

Sustainable Urban Development: Meaning and Significance

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ABSTRACT

Sustainable urban development is one of the major issues in this century. The term 'sustainable development' came into public arena in 1980 when the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources presented the world conservation strategy. It is a key concept in the global policies of the environment and one of the most contested ideas in global environmental discourse. Sustainable urban development specifically means achieving a balance between the development of the urban areas and protection of the environmental equity in employment shelter, basic services and transportation in the urban areas. There are various type of sustainability namely environmental sustainability social sustainability etc. Sustainable urban development deals with several problems such as like inadequate housing and slums problem, Urbanisation, urban poverty, water supply and sanitation, pollution, solid waste management and health problems etc. for example Indian government has implemented several schemes to promote sustainable urban development some of them are Smart Cities Mission(2015), Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (2005), Atal Mission Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (2015), National Urban Livelihood Mission(2013) etc. sustainable Urban development meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. The essence of this form of development is a stable relationship between human activities and the environment.

Key words: Sustainable Urban Development, Urbanisation, Pollution, Water Supply, solid waste management.

INTRODUCTION

The history of human civilization is a beautiful gift given by nature. If we carefully analyse the history of the past days we will see if it is directly or indirectly for every development, there is some harm in the environment. So, there started are debate between hi Jodevelopmentalist and environmentalist centring development. According to Rakhahari Chatterjee's book 'Politics India' deals with development is, to the developmentalist spend the life in modern ways. And the main of their world country is poverty. Third world leadership often finds in the Western comping for higher environmental norms in productive activities a conspiracy to keep the third world perpetually underdeveloped and to describe the four of the benefits of development. One site in the debate is taken up by the developmentalists who believe that continued a melioration in scientific knowledge and in our technological competition will enhance our capability to protect the environment. In other words we shall continue to improve our skills and techniques of producing and consuming in environment friendly ways. The other side in the debate is taken up by the environmentalist, who thinks that the ecosystem has a limited carrying capacity. They believe that human societies on earth are moving dangerously closer to the limits of the planet's carrying capacity they also think that there are no simple technological fixes that can take care of the problem. Therefore, many environmentalist calls for strict populations control and dramatic change in modern lifestyle towards a more

environment-friendly, less consumption oriented and West producing way of life. The environment- development or ecology-economic debate became prominent since the 1970s. The Stockholm conference on environment and development in 1972 played an important role in it. In order to resolve the apparent conflict between environment and development one of the major concepts which has emerged is sustainable development. ⁽¹⁾

Initially this concern led to calls, in some quarters, for zero-growth strategies especially following the publication of the 1972 Club of Rome report, 'The Limits to Growth'. The report, undertaken by a group of young scientists from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, concluded that, if present trends in population growth, food production, resource use and pollution continued, the carrying capacity of the planet would be exceeded within the next 100 years. The result would be ecosystem collapse, famine and war.

The term sustainable development came into the public arena in 1984 in the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources presented the World Conservation Strategy (IUCN, 1980). It aimed at achieving sustainable development through the conservation of living resources, however its focus was rather limited. Primary League addressed ecological sustainability as opposed to linking sustainability to whether social and economic issues. Since the publication of our common future, there have been numerous attempts to specify exactly what is meant by the term 'Sustainable Development'. The proliferation in the meaning of and in the application of the term 'Sustainable Development' does not necessarily undermine its usefulness. Rather, it reflected the complexity of issues that are in development and environments are juxtaposed. ⁽²⁾

In 1987 the World Conference on Environment and Development (WCED, 1987) published their report entitled 'Our Common Future' which is

known as the 'Brundtland Commission Report' after its chair, the Prime Minister of Norway Gro Harlem Brundtland. The report popularized the phrase 'sustainable development' and defined it as 'development that meets the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs and aspirations.' ⁽³⁾ The report defines five clear principles of sustainable development for policy makers.

1. Changing current patterns of economic growth, technology, production and management which may have negative impacts on the environment and population.
2. Ensuring employment, food, energy, water and sanitary services for all people.
3. Controlling global population growth.
4. Protecting natural resources for future generations.
5. Integrating economic, environmental and population considerations in policy decision making and planning. ⁽⁴⁾

Sustainable Urban Development:

Sustainable Urban Development specifically means achieving a balance between the development of the urban areas and protection of the environment with an eye to equity in employment, shelter, basic services, social infrastructure and transportation in the urban areas. With rapid expansion of urban population around the world, there has been a awareness about minimizing the environmental cost of urbanization. Concerns are arrested at environmental damage and depletion of non-renewable resources and rising level of population in urban areas. In recent times cities have become places of urban environmental degradation and wasteful use of resources which is proving to be costly to generations present and future. In order to mitigate the problem we require to minimize the depletion of non-renewable resources and resort to environmentally sustainable economic development. But this has to be done in ways that are socially, economically and politically acceptable.

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Role of Environment and Climate Change in Sustainable Urban Development:

While planning for sustainable development of the towns we should also take into account the factor of climate change. "Sustainable development represents a balance between the goals of environmental protection and human economic development and between the present and future needs it employees equity in meeting the needs of people and integration of sectorialaction across space and time". That the world is facing today is climate change. Climate change is the variation in the earth's global climate over time. It involves changes in the variability or average state of the atmosphere over duration ranging from decades to millions of years these changes can be caused by dynamic process on earth external forces including variations in sunlight intensity and more recently by human activities. Human influence can be by increase in CO₂ levels due to compositions of fossil fuel, aerosols, cement manufacturer etc. Other factors like ozone depletion animal agriculture and deforestation also change climate. Of climate change can be found on among other things on rising sea level that main accelerate coastal erosion on increasing temperature on increase in initiative of natural disaster and very important on vector borne disease. There has been an increasing trend in the annual mean temperature in India in recent decades the east coast has been experiencing fewer rainy days while the Northwest has been expressing heavy summer monsoon there have also been some extreme climate events like heat wave, intense rain, floods and droughts in India. Researchers have documented the increase in frequency of hot days and multiple de heat web in the past century. There has been record rainfall in Mumbai, India on 26 to 27 July 2005 which lead to loss of large number of lives.

Consecutive droughts between 2000 and 2002 caused crop failures, mass starvation and affected millions of people in Orissa. Also increased water stress causes to be major problems for India. Accelerated glacier melt two causes increase in the number and severity of glacial melt-related floods, slope destabilization and a decrease in river flows as glacier recede.

Thus, it is likely that climate change will hamper sustainable development of India as it increase the pressure on natural resources and the environment associated with rapid urbanization industrialization and economic development. In order to reduce the effect of climate change we need to include climate proofing concepts in national development initiatives. Urban areas mostly face problems of air quality pollution, greenhouse gases and sustainable consumption and of inadequate sanitation and water supply. Thus translated into policy in initiatives, environmental sustainability of urban forms suit am at energy efficiency in transport and buildings optimal planning solutions in terms of locations distance and spaces, reduce air and noise pollution. It should also I am at sustainable management of sanitation and water supply promote equality in provision of services and of course reduce deforestation. The recently announced National action plan on climate changes by the prime minister in June 2008 visualizers to make economic development of India energy efficient. Discussing the relevant City proms it would be pertinent to discuss the sustainable management of urban basic services and the efficiency in the land policy in India and its implications for sustainable City form and development in India.

Sustainable Urban Development and city form:

Sustainable City planning should aim at achieving social and environmental equity e while improving the lives of the people. For that to happen we need to have a sustainable City form as well as provisions and proper management of the services. Thus, in order for a city or urban needs to

produce and manage basic services like water waste energy and transportation in a way that it conforms to the principles of sustainable development. In other words, the city should be able to produce and distribute the services in an economic environment friendly and equitable way. Cities in the developing countries are deficient in the provision of basic services that pollute the environment. It is to be noted that though there are some differences between cities and between rich and poor nations in general urban infrastructure systems are designed without much attention to environmental and social impacts. Mostly the delivery of the services like water energy, waste, transportation, are based on non- renewable energy sources. Moreover the inequality in the provisions of the services is very high. Densities of Indian cities are very high. Management of the basic services should be done keeping in mind the deficiency in the services the environmental impacts and the inequality in the provision of the services. We have to issues here the first one is covering the deficiencies in services and the second one involves how to provide the services in an environment friendly way. India has become some policy include there is like:

1. Smart City Mission:

The policy was launched on 2015, to create smart cities by empowering them socially economically and technological to act as support system in the neighbourhood. It was implemented in 100 cities across India. It focused on basic amenities education health service it accessibility, digitisation, e- governance, sustainable development, safety and security.

2. Housing for all by 2022:

This policy was launched on 2015 and the main aim of the policy was to convert all raw houses in to brick houses. To make housing affordable for people from every section of society. Kids focus to make housing affordable for eligible weaker sections and low income group and eradicate slums.

3. Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission:

This mission was launched on 2005 and it targets for 7 years to modernize the cities and it was implemented in 67 cities across the country. It focused on enabling basic civic amenities along with building social and economic infrastructure. The initiatives that taken by the mission where water supply solid waste management sanitation better transportation under basic services to the urban poor, redeveloping old cities under development scheme for small and medium towns and integrated housing and slum development programme.

4. Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation:

This mission was launched on 2015 in order to build gap between infrastructural necessity and their accessibility. It was implemented in 500 cities have been selected on the basic of population vicinity to main water bodies, tourism interest, hill states etc. it focused on building amenities to improve the quality of life in the selected cities. The initiatives of the mission were promoting water supply, sewerage management, storm water drains to avoid flooding environment friendly public transport services green space recreation centres for children.

5. National Urban livelihood Mission:

The mission was launched on 2013 to alleviate urban poverty and homelessness. It was implemented in 790 cities across the country. The main focus of the mission was employment and housing. The initiatives that taken by the mission were skill development, self employment opportunities, shelter with essential services for the urban poor.

6. National Heritage City Development and Augmentation Yojana:

This Yojana was started on 2015 in order to preserve and holistically developed the Heritage cities of India. It was implemented in Ajmer, Amravati, Amritsar, Puri, Mathura, Varanasi, Kanchipuram etc. the main focus of the Yojana physical infrastructure, institutional infrastructure,

economic infrastructure and social infrastructure. The main initiatives of the jojona development of water supply sanitation and waste management approach road footpath street lights tourist convention is electricity wiring, lens landscaping and such citizen services

CONCLUSION

We have dealt in this paper with some issues relating to sustainable urban development and sustainable city form. The paper first discusses the concept and importance of sustainable development and especially that of sustainable Urban Development. All the major conferences on World environment have stressed on need of development of the economy with social equity and protection and conservation of the environmental resources. In recent times cities have become place of West full use of non renewable resources and urban environmental degradation apart from that climate change is causing a challenge to the world and it has the potential to affect the economy rich and poor both. This is likely to affect the water supply among other

things climate change would affect the core of the world more because they are more vulnerable and does not have the means to protect themselves against the lease of extreme climate conditions. San off water air and environment seriously affect the climate sustainable Urban Development and sustainable cities home should take account of all this and try to reduce the ill effects of climate change definition of non renewable resources and degradation of the urban environment.

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