

Environment and Sustainable Development in India

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Abstract: *There is a strong connection between climate and environmental growth that is seen in the broad perspective and overall human development without any differentiation. One of the main global challenges is that the existing levels of global resource use. Ever rising population enhances demand for adequate capital to satisfy future generation demands. There are several issues, threats, and opportunities associated with living in the world today. The world and its treasure base are facing a siege from all facets of human endeavors ranging from misuse, violence and environmental destruction that have become too quickly noticed and disturbances occur every day and almost anywhere. India's trajectory on the road of sustainable growth has so far been characterized by both causes for celebration and introspection. The best place to launch the tale will be the 1980s and early 1990s, representing the beginning of economic reforms, impetus for India's phenomenally higher growth rates after, and coinciding with a period when countries across the world noticed and began discussing rising environmental issues, such as the 1992 Rio Earth Summit. India's higher gross domestic product (GDP) growth over the past two decades has been unparalleled, but at the same time India's human development index (HDI) rankings as well as indexes measuring environmental sustainability have yet to completely represent this growth.*

I. INTRODUCTION

The idea of environment has developed after it began to become a global concern in the early 1970s. First, it was a sort of global awareness that the Earth's environments are in reality vulnerable, and that human beings contributed significantly to their degeneration. As countries joined attempts to strike a compromise between enhancing human quality of life and preserving the climate for future generations, a new understanding materialized. Human social and economic wellbeing is directly related to their climate. Any shift in socioeconomic fields can affect the earth's climate and vice versa, whether beneficial or harmful, immediate or inevitable. And sometimes unfavorable outcomes are permanent.

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The 1992 Earth Summit in Rio agreed that economic, social and environmental issues are ultimately related to world growth. Thus, it vowed to eliminate environmental challenges, alleviate injustice and foster sustainable development by coordinated initiatives and global cooperation.

Environmental Resources

Environmental services are resources without human behavior. This encompasses both valued properties and forces including magnetic, electromagnetic, and electrical. It includes: sunshine, climate, water, land (including all minerals) along with all vegetation and animal life that naturally subsists on or inside the characteristics and substances described.

Environmental commodities are those that have their own inherent worth or importance long-term sustainability and human use. Strictly commercially, natural capital are essentially non-tangible. Social and human capital are characterized by population growth, job occupations, land rights, source of revenue, living conditions, gender dimensions, etc. One of the main global challenges is the current global resource consumption pace. Ever growing population needs adequate capital to satisfy future generation demands.

Renewable resources

Naturally, renewables may be replenished. Some of these services, such as sunshine, climate, wind, water, etc., are constantly accessible and are not significantly influenced by human use. While certain renewable resources may not have such a fast recovery pace, they are vulnerable to over-use depletion. Human capital is considered as reusable as long as the replenishment/recovery rate increases the usage rate. They quickly replenish against non-renewable energy.

Non-renewable resources

Non-renewable materials shape either progressively or spontaneously in the climate. Minerals are this category's most popular resource. Human resources are non-renewable because their pace of use reaches the rate of replenishment/recovery; a clear example of this are fossil fuels in this category since their rate of formation is incredibly sluggish, implying that they are deemed non-renewable.

Environmental Indicators

There are several unique environmental metrics to assess a country's degree of growth. The following environmental metrics are: amount of clear air days; minimum amount of waste; nature-based environmental designs; percentage of population using drinking water; percentage of population using sewers; percentage of population utilizing public transport or carpooling; percentage of primary agriculture land; percentage of households involved in conservation programs; tons of hazar.

II. ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

There is a strong connection between climate and sustainable growth, which is used without differentiation in the broad perspective and overall human development. The World Conservation Policy introduced by the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP), the Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF) and the International Union for Nature Conservation (IUCN) established the forum for international sustainability discussion. The most prominent move towards sustainable development is the issuance in 1987 of an international study entitled "Our Common Future" by the World Environment Commission (WCED). The study described sustainable development as "Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."

III. DIMENSIONS OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Sustainable development is multidimensional. Some are briefly listed as follows:-

Dimension of culture

- Employees' welfare and wellbeing.
- Effect on neighborhoods, quality of life.
- Rewards, for example, for disabled groups.

Economic dimension of

- Emerging markets and revenue development prospects.
- Cost savings by improving production and reducing electricity and raw material supplies. Creating added profit.

The environmental issue today is not simply seen as a narrow ecological concern about how a symbiotic and concordant interface between humans and their ecosystem can be sustained. It's better than this. It has democratic, developmental, sociological and empirical ramifications, both embedded in the current model. The concept of sustainable growth comes from the 1987 report of the World Commission on Climate and Development, "Our Common Future". This research, also known as the Brundtland Report, recognized that many development attempts in many nations, particularly developing countries, left growing numbers of poor and vulnerable people while degrading their environment. The study then proposed that a new growth path would be needed in the future, not just in a few regions, but globally, to ensure human development. The study centered on topics like people, energy, industry, human settlement, and quality of life. It is often widely understood, though, that if the habitat is significantly degraded and erosion is not compensated, development will be misjudged. So environmental protection is not only about protecting the planet, but how we can effectively leverage our natural resources to alleviate malnutrition and boost human wellbeing and quality of life.

In today's world, there are many issues, threats and opportunities. Planet and its treasure base are facing a siege from all facets of human endeavors ranging from waste, violence, and environmental destruction that have become too quickly noticed and disturbance every day and almost anywhere. Cultures, economic activities, societal attitudes and livelihood habits are evolving and changing quickly as a consequence of the awareness that while citizens have the ability to harvest capital around them for a more rewarding existence, they often unleashed such power with a sense of urgency to solve the growing problems of survival and progressive change. The desperate hunt for self, family or corporate change is no longer a potential threat but a clear threat to the future. Looking ahead with hope depends to some degree about how we will set the tone for addressing today's environmental loss concerns. This includes an intelligent and well-coordinated equilibrium to be maintained between, on the one hand, integrated socio-economic growth and, on the other, lifelong protection of human existence and Mother Earth's natural resources.

Environmental issues that affect environmental destruction are multidisciplinary and the problem size differs (Sankar, 2009). Some of these issues are worldwide, some local. On the other side, problems such as soil erosion, water consumption and pollution, car and air pollution, domestic solid waste, industrial hazard. (MDG Reports, &Sankar, 2009).

Environmental destruction often stems from unsustainable exploitation of natural resources, which are regarded as the so-called means of production (Thakur, 2010). UN environmental degradation is described as "Environmental degradation is the deterioration in environmental quality from environmental pollutant concentrations and/or other activities and processes such as improper land use and natural disasters" (United Nations, 1997). The seventh of the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) talks about maintaining "environmental sustainability and sets the following four goals: a) incorporating the concepts of sustainable development into country policies and programs and reversing the depletion of environmental resources; b) decreasing biodiversity loss, achieving a substantial reduction in the rate of loss by 2010; c) halving by 2015;.

IV. NATURAL RESOURCE BASE OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT

Integrating farming with land and water protection, and habitat restoration, is important for both environmental preservation and agricultural development. An environmental viewpoint can direct the assessment of all construction initiatives, understanding the function of natural resources in local livelihoods. This appreciation must be guided by a thorough comprehension of local people's views and viewpoints regarding their resource-based stakes. To ensure the survival of the natural resource base, it is important to consider all stakeholders and their positions in its conservation and management. Setting up well-defined and enforceable rights (including customary rights) and tenancy protections and maintaining equitable access to property, water,

and other natural and biological resources. This can be maintained for aboriginal peoples, women and other vulnerable people living in poverty. Water governance structures can safeguard habitats and maintain or rebuild all existing water sources and their catchments' ecological integrity. This would preserve the broad variety of ecological resources that balanced environments offer, and their livelihoods. Biomass is, and will continue to be, a major source of fuel and electricity, particularly for rural poor. Recognizing this aspect, effective mechanisms must be built to render such biomass use sustainable, both by resource conservation and encouraging productive and minimally polluting technology, and technologies that will eventually reduce the stresses on biomass causing environmental degradation. Traditional approaches to the management of natural capital, such as holy groves and wetlands, water harvesting and management schemes, etc., can be resurrected by developing structural structures that recapture the ecological wisdom and ethos of community management implicit in those systems.

V. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN A GLOBAL WORLD

Today's globalization is rising the gap between wealthy and poor. It must be steered to represent not only economic desires, but also social development needs. Global business thrives on, and thus promotes, large levels of homogeneity of customer tastes. In the other hand, to be culturally relevant and viable, construction must be driven by local considerations of cultural diversity and practices. Therefore, political understanding of the importance of diversity and the need to protect it is an essential precondition for sustainable growth. Developing nations are frequently at a disadvantage in securing and operating multilateral trade deals in an increasingly globalizing economy. Therefore, regional capacity-building collaboration is required to ensure successful involvement at all stages of multilateral trade. Globalization is powered by a massive, global capital engine affecting millions of livelihoods. Mechanisms to protect trade and livelihoods, especially in developing countries, must be established and negotiated to render globalization an effective mechanism for sustainable growth. Battle and military struggle hinder global sustainability. Evolving successful resolution processes in such cases and addressing unresolved problems without undermining the opposing parties' wider growth interests is crucial.

VI. HEALTH AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Human welfare in the broadest sense of physical, social, and moral well-being relies heavily on residents' connection to a safe atmosphere. For a good, prosperous and satisfying existence every person should have access to nutritious food, safe drinking water, clean air, sanitation, environmental hygiene, primary health care and education. Access to clean drinking water and a sustainable climate should be every citizen's constitutional right. Developing-country people remain exposed to double disease burdens. Classic diseases including malaria and cholera induced by polluted drinking water and lack of environmental hygiene are yet to be regulated. Moreover, individuals are already falling victim to modern illnesses like cancer, AIDS, and

stress-related disorders. Many of the common illnesses among the poor in developed countries are occupation-related and are contracted in the process of employment to satisfy the affluent's consumption demands, both within and outside. The good health-to-environment partnership in developed countries is becoming increasingly apparent. Which includes greater focus on preventive and social medicine, and workplace wellbeing and epidemiology studies. Because of the near connection, greater integration and effective communication and cooperation between the Ministries of Health and Environment is required. Basic health and education services in developed countries require strengthening. Public health programs must put similar focus on preventive healthcare as curative healthcare. People should be encouraged by knowledge and understanding to engage in managing public protection and grooming preventive healthcare

VII. ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN INDIA

So far, India's path towards sustainable growth has been characterized by both grounds for celebration and introspection. The best place to launch the tale will be the 1980s and early 1990s, representing the beginning of economic reforms, impetus for India's phenomenally higher growth rates after, coinciding with a period when countries across the world noticed and began discussing rising environmental issues, such as the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio. India's higher gross domestic product (GDP) growth over the past two decades has been unparalleled, but at the same time India's Human Development Index (HDI) rankings as well as environmental sustainability indexes have yet to completely represent this growth.

It will be an error, though, to downplay the tremendous strides achieved, as India has taken a far more deliberate course towards sustainable growth with promising outcomes on the ground.

The Environment Report of the Ministry of Environment and Forestry (MOEF) 2009 describes the problems faced by India as five major challenges: climate change, food conservation, water safety, energy stability, and urbanization management. Global change will also intensify natural disasters, such as floods, storms and droughts. In specific, this will impact the food and water security issues in India. India is also facing the critical challenge of satisfying its rising demand for electricity. Currently, it depends on about 80 percent of crude oil imports.

A significant section of the rural population is still not linked to the grid or to accessible modern fuel supplies, and India's intake of 439 kg of oil equivalent per capita is far below the world average of 1688 kg (Planning Commission report in 2006). The household sector's energy poverty is demonstrated not just by low electricity penetration into the sector, but also by its primary reliance on conventional, unreliable cooking and lighting power. According to the 2004-05 survey of the National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO), about 45% of rural households depend on inferior fuels such as kerosene or candlelight for illumination, and 84% rely primarily on biomass containing fuelwood, dung cake and agro-waste for cooking fuel. Finally,

urbanization proceeds very fast, generating fresh problems of public accommodation, proximity to clean water and sanitation, solid waste collection, transit, and air quality. Prices, benefits, laws and taxes may help adapt to these places.

Simultaneously, there is a clear feeling of change at group level where it counts. India has made impressive gains in sustainable growth, as calculated, for example, in three result overview metrics. One is life expectancy, where India earned a decade, a large measure of economic well-being with social justice. Despite the stresses on land usage, which is an indicator of environmental protection, forest cover has grown. Satellite evidence shows that not only did India handle deforestation, but its land cover has grown between the 1990s and 2010. India is one of the few developed countries where forest cover has risen over the last 20 years and continues to grow, although the latest 2011 data indicates a small dip. A third overview measure is increases in younger women's literacy, an indicator of potential generations' well-being. On all three counts, India outstripped the 'delta' on global averages, though it should have performed better.

Many diverse techniques acquired important knowledge. This also cemented potential structural foundations. Sustainable environmental sustainability was a recurrent topic of Indian strategy and planning. Since 1985, a committed and autonomous Ministry of Climate and Forests has served with growing responsibilities. The Constitution itself and various relevant rules, different players, economies, and numerous government services and policies have helped. India's Constitution and related changes adopted through the years affirm India's environmental agenda and legal framework. Sustainable development pillars are rooted in the constitution-guaranteed fundamental rights establishing the foundation for social justice in India. Article 21 granting the right to life has been given the widest interpretations by the judiciary to include the right to a safe atmosphere, the right to work, the right to live with integrity and a variety of other similar privileges. National Environment Policy 2006 sought to incorporate environmental issues into all construction operations. Via its numerous initiatives, India's government has factored ecological issues into the planning agenda such that sustainable development can be accomplished without permanently hurting the ecosystem. However, the obstacles ahead are massive. Meeting increasing energy requirements in an energy-poor world with already restricted access, coupled with increased urbanization and manufacturing to generate more employment, is a major challenge.

The Ministry of Statistics and Policy Execution has introduced the 2010 phase of setting up a green national accounting framework to take more effective account of the environmental growth costs and represent the loss of natural capital in producing national income. Since 1997, the Central Statistics Office releases detailed environmental statistics (CSO). It is anticipated that the decline of natural resource reserves can be worked into the regular national accounts to predict a green GDP at state and country level in around five years. Pilot projects were already initiated at state level, and a high-level advisory council was established. It would better incorporate environmental sustainability into the development phase. The allocation

of profits and losses is also important to remember here. To the degree that natural resource loss is turned simultaneously into improved human capital endowments and capacities, particularly for the poorest populations most reliant on natural environments. More cautious joint inclusion and sustainability metrics can improve planning choices and decisions.

Therefore, India would need to save and spend more money to fulfill economic well-being requirements with greater environmental sustainability. Wide economic and social growth is essentially the solution. Economic energy and other capital pricing would be crucial to shifting towards more sustainable growth. New developments are crucial, mostly in the private sector. Yet social justice would also entail greater public investment in certain ways. Managing energy requirements for an increasingly rising population would be at the core of the solution and India's voluntary climate change initiatives.

India vowed to reduce its development path's energy intensity. Equal cost distribution internationally, calculated in terms of per capita pollution levels, and environmental finance are a must—so that already industrialized nations don't consume all the greenhouse space at the developing world's expense. The recent Durban Decisions included moves towards post-2020 agreements to curb greenhouse gas (GHG) pollution without compromising developed countries' needs and setting up a global Green Climate Fund (GCF) that guarantees expanded global support. Evidence of developing world promises on financial assistance would be the GCF's swift adoption.

VIII. MEASURING INDIA'S ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE

Recent environmental success ranking (EPI 2012) put India 122 out of 132 countries. Its success in preserving its forests (rank 21) and fisheries (39) and climate change (55). Bad scores on air quality (132), livestock (126) and water supplies (122) (Economic Survey). In agriculture, India's success on two sub-components—banned pesticides and protection—was misjudged. India has prohibited or limited a dozen organic pesticides and adversely protects cultivation. With the highest weight, the environmental health measure uses death rates between ages 1 and 5; this exaggerates disparities. A larger birth expectancy will be less skewed. Three other adjustments—more acceptable country requirements for habitats, electricity, and water—should be produced. The combined effect could boost India's overall ranking closer to mid-country. The other methodological concern is distinguishing environmental efficiency from profits. Although 'distance-to-target' approach benefits, the issue is not completely addressed: wealthier countries still appear to do better (because they can afford it) and economic growth is still a key engine of sustainability. Nevertheless, the EPI exercise is helpful in flagging certain questions. Like Bangladesh, we should do more for public health and environmentally preventable infant mortality (Sen and Dreze 2011). Another is a concerning rise in tiny particulate matter (PM) in the airborne air. Delhi's latest PM 2.5 levels exceed Beijing's. Increased private

diesel transport, power plant pollution, agricultural residue burning and sub-Himalayan winter inversion are the culprits. A MOEF study described a menu of choices, none easy: stricter laws (e.g., burning residues, power plants), costs (diesel and private transportation), and improvements in public transportation to resolve these concerns.

CONCLUSION

Today's globalization is rising the gap between wealthy and poor. It must be steered to represent not only economic desires, but also social development needs. To render construction locally relevant and viable, local concerns must be driven by cultural diversity and customs. Therefore, political understanding of the importance of diversity and the need to protect it is an essential precondition for sustainable growth. Developing nations are frequently at a disadvantage in securing and operating multilateral trade deals in an increasingly globalizing economy.

So far, India's path towards sustainable growth has been characterized by both grounds for celebration and introspection. The best place to launch the tale will be the 1980s and early 1990s, representing the beginning of economic reforms, impetus for India's phenomenally higher growth rates after, coinciding with a period when countries across the world noticed and began discussing rising environmental issues, such as the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio. India's higher gross domestic product (GDP) growth over the past two decades has been remarkable, but at the same time India's human development index (HDI) rankings and environmental sustainability indexes have yet to adequately represent this growth.

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