# COP24: Future Course of action

## Why in news?

\n\n

Conference of Parties 24 (The United nations Climate summit) is to take place in Katowice Poland soon.

\n\n

## What is the present global situation?

\n\n

\n
- The latest Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Bulletin of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) says the level of heat-trapping greenhouse gases, notably the most potent carbon dioxide, hit a new record in 2017.
\n
- A US Congress-mandated report too warned of dreadful consequences of continued growth in emissions.
\n
- Global warming will undermine human health, damage infrastructure, limit water availability, alter coastlines and push up costs in industries, farming, fisheries and energy sectors.
\n
- Under Trump Administration the US is seeking to dilute the financial obligations of the developed nations to sustain the global struggle against rapidly altering climate.
\n
- There are no signs of reversals in this trend and that the window of opportunity for action is almost closed.
\n
- Climate change will, thus, have increasingly destructive and irreversible impacts on life on earth.
\n

\n\n

## How India is affected by climate change?

\n\n

\n
- Since 1951 the meteorological data of India shows an increasing frequency of extremely heavy rainfall and rainless days and diminishing incidence of light to moderate rainfall.
\n
- The IMD has also attributed the recent unprecedented deluge in Kerala and similar events elsewhere earlier to climate change.
\n
- The India Meteorological Department (IMD) also conceded that the weather-related normal has changed.
\n
- Studies also have revealed a perceptible rise in the surface water temperature in the Arabian Sea and Bay of Bengal, boding ill for aquatic biodiversity.
\n

\n\n

## What should be the course of action?

\n\n

\n
- Adaptation is as important as mitigation though it has received meager attention till now.
\n
- The adaptation and mitigation should be sector and region specific rather than the one size fits all type.
\n
- Agriculture, being the most weather-dependent sector, can thrive only if it manages to adjust to the emerging weather trends through climate resilient technologies and crop varieties.
\n
- Water conservation as well as drainage will need to be improved to contain the impact of droughts and floods.
\n
- Similar well-judged measures will be imperative to protect flora and fauna against various kinds of threats.
\n

\n\n

## How can the adaptation and mitigation process can be financed?

\n\n

\n
- The economic cost of the adaptation strategies can be huge.

\n
- The resource-starved countries may find hard to afford such a large sum of money without external assistance.
\n
- The solution lies in funding the Green Climate fund.
\n
- The Cancun 2010 climate summit decided to create a Green Climate Fund with annual donations amounting to $100 billion by 2022.
\n
- However the money has not been forthcoming for this purpose.
\n
- The Katowice meet will, therefore, do well to deliberate on this issue and get the Fund going to shield this planet from the wrath of the climate change.
\n

\n\n

\n\n

**Source: Business Standard**

\n

