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STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

OBJECTIVES

HYPOTHESES

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

RESULTS & DISCUSSION

INDINGS

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SUSTAINABLE GROWTH: UTILIZATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES

V. VANEENDRA SASTRY ASST. PROFESSOR DEPARTMENT OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES NALLA MALLA REDDY ENGINEERING COLLEGE DIVYA NAGAR

ABSTRACT

This paper deals with the focus of regional planning on territorial and economic organization of regions. It visualizes improving and conserving natural resources of a region and helps to promote sustainable development of the region. Sustainable development of a region must be achieved through means and ways that do not disturb and exhaust its natural resources. The problems of regional development vary with region in terms of their complexity and degree of intensity. Regional planning focuses on the efficient utilization of natural resources and infrastructure for sustainable growth of the region. The resulting benefits are distributed among regions so that regional disparities are reduced. Regional planning should basically provide the summary of natural resources of a region, based on which plans are devised to conserve and manage the available resources prudently by applying scientific and technical understanding of the resources of the region. By making use of the latest technological application of GIS and RS, a region can be better understood in terms of its environmental standpoint which paves way for sustainable development. The aim of strategy for growth in the 11th five year plan is to achieve a growth process that meets the objectives of inclusiveness and sustainability so that the development process being unleashed has the widest possible spread of benefits.

KEYWORDS

Regional Planning, Sustainable Development, Natural Resources, Management of Natural Resources, Application of RS and GIS.

1. INTRODUCTION

nvironment in wider sense is a combination of physical and biological elements that affects the life of an organism. The biotic and abiotic structures of environment live together depending on each other and influencing each other. These two structures have a close dynamic inseparable and organic interrelationship. They have a two way linkage – the matter and energy flow from one structure to another and within each structure. The change in one component causes a change in the other. The physical component of environment comprises land, water, air, mountains, forests, rivers etc., Environment is closely intricately woven network of components and functions. Man is the nucleus of this system and in turn affected by the components of the environment.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 FUNCTIONS OF ENVIRONMENT

The major functions of environment are as follows -

- 1. Supplying renewable and non renewable resources.
- 2. Acting like a sink by absorbing solid, liquid and gaseous wastes.
- 3. Providing life support services by maintaining ecological balance and genetic diversity. These services help to convert the unused materials and energy into useful materials and energy.
- 4. Providing natural services such as aesthetic enjoyment and recreation.

2.2 LINK BETWEEN FUNCTIONS OF ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY

All the functions of environment are inter – dependent and complementary in nature, influencing each other. Failure of a function causes the other function to be ineffective. These functions decide the operation of the economy. Development of the environment causes social development of human beings. Economy and society perpetuate with the active and healthy functioning of the environment.

2.3 IMPORTANCE OF FUNCTIONS OF ENVIRONMENT

The functions of the environment explain its importance. It acts as the supplier of raw materials to the economy and absorbs the wastes discharged by it. The resources supplied by the environment can be called as environmental goods, also called public goods which can be used by many individuals at the same time without any competition from other individuals. In the recent times, reckless and exploitative behaviour of the economic activity is setting a limit to the efficiency of environment to supply the resources. Its capacity to absorb the wastes is also declining.

2.4 NEED FOR BALANCE

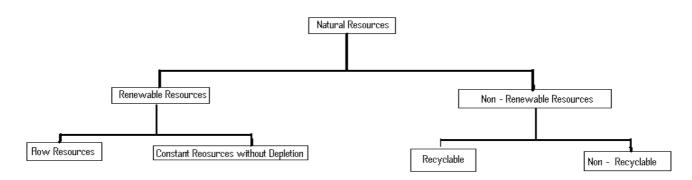
According to the British Economist Kenneth. E. Boulding there should be a balance between inputs and outputs. The inputs received to produce goods and services, must equal the consumption and the discharge of wastes. The entire mass of inputs (raw materials) is equal to the entire mass of outputs (wastes). **2.5 NATURAL RESOURCES**

Earth is a reservoir of resources. Resources available in the environment which are useful for living organisms are called Natural Resources. They are available on earth in raw form. They have to be extracted and purified. Water, air, forests, soil, minerals etc are natural resources. The stock of land, minerals etc, are fixed by nature.

2.6 CLASSIFICATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Based on their quantity, mutability and reusability, natural resources are classified. The simple classification of natural resources is shown in the following chart.

CHART 1



INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF RESEARCH IN COMMERCE, ECONOMICS & MANAGEMENT A Monthly Double-Blind Peer Reviewed (Refereed/Juried) Open Access International e-Journal - Included in the International Serial Directories http://ijrcm.org.in/ Natural resources that do not deplete are called renewable resources. They can be used permanently. They regenerate themselves within a short period. The yield of the resource is sustainable if extraction equals growth rate. If renewable resources are consumed faster than their rate of biological growth, the stock depletes. If the consumption continues beyond a limit, the resource becomes unavailable.

The resources that exhaust by use are called non – renewable resources. They cannot be regenerated. All non energy mineral resources that are used in their raw state are non – renewable resources. They can be recycled. The minerals are extracted from mines and we cannot replace them.

2.7. OVER HARVESTING OF NON - RENEWABLE RESOURCES

The basic nature of non – renewable resources points out to the necessity for their conservation. Over harvesting of these resources becomes dangerous to the existence of human beings. We must establish a balance between harvest and renewal so as to preserve them and be able to maintain their quality and quantity.

3. POLLUTION

Economic activities of man lead to the generation of wastes which are discharged into the environment. The wastes or by – products discharged into the environment lead to undesirable changes in it. They are called pollutants which are classified into different ways. Pollution is a dangerous undesirable change in physical, chemical or biological characteristics of environment. Air pollution is caused due to burning of fire wood, industrialization, agriculture, and deforestation. Water pollution is the addition of some substances or factors which degrades the quality of water so it becomes unfit for use. Water pollution is caused due to domestic wastes, industrial effluents, fertilizers and pesticides etc., Other types of pollution are noise pollution, soil pollution, solid waste pollution, and thermal pollution.

4. DEGRADATION

Growing population, high degree of mechanization, an ruthless exploitation of natural resources are degrading our physical environment. Land, soil and forests get degraded. Forests are the conserved. Many economists suggested the mankind to utilize the environment and its components in a judicious way.

5. NEED FOR PROTECTION OF ENVIRONMENT

The world has recognized the facts that effluents reduce affluence. The three factors influencing and deteriorating the quality of environment are population, per capita production, and pollution per unit of economic goods which form the source of vicious circle of environment. The gross effect of this vicious circle is global warming, changing climatic conditions and concentration of green house gases. There is a decline in the agricultural productivity, soil fertility is reduced, per capita availability of clean water and air is declining, ozone layer is depleted, polar ice caps are melting down, rainfall is becoming deficient, aqua life is deteriorating, and the natural color of crops, plants, flowers and birds re changing. Several organizations, and government have been putting their efforts to conserve the quality of our environment.

6. SUSTAINABILITY

The only solution to all the above mentioned problems is sustainability. The world has now recognized that mere growth is not sufficient for enhancing the human well – being. Countries today are progressing towards development which includes economic and non – economic influencing factors. Among non – economic factors, environment and its quality are given vital role. Human beings have realized that a balance between the use of resources and their regeneration sustains the process of development.

The concept of sustainability dates back to the 18th and 19th centuries given by European foresters. They have resorted to sustainable forest development and began to replace the trees cut down by planting trees so that wood is available for future generations.

6.1. COMPONENTS OF SUSTAINABILITY

The three basic components of sustainability are economic, social and environmental components. These three components are inter – dependent. A balance is achieved among these three components. These aspects of sustainable development indicate that: (i) the next generation should inherit both man – made and environmental assets, (ii) the stock of environmental assets to be inherited by the next generation should not be less than the assets inherited by the present generation, and (iii) the inherited stock must consist of man – made, natural and human assets. Thus, social, economic and environmental assets together must be employed in such a way that well – being sustains in future also. This is the philosophy of sustainable development.

6.2. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

To ensure sustainable development, economic activities must consider their environmental impacts. Environmental education must be given more importance. The UN has declared the year 2005 – 2015 as the decade of education for sustainable development. Students must be imparted with the art of living associated with environmental sustainability and with practical skills needed to help solve the local environmental issues.

7. CONCLUSION

Sustainable development reminds us that various measures to control pollution have to be adopted some of which are presented below.

- 1. We should not deplete the Earth of its physical, chemical and biological capital. If we do, we lose our life supporting capital.
- 2. We must understand that earth is not only for us but also for other living organisms.
- 3. We must respect the Earth and cooperate with it by respecting all forms of life and also all non living things.
- 4. We must use our environment in such a way that we do not pass any negative effects to other species.
- 5. We must recognize that every species has equal right to live as we have.
- 6. No species should become extinct because of our activities.
- 7. Do little things based on "think globally and act locally".
- 8. Work with others to help sustain and heal the Earth.
- 9. Enjoy the nature, beauty, friendship and love.

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