

Need To Meet Environmental Challenges In India

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The world environment Day theme this year exhort people to help combat climate change for our collective survival it is interesting to know that the ancient vedas have several reference in them on environmental protection ecological balance , weather cycle, rainfall phenomina, hydrological cycle, and releated subjects. That directly indicate the high level of awareness of the seers and people of that time. environmental degradatation , whether caused by natural factor or human activities.

The Rig vedavenarates deities like mitra, varuna, indra, maruts and Aditya that are responsible for maintaining the requisits balance in the fanchioning of all entities of nature whether and mountains , lakes, heaven and earth , the forests or the waters.

Seers recognized that changes caused due to indiscreet human activities could result is imbalances in seasons, rainfall patterns crops and atmosphere and degrade the quality of water, air and earth resources. All four major Vedas the Rig, sama, yajur and atharva Vedas recognized the importance and maintaince of the seasons' cycles that are likely to get altered due to the climate change owing to inappropriate human actions. It is remarkable that the people in vedic time regarded nature and the environment in a holistic manner and reversed each of its constituents and entities by carefully preserving them tranquility be to the atmosphere, to the earth, to the water, to the crops and vegetation. This vedic prayers invokes divine intervention to bless and protect the environment.

Anticipating the future was never more needed in human history that it is today. Since the threat to survival was never before as global and as sevre. Yet anticipating the future was never more difficult that it is today, because the pace and patterns of transformation unfold more

rapicly than they are understood. Man's contemporary power to change the world is unprecedented in history. Man's powerlessness to assess the impact of the change and to interven in the forces of change inalso unprecedented .

The science of maintaining life by maintaining the integrity of ecosystems have been rendered irrational by the reductionist mind. In their place have grown the science of disruption power enjoyed by scientific knowledge.

Increasingly, the predictions of science are fasified by the patterns unfolding in nature, because science increasingly working across and against the patterns of nature. It is increasingly becoming a tool that destroyed the balance between the manifold parts of nature which maintain the integrity of life on the planet.

There are a number of problems in holding on the one hand such a prespective on the cognitive superiority of modern science while conceding epistemological status to traditional and modern belief systems. The environment of ecosystem includes both physical parameters and biotic altributes. It is dynamically interlinked , and cantain resource for organisms at any time throughout their life cycle. Environment includes the physical world, the social world of human relations and the built. World of human creation. The physical environment is external to the level of biological organization under investigation, including abiotic factor such aas temperature, rediation, light, chemistry, climate and geology. The biotic environment includer genes, cells, organisms ,members of the same species and other species that share a habitat.

The distinction between external and internal environments, however abstraction parsing life and environment into unit or facts that are inseperable in reality. There is an interpenetration of cause and effect between environment and life. The laws of thermodynamic, for example, apply to ecology by means of its physical state. With an understanding of metabiotic and thermodynamic principle, a complete accounting of energy and material flow can be traced through an ecosystem. In this way, the environmental and ecological relations are studied through reference to conceptually manageable and isolated material parts. After the effective environmental components are understood through reference to their causes, however, they conceptually link back together as an intergrated whole. This is known as the dialectical approach

to ecology the dialectical approach examines the parts, but integrates the organism and the environment into a dynamic whole. Change in one ecological or environmental factor can concurrently affect the dynamic state of an entire ecosystem.

The environment costs of economic growth, Rapid economic growth combined with rapid population growth has place great stress on the environment. If we are not careful-damage to the environment will threaten future living standards.

- Air/land/water pollution causes health problems and can damage the productivity of land and seas.
- Global warming leads to rising sea level, volatile weather patterns and could cause significant economic costs.
- Deforestation damages soil and makes areas more prone to drought.
- Economic growth leads to resource depletion and loss of biodiversity, creation of waste and toxin.

The tribal culture is very Eco-Friendly, all cultural things and activities of this tribe are deeply related with nature. Their residence, food, clothes, art, religion, economy and many other parts of life are based on nature and keep ecological balance. Tribal people worship mainly their tribal Goddess (The Earth) called as 'Bhumsen' in their folk language. There is a well family system in this community. Women have high reputation, enough social and economic rights in their family system.

Many of today's leading architects feel compelled to change the world drastically to make it conform to their preferred lifeless industrial paradigm. Unless non-architects (i.e. rest of the population) stand up to this pressure, we risk the slow loss from attrition of all of humankind's most emotionally-nourishing creation. For example, architects see a well-functioning and beloved urban space but perceive it as ugly and offensive, desperately in need of immediate "re-qualification" to turn it into a contemporary hard industrial object.

In the Constitution of India it is clearly stated that it is the duty of the state to 'protect and improve the environment and to safeguard the forests and wildlife of the country. It imposes a duty on every citizen 'to protect and improve the natural environment including forests, lakes, rivers, and wildlife'. Reference to the environment has also been made

in the Directive Principles of State policy as well as the Fundamental Rights. The Department of Environment was established in India in 1980 to ensure a healthy environment for the country. This later became the Ministry of Environment and Forests in 1985.

Conservation and protection of the environment have been an inseparable part of India heritage and culture. Realizing its importance, the Indian state has also enshrined it in the constitution which requires both the state and citizen to 'protect and improve the environment'. The liberalization and globalization of the economy makes it imperative that we increase our vigil to ensure that industrial growth is not at the cost of the environment. Natural resources need to be protected and nurtured. Ancient civilizations self-destructed when they over-exploited their resources base.

"Sustainable development" is an ill-defined but catchy phrase. If we interpret it as development which the environment can sustain, which does not exceed the carrying capacity of the environment, which does not over-exploit or destroy the natural resources base, many parts of the country could be identified as unsustainable, even beyond reprieve. We live and work for a good life, good food, good health. Polluted air and water, shortages of water and fuel do not come under any of these. In which case, is industrialization at the cost of our health and comfort sustainable?

All these have been accommodated in this new and revised publication of Environmental Law of India – An Introduction (1998), which includes inputs from many staff members of the centre. This updated publication reflects new concerns and amendments. It has, we know, increased awareness and use of the legal and statutory provisions for environmental protection and control.

This website includes several acts and lists of polluting industries, as well as the CRZ classifications, development regulations, the Constitutional powers of the Panchayats to protect the environment and international conventions and protocols.

