

# India junks 'stage-managed' \$300bn Baku deal

## Delhi Slams 'Unfair' Means Followed For Pact's Adoption

Vishwa.Mohan  
@timesofindia.com

The UN climate talks (COP29) concluded Sunday with a weak outcome on climate finance, making rich nations to mobilise merely \$300 billion per year by 2035 for developing countries from a "wide variety of sources", including public and private, rather than on-

**India sought the floor to speak before the decision was adopted, but the finance outcome was suddenly gavelled by COP29 president Mukhtar Babayev**

ly from public finance as was demanded. Some delegates gave the deal, which resulted from fractions and at times openly hostile negotiations, a standing ovation, while others lambasted wealthy nations for not doing more and criticised the Azerbaijan host for hurriedly gaveling through the contentious plan.

The process of global climate cooperation will lurch forward from here under the weight of heavier existential

questions.

India rejected the deal in its present form, saying the document is "nothing more than an optical illusion".

Though the amount is part of the overall package of \$1.3 trillion per year by 2035 from all public and private sources for developing countries to implement their climate action goals, India while standing up for Global South said the amount would not address the enormity of the challenge the world is currently facing.

"The goal is too little, too distant (almost 11 years later). It is 2035, it is too far gone. Our 2030 estimates tell us that we need to do it at \$1.3 trillion per year till 2030... The amount that is proposed to be mobilised is abysmally poor. It is a paltry sum... We cannot accept it... We are very unhappy, disappointed with the process and object to the adoption of this agenda," said Chandni Raina, India's negotiator, while articulating the country's stand amid a wide round of applause from several developing countries.

India sought the floor to speak before the decision was adopted, but the finance outcome—New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG)—was suddenly gavelled by COP29 president Mukhtar Babayev.

### WHAT DOES THE CLIMATE FINANCE DEAL AT COP29 MEAN?

**1 Overall post-2025 target**  
\$1.3 trillion per year by 2035, from all public and private sources, for developing countries for implementing their climate action

**2 Core goal**  
Developed countries to mobilise \$300 billion per year by 2035 for developing countries

> It'll come from a wide variety of sources (public and private; bilateral and multilateral, including alternative sources)

> It'll replace the existing annual \$100 billion 2020-25 period target (it was promised

In 2009 to mobilise \$100 billion per year by 2020)

**3 Donor base** | Encourages developing countries to make contributions, including through South-South cooperation, on a voluntary basis

**4 Adaptation**  
Pursue efforts to at least triple the annual fund flow by 2030 from 2022 levels for adaptation measures

**5 Review/ratchet mechanism** | Baku to Belem (host city of COP30 in Brazil) Roadmap to assess progress towards the \$1.3 trillion goal, with reports in 2026 and 2027



"We had informed the presidency, we had informed the secretariat that we wanted to make a statement prior to any decision on the adoption. However, this is for everyone to see. This has been stage-managed. We are extremely extremely disappointed with this incident... We absolutely object to this unfair means followed for adoption," said Raina, economic advisor, DEA in the ministry of finance, in her intervention.

Post-gavel remarks of India and other developing countries

including Malawi, Bolivia, Nigeria and Pakistan on the Baku outcome were merely taken as records by the Azerbaijani presidency and it will appear in the footnote of the outcome. It is believed by many observers that weak climate finance outcome and India's rejection, endorsed by several developing countries, may impact the countries' update on their nationally determined contributions (NDCs)—climate action targets—next year.

With inputs from agencies

## India's rejection of deal triggers similar reactions from other poor nations

Vishwa.Mohan  
@timesofindia.com

similar line.

"COP29 has failed to deliver on its core mandate—binding commitments, real finance, and meaningful action to curb climate crisis. With the world needing over \$1.3 trillion in climate finance by 2030, the agreement on a \$300 billion goal by 2035, without a clear indication of what constitutes this finance, is a hollow gesture, a mere figleaf for inaction," said Arunabha Ghosh, CEO, Council on Energy, Environment and Water.

India's rejection of the deal triggered similar reactions from other developing nations that look at India as someone championing the cause of the Global South. Some experts and groups went on to term the deal hollow and disappointing.

Leading the charge during the final plenary, India's negotiator Chandni Raina said, "Developed countries (are) taking the lead for a mobilisation goal of a mere sum of \$300 billion and that too to be only reached by 2035, that's almost 11 years later, and that too from a wide variety of sources. So, it would have to be private, it would have to be multilateral and there are large amounts of it that will be left for developing countries to mobilise themselves."

"We are disappointed with the outcome which clearly brings out the unwillingness of developed country parties to fulfil their responsibilities," she said.

Speakers from other developing countries, including Bolivia and Nigeria, took a

Calling the COP29 outcome not just a failure but a betrayal, Least Developed Countries (LDC) group on climate change said, "The bulldozed New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) is a glaring symbol of this failure... Once again, the countries most responsible for the climate crisis have failed us. We leave Baku without an ambitious climate finance goal, without concrete plans to limit global temperature rise to 1.5 degrees Celsius, and without the comprehensive support desperately needed for adaptation and loss and damage."

# Hezbollah believed to be using copy of Israeli missile against Israel

The Lebanese militant group Hezbollah has been using an advanced missile against Israel that was reverse-engineered from an Israeli weapon it captured in a past war, according to Israeli defence officials.

Hezbollah fighters are believed to have seized the original Israeli Spike anti-tank missiles during the 2006 Israeli-Hezbollah war in Lebanon and shipped them to their main state backer, Iran, for cloning, Israeli and Western defence officials and weapons experts say.

Eighteen years later, Hezbollah is firing the rebranded Almas missiles at Israeli military bases, communication systems and air-defence launchers with enough precision and power to pose a significant challenge for Israeli military forces. The missiles have a range of up to 10 miles (16 km) and carry advanced guidance seekers to track and lock onto targets.

That Iran and its proxy forces have cloned weapons systems to use against the very adversaries who designed them is not new. Iran, for example, has copied American drones and missiles.

But the Almas missile is an example of an increasing use of Iranian-engineered weapons that is "fundamentally altering regional power dynamics," according to Mohammed Al-Basha, a West Asia weapons analyst who runs a risk advisory firm based in Virginia. "What was once a gradual spread of older missile generations has transformed into rapid deployment of cutting-edge technology across active battlefields," Al-



**MARKED BY WAR:** A damaged site following a rocket attack in Israel's Haifa on Sunday

Basha said this past week.

Almas missiles are among Hezbollah weapons stockpiles that Israeli forces have captured since the start of their invasion of Lebanon about two months ago, said the Israeli defence officials, who requested anonymity.

The missiles have stood out as some of the more sophisticated weaponry among a large cache of mostly lower-quality munitions, including Russian-designed Kornet anti-tank missiles. The Wall Street Journal reported this past week that Israeli troops advancing in southern Lebanon were finding large stockpiles of Russian weapons with enhanced Hezbollah's fighting capacity.

The Almas, which means diamond in Arabic and Persian, is a guided missile that does not need a direct eye-line sight to launch from land vehicles, drones, helicopters and shoulder-fired tubes. It is a so-called top-attack missile — meaning its ballistic trajectory can strike from directly above its targets instead of from the side and hit tanks where they are lightly armoured and vulnerable. The Almas has threatened Israeli units and equipment near Lebanon's border, Israeli defence officials said. NYT

# Solar calculator to help in easy cost-benefit analysis

Abhinav.Rajput@timesofindia.com

**New Delhi:** For residents seeking clarity on household solar panel benefits, including electricity savings, setup expenses, govt and additional advantages, Delhi govt has launched a solar calculator to simplify the process.

The calculator, linked to the Delhi solar portal, will have features that will tell a resident the approximate installation cost, make her aware of applicable central and state subsidies, effective costs and monthly solar generation-based incentive.

A senior official said: "People are still confused regarding the solar benefits and how much they end up saving." He said a person will just have to fill in basic details like electricity consumption (per month in kWh), approximate rooftop area (sqm), and desired solar installation (kW).

Thereafter, they will get details like savings in the electricity bill per month, pay-back period (in months), and the consumer can make their judgement, he said.

Delhi govt last week unveiled a new online platform called Delhi Solar Portal aimed at simplifying the process of rooftop solar panel installation for residents. Chief minister Atishi introduced this single-window solution, enabling Delhiites to become "prosumers" by generating surplus solar power while being consumers.

During the launch at Delhi secretariat, the chief minister said that this initiative aligned with AAP govt's solar policy introduced on March 14, targeting 750 MW of rooftop solar power generation. She highlighted that households consuming over 400 monthly power units could access subsidy benefits through the solar panel installation.

File photo



## TAPPING THE SUN

An official said the portal would serve as a comprehensive resource for Delhi residents, providing information about the Delhi Solar Energy Policy, 2023, rooftop solar system advantages, subsidy frameworks, approved vendors and regulations. The platform will enable online net meter applications across all discoms.

The portal facilitates applications for Delhi govt capital subsidy and GBI benefits while allowing users to monitor application progress. Atishi said residents could complete all necessary procedures through the portal without visiting any office.

The chief minister announced that domestic consumers generating excess solar power would receive a generation-based incentive of Rs 3 per unit. A senior govt official detailed that "prosumers" would receive Rs 3 per unit for systems up to 3 kW and Rs 2 per unit for systems up to 10 kW.

Housing societies and resident welfare associations can receive Rs 2 per unit incentive for rooftop installations, while commercial and industrial users qualify for Re 1 per unit.

# India starts exporting Pinaka weapon systems to Armenia

The Pinaka rockets are produced by Nagpur-based Solar Industry's Economic Explosives Limited along with Government-owned Munitions India Limited.

NEW DELHI, Nov 24 (ANI)

AMID growing global interest in the indigenous multi barrel rocket launchers (MBRL), India has started the supply of the highly capable Pinaka rockets to Armenia.

The supplies of the DRDO-developed rocket launchers have started around the same time India has started deliveries of the Akash air defence missile system to that country.

The first lot of the Pinaka multi barrel rocket launcher systems has been supplied to Armenia, defence sources told ANI.

The Pinaka rocket launchers are highly capable weapon system with variants which can strike targets over 80 Kms.

The contract between Indian firms and Armenia for the supply of these weapons was signed about two years ago after extended negotiations.

Armenia is one of three largest buyers of



Indian weapons and equipment along with the US and France.

A number of countries from South East Asia and Europe have shown interest in the Pinaka rockets whose multiple variants have been developed in recent times and the Indian Army is looking to induct them in a

big way.

The DRDO recently also carried out important test of the guided Pinaka rockets which are produced by Nagpur-based Solar Industry's Economic Explosives Limited along with Government-owned Munitions India Limited.

France has shown interest in the acquisition of this weapon system.

Named after the Hindu god Shiva's divine bow, the French interest in the rocket system was shown during a high-level visit by Chief of Defence Staff Gen Anil Chauhan earlier this year.

India has been pushing the indigenous systems for export markets and the Centre has been able to achieve success by three times since 2014. Notably, France is the second largest importer of Indian defence equipment after the US with a lot of electronics items going there from India.

# COP29 reaches global climate deal package

BAKU, Nov 24 (IANS)

A PACKAGE of climate agreements was reached early Sunday at the 29th session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP29).

The agreements included decisions on the New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) for climate financing and issues relating to the global carbon market mechanism under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement.

The agreements set the post-



2025 climate finance targets, including an annual funding of at least 300 billion U S

\$300 bn from developed countries and a broader climate financing goal of at least 1.3 trillion dollars per year by 2035 for supporting developing countries' climate actions.

(Contd on page 5)

## Furious India rejects 'unfair', 'stage-managed' deal

BAKU, Nov 24 (PTI)

INDIA on Sunday fiercely rejected the paltry USD 300 billion climate finance package for the Global South and said the COP29 presidency and the UN climate change office forced through the deal before allowing it to voice its objections.

Making a strong statement on behalf of India at the closing plenary of the UN climate conference here, Chandni Raina, Adviser, Department of Economic Affairs,

termed the adoption process "unfair" and "stage-managed" and said it reflected the troubling lack of trust in the UN system.

The UN climate conference adopted a new climate finance package of a meagre USD 300 billion annually by 2035, replacing the USD 100 billion pledge made in 2009. The USD 300 billion figure is a far cry from the USD 1.3 trillion the Global South has been demanding over the past three years of talks to tackle climate change.

(Contd on page 5)

## Iran to hold N-talks with 3 European powers in Geneva

**Dubai:** Iran will hold talks about its disputed nuclear programme with three European powers on Nov 29, the Iranian foreign ministry said on Sunday, days after the UN atomic watchdog passed a resolution against Tehran. Iran reacted to the resolution — proposed by Britain, France, Germany and the US — with what govt officials called various measures such as activating numerous new and advanced centrifuges, machines that enrich uranium.

Japan's Kyodo news agency, which first reported that the meeting would take place Friday in Geneva, said Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian's govt was seeking a solution to the nuclear impasse ahead of the inauguration in Jan of US President-elect Donald Trump.

A senior Iranian official confirmed that the meeting would go ahead next Friday. Iranian foreign ministry spokesperson Esmaeil Baghaei later said the deputy foreign ministers of Iran, France, Germany and Britain would take part in the talks, which he said would cover regional issues as well as the nuclear dossier. REUTERS

# India junks 'stage-managed' \$300bn Baku deal

## Delhi Slams 'Unfair' Means Followed For Pact's Adoption

Vishwa.Mohan  
@timesofindia.com

The UN climate talks (COP29) concluded Sunday with a weak outcome on climate finance, making rich nations to mobilise merely \$300 billion per year by 2035 for developing countries from a "wide variety of sources", including public and private, rather than on-

**India sought the floor to speak before the decision was adopted, but the finance outcome was suddenly gavelled by COP29 president Mukhtar Babayev**

ly from public finance as was demanded. Some delegates gave the deal, which resulted from fractions and at times openly hostile negotiations, a standing ovation, while others lambasted wealthy nations for not doing more and criticised the Azerbaijan host for hurriedly gaveling through the contentious plan.

The process of global climate cooperation will lurch forward from here under the weight of heavier existential

questions.

India rejected the deal in its present form, saying the document is "nothing more than an optical illusion".

Though the amount is part of the overall package of \$1.3 trillion per year by 2035 from all public and private sources for developing countries to implement their climate action goals, India while standing up for Global South said the amount would not address the enormity of the challenge the world is currently facing.

"The goal is too little, too distant (almost 11 years later). It is 2035, it is too far gone. Our 2030 estimates tell us that we need to do it at \$1.3 trillion per year till 2030... The amount that is proposed to be mobilised is abysmally poor. It is a paltry sum... We cannot accept it... We are very unhappy, disappointed with the process and object to the adoption of this agenda," said Chandni Raina, India's negotiator, while articulating the country's stand amid a wide round of applause from several developing countries.

India sought the floor to speak before the decision was adopted, but the finance outcome—New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG)—was suddenly gavelled by COP29 president Mukhtar Babayev.

### WHAT DOES THE CLIMATE FINANCE DEAL AT COP29 MEAN?

**1 Overall post-2025 target** | \$1.3 trillion per year by 2035, from all public and private sources, for developing countries for implementing their climate action

**2 Core goal** | Developed countries to mobilise \$300 billion per year by 2035 for developing countries

> It'll come from a wide variety of sources (public and private; bilateral and multilateral, including alternative sources)

> It'll replace the existing annual \$100 billion 2020-25 period target (it was promised

In 2009 to mobilise \$100 billion per year by 2020)

**3 Donor base** | Encourages developing countries to make contributions, including through South-South cooperation, on a voluntary basis

**4 Adaptation** | Pursue efforts to at least triple the annual fund flow by 2030 from 2022 levels for adaptation measures

**5 Review/ratchet mechanism** | Baku to Belem (host city of COP30 in Brazil) Roadmap to assess progress towards the \$1.3 trillion goal, with reports in 2026 and 2027



"We had informed the presidency, we had informed the secretariat that we wanted to make a statement prior to any decision on the adoption. However, this is for everyone to see. This has been stage-managed. We are extremely extremely disappointed with this incident... We absolutely object to this unfair means followed for adoption," said Raina, economic advisor, DEA in the ministry of finance, in her intervention.

Post-gavel remarks of India and other developing countries

including Malawi, Bolivia, Nigeria and Pakistan on the Baku outcome were merely taken as records by the Azerbaijani presidency and it will appear in the footnote of the outcome. It is believed by many observers that weak climate finance outcome and India's rejection, endorsed by several developing countries, may impact the countries' update on their nationally determined contributions (NDCs)—climate action targets—next year.

With inputs from agencies

## India's rejection of deal triggers similar reactions from other poor nations

Vishwa.Mohan  
@timesofindia.com

similar line.

"COP29 has failed to deliver on its core mandate—binding commitments, real finance, and meaningful action to curb climate crisis. With the world needing over \$1.3 trillion in climate finance by 2030, the agreement on a \$300 billion goal by 2035, without a clear indication of what constitutes this finance, is a hollow gesture, a mere figleaf for inaction," said Arunabha Ghosh, CEO, Council on Energy, Environment and Water.

India's rejection of the deal triggered similar reactions from other developing nations that look at India as someone championing the cause of the Global South. Some experts and groups went on to term the deal hollow and disappointing.

Leading the charge during the final plenary, India's negotiator Chandni Raina said, "Developed countries (are) taking the lead for a mobilisation goal of a mere sum of \$300 billion and that too to be only reached by 2035, that's almost 11 years later, and that too from a wide variety of sources. So, it would have to be private, it would have to be multilateral and there are large amounts of it that will be left for developing countries to mobilise themselves."

"We are disappointed with the outcome which clearly brings out the unwillingness of developed country parties to fulfil their responsibilities," she said.

Speakers from other developing countries, including Bolivia and Nigeria, took a

Calling the COP29 outcome not just a failure but a betrayal, Least Developed Countries (LDC) group on climate change said, "The bulldozed New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) is a glaring symbol of this failure... Once again, the countries most responsible for the climate crisis have failed us. We leave Baku without an ambitious climate finance goal, without concrete plans to limit global temperature rise to 1.5 degrees Celsius, and without the comprehensive support desperately needed for adaptation and loss and damage."