

Concept Of Sustainable Development In International Law: A Study On Indian Perspective

Smt.Rashmi.A.H

Assistant Professor in Law
Vidyodaya Law College
Tumakuru
And

Dr.Ramesh.R

Assistant Professor in Law
Vidyodaya Law College
Tumakuru

Abstract

The environment always interfered by the concept of development. On the growing awareness of the risk on humans the new generations joining hands with Governmental Policies and Laws have reconciled economic development with environmental protection which is needed for further generation technically termed as Sustainable Development. Sustainable Development under International Law is to sought for solutions to parallel problems of global environmental degradation and global lack of social and economic development, by asking for these challenges to be addressed in an integrated way, for the interests of present and future generations as per-The Brundtland Report. The international treaties and the decisions of international courts and tribunals have explicitly recognized the concept of sustainable development which is related to the economic, social development and environmental protection Environmental law and the other laws on development stand not as alternatives but as mutually reinforcing, integral concepts, which require that where development may cause significant harm to the environment, where there is a duty to prevent, or at least mitigate such harm which has become the main principle of general international law, India being a Ratified Country, has implemented many domestic policies and Laws to give effect to the International Laws. This Article is an effort to bring in together the international treaties and legal instruments and its impact on Indian Law.

Keywords: Sustainable development, international treaties, Domestic laws, eco protection.

Introduction:

Since Vedic time our motto towards social life was "to live in harmony with nature". We worshipped plants, trees, mother earth, say, water, air, animals and to keep benevolent attitude towards them. Therefore, cutting of trees, polluting air, water, land were regarded as sins as elements of nature were to be respected and regarded as Gods and Goddesses Protection of their purity and wholesomeness was considered to be the duty of everyone. But as days passed, concentration on economic and social development without considering the effect upon the environment. Science and technology, industrial

growth, and exploitative resource consumption have brought about devastating environmental impacts in places across the world. On the growing awareness of the risk on Humans, the new generations joining hands with Governmental Policies and Laws have reconciled economic development with environmental protection which is needed for future generations- technically termed as Sustainable Development.

Sustainable Development is a multidimensional concept. It is widely accepted as a new policy goal to govern human life. The etymological meaning of sustainable development is any development which is on- going. It evokes the idea of preservation and nurturing. In simple words, it is conservation of environment and development together. Both economically and ecologically sustained development is Sustainable Development. The term indicates systematic way of planning of development. Social, economic and environment all these components concept of sustainable development.

International Development treaties/conventions/declarations on ‘The Concept of Sustainable Development’:

- United Nations Conference on the Human Environment Stockholm 1972: The term sustainable development for the first time the doctrine of "Sustainable Development had come to be known in 1972 in the Stockholm declaration. It had been stated in the declaration that: "Man has the fundamental right to freedom, equality and adequate conditions of life, in an environment of a quality that permits a life of dignity and wellbeing and he bears a solemn responsibility to protect and improve the environment for present and future generation-
- Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), 1975
- Ramsar Convention, 1971 & 1975 The Convention on Wetlands, called the Ramsar Convention, is the intergovernmental treaty that provides the framework for the conservation and wise use of wetlands and their resources. The Convention was adopted in the Iranian city of Ramsar in 1971 and came into force in 1975. Since then, almost 90% of UN member states, from all the world's geographic regions, have acceded to become "Contracting Parties".
- Our Common Future, the Brundtland Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development in 1987. Where the concept was given a definite shape as- "Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of the future generations to meet their own needs"
- The ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze, 1985: it was one of the first treaties to require parties to adopt a standard of sustainable utilization of harvested natural resources with a view to attaining the goal of sustainable development
- The Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes, 1989.
- United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), 1992, 2002 Agenda - 21 Rio Declaration-Millennium Development Goals.
- Framework Convention on Climate Change (FCCC), 1992 Kyoto Protocol, 1997.
- The Vienna Convention, 1985-Montreal Protocol on Ozone depleting substances, 1992.

- The UN Conference on Environment and Development held at Rio De Janeiro, Brasil, 1992, which embodied its 27 principles and agreed to call for the further development of international law in the field of sustainable development
- Convention on Biological Diversity. 1992 Cartagena Protocol on Bio-safety, Ratified on 17th January, 2003
- Convention to Combat Desertification, 1996
- Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs), 2001
- Rotterdam Convention on Prior Informed Consent Procedure for certain Hazardous Chemicals in International Trade, 2002.
- World Summit on Sustainable Development 2002: Its target of reducing the current rate of loss of biological diversity by 2010 through among others, promoting concrete international support and partnership for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, including ecosystems, at World Heritage sites, and effective conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. promoting and supporting initiatives for hot spot areas and other areas essential for biodiversity and promoting the development of national and regional ecological networks and corridors.
- Johannesburg Summit for Sustainable Development in 2002.
- Chemical Weapons Convention, 2005.
- Strategic Approach to international Chemicals Management (SAICM), 2006

Impact of International Sustainable Development in India:

In India, today, development is having an increasing impact on the environment. The environmental issues are increasing on the agenda of government (including international agencies), private sector, non-governmental agencies and citizens. The environmental policies, plan, programs, norms and standards are also evolving to address the growing environmental concerns.

Sustainable development law is found at the intersection of three primary fields of law: international economic law, international environmental law and international social law. It refers to an emerging substantive body of legal Instruments, norms and treaties, supported by distinctive procedural elements. This is incorporated on the justification that future generations may benefit from policies and laws that advocate environmental protection as well as developmental goals. This has recently been recognized by the Supreme Court in the M.C. Mehta (Taj Trapezium Matter) v. Union of India case

In India, Ministry of Environment and Forests is the nodal agency in the administrative structure of the Central Government, for the planning, promotion, co-ordination and overseeing the implementation of environmental and forestry programs. The Ministry is guided by the principle of sustainable development and enhancement of human well-being. The Ministry of Environment and Forests is primarily concerned with the implementation of policies and programs relating to conservation of the country's natural resources including lakes and rivers, its biodiversity, forests and wildlife, ensuring the welfare of its animals and prevention and abatement of pollution. While implementing these policies and programs, the

main objectives are conservation and survey of flora, fauna, forest and wildlife, prevention and control of pollution, afforestation and regeneration of degraded areas protection of environment and ensuring the welfare of animals.

International law and its development at the international level have influenced India to develop on the concept of sustainable development through Legislation Judicial decisions and National & State Policies. With the Rio+20 Earth Summit merely a few weeks away, "Green economy and inclusive growth"-the core agenda of the summit-is fast becoming a buzzword in India.

Legal Framework in India:

All the legislations have to flow from the shadow of this living and organic document. To implement any Act, firstly there should be a provision in our Constitution. It is quite evident that when the Constitution of India was drafted, then at that relevant time the legislations related to the environmental concern were not incorporated. But with the dire need of the time as the degradation of the natural resources took place the need to have the particular pieces of the legislation was felt from all the nook and corners. It is now evident that the environmental law is among the most vital and rapidly growing branches of law in India. From the developments in International Law and the various decisions given by the courts in the country, our Constitution has provided to implement International conventions and conferences in Indian Law through Article 253. Two Articles relating to the Environment were incorporated in the Indian Constitution-Article 48A and 51. Article 48A is Directive Principle of State Policy to protect and improve the environment and Article 51(A) confers the duty on the citizen to protect and improve the environment and to have compassion for the living creatures. There are plenty of Laws relating to environmental issues which are **always with the principles of economic, social security and sustainable development.**

Some Important enactment:

- **Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972:** According to the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 "wildlife" includes any animal, bees, butterflies, crustacean, fish and moths; and aquatic or land vegetation, which form part of any habitat. In accordance with Wildlife (Protection) Amendment Act, 2002 "no alteration of boundaries/National Park/Sanctuary shall be made by the State Govt except on recommendation of the National Board for Wildlife.
- **The Forest Conservation) Act, 1980:** This Act provides for the conservation of forests and regulating diversion of forestlands for non-forestry purposes. When projects fall within forestlands, prior clearance is required from relevant authorities under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. State governments cannot de-reserve any forestland or authorize its use for any non-forest purposes without approval from the Central government.
- **Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981:** The objective of this Act is to provide for the prevention, control and abatement of air pollution, for the establishment, with a view to carrying out the aforesaid purposes, of Boards, for conferring on and assigning to such Boards

powers and functions relating thereto and for matters connected therewith. Decisions were taken at the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment held in Stockholm in June 1972, in which India participated, to take appropriate steps for the preservation of the natural resources of the earth, which, among other things, includes the preservation of the quality of air and control of air pollution. Therefore it is considered necessary to implement the decisions foresaid in so far as they relate to the preservation of the quality of air and control of air pollution.

- **The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974:** The objectives of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act are to provide for the Prevention and Control of Water Pollution and the maintenance or restoration of the wholesomeness of water for the establishment, with a view to carrying out the purposes aforesaid, of Boards for the prevention and control of water pollution, for conferring on and assigning to such Boards powers and functions relating thereto and for matters connected therewith.
- **Environment (Protection) Act, 1986:** The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 was introduced as an umbrella legislation that provides a holistic framework for the protection and improvement to the environment. In terms of responsibilities, the Act and the associated Rules required for obtaining environmental clearances for specific types of new/ expansion projects (addressed under Environmental Impact Assessment Notification, 2006) and for submission of an environmental statement to the State Pollution Control Board.
- **Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991:** It is one of most important legislative measure enacted in India to provide immediate relief to the victims of the accidents which occur while handling the hazardous substances. This Act came in response to the Bhopal disaster. This Act for the first time acknowledged the principle of "No Fault," liability.
- **The Plastics Manufacture and Usage Rules, 1999:** to regulate the manufacture, sale and use and recycling of plastic bags. These rules, inter alia, provided that plastic carry bags should have a minimum thickness of 20 microns; carry bags or containers made of recycled plastic shall not be used for packaging of food stuffs and recycling of plastic waste in accordance with BIS specifications. Powers have been delegated to the State Pollution Control Boards/Pollution Control Committees for taking action for violation of Rules promulgated under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. The new Rules have specified inter-alia that plastic carry bags should have a minimum thickness of 40 microns.
- **The Municipal Solid Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules 2000:** It is obligatory on the part of all the municipal authorities to arrange for collection, segregation, transportation and suitable disposal of municipal wastes of the municipal towns/cities. They need to obtain authorization of the GPCS for the compliance of these Rules. Under these rules all municipal authorities responsible for collection, segregation, storage, transportation, processing & disposal of municipal solid wastes are covered.

- **The Noise Pollution (Regulation & Control) Rules, 2000:** Whereas the increasing ambient noise levels in public places from various sources, inter-alia, industrial activity, construction activity, fire crackers, sound producing instruments, generator sets, loud speakers, public address systems, music systems, vehicular horns and other mechanical devices have deleterious effects on human health and the psychological wellbeing of the people, it is considered necessary to regulate and control noise producing and generating sources with the objective of maintaining the ambient air quality standards in respect of noise.
- **Ozone Depleting substances (Regulation and Control) Rules, 2000:** MOEF vide its notification dt. 17th July 2000 under the section of 6, 8 and 25 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 has notified rules for regulation/ control of Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS) under Montreal Protocol. As per the notification certain control and regulation has been imposed on manufacturing, import, export, and use of these compounds. Organizations as per provisions of notification shall phase out all equipment, which uses these substances, and is aiming at CFC free organization.
- **Energy Conservation Act 2001:** Energy conservation has emerged as a major policy objective, and the Energy Conservation Act 2001 was enacted. This Act requires large energy consumers to adhere to energy consumption norms; new buildings to follow the Energy Conservation Building Code, and appliances to meet energy performance standards and to display energy consumption labels. The Act also created the Bureau of Energy Efficiency to implement the provisions of the Act. The planning commission had come out with an Integrated Energy Policy linked with sustainable development that covers all sources of energy and addresses all aspects of energy use and supply including energy security, access and availability, affordability and pricing, as well as efficiency and environmental concerns.
- **Biological Diversity Act, 2002:** The Ministry of Environment and Forests has enacted the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 under the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity signed at Rio de Janeiro on the 5 June, 1992 of which India is also a party. This Act is to "provide for the conservation of biological diversity, sustainable use of its components, and fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the use of biological resources, knowledge and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto." As per the provision of act certain areas, which are rich in biodiversity and encompasses unique and representative ecosystems are identified and designated as biosphere reserve to facilitate its conservation. All restrictions are applicable to protected areas like National Park and Sanctuaries are also applicable to these reserves.
- **THE ELECTRICITY ACT, 2003:** This Act seeks to create a framework for the power sector development by measures conducive to the industry. Electricity Act does not explicitly deal with environmental implications of activities related to power transmission. The applicable legal provisions under this Act are as follows: Section 68(1)-sanction from the Ministry of Power (MOP) is a mandatory requirement for taking up any new project. The sanction authorizes SIVN to plan and coordinate activities to commission new projects.

- **The Bio Medical Waste (Management and Handling) Rules 1988, 2003:** the Central Government notifies the rules for the management and handling of bio-medical waste.
- **Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forest dwellers (recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006:** The law concerns the rights of forest-dwelling communities to land and other resources, denied to them over decades as a result of the continuance of colonial forest laws in India.
- **Environmental Impact Assessment Notification, 2006:** is a major tool for minimizing the adverse impact of rapid industrialization on environment and for reversing those trends which may lead to climate change in long run.
- **National Environmental Policy, 2006:** The main components of the NEP are actions for: developing a more effective environmental management system; enhancing information and awareness; and investing in improved environmental management. The NEPS implementation strategy is outlined with sections on initial implementation, monitoring and evaluation, updating and revision
- **National Green Tribunal Act, 2010:** The Tribunal shall, while passing any order or decision or award, apply the principles of sustainable development, the precautionary principle and the polluter pays principle
- **The Hazardous Waste (Management and Handling) Rules 1989, 2003, 2008:** These Rules classify used mineral oil as hazardous waste under the Hazardous Waste (Management & Handling) Rules, 2003 that requires proper handling and disposal. Organization will seek authorization for disposal of hazardous waste from concerned State Pollution Control Boards (SPCB) as and when required...

Indian Judiciary in development of sustainable development-

The Constitutional Mandates of Environmental Jurisprudence the role played by the Supreme Court in using the Constitutional provisions especially Article 21 in order to provide environment related justice will be evaluated. As has been pointed out by Justice Kirpal "Article 142 afforded the Supreme Court considerable power to mould its decisions in order that complete justice could be done." Hence it assumed a primal position in the Indian environmental legal system by holding that environmental degradation in a number of ways violates constitutional provisions. One of the most innovative parts of the Constitution of India is that right to enforce the fundamental rights which is itself a fundamental right under Article 32 of the Constitution. The decisions of the Supreme Court shall be binding on all lower Courts of India (Article 141 of the Constitution). Clean and healthy environment is the basic need of human being which can be ensured with ecological balance which has been made possible by judicial activism and foresight of Courts of India-specially Supreme court and various high courts. These judicial pronouncements have given new jurisprudence and dimension to environmental protection by adopting the doctrine of Sustainable Development.

The first case on which the apex court had applied the doctrine of Sustainable Development was **Vellore Citizen Welfare Forum vs. Union of India**. In the instant case, dispute arose over some tanneries in the state of Tamil Nadu. These tanneries were discharging effluents in the river Palar, which was the main source of drinking water in the state. The Hon'ble Supreme Court held that: **"We have no hesitation in holding that the precautionary principle and polluter pays principle are part of the environmental law of India. The court also held that: Remediation of the damaged environment is part of the process of 'Sustainable Development and as such polluter is liable to pay the cost to the individual sufferers as well as the cost of reversing the damaged ecology"**.

Vellore Citizen's case, the Supreme Court has in many cases tried to keep the balance between ecology and development.

In **Rural Litigation and Entitlement Kendra Dehradun vs. State of Uttar Pradesh**, dispute arose over mining in the hilly areas. The Supreme Court after much investigation, ordered the stopping of mining work and held that, **"This would undoubtedly cause hardship to them, but it is a price that has to be paid for protecting and safeguarding the right of the people to live in healthy environment with minimal disturbance of ecological balance and without avoidable hazard to them and to their cattle, homes and agricultural land and undue affection of air, water and environment."**

In **Rural Litigation and Entitlement Kendra Dehradun v. State of Uttar Pradesh**, 'which was also known as Doon valley case, **was the first and unique case of ecological imbalances and environmental degradation** of India where issues related to environment and ecological balance were brought up. But as soon as the notice was brought before the court that they have breached the condition and mining was done in most unscientific way, the Supreme Court directed the lessee to pay a compensation of three lacs to the fund of the monitoring committee. This has been directed on the principle of 'polluter pays. Two orders were given by the Court one in 1985 and the other in 1987 in which the Supreme Court It is a social obligation and let us remind every Indian citizen that it is his fundamental duty as enshrined in Article 51 A (g) of the Constitution" highlighted the fact that India citizens have the fundamental of protecting the environment under Article 51A (g).

Sustainable Development that "in Narmada Bachao Andolan vs. Union of India observed that "Sustainable Development means what type or extent of development can take place, which can be sustained by nature or ecology with or without mitigation".

In **Indian Council of Enviro-Legal Action vs. Union of India**, the Apex Court held: "while economic development should not be allowed to take place at the cost of ecology or by causing widespread environment destruction and violation; at the same time, the necessity to preserve ecology and environment should not hamper economic and other developments". Hence, importance has been given both to development and environment and the quest is to maintain a fine balance between environment and economic development.

The Indian Environ-Legal Action v Union of India. In this case writ was filed under Article 32 on behalf of villagers alleging that dangerous chemicals were being emitted by private companies and this violated the right to life of the villagers. The Court found that the sludge released by the companies was toxic in nature and it made the water in the wells and streams unfit for human consumption. The Court held in this instant case that if Companies flagrantly violated the right to life of individuals then the Court has a right under Article 32 of the Constitution to intervene to protect the right to life and liberty of the citizens.

Another important judgment that has to be discussed in this regard is **MC Mehta v Union of India**, In this case it was alleged that the foundries, and hazardous industries as well as refineries in Mathura where emitting sulphur dioxide which when combined with oxygen in the presence of atmospheric moisture was transformed into sulphuric acid or acid rain which was corroding the marbles of the Taj Mahal. A PIL was filed accordingly and it was further contended that refinery emissions, vehicular traffic, etc. polluted the ambient air around the Taj Trapezium (TTZ). The Supreme Court held that the emissions resulted in the violation of the right to life of people living in the TTZ and also damaged a prestigious monument like the Taj.

In **M.C.Mehta vs. Union of India** the Supreme Court issued directions towards the closing of mechanical stone crushing activities in and around Delhi, which was declared by WHO as the third most polluted city in the world. However it realized the importance of stone crushing and issued directions for allotment of sites in the new 'crushing zone' set up at village Pali in the state of Haryana.

National and State Policies:

Achieving sustainable development means that the planning system has 3 overarching objectives, which are interdependent and need to be pursued in mutually supportive ways:

- **an economic objective-** to help build a strong, responsive and competitive economy, by ensuring that sufficient land of the right types is available in the right places and at the right time to support growth, Innovation and improved productivity, and by identifying and coordinating the provision of infrastructure.
- **a social objective-**to support strong, vibrant and healthy communities, by ensuring that a sufficient number and range of homes can be provided to meet the needs of present and future generations; and by fostering a well-designed and safe built environment, with accessible services and open spaces that reflect current and future needs and support communities' health, social and cultural well-being; and
- **an environmental objective-** to contribute to protecting and enhancing our natural, built and historic environment; including making effective use of land, helping to improve biodiversity, using natural resources prudently, minimizing waste and pollution, and mitigating and adapting to climate change, including moving to a low carbon economy,

With these objectives many policies are implemented at both national and state level. Some are discussed below:

The expression "Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas," which translates as "Collective Effort, Inclusive Growth" and has been popularized by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, forms the cornerstone of India's national development agenda. To fast track this agenda, the Government of India has just released a draft Three-Year Action Agenda covering years 2017-18 to 2019-20

- **Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY):** It is one of the world's largest financial inclusion programme. By leveraging PMJDY, Aadhaar (biometric identity system) and mobile telephony, the Government has disbursed a cumulative amount of INR 1.62 trillion (US\$ 25 billion) to 329 million beneficiaries through Direct Benefit Transfers. This has helped to significantly enhance the efficiency of Government programmes
- **Swachh Bharat Abhiyan** (Clean India Movement) and skill development.
- **Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC):** Which is communicated to the Conference of the Parties (COP) of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, form a significant part of its SDG strategy. These include substantially reducing the emission intensity of GDP, tapping non-fossil fuel energy sources and creating additional carbon sink.
- **Deen Dayal Antyodaya Yojana:** The National Livelihoods Mission provides skilled employment to marginalized communities.
- **The Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana and Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana** which provides access to life and accident insurance for 130 million subscribers for nominal annual premiums,
- **The Atal Pension Yojana and The National Social Assistance Programme** provide pension to workers in the unorganized sector, widows and the differently abled. Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana, launched in 2016, aims to provide Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) to poor families with initial financial support for accessing a connection. The programme has enabled the provision of more than 20 million LPG connections since its launch a year ago Under the National Rural Drinking Water Programme, more than 77% of the rural habitations have been fully covered with 40 litres of drinking water per capita on a daily basis. The objective of the Clean India Movement is to ensure an Open Defecation Free India by 2019
- The largest food security initiatives ration cards in the name of the senior most female member of the household. Other initiatives that contribute to this goal are the ICDS and the **Mid-Day Meal Programme**. The latter provides nutritious cooked meals to 100 million children in primary schools
- **The National Health Policy, 2017**, specifies targets for universalizing primary health care, reducing infant and under-5 mortality, preventing premature deaths due to non-communicable diseases as well as increasing Government expenditure on health.

- The recently **introduced Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana** provides easy credit ranging from INR 50,000 to 1 million (USD 780 to 15,600) to small-scale business entrepreneurs. A major package announced for the textiles industry aims to create hundreds of thousands of jobs in this sector
- Significant progress has been made with respect to preservation and management of the marine ecosystem. For instance, **the Coastal Ocean Monitoring and Prediction System** tracks the levels of marine pollution along the coastline. Additionally, the **Online Oil Spill Advisory System** enhances the effectiveness of the national response to marine oil spills. India is also implementing the revised National Oil Spill Disaster Contingency Plan. Further, the Sagarmala programme is focused on improving port connectivity, port-linked industrialization and coastal community development. Under this initiative, support is also provided for the development of deep sea fishing vessels and fish processing centers.
- **HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM 2020 UNDER THE AUSPICES OF ECOSOC 1:** The meeting of the high-level political forum on sustainable development in 2020 convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council, will be held from Tuesday, 7 July, to Thursday, 16 July 2020, including the three-day ministerial meeting of the forum from Tuesday, 14 July, to Thursday, 16 July 2020. With the theme "**Accelerated action and transformative pathways: realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development**".
- India has continued its programme of economic reforms to achieve sustained rapid growth. The reforms have included fiscal consolidation, inflation targeting, improved governance all around, accelerated infrastructure development (SDG 9), curbing of corruption (SDG 16), Aadhaar Act, Insolvency and Bankruptcy Act, Goods and Services Tax (GST), further liberalization of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), closure of sick Public Sector Units and much more. The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), which is sometimes described as the world's largest cash transfer programme, has generated over 2 billion person-days' of employment (SDG 8) during the last year. It has helped reduce extreme poverty as well as enhance the infrastructure and purchasing power in rural areas.

Conclusion

International law recognizes a principle (or concept) of 'sustainable development'. Moreover, considerable consensus exists on its component parts, Le, the general principles of sustainable development, by which the term 'sustainable development has been given more direction and coherence. It is by invoking these principles in domestic and international legal regimes and decision- making processes that law has contributed to the realization of sustainable development. "Green" solutions can be achieved partly through a feeling of moral obligation and even more through self- interest and commitment

A lot has been done legally and judicially to protect environment, but still we are lacking far behind from our goal. Preservation and protection of the environment and keeping the ecological balance unaffected is a mission which is not only for Governments and judiciary but also for every citizen of India, it is a plous,

social moral and legal obligation on every Indian citizens, it is also their fundamental duty as enshrined in Article 51 A (g) of the Indian Constitution. It is an opportunity to come together and achieve the goal of Sustainable Development "as envisaged by the U.N. Millennium Goals of 2000 and declared by the Rio de Janeiro- Submit on Sustainable Development (1992,2012), the Johannesburg Conference on Sustainable Development (2002)

References:

1. Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development (the Brundtland Report). Our Common
2. Report of the WCED, Our Common Future (1987), at 51
3. See, eg, Schrijver, The Evolution of Sustainable Development in International law, 329) *Recueil des Cours* (2007) 217.
4. A.B.M. Marong, From Rio to Johannesburg: Reflections on the Role of International Legal Norms in Sustainable Development
5. MP Jain, Indian Constitutional Law Edison 2014) reprint 2016, LexisNexis
6. G.I.P. Darsini and K Umadevi, Environmental law and sustainable development (2010) P(xv)
7. Paras Diwan-Environment Administration Law and judicial attitude.
8. Pragya Ohri HAS Advocates- Article- India: Need For Sustainable Development. Report on the Environment and environmental regulatory mechanisms, by working group, Planning commission, 2007.
9. National Environmental Policy 2006, Ministry of Environment and Forests, New Delhi
10. Shyam Divan and Armin Rosencranz, Environmental Law and Policy in India