

Some people believe that governments should prioritise economic growth, while others argue that environmental protection should come first. Although economic development is essential for improving living standards, I believe governments should give greater priority to environmental sustainability.

Those who support economic growth argue that a strong economy creates employment, increases government revenue and improves people's living conditions. Developing industries and infrastructure can provide better housing, healthcare and education. For developing countries in particular, rapid economic growth may be necessary to reduce poverty and provide basic services to their populations.

However, uncontrolled economic development can cause serious environmental damage. Industrial pollution, deforestation and excessive use of natural resources can harm ecosystems and human health. Climate change and environmental degradation may also create significant economic costs in the future. If governments ignore these problems, they may eventually have to spend far more money dealing with environmental disasters and health consequences.

In my opinion, governments should prioritise environmental protection while pursuing sustainable economic growth. Economic development and environmental responsibility do not have to be conflicting goals. Governments can encourage renewable energy, energy-efficient technologies and environmentally responsible industries. Such policies can create new employment opportunities while reducing pollution and resource consumption.

The long-term consequences of environmental damage make this issue particularly important. Economic growth can be achieved again after a temporary slowdown, but some natural resources and ecosystems may be impossible to restore once they are permanently damaged.

In conclusion, economic growth is important for improving living standards, but environmental protection should receive greater priority. Governments should pursue economic policies that provide development without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs.