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**FACULTY OF SCIENCE AND EDUCATION**

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1a). Describe the term sustainable development and explain its origin.

b) Of what importance is sustainable development?

c) Explain the example of sustainable development

d) Discuss the problems facing sustainable development.

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**a) Describe the term sustainable development and explain its origin.**

- Sustainable development is a concept that refers to the process of meeting the present needs of society while ensuring that resources are available for future generations. It involves a balanced approach to economic growth, social equity and environmental protection. This holistic perspective recognizes that the three aspects are interconnected and that any decision or action taken today can have far-reaching consequences on future generations.
- The term “sustainable development” was first introduced in 1987 report titled “Our Common Future” by the United Nations World Commission on Environment and Development (WCED). This report, also known as the Brundtland Report, defined sustainable development as “development that meets the needs of present generations without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”
- Sustainable development is a critical concept in the field of environmental science, economics and public policy, as it provides a frame work for addressing various global challenges, such as climate change, resource depletion and social inequality by promoting a more responsible and balanced approach to development, sustainable development aims at creating a more sustainable and prosperous future for all.

**a) Of what importance is sustainable development?**

- ❖ Sustainable development is of paramount importance as it aims to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability at future generations to meet their own needs. It recognizes that economic growth should be inclusive to reduce poverty and inequality.
- ❖ Economically sustainable development promotes long-term economic growth without causing negative impacts on the environment or depleting natural resources i.e. innovations in technology and investment in clean energy for economic growth while minimizing environmental degradation.
- ❖ Socially, sustainable development seeks to ensure that all people have access to basic services such as education, health care, and clean water, and that they are able to participate in decision making process that affect lives.
- ❖ Furthermore, sustainable development aims to promote social equity and inclusion, ensuring that none is left behind in the cultivation of development.
- ❖ Environmentally, sustainable development emphasizes the importance of preserving ecosystems and biodiversity, reducing pollution and waste, and mitigating climate change. It advocate for sustainable land use, conservation of natural resources and protection of endangered species.
- ❖ Sustainable development is crucial for addressing global challenges such as poverty, hunger, climate changes, environmental degradation and social inequalities. It provides a frame work for decision making that considers the long-term consequences of actions and policies on people and the planet.
- ❖ Sustainable development seeks to ensure that future generations have the same opportunities and resources available to them as the present generation. This promotes inter-generational equity.
- ❖ Furthermore, sustainable development emphasizes the importance of international collaboration and partnerships to address global challenges hence encouraging global or international co-operation for reliable development.
- ❖ Sustainable development also aims at improving health and well being of individuals by addressing the environmental and social determinants of

health, such as access to clean water and promoting sanitation in the environment.

- ❖ In conclusion, sustainable development is of critical importance in holding a more equitable, healthy and prosperous future for all.

**c) Explain the examples of sustainable development.**

Sustainable development refers to the practice of meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Here are the examples of sustainable development:-

- ✓ Sustainable Agriculture: practices such as organic farming, crop rotation and agro-forestry promote soil health, biodiversity and water conservation while minimizing the use of synthetic inputs.
- ✓ Renewable Energy: The transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy sources such as solar, wind and hydroelectricity reduces greenhouse gas emissions and minimizes environmental impacts.
- ✓ Waste management: implementing recycling programs, composting organic waste and reducing single use plastics contribute to a circular economy and minimizes landfill pollution.
- ✓ Green building: Construction of energy efficient buildings with sustainable materials and technologies reduces energy consumption and waste generation in the construction industry.
- ✓ Conservation of natural resources: Protecting forests, oceans and wildlife habitats preserves biodiversity and ecosystem services essential for human well being.
- ✓ Sustainable Transportation: Encouraging public transit, cycling, walking and electric vehicles reduce air pollution and green house gas emissions associated with traditional transportation modes.
- ✓ Access to clean water and sanitation: Ensuring universal access to clean water and adequate sanitation facilities improves public health and reduces water borne diseases.
- ✓ Education and Awareness: promoting education on sustainability issues fasters informed decisions and empowers individuals to adopt a sustainable lifestyle.
- ✓ Economic Equity: Reducing income inequality and promoting fair labor practices contribute to social stability and inclusive economic growth.

- ✓ Sustainable Urban Planning: Designing cities with green spaces. Efficient infrastructure, mixed land use, and accessible ..... Amenities enhance livability while minimizing environmental impact.
- ✓ Ecotourism: Developing tourism in a way that is environmentally responsible, socially equitable and economically viable, promotes conservation and providing benefits to local communities.
- ✓ In conclusion, the examples of sustainable development can be implemented across various sectors to promote environmental, social, and economic well-being.

**d) Discuss the problems facing sustainable development.**

Sustainable development is of significant importance to the global however, it is facing challenges and these include;

- ✓ Overconsumption of resources: The overconsumption of resources such as water, energy, and raw materials is a significant issue facing sustainable development. As the global population continues to grow the demand for these resources increase, leading to scarcity and environmental degradation.
- ✓ Climatic changes: This is one of the most pressing problems facing sustainable development. It is caused by human activities, such as burning fossils and deforestation which release green house emissions into the atmosphere. Climatic changes leads to more extreme weather events rising sea levels and disruptions to ecosystem and agriculture.
- ✓ Loss of biodiversity: The loss of biodiversity is another problem facing sustainable development. This loss is primarily due to habitat destruction, pollution and climatic changes which threatens the survival of countless species and disrupt ecosystems. Biodiversity loss has far-reaching consequences, including reduced resilience to environmental changes and increasing risks to health and well being.
- ✓ Poverty and inequality are significant barriers to sustainable development. They perpetuate a cycle of vulnerability, limiting access to education, healthcare and other essential resources.

- ✓ Population growth is a significant challenge for sustainable development, as it puts increasing pressure on natural resources and ecosystems. Over or rapid population can lead to over exploitation of resources thus loss of biodiversity.
- ✓ Urbanization: this is another issue facing sustainable development as cities consume vast amounts of resources and produce significant waste and pollution. This limits achieving the sustainable goals.
- ✓ Conflicts and fragility: These are major obstacles to sustainable development as they undermine the ability of countries to invest in essential services and infrastructure.
- ✓ Corruption and governance: These challenges undermine the rule of law, hinder the efficient allocation of resources and perpetuate poverty and inequality.
- ✓ In conclusion, addressing the root cause of conflicts, corruptions and over population is crucial for promoting the sustainable development goals. Addressing such problems requires concerted efforts and collaboration at all levels to create a sustainable future for generations to come.

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