

## G20 Lecture to students

- India took over the G20 Presidency from Indonesia in December, 2022 in a historic moment, which marked the grouping's presidency passing from one developing country to another. Guided by the virtue of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam (The Earth is One Family), India took over the mantle of a group of nations, which together account for 85% of the world GDP, 75% of international trade and two thirds of the global population.
- You are the changemakers of tomorrow, but start driving this change today, itself. Multiple platforms were created under India's ongoing G20 presidency to ensure that it is truly representative. Engagement groups such as Youth20 (Y20), Women20 (W20), Civil20 (C20) have been utilized to bring forth perspectives of different sections and weave them under the aegis of a common structure.
- It must be remembered that India took over the G20 Presidency at a time of aggravated impact triggered by global disruptions. The COVID-19 pandemic, supply chain disruptions, climate change, food and energy security risks, geopolitical tensions, inflation, and a looming debt crisis all contribute to economic slowdown and uncertainty in global economic growth.
- In a remarkable exhibition of its deft diplomacy, India has ensured that the Russia-Ukraine war does not impede pursuit of other global concerns, under the mandate of G20. This is a lesson for all of us, attending this conversation that India has the intent and capabilities to offer solutions for collective global progress.
- In a speech made by Prime Minister Narendra Modi earlier this year, he had insisted that all environmental concerns must be pursued as a “**personal cause**”, arguing for a more pervasive shouldering of responsibilities associated with it. “Climate Consciousness” is gaining currency among the youth and children in all parts of the world. Many millennials now regard “environmental responsibility” as an indispensable component of

their vision for collective progress. This offers tremendous opportunity for you to be a vital cog in addressing one of the most potent threats facing mankind.

- India's **Mission LiFe** (Lifestyle for Environment) seeks to inculcate a sense of trusteeship in every individual, in our long-term fight against climate change. Jan Bhagidari activities, advocating responsible consumption, cutting down wastefulness, increased thrust on recycling of products hold immense potential for ushering in transformative change.
- Similarly, you must explore avenues in other domains as well which will have a significant bearing on the **global policy landscape** in future. These include Digital Economy, Sustainable Financing, Skilling a future ready workforce, role of Start-ups, Rural tourism, Resilient infrastructure - among other things. While devising futuristic strategies for these domains, the youth must keep in mind the 'additionality' of solutions, to be offered by India.
- I'd like to urge you all to encapsulate the lessons exhibited by India during her G20 Presidency to the world. India's presidency also offered an overview of what the global order will look like in the decades to come. An order, which is characterized by growing multi-polarity, mainstreaming of concerns of the Global South and one which reduces the existing inequities.