

KOHIMA COLLEGE KOHIMA

PROJECT REPORT

ON

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

TOPIC: A report on forest conservation

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REPORT ON FOREST CONSERVATION IN PHEK DISTRICT,

INTRODUCTION

The forests in Phek Town is endowed with rich flora and fauna. The protection and conservation of forest in Phek District is under the wing of the forest Department. The forest Department has taken major steps to manage forest conservation. Various awareness campaigns are held across the state of Nagaland, Phek Town along with it holds occasions involving schools, colleges, non-government agencies and local community among others.

The local communities of Phek Town has been taking an active role in preserving and conservation of forests areas are under the private heads.

Phek Town is the district headquarter in the District of Phek. The people inhabiting this area are a majority of Chakhesang, an indigenous tribe of Nagaland. Phek Town is wonderfully diverse in both flora and fauna, the need and effort to preserve the remaining is still in good hands. Over the years, awareness on preserving wildlife has increased which ultimately restores the degrading forest ecosystems.

This area is dominated with wild species of plants and animals. In the past, hunting of wild animals has been increased tremendously.

This has led to lower abundance of wild species and has effected food chain to a large extent, In spite of the loss, many people have now understood the importance of wildlife in the forests, therefore, the effort to restore and build the present environment still stands strong.

The Conservation of forest in Phek stands and aims at a quick shift in the composition of trees species and age distribution. It involves the upkeep of the natural resources within a forest that are beneficial to both humans and the environment.

Forest are vital for human life because they provide a diverse range of resources, produce oxygen which is vital for existence of life on the earth, help in regulating hydrological cycle, planetary climate, purify water, provide wild life habitat etc.

Protecting and restoring natural ecosystems, such as old-growth forests, could provide a third of the global action needed to avoid the worst impacts of climate change. Forests provide many resources such as food, medicine, fabric and raw materials. Apart from keeping a check on the global temperature, it also contributes towards preventing soil from getting eroded and shelters of the animal species and terrestrial biodiversity.

How to Conserve Forest Resources

Some of the steps we can take to conserve our forest resources :-

1. Regulated and Planned cutting of Trees :

Clear cutting, selective cutting and shelter wood cutting. The clear cutting method is useful for those areas where the same types of trees are available over a large area. In that case, trees of same age group can be cut down in a selected area and then marked for replantation. In selective cutting only mature trees are selected for cutting. This process is to be followed in rotation. Shelter wood cutting is where first of all useless trees are

Cut down followed by medium and best quality timber trees.

The time gap between these cutting is helpful in re-growth of trees. In regulated cutting only one-tenth of the forest area is selected for use and rotational system is always followed for their protection.

ii) Reforestation and Afforestation:

The sustained yield concept dictates that whenever timber is removed, either by block cutting or by selective cutting, the denuded areas are reforested. This may be done by natural or artificial method. New plantations will not only increase the forest cover but also help in making up the eco-balance. For afforestation, selection of trees are to be done according

to local geographical conditions and care are taken during initial growth of the trees.

iii) Protection of forests:

The existing forests should be protected. Apart from commercial cutting, unorganised grazing is also one of the reasons. There are several forest diseases resulting from parasitic fungi, rusts, mistletoes, viruses and nematodes which cause the destruction of trees. The forests should be protected either by use of chemical spray, antibiotics or by development of disease resistant strains of trees.



Effects or disadvantages :-

With the advancements in development, a large number of trees has been cut down to meet the ever increasing demands to build bigger houses and institutions, the land area has been affected which hugely affects the forests and the wildlife in general. Wild species of animals have met short period of dispersal and in course of adoption faces severe loss.

The building of bigger roads in the outskirts of Phek town had increased deforestation in the protected areas, it is therefore a calling to

inculcate plantation of trees more often rather than just on World Environment Day which is celebrated across the world on 5th June.

It is no doubt, cutting of trees has not only affected the forest area and the habitat of wild species of plants and animals. This in turn leads to increasing temperatures been observed over the past years. This could be the source in increasing climate change. The factors leading to climate change should be discouraged, this needs to be known to all citizens, to reduce the ways which promotes the climate

Change.

Natural habitat, vegetation and organism are eradicating at a rapid pace, the quality of nature needs to be rejuvenated before the way to protect them falls out of hand.

Ways to forest management :-

1. Awareness campaign for conservation of forest and wildlife, biodiversity conservation and management should be organised more.
2. Importance for forest and wildlife status should be brought forward.

to promote the health of an ecosystem.

3. Nature and forest conservation methods must be strongly enhanced to bring an awareness on several bodies, schools, colleges in order to restore the degrading environment.
4. Plantation of trees more often must be encouraged at all costs.
5. Deforestation which is down to landslide should be greatly discouraged.
6. The threat to survival of wildlife continues. Therefore, it is the prerogative of stakeholders to continue creating awareness at all levels. The public also needs to be familiarized with the laws so that every citizen can contribute effectively to wildlife conservation.

The report has been compiled by the use of primary data and secondary data. Primary data are employed by the use of interviewing the elders who are inhabitants of Phek Town over a period of 20-50 years. The secondary data are collected from various articles regarding forest conservations in various places of Phek and in general Nagaland District.

The number of people enlisted for this report are the persons. The informations are listed below:

1. Veshusayi cisha, 50 years.
2. Vekhosheli chizho, 24 years,
3. Vezociyi 49 years.

CONCLUSION

Conservation of forest resources in them are done by cooperative efforts of the purely locals. Forests and the products they provide are universally required for the continuation of human society. To change our society to one that does not depend on the forest and its associated benefits requires such an enormous paradigm shift that we generally do not even consider it worthy of further investigation. Given this situation therefore, it is imperative that we discover mechanisms to manage the forest for all the benefits it can provide, in a sustainable manner.