

Shifting Agriculture ~ Prof. Savyasaachi

Shifting agriculture is the Adivasi mode of agriculture; it is a perspective of agriculture.

This terminology constitutes only one part

It focuses on the method

It is a way of multi-national

It does not see

The problems of this method is that it is limited

The crops produced per acre of land and the population that it can feed

The political understanding (which is not technically sound)

The population that is

An example is:

Pedestal survey – By changing the lines that define the boundary, they reduce the area of the forest, but the population remains the same

The dimensions of the space in which they live have shrunk, hence the population becomes dense (concentrated in a smaller area)

The livelihood of Adivasis:

We need to understand where livelihood happens

...in terms of intellectual Which is the mode of livelihood that Adivasis practice

Climate change so far – in-house green gas, ozone depletion, shift in life-cycles Implications of speeding up of economy

1. Scientists are constructing a huge steel plate which they want to float to prevent the radiation of the sun from the entering the planet
2. Carbon colonialism
3. To reduce our personal carbon footprints – the automobile industry is making deep inroads

Everybody is buying a car New Zealand there was a discussion on can we stop manufacturing cars – but what will happen to all the factories set up to produce cars.

Climate change is going to get no solution.

Capital to survive needs a huge surplus of

Unemployment is going to add to climate change in ways that we do not know

2 faces of unemployment

We need a labour prespective to understand unemployment

Nature is an external

There is an internal nature within us

Climate change is killing us that in the external nature because of the way Is speeding up...the gap between the 2 is increasing

Depletion of resources in biodiversity

Depletion of green cover

Everything that happens to us is exhaustion

External nature/human nature/non-human nature

They are all getting weaker and hence causing climate change

Plural Paradigms:

Productivity and reproduction

In India these 3 terms are defined very differently: work,

Shifting Culture:

How are we to position Adivasi modes of livelihood in climate change

Internal Environment:

The level of pain that one can withstand and the speed at which one can recover

Jhoom (*phenda*) – Clearing and its Regeneration:

You have to make at least 24 clearings in 48 years for regeneration Every plot of clearing takes 2 lunar years 9 months – 3 months – *kaveri koo*

Phenomenon of fallow A little bit of hunger is necessary for regeneration

Forest is the foundational position of the worldview How do you value the forest – how do you estimate the cost

The value of the foundational position Adivasis has a very good understanding of trees

We produce exchange value, but we do not produce use value

Use value actually is potentiality The crisis today is that nobody produces use value

Very interesting books ‘Crack Capitalism’ (John Holona) which discusses this

Adivasis have the understanding to Enrich use values

The use value creates freshness

Novelty undermines both

Kari Bottas:

The soot from the burning increasing carbon particle related debts the people of the Siemenpuu Foundation

Gist of what Savyasaachi said: My suggestion is that the framework Carbon trade shifting cultivation Zero carbon production economy MoUs are being signed by agencies and use to dump carbon shifting cultivators will dump their own carbon within their own environment
Jungle ke bina jhoom ka koi matlab nahin hai.

The speed of economy is usurping our resources – environment is becoming weak

How we can take care of our waste

Shifting cultivation ki bhasha has

Ritu Priya:

Carbon affects the Himalayan glacial eco-systems

Forest cover is reduced by unsustainable agriculture

Questions asked:

Use of exchange value and use systems

Jhoom cultivation linked to climate change

Book referred to by Savyasaachi: “Traditions Exchange and Modern Market” by Cyril Roshan

1. Distress in Agriculture ~ Sh. Afsar Jafri

Indian agriculture is in distress

I had the chance to meet farmers and Adivasis in Indore who had stored large quantities of soya bean

Manifestation of distress seen in agriculture

Trade liberalization is also a reason of distress in India

Many agreements are being signed by the EU with India and they are asking for removal of taxes

Basically we put a tax on the export of our resources to stop the export

Joblessness is growing very fast

EU is very adamant that India should get away with the tax

RCEPT marketing – China/S. Korea/New Zealand/ India, etc. are part of the group wanting India to remove the tax

If we remove these taxes and if we have a crisis, we will not be able to have

India has shown interest in signing an agreement with EU

Our export industry is in doldrums

We are exporting

Exporting countries like Pakistan, etc., are saying that India is giving minimum support price to farmers

MSP is implemented in a few states

APMC market is now being dismantled and government is coming up with new programmes for

Contract farmers is dangerous trade

The whole area of public-private partnership in the area of water

None of these partnerships are successful

Contract farming – farmer's land is being used for agriculture

Farmers who have gone for multi-cropping

The difference between the neo-liberal farming and

Zero budget farming is being adopted by farmers

The farmers are showing that despite having a small area of land, they are doing sustainable agriculture

Farmer suicides in certain states

We should concentrate on those states

Comments by Ajay Kumar:

Minimize and maximize

Minimize on in comes which are affected by rain and storms

Maximize on on-agricultural

Soil health

Maximize control of farmers on seeds

Maximizing on crop diversification

Hisab kitab rakhna is very important

Maximize community assets

Minimize drain on family (daaru, etc.)

Maximize role of disadvantage, particularly farmers and women

Maximize

Raghupati:

Poori kheti bazaar par aaadhar hai, isi se pariyavran par bhi asai hai

Bhuwan Pathak:

Everyone says that *kheti ka kam ghaati ka s auda hai* – we should change this Government policy

Asit:

On distress agriculture, what is the distress structure

Answer by Afsar Jafri: You will feel the impact of

We are doing diversification of our seeds at a very rapid pace

Diversity of cotton varieties

Self-sufficient – leave alone international trade, we are not integrating with domestic

Till the time peace clause is in place, no country can

Conditions accepted under peace clause

It should not be trade distorting to other countries

India is emerging as a major country as an exporter of food grains

Permanency of peace clause