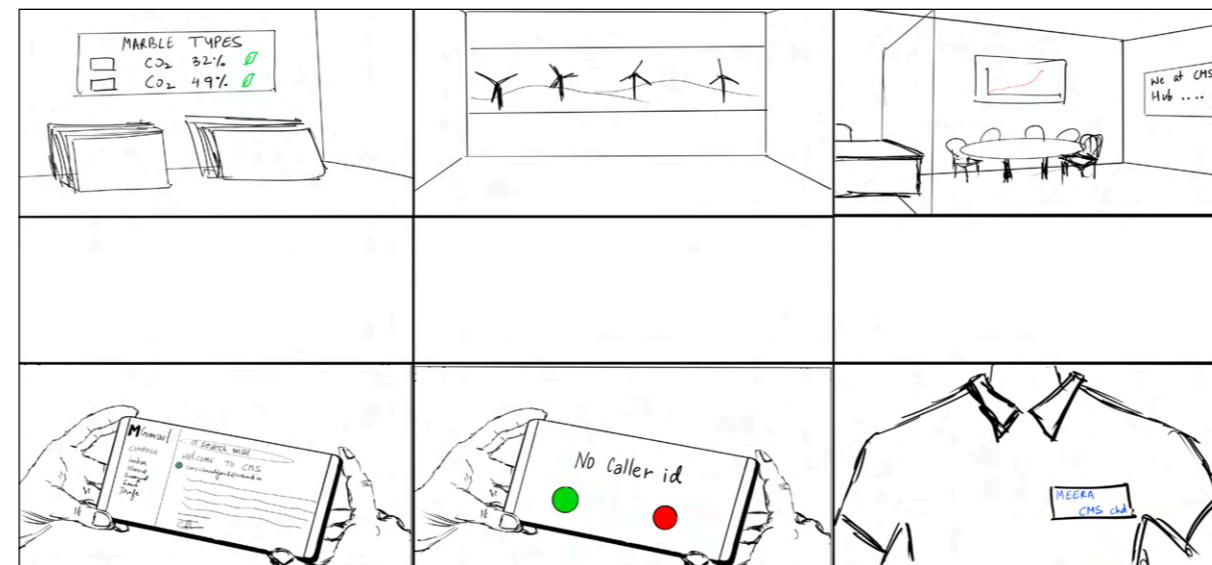
scene 1



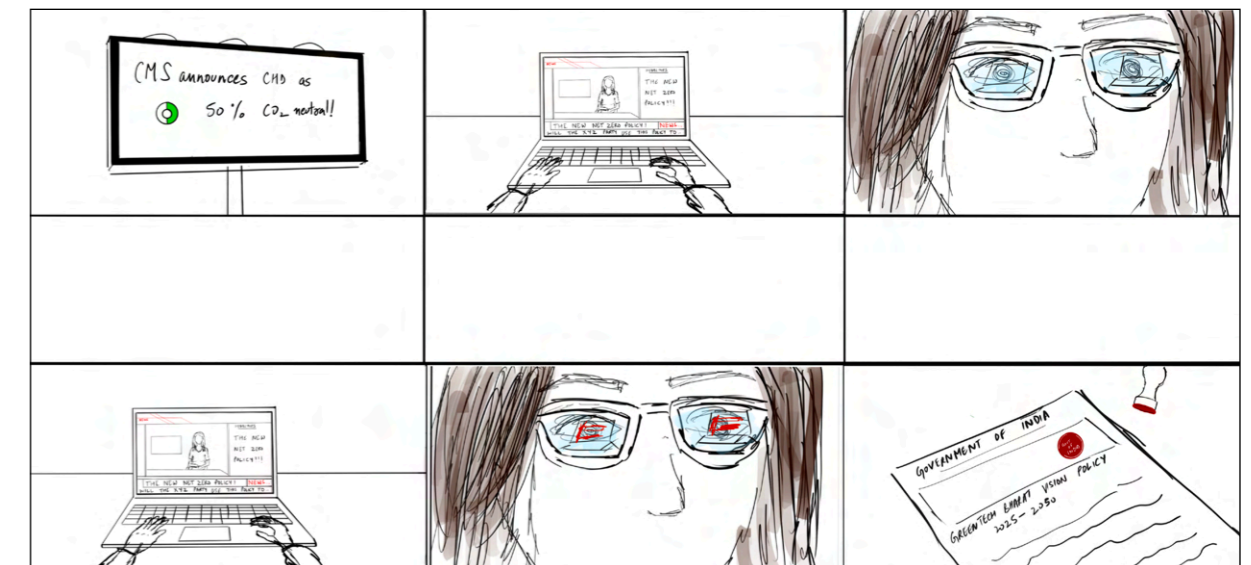
scene 2



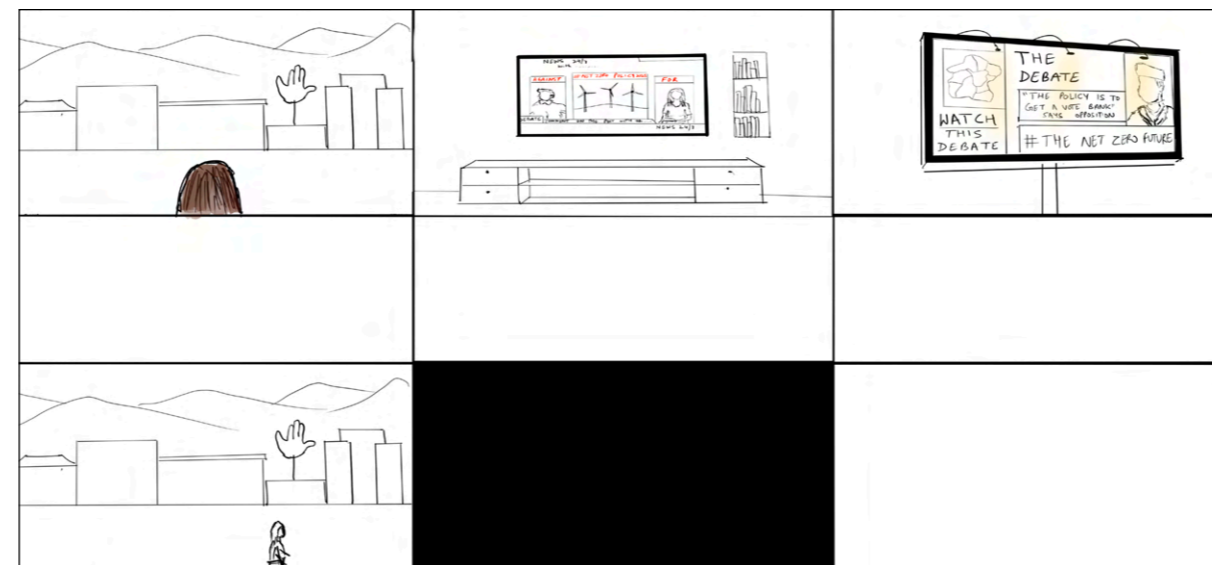
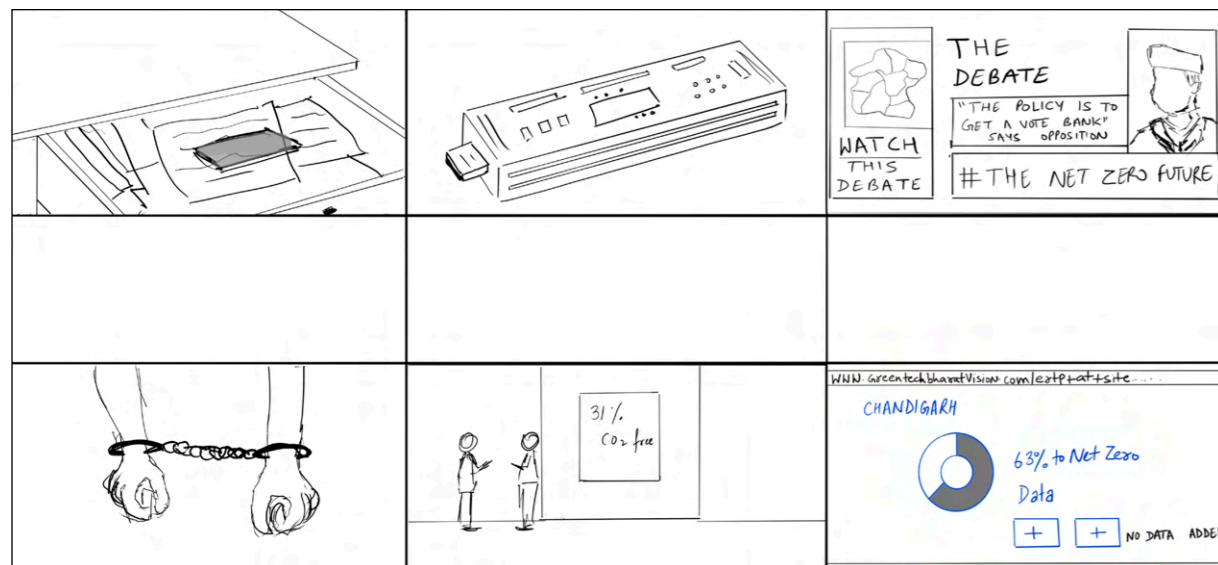
scene 3



scene 4



scene 5



scene 6

s t o r y b o a r d

final visualisation

SCENE 1 : Int. Meera's bedroom – night – 2039

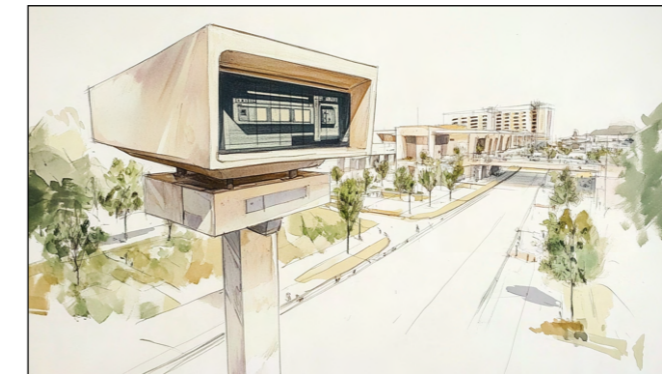
still shots/montage_series:



AERIAL SHOT – CHANDIGARH:
The cityscape of Chandigarh in the early morning light. The camera pans over the city, revealing the balance between nature and urban development.



STREET SHOT – BUSY MARKETPLACE:
People walking briskly on the sidewalks, local markets opening, small shops getting ready for the day.



CLOSE-UP – POLLUTION MONITORING STATION:
A digital board showing the latest air quality index. The numbers hover near the safe zone, but still a reminder of the ongoing struggle.



SOLAR PANELS ON ROOFTOPS:
The rooftops of buildings dotted with solar panels, reflecting the government's push toward green energy solutions.



PEOPLE IN THE PARK:
Joggers in the park, people walking their dogs, and a few families enjoying the morning sun. There's a sense of quiet optimism.



WIDE SHOT (MEERA):
A modest, lived-in study desk: open notebooks, sticky notes, scattered mechanical tools, and a finished dinner tray pushed to the side.



A pin board with newspaper clippings on climate change, yellowing post-its, a small printed goal: "CMS 2030 – One Chance"



A tiny idol of Lord Ganesha on the desk, faintly lit from below.
[SFX: Low ambient fan hum, distant traffic murmurs]



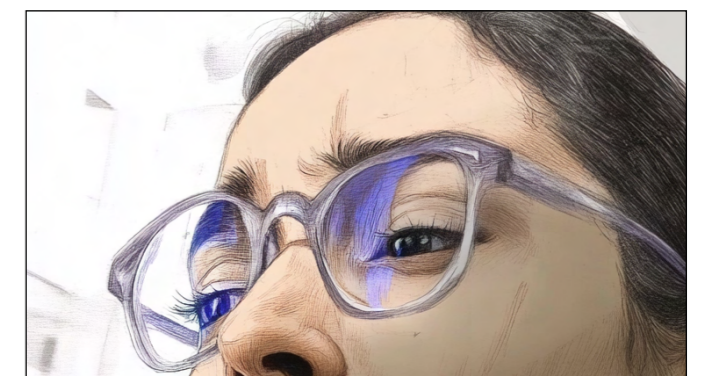
sticky notes on the study wall depicting more about the ambience of the character



WIDE BACK SHOT — MEERA
Sits on a plastic chair, slouched slightly, her phone in hand, watching a reel about climate change.
[SFX: Soft buzz of phone speaker, reel audio echoing slightly in the room]



ON LAPTOP SCREEN (idle):
A document titled "Green Energy Report — Draft" is open but untouched.
[SFX: Drone intensifies faintly — almost inaudible pressure]



SLOW ZOOM IN — HER FACE
She blinks. Processes. The phone slowly lowers from view. Silence.
[SFX: Drone intensifies faintly — almost inaudible pressure]

SCENE 2: int. CMS centre – day – 2039

still shots_series:



LOW AERIAL SHOT – CMS CENTRE:
A modern high tech building in the sub urbans of the city with greenery surrounding.



the outdoor entrance of the CMS centre.



RECEPTION:
The interior of a modern, high-tech building: clean, minimalist design with sleek walls and bright, high-ceilinged spaces.



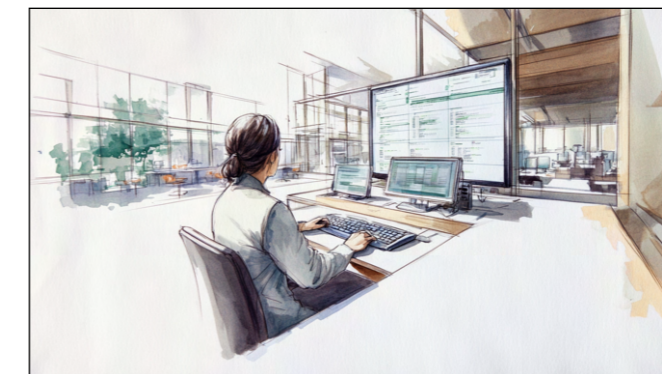
LABS:
experimental labs and research area of the CMS centre.



WORKSPACE:
Several large screens display live carbon emission data, graphs, and environmental reports.



BREAKROOM:
An open breathable green area dedicated to eating, socialising, and taking a break.



WIDE SHOT — MEERA
Sits at a workstation, a wide desk filled with screens and open reports. She's focused, typing rapidly, analyzing data. The atmosphere is calm but tense, the air filled with the hum of quiet efficiency.



CLOSE UP SHOT:
she works on adjusting emissions data by typing on the keyboard.
SFX — KEYSTROKES, LIGHT BEEPING OF MACHINES.



CUT TO — COFFEE STATION IN THE CMS CENTER
Meera walks to a self-service coffee machine. Her CMS-issued card is in her hand. She scans it, and the machine prompts her to choose a drink. The coffee costs a specific amount of carbon credits.



CLOSE-UP — THE CARBON CREDIT CARD
The transparent card glows faintly as it slides through the machine. A digital display on the machine shows her balance: 15,800 credits while the coffee is dispensing.



WIDE SHOT — MEERA PICKS UP HER COFFEE
he walks back to her desk, the coffee cup now in hand, the screen showing a new set of live data updates. She looks at the screen, focused.

SCENE 3: “The Meeting” – Nikhil Chauhan’s Office, 2039

still shots_series:



AERIAL SHOT – MODERN BUSINESS DISTRICT:

The camera glides over a sleek, glass-fronted office building, its sharp angles reflecting the morning light. The skyline shows a contrast between old, heritage buildings and newer, high-rise constructions. The streets are busy with a mix of pedestrians and vehicles.



CLOSE-UP – CONSTRUCTION SITE NEARBY:

In the distance, a construction site with cranes and workers. The camera lingers on it for a beat, symbolizing Nikhil's roots in the real estate and construction industry. There's dust in the air and the sounds of machinery, a sign of the ongoing development, but also the environmental cost of rapid urbanization.



CLOSE-UP – OFFICE BUILDING ENTRANCE:

A tall glass building with the logo of “Chauhan Realty” proudly displayed. The building represents the modern entrepreneurial spirit of Nikhil, his success in construction, and real estate.



CAMERA ANGLE: Cinematic top-view shot of a long matte black conference table, dimly lit with overhead pendant lights. Documents, coffee cups, a tablet, and a projection screen with blurred city carbon data visible in the corner.

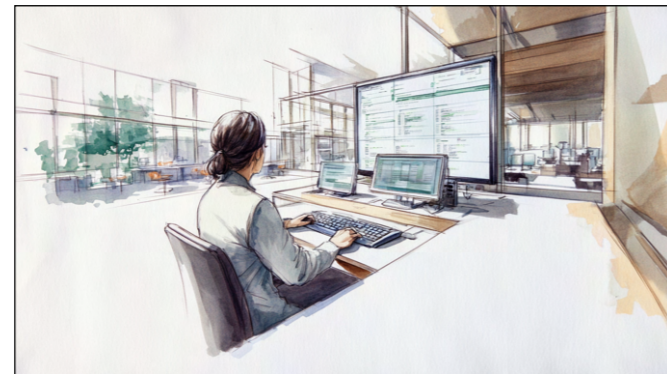
CHARACTERS (faces unseen):
Nikhil Chauhan – antagonist, mid-40s, sharp tone.
Mr. Verma – industrialist, older, cautious.
Dev – tech consultant, younger, calculating.
Sharma – contractor, nervous and practical.

[SOUND DESIGN]
Distant hum of AC and street noise through glass windows.
Rustle of papers. A coffee cup clinks.
Muted projector whirring in the background.
Low dramatic ambient score slowly builds.

A long conversation about finding loopholes in the policy or escaping it for personal benefits.

SCENE4: Int. Meera's workspace – day – 2039

still shots_series:



The room is busy, the CMS office buzzing with activity. Employees are typing away, analyzing data, and having quiet discussions. Meera is seated at her desk, focused on her laptop.



She's in the midst of analyzing some reports when her phone buzzes. The name "Nikhil Chauhan" appears on the screen.



CLOSE-UP — MEERA'S FACE

She picks up the phone with a hesitant look, but answers the call. The whole conversation happens in this shot showing the change of expressions on Meera's face in detail hinting towards the heaviness of the situation.

ON THE PHONE — NIKHIL



CLOSE-UP- MEERA'S HANDS SHIVERING

Her fingers hover over the keyboard, the weight of the decision settling in. The tension is palpable as she glances at the carbon data on her screen, unsure of what to do next.

SCENE 5 : Int. Meera's daily routine – Day – 2039

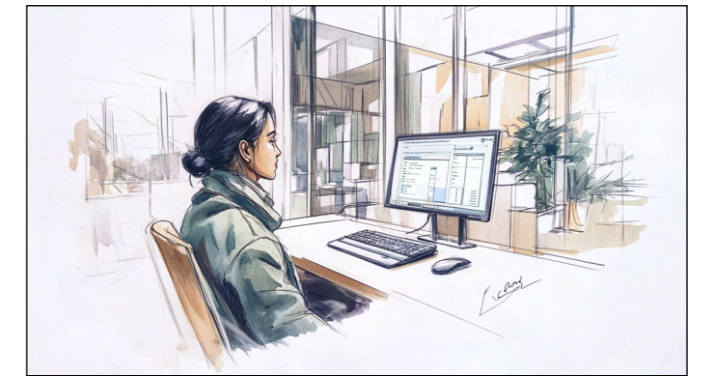
Quick shots_series:



QUICK CUT — SHOT 1:
EXT. STREET – DAY Meera walks back home along a bustling street, her pace slow. The noise of the city fades as she's lost in thought, replaying her conversation with Nikhil in her mind. Her expression is tense.



QUICK CUT — SHOT 2:
INT. BREAKROOM – DAY Meera stands by the coffee machine, waiting for it to brew. The machine hums quietly. As the coffee drips into her cup, she stares ahead, lost in thought. Her fingers absentmindedly tap on the edge of the counter as she mentally debates whether to go through with Nikhil's request.



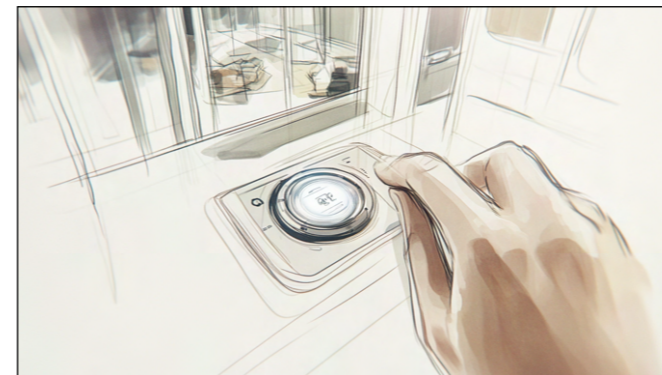
QUICK CUT — SHOT 3:
INT. MEERA'S WORKSPACE – DAY Meera is back at her desk, staring at her computer screen, visibly distracted. The emissions data on her laptop remains open as she absentmindedly taps her fingers on the desk. A deep breath escapes her.

SCENE 6: INT. CMS office – secure data room – evening – 2039

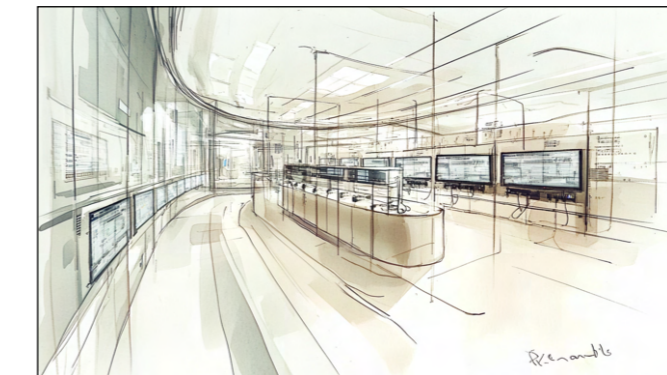
still shots_series:



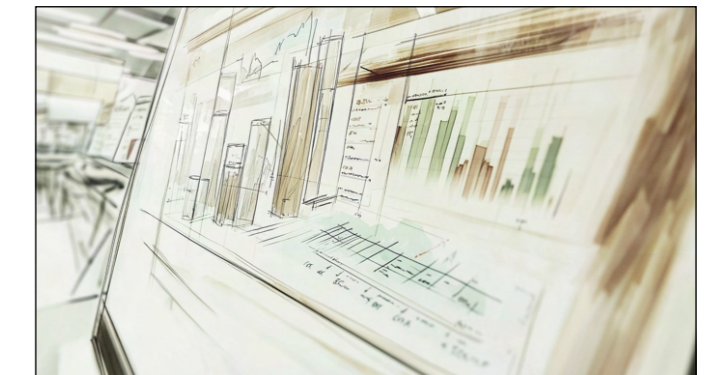
WIDE SHOT — CMS OFFICE HALLWAY
The office hallways are eerily quiet, dimly lit, with the hum of the air conditioning. A few lights flicker, creating an isolated atmosphere as Meera walks, her footsteps echoing against the hard floors.



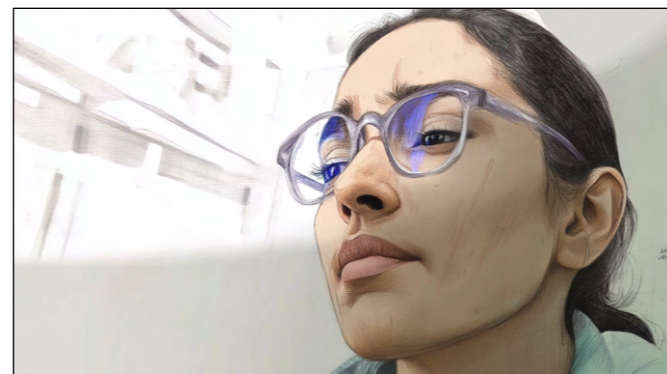
CLOSE-UP — FINGER ON SCANNER
The scanner buzzes for a moment before displaying a green light. The door clicks open. Meera enters.



INT. SECURE DATA ROOM – CONTINUOUS
WIDE SHOT — THE ROOM
The room is a small chamber, lined with high-tech terminals and surveillance monitors. This room controls data access for various departments.



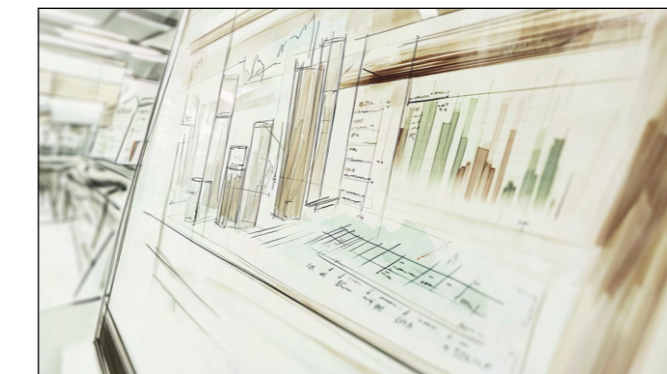
CLOSE-UP — SCREEN
Meera opens the emissions dataset for various sectors. The list is extensive, with detailed reports on companies and their environmental impact.



CLOSE-UP — MEERA'S FACE
Her face reflects a moment of calm resolution as she watches the screen with calculated focus, her fingers moving swiftly over the keys.



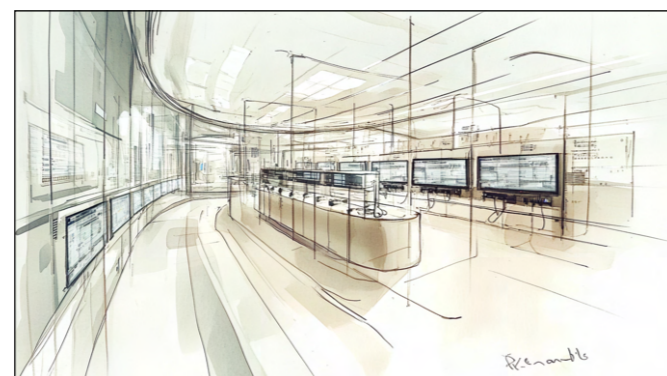
CLOSE-UP — MEERA'S HAND
Her hands are typing quickly depicting her anxiety in this situation.



INSERT — SCREEN
Once she's done, she clicks save. The data is updated, but in such a manner that it looks like a routine update or error correction. It's no longer in the raw state it was, but it appears harmless.
SFX — SYSTEM NOISES CHANGE



CLOSE-UP — MEERA'S FACE
She stands still for a moment, the heaviness of her actions sinking in. But she doesn't linger. She turns and exits the secure room, her face unreadable.
SFX — DOOR HISSING SHUT



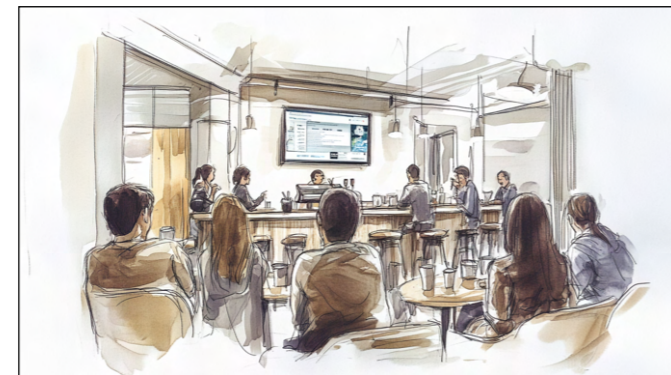
WIDE SHOT — EMPTY ROOM
The room is silent again, the changes made, but unseen by most. The stillness contrasts sharply with the tension Meera carries as she walks away from the room.

SCENE 7: INT. newsroom – day– 2030

Quick shots- various reactions/Montage/still shots_series:



ON A BIG TV SCREEN: A headline flashes: "India's Carbon Emissions Decline – CMS Reports Record Achievement."



PEOPLE IN A CAFÉ: Groups of people watch the TV, smiling, exchanging excited comments about the country's environmental progress.



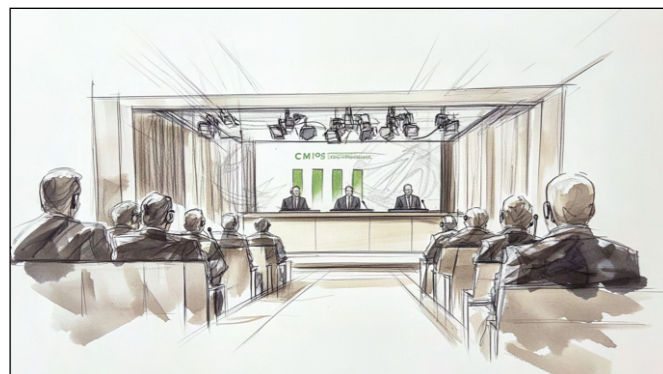
ON THE STREET: People check their phones, nodding in agreement with the good news, chatting happily about the improvement.



CMS EMPLOYEES: Some CMS employees look up from their desks, glancing at the news on the screens with mixed expressions of pride and quiet unease. Meera watches from her desk, her face more pensive than celebratory.



INSERT — NEWSROOM REPORT
A news anchor announces about the same.



CUT TO: INT. GOVERNMENT PRESS CONFERENCE – DAY
The Minister stands behind a podium, addressing the media with confidence.



CUT TO: INT. CMS OFFICE – DAY
Meera sits at her desk, still processing the news. She stares at the screen, her expression mixed — part of her knows the data isn't real, and it weighs on her.



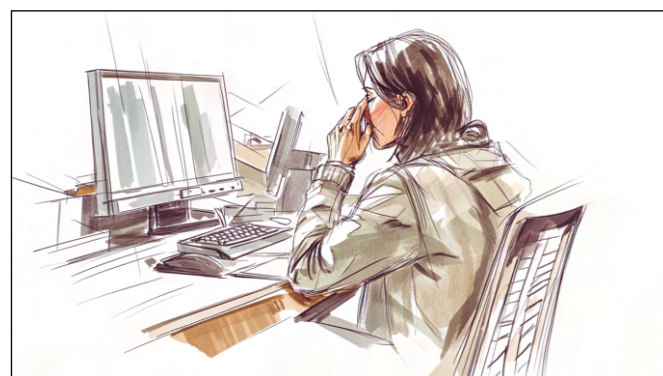
MEERA WALKING HOME: She walks through the streets, her eyes downcast, lost in thought, the weight of the situation pressing on her.



MEERA IN THE BREAK ROOM: She sits at the table, staring at her coffee cup, hands trembling slightly, her thoughts heavy with guilt.



MEERA AT HER DESK:
holding her head in stress since she is slowly realising what she has done.



MEERA AT HER DESK: She takes a deep breath and rubs her eyes, the news of the government's approval hanging over her like a dark cloud.



INSERT — SCREEN
A news article appears, detailing the supposed success of India's emission targets. Headlines like: "Nation Cheers as Emissions Plummet" and "CMS Leads the Charge in Carbon Tracking."



INSERT — PHONE SCREEN
A new message notification from Nikhil pops up: "You're a hero."



MEERA'S FACE
She stares at the text, her lips parting as if to speak but nothing comes out. Her expression hardens, and she clenches her fists in frustration.

SCENE 8 : INT. CMS office – night– 2030

still shots_series:



CLOSE-UP – MEERA'S HANDS
Meera putting the acces id on concerned person's desk.



CLOSE UP–
random hands picking up the device to plug it in
after reading the note.



SCREEN–
original data showing the actual numbers.



INSERT — COMPUTER SCREEN
website numbers differ from the actual ones



CLOSE UP,
HE SENDS A MESSAGE TO MEERA–
"Received. Preparing to investigate further. Be ready."

a r t e f a c t

access ID (hacking device)

Specifications

Functionality

- *Biometric Override:* Uses a capacitive fingerprint emulator to mimic valid biometric scans.
- *Encryption Bypass:* Contains a microchip that runs a script to override CMS's access control system.
- *Signal Masking:* Emits a decoy signal to prevent detection by CMS's real-time monitoring systems.
- *Timed Access:* Can remain unlocked for only 2 minutes per use to avoid triggering system alerts.

Usage

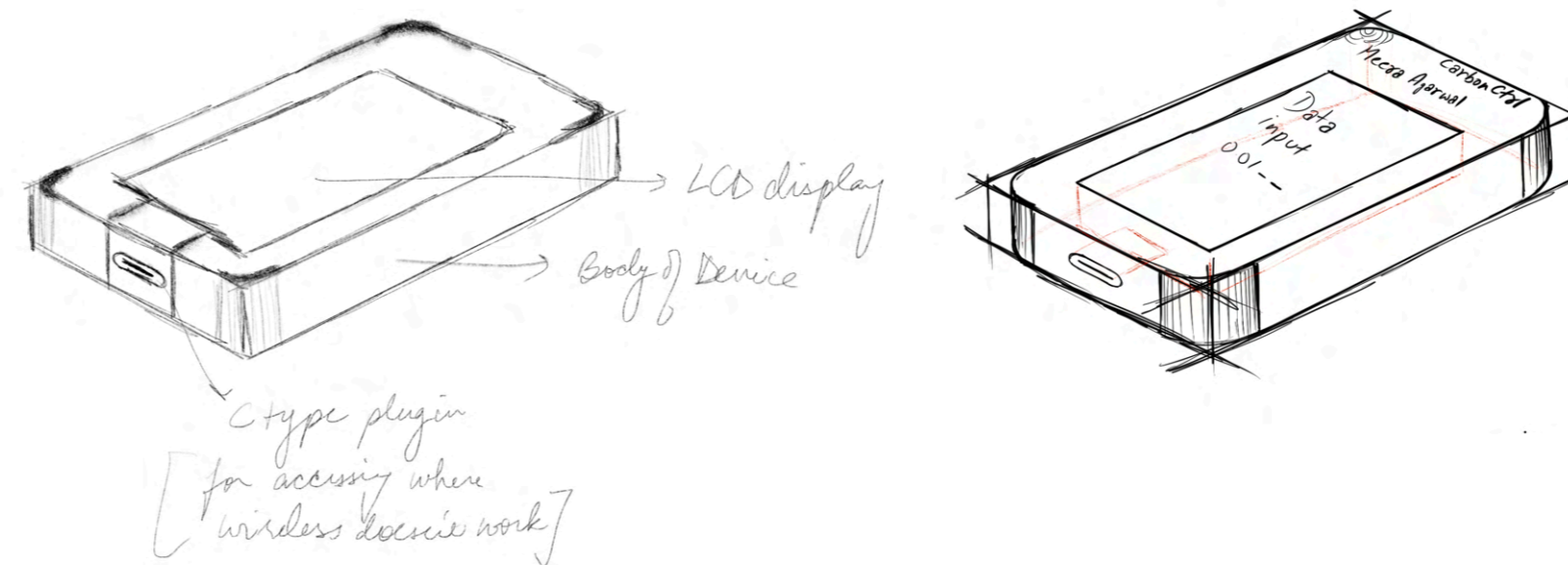
- *Activation:* Pressing a thumb on a designated pressure point on the card activates the hacking sequence.
- *Stealth Mode:* No sound or visible activity unless viewed in infrared or with close inspection.
- *Failsafe:* Auto-wipes its data after 3 failed attempts or if removed mid-sequence.

Design inspiration

- Influenced by real-world hacker gear and spy tech.
- Designed to look DIY but sophisticated—like it was modified by someone with insider knowledge.

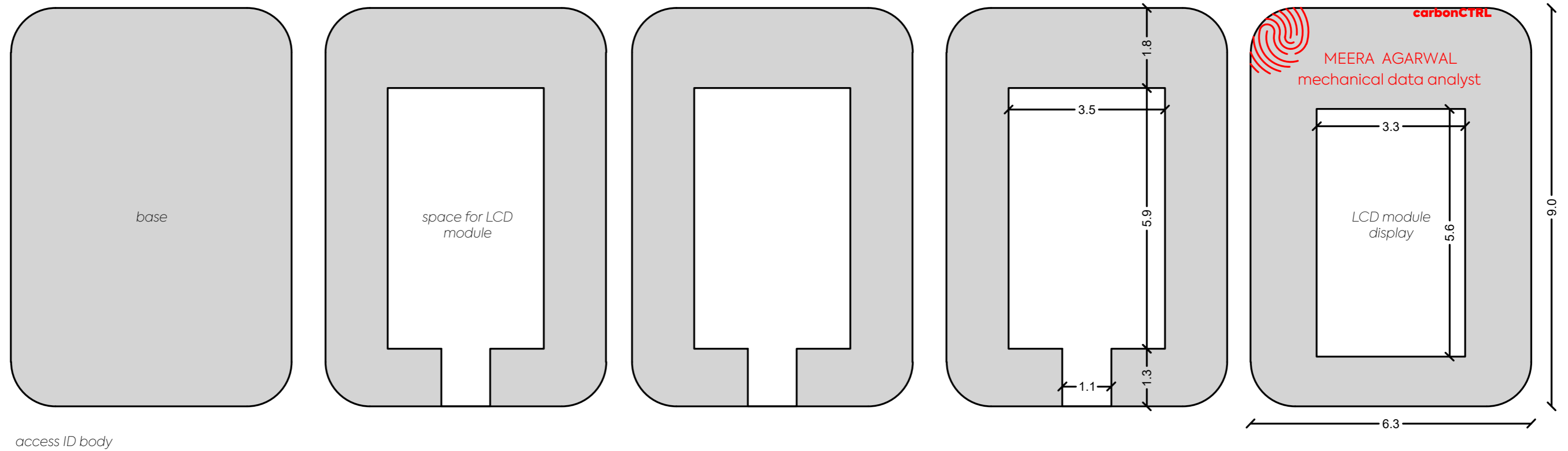
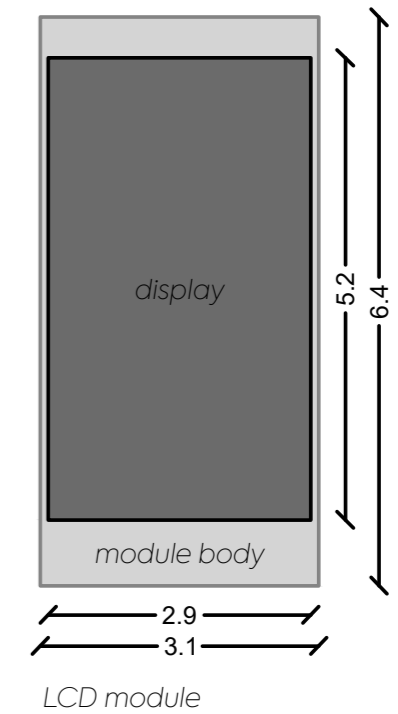


The Access ID Hacking Device is a compact, discreet tool used by Meera to bypass restricted CMS systems. Designed to resemble an ordinary ID access card, it features a concealed microchip and biometric bypass function. When pressed against a biometric scanner, the device emits a subtle green pulse and soft buzzing sound, mimicking a legitimate scan while overriding the system's authentication protocols. It's the size of a standard ID card with a smooth, matte finish, and has a small integrated LCD module for basic status updates. The device is powered by a miniature internal battery, ensuring several uses before needing recharging. Transparent with etched lines for an invisible look, it ensures that Meera can manipulate data without detection, playing a crucial role in her covert actions in the CMS office.



a r t e f a c t

technical drawings



a r t e f a c t

carbon card

Specifications Functions

- *Real-Time Tracking:* Monitors and updates the carbon emissions associated with buildings under construction and operational buildings.
- *Carbon Identity:* Acts as a personal or institutional carbon identifier, linking to specific buildings or projects.
- *Data Logging:* Scanned at access points, material check-ins, or energy audits, logging emissions data directly into the CMS.
- *Emission Profile:* Each card contributes to an individual or building's carbon profile, tracking emission trends over time.
- *Incentives & Compliance:* Encourages reduction through incentives or helps maintain compliance with emissions regulations.

Usage

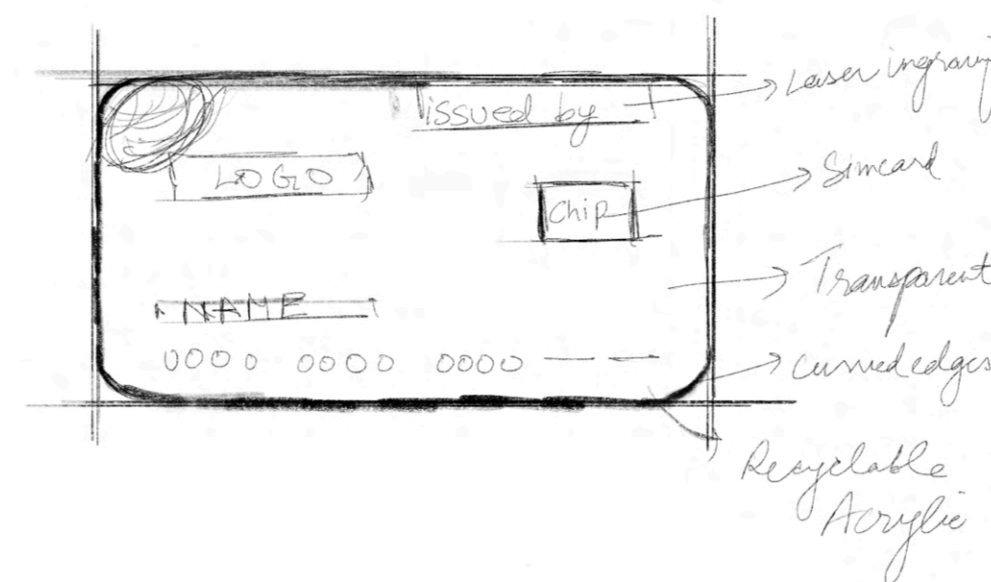
- *Issuance:* Issued by the Government of India in partnership with Carbon Ctrl.
- *Use Case:* Utilized by builders, contractors, and institutional operators involved in construction projects to track and reduce carbon emissions.
- *Scanning:* Scanned regularly at construction sites, access points, material check-ins, and during carbon audits.

Design inspiration

- *Transparency:* Symbolizes clarity and openness, aligning with the policy's goal of promoting transparent carbon emissions tracking.
- *Modern Tech Aesthetic:* Inspired by innovative and sustainable technology, reflecting the shift toward eco-conscious urban development.
- *Credit Card Concept:* The card's design is akin to a credit card, making it familiar, accessible, and easy for users to carry and understand.

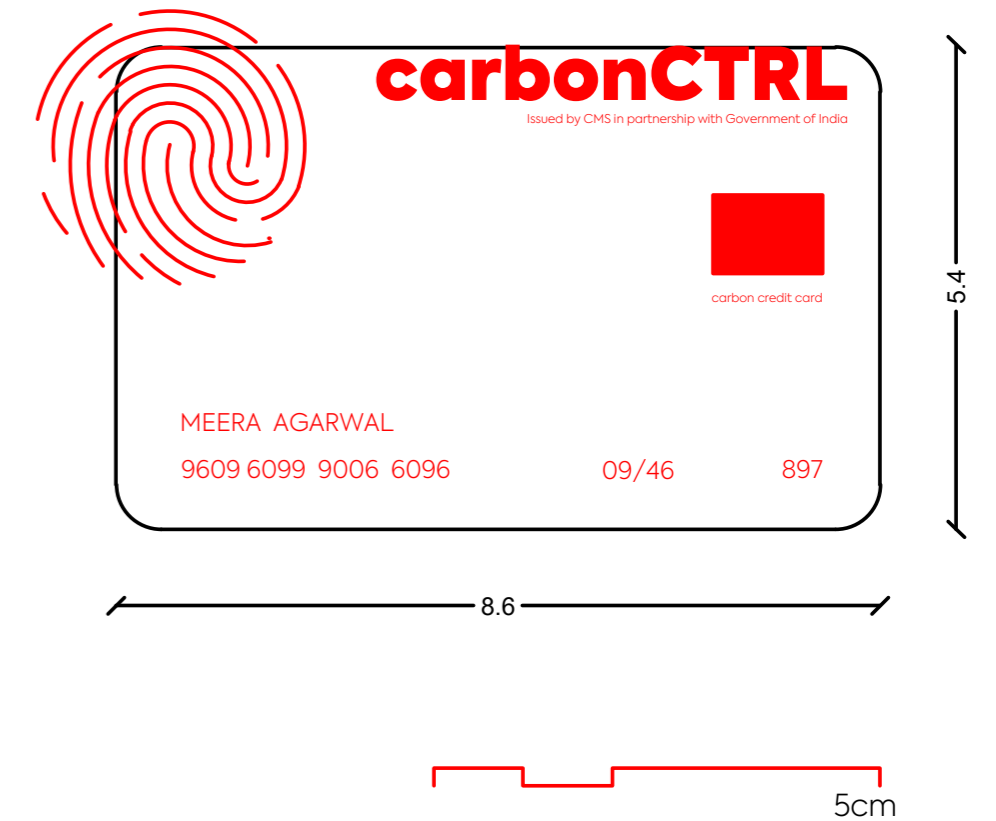
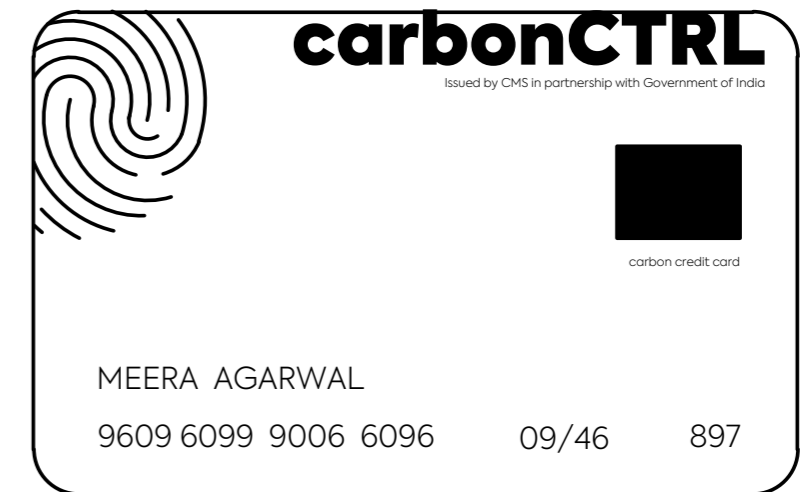


The Carbon Card is a transparent, credit card-sized smart card issued by the Government of India in partnership with Carbon Ctrl. Sleek and futuristic in appearance, it's made of durable, eco-friendly polymer and features an embedded RFID/NFC chip that communicates directly with the city's Carbon Monitoring System (CMS) hub. A subtle e-ink strip displays the user's current carbon usage score in real time. Functionally, the card acts as a personal or institutional carbon identity, tracking emissions associated with each building or project a person is linked to—whether under construction or operational. It is scanned at access points, material check-ins, or during energy audits, logging data into the CMS dashboard. Over time, this data contributes to the individual's or building's carbon profile, used for compliance, audits, or incentives under the GreenTech Bharat Vision Policy.



a r t e f a c t

technical drawings



a r t e f a c t

greentech Bharat vision website

Purpose:

- *Public Engagement: Website provides real-time data on individual and public carbon emissions, promoting awareness and responsibility.*
- *Tier-2 Cities Data: Displays progress on carbon neutrality efforts in Tier-2 cities, with specific data on emissions in the construction sector.*
- *Goals & Implementation: Tracks the policy's long-term objectives, such as achieving 50% carbon neutrality in Tier-2 cities by 2050.*
- *CMS Centre Overview: Information on the role of the CMS Centre in monitoring emissions, using carbon calculators installed in buildings.*
- *Interactive Dashboard: Personalized data, recommendations for reducing carbon footprints, and educational resources on sustainable living.*
- *Transparency & Connectivity: Digital platform fosters government transparency, providing updates on policy progress and engaging with the public.*

website link-
<https://www.greentechbharatvision.com/>

GreenTech Bharat Vision

Offset Marketplace About CMS Work My Carbon Account
Live Dashboard

Login

Unifying Innovation and Sustainability for a Net-Zero Future

Balancing Emissions, Empowering Progress

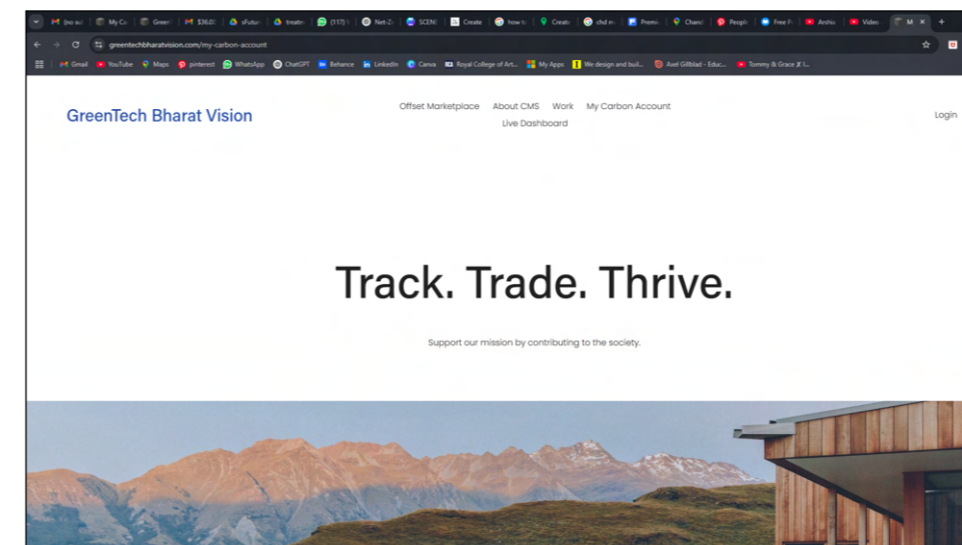
The Carbon Monitoring System (CMS) is India's central authority for tracking, regulating, and analyzing national carbon emissions data under the Net-Zero 2047 Initiative. Established in 2025 and digitally transformed by 2030, CMS ensures sustainable industrial and personal carbon credit compliance through intelligent systems.

a r t e f a c t

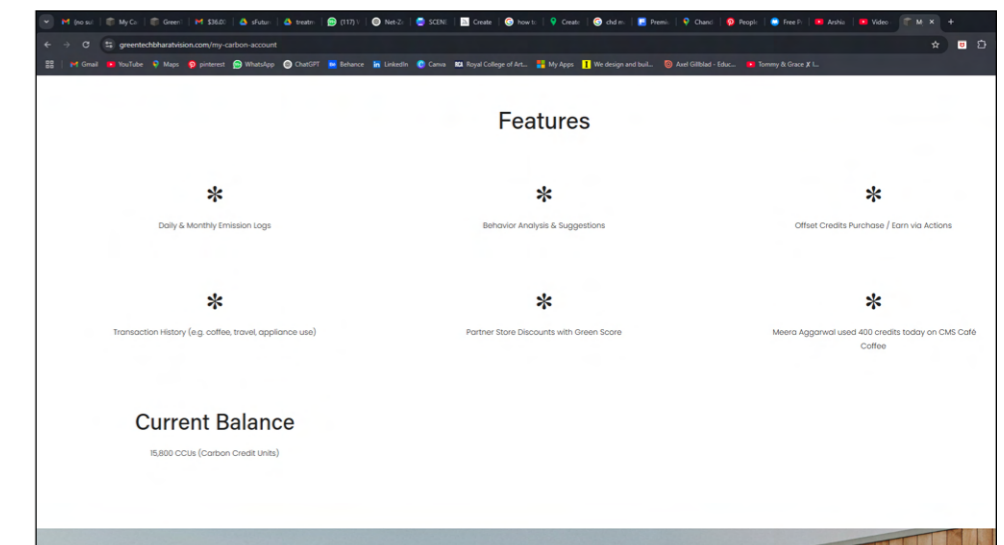
Website Overview

Key sections

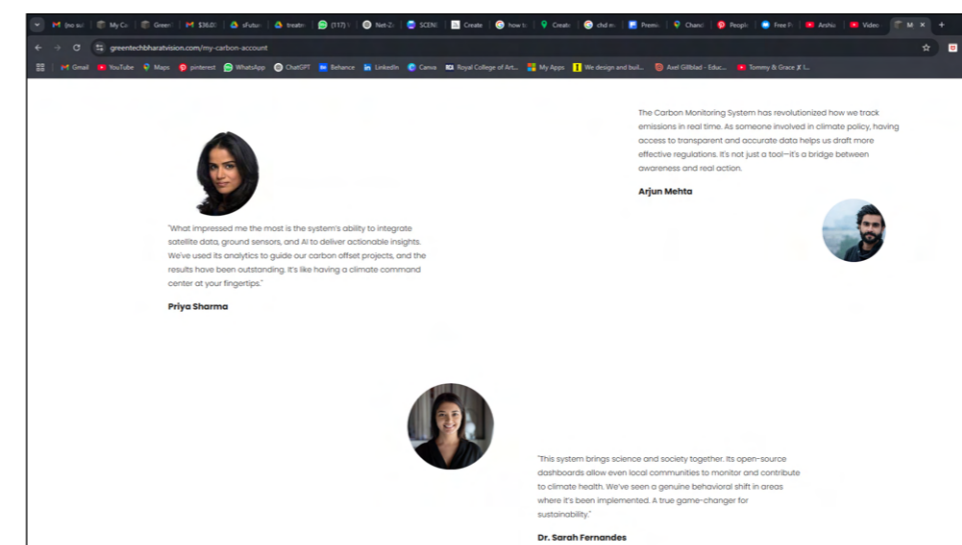
- *Home:* Overview of the policy, live carbon stats, recent updates.
- *My Emissions:* Personalized dashboard to track and compare your carbon footprint.
- *City Tracker:* Data on Tier 2 cities' emissions, CMS progress, and policy milestones.
- *CMS Centre Map:* Interactive map showing CMS locations, performance, and coverage.
- *Policy Timeline:* Year-wise goals from 2015–2050 with visual guides.
- *Public Data Access:* View emissions data of all registered buildings across cities.
- *Knowledge Hub:* Guides, tutorials, FAQs, and case studies.
- *Feedback Section:* Report issues, share suggestions, join public forums.
- *Builder Portal:* For developers to upload data, get compliance tools, and certifications.



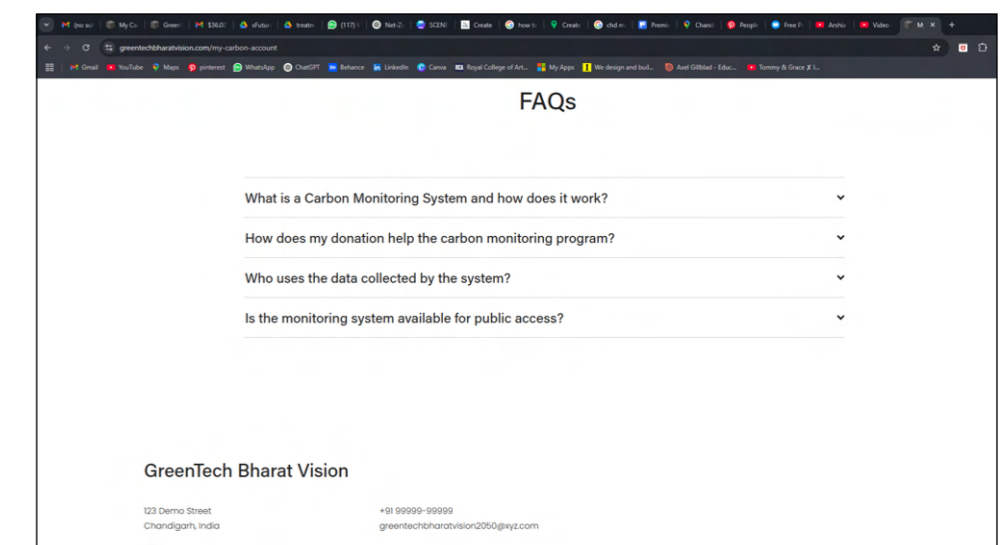
homepage



carbon account features



public reviews



common Q/A

p o s t e r

The poster for the film captures its core conflict and themes with powerful simplicity. It features an isometric aerial view of a city map divided sharply in half — one side clean, and thriving, representing the progress toward carbon neutrality; the other side dark, polluted, and chaotic, symbolizing the environmental degradation still looming. A solitary silhouette stands at the boundary, having crossed halfway into the cleaner side, embodying the difficult journey toward a better future. The figure's long shadow stretches back into the polluted half, visually suggesting the burden of past actions, doubts, and consequences that continue to follow. This image perfectly encapsulates the film's title and narrative: the uneasy balance between hope and guilt, progress and compromise, truth and deception. It invites the viewer to reflect on how far we've come — and what still lies in shadow.

HALFWAY TO ZERO

a film by ARSHIA BANSAL

THIS JUNE

in association with carbonCTRL

GREENER SYSTEMS. GRAYER MORALS.

c h a r a c t e r

Meera Agarwal

Protagonist

- Age: 24
- Location: Chandigarh, India
- Family Background: Middle-class family
- Education: Mechanical Engineering, studied in Delhi
- Professional Background: Freelance work, currently employed at CMS as a mechanical engineer.

Personality Traits:

- Climate activism: Meera is deeply invested in environmental issues, particularly in reducing carbon emissions and promoting sustainability.
- Exploring digital technologies: Fascinated by digital tools and systems, she often tinkers with new technologies to better understand their potential applications.
- Walking and traveling: Enjoys solo walks and occasional travels to explore new places, often seeking a balance of serenity and adventure.

Lifestyle:

- Meera leads a relatively simple life, balancing her career as a mechanical engineer with her deep-seated desire to contribute to environmental change. She lives in Chandigarh, a city known for its urban planning and cleanliness, which complements her aspirations of promoting sustainability. Despite her dedication to her work, Meera's personal life remains somewhat isolated, with few close relationships and limited social circles.
- She was raised in a middle-class family, and though her life hasn't been particularly extravagant, it has been fulfilling. Freelance work in the past gave her flexibility, and her studies in Delhi have shaped her both professionally and personally, expanding her worldviews.



In the film, Meera plays a central, morally complex character who is both a skilled mechanical engineer and a passionate climate activist. Employed at the Carbon Monitoring System (CMS), she is initially tasked with supporting the government's push for carbon emission reductions. However, when she discovers that the data being reported is manipulated, Meera is forced into an internal struggle between her professional duties and her ethical convictions. Her journey involves navigating the consequences of her actions, from helping manipulate data to eventually exposing the truth, all while dealing with the personal guilt and moral dilemmas that weigh heavily on her. Meera's character is a reflection of the challenges faced by individuals caught between personal beliefs and the pressures of larger systemic forces.

c h a r a c t e r

Nikhil Chauhan

Antagonist

- Age: 38
- Location: Chandigarh, India
- Family Background: Second-generation business owner from an upper-middle-class family
- Education: Mechanical Engineering, studied in Delhi
- Occupation: Small-scale real estate business owner
- Business Location: Chandigarh and Delhi
- Family: Married with a son and a daughter

Personality Traits:

- *Ambitious and Money-Driven:* Nikhil is focused on expanding his real estate business and increasing profits. Financial success is his primary motivator, and he's willing to take calculated risks to ensure growth.
- *Polite but Strategic:* Though courteous, Nikhil is strategic and doesn't hesitate to manipulate situations for his gain. He is intelligent, pragmatic, and prioritizes business outcomes over personal ethics.

Lifestyle:

- *Work-Centric:* Nikhil's life revolves around his business. He spends most of his time building networks, attending meetings, and seeking opportunities for expansion.
- *Wealth-Oriented:* Enjoying a comfortable lifestyle, Nikhil values financial stability and luxury. His focus on growing his wealth and influence shapes his daily life and decisions.



In the story, Nikhil serves as both a catalyst and an antagonist in Meera's journey. His business ambitions and lack of environmental concern contrast sharply with Meera's values, especially when he pressures her into manipulating data for financial gain. Nikhil's ability to charm others and his determination to expand his business provide the tension needed for Meera's internal conflict. His character's growth is closely tied to the moral decisions Meera makes as she grapples with her role in the manipulation of emissions data.

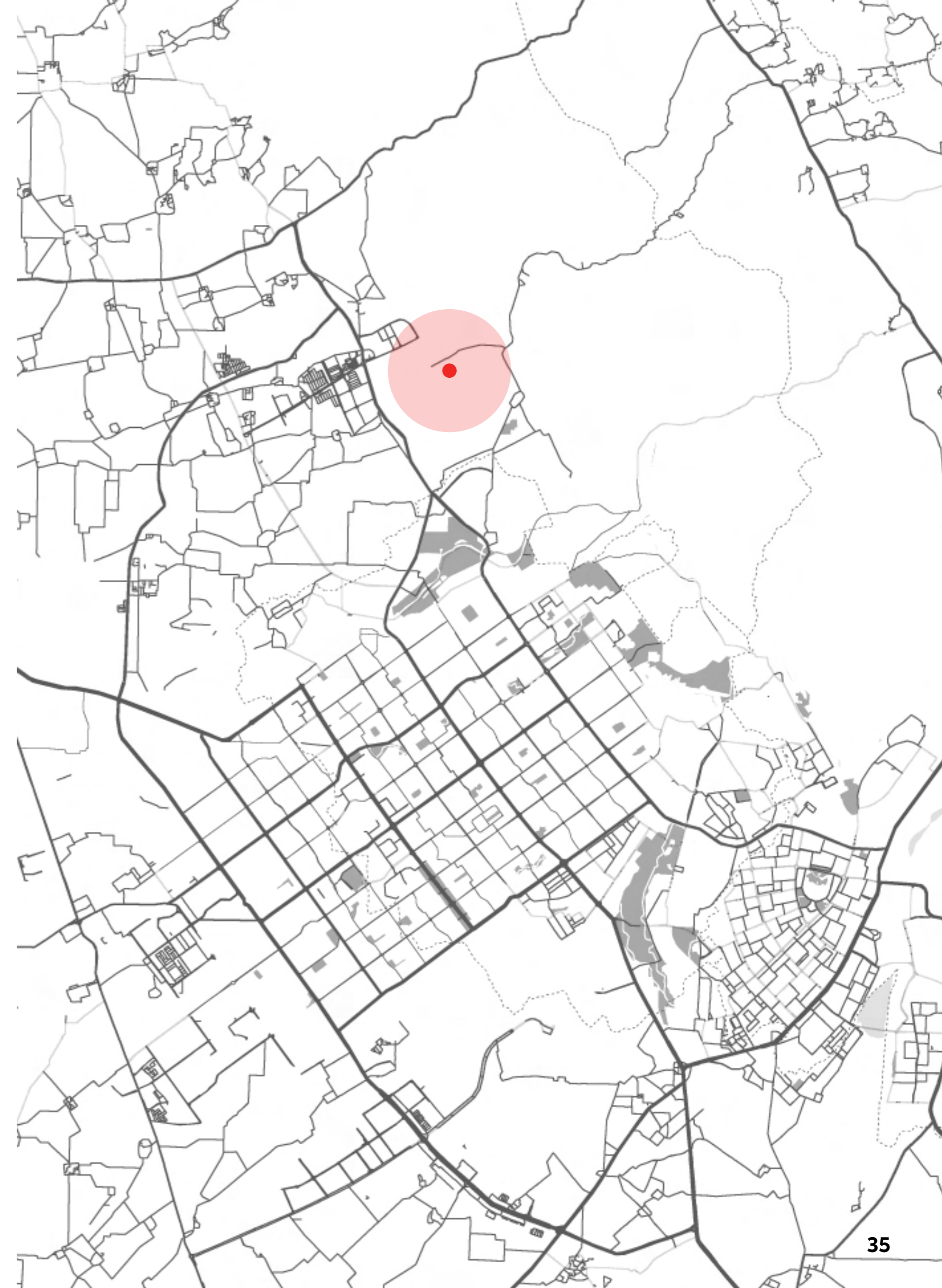
Carbon monitoring system centre

30.814981, 76.759950
Chandigarh, India

Why Chandigarh is Ideal for the CMS Centre:

- *Planned City:* Chandigarh is a well-planned city with clear zoning, efficient infrastructure, and a structured urban layout, making it easier to implement carbon monitoring systems.
- *Sustainable Focus:* The city has a growing focus on sustainability, with green spaces, efficient public transport, and eco-friendly policies already in place, aligning with the CMS Centre's objectives.
- *Pilot City:* Chandigarh's manageable size and governance make it an ideal location for the initial implementation of the CMS Centre, allowing for easier scaling and adaptation to other cities later.
- *Proximity to Key Institutions:* Being the capital of both Punjab and Haryana, the city has proximity to government and educational institutions that can provide research support and regulatory alignment.
- *Technology Infrastructure:* With a growing IT infrastructure and tech-savvy population, Chandigarh is well-suited to adopt advanced monitoring technologies like the CMS Centre for data analysis and emissions tracking.

The CMS (Carbon Monitoring System) Centre plays a key role in India's efforts to reduce carbon emissions, particularly in the construction sector. Located in Tier-2 cities, it monitors, tracks, and analyzes carbon emissions through advanced sensors and data analytics. The CMS Centre ensures accurate emission reporting, offering valuable insights into the environmental impact of construction projects. Each city will have its own CMS Centre, contributing to a nationwide network. The Centre is designed with state-of-the-art infrastructure for secure data storage, real-time monitoring, and policy enforcement. It helps businesses adopt sustainable practices and supports India's goal of carbon neutrality by 2050.



Carbon monitoring system centre

30.814981, 76.759950
Chandigarh, India

About the CMS Centre:

- *Real-Time Carbon Tracking:* The CMS Centre is equipped with advanced sensors and data systems to track carbon emissions from construction activities in real-time, ensuring accurate reporting and accountability.
- *Data Hub:* It serves as a central hub where data is collected, analyzed, and stored securely. The CMS Centre aggregates emission data from construction sites, providing detailed reports to local authorities and businesses.
- *Public Accessibility:* The data gathered by the CMS Centre will be publicly available, promoting transparency and encouraging construction companies to adopt more sustainable practices.
- *Emission Reduction Support:* By tracking carbon emissions and identifying sources of inefficiency, the Centre offers recommendations and support for businesses to reduce their environmental impact.
- *Integration with Carbon Calculator:* Every building in the city will be equipped with a carbon calculator, enabling real-time tracking of a building's carbon footprint. This data will be fed directly into the CMS Centre for analysis.
- *Collaboration with Authorities:* The CMS Centre works closely with government agencies, local policymakers, and industry leaders to ensure that carbon neutrality targets are met, and that the policy is successfully implemented across the city.

AI image visualisation of the CMS centre



C M S c e n t r e

spatial design

The CMS Centre's spatial design reflects its role as a cutting-edge hub for environmental monitoring and policy-making. The building's architecture balances transparency and security, symbolizing the delicate balance between openness and control in climate governance. High ceilings and expansive open-plan workspaces promote collaboration and flow, while minimalist, clean lines and natural materials evoke a sense of calm and purpose. The reception area features sleek, modern finishes with abundant natural light, creating a welcoming yet professional atmosphere. Strategic placement of digital screens throughout the centre ensures real-time data is always visible, emphasizing the organisation's commitment to precision and accountability. The design also subtly incorporates sustainable elements — green walls, energy-efficient lighting, and recycled materials — reinforcing the Centre's mission in every detail. Overall, the CMS Centre stands as a futuristic yet grounded space where critical decisions about India's carbon future are made.



s t y l e r e f e r e n c e

spatial design

For the visual style of the film, I drew significant inspiration from the movie Children of Men, known for its gritty, realistic cinematography and immersive, dystopian atmosphere. This reference helped me establish a grounded yet tense mood that suits the film's themes of uncertainty and moral complexity.

To create the visual assets, I started by carefully crafting detailed prompts that captured the desired aesthetic — focusing on urban decay, muted color palettes, and naturalistic lighting — and fed these prompts into MidJourney. The AI-generated images gave me a strong foundation of atmospheric stills reflecting the film's tone and environment.

Next, I imported these MidJourney images into Runway, where I applied video generation and animation tools to create dynamic scenes and transitions. This process allowed me to maintain consistency with the Children of Men style while adding motion and life to the visuals, effectively bridging static concept art and cinematic storytelling.

This workflow was crucial in shaping the film's look, blending AI creativity with cinematic influences to produce a unique and compelling visual language.

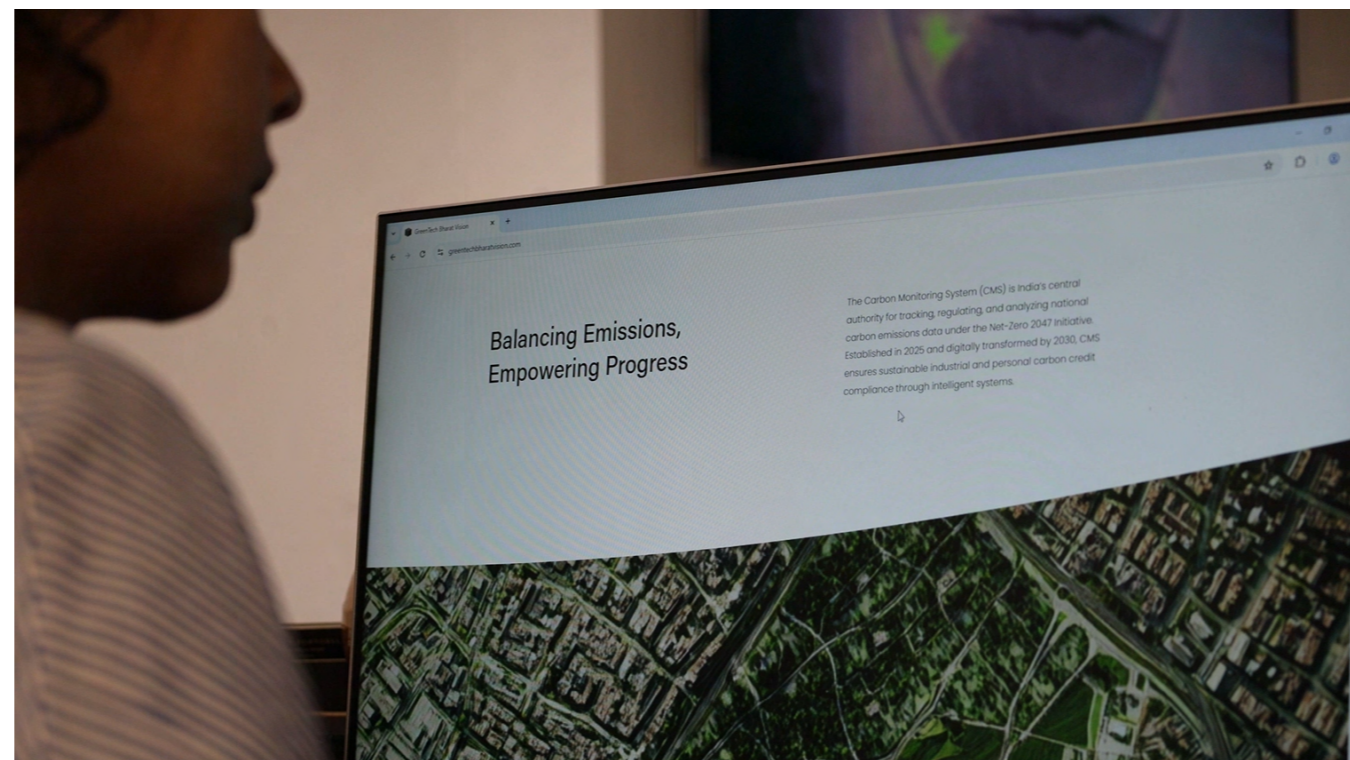


a r t e f a c t s

spatial design

Props and World-Building

To enhance the believability of the world I was creating, I designed and integrated a few key props that play crucial roles in the story's progression. One of the central objects is the Carbon Credit Card, a futuristic ID that citizens use to track and recharge their personal carbon footprint. It serves as a symbolic and functional element in the film, subtly introducing the audience to a future where carbon becomes a transactional unit of daily life. The second major prop is the Access ID device that Meera uses to manipulate internal CMS data. This small, hand-held device with a minimalist LCD screen was designed to look discreet yet technically advanced — underscoring Meera's internal conflict and the high stakes of her decision. Lastly, I created a fully functional fictional website, greentechbharatvision.com, which acts as an extension of the film's universe. It represents the public-facing side of the government's sustainability efforts, presenting polished data and glowing success — in contrast to the manipulated truth revealed behind the scenes. Each of these props not only supports the story visually, but also deepens the audience's immersion in a near-future system that feels all too real.

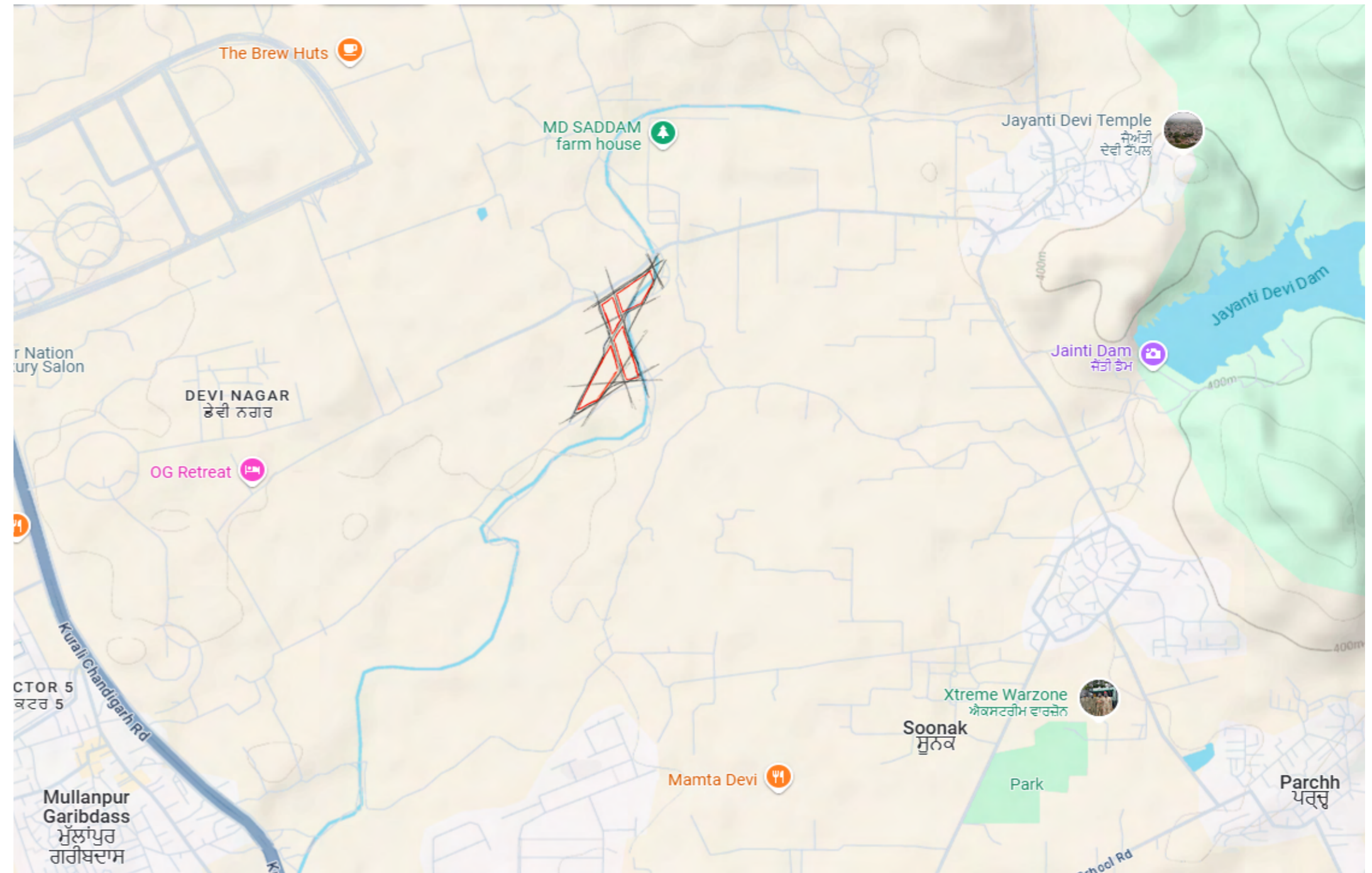
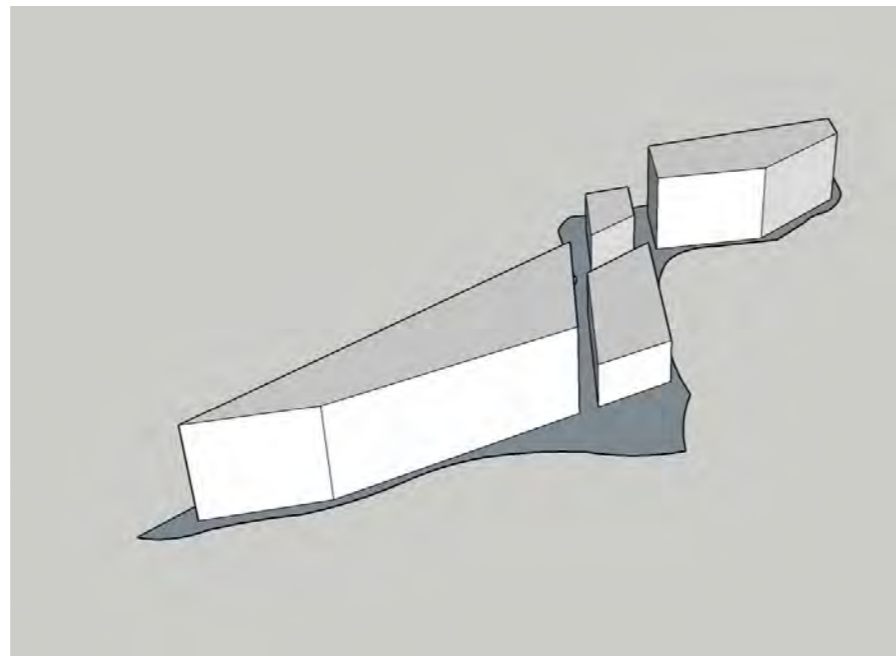
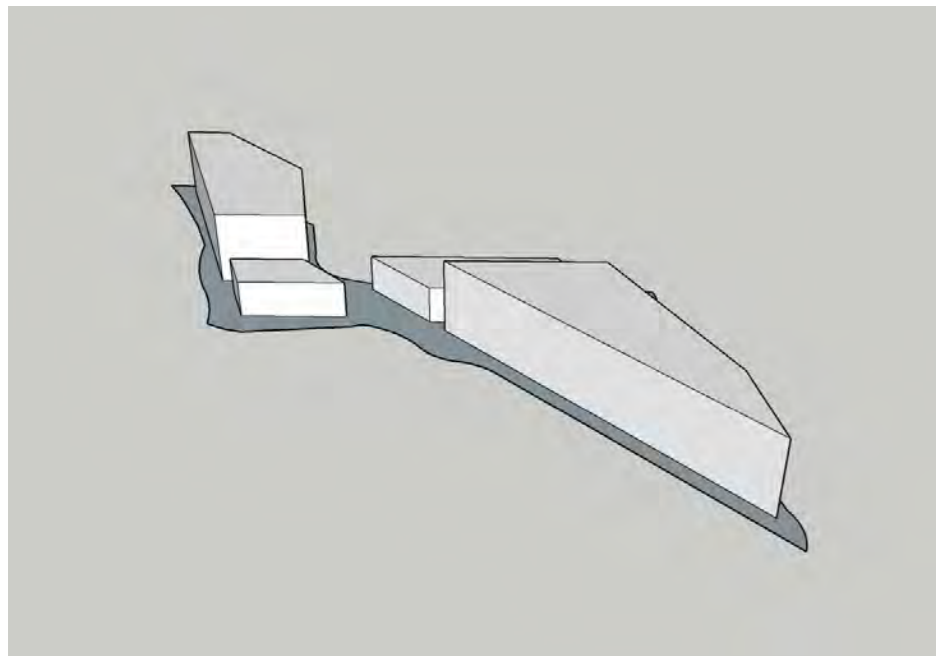
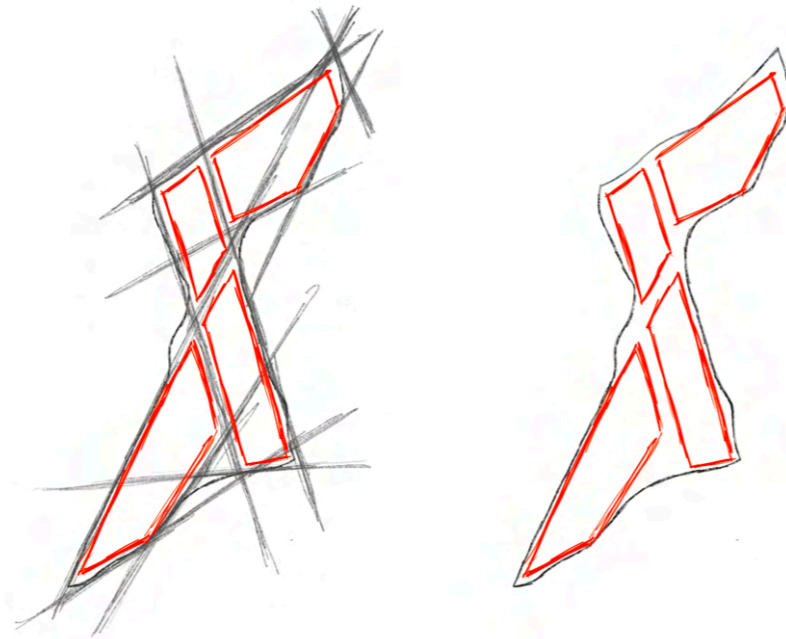


l o c a t i o n

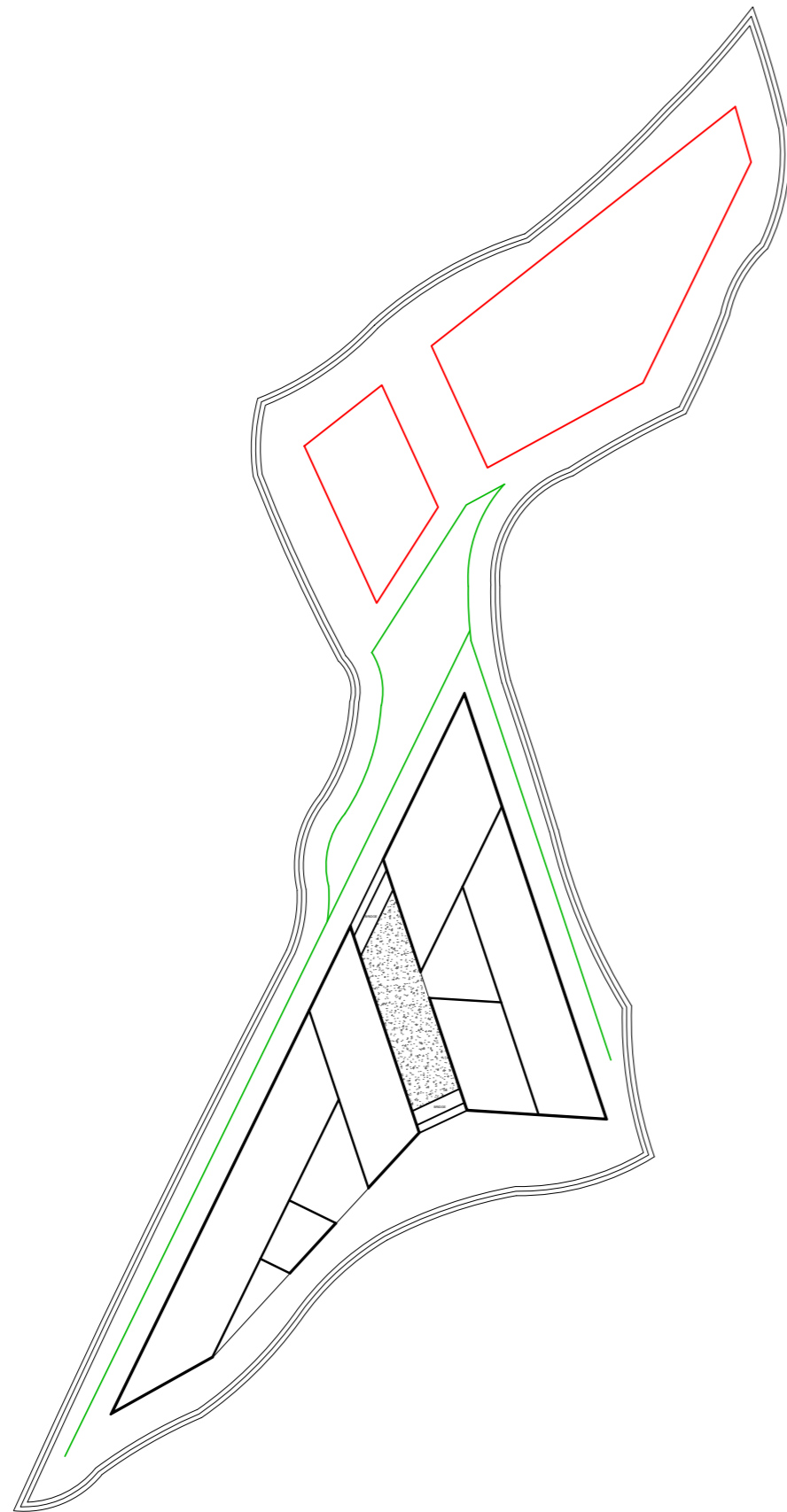
spatial design

Carbon monitoring system centre

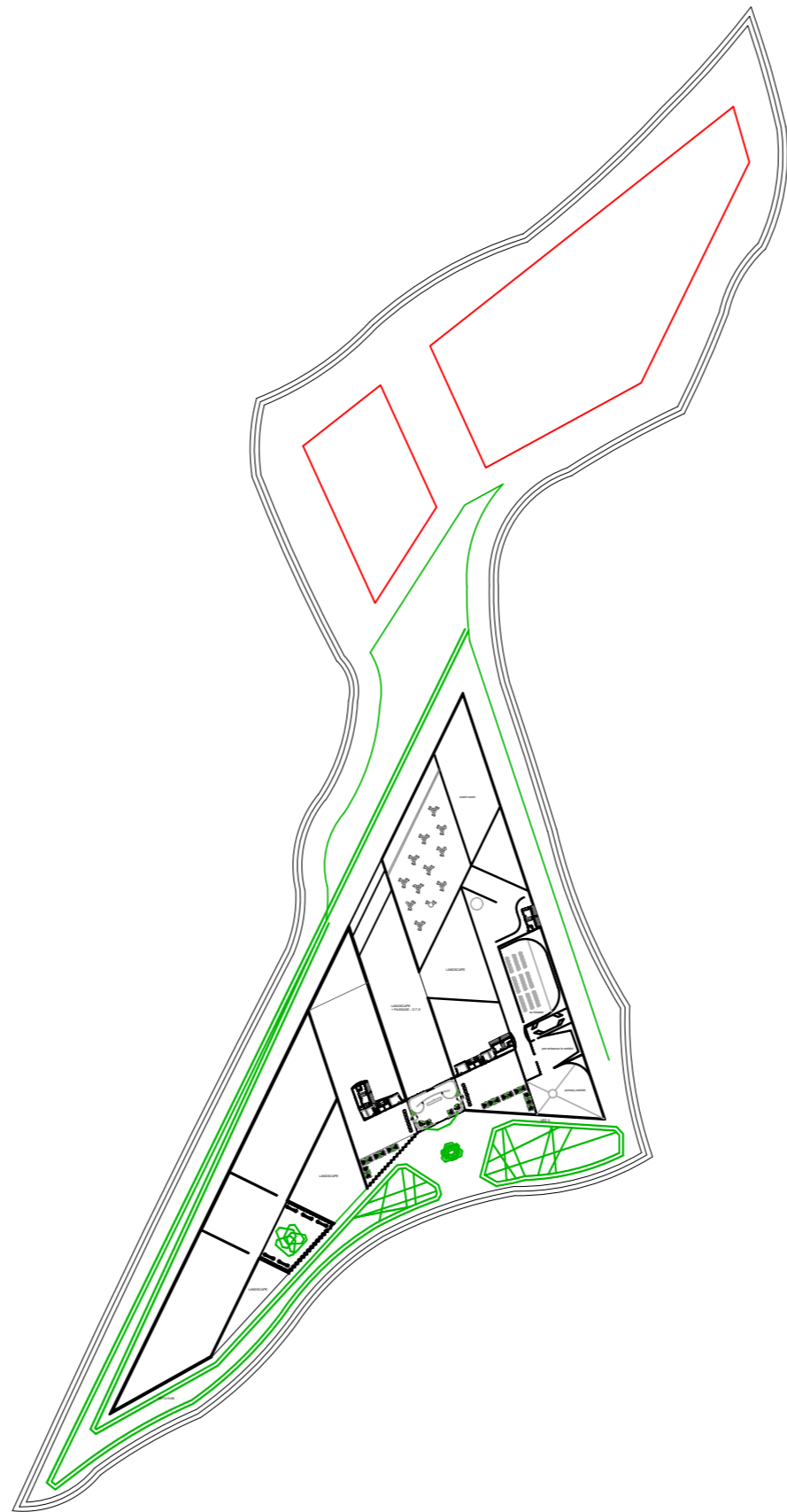
30.814981, 76.759950
Chandigarh, India



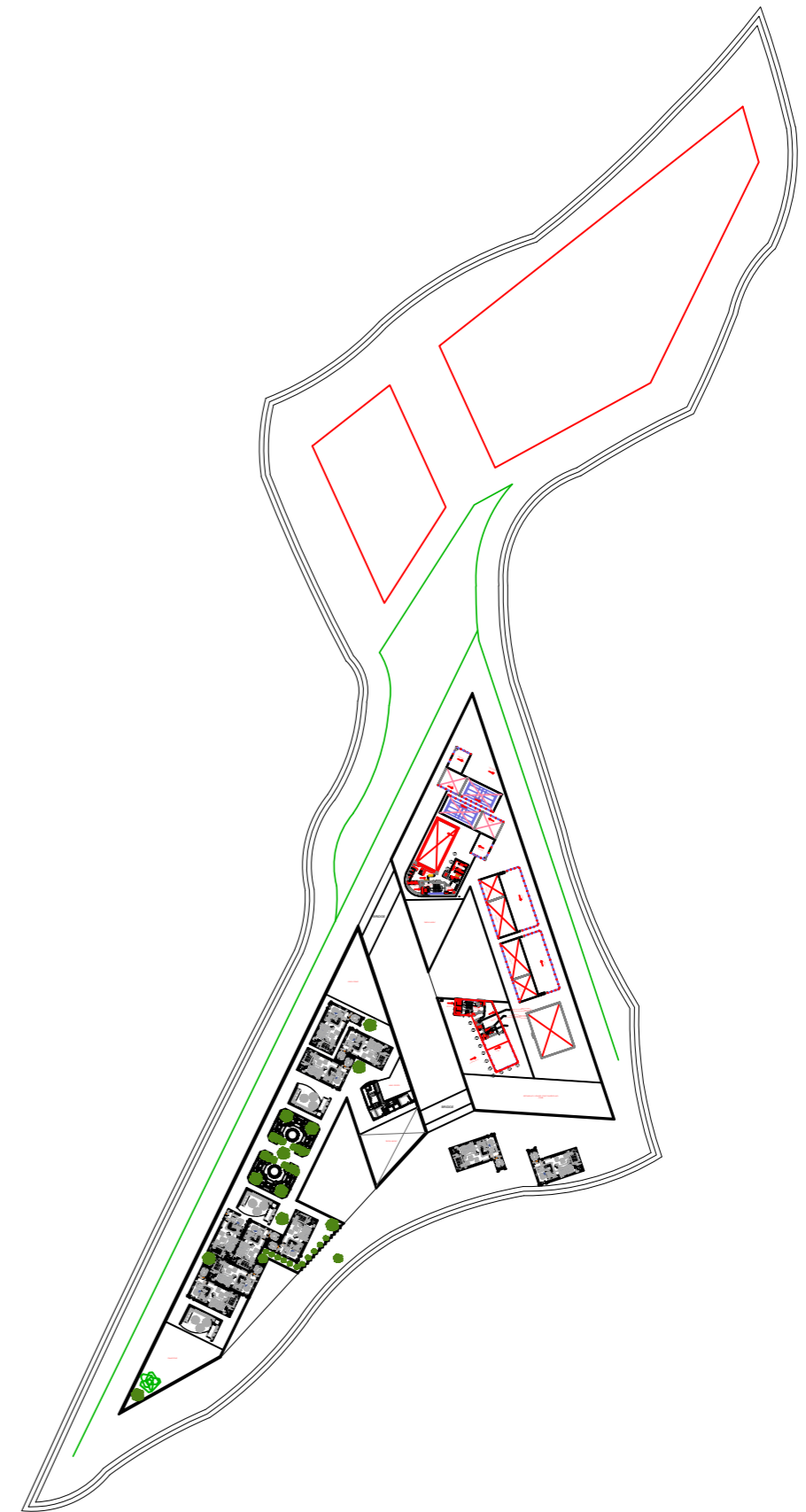
f l o o r p l a n
spatial design



space layout



initial and exterior planning



floor plan

f u n c t i o n s

spatial design

Visualizing the CMS Centre Using AI Tools

To help the audience understand the purpose and scale of the CMS Centre, I used MidJourney and Runway not just as visual tools, but as storytelling devices. Through MidJourney, I generated cinematic stills of imagined CMS interiors — blending high-tech minimalism with elements of public transparency and futuristic design. These images depict a multifunctional government space that's more than just data analysis — it's also a public interface.

Using Runway, I animated these visuals to create seamless sequences that showcase the CMS Centre as a dynamic, evolving hub. I illustrated various functions of the centre, including interactive seminars, citizen engagement programs, and public exhibitions that explain carbon tracking to everyday people. I visualized open halls where holographic architectural projections are used to demonstrate the environmental impact of buildings in real-time, alongside moments of collaborative discussions between experts and citizens.

These animated scenes give viewers a clearer understanding of what the CMS space feels like — part tech lab, part educational forum, part government showroom. The combination of still image generation and motion design allowed me to create an immersive institutional identity that feels futuristic, functional, and plausible — reinforcing the world of the film without requiring large-scale physical sets.

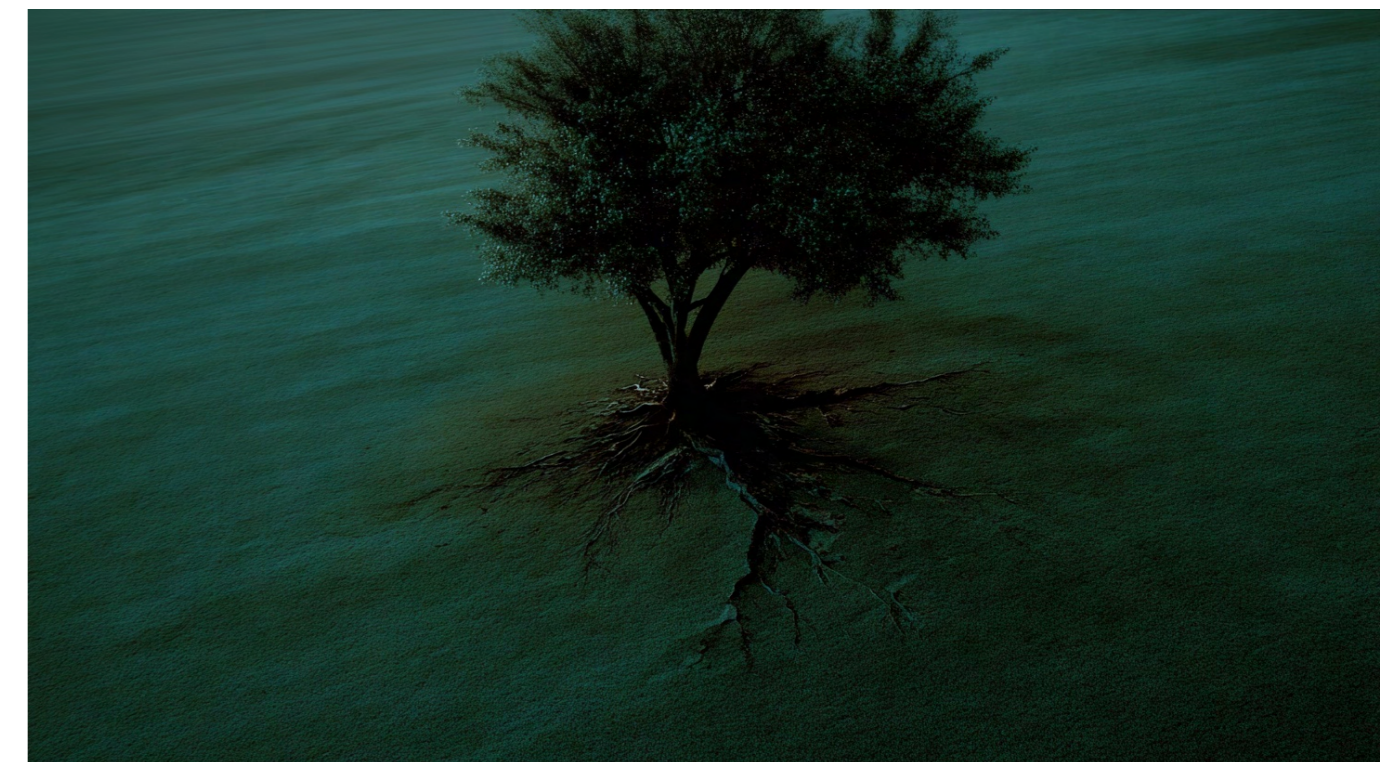


m e t a p h o r

spatial design

Symbolic Representation: The Tree

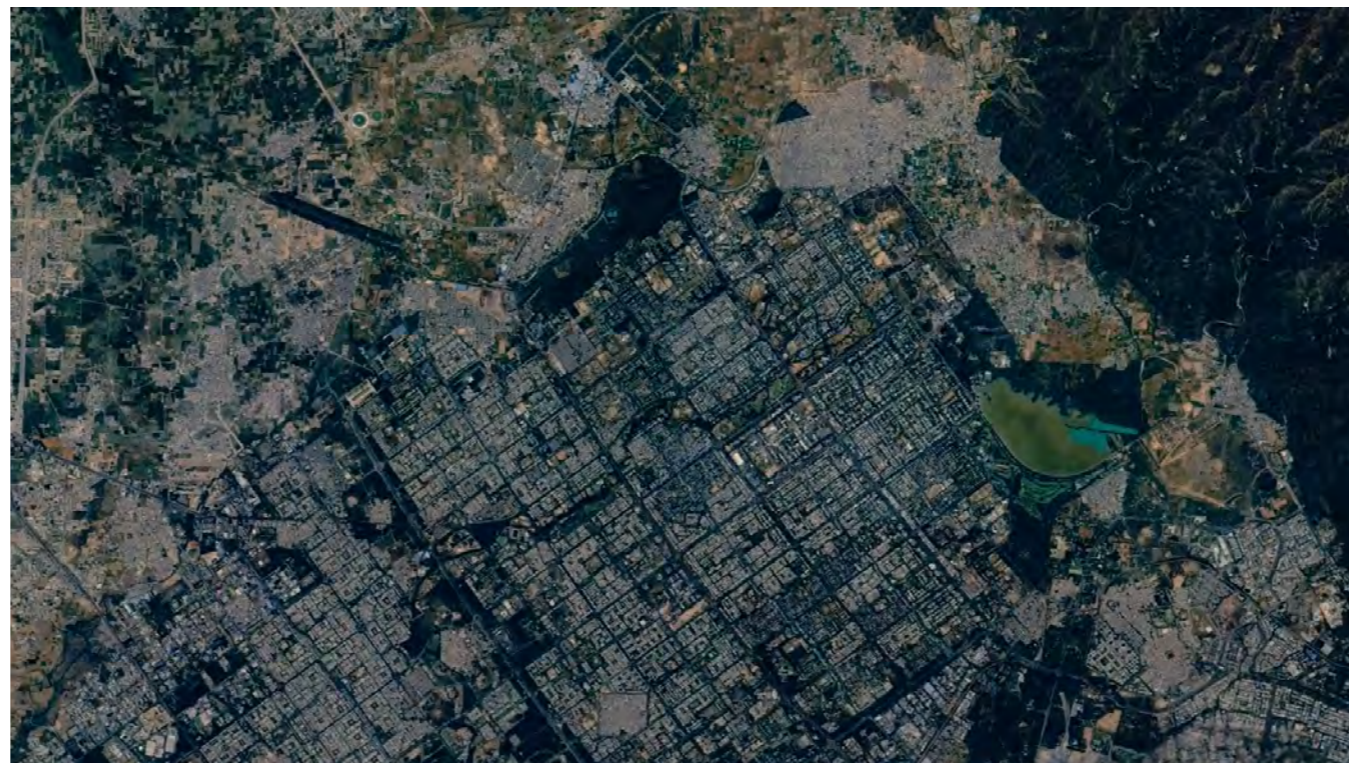
Throughout the film, I've used a recurring motif of a tree shown in four key shots, each capturing a different stage of its existence — healthy, bare, cut, and regrowing. These shots serve as a symbolic representation of both environmental degradation and personal conscience. The healthy tree appears early in the film, reflecting an ideal — a future we're striving for. The bare, leafless tree represents uncertainty and transition, aligning with the protagonist's internal conflict. A later shot shows the tree cut down, stark and confronting, paralleling the moment Meera realizes the full weight of her complicity. Finally, the shot of a small sapling growing in the same spot serves as a quiet but powerful note of hope and resilience — suggesting that even in a corrupted system, acts of truth can plant the seeds for renewal. These tree visuals thread through the narrative like a silent observer, embodying the fragile balance between destruction and recovery.



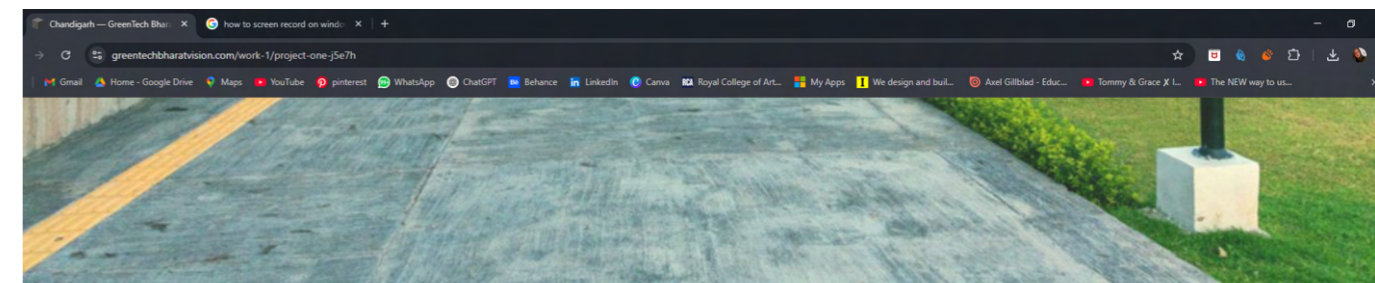
a u d i o / v i d e o

spatial design

To ground the speculative narrative of my film in realism, I strategically incorporated existing visual materials and digital tools that mirror the aesthetics of real-world media and systems. For the news broadcast scenes, I used publicly available footage of government officials to enhance authenticity, making the fabricated news segment feel believable and familiar. To depict the subtle manipulation of carbon emission data, I created custom coding footage that visually represents the backend tampering — showing the shift from 36% to 45% — reinforcing the film's core tension between perceived success and hidden truth. For spatial context, I used Google Earth Studio to create a smooth map zoom-in sequence, anchoring the fictional CMS Centre in a real-world geographic setting. Additionally, I designed and developed a fictional website, greentechbharatvision.com, to serve as a digital extension of the film's universe. The site mimics the aesthetic and tone of official sustainability initiatives, further blurring the line between fiction and reality. Each of these elements not only supports the visual and narrative world of the film but also enhances its credibility, immersing the viewer in a future that feels dangerously plausible.



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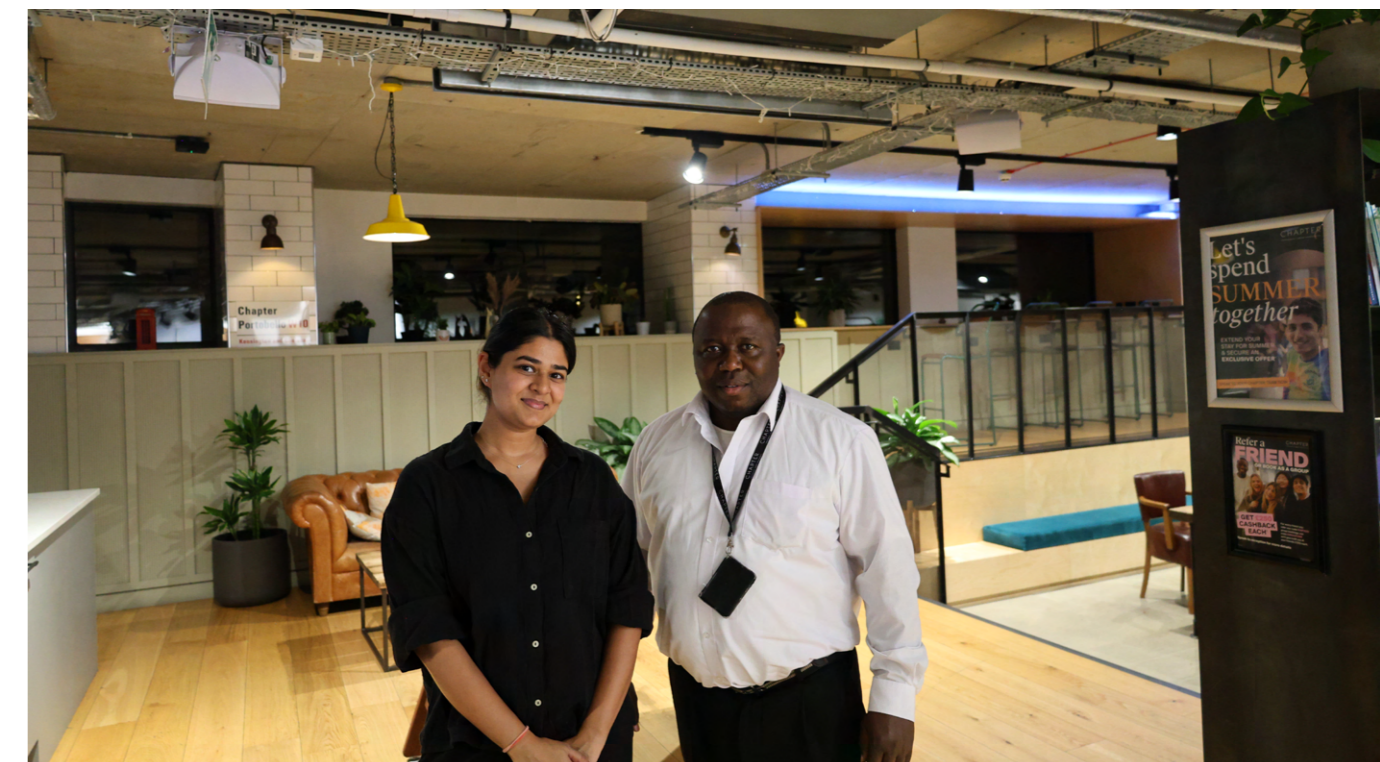
B T S

spatial design

The making of this film was as much about creative problem-solving as it was about storytelling. With limited resources, I relied heavily on collaboration and adaptability to bring the narrative to life. I cast my cousin as the main character, and much of the filming took place in and around my student accommodation — which doubled as both Meera's home and the CMS Centre interiors. One of the biggest challenges was transforming everyday domestic spaces into believable institutional environments. I used strategic framing, lighting adjustments, and minimal set dressing to create the illusion of a professional carbon monitoring facility.

To build the world further, I reached out to friends who generously contributed their voices and video clips for various roles — from news anchors and government officials to background murmurs and digital interactions. Their recordings helped add depth and authenticity, especially in scenes involving media or remote communications.

Creating a believable atmosphere with DIY production methods meant constantly thinking about how to enhance realism with subtle choices — whether it was through tight camera angles, natural lighting, or layering sound effects over simple visuals. This process taught me how powerful storytelling can be when resourcefulness meets intention.



t r e a t m e n t

Government Folder Booklet

Symbolic Project Format

To represent the theme of surveillance, data control, and transparency, the entire project will be symbolically packaged as a government-issued data folder. The final outcome will take the form of a booklet placed inside a brown binder, designed to closely resemble official government files used for confidential or administrative documentation.

Design & Symbolism:

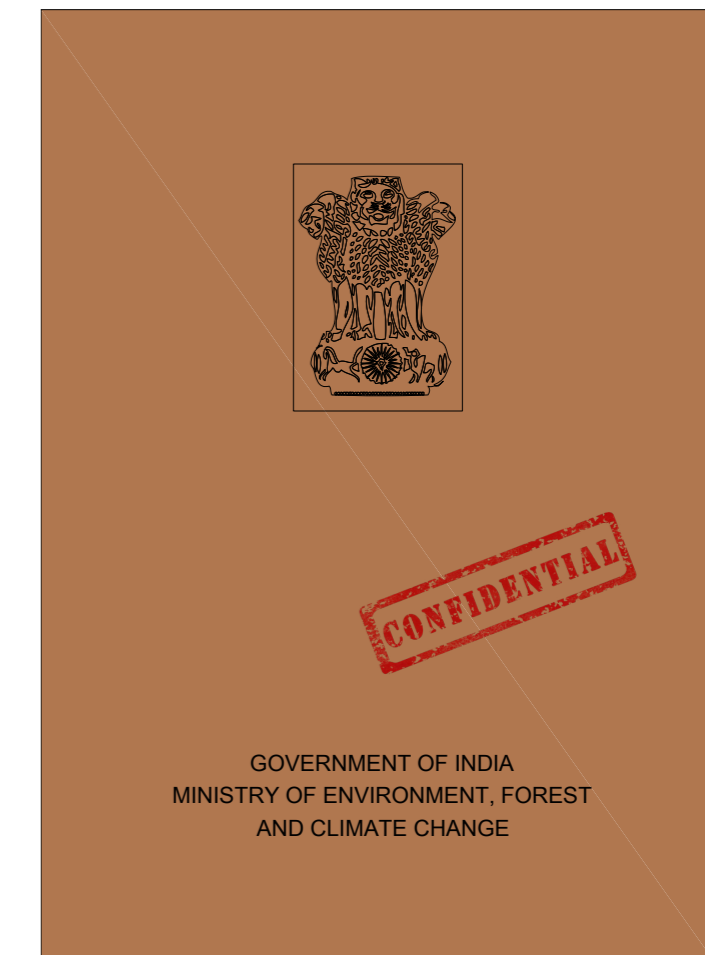
- The binder is brown, sturdy, and textured — evoking the seriousness and authority of state paperwork.
- It features the Indian Government Emblem embossed or printed on the cover, along with typed text labels such as “Carbon Monitoring Report – Confidential” or “Greentech Bharat Vision – CMS Division,” enhancing its realistic and institutional look.
- Inside the folder, the booklet contains the entire project: the policy details, timelines, character profiles, visual storyboards, speculative designs, and more.
- It mimics a data storage and surveillance file, reinforcing the idea of how data is collected, stored, and manipulated under the guise of governance.

Thermochromatic Ink – Revealing the Hidden

As a symbolic layer of the project, selected pages in the booklet are painted with thermochromatic ink — black when cold, but revealing content when touched or heated.

- **Symbolism:** Represents how real carbon data is hidden from the public.
- **Interaction:** The audience reveals the hidden truth themselves, just like Meera in the film.
- **Status:** Still in progress, currently testing ink behavior and clarity.

booklet cover



f i l m p r o t o t y p e

film link-
https://youtu.be/_BllaND-ydc

SCENE 1: Int. Meera's bedroom – night – 2039

This is a work in progress video as an experiment to text frames, camera, lighting and how the compilations turns out to be. the video has no sound or dialogues.



f i n a l f i l m

film link-
<https://youtu.be/OQxcSZVTFJo>



t a k e a w a y

Making this film was much more than completing a project — it was a deeply reflective and, at times, uncomfortable process of questioning systems, decisions, and my own understanding of what counts as “doing the right thing.” My biggest takeaway is that climate action, which often appears as a bold and united front in the media, is in reality filled with compromises, contradictions, and ethical dilemmas. Through Meera’s story, I explored how easy it is to get swept up in the appearance of progress, especially when data and success metrics can be manipulated to fit narratives that benefit those in power.

I began this film thinking I was telling a story about environmental policy, but I ended up telling one about moral conflict — about a young woman who is trying to navigate the fine line between responsibility and guilt, truth and illusion. It forced me to consider how individuals operate within large systems, and how silence, even with good intentions, can make you complicit. Meera’s internal battle reflects a much larger question we all face: how far are we willing to go to make something look successful, and what are we willing to sacrifice in the process?

From a creative standpoint, this film taught me how to use tools like MidJourney, Runway, and real-world elements — websites, AI-generated assets, and everyday spaces — to build a speculative yet believable future. But beyond the technical learnings, my key takeaway is this: climate storytelling must not only show hope and innovation but also expose the uncomfortable truths behind progress. If we want a truly sustainable future, we have to be willing to confront the imperfections in our systems, even when they’re dressed as success.

Ultimately, this film made me more conscious of the quiet power individuals hold — to question, to act, and to break a narrative when it no longer aligns with reality. That, I think, is where real change begins.



t h a n k y o u
:))

f i l m c r e d i t s

Characters

- Meera Agarwal- Sanna Bansal
- Nikhil Chauhan- Hanz Ibambu
- Colleague 1- Fatma Abubakar
- Colleague 2- Emma Cochet
- Nikhil Chauhan- Anshul Kumar (Voice)
- Colleague 1- Shreyas Bharath (Voice)
- Colleague 2- Anshdeep Singh (Voice)
- Girl watching news- Vaishali odedra

Space

- Chapter Portobello (student accomodation)
- Royal College of Art (University)

Film & Visual Style References

- Children of Men (2006) – dir. Alfonso Cuarón
Referenced for its bleak realism, immersive long takes, and commentary on systemic collapse.
IMDb | Cinematography Breakdown
- Gattaca (1997) – dir. Andrew Niccol
Referenced for its sterile, elegant visual design and dystopian use of data. IMDb
- Anshula (Short Film on Netflix)
Influenced the film's intimate portrayal of personal conflict against a broader socio-political backdrop, blending realistic storytelling with emotional depth. Netflix

Narrative & Thematic References

- India's National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC)
Provided context for India's carbon policies and the push toward net-zero — used to anchor the speculative CMS initiative in plausible policy evolution.
- UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG 13 – Climate Action)
Framed the broader environmental ambition that the fictional system in the film is modeled on.

Technological & Media Tools Used

- MidJourney – for AI-generated cinematic imagery and moodboards.
- Runway ML – for animating stills, adding movement and realism.
- Google Earth Studio – for map zoom-in sequences and locational transitions.
- ChatGPT – used extensively for scriptwriting, narrative development and dialogue refinement, helping to shape the story and characters.
- My Fictional CMS Website – GreenTech Bharat Vision
A narrative prop serving as the CMS system's public face.

Real-World Systems and Inspirations

- India's Bhuvan Portal (by ISRO)
Referenced for satellite data representation and the visual styling of government-led environmental platforms.
- India's Carbon Market Development (2023-2030 Projections)
Provided insight into potential carbon trading frameworks and future applications.
- Aadhaar & UPI systems
Referenced to imagine how an integrated identity and carbon tracking system might function in the Indian context.

b i b l i o g r a p h y

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- Carbon Tracker Initiative. (n.d.). Home. <https://carbontracker.org/>
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- Chandigarh Smart City Limited. (n.d.). Chandigarh Smart City. <https://www.chandigarhsmartcity.in/>
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Carbon Rationing and Personal Allowances

- ScienceDirect. (n.d.). Personal Carbon Trading: A Policy Ahead of Its Time?. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0301421510005239>
- MIT Senseable City Lab. (n.d.). CO2GO. <https://senseable.mit.edu/co2go/>
- World Bank. (n.d.). Carbon Pricing Dashboard. <https://carbonpricingdashboard.worldbank.org/>

Open Data and Digital Platforms

- Open Government Data (OGD) Platform India. (n.d.). Home. <https://data.gov.in/>
- UMANG. (n.d.). Unified Mobile Application for New-age Governance. <https://web.umang.gov.in/>
- Data.gov. (n.d.). The Home of the U.S. Government's Open Data. <https://data.gov/>

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- IMDb. (2002). Minority Report. <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0181689/>
- IMDb. (2015). Mr. Robot. <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt4158110/>
- IMDb. (2013). The East. <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1869716/>
- Netflix. (n.d.). Black Mirror. <https://www.netflix.com/title/70264888>
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AI Tools

- ChatGPT (OpenAI)
<https://chat.openai.com/>
Official platform for OpenAI's ChatGPT, a conversational AI used for writing assistance, ideation, and research.
- Midjourney
<https://www.midjourney.com/>
AI-powered image generation tool used to create conceptual and artistic visuals through prompt-based input.