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A Deceptive Climate Summit

1.3 Trillion Dollar Demand Ignored

- The 29th Climate Summit held in Baku, the capital of Azerbaijan, disappointed and alienated developing nations, including India.
- India raised objections to the announcement of an annual \$3 billion climate fund for developing nations by the Baku Climate Summit.
- This figure pales in comparison to the \$1.3 trillion demanded over the past three years by these nations to combat climate change, making the summit's promise akin to "feeding crumbs to an elephant."

Lack of Participation by Key Leaders

- The summit lost its significance as key global leaders, including U.S. President Joe Biden, Chinese President Xi Jinping, French President Emmanuel Macron, German Chancellor Olaf Scholz, and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, did not attend.

Climate Change and Its Impacts

- Initiatives to address climate change, proposed by 23 nations and the European Union in 1992, have now reached a deadlock. Developing nations' voices were ignored, and agreements were imposed unilaterally.
- Climate change has led to extreme events such as droughts, unpredictable weather, intense rainfall, cyclones, flood surges, glacial melting, and rising sea levels, creating unprecedented challenges. Small island nations, particularly in the Pacific and Atlantic, face the imminent threat of being submerged.

Anger Among Small Island Nations

- Small island nations expressed their frustration over the summit's ineffective resolutions. Members from some nations walked out in protest as promises of aid from wealthier nations to address their existential concerns remain empty.
- Azerbaijan, a leading producer of fossil fuels, leading the summit is viewed as a conflict of interest, further undermining its credibility.

Criticism of Rich Nations

- Wealthy countries, which have grown rich through high carbon emissions, demand that developing nations cut their emissions even at the cost of hindering their economic progress.
- While global warming must be limited to 1.5°C, these countries show no genuine commitment to compensating the developing world for climate-related losses.

Financial Commitment Ridiculed

- A commitment to raise the climate fund from \$10 billion to \$30 billion annually by 2035 was ridiculed as unrealistic, given the lack of clarity on the source of these funds and the prolonged timeline.
- Both India and 130 other nations described the summit's decisions as mere "eyewash," with no meaningful steps to address their climate challenges.
- The Baku Summit exemplifies the growing divide between rich and developing nations in tackling climate change.
- While the former evade responsibility, the latter bear the brunt of environmental disasters without adequate support. This highlights the urgent need for a fair and actionable global climate strategy.