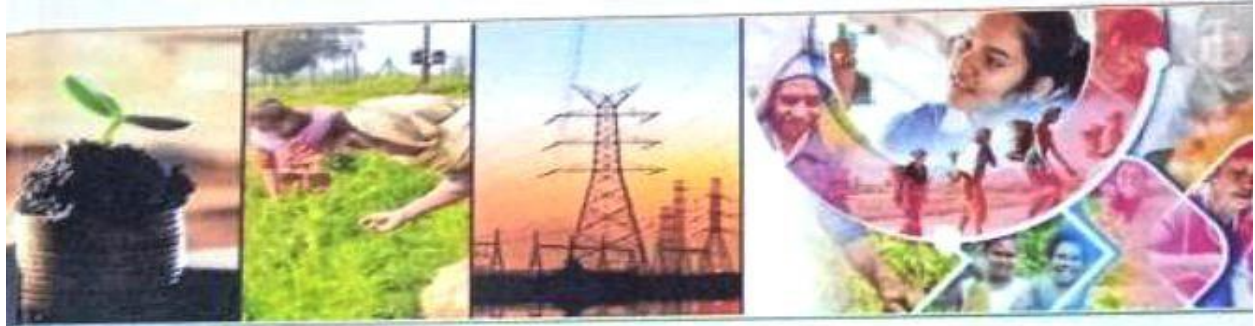


TRANSFORMING INDIA

Vision and Challenges



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Transforming India: Vision and Challenges

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First Published: February 2022

ISBN: 978-93-91908-94-2

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Published in India by **Prem Singh Bisht for Kunal Books** and
printed at Trident Enterprises, Noida, U.P.

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Opportunities & Challenges of Environment Education in Transforming India

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Introduction

The world in the 21st century is facing many challenges related to the environment. On the one hand, the world is developing at an alarming rate while on the other hand, the destruction of natural resources is going on. Therefore, the world's present development path is not sustainable. Efforts to meet the needs of a growing population in an interconnected but unequal and human-dominated world are ignoring the Earth's essential life-support systems (Kofi Annan, 2000). Today, human society is facing severe environmental problems like climate change, greenhouse effect, energy crisis, depletion of natural resources, biodiversity loss, pollution of air, water, soil, etc. The scope of the problems is from the local level to the global level. The ever-increasing population and changing lifestyles are increasing the severity of the environmental problems. The time has come to protect the natural environment through precise efforts.

Environmental Education not only educates the world population about the natural environment and its problem but also aims at developing in them the knowledge, attitude, and skills necessary to protect the natural balance in the environment besides working for its enrichment. Environmental Education is nothing but teaching a man how to interact fully with the surrounding world, to improve his inner world. Environmental education