



RURAL SOCIETY: ISSUES AND PROBLEMS IN CURRENT SCENARIO

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Article DOI: <https://doi.org/10.36713/epra10475>

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INTRODUCTION

Rural society is a main society in India. India is well-known in world due to Indian culture, village society and rural lifestyle. In India, six lakhs villages are scattered. All villages show the unique qualities and features.

The development of agriculture greatly altered the social structure and institutions. The new form of economy made possible a more rapid growth in population. It also meant a more settled abode. Man founded villages and thereby created the need for new forms of social structure and social control. Family and marriage institutions have remarkable, special characteristics in the rural society.

Lack of access to credit is one of the most pressing issues that find in India. India's rural population is mainly concern towards the Indian society.

Farmer's suicide within the agricultural sector does not occur as a shocking matter as the farmers are deprived of monetary assistance. When they are most in need a farmer cries for help have been ignored as the damaging effects from the absence of credit loans tickles down the population. Apart from the healthcare of a farmer, the lack of access to credit also highly important as almost 80% the farmers own less than a hectare of land. The availability of credit allows farmer's to be protected from inflated costs faced in agriculture and also, improve the quality of fertilizers and hence the output. Should the distribution of credit loans improve the Indian government would also find it easily to meet production targets and have a better control over prices of grains.

VARIOUS PROBLEMS

1) Small and fragmented land holdings

The seemingly abundance of net sown area of 141.2 million hectares and total cropped area of 189.7 million hectares (1999-2000) pales into insignificance when we see that it is divided into economically unviable small and scattered holdings.

The average size of holdings was 2.28 hectares in 1970-71 which was reduced to 1.82 hectares in 1980-81 and 1.50 hectares in 1995-96. The size of the holdings with further decrease with the infinite sub-division of the land holdings.

2) Seeds

Seeds is a critical and basic input for attaining higher crop yield and sustained growth in agricultural production of such seeds. Unfortunately, good quality seed are out of reach of the majority of farmers especially small and marginal farmers mainly because of exorbitant prices of better seeds.

In Order to solve this problem. The government of India established the national seeds corporation (NSC) in 1963 and the state farmers corporation of India. (SFICI) in 1969. Thirteen state seed corporations (SSC) were also established to agreement the supply of improved seeds to the farmers.

Certified seed is the ultimate stage in seed production chain and is progeny of foundation seed production of breeder and foundation seeds and certified seeds distribution have gone up at annual average.

3) Manures, Fertilizers, Biocides

Indian soils have been used for growing crops over thousands of years without casing much for replenishing. This has led to depletion and exhaustion of soils resulting in their low productivity.

The average yields of almost all the crops are among yields of almost all the crops are among lowest in the world. This is a serious problem which can be solved by using more manures and fertilizers.

Thus, increase in the consumption of fertilizers is a barometer of agricultural prosperity. However, there are practical difficulties in providing sufficient manures and fertilizers in all parts of a country of India's dimensions inhabited by poor peasant's cow dung provides the best manure to the soils.



4) Irrigation

Although India is the second largest irrigated country of the world after China only one third of the cropped area is under irrigation. Irrigation is the most important agricultural input in a tropical monsoon country like India where rainfall is uncertain, unreliable and erratic India cannot achieve. Sustained progress in agriculture unless and until more than half of the cropped area is brought under assured irrigation.

5) This is testified by the success story of agricultural progress in Punjab, Haryana and Western part of Uttar Pradesh where over half of the cropped area is under irrigation large tracts still await irrigation to boost the agricultural output.

6) Soil Erosion

Large tracts of fertile land suffer from soil erosion by wind and water. This area must be properly treated and restored to its original fertility.

7) Agricultural Marketing

Agricultural marketing still continues to be in a bad shape in rural area of India. In the absence of sound marketing facilities, the farmers have to depend upon local traders and middle men for the disposal of their farm produce which is sold at a throw away price.

In most cases, the farmers are forced, under socio-economic conditions, to carry on in distress. Sale of their produce. In most of small villages, the farmers sell their produce to the money lender from whom they usually borrow money.

FACTORS THAT ARE AFFECTING ENVIRONMENT

i) Land disturbance and destruction

All over the world today, there are many ways that land is being degraded, such as the cutting down of our global forests to the increasing development of natural ecosystems and fragmentation of habitat and mining, natural ecosystems are under the threat as never before. We must implement habitat protections and work within limits of nature to preserve environment.

ii) Poaching and overfishing

Today, species are under such a great threat due to human activities and biodiversity is being eroded at such an alarming rate, that we stand to lose many of our natural resources that support the web of life of our planet.

iii) Agriculture

Agriculture has one of the largest environmental footprints of all human activities on our planet today, composing almost half of the land use. While most subsistence agriculture has very little impact on land, most global commercial forms of agriculture are contributing to problems of environmental

degradation, such as erosion, runoff, water pollution, and a loss of soil fertility.

iv) Pollution

Today, world is becoming increasingly toxic due to the pollution of our air, water, and land. This not only hurts wildlife and other organisms that live in natural ecosystems, it also hurts our own health and can lead to chronic and fatal diseases like cancer.

v) Poverty

In much of the world, those living in poverty are left with few options for survival but to utilize natural resources for food, shelter, fiber and to generate an income unfortunately due to the increased use of these natural resources many ecosystems around the world are becoming stressed and cannot sustain such intensive use.

vi) The use of fossil fuels for energy

Using fossil fuels as humanity's primary energy source to run our economies and lives has been one of the biggest causes of environmental destruction such as oil spill, the production of greenhouse gases and water pollution from hydraulic fracturing, the era of fossil fuel energy much quickly come to an end.

vii) Lack of regulations, enforcement and resources

While it is important to understand that the consequences that humanity's negative actions have on the planet, the changes that are needed to truly transform an environmentally destructive situation into a positive one requires proper regulations.

viii) Human behavior and overconsumption of resources

Our relationship to planet, Earth and how we consume its natural resources must be wholly transformed into one where we finally live in harmony with nature and its limitations and restore our planet.

CONCLUSION

Need to maintain eco forestry where only carefully selected trees are cut down and are transported with minimal damage to the area. The forest ecosystem is preserved while commercial timber extraction is still permitted. Green business would focus on recycle paper and wood products, wood alternatives and environmentally responsible consumerism. Land use planning help to advocates environmentally, friendly, developments, such as reduction of urban and suburban spreading. Community forestry is also concerned to citizens to come together and manage, participate in keeping local forest viable and sustainable. There is a requirement of 3R's principle viz. Reduce, Recycle and Reuse for reducing deforestation. In farming sector, include new methods are being developed to farm more intensively such as high yield hybrid crops,



greenhouse, autonomous building garden and hydroponics. Monitoring deforestation is key to usual interpretation of forest area.

Rural society can be developed through appropriate mechanism from all sides.

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