Sustaining the Environmental Sustainability: Role of Hindu Religion

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Abstract

Environmental protection and conservation of natural resources have become core concern of governance irrespective of its model. Debates and efforts are on since long back especially when scientists identified the negative impacts of human activities on the environment. Domestic and international bodies ventured upon to design measures in order to adopt policies, legislation and future plans conducive to the natural properties. Growing population and the unbridled exploitation of natural resources are accepted phenomenon now days. Consequently depletion of environment and its preservation cannot be controlled by these extraneous measures as hypocritical man could not altered the situation positively, thus, internal conscience became the only option. A theological implication of environmental ecology is now becoming crucial in order to testify the measures and its appropriateness. Religions do have the answer for the dichotomy of environment and development as the limit on human conduct is extremely desired. The failure of external regulatory mechanism forced us to look at different option and obvious shelter one finds in ethical component of individual’s behavior. Religious mandates and dictates may prove fruitful in this regard and eventually Hindu Religious texts have enough to say in this regard. Present paper very briefly ventured upon to discuss the texts and messages therein aiming at sustaining environmental properties. It also discusses how we treat and regard natural properties in our daily life.

Keywords: Sustainability, Hindu Religion, Cultural ethos, Environmental principles and Moral forces.