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In a hot tropical country like India, air conditioning would be a welcome part of the workplace, if not the home. It would definitely increase efficiency and productivity. It would also improve the general health and lifestyles of the people.

However, it is essential that modern CFC-free technologies are used and obsolete environmentally destructive air conditioners are phased out, and even banned in time. Also, the cost of air conditioners must come down drastically if it is to become a commonplace item in our everyday lives. It would not be fair if only the rich were to benefit leaving one more handicap for the poor. ■