

ISSN 0970-7247

THIRD CONCEPT

English Monthly

Annual Subscription Rs. 200

Vol. 29

No. 347

JANUARY 2016

Rs. 20.00

- ❖ **India-Singapore Relations**
- ❖ **India-China Relations**
- ❖ **Globalization & Human Rights**
- ❖ **Judiciary & Social Process**
- ❖ **CSR & Social Development**
- ❖ **Constitutional Law on Secularism**



An International Journal of Ideas

Vol. 29 No. 347 JANUARY 2016 Rs. 20. 00

Third Concept aims at providing a platform where a meaningful exchange of ideas can take place among the people of the Third World. The attempt will be to communicate, debate and disseminate information, ideas and alternatives for the resolution of the common problems facing humankind. We welcome contributions from academics, journalists and even from those who may never have published anything before. The only requirement is a concern for and desire to understand and take the issue of our time. Contributions may be descriptive, analytical or theoretical. They may be in the form of original articles, reactions to previous contributions, or even a comment on a prevailing situation. All contributions, neatly typed in double space, may be addressed to:

<i>Editor</i> Babuddin Khan	<i>Consulting Editor</i> M. L. Sharma
<i>Managing Editor</i> R. Prudhvi Raju	<i>Art Director</i> Purba Roy
<i>Business Executive</i> R.S.Rawat	<i>Chief of Production</i> N. P. Agarwal

While the Editor accepts responsibility for the selection of materials to be published, individual authors are responsible for the facts, figures, and views in their articles. However, the Editor reserves the right to edit the articles for reasons of space and clarity.

Published, Printed and Owned by
Babuddin Khan
Third Concept
LB - 39, Prakash Deep Building,
7, Tolstoy Marg, New Delhi-110 001.
Phones : 23711092, 23712249
Fax No: 23711092.
E-mail : third.concept@rediffmail.com
Website: www.thirdconceptjournal.co.in

Designed by: Pt. Tejpal

INSIDE

Editorial	
Politics of Climate Change <i>B.K.</i>	5
India–Singapore Relations <i>C. Sivakkolundu</i>	7
Globalization and Human Rights <i>Dr. Mohd. Asif</i>	10
Perspectives on India-China Relations <i>Dr. Sachinkumar M. Kattimani</i>	14
Mergers and Acquisitions <i>Eddie James Girdner</i>	21
Constitutional Law on Secularism <i>Sandeep Chowhan</i>	24
Judiciary and Policy Process in India <i>Dr. Afifa Aisha Rahmat</i>	28
Empowering Rural Women via Microfinance <i>Dr. Prakash Kattimani</i>	33
Women’s Political Participation in Uttarakhand <i>Nibha Rathi & M.M. Semwal</i>	37
Bodo Movement <i>vis-à-vis</i> Telengana Movement <i>Dr. Dibakar Ch. Das</i>	43
CSR and Inclusive Social Development <i>Priya Dahiya & Rinki Dahiya</i>	46
Dr. B. R. Ambedkar: Architect of the Indian Constitution <i>Dr. R. M. Sonkamble</i>	51
Evaluating Indian and International Accounting Standards <i>A.Kumar</i>	52
Women Workers in India: A Case study of Bellary city <i>Sanjay Gandhi</i>	56

Politics of Climate Change

Recently concluded climate change deal at Paris, after 13 days of intense bargaining, demonstrated a rare show of near-universal accord, as poor and wealthy nations from across the political and geographic spectrum expressed support for measures that require all to take steps to battle climate change. The agreement binds together pledges by individual nations to cut or limit emissions from fossil-fuel burning. Sincere implementation of the agreement entails the potential of putting nations on a course that could fundamentally change the way energy is produced and consumed, gradually reducing reliance on fossil fuels in favor of cleaner forms of energy. The Paris agreement has evoked mixed reactions expressed through the opinions of leaders which reveal both high praise and harsh condemnation of the global accord.

U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has welcomed the Paris agreement as “a monumental success for the planet and its people.” Almost all Heads of State and Government who participated in this historic moment had hailed the agreement. The general view of the Paris agreement among climate scientists seems to be that while it won’t halt global warming, it is an important step in that direction. The director of the Earth Institute, Jeffrey Sachs, has termed the agreement “historic” and “a diplomatic triumph.” However, some climate change experts, climatologists and other observers find some chinks in the armoury of the Paris deal. It has been observed that the compromise accord is insufficient, by itself, to prevent global temperatures from rising by more than 2 degrees C above pre-industrial averages’, an increase that many scientists believe is the maximum amount of warming the planet can sustain without massive disruptions in natural ecosystems.

James Hansen of the Earth Institute at Columbia University has called the Paris agreement as “just worthless words” and a “fraud.” Gavin Schmidt, also of Earth Institute, says the agreement is “not the greatest thing in the world, but it is a necessary first start. While paraphrasing Winston Churchill’s famous quote that democracy isn’t perfect and “the worst form of government except all those other forms that have been tried,” Schmidt says, “this treaty is probably the worst of all possible treaties, except the others.” Demographic factors and financial implications are regarded as main hurdles in realizing the objectives of Paris accord. The Paris mandate, to keep global temperature increase to below 2 degrees C, is unlikely to be met since any potential gain in emissions cut by mid-century will be wiped out by an additional 2.6 billion people on Earth—with each new person struggling for his or her own space, abode, appliances, car, clothing, furniture, food and fuel.

Some experts opine that it would be difficult to believe that the accord is the best possible response to an emerging global catastrophe. On climate finance, it merely acknowledges the need for \$100 billion a year to promote sustainable practices in developing economies. This is a pittance compared to over \$1.8 trillion in yearly global military expenditures, or some 2.5 percent of world GDP. Undoubtedly, the dangers of climate change are all too real for India; nevertheless, the realization of 1.5 degrees target can avoid putting the lives of millions along India’s coastline and those dependent directly on agricultural yields at risk. But by deferring ambitious carbon reductions from the developed countries post-2020, which will still remain voluntary, India has effectively accepted a scenario where a fair carbon budgeting is a distant dream. India, it appears, will instead push hard for greater financing and capacity building for a renewable energy transition.

India’s demand for \$ 2.5 trillion in finance for achieving its INDC by 2030 makes the global commitment of \$100 billion pale into insignificance in comparison. The coming few years will consequently witness a greater push for materialising this finance through a variety and public and private channels. The Paris accord isn’t legally binding on two key aspects. There is no obligation on developed nations to enhance mitigation targets or increase climate finance. India is reported to have signed the final agreement in a spirit of compromise to avoid the ignominy of being amongst the parties that derailed the negotiations and set it back by at least another decade. How the countries, including India, implement the accord will truly determine the future of climate change.

— BK