

India hopeful of reaching pact on climate negotiations at CoP24

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
Katowice (Poland),
December 15

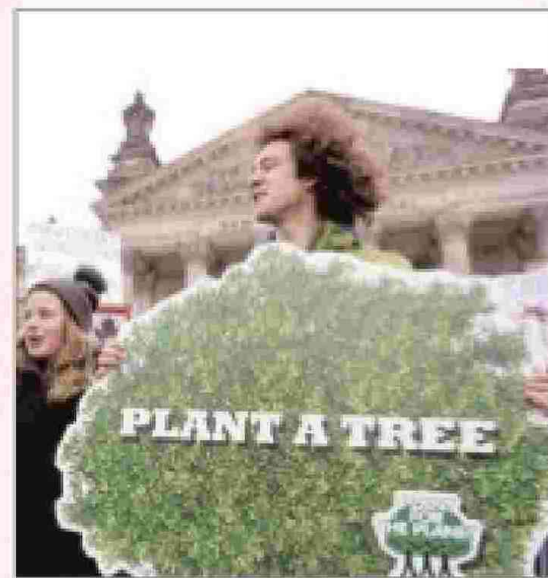
INDIA ON FRIDAY indicated that the nations participating at the UN climate talks are likely to reach an agreement soon, as negotiations are on to draft a text on a rulebook for the full implementation of the Paris accord post-2020, even though key issues like finance remain unresolved.

With the UN Climate Change Conference (CoP24) about to conclude, Poland, the host nation, issued the draft of

a text on a rulebook, which was criticised by civil society organisations terming it as a “weak” draft.

“Focus of this CoP is to create a rulebook. Very substantial progress has been made. There are some differences. We hope that will be sorted out,” AK Mehta, additional secretary in the ministry of environment, forest and climate change, told a press conference on the sidelines of the negotiations.

“We are not far away from reaching an agreement,” Mehta said as the climate talks



are set to end.

The climate activists alleged that key issues like finance remain unresolved.

Mehta said idea about

enhanced financing has been covered to some extent in the current text and encouragement to fulfil \$100 billion is also captured in it.

By the time the final agreement is made, the Paris mandate will be fulfilled on finance as well, he said.

“The rulebook will be robust hopefully. It is robust because transparency framework is robust,” he said.

He said most of the Indian concerns are very well reflected in the draft text.

Civil society organisations claimed the basic principles

of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) such as equity and Common but Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities (CBDRRC) and matters agreed in the Paris accord, including on finance, have not been reflected in the draft text.

“On the whole, the analysis is that the current draft text is weak in terms of finance and raising ambition.

“It is still a long way to go to determine the finer details of the elements,” Indian climate expert Chandra Bhushan said.