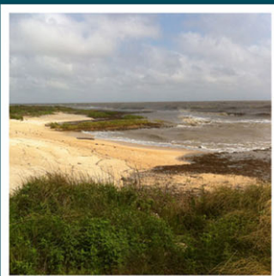


# **Wasteland Management and Environment**



**A.K. Roy**  
**S.K. Verma**





# **WASTELAND MANAGEMENT AND ENVIRONMENT**

*Editors*

**A.K. Roy  
S.K. Varma**



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## PREFACE

This book embodies the proceedings of the National Symposium on "Management of Wasteland to Protect Environment-Retrospect and Prospect" organised by the University Department of Botany on April 24-25, 1998. It was jointly sponsored by the Ministry of Environment and Forests and T.M. Bhagalpur University.

The focal theme of the symposium was to review the reasons for the generation of wastelands, measures for its prevention and reclamation, and impacts on the degradation of environment. The changing scenario leading to generation of wasteland due to deforestation, mining operations, development projects like construction of roads, dams, reservoirs etc., salinity alkalinity and water logging was discussed. Application of microbial technology to reclaim the degraded land was also reviewed.

The symposium was inaugurated by Prof. S.R. Sirkar, Honourable Vice-Chancellor and presided over by Prof. S.K. Varma, Head Deptt. of Botany of the University. More than three dozen subject experts from different parts of the country participated in the academic deliberations. They reviewed various problems and prospects of wasteland management in relation to the protection of gradually degrading environment. They also expounded that the success of this programme requires a holositic approach and participation of ecologists, environment managers, sociologists, technocrafts, environment organisers and NGO's.

The proceedings includes both review and research articles on the various facets of the focal theme. Some articles are related to the reclamation of wasteland generated by mining operation while others are concerned with the prospects of microbial technology in reclamation of degraded lands. Articles on impact of industrialization and anthropogenic activities on aquatic and terrestrial environment are also included.

Broadly speaking this volume based on the proceedings of the symposium in its totality is expected to be of immense value to the scientists and researchers, working in the allied fields and

also for the teachers and Post-Graduate students of Environment Biology, Taxonomy, Microbiology and Applied Botany.

The convenor of the symposium expresses his deep gratitude to the Vice-Chancellor Prof. S.R. Sirkar and Sri U.R. Biswas Conservator of Forests, for gracing the occasion. Besides, the convenor is also grateful to Prof. Anupam Varma, F.N.A., Dean, IARI, Delhi, Prof. J.S. Datta Munshi, Emeritus Scientist, (CSIR), Bhagalpur, Prof. G.P. Agrawal, R.D. University, Jabalpur and Prof. A. Mahadevan, Madras University for their good wishes for the success of the symposium. The convenor is also thankful to the colleagues of the Department for their ungrudging help and to the Ministry of Environment and Forests, New Delhi for providing financial support for holding the symposium.

The convenor feels pleasure to record special thanks to all the contributors of this volume for their generously in accepting invitation and contributing the articles. It is the quality of their contribution that made this volume of profound academic interest.

The convenor is grateful to the Chairman and Recorders of the various technical sessions and to all the senior participants especially to Prof. Anil Kumar Head, Dept. of Geography and Prof. J.V.V. Dogra, University Dept. of Botany, who delivered informative and relevant key note address on this occasion. The convenor is sincerely grateful to Prof. S.K. Varma, Head Dept. of Botany, who, provided all the required facilities and encouragement for organizing the symposium.

The co-operation of my research students and PG students in the organisation of the symposium is duly acknowledged and I am personally thankful to all of them.

**A.K. ROY**

Convenor

National Symposium

## LIST OF CONTRIBUTORS

### **S.K. Varma**

University Deptt. of Botany  
TM Bhagalpur University, Bhagalpur

### **U.R. Biswas**

Conservator of Forest, Bhagalpur

### **A.K. Roy**

University Deptt. of Botany,  
TM Bhagalpur University, Bhagalpur-7

### **Rashmi Kumari**

University Deptt. of Botany,  
TM Bhagalpur University, Bhagalpur-7

### **S. Ram Reddy**

Microbiology section, Botany Department,  
Kakatiya University, Warangal - 506009

### **S.M. Reddy**

Microbiology section, Botany Department,  
Kakatiya University, Warangal - 506009

### **R.C. Rajak**

Department of Post-Graduate Studies & Research in  
Biological Science R.D. University,  
Jabalpur-482001 (M.P.)

### **Kamal Prasad**

Department of Post-Graduate Studies & Research in  
Biological Science R.D. University, Jabalpur-482001 (M.P.)

### **A.K. Jha**

Department of Botany, J.P. University, Chapra - 841 301

### **J.S. Singh**

Department of Botany, B.H.U., Varanasi-221 005

### **M.S. Rao**

Microbiology Section, Department of Botany  
Kakatiya University, Warangal - 506 009

**P. Pavan Kumar**

Microbiology Section, Department of Botany  
Kakatiya University, Warangal - 506 009

**S.R. Reddy**

Microbiology Section, Department of Botany  
Kakatiya University, Warangal - 506 009

**R.S. Singh,**

Central Mining Research Institute,  
Barwa Road, Dhanbad - 826 001

**S.K. Chaulya**

Central Mining Research Institute  
Barwa Road, Dhanbad - 826 001

**S.K. Singh**

Central Mining Research Institute  
Barwa Road, Dhanbad - 826 001

**A. K. Kandya**

Deptt. of Botany, Dr. H.S. Gour University, Sagar (M.P.)

**Malaya K. Misra**

Ecology and Floristics Laboratory  
P.G. Department of Botany, Berhampur University  
Berhampur - 760 007, Orissa

**Kumar Birendra**

Scientist, CMRI, Dhanbad-826001

**R.S. Bilgrami**

Deptt of Botany, BRA Bihar University, Muzaffarpur-842 001

**S.K. Singh**

University Department of Chemistry  
T.M. Bhagalpur University, Bhagalpur

**P.K. Mukherjee**

Department of Botany, Calcutta University, Calcutta - 700 019

**Arvinda Kumar Jha**

Department of Botany  
L.N. Mithila University, Darbhanga - 846 004

**S.K. Goel**

NEERI, Nagpur - 440 020

**V. Jha**

Deptt. of Biotechnology, LNMU - 846 004



**S. Dutta**

Department of Botany, Burdwan University  
Burdwan - 713 104, West Bengal

**P. Dutta Majumdar**

Department of Botany, Burdwan University  
Burdwan - 713 104, West Bengal

**N.C. Chatterjee**

Department of Botany, Burdwan University  
Burdwan - 713 104, West Bengal

**T.K. Pan**

TM, Bhagalpur University, Bhagalpur-812 007 Bihar

**R.P. Upadhyaya**

TM, Bhagalpur University, Bhagalpur-812 007 Bihar

**J. Duttamunshi**

TM, Bhagalpur University, Bhagalpur-812 007 Bihar

**S. C. Pal**

P. I. Biomass Research Centre & Professor of Botany  
Visva Bharti, Santiniketan - 731 235, W.B.

**Anal K. Jha**

University Department of Chemistry  
T.M. Bhagalpur University, Bhagalpur - 812 007, Bihar

**B.C. Mishra**

Chief Technical Adviser, Golcha Group of Industries,  
"Prem Prakash", S.M.S. Highway, Jaipur (Raj.).

**Ambarish Mukherjee**

Department of Botany, Burdwan University  
Golapbag, Burdwan - 713 104, West Bengal

**Debnath Palit**

Department of Botany, Burdwan University  
Golapbag, Burdwan - 713 104, West Bengal

**K.R. Maurya**

Bihar Agricultural College, Sabour, Bhagalpur, 813 210.

**B.B. Mishra**

Bihar Agricultural College, Sabour, Bhagalpur, 813 210.

**R.B.P. Singh**

En. Net Development Society, Dehradun

**Piyoosh Rautela**

En. Net Development Society, Dehradun

**Dinesh Sati**

En. Net Development Society, Dehradun

**B.B. Mishra**

Soil Survey and Land Use Planning Centre, Sabour,  
Bhagalpur, Bihar, 813 210

**I.D. Singh**

Soil Survey and Land Use Planning Centre, Sabour,  
Bhagalpur, Bihar, 813 210

**J. Mall**

Soil Survey and Land Use Planning Centre, Sabour,  
Bhagalpur, Bihar, 813 210

**L.N. Singh**

Soil Survey and Land Use Planning Centre, Sabour,  
Bhagalpur, Bihar, 813 210

**S.P. Singh**

Soil Survey and Land Use Planning Centre, Sabour,  
Bhagalpur, Bihar, 813 210

**D.D. Pandey**

Department of Botany, Nalanda College, Biharsharif - 803 101

**Sanjeev Kumar**

Department of Botany, Nalanda College, Biharsharif - 803 101

**R. Prasad**

Department of Botany, Banaras Hindu University,  
Varanasi-221005, India

**B.K. Roy**

Department of Botany, Banaras Hindu University,  
Varanasi-221005, India

**P. Srinivas**

Microbiology Section, Department of Botany  
Kakatiya University, Warangal - 506 009

**G. Laxma Reddy**

Microbiology Section, Department of Botany  
Kakatiya University, Warangal - 506 009

**S.M. Reddy**

Microbiology Section, Department of Botany  
Kakatiya University, Warangal - 506 009

**R.K. Gupta**

Department of Botany, Koshi College, Khagaria

**K.D. Pandey**

Department of Botany, Banaras Hindu University,  
Varanasi - 221 005

**A.K. Kashyap**

Department of Botany, Banaras Hindu University,  
Varanasi - 221 005

**Pankaj Kumar**

NTPC, Kahalgaon,

**Niraj Kumar**

University Department of Botany  
T.M. Bhagalpur University.

**R.B. Prasad**

S.M. College, Bhagalpur - 812 001

**K. Sushma**

S.M. College, Bhagalpur - 812 001

**Kanak K. Pandey**

Centre for Regional Study  
TM Bhagalpur University, Bhagalpur-812 007



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