

CONSERVATION OF BIODIVERSITY THROUGH INVOLVEMENT OF STUDENTS AND NGOS –ADAPTATIONS

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Abstract

India is one of the biggest democratic countries in the world with a 79.42 million hectare forest and tree cover. Biodiversity conservation is the current issue of great concern globally. It is must for every Indian citizen to conserve biodiversity; the conservation should start from root level i.e school children. School teachers will play a vital role in educating society .encouraging private land conservation of biodiversity is very important for suitable development as in mainly brought about by the human interference with the nature . Ecoclubs have been established in schools and colleges for conducting activities relating to conservation and protection of environment. Students have shown their interest in the protection of environment and thereby generating conservation consciousness which is through education and awareness A cooperative indigenous community can help to reduce poaching and the illegal activities and provide knowledge and human resources for better ecosystem management . Establishment of ecodevelopment committees, people biodiversity registers at the village level can reduce biodiversity loss.

Key : Biodiversity management, Peoples biodiversity register, pollution, Biodiversity

Introduction

India is known for its rich heritage of biodiversity. Conserving biodiversity is basic to our survival and well-being and using it sustainably, forms part of the Indian culture and lifestyle. The Earth's bio-logical resources are vital to humanity's economic and social development. Humans have made unprecedented changes in ecosystems in recent decades to meet their expanding populations and booming economy. Biodiversity is declining rapidly due to human activities such as harvesting, pollution, overexploitation, habitat destruction and modification and the introduction of exotic species(D. U. Hooper et al., 2005, S. C. Trombulak et al., 2004). Human activities have taken the planet to the edge of a substantial wave of species extinctions, further threatening our own well-being. World Environment Day (WED) is one of the principal vehicles through which the United Nations stimulates worldwide awareness of the environment and enhances political attention and action. The world is facing a biodiversity crisis (Wilson 2002).). In response, schools, teachers and parents are

being urged to prepare students to face the real life issues they will routinely encounter in efforts to conserve biodiversity.

Regrettably, much of this heritage is being rapidly eroded today. We live in exciting times, with technological developments transforming the world around us as never before. Communication has become easy; information in large measures is becoming readily accessible. Yet, in the midst of all these developments, we remain a biomass-based civilization. Education is a key factor in developing public knowledge and awareness about issues that affect biodiversity across the world. Several authors have shown that academic coverage of environmental topics and ecological principles increases student awareness, and positively affects attitudes, behaviors, and values regarding conservation issues (Humston & Ortiz-Barney, 2005; 2007).

Sate Government should actively lend their support to various organizations and associations whose sole purpose is to protect the biodiversity. They should encourage establishment of BMC in all panchayat through NGO organizations, NGO organization should come forward to establish Biodiversity management committee (BMC) at Panchayat levels. People's biodiversity registers are a case in point (Gadgil, 1994, 1996; Gadgil et al., 2000). The "People's Biodiversity Registers (PBR)", a program now mandated by the Biological Diversity Act 2002, was initiated in India in 1995. Preparation of the People's Biodiversity Registers is a novel activity that will involve people at the grass roots in a scientific enterprise. The Register shall contain comprehensive information on availability and knowledge of local bio-logical resources, their medicinal or any other use or any other traditional knowledge associated with them, along with data about the local people and practitioners using the biological resources. PBR is envisioned as a tool that will facilitate the local bodies in conservation related decision-making. It also develops local body, to act like a watchdog, to prevent smuggling, excess cutting or collection of medicinal plants. It also passed are solution that people should take permission and clearance from Gram Panchayat when collecting medicinal plants and also when cutting trees.

Teachers are the motivation force for biodiversity conservation, they should educate the student community and parent community about the biodiversity conservation..Biodiversity should become syllabus curriculum. Students are the future. They are tomorrow's leaders who will be taking all the important decisions regarding social issues, economy, politics, law and order. A good foundation today will ensure great leaders in the future. Students are the youthful population of the society. Students have a big role to play in saving the environment. We need to teach the kids about how is Nature important for us and all living beings, how as a human we are crucial for earth's survival and how as a student can a junior grade or a senior grade student help in the protection of the environment. We should not blame the government and education policies for not promoting environmental studies. But with times, the education system has evolved, and students are taught Environmental education which is mandatory.

Methodology

Assessment Framework

Biodiversity modules have been prepared to expose the definition, importance of biodiversity and threats to Biodiversity. Each module includes an interactive PowerPoint lecture slides with notes and discussion questions, a detailed topical synthesis paper, and a series of hands-on exercises, outdoor field activities, seminars, classroom Group discussions, Group projects, establishment of clubs and field exposures in which students collect, in order to analyze, and synthesize biodiversity data from multiple sources. Each module component contains specific learning objectives to assist faculty teaching the material.

We have use power point presentations to introduce and discuss topics and applied the exercises as complements to lectures. We have to introduce the activity and answered questions at the end of the lecture, allowed students to work on the problems and then discussed the results in the following class. Based on the feedback received, Identified problems, a series of activities were planned and executed and this was continued for the whole year. Participation in biodiversity Managing committees in their native villages.

Results and Discussion

Many widespread trends are observed in the preparation of PBR, representing the entire spectrum of ecoclimatic and socioeconomic conditions of this diverse village. Large communities and other small-scale societies residing continuously over a territory create, transmit and apply comprehensive knowledge about the re-sources contained in the territory. The rights of Indigenous Peoples (IPs) and biodiversity conservation have taken a prominent role in many sectors of our society including national, state conservation and environmental organizations ,nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), and indigenous people. Fortunately, some prominent live examples of traditional forms of biodiversity conservation still exist. A deep concern that the loss of biodiversity and deteriorating ecosystem contribute to imbalance of the nature is needed among the public. Therefore, specific knowledge on biodiversity is required from teachers and student teachers who are involved in educating future generations. Biodiversity education requires a teaching approach that can educate the public to understand biodiversity. Students should be given projects related to biodiversity, they should be exposed to seminars, conferences related to biodiversity conservation. The government should make mandatory that every student must plant and take care of the plant till he leaves the school for that he should be given marks. They should repeatedly take to field trips. Making visits to zoos, wildlife reserves and national parks also inhibit a close familiarity with children for nature and wildlife. Schools can organize some environment-oriented programs and competitions on occasions like World Environment Day, World Water Day, World Wildlife Day and the like. Children should be guided to save water and not to leave the taps running in washrooms. Environment

related charts and crafts should be used to decorate the classrooms. On occasions of birthday and special school days, children should be encouraged to plant trees and take care of them. The steps mentioned above if taken by parents, school authorities and children, then many things can change. A student who grows in an environment where there are respect and care for Nature will grow up as a responsible and compassionate human being. Thus by promoting environmental education, exposing students to issues related to the environment, making them aware of green living and adopting an eco-friendly life, we can assure a safer and responsible generation.

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