



## Leaders' Summit on Climate

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### Why in News

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Recently, the **Leaders' Summit on Climate** was convened by the US President virtually.

- 40 world leaders, including the **Prime Minister of India**, were invited to the event to **underscore the urgency of stronger climate action**.
- This summit is seen as a key milestone on the road to the **United Nations Climate Change Conference, Conference of the Parties 26 (COP 26)** in November 2021 in Glasgow, Scotland.

### Key Points

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- **India-US Clean Energy Agenda 2030 Partnership:**
  - **About:**
    - It is a **joint climate and clean energy initiative of India** with the US.
    - It will demonstrate **how the world can align swift climate action with inclusive and resilient economic development**, taking into account national circumstances and sustainable development priorities.
  - **Objective:**

Mobilise investments, demonstrate **clean technologies and enable green collaborations** in India that could also create templates of **sustainable development** for other developing countries.
  - **Two Main Tracks of the Initiative:**
    - The Strategic Clean Energy Partnership.
    - The Climate Action and Finance Mobilization Dialogue.

- **US' Stand:**
  - **Pledged:**
    - To cut the US's GreenHouse Gas (GHG) in half by the year **2030** and called upon other nations to “**set higher climate ambitions**” that will create jobs at home, advance innovative technologies and help countries vulnerable to the impact of climate change.
    - To double its **public climate financing to developing countries** and triple public financing for climate adaptation in developing countries by 2024.
  - **NDC:**

It submitted a new **Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC)** target that aims to reduce its **GHG** emissions by 50-52% below 2005 levels.

The US has rejoined the **Paris Agreement**.
  - **Applauded:**

India for **stepping up its climate change commitment including the partnership with the US** to deploy 450 gigawatts of renewable power to meet the ambitious 2030 target for climate action and clean energy.
- **China's Stand:**
  - **Carbon Neutrality:**

Its carbon emissions will peak before 2030 and the country will achieve **carbon neutrality by 2060**.

Promoted its **green Belt and Road Initiative** and announced efforts to “**strictly control coal-fired power generation projects**” and phase down coal consumption.
  - **Common but Differentiated Responsibilities:**

It also emphasised on **the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities**, which argues for long-time polluters such as developed countries to do more to fight the climate crisis.
- **India's Stand :**
  - **Emissions:**

India was already doing its part and that the country's per capita **carbon emissions** are 60% lower than the global average.
  - **Commitment:**
    - India's ambitious **renewable energy** target of **450 GW by 2030**.
    - Despite its development challenges, India has taken many bold steps on clean energy, energy efficiency, **afforestation** and biodiversity. India is among few countries whose NDCs are **2°C** compatible.
  - **Emphasis:**

Emphasised its **encouragement of global initiatives** such as the **International Solar Alliance** and the **Coalition for Disaster Resilience Infrastructure**.

- **Some Indian Initiatives to Fight Climate Change:**
  - **National Clean Air Programme (NCAP)**
  - **Bharat Stage-VI (BS-VI) emission norms**
  - **UJALA scheme**
  - **National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC)**

## **Way Forward**

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- There is an **urgent need** for every country, city, business and financial institution to **adopt concrete plans for transitioning to net-zero**.
- Even more urgent is for governments to **match this long-term ambition with concrete actions now**, as trillions of dollars are mobilised to overcome the **Covid-19 pandemic**. **Revitalising economies is our chance to re-engineer our future**.
- The **G7 Summit** in June 2021 offers the opportunity for the world's wealthiest countries to step up and provide the necessary financial commitments that will **ensure the success of COP26**.

**Source: IE**