

Life and Agriculture after Tohoku Earthquake and Fukushima Nuclear Disaster

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The field trip organized by FOLENS to visit Fukushima was really necessary for me to understand the real scenario after the earthquake followed by tsunami and to be a real environmental leader. Through this tour, I have come to know what was happened there and how devastating it was. Large amount of areas have been contaminated by the radioactive materials due to nuclear power plant accident. People are still worried because they cannot live in their own houses. Even they want to face the problem by their own strength, staying in their own villages, they cannot go there. Farmers are still producing vegetables, paddy, fruits but they cannot sell their products very much even the lands are safe for cultivation. Consumers do not believe them. Lots of people lost their job due to Fukushima accident. Families have been divided into two groups. One group, most of them are old, want to stay there and fight against the disaster and another group, most of them are young, do not want to stay. Some farmer could not feed their cattle and for that reason so many cattle were died and cattle those could survive are highly contaminated. Farmers do not know what will be the future of these contaminated cattle but still feeding because they love their own animals. One of the big problem is people of that area think they are not responsible for the accident so why they have to suffer. The electricity produced in the Fukushima power plant is used by the people of Tokyo. So, why people of Fukushima have to suffer? Why the power plant was not built in Tokyo? Why Fukushima? They want shifting of that power plant from Fukushima to Tokyo as the people of Tokyo are using the power produced in that plant.

Now, the accident is over but the most positive thing is the people want to overcome the problem by their own strength. They are brave enough and not hopeless. They are ready to die in their own land. They are demarcating their land depending on the amount of contamination and producing crops, vegetables and fruits in that fields which are safe. They are trying to communicate with consumers assuring that the products are safe for consumptions. They are inviting visitors to promote their products, scientists for doing research about how to reduce contamination.

Through this tour I have learned many things which are important for my life. We should not play with those things which we cannot control. The nuclear power plant is an example. We cannot stop the power plant in case of emergency, we cannot reduce the contamination of radioactive materials quickly so, why are we using them? It is better, learn how to control radioactive material first then use them.

I know I cannot help them directly but can spread their message throughout the world. They do not want anymore nuclear power plant in the world. They want, in future, anywhere in the world, nobody suffers like them.