

## **Need of Environment Management**

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What is Environment? The atmosphere in which we live is environment itself. The scientific definition of environment includes the totality of pure air, pure water, soil trees and creatures i.e. animate and inanimate factors. This is what we understand from the concept of environment. According to the article 51 C of the constitution, it has been stressed as the prime duty of a citizen to preserve and balance the environment. But due to carelessness and thoughtlessness of his growing needs man has spoiled the balance of environment with the result that he has created many problems for himself. There cannot be two opinions about it.

In Hindu mythology the story of "Bhasmasur" bears a particular reference. Having received a solemn promise of non victory by others he became so powerful and arrogant that he put to trouble the 33 crores of Gods. However, in the end lord Vishnu had to finish him off through the incarnation of "Mohini". In the 20<sup>th</sup> century similar Bhasmasur has appeared in the form of pollution. Our India is a developing country but to us a danger of pollution is obvious since we are facing the reduction of the Ozone layer on our earth. The experts in environmental study have warned us about this danger. Day by day the ratio of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere is increasing whereas the ratio of Oxygen is decreasing. If it is continued in this manner the temperature of the earth will be so high that it will be impossible to survive for any creature on the earth. Now a day we hear too much about the pollution.

The ills of pollution are being experienced on a large scale. It has gone to such extreme that it has become very difficult to check its bad effects. The only remedy is tree plantation on a large scale.

Trees are the largest source of reproducing wealth on the earth. Nature is our friend and it bestows its favour to human beings. The word nature is a comprehensive term including birds, rivers, oceans and deserts. Trees are the most important part that nature has produced for us. The importance of trees is well

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described by Rishis since long. A person who plants a tree gets a favor of a sacrifice of a hundred cattle. The great Sant Tukaram describes trees as our relatives. Likewise Sant Dnyaneshwar also compares trees with the virtuous men. The primary needs of man viz. food clothes and shelter are provided by trees alone. In one Marathi saying it is stated that trees are like good persons who sacrifice their comforts for the benefit of others. The trees stand in excessive heat but offer shelter to human beings. They also give us flowers and fruits. The relation between human being and nature is very old. Nature extends its gratitude to human beings in many ways. A hungry man gets his food from nature and a thirsty man gets drinking water from the nature. The slow and steady waves in the air make us forget the excessive labour. The smell of flowers enchants our life and spreads invigorating energy among us. Trees provide shelter clothing and source of heat energy. Without the help from nature life of human beings will be disastrous. It is needless to say that tree is our necessity and therefore every house should have at least one tree in its vicinity. Now the government is giving us slogans like, "one plant for one child", "Save trees and your mane too", "make more plantations", "Nature is our friend", "Nature bestows us with healthy life" and so on.

### **Reasons for Imbalance in Environment**

1) **Population Explosion:** if a good things turns into a bad act, it is the action of Bhasmasur. The excessive growth in population creates the problems in food, clothes, shelter, education, employment, terrorism, defalcation, crime tendency, slum hygiene, price growth, imbalance in environment and pollution etc. The population explosion has affected very adversely developing countries like ours. The population explosion needs a prompt corrective action to save us from its bad effects.

2) **Pollution (Air, Water, Food and Sound)**

Due to scientific advancement now a days large factories and various industries have increased with the result that air pollution is seen everywhere. The waste material along with impure water are daily poured down into rivers, therefore river water in polluted and villages on the bank of the rivers are being affected with diseases one by one. Man invented plastic and his joys knew no bounds. He began to use plastic articles and covers on large scale. He began to spray insecticides to save

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agricultural products from insects but he could not control its use. This resulted in food pollution and spoiled its normal healthy condition. The sound pollution is increasing due to over-crowded towns and cities. We are so enthusiastic that the public and private programmes are not possible without the use of loud speakers. Its volume is uncontrollable. On ceremonial occasions the records, the band and fire works produce a large, sound pollution. When there is load shedding of electricity, Generators produce much unbearable sound. Therefore there is tremendous imbalance in nature.

**3) Careless Cutting of Trees for Human Needs:**

The excessive growth in population has increased the tremendous needs of human beings. The trees are being cut for the unnecessary needs of human beings. Man has not thought of the bad effects of spoiling natural resources like trees. The green and fertile soil is the gift of God to human beings but out of his greed man has destroyed the natural resources his wants and, his greed is also increasing with the result that the whole world is in the grip of disasters. The green agricultural land is turning into a desert. Man began to think about the fertile land as his playfield where the could spoil the land for his comforts. He has consciously spoiled the natural balance to satisfy his whims.

**4) Soil Erosion:**

Every year there is an increase in soil erosion due to flow of water, wind and other factors. The excessive soil erosion is a sign of human death. It can cause poverty, non availability of food and deaths due to hunger. In India the main cause of soil erosion is excessive cutting of trees. Man has recently done excessive cutting of trees for its use as fuel. The flow of the rivers is beyond control and thus causes soil erosion.

**5) Irregularity of Rains:**

The irregularity of rains is the chief and regular feature of monsoon. The uncertainty of rain is about its time and quantity. Sometime the rains start too early, sometimes they are very late. If the rains are late the time table of farming can not be maintained. The rains are very whimsical. Sometimes we get the rains for the complete year in a single month leaving almost all the other months quite dry. The irregularity in rain is caused due to excessive cutting of trees. Man is responsible for scanty rains.

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The environmental imbalance is serious because of the above mentioned factors and it is becoming disastrous to the very existence of human society. It is therefore necessary to find the solutions for it.

#### **Remedies**

1) **Population Growth Control:** The original reason of human problems is the increasing growth in population. This problem has become acute in developing countries like India. 'Bhasmasur' of population growth is swallowing all the good progress of our nation. Effective measures will have to be implemented for the same. The orientation of society is necessary for social changes. It is the need of the hour to accept family planning as the national duty and all the programmes related to it should be followed by the public. More the children, more the difficulties should be accepted as a reality. In this respect our Saints told us that if the children are more the God of wealth i.e. Goddess Laxmi will not favour us. It is therefore true that "A small family is the source of comforts", "we are two and we have to children", "Children are the flowers of God's destination" etc. are good slogans to follow.

If a child takes birth in a family we should try to implant at least one plant with the birth of a child. It should be grown up with our love as we extend it for a newly born child. On the occasion of "Sankrant" festival the females should offer plants to other females as gifts. We offer a bouquet of flowers at the time of marriages and birthdays, instead we should try to give plants as gifts

2) **Plantation is the Need of the Hour for Balanced Environment:**

Our motherland is the source of all power generation is not an exaggeration for the protection of our land if we try to make plantation on the government and barren land we can save our land from soil erosion. Plantation therefore in the need of the hour.

When we think of our primary needs we only think of food, clothes and shelter but we very little care about air and water. For want of pure air and water our life is facing so many difficulties. Creatures will be unable to survive if they don't get pure

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air and water for years together. Human beings should be very conscious about their fundamental needs. The chronological order of fundamental needs should be changed proper shelter. Only trees can provide us all these things in ample quantity. It can therefore be said that there is no alternative to good plantation.

The protection and preservation of our forests is our bare necessity. For prevention of soil and water erosion it becomes obligatory to make plantation on the private and government land. We will have to be strict in our family growth. More trees and less children should be our motto of progress. We should take a promise for tree plantation and this alone will be our gift for the coming generation.

**3) Restriction to Pollution:**

As stated earlier the only remedy to pollution is plantation of trees. They absorb the water element and maintain the balance of the flow of water and thus control it. River floods are controlled and soil erosion is checked by them. They maintain the natural balance. The large and tall trees attract the clouds towards them and thus they help in getting regular rains and thus we get green forestry everywhere. The trees supply us with fruits, flowers, fodder, medicines, rubber and wood for furniture. Therefore it is necessary to start campaign to save trees. Each one should save one tree as the minimum. Environment and tree plantation are the two sides of the same coin. Each one of us should ban the plastic bags. The increasing use of plastic bags is the chief concern of environmental pollution. Thousands of cattle are dead and some are on the threshold of death due to the swallowing of plastic bags. If we have intention of marketing some goods let us make it habitual to have cloth made or paper bags with us for purchasing the articles. Why should we go out for purchasing vegetables or some articles of daily use without the cloth made bags with us? The habit formation in this manner will save us from pollution in the environment. Plastic cannot be burnt neither can it produce any sort of manure for us.

Even after death human dead body is burnt with help of wood, since according to the Hindu cultural tradition the dead body should be burnt. By excessive cutting of the trees man has spoiled the environment balance. The mistakes done by him should be rectified by him only. There are no excuses to it. The rectification of mistakes is our sacred duty. Nothing can be a substitute for it. Now let us repent for our action. It alone will make us survive and provide a peaceful remedy for our sins.

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Let us feel and act accordingly. It will put us on the right path of our social obligations. Let us be ready for that,

The government should consciously initiate the campaign life, "Save trees", "make prohibitions to water flow", "absorb water", etc. It is very necessary to raise water level of the earth. The unnecessary running water in the rainy season and flow of flooded river water should be stopped forthwith with proper planning. Honourable Shri. Annasahib Hajare made the conscious use of water absorption. His attempts could make the green belt in the vicinity of Ralegaonsiddhi. The farmers in the vicinity area are now enjoying the good fruits of the pains taken by Annasahib Hajare. Let us not forget his efforts and let us take a note of launching similar programmes in our surrounding areas.

On June 5, 1972 all eminent botanists urged us to know the importance of world environment day. As in other parts of the world, India also celebrates Environment Day' with much enthusiasm, but its objectives and importance are yet to reach all citizens of India. Some years back on the very day Kolkata experienced a tremendous cutting of trees in forests. In Madhya Pradesh too the protected area of animals also could not be saved from the fire in the forests. To save forests from fire is not the responsibility of government alone. Let us share our responsibilities as a more alert citizen. We should clearly understand that we have no right to spoil the nature cycle. It should rather be preserved and maintained properly. It is in the interest of all human beings.

We celebrate Holi Festival with much enthusiasm as a part of our cultural attachment. But do we think of the wastage of so many tons of wood on this single day throughout India? In stead of burning the woods let us celebrate our Holi festival with "Vrukshadindi" i.e. the procession of the trees to emphasis the importance of tree plantation, instead of its destruction. Functions should be arranged to propagate the importance of saving wild life, tree plantation, flowering of gardens. Let us not be responsible for air, water and sound pollution. Let us make a rule for ourselves to plant at least one tree every year along with the action of its preservation. Let us not come in the way of nature balance since environment is ours and we are for the environment. 'Our destiny is embeded with pur environment. Let us not act as a nuisance to environment but rather play our

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part of active participants in the nucleus balance, of the whole environmental process.  
It will be our chosen gift for the future generation of mankind.

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