Repair of environmental damage caused by industrial development: have we turned the corner?

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Ever since the Industrial Revolution in the eighteenth century, the juggernaut of industrial and technological development gathered pace relentlessly and caused unprecedented and serious damage to the environment in the process of bestowing upon the human race many worldly amenities. Creation of the Ozone hole, Carbon emission, global warming and rapid rise of sea level and population explosion became some of the banes of our modern civilisation. By the end of the twentieth century, there were serious concerns among the intelligentsia about the impending doom of irreversible environmental damage that could threaten the very existence of the human race. Efforts began to be made to undo or repair such damage, by consciously looking for alternative sustainable technologies that would not harm the environment and reduce or eliminate exploitation of earth’s dwindling resources.

The proposed panel under the theme” The role of technology in environmental and climate(in)justice” will examine what our efforts to undo the damage have been and how far such efforts of the past few decades have succeeded in repairing the damage caused by our mindless pursuit of industrialization over the past few centuries. It will evaluate if we have indeed turned the corner and are on course to heal the Earth. It also take a look at the future road map and examine the achievability of our goals and try to identify the road blocks. Though we have yet some distance to cover (and our efforts should not flag), there are signs that we are well on our way to avoiding the apocalypse.

Three papers and a Chair are being sought for this session. Those interested in presenting are asked to prepare a one–page abstract (250 words maximum) and one page CV (300 words maximum) with current contact information. Please send these materials to Dr Baisakhi Bandyopadhyay (archisbandyo@gmail.com) no later than December 13, 2023.