Environmental Protection: Current Implications

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The Trajectory of Environmental Movement

- ➤ Industrial / Economic Growth as a Single-Point Agenda during the First Industrial Revolution
- >Substitution Theory of Robert Solow
- >a "Silent Spring" by Rachel Carson
- ➤ Double Bottom Line: Tragedy of Commons & Life Boat Ethic of Garret Hardin
- ➤ North-South Divide in the UN Stockholm Conference, 1972: Remove Poverty not the Poor
- >Sustainable Development: the Triple Bottom Line
- >Appropriation of the Cause of Environment by the Market Economy

Sustainable Development: Putting it in Perspective

- **Backdrop**
- ➤ End of Cold-War and scope for the expansion of markets in the developing countries
- ➤WBC & OECD Proposed World Council on Environment and Development: *Our Common Future*, 1987
- ➤ Social Engineering of Development in LPG
- ➤ Corporate Economy, Technology and Governance,
- >PPP: The new mantra of Development



Milestone Events for Global Environment Protection

- >UN Stockholm Conference, 1972
- >Our Common Future, 1987
- >Establishment of IPCC 1988
- >UNCED the Earth Summit 1992 and Agenda 21
- >UNFCCC 1994, and Kyoto Protocol 1997
- >Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)
- First Phase of Kyoto Protocol 2008-2012
- >WSSD Johannesburg, 2002 and Rio +20
- ➤UNFCCC Roller Coaster from Bali Road-Map 2007 to COP 19 in Warsaw, 2013

Evolution of Environmental Policy in India

- ➤ National Council for Environmental Policy and Planning – set up in 1972
- Later Evolved into Ministry of Environment and Forests (MOEF) in 1985
- ➤ Environmental Action Program (EAP) formulated in 1993, with the objective of integrating Environment into Development Paradigm

National Policies, Acts and Action-Plans pertinent to Environmental Protection

- ✓ Environmental Protection Act 1986
- ✓ Indian Energy Conservation Act 2001 and BEE
- ✓ Disaster Management Act, 2005
- ✓ National Environmental Policy, 2006
- ✓ National Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy
- ✓ National Bio-Fuels Policy, 2008.
- ✓Indian Forest Rights Act, 2008
- ✓ Coastal Regulation Zone Notification, 2011
- ✓ National Water Policy, 2012
- ✓ National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC), 2008

Green Criticism on India's Environmental Policy, 2006

- The Policy voices the predominant notion that Delays in Environmental Clearances are an IMPEDIMENT to the 'Development' Process.
- Ascendance of Economic Factors in Policy-Decisions, at the Cost of Social and Environmental Factors.
- "Rationalization" in Regulatory Reforms, Compromising EIAs and SIAs (Rationalization of Coastal Regulation Zones)

BPL versus LPG

- *BPL and its anomalous yardsticks
- 42% of children in India are underweight and malnourished
- More than 55% of households in India practice open-air defecation
- Correlation between poor sanitation and short gait
- Bellagio Principles for Sustainable Sanitation

Role of Voluntary Sector in Environmental Protection

- Joint Forest Management
- Right to Information
- **❖** Jan Lokpal
- Holding BRAI
- **❖**IB vs. NGOs

Lessons yet to be Learned from Uttarakhand Floods



Need for a New Development Manifesto

- ➤ Going Beyond Money-Metric Methods, in prioritizing the Development Indices
- > Renewable Energies for a Conservation-based Development
- ➤ Benign Technology and Sustainable Economy
- ➤ Informed Consent and Involvement of Stake-Holders in Decision-Making
- ➤ Participatory Democracy for a Decentralized and Bottom-Up Development
- **►** Inclusive Growth
- Less Carbon Intensive Growth and Low Emission Development

Thank You