



Indian Council of  
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**ICSSR Sponsored  
Two-Day National  
Seminar on**



एक कदम स्वच्छता की ओर

**Environment and Sustainable  
Development  
Through Swachh Bharat Mission  
(ESDTSBM-2018)**

**Volume II**

**Editor**

**Dr. P. Ravichandran**

Associate Professor & Head  
Department of Economics  
Dean of Arts

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



**Organised by  
Department Of Economics  
G.T.N. Arts College (Autonomous)  
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**Editor** : **Dr. P. Ravichandran**

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## **ENERGY AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PERSPECTIVES IN INDIA**

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### **I. INTRODUCTION**

This earth provides enough to satisfy every man's need not every man's greed" said Mahatma Gandhi. Development of India to a large extent depends on the development of its villages. India's GDP growth over the last decade has been unprecedented but at the same time India's ranking in terms of Human Development Index (HDI) as well as Environmental Sustainability Index (ESI)

has been dismal. India is an agrarian based economy and 70% of its population still resides in the rural villages. Energy is the prime mover for the growth of Indian economy and in order to ensure adequate energy generation to meet the demand India has to depend on the natural resources indigenously or through imports.

The per capita energy consumption of world is 2600, whereas for India it happens to be just over 600 units a year, even much below some of the developing countries. The sad part is that even today about 35% of the population in India lives below 1 dollar per day. India is one of the fastest growing economies in the world with brilliant performance in the 10th Five year plan. The pace of growth unfortunately has not been able to match the supply and demand and as such India is still a net importer of energy. India today imports around 25% of its primary energy. India is highly dependent on imports for meeting its petroleum need and as such 70% of its petroleum products are imported mainly from Middle East countries.

The following lines of former Prime Minister India Gandhi, aptly explain the dilemma of all the developing countries. Now in the Indian perspective, where majority of Indians lie at the bottom of the pyramid living on less than one dollar per day subsistence and are not able to meet their basic needs, the challenge is much larger. These helpless souls are deprived of food, education, safe drinking water, lack basic health and sanitation, are inflicted with the disease of poverty, suffer from malnutrition and maternal and child death. Poverty and a degraded environment are closely interrelated, especially where people depend for their livelihoods primarily on the natural resource base of their immediate environment.

Since the liberalization of economic policy of India in 1990, India has moved forward from a closely regulated company to a more open economy in terms of better access to goods and services. The emphasis on sustainability has gained momentum as the country has been brought to crossroads wherein it needs to make a tradeoff between the urge for development and to protect the environment from irreparable damage.

### **Energy and Sustainable Development**

India's energy and economic development has a cause and effect relationship. With India being a growing economy, there is external resistance for sacrificing economic growth for the sake of protecting environment in the future. But India needs to keep up the pace of economic growth to ensure the good of its masses. Its initial five year plans mostly focused on the urban development as a result of which there has been no equitable distribution of wealth across the urban and rural or

## 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 the author of three books and also an editor for 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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