



Human Security & Disaster Risk Reduction

Objectives of the Course:

Human security has been a people-centred approach which recognizes that lasting stability cannot be achieved until people are protected from violent threats to their rights, safety and lives. Currently the enclave of human security is confronted by threats such as hunger, disease and natural disasters. Facts show that disasters resulting in human security issues kill far more people than war, genocide and terrorism combined. Therefore environmental security which includes protection and mitigation with disasters become of crucial importance.

Human security while protecting also empowers people and societies. Its scope includes a broader range of threats, including environmental pollution, disaster risk reduction, spread of epidemics and diseases in addition to livelihood options and economic deprivation. The realization of human security involves not only governments, but a broader participation of regional and international organizations, non-governmental organizations and local communities. Human security and human development are interconnected, and people oriented. This course attempts to build the conceptual link that covers the domains of vulnerability brought about as a result of ecological disasters especially in regions that are already vulnerable.

Learning Outcome of the Course:

The course aims to broaden the scope of disaster studies in relation to various vulnerabilities that open up during a disaster. The student is made aware to the various aspects of Human Security within the development framework during a crisis as poverty and vulnerability to natural disasters seem to have become a norm of regional interactions. The student is exposed to the link between natural disasters and the existing vulnerabilities that get targeted quicker and deeper.

Course Contents

Unit-1: Definition and Scope of Human Security

Genesis of Human Security and Schools of thought (Freedom from Fear and Freedom from Want). Human Development as defined in terms of broad goals and measures of human welfare. Conceptual link between Disaster and Human Security. Millennium Development Goals, SDGs and the international scenario

Unit-2: Causes and Consequences of Disaster and the Vulnerabilities Involved

Causes, Consequences and Classification of Disasters, identification of vulnerable regions. Understanding of challenges in the regional context. People-centred assessment approach of disasters in terms of indicators such as Ethnic Groups, Migration pattern and major challenges to Human Security

Unit-3: Disaster and Economic Security

Human Development Index, Poverty and Employment, Lack of access to clean water and Energy distribution, Access to Food, Food Distribution and Food Consumption, Gender Concerns to distribution of food and nutrition

Unit-4: Disaster and Social Security

Education, Access to Health Facility, Gender empowerment, Child Mortality and access to development policies

Unit-5: Environmental Security

Natural Disasters, man-made threats in nature, water and air and their impact with case studies. Learning some of the best practices

Unit-6: Political Security

Impact of Disaster on the political security, political tensions, ethnic violence, crime and terrorism, ethnic conflicts, violation of human rights

Reading List Essential

Readings:

- B. Wisner, P. Blaikie, T. Cannon, and I. Davis (2004). *At Risk – Natural hazards, people's vulnerability and disasters*. Wiltshire: Routledge, ISBN 0-415-25216-4
- Quarantelli E.L. (1998). *Where We Have Been and Where We Might Go*. In: Quarantelli E.L. (ed). *What Is A Disaster?* London: Routledge. pp146-159
- Clay, Edward, and Olav Stokke (2000), *Food Aid and Human Security*, London: Frank Cass Publishers.
- Dutta, Mondira (2013): *Gender and Human Development in Central and South Asia*, New Delhi, Pentagon Press.
- Gretchen Sidhu, Johanne S. Linn (Ed.) (2006), *Central Asia Human Development Report: Bringing Down Barriers: Regional Cooperation for Human Development and Human Security*, DIANE Publishing Company
- Sen, Amartya: “*Why Human Security*”, Presentation at the International Symposium on Human Security, Japan Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Takanawa Prince Hotel, Tokyo, 28 July 2000

Suggested Readings:

- Fordham, M. (1999). The intersection of gender and social class in disaster: balancing resilience and vulnerability. *International Journal of Mass Emergencies and Disasters*, 17(1), 15-37.
- Tadjbakhsh, Shahrbanou & Anuradha Chenoy: *Human Security*, Taylor & Francis Ltd, Product Ref: 880/8212727