



# Daily Current Affairs



## To The Point

by Dhananjay Gautam

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## Admiralty (Jurisdiction and Settlement of Maritime Claims) Act, 2017

**Context:** In a recent development, the **Kerala High Court** ordered the **conditional arrest** of the Liberian container ship *MSC Akiteta II*. This action followed a suit filed by the **Kerala Government** under **Section 4** of the **Admiralty (Jurisdiction and Settlement of Maritime Claims) Act, 2017**. The case highlights the growing use of this modern legislation to address complex maritime disputes involving foreign-flagged vessels within Indian jurisdiction.



### Objective of the Admiralty Act, 2017:

The **Admiralty (Jurisdiction and Settlement of Maritime Claims) Act, 2017** was enacted to **unify and modernize** the laws related to **admiralty jurisdiction**, including:

- **Legal proceedings** related to maritime disputes
- **Arrest, detention, and sale** of vessels
- **Maritime claims** and resolution mechanisms

This legislation provides a **comprehensive framework** for the settlement of maritime claims in Indian courts.

### Repeal of Outdated Colonial Laws:

To modernize the legal regime, the 2017 Act **repeals several outdated British-era legislations**, including:

- *The Admiralty Court Act, 1861*
- *The Colonial Courts of Admiralty Act, 1890*
- *The Colonial Courts of Admiralty (India) Act, 1891*
- Admiralty provisions in *Letters Patent, 1865*, applicable to **Bombay, Calcutta, and Madras High Courts**

**Scope and Applicability:** The Act is **applicable to all vessels**, regardless of the nationality or residence of the owner.

However, **certain exceptions** exist:

### Not Applicable To:

- **Inland vessels** under the **Inland Vessels Act, 1917**
- **Unlaunched vessels under construction**, unless specifically notified
- **Warships or naval vessels** owned or operated by the **Central/State Government** for **non-commercial use**
- **Foreign vessels** used for **non-commercial purposes** (as notified)

### High Courts Empowered with Admiralty Jurisdiction:

The Act confers **admiralty jurisdiction** on the following **eight High Courts**:

- **Calcutta**
- **Bombay**
- **Madras**
- **Karnataka**



- Gujarat
- Orissa
- Kerala
- Hyderabad

These High Courts can exercise jurisdiction **up to the territorial waters** within their respective regions.

### What Constitutes a Maritime Claim?

The Act defines “**maritime claims**” to include a wide range of disputes, such as:

- **Ownership or possession** disputes of a vessel
- **Damage caused** by the operation of a vessel
- **Loss of life or personal injury** connected to the vessel's operation
- **Damage to goods** carried by sea
- **Breach of contracts** related to carriage or use/hire of a vessel
- **Salvage operations, towage, pilotage, and port charges**

This broad categorization ensures that most maritime disputes can be effectively addressed under the Act.

### Arrest of Vessels and Enforcement of Claims:

One of the **key features** of the Act is the **power to arrest vessels** to secure maritime claims. The courts may arrest a vessel if:

- The **vessel owner is liable** for the claim
- The claim relates to a **mortgage or lien** on the vessel
- There is a **dispute over ownership or possession**

This mechanism is a powerful tool to **secure compensation** or enforce **judgments**.

**Did You Know- Arresting a vessel** is a globally recognized legal remedy in maritime law, especially when claimants have no other means to secure their claim against foreign shipowners.

### Security for Damages and Wrongful Arrests

The High Court may require the **claimant to furnish an undertaking** to protect the shipowner from **unjustified or wrongful arrest**. This ensures a **balance between the claimant's interest and the shipowner's rights**.

### Sale of Vessels and Distribution of Proceeds:

If necessary, the High Court may order the **judicial sale of a vessel**. The court also has the authority to:

- **Determine claims** on the proceeds of sale
- **Settle priorities** among multiple claimants
- **Resolve ownership disputes** post-sale

This ensures a **fair and transparent** process in the event of vessel liquidation.

**Conclusion:** The **Admiralty (Jurisdiction and Settlement of Maritime Claims) Act, 2017** marks a significant milestone in aligning India's maritime law with **international standards**. It empowers Indian courts with **modern legal tools** to address the complexities of global shipping and commerce. As India aims to become a **global maritime hub**, such legal reforms play a critical role in ensuring the **confidence of foreign investors and seafarers** alike.

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## Bulgaria Set to Join the Eurozone in 2026: A Historic Step Towards Deeper EU Integration

**Context:** In a landmark decision, **European Union ministers** have officially approved **Bulgaria's accession to the Eurozone**, setting **January 1, 2026** as the date when the country will adopt the **euro** as its official currency. This move will make **Bulgaria the 21st member** of the Eurozone, further deepening its integration into the **European single market** and strengthening its economic ties within the region.



### Discovering Bulgaria: Where Mountains Meet the Sea

#### Strategic Location in Southeastern Europe:

**Bulgaria** is nestled in the **southeastern part of Europe**, occupying the eastern section of the **Balkan Peninsula**. The country shares its borders with **five nations**:

- **Romania** to the **north**, separated by the majestic **Danube River**
- **Turkey** and **Greece** to the **south**
- **North Macedonia** to the **southwest**
- **Serbia** to the **west**

To the **east**, Bulgaria is beautifully bounded by the **Black Sea**, granting it access to important maritime trade routes and tourism opportunities.

#### Geographical Wonders: From Peaks to Rivers

**Bulgaria** boasts a diverse landscape, including:

- The **Balkan Mountains** stretching from the western to eastern part of the country
- The **Rhodope Mountains**, rich in forests and folklore, lining the southern frontier with **Greece**
- The towering **Rila Mountains**, home to **Musala** – at **9,594 feet (2,925 m)**, it's the **highest peak** in both **Bulgaria** and the entire **Balkan Peninsula**

#### Major Rivers:

- **Danube** – forming Bulgaria's northern border
- **Maritsa, Iskur, Struma, Tundzha, and Yantra** – vital for agriculture, transportation, and energy production

#### Climate: A Blend of Continental and Mediterranean

Most of Bulgaria enjoys a **moderate continental climate**, marked by **cold winters** and **hot summers**. However, in the **southern regions**, particularly near **Greece and Turkey**, a **Mediterranean influence** brings **milder winters** and **warmer springs**.

#### Capital Insight: Sofia – A City of Heritage and Innovation



The **capital city, Sofia**, is not only the political and economic heart of Bulgaria but also one of **Europe's oldest cities**, with a history dating back over **7,000 years**. It's a dynamic metropolis where **Roman ruins, Orthodox churches, and modern architecture** co-exist harmoniously.

#### Did You Know? Fascinating Facts About Bulgaria

- **Bulgaria** is one of the **oldest countries in Europe**, established in **681 AD** and never renamed since.
- It is the birthplace of the **Cyrillic alphabet**, used across Eastern Europe and Central Asia.
- **Bulgarian yogurt** is world-renowned for containing the unique **Lactobacillus bulgaricus**, a probiotic bacteria only found naturally in the country.
- The country is known for its **rose oil production**, particularly in the **Valley of the Roses**, contributing over 70% of the world's rose oil supply.

As Bulgaria prepares for its **Eurozone debut in 2026**, the nation continues to shine as a blend of **ancient tradition, natural beauty, and modern progress**.



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## SEPECAT Jaguar: Legacy Fighter of the IAF Faces Tragic Setback

**Context:** In a recent and heartbreaking incident, a **SEPECAT Jaguar** aircraft of the **Indian Air Force (IAF)** crashed near **Churu, Rajasthan**, resulting in the loss of **two pilots**. The IAF has launched a thorough investigation to determine the cause of the tragedy. This unfortunate event has once again brought attention to one of the most enduring aircraft in the Indian fleet.



### SEPECAT Jaguar – The ‘Shamsher’ of the Indian Skies

Nicknamed ‘**Shamsher**’, meaning ‘**Sword of Justice**’, the **SEPECAT Jaguar** was born from a collaborative effort between the **British Aircraft Corporation** and **France’s Breguet Aviation** (now part of **Dassault Aviation**). First unveiled in **1968**, the Jaguar was built for one mission – **deep penetration strike** into hostile territory, targeting **high-value enemy positions** under **intense air defense**.

### Key Features: Designed for Precision and Power

The **Jaguar** stands as a fine example of **aerial engineering**, blending speed, strength, and advanced avionics:

- **Maximum Speed:** 1,699 km/h
- **Combat Range:** 850 km (extendable to **1,400 km** with external fuel tanks)
- **Payload Capacity:** Up to **4,500 kg** of bombs, missiles, and fuel
- **Service Ceiling:** 46,000 ft
- **Twin-engine monoplane** with a rugged **aluminium airframe**
- **In-flight refueling probe** for extended operations in **adverse weather**

Its aerodynamic design includes **spoilers, air brakes, slats, rudder**, and **double-slotted flaps**, offering remarkable maneuverability at low altitudes.

### State-of-the-Art Cockpit: Built for Mission Excellence

The **Jaguar’s cockpit** is built to empower the pilot with complete control and awareness:

- **Glass canopy** enclosing a **fully digital cockpit**
- **Head-Up Display (HUD)** and **Multifunctional Displays (MFDs)**
- **Night Vision, GPS, and Helmet-Mounted Display (HMD)**
- **Radar Altimeter, Inertial Navigation System (INS), Weapon Aiming Computer, and Digital Data Bus**
- **Bulletproof windshield** for added pilot protection
- Equipped with **IFF (Identification Friend or Foe)** and **Automatic Direction Finder**

### India’s Jaguar Journey: A Legacy of Power and Persistence

The **Indian Air Force** began its association with the Jaguar in **1979**, when the first **40 aircraft** were acquired in **fly-away condition**. In subsequent years, an additional **100 Jaguars** were **license-built by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)**.

To date, the IAF has inducted **approximately 160 Jaguar variants**, including:

- **Jaguar IS – Single-seat strike fighter**



- **Jaguar IB – Two-seat trainer**
- **Jaguar IM – Maritime strike version**

Currently, the IAF maintains around **120 Jaguar aircraft** in active service, spread across **six squadrons**. Remarkably, **India remains the only country in the world** still operating Jaguars in combat roles, thanks to regular **upgrades** and **modernizations**.

### Did You Know? Fascinating Jaguar Facts

- The **Jaguar** was the **first aircraft in the IAF** capable of flying **below radar** to evade detection during high-risk missions.
- The aircraft has participated in numerous exercises, including **Operation Safed Sagar** during the **Kargil War** in 1999, where it played a key role in precision bombing.
- The Indian Jaguar has undergone **Avionics and Engine upgrades**, and HAL has also developed an upgraded version known as **Jaguar DARIN III**, featuring new navigation-attack systems.

Despite its age, the **SEPECAT Jaguar** remains a **symbol of courage, resilience, and strategic firepower** in the IAF's arsenal. As India continues to modernize its air force, this iconic aircraft holds a place of pride for its **unmatched legacy in low-level strike missions** and its enduring role in defending the skies.



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## 4 Catastrophe Bonds: A Bold Financial Innovation for India's Disaster Resilience

**Context:** In a progressive move, India is considering the launch of **catastrophe bonds**—or **cat bonds**—as a powerful financial strategy to improve its disaster risk management. With **natural disasters becoming more frequent and severe** due to climate change, these instruments could offer India a smarter way to **finance recovery efforts and reduce fiscal vulnerability**.



### Rising Threats Demand Innovative Solutions:

With **cyclones, floods, earthquakes, and forest fires** increasingly threatening lives and infrastructure, India faces growing pressure to find **reliable, rapid-response financial mechanisms**. Traditional insurance penetration in the country remains low, especially among **small businesses and rural populations**. In this context, **catastrophe bonds emerge as a game-changing solution**, offering **predictable, fast-disbursing funds** when disaster strikes.

### What Are Catastrophe Bonds? A Fusion of Insurance and Investment

**Catastrophe bonds** are **hybrid financial instruments** that combine elements of **debt securities and insurance**. Here's how they work:

- Issued by a **sovereign or agency**, often via intermediaries like the **World Bank or Asian Development Bank**.
- Purchased by **institutional investors** such as **pension funds, hedge funds, or asset managers**.
- If a **predefined disaster event** (e.g., a cyclone or earthquake) occurs, the **investor loses part or all of the principal**, which is used for **post-disaster recovery**.
- If no disaster occurs, the **investor receives their money back** with an **attractive coupon rate**, often higher than typical market returns.

This approach essentially **transforms a country's natural disaster risk into a tradable asset**, opening doors to **global capital markets** and providing **faster liquidity** during emergencies.

### Why Global Investors Are Interested:

**Cat bonds** are attractive to global investors for several reasons:

- **High returns** due to the nature of non-traditional risk
- **Diversification benefits**, as catastrophe risks are generally **uncorrelated with financial market risks**
- Alignment with **modern portfolio theory**, as advocated by **Nobel laureate Harry Markowitz**, which stresses the importance of **risk diversification**

Over **\$180 billion worth** of cat bonds have been issued globally since their introduction in the **late 1990s**, with about **\$50 billion currently outstanding**.

### India's Urgent Need for Cat Bonds:

India, being among the **most disaster-prone countries in the world**, suffers billions in losses every year. However, **disaster insurance remains scarce**, especially in high-risk zones.

Introducing **cat bonds** could help India:

- **Reduce pressure on public funds** for post-disaster reconstruction
- **Transfer fiscal risk** from the government to **international investors**



- Ensure rapid availability of emergency funding
- Use its **strong sovereign credit rating** to **negotiate better terms** on premiums

India already allocates ₹15,000 crore (\$1.8 billion) annually for disaster mitigation and preparedness—funds that could strategically support a **cat bond issuance**, potentially reducing the risk for investors and lowering bond costs.

### Regional Potential: South Asia's Shared Shield:

India is uniquely placed to lead a **South Asian catastrophe bond framework**, benefiting multiple nations with **shared climate vulnerabilities**.

A regional cat bond could:

- **Distribute risk** across countries like **India, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Maldives, and Sri Lanka**
- **Lower overall premiums** by pooling diverse geographic hazards
- Offer **investors diversified exposure**, making the bond more attractive and stable

Hazards like **earthquakes in the Himalayas**, and **cyclones in the Bay of Bengal**, would be covered under a **collective structure**, fostering both **financial cooperation** and **climate resilience** in the region.

### Challenges Ahead: Precision in Design is Crucial:

While the potential is immense, **cat bonds are not without pitfalls**:

- **Rigid triggers** may prevent payouts even in severely damaging events (e.g., a 6.5 magnitude earthquake just below a 6.6 trigger limit)
- **Cost concerns** may arise if no disaster occurs during the bond term, leading to political questions about **premium payments without return**
- **Technical complexity** in risk modelling and payout mechanisms requires **robust governance** and **transparent frameworks**

To address these, India must:

- Benchmark **historical disaster costs** against potential cat bond premiums
- Design **flexible, parametric triggers** based on scientifically reliable data
- Partner with **credible intermediaries** like the World Bank and engage **expert risk modellers**

### The Way Forward: A Resilient India Through Financial Innovation

In an era where **climate shocks** are intensifying, **catastrophe bonds offer India a strategic opportunity** to build resilience, protect public finances, and enable swift recovery. With the right design, transparency, and stakeholder engagement, India can **pioneer a new model of disaster risk financing**—not just for itself, but for the entire **South Asian region**.

## 5 India's Gini Index Controversy: Are We Really One of the Most Equal Nations?

**Context:** A recent **government release** has stirred controversy by claiming that **India ranks as the fourth most equal country in the world**, citing a **Gini Index** value of **25.5** from the **World Bank's Poverty and Equity Brief**. According to this claim, only **Slovakia, Slovenia, and Belarus** rank higher in equality. The report suggested that **India's economic growth is now more equitably distributed**.



However, this assertion has been **widely challenged by economists and data experts**, who argue that the figure is **misleading** and does **not accurately reflect the ground reality** of widening inequality in the country.

### Understanding the Gini Index: What It Does and Doesn't Measure

The **Gini Index** is a commonly used statistical tool to measure **income inequality**, expressed on a scale from **0 (perfect equality)** to **1 (perfect inequality)**. But like all metrics, it has its limitations—especially when **used without context or clarity**.

The figure cited by the Indian government **does not represent income inequality** but is based on **consumption data**, which tends to **underestimate real inequality**, particularly in **wealth and earnings**.

### What the Data Really Shows: Two Competing Pictures

While the **World Bank's data** puts India's Gini Index at **25.5**, it **explicitly cautions** that this number may be **understated due to data limitations**. On the other hand, the **World Inequality Database (WID)**—a respected global initiative—reports that **India's income-based Gini Index has surged from 52 in 2004 to 62 in 2023**.

This dramatic rise is supported by other alarming findings:

- The **top 10% of earners** in India make **13 times more** than the **bottom 10%**.
- The **richest 1%** have seen a disproportionate increase in income and wealth.
- **Wage inequality** and **urban-rural gaps** remain stark and persistent.

### Why Consumption-Based Measures Paint a Rosier Picture:

**Consumption-based Gini indices** tend to show **lower inequality** because they reflect **spending patterns**, not **income or wealth**. This is problematic because:

- **High-income households** often **save or invest a larger share** of their earnings, which **narrows the consumption gap**.
- **Poorer households** typically spend almost all of their income, exaggerating perceived equality.

Hence, consumption-based data creates an **illusion of equity**, ignoring the growing divide in **asset ownership, financial security, and intergenerational wealth**.

### Survey Limitations: Why the Rich Are Invisible in the Data

A major reason India's inequality appears lower in surveys is due to **sampling issues**:

- **Differential Non-Response:** **High-income individuals** are often **underrepresented** in national surveys—they either refuse participation or are unreachable.
- **Sampling Bias:** Standard household surveys are **not designed** to capture the **wealthiest 1%**, whose extreme wealth skews national inequality.



To counteract this, researchers at the **World Inequality Database** integrate **income tax filings, corporate earnings, and wealth registry data** with household surveys—offering a more **realistic picture** of inequality.

### Flaws in the Gini Index: A Narrow Lens on a Complex Problem

Despite being a widely used tool, the **Gini Index has serious limitations**:

- It is **less sensitive to extremes**, meaning it **does not fully capture the wealth of the ultra-rich** or the poverty of the ultra-poor.
- It is **more responsive to changes in the middle-income brackets**, missing inequality trends at the top or bottom.
- It **fails to consider non-income factors** like education, healthcare access, social mobility, and land ownership.

Even **Nobel laureate Abhijit Banerjee** has emphasized the difficulty in interpreting Gini scores in isolation, noting that **global Gini trends show rising inequality**, not decline.

### Moving Beyond Gini: A Call for Holistic Measurement

To truly assess and respond to inequality, **India must adopt broader and more accurate indicators**, such as:

- **Income-tax-based inequality measures**
- **Wealth distribution data**
- **Intergenerational mobility studies**
- **Multidimensional Poverty Indices (MPI)**

Using only **consumption-based Gini scores** gives a **false sense of equality**, which could lead to **misguided policies** that fail to address real disparities.

### A Deeper Truth Behind the Numbers:

India's claim to being one of the world's most equal nations **contradicts the lived experiences** of millions facing **limited access to quality healthcare, education, and livelihoods**. While economic growth is real, **its benefits have been unevenly distributed**, with the richest gaining disproportionately.

**Extra Insight:** According to Oxfam's 2023 report, **India's top 1% held over 40% of the nation's wealth**, while the bottom 50% owned just 3%. Such inequality has **far-reaching effects** on **democracy, development, and social cohesion**.

### Conclusion: Time for Transparent Metrics and Honest Conversations

As India aims to become a **\$5 trillion economy**, it must also aim to be an **inclusive one**. That requires **clear-eyed assessments of inequality** and the **courage to move beyond misleading statistics**. Only then can policies truly reflect the needs of all citizens—and not just the privileged few.

## 6 Reimagining the UNFCCC: Can Global Climate Talks Deliver Real Change?

**Context:** The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the core platform for international climate dialogue, is facing an unprecedented **crisis of credibility**. Despite decades of **annual climate summits and high-profile commitments**, many critics argue that **real climate action has lagged**, particularly in ensuring **climate justice for the Global South**.



Concerns over **structural inefficiencies, inadequate financing, and a lack of inclusivity** have intensified, prompting calls for urgent reform. With **COP30 set to take place in Brazil in 2025**, the spotlight is now on whether the UNFCCC process can be meaningfully revitalized.

### What Is the UNFCCC? A Quick Recap

The UNFCCC is a global treaty established in **1992** during the **Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro**. Signed initially by **154 countries**, the Convention came into force in **March 1994** and now includes **198 parties**. Its core mission is to prevent **dangerous human interference with the climate system** by reducing **greenhouse gas emissions**.

The UNFCCC is also the name of the **Secretariat based in Bonn, Germany**, which organizes the annual **Conference of the Parties (COP)**—the forum for global climate decision-making.

### Why the UNFCCC Process Faces Growing Criticism:

#### 1. Failure to Deliver Climate Justice:

- Developed countries continue to **fall short on emission reduction targets and financial promises**.
- **Developing and vulnerable nations**, especially **small island states**, express frustration over being **excluded from key decisions**.
- The lack of **accountability mechanisms** has fueled disillusionment in the South.

#### 2. US Withdrawal Weakened Trust:

- The temporary **withdrawal of the United States** under the Trump administration dealt a serious blow to global trust.
- It reinforced the belief that climate diplomacy under the UNFCCC is **fragile, ineffective**, and at times **symbolic** rather than transformative.

### The Bonn Climate Talks 2025: Paving the Way to COP30 in Brazil

The **Bonn Climate Conference**, held annually to prepare for COP summits, has taken on heightened importance this year. With **COP30 set to be hosted by Brazil**, expectations are high for a **reset of climate negotiations**.

Brazil is leading the charge by proposing a **30-point reform agenda**, aiming to make the UNFCCC more **efficient, transparent, and inclusive**.

### Key Reform Proposals to Reshape the UNFCCC:

#### Structural Reforms:

- **Streamline agendas** to eliminate redundancies and shorten negotiations.
- **Limit the size of national delegations** to prevent dominance by wealthier countries.
- Simplify procedures to **accelerate decision-making**.



### Rethinking Host Country Criteria:

- Proposals suggest **barring fossil-fuel-dependent nations** from hosting future COPs.
- This follows criticism of COP28 in **Dubai** and the upcoming COP29 in **Baku, Azerbaijan**, both countries with heavy fossil fuel interests.

### Mainstreaming Climate Action Beyond the UNFCCC:

- Brazil has proposed **embedding climate discussions into other global platforms**, such as **UN development agencies, financial institutions, and trade forums**.
- It is also considering **parallel mechanisms to complement and fast-track** climate action outside the slow-moving UNFCCC structure.

### Financing: The Biggest Obstacle for Developing Nations

The most pressing concern for the Global South remains **climate finance**:

- Under the **Paris Agreement**, developed countries pledged to provide at least **\$100 billion annually** to support developing nations in adaptation and mitigation.
- However, the latest pledge—announced in Baku—to provide **\$300 billion per year from 2035** falls drastically short of actual needs, which are estimated at **\$1.3 trillion annually**.
- Countries like **India, Brazil, and South Africa** have demanded a **new, more ambitious and binding climate finance goal** with **predictable, accessible, and sustained funding**.

### Civil Society's Call: More Inclusion, Less Greenwashing

- Civil society organizations**, youth groups, and indigenous communities are demanding a **more transparent and inclusive COP format**.
- There is growing pressure to **limit the influence of fossil fuel lobbyists and corporate greenwashing** at UN climate forums.
- Activists have called for **restructured participation rules** to ensure that those most affected by climate change have a **real seat at the table**.

### The Glaring Gaps in the UNFCCC Framework:

Despite its foundational role, the UNFCCC faces **deep-rooted structural limitations**:

- Lack of enforcement mechanisms**: Countries can walk back on climate commitments with little to no consequence.
- Slow consensus model**: Decisions require unanimous agreement, leading to **delays and diluted outcomes**.
- Overrepresentation of wealthy nations**: Unequal resources skew participation and negotiating power.

### Can COP30 in Brazil Become a Turning Point?

**Brazil's leadership** in pushing for reform could mark a **pivotal shift** in how global climate diplomacy is conducted. As one of the world's largest democracies with rich biodiversity and a vulnerable Amazon ecosystem, Brazil is uniquely positioned to bridge the gap between **developed and developing nations**.

Its **reform agenda**, although ambitious, faces resistance from entrenched interests and powerful players who benefit from the status quo. Nonetheless, the proposals serve as a **critical wake-up call** for rethinking how international climate cooperation should function in the face of a worsening planetary crisis.

### Extra Insight: Time Is Running Out

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According to the **IPCC**, global greenhouse gas emissions must **peak before 2025** and decline rapidly thereafter to limit warming to **1.5°C**. Without a **functional and fair global climate governance structure**, this goal remains elusive.

As climate-related disasters escalate, the credibility of the **UNFCCC process** hinges not on more promises—but on **reform, accountability, and action**.

### **Conclusion: Reform or Relevance?**

Unless the **UNFCCC evolves** to reflect the **urgency and equity** of the climate crisis, it risks becoming a **ritualistic platform disconnected from real-world needs**. **Brazil's proposals** may not be a cure-all, but they offer a **timely opportunity** to make the process more **just, inclusive, and impact-driven**—a change the world cannot afford to delay.

