

India and France co-hosted the first International Solar Alliance summit in New Delhi

What in news:

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Macron inaugurated first International Solar Alliance summit

About news:

- The aim of the summit was to deliberate on finance mechanism for promotion of solar energy in member countries, crowd-funding and technology transfer.
- The summit was co-hosted by President Ram Nath Kovind and his French counterpart President Emmanuel Macron. It was attended by 21 heads of states and heads of government, several top ministers and bureaucrats apart from participants from multilateral banks and United Nations.

About The International Solar Alliance:

- It is a treaty based international inter-governmental alliance of 121 solar resource rich countries lying fully or partially between the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn.
- The aim of the alliance is to promote solar energy and reduce the use of fossil fuels in sunshine-rich countries. The summit will focus on various aspects of promoting solar energy, such as credit mechanism, crowd funding and sharing of technological breakthroughs, in 121 countries associated with ISA.
- The alliance, backed by the World Bank, has aimed at mobilising \$1 trillion for International Solar Alliance projects needed by 2030 for massive deployment of solar energy.
- Various projects being prepared by different countries in areas including rural electrification, off grid solar power, water supply and irrigation are being discussed.
- India, which founded the International Solar Alliance backed by France after the Paris accord on climate change, has set an ambitious target for itself - of having 100 GW of solar energy capacities by 2022. India is already close to achieving 20 GW in the current fiscal and plans to auction 30 GW solar projects each in 2018-19 and 2019-20.

Expected prelims question

Consider the following statements with reference to international Solar alliance

1. It is a n alliance among countries lying between tropic of cancer and polar regions
2. This programme is funded by world bank

Which of the given statements are/is correct?

- a) Only 1
- b) Only2
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) None of above

Ans - b

Expected mains question

Q) Recently India and France co-hosted the first International Solar Alliance summit. Analyse the availability of Non-renewable source of energy in India and discuss the importance of International Solar Alliance summit in India.