AN ANALYSIS OF ENVIRONMENT CRISIS AND SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENTAL NEEDS

Pooja Gothwal¹ and Sunil Kumar²

Abstract

The world faces a series of environmental crises that reach every corner of the globe. This is primarily due to the unprecedented growth in the world economy over the past 60 years. The environmental, social and economic challenges these poses are all interconnected. This study attempts to analyze the relationship of the per capita GDP of countries with their respective global CO2 emission, the class character of environmental change in the developing countries and a brief discussion on the evolved contradictions in the international conventions and treaties. This will help to understand the profound changes affecting the global environment.

Keywords: Climate Change, Greenhouse Gases, International Panel on Climate Change, CO2 Emission, International Energy Agency.

Introduction

Climate change is primarily caused by the building up of greenhouse gases (GHG), e.g. carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide and others in the atmosphere (Rashmi & Stapathy, 2010). Climate change can slow down the pace of development either directly through increased exposure to climate variability or indirectly through erosion of the capacity to adapt. It also poses a significant threat to the physical health of indigenous communities and their ability to sustain their traditional life, languages, cultures and knowledge (Chaturvedi, 2010). The problem of climate change came into force in 1988 when North America suffered a severe drought and a scorching summer (Pachauri, 2003). However, it has reached the top of the international agenda nowadays. At the initial stage, several suspicions existed in the developing countries that the scientific evidence being put forward in support of changes in the earth's climate system was essentially a means to create impediments to the growth of the developing world. The suggested solution was a shift to using new fuels that were low in carbon intensity. All the debates about climate change, causes, consequences, timing, trajectory and remedies are continuing on the regional and international levels. Some

-

¹Student (Master of Arts), Department of Economics, CDLU Sirsa (Haryana).

²Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, Govt. College, Bahu Jholari, Jhajjar (Haryana) (Corresponding author)