

BASIC CONCEPTS ON COMMON PROPERTY RESOURCES & TRAGEDY OF COMMONS

The background of the slide features abstract, overlapping geometric shapes in various shades of green, ranging from light lime to dark forest green. These shapes are primarily located on the left and right sides of the slide, framing the central white area where the text is placed. The overall design is modern and clean.

COMMON PROPERTY RESOURCES

- ▶ The most commonly talked commons are grazing lands, village ponds, Non Timber Forest produces and forests, etc. Common represents all natural resources used for human welfare, which are not necessarily owned by an individual or a group of individuals.
- ▶ A definition of Common Property Resources quite acceptable to thinkers of Economics is: 'A property on which well defined collective claims by an exclusive group are established, the use of the resources is subtractive, having the characteristic of a public good such as indivisibility, shall be termed as Common Property Resources (Kadekodi, 2004).
- ▶ **Common Property Resources are natural resources that belong to a community and are accessible to all members with certain restrictions, but no one has ownership rights.** In addition to other minor forest products like fruits, nuts, fiber, medicinal plants, etc., CPRs offer animal feed and domestic fuel. Such land is essential for the livelihood of marginal farmers, landless people, and other weaker groups in rural areas.
- ▶ An example of common property resources (CPRs) includes community woods, pasture grounds, village water bodies, and other open areas where a group larger than a household exercises rights of use and is responsible for management.

EXAMPLES OF COMMON PROPERTY RESOURCES

CPRs are natural resources belonging to a particular community. They are accessible to all members of the community with certain restrictions, but no one has ownership rights. Hence, they are intended to be used by a large group of people with some specified obligations.

- ▶ The oceans, which generally are not subject to private property rights and are not controlled by individual countries, except in coastal zones.
- ▶ The earth's atmosphere is crucial to all of us but is owned by nobody.
- ▶ Public parks, public beaches, river and lake fisheries, and many recreational areas contribute to well-being but are generally provided without established private markets.
- ▶ Many forested areas and wetlands are not privately owned. They may be public lands managed by government agencies or local communities, or there may be no clearly established ownership.

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PRIVATE , PUBLIC RESOURCES AND COMMON PROPERTY RESOURCES

- ▶ **Public Resources:** Set of assets that compose the public patrimony of a country. Public resource means the traffic services, emergency response services, rural ambulance and fire services, and public works services consumed by the public in the commerce of life.
- ▶ **Private Resources:** Private resources means moneys, equipment, materials, or personnel provided by any individual or nongovernmental entity.
- ▶ **Common Property Resources:** A common property resource is available to essentially anyone, but it cannot be used or enjoyed by multiple people at the same time, at least with the same level of quality. Overuse is often a problem with a common property resource, as when too many people fish the same fishery, want to play sports in the same recreation area, or withdraw groundwater from the same aquifer. We can use economic analysis to examine how this problem arises and what policy solutions may be available.

TRAGEDY OF COMMONS

- ▶ A situation in which an unregulated common property resource is seriously degraded due to overuse.
- ▶ The term “tragedy of the commons” comes from an influential paper written by ecologist Garrett Hardin in 1968. Discussing the degradation of common grazing land in England.

EXAMPLES OF TRAGEDY OF COMMONS

1. Coffee Consumption

While a simple cup of coffee might seem harmless, coffee consumption is a prime example of the tragedy of the commons.

According to Statista, about 73 percent of consumers report drinking coffee daily, and four percent have coffee once a week. This overconsumption has led to significant environmental impacts.

2. Overfishing

As the global population continues to rise, the demand for food increases. However, overhunting and overfishing threaten to push many species into extinction.

- For example, overfishing the Pacific bluefin tuna has reduced its population to approximately three percent of its original numbers—posing significant risks to marine ecosystems.

3. Fast Fashion

Overproduction by fashion brands has created extreme product surplus, to the point that luxury brand Burberry burned \$37.8 million worth of its 2018 season's leftovers to avoid offering a discount on unsold wares.

- ▶ Furthermore, as new trends emerge rapidly within social networks and social media, consumers are constantly purchasing new clothing items and disposing of old, out-of-trend items that end up in landfills and contribute to pollution

4. Traffic Congestion

Traffic congestion is one of the best-known modern examples of the tragedy of the commons.

As more people decide that roads and highways are the fastest way to travel to work, more cars end up on the roads, ultimately slowing down traffic and polluting the air.

5. Groundwater Use

Overuse of groundwater is an example of depletion of common property resources and also one kind of tragedy of commons.

WAYS TO PREVENT THE TRAGEDY OF THE COMMONS

- ▶ Find Alternative and Sustainable Products
- ▶ Prevent Overconsumption
- ▶ Developing a sustainable mindset
- ▶ Innovation and Adaption
- ▶ Co-operation and Co-ordination
- ▶ Education and Awareness
- ▶ Regulations and standards

CRITICISMS OF COMMON PROPERTY RESOURCES

- ▶ The CPR theory and approach was seen as a tool to manage the natural resources, the major focus was on collective action of the group. First criticism which this theory faces is the rational approach of resources management, wherein the individuals are seen as self seeking and interested persons were as in social setting this does not apply to the role of culture, and norms play an important role in management of social system. Secondly it sees the common from single point of view and tries to address its solution on linear basis. On the contrary the commons are a part and parcel of larger social system. Another missing aspect of CPR approach is linking it with external factors of macro governance and political development. For example with coming of Forest Right Act, 2006, the ownership of state forest will see major changes but CPR does not provide solution to such policy issues. The theory of collective action find difficulty in dealing with heterogeneity and large group size ending up with solution of use of force, but fails to explain large collective action taken place like Anna Hazare movement where people participated in large number.

CONCLUSION

- In the end we see that CPR is an important component in Human system and it plays very important role in its livelihood and socio-cultural domain. We found that CPR debated started way back in 1950, and gradually it developed into subject leading to research studies. CPR as an instrument helps in rural development planning as we have seen that majority of poor population still as its survival embedded in CPR. Present day rural development work like NREGA is around CPR development

Thank You...
