



Participation level of women in environment security and hurdles in adopting related modern technologies

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Abstract

The environment is the most transnational of transnational issues, and its security is an important dimension of peace, national security, and human rights that is just now being understood; Over the next 100 years, one third of current global land cover will be transformed, with the world facing increasingly hard choices among consumption, ecosystem services, restoration, and conservation and management. Environmental security is central to national security, comprising the dynamics and interconnections among the natural resource base, the social fabric of the state, and the economic engine for local and regional stability; and that, While the precise roles of the environment in peace, conflict, destabilization and human insecurity may differ from situation to situation and as such are still being debated in relation to other security and conflict variables, there are growing indications that it is increasingly an underlying cause of instability, conflict and unrest.

Keywords: level, security, hurdles, participation

Introduction

Environmental or ecological feminism differs from eco-feminism in that it is more focused on the actual, specific interactions with the environment. Connections between environment and gender can be made by looking at the gender division of labour and environmental roles rather than an inherent connection with nature. The gender division of labour requires a more nurturing and caring role for women, therefore that caring nature places women closer with the environment. The knowledge of nature is shaped by the experiences an individual has. Women have a distinct knowledge of the land, yet are excluded from policy decisions of development on that land. This is prominent in many developing countries where the responsibility of collecting fuel and fodder is placed upon the women. Both the resources and the meanings are taken into consideration with environmental feminism. There is a challenge to not only focus on the gender division of labour but also the actual appropriation methods of the resources. In other words, there is not simply an inherent connection between women and nature, rather there are material realities that exist.

- Historical characterization of the situation of women and nature.
- Linking of the emancipation of women with that of nature.
- Assumptions about women's agency.

Today in India women are playing pivotal role in conservation of natural resources and environment. More than 70 per cent of the Indian population is rural based. Biomass plays a crucial role in meeting daily survival needs of the vast majority of the rural households. Water is essential for survival and its availability is related to biomass. The biomass

based subsistence economy is mostly non-monetized. Production and processing of biomass agriculture, forestry, and minor forest produce and village crafts based on biomass as raw materials are also the biggest sources of employment.

Objectives

1. To study the socio-economic status of women.
2. To assess the participation level of women in activities related to the environment such as household, health and hygiene, water, air and noise.
3. To identify the constraints and hurdles in adopting related modern technologies.

Methodology

The study was conducted in Hamirpur district of Uttar Pradesh. Eight localities were selected in this study, 50 women were randomly selected from each locality. Thus, total 40 women were randomly selected in this study. The depended and independent variable were used such as, education, income, caste, environment security, food security, health and hygiene security water, air and noise security and livelihood security. The statistical tools were used such as mean, rank, adoption etc.

Results

Table 1: Distribution of respondents according to education

Education	Frequency	Per cent
High School	120	30.0
Intermediate	112	28.0
Graduate and above	168	42.0
Total	400	100.0

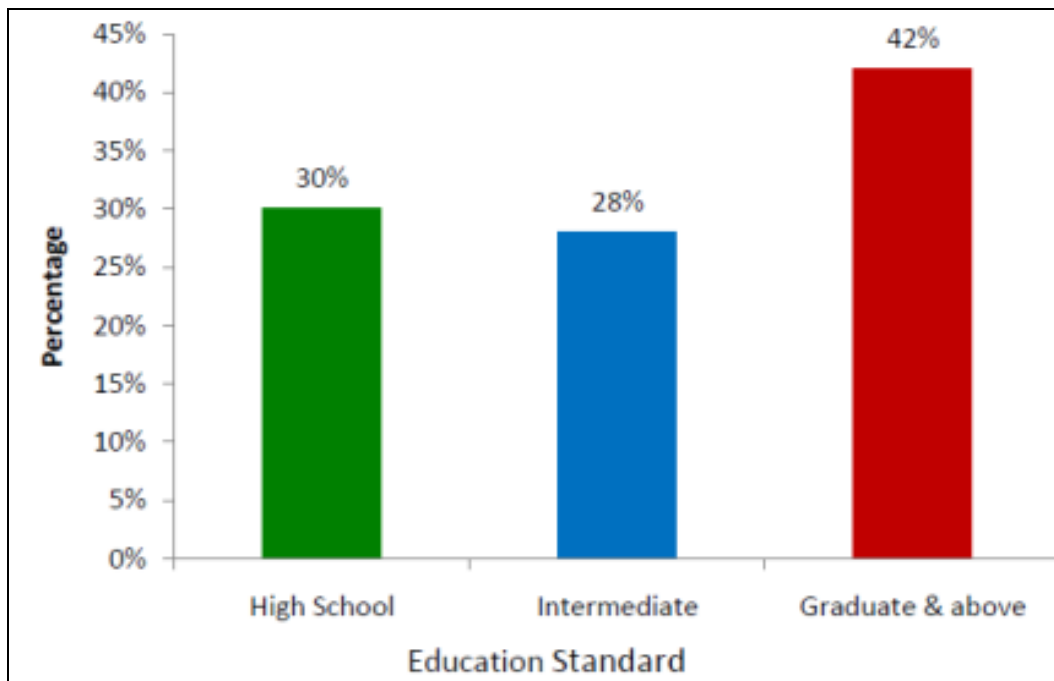


Fig 1

Education is more important to secure environment in India, educated women are more aware about solar gadgets, food security, health and hygiene, air and noise security and livelihood security. Educated women are easily handled new energy efficient gadgets. Educated women are also known

about the traditional and scientific method of food security. Now days female are known about the clean Indian campaign and Kaushal Vikas Yojana and Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana.

Table 2: Participation level of women in household technology

S. No	Home stead technology	Level I	Level II	Level III
		(Up to 50 %)	(50 to 80 %)	(80 % & above)
1.	Energy			
	(a) Smokeless Chulha	-	280 (70.0)	-
	(b) Solar cooker	40 (10.0)	-	-
	(c) Solar water heater	8 (2.0)	-	-
	(d) Solar dryers	24 (6.0)	-	-
	(e) Solar lantern	-	300 (75.0)	-
2.	(f) Solar street light	160 (40.0)	-	-
	Food securities			
	(a) Traditional grain storage	-	-	400 (100.0)
	(b) Scientific grain storage	-	240 (60.0)	-
	(c) Method of cooking for nutritional securities	-	-	360 (90.0)
3.	(d) Use of utensils for save nutritional securities	-	240 (60.0)	-
	(e) Preservation of food	-	-	356 (89.0)
	Health and hygienic securities			
	(a) Personal hygiene	-	240 (60.0)	-
	(b) Food management	196 (49.0)	-	-
	(c) Steaming of utensils	160 (40.0)	-	-
	(d) Management of waste water	160 (40.0)	-	-
	(e) Management of waste product	198 (49.5)	-	-
(f) Purification of waste water	158 (39.5)	-	-	
4.	(g) Drainage facilities	120 (30.0)	-	-
	(h) Serious diseases in human being and animals	118 (29.5)	-	-
	Air and noise securities			

	(a) Plantation and kitchen vegetable production	-	244 (61.0)	-
	(b) Air filtration	164 (41.0)	-	-
	(c) Selection of home appliances	-	282 (70.5)	-
5.	Livelihood securities			
	(a) House work	-	-	335 (83.7)
	(b) Micro-enterprise and income generating activities	116 (29.0)	-	-
	(c) Household management	-	250 (62.5)	-

(Figures in parenthesis indicate percentage of respective values)

Household Echnology



Smokeless Chulha



Solar Water Heater



Solar Cooker



Solar Cooker



Solar Lantern



Solar Street Line



Fig 2

Environment is very essential in every aspect of life. All the living beings are depending upon the environment. All the components required for survival of living organisms are gained through environment. Air, water, soil, food etc. required for survival are acquired through the environment. Women are playing a more important role in protecting the environment. In this context, women and children can be very active participants in the defense of the environment and stop, or even reverse, the degradation of our natural resources. At a worldwide level, there is a growing awareness of the need and importance of making women contribute to the identification

of environmental problems, as well as in the planning of activities geared at the sustainable development of their communities. Women play an essential role in the management of natural resources, including soil, water, forests and energy and often have a profound traditional and contemporary knowledge of the natural world around them. Women were previously neglected or ignored. There was increasing attention paid to the impact of women on the natural environment and, results in positive effect of environment on the health and well-being of women.

Table 3: Awareness of women respondents in household echnology

S. No.	Homestead technology	Always	Sometimes	Never	Mean score	Rank
1.	Energy					
	(a) Smokeless Chulha	350 (87.5)	50 (12.5)	-	2.88	I
	(b) Solar cooker	320 (80.0)	60 (15.0)	20 (5.0)	2.75	IV
	(c) Solar water heater	290 (72.5)	40 (10.0)	70 (17.5)	2.55	V
	(d) Solar dryers	100 (25.0)	50 (12.5)	250 (62.5)	1.62	VI
	(e) Solar lantern	335 (83.7)	55 (13.8)	10 (2.5)	2.81	III
	(f) Solar street light	340 (85.0)	55 (13.8)	5 (1.2)	2.84	II
2.	Food securities					
	(a) Traditional grain storage	380 (95.0)	20 (5.0)	-	2.95	I
	(b) Scientific grain storage	250 (62.5)	60 (15.0)	90 (22.5)	2.40	III
	(c) Method of cooking for nutritional securities	380 (95.0)	20 (5.0)	-	2.95	I
	(d) Use of utensils for save nutritional securities	220 (55.0)	80 (20.0)	100 (25.0)	2.30	IV\
	(e) Preservation of food	340 (85.0)	50 (12.5)	10 (2.5)	2.82	II
3.	Health and hygienic securities					
	(a) Personal hygiene	380 (95.0)	20 (5.0)	-	2.95	I
	(b) Food management	80 (20.0)	40 (10.0)	280 (70.0)	1.50	VIII
	(c) Steaming of utensils	100 (25.0)	60 (15.0)	240 (60.0)	1.65	VII
	(d) Management of waste product	200 (50.0)	60 (15.0)	140 (35.0)	2.15	IV
	(e) Management of waste product	240 (60.0)	60 (15.0)	100 (25.0)	2.35	III
	(f) Purification of waste water	300 (75.0)	50 (12.5)	50 (12.5)	2.62	II
	(g) Drainage facilities	140 (35.0)	70 (17.5)	190 (47.5)	1.87	VI
	(h) Serious diseases in human being and animals	180 (45.0)	80 (20.0)	140 (35.0)	2.10	V
4.	Air and noise securities					
	(a) Plantation and kitchen vegetable production	280 (70.0)	55 (13.7)	65 (16.3)	2.54	I
	(b) Air filtration	70 (17.5)	60 (15.0)	270 (67.5)	1.50	III
	(c) Selection of home appliances	125 (31.3)	50 (12.5)	225 (56.2)	1.75	II
5.	Livelihood securities					
	(a) House work	330 (82.5)	50 (12.5)	20 (5.0)	2.77	I
	(b) Micro-enterprise and income generating activities	250 (62.5)	60 (15.0)	90 (22.5)	2.40	III
	(c) Household management	260 (65.0)	70 (17.5)	70 (17.5)	2.48	II

(Figures in parenthesis indicate percentage of respective values)

The rural women have to be enlightened about the present energy sources, energy crises, consumption methods and renewable energy sources, which will help them to be the partners in addressing the energy crises. Majority of the rural households are caught in the vicious circle of 'low energy use-low productivity-low energy use' due to the crises in availability of the energy sources and poverty. In such situation there is need to assess the knowledge and awareness

of the rural people about the consumption pattern of energy sources for domestic activities and the time demand on the energy sources for various domestic activities. The Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana is a welfare program of the government of India, launched by Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2016. The stated objective of the program is providing 50,000,000 LPG connections to women from families below the poverty line.

Table 4: Problems in use of household gadgets

S. No	Problems	Yes	No	Mean score	Rank
1.	Technical problem	340 (85.0)	60 (15.0)	1.85	I
2.	Cost	300 (75.0)	100 (25.0)	1.75	III
3.	Space	320 (80.0)	80 (20.0)	1.80	II
4.	Maintenance and care	260 (65.0)	140 (35.0)	1.65	IV
5.	Handling	160 (40.0)	240 (60.0)	1.40	V
6.	Non availability of electricity	22 (5.5)	378 (94.5)	1.05	VI

(Figures in parenthesis indicate percentage of respective values)

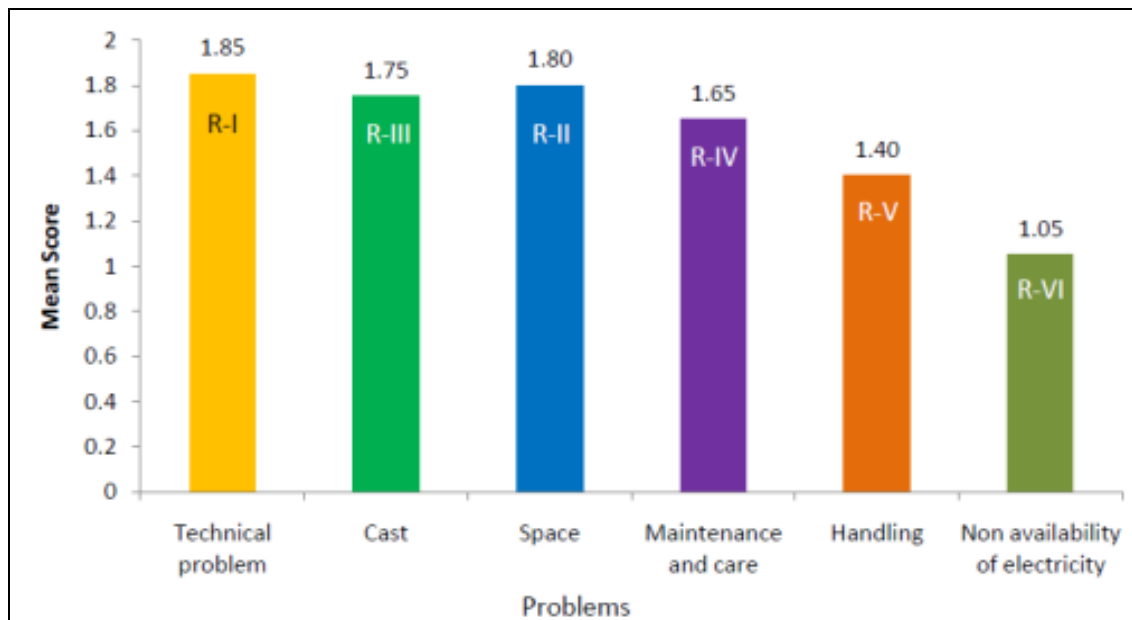


Fig 3

A stove is a very basic device used for cooking by burning wood. Most of the people living in rural areas use wood as fuel. Major problem with old stove is that it increases health problems from smoke particularly respiratory problems and eye ailments. The use of wood leads to deforestation. A major problem of both water based and thin film solar energy intermittency. The sun does not shine at night, and is diminished by overcast skin and storm. Energy from solar cells therefore cannot be counted on at all times. Storage is an important post-harvest function which involves holding and preserving of agricultural commodities from the time they are produced until they are needed for consumption. Farmers store

different quantity of food grains for different durations and in this storage period they face many problems due to various factors. An attempt has been made to document various problems faced by farmers. Generally economic conditions of marginal or landless farmer are not good and through which they faced very difficulties in grain storage at household level. Women face certain problems not as an entrepreneur but as a woman. Therefore as compared to men, the problems of women entrepreneur are more in number. Major problems faced by women micro entrepreneurs- Financial problems, Marketing problems, Socio-personal problems, Managerial Administrative problems, Production problems.

Table 5: Distribution of respondents according to constraints

S. No.	Constraints	Yes	No	Mean score	Rank
1.	Lack of education	280(70.0)	120(30.0)	1.70	VI
2.	Poverty	400(100.0)	-	2.00	I
3.	Lack of technological knowledge	200(50.0)	200(50.0)	1.50	X
4.	Lack of funding of tools	260(65.0)	140(35.0)	1.65	VII
5.	High cost of equipment	320(80.0)	80(20.0)	1.80	IV
6.	No decision power for purchasing of equipments	300(75.0)	100(25.0)	1.75	V
7.	Lack of awareness of energy household technology	340(85.0)	60(15.0)	1.85	III
8.	No power handing for scientific storage equipments	320(80.0)	80(20.0)	1.80	IV
9.	Lack of space	260(65.0)	140(35.0)	1.65	VII
10.	Lack of awareness about micro enterprise	220(55.0)	180(45.0)	1.55	IX
11.	Lack of skills	240(60.0)	160(40.0)	1.60	VIII
12.	Economic problems	380(95.0)	20(5.0)	1.95	II
13.	Psychological problems	40(10.0)	360(90.0)	1.10	XIV
14.	Availability of markets	300(75.0)	100(25.0)	1.75	V
15.	Family size	100(25.0)	300(75.0)	1.25	XIII
16.	Caring and maintenance	176(44.0)	224(56.0)	1.44	XI
17.	Serviceability	140(35.0)	260(65.0)	1.35	XII

(Figures in parenthesis indicate percentage of respective values)

Generally women play an important role to secure environment such as energy security, food security, health and hygiene security, air and noise security and livelihood security but in this type of work the role of women is invisible at

household level. It would be visible when overcome from the constraint and problems, lack of education, lack of technological knowledge, lack of skills are major problems of middle class. So that our prime minister of India launched

Kaushal Vikas Yojana for the skill development of male and female to generate enterprise. Today changing time moments feel insecure, even they are married, unmarried, widow or divorce the main reason is lack of unemployment and mental insecurity. So that female does not work same counterparts of male. They also face many psychological problems in their family.

Conclusion

Women and the environment and emphasizes the essential role that women play in the development of sustainable and ecologically sound consumption and production patterns and approaches to natural resource management, and stresses the need for women to participate in environmental decision-making at all levels. While the Platform for Action emphasizes that the major cause of the continued deterioration of the global environment is the unsustainable pattern of consumption and production, it also points to the close interrelation between poverty and environmental degradation and the need to eradicate poverty in order to achieve sustainable development.

Recommendations

- Bringing consistency and coherence to international regulations governing such items as intellectual property rights, health and safety standards, use of the precautionary principle, multilateral environment agreements and international trade rules;
- Strengthening competition policy; and – supporting the right of women farmers to save their own seed for replanting on their farms.
- To provide technical advice and support to potentially replicable pilot projects that seek to empower women workers through expansion of available productive and reproductive choices, resources and opportunities.

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