

BURNING SOCIAL, DEVELOPMENTAL, SCIENTIFIC PROBLEMS

Community Level:

- Abject Poverty
- Starvation
- Malnutrition
- Infant Mortality

- Water Scarcity
- Fuel, Fodder and Energy Scarcity
- Shelter Scarcity

- Extremely Unhygienic and Thickly Populated Habitats
- Air, Water and Soil Pollution
- Infectious Diseases
- Poor Access to Sanitation and Primary Healthcare Facilities
- Poor Access to Veterinary Facilities

- Illiteracy
- Poor Access to Quality Education and Vocational Education

- Poor Access to Actionable Knowledge Resources and Expertise
- Lack of Priority for Research on the Problems of Communities
- Lack of Priority for Development of Appropriate Technologies
- Disconnect of Scientists and Technologists with Communities

- Poor Access to Means of Communication and Transportation

- Poor Access to Financial Credits and Markets
- Landlessness or Unviably Small Land Holdings
- Declining Farm Productivity, Profitability and Sustainability
- Lack of Livelihood Opportunities Complementary to Agriculture

- Famines, Floods, Mega-Projects, SEZs, ...
- Displacements and Forced Migration

- Unemployment / Un-employability
- Inequality of Opportunities
- Extreme Uncertainties
- Intellectual Loneliness in Villages
- Frustration among the Rural Youth

- Suicides of Farmers
- Addiction
- Exploitation of Women and Children
- Disharmony, Social Divide
- Religious / Communal Unrest, Riots and Violence in Communities
- Insecurity

- Lack of Participative Democracy
- Lack of Good Governance / Self-Governance
- Widespread Corruption
- Slow, Costly and Complicated Judicial Processes

- Lack of Visionary and Trustworthy Leaderships
- Lack of Change Makers for Social Transformation
- Lack of Unity for Community Development
- Lack of Drive for Collective Action against Injustice

- Shrinking Coverage in Media
- Marginal Coverage in Art – Literature, Theatre, Film, ...
- Lack of Freedom and Social Environment for Creative Pursuits, New Enterprises and Innovations
- Threat to Self-esteem

Global Level:

- Extreme Disparities in HDI and Attainment of MDGs
- Population Explosion
- Extreme Competition and Contention for Resources

- Erosion and Devastation of Natural Capital
- Declining Biodiversity
- Declining Life in Oceans
- Spread of Deserts

- Extreme Consumerism and Market Dominance
- Widespread Migrations
- Environmentally unsustainable Life-style of the Developed World
- Extreme Dependence on and Demand of Fossil Fuel
- Global Warming and Irreversible Climate Change

- Declining Tolerance and Growing Violence
- Fundamentalism, Extremism and Terrorism
- Nuclear, Chemical and Biological Weapons of Mass Destruction