

INDUSTRIALIZATION VS ENVIRONMENT: PREVAILING CONDITIONS OF INDIAN INDUSTRIES

Kamlesh Pritwani*

ABSTRACT

Industrialization has concerned with economic prosperity, contradictory, it has also resulted in increase in population, urbanization, and stress on the basic life supporting systems while moving towards the environmental impacts. Rushing blind growth in industrial growth and comparatively low environmental sustainability is now befitting a significant issue in industrial development process. Prevailing studies and researches confirm the fact that the transition of the traditional Indian industries into eco-centric industrial paradigm through successful implementation of green approaches in view of green production, green marketing and green entrepreneurship will provide a justified solution to preserve the natural resources and to sustain the Indian economy. It is interconnected with appropriate planning and harmonies framework to nurture environment. This study is an investigation to observe and assess prevailing practices of Indian industrial sector in arena of environment pollution and its environmental management practices. Numerous movements towards protecting environmental pollution and environmental degradation created an awareness of the value of the world. It comprises practices for identifying, monitoring and reporting corporate environmental impacts and for integrating into corporate decisions on product costing, product pricing, capital budgeting, product design and performance evaluation. Responsibility towards environment has become one of the most crucial areas of corporate social responsibility. This realization conveyed environmentalism into the world of business and depicted ultimate move towards sustainable development. It is high time to resolve fight of industrialization Vs. Environment only then Indian industries may compensate debt of society and mother land.

KEYWORDS: *Economic Prosperity, Population Urbanization, Eco-Centric Industrial Paradigm, CSR.*

Introduction

The rampant industrialization with compulsion of economic prosperity, has resulted in huge increase of population, urbanization, stress on the life supporting systems, thrusting the environmental impacts. Application of green approaches based on 6Rs technologies (reduce, reuse, recycle, recovery, redesign, rethink) and the integrated framework of industrial ecology provides an excellent opportunity to preserve the natural resources and enhances the sustainability of economy. It comprises strategic planning with technical, ecological, socio-cultural and economic driving factors that can influence the industrialization process. The industrialization has led to development in diverse areas like agriculture, manufacturing sector, coal, timber, bottling plants, automobiles, gas and chemicals. This has developed the economy of India and the lifestyle of people living in the country. It had also led to the degradation of environment and the environmental conditions, the flora and fauna in different ecosystems, extinction of the rare species of animals, plants and birds and the depletion of natural resources.

* Associate Professor, Department of ABST, SGS Government College, Nasirabad, (MDS University, Ajmer, Rajasthan, India)

Objectives

- To study about traditional industries and conversion them into eco centric Industries.
- To observe the current status of industrial waste and pollution.

Hypotheses

H₀₁- Application of green approaches-based technologies may enhance the sustainability of industries and economy.

H₀₂ Industrial wastes and pollution are major source of environmental degradation.

Research Questions

- Whether the decline in environmental quality in India is due to release of toxic gases, which is an effect of high energy consumption?
- Whether rapid industrialization and economic prosperity may go together and sustain the Society?

Methodology

This study needs the collection and analysis of primary and secondary data based on environmental, technological, economic and policy issues of industrial pollution. Hence, the session of interactions with the Government and NGOs were executed to gather required information in the arena of environmental pollution. The study initiated a situational analysis with the collection of needed data from primary and secondary resources from reference books, journals, research articles, magazines and publications from government organizations, NGOs, academic and research institutes and business associations.

Information on the driving forces, physical environment, policy support, management options, market forces, trade and legal requirements, challenges and infrastructure facility available for the formation of an eco-industrial network were also collected for a better understanding to articulate a strategic planning and to develop sustainable solutions for the pollution problems. Two major research questions were also tried to solve in this study.

Industrial Environmental Concerns

From a demand perspective, the importance of industrialization can hardly be overestimated. Manufactured goods account for up to 60 per cent of household consumption worldwide. Industrialization had also led to the degradation of environment, the flora and fauna in different ecosystems, extinction of the rare species of animals, plants and birds and the depletion of natural resources. Industrialization has resulted in the increase in the emission of harmful effluents and pollutants both into water, soil and air. These effluents have caused a severe and irreversible destruction to the different species residing in those specific ecosystems. Many life species have become vulnerable and some are extinct due to deforestation. The contaminated ground water reserves, increasing global warming, depletion of the ozone layer and deadly diseases are mainly caused by rushed industrialization. Dust, smoke, fumes and toxic gas emissions occur as a result of highly polluting industries such as thermal power plants, coal mines, cement, sponge iron, steel & ferroalloys, petroleum and chemicals. In industry-specific areas, these have not only become hazardous, but also cause irreparable damage to ecological natural system, often breaching the environment's carrying capacity.

Observations

Except some hazardous waste recycling unit and no secured landfill site to take adequate care of industrial waste, some industries are disposing their waste to other supporting industries, while in most of the unit's waste disposal is being executed in an improper way, exerting a significant level of environmental burden. Uncontrolled, inadequate and unsystematic handling of this waste stands a great risk towards the environmental health. Detailed analysis of the environmental impacts of industrialization revealed that industries set up before the 1990s included mostly textiles, sugars and distilleries that were water intensive and had a higher pollution potential, employing immense pressure on the environment. The indiscriminate discharge of industrial effluent is the major source for surface water contamination. The heavy metals, salts and fluoride effluents from the industries of chemicals production, metal processing and paper manufacturing from the Industrial sector, were found to have contaminated the surrounding groundwater. Hence, it is important to step up commercial utilization of industrial waste, which can be accomplished by involving industries, states and central government departments. Industries must be made responsible in view of recycling on a regular basis through strict enforcement.

Conclusion

Industrialization has resulted in the increase in the emission of harmful effluents and pollutants into water, soil and air. These effluents have caused a severe and irreversible destruction to the different species residing in those specific ecosystems. The ground water reserves are no more pure, global warming has caused in the depletion of the ozone layer and has caused deadly diseases in certain areas. Most of this is caused by heavy industrialization. The increase in energy consumption is a way to control wastage of residual in production process to rapid economic growth led by industrialization. Adequate and effective pollution control measures are needed so that adverse effects on the environment are minimized. Advanced technological know-how and institutional back up support are also needed in this way. Industrialization can worsen indigenous health inequities by perpetuating the health, social and cultural impacts of historic environmental deprivation. To mitigate negative impacts, environmental impact assessment should unambiguously recognize linkages between environmental deprivation and the determinants of health and meaningfully involve indigenous communities in the process.

References

- Bowker, J.M. and H.F. MacDonald (1993) – 'An economic analysis of localized pollution: rendering emissions in a residential setting', Canadian Journal of Agricultural Economics, Vol 41: 45-59.
- Industrial Development Report 2018
- Julie A. Kryzanwski, Lynn McIntyre, 2011. A Holistic Model for the selection of Environmental Assessment Indicators to Assess the Impact of Industrialization on Indigenous Health, Canadian Journal of Public Health, March, Vol. 102 (2), pp. 112-117.
- Shah, Maya and Ashir Mehta, 2003. Estimating the Environmental Cost of Industrialisation in Gujarat: A Case Study of Ankleshwar GIDC, Environment, Health and Economics EERC Working Paper Series, EHE-4, IGIDR.
- U.S. Water Resources Council, 1983. Economic and Environmental Principles and Guidelines for Water and Related Land Resources Implementation Studies, Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office.
- Yanli, Shengli Zhou, Zhenyi Jia, Liang Ge, Liping Mei, Xueyan Sui, Xiaorui Wang, Baojie Li, Junxiao Wang and Shaohua Wu, 2018. Influence of Industrialization and Environmental Protection on Environmental Pollution : A Case Study of Taihu Lake, China, International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health, pp. 1-12.
- www.ecomena.org
- www.downtoearth.org.in
- www.researchgate.net
- www.mdpi.com

