PREFACE

A developing society faces numerous challenges in the economic, social, political, cultural and environmental arenas. The key environmental challenges of the society relate to the nexus of environmental degradation with poverty and economic growth. These challenges are closely linked with the state of environmental resources, such as land, water, air and their flora and fauna. Economic growth bears a dichotomous relationship to environmental degradation which adversely affect human health. The closest factors responsible for environmental degradation are population increase technology and consumption choices which ultimately result in changes in man and environment relationship.

The environmental from rice mills in West Bengal is considerable and the major problem for rice mills is the disposal of wastes generated by the mills. The environmental protection measures are not observed by the rice mills. It is evident that institutional failure in municipal level, lack of knowledge about the fragility of the environment, lack of general awareness and political sweet will is aggravating the problems.

Starting form Stockholm Declaration of 1972 and through the Rio conference, 1992 in the international level and with a well developed body of environmental laws and policies in national level and by way of evolving a good number of environmental principles by judiciary. India has reached a stage and gave birth to a separate environmental jurisprudence. The National Environmental policy 2006 has been formulated by India as a response to her national commitment to a clean environment mandated in the constitution in Articles 48 A and 51 A(g), strengthened by judicial interpretation of Article 21. Nevertheless, a large section of population still is not environmentally conscious, the laws remain unimplemented and the enforcement mechanism suffers from inherent defects or remains indifferent to the situation.
The present thesis has focused on such a problem of the society today which has assumed a greater dimension due to increasing activities in rice milling industry, particularly the pollution problem faced by different sections of the society. Through different parts of the project, the researcher has tried to highlight the entire subject matter including decisions of the Apex Court and planning, policy processes of the successive governments in the past.

This thesis is intended to mainstream environmental concerns in rice milling industry and to motivate the instrumentalities for setting up environment friendly rice mills in the eastern parts of the Indian subcontinent.

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