



The Politics of Environment is a Stepping Stone to Strong Nation

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ABSTRACT

Environmental problems are firmly on the political schedule. The stark danger to the planet from climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution can no longer be disregarded by governments, political parties, businesses or individuals. Responding to the considerable developments of the last decade, the Politics of the Environment continues to investigate the relationship between 'green ideas' and other political doctrines, the development of green parties and public policymaking, and environmental issues at international, national and general levels. It provides scholars with a comprehensive differentiated introduction to ideas, activism and theory. Climate justice, climate laws and legislation and recent environmental struggles, such as demonstrations against fracking. It employs a variety of globally intrusive examples and includes pedagogical discriminative features about environmental politics.

KEYWORDS: environment, politics, biodiversity, green, justice, nation

INTRODUCTION

It seems as if environment political time has come. Newspapers give prominent display to environmental hazards. Editorials demand better management of natural resources. Government statements on the need to conservation of the environment are necessary.[1] Government rules, too, are quite numerous and increasing in number everyday. There are massive schemes for afforestation, sustainability, ecological biodiversity management, cryopreservation, in-situ and ex-situ conservation of species. For instance, in the last four years, some 1,000 crore seedlings are said to have been distributed or planted. Many animal species have been developed by crossings resulting into better variety hybrids. New plant varieties have been developed for more yield. [2] There are new laws for control of different forms of pollution like air, water,

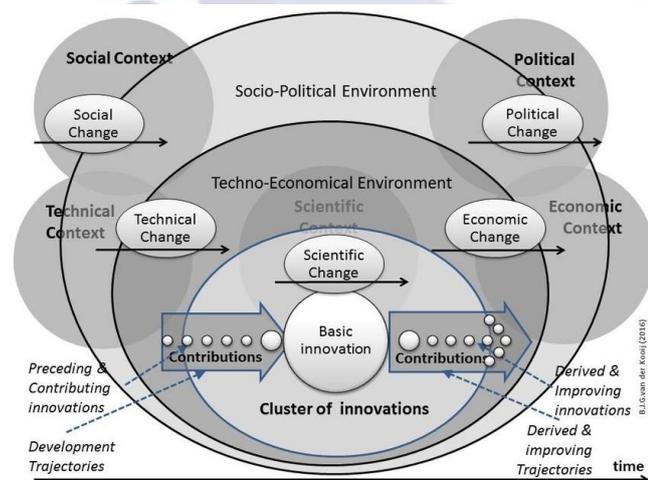
noise, soil pollution etc. India has been praised all over the world for what it has done to preserve tigers. Nearly three per cent of India's giant land mass is now protected national parks and wildlife sanctuaries,[3] and there are demands to strengthen their protection and increase their area. Plan documents and party details take care to mention the importance of environment. [4]



Environment is an external format consisting of political scenario of economy, society and technological aspects. All should be under balance for a strong nation.

As the climate change becomes more serious and more obvious, Indians remain resistant to decisive and comprehensive action on climate change. In "The Uninhabitable Earth: Life After Warming,"[5] we are all afraid of the risks and hazards of global warming causing threat to complete whole of living species. Whole parts of the globe will become too hot for human habitation and those left behind will die of heat. Diseases have increased, like easily spread due to low resistance in humans [6] (by major lack of strong environment) and mutation of disease causing microbes is increasing by global warming, contamination, pollution and lack of care. Food shortages caused by increasing population has become chronic as we fail to move agriculture from one climate to another. Shortages of fresh water will affect humans and agriculture because the resources are lacking and funds have slow existence. [7] The oceans will die, the air will get dirtier. "But," "what lies between us and extinction is horrifying enough." One day finally humans may become extinct like animals are doing. [8] That's because, as climate change takes its toll on Earth's physical planet, it will also cause social, economic, and political chaos as refugees flee areas that can no longer sustain them. [9]

OBSERVATIONS



Every type of change is necessary for improvement , political, social, economical, technical, scientific, etc. , the basic trajectory is towards environmental sustainability and security of life which is under threat. [10]

Politics is an environmentally connected social activity which containing certain goals can analyse constitutional laws and the political parties along with structure of government can create a control on environmental hazards ie. Population control, poaching control, habitat control, deforestation control etc. [11]

To accelerate the efforts to achieve universal sanitation coverage and to put the focus on sanitation, the Prime Minister of India has launched the Swachh Bharat Mission on 2nd October 2014. Under the mission, all villages, Gram Panchayats, Districts, States and Union Territories in India [12] declared themselves "open-defecation free" (ODF) by 2 October 2019, the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, by constructing over 100 million toilets in rural India. To ensure that the open defecation free behaviours are sustained, no one is left behind, [13] and that solid and liquid waste management facilities are accessible, the Mission is moving towards the next Phase II of SBMG i.e ODF-Plus. ODF Plus activities under Phase II of Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) will reinforce ODF behaviours and focus on providing interventions for the safe management of solid and liquid waste in villages.[14]



'Namami Gange Programme', is an Integrated Conservation Mission, approved as 'Flagship Programme' by the Union Government in June 2014 with budget outlay of Rs.20,000 Crore to accomplish the twin objectives of effective abatement of pollution, conservation and rejuvenation of National River Ganga.[15]

The National Mission for Empowerment of Women (NMEW) was launched by the Government of India(GoI) on International Women's Day in 2010 with the aim to strengthen overall processes that promote all-round Development of Women.[16]

It has the mandate to strengthen the inter-sector convergence; facilitate the process of coordinating all the women's welfare and socio-economic development programmes across ministries and departments. The Mission aims to provide a single window service for all programmes run by the Government for Women under the aegis of various Central Ministries.[17]

March 12th is the day to participate in National Plant a Flower Day. Each year this day is dedicated to the planting of flowers and looking forward to the spring season. Flower gardening has become a hobby for many, young and old, and National Plant a Flower Day is a start to the new season each year.

India observes National Pollution Prevention Day on December 2 in the memory of people who lost their lives in Bhopal gas disaster. The industrial accident occurred in 1984 when the gas Methyl Isocyanate leaked on the night of December 2-3 and killed thousands.

The National Farmers Day in India is also known as Kisan Divas in Hindi. Farmer's Day is celebrated every year on 23 December 23rd, on the birthday of the 5th Prime Minister of India, Choudhary Charan Singh, also

a farmer's leader, who introduced many policies to improve the lives of the Indian farmers.

Several National Health Programmes such as the National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme, National Leprosy Eradication Programme, Revised National TB Control Programme, National Blindness Control Programme, and National Iodine Deficiency Disorder Control Programme have come under the umbrella of National Health Mission(NHM). [18]

Adopting a deliberately broad understanding of the environment, to include environmental amenities, urban natural resources and the built environment, the diverse case studies within this issue contribute to an interlinked set of discussions on the politicization of India's urban environment. The environmental politics of Leh, Puri, Chennai, Bangalore and Delhi they all pay close attention to everyday practices and situated dynamics. As this perspective is applied across various city sizes the results demonstrate on the one hand the heterogeneity of India's urban environments and on the other the pervasiveness of similar environmental politics across diverse sites.[19]

FINANCIAL INCLUSION

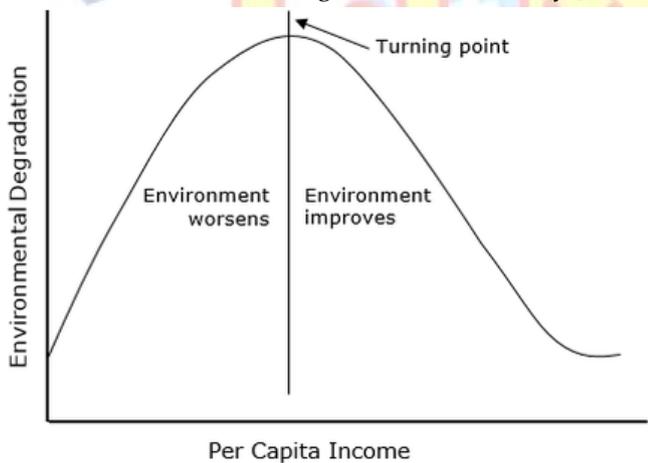


MISSION	OBJECTIVE	TARGET	REALIZATION
JAN DHAN YOJANA	A financial inclusion mission to provide access to financial services to all sections of Indian society	To ensure that all Indian households have at least one bank account	Banks have opened 17.45 crore accounts under this scheme as of 5 August
PRADHAN MANTRI SURAKSHA BIMA YOJANA	To create a universal social security system for the poor and the underprivileged who do not have any insurance cover	To provide an accidental death-cum-disability cover of ₹2 lakh in the age group of 18-70 years	8.10 crore people covered as of 12 August
PRADHAN MANTRI JEEVAN JYOTI BIMA YOJANA	Creating a universal social security system, targeted especially at the poor and the underprivileged who do not have any insurance cover	To provide life insurance cover of ₹2 lakh to Indian citizens in the age group of 18-50 years	2.74 crore people covered as of 12 August
ATAL PENSION YOJANA	To address old-age security needs	People in the age group 18-40 years will get a fixed monthly payment after attaining the age of 60 years	6.47 lakh people covered as of 12 August
MUDRA	To provide capital to small/micro units to encourage entrepreneurship	To provide easy funding to 57 million small businesses	Mudra has sanctioned loans worth 240 crore, of which around ₹137 crore has been disbursed
PRADHAN MANTRI AWAS YOJANA (HOUSING FOR ALL-URBAN)	To address the housing requirements of urban poor	To enable 2 crore urban poor to own houses by the year 2022	States are formalising their plans.

DISCUSSION

The insights from the study highlights the analytical challenge of considering issues of temporality and intersectionality whilst also recognizing the multi-scalar political-economic and social factors that shape contemporary urban power dynamics and the reproduction of particular urban environments.

The Department of Environmental Politics in India tackles the issues from two angles: basic social science research into theories and methods and applied research, for example into biodiversity, ecosystem services, natural resources and energy, using qualitative and quantitative methods. In cooperation with scientists and practitioners from other disciplines, we use our scientific expertise in political science, economics, social geography and psychology to analyse different questions of governance, changes to individuals' behaviour, decision-making under uncertain and complex conditions, knowledge on which policies are formulated, and the design of interfaces between science and society. We also look at how we can involve citizens in the transition to greater sustainability.[20]



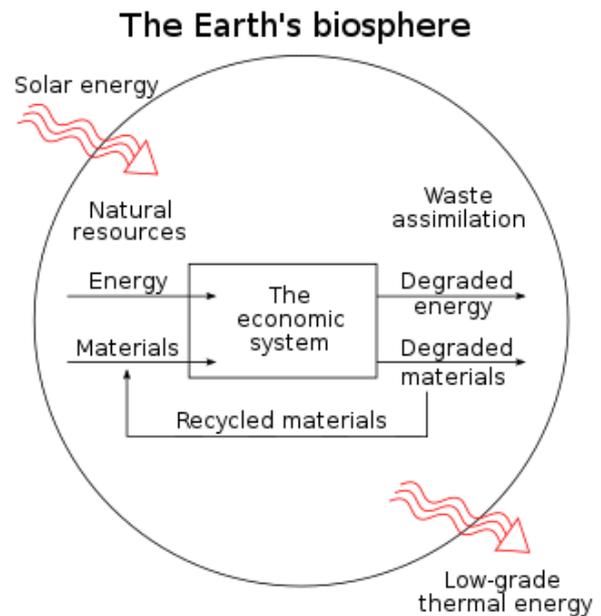
The environmental Kuznets curve (EKC) is a hypothesized relationship between various indicators of environmental degradation and per capita income. In the early stages of economic growth, pollution emissions increase and environmental quality declines, but beyond some level of per capita income (which will vary for different indicators) the trend reverses, so that at high income levels, economic growth leads to environmental improvement. This implies that environmental impacts or emissions per capita are an inverted U-shaped function of per capita income.

RESULTS

The neoclassical economic theory of environment and natural resources is based on (1) The notions of individual preferences and subjective assessment of the value of consumer goods and factors of production (ie, marginal utility, subjective cost),

(2) The technology, and finally

(3) The market mechanism, which allocates the limited resources to alternative uses in order for the individual choices to be satisfied.[21]



The concepts of external economies, as well as those of public and free goods, are central to the interpretation of the market mechanism failure to protect the environment and natural resources. Therefore, state regulation measures are proposed, in order to address market failures so as effective and sustainable use of natural resources and the environment to be achieved.

Thus the present study takes a critical political ecology frame and examines environmental policy and its intersections with development from a social justice angle. It is taught and convened by leading political ecologists and offers a critical analysis of key issues including water, forestry, climate, fisheries, agricultural production, biodiversity, conflicts and energy supply.[20]

It is based on the following aspects:

1. Environment intersect with global poverty, wealth and questions of inequality
2. Carbon trading offer a solution to managing climate change

3. Access to water intersect with dynamics of wealth and poverty
4. Wildlife conservation implicated in social injustices
5. Environmental movements play in development
6. Link between environmental change and violent conflict
7. Political ecology of forests

CONCLUSION

Human interaction with its natural environment raises important questions for contemporary political analysis, for instance about public policy and governance, democracy, power, and international relations. The Environmental Politics Research Group (EPRG) has ever since it was formed in the late 1990's promoted research and education on issues related to the politics of environmental change. Today the EPRG comprises many senior researchers and PhD scholars whose research focuses on chief challenges of global and domestic environmental politics. These challenges include timely debates on the democratic legitimacy, accountability and institutional complexity of environmental governance arrangements.[21]

While having a strong basis in theoretical debates in political science, the EPRG is frequently employed in various multi-disciplinary research networks, teaching and communicative efforts throughout and beyond India.

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- [19] For several examples of people's initiatives, see State of India's Environment: A Citizens' Report, Centre for Science and Environment, New Delhi, 1982.
- [20] This manner of response is true for other issues also; for example, the spate of dowry deaths and rape cases and increasing protests by women's organisations has resulted in more centralised legislation, against which women's organisations are again protesting
- [21] For instance, the Bombay Municipal Corporation resorted to series of forcible evictions of slum dwellers from municipal land to save "the health of the citizens of Bombay" until it was pointed by voluntary organisations that 60 per cent of the "citizens" of Bombay lived in slums