

**LIVELIHOODS, HEALTH, AND
SUSTAINABILITY IN THE POST
PANDEMIC RECOVERY: A CRITICAL
PERSPECTIVE IN CONTEXT OF
KAILASH SACRED LANDSCAPE-
INDIA.**


Mujeeb Hussain Gattoo

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Muneeb Hussain Gattoo


Background

- Current COVID-19 pandemic has destructive impact on health and livelihoods worldwide
- Continuous waves of the pandemic had more severe impact on the disadvantaged people and marginalized communities
- The outbreak of the pandemic has revealed the lack of preparedness towards crisis management
- This unpreparedness not only applies to the management of pandemics but also to the prevention of the irrevocable consequences of other shocks like climate change.
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- Climate change is the greatest global threat to health in 21st century
 - Need to improve resilience of societies both to health crisis and environmental changes
 - Imperative to place health and sustainability at the heart of economy


Triple crisis of the economy, health and climate change in context of Kailash Sacred Landscape-India


- As many as 4.74 million people perished due to COVID-19 in India in 2020 and 2021 (WHO). The figure, disputed by India, is nearly ten times the country's official data.
- Covid also cut short the upward mobility of millions of households in India


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- Growing inequality in India and the pandemic
 - Differentiated impact of COVID-19
 - Economy contracted significantly *i.e.* clear K-shaped movement of income



Way Forward

- India is witnessing a triple crisis of economy, health and climate change
 - An inclusive, sustainable and equitable recovery is the only way to deal with the triple crisis
 - A green fiscal response focusing on various sectors and incorporating redistributive elements in economic policy may take the said triple crisis head on
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- Escalation of ecological restoration in tandem with building climate justice and livelihoods requires a well calibrated action plan
 - Ecological restoration should be more holistic
 - Good consideration must be given to avoid monoculture plantations, which have very less benefits ecological commons, and damaged biodiversity, soil and water resources, and livelihoods

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- Planting trees without addressing the social and economic drivers causing it will not mitigate climate change, rather may shift ecosystem destruction elsewhere
 - Inclusivity in ecological rebuilding by serving local needs for ecosystem goods and services should be prioritized
 - Holistic and integrated approaches need to be taken up in order to deal with external shocks (pandemic/climate change)



THANK YOU