

## Climate talks

There are three problems with the current negotiating process.

First, citizens in developed countries are not even aware that two-thirds of their national emissions of carbon dioxide come from their diet, transport, and residential and commercial sectors, which together constitute the major share of their GDP; the consumption sectors are not independent silos but reflect their urban lifestyles.

Second, the process ignores that global well-being will also follow the urbanization of the developing country's population, requiring fossil fuels for infrastructure and energy to achieve comparable levels.

Third, the need for vast quantities of cement and steel in developing countries for infrastructure constituting essential emissions, as they urbanize is not being considered.

"Urbanization has changed the nation with seventy-five percent of its people living in the urban area ...we must see ourselves not only as victims of environmental degradation but as environmental aggressors and change our patterns of consumption and production accordingly.

The Paris Agreement (2015) agreed to a 1.5°C global temperature goal.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) in 2018 recommended that net emissions needed to zero out around 2050. In Glasgow, in 2021, negotiators

zeroed in on coal to reduce future emissions.

### Points to be considered

First, the process adopted the structure of international law in a manner that rejected historical responsibility for a continuing problem and steadily shifted the burden to China and India.

Second, the agenda was set around globalized material flows described as global warming (the symptom), and not wasteful use of energy.

Third, public finance is used as a means to secure a political objective, and not to solve the problem itself.

The \$100 billion promised at Paris along with pre-2020 commitments constituting the incentive for developing countries to agree to a global temperature goal has not materialized.

And, new funding for 'Loss and Damage' will be from a "mosaic of solutions", constituting a breach of trust.

Fourth, the longer-term trend has been ignored. With one sixth of the global population, the developed country share in 2035 will still be 30%.

Asia's emissions with half the world's population will rise to 40% remaining within its carbon budget.

Pressures to further reduce emissions displace their human rights.

India's thrust on LiFE (or "Lifestyle for Environment"), with the individual shifting from wasteful consumption of natural

resources, goes back to the original science. Consumption-based framing challenges the 'universalism' that has dominated the negotiations and its common path of reductions based on single models.

## THE HINDU

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### Parole vs furlough

Parole and furlough are two provisions that are covered under Section - 432 of the Criminal Procedure Code 1973.

Parole is the temporary release of the prisoner and the same is for furlough but parole is granted at the request of the prisoner and can be denied whereas furlough is a basic right of a prisoner.

Furlough is given in cases of long-term imprisonment.

A prisoner's sentence is considered to be remitted during his furlough time.

It is to be allowed on a regular basis for no reason other than to allow the prisoner to maintain familial and social relationships and to counteract the negative consequences of long-term imprisonment.

The right to be released on furlough is a substantial and legal right of the prisoner, and it cannot be rejected if permitted by law.

The Prisons Act, of 1894, and the Prisoners Act, of 1900, did not contain any specific provision pertaining to parole and/or furlough.

However, Section 59 of the Prisons Act empowers States to make rules inter alia

“for the shortening of sentences” and “for rewards for good conduct”.

Since “prisons, reformatories...” fall in the State List of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution, States are well within their reach to legislate on issues related to prisons.

While ‘furlough’ is considered an incentive for good conduct in prison and is counted as a sentence served, parole or leave is mostly a suspension of sentence.

Emergency parole or leave is granted for specified emergencies such as a death, serious illness, or marriage in the family.

While most States consider only close relatives such as spouse, parents, son, daughter, brother, and sister as close family, Kerala has a long list of more than 24 relatives in case of death and 10 in case of marriage.

Though regular parole or leave is granted after serving a minimum sentence (varying from one year to four years) in prison, some States include other familial and social obligations such as sowing or harvesting of agricultural crops, essential repair of house, and settling family disputes.

Each State has a different yardstick to punish a prisoner who does not surrender after parole or furlough in time.

## Difference between parole and furlough

Serial no.	Parole	Furlough
1.	It is not a right of the prisoner.	It is the right of the prisoner.
2.	It is releasing a prisoner with a suspension of the sentence.	It is releasing a prisoner with remission of his sentence.
3.	In the case of short-term confinement, parole may be granted.	In the case of long-term confinement, Furlough may be granted.
4.	It can be granted a number of times.	There is a limitation to grant furlough.
5.	Parole lasts for one month.	Furlough lasts for fourteen days maximum.
6.	A specific justification is necessary.	It is to break the monotony of punishment so no justification is needed.
7.	The days of leave aren't included within the sentenced period.	The sentence of convict goes along with the furlough period.
8.	It is granted by the Divisional Commissioner.	It is granted by the Deputy Inspector General of Prisons.

## THE HINDU

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### Crisis of labor post-pandemic

The International Labour Organisation (ILO) recently released two reports that gave an indication of the global employment scenario post pandemic.

The 'Global Wage Report 2022- 2023: The Impact of inflation and COVID-19 on wages and purchasing power' discuss the twin crises, inflation, and economic slowdown, which created a "striking fall" in real monthly wages around the globe.

The report blames the war in Ukraine and the global energy crisis for this situation.

Another report, the 'Asia- Pacific Employment and Social Outlook 2022: Rethinking sectoral strategies for a human-centered future of work' stated that the Asia- Pacific region lost about 22 million jobs in 2022.

The decrease in wages is placing millions of workers in a dire situation. "Income inequality and poverty will rise if the

purchasing power of the lowest paid is not maintained,"

### Is inequality rising?

At the Asia-Pacific level, only the jobs in high- skill occupations saw a recovery from the COVID-19 crisis, which is true across all sub-regions.

The ILO said it is raising concerns about increased inequality.

While there is an employment gain of 1.6% among high-skill workers between 2019 and 2021, there is no such substantial gain among low-to-medium-skill workers.

Among the G-20 countries, the report noted a significant gap in the average level of real wages between advanced G-20 countries and emerging G-20 countries such as India.

### What are the ILO's remedies?

The report suggests a set of policy options and responses to the cost- of- living crisis. Citing studies, the report said that 75 to 95 million people were pushed into extreme poverty during COVID-19.

The ILO states that the creation of decent formal wage employment is a prerequisite for a more equitable distribution of wages and income, and is a key contributor to equitable and sustainable wage growth.

It wants governments to focus on the gender pay gap as when women leave the labor market, they are less likely to return than men.

Most importantly, the report says that a multilateral approach is a key to solving the crises around us.

There is an urgent need to address the negative effects of climate change; increasing inequalities; poverty, discrimination, violence, and exclusion endured by millions of people, including the discrimination that women and girls continue to suffer in many parts of the world;

The lack of vaccines and access to adequate sanitation and essential healthcare for all; and the growing digital divide between poor and wealthier countries.

## **THE HINDU**

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### **Vizhinjam port protest**

Vizhinjam has been on the boil for the past four months with protesters mainly fisher folk and their families laying siege to the -construction Vizhinjam port.

The protestors have raised seven demands which include, a scientific study to assess the impact of the port work on the shoreline after stopping the construction of the port.

The port is expected to leverage the growth of minor ports in Kerala and other regional ports, creating thousands of employment opportunities.

#### **Is the Vizhinjam project important?**

Located on the southern tip of the Indian Peninsula, just 10 nautical miles from the major international sea route and east-west shipping axis, and with a natural water depth of more than 20m within a

nautical mile from the coast, the Vizhinjam port is likely to play a pivotal role in the maritime development of the country and Kerala.

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#### **Has it aggravated coastal erosion?**

All types of construction work along a coast, aggravate sea erosion (loss of beach) and accretion (gain of beach).

The report noted that the relatively high number of cyclones formed over the Arabian Sea after cyclone Ockhi in 2017 was the main reason for the recent erosion and accretion and that the impact of the port activity on either side of the coast had less significance.

## **THE HINDU**

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### **Dominique Lapierre**

French writer Dominique Lapierre, the author of best-selling books on India like Freedom at Midnight and City of Joy and whose novels sold tens of millions of copies, has died.

#### **India Sri Lanka- Dairy sector**

In a bid to scale up its dairy production to become self-sufficient, Sri Lanka has sought technical assistance from India's National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) and market leader Amul, reviving a collaboration that the island attempted in the late 1990s, but failed to take forward.

Currently, Sri Lanka's domestic dairy production meets less than half of its requirements.

The dollar-strapped island nation spends about \$300 million annually on dairy imports, mostly from New Zealand.

As the country's economy crashed earlier this year, leading to severe shortages, milk powder widely used in Sri Lanka where fresh milk is scarce was unavailable to most.

With living costs soaring through the year, milk products, locally produced or imported, remain out of reach for many poor families.

They have been forced to ration their dairy intake, with adults switching to plain tea and children drinking milk fewer times a day.

**THE HINDU**

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