



SHIFT IN AGRICULTURE PATTERN AND ITS IMPACT ON NAGA WOMEN

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ABSTRACT

In physiography, Nagaland with a total area of 16579 sq km comes under the Eastern Himalayan region and is inhabited by the Naga tribes. Traditionally the land is owned by the community and managed through cultural laws. Mostly hilly and mountainous with just a few area of plain, for centuries the Nagas have managed the land sustainably. Agriculture, its economic backbone has been traditional and subsistence. However, Govt. propagandas and global economy influences are changing the main objective of the traditional sustainability and food security of the society. Today, subsistence agriculture is threatened due to shift in more commercial crops and farming. On one side there is economic or monetary gain as well as empowerment of small section of women. However, the positive impacts are circumscribed by loss and erosion of many women's traditional knowledge and sources due to drastic shift in the traditional agricultural pattern into commercial farming. Besides problem of food security add new challenges for women in rural areas. Their traditional role as the food provider and manager of their household faces copious crisis and challenges with new technologies and development replacing their knowledge system. It is therefore vital to study and understand the new emerging trends and its impact with a longer perspective for sustainable development. The propose topic is an attempt to understand the emerging trends of agriculture pattern and its impact on the social, economic and environment with an emphases on the women in Nagaland.

KEY WORDS: *Naga Women, Sustainable Development, Agriculture, Traditional Knowledge, Food Security.*