

Education for Sustainable Development

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Abstract:

In order to achieve environmental sustainability, education is an imperative tool. Without education, sustainable development cannot be achieved at any level. The practices within the growing economic trends and the consumption pattern of humans clearly show the lack of vision in having a sustainable future. Sustainable development is the development that meets the needs of present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Education helps you develop critical skills like decision-making, mental agility, problem-solving, and logical thinking. People face problems in their professional as well as personal lives. In such situations, their ability to make rational and informed decisions comes from how educated and self-aware. Education for sustainable development allows every human being to acquire the knowledge, skills, attitudes and values necessary to shape a sustainable future. Basic education is a key to a nation ability to develop and achieve sustainability targets. Education can improve agricultural productivity, enhance the status of women, reduce population growth rates, enhance environment protection, and generally raise the standard of living. But simply increasing basic literacy will not support a sustainable society. Institutional reform, curriculum reform and development of locale specific resource material incorporating Education for sustainable development are priorities. Education for sustainable development requires including key sustainable development issues into teaching and learning like climate change, disaster risk reduction, poverty reduction, bio diversity and sustainable consumption. It also requires participatory teaching and learning methods that motivate and empower learners to change their behavior and take action for Sustainable development like conservation of energy, water, tree plantation, use of natural energy etc. If the goals of

sustainable development are to be realized, the attitudes of all the stakeholders of education at all levels with regard to our current life styles and impact they have on the environment will need to change.

Keywords: - Sustainable development, education, change

Introduction:-

Education gives learners of all ages the knowledge, skills, values. Education aims at developing competencies that empower individuals to reflect on their own actions, taking into account their current and future social, cultural, economic and environmental impacts from a local and global perspective. The sustainable development goals to transform our society to end poverty and inequality, protect planet, and ensure that all people enjoy health, justice and prosperity. Education teaches values and helps in the development of society. It gives people a chance to mold themselves into more responsible members of society. The concept of sustainable development is not a concept leading to awareness or knowledge. But it is an act that requires more participation in the modern world. Sustainable development is grounded on four independent systems such as environment, economic, social and political aspects. It include issues pertaining to poverty, biodiversity conservation, agriculture, capacity building, climate change, desertification and drought, disaster reduction and management, energy, finance, forest, fresh water, health, international law, poverty, sanitation, toxic chemicals, waste management etc. the ethical issues and concerns of sustainable development need to be addressed through education at different levels to make an impact on people's lifestyles and responsible behaviour and help them build a sustainable future. Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Sustainable development is generally thought to have three components: environment, society, and economy. The well-being of these three areas is interred related, not separate. For example, a healthy, prosperous society relies on a healthy environment to provide food and resources, safe drinking water, and clean air for its citizens. Thus, sustainability to be a paradigm for thinking about a future in which environmental, societal, and economic considerations are balanced in the pursuit of development and improved quality of life. If you consider the

three components to be overlapping circles of the same size, the area of overlap in the centre is human well-being.

Education for Sustainable Development:-

ESD aims at developing competencies that empower individuals to reflect on their own actions, taking into account their current and future social, cultural, economic and environmental impacts, from a local and a global perspective. Education, especially in its elementary form, is considered of utmost importance to the tribal's because it is crucial for total development of tribal communities and is particularly helpful to build confidence among the tribes to deal with outsiders on equal terms. The educational needs of tribal children are primarily addressed through residential schools called ashram schools. These provide boarding and lodging facilities to children in tribal areas until they complete their secondary education.

Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) is simultaneously a sub-field of education and a conceptual tool to aid policy makers in authoring educational policies that take into account the present environmental societal and economic challenges. According to the UNESCO it is based on all levels and types of learning to know learning to be learning to live together learning to do and learning to transform oneself and society. It further says that, "Perhaps ESD can be seen as the total sum of diverse ways to arrive at a 'learning society' in which people learn from and with one another and collectively become more capable of withstanding setbacks and dealing with sustainability induced insecurity complexity and risks. From this vantage point, ESD is about through education and learning engaging people unsustainable development issues, developing their capacities to give meaning to SD and to contribute to its development and utilize the diversity represented by all people including those who have been or feel marginalised in generating innovative solutions challenges".

Education sustainable Development has five components:-

1. Knowledge
2. Skills
3. Perspectives
4. Values
5. Teaching issues

Which are to be addressed in a formal curriculum for sustainable development. The basic vision of the United Nations Decades for education for sustainable development (DESD) is a world where everyone has the opportunity to benefit from education and learn the values, behavior and life style required for sustainable future and for positive societal transformation. Education For Sustainable Development examine major environmental issues for local, national regional and international points of view so that students receive insights into environmental conditions in other geographical areas Focus on current and potential environmental situations while taking into account the historical perspective Promote the value and necessity of local national and international co-operation in prevention and solution of environmental problems. Enable learners to have a role in planning their learning experiences and provide an opportunity for making decisions and accepting their consequences Relate environmental sensitivity, knowledge, problem solving skills and value clarification to every age but with special emphasis on environmental sensitivity to the learner's own community in early years Help learners discover the symptoms and real cause of environmental problems; Emphasize the complexity of environmental problems and thus the need to develop critical thinking and problem solving skills Utilize diverse learning environments and a broad array of educational approaches to teaching learning about and from the environment with due stress on practical activities and firsthand experience.

Sustainable Development:-

Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Sustainable developments generally thought to have three components: environment, society, and economy. The well-being of these three areas is inter related, not separate. For example, a healthy, prosperous society relies on a healthy environment to provide food and resources, safe drinkingwater, and clean air for its citizens. Thus, sustainability to be a paradigm for thinking about future in which environmental, societal, and economic considerations are balanced in the pursuit of development and improved quality of life. If you consider the three components to be overlapping circles of the same size, the area of overlap in the centre is human well-being's the environment, society, and economy become more aligned, the area of overlap increases, and so does human well-being. The human rights community says that sustainability is attainable through and supported by peace, justice, and democracy. Economics educators say sustainability is living on the interest rather than the principle.

Education for sustainable development and school curriculum:-

ESD comprises learning and educational activities that aim to develop alternative values and transformative actions that lead to problem-solving and to realize a sustainable society by taking the initiative to accept these problems of modern society as our own and tackling the problems in our immediate environment. In India, since the mid 1980s efforts have been on to bring Environmental education (EE) in formal education at all levels. In 2003, the Honorable Supreme court of India directed that EE should be a compulsory subject at all levels of education. It further directed that the NCERT should prepare a model syllabus for class I to XII, which shall be adopted by every state in their respective schools. Pacific Education for sustainable development framework (2006) have identified a priority area in formal education and training which focused on structured learning initiatives for improved knowledge and understanding to support implementation of sustainable practices where the objectives of promoting quality education in all member countries was given focus. Inclusion of materials and experiences to develop a conceptual understanding of the phenomenon of change and the problems related to Sustainable development and to develop minds that cope with change and reasonable techniques

for doing so is required. Hence ESD should be incorporated in the entire curriculum starting from pre-schooling to higher education which should be transacted in a meaningful manner.

Education Directly Affects Sustainability Plans in the Following Three Areas:-

1. Implementation:

An educated citizenry is vital to implementing informed and sustainable development. In fact, a national sustainability plan can be enhanced or limited by the level of education attained by the nation's citizens. Nations with high illiteracy rates and unskilled workforces have fewer development options. For the most part, these nations are forced to buy energy and manufactured goods on the international market with hard currency. To acquire hard currency, these countries need international trade; usually this leads to exploitation of natural resources or conversion of lands from self-sufficient family-based farming to cash-crop agriculture. An educated workforce is key to moving beyond an extractive and agricultural economy.

2. Decision making:

Good community-based decisions- which will affect social, economic, and environmental wellbeing also depend on educated citizens. For example community with an abundance of skilled labor and technically trained people can persuade a corporation to locate a new information-technology and software-development facility nearby. Citizens can also act to protect their communities by analyzing reports and data. For example, citizens who were concerned about water pollution reported in a nearby watershed started monitoring the water quality of local streams.

3. Quality of life:

Education is also central to improving quality of life. Education raises the economic status of families; it improves life conditions, lowers infant mortality, and improves the educational attainment of the next generation, thereby raising the next generation's chances for economic and social well-being. Improved education holds both individual and national implications. ESD is future-oriented education that

fosters understanding of the interconnectedness of ecology economics and social equity. The five major components of ESD that guide and motivate people to seek sustainable livelihoods,

Suggestions:-

- Donate what you don't use.
- Waste less food and support local farmers.
- Get yourselves and your family vaccinated.
- Help educate children in your community.
- The empowerment of women and girls must be supported by actions to improve their access to basic and higher education, training and capacity building. The emphasis should be engendering mainstreaming.

Conclusion:-

Sustainable Development is development that meets the need of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Education for sustainable development that includes key sustainable development issues into teaching and learning and requires participatory teaching and learning methods that motivate and empower learners to change their behavior and promotes competencies like critical thinking, imagining future scenarios and making decisions in a collaborative way. This paper attempts to examine the actions taken by the government for eradication of illiteracy and status achieved relating to schoole éducation in India. Education for sustainable development (ESD) in a lifelong learning perspective is essential for the achievement of a sustainable society and is therefore desirable at all levels of formal education and training, as well as in non-formal and informal learning. ESD fundamentally concerns the way we think about our complex world and the way we behave. It promotes values, principles and practices that help people to respond effectively and confidently to current and new challenges

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