



# Indian Express News Analysis (IENA)

## English PDF Notes – 01 December 2023

### \$475 million pledged to climate disaster fund as COP28 makes a promising start

*#LossAndDamageFund #COP28 #ClimateChange #Environment #GS3*

The COP28 climate conference in Dubai began Thursday on a promising note, approving one of the most keenly-awaited decisions – the operationalisation of a loss and damage fund for developing countries – on the first day.

About \$475 million was immediately committed to the fund, with the European Union pledging nearly \$275 million, and hosts UAE promising another \$100 million.

The loss and damage fund was set up during COP27, the previous version of the UN's annual climate change conference, at Sharm el-Shaikh in Egypt last year. The fund, a long-pending demand of developing countries, is meant to provide financial assistance to countries recovering from climate disasters, such as extreme weather events. It would also be used to finance measures to deal with other climate-related emergencies, like sea-level rise, migration, and displacement.

Apart from the EU and the UAE, Germany promised \$100 million, the UK committed about \$70 million. The United States said it would contribute \$17.5 million, and Japan promised \$10 million.

Under the international climate change architecture, developed countries are obligated to provide money to developing countries for different kinds of climate action.

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### 2023 set to become warmest year ever, reveals World Meteorological Organisation report

*#WarmestYear #WMO #ClimateChange #Environment #GS3*

It is official now. The year 2023 is all set to be the warmest year ever, the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) has said, as climate negotiators and world leaders began their discussions at the annual climate change conference, COP28, in Dubai.

Global average temperatures till October this year were about 1.4 degree Celsius higher than pre-industrial average, considerably more than the previous hottest year 2016 which was about 1.29 degree Celsius warmer. The gap is so large that data from November and December is unlikely to prevent 2023 from becoming the warmest ever, the WMO said.

In its provisional State of the Global Climate report, an annual publication that it released at the COP meetings, the WMO said that the observed concentrations of the three main greenhouse gases – carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide — were at their highest in 2022, the last year for which

detailed data is available, and there were indications that these concentrations continued to increase in 2023 as well.

Further, **ocean heat content as well as global mean sea levels were at record highs, while the Antarctic sea-ice extent was at its lowest ever.**

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## Governors acting as Chancellor not bound by advice of ministers, says Supreme Court

*#Governors #Chancellors #PowersOfGovernors #Polity #GS2*

**Governors acting in their statutory capacity as University Chancellor are not bound by the aid and advice of the council of ministers**, the Supreme Court ruled on Wednesday.

“In... a situation” where “the statute makes a clear-cut distinction between two distinct authorities, namely, the Chancellor and the State Government... the same must also be interpreted distinctly, and while dealing with the case of the Vice-Chancellor, the Governor, being the Chancellor of the University, acts only in his personal capacity, and therefore, the powers and duties exercised and performed by him under a statute related to the University, as its Chancellor, have absolutely no relation to the exercise and performance of the powers and duties by him while he holds office as the Governor of the state”, the bench said.

The SC recalled that in its **1981 judgment in Hardwari Lal, Rohtak v. G.D. Tapase**, Chandigarh, a full bench of the Punjab and Haryana High Court, while dealing with powers of the Governor with respect to the appointment/removal of Vice-Chancellor of Maharshi Dayanand University, Rohtak, under the Maharshi Dayanand University (Amendment) Act, 1980, had held that **“the Governor was the ex officio Chancellor of the University. Therefore, by virtue of his office, he was not bound to act under the aid and advice of the council of ministers”**.

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