GS-III: The nationalist hindrance to climate actions.

News

The UN Climate Actions Summit is likely to hand out hard lessons about climate politics in an era of nationalism.

Visible signs and science:

- The scientific advisory group to the summit the five years since 2015 is set to the warmest of any period sea level rises is accelerating and ocean have become 265 more acidic since the dawn of the Industrial era.
- Recent weather events bring into focus the likely implications of a warming world. This year saw Delhi like temperature in southern Europe, Hurricane Dorian rendered large parts of Bahamas unliveable and witnessed simultaneous raging fires in the Amazon, central Africa and even Siberia.
- Heat wave in France and Germany was made 8 to 10 times more likely by climate change concentrations of carbon dioxide continue to rise, and current country pledges would not stem this increase even by 2030.

A political Disconnect:

- If science experience and public alarm are increasing on the side of action, unfortunately, national politics in country after country is trending in the wrong direction.
- The US President not only refuses to enhance actions he has actively rolled back measures in the electricity sector and actions to limit methane emissions in the name of competitiveness.
- In Brazil, President has made it clear he sees environmental protections as limiting Brazilian business and nationalism in some countries where the politics is more conducive.
- By contrast several large countries like US, Brazil, Australia, Canada, Japan and Mexico are reportedly not even going to participate in the event at a high level.
- China and India have issued statements hinting that they are doing quite enough and India has high lightened the need for enhanced finance if it is to do more.

A path for India:

- India has the potential to show the pathway to accelerating action on climate change even while pursuing its development interests.
- A notable example is its energy efficiency track record, which helps limit greenhouse gases energy. India is justifiably recognised for promoting renewable energy, also muddies water by sending mixed signals on future coals use.
- India needs some domestic energy policies that are more clearly and polices turned to a future low carbon world.
- India committed to a low-carbon future that brings development benefits, strike common cause with others power? India and china both jostling for influence in African nations but also both losers from climate impacts, jointly help ensure that Africa's development is powered by renewable energy than fossil fuels and based on energy efficient future.