

US-India Strategic Clean Energy Partnership

September 14, 2021

In news– Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas co-chaired a virtual Ministerial meeting with the U.S. Secretary of Energy to launch the revamped U.S.-India Strategic Clean Energy Partnership (SCEP) recently.

About the U.S.-India Strategic Clean Energy Partnership (SCEP)-

- **The SCEP is launched in accordance with U.S.-India Climate and Clean Energy Agenda 2030 Partnership** announced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Joe Biden at the Leaders Summit on Climate held in April this year.
- India elevated the India-US energy dialogue to a strategic energy partnership in February 2018 and four technical pillars for it were established in January 2019.
- **The SCEP organizes inter-governmental engagement across five pillars of cooperation:**
 1. Power and Energy Efficiency.
 2. Responsible Oil and Gas.
 3. Renewable Energy.
 4. Sustainable Growth and
 5. Emerging Fuels.
- During the meeting, the **two sides announced the addition of a fifth Pillar on Emerging Fuels**, which signals joint resolve to promote clean energy fuels.
- A new **India-US Task Force on Biofuels was also announced** to build on the scope of work on cooperation in the biofuels sector.
- The US Secretary lauded India's renewable energy target of 450 GW by 2030, and offered to closely collaborate in

the realization of this target by India.

- **Both sides will strengthen the electric grid in India** to support large-scale integration of renewables, including through smart grids, energy storage, flexible resources etc.
- **The two sides also announced rechristening of the Gas Task Force to India-US Low Emissions Gas Task Force, which would continue to forge collaboration between U.S. and Indian companies** on innovative projects to support India's vision of a gas-based economy.
- The two sides also agreed to continue to develop better understandings on **methane abatement** under this Task Force.
- Both sides have initiated **institutionalization of India Energy Modeling Forum** with the constitution of Six Task Forces for carrying out research and modeling in different areas.
- **Joint Committees have been set up to deliberate on Energy Data Management, Low Carbon Technologies** and Just Transition in the Coal Sector.
- Building on the success of the first phase, the two sides agreed to expand the scope of the work to include smart grid and grid storage as part of the **second phase of the Partnership to Advance Clean Energy (PACE)-R initiative** anchored on the Indian side by the Department of Science & Technology.
- The meeting also reviewed the progress on the India-US Civil Nuclear Energy cooperation.

U.S.-India Climate and Clean Energy Agenda 2030 Partnership-

- The Partnership will represent one of the core venues for India-US collaboration and focus on driving urgent progress in this critical decade for climate action.
- Both India and the United States have set ambitious 2030 targets for climate action and clean energy.
- In its new nationally determined contribution, the

United States has set an economy-wide target of reducing its net greenhouse gas emissions by 50-52 percent below 2005 levels in 2030.

- As part of its climate mitigation efforts, India has set a target of installing 450 GW of renewable energy by 2030.
- The Partnership aims to mobilize finance and speed clean energy deployment; demonstrate and scale innovative clean technologies needed to decarbonize sectors including industry, transportation, power, and buildings; and build capacity to measure, manage, and adapt to the risks of climate-related impacts.