

Environment, Genesis

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Abstract – The environmental issues are of prime importance and significance, as the absence of their solutions, the impact is horrifying. Unless environmental issues are addressed to in the right earnestness, the future generations would find earth not worth living. If the present generation does not rise up to the occasion and take timely remedial and precautionary/corrective measures at this endangered and critical juncture, the very survival of the mankind would be at stake. The Human race needs to understand the importance and significance of environment in the present day world, environment encompasses the things around the human being i.e. air, water, forest, trees including animal being, birds etc the need of the hour is conserve and improve the environment in a holistic manner . Here we shall make an attempt to find out the specific meanings attached to the concept of environmentalism. Some say it should include totality of all components surrounding man. That means it includes all living things/species, the air, water and soul which is their habitat. While for others, it means a little more than resource conservationism that see nature as a feeder and if exploited sensibly then such conserved environment will act as catalyst of growth . There are on the other hand are environmental protectionists who are mainly concerned with public health, thus gave emphasis on atmospheric and water pollution, the need for public park and public education and awakening. There are still the others known as the mainstream greens whose emphasis is on renewable energy on recycling of waste into raw materials and on meeting real human needs. There are yet “Deeper Green” thinkers who believe that mindless rampant industrialization devoid of preserving the environment would result in nature to show its devastating color. The analysis of the spectrum of environment would be incomplete if all the stakeholders who are supposed to conserve & preserve environment do not come on same platform i.e. environmentalist, zoologist etc whose activities are intradependent and shall have to approach the problem confronted by living beings with an integral approach.

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Since the ozone layer is disappearing and global warming has become a reality, environment is suffering from the various inter linked problems such as fly ash, pollution of air, air borne lead, acid rain, emission of carbon-di-oxide, ozone depletion, smoky atmosphere, harmful acids and other health hazards such as carbon-monoxide, hydro carbons, oxides, nitrogen all threatening the climatic and atmospheric conditions of earth. Pollution relating to land and water impacts so adversely that its effects are seen on plants, animals and human beings. The quality of soil is deteriorating, resulting in the loss of good amount of agricultural land. Soil erosion as a result of wind/water costs the world dearly.

The recurring floods, cyclone and super cyclone have their own peculiar devastating causalities. Deforestation, rise in river bed, inadequate and improper drainage causing loss of men and property. It has been observed that in the mad race of supremacy of power the developed countries have used oceans as dumping ground by conducting nuclear test and carrying out radio activity & throwing everything unwanted into the sea which ultimately led to the poisoning of the sea water. The low lands used as dumping grounds have become the

breeding places for contagious germs and innumerable dangerous diseases. The water pollution by disposal of solid, toxic and chemical wastes are affecting the health of people adversely. Sewage, industrial effluents, agricultural runoff and silting of rivers and reservoirs is further mounting problems. The holy Ganga is no longer holy. All rivers big or small have become contaminated. Even the mountains are under attack be it the foot hills of mighty Himalayas or coastal Ghats.

Add to this is the noise pollution which causes psychological mental and physical ailments, resulting in deafness, pollution; urbanization, industrialization are further responsible for Environmental degeneration. In the beginning advanced and developed countries were involved in polluting the environment by dumping everything in the oceans but subsequently the entire human race has joined the band wagon. As a result of it many flora (Plants + Trees) and fauna (animals, birds etc.) have come under the category of endangered species i.e. danger of drying out or becoming extinct and there by threatening balance in nature/creating ecological imbalance e.g. Pandas, golden lions, gorillas, tigers on land, bald

eagle, condors and pelicans in the air, whales, sea turtles and crocodiles in the water. As we all know giant mammoths (dinosaurs) died out about 10,000 years ago when the ice age ended and the world's climate grew warmer.

We talked of global warming with the uncontrolled emission of greenhouses gases, the sea level threatens to rise and might sooner than later pull islands and coastal belts into watery grave. Worldwide the climate is changing with first the EIN: No environmental impact and now the Asian Brown Cloud.

Environment protection as a concept in India was neglected in the initial years. However in the 1970's and particularly when the 4th & 5th five year plans were discussed and implemented at that point it received attention of the Government/policy makers/the planning body etc. in the name of development men exploited the natural resources on earth in the garb of efficiency recklessly. It is noteworthy that the speech of former Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi at stock-holm on June 14, 1972 in the UN conference on the 'human environment' was a landmark epoch making event. She said that the inherent conflict is not between conservation and development but between the environment and the mindless, ruthless exploitation of natural resources.

In 1976 India became one of the few counties of the world which had enshrined in its constitution a "commitment to environment protection and improvement", although certain provisions were there related to improvement and the environment since the adaptation of the Indian constitution in 1950. However, the 42nd constitutional amendment for that matter was a watershed in terms of environment related issues. The Government of India through various legislation and acts of parliament constituted/setup numerous autonomous statutory corporations such as the National Eco-Development Board, a Multi Development National resources Management System (NNRS), the National Museum of Natural History, Environment Information System (ENVIS) the National Wasteland Development Board, Central Ganga Authority etc. between 1980 and 1990. Through the aforesaid bodies India could effectively regulate and undertake effective measures in protection and conservation of the Environment.

REFERENCE

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