

## Role of Education in Attaining Sustainable Development

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**Abstract:** This paper is about the role of education for development of nation. This paper throws light on importance of education for personal life and societal lives. The purpose of this paper is to discuss the linkages of education by which sustainability can be achieved. No doubt, in present era, sustainable development is preferred than attaining development because of its long term aspect. It is fact that sustainable development requires development of different sectors of a nation in which the educational sector plays key role in gaining developmental goals. The critical situation regarding education system is that, due to different educational systems, different types of educated persons and cultures are being promoting in the societies. That's why uniformity of thinking and planning is lacking and creating problems to achieve their goals. The advantages to educated people are more as compared to uneducated people, i.e. chances of employment, chances of getting highly paid jobs, more respect, more creative and critical thinking, chances of remembering after the death because of writing and because of their pupils. This paper stresses that providing education is providing the human right to their offspring for parents and to arrange the proper educational facilities is crucial for the ruling authorities. The difference of the Eastern and the Western world is because of the preferences of technical education and negation of modern education in their educational systems. Furthermore, within the country, the difference of educated persons lies because of different educational institutions. This is why the children of elite class complete their education from top level national and international institutions and were appointed at top level while children of poor or middle class parents complete their education from low level or formal government institution which create just crowd of clerks or assistants. In this way, the disparity in living style and different stand of living is being created continuously which is not suitable for national solidarity and for real development also.

**Keywords:** Education; Technology; Development; Reforms; Standard of living; Culture.

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### Introduction

The concept of Sustainable development was described by the 1987 Brunt land Commission Report. There are four dimensions to sustainable development- society; environment, culture & economy- which are intertwined, not separate. (Editor, 2021) Sustainable development word has very few history in actual. And this is not confined to just one thing as there are many things that make the development sustainable. And education plays an active role to prepare people for achieving development.

The word education means “the process of imparting knowledge, skills and judgment between right and wrong.” (Ms. Kiran Jewraj, 2019)

In phrasal meaning, it may be stated that the ability and capability to know what is right and what is wrong or the difference of right and wrong may be considered as educated. Sometimes, if a person is educated but he adopts such behavior by which, it is known that his actions are wrong; this does not mean that he is not educated but he will be considered as educated. In actual he has education but his actions refer that he is not educated. This is because of the difference between his words and his actions.

As concerned the definition of sustainable development, it may be defined as under in these words:

“Sustainable Development is a development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generation to meet their own needs.” (Editor 2022)

And goals are set to achieve development by promoting different sectors of economy. While, sustainability may be achieved after the continuous development in long period of time, as the United Nations, (2020) stated that:

The sustainable development goals are the blue-print to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all. (The United Nations, 2020)

### Discussion

The facet of education is that through the education thinking may be changed and this educated person can change the thinking of others by present arguments. The true fact about educated persons is that educated person will indulge in worldly matters with proof or because of solid logic while uneducated or ignorant people will involve in worldly matters without any kind of logic. Therefore, to provide education to their children, it is the duty of parents and to provide facilities of education is the responsibility of ruling authorities.

Borge Brenede president of world economic forum states that ‘Education is a human right. And like other human rights, it cannot be taken for granted. Across the world, 59 million children and 65 million adolescents are out of school. More than 120 million children do not complete primary education. Today’s students need ‘twenty first-century-skills’ like critical thinking, problem solving, creativity and digital literacy. Learners of all ages need to become familiar with new technologies.’ (Borge Brenede, 2015) In the present era of globalization, the need of education is more than the past to the

offspring. Otherwise, there will be problem to in gaining development for developing nations and for developed nations sustainability will become problem.

Education alone is obviously not enough to solve the world's problems but it remains an essential factor in any development activity. (Editor 2021)

Through the education, the worldly and the spiritual matters may be solved if proper and timely arrangements are settled. Otherwise, late arrangements for education may provide results late also. Therefore a famous proverb states as: 'a stitch in time may saves nine after time'.

Education is a human right and is central to achieving many other sustainable development outcomes. A quality basic education gives children and youth the knowledge & skills they need to face daily life challenges and take advantage of economic & lifelong learning opportunities. It is also a key driver for reducing poverty fostering economic growth, achieving gender equality and social development. (Editor, 2021)

In present era, after gaining and providing education, now the issue is being arisen that is of a quality education. Quality education will be considered that will be helpful and required for highly paid and skillful jobs. Therefore, it is observed that the persons who have qualitative education that are appointed for highly paid jobs. While others who have education but it is common or his education is not required by the organization, therefore, he remains unemployed because he is not being demanded by other organization. Therefore regarding employment, both will have different point of views.

### **Education & Development**

No doubt education plays an important role in gaining social status and economic prosperity. Therefore, with the standardized education, the individual and the collective position might be changed.

Education in every sense is one of the fundamental factors of development. Education plays a very crucial role in securing economic & social progress and improving income distribution. Education is also an important contributor to technological capability & technical change in industry. (Ozturk Lihan, 2001)

Through the education technological changes are being happening. Therefore, those industries and factories adopt technology; they can get more production than the traditional industries.

Education is one of the most important investments for the country. (François, 2021) It is general point of view by educationists and economists that investment on education has a greater rate of return than any other investment. The reason is that, after than investment, different types of advantages occur not only personal but communal, societal and for the country also. This investment not only provides financial benefits but spiritual and moral advantages also.

In developing countries, there is quite problem for the poor as all the people have no access to provide education to their offspring because of financial and domestic problems. Therefore, those have problems of food and survival of life, in what manner; they can provide education to their springs. Therefore, it is suggested that first basic needs must be fulfilled then the poor can provide education to their children. This is the main reason of failure of government policies regarding achieving hundred

## Role of Education in Attaining Sustainable Development

percent literacy rates. Without provision of basic needs to the poor and the deprived people, no targets regarding education can be gained.

“Access (to education) is not the only crisis-poor quality is holding back learning even for those who make it to school,” said UNESCO Director-General Irina Bokova, in a foreword to the 11<sup>th</sup> annual education for all. (Iran Bokova, 2014) This is true that who are unable to provide basic needs, in what manner they can think about the quality of education and standard of life without resources. In developing countries, this is the main reason which is being ignoring in all policies of changing the status of people.

We must understand that education & development go hand in hand. The role of education in developing countries is a very important one as lack of education causes poverty and slow economic development of a country especially if the country is a developing country. Education is very important for everyone. It's a primary need of any individual; every girl or boy child should have the right to quality education so that they can have better chances in life, including employment opportunities and better health. (Kudroli, 2019)

As concerned the financial position and the standard of living, these reflects the education directly. The reason is that the children of poor parents have lot of problems in gaining education because of poverty and bad economical position. They cannot take admission in top class organizations or universities because of high dues and accommodation problems. While the children of rich parents have advantages of financial as well as other resources and links with the ruling authorities' guides them to take admission in top class universities of national and international level.

Nationwide, the biggest economic gains will come many years after school improvement takes place, a fact that probably helps to explain the reluctance of the political class to commit itself to genuine school reform. (Paul E. Peterson, Eric. Hanushek, 2013)

Anyhow, reformation in educational standard and educational policies must be done for fruitful results otherwise competition and the sustainability will prove just like dream of abnormal person. The difference of the Eastern and the Western countries is also because of adoptability of technological knowhow.

With the reformation in education and the qualitative techniques, the inequality in societies may decrease. This means as well as quality of education will spread; there will be more chances to increase standard of living of the people. Due to increased standard of living, eating habits, living style and culture also changes. Furthermore, the dealing style of people also changed and mostly people behave politely with high standard people and rude & harsh behavior with the poor especially in poor countries.

There is a positive feedback from improved education to greater income equality. Delays in reforming education system to keep pace with economic structures are most apparent in the transition economies of eastern & central Europe. (Ozturk Lihan, 2001, 42/44)

Technology can deliver new educational opportunities for everyone. It offers huge opportunities to transform global education at all age levels. Technology can be used as a tool for delivering education where it must be needed. (Editor, 2021)

Present era is considered as the era of technological and the globalization. Therefore, the nations who have ignored the technical knowledge or not adopted the technology and skilled labor, they have to depend upon others and balance of payment remains in deficit because of high cost of imports.

Over the past two decades in particular, economic growth has come at the expense of the environment. Earth's natural resources have been used in ways that are environmentally inefficient and wasteful, with dangerous consequences such as decreased air quality and over all climate change. (Editor 2021)

The problem about the scarcity of resources is that resources are being wasted in many countries of the world. This is why that there are such people who have plenty of resources but there are such people also that are begging for getting food and the other resources of life. Therefore the problem of scarcity is being created. The solution lies in proper utilization and the division of resources.

Civil rights activist Martin Luther King Jr. once said, 'The function of education of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character-that is the goal of true education. 8 reasons are:

1. It helps you gain personal control of your life;
2. It helps to make the world a better place;
3. It gives you the skills required for employment;
4. It gives you increased earning power;
5. Education allows you to run your dreams into a reality;
6. It gives confidence& staying power;
7. Education sharpens your financial intelligence;
8. Education helps you channel your energy;

Education is a mind expanding gift that can broaden your horizons & enrich your life. (Editor, 2021).Through the education, people has awareness about the history of old successful nations and weakest nation with causes of failure. Education provides civilized manners and polite attitudes to behave with the people.

Education is indispensable to economic development. No economic development is possible without good education. A balanced education system can promote not only economic development but productivity and generates industrial income per capita. Its influence is noticeable at the micro level of an industrial family. (Ozturk Lihan, 2001, 44-47)

By economists' research, education is considered as greatest investment because of highest rate of return. The problem with developing countries is now not only education only but the main problem is balanced education. Such type of education is being provided that is not required to developing countries. And what is required to them, is being neglected to the developing countries. Then how can developing countries change their status without getting required and the qualitative education.

No education system can be better than the quality of its teachers. (Sarah Bunoti (2019, 7) In present era, in many Muslim countries, such policies are being adopted as do not support their culture and their culture support to these policies. But all these are being adopted because of tendency of imitation. For making progress, it is mandatory that developing countries should adopt such policies that are suitable for their culture and useful for their infrastructure.

As concerned the 11 lifelong effects of lack of education, these are as under:

## Role of Education in Attaining Sustainable Development

- I. **Poor health:** Better health plays an active role for gaining education. And poor health and weak people cannot perform their efforts in active manner.
- II. **Lack of voice:** Uneducated people have inferiority complex because less education, this is why they cannot talk with confidence. Therefore, their duties remain more than their rights.
- III. **Shorter life span:** It is practically observed that educated people live more than uneducated people. As research declared that educated people live more 4 years to 14 years from uneducated people. (Educated live long In hungry 14 years live more In Italy educated live 4 years more)
- IV. **A poverty trap:** Due to lack of people, uneducated people remain in poverty. And mostly uneducated people have linkage with the uneducated and poor people; this is why they can use linkage in office for completion of their application or other utility services.
- V. **Unemployment:** It is truth that educated persons have more chances of employment than unemployment. Furthermore, educated persons can attain highly paid jobs while uneducated persons have no chance to get highly paid jobs due absence of skill and absence of qualitative education.
- VI. **Exploitation:** Educated persons have more knowledge as compared to uneducated people; therefore, no one can easily deceive the educated people while uneducated people can be easily deceived because in reading or writing, they have to depend upon the others.
- VII. **Gender Inequality:** Due to education, men are considered superior over the women if women get educated, in this way gender inequality may be decreased. The reason is that educated women have more chances to get employment like men. So, with the help of gender inequality may be decreased.
- VIII. **A brake on economic growth:** The importance of education may be analyzed that due to break in education may be considered as the break in the progress of individuals and the development of the country.
- IX. **Inability to make smart political decisions:** In absence of qualitative education, no political smart decisions can be made for the welfare the nation. The educated persons can present their opinion in the long term scenario.
- X. **It's harder to raise children(less speaks long education):** In Uneducated people cannot present their opinion with the help of arguments. In the children's growth and the bringing up, the uneducated people have to face many types of problems by the society. (Chris Drew, 2021).

As concerned role of education for developing countries, it is very important but mandatory because without the education, no one changes their standard of life without gaining proper required education. But poor countries should adopt such policies that match their infrastructure so that their policies could be fruitful.

The education plays a great role in developing countries in every field. It plays like a model role in the development of one country if the people of a country are educated then they can easily helps them in development. Education gives people the skills they need to help themselves out of poverty. (Editor, 2021).No doubt that education provides skill to the students. And with technical education, students may get knowledge of different skills. And with the help of these skills, these students can earn their livelihood. In this way they can share the financial burden of their parents in an easy way. The fact is that in which house, parents burden is shared by their children, definitely not only their standard of living is improved but the style of living and their living preferences also became changed.

There are an increasing number of students which is in matched by facilities which has impacted adversely on the quality of higher education. ( Kasozi, 2005,1-7 )It is natural phenomenon that the facilities of education to the rich students and the poor students are not same but the problem here is lies that the competition and the merit of urban and the rural students remain the same. This situation lies from elementary to higher education. Besides this there is problem among the institutions that most of the institutions present admissions more than their capacity, this behavior is just for earning profit by more admissions.

Institutions of higher education have become overwhelmed by the large number of applicants, which have forced many of them to admit students beyond their intake capacity. (Sarah Bunoti, 2019 & Buzindadd 2000)

Ancient Chinese Philosopher Laozi said, "Give a man a fish and he will eat for a day. Teach a man to catch a fish and he will eat for a life time." Therefore, it must be noted that it is better to provide skill than help with money. But with the skill, the person will be able to produce more things for him and for the others also.

Anyhow, five things you should know:

- I. Expand opportunities but pay attention to equity;
- II. Education is an investment;
- III. Countries can compete and succeed.
- IV. It's important to focus result;
- V. Skills demanded by the labor markets are changing; (Harry A. Patrinos 2016).

It is proved that a country's development is primarily based on its people and its resources. However, it ultimately depends on the people only as to what extent they can use the scarce resources efficiently in order to achieve a rapid rate of development and breakthrough in innovation. As the people play the most important role in shaping the status of the country; education is responsible for shaping a person. Therefore education is the backbone of any country.(Raghav Bansal, 2020)

With the education, fate of individuals and the fate of countries can be changed. Therefore, those countries do not stress on that education which is required and the needs of digital era, they cannot sustain with digital era. Similarly they cannot control the digital crime because absence of modern equipment and technical staff.

The rising cost of education for the learning means that many are looking for new ways to access education that will cover costs and allow them to earn while they learn. (Steve Maharey, 2011)

This is fact the earning with learning is a difficult task but it provides the poor students to compensate their expenses and share the financial burden of their parents. This is why now professional educational and the skilled education is useful for the poor as well as for the developing countries.

The study shows that the students are aware of the importance of quality of education as quality has an impact on their employment.(Arundhathi Thangeda et al. 2016, 16)

## 10 Benefits of Education

- I. Secondary education can cut poverty in half;

## Role of Education in Attaining Sustainable Development

- II. Reduces child marriage;
- III. Education reduces;
- IV. Fullest potential gained through education:
- V. Protects from trafficking;
- VI. Education helps the environment:
- VII. Reducing child labor;
- VIII. Education is improving world health;
- IX. Universal access boosts the economy;
- X. Inclusive education is giving disabled children a chance; (Hannah White, 2020)

Quality education is a necessary to a sustainable economy of any nation. Sustainably is the ability to be sustained, supported upheld or confirmed so as to maintain a certain state or position. Necessity refers to an imperative requirement or need for something. The Great Nelson Mandela said once, “education is the most powerful weapon; we can use to change the world.” (Arundhathi Thangeda et al. 2016, 10& 12)

Education is considered the most powerful weapon. The reason is that by getting education, many types of weapons may be prepared that may provide better results that the past ones.

The views of Nelson are right as education is most powerful by which all types of weapons can be made. But unfortunately, developing countries are developing because they are lack behind in gaining and providing quality education to their population.

To ensure they get what they need, learners are relying less on the long standing status of an institutions and more what they can how find out about what they are doing now. (Steve Maharey 2011, 66) The development will be considered as real when people’s problems will be solved and the children will not be deprived of from their rights. But such types of things can be read in theories while practically it may be found very less.

### Concluding Remarks

In nutshell, it may be stated that developed nations did not achieve their present status by development of one sector or by short term policies but this was gained by continual struggle and development of different sectors with continual improvement of economy. And peaceful conditions have played its role in attaining the sustainability of development. Therefore, it is upon developing nations that they will have to improve infrastructure and their policies of development. For gaining development, proper use of resources as well as avoid from the wastage of resources is necessary. For improving the standard of living, the continuity of policies and projecting the long term policies by concerned experts are crucial for future planning. Furthermore, for maintaining national solidarity among the inhabitants of country, the disparity of educational system is mandatory, otherwise different educational system will produce different types of educated persons that will create problems for unity and national solidarity. And developing countries will have to stress on such types of skillful education by which match the needs of country. This education will create employment opportunities as well as improve the standard of living of the people also. In short, developing countries will have to eschew from imitating the others and stress the professional and technical education so that they could earn their livelihood easily.

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## Role of Education in Attaining Sustainable Development

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