

Plant trees& Solar energy to restore globalwarming

Preserving the trees is an obligation for everyone without exception, because the trees protect and filter the sun's heat while simultaneously producing wind to be breathed in by all people. Without wind and fresh air that can be breathed, the body is more vulnerable to attacks by disease.

The fact is that one tree will absorb approximately a ton of carbon dioxide during the course of its life cycle. Trees of every shape and size will absorb carbon dioxide. The most effective to compensate for the CO₂ that is generated is to plant a tree. The trick is to plant one that's indigenous. Trees foreign to the region can be a mistake because they will require too much care and still may not survive in an alien climate.

The sad fact is that there are just too few plants and trees left to nullify the increases in carbon dioxide caused by vehicular pollution, industrial production and the like.

Today Forests have undergone decline and shrinkage. Forests in Tamil nadu have been neglected and destroyed by modernization, Industrialization and legislation. Also, threatened because of increasing pressure from population and livestock. Several encroachments have taken place, and worse, the Governments have regularized them. Area and legal status of several Forests not been clearly defined. Forest wealth and water sources/water-harvesting structures, which existed within or adjacent to the Forest lands are depleted, dilapidated and facing extinction. This has happened due to abandoning of traditional practices of natural resources conservation and management, and importantly non- people centric government policies and laws play a significant role in this regard. Most of the herbs, which existed in 'Forests' are threatened and vanished.

Million's of livestock dependent people are struggling hard for grazing lands because of shrinking Forests. These livestock dependent people have either to undertake large scale migration into adjoining areas or over grazing nearby forest area, which often cause them physical hardship and severe social strain and also lead to conflicts and destruction of vegetation. The decline of forest cover has undoubtedly grave consequences. Denuded of tree cover, tropical lands move quickly towards infertility and soil erosion.

Forests currently face various threats like Industrialization, mining, quarry, encroachment, clear felling, and other depletive factors. For example, a part of Kancheepuram & Tiruvallur districts of Tamil Nadu, threatened by Industrialization.

Solar energy

Solar energy is the most readily available source of energy. It does not belong to anybody and is, therefore, free. It is also the most important of the non-conventional sources of energy because it is non-polluting and, therefore, helps in lessening the global warming.

Solar power is the conversion of sunlight into electricity, either directly using photovoltaics (PV), or indirectly using concentrated solar power (CSP).

Solar energy can be used to meet our electricity requirements. Through Solar Photovoltaic (SPV) cells, solar radiation gets converted into DC electricity directly. This electricity can either be used as it is or can be stored in the battery. This stored electrical energy then can be used at night. SPV can be used for a number of applications such as:

- a. domestic lighting
- b. street lighting
- c. village electrification
- d. water pumping

- e. desalination of salty water
- f. powering of remote telecommunication repeater stations and
- g. railway signals.

If the means to make efficient use of solar energy could be found, it would reduce our dependence

RAIN WATER HARVESTING

CHHASE would like to create awareness on Rain water harvesting. It is an efficient way to stop water flow in to sea and recharge underground water for our future need. And also it will stop wasting of over flow of water in to sea, thus a small percentage of water level can decrease per year.

Present need

Since its inception, CHHASE has conducted various programs to raise awareness and encourage schools and the local community to plant trees and conserve water. Specifically, it has trained 80 teachers, influenced 110 land owners to plant fruit trees and to recharge underground water, raised awareness on climate change, and planted trees at 21 schools. It has also helped popularize rain water harvesting, organized 60 Self Help Groups (SHGs), constructed 1,500 water harvesting units, raised awareness among 10,000 people on climate change, and planted 18,000 trees with the help of volunteers.

As CHHASE is more concern about environment besides education, we would like to create awareness on usage of Solar energy among children and to general public.

CHHASE would like to expand its current programs to plant more trees, organize awareness campaigns at additional schools, and to work with more undeveloped land owners. It plans to work with 50 schools to teach them about climate change, the importance of planting trees and conserving water. The students and general public will also be provided with free saplings so that they can plant at home. In addition, CHHASE aims to train more volunteers to raise the environmental awareness to members of Self Help Group's, owners of undeveloped land and to construct water harvesting units and check dams. CHHASE also aims to conduct follow up programs in schools.

Project Location

The location of this project is Tiruvallur and Kancheepuram districts of Tamil Nadu.

Small actions can make a big change