

A Review of Challenges for Sustainable Development Goals in India

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Abstract

Sustainable development follows a multidisciplinary approach of the certain problems, their resolutions and their interaction with sustainable development goals (SDGs). Sustainable development not only ensures effective use of their limited resources but also improve human welfare with the help of various policies that increases income equality, health and education. This paper try to know the challenges which nations are facing to achieve seventeen sustainable development goals set up by United Nation with the help of available documents and researches. India is also signatory member among 193 nations signed on SDGs and continuously working on sustainable goals with facing hardships strongly including budget deficit, natural disasters, degradation of the land, Climate change, poverty and exclusion, unemployment, climate change, large population, conflict and humanitarian aid and desertification.

Keywords: Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Human welfare, Inequalities, Disparities, Environmental Issues.

INTRODUCTION

Development of the economy is very important for any country. But on the cost of environmental deg- radation this development is not worthy and sustainable development is the buzz word in today's inter-national market. The nations from the world have united to attain sustainable development goals. This is completely opposite to the earlier approaches where governments focused on the growth of respective economies. This struggle for economic growth has created imbalance between natural resources and distorted the ecological balance [1].

Sustainable development is a long term development in future without harming the environment and to protect the habitat for the next generations. The scope of sustainable development is very wide which covers environmental, social, and economic development that is important for human lives [16].

In General Assembly Summit of United Nations, 193 member states on September, 2015 set up clearly 17 sustainable development goals (SDG) as 2030 agenda [2]. UN also raises concern on problems of human trafficking and child abuse which violate and exploits the human rights of many each year. India is a signatory member of this summit and committed to 2030 agenda [4]. These goals comprises of social, personal, economic and environmental issues which emphasises on overall sustainable development [17].

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Sustainable development for Indian perspective is identified, as a requirement rather an alternate or choice. In developing nations latent natural

resources are available but with nasty social problems. Sustainable development follows a multidisciplinary approach of the certain problems, their resolutions and their interaction with SDGs. Sustainable development not only ensures effective use of their limited resources but also improve human welfare with the help of various policies that increases income equality, health and education [5].

At this point of time this paper tries to make an effort to comprehend the challenges faced by India in achieving the goals of sustainable development.

LITERATURE REVIEW

The concept of sustainable development has been a burning debated subject for a considerable amount of time. This literature review pulls together the research that has already been done to shed light on the biggest problems with sustainable development and give ideas for how to solve them as these challenges are complex and interconnected.

India's biggest issues are its growing population and urbanisation, which is causing serious environmental and social issues. Financial, cultural, research, social and political challenges hinder the sustainable development and higher education can help people identify social issues and find solutions through multidisciplinary research (Wu & Shen, 2016) [15]. The implementation of projects for sustainable development absolutely requires sufficient funding.

However, a significant obstacle is presented by the limited availability of financial resources, which is especially problematic in developing nations. The allocation of funds towards sustainable initiatives is frequently hampered by factors such as restricted access to capital, expensive borrowing, and the presence of competing priorities. On the Global level, challenges to sustainable development include poverty and exclusion, unemployment, climate change, conflict and humanitarian aid, building peaceful and inclusive societies, strong institutions and rule of law. Ownership and Measuring achievement are also key challenge to sustainable development in India (Devi, 2021) [6].

The field of sustainable development is fraught with a number of challenges, some of which include the impending dangers of bio piracy, desertification, natural disasters and degradation of the land. Climate change is also a global issue and scientific literature tries to offer solutions (Dwivedi, et.al., 2021;). Municipal Solid Waste mismanagement is also widespread hurdle. To improve and increase the effectiveness, it is required to be streamlined policies with gradual social changes. Citizens also required understanding their Municipal Solid Waste-fighting role. Scientific innovations can be helpful in improving Municipal Solid Waste management. The financial commission says India's ULBs need more funding for self-sufficiency. Comprehensive Municipal Solid Waste management is needed for sustainability (Malav, Yadav, et.al, 2020) [12].

OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

This study will focus on following objective:

- To comprehend the challenges faced by India in achieving the goals of sustainable development.

CHALLENGES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

On the path towards sustainable development, India is still confronted with a number of obstacles. India fell two spots to 117th place out of all the countries in the world in addressing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) last year. The nation still has a significant distance to travel in reducing the rates of infant and maternal mortality, expanding access to sustainable livelihoods, and greening the economy.

Sustainable development changes require profound transformation in all nations (Devi, 2021), lack of social inclusion, widespread regional disparities urban-rural gaps, gender inequality between men-

women, basic needs worldwide and basic infrastructure are other SDG challenges. Nowadays, peace and prosperity are threatened by the global level conflicts, climate change, economic, political and financial crisis. Other challenges are also identified include raising public awareness, mobilizing the public, advocating for the goals and making sure they are met. (Singh, 2016) [14].

There have been the policy and rules problems in India. A lack of cooperation, coordination, and time make the renewable energy progress slow. Knowledge is the biggest problem in renewable energy nations. National and international policies, renewable energy plant land availability, political, social awareness, financial and technical concerns make renewable energy promotion difficult [8]. So, the Government and private energy agencies should educate and create policies. Financial, technological, institutional, industrial, political, regulatory and environmental barriers matter the most (Majid, 2020; Elavarasan et.al.,2020) [11].

Poor coordination makes it take longer for policies to be put into place, which discourages investors also the way funds are allocated and the budgets are late. There aren't enough workers & research centres for renewable infrastructure. Market barriers include unfair subsidies structure to conventional fossil fuels that give the wrong impression that power from conventional fuels is more important than power from renewable, not doing enough to promote the loan market and cash market in India, high elasticity in demand-price, wrongly calculated cost-price, inadequate evacuation infrastructure, insufficient grid integration, and limitations in overall transmission plans. Environmental risks, natural disasters, planning, equipment failure and loss of profit make it hard to installation of renewable projects.

Other challenges include those related to climate change and the natural resources system, the human dimensions of climate change, adaptation and mitigation of global environmental issues, as well as health, nutrition and the environment Values, their current state, an ideal state, change scenarios and goal-driven activities to implement change are the five main components of development. Because sustainable development is dynamic, human understanding and knowledge are the sources of all challenges [3]. Basically, understanding affects risk perception, decisions and practical solutions. Global awareness and cooperation require human intervention for sustainability and an ideal future (Javanmardi & Xie, 2023) [10].

Due to global competition, technology changes, and customer expectations, markets are becoming more unstable. COVID-19's economic and social impact are another issue. Flexibility aids businesses in securing orders in a variety of markets. Smart networks help companies compete globally. Since demand for green products is high and supply should be able to meet it, governments could favour short-term investments if they used public money to encourage the use of high-impact resources (Dwivedi, et.al., 2021) [7].

Widespread economic disparities are one of the types of economic challenge to sustainable development in India and it can undermine sustainable development efforts. A higher concentration of wealth and greater income inequality may worsen social tensions and make it more challenging to eradicate poverty, both of which make it more difficult to achieve sustainable development goals (Sen, 2013) [13].

Despite global efforts to address economic, social, and environmental issues, over a billion people live in poverty. Inequality and unsustainable production and consumption harm humans and plants, resulting in high economic and social costs. The global community must balance environmental protection with socioeconomic development by improving financing and business opportunities that boost economic growth and employment (Imasiku, 2021) [9].

FINDINGS

The findings of this research paper demonstrate how difficult it is to achieve multiple sustainable development goals. To meet the requirements imposed by the interplay of economic, social,

technological, and environmental factors, a comprehensive and integrated approach to problem-solving is required. As per this data from the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), Current rate of progress towards sustainable development goals declare a big gap. According to UNESCAP, Asia and Pacific can achieve the SDGs by 2065.

India's commitment to the SDGs is demonstrated by their compatibility with the country's development plan, called Sabka Saath Sabka Vikaas. Based on data from the SDG India Index, which measures progress at the subnational level, the country has developed a robust SDG localization model that focuses on adoption, implementation, and monitoring at the State and district levels. But achieving sustainable development is still a hard task because there are so many obstacles in the way.

India is facing all the challenges and working on the path for SDGs. Last year, reported India improved ranking by two and get 117th rank among all the nations addressing SDGs. But India has a substantial space to work on infant and tender mortality, employment creation and protection and greenening the economy.

CONCLUSION

For effectively execution of sustainable growth agendas it is foremost required to revitalise the co-operation among the key stakeholders. Promoting the partnerships among the stakeholders can be an important pillar to achieve the SDG targets. As Governance issues, economic factors, social dimensions, and environmental concerns all contribute to the complexity of achieving a goal, the difficulty of achieving that goal increases. If policymakers, researchers, and practitioners are able to comprehend and address the issues, they will be able to promote sustainable development and ensure a better future for future generations. This will result in a brighter future for future generations. But budgets have been stretched because of the pandemic and this battle for sustainable goals can take long tail globally. The governments should use a blended financing approach and put together market based ways to achieve the sustainable goals.

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