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on**

**ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT  
THROUGH SWACHH BHARAT MISSION**

**Volume I**

**Editor**

**Dr. P. Ravichandran**

Associate Professor & Head  
Department of Economics  
Dean of Arts

**G.T.N. Arts College (Autonomous)  
Dindigul, Tamil Nadu.**



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Department Of Economics  
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**Editor : Dr.P. Ravichandran**

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Mobile: 9944387367

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## **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN AGRICULTURE SECTOR AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

**Dr. S. KARTHIKEYAN**

Assistant Professor, Department of Economics & Centre for Research in Economics,  
The Madura College (Autonomous), Madurai – 625011.

**P. MOHAMMED HITHER ALI**

Ph. D Research Scholar (Full Time),  
Department of Economics & Centre for Research in Economics,  
The Madura College (Autonomous), Madurai - 625011.

### **I. INTRODUCTION**

Agriculture occupies the most important position in Indian economy. The role of agricultural sector in Indian economy can be seen during its contribution to GDP (Gross domestic Product) and employment. This sector also contributes much to sustainable economic development of the country. The sustainable agriculture development of every country depends upon the judicious mix of their available natural resources. The big objective for the improvement of agriculture sector can be realized through rapid growth of agriculture which depends upon increasing the area of cultivation, cropping intensity and productivity.

Although for a country like India, increasing productivity is more important than the rest of the two. This is simply because of increasing urbanization, industrialization and the limited land size of the country. The productivity can be increased by two ways. First, increasing output by efficient utilization of available resources. Second, increasing output by variation of input. The first system is better with respect to productivity and sustainability. But due to increasing population, this system cannot provide a permanent solution. Thus we can go for the second system which may potentially cause environmental degradation in the economy and affect its sustainability. Therefore there is a requirement of tackling the issues related to sustainable agriculture development.

#### **What is Sustainable Agriculture?**

Sustainable agriculture integrates three main goals: environmental health, economic profitability, and social and economic equity. A variety of philosophies, policies and practices have contributed to these goals. People in many different capacities, from farmers to consumers, have shared this vision and contributed to it. Despite the diversity of people and perspectives, the following themes commonly weave through definitions of sustainable agriculture. Sustainability rests on the principle that we must meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Therefore, stewardship of both natural and human resources is of prime importance. Stewardship of human resources includes consideration of social responsibilities such as working and living conditions of laborers, the needs of rural communities, and consumer health and safety both in the present and the future. Stewardship of land and natural resources involves maintaining or enhancing this vital Resource base for the long term.

#### **Definition of Sustainable Development**

In 1987, the released the United Nation , which Brundtland Report defines sustainable development as 'development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.'

The United Nations Outcome 2005 World Summit Document refers to the "interdependent and mutually reinforcing pillars" of sustainable development as economic development, social development, and environmental protection.

## About The Editor



**Dr. P. Ravichandran (1971)** serving as an Associate Professor and Head, Department of Economics and Dean of Arts G.T.N. Arts College (Autonomous), Dindigul. He has obtained his M.A. (Economics) from Jamal Mohamed College, Trichy and M.Com. M.Phil (Economics) and Ph.D from the Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai. His academic excellence and subject interests are: Quantitative Techniques, Operations Research, Environment and Health Economics and Mathematical Economics. He has guided more than 25 M.Phil Scholars and presently guiding 5 Ph.D scholars. He has presented and published more than 35 Research Papers in the State, National and International Seminars and Conferences. He has conducted National level Seminars and Workshop with the sponsorship of UGC, ICSSR and NHRC. He has been in the author of three books and also an editor of GTN Multi Disciplinary Bi-Annual Research Journal.

The present volume is a collection of research articles submitted by eminent speakers, experts in the field and research scholars for presentation in the ICSSR sponsored Two Day National Seminar organized by Department of Economics, G.T.N. Arts College.



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