

Module 4

SOCIAL ISSUES & ENVIRONMENT

4.1 SUSTAINABLE & UNSUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

4.1.1 CAUSES OF UNSUSTAINABILITY

4.1.2 METHODS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

4.1.3 URBAN PROBLEM RELATED ENERGY

4.1.4 UNSUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



4.1 SUSTAINABLE & UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

SUSTAINABILITY:

Sustainable development is the development of healthy environment without damaging the natural resources. All the natural resources must be used in such a way that it must be available for future generation also.

UNSUSTAINABILITY

Unsustainable development is the degradation of the environment due to over utilization & over exploitation of the natural resources.

4.1.1 CAUSES OF UNSUSTAINABILITY

1. Overpopulation
2. Non regulated exploitation of natural resources
3. Deforestation
4. Urbanization
5. Industrialization
6. Conversion of forestland into agricultural land.
7. Hunting, mining, overgrazing.
8. Pollution

4.1.2 METHODS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

1. Population control to reduce the demand for natural resources.
2. Fossil fuels and fire wood may be replaced by alternate energy sources.
3. Conservation of water- rain H₂O harvesting method is followed.
4. Controlled mining, grazing & cutting trees.
5. Use the bioorganic fertilizers instead of chemical fertilizers.
6. Use biopesticides instead of chemical pesticides.
7. Providing awareness on environmental problems.
8. Consumption of renewable resources.
9. Conservation of non renewable resources.
10. Reduce–reuse–recycle principle must be followed.

4.1.3 URBAN PROBLEM RELATED ENERGY

Urbanization is the movement of human population from rural areas to urban areas, for the want of better education, communication, health, employment etc.

Causes

1. To get education
2. To get job opportunity
3. To have a business
4. Medical facility
5. Transport

Energy requirement

Urbanization results in thick population in urban areas. This increases the demand for energy. The following activities need more energy.

1. Industries
2. Automobiles
3. Residential use of electricity
4. Commercial use of electricity
5. Urban lifestyle

Impacts of urban energy problems

1. Shortage of water
2. Soil pollution produced by garbage, municipality waste, hospital waste etc.
3. Air pollution due to the combustion of fossil fuel in automobiles.
4. Water pollution due to urban drainage.
5. Industrial pollution
6. Spread of diseases.

Solution of urban energy problem:

1. Use alternate energy resources instead of fossil fuels.
2. Use public transport instead of using motor cycles & cars.
3. Energy consumption must be minimized.
4. Production capacity must be increased.
5. Use of energy efficient technology.
6. Using solar energy & wind energy.
7. Limited use of H₂O.

8. Imposing strict laws, penalties.

Equitable use of resources for sustainable lifestyle

Sharing and utilization of the benefits of environmental resources in a fair and equitable way is called equitable use of resources.

4.1.4 UNSUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Unsustainable development is the degradation of the environment due to over utilization and over exploitation of the natural resources.

Causes of unsustainability

1. It is due to the difference b/w less developed & more developed countries.
2. Over population in poor countries, consume too low resources with low income.
3. Rich countries consume more resources with more income.

Consequence of unsustainability

1. The people of under developed countries are affected by poverty.
2. The affected people cut down forests, damage water shields, kill biological species & degrade land.
3. They suffer from under – nutrition.
4. Under nutrition leads to diseases and some times death.
5. The excessive exploitation of energy by the developed countries, causes large scale environmental pollution.

6. Environmental pollution causes a chain degradation of climate change, global warming, ozone depletion.

Methods for equitable use of resources

1. A more equitable sharing of resources would certainly help the rich and poor in addition to develop a sustainable environment.
2. A new economic policy must be developed at the global, national as well as regional levels based on the capacity of to distribute the benefits of natural resources by sharing them more equally among the countries, states & communities.
3. The improved and advanced technologies of developed countries must be introduced into the under developed countries.

