ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES AND HUMAN SECURITY

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Abstract- This review paper will try to explain the concept of environmental challenges and definition of Human security, its nature, strategies and principles. The developing dimensions of environment and human security both are interlinked. This review paper will try to explain the phase of security linkages and environment and also some agencies and projects those focus on Environmental issues and Human resources.

Keywords- Environment, Human, Security, Issues

Introduction- The word environment means 'surrounding' which is derived by the French word "environ" (Mozhi, 2013). The concept of challenges means issues related to biodiversity- drought, frost, pollution, land degradation, deforestation, over pollution, industrialization, water scarcity, loss of biodiversity (Nichols, 2019), pesticide contamination, soil erosion, declining population of animal and their species (Jorgenson and Dunlap, 2017).

According to Human Security Unit (HSU)- The word security means freedom or the fundamental freedom that are the essence of life. Human Security includes three forms of freedom- Freedom from fear, freedom from want, freedom from indignity. Human security was completed into seven categories- personal security, environmental security, political security, food security, community security, health, economic security (Report of human development, 1994).
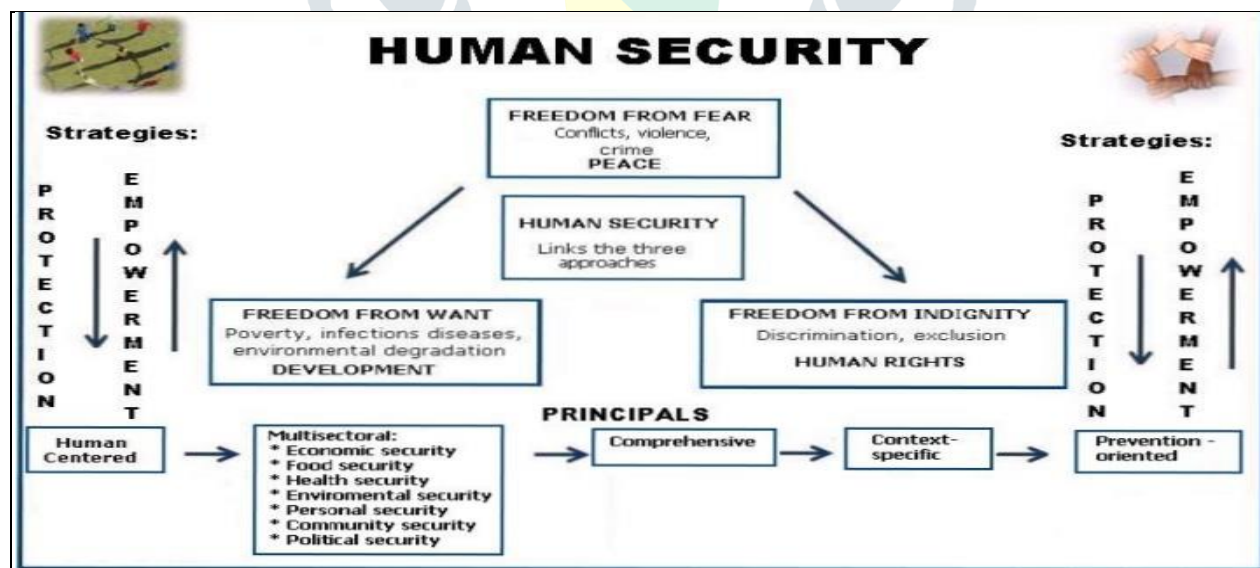

Fig. 1. Mostafavi & Mehrnaz (2009). Human Security Unit OCHA.

There are two principles of human security people centered and multi sectoral. People centered means human security at individual level and considered their threat at survival, live hood and dignity level. While the multi sectoral means human security include national security and broadened understanding of threats at personal,

economical, environmental, community, political and health level. Human security includes three types of strategies-

Comprehensive – Emphasis the need for co-operative and multi sectoral responses such as security development, human rights.

Context-specific- Search for contextual solution for particular situations.

Prevention- Oriented- Strategies of protection and empowerment.

Security Linkages and Environment- Evolution of Security and Environment divided in four phases of research on environmental security was defined by Brauch (2003)-

Phase I: focused on wars and its environmental impact (in the duration of 1960s and 1970s) Phase II: In this phase around 1990s Toronto Group practice on the 2 project related to empirical environmental security (Homer-Dixon 2000) Phase III: comparative studies and conceptual deepening were launched. Phase IV: In this environmental security research has been identified.

Present scenario, in which modern societies, urbanization, industrialization, trade, technology, not focus on natural resources, occupation, social organization at higher level have all consume the environmental place on human security. The history says pollution level has increased from one to over six billion people and these people live longer, consume more and educated also as compare to previous generations. Now the risk arises that environment issues stop the human security have not been separated. The consumption scales of today's population cause the damages or lost of forest, biodiversity, degradation of lands, coastal and marine also, chemical and radioactive substances creates climate change and increase sea level. These climate changes are ubiquitous and 'global' because some pollutants are global consequences (Turner et al., 1990) such as green house gases and radioactive waste. The word 'global' means social consequences environmental challenges social consequences and environment challenges beyond, groups, time horizon, distance places (UNEP, 1997).

Researchers said that there is a link between the human security and global issues. Some researches show a relationship between environmental changes and conflicts (Myers 1993, Gleick 1994, Barnett 2001) and the others are based on the biodiversity and violence (Mattew 2004). In case of human security as an international agenda many researches and policy includes Human rights, HIV/AIDS, gender security, terrorism, conflict, poverty etc. In this area many researches focused on two types of points- the one is issues related with science (ozone depletion, climate change, biodiversity losses etc) and the second is issues related to development (ethics, equity, welfare, social justice etc). Basically population that is highly dependent on the biodiversity or ecosystem is most sensitive to environmental change (Adger, 2003). There are so many agencies and project are found in this area such as- Global Environment change and human resource (GECHS), Millennium development goals (MDG), UN Climate change conventions, UNDP, UNESCO, UNU-EHS, International geosphere biosphere program (IGBP), International human dimensions program (IHDP), World climate research program (WCRP) etc.

Conclusion-

The connection between the concept of environmental issue and human safety has been ignored. The global changes in environment is related to science on earth surroundings, with Humans' values, rights and needs (O'Brien and Leichenko 2000; O'Brien 2006).

Environmental problems are lifting inescapable query of sustainability and equity, power relations, ethics, and societal fairness which previously lie behind each phase of security related to human welfare.

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