

G7 Summit 2021

G7 Leaders are Committed on Global Health, Minimum Global Tax, Build Back Better World Project, Tracking the Rise of China and More.

Group of seven (G7) Wealthy country leaders from the U.S., Germany, the U.K., France, Canada, Japan and Italy met in Cornwall in South-West England for making the 47th edition. As chairman of G7, the UK invited India, Australia, South Korea and South Africa to the summit as guest countries.

Global Health:

G7 leaders pledged more than 1 billion Covid vaccine doses to poor countries and Mr. Johnson has said that he wishes the entire world to be vaccinated by 2022 but has not specified details as to how this can be achieved. The UK contributes the 10 million Euros and Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation will provide 14.5 million Euros to establish the centre of novel livestock vaccine and it will make the UK as world leader in novel livestock vaccine development capability.

The Prime Minister of India, Mr. Narendra Modi participated virtually in the G7 summit and said, 'India's emphasis on keeping open supply chains for vaccine raw materials and components to help enhance vaccine production in countries like India.'

Minimum Global Tax:

Minimum Global Tax is one of main agenda in G7 Summit 2021. The US President Mr. Biden had himself proposed the 21% of minimum global tax for the multinational corporations but already finance ministers of G7 had agreed on minimum global tax rate of 15% for multinational corporations. The Biden office has expected that it could gain \$500 billion tax revenue in the next decade if the global minimum tax bill is passed. Mr. Biden is being opposed by the Republican Party in regard to this corporation tax.

If this proposal is to become a reality, which is not easy, the G7 countries have to convince the G-20 nations on this in the summit of G-20 next month. G-20 nations like China, Russia, India, Brazil and South Africa are to be pressurized. According to the UK based Tax Justice Network, India suffers

an annual loss of \$10 billion due to tax laws on MNCs globally and India also should agree to this deal.

The Build Back Better World Project:

G7 leaders pledge to fund hundreds of billions for the Build Back Better World Project to help low and middle income countries by providing them high level infrastructure. It is seen as a counter weight against China's multibillion dollar Belt and Road Initiative. Australia , India and South Korea are seen as a incline to the recognition of their discontent with the influence of China.

The leaders also said that they will promote their values by calling on China to respect human rights and fundamental freedoms in Xinjiang, where Beijing is accused of committing serious human rights abuses against the Uyghur minority and in the semi-autonomous city of Hong Kong.

China: G7 Countries are Still Clinging to Outdated Imperialist Mentality.

A spokesman for the Chinese Embassy in London was saying: 'the days when global decisions were dictated by a small group of countries are long gone. 'We always believe that countries, big or small, strong or weak, poor or rich are equals and that world affairs should be handled through consultation by all countries.'

(Source: The Hindu, BBC, G7 UK 2021)