

International Conference on “Conflict Resolution and Sustainable Development”

10-11 December 2016

Nabakrushna Choudhury Centre for Development Studies, Bhubaneswar

Peace is a vital factor that determines the development of society. In a diversified society like India, peaceful co-existence of every citizen is ensured by the constitution. However, it has been encountering many problems including economic, political, religious and social. Broadly speaking, conflicts like labour unrest or displacement on account of growth-related activities are economic in nature, the left wing extremist activities have some political roots, sectarian violence or intolerance could be because of religious difference, while caste and gender violence are social. In many situations, many of these problems can co-exist.

Scarcity of natural resources including, land, air, water, and forests among others and their utilisation also contribute substantially to increase disputes at micro and macro level. Besides, clash of interests also arise due to absence of checks and balances or failure of existing systems in ensuring peaceful co-existence. The seed of violence spread by different factors need effective tools to neutralise adverse consequences that are broadcast in the society by myriad forces.

Development is broader concept that goes beyond growth. There are arguments to put people or their concerns in the centre in the larger understanding of development. Sustainable development takes it a step further where the needs of the present are to be met without compromising the ability of the future generations to meet their needs (World Commission on Environment and Development, *Our Common Future*, 1987). At an individual level, "a livelihood is sustainable when it can cope with and recover from the stresses and shocks and maintain or enhance its capabilities and assets both now and in the future without undermining the natural resource base" (Robert Chambers and Gordon Conway, *Sustainable Rural Livelihoods: Practical concepts for the 21st Century*, 1992).

The proposed international conference is an initiative to understand different facets of conflict, deliberate on conflict resolution, and on aspects of sustainable development. These are broader issues that could be Odisha- or India-specific, but not limited to it. It could have important policy lessons.

Those interested are requested to inform Shri D.B.Sahoo, mob-**9776154819**, or **0674-2300471**, to facilitate logistic arrangements.