

Ecuador & Peru

Source: DTE

Indigenous communities in **Ecuador** and **Peru** opposed a new **oil deal**, citing risks of **deforestation**, **river pollution**, **biodiversity loss**, and **ecological damage** in the **Amazon rainforests**.

Amazon Rainforests

- About: The Amazon Rainforest is the largest tropical rainforest in the world, covering around 6.7 million sq km in the Amazon River basin of northern South America.
 - About 60% of the rainforest is in Brazil, while the remaining area is shared among Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Suriname, Venezuela, and French Guiana, making it the largest drainage system globally.
 - It is bounded by the Guiana Highlands (north), Andes Mountains (west), Brazilian Central Plateau (south), and the Atlantic Ocean (east).
- Ecological Significance: Covers over half of the world's rainforest volume, crucial for biodiversity, carbon sequestration, and climate regulation.
 - Though only 1% of Earth's surface, it sustains around 10% of global wildlife, including habitats for river dolphins and over 70% of the world's jaguars.



Ecuador

- Ecuador (with capital Quito) lies in western South America between Colombia and Peru.
 The Equator line passed through it.
- The Andes run through Ecuador, with Cotopaxi as the highest active volcano.

Peru

- Situated on the western coast of South America, Peru (capital- Lima) connects the Pacific Ocean, Andes Mountains and the Amazon Basin.
 - It shares borders with **Ecuador and Colombia** (north), **Brazil** (east), and **Bolivia and Chile** (south).
- Key drainage includes the **Amazon River** and **Lake Titicaca** (world's highest navigable lake, shared with Bolivia).
 - About **60%** of Peru is covered by the **Amazon forest**.
 - Other features include Atacama Desert (southern Peru), Nazca Lines, and the <u>Humboldt Current</u> and <u>El Niño</u>.

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