

Lima draft holds up hope for Paris green deal

Lima: A compromise draft on national pledges to cut global carbon emissions saved the UN climate talks from a collapse and kept hopes alive for a global deal in Paris next year to combat climate change. After a marathon 13-day conference of parties (COP), negotiators on Sunday adopted the draft that addressed India's concerns and set the roadmap for a new binding deal.

Though the outcome is not on expected lines, it somehow managed to keep red lines for all countries—developed and developing. The agreement — Lima Call for Climate Action — paves the way for all nations to submit their 'nationally determined' pledge for emission cuts and adaptation measures by October next year—not by June, 2015 that was expected after last year's Warsaw talks.

Though it doesn't give an ambitious roadmap for climate finance, it addresses the concerns of developing countries by keeping 'adaptation' clause intact and not diluting the basic principles — CBDRs — of the UNFCCC and its Kyoto Protocol. The contentious issues will, however, come up again dur-

ing the Paris talks ahead of the final agreement.

Commenting on the draft, Environment Minister Prakash Javadekar said, "All of India's concerns have been addressed." "We have achieved targets and we got what we wanted," he said after the delegates approved a broad blueprint for talks leading up to a deal in 2015 that is to come into effect after 2020.

Nations concluded by elaborating the elements of the new agreement, scheduled to be stamped in Paris in late 2015, while also agreeing to the ground rules on how all countries can submit contributions to the new agreement during the first quarter of next year.

These Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) will form the foundation for climate action post 2020 when the new agreement is set to come into effect.

The Lima climate conference achieved a range of other important outcomes, decisions and "firsts" in the history of international climate process.

For the full report, log on to www.timesofindia.com

TOI at Lima
By Vishwa Mohan