

Global Consensus, Made In India

Unanimous Declaration After 'Tense, Ruthless' Negotiations

Surojit Gupta & Sidhartha | 7PM

New Delhi: India on Saturday scripted history and stamped its authority on the global stage, securing a consensus on more than 100 issues on the agenda, including the most contentious one, the Russia-Ukraine war, as G20 leaders adopted the New Delhi Leaders' Declaration.

future. My gratitude to all fellow G20 members for their support and cooperation." PM Narendra Modi said in a social media post after the 34-page declaration was adopted following what India's sherpa Amitabh Kant said were "ruthless negotiations" that lasted over 200 hours.

The breakthrough was facilitated by India's success in enlisting the support of the emerging economies of Brazil, South Africa and Indonesia, and after it invoked the name of PM Modi to bluntly put across the message that there was no more time to be wasted. "Eventually, we had to tell them that our leader wants it, and it has to be delivered," Kant said.

FULL COVERAGE: P 11, 13-15

TOI broke the story online a little after 1pm on Saturday.

The significance of the New Delhi Leaders' Declaration stretched far beyond getting the opposite sides to agree to a compromise formulation over the Ukraine war. It attested to India's growing geopolitical heft, with the participating nations embracing the priorities flagged by PM Modi.

India's G20 sherpa counted multiple gains for the members—an ambitious green development agenda, and accelerating progress on sustainable development goals through focus on health and education. In short, a rich trophy cabinet.

Related report, P 13

TERROR CLAMPDOWN TO GREEN BOOST: KEY TAKEAWAYS FROM SUMMIT

- > New Delhi Declaration **condemns 'terrorism in all its forms and manifestations**, including those on the basis of xenophobia, racism and other forms of intolerance, or in the name of religion or belief'. Focus on **curbing money laundering and corruption**
- > PM launches **Global Biofuel Alliance** to develop biofuels for energy transition, job creation and economic growth. **Second India-led international climate action platform** to get global acceptance after Int'l Solar Alliance
- > Agreement to pursue **trebling of renewable energy capacity globally**. **Green hydrogen innovation centre** to be set up under solar alliance
- > India's brainchild **LIFE – lifestyle for sustainable development – included in preamble** of declaration. Recognised as an important tool to address climate challenges
- > Recognises role of **Digital Public Infrastructure in delivery of services** on a societal scale. Commitment to promote **cooperation on international governance for artificial intelligence**
- > Framework for **cryptocurrency and reform of multilateral development banks**
- > Aside from G20, India & US to jointly set up first-of-its kind **\$1 billion investment fund** to support New Delhi's efforts to speed up **energy transition**



PM Modi with US President Biden and Saudi Arabia's Mohd bin Salman as they shake hands at the G20 meet Saturday – a moment seen as marking a thaw in relations. Biden had vowed to make Saudi Arabia a 'pariah' state over the murder of journalist Jamal Khashoggi in 2019, and faced a backlash in US for a fest-bump with MbS in 2022

Respite for Russia in compromise

The New Delhi Declaration avoided any mention of Russia on the Ukraine war, except in the context of efforts to revive the Black Sea grain deal. The consensus on Ukraine came against the run of play with the G7/EU and Russia-China having taken maximalist positions during the sherpa talks. **P 14**

Nod to rapid, deep emission cuts

G20 leaders agreed on rapid, deep and sustained cuts in GHG emissions by 43% by 2030, and sought to raise trillions of dollars to achieve the target. They also underlined the need to reach net zero emissions by 2050 to save the world from dangerous consequences of climate change. **P 15**

"United in consensus and spirit, we pledge to work collaboratively for a better, more prosperous and harmonious