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## “Environmental and Sustainable Development: A Critical Study of An Urgent Needs for Human Beings”

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### Abstract

The paper discusses on the theme of the Global Warming and Climate Change. Also explained the environmental and sustainable development concept. The issues of the climate justice too included. In this paper the causes of the global warming and environment decades are been covered. A part from it, the need of the human-beings in the atmosphere of global environment change have discussed. Natural disasters like cloud busting, avalanches, uneven rainfall and deaths due to the heat weaves are concerning issues for India. International politics and equity in the share of burdens is very touching point. Developed nations have more latest technologies and more funds. The share of responsibility to provide 200 billion \$ in the green climate funds and technologies have to do it by the developed western nations. As the propose solution it is needed to change modern wester consumer life style to and adopt environmentally friendly like green energy green transportation and minimal pollutant sources of industrial technologies.

**Key Words:-** Environment, Sustainable Development, Climate Justice, Climate change, Life style change.

### Introduction

The environmental sustainability and the sustainable development of the human being both are very crucial for the survival of human life. Among the planets, the earth and its ecosystem are the only natural habitats of human-being and other species. Human beings are very rationale creature and from the beginning of its existence They use their intellects for advancement, and safety and security and the worth of good life. These things led the aspirations of human beings for producing always new technologies. Through the invention of the technology’s human beings have assumed constantly about only their economic progress and financial growth. People’s development attitude is based on growth and physical prosperity wealth centric. Physical prosperity and desire of extreme consuming of natural resources have led environmental decline. The creation of wealth, property, accumulation of wealth, luxurious life style pattern and less sensitivity towards environmental degradation caused troubles for life sustainability. That is the reason it changes the environments and caused natural calamities. Due to these it has put the question marks on the existence of human species on the earth.

Are material and only economic and physical growth the real definition of human growth? Is only economic prosperity sufficient for human beings? Are human beings prepared to meet extermination of its existence? These questions and continued natural calamities have bounded to rethinking the concept of human development approach. It harvests the thought that human’s survival is fully linked with sustainability of natural biosphere and environment. Now the growth approaches are shifted from only economic growth to development with environmental sustainability. The objectives of the present research paper to develop broad understanding of the concepts of environmental and sustainable development. The issues of the global warming, climate change, environmental vulnerability and research evidences and descriptions of depredating of natural climate must be analyse. The role of the technologies for sustainable and environmental development are very critical. What are efforts and plannings for combating climate change and global warming have been done so far? How much these strategies and plannings have contributed their impacts on

combating the global warming and natural disasters? How the sustainable livelihoods approach (SLA) and sustainable livelihoods frame works (SLF) are useful to deal the challenges with accordance of human beings needs in current are?

The rationale of the paper is to define environmental and sustainable development approach, term of climate change and global warming and impacts of natural phenomena on the earth planet, species and aware about these the people and especially the young generations. And to develop the competent and capacity to save the livelihoods and life on the earth. The chief hypothesis is that is really 'climate change' or global warming happening? To analyse the factors that causes it or not? The methodology is observatory and scientific analyse of the problem. It would analyse the primary data secondary sources and proposed some suggestions.

**Global Warming and Climate Change:-** The term 'global warming' and 'climate change' both are often use interchangeably. But they have different in means and sense. Global warming means that it is gradual increase in average surface temperature because of greenhouse gas effects in the atmosphere. This average temperature increase is happening in the troposphere layer of the environment which gives contribution in changing global climate patterns and stimulus climate conditions. Climate change is a result of changing in the weather patterns. It is due to change of average temperature or that is global warming.<sup>i</sup> Climate change also regarded a long-term shift in the weather patterns and temperatures. Since the 1800s the human activities are main causes in changing temperature patterns and climate due to extensive use of fossil fuels such as coal, oil and gases. The burning of the fossil fuels produces greenhouse gases emissions and these gases behave a trapped blanket like condition on around the earth. Because it traps terrestrial radiations and contribute in rising temperature.<sup>ii</sup> The earth's surface is absorbed solar energy and then released back to the atmosphere as a form of heat. When the heat goes out to space, greenhouse gases absorb the terrestrial heat. They radiate the heat back to the earth's surface, to another greenhouse gas molecule, or to space (The Greenhouse Effect)<sup>iii</sup>

The main greenhouse gases are carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide. Water vapour is also contributing in trapping heats in the troposphere of atmosphere. The carbon dioxide and methane come out usually burning of the gasoline in transportation industry, industrial machinery and energy and generating electricity activities. Land clearing and deforestation also releases carbon dioxide. Industrialization of the economic all other activities like transportation, building construction, agriculture and animal husbandry are the primary sources of emissions of greenhouse gases.<sup>iv</sup>

Climate change is one of the most critical challenges in the current era due to extensive use of fossil fuel and resulted degradation of ecological, environmental, social and economic system. The impact on ecosystem, weather pattern, human heaths and agricultural activities have bound to do a comprehensive understanding of its complexities. It is needed to put collective efforts to mitigate effectively and adopt better strategies.<sup>v</sup>(Arrhenius., S., 1890). Due to continued increasing of global temperature, glacier melting process, sea-level rising, extreme weather events, natural disasters increased frequency of number cyclones are urgent needed to address the crisis.<sup>vi</sup> (Bogner., J., et, al., 2007). Climate change refers a long-term significant change in the climate change patten of earth over on the extended period of time expanding from decades to millions of the years. These changes exhibited in different from temperature fluctuation to shift in precipitation patterns and variation in frequency. Human activities are the soul responsible for the source of contribution in the global warming and climate change especially through the emission of the greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide, and methane. It is a resulted from industrial operations, deforestation and burning of fossil fuel. The emission trap that heats within the earth atmosphere and promote global warming.<sup>vii</sup>(Cana dell., et. al., 2007).

One key question is put before by Anthony Giddens (2011), 'why a threat of such magnitude is routinely ignored by our societies; Giddens's response that is called 'Giddens's Paradox' is that, there is lack of tangible and immediate danger from climate change. That's mean hat most will do nothing to respond. But with passing of time the danger becomes very clear and visible. Now it will be too late to act because of lag between the greenhouse emissions and their warming disaster effects.<sup>viii</sup>(Riedy. C., 2016)

**Climate Justice:-** The international notion of climate change is progressively focusing on climate justice. How the climate justice claims are had been reflected in the UNFCCC conference's outcomes and a review had been made on it. Justice and politics were the key themes of debate. How much the Paris Agreement shaped through this debate. <sup>ix</sup>While in the academic literature the extreme debates of climate justice focus on only ideal conceptions and normative arguments of justice theory, but the pragmatic policy has developed out of the grassroots of the more elite environmental nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), in a distinct discourse.<sup>x</sup>(David Schlosberg, Lisette B. Collins., 2014). In the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP 27) India it was once again repeated the importance international climate justice. The guiding principles of the climate action must be based on equity and justice. With the support of the other developing countries of the Global South India initiated the debates of global climate justice. The claims of the debate were establishing early on around historic responsibility for anthropogenic climate change patterns. The arguments were that due to environmental colonialism, in relation to per capita carbon emissions and the principle of common good had proposed differentiated responsibilities. It was arousing discussions on important themes like global capitalism, colonialism, neocolonialism, and neo imperialism. These are all stories of *global climate justice*<sup>xi</sup>

In the Debate of global warming and climate change the approach of climate injustice had introduced that were maybe previously hidden or covered. The distributions of the effects and impacts of this phenomena are so obviously burdening on those who are already disadvantaged position. The framework of climate justice carries the view of intersection between the way social inequalities are experienced and climate change. That is experienced as structural violence. The public debate of climate justice has emerged in and on grassroots campaigning the last few decades. The intra connection have been made between human rights, uneven development and climate change. It is not for profits and environmental NGOs in particular increasingly make this campaign successfully.<sup>xii</sup>

**Causes of Global Warming and Climate Change:-** Global warming is one of the major causes of environmental destruction. The reason of global warming, ozone depletion, production of greenhouse gases through human activities and industrialization and unsustainable urbanization. Carbon dioxide, methane, nitrogen oxide are major greenhouse gases. The main cause of it is global warming and what today it called 'climate change'. Mainly anthropogenic activities, the emissions of greenhouse gases, have undisputedly caused global warming, with the increasing global surface temperature that is reaching 1.1°C above 1850-1900 in 2011-2020.<sup>xiii</sup>

Deforestation also cases global warming. Due to its global temperature is increasing that causes natural calamities, environmental hazards, rise of sea level, coral bleaching and so on.

2. Ozone depletion on the south pole of the earth first come into know in October 1999 through satellite image. Ozone layer produces protection from ultraviolet rays. Being reduction in ozone layer of the environment it causes health problems like skin cancer, cataracts, and reduction in the ability of immune system. The case of ozone depletion is industrial pollutions.

3. Rapid destruction of natural habitats and extinction of species are creating environment degradations. For the growth and development, the ambition of materialistic life style, commercialization and extreme exploitation of natural resources cause for destruction of natural resource and extinction of species. Dying rate of natural species increased rapidly from 4000 per year to 50000 per year due to extensive use of sea and terrestrial biodiversity resources.

4. extreme exploitation and commercialization of rain forest for wooden industry leded environment decay, soil erosion and land side in hill areas. The cloud bursting incidents and damages of houses of hill residents are the cause of deforesting and excessive cutting of trees and plantations in the Himalayan region. Reforestation and plantation are very essential for sustainable development and combat the environmental calamities. Without this human existence of present generation would be in danger and cannot fulfil the promise of leaving resources for next generation life and growth.

5. Big population growth the needs of employments countries focus on more industrialization and urbanization. Industrialization and urbanization both produced environmental challenges. Now the achievements of sustainable development objectives sustainable industrialization practices are required. Urban planning should also be like coup with environmental problems.

6. Air pollution is generated due to nonrational and unsustainable industrial factories and industries. Industry needs energy. And energy is being supplied by burning coal for generating electricity, transportation of trains, and other mechanical machines for industry productions. It causes air pollution and acid rain problems. In acid rain, the sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxide with natural water rain transform into hazardous chemical sulfuric acid and nitric acid. This cause deforestation, coral bleaching, decreasing of fisheries production, due to contamination into water bodies and seas. Germany's Black Forest Mountain rapidly deforested due to acid rains.

7. Water pollution is also caused of industrial bio-chemical non-sewage waste material that contaminates hazardous chemical and other micro metals in to water like river, oceans, seas, and lakes and water bodies. It created the problem of safe drinking water nearly 1.5 billion population. Providing that this destroys waterbodies species and causes to extinction of natural habitats and finally lead to extinction of species. It creates water borne diseases. So, there are a lot of causes that produce environmental changes and degradations.

**Environmental and Sustainable Development:-** The main objective of sustainable development is to promote such type of developmental path that minimises the decay of environment and fulfil the needs of current generation, providing that without compromising the ability of future generation to fulfil their own needs of life. So, three core points come in this approach of development:

- a) Minimises the environmental decline and degradation,
- b) Fulfil the needs of current generation,
- c) And providing the opportunities to fulfil the desire of their own development without compromising the ability of development.

Brundtland report publication released in 1987 by the World Commission on Environment and Development (WCED) that introduced it<sup>xiv</sup>. Brundtland Commission defined the concept of sustainable development that “development means to meet the needs of present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”

Since 1972 the Stockholm Conference on human environment, it was the first time where environmental issues were framed with human development. Further, in gradual development it got importance. And in 2015 the United Nations General Assembly adopted the SDG- Sustainable Development Goals (2015-2030). In September 2015, the global leaders have given their acceptance of Agenda- 2030 for sustainable development. The SDGs are linked with environmental targets to achieve by 2030: that are follow;

1. End poverty in all its from everywhere; poverty reduction with environmental protection
2. End hunger, achieve food security and improve nutrition and promote sustainable agricultural practices; through it, sustainable food security should be ensured by following resilience agricultural practices.
3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-beings for all at all ages; by 2030 through reducing hazardous chemical pollutants, water, air and soil pollutions and its contamination.
4. Promote gender equality and inclusiveness and quality education by enhancing global citizen education and education for sustainable development with inclusiveness, equality and human rights.
5. Sustainable management of water and sanitation for all and ensuring its availability for all.
6. Clean and sustainable moder energy for all that would affordable and reliable.
7. Sustained and inclusive economic growth that fulfil the productivity of employability for all.
8. Sustainable industrialization and foster innovation.
9. Make all the cities and human settlement sustainable.
10. Sustainable consumption and change the production pattern.
11. Combat climate changes and its implications through adopting sustainable growth approach.
12. Conservation of natural resources like forests, sea, marine resources water etc.
13. Promote sustainable terrestrial ecosystem.
14. Peaceful and inclusive society are required for sustainable development.
15. Promote implementation of global cooperation and partnership for sustainable development.

### Needs for Life Style Changes:

There are urgent demands for the changes of life style to achieve the sustainable and environmentally friendly development, that are followings;

1. Stop the extreme exploitation of natural resources. Sustainable approach of use is required.
2. Use environmentally friendly production practices and also change the consumer practices.
3. Promote forestation and plantations. And be a friend to environment.
4. Eradicate poverty through the planning of sustainable growth approach.
5. Leave the consumer culture. It creates only lust for consuming resources.
6. Through educations and environment sensitization initiatives people can be aware and augmented young minds towards this. Example of the Chipko Movement in Uttarakhand.

So, through using environmentally friendly and sustainable technologies, production practices and consumer style changes the objective of sustainable development achieved.

**Conclusion:** - The research conclusion is that there is an urgent necessity to adopt environmentally friendly life style like the philosophy of the Hindustani tradition of minimal use of resources, like eating, drinking, habitation, housing construction like mud house, clean energy methods, less consumptions of physical resources. There is need to leave behind the western consumerism culture. In the present year, natural calamities- cloud bruting, uneven precipitation, heat weaves, more disastrous temperate cyclone frequencies



increased, drought land and area fast moving in acres. More people especially in India, in the present year 2024 their livelihoods, crops and other agricultural production have been badly decreased. In the Kerala the southern province of India faced dangerous avalanche happened on date 30 July 2024 and approximately more than 300 people had been died.<sup>xv</sup> Apart from the issue of climate justice with in the fighting to the challenges of global warming and drafting and implementation of climate strategies are crucial for the developing nations like India Brazil South Africa and China. Because per capita global emission of greenhouse gases is less in comparison to the developed nations like USA, United Kingdom, France Canada, Germany Italy, Japan.

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