Capacity Building for Sustainable World: A Study on political practices and effects on global sustainability

Prof. Dr. Engr. M A Mannan
Professor & Head (EEE) IIUC,
Adjunct Faculty MBA BUP, Ex-Dean(EEE), DUET Gazipur, Bangladesh.

Abstract: Worldwide, crime and corruption situation is deteriorating rapidly. We are living in a Global village (GV), comprising of more than 200 independent states, most of them are governed by democratic governments. But classical democracy is modernized as digital democracy in which crime, corruption, unfair means etc are nourished, protected and encouraged and also considered as integral part of politics. As a result, social, economic and military unbalance is generated in our GV. This paper presents a study on prevailing political practices, role of development-partners, effects on world-economy and finally specific suggestions for capacity building for sustainable development of this GV. Particular observation method, case study method and questionnaire technique of survey method are used to collect primary data. Secondary data are collected from related books, journals, news-papers and electronic-media. A questionnaire comprising 19 questions related to prevailing political practices, its effect on economy, social unbalance, covered life-style of political practitioners etc is administered on 100 respondents having long experience with minimum master’s degree and social acceptance. Based on primary and secondary data, specific and object oriented suggestions are developed for sustainable future of this GV.

Key words and abbreviations: SPP: Sound Political Practice, PPP: Poor Political Practice, TEC: Tender Evaluation Committee, PEC: Proposal Evaluation Committee, GV: Global Village, UN: United Nations

I. Introduction

The UN made a remarkable decision by designating 2005 – 2014 as “Decade of Education for Sustainable Development” with its overall objective to integrate principles, values and practices for sustainable development into all aspects of education and learning and to encourage changes in economic behavior that will create a more sustainable future in terms of environmental integrity, economic vitality and a peaceful global society for present and future generations. But the period has passed without any achievement. Moreover, our beloved GV is going towards unsustainable due to PPP and its effects on factors of sustainability. Key words SPP and PPP are defined as observed in most democratic countries of this global village.

Sound Political Practice (SPP): In which government ensure (i) good governance, (ii) professional functioning of constitutional bodies without any politicalization, (iii) strongly resist crime & corruption, (iii) best value for national budget, (iv) fair election process, (v) non-discrimination among citizens, (vi) religious value, (vi) fair selection and recruitment of human resources based on professional skill, morality, ethics and patriotism in constitutional & public bodies, (vii) social and economic infrastructure for sustainable future.

Poor Political Practice (PPP): PPP is the inverse of SPP in which (i) there is no good governance, (ii) constitutional bodies are controlled by political party, (iii) crime, corruption, armed cadres and all types evil workers are nourished, protected and encouraged by party leaders and or by law enforcing agency, (iv) huge amount national budget is wasted, (v) election commission is made political commission to ensure result as per wish of the chief of ruling party, (vi) selection and recruitment in public bodies is based on political involvement and or money given, (v) discrimination, insecurity, unbalance etc prevail in social and economic life and (vi) social and economic infrastructure tends towards severe unsustainable situation.

For sustainable development of this Global Village (GV), we must ensure SPP. But due to systematic deficiencies including outdated and opaque practicing rules and procedures, inadequate management and administrative infrastructure, lack of transparency and accountability mechanism, pervasive rent-seeking, corruption, fraudulent/collusive/coercive practices, dishonesty, lack of morality and ethics, democracy is going to be failed and the GV is going towards severe unsustainable situation due to prevailing PPP. At a more fundamental level, it causes erosion of public confidence, deterioration of investment climate, misuse of scarce public resources, acquisition of poor quality of goods, works and services using public money etc resulting social and economic unbalance. On the contrary, SPP promises significant benefits for sustainable development. These include economy, efficiency, transparency, accountability, cost effective implementation of projects.
ensuring best value for money, reducing cost for doing business, improving investment climate for better interest of the state as well as the mankind. To establish SPP, present research was aimed to conduct a systematic study and evaluation of prevailing political practices in democratic countries like India, Pakistan and Bangladesh and to develop significant suggestions on capacity building for sustainable future of this GV.

II. Methodology

Participant observation method, case study method questionnaire techniques of survey method are used to collect primary data from non-political respondents like prominent academicians, engineers, advocates, executives, secretaries, business-executives and military officials. Author, as a member of TEC/PEC and consultant to development projects, had been using participant observation and case study to know activities, involvement, skill and professionalism of prevailing political practices for the last 20 years. Qualitative outcomes from this long study are incorporated in construction of the questionnaire administered. Following steps are passed in construction of the questionnaire: (i) data requirement is fixed as per definition of the problem under investigation (ii) type of question (open/closed) is decided (iii) topics of questions are outlined and written on four areas like general queries, drawbacks, opportunities and suggestions for capacity building for SPP (iv) questions are edited and pre-tested to know how well to work (v) after pre-test, final edition is made to ensure that the questionnaire is ready for administration which include a close look at the content, sequence of questions, appearance and clarity of the procedure for using the questionnaire (vi) finally, the questionnaire is formulated using procedural check lists to made it reliable and valid.

III. Questionnaire administration and statistics of respondents

Questionnaire comprising of embarrassing and very sensitive questions can’t be disclosed due to prevailing PPP. Administration of such a questionnaire is also very tedious, risky and time consuming. For the greater interest of the mankind, it is done and only suggestions for sustainable future of this GV are presented in article 4. Demographic information and statistics of respondents are presented below:

Demographic information

Statistics of respondents:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age structure</th>
<th>No of respondents</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>40 to 50 years</td>
<td>05</td>
<td>05%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51 to 60 years</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61 to 65 years</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Above 65 years</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level of education</th>
<th>No of respondents</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B.Tech/B.E./B.Sc.Engg/MBBS</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M.Phil/Ph.D/D.Sc.</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M A/M.Sc./M. Com./M.S.S</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

IV. Effects on World Economy

Present study reveals following effects on local and global economy:

(i) States are going to be more and more loaded by loans
(ii) Tax-load is increasing in every year.
(iii) Prices of necessary items are increasing day by day.
(iv) Assets and properties are increasingly owned by app. 1% rich men.
(v) World-wide, PPP nursing increase of property and assets of app. 1% rich men.
(vi) The gap between life style and standard of this app. 1% rich and that of the rest is increasing day by day.
(vii) Poverty alleviation efforts are not successful for PPP.
(viii) Crime, corruption and unrest situations are deteriorating day by day due to PPP.

V. Suggestions for sustainable global village

Following suggestions are strongly supported by present study for capacity building to achieve SPP, that is, for sustainable GV:
All universities should have sufficient courses on honesty, morality, ethics, patriotism, good governance, SPP, human rights etc as compulsory for each discipline. Curriculum should be upgraded for capacity building for sustainable future of this GV.

All democratic countries should have constitutions comprising of two parts: one may be called as “global part” which can’t be changed by any government having any majority. This part will ensure fundamental human rights, religious value, good governance, professional functioning of constitutional bodies, fair election process and sustainability of GV. The second part may be called “regional part” which can be developed, modified or upgraded by governments as per demand of the population of global states.

An international non-political body like “Global Society for Sustainable Future (ISSF)” can be formed to formulate and propose global part of constitutions, to ensure fair election process, to monitor professional functioning of constitutional bodies etc. and to formulate a common regulations for SPP to be followed by all political parties in this GV.

Similar research should be conducted in professional grade to develop more realistic and fruitful suggestions for sustainable GV.

Seminar, Workshop etc. must be conducted throughout the GV for social movement against crime, corruption and evil works and to establish SPP.

A global day should be observed with slogans of “raise your voice against PPP”, “raise your voice for SPP and SF”, “control policy and practice for sustainable future and low carbon ecology” and so on.

VI. Conclusions

As an academic research and as per strategic analysis and procedure of the research, there may have some wrong facts, findings, feelings etc., so constructive suggestions and criticisms are appreciated. International community is invited to take initiatives for further real-time study and formation of international society. Author is interested to work with the global society for sustainable future. Let us try our best to establish SPP for sustainable future.

References
[6]. Daily News- papers and TV news.

About Author:
Prof. Dr. Engr. M A Mannan, Professor & Head (EEE) IIUC, Adjunct Faculty MBA BUP, Ex-Dean(EEE), DUET Gazipur, Bangladesh, email: mannan489@yahoo.com. Author has (i) multidisciplinary educational background (viz graduation in Electrical & Electronic engineering, M S in Computer Science & Engineering and Ph. D in Advanced Engineering Management), (ii) over 30 years of experience in teaching, research and providing consulting & advisory services in engineering projects, (iii) over 13 years experience as procurement management expert in development projects of Bangladesh (iv) more than 16 years contribution for poverty alleviation, income generation and growth of GDP through establishment and management of three high standard institutions in Bangladesh for education & training in Engineering & Technology and (v) more than 20 publications.