

## Editorial of the Day – 06.11.2025

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### 1. In Brazil, COP30 and the moment of truth–(TH)

#### General Studies 3 – Environment

**Topic –** Conservation, environmental pollution and degradation, environmental impact assessment.

#### Introduction

The Belém Summit, commencing on November 6, 2025, in the Brazilian Amazon, serves as a critical preparatory gathering for the 30th UN Climate Change Conference (COP30). As world leaders convene, the summit's symbolic location in the heart of the Amazon underscores the urgent need to move beyond rhetoric. The goal is to commit to decisive, collective action, address the escalating climate crisis, and restore diminishing faith in global governance.

#### 1. From Words to Action – Restoring Faith in Global Governance

**Restoring Faith in Multilateralism –** There is a critical need to move from speeches to concrete results. A lack of tangible outcomes risks the public losing faith in the COP process, multilateralism, and global governance systems.

**The "COP of Truth" –** The Belém gathering is intentionally positioned to be the "COP of Truth," serving as a testament to the seriousness of global commitments to safeguard the planet.

**Historical Precedents for Unity –** Humanity has previously demonstrated its capacity for unity and science-driven solutions. Successes include the healing of the ozone layer (Montreal Protocol) and the decisive global response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**The Path Forward –** These precedents affirm that with sufficient courage, cooperation, and political will, the world can overcome its greatest collective challenges.

#### 2. Brazil's Leadership and the Call for Climate Justice

**Historical Legacy (Earth Summit 1992) –** Brazil previously hosted the historic 1992 Earth Summit in Rio, which established the foundational UN Conventions on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Biological Diversity (CBD), and Combating Desertification (UNCCD).

**Progress from Summits –** Over the 33 years since, these summits have secured major global commitments, such as the goals of ending deforestation by 2030 and tripling renewable energy use.

**COP30 in the Amazon –** Hosting COP30 in the Amazon's heartland allows leaders, scientists, and citizens to witness the ground-level realities of the forests, rivers, and people, anchoring the negotiations in tangible experience rather than abstract discussion.

**Demand for Climate Equity –** Addressing climate change requires adequate financing and strict adherence to the principle of "common but differentiated responsibilities" (CBDR), which is presented as a non-negotiable foundation of climate justice.

**Justice, Not Charity –** The Global South is seeking fair access to resources as a matter of justice, not charity. This is based on the fact that wealthier nations profited most from centuries of carbon-driven industrial growth.

**Accountability for Developed Nations –** Developed countries must act responsibly by fulfilling both their existing climate finance commitments and their historical climate debts.

**Brazil's Demonstrable Action –** Brazil has proven that decisive action is possible by halving deforestation in the Amazon within just two years, demonstrating the power of political will and accountability.

#### 3. Belém's Vision – Protection, Transition, and Justice

**Tropical Forests Forever Facility (TFFF) –** Brazil is launching the TFFF, which is structured as an investment fund, not a donation mechanism. The fund will financially reward countries that successfully

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preserve their forests, as well as the investors who support them, creating a "win-win" model for conservation. Brazil has pledged an initial \$1 billion to the fund and is calling for equally bold commitments from other nations.

**Ambitious Climate Commitments (NDC)** – Brazil has become the second country to submit a new Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), pledging a 59%–67% emissions reduction across all gases and sectors. It is urging all nations to adopt and implement similarly ambitious climate targets.

**Clean Energy Transition** – Brazil is a leader in clean energy, with 88% of its electricity generated from renewables, and significant capacity in biofuels, wind, solar, and green hydrogen. Brazil advocates that revenues from existing oil production must be used to fund a fair, orderly, and equitable transition, acknowledging the fossil-fuel model is unsustainable. Over time, state oil companies like Petrobras are expected to evolve into broad-based energy enterprises.

**People-Centred Climate Action** – Climate policies must be people-centred, as vulnerable communities suffer the most from climate impacts. Just transition and adaptation policies must be explicitly designed to reduce inequality. This is critical as 2 billion people globally still lack clean cooking energy and 673 million face hunger. To this end, Brazil will launch the "Declaration on Hunger, Poverty, and Climate," directly linking climate action with the fight against deprivation.

## 4. Reforming Global Governance for a Credible Climate Future

**Weakness of Current Multilateralism** – The current multilateral system is weakening, evidenced by the paralysis of the UN Security Council, which has failed to prevent conflicts despite its core mandate.

**Imperative for Reform** – It is now imperative to reform global governance structures to make them more accountable, representative, and action-oriented.

**Proposal – UN Climate Change Council** – Brazil will formally advocate for the creation of a UN Climate Change Council, established under the authority of the General Assembly. This body would be vested with the legitimacy and enforcement power necessary to ensure countries honour their climate commitments.

**Goal of the Reform** – The proposal aims to revitalize multilateral cooperation and restore trust in international institutions.

**Moving from Pledges to Implementation** – The era of lofty pledges at COPs with limited implementation must end. COP30 is positioned as the moment to replace mere declarations with concrete, measurable action plans.

## Conclusion

The reform of global governance, particularly through the establishment of a UN Climate Change Council, is presented as essential to restore faith in multilateralism and ensure accountability in climate action. This move is designed to shift nations from symbolic pledges to enforceable commitments. COP30 in Belém is intended to mark a definitive turning point—where "words give way to deeds" and collective resolve shapes a sustainable, equitable future.

Source – <https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/lead/in-brazil-cop30-and-the-moment-of-truth/article70245296.ece>

## 2. Pakistan's double game with China and America is its ticket to disaster- (IE)

**General Studies 2 – International Relations**

**Topic** – Effect of policies and politics of developed and developing countries (USA, China) on India's interests.

## Introduction

Pakistan's foreign policy is currently engaged in a high-stakes balancing act between two major, rival powers – China, its "all-weather friend," and the United States, its historical ally. While both nations are critical to Pakistan's economy and security, Islamabad's attempt to simultaneously satisfy both may prove counterproductive. This strategy is increasingly exposing the nation to significant economic,

political, and diplomatic instability.

### 1. China - The Strategic and Economic Partner

**Deep Economic Ties** - The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), valued at over \$70 billion, is a central pillar of China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). CPEC provides Pakistan with vital infrastructure, energy projects, and development funding, acting as a crucial economic lifeline.

**Strategic Alignment** - China views Pakistan as a key ally in its regional strategy, primarily to counterbalance India's influence. Pakistan also helps China expand its presence and influence in the Indian Ocean Region. Pakistani ports, particularly Gwadar, are strategically significant for China, granting it maritime access to the Middle East and Africa.

**Growing Dependence** - Pakistan's reliance on Chinese loans and investments has increased significantly in recent years. This deep economic dependence has limited Pakistan's policy flexibility and raised international concerns about its debt sustainability.

### 2. The United States - A Necessary Partner

**Historical Relationship** - The U.S. has been a longstanding partner, providing extensive military aid, economic assistance, and diplomatic support during the Cold War and the post-9/11 "War on Terror" eras. Crucially, the U.S. retains key influence over global financial institutions like the IMF and the World Bank, making its support vital for Pakistan's financial survival and economic stabilization.

**Strategic Importance** - Despite strained bilateral ties, Pakistan continues to rely on the U.S. for global legitimacy and for critical access to Western markets and technology. However, both the Trump and Biden administrations have viewed Pakistan's pronounced "China tilt" with deep skepticism, openly questioning Islamabad's true strategic intentions.

### 3. Conflicting Signals - The Moscow Format Declaration

**Anti-U.S. Posture** - Pakistan's participation in the Moscow Format on Afghanistan—alongside Russia, China, and Iran—was a significant geopolitical signal. This format pointedly excluded the U.S. and aligned Islamabad with a bloc of anti-West powers. This move directly contradicted Pakistan's parallel efforts to attract American investors and secure U.S. (IMF) financial support.

**Diplomatic Inconsistency** - Such actions portray Pakistan as diplomatically unreliable and inconsistent to both of its major partners. This ambiguity erodes trust on both sides -

1. The U.S. interprets these gestures as opportunistic and untrustworthy.
2. China expects firmer alignment and loyalty for its strategic agenda and investments.

### 4. Economic Dilemma and Internal Constraints

**Fragile Economy** - Pakistan's economy is fundamentally weak, being import-dependent and suffering from chronic inflation, large fiscal deficits, and severe energy shortages. Its massive external debt burden, particularly the non-IMF debt owed to China, severely limits its economic autonomy.

**Dependence on Foreign Aid** - Islamabad is caught in a dual dependency trap -

1. It depends on Chinese financing for long-term infrastructure and development.
2. It simultaneously depends on IMF bailouts (which are backed by the U.S.) for short-term stabilization and to avoid default.

This dual reliance leaves it extremely vulnerable to shifts in the global geopolitical climate.

**Domestic Instability** - Persistent political uncertainty, widespread corruption, and the ongoing insurgency in Balochistan (the heart of CPEC) undermine investor confidence. These domestic weaknesses strain the internal security apparatus and severely restrict Pakistan's ability to pursue a coherent and independent foreign policy.

### 5. Strategic Fallout and Regional Impact

**Loss of Credibility** - By attempting to court both rivals, Pakistan risks alienating each of them. The U.S. may respond by further reducing engagement, aid, and diplomatic support. China, in turn, could tighten its financial terms, reduce future investments, and demand stronger political loyalty and security guarantees for its assets and citizens.

**Regional Consequences** - Pakistan's shifting alignments directly affect the regional power equations

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involving India, China, and the U.S. Growing instability in Pakistan could also hinder broader regional connectivity and trade initiatives, impacting the stability of South and Central Asia.

### Conclusion

Pakistan's pursuit of a dual-alignment strategy with China and the United States is fraught with risks and is proving to be unsustainable. This approach is undermined by its own economic fragility, chronic political instability, and inconsistent diplomacy. To secure its long-term national interests, Pakistan must move away from opportunistic balancing and adopt a coherent, transparent, and stable foreign policy that prioritizes self-reliance and consistent, trustworthy engagement.

Source - <https://indianexpress.com/article/opinion/columns/pakistan-double-game-china-america-ticket-disaster-10348581/>

