

Environment Policy of India: A Review

Abstract

The natural environment comprises of all living and non-living things that occur naturally. In contrast to the natural environment is the built environment. In such areas where man has transformed landscapes such as urban settings and agricultural land conversion, the natural environment is greatly modified into a simplified human environment. But unfortunately speed of development in past few years posed a big challenge not only to environment but also to the survival of life including human beings. It is the common understanding that a broad political, social, and philosophical movement that advocates various actions and policies are required for protecting the natural environment, or restoring the environment. Environment policies of the Government of India define legislations related to environment. In the Directive Principles of State Policy, Article 48 says "the state shall endeavor to protect and improve the environment and to safeguard the forests and wildlife of the country"; Article 51-A states that "it shall be the duty of every citizen of India to protect and improve the natural environment including forests, lakes, rivers and wildlife and to have compassion for living creatures." UNDP is committed to promoting low carbon, climate resilient and inclusive development. UNDP supports the Government of India in meeting national development objectives along with commitments under important multilateral environment agreements. The supreme court's proactive engagement in India's environmental issues is a unique feature of India's environment policy.

Keywords: Environment policy, India, UNDP

Introduction

The natural environment comprises all living and non-living things that occur naturally. This environment includes the interaction of all living species, climate, weather, and natural resources that affect human survival and economic activity. The natural environment consists of following components:

Complete ecological units that function as natural systems without massive civilized human intervention, including all vegetation, microorganisms, soil, rocks, atmosphere, and natural phenomena that occur within their boundaries and their nature

Universal natural resources and physical phenomena that lack clear-cut boundaries, such as air, water, and climate, as well as energy, radiation, electric charge, and magnetism, not originating from civilized human activity.



Pic:Land management has preserved the natural characteristics of Hopetoun Falls, Australia while allowing massive access of visitors. (Wikipedia)

In contrast to the natural environment is the built environment. In such areas where man has transformed landscapes such as urban settings and agricultural land conversion, the natural environment is greatly modified into a simplified human environment. Even acts which seem less extreme, such as building a mud hut or a photovoltaic system in the desert, modify the natural environment into an artificial one. Though many animals build things to provide a better environment for themselves, they are not human, hence beaver dams and the works of Mound-building termites are thought of as natural.



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But unfortunately speed of development in past few years posed a big challenge not only to environment but also to the survival of life including human beings.



Pic: Before fuel gas desulfurization was installed, the air-polluting emission from this power plant in New Mexico contained excessive amount of sulfur dioxide (Wikipedia)

It is the common understanding that a broad political, social, and philosophical movement that advocates various actions and policies are required in the interest of protecting the natural environment, or restoring the environment.

Goals for the benefit of people and natural systems, commonly expressed by environmental scientists and environmentalists include:

Elimination of pollution and toxics in air, water, soil. Preservation of biodiversity and protection of endangered species. Conservation and sustainable use of resources such as water, land, air, energy, and other natural resources. Shifting from fossil fuels to renewable energy to address pollution, global warming, and sustainability. Establishment of nature reserves for recreational purposes and ecosystem preservation. Sustainable and less polluting waste management including waste reduction (or even zero waste), reuse, recycling, composting, waste-to-energy.

Objectives of the Study

Objective of the study is to review the environment Policy of India. Methodology: Descriptive study has been done to draw the inferences. Data: policy documents available on websites are main sources of data for present study.

Review of Literature

Editha N. De Regla studied the Relationship of Environmental Awareness in Selected Topics in Science and Academic Performance of Education Students in Bulacan State University Bustos Campus, Philippines to assess the level of environmental awareness of the students; the 30 item environmental awareness test was used. The said test covered five topics in Science namely: Force, Work and Energy, Energy Resources, Wave Motion, Electricity and Nuclear Energy. The environmental awareness test was developed, validated and used by the researcher. The test measure three components or level of environmental awareness namely: perceptiveness, sensitivity and imagination toward the environment. In terms of academic performance, the general average of the grade per subject multiplied to the number of units, then divide to the total number of units of the students was obtained from the Office of the Registrar of Bulacan State University, Bustos, Bulacan. The frequency, percentage of the students in each item of

the test and the mean scores in five topics in Science were computed to determine the level of environmental awareness of the students. The Pearson Product Moment Correlation was used to identify the relationship existing between the level of environmental awareness and academic performance of the third year education students, generalist major. The overall mean score of 2.38 in the environmental awareness test signified that the level of environmental awareness of the education students was in sensitivity level or component of environmental awareness. The overall general average of the students was 1.77 which signified that the education students were very satisfactory in their academic performance. The correlation coefficient of 0.31 signified that there was positive correlation between the level of environmental awareness and academic performance of the education students in Bulacan State University, Bustos Campus.

Environment Policy and Programs of government of India

Environment policies of the Government of India define legislations related to environment.

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Also India is one of the parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) treaty. Earlier India had different laws to preserve the environment. The Indian Wildlife Protection Act 1972 is to protect the biodiversity. Fundamental principle of the 1988 National Forest Policy is conservation of forests. The government passed the Environment (Protection) Act 1986 and Foreign Trade (Development and Regulation) Act 1992 to conserve the biodiversity.

From 1980s, the Supreme Court of India has been pro-actively engaged in India's environmental issues. In most countries, it is the executive and the legislative branches of the government that plan, implement and address environmental issues. The Supreme Court of India has been engaged in interpreting and introducing new changes in the environmental jurisprudence directly. The Court has laid down new principles to protect the environment, re-interpreted environmental laws, created new institutions and structures, and imparted additional powers to the existing ones.

The Court's directions on environmental issues go beyond the general questions of law. The Supreme Court of India, in its order, includes executive actions and technical details of environmental actions to be implemented.

Environmental Education Awareness and Training Program

The 'Environmental Education, Awareness and Training (EEAT)' is a flagship scheme of the Ministry for enhancing the understanding of people at all levels about the relationship between human

beings and the environment and to develop capabilities/skills to improve and protect the environment. This scheme was launched in 1983-84 with the basic objective to promote environmental awareness among all sections of the society and to mobilize people's participation for preservation and conservation of environment.

EEAT Scheme has the following objectives:

1. To promote environmental awareness among all sections of the society;
2. To spread environment education, especially in the non-formal system among different sections of the society.
3. To facilitate development of education/training materials and aids in the formal education sector.
4. To promote environment education through existing educational/scientific/research institution.
5. To ensure training and manpower development for environment education, awareness and training.
6. To encourage non-governmental organizations, mass media and other concerned organizations for promoting awareness about environmental issues among the people at all levels.
7. To use different media including films, audio, visual and print,, theatre, drama, advertisements, hoarding, posters, seminars, workshops, competitions, meetings etc. for spreading messages concerning environment and awareness.
8. To mobilize people's participation for preservation and conservation of environment.

The objectives of this scheme are being realized through implementation of the following programs launched over the years National Environment Awareness Campaign (NEAC)

1. National Green Corps (NGC)
2. Seminars/Symposia/Workshops/Conference
3. Other Awareness Programs

National Environment Awareness Campaign:

The objective of the scheme is to create mass awareness among general public, students and other target groups about environmental problems and to take measures for environment protection by active involvement of Students, NGOs, rural masses and general public. The scheme was initiated by **Ministry of Environment & Forests, Govt. of India (MEF, GOI)** in 1986. Theme for NEAC 2009-10 was "Climate Change".

Council also celebrated all environmentally important days such as **World Wetland Day** (2nd February), **Earth Day** (22nd April) **World Environment Day** (5th June), **International Day for Preservation of Ozone layer** (16th Sep), **International Day for Conservation of Biodiversity** (22nd May), etc. by motivating all active NGOs and Schools/institutions in Punjab. Participating agencies take up following activities on the occasion of celebration of Environment related days, planting of local tree species. Cleaning of Public places/school compounds/ponds/drains etc. Organization of film or slide shows at community centers, Schools, Colleges, Museums, etc. on environmental themes. Organization of puppet shows, street dramas, folk

dances, songs, etc. to focus on the need to protect our environment. Installation of rain water harvesting system for management and storage of rain water. Choosing products that are recyclable and also products made from recycled materials. Initiated the establishment of plant nurseries in schools, villages, etc. Organizing simple exhibitions, fairs, melas, etc. on environment. Organizing public debates and discussions on environment Vs. development in local languages for the general public.

Further, teachers, eco clubs, student members, NGOs, etc. celebrating environment related days may themselves present and solicit ideas on what to do for particular day. They may form groups to discuss and rank the ideas and add new ones. They may pick the top one, two, or three and devise plans to make them happen.

Department of Environment New Delhi

The Department of Environment, Govt. of NCT Delhi has the responsibility of improving the Environmental Quality in Delhi. The Department is actively engaged in assessment, monitoring & protection of environment, pollution monitoring and control, enhancement of green cover, Climate Changes and related issues as well as spreading of awareness among the people of Delhi, along with its following autonomous/regulatory bodies/ agencies/ institutions/ centers

Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC)

Delhi Parks & Garden Society (DPGS)
Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Combating Climate Change (MGICCC)

Environment Vision and Mission

The Department is actively engaged in overall environmental education, assessment, monitoring, protection and awareness building among the people of Delhi. A multidimensional approach is being adopted by the Department for promotion, conservation and preservation of environment of the NCT of Delhi. The Department is actively involved in following activities:

1. Policy making towards pollution control, promoting various programs to make Delhi, Clean, Green and Pollution free,
2. Organizing tree plantation programs in schools, residential areas, parks, industrial areas etc., Creating awareness among public and sanitary workers to stop the indiscriminate burning of waste/leaves that causes air pollution.
3. Assistance to NGO's/institutions and funding for suitable R&D projects.

Aims and Objectives

Policy interventions to reduce Air & Noise pollution. Formulation of short term & long term action plan for control of Air and Noise pollution.

Water

Policy interventions to reduce water pollution. Promoting an ethos of conservation of water by minimizing the use of water and curtailing wastage of water. Coordinating the programs pertaining to river Yamuna for improving water quality. Promoting Rainwater harvesting systems in all sectors such as domestic, schools & various institutions etc.

Solid Waste Management

Motivating the citizens to imbibe habits and life styles supportive of minimum waste generation, segregation of waste at source, disposing off the waste at the nearest collection point.

Composting of horticulture and kitchen waste for making manure which could be used in kitchen gardens, nurseries, parks etc.

Sensitizing the citizens to minimize the use of plastic bags and not to throw them in public places because they choke drains and sewers. Being non-biodegradable, plastic bags cause water logging by blocking drains and provide breeding ground for mosquitoes. The citizens are encouraged to use eco-friendly alternatives like jute, cloth and recycled paper bags.

Educating the citizens about reuse of waste material by promoting the concept of the three R's i.e. Reduce, Reuse and Recycle.

Policy interventions to scientific management of various kinds of solid waste like plastic waste hazardous waste, municipal solid waste etc.

Providing decentralized waste management.

Promotion of Waste-to-Energy, Waste-to-Biofuel facilities in order to ensure zero waste cities and reduce the burden on the landfills.

Motivating the citizens to dispose off their e-waste through authorized collection centre/Recycler.

Climate Change

Motivating citizens of Delhi to keep surroundings clean and green. Creating awareness for celebrating festivals like Diwali, Holi etc. in a pollution free & environmental friendly way. Dissemination of environmental information. Research & Development activities for data base creation on various environmental issues. Apart from these schemes, the Department is actively engaged in creating awareness about environmental aspects. Framing of policy.

UNDP (United Nations Development Program) and India

UNDP is committed to promoting low carbon, climate resilient and inclusive development. UNDP supports the Government of India in meeting national development objectives along with commitments under important multilateral environment agreements. Key areas of intervention are climate change (mitigation and adaptation), sustainable natural resource management (conserving biodiversity and addressing land degradation) and integrated chemical management (phasing out of ozone depleting substances and reducing persistent organic pollutants).

Improving Energy Efficiency in the Indian Railways System

In partnership with the Ministry of Railways, Government of India, funded by Global Environment Facility, the project supports efforts to improve energy efficiency in the Indian Railways, which accounts for roughly 2.5 percent of the total electricity consumption in India. The focus is on institutional capacity development, technical training, implementation of energy-efficient technologies and sharing knowledge on best practices.

Achievements

Since 2011, the project has crossed several milestones: The institutional capacity of Indian Railways has been strengthened by the establishment of a Centre of Excellence on energy efficiency technologies and solutions at Indian Railway Institute of Electrical Engineering (IRIEEN), Nasik, Maharashtra. Under this project, IRIEEN has set up training and testing facilities for pumps, motors, and the solar cum wind hybrid system; performance of heating, ventilation, and air conditioning, compressor systems and an energy auditing instruments laboratory. IRIEEN has also developed computer based training (CBT) module on improving the energy efficiency of electrical appliances and equipment. The testing facilities at IRIEEN will be used for energy efficiency courses, for practical energy performance training and the CBT module will be used for providing training on improving the energy efficiency of appliances.

Technical training was provided to 791 railway officers and supervisors at IRIEEN and the National Academy of Indian Railways, Vadodara, Gujarat on improving energy efficiency of electrical appliances and equipment.

Energy audit guidelines, manuals, and procedures were developed for energy intensive railways operations, including production units, traction substations, workshops, production units, maintenance depots and buildings. Energy audit was undertaken for 15 facilities including railway stations, workshops, hospitals and buildings across the Indian Railways system.

Gap analysis was carried out to identify opportunities for improving energy efficiency and to define areas for implementation of energy efficient technologies and measures.

A Technology Information Resource and Facilitation Desk was set up at the Research Design & Standards Organization (RDSO) Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.

Electrical lights in 150 compartments of passenger trains were replaced with energy efficient LED lights resulting in a decline in maintenance costs and better quality of light saving over 4 million kilowatt hours (kWh).

The Dadar station, Mumbai has been selected for the implementation of a new energy efficient, building management system, which is a real-time, online monitoring tool that monitors consumption patterns, promptly diagnoses problems in electrical power usage, and takes immediate action. An online system, railsaver.gov.in, was developed by the Centre for Railway Information Systems (CRIS), it provides updated energy data across 16 zones of the Indian Railways. The analysis of data collected will facilitate in shaping the future strategies of the Indian Railways.

CRIS has also designed and developed the IRGREENERI website which was launched by the Minister of Railways. It will act as a knowledge sharing platform on railways' green initiatives and best practices.

To assess the replicability of the latest energy efficiency technologies in Indian Railways, 47 railway officials visited United Kingdom, Australia, Germany and Spain. Also, several national and international seminars and workshops were organized which provided a platform to share and learn from the experiences of international and national experts and industry leaders on energy efficient technologies, solutions and best practices in railways.

Key pilot projects adopted in the Indian Railways are:

At Delhi Division

Optimal light control system, provision of 200 super energy efficient fans and solar pumps; demonstration of energy efficient technology on IT platform through 500 AMR meters including supply, fixing, testing and commissioning of LED lights in 150 non-AC second class three tier sleeper coaches of the Train Lighting depot.

At Baroda House, New Delhi

Smart sensors and smart grid system set-up at the office of Indian Railways.

At Dadar Station, Central Railways

Building management systems installed at stations and railway offices for implementing energy efficiency measures.

Northern Railways

Bay lighting in workshops and loco sheds; automation of pumping arrangement at Ghaziabad and variable voltage variable frequency drives in lifts, installed;

North Western Railways

Pumping arrangement automated at Jaipur Division.

Enhancing Institutional and Community Resilience to Disasters and Climate Change

The project 'Enhancing Institutional and Community Resilience and Climate Change' will support efforts to strengthen capacities of government, communities and institutions to accelerate implementation of disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation plans.

Achievements

Communities in Puri district of Odisha are better able to adapt to extreme weather conditions through demonstration of approaches to encourage community-based water resource management. As a result of project interventions crop yield has increased three-fold, better drainage systems have enabled farmers to start farming earlier in the year and close to 2,100 hectares of land were cultivated in 2012, more than three times that of 2011 in Bambarada village of Puri. In addition, villages have piped water supply and incidences of water-borne diseases are declining five other locations in Puri district identified to renovate and strengthen drainage systems in waterlogged areas. This will enhance the productivity and yields of paddy crop.

Sharing of knowledge enabled through the launch of the Knowledge Network Centre at IIT Kanpur which aims to develop resilience and help communities adapt to floods and water logging. The Centre encourages communities, policy experts and field practitioners to design better strategies for

sustainable management. Training will also be provided in the areas of climate change, water resources, and adaptive water management practices to practitioners from two states- Bihar and Odisha. A manual on crop water budgeting developed to deal with climate change in drought prone regions. Crop water budgeting exercise involves estimation of the groundwater balance based on the total recharge and draft for the particular monsoon season. The estimation helps farmers make informed decisions on the crops to be sown. Community institutions strengthened to employ participatory groundwater monitoring systems. National, state and community level expert group learning exercises conducted in Odisha, with special focus on women and children who face recurring water logging and flooding. The exercises were conducted to enable both experts/policy makers and field based practitioners to come up with action oriented recommendations. Better understanding of hazard risk in Khargone district, Madhya Pradesh through completion of Hazard Risk Vulnerability Analysis in the district. Enhanced resilience of small and marginal farmers through introduction of crop pattern change (mixed cropping and resilient crops) and soil and water conservation activities. Panchayat Knowledge Resource Centre set up in Puri district in Odisha provides grassroots information on adaptive water and agricultural practices underway that can build resilience of communities.

Mainstreaming Coastal and Marine Biodiversity Conservation into Production Sectors in Sindhudurg Coast in Maharashtra

The project, in partnership with the Ministry of Environment and Forests and financed by the Global Environment Facility, aims to mainstream biodiversity conservation into Sindhudurg coastal district's production sectors. It also seeks to generate awareness among local communities on biodiversity conservation amidst the threat of unsustainable fishing practices, rising pollution from fishing vessels and maritime traffic in the region.

Achievements

A Mangrove and Coastal and Marine Biodiversity Conservation Foundation has been established in the state of Maharashtra in order to bring in continuation of the key activities initiated under the Project, as well as considering the need for the conservation of coastal and marine biodiversity along the coast of Maharashtra.

Biodiversity inclusive Fisheries Plan for Sindhudurg Coast prepared and is under implementation; Joint Patrolling, being one of the activity in the Plan initiated by the Fisheries and Forest Departments.

Square mesh net at the cod end of trawl nets adopted by all (317) trawlers in Sindhudurg District.

To encourage the people of coastal Sindhudurg to mangrove conservation, mangrove crab farming initiated with 28.5 acres of land in 15 villages brought under crab farming and 149 beneficiaries trained in mangrove crab farming.

An expedition to Angria Bank to study the living marine resources successfully completed and a

documentary prepared. The study reflects presence of 160 identified species including 53 coral species, 18 fish species, 9 seaweed species, 9 echinoderms. 18 species were recorded which are yet to be identified, which includes 6 coral species.

Four encounters of Bryde's whale and one encounter of a mother-calf pair of Blue Whale recorded, and 561 individuals of Indo-pacific humpback dolphins identified in Sindhudurg waters, under the Cetacean Population Assessment project. Systematic collection of baseline data for beaching and stranding of cetaceans initiated, under which 19 incidents of beaching have been recorded.

100,000 mangrove saplings planted to rehabilitate 20 ha. of degraded mangrove area; 98000 mangrove saplings of RET species were raised. Digitized maps of mangroves in Sindhudurg region prepared.

40 Biodiversity Management Committees formed under the project and creation of 8 People's Biodiversity Register initiated.

25 mussel and oyster farming units set up with women SHG groups. System of Rice Intensification (improved crop production technique) implemented in 1000 acres of paddy land leading to increased income of local farmers, in all resulting in 739 individuals being shifted to additional livelihood options, to reduce pressure on biodiversity.

Rehabilitation of degraded coral sites through transplantation of coral using artificial substrates and native coral species undertaken. Enhancing biodiversity of coral reef through deployment of 250 artificial reefs building blocks undertaken.

The "Sindhudurg Clean Beach Campaign" launched across 29 beaches along the Sindhudurg coast; Comprehensive solid waste management plan prepared for 185 villages and Sindhudurg Fort and Vijaydurg Fort declared as 'No plastic Zone'.

Awareness workshops conducted regularly to sensitize fisheries department staff on biodiversity conservation; Small-scale fishermen sensitized about biodiversity inclusive sustainable marine fishing practices.

Capacity building of representatives of production sector, conservation sector as well as the livelihood sector carried out, including 929 fishermen trained in sustainable fisheries management practices and 3293 farmers trained in SRI.

5th Operational Phase of the GEF Small Grants Program

Funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the Small Grants Programme (SGP) supports initiatives that demonstrate community-based, innovative, gender sensitive and participatory approaches. Under the programme, grants are made directly to community-based organizations (CBOs) and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to support community-level initiatives that help conserve global biodiversity, mitigate climate change, protect international waters, reduce the impacts of persistent organic pollutants and prevent land degradation while generating sustainable livelihoods. In India, the

program has been supported through the Centre for Environment Education (CEE) since 2000.

Goals Achieved

Seventy-three new projects with a multifocal, integrated approach towards biodiversity conservation, climate change mitigation and adaptation, and land degradation have been approved and operationalized on the ground with total grants approved worth \$2.44 million.

The co-financing generated from communities, NGO partners and other donor agencies for these 73 projects amounts to \$2.5 million.

As of February 2015, at the program level, SGP India had generated \$0.56 million in co-financing from a range of donors, including Airbus Corporate Foundation, Steel Authority of India (SAIL), AVH Chemicals, Arya Steel, National Medicinal Plants Board, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India and several state government departments, including Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MNREGA) and forest departments.

As of 31 May 2015, SGP was working with 265 panchayats in nearly 800 villages (24,800 households) and funding nearly 300,000 people directly and more than 250,000 people through kinship relations.

More than 552 women self-help groups (SHGs) have been formed with 7,728 members who meet regularly every month and save nearly INR50 to INR100 per month. These SHGs have been linked with banks and the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) to enable them to obtain credit and/or grants for setting up enterprises and technology interface in a sustainable manner.

Every month, two to three meetings are held in each village covered by the various SGPs in projects (over 800 villages). All decisions taken at these meetings are recorded and documented by the local attendees. More than 3,200 village meetings have been held as of June 2015.

In collaboration with project partners, low cost technologies such as biomass briquetting have been promoted; more than 8,500 energy efficient cook stoves have been distributed; 5-kW micro hydels, 21 water mills and 3 check dams have been built; more than 750 biogas plants have been set up; and land development activities covering 17,000 hectares of land have been initiated. The actual assessment of CO₂ emission reductions resulting from these initiatives will be conducted by the end of 2015. Through a range of community-led measures, local biodiversity has been enhanced by protecting nearly 67,755 hectares of degraded land from further degradation.

From 2012 to 2015 GEF SGP has been represented in more than 178 conferences and workshops where presentations on the programme's best practices, processes and business model approaches have been shared.

GEF SGP NGO partners have won various awards, of which 25 awards were won during the duration of OP5.

Sustainable Land and Ecosystem Management in Shifting Cultivation Areas of Nagaland for Ecological and Livelihood Security

The project, in partnership with the government of Nagaland, funded by Global Environment Facility, aims to address land degradation in shifting cultivation locations in three districts of Nagaland through participatory planning, generating awareness, building institutions and supporting integrated farm development that enable sustainable land and ecological management.

Goals Achieved

Horticulture, agro-forestry plantations and soil and water conservation measures have improved vegetation cover by over 2,000 hectares of land in project areas. Soil erosion rate has decreased from 50 m/ha per year to 26 m/ha per year. Incomes of 4,400 women have increased by 10 percent as a result of sale of organic farm produce from *jhum* fields. Average incomes of 5,008 households have increased by 15-20 percent annually through access to existing credit facilities, agriculture revolving fund and sales from increased yield of *jhum* fields. Over 800 *jhum*-practicing households have benefited from the introduction of integrated farm development practices that integrate crop, livestock, fishery, forestry and horticulture and reduce soil erosion. The *jhum* cropping phase has increased from two to three years in pilot *jhum* farms as a result of timely introduction of soil and water conservation measures. Informed decision making by traditional institutions on land management systems through participatory land use plans (PLUP). Formal codification of land use has led to more effective participatory planning and management. PLUP has helped to address conservation challenges including rampant burning of *jhum* fields, protection of forest and water bodies, land degradation, etc Land use committees have been formed to ensure implementation of the land use plans and to create an enabling environment for improved local ecosystem and livelihoods. Strengthened coordination and convergence mechanisms between line departments through

increased awareness of linkages between land degradation, forest resources and rural development.

Conclusion

Supreme Court's proactive engagement in India's environmental issues is a unique feature of India's environment policy. Directive principle of state policy article 48 gives responsibility to state whereas article 51 makes it participatory program by giving responsibility to public. Many policies and programs are being run with the help of UNDP (United Nation Development Program). Three district of Nagaland have been included in the program of the UNDP India. Capacity building programs run in Maharashtra. In Odisha disaster resilience has been increased and crop yield have been increased three fold by increasing proper drainage system. Apart from this many environment education and awareness programs are being run. Indian wildlife protection act 1972 to protect bio-diversity, environment protection act 1986, National forest policy 1988 proves India's sensitivity and activeness in world's environmental concerns.

Unfortunately inspite of Courts intervention and various government policies environmental hazards are multiplying day by day. There is a need to review the policies, and law enforcement along with effective environment education, awareness and training programs to ensure private public participation.

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