

Multidisciplinary Global Journal of Academic Research (MGJAR)

Vol. IV Issue IV October 2017 Impact Factor: 2.0674 ISSN: 2394-1758



Rupees Five Hundred



Rupees Two Thousand



Rupees Fifty



Rupees Two Hundred



www.academicresearchsupport.com



www.academicresearchsupport.com

Multidisciplinary Global Journal of Academic Research (MGJAR)

Vol. IV Issue. IV Oct. 2017 Impact Factor: 2.0674 ISSN:2394-1758

Contents

Demonetization and Its Impact on the Indian Economy: A Selected Case Studies Dr. R. Dhanasekar and Dr. V. Neelamegam	1 - 8
Population Growth – Its Impact on Environment Ms. Hepsiba Flosal	9 - 14
Barriers to Change towards Human Growth, Development and Progress - An Anthropological Perspective Fr. M.G Selvinraj SJ	15 - 24
The Unendurable Pain of Rejection that led to the Liberation of the Female Characters in <i>The Liberation of Sita</i> by Volga Maria Ponn Sindhuja. P	25 - 30
Environment Pollution and Awareness Ms. Hepsiba Flosal	31 - 34

Publisher



SVM Publications

45, T.A. Koil 5th Street, Velachery,
Chennai – 600 042, Tamil Nadu, India.

Cell: 094440 77646

Email: svmpublication@gmail.com

www.academicresearchsupport.com



SVM Publications

www.academicresearchsupport.com

Multidisciplinary Global Journal of Academic Research (MGJAR)

Editorial Board

Dr. V. Neelamegam

Editor in Chief (Hon)
Assistant Professor, FS&H.,
SRM University, Tamil Nadu, India.

Dr. José G. Vargas-Hernández

University Center for Economic and
Managerial Sciences,
University of Guadalajara.
Periférico Norte N° 799, Núcleo
Universitario Los Belenes, C.P. 45100,
Zapopan, Jalisco, México.

Dr. Sanjay N. Tupe

Associate Professor & Head,
Dept. of Banking and finance,
B.Y.K. College of Commerce
College Road, Nashik-422005, India.

Dr. B. Johnson

Associate Professor
Dept of Commerce and Management
Studies
University of Calicut
Kerala State 673 635, India.

Dr. R. Ramachandran

Asst. Professor
Commerce DDE, Annamalai University
Annamalai nagar 608 002
Tamilnadu, India.

Dr. K. Kaviarasu

Assistant Professor of English,
Bishop Heber College (Autonomous),
Trichirappalli - 620 017. T.N., India.

Dr. P. Arunachalam

Professor
Department of Applied Economics
Cochin University of Science and
Technology, Kochi - 682 022, Kerala. India.

Dr. Sonia Selwin

Business Management Trainers,
Commercial Studies Division,
Bahrain Training Institute, Ministry of
Education,
Kingdom of Bahrain

Dr. Pranam Dhar

Associate Professor,
Department of Commerce & Management,
West Bengal State University. Barasat,
West Bengal, Kolkata – 700126, India.

Dr. S. R. Sheeja

Assistant Professor of Economics
School of Distance Education (SDE)
University of Kerala
Thiruvananthapuram -34, India.

Dr. D. Amutha

Associate Professor (Economics)
St. Mary's College (Autonomous),
Thoothukudi, Tamilnadu, India

P. Anbarasan, B.E., MSW.,

Researcher & Social Worker,
Daasya, Chennai
Tamilnadu, India.



SVM Publications

Multidisciplinary Global Journal of Academic Research (MGJAR)

Impact Factor: 2.0674

Vol. IV Iss. IV Oct. 2017 ISSN:2394-1758

Demonetization and Its Impact on the Indian Economy: A Selected Case Studies

Dr. R. Dhanasekar
Principal

**K.S Raja Arts and Science College for Women,
Ginge, Villupuram Dist.,
Tamil Nadu, India**

Dr. V. Neelamegam
Editor in Chief
MGJAR Journal
Tamil Nadu, India.

Abstract

Indian economy is one of the major economy in the world, it has its own features and specialization. But on November 8th 2016 it has slowly down because of the Demonetization. It is a shocking movement of the Government without consult any Industry, Reserve Bank of India and so on. Prime Minister Narendra Modi took a historic decision by announcing that the high-denomination notes (Rs 500 and Rs 1,000) then in circulation would cease to be legal tender. The people of India were shocked and they not able change their currencies, ATMs are not functioning, Banks are closed. After a short time the Government introduced new Rs.2000/- and Rs.500/- Currency notes to manage the economy and replace the existing currencies. With this background, this article tries to explain the impact of Demonetisation on Indian Economy with selected industries.

Key Words: Demonetisation, Indian Economy, Shares, Agriculture and Real Estates.

Introduction

In India, November 8, 2016 the Prime Minister Narendra Modi took a historic decision by announcing that the high-denomination notes (Rs 500 and Rs 1,000) then in circulation would cease to be legal tender.

The Indian Economy which was billed as the “fastest growing major economy” in the world and the “only bright spot” among Emerging Markets seems to have slowed down even before the latest “shock therapy” of “demonetization”. Indeed, the recently released growth figures from the Central Statistical Office considered to be the official department that releases projected, and actual growth figures (apart from the Reserve Bank of India and the Finance Ministry) hints at a slowdown in the Indian economy even during the quarter before demonetization happened.

While this is indeed cause for concern with projected growth figures revised downwards from 7.6 % to 7.1% for the financial year ending March 2017, what is cause for greater worry and even alarm is the view among some economists including the former Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh (who is a reputed economist in his own right) that the current and ongoing attempt to flush out black money would shave a good 2% of the Gross Domestic Product.

Indeed, some think tanks and research institutes such as Ambit Research have given even more dire assessments with their projections of growth figures tending to be in the less than 3% range. Of course, the consensus view among many economists is that while there would be indeed a noticeable slowdown in the economy for a “quarter or two”, most of them seem to agree that growth would indeed bounce back and the Indian economy would regain its momentum as well as turnaround with a renewed sense of vigour due to higher tax revenues.

Having said that, one must keep in mind the fact that as per the recent estimates by some economists, nearly 90% of the total cash in circulation has come back into the banking system and hence, the stated purpose of the Demonetization exercise which was to “extinguish” black money and enable the RBI to lower its liabilities thereby providing the government with a huge dividend seems to have been belied. Of course, there are some who now argue that the Indian Banking System is now “flush with cash” and this has enabled the government to “nudge” the RBI to cut rates as well as to allow banks to pass on the benefit of ample liquidity to consumers by lowering lending rates.

However, the flip side of this has been that banks have cut their deposit rates as well which is natural considering that any cuts to lending rates have to be accompanied by cuts to deposit rates. This has resulted in a situation where banks with enough deposits seem to be encouraging spending more than saving and this can indeed create demand in the system since more money with consumers means more spending thereby leading to an uptick in sales of goods and services and which has the “multiplier effect” of resulting in more growth.

On the other hand, with more taxes being collected due to higher deposits in banks that can be taxable as well as increased compliance due to greater scrutiny and oversight by the Income Tax Department, the government too might be tempted to announce lower rates for taxes and other aspects of what are known as fiscal measures. In this context, it is worth remembering that fiscal stimulus which is by

lowering taxes and providing more incentives to consumers as well as producers by boosting supply can be complemented and supplemented by the monetary stimulus which is by boosting demand for goods and services by lowering lending rates thereby putting more money in the hands of consumers.

As economic theory states, both fiscal and monetary stimulus can be implemented in isolation or taken together and hence, the Demonetization or the DeMo as it is being called might indeed act as a catalyst for growth. Having said that, one must remember that India is primarily a cash transaction based economy and hence, removing 86% of the money in circulation is indeed a “brave” move since there are reports that large sections of the informal economy have come to a grinding halt.

Moreover, there are also reports of farming sector taking a hit due to lack of cash as well as sales of automobiles and other capital goods falling even though inventories are building up. Thus, it remains to be seen as to how the growth figures for the next quarter and the overall financial year turn out to be. Given that mainstream economists tend to debate and argue both sides with equal passion and vigour, it is the case that as the cliché goes, the “proof of the pudding is in the eating” and hence, the actual growth figures have to be watched.

Of course, there are other indicators to keep track of as well in the form of various Indices such as the Purchasing Managers Index which tracks industrial activity as well as the rates of investment and the credit pickup as well as the Inflation figures. Having said that, one must also note that given the lack of communication about some of the economic indicators from the government is indeed worrying given that Demonetization has been billed as the “Biggest Monetary Experiment” in recent times in the entire world.

Definition

Demonetization is the act of stripping a currency unit of its status as legal tender. It occurs whenever there is a change of national currency: The current form or forms of money is pulled from circulation and retired, often to be replaced with new notes or coins. Sometimes, a country completely replaces the old currency with new currency.

The opposite of demonetization is remonetization, in which a form of payment is restored as legal tender.

Reviews

Former prime minister and eminent economist Manmohan Singh lashed out at the demonetisation decision of Narendra Modi government and called it a case of organised loot and legalised plunder.

Here are top 10 quotes from his speech in Rajya Sabha on November 24th 2016;

1. The national income, that is the GDP of the country, can decline by about 2 percentage points as a result of what has been done. This is an underestimate, not an overestimate.
2. I want to ask the prime minister that can he name any country where people have deposited their money but are not able to withdraw it.
3. It is no good that every day the banking system comes up with new rules. It reflects very poorly on the Prime Minister's Office, the Finance Minister's Office and the Reserve Bank of India.
4. These measures (demonetisation) convinced me that the way the scheme has been implemented, it's a monumental management failure.
5. In the process of demonetisation, monumental mismanagement has been undertaken about which there are no two opinions in country as a whole.
6. It is a case of organised loot and legalised plunder.
7. The prime minister said to wait for 50 days...but for poor people, even 50 days can be detrimental.
8. The cooperative banking sector, which is serving a large number of people in the rural sector, is not operational. The way in which demonetisation has been implemented will hurt agriculture and small industries.
9. It is not my intention to pick holes what this side or other side does. But I sincerely hope that the prime minister even in this late hour will help find us practical and pragmatic ways to provide relief to the suffering of the people of this country.
10. Those who say demonetisation is good in long run should recall the quote: 'In the long run we are all dead'.

According to former Finance Minister P. Chidambaram said demonetisation was the biggest scam of the year and demanded that a probe be initiated. He also said the economy was suffering as major markets in cities were closed down due to lack of cash.

He also said that Prime Minister Modi could have consulted former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh as he would never have leaked the news out to anyone. Calling it a 'punishment' to the poor, Chidambaram lashed out at the move saying the effects were being seen even if one can't see the people protesting.

India's Demonetization Experience

Indian government decided to demonetize the 500 and 1000 rupee notes, the two biggest denominations in its currency system; these notes accounted for 86% of the country's circulating cash. With little warning, India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced to the citizenry on Nov. 8 that those notes were worthless, effective immediately – and they had until the end of the year to deposit or exchange them for newly introduced 2000 rupee and 500 rupee bills.

Chaos ensued in the cash-dependent economy (some 78% of all Indian customer transactions are in cash), as long, snaking lines formed outside ATMs and banks,

which had to shut down for a day. The new rupee notes have different specifications, including size and thickness, requiring re-calibration of ATMs: only 60% of the country's 200,000 ATMs were operational. Even those dispensing bills of lower denominations faced shortages. The government's restriction on daily withdrawal amounts added to the misery, though a waiver on transaction fees did help a bit. Small businesses and households struggled to find cash and reports of daily wage workers not receiving their dues surfaced. The rupee fell sharply against the dollar (see chart).

The government's goal (and rationale for the abrupt announcement) was to combat India's thriving underground economy on several fronts: eradicate counterfeit currency, fight tax evasion (only 1% of the population pays taxes), eliminate black money gotten from money laundering and terrorist-financing activities, and to promote a cashless economy. Individuals and entities with huge sums of black money gotten from parallel cash systems were forced to take their large-denomination notes to a bank, which was by law required to acquire tax information on them. If the owner could not provide proof of making any tax payments on the cash, a penalty of 200% of the owed amount was imposed.

Case study on Real Estate Industry

There is currently a lot of debate happening on how the government's demonetization move and Trump's triumph will impact the real estate sector. The NIFTY Realty Index fell by almost 12% as a reflection, purely on sentiment. While bellwethers are hinting at dark days ahead, these fears can at best be called unfounded when it comes to the Indian real estate business. Let's look at how....

Commercial real estate: There will be a minimum impact on office / industrial leasing and transactions, given that cash components do not play a significant role in such transactions.

Residential real estate: The primary sales segment is largely influenced by home finance players, and deals tend to be facilitated in a transparent manner. This segment will, therefore, see at best a limited impact in the larger cities, though some tier 2 and tier 3 cities where cash components have been a factor even in primary sales will see a business crunch. The secondary or resale market will, however, certainly be impacted, since this segment does see the involvement of cash component.

Real estate investment markets: Projects could get stretched as informal sources of capital may not be available. This, in fact, spells more opportunities for institutional capital. FDI, private equity and debt players will suddenly find the market even more transparent and attractive. Moreover, banks could start funding land transactions, thereby decelerating land prices.

Retail real estate: Retailers could see some impact on their business in the short-to-medium term due to reduced cash transactions. The luxury segment is likely to be hit because of the historically high incidence of cash acceptance. However, credit / debit

cards and e-Wallets should come to the rescue. Overall, the domestic consumption story remains intact, with no threat to the overall strength and growth of the Indian retail industry.

Land sales: Where land transactions have been happening in the realm of joint ventures, joint development or corporate divestments, will see very little impact of the demonetization move. All of these are quite institutionalized, with little or no cash involvement. However, those carrying out direct land deals will doubtlessly suffer - especially when it comes to agricultural land transactions, which tend to involve significant cash involvement.

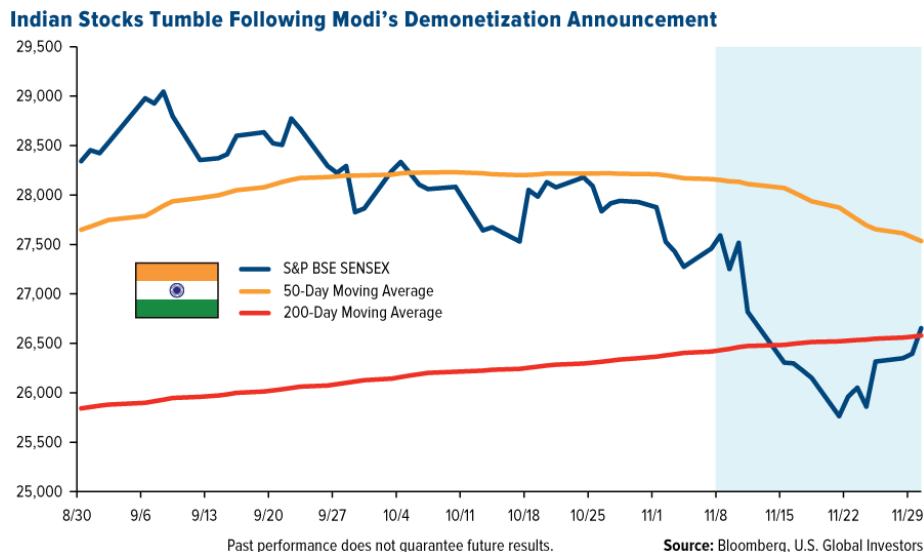
Developers: There will be minimal impact on large institutionalized players with a solid brand and governance framework. Sales, largely driven by the salaried class or investors with limited cash involvement would not suffer.

Smaller developers are understandably very concerned right now because many of them have depended on cash transactions. We are very likely to see a clean-up of non-serious players due to this 'surgical strike' on the parallel economy. The impact of RERA will further discipline the industry, which will be good for its health in the long term.

Hotels and hospitality-related real estate in the organized sector will see negligible impact by the demonetization.

Case study on Indian Stocks

The demonetisation force to sharp cut in the Indian stocks, it is happening suddenly, because the investors worried about the Indian economy and they feel it is an uncertainty.



The graph clearly indicates the Indian stocks how tumble on the announcements of Prime Minister Modi.

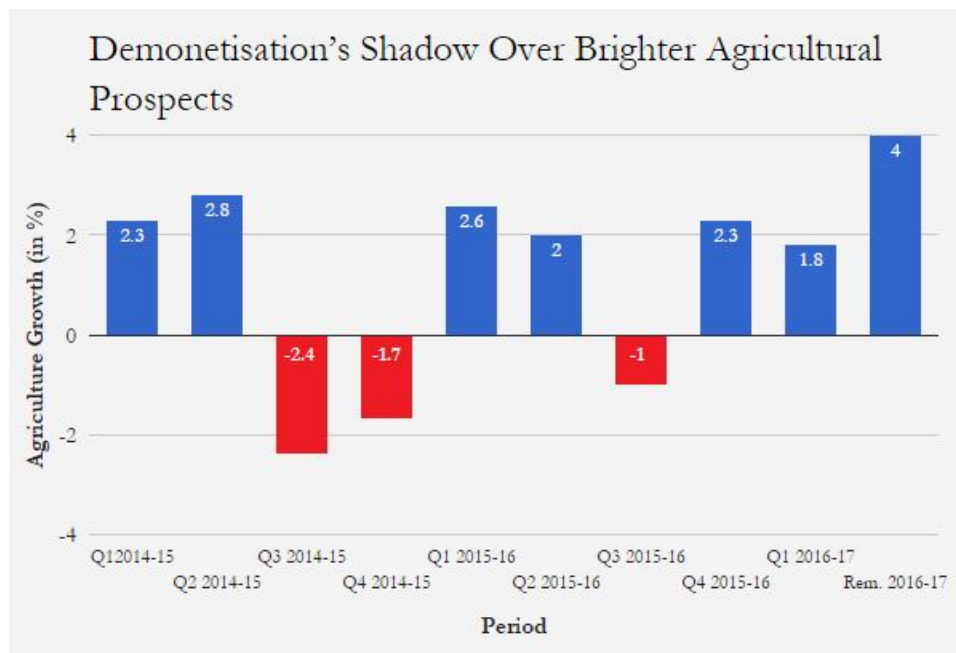
since 8 November? Sure, the BSE Sensex is a bit lower now since that date, but then there are many other factors besides demonetisation that have affected the markets, not the least of which has been Donald Trump’s election as president of the US and the subsequent rise in US bond yields and the strengthening of the dollar. That has led to funds flowing out from emerging markets and India too has been affected

Case study on Agriculture

Agriculture, under stress for two years, was forecast to grow 4%

Agricultural growth in India contracted 0.2% in 2014-15 and grew no more than 1.2% in 2015-16, largely because of back-to-back droughts.

Agriculture was expected to grow at 4% this year according to this October 2016 CRISIL report, but demonetisation is likely to dent that forecast. India is currently in the midst of the winter sowing season, but farmers are reported to be running out of cash to buy seeds.



Source: Key Economic Indicators, Office of the Economic Advisor
 * Note: For 2016-17, number represents prospective growth figures.

Indian farmers expect a record harvest this year, as **India Spend** reported in October 2016, but the rural economy—on which 800 million people, or 65% of India’s population, depend—is largely driven by cash. Farmers buy seeds, fertilisers and farm

equipment in cash, pay their workers in cash, and traders and commission agents pay farmers in cash. The shortage of cash is spreading anger in the countryside.

Conclusion

The point here is that any such “disruption” must be both communicated and implemented well and given some of the concerns expressed in this regard by many commentators, one must indeed look for “straws in the wind” to make sense of the economic impact of Demonetization on the country.

References

Working Paper No. 182, Demonetisation: Impact on the Economy, National Institute of Public Finance and Policy, New Delhi, 2017.

Frank Holmes, Modi's Demonetization Is a Cure Worse Than The Disease For India (www.Forbes.com)

<http://www.theweek.in/news/india/top-10-quotes-from-manmohan-speech-against-demonetisation.html>

<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/p-chidambaram-on-demonetisation-top-quotes-4424569/>

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/alfresco/2017/03/10/capital-one-embraces-design-thinking/#558ab99830e7>

<http://www.indiaspend.com/cover-story/demonetisation-will-hit-agriculture-informal-workers-worst-study-but-its-good-idea-56666>



Population Growth – Its Impact on Environment

Ms. Hepsiba Flosal
Research Scholar
Department of Economics
Bharathidasan University
Tiruchirappalli.

Abstract

Heavy concentration of population in urban areas due to the centralization of employment in urban area. Unabated growth of urban population has resulted in the proliferation of slums and decay of city environment. Devolving centers of power, employment, pay mastering help solve such mindless growth of population in Urban Areas and thereby feasible to contain pollution.

Key Words: Population, Growth, Environment, Population Control.

Introduction

The five major trends of global concern are rapid population accelerating industrialization and urbanization, widespread malnutrition, depletion of non renewable resources and deteriorating environment. The world population has been growing exponentially from the beginning of this century. Equilibrium between population and economic is a vital requisite for limiting resources use and perpetuation of human progress. If this equilibrium is not resorted within a short span of time, catastrophe threatens the world through exhaustion of raw materials food shortage and environmental pollution.

Need for the Study

Being second in population, this problem poses the most frightening threat to our environment. Hence, this paper attempts to explain the present situation. The number of people on earth and their distribution across the globe, the migration of population from rural to urban area, consumption pattern and the technologies they use determine their effect on environment.

Individually every person influences the environment in many ways from the product he or she chooses to decisions about how many children to have and where to live. Collectively also the activities hamper the environment, therefore there is an urge to focus our attention on this subject and the ways to come out of this problem.

India’s Population – A Profile

India, today poses about 24 per cent of the total land area of the world but it has to support about 16 per cent of the world population. It is clear from the above fact that one sixth of the world population which means that every sixth person in the world born in an Indian. A Significant proportion of the world population is found jam packed in a small geographical area. Table 1 shows that after nearly four decades of planning the population growth at the all India level has not merely failed to decline but has tended to accelerate.

**Table: 1
Growth of Population in India**

Year	Population (In Million)	Decennial Increase (In Million)	Percentage Change
1941	318.6	-----	-----
1951	361.0	42.4	13.31
1961	439.2	78.1	21.64
1971	548.2	108.9	24.80
1981	685.2	137.0	24.66
1991	843.9	158.7	23.50

Source: Census Report

From the table it is clear that there is an increase not only in population in absolute term also in percentage term. Therefore the story contributes to be grim but in a more meaningful way. If we consider the decadal growth rate which was less than 20 per cent in 1951 has become more than 20 percent thereafter.

On an annual basis also the growth rate before 1951 has been lower than 2 per cent on over 2 per cent hence fourth. In comparison with the developed countries India’s population growth rate is very large indeed. Take for instance the rate of population for U.S.A. is 0.9 per cent, for Japan 0.5 per cent and for the UK 0.2 per cent.

Projection

If India’s population continues to grow at the present rate it will reach the 100 crores (1 billion) mark but the next census in 2001 and double that number by 2035. And if china’s population grows at the present rate, India will overtake china to occupy the first position in the world by 2005. This fast growing trend in the population is also reflected in Tamil Nadu. In a small scale the following data presents on an average, population in this state has increased at a rate of nearly 17 per cent.

Table: 2
Growth of Population in Tamilnadu

Year	Population (in million)	Decennial Increase (in million)	Percentage Change
1941	26.27	-----	-----
1951	30.12	3.85	14.66
1961	33.69	3.57	11.9
1971	41.20	7.51	22.3
1981	48.41	7.21	17.5
1991	55.86	7.45	15.39

Source: Agroastat 96

Impact of Population on Environment

The projection enemy of our environment is population explosion. A lot of pollution has been produced because of the excessive use of available resources of our country economy required for feeding, clothing's, sheltering the ever increasing population. The uncontrolled activities of man like modern agriculture to feed growing population, large scale industrialization and urbanization, over use of fossil fuels, throwing of garbage and industrial wastes into rivers, indiscriminate cutting down of forest, plants and trees for housing etc. are trying to upset the ecological balance in nature.

In India where about 70 per cent of the working population is dependent on agriculture population growth threatens what is already a precarious balance between scarce natural resources and the people. In the absence of adequate growth in non agriculture employment in line with the population growth, much of the labor force will have to be absorbed in agriculture, this has reduced the average size of operational holding from 2.28 hectares in 1970-71 to 1.68 hectares in 1985-86. The per capita cultivable land has fallen from 0.89 hectare areas in 1950-51 to 0.48 hectares in 1981 and will further decline to 0.30 hectares by 2007. This is likely to result in continuing low incomes, increasing pressure on the agricultural system and environmental damage all together adversely affect the well being of the poor.

In considering the land areas in relation to population one should analyze the density of population. Figure relation to density of population for India as well as Tamilnadu is presented in table 3.

Table 3
Density of Population (Per sq. km)

Year	All India Figure	Number Tamilnadu
1941	103	202
1951	117	232
1961	142	259
1971	177	317
1981	216	372
1991	268	429

Source: Agroastat 96

From table 3 it is evident that during the last 50 years density of population as more that the double at the national level as well as in Tamilnadu. As compare to the density of population in the begging of the century at 77, the present level has increased by more than three times. With land area remaining constant, population increasing rapidly, the density of population has been increasing fast. This has a damaging effect on environment. High level of density means survival of excess population in an area. The over- crowding of population in an area leads to many evils and vices, diseases and degradation, crime and cruelties etc. ultimately the quality of human life deteriorates.

It could than be concluded that there is a widening gap between the fast rising demand for various food article son account of growing population and slow were rise in the output of food articles. Production of food grains (cereals & pulses) increased from 60.67 mt in 1956 to 159.3 mt in 1994. But the per capita availability per day has increased only marginally form 430 grams in 1956 to 474 grams in 1991. If each person is to receive the minimum required quantity of food grains (215 kg annually) 230 mt of food grains will have to be produced annually by the end of this century.

To increase output and to meet the requirements of the people for food grains chemical fertilizers and pesticides are applied to crop plants. But the excess use of fertilizers and pesticides which are applied to agricultural land are waned into the water bodies like ponds, lakes and rivers along with rain water and polluter their water and soil. Polluted water harms the aquatic life fish as well as human beings. It also destroys friend of the soil, namely earth worm. The nitrate rich water is not fit for drinking and moreover it can be purified for the same.

Change in urban scenario and its impact on environment

Despite the predominant rural nature of the Indian economy there has been a forward movement towards urbanization. The rate of urbanization has increased has increased from 17.3 per cent in 1951 to 18.0 per cent in 1961 to 19.9 per cent in 1971, 23 per cent in 1981 and 25.7 per cent in 1991. The urban population has increased massively in absolute numbers. It was a little over 6 crores in 1961. But it went up by more than three and half times to about 22 crores in 1991. It is expected to increase to 30.7 crores in 2001. The number of urban areas has gone up sharply from 2365 in 1961 to 3768 in 1991.

PHYSICAL CHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTES IN INDIAN CITIES

Characteristics of MSW	Population in Lakhs			
	<2	2-5	5-20	>20
PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS				
Paper	3.09	4.76	3,80	7.07

Plastics	0.57	0.59	0,81	0.86
Metals	0.51	0.39	0.64	1.03
Glass	0.29	0.34	0.44	0.76
Ash & Fine Earth	46.06	39.97	41.81	31.74
Total Combustible Matter	33.41	39.76	40.15	41.69
(all values by percent wet weight)				
CHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS				
Moisture Contents	22.12	25.05	22.45	31.18
Organic matter	22.01	22.51	22.51	27.57
Carbon	12.56	12.51	11.95	15.32
Nitrogen	0.60	0.61	0.55	0.58
Phosphorus	0.70	0.71	0.67	0.59
Potassium	0.70	0.73	0.72	0.67
C/N	20.35	20.47	21.45	26.23
HCV in Kcall /Kg	800.00	874.00	865.00	1140.00

- All the values except moisture content are on dry weight basis.
- Moisture contents are on wet weight basis. Source: Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources, Government of India (April 2015)

The unhealthy aspect of urbanization is congestion. The traffic jams leading to slowing down of movements results from too many automobiles used by individuals. While the number of vehicles increase there is little that the government with limited resources can do in respect of widening streets, installation of electronic devices, enforcement of parking regulations etc. There is heavy concentration of population in urban areas due to the centralization of employment in urban area. Unabated growth of urban population has resulted in the proliferation of slums and decay of city environment.

The plants and tress play an importance role in reducing the air pollution caused by excess of carbon dioxide gas. By cutting down and destroying the plants and trees due to urbanization we actually destroy the cleansing and life giving agents of our atmosphere.

Indiscriminate cutting down of forest and trees for the housing for the growing population is the inevitable event happening in India. It takes decades for a trees to grow to its full size but a day, to cut it. Trees provide the appropriate climate soil consistency and ecological stability. With the devastation of the forests the soil has been eroded, the rainfall has been reduced and the climate is altering. With regard to India the actual area under forests is over 640 lakh hectares. Of this 60 per

cent is actually exploited. Another about 22 per cent is potentially exploitable. It is expected that by the end of this century India's tropical forests are likely to disappear in toto. There is an ecological balance in nature. But it is distributed by man when he destroys the available resources excessively.

A resource like ground water which was once abundant has become exhaustible due to urbanization. Growth of population has increased the requirement of water for irrigation, households and other purpose. For every 10,000 gallons of water on earth only 3 gallons are available for consumption. So a significant proportion of the people living in India lack access to safe water for drinking they take contaminated water and it contributes to diseases. So modernization has brought about rapid industrialization followed by unplanned cities which have degraded out environment.

Population Control: The best way out

The best way to improve the environment is to keep the population of human being within a reasonable limit. The uncontrolled increase in the human population was resulted in several kinds of environmental pollution. If we are really interested in improving our environment and free ourselves from the crippling effects of increasing pollution we have to control the population of our country. It can be controlled by spreading the message of family planning to the crores of poor and illiterate masses of our country.

Many laws have been framed to preserve our ecological heritage. Through enlightened environmental planning the environment can be made less polluted cleaner and healthier place to live in. we who are responsible for environmental pollution can contribute our share to build a pollution free earth by joining some voluntary organization and make the people aware of the " do" s and don'ts" for keeping our environment clean and healthy.

References

1. Central Statistical Organization (2000) Statistical Year Book of India, Government of India, 112,
2. Cropper, M. L. and Oates, W. E. (1992), Environmental Economics: A Survey, A Journal of Environmental Economics and Management, Vol 30, 675-740.
3. Cropper and Oates (1992), Environmental Economics: A Survey, Journal of Environmental Economics and Management, Vol 30, 675-740.
4. Dewaram W, John D Spengler and Joel Schwartz (1997), Valuing Environmental Cost in India: the Economy wide Impact of Environmental Degradation, Environmental Research, Vol 59, 362-373
5. Dixon, J. (1994), Economic Analysis of Environmental Impacts, Eathscan, London
6. Goodland R.J.A. (1990) Environment and Development: Progress of World Bank: The Geographical Journal, Vol 156.



**Barriers to Change towards Human Growth, Development and
Progress - An Anthropological Perspective**

**Fr. M.G. Selvinraj SJ
Research Scholar,
Department of Anthropology,
University of Madras**

Abstract

Anthropology is a study of human beings in a society that is constantly evolving. Human growth, development, progress and civilization is assessed by the changes taken place over the years. These changes have affected not only the individuals in a society but also the society at large. However, we do face so many barriers to change. Resistance to change comes both from the individuals as well as from the society. This article deals with what are the reasons for such resistance to change, what are the barriers we find in a human society that block the change initiatives and finally the root cause of such resistance to change. A greater awareness of all these will enable the change agent to be more effective and successful when changes are introduced towards human growth, development and progress.

Key Words: Resistance, Motivation, Development, Progress, Comfort zone, Ethnocentrism, Conformity, Solidarity, Perception, Homeostasis and Fear.

Introduction:

No one can live as an island, journeying through life alone.... Even birds of the same feather flock together! If so, how on earth we can consider the other is unwanted and not needed? Though globalization has brought in an attitudinal change among people who are vulnerable to consumerism and individualism, still we cannot ignore the fact that we depend on each other for our continual existence as human beings. No doubt we are interdependent beings on this earth. Aristotle says, "Man is a social animal." Our life has its meaning only when we live together, depending on each other and interact with one another in a harmonious way. In this process of our living together with all our human interactions, change, growth, development and transformations in

us and outside of us are inevitable. Yet, we do discover in us resistance to change and transformation. This power of resistance stifles our human growth, development, progress and civilization. At this juncture we are grappled with a question of how we can reorient this power of resistance to power of motivation. Of course, every human being is endowed with a “power” to bring change in oneself and in the society. That power manifests as ‘power of motivation to change’ and “power of resistance to change.” Naturally the power of motivation contributes positive change in human life. At the same time the power of resistance stifles such change process. In this article we shall look into how this power of resistance manifests as various barriers to accept change and progress. What would be the root cause of this resistance and how do we deal with that is the focus of this paper.

1. Typical reasons for resistance to change:

Fear of the unknown — One of the most common reasons for resistance is ‘fear of the unknown’. People will only take active steps toward the unknown if they genuinely believe – and perhaps more importantly, feel – that the risks of standing still are greater than those of moving forward in a new direction. They must consider that the change process is for their own benefit and betterment in life. *The oldest and strongest emotion of mankind is fear, and the oldest and strongest kind of fear is fear of the unknown.*

Misunderstanding and unclarity about the need for change — If people do not understand the need for change and the real reason for change, we can expect resistance from them. Especially from those who strongly believe the current way of doing things works well for many years! Such people are comfortable with maintaining *status quo*.

Lack of competence — this is a fear people will seldom admit. They are unaware of their potentials. But sometimes training will help them understand their potentials. Some people will feel that they won’t be able to make the transition very well even after a long training. They always compare themselves with others and consider themselves inferior to others. They fail to accept and own their incompetency and lack of skills even though they are aware of it. Thus they spontaneously manifest reluctance and resistance to change proposals.

Attachment to the old way — If we ask people to do things in a new way, as rational as that new way may seem to us, we will be setting our self up against all those emotional attachments to those who taught them the old way. It is very difficult for us to get them out from their old ways. Old is gold and old wine tastes better is the common understanding of those people who normally resist change. Emotional attachments to things, places and persons of the past will certainly prevent them to adapt change.

Low level of trust in us — when people don’t believe us and the way we do it, as well as cannot competently manage the change, there is resistance from them. In an organization/ village that has a culture of trust, transparent communication,

openness, participation, involved, engaging every one and positive interpersonal relationship, resistance to change is easy to see – and also much less likely to occur. In the absence of trust or low level of trust in us make them resist.

It only a temporary fad — when people believe that the change initiative is a temporary fad and it lacks long standing plan and long term vision, then they resist change proposals. They do ask questions to themselves such as “why should we participate in the change process when it is short lived?” or What benefit we get out of this temporary change initiative and so on so forth. If future is bleak and uncertain, resistance is normal.

When it is not being consulted — if people are allowed to be part of the change process, there is less resistance. People like to know what’s going on in the process of planning and execution. They want to participate in everything. Only a democratic process of change initiative can be effective. People want to know and want to be consulted. They like to be part and parcel of change process. If they feel that they are not consulted, they show resistance.

Due to poor communication — it’s self evident isn’t it? When it comes to change management there’s no such thing as too much communication. Proper and clear communication is very basic and important. Lack of communication undermines relationship with one another. A healthy relationship between the change agent and the beneficiaries is maintained when there is a proper mutual communication possible. People normally show their resistance when there is poor communication.

A strong comfort Zone — when we talk about comfort zone, we’re really referring to routines. We love doing routine things because we are accustomed to them. They make us secure and comfortable. So there’s bound to be resistance whenever change requires us to do things differently. The more we are attached to the old routine way of doing things in life the stronger will be our resistance to change.

Exhaustion/Saturation — let’s not mistake compliance for acceptance. People who are overwhelmed by continuous and frequent change resign themselves to it and go along with the flow. You have them in body, but you do not have their hearts in it. They accept change in obedience for the sake of compliance to rules and regulations. They adhere to laws and remain as law abiding people. In such circumstances their power of motivation is very low. They almost believe ‘nothing good’ will emerge out of this change process!

Change in the status quo — Resistance can also stem from various perceptions of the change that people hold. For example, people who feel they’ll be worse off at the end of the change are unlikely to give it their full consent and support. If the expected change does not produce benefit for them, then they resist such change process. Similarly, if people believe the change favors another group/village/department/person there may be (unspoken) anger and resentment.

In such moments they will not fully cooperate with the change process. The jealousy in them makes their resistance more strong.

Benefits and rewards are not adequate — when the benefits and rewards for making the change are not seen as adequate for the troubles and inconveniences involved, then the resistance to change among the people will be spontaneous. At the same time the major share of the benefits and rewards should reach them only. If not, resistance will be very strong.

Expecting resistance to change and planning for it from the start of our change management programme will allow us to effectively manage objections. Understanding the most common reasons people object to change gives us the opportunity to plan our change strategy to address these factors. Resistance to change becomes a barrier for all new-human-initiatives. We shall examine this problem from an anthropological perspective.

2. Cultural Barriers that create resistance to change

Zaltman and Duncan identified four types of cultural barriers that can create resistance to change. These types of barriers are:

- a) Values and beliefs, b) Cultural ethnocentrism, c) Saving face, d) Incompatibility of a cultural trait with change.

a) Values and beliefs

When looking into values and beliefs, it is important to know that often barriers may be social or religious or gender sensitive in nature but may also be relating to work ethic, competition, and pride. Beliefs and values differ from person to person. They also differ from one community to another. So it is hard to categorize what is and is not a cultural norm within a group or a community. Before we introduce any change in a community it is better to become aware of the values and beliefs of that community. Where there is a threat to their values and believes, there we find more resistance among the people. By making change appear less threatening to established beliefs and values, the change agent can create a change that reduces the risk of resistance. We need to be more sensitive to the values and beliefs of people.

b) Cultural Ethnocentrism

Cultural ethnocentrism can be seen from two sides: the side that has the change agent projecting his or her culture as superior through the change efforts, or from the side of the people who view their culture as superior in response to the change being implemented. This can lead to an understanding of “our way is better than yours”, a real turf war.

Cultural ethnocentrism can be viewed from the perspective of ones, Race, Caste, Region, Religion, Gender, Language and Socio-Economic Status etc.,

Most of the problems that arise from cultural ethnocentrism can be avoided or resolved by involving the people throughout the change process. This will help to relieve any feeling of being left out, being disliked and being estranged during the process. A wise change agent should also be aware of the language used in presenting a change. So that it may avoid words and phrases that reveal superiority or discrimination, lest resistance from people is inevitable.

c) Saving Face

The advantages of change can be viewed differently by different people due to how the change impacts each member. Sometimes change is seen as something good replacing something that is bad and that might not necessarily be the case. Replacing something good with something better may be viewed by people as an attack on themselves. When taken personally, it would be natural for someone to resist the change and defend themselves. They do not want others to belittle them.

Also, resistance in the form of saving face may be caused by an underlying issue. It could result from the people hiding their inadequate skill, embarrassment about job performance, or any of personal reasons. A change agent should be aware of these possibilities and investigate what may be the root cause of this resistance because it may not be related to what the change agent is or is not doing. We need to understand why people hesitate to accept the change proposals.

When encountering resistance in the form of saving face, it is advisable to be aware of how you are presenting the change. By presenting the improved benefits of the change and not focusing on how it is a replacement, or making it a comparison between a good and bad system, a change agent may be able to alleviate any doubts or worries that come from the people. In approaching the situation in a non-comparison way, a change agent may create a win-win situation where a change can be implemented in a way that allows those who are skeptical of the change for personal reasons to adopt the change without embarrassment and fear of ridicule.

d) Incompatibility of a cultural trait with change

The most common cultural barrier, incompatibility of a cultural trait with change is also one of the hardest to resolve. This barrier involves making a change that goes directly against the established cultural norms of a group or institution, and even if people know it is a better choice. It is hard for them to accept it because the incompatibility is often with the fundamental purpose of the innovation.

3. Social Barriers that create resistance to Change

Zaltman and Duncan identified five types of social barriers that can create resistance to change. They are:

- a) Group Solidarity, b) Rejection of Outsiders, c) Conformity to Norms, d) Conflict

e) Group Introspection f) Behavior of Top-Level village leaders and administrators

a) Group Solidarity

In India, people by and large are not individual but communitarian in their outlook. Sometimes resistance to change is rooted in concerns for how it will affect others in a group. Sometimes group solidarity becomes a barrier to change that involves resistance to a change initiative out of concern for how it will affect the other people in a village. Surprisingly sometimes they neither say 'yes' nor 'no' when we ask questions to express their consent. They look at each other and their response is seemingly ambiguous and uncertain. This type of resistance may be based on good intentions and concern for the other in a group. But this concern manifests in hesitation may lead to missing out an opportunity to improve them as well as the entire village.

It is recommended that a change agent who encounters this type of resistance identify all the groups impacted by the proposed change and address their concerns with specific support that attends to their needs. Including the excluded is very important when we propose a change that affects everyone. By knowing the concerns of every one and attending to their concerns, resistance from the people can be reduced during the process.

b) Rejection of Outsiders

Rejection of outsiders is something that occurs in many tight-knit village set-ups. It takes time for an outsider to be accepted by the people of a village. This barrier is created by the belief that no one outside of the village could possibly understand what they do on a day-by-day basis and therefore any change that comes from an outsider has little to no value for improving the village situation. This is related to once again Cultural Ethnocentrism.

As with Cultural Ethnocentrism, it is advised that a change agent keeps the people involved throughout the process in order to have a better understanding of their needs as well as receive feedback and input throughout the process. This may help ease the people's noncooperation towards the change and rejection of change agent.

c) Conformity to Norms

Conforming to norms is part of what makes a group of people in a village. Certain norms, rules, regulations, conventions and practices are established and to be in the village a person has to follow and go along with these established norms. Failure to do so may result in losing the support and solidarity from the village. So rather than adopting to a change that may be beneficial to them, village members may choose to stay with the familiarity of the norms of their village.

This type of resistance to change may be very hard to overcome, as feelings of wanting to belong to a village may be stronger than the desire to adopt a change that may upset the others. In attempting to resolve this barrier, Zaltman and Duncan

proposed that “the critical question for a change agent to ask is, ‘Why do people participate in this norm?’ Knowing the answer to this question may enable a change agent to modify his change to meet the need satisfied by the norm” (1977, p. 74). We cannot change the village norms overnight. By understanding why a group has taken a specific stance, a change agent may be better equipped to modify his or her approach in a way that caters to its norms instead of contesting them.

d) Conflict

Though apparently all people live together in a village, there also exist divisions among them on the basis of many differences. Outright conflict between groups is also a social barrier to change. Conflicts between parties can sabotage, stymie and derail the change process. Based on differences in opinion, philosophy, culture, and belief, old conflicts can be one of the most difficult barriers to resolve simply due to not only the animosity between the change agent and people but also the conflict between factions on opposite sides of the change initiative.

As with most types of conflict, it would be advised that the change agent takes a neutral position between any rival factions and try to bring the factions together to reach a common ground involving the change initiative. By addressing the concerns of all parties a change agent may be able to, if only partially, resolve any issues that are prohibiting the smooth adoption of the proposed change.

e) Group Introspection

In any group setting it is possible to lose perspective of a situation when nothing appears to be wrong or needing change. Being on the inside of such a group can lead to a lack of perception when it comes to seeing a need for change. Group Introspection, according to Ellsworth can best be summed up “with the metaphor of not being able to ‘see the forest for the trees’” (2000, p. 173). When a group does something for so long one way and does not see any problems, it may be hard to reach them when the opportunity to implement a better system presents itself. They will consider the change proposal as unnecessary and not needed at all.

In dealing with this particular barrier to change, the change agent must actively involve both insiders and outsiders in the change movement. Outsiders will help to bring fresh ideas and views to the change initiative, while insiders may help to spread the message to other insiders so that the change is indeed worthwhile and needed. The insiders help to wake up the collective group to the reality that a change may be needed and the benefits are worth.

f) Behavior of Top-Level village leaders and administrators

Another source of resistance to change that is often overlooked is the behavior of top-level village leaders and administrators. The source of this type of resistance happens when the leaders and administrators implement changes but their behavior does not adjust to support the change. They are influenced by vested interest and they are

least concerned about the change process. They must send a message of support through their actions and this sometimes doesn't happen.

4. Psychological Barriers that create resistance to Change

This category may be the most difficult to work with since it exists exclusively within the individual. There are four psychological barriers. These barriers are:

- a) Perception, b) Homeostasis, c) Personality factors

a) Perception

There are different variations to perception. There is selective perception. This is when the person only chooses to remember certain details about the change. They cannot look beyond the negative to see all the positives a change could make. Perception also becomes a problem when two people in the same village cannot agree on what problem is most important to make changes to. Thus they are unable to agree on a resolution. Perception of the meaning of a change is also becomes a barrier, because their interpretation differs from each other. This happens when there are different ideas of what a particular innovation means. Perception also is a barrier when the change agent may act in a way that someone in the village may perceive as inappropriate.

b) Homeostasis

Homeostasis simply wants to stay in an environment where it is comfortable. The key to this barrier is to understand what the village is going through at each stage of the change and maintaining a certain level of comfort as much as possible for the people affected.

c) Personality Factors

The final type of psychological barriers to change is personality factors. This barrier is seen when individuals have certain personality traits that disallow them to see change as positive or needed. Such people are comfortable with what they are and how they are.

5. Technological Barriers to Change

The barriers in technology come about when the villagers lack the knowledge to understand, accept or apply the innovation. Often times there are people in the villages that have been around for awhile and so they don't see the need for the innovative change since they have done fine without it. They are also often older and aren't as willing as the younger generation to learn newer technologies. They lack not only skill but also will to get equipped with knowledge of new technology. As a result we are not able to arrive at efficiency and effectiveness when change is implemented. We find people more lethargic and resistance is very conspicuous.

The solution: The only open, honest and direct way to deal with resistance is to deal with the root cause of resistance, which is “Fear”. People’s three greatest needs are: to have control, recognition and security. When these needs are threatened, people resist.

The real or perceived loss of control, recognition or security (mentally, emotionally, physically and/or psychologically) is what’s underneath resistance, notwithstanding the fact that people will go to any length to create rationalizations, justifications, excuses, and “stories,” to support their resistance – looking to and pointing to something or someone outside themselves as the “reason” for the resistance. It may be a symptom triggering resistance but the real cause is always “inside” - that is Fear!

The cause of fear is based on perception. Perception is how we orient to our world based on our experience, our memory and our history. When we look at something or experience something in real-time, it’s quite likely each individual has a different “interpretation” of what is happening based on their individual experience, history and memory.

So, when we experience change, the way we interpret it results in whether we engage in an action or reaction, a positive move forward vis-à-vis the change or a knee-jerk type of resistance. Each of us secretly believes that our perception of reality is the “accurate perception.” And if I believe my perception of reality is the “accurate” perception, then what does that say about your perception? This causes conflict and resistance. Each of our perceptions determines what we experience and how we interpret what we experience. So, when one is resisting change, it’s most often because the change one is experiencing runs “counter” to how we believe the world should be.

The antidote to dealing with resistance to change is not to deal with the surface behaviors, but to deal with the root cause – Fear. People are not against change but against being changed. Force it upon them, and they all will find reasons not to collaborate.

Change requires people to step out of their comfort zone; this induces fear. Discomfort and even more so, fear for the outcome, is the utmost important reason for resistance to change. People need to feel comfortable. In every step of the change we must obtain their buy-in (check, check and check again). Trustworthiness only comes with the gradual removal of fear in the people. In the process of making them understand the aims and objectives of change, with our integrity shown in change initiatives and with our consistent leadership we can enable the people to overcome their resistance towards change, growth, progress and development.

As S. Kierkegaard once said “To dare is to lose one’s footing, not to dare is to lose oneself”.

References

Zaltman, G., Duncan, R. (1977). *Strategies for Planned Change*. New York: Wiley-Interscience

Ellsworth, J. B. (2000). *Surviving Change: A Survey of Educational Change Models*. Retrieved February 26, 2010, from ERIC:

http://www.eric.ed.gov/ERICDocs/data/ericdocs2sql/content_storage_01/0000019b/80/16/54/72.pdf



SVM Publications

Multidisciplinary Global Journal of Academic Research (MGJAR)

Impact Factor: 2.0674

Vol. IV Iss. IV Oct. 2017 ISSN:2394-1758

The Unendurable Pain of Rejection that led to the Liberation of the Female Characters in *The Liberation of Sita* by Volga

Maria Ponn Sindhuja. P
Ph. D Scholar (English)
PG and Research Department of English
Government Arts and Science College For Women
Pudukottai – 622 001, Tamil Nadu.

Abstract

The Liberation of Sita is a novel by a prominent feminist writer Volga. The book narrates the life of well known Indian mythological female characters from a totally different point of view. It dwells deep into the hearts of the women and explains their plight. The main plot of the story is spun around Sita, Surpanakha, Ahalya, Renuka and Urmila. It tells the untold story of their miserable life and the way they liberated themselves from everything that held them back. The paper is all about analysing the life of the protagonists and tracking their journey through their life. This tracking of their path helps in unravelling the reason behind all their activities, their response to incidents etc. This tracking of the events leads into keenly analysing how the mysteries in the life of the protagonists made them change their attitude towards life and how they realize themselves, their potentials, etc. The concept of self-realization is used to spot out the point in which they attain self-realization.

Key Words: Liberation, feminism, characters.

The Liberation of Sita is a novel by a prominent feminist writer Volga. She has almost published fifty works. The book narrates the life of well known Indian mythological female characters from a totally different point of view. It dwells deep into the hearts of the women and explains their plight. The main plot of the story is spun around Sita, Surpanakha, Ahalya, Renuka and Urmila. It tells the untold story of their miserable life and the way they liberated themselves from everything that held them back.

The story begins with Sita living in Valmiki's ashram with her two sons. The reason behind the Queen of Ayodhya living in the forest remains a mystery. The life of Sita is slowly revealed in the form of memories. There are four other women who are a part of her life. They are Surpanakha, Ahalya, Urmila and Renuka. There was a common link that connected the five of them. They were all abandoned by their husbands for a mistake that was not their's.

The novel speaks about the miseries that these women had to undergo and the courage they had to withstand the pain. Everyone had a different story. But the reason for their suffering was common. They suffered because of the male dominant, patriarchal society. Simone De Beauvoir's statement "one is not born a woman, one becomes one" has a special relevance to Indian families where conventions, religious and social taboos construct and instruct a woman's individuality. This is also the main reason for their suffering. Women are very well aware of all the injustices heaped on them but are condemned to live the life of suppression which was the lot of their predecessor. The evils of marital abuse and the depth of the victim's pain remain disregarded. The psychological trauma that the woman undergoes remains unnoticed.

Sita was thinking of the changes that took place in her life. When she met Surpanakha, she was happy about her transformation. The way she liberated herself surprised Sita beyond words. "I've realized that the meaning of success for a woman does not lie in her relationship with a man" (Volga 13). All her life Sita was madly in love with Rama. She was completely subservient. But, after her meeting with Surpanakha, Sita thought about her self. She thought of her meeting with Ahalya and Renuka and how she regretted it on their first meeting just because they had ideas that differed from her subservient role. But she failed to realize that they were also like her, once.

Ahalya was disowned by her husband for Lord Indra's sin. Renuka was blamed for thinking about another man when she actually didn't. Her husband made her son chop her head and the son did it willingly. This was the triggering point in their lives. They walked off. They lived separately, free from the burden of marriage. They started realizing their self.

Self Realization is the act of achieving the full development of one's abilities and talents. "It is fulfillment by oneself of the possibilities of one's character or personality" (Web). The realm of self-realization has hardly been understood due to our inability to properly grasp the intricacies of the various dimensions of self that we are realizing. Without illuminating this subject with understanding, seekers on the path to the promised land of self-realization are bound to remain as confused as they always were. It is of the essence that we bring a deeper level of insight into our perception of the subtle dimensions of that very self that we aspire to realize.

The universal dimension of self-realization refers to arriving at the state of unity with the beyond – transcendence, merging with the source of existence. The individual dimension of self-realization refers to the awakening of our higher individuality, our soul. The personal dimension of self-realization refers to our awakening on the level of me: self-realizing me, arriving at the state of pure subjectivity within the consciousness of me only. There a model of self-realization that begins from the universal and descends into the personal, but our evolution actually ascends from the personal to the universal, while individual self-realization is bridging the two in both directions. (Anadi)

Realizing the self is not an easy task. A trigger point is always required to bring out the hidden self as well as the realization of the self. Not everyone who is born realize what they want in their life. They just move with the flow. It takes a great deal for them to realize what they want in life and much more to stand for it. They came across a situation where they were pushed to think about the injustices done to them.

Ahalya was abandoned by her husband for which Indra held responsible. Ahalya felt rejected. She turned lifeless. When Sita met Ahalya, she spoke about the instability of truth and how she has liberated herself from everything that was attached to her. She had her own realization about men and how they behaved in matters with their wives. “All men are the same, Sita. Especially in the matter of their wives.” (Volga 27) Sita defended her husband telling that he will conduct an enquiry. Ahalya said, “What does conducting an enquiry imply, Sita? Distrust, isn’t it?” (Volga 27) Ahalya did not believe in the concept of truth. She felt that no one had the authority to judge her, not even her husband. “Society gave him that authority. I didn’t. Till I give it, no one can have the authority over me. She felt bad about everything that Ahalya spoke. At that point she failed to realize that the wisdom that Ahalya attained was enormous. “Truth does not remain the same forever but keeps changing continuously – that is the wisdom I earned”. (Volga 28)

Sita thought of Ahalya when she faced a trial to prove her chastity. She wanted to speak with Ahalya. She lost all her happiness. She was alarmed when all of Ahalya’s words came true. She finally met Ahalya and poured out her heart. Ahalya advised her telling that she was on the process of self realization. “Most often, women don’t realize that they are part of the wider world. They limit themselves to an individual, to a household, to a family’s honour.” (Volga 39) Sita was still not convinced. Ahalya said, “It is all for your own good, and is part of the process of self – realization”. (Volga 39)

The story of Renuka is another misery. She was punished by her husband on a false notion. Her husband ordered his son to behead her. He too did it willingly, for such is the dharma of a son. “Are such bonds, with a husband and sons necessary for a woman? I thought they were not, so I moved away from them”. (Volga 52) Sita did not

accept her ideas. She felt that Renuka was misleading other women. Renuka asked Sita to think about the real situation of women. "A woman thinks she doesn't have a world other than her husband's. True. But some day that very husband will tell her that there is no place for her in his world. Then what's left for her?" (Volga 52)

Sita realized the truth that strived in Renuka's words when she was abandoned by her husband. "What did she have, other than disgrace that Rama, bowing to public opinion, had heaped on her?" (Volga 60)

"Ahalya, Renuka, Sita – they were all victims of mistrust and humiliation." (Volga 61)

Urmila was in pain when her husband Lakshmana abandoned her for the sake of accompanying his brother Rama in his exile. She imprisoned herself inside her palace for fourteen years. Urmila's self – imposed exile of fourteen years turned out to be a change in her life. She analysed her life, her self. She thought of all the events that took place in her life. "The solitude in which I could converse within and with myself." (Volga 75)

"Surpanakha, Ahalya, Renuka, Urmila – each one had a story of her own. Each one had had followed a path of her own. Her path, her way, was hers alone." (Volga 63)

Sita too was trying to find her path towards liberation. She was trying to break through her boundaries. She was in search of her identity. She thought about the events that trapped her. She accepted her subservient role happily. "It has become so very much a part of human thinking that any woman who differed from this conventional subservient role could only be thought as a sorceress or a pervert" (Ravindranathan 105). When the root of all these incidents is traced the truth comes to light. Everything that happened in their lives was the result of 'family honour', reputation', 'conservative minds', and 'society'. These four reasons serve as a trap that holds all their lives. They stay for a very long time inside the trap for the same reason. Finally when everything goes beyond the level of tolerance, they break all the boundaries and set themselves free from the trap. When they finally come out of the trap, they see to it that they do not get caught in the trap again.

Sita finally made her stand by not returning to her husband. Even at the end Rama was ready to accept her only if she proved her chastity. She decided to make herself clear. She was not ready to give in to his authority. She felt that there was no need to do it. "Do I need to do that? Is there any sense in such an effort?" (Volga 64) She liberated herself totally.

"Then what about you, Sita... without a husband, children?"

'I am the daughter of Earth, Rama. I have realized who I am. The whole universe belongs to me. I don't lack anything. I am the daughter of Earth.'

Rama was left speechless by those solemn words.

Devoid of Sita's support, Rama tasted defeat for the first time in his life. By refusing to bow down to external authority, Sita had fully experienced, for the first time, the inner power of self-authority." (Volga 41)

The unendurable pain of rejection was the main reason for their self-realization and liberation. It was the pain that gave them the strength to withstand the tests of life. They understood the purpose of their lives. They realized their self-worth. They identified who they really were. And finally they attained liberation. "You means you, nothing else." (Volga 38)

Works Cited:

Anadi. <http://anaditeaching.com/the-three-dimensions-of-self-realization/>. Accessed on June 6th 2016.

Beauvoir Simone de. *The Second Sex*. Translation H.M Harshley, London: Vintage, 1997. Print.

Ravindranathan. *Principles of Literary Criticism (From Plato to Post-modernism)*. Chennai. Emerald Publishers, 1993. Print.

Volga. *The Liberation of Sita*. Translation Vijayasree. C, Vijay Kumar. T, India: Harper Perennial, 2016. Print.

<http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/self%E2%80%93realization>. Accessed on August 13th 2017.



SVM Publications

Multidisciplinary Global Journal of Academic Research (MGJAR)

Advisory Board

Vincent Funani Makhubela

Department of Marketing and Retail,
University of South Africa, PO Box 329,
Unisa 0003

Dr. Arturo LaureVidriales.

Periférico Norte N° 799, Núcleo Universitario
Los Belenes,
C.P. 45100, Zapopan, Jalisco, México

Dr. Archana Golwalkar

Director AIM & IT
Member IQAC-NAAC
Aishwarya College, Udaipur,
Rajasthan – 313 001, India

Dr. Paresh Shah

Professor in Finance
Alumnus of IIM, Ahmedabad
Accredited Management Teacher &
Researcher, Ahmedabad,
Gujarat – 380 014, India

Dr. V K Arora

Trainer and Consultant
Entrepreneurship Development and Career
Management
Noida – 201 307, India

Dr. Vijaya Deshmukh

Director
National Institute of Fashion Technology
Ministry of Textiles, Government of India
Jodhpur, Rajasthan – 342 037, India

Dr. N. Radhakrishnan

Associate Professor and Head,
PG & Research Department of Economics,
Muthurangam Government Arts College
(Autonomous),
Vellore – 2, Tamil Nadu, India

Dr. K. Parimurugan

Assistant Professor
Department of Anthropology,
University of Madras,
Chennai-5, Tamil Nadu, India

Dr. R. Dhanasekar

Principal
K.S Raja Arts and Science College for Women,
Ginge, Villupuram Dist.,
Tamil Nadu, India

Dr. V. S. Somanath

Professor and Director
AIMS Institute of Higher Education
Bangalore 560 032, India



Environment Pollution and Awareness

Ms. Hepsiba Flosal
Research Scholar
Department of Economics
Bharathidasan University
Tiruchirappalli.

Abstract

Environmental pollution in terms of Air, Water, Land, Noise and Environment need to create awareness among youngsters as a capacity building measure to address the issue of Environmental Pollution. More important are the issues of creating awareness about pollution in the educational institutions. Books and printed materials should need to be supported by government and funding agencies in generating research oriented knowledge and should become the easy accessible means for young minds.

Key Words: Environment, Pollution, Awareness, Noise Pollution, Air Pollution.

Introduction

Man ever since he came into existence on this earth, has been polluting this environment in some way of the other. He has been trying to establish his supremacy over nature which has air and water. This has lead to ecological imbalances of unprecedented magnitude of natural wealth and resources knocking off the ecological balance so carefully nurtured by nature. Mother earth is thus precariously poised today at the brink of global disaster.

However, as man became more and more civilized and cultured he developed sufficient science of social ethics and farsightedness so as to avoid social bickering, arising out of his polluting and depredating activities. Awareness of environment pollution has been highlighted for more than two decades, starting with United

Nations conference on Human Environment in 2002 held at Stockholm. National Committee on Environmental Planning set up during the early Eighties and the

cleaning of Ganges and a major a forestation drive in 2005 have been steps in this direction.

Social awareness is all the more necessary because it is the poor who bear the brunt of pollution and depredating activities. Poor have to trek to distant sources for water and fodder for their cattle. Lack of fuel wood forces them to use dung for fire, thus depleting fertilizer availability. Poor face the arid anguish of drought as well as the raging fury of floods. When they shift to cities in search of work, they have to live in slum colonies of foot-paths under insanitary conditions, posing a grave threat to public health.

Our scriptures have held nature in high esteem.

Earth with the attribute of smell (Gandha)

Water the quality of viscosity (Neha)

Fire with the quality of energy (Teja)

Sky with the quality of sound (Sada)

Air (Vayu) with the quality of sound (Sparsa)

All the mahatattvas- let all these elements bless our mornings.

Now it is a far cry from the ancient days. All these elements have been polluted. Global warming, unseasonal meteorological activities, floods in deserts have all become common.

Earth has been denuded of forest cover. Fertile top soil gets carried away at the slightest rainfall and is dumped into reservoirs causing silt formation and capacity loss. Intensive cropping has led to the removal of crucial micronutrient elements like zinc, iron, copper, manganese, molybdenum and boron, which control various aspects of plant's growth. Here it will not be out of place to recall China's experience in the early seventies. A commune required 77,000 Kgs of broad-spectrum pesticides in 2011. During the next year 22,000 ducks were reared in the local institute and let into the paddy fields and only 7, kg of target-specific pesticides were required the next year.

Nearly all the water resources have been contaminated by the industrial wastes, sewage, pesticides and fertilizers. Oxygen content has got so much depleted that practically no aquatic life is possible in the most waterways. All lakes in the developing world are in mortal danger due to eutrophication, excessive plant growth.

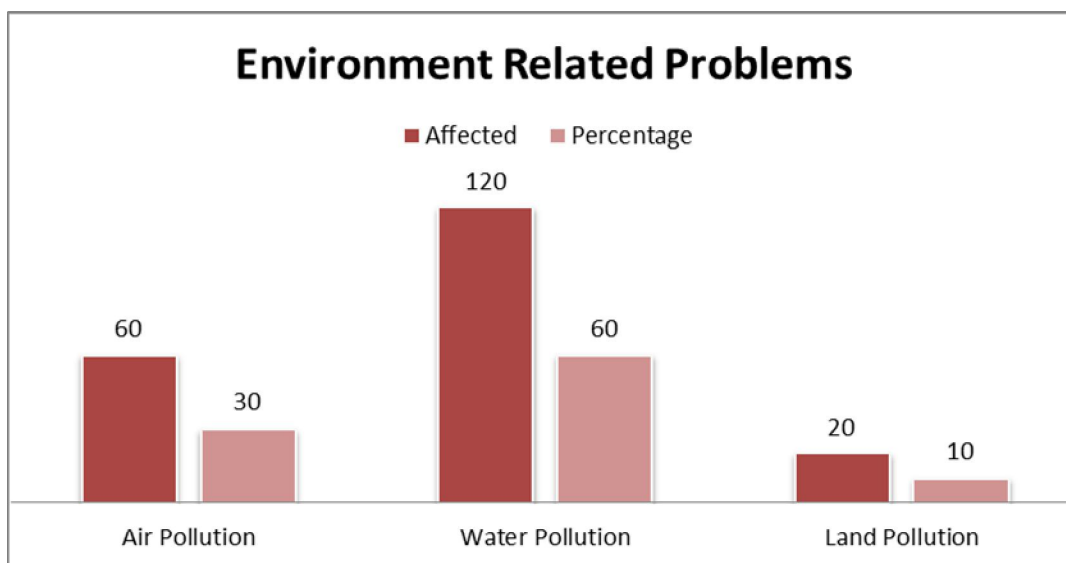
Neither has fire been left out. Usage of hazardous chemicals has been on the rise. Sufficient care does go into the transportation of such substances. Who can forget the chemical fire which engulfed a state owned Express Bus and a tractor full of

marriage party near chengalpattu a few years back. Only such incidents bring out the carelessness with which highly inflammable chemicals are transported in the country.

ENVIRONMENTAL RELATED PROBLEMS

<i>Type of Pollution</i>	<i>Affected</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
<i>Air Pollution</i>	60	30
<i>Water Pollution</i>	120	60
<i>Land Pollution</i>	20	10
<i>Total No of Respondents</i>	200	
<i>Percentage</i>	100%	

Source: Primary Data



Noise Pollution

Noise pollution is increasing day by day in all cities. Noise increases blood pressure, causes stress, tenses muscles and can even affect blood vessels. Industry and machinery, transportation (surface and air) and certain forms of entertainment and establishments that every day noise is an important factor in age induced hearing loss. Chief of the ENT clinic, University of Amsterdam came across a patient in 2002 whose doctor had left behind a plug of cotton wool in the ear after treatment. Over a period of 32 years, this cotton wool and ear wax had occluded his left ear. While trying to fit a hearing aid it was observed that this left ear was in much better shape than the right ear which showed normal loss of hearing due to age. If this was in the year 2002 when noise pollution was at a very much lower level, we can imagine how it would be now.

Air pollution

Air pollution in our cities due to exhaust fumes, factory chimneys and fire dust create allergic disorders not to speak of skin and lung diseases. Bhopal gas tragedy which took a toll of over 2000 lives and blinding and affecting more than 2000 others is still green in our memory. Unless awareness is created amongst all, more such instance are waiting to happen. All our cities are beset with problems due to pollutants discharged in the form of sulphur-di-oxide, Hydrocarbons, carbon monoxide, etc. most vulnerable targets are infants and children and elderly persons above a greater concern for the environmental health of cities is called for.

Environmental pollution does not stop with the five elements alone. More important are the pollution in education and moral pollution. Books and printed material should aid in acquiring knowledge and should not become the means for corrupting the minds of the young. The role played by teachers and the mass media should be such that they have a positive influence on the impressionable minds of the youngsters. Rebellion and violence against self and society, the drug culture and materialism are the consequences of moral pollution. Concerted action is immediately required to combat pollution in education and moral pollution as the onslaught of print, audio and visual media had started having its overbearing influence on the minds of the country's youth.

Conclusion

Trying to save money now by failing to control pollution could mean that our future generations may end up by paying much later on. Let us pledge that we shall vow to leave behind this planet earth for our children as we had inherited the same from our forefathers. That would be the least that we can do for the generations to come.

References

1. Alberini, A. and Krupnick, A. (1997), Air Pollution and Acute Respiratory Illness: Evidence from Taiwan and Los Angeles, *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, Vol 79 (5), 1620–1624
2. Alberini, A.M. Cropper (1997), Valuing Health Effects of Air pollution in Developing Countries: The Case of Taiwan, *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management*, Vol 34, 107–126.
3. Bhattacharya, R. N. (2001), *Environmental Economics: An Indian Perspective*, Oxford University Press, New Delhi.
4. State Environment Report for Tamilnadu (2000)
