

ECOLOGICAL VALUES AND ETHICS IN HIGHER EDUCATION**MR. DEEPAK G. TODKARI**Department of English
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S.G.R.G. Shinde Mahavidalaya
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The First step on the Moon by Human and his desire to setup colony on Mars underline the tremendous development of mankind in the field of Science and technology. Along with this new era there is destruction of human ecological values and ethics of man from nature. Due to this ecology is hampered a lot. The destruction of natural resources, changes in environment, hybrid life style and degradation of our own culture shattered the ecological values and ethics. There is need to re-establish, educate man about ecological values and ethics. This burning issue now a day's affected on human beings there are problems like drought, population, Covid-19 etc. The step of educational institute, education system, evaluation committees initiated to cope with this. This paper is about ecology and role of education about it.

Key Words: Ecology, Values, Ethics, Green Audit, N.S.S., NAAC**Introduction :**

"Diseased Nature oftentimes breaks

forth in Strange eruption"

-William Shakespeare (*King Henry IV, Part-I*)

As mentioned by the Shakespeare the ecology is now a day's diseased. There is the problem of energy crises, loss of biodiversity, destruction of forests, global climate change, global warming etc. It shows decay of ecological values and ethics. In order to cope with these current issues there is an earnest urge from various fields to re-establish ecological values and ethics. Ecology is the relationship between living things and their environment. For that purpose Environment is the compulsory subject in Indian Education; educational institutes started stepping towards to create awareness about ecological values and ethics. The main focus of the institute is as follows:

1. Deforestation
2. Draught
3. Flood
4. Loss of Energy resources

5. Change in Climate
6. Explosion of Population
7. Industrialization
8. Migration of People from Village to City
9. Less Literacy
10. Less Income resources

With these and few more issues the educational institutes are working; the aim is to re-establish ecological values and ethics. Due to above mentioned issues there is decay and destruction of ecological values and ethics. Nature has supreme power in this universe; man is just the puppets in the hand of Nature. Today's COVID-19 situation is the heart felt example of it; it is rightly said by William Shakespeare in his play *Troilus and Cressida, Act-3, Scene-3-*

*“One touch of nature makes the whole
world kin”*

It is the Universal truth and the example of it is today world is facing with COVID-19 a pandemic disease. Imbalance in ecology affects a lot on human life. For that purpose there is the need to teach and create awareness about ecology among the students or in the society. In the institute National Service Scheme plays the important role to bridge the gap of ecology and man. At institutional level N.S.S. conducts the various activities to conserve the environment.

1. Plantation
2. Awareness Rally
3. Health Checkup Camp
4. Blood Donation
5. Cleaning
6. Rain Water Harvesting
7. Use of Renewable Energy- Solar, Wind Mill, Biogas etc.
8. Use of LED
9. Proper waste management- Solid, Liquid, E-Waste
10. No Vehicle Day
11. Use of Public Transportation
12. Use of Bicycles
13. Water irrigation system
14. Drip system for plant
15. Artificial Nests for Birds
16. Absorbing pits around boar well
17. Plastic free campus
18. Less use of paper in education and administration
19. Proper maintenance of hazardous chemical waste management
20. Organizing Camp in the Village
21. Organize Seminar, workshop, and guest lectures

These and many other ways the institute and N.S.S. department of the institute tries their best to rebuild the shattered ecological values and ethics among the students and in the

society. The institutes this step is to grave the roots of ecology and ecosystem among the budding students.

Along with this The National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) is very serious about the ecological consciousness and their values. For that purpose NAAC included environment and its issues in Criterion-VII. The Criterion-VII focuses on:

1. Use of Renewable energy
2. Use of LED
3. Rain water harvesting
4. Waste Management- Solid, Liquid and E-Waste
5. Expenditure on Green initiatives by the institute
6. Eco-friendly Campus
7. Green Audit
8. Energy Audit

All these issues included by the NAAC in Assessment and Accreditation process of the institute. It is the one kind of inspiration to the institute to initiate Green Initiatives in the campus. With this intention the institutes are working on it to imbibe the ecological culture among the students. These are the few points that have relation of ecology and education. As Aristotle said,

“Man is the social animal, how can he cut from his society”

It makes clear that man is the part and the parcel of ecological system to firm his existence on the earth. So there is the need to spread the roots of ecological values and ethics as much as to construct the responsible society and empower nation. At the conclusion it is worth to quote the lines from Shakespeare’s play *Antony and Cleopatra, Act-I, Scene-2*:

“In nature’s infinite books and

Secrecy a little I can read”

Conclusion:

The present study highlights not only academic progress of education in the institute but also it focuses on prime conference of the education system is to create awareness of Ecological Values and Ethics among the students. Education creates academic disciplines, awareness which would not exist without formalized education. Hence it is the prime function of the education to inspire, develop, preserve ecological values and ethics to conserve the ecological cycle.



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