

Sustainable Development : National Interest vs International Interest

Dr. Shweta Tewani*

*Assistant Professor (Political Science) PMCoE Govt. Arts and Science College, Ratlam (M.P.) INDIA

Abstract : Sustainable development is a process by which we can sustain or maintain the development done by us for our generation and for the next generations too. There are two factors in the process of sustainable development which are supposed to be opposite to each other- national interest and International interest.

Development is a concept which is based on 'national interest'. National interest is the main deciding factor of each and every policy or activity of a nation. The process of development has such side effects like pollution, global warming, damage to ozone layer, polluted rivers, deforestation, endangered wildlife, floods, Submergence of coastal areas, earthquakes, tsunamis etc. We can make boundaries for our countries, but these Side Effects are not bound to any country. Nature balances itself beyond the boundaries. As we earn and work hard not only for ourselves but for the future generations also. In the same manner a Nation should use their natural resources in the way that they can be used by their future generations also.

As Mahatma Gandhi said — 'There is sufficient in nature to fulfill our need but not our greed.' So in result we get many natural problems, calamities and pandemic.

Keywords: Development, sustainable, national interest, balance.

Introduction - In today's world we follow the nation state model. Every nation is a Sovereign state. Every Sovereign state has a border and population. It is the responsibility of the government to take care of their border and the population of that state. In the 20th Century many countries from Asia and Africa got Independence and their Sovereign government started development. At That time many States from Europe were at the higher level of development. In the process of development of developed countries many side effects were visible in the world. Our Earth is one and the environment has no Borders and Barriers. In the process of development, developed countries affect the environment very badly. That is why developed countries are trying to adopt some different ways of development for developing countries. The process in which Our Earth, environment and development is balanced. The process of development does not have side effects. This is called sustainable development. Sustainable development is a process by which we can sustain or maintain the development done by us for our generation and for the next generations too. There are two factors in the process of sustainable development which are supposed to be opposite to each other- national interest and International interest.

National Perspective : Development is a concept which is based on 'national interest'. National interest is the main deciding factor of each and every policy or activity of a

nation. For the fulfillment of national interest it is the duty of a government to reach the basic needs of their people. It is their duty to give "good life" and for this purpose every act and activity is a part of the process of development in their National interest. In this process we need the quantity of production which is 'sufficient' or 'more than sufficient' for our people. We need to establish Hospitals for good health, education centers, electricity, good roads for connectivity, Pure water, vehicles, means of transportation, means of communication and many more. As Mahatma Gandhi said - 'There is sufficient in nature to fulfill our need but not our greed.' So in result we get many natural problems, calamities and pandemic.

Many developing nations are preferring industrialization, infrastructure development, and economic growth to improve citizens' living standards. However, this may involve practices like deforestation or fossil fuel use, which can harm the environment.

Developing nations focus on exploiting their natural resources like oil, minerals, or forests to derive local economies, which can conflict with global sustainability goals. Developing Countries are resisting international regulations on environmental practices, emphasizing their right to decide how resources are managed within their borders. Developing Governments often prefer short-term solutions to meet immediate needs, such as providing jobs

or energy access, even if these conflict with long-term sustainability goals.

International Perspective : Every country of the world on this earth is progressing on the same line of development. All the countries are at different stages. Countries which are on a higher stage are called the developed countries, and they are the role model for the other countries. Some countries are comparatively at lower levels or stages; they are called underdeveloped or developing countries.

As every action has a reaction in the same manner every effect has a side effect also for example even a life-saving drug has a side effect .

The process of development has such side effects like pollution, global warming, damage to ozone layer, polluted rivers, deforestation, endangered wildlife, floods , Submergement of coastal areas, earthquakes, tsunamis etc. We can make boundaries for our countries, but these Side Effects are not bound to any country. Nature balances itself beyond the boundaries.

National interest vs International interest : In the process of development developing countries are trying to follow the same process of development which was followed by developed countries.

In the process of development many side effects were seen which endangered the earth . For this reason developed countries are trying to change the way of development in which they reached the stage of development .

Developed countries are trying to make international regulations and laws to control the process of development which is safe for earth. Countries may resist international regulations on environmental practices, emphasizing Sovereignty: their right to decide how resources are managed within their borders.

Developing countries have the point that developed countries have done all this, and they are trying to stop the process of development in our countries. In this position or conflict term sustainable development is the only way to meet the requirements of each and every country .

Sustainable development : Sustainable development is a concept that defines the process of development for the present and future. As we earn and work hard not only for ourselves but for the future generations also . In the same manner a Nation should use their natural resources in the way that they can be used by their future generations also. The term sustainable development gained international attention after the report on " Our Common Future" also known as the Brundtland report in 1987 . After this report many measures have been taken to save our earth and its environment.

There are many ways to do this -

1. Awareness among people worldwide: The Government of a nation should spread awareness among the people of a nation. Ultimately the earth is our and we should promote sustainable means of development to save

it and our future generations.

2. Proper strict laws within the country: Nation should impose strict laws within the country So that citizens of that country use only ways and means which are favourable to sustain the environment and earth.

3. Promotion of research and innovations : A nation should promote innovations and new technologies regarding sustainable development. Promotion of research to increase balance, development and preservation of resources. Promotion of research to increase balance, development and preservation of resources

4. Proper international covenants: International covenants that fixes the responsibility of developed, developing and underdeveloped countries in the endangered condition of the earth.

5. Financial support: Every developed country Should have a compiled financial support budget for research and innovation, export of new technologies of development at a lower cost to developing countries.

Conclusion : National interest is the main key factor For each and every country in this world . Lord Palmerston said "Nation has no permanent friend or permanent enemy only National interest is permanent". But we should also look from the different point of View that Nations and boundaries are made by humans and boundaries are not permanent. The world is like a village and each and every human on the earth is connected and affected by each other. Nations have boundaries but our earth has no boundary. We all should think about our World's interest or Earth's interest instead of national interest. The only way to do this is by sustainable development. Sustaining nature, development , In short, sustaining Earth is the only way to sustain Humanity and human life.

References:-

1. Blackburn, William R. - *The Sustainability Handbook* (2007)
2. Chick, Anne, and Micklethwaite, Paul - *Design for Sustainable Change* (2011)
3. Clayton, Tony, and Radcliffe, Nicholas - *Sustainability: A Systems Approach* (1996)
4. Daly, Herman E., and Farley, Joshua - *Ecological Economics: Principles and Applications* (2003)
5. McDonough, William, and Braungart, Michael - *Cradle to Cradle: Remaking the Way We Make Things* (2002)
6. Munasinghe, Mohan - *Sustainable Development: Principles, Frameworks, and Case Studies* (1994)
7. Rockström, Johan, et al. - *Planetary Boundaries: Exploring the Safe Operating Space for Humanity* (2009)
8. Sachs, Jeffrey D. - *The Age of Sustainable Development* (2015)
9. Webster, Ken - *The Circular Economy: A Wealth of Flows* (2015)
10. World Commission on Environment & Development - *Our Common Future (The Brundtland Report)* (1987)