

Q.

COP28 climate summit, a milestone or a mirage? Analyse (250 words).

21 Dec 2023.

Recently, India's prime minister Narendra Modi have attended the COP28 meeting in UAE. And COP28 have come up with much more accountability and response to the targets fixed by the countries.

COP meetings got initiated by the UNFCCC.

And in 2023, COP28 in UAE have come with some Index on which the whole meeting was concluded.

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1. Fast tracking a just, orderly and equitable energy transition.
2. Fixing Climate Finance
3. Focusing on people, lives and livelihood
4. Full inclusivity.

It consists of some of the mechanism and key points as :

1. > Global Stocktake = It is type of Review mechanism. Whatever targets the country's have committed in the previous COPs, this year it was the review year for all that.

2. > Climate Finance : Climate Finance was not introduced in COP28, It is an early concept. And it consist of funds for Mitigation, Adaptation and loss and damage fund working. Developed countries have only given \$100 B/yr but the required amount according to World Bank is \$630 B/year.

“Loss and Damage fund was established in COP27 But it got operationalised in COP28.”

3> Dubai Consensus: Transitioning away from fossil fuels.

In this context, Developing countries wants to phase down the use of fossil fuel that is gradually. But Developed country's wants to phase out completely. And Debate is continuous.

4> Methane Emission cuts: Methane is one of the major contributor of Greenhouse Gas emissions. But this Agreement does not mention any target for methane emission cut.

5> Energy Efficiency Targets: In COP28, the target of Renewable Energy is being trippled.

6> Champ Initiatives: High level initiatives for Influential individuals, business etc. to address and award the sustainable initiatives.

India's Initiatives :-

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| Global River City Alliance | Green Credit Initiative | Climate Health Initiative. |

But at the same time, there were some remaining issues like :-

Climate Finance and Loss and Damage finance are not being defined.

Also, amount of finance is also an issue, as the amount that is allocated is not

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sufficient. Hence no transparency is there in release of finance.

Hence, COP 28 Climate Summit can be considered as milestone and addressing the issues can also make it more accountable and efficient.

Q. Syncing rural livelihoods with forest rights will create immense opportunities. Discuss this in the context of MGNREGIA Act and Forest Right Act. (150 words).

MGNREGIA is one of the largest work guaranteed programme in the world launched in 2005 by Ministry of Rural Development.

It guarantees 100 days of work to the people who wants to work. Hence creating immense opportunities for them and enhancing their livelihood.

It divides work into various categories like Watershed Irrigation, Flood management, Agricultural and Livestock Related etc.

Forest Right Act recognizes the rights of forest dwelling communities to live in and protect their traditional forests. It also promotes forest conservation by Community forest resource, It also gives title, use, development rights to indigenous people. Hence, creates immense opportunity to their livelihood.

Why useful?

- 1) Employment Generation: It creates the employment in Rural area and among their people.
- 2) Infrastructure Development: By giving them project which enhance the Infrastructure of the area sustainably.
- 3) Create Awareness: These Acts creates an immense awareness among rural people about their rights. ~~and~~
- 4) Accessibility to Formal Finance: Opportunity with respect to Finance will also open for Rural people.
- 5) These acts give significance to Forest Governance by recognising community forest resource rights.

Hence, people can manage their forest on their own through Traditional & Indigenous way which is more sustainable in today's world of Climate Change.