

**Address by His Excellency Mr. Dharambeer Gokhool G.C.S.K.,
President of the Republic of Mauritius**

15th Annual Session of the Global Energy Parliament

Mode: Online Intervention

Time: 13:30 Hours MUT/ 15:00 hours IST

**Theme: “Inner Heat, Outer Heat: The Emotional Climate Shaping
Our World”**

Protocol

Excellencies

Honourable Members of Parliament,

His Holiness Jagadguru Swami Isa, Founder- Global Energy
Parliament,

Distinguished scholars, scientists, and participants from around the
World,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Opening Remarks

From the Republic of Mauritius

Namaskaar, Bon après-midi, and Good Afternoon.

It is indeed an honour and privilege to join you for the 15th Session of
the Global Energy Parliament.

At the very outset, let me to thank and congratulate the Isa Viswa
Pragyana(Prajnana) Trust, its founder, His Holiness Jagadguru Swami
Isa, and the organisers and well- wishers for convening this important
forum under the aegis of the GLOBAL ENERGY PARLIAMENT.

The GEP enshrines a great human philosophy:

Service to mankind is service to god

Maanav jati ki sewa hi Ishwar ki sewa hey

As a former academic and Parliamentarian, I also extend my deep appreciation to all distinguished resource persons and participants for sustaining this space where **science, policy, and human consciousness** converge to advance sustainable development, societal resilience, ethical responsibility and human wellbeing.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

This initiative is a major step in the global efforts in restoring emotional and environmental balance- the balance between inner heat and outer heat.

COP30, Global Context and Urgency

Ladies and Gentlemen

Scientific evidence continues to indicate urgency of environmental and societal challenges facing our planet.

The recent COP30 held in Belém, Brazil, highlighted both progress and persistent divisions and deficits.

While the Mutirão decision established a two-year programme on climate finance, and the Gender Action Plan was adopted, disputes, as you are aware, remain over fossil fuel limits and transitions, adaptation finance, and indicators.

Of the 88 countries advocating for a roadmap away from fossil fuels, **no concrete timeline was agreed, and adaptation finance, though targeted to triple by 2035, faces delays.**

According to UN SG, Antonio Guterres:

The Gap Remains Dangerously Wide.

Guterres noted that despite progress, the gap between current action and scientific demands to limit warming to 1.5°C is still dangerously large, a point emphasized by the likely overshoot of the target.

It is therefore clear that environmental pressures will continue to escalate, and by 2050, nearly 1,000 cities will face average summer highs of 35°C, exposing 1.6 billion people to extreme heat and disastrous human consequences.

Equally urgent is the rise of “inner heat” which represents the social psychological and emotional turmoil that people are undergoing.

Mental health challenges that people are facing are accelerating worldwide: anxiety and depression, affect over 350 million people, while stress-related disorders- are increasing by approximately 13% each year.

Aggressive social behaviours violence, homicides and suicides especially among our youth, with the horrible live streaming of cases on social media, acts of terrorism, confrontations and wars, between nations, with loss of lives and extreme sufferings and traumas, are all indicative of emotional disharmony, degradation and distress.

An unprecedented and dangerous imbalance between people and our planet

Ladies and Gentlemen,

We therefore stand at a historic crossroad both for our planet and humanity.

The scientific community has long warned us of the consequences of this ecological and the emotional, psychological, and societal imbalance.

A heated planet combined with increasing social and emotional deterioration -the inner heat- among the population, especially among our younger generation poses risks not only to security and development, but to the coherence of our social fabric and the moral compass of humanity and its very future.

Deniers

Besides the growing imbalance between the outer heat and the inner heat, another big challenge that humanity will have to deal with is:

Climate misinformation and the need to establish information credibility and integrity about climate urgency.

At the COP30 agenda, for the first time, President Luiz Inácio Lula de Silva called for action against climate change “deniers,” stating that “we live in a time when obscurantists reject scientific evidence and attack institutions. It is time to deal another defeat to denial,” and describing COP30 as the “COP of truth” in an era of “fake news and misinformation.”

In this context, the Declaration on Climate Change Information Integrity was presented at the COP30 as a new initiative.

Theme of GEP 2025

It is therefore fitting that this year’s GEP theme:

“Inner Heat, Outer Heat: The Emotional Climate Shaping Our World” - addresses the inseparable link between human well-being and planetary stability, from a scientific and evidence- based perspective.

As President of the Republic of Mauritius, I shall be very attentive to the deliberations of the GEP, and as a human being and a lover of

nature, I shall convey to government your proposals and recommendations for appropriate actions.

The Case for Mauritius

Ladies and Gentlemen,

As a small Island developing state, Mauritius is not immune to these pressing global challenges.

Apart from rising temperatures and sea levels, severe floods and cyclones, ocean and soil acidification, deoxygenation and severe loss of biodiversity, there are many more challenges that threaten our ecosystems, economy, and social cohesion.

Mauritius is more than its sea, sand, and shores. It is its people.

Approximately 100,000 individuals across the island, out of a population of around 1.3 million, experience mental health or substance use disorders.

Our prisons reflect similar pressures: nearly half of detainees are aged 18-30, over 65% exhibit chemical dependencies, and both inmates and officers show disproportionately high rates of mental illness.

There is an increase in violent incidents among prisoners. There is a growing level of stress and tensions in the population.

These statistics illustrate the convergence of environmental vulnerability and emotional stress, directly affecting our national wellbeing and resilience.

It also impacts negatively on the happiness and wellbeing of our population.

We must also acknowledge the emotional impact of rapid societal transformation, urbanisation, digital exposure, shifting family structures, and rising expectations among our youth.

These forces, while signs of progress, also create pressure points that require compassionate and strategic national responses.

Presidential Perspective

Ladies and Gentlemen,

As President of the Republic, my foremost responsibilities are the well-being of our people, consolidating national unity, and protecting our territories.

Mauritius is fully convinced that only when its people are healthy in mind, body, and spirit can the nation thrive.

Coordinated, evidence-based, and holistic responses are therefore imperative and are being undertaken

Our Government Programme 2025-2029, which I presented in January this year in our National Assembly, sets out a bold roadmap for sustainable development, social cohesion, and digital and health resilience.

Complementing this initiative, a Constitutional Review Commission is already underway to strengthen and modernise frameworks that guarantee the wellbeing, rights, and freedoms of citizens while reinforcing both individual and collective responsibility.

We believe that rights and responsibilities must go together for citizens to be caring, responsible, and respectful towards each others and our planet.

Highlights of Mauritius' Response: Climate, Health, and Wellbeing

To address these pressing challenges, other measures that form part of our integrated approach includes:

- **Health and Social Resilience:**

Meditation, mindfulness, and community wellbeing programmes, implemented through public-private partnerships and civil society engagement.

We are strengthening school-based mental health interventions, increasing training for frontline personnel, and promoting open conversations to break the stigma that too often prevents individuals from seeking support.

- **Health and Holistic Wellness:**

The forthcoming AYUSH Centre of Excellence, funded by India, will provide access to Ayurveda, Yoga, Unani, Siddha, and Homeopathy, alongside capacity-building for local practitioners, reinforcing Mauritius' commitment to preventive, holistic, and evidence-based healthcare.

This centre will stand as a bridge between traditional wisdom and modern science, enriching our national health ecosystem.

- **The Mauritius Prison Service is reforming and adopting a restorative justice model.**

- **We are adopting legislation for Digital Safety and Responsible AI.**

- **International Collaboration:**

Mauritius actively engages with partners across India, Africa, and the European Union on climate adaptation, renewable energy, health initiatives, and digital resilience, encompassing knowledge exchange, technical assistance, and capacity-building programmes.

We are also working closely with multilateral organisations to mobilise climate finance, strengthen ocean governance, and promote South-South cooperation, ensuring that small island developing states are not left behind.

These measures demonstrate that emotional resilience, physical health, and climate adaptation are mutually reinforcing priorities, underpinning national and regional stability.

It is time to develop among our citizens a human-centric and planet centric culture, starting with our children and youth.

As President, I stand above partisan lines, and I have a moral duty to call for national introspection, to encourage dialogue, compassion, and the cultivation of values that promote peace and harmony.

In the face of rising tensions regionally and globally, the ability of any nation to preserve peace lies fundamentally in the emotional and environmental balance throughout the world.

I appeal to all leaders to join hands and promote this GEP international initiative to recalibrate and rebalance the Inner Heat and the Outer Heat.

Concluding Reflections

Mauritius recognises that no nation can confront these challenges in isolation.

Multisectoral collaboration -among government agencies, healthcare providers, educators, civil society, and international partners – remains crucial.

It is therefore imperative that we pursue these initiatives hand in hand - as one people, one nation, and one humanity - in a spirit of Vasudhaivya Kuttumbakam- the whole world is one family, upholding the twin imperatives of human wellbeing and long-term planetary sustainability.

Let us remember that the strength of a nation lies not only in its institutions, but in the calmness of its people, the clarity of its vision, and the compassion it shows to the most vulnerable.

On this realistic and optimistic note, I wish the GEP fruitful deliberations.

I have no doubt that this year's gathering will illuminate practical pathways, inspire decisive action, and strengthen resilience, equity, and our shared responsibility to nurture life and protect our planet.

Namaste and thank you for your attention.