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Gandhi's Economics Model: A Sustainable Lifestyle Automatically Ensures Sustainable Development

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Abstract

The paper shows that the Gandhi's economics model focus is on the simplicity of life based on minimum human needs. If we follow Gandhi's advice especially following the economy of cooperation of the honey bees and birds, keeping Gandhiji's ideals in mind we can surely achieve a sustainable lifestyle. A sustainable life style automatically ensures sustainable development.

Keywords: Villages, Khadi, sustainable lifestyle and sustainable development.

INTRODUCTION:

In the development and developmental process must aim at providing mechanism for better human life. The purpose of development is to create environment in which all people can expand their capabilities, and opportunities can be enlarged for both present and future generations. The real foundation of human development is universalism in acknowledging the life claims of everyone

India's village system includes the development of the country depending on the development of villages. That is why Gandhi focused on the growth of the rural industries like khadi, handlooms, handicrafts etc. In this connection Gandhi said that, "the basic aim behind rural industrialization is to satisfy our daily requirement by the product manufactured in village. Rural industries are depending on family labour and require less amount of capital. A raw material is available in local market. Thus, produced is sold in local markets. Therefore, there are no problem of manufacture and market. In India large scale industries have been concentrated in a few big cities which create a number of problems like overpopulation in the industrial areas, air and water pollution; large scale industries promoted monopolistic trends and unequal distribution of income. A rural industry on the supported decentralization of economic activities and a proportion of an income generated in these industries gets distributed among the workers and among a huge number of people.



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Gandhi has highlightly guided development of cottage industries in villages, which will reduce the burden on agriculture. Cottage industries can also work as a very good support system and cover for villagers. Gandhiji said, "We should produce and manufactured all the other necessities in the village itself. Then we should search out what other industries we can set up here. We release to press oil and make shoes locally. Similarly we can think of new industry also." Gandhi's thought on development of villages industries is very relevant keeping in view the present problems like poverty, unemployment, migration, regionalism imbalanced economic growth etc. This can be highlights with the help of the following headings:

OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY:

The present study aims to evaluate a focus on Gandhi's Economics Model of a sustainable lifestyle automatically ensures sustainable development.

METHODOLOGY:

The data for the present study has been collected from existing secondary literature, such as books, journals, published and unpublished annual reports, Govt. Manuals/Orders, websites etc.

GANDHI'S ECONOMICS MODEL:

The village economy focuses and satisfied into two main objectives. Firstly, it would available maximum employment and income to domiciles, and secondly, it would generate equality, freedom and justice. We focus on the village being self-contained, manufacturing mainly for local use. Gandhi's focused in towns and cities as a result of urbanization and the ever widening gap between the few very rich and many very poor has resulted in a crime, violence, exploitation.

In this regard it is appropriate to quote his famous sentence, "Nature produces enough to meet the needs of all the people, but not enough to satisfy the greed of any man." The meeting the minimum needs of everybody, Gandhi suggested two measures, "Firstly everybody should get sufficient work to enable him to make two ends meet. Secondly the means of manufacturing production of primary necessities of life should remain depend the control of masses."

Multiplying one's daily wants in unreflective fashion merely makes a person subject to an unending sequence of desires. Such a process does not lead an individual to any sustainable steady-state consumption path. At present, it is not only the physical environment but also the social, cultural and moral environments which have become dangerously imbalanced, polluted and degraded. Gandhi's economics guides us towards a sustainable lifestyle.

The Gandhi's economics model suggests the following steps to attaining a sustainable lifestyle:

1. Sustainable Agriculture:

We should be give up chemical fertilizers and pesticides and substitute them with bio-manures and bio-pesticides.



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2. Khadi and Village Industries:

Khadi and village industries are eco friendly. They create employment and alleviate poverty. So we should promote khadi and products of village industries.

3. Appropriate Technologies:

We should adopt technologies which are simple, and which our villagers are able to comprehend and operate themselves. The use of electricity should be avoided, or kept to the minimum.

4. Renewable Energy Sources:

Coal and petroleum are nonrenewable energy sources and are getting exhausted very fast. Solar energy is limitless and inexhaustible. We can harness solar energy for heating and lighting. Water and wind energies can also be harnessed for producing electricity.

5. Tree Plantation:

Cutting trees for fuel and for the construction of houses is inevitable. Our policy should be to plant two trees for every tree we cut. Trees as a source of energy are nonrenewable if we only cut them and do not grow them.

CONCLUSION:

The study indicates that the Gandhi's economics model focus is on the simplicity of life based on minimum human needs. If we follow Gandhi's advice especially following the economy of cooperation of the honey bees and birds, keeping Gandhiji's ideals in mind we can surely achieve a sustainable lifestyle. A sustainable life style automatically ensures sustainable development.

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