



PLANTS

IN EVERYDAY LIFE

(An IQAC Publication)

Editors

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Dr. S. Jeyaparvathi

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Contents

S. No.	Title of the Chapter	Author's Name	Page No.
1	Plants Enhance Adolescents Mental Health	S. Rajamanickavasagan & Dr. A. Punitha Mary	1
2	A Review of Ethnogynecological Plants used by the <i>Kanikkar</i> Tribe of South India	M. Priyadharshana, M. Girija & Dr. V. Vadivel	8
3	The Ethos of the Sacred Groves and the Tribes of the Nilgiris	Dr. S. Keerthy & Dr. D. Praveen Sam	18
4	Antimicrobial activity at <i>Parthenium Hysterophorus</i> L. is an exotic weed	P. Mathiarasi & A. Balasubramanian	36
5	Traditional Medicinal Plants with Anticancer potential	U. Thiripura Sundari & P. Shanthi	48
6	Mental Health Benefits of Plants for Working Women	Dr. C. Thanavathi	65
7	Impact of Plant Cuisine on Health	K. Shanthi Devi	76
8	Plants and its potentials in pandemic	U. Thiripura Sundari & S. Bavya	87
9	Plants inside and outside home – A review	Sheeba Menon	103
10	Go With Greens: A Pearl of Life	P. Priya	122
11	A Great History of Deforestation and Wild Life Resources	Dr. J. Maria Prema & A. Thiruvilanga Selvi	130

S. No.	Title of the Chapter	Author's Name	Page No.
12	Mental Health of Human Being with Plants	Dr. A. Jeya Sudha & S. Karthiga	136
13	காய்கறிகள் மற்றும் பழங்களின் ஆரோக்கிய பயன்கள்	Dr. J. K. எஸ்நா வின்சென்ட் ஜெபக்குமார்	147
14	Plants: Nature's Most Valuable Gift to Human Kind	Dr. J. Maria Prema & D. Sher Meena	160
15	பெருந்தொற்று நோய்களும் மருத்துவ தாவரங்களும்	Dr. J.K. எஸ்நா வின்சென்ட் ஜெபக்குமார்	169
16	Medicinal Plants - A Cure for COVID	C. Girija & Dr. C. Santhi	179
17	Economic Importance of Poaceae	Dr. R. Thangadurai	185
18	Plants and Psychological Well Being	A. Jeya Kavitha	195
19	God's Marvellous Creation in the Bible	T. Emima Rolanshia	201
20	Influence of Plants on Enhancing the Psychological Wellbeing	S. Swathi Lakshmi & Dr. Ponrathi	212
21	Medicinal Plants to fight against COVID 19	Dr. S. Josephine & K. Swetha	228
22	Our Plant! Our Life!	Dr. J.S. Febila Josephin & Dr. J. Albert Prince Kumar	236
23	Green School Curriculum and Education for Sustainable Development	Dr. N. Mahalakshmi	247
24	Plants - the Air Purifiers and Sustainable Gardening	Dr. S. Andal	258

A Great History of Deforestation and Wild Life Resources

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Introduction

Earth is a home for millions of living beings. Our home earth belongs to every micro-organisms, bacteria, lichens to banyan trees, elephants, humans, plants and soon. There are vast multitudes of living organisms in this green Earth, Every organism is interconnect with other living beings. But the human beings have transformed the precious nature into a resource. Humans converted everything as a products, it may be directly or indirectly from the wildlife and forest. Such products are dyes, barks, woods, rubber, fodder, food, fuel, leaves etc. which depleted our forests

"The world has enough for everyone's need but not enough for everyone's greed"

- Gandhiji

As Gandhiji said, with or without our knowledge, we have started to destroy our nature. If this destroying process goes on, the life of human will be invalid with a green nature. As a result of this, our natural resources are at a constant risk of depletion. Let's move deep into topic that about the plants deforestation along with government precautions.

IUCN- International Union for Conversations of Nature and Natural Resources:

India is said to be one of the world's richest countries in the biological diversity. It has more than 8 percent of the total number of species in this world which is estimated to be 1.6 million. In the

year 1991 six species of plants were added in the prevention list of government. In September, Garden Media Group published their 2019 Garden trends Report, "Rooted Together-reconnecting with the natural world". In the recent years, the young people are interested in the natural world and trying to escape from the stress technology.

"In a desert of work, stress and the internet, nature- both Indoors and outside- has become an oasis" - Report says.

In the previous trends, they have an interest in gardening as self-care and in the current trends shows that working with plants is a way to help the people to be mind free and also saving the earth. If the youngsters are looking for careers, to improve the environment and make a better life for everyone along with the satisfaction profession green industry.

Planting and gardening plants in everyday life makes the workaholic and stressful person into stress free person and energetic. It's also making the physical and mental health properly.

The average household set up a spending record a \$ 503 and near \$100 over the previous year, setting a record \$47.8 billion in retail sales. 29 percent of households that garden included 18-34 years old and 27% of males in that age category said that they can lawn and garden activities. The statistics have increased more from the previous year and it looks like the interest in plants is on the rise along with the daily life.

Contribution of Government in Forest Resources:

Most of the forest and wildlife resources are owned by the government of India. It's has managed through several departments like the forest department. The forests are divided into three types; reserved forests, protected forests and unclassed forests.

All over 50 percent of the forests have been declared as the reserved forests in India. The states like Andhra Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Kerala, Uttarakand, West Bengal and Maharashtra have a large percentage of their forests considered as forests.

Protected forests are around one-third of parts of the forest in Bihar, Haryana, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Orissa and Rajasthan. These reserved and protected forests are together called 'Permanent forest estates'. Madhya Pradesh has a largest share of permanent forest of India and almost 75 percent of permanent forest. The unclassed forests are all the forest and wasteland which is not belongs to reserved and protected forests. Most of the forests in the north-eastern states of India and Gujarat are unclassed forests.

Large-scale development projects have also contributed significantly to the loss of forests. Since 1951, over 5,000 sq km of forest was cleared for river valley projects. Clearing of Forest is still continuing with projects like the Narmada Sagar Project in Madhya Pradesh. It would inundate 40,000 hectares of the forest. Mining is another important factor behind deforestation.

Some of the religious faith has led to the constitution of specific types of trees in different parts of India. Some of the communities protect such forests and trees and praise the nature as god or goddess. Such protected areas are called Sacred Groves. Another reason for the community in this conservation participation is for their own survival. Many other tribal communities are helping actively to the government as officially in this conservation.

Orissa has made a pioneering effect in the program to launch the joint forest management or JFM program in 1988. Under this Joint Forest Management program, the local village communities participate in the conservation efforts on degraded forestland.

Deforestation and Prevention

Forest and wetlands are the natural habitats of mammals and over exploitation of forests has resulted in the depletion of the flora. Deforestation is one of the main causes for the depletion of flora. Deforestation is the destruction of forests by cutting trees. It is the removal and the elimination of forest resources. The area of the forest in this world in 1990 was 3963 Mha (Million hectares). In the year 2000, it was 3869 Mha. So the world has lost 94 Mha of forest in 10 years from 1990 to 2000.

There are three movements who play a major role in saving forest by ancestors are,

1. Chipko Movement
2. Appiko Movement
3. Silent valley project

Chipko Movement

Chipko movement is the tree hugging movement for the conservation of trees. The word “**Chipko**” refers a “**to embrace**”; the term “**Andolan**” means “**Movement**”. This movement was held on the duration on 1972-1980 in a small hilly village like Advani, Garhwal, Uttarakhand situated in the Himalayas formerly in Uttar Pradesh (UP). This movement held under the leadership of Sunderlal Bahuguna. The plywood industries felled trees on a large scale upsetting the natural balance. The Bishnoi women of Advani tied sacred thread on the trees. These women prevented the axemen by forming a circle around the trees. Finally, they embraced the trees to prevent from cutting the tree. The Chipkos slogan was “**planting Five ‘F’ trees**”. They have struggled for six years and also arrested the tribal women. Many tribal women were fired by police in 1978. At last, the Prime Minister Indira Gandhi ordered to ban tree felling in Himalayas. This Chipko movement has

succeeded in stoppage of felling for 10 years in 1300 sq.kms of the upper catchment area of river Alaknanda.

This movement created a great awareness in the International and National level.

Appiko Movement

Appiko Movement is a tree hugging movement for the conservation of forests. It is the reflection of Chipko Movement. This movement carried out by women in Karnataka. Here “Appiko” means ‘to embrace’ and “Chalivali” means ‘Movement’. The Appiko movement was held on 08 September 1983 in Salkani village, Uttar Kannada district, Karnataka. The 200 men and women marched 8 km saying that to stop tree felling in the “Kelase”.

Silent Valley Project

Silent valley is a rain forest from Nilagiri hills palghat of Kerala. In 1970, a hydroelectric project has planned to exist in Kerala and to produce 240 MW of power, irrigate 10,000 hectares of land. It can make the state to polluted and affect living beings and also become a major ‘**environment versus development**’ controversy. Thus the protest was given by NGOs, KSSP, KSEB, Friend of the Trees, Bombay National History Society and so on. After the heavy opposition the project has stopped and the Silent Valley is preserved as a Rainforest Biosphere Reserve.

These are the important movement which every human being must know the struggle of our ancestors for protecting our precise nature.

“The tree is a peculiar organism of unlimited kindness and benevolence and makes no demand for its sustenance, and extends generously the products of its life activity. It affords protection to

all beings, offering shade even to the axe men who destroy it". - Gautama Buddha (487 B.C.)

Conclusion

The clear lesson from the dynamics of both environmental destruction and reconstruction in India is that local communities everywhere have to be involved in some kind of natural resource management. But there is still a long way to go before local communities are at the centre stage in decision-making. Accept only those economic or developmental activities, that the people are centric, environment-friendly and economically rewarding. Nature is the only thing that exists in every generation. Development of the nation is more important but, without nature the development is incomplete. Thus, the concept of the paper deals a deep move on forest resources and its importance. Thus, the plants are not preventing for the oxygen, carbon-di-oxide, herbs but also for the reason that it makes a happier person and a companion. It is the only thing travels along with us generation to another generation.

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