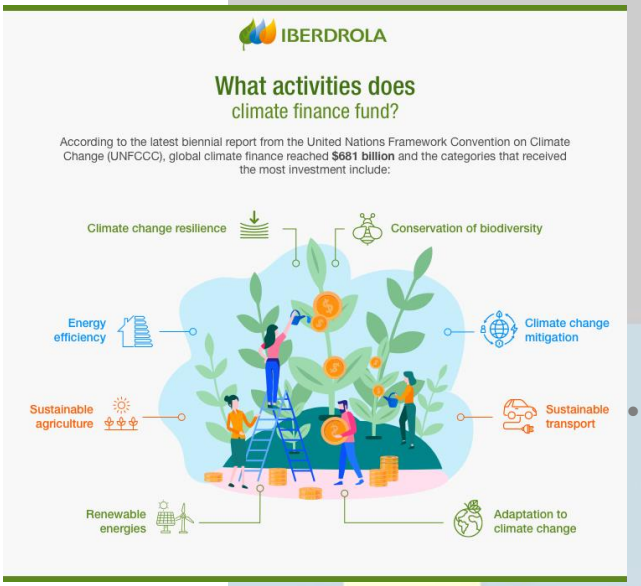
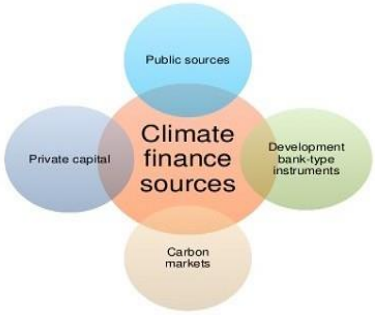
OECD REPORT ON CLIMATE FINANCE

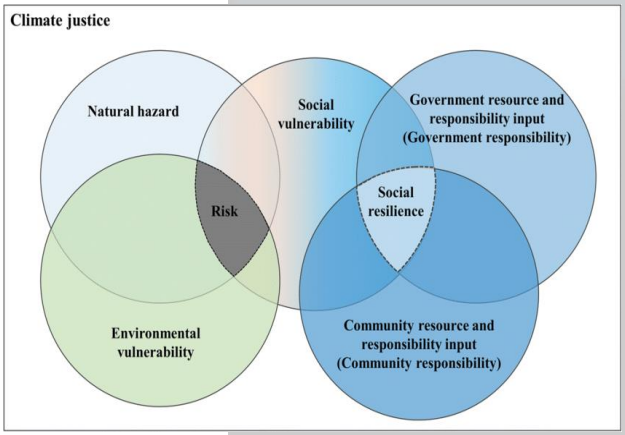


- **A new report, published by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), showed that economically developed countries fell short of their promise to jointly mobilise $100 billion a year towards climate mitigation and adaptation needs of developing countries in 2021 one year past the 2020 deadline.**
- **The report said that developed countries mobilised $89.6 billion in 2021 and that finances for adaptation fell by 14% in 2021 compared to 2020.**



How is climate finance accounted for?

- **The OECD report showed that of the $73.1 billion mobilised in 2021 by the public sector via bilateral and multilateral channels, $49.6 billion was provided as loans.**
- **When the OECD report states that two thirds of public climate financing was provided as loans, it means the conditions attached to such financing could further exacerbate debt stress in poorer countries.**



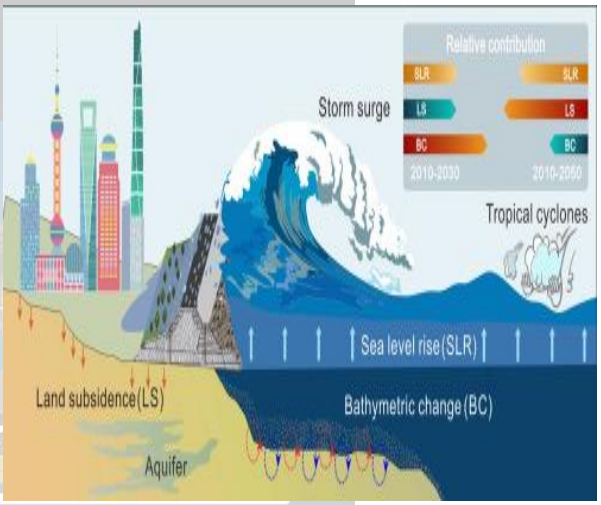
What counts as climate finance?

- At present, there is no commonly agreed definition of 'climate finance' because developed countries have endeavoured to keep it vague.
- The OECD report suggested de-risking with government intervention and called on MDBs to integrate private finance mobilisation strategies as part of their core objective.
- Its reasoning is that the private sector can help enable climate action but that it "requires the proactive involvement of governments and international institutions to support, incentivize and derisk individual projects, as well as to create the necessary conditions for investment in developing countries more generally".

SATHEE PORTAL

- SATHEE (Self-Assessment Test and Help for Entrance Exams) for exam preparation.
- The online coaching platform has been launched by the Ministry and the IIT Kanpur. SATHEE is an open learning platform available to students free.
- "A barrier for students who could not pay to access any such training programme has been bridged now.
- The Hindu

Maldives & sea level rise



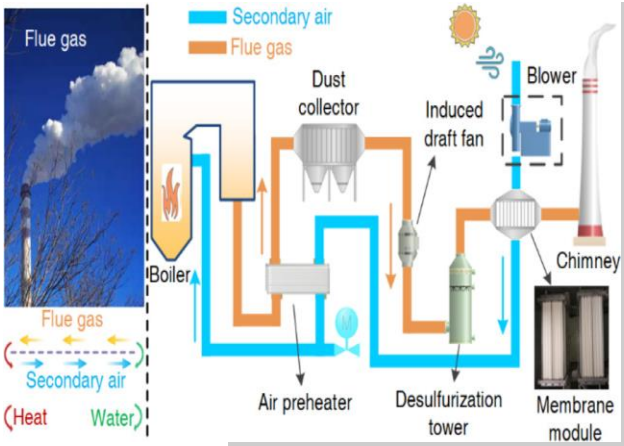
- Rising sea levels threaten to swamp the Maldives and the Indian Ocean archipelago is already out of drinking water, but the new President says he has scrapped plans to relocate citizens.
- Instead, President Mohamed Muizzu promises the low lying nation will beat back the waves through ambitious land reclamation and building islands higher.
- The Hindu

Coal and climate change

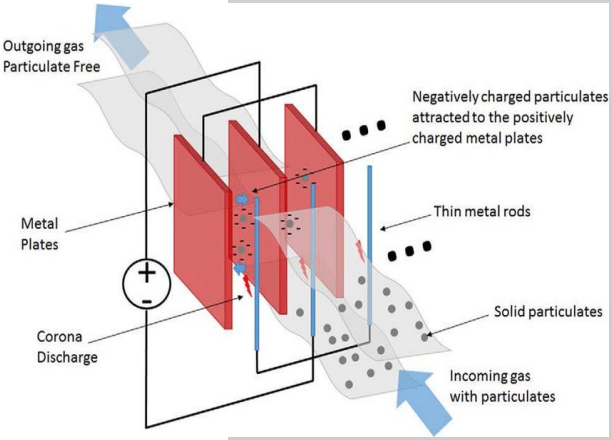
- Indian emissions from fossil fuels and industry between 1750 and 2021 are only 3.3% of the global total, behind those of Europe (31%), the U.S. (24.3%), and China (14.4%).
- Fulfilling the needs of 17% of the world's population is also a fundamental duty to which we must attend Batteries will become cost effective only after 2030, and tariffs of pithead TPPs are only 40% of the round the clock tariffs for solar plants backed by battery storage.
- Increasing battery capacity will require import of critical minerals like lithium, cobalt, nickel, and graphite.
- These are sourced mainly from China, posing significant risks to India's energy security Indian coal contains high levels of ash (3550%) compared to those mined elsewhere.
- Burning coal with more ash erodes boiler tubes and other components, affecting the plant's availability, efficiency, and performance
- Ninety six percent of the coal used by TPPs in India comes from domestic mines and is key to keeping electricity affordable in India.

Improving coal transport

- Coal deposits in India contain high levels of ash (3550%) compared to those mined in other coal mining countries.
- Burning coal with more ash erodes boiler tubes and other components, affecting the plant's availability, efficiency, and performance.
- The transport of unwashed raw coal to TPPs located more than 500 km from the mines also means transporting millions of tonnes of ashproducing noncoal material, congesting India's roads and rail transportation systems.
- Flue gas is the gas exiting to the atmosphere via a flue, which is a pipe or channel for conveying exhaust gases, as from a fireplace, oven, furnace, boiler or steam generator.
- It often refers to the exhaust gas of combustion at power plants. Technology is available to remove pollutants from flue gas at power plants

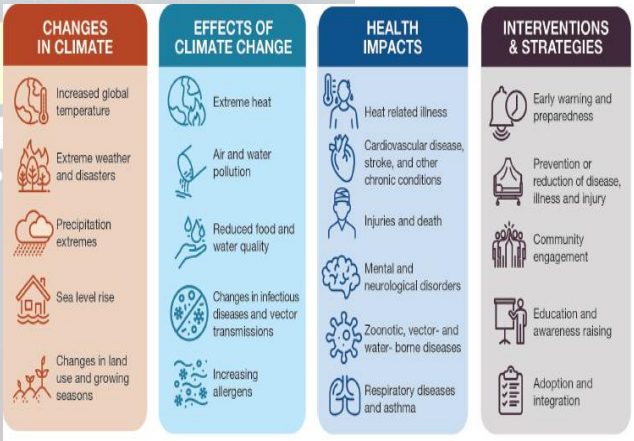


- **Indian coals generally have less Sulphur than that mined in other coal rich countries.**
- **TPPs in India have tall stacks, and the flue gas' exit velocity plus favourable weather conditions means sulphur dioxide emissions are widely dispersed.**
- **Historical sulphur dioxide emissions have created a cooling effect by masking global temperature rise by 0.5 degrees Celsius.**



- **Retrofitting existing TPPs with flue gas desulphurisers (FGDs), increases their specific coal consumption by 1.51.7%, leading to lower efficiency and higher emissions.**
- **FGDs require large capital investments leading to tariff hikes. India can therefore reduce particulate emissions by more than 99.97% by installing low cost, high performance electrostatic precipitators and reserve FGDs for TPPs near urban areas.**
- **The Hindu**

Climate change and Health



- **One estimate suggests that if global temperature were to rise by 2°C, many parts of India would become uninhabitable. All nations during the Paris Agreement agreed to cap the rise in temperature at 1.5°C.**

- **The double burden of morbidity that India faces from communicable and non-communicable diseases will be worsened by climate change.**
- **It could facilitate the growth of vectors such as mosquitoes, sandflies, ticks, and as yet unknown ones, and change the seasonality of infection through changes in their life cycle.**
- **It could also facilitate the introduction of vectors and pathogens into areas where they did not exist before, such as mosquitoes in the Himalayan States.**
- **Heat also alters the virulence of pathogens.**
- **Reduced availability of food and water and the decrease in nutritional value of food increases vulnerability to diseases.**
- **Epidemics commonly occur after floods, but extended warm periods also promote the proliferation of water and foodborne pathogens and diseases.**
- **Less well recognized is the impact of climate change on non-communicable diseases and mental health, both of which are poorly managed in India.**
- **Heat, physical exertion, and dehydration, a constant state for labourers, could lead to kidney injuries, which are rising in India due to uncontrolled diabetes.**
- **Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Diseases are exacerbated by increased and extended episodes of air pollution.**
- **India has to recognize climate change and its impact on health as a problem that can be and needs to be addressed.**
- **Researchers who work in this area need to come up with policy options for action. National, State, and local governments have to decide to act on the policy options that have been generated by research.**
- **Only when the three streams of problematisation, policy options, and political decision making come together is meaningful change likely to happen.**
- **The Hindu**