



AIR Discussions (April 4th Week)

AIR SPOTLIGHT SUMMARY: LEADERS' SUMMIT ON CLIMATE 2021

CONTEXT: Prime Minister addressed the Leaders' Summit on Climate 2021.

ABOUT THE LEADERS' SUMMIT ON CLIMATE 2021:

- US President Joe Biden hosted a virtual meeting of world leaders titled 'Leaders' Summit on Climate' on the occasion of Earth Day (22nd April).
- It is touted by some as a **precursor to the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) that will take place in Glasgow.**
- It aimed to **"galvanise efforts by the major economies to tackle the climate crisis" and "underscore the urgency – and the economic benefits – of stronger climate action."**

OBJECTIVES OF THE SUMMIT:

- **Get the world's major economies to reduce emission** in this decade while also getting the public and private sector involvement.
- **Show how climate action can have economic and social benefits.**
- **Build new businesses and industries.**
- **Using the technology** available to adapt to climate change but also reduce emissions.
- Use **nature-based solutions** to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050.
- **Protect lives and livelihoods** by finding ways to adapt to climate change.



STAND OF VARIOUS COUNTRIES:

US:

- It pledged to cut the 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.
- It pledged to **double its public climate financing to developing countries and triple public financing for climate adaptation in developing countries by 2024.**
- It submitted a new **Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) target that aims to reduce its GHG emissions by 50-52% below 2005 levels.**

JAPAN:

- Japan will **cut emissions 46-50% below 2013 levels by 2030, with strong efforts toward achieving a 50% reduction,** a significant improvement from its existing 26% reduction goal.

CANADA:

- Canada will **strengthen its NDC to a 40-45% reduction from 2005 levels by 2030,** a significant increase over its previous target to reduce emissions 30% below 2005 levels by 2030.

INDIA:

- India **reiterated its target of 450 GW of renewable energy by 2030** and announced the launch of the US-India 2030 Climate and Clean Energy Agenda 2030 Partnership to mobilise finance and speed clean energy innovation and deployment this decade.
- **India-US Clean Energy Agenda 2030 Partnership:**
 - 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.
 - It aims to 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: Strategic Clean Energy Partnership, Climate Action and Finance Mobilization Dialogue.

ARGENTINA:

- Argentina will **strengthen its NDC, deploy more renewables, reduce methane emissions and end illegal deforestation.**

UNITED KINGDOM & EU:

- The United Kingdom will **embed in law a 78% GHG reduction below 1990 levels by 2035.**
- The EU is putting into law **a target of reducing net greenhouse gas emissions by at least 55% by 2030 and a net zero target by 2050.**

SOUTH KOREA:

- South Korea will **end public overseas coal finance and strengthen its NDC this year to be consistent with its 2050 net zero goal.**

CHINA:

- China indicated that it **will join the Kigali Amendment, strengthen the control of non-CO2 greenhouse gases, strictly control coal-fired power generation projects and slow down coal consumption.**

BRAZIL:

- Brazil committed to **achieve net zero by 2050, end illegal deforestation by 2030 and double funding for deforestation enforcement.**

SOUTH AFRICA:

- South Africa announced that it **intends to strengthen its NDC and shift its intended emissions peak year ten years earlier to 2025.**



RUSSIA:

- Russia noted the **importance of carbon capture and storage from all sources, as well as atmospheric carbon removals**. It also **highlighted the importance of methane** and called for international collaboration to address the potent greenhouse gas.

OTHER IMPORTANT THEMES DISCUSSED:

- **CLIMATE FINANCE:**

- It was emphasized that there is a urgent need to scale up climate finance, including both efforts to increase public finance for mitigation and adaptation in developing countries and efforts to catalyse trillions of dollars of private investment to support the transition to net zero emissions by 2050.
- The participants recognised the need for governments to embrace key policies, including meaningful carbon pricing, enhanced disclosure of climate-related risks and phasing out fossil fuel subsidies.

- **CLIMATE ACTION:** an equitable vision for advancing bold climate ambition and building resilience on the ground is the need of hour.

- **ADAPTATION AND RESILIENCE:**

- Innovative solutions to prepare for water-related climate challenges, such as locally-owned disaster insurance instruments, relocation and the use of green and blue bonds to finance nature-based solutions.
- Need for better technology to address a changing agricultural landscape as well as the importance of supporting small-scale farmers.
- Scaling up locally-led solutions to climate vulnerability, emphasising that economic opportunities are key to keeping communities healthy and stable.

- **NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS:**

- Emphasised ending deforestation and the loss of wetlands, and restoring marine and terrestrial ecosystems.
- Protecting and conserving land and marine areas to sequester carbon and build climate resilience.



- Kharia Tribe of India highlighted the need to recognise the contributions and traditional knowledge of local and indigenous communities in ecosystem protection.
- **CLIMATE SECURITY:** climate impacts exacerbate security concerns and, as a result, affect military capabilities, heighten geopolitical competition, undermine stability and provoke regional conflicts.
- **INNOVATIONS:** 45% of the emissions reductions needed for a swift net-zero transition must come from technologies that are not commercially available.
- **OPPORTUNITIES:** ambitious climate action presents many economic opportunities to countries around the world such as to create good, high quality jobs.

<https://earth.org/leaders-summit-on-climate-2021-a-summary/>

<https://unfccc.int/news/climate-ambition-builds-at-leaders-summit-on-earth-day>

<https://www.cnbc.com/2021/04/22/biden-climate-summit-2021-what-brazil-japan-canada-others-pledged.html>



PRELIMS SPECIAL: NEWS ON BRIEF

World Malaria Day

- **25th April** is observed every year as World Malaria Day.
- The first 'World Malaria Day' was observed on 25 April, 2008 led by the World Health Organisation (WHO) and many governments all over the world.
- The theme for the 2021 World Malaria Day is '**Reaching the zero malaria target**'.
- It is typically transmitted through the bite of an infected Anopheles mosquito. Infected mosquitoes carry the Plasmodium parasite.

<http://newsonair.com/Main-News-Details.aspx?id=414970>

National Panchayati Raj Day

- 12th National Panchayati Raj Day was observed on **24th April**.
- The **Constitution (73rd Amendment) Act** came into effect on **24 April 1993** marking the formalisation of the Panchayati Raj system in India.
- The National Panchayat Awards in various categories are given on this day.

<http://newsonair.com/Main-News-Details.aspx?id=414985>

Aditya-L1 Support Cell (AL1SC)

- A community service centre has been set up to **bring all data on board India's first dedicated solar space mission to a single web-based interface enabling the users to quickly look at the data and identify the interesting science cases.**
- The community service centre is called Aditya-L1 Support Cell (AL1SC).
- It is a **joint effort of ISRO and the Aryabhata Research Institute of Observational Sciences (ARIES)**, an autonomous institute of the Department of Science & Technology, Government of India.



APTI PLUS
Academy For Civil Services
The Best IAS Academy In Eastern India SINCE 2006
An ISO 9001 : 2008 Certified Institute
Creating Civil Servants for the Nation



- The centre will act as conduit between the users (student and faculty members from research institutes/universities/colleges, etc.) and payload teams of Aditya-L1 and the solar astronomy research community at large.

<http://newsonair.com/Main-News-Details.aspx?id=415269>