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Sustainable Development is a need of Hour: A Critical Survey

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Abstract

Sustainable development is the need of the hour to save the beautiful earth from further destruction. The role of the polluter should be fixed and the liability of the mending of the environment should be rendered on the shoulders of polluters. Climate change made humankind crippled; technological advancement could not control the degradation of the environment. This research article argues it is the responsibility of all the stakeholders of mother earth to make rational use of natural resources and the approach of sustainability should be adopted for the long live of human civilisation.

Key Words (Sustainable development, climate change, green House, water crisis)

Introduction

The world is at the stage of the apocalypse, global warming brought out disastrous challenges before human civilisation. Rise in temperature, uneven rainfall, cloud bursting, natural calamity, water crisis, and attacks of invisible viruses put the world order under constant threat. Even the scientists of the world failed to decode the changes that occurred in the atmosphere. Consumption of Fossil oil unleashes environmental hazards i.e. carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxides despite its toxic effects still it is the main source of energy to complete the world. Under the name of development, developed, developing nations have been using abundant natural resources for development. All of them are attempting their process of development should be unchecked, therefore the unmendable effects have been made in the Eco cycle. The reckless approach of humankind put the beautiful planet at the stake of risk.

Climate change:

Climate change is one of the flammable issues for the entire world community. The difference in the natural course of the environment brought out disastrous changes for human civilization. The world has been facing severe threats from climate change, the change in the cycle, unseasonal rainfall, and melting icebergs from the Antarctica continent have been seriously threatening the lifestyles of people across the world, it resulted in uneven compartments of development.

The reason behind climate change

Greenhouse

A modern greenhouse is typically made up of a frame made of glass or plastic that is used for producing fruits, vegetables, flowers, and other plants which require special temperatures. There are two basic types of greenhouses: the span-type

greenhouse, which has a double-sloped roof, and the lean-to greenhouse, which has one slope and leans against the side of a building. There are sometimes several span-type greenhouses attached to each other so that they have fewer external walls, which reduces heating costs. The plants in a greenhouse are exposed to natural light for most of the day due to the large area of glazing on its sides and roof. Greenhouse gases create difficulty in the insulation of the earth and it resulted risk of rising temperatures.

Exponential of foodstuff with increasing population, people have searched for alternative sources to increase food production. Greenhouses have been abundant to meet the food need of the world. Greenhouses have been generated various toxic hazards which directly cause the layers of the atmosphere. All the toxins disturb the earth's energy budget in the future earth's overall temperature will be increased by 1.5 degree Celsius and it would bring far-reaching impacts on the coastal areas of the world. Therefore it is the need of the hour to think in terms of the sustainability of the atmosphere for a better prospectus of the earth. The heat budget of the earth has collapsed due to the gas's emission from the green houses.

Recent Examples of Climate changes

The summer of 2022 eye-witnessed a high degree of temperature throughout the northern hemisphere, especially it badly heats North America. As per the analysis, if the rising temperature remains an uptick, it will be a regressive impact on the entire ecosystem. The report says: "According to the analysis, if the world warms by 2C, which could happen in about 20 years' time, then the chances of having a heatwave similar to last week's drop from around once every 1,000 years to roughly once every 5-10 years"

(<https://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-57751918>) The increase of the temperature by 2 degrees Celsius will create complications for humankind. The example of northern America is a wake-up call to all the world humankind. They should seriously address the environmental issues to meet the solutions and sustainability.

The European continent eyewitnesses a very serious flood situation in 2022, which went beyond human efforts. The changes in the atmosphere could affect the ecological balance of Europe and will create room for the cataclysm and it will uproot the imprint of mankind permanently.

“Researchers are just beginning to unravel the complex web of climatic, hydrological, and social factors that contributed to the catastrophe. But they already have some suspects in mind, including a warming climate that can supercharge rainstorms and European disaster plans that focused on major rivers, rather than the lower volume tributaries hit hardest by the storms. smaller streams.” scientists have warned climate change will mean more flooding in Europe and elsewhere. Warmer air holds more moisture, which can translate into heavier rainfall. By 2100, flood damage on the continent could cost as much as €48 billion per year—up from €7.8 billion now—if nothing more is done to prepare, and the number of people affected could more than double to some 350,000, according to the European Commission’s Joint Research Centre.”

(<https://www.sciencemag.org/news/2021/07/europe-s-deadly-floods-leave-scientists-stunned>) The Himalayas is considered one of the youngest mountains in the world. The changed environment put this entire region in a vulnerable situation where the disastrous impact have been occurring. The recently occurring tragedies at Uttarakhand are linked to the environmental imbalance. Ananth Krishnan explains the reason behind the catastrophe that occurred at Kedarnath, he explains that mountain erosion and unkempt development made the region more vulnerable. He predicted more disasters could hit the region. The recent the sinking of Joshi Math could be the result of human interference in the natural cycle. He says in his article published in the Daily Hindu:

“The IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate found that in the Himalayan ranges, there could be variations in overall water availability, but floods, avalanches and landslides were all forecast to increase. Changes in monsoonal precipitation could also bring more frequent disasters.

In 2013, catastrophic loss of lives was seen in the floods that swept Kedarnath. They were triggered by heavy rainfall over a short period in June, first

destroying a river training wall, and then triggering a landslide that led to the breaching of the Chorabari moraine-dammed lake, devastating Kedarnath town.

What this means is that aberrations in the Indian summer monsoon caused by changes to long-term climate could produce even greater damage, by bringing debris and silt down the river courses, destroying physical structures, reducing dam life, and causing enormous losses. These problems are also aggravated by the erosion of mountain slopes and the instability of glacial lakes in upper elevations. On the other hand, as the IPCC Special Report points out, the retreat of glaciers in the high mountains has produced a different kind of loss — of aesthetic and cultural values, declines in tourism and local agriculture.” (Ananthakrishnan) Cloud bursting and uneven rainfall phenomenon has been happening across the world. Cloud bursting brings unexpected flood which remains uncontrolled. The existing institutional structure could not tackle it. The uneven rainfall creates an uneven compartment of farm cultivation, the region that used to get a good amount of rainfall now it is being eye witnessed scanty rainfall and where used to get a large amount of rainfall is now seriously short of that remark. It made serious questions before humankind for their survival. It exacerbates the risk of famine. Many African nations have been facing a serious food crisis. It made them crippled, they could not take any concrete action because of the changing dimensions of the environment. The food security of the world is under threat, and in future, it is going to bring out more regression. The decadal growth of the population and the changing scenario of the environment could not compatible with each other. Naturally, in near future, it is going to affect seriously. The world community should understand the changed dimension of the climate and initiate serious work to minimize the impact of climate change.

Lebanon Water crisis

The water supply system of Lebanon is on the verge of collapse. Millions of the people are at immediate risk of losing access to safe water. Lebanon was to be described as the water tower of the Middle east. But due to changes in the climate, the system has almost collapsed, water is available abundantly but due to the availability of toxic chemicals, it is not potable water. The water challenge is the major challenge due to the toxic water systems. Water scarcity would be the major issue. Unfortunately, water, the essential resource on the planet, is in danger of becoming scarcer at this juncture as the population explosion results in an alarming increase in demand for water. The scarcity of water jeopardises the socio, economic and environmental stability of the country. It is urgently required to encourage the practice of the rational use of water

for better sustainability. To ensure ecological balance, development of optimum human resources, and effective management of available water, efficient planning, equal distribution, and efficient conservation of open water are urgently needed other wise waterborne disease could cripple human civilisation badly.

The role of the Developed nations

The role of a developed nation is more, as per the polluter's pay principle. The responsibility and liability rested on the shoulders of polluters, formally it is recognized as Rio Declaration. Emitters are responsible for the pollution the responsibility and liability are fixed for further development. How much portion has been used and created pollution per that the liability and responsibility should be fixed on the shoulders of the polluters.

Carbon footing.

The term sustainability should understand in terms of the social, political and economic points of view. Social sustainability explains that all humankind has the right to make their survive. Developed, under developing and least developed nations should make coordinate proper mechanisms to redressal climate-related issues. The responsibility has rested on the shoulders of the developing nation to channel the mechanism to reduce environmentally threatening components by making rational use of carbon. Economic sustainability has been used in terms of the capability and independence of the nation, the economic activities should not be unleashed at the cost of environmental loss. A sustainable approach is required to understand the term development.

Conclusions

There is no doubting the fact that we, human beings, have been responsible for more environmental degradation than any other living species. As we continue our search for longer lifespans and more comfortable living, we seem to be indiscriminately damaging the world around us.

Despite the knowledge we possess and the awareness of the damage we are causing, there seems to be a little collective will to lead to resolute actions on a consistent basis. That said, there have been a number of individuals through the course of history who've made change possible with their doggedness.

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