

The Cancun meet is deeply divided. Governments are not taking a chance. They do not want to hear the noise of protests as they go about stitching a dirty deal that may not combat climate change or give the poor the right to development

POLITICS OF CLIMATE CHANGE



SUNITA NARAIN

This week the world is meeting, once again, to deliberate on a possible global agreement to cut emissions that are speeding catastrophic climate change. But this time in the Mexican city of Cancun, things are not expected to be much different from the disastrous outcome in Copenhagen last year.

The fact is that climate change deliberations are not about the environment. These are intensely economic negotiations as the world has to decide how it will limit greenhouse gas emissions, which in turn are linked to growth as we know it today.

The world has to agree to cut emissions. But because carbon dioxide emissions from fossil fuels run our economies, the world also has to decide it will share not just ecological space but also economic growth.

The rich industrialised countries, with large historical contributions to emissions still present in the atmosphere, have to agree to reduce these so that they can make space for the rest to grow.

This is why climate change negotiations show the world on its worst behaviour: the already rich do want to share. They would prefer to point fingers at the countries, which are now joining the race to get rich.

But before we discuss what will happen in Cancun, let us get two things straight. First, the threat of runaway climate change is real; urgent and very serious. Climate scientists may not be able to pinpoint today if the variable and extreme weather we are seeing is because of climate change.

But they are certain that these are the kind of changes we will see in the years to come as the world gets warmer - more rain in less rainy days leading to floods and drought; more variable rainfall and change in temperature, which will impact crops. More storms, more diseases and disasters.

So be clear even as the world squabbles and procrastinates not to take action, we are in deep trouble. India and other countries in the region are very vulnerable to these changes. We are victims.

Secondly, let us also be clear that, as yet, the world has not found answers to cut emissions at the scale that is needed, without compromising growth. In spite of all the talk of renewable sources of energy and certainly the potential, the rich world remains seriously addicted to fossil fuels - coal, gas and oil - to run its industry or drive its massive fleet of vehicles. It is not willing to make the huge investments needed to transform its energy business.

It is in this backdrop that the world is meeting in the tourist beach city of Cancun. Climate negotiations started at the end of the 1980s. The first big agreement came, when in Rio in 1992, the world hammered out the framework convention on climate change. This agreement stressed on the urgency to combat climate change and agreed that the already industrialised countries would take the first action and would also pay the developing world to avoid the growth of emissions.

In the late 1990s came the next breakthrough when the developed world (called Annex 1 in the agreement) resolved to set legally binding targets under the Kyoto Protocol.



World Wildlife Fund (WWF) activists demonstrate on the sidelines of the UN Climate Change Conference in Cancun on Sunday — Reuters

But soon things started falling apart. The US, by far the world's biggest polluter - responsible for one-fifth of the current emissions with less than 5 per cent of the world's population — walked out of the agreement.

The US rejected the Kyoto Protocol, calling it fundamentally and fatally flawed because it did not include China and India. It conveniently forgot that this global deal was premised on the principle that the rich would reduce emissions to make space for emerging countries to grow.

Then four years ago in Bali, Indonesia, there was a late-night breakthrough. The world agreed to the Bali Mandate, which provides for enhanced implementation of the terms of the climate convention.

It was agreed that the industrialised world will take on tough mitigation targets and that the emerging world - China and India - will also take domestic action to avoid emissions, but these would require funds and technology. The deal was hard won - it required the world to shame the US and its allies - to accept its will to decide in the common interest.

But if Bali was the turning point, then Copenhagen was the nadir of climate negotiations. In Copenhagen there emerged a new coalition of the willing - countries wanting to bring the US on board on climate negotiations at every cost.

The result of that meeting was the now infamous Copenhagen Accord, which aims at changing the terms of the framework convention by removing the distinction between the developed and developing.

Under this deal, the concept of historical emissions has to be set aside. All past records of pollution, of say the US, would be wiped clean. All countries would have to take actions (called dif-

ferently) but which would have to be comparable. To ascertain how comparable these actions are, the deal is to have a regime to measure, record and verify (MRV) emissions. This is what is being discussed and resisted in Cancun.

In this deal no money or technology is being promised. The assumption is that we are all 'big' boys who want a seat on the high table of polluters.

Therefore, the cost of transition to a low-carbon economy - and remember these will be substantial — will not be paid. In this deal we are equal sinners. The future of the Kyoto Protocol, which demands binding targets from rich countries, is at stake in Cancun. The US wants this agreement junked. Its followers are working hard to make it happen.

But all this would be acceptable if it moved the world towards an effective agreement to cut emissions and combat climate change. Instead what the US is promising is the mother of all bribes - it will not cut its emissions and will not ask countries like India to take actions that are substantial.

In Copenhagen the US came up with a weak and pathetic target of reducing its emissions some 17 below the 2005 levels, which translates to 3 per cent below the 1990 levels.

Now it says it cannot even do this. It says it will try and do close to 14 per cent below the 2005 levels, which means it will not cut at all below what the Kyoto Protocol sets the baseline for action. It wants business as usual. This is when it is now agreed that, based on any formula of science and politics, this country must reduce up to 40 per cent below the 1990 levels.

This when there is no doubt also that countries like India must take action to reduce emissions because it is in our interest to

become rich without the pain of pollution.

But the fact also is that the big opportunity is for countries like India to leapfrog - move aggressively towards renewables and other solutions at the scale that will matter. This is why the world was negotiating a deal to pay for this transition. This is what is at stake at Cancun. Will the world decide to go in for a path, which safeguards its future? Or will it agree to a no-deal to appease the world's largest polluter?

The other part of the Copenhagen bargain was that the rich countries would make some US\$30 billion available by 2012 to pay for adaptation in the most vulnerable countries. But even this promise has been reneged. No substantial new money has been made available in the last one year.

The meeting in Cancun is deeply divided. It is reported that the security is even tighter than what was in Copenhagen. There are armed boats patrolling the waters to ensure nobody swims to the conference centre.

The conference centre has been sanitised - all participants are given badges and arm bands and have to report a distance away and await official transportation.

Governments are not taking a chance. They do not want to hear the noise of protests as they go about stitching a dirty deal that will not combat climate change or give the poor the right to development.

The end game of climate change is not good news for anyone. Let us hope governments will listen and act before it is too late.

The writer is a well-known environmentalist and Director of the Centre for Science and Environment

What is cooking at Cancun

Negotiators at U.N. climate talks in Mexico are trying to define the climate actions required of developed and emerging economies to overcome the main block in sharing the burden of carbon emissions cuts. Following are three proposals on the table at the November 29-December 10 negotiations in Cancun.

SITUATION NOW

- Only industrialised countries report their greenhouse gas emissions annually to the UN.
- The UN does not comment on progress toward emissions targets, although a country which misses its Kyoto targets will be penalised under a successor round
- Developing countries do not have to report their emissions regularly, or their efforts to control these. If they do publish, developed countries should pay for the reporting and measurement

INDIAN PROPOSAL

- All countries, rich and poor, which contribute more than 1 percent of global greenhouse gases will report to the United Nations every two to three years
- Other countries will report every four to five years
- A U.N. group, comprising experts drawn from around the world, would assess the reports
- Developed countries report their emissions, progress toward emissions cuts, and their contribution to green funds to help poor countries cut emissions and prepare for a hotter world
- Developing countries report their emissions, and progress to their climate actions to slow growth in emissions

EU PROPOSAL

For developed countries:

- Annual reporting of greenhouse gas emissions
- A full national report every four years on funding and technology help for developing countries, plus their own greenhouse gas emission projections
- New rules for international review of reports

For developing countries:

- Full national communication every four years, including emissions levels, projections, and mitigation actions planned and implemented and funding and other help received
- The poorest, least developed countries submit national emissions reports at their own discretion

U.S. POSITION

All countries:

- "We think there should be more reporting; not just on your inventories (emissions levels), but also on your actions," said Jonathan Pershing, deputy special envoy for climate change
 - International review of commitments "could be formalized"
- #### For developed countries:
- Annual reporting of emissions
- #### For developing countries:
- "Our sense is that the bigger you are the more significant your emissions, it might be useful to have more frequent reporting"
 - "Perhaps every two years might be acceptable. That's fine"

— Reuters

Corrections and clarifications

- In the 'Tailing Down' bullet points along with the report on air fares (Page 1, December 6) 'of' has been missed out after "DGCA to meet representatives...."

- In the break quote of the report "Violating norms, PIMS runs patient services" (Page 5, December 6) the expression 'not caring two hoots' has been used. This is a slang and slangs should not be used in reports.

- In the headline "UK wants to invest in agricultural infra" (Page 21, December 4) the use of 'infra' for infrastructure is unwarranted. The headline should have been "UK wants to invest in farm infrastructure".

- The headline "Mohali to ease out PGI load" (Page 3, December 3) should instead have been "Pressure on PGI to be eased".

Despite our earnest endeavour to keep The Tribune error-free, some errors do creep in at times. We are always eager to correct them.

This column appears twice a week — every Tuesday and Friday. We request our readers to write or e-mail to us whenever they find any error.

Readers in such cases can write to Mr Kamalendra Kanwar, Senior Associate Editor, The Tribune, Chandigarh, with the word "Corrections" on the envelope. His e-mail ID is kanwar@tribunemail.com.

Raj Chengappa
Editor-in-Chief

verka



ਦੀ ਹੁਸ਼ਿਆਰਪੁਰ ਡਿਸਟ੍ਰਿਕਟ ਕੋ-ਆਪਰੇਟਿਵ ਮਿਲਕ ਪਰੋਡਿਊਸਰਜ਼ ਯੂਨੀਅਨ ਲਿਮਿਟਿਡ (ਮਿਲਕ ਪਲਾਂਟ ਹੁਸ਼ਿਆਰਪੁਰ) ਟੈਂਡਰ ਨੋਟਿਸ

ਚੋਲਾ ਦੀ 2300 ਮੀਟਿਕ ਟਨ ਵੱਲ ਖੀਰਦਣ ਲਈ ਮੋਰਚ ਬੰਦ ਟੈਂਡਰ ਮੰਗੇ ਜਾਂਦੇ ਹਨ, ਜੋ ਇਸ ਦਫਤਰ ਵਿਚ ਮਿਤੀ 23.12.2010 ਨੂੰ 2:30 ਵਜੇ ਦੁਪਹਿਰ ਤੱਕ ਪਹੁੰਚ ਜਾਣੇ ਚਾਹੀਦੇ ਹਨ। ਇਹ ਟੈਂਡਰ ਉਸੇ ਦਿਨ ਦੁਪਹਿਰ 3:00 ਵਜੇ ਖੁੱਲ੍ਹ ਜਾਣਗੇ। ਟੈਂਡਰ 60,000 ਅਰਨੈਸਟ ਮਨੀ ਸਮੇਤ ਭੇਜੇ ਜਾਣ ਅਤੇ ਇਸ ਅਰਨੈਸਟ ਮਨੀ ਟੈਂਡਰ ਖੋਲ੍ਹਣ ਵੇਲੇ ਜਾਣਗੇ। ਟੈਂਡਰ ਲਾਭੀ, ਜਿਸ ਵਿਚ ਸ਼ੁਲਾਕੀ ਦਾ ਵਰਕਾ, ਨਿਰਮਾ, ਸ਼ਰਤਾ ਅਧਿਕਾਰੀ ਗੋਦੀ ਹੈ, ਇਸ ਦਫਤਰ ਤੋਂ ਇਸੇ ਦਿਨ ਟੈਂਡਰ ਫਿਰ 100 ਰੁਪਏ ਅਤੇ ਕਰਵਾਰ ਪ੍ਰਾਪਤ ਕੀਤਾ ਜਾ ਸਕਦਾ ਹੈ। ਨਿਮਨ ਹਸਤਾਖਰੀ ਨੂੰ ਟੈਂਡਰ ਕੈਲਕੁਲੇਸ਼ਨ ਜਾਂ ਅਗੇ ਪਹੁੰਚਣ ਦਾ ਅਧਿਕਾਰ ਰਾਖਵਾਂ ਹੋਵੇਗਾ।

ਜਨਰਲ ਮੈਨੇਜਰ।

OFFICE OF THE LUDHIANA IMPROVEMENT TRUST

Notification u/s 36 of P.T.I. Act 1922

Notice is hereby given in accordance with resolution No. 26 dated 1.9.10 passed in the meeting of Improvement Trust Ludhiana for acquiring a missing link adjoining Shaheed Bhagat Singh Nagar for linking Pakhowal Road to Lodhi Club and Ferozepur Road, measuring 3K 17M under Section 23 of the Punjab Town Improvement Act 1922. This area measuring 3K 17M is bounded as under more particularly shown on the survey plan drawing No. LIT/42/10 dated 6.4.2010 lying with office of the Improvement Trust Ludhiana.

EAST: Starting point "A" towards south along eastern side of Killa No. 16/2/2 up to point "B" which is situated 71'-0" (feet) from point "A" on the eastern side of Killa No. 16/2/2 then diagonally from point "B" towards point "C" which is situated on southern side of Killa No. 25/1 at 30'-0" (feet) towards west from east southern corner of Killa No. 25/1 by going diagonally in Killa No. 16/2/2 and 25/1 from point "B" towards point "C".

SOUTH: From point "C" towards west along southern side of Killa No. 25/1 up to point "D" which is situated on south western corner of Killa No. 25/1.

WEST: From point "D" towards North along west side of Killa No. 25/1 up to point "E" which is situated on the west side of Killa No. 25/1 and is 30'-0" (feet) prior to north western corner of Killa No. 25/1 then diagonally from point "E" towards point "F" which is situated on northern side of Killa No. 25/1 at 12'-0" (feet) towards east from north western corner of Killa No. 25/1 by going diagonally in Killa No. 25/1 from point "E" towards point "F".

NORTH: From point "F" towards east northern side of Killa No. 25/1 & 16/2/2 up to point "A" which is the starting point.

Name of Village	Haddast No.	District	Khasra No.	Rectangular No.	Area of Land		
					Acre	Kanal	Maria
Sunet	159	Ludhiana	25/1	79	0	3	6
					0	0	11

Total 3-K 17 M

- Note:-** 1. The detail of scheme including a statement of land proposed to be acquired can be inspected at the office of the Improvement Trust, Feroze Gandhi Market, Ludhiana during any working days.
2. Any person having any objection to the scheme may file the same to the undersigned within 30 days of the First Publication of this Notice.

Sd/- **Chairman,**
Ludhiana Improvement Trust, Ludhiana.

DPR/Pb/2313-C

NATIONAL RURAL HEALTH MISSION, PUNJAB

Health & Family Welfare Department, Punjab

PUBLIC NOTICE-RECRUITMENT

CORRIGENDUM

In the above advt. published on 05.12.2010, in the heading Programme Management Units at District/Block Level, at Sr. No. 21, the salary should be read as Rs 5,750/- PM instead of Rs. 57,750/- PM. Rest remains the same.

TRC-36677



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CORRIGENDUM

No: TP/SML/Tender/2010-11/ Dated at SM the: 04.12.2010
Tender invited vide this office NIT No. TP/SML/Tender/Transportation/T-68/14, dated 19.11.2010 and NIT No. TP/SML/Tender/OF-Cable Pulling etc./T-64/2010-11/3 dated 26.10.2010 have been extended due to Administrative reason. The detail information log on our website www.ntproj.bsnl.co.in

DE (Survey), Shimla,
Tel No: 0177-2807603

TRC-36744

TENDER NOTICE

GREEN FODDER PURCHASE IN ARMY

Sealed tenders are invited by Director of Military Farms, HQ Northern Command, C/o 56 APO for supply of Green Fodder at Mil. Farms in Northern Command during **01 Jan, 2011** (or from the date of sanction) to **30 Jul, 2011**. Tenders will be opened in 1st call on **29 Dec., 10**, 2nd call on **19 Jan, 11** and 3rd call on **09 Feb, 2011** at **1200 hrs.** Tender forms can be purchased on any day during working hours up to previous day of opening of tenders from **20 Dec., 2010** onwards.

Tender forms will be sold @ Rs. 250/- each for each station on cash payment. Additional information, if any, required may be obtained from the office of the Director of Military Farms, HQ Northern Command, C/o 56 APO on any working day between 0900 hrs to 1300 hrs.

TRC-36775

Govt. of India

MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATION & I.T.



DEPARTMENT OF POSTS

O/o The Sr. Supdt. of Post Offices,

Amritsar Division, Amritsar.

TENDER NOTICE

Sealed tenders are invited from local registered chemists at Amritsar city for day to day supply of medicines and drugs to Postal Dispensary, Amritsar for the year 2010-11 (Upto 31.03.2011). The tenders should reach the undersigned latest by 21.12.2010 up to 1200 hrs. and will be opened at 1500 hrs. on the same date. The term and conditions can be obtained from the office of the undersigned, GPO Building, Amritsar on any working day (time 09:00 to 1700 hrs). These can also be downloaded from the website of Department of Post www.indiapost.gov.in

Sd/- (Avtar Singh Pahuja)
Sr. Supdt. of Post Offices,
Amritsar Division, Amritsar.

TRC-36733

Desert Development Project, Pooh, Distt. Kinnaur (H.P.)

The applications are hereby invited for the post of WDT member, Civil Engineering (Junior Engineer) in the office of Project Director-cum-CEO, DRDA, Cell/DDP, Pooh, Distt. Kinnaur (H.P.). The application should reach in the office of undersigned by 15.12.2010.

No. of Post: 2 (Two)

Reservation:- There is no reservation for any reserved categories.

Honorarium:- The consolidated honorarium will be paid @ Rs. 7500/- (Seven Thousand Five Hundred only) per month.

Qualification Required:- Diploma/Degree in Civil Engineering.

Age limit:- Above 18 years, below 65 years.

NOTE:-

The candidate having higher qualification and having experience of working in Govt./Semi-Govt. Orgn. will be given preference.

The appointment will be made purely on contract basis for one year in first instance. However, the contract period can be extended for another year, if candidate is found suitable and his/her performance is good.

There is no scope for regular appointment.

Sd/- Project Director-cum-CEO,

DRDA Cell/DDP Pooh, Distt. Kinnaur (H.P.).

TRC-36745