

## **U Turn Of Development-Last Opportunity to Save Our Earth - Our Resources**

**Dr.Hemant Pednekar**

Principal,

ACS College, Onde, Vikramgad, Palghar, Maharashtra

The entire world is passing through the very critical situation of Covid-19. Lockdown period has been extended in many countries due to the fear of Corona virus. Many environmental problems like Global warming, sea level rise, Ozone depletion, deforestation, depletion of resources and pollution have become serious in this decade.

Lockdown period is a temporary break-It is the period given to us for introspection of our development process. It is warning given to us by the nature and probably this is the last chance to save our resources-Our Earth. As per our existing knowledge, our Earth is the unique planet having water, environment and life on it.

Why there is life on the earth? Why not on other planets? Probably it is the critical distance between Earth and Sun-about 150 million kms. The planets which are close to Sun are very hot and those who are away from the Sun are very cold. Only Earth has suitable temperature for the existence of the Environment and our survival. Even though we know all these things, we have forgotten that the nature/God has given us the best planet in the entire universe and we are spoiling it through our activities termed as Development. Corona virus has come to Earth to give us warning that we are not supreme and use our mother earth as per our unlimited desires.

We are just one element in this environment and we must respect other elements in the environment and rethink about our development and our resources. Resource is anything, which is used by man for his benefit. It can be an object or human qualities like beauty.

Man is most intelligent animal. He has capacity to think and the power of logical reasoning. Newton developed the theory of Gravitation, when he observed an apple falling from the tree. In the initial stage of development-in stone age- man was afraid of natural forces like wind, rain, storms, lightening etc. Today he has learned to utilize these forces for his benefit through the development in science and technology.

Nature has given us endowment in the form of various elements like soil, water, plants, stones, minerals etc. Man has converted them into resources. Nature /God has given all these to his most beloved creation -Man. Parents love their children. Similarly God loves us. Unfortunately we do not have the sense of gratitude. Man and woman are like elder brothers and sisters and they are expected to take care of their younger brothers and sisters. - i.e. the various environmental elements. The role of human being should be of the trustee of the environmental systems. Instead of that man is behaving like a spoiled greedy child, who takes many food items in his plate. He takes much more than his requirement and when his stomach is full, he throws away all extra food items into waste basket. This wasteful attitude of few people and of developed countries has created major problems in the world.

Hence it is essential to remember what Gandhiji said- Earth has sufficient resources to fulfill the needs of everyone but not the greed of any one. In the process of human development, there was Agricultural revolution and then the Industrial revolution. European

countries took advantage of the industrial revolution to spread their Empires in the world. Their main intention was to grab resources-Raw materials, minerals from the undeveloped regions in the world.

Western countries used technology as a tool for their development. These developed countries became role model for the underdeveloped countries. Many young students migrated from the undeveloped and developing countries to the developed countries for education or jobs. Large scale Brain Drain took place in the last few decades. Development of an individual or region or country is not bad. Everyone likes better standard of living and more money to spend. Our each expectation or demand is linked with two attributes-benefits and responsibilities or duties. We paid attention to the benefits of the development, ignoring responsibilities or our duties.

Let us take example of a car. Each car has two essential parts-Accelerator to increase the speed of our car and Brakes to reduce speed or to stop the car in the case of emergency. Now let us consider our process of Development as building a new superfast car. In building this car we focused our attention only on the accelerator to increase its speed. We never paid much attention to the breaks.

More expensive superfast car requires more effective superfast breaks .If we use ordinary breaks for our superfast car, what will happen? We can imagine.

Our process of Development is very much similar to building up superfast car with ordinary breaks. Nature/ God is observing everything. He is like RTO or Traffic Police. He realized that our car of Development has superfast speed and it can lead the entire world into dangerous situations. So he has stopped our car of Development for checking, which we term as the Lockdown Period.

Griffith Taylor had put forth the idea of 'Stop and Go Determinism'.

The rate of our growth or development should never exceed the rate of growth in the Nature. Hence he has given Warning to the human race through his concept of 'Stop and Go Determinism'.

Lockdown period is a temporary stop for our process of Development by our traffic controller-Our Nature/God. It is a severe warning given to us by the nature and this is the time for our introspection. To review and redesign our process of Development. Probably this is the last chance to Save our mother Earth.

The interesting part of the lockdown is that this lockdown period has come with one more lockdown. When we purchase something, we expect to get something free and so the marketing technique is buy one and get one free. Similarly we have been gifted one more, permanent lockdown along with the existing temporary Lockdown. The first lockdown is for Covid-19 or Corona virus.-our external enemy. While our second lockdown is the virtual lockdown, which we have imposed on ourselves due to our over dependence on the modern technology.

All family members stay in the same house but they do not have time to enjoy their company. Each member has become slave of mobile, internet, either for official work or for enjoyment. Government suggests us to keep social distance between two people. Along with the social distance we have started keeping Mental Distance from our family members. We ignore beautiful real world and we are very much attracted towards Virtual world. It is really

very tempting and attractive and so from early childhood to old age we have become addict or slave of this Virtual World. It is said that there was a demon called Bhasmasura. He had super power to destroy everything just by putting his hand on it. He created havoc in the world. Ultimately God Vishnu became a very beautiful, attractive, charming girl called Mohini. Bhasmasura was very much attracted towards her and started dancing with her. She put her hand on her head. Bhasmasura did the same and because of the super power he had, within fraction of seconds he was destroyed.

History repeats. Man is behaving like Bhasmasura by over exploiting natural resources, creating pollution, increasing population and destroying natural ecosystems in the name of his development process. Nature/God can not tolerate this for a longer period of time, because nature/God takes care of all elements in the environment. For him man is just one element in the environmental systems and he is not supreme. Hence probably he has attracted man to the virtual world -like Mohini in the past.

During lockdown period our dependence on mobile, internet has increased and probably it will continue to increase even after the lockdown period is over.

Virtual Lockdown:-

Progress of human society is equated with the learning new techniques and skills related to modern technology- Calculator, Computer, mobile, Smartphone, internet etc. Is technology bad? No. But over dependence on technology is certainly bad. e. g. for simple calculations modern young boy requires calculator but his grandfather is able to do these calculations without using machines.

In Ayurveda an expert doctor or vaidya is able to diagnose disease in fraction of seconds with the help of reading pulse of the patient.

Modern doctor is paralyzed. He requires many medical tests to diagnose the type of disease. This involves wastage of money, time and energy. Patient can become serious during this period.

At least 80 percent of the diseases can be cured by simple herbal products available at home, suggested by the wise grand mother or ayurvedic vaidya This is also applicable to all fields of education. Students score very good marks. They get distinction. They get knowledge but not wisdom, which one has to acquire on his own, with positive thinking and an urge to develop himself and the society.

Hence in spite of getting distinction many students are not able to get jobs. It is like- 'Operation Successful, Patient Died'.

What is the solution?

In the process of development in the field of education, when we get new techniques, which are easier to use and effective like ICT, online courses, smart phone etc. we totally forget our traditional methods of teaching, like a small child we get attracted to new techniques. Remember each method of teaching has some advantages and some disadvantages. Depending on the ability and requirements of the students, teachers should use all methods-old and new-to make their teaching effective and student friendly. The ultimate goal of education is the development in personality. It can be achieved through determination, dedication and preparedness of the students to do hard work.

Remember-'No Pains No Gains'

Man is most fortunate animal. There are millions of life forms on the earth. Man is supreme among them, as he has capacity of thinking and logical reasoning. Man has used it for his Development. It is very interesting to know that all flowers of the same plant look alike, but all members of the same family are different. In fact each individual is different. God has given different assets in the form of potentials to each individual. Those who are able to identify and use their potentials at right time, become successful in the life.

Consider life like a puzzle-which has an individual, his surroundings and opportunities or requirements of the society/world. Greatest opportunities come to our life as the greatest problems. Which we can accept with positive attitude and as a challenge. So self identification and self respect is very essential for every individual. Teachers and parents can help in achieving it.

Success comes to those who dare and act.

If we rethink about our requirements and expectations from life we can realise that we can be very happy with minimum requirements. We are compelled by MNC to purchase their products and this target they easily achieve by giving us sweet poison through the advertisements on the mass media.

We must always remember what our beloved leader Mahatma Gandhiji said to protect our environment. Earth has sufficient resources to fulfill the needs of everyone but not the greed of anyone. Nature maintains balance .e. g. water flows from higher level to lower level to maintain balance. Air moves from the high pressure area to the low pressure area to maintain balance. If the pressure difference is less, speed of wind is less. But if the pressure difference is more, the speed of wind is more as in the case of Cyclone. Similarly it is necessary to maintain balance in the distribution of population also.

We find greater accumulation of people in Urban areas, due to migration of people from rural areas for jobs and education. In order to maintain balance in the distribution of population it is necessary to reverse this trend. Government authorities in Japan are encouraging return migration from Tokyo. Similarly our government can develop infrastructural facilities in rural and backward areas as an incentive to return migration from the overcrowded metropolitan cities.

- 1) The solution of all our problems is with us and we can implement it successfully if we change our concept from economic development to eco-friendly development. In short develop our physical and mental abilities and reduce our dependence on modern technology.
- 2) Use minimum Resources, reduce, recycle, reuse and avoid wastage
- 3) Control of population and redistribution of population from overcrowded urban areas to rural areas or undeveloped areas can reduce many environmental problems.