



“Women participation in environment protection” : a study

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Abstract

“Women can play an important role in preservation and protection of environment”, question seems to be typical, because every one is facing this problem in the society and only discussing on women folk seems to be surprising but history has recorded that Indian women are not behind then gents folk in any field of life. It may be struggle for independence or may be literary field. Women are considered as symbol of construction and creation in Indian Society. By survey it is concluded that women are directly and indirectly contributing in protection of environment.

Keywords: Environment, women, literary field, preservation and protection.

1. Introduction

“Women can play an important role in preservation and protection of environment”, question seems to be typical, because every one is facing this problem in the society and only discussing on women folk seems to be surprising but history has recorded that Indian women are not behind then gents folk in any field of life. It may be struggle for independence or may be literary field. Women are considered as symbol of construction and creation in Indian Society. They are the organizer of families, part of management and nucleus in the family. They know tailoring, stitching, weaving, music, playing musical instruments, singing, painting and drawing and other fine arts, contributing the society, since ages. Detailed studies have documented the point that women’s labour and decision making are absolutely crucial to agricultural production and development.

Improvement in preserving environment is an demand of present time requires constructive suggestion because the temperature of atmosphere of earth is increasing day by day resulting into

temperature increases around Ozonosphere, therefore, the Ozone layers being damaged due to number of nuclear- experiments and armament explosions i.e. missile/ICBM/testing by world scientists.

It is of prime importance of maintain the environmental balance and protecting human life of the world.

A part from collection of non-timber forest products for self consumption and cash income. Many rural man and women are engaged in processing and small scale forest enterprises. (Khare 1990).

2. Study area

With reference to above facts, a study was made in Jabalpur district by the author. The human population of the district is 26,45,232 out of which total 12,64,493 is women folk and 13,80,739 is men.

3. Study method

Method adopted for study includes questionnaire schedule, inspection and personal contact with local informers. In study observation process and interviews (for help) in the form of questions were applied.

Schedule No.1 : Information regarding environment/pollution

	Opinion
Whether they have knowledge about environment protection?	157 (34.50 %)
Whether they visit in the programmes of environment protection, public meetings, or faire?	56 (12.31%)
Are they giving/doing help in environment protection.	169 (37.14%)
Are they giving importance to plantation programme?	109 (23.96%)
If "Yes", how ?	
(i) Opposition by themselves	81 (94.18%)
(ii) By the help of law	
(iii) By other efforts	05 (5.81%)
Programmes related to environment protecting by public	116 (25.49%)

4. Results and discussion

In the race of modern time human race is dependent of environment, because of all these reasons if has become essential and need of hour to make balance of nature and to maintain the trouble free environment. Regarding environment protection, women folk was asked the information, it was found that 34.50% women are having awareness and knowledge, by planting plants and trees, indirectly helping and adding to protection processes.

Different programmes connected with environment like competitions, meetings workshops, exhibitions, fair, other extension programmes and training awareness of women folk, messages are reaching through them to general public in the village sectors.

Women reaching in such programmes at the percentage of 12.31% are contributing to the environment protection. And control of environment and other related programmes 37.14% of ladies are joining.

These women by planting trees- plants and their nourishing process, using dust for putting refuge, not cutting the trees, imparting children the knowledge of not polluting the surroundings. They are adding to protect the conditions.

The people who are cutting trees destroying and unbalancing the environment, their names are brought out and exposed by women folk. They are teaching do's and don'ts, advantage and disadvantage for balancing the environment condition in the village. Working women in field also adds by planting seedlings in and around vicinity where they live. They earn wages when working in programmes of plantation, getting their financial help. Some ladies in villages give importance to plant the small plants in outskirts of residence thereby helping indirectly in maintaining balance of environment.

Out of surveyed women folk 23.96% gives importance to protection of plantation and 94.18% oppose the cutting of trees. Method of opposing, in cutting of trees depends upon their own efforts and not taking help from 'law'. Reason for not going to law in ignorance. Or the long process of prosecution, visiting to courts for evidences etc. some percentage (25.49% of women) believes in planting trees by joining some institution, society, by protection process of environmental condition, competition, meetings, through dramas. Showing children audio visual movies, acting, help in making children, conscious, awareness and development.

Schedule 2 : Social attitude/ opinions regarding water, sound, pollution

	Agreed	Totally Agreed	Not Agreed	Totally Not Agreed
Natural resources to be used economically.	218(47.9%)	231 (50.77)	5 (1.1%)	1 (0.21%)
Increase Pollution of Water is due to the work done by human being	217(47.69%)	220 (48.35%)	11 (2.4%)	7 (1.54%)
Cleanliness around the vicinity prevents diseases.	232(50.98%)	215 (47.25%)	7 (1.53%)	1 (0.21%)
Whether encouragement to be given to optional sources of energy?	238 (52.3%)	212 (46.37%)	5 (1.1%)	
The pollution in Water, Air & Sound is due to increase in population.	245 (53.85%)	205 (40.05%)	4 (0.88%)	1 (0.22%)

On earth limited resources are available, if the use of these sources are not done in the controlled and in proper manner, suddenly these will be exhausted very soon. In this connection above Schedule-2 indicates that educated, uneducated and women from villages and city developers have agreed completely (50.77%) and considered essential whereas 47.9% women agreed generally. Day by day increased pollution of sound, Water is harmful to the human beings. Presently the attitudes towards luxuries enjoyment culture has helped in increasing development work and the result of which is effecting the general health. Not only men but women are also attentive and alert. To know about alertness and awareness when contacted women answer was because of mankind only the pollution is done and every one agreed to only 2.4% has said if in correct and not agreed. This percentage belongs to those who are not aware of environment pollution or completing worldly. It is quite clear that all classes of women are aware of environmental pollution and it has to be further increased.

Surveyed women also agreed to, that cleanliness

in nearby area helps in preventing disease whereas only 1.53% women did not agreed.

Energy is required for the basic need of human beings in addition. Huge industries and transportation is also cannot be managed without it. In the present circumstances energy is on indicator of development. Presently the energy crisis has given problems hence energy sources are to be developed, saving of energy and to promote to develop alternate sources of energy (Shanta 2003). It is quite clear by survey that women are aware of energy shortage and accepts that development to be done to find out alienate substitute.

Increased population in sub divisions and city are expending in unplanned way and thereby nature is also affected adversely. 53.85% of women agreed to that due to increased population and expansion of cities and sub divisions are unplanned, causing into pollution and environmental pollution. 40.05% of women has completely supported and agreed to, 0.22% women have completely shown their disagreement. This percentages belongs to the group who are not acquainted with environmental problems.

Schedule-3 : Social views related to environment

	Agreed	Fully Agreed	Not Agreed	Totally Not Agreed
Without disturbing the Environment can be these development?	174 (38.24%)	198 (43.52%)	70 (15.38%)	13 (2.86%)
Is balancing is essential between man and Environment?	225(49.45%)	228(50.11%)	2 (0.44%)	
Because of increasing population maximum use and proper administration, natural reasons of energy are lessening day by day?	211 (46.37%)	244 (53.62%)		

5. Conclusion

Mankind and environment are deeply related to each other :- In this scientific era technologies have been developed in changing the physical and chemical mixtures. Nature is a boon to the mankind and it balances the environment. Now the human beings should also develop without disturbing it. With this idea all the women under survey completely agreed.

Only 18.24% women did not agree.

There is an increase in disturbing the natural balance and thereby natural resources are decreasing day by day. Only 46.37% women agreed to it, and 53.62% women have totally agreed.

By survey it is concluded that women are directly and indirectly contributing in protection of environment.

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