

An empirical study on awareness, concerns and issues on Sustainable Development in MSME sector

Dr. Priyanandan Reddy

COO, AIMS Institutes , Bangalore

Dr. Brahm Sharma

Professor of Management, AIMS institutes, Bangalore

Ms. Asha. R , MBA student

AIMS Institutes, Bangalore

Abstract:

Small and medium scale industries are backbone of India's manufacturing sector and are located all over India. The MSME sector like other business sectors have the objective of earning profits and in the process may overlook environment related concerns and issues. Sustainable development can be achieved by creating the awareness and educating stakeholders about its concerns and issues .

Today many of the challenges which mankind is facing such as climate change, water scarcity, inequality and hunger, can only be resolved from local to global level by sustainable development which will ensure social progress, environmental sustainability and economic growth to include all section of society . As a part of a new sustainable development roadmap, the United Nations approved the 2030 Agenda, which contains the Sustainable Development Goals to protect the planet and the global well-being of people. These common goals if followed will ensure that the economic growth is achieved through sustainable development.

Objectives of Research:

1. To analyse sustainable development concerns and issues in MSME sector.
2. To identify the level of employees awareness of issues related to sustainable development in MSME sector.
3. To identify the factors in the MSME sector which are affecting the Sustainable development .

A sample size of 81 MSME units was randomly selected from Peenya Industrial area , Bangalore.

Primary data was collected from through questionnaire and respondents were owners or their authorized representative.

Key words: MSME, sustainable development, issues, concerns, awareness

Introduction:

Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs.

The sustainable development ensures that our economic, environmental and social needs are met for the present and allowing prosperity for future generations.

The sustainable development concept appeared in a forceful way after publication of the Brundtland Report in 1987. The report highlighted the disastrous consequences of economic growth and globalization in non sustainable way. The report also suggested possible solutions to industrialization and population growth. The rising plant population has increased consumption leading to higher production thus creating waste and pollution.

Today many of the challenges which mankind is facing such as climate change, water scarcity, inequality and hunger, can only be resolved from local to global level by sustainable development which will ensure social progress, environmental sustainability and economic growth to include all section of society . As a part of a new sustainable development roadmap, the United Nations

approved the 2030 Agenda, which contains the Sustainable Development Goals to protect the planet and the global well-being of people. These common goals if followed will ensure that the economic growth is achieved through sustainable development.

Statement of Problem:

Small and medium scale industries are backbone of India's manufacturing sector and are located all over India. The MSME sector like other business sectors have the objective of earning profits and in the process may overlook environment related concerns and issues. Sustainable development can be achieved by creating the awareness about Sustainable development and educating regarding its concerns and issues to the employers and employees.

Objectives of Research:

1. To analyse sustainable development concerns and issues in MSME sector.
2. To identify the level of employees awareness of issues related to sustainable development in MSME sector.
3. To identify the factors in the MSME sector which are affecting the Sustainable development .

Research Methodology:

A sample size of 81 MSME units was randomly selected from Peenya Industrial area , Bangalore.

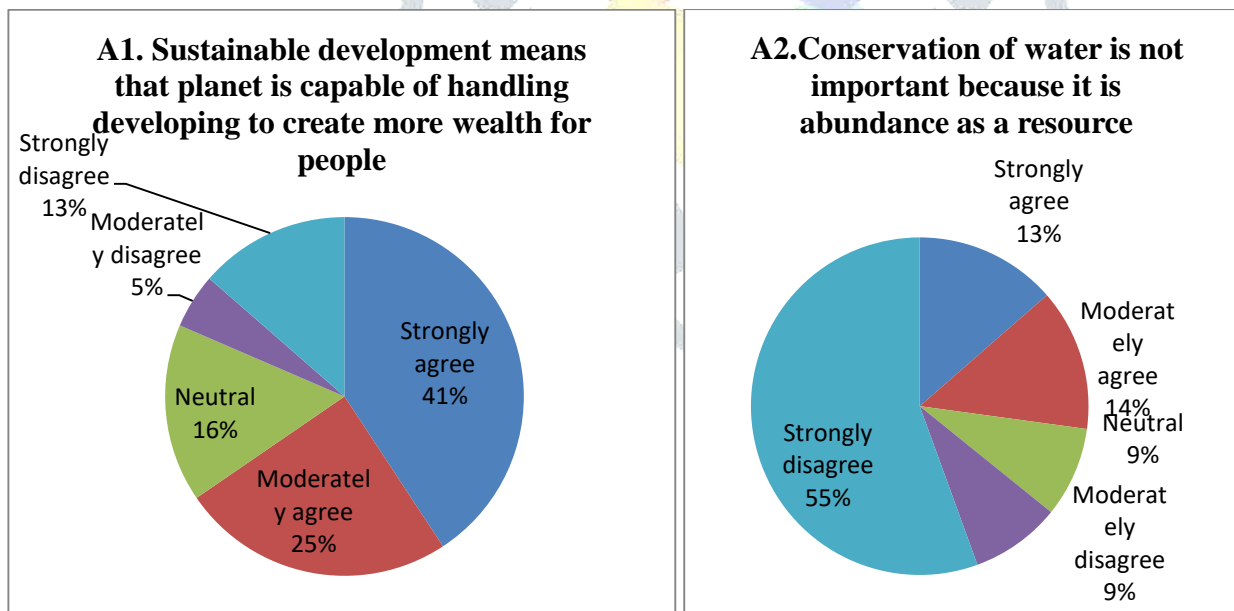
Primary data was collected from through questionnaire and respondents were owners or their authorized representative.

The questionnaire was divided in Part A and Part B and both sections contained 15 questions each. Part A had questions related to awareness regarding sustainable development . Part B questions dealt with concern and issues related to sustainable development .

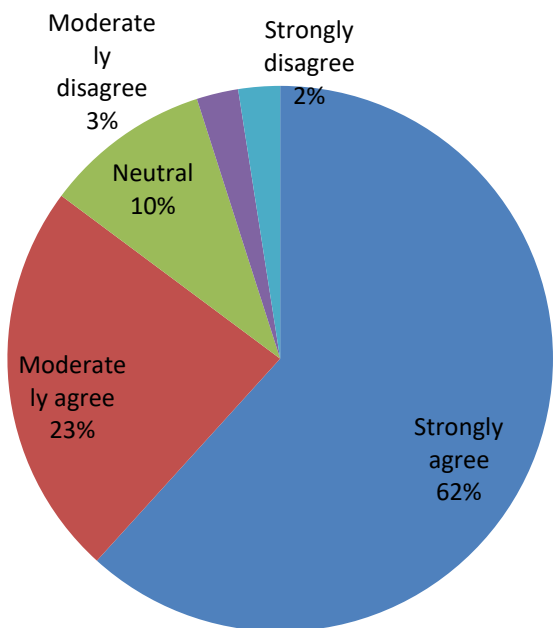
Data Analysis :

The following 15 questions indicated as A1 , A2----- A15 in the pie chart were asked to respondents for section A on awareness on sustainable development.

Survey carried out with Peenya Industrial area with 81 MSME respondents .The response towards the awareness on Sustainable Development is graphically represented as below.

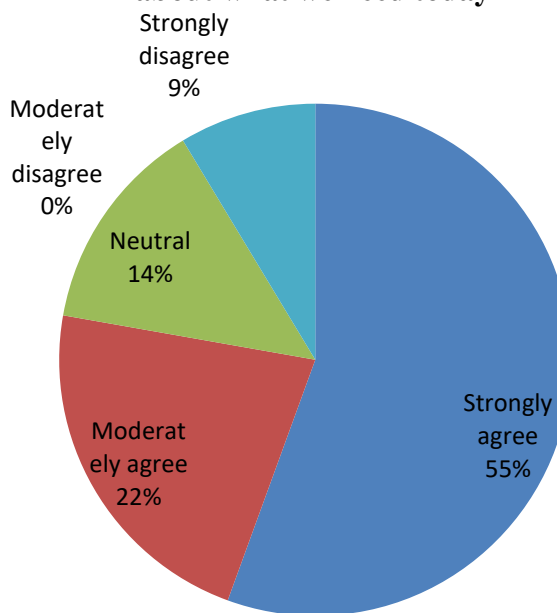


A3.Planting more trees in campus will help in Sustainable development.

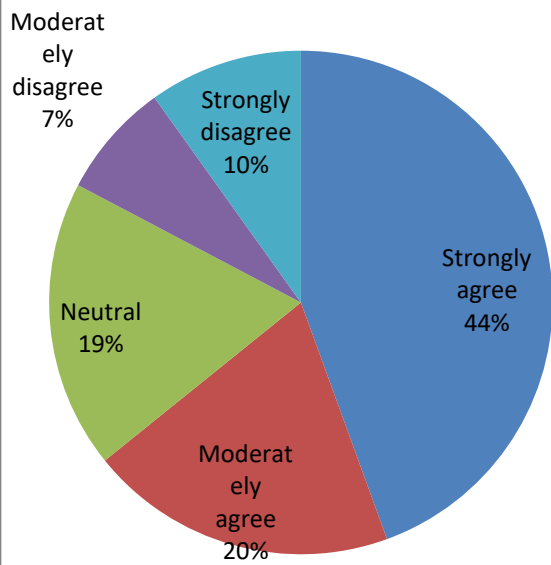


A4.Sustainable development is as much about what the future generation will require as it is

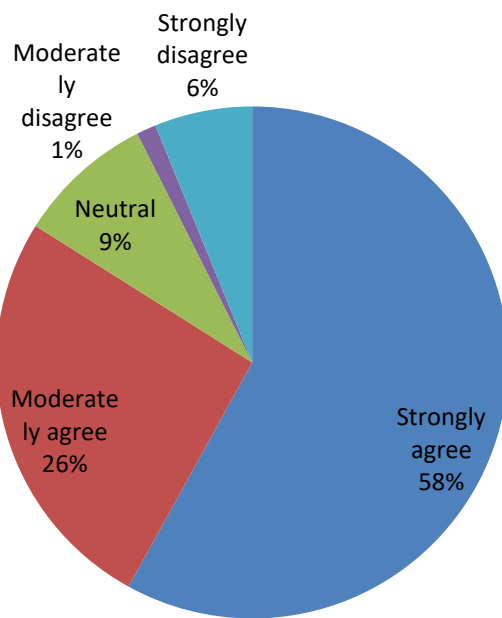
about what we need today



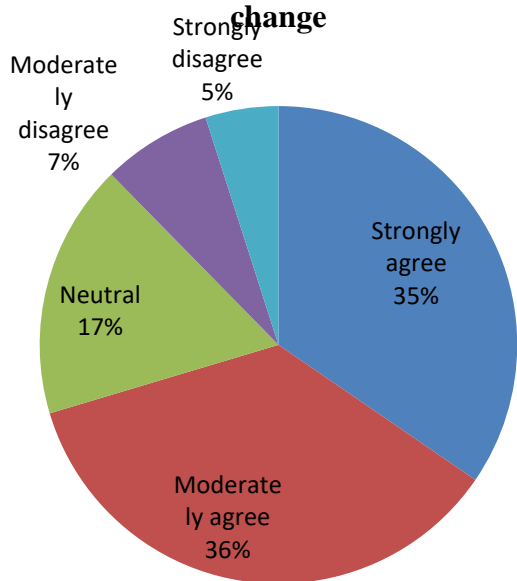
A5.Consumption of non-degradable material should be discouraged In production.



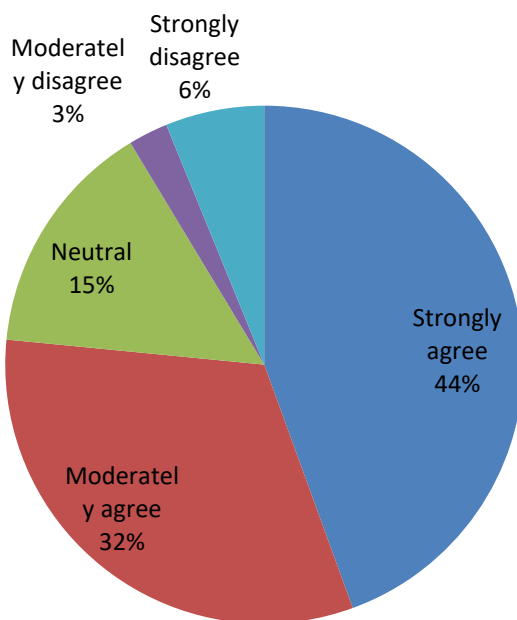
A6. Recycling process for scrap and rejects must be made mandatory in factories to help Sustainable development.



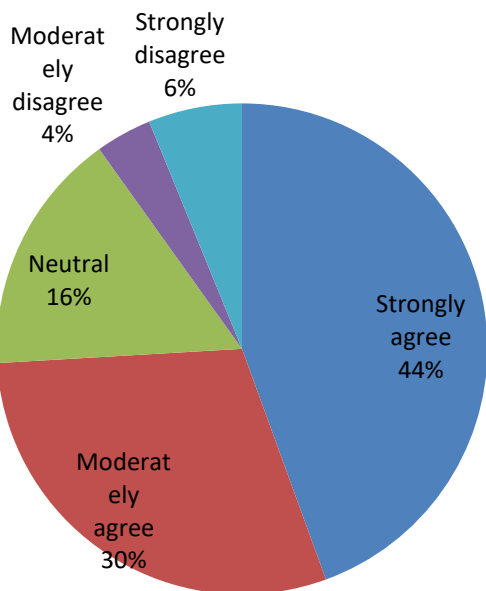
A7. Economic development and unplanned growth of industries is one of the main reason for climate change



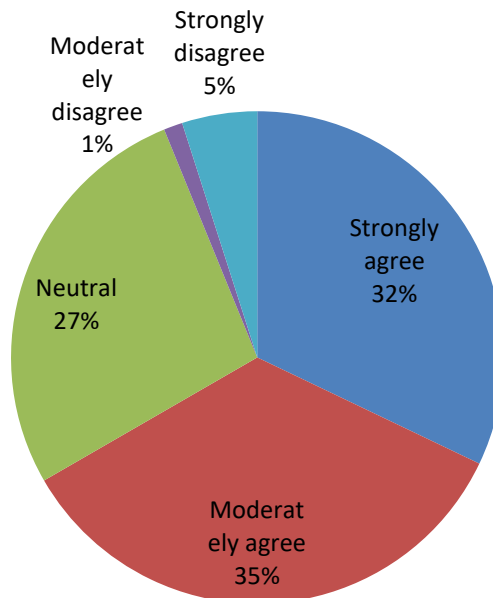
A8. Burnig of fossil fuels for power generation is pushing environment to its limits.



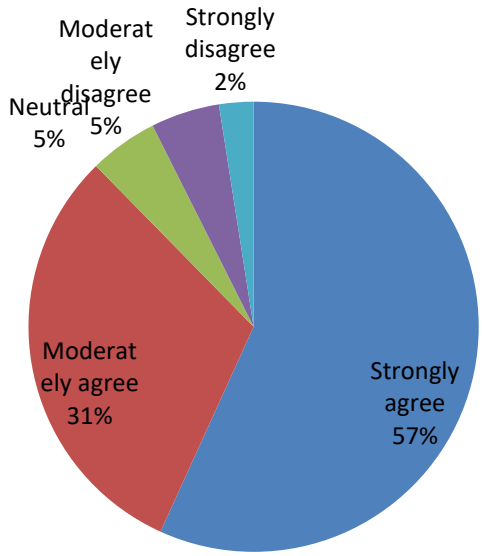
A9. Industry must install automatic cut off timers for all their machines to save power.



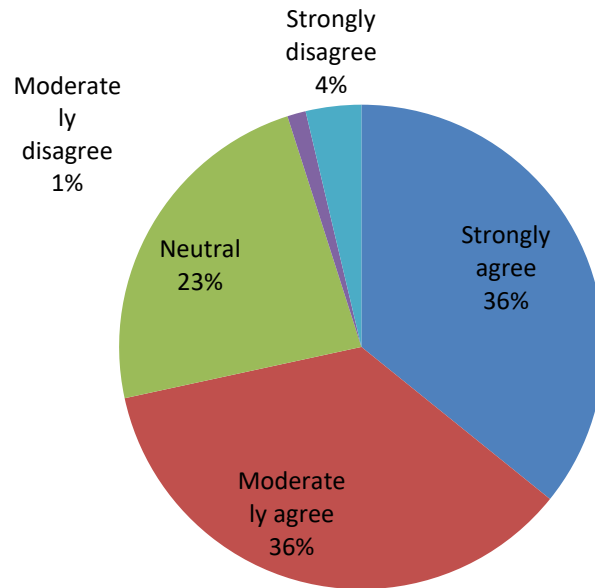
A10. Sustainable transport plan by vendor must be a decision factor while finalising transporter.



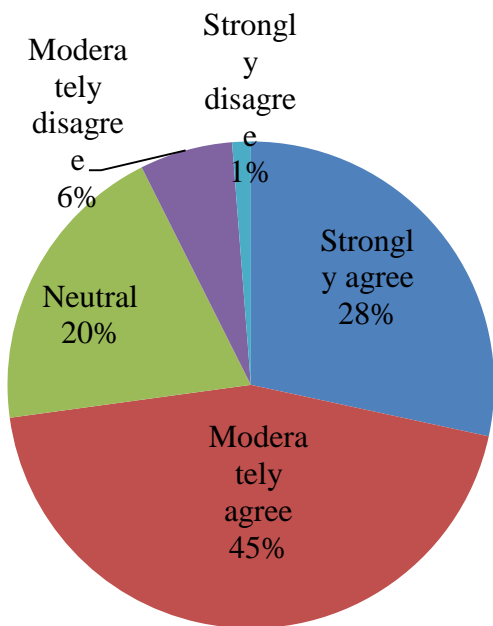
A11. Planting more trees in factories and outside will support sustainable development cause.



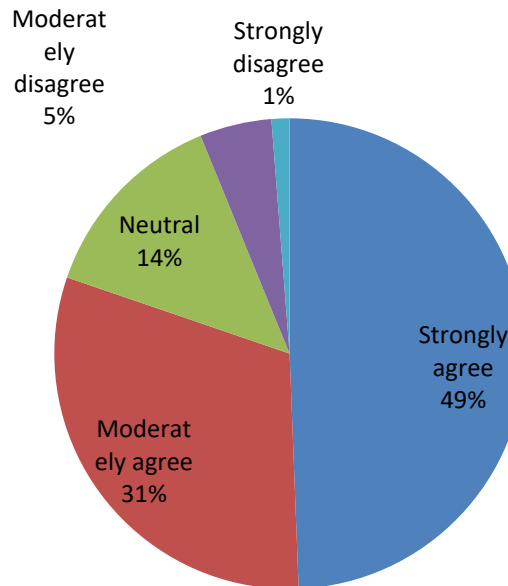
A12. Sustainable watch agency is a must in every industry to ensure sustainable practices.



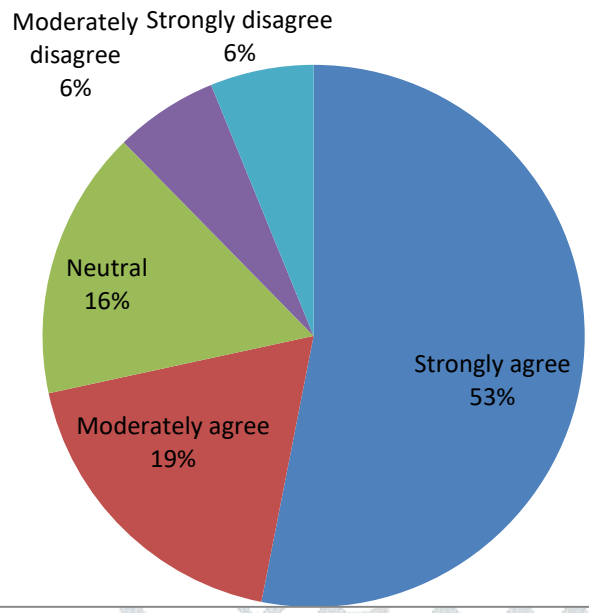
A13. All vendors/ suppliers must have sustainability plan in place before given an order.



A14. Solid Waste has reached an alarming dimension in industries.



A15. Reduction of plastic in packaging of finished product is a good idea in Industry.

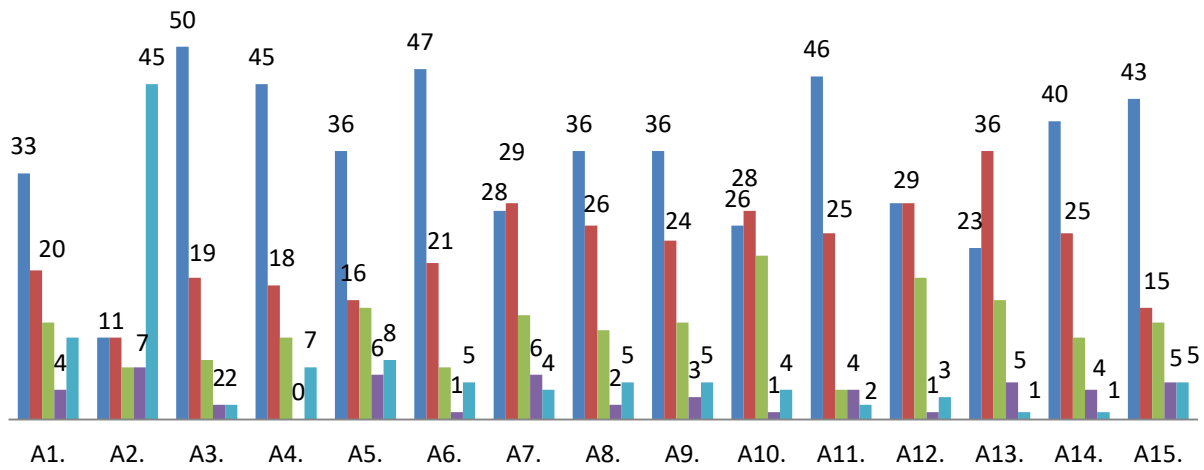


Frequency of Part A (Awareness on Sustainable Development)

Rating	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A7	A8	A9	A10	A11	A12	A13	A14	A15	Total
Strongly agree	33	11	50	45	36	47	28	36	36	26	46	29	23	40	43	529
Moderately agree	20	11	19	18	16	21	29	26	24	28	25	29	36	25	15	342
Neutral	13	7	8	11	15	7	14	12	13	22	4	19	16	11	13	185
Moderately disagree	4	7	2	0	6	1	6	2	3	1	4	1	5	4	5	51
Strongly disagree	11	45	2	7	8	5	4	5	5	4	2	3	1	1	5	108
TOTAL	81	81	81	81	81	81	81	81	81	81	81	81	81	81	81	1215

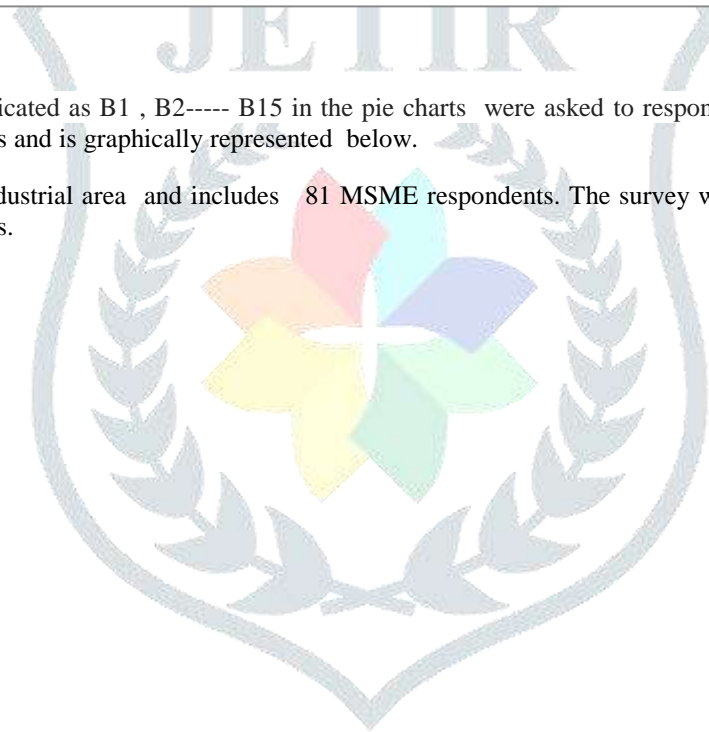
Awareness on Sustainable Development

■ Strongly agree ■ Moderately agree ■ Neutral ■ Moderately disagree ■ Strongly disagree



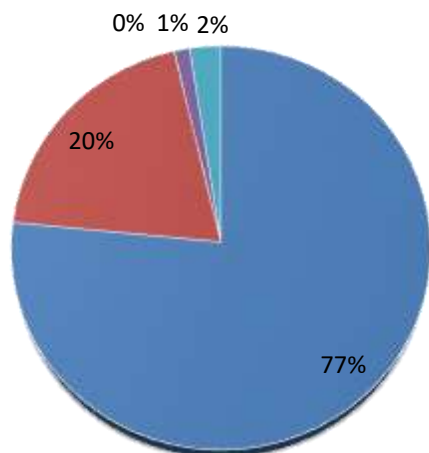
The following 15 questions indicated as B1, B2----- B15 in the pie charts were asked to respondent for section B on Sustainable Development Concerns and Issues and is graphically represented below.

Survey carried out in Peenya Industrial area and includes 81 MSME respondents. The survey was part B towards the Sustainable Development Concerns and Issues.

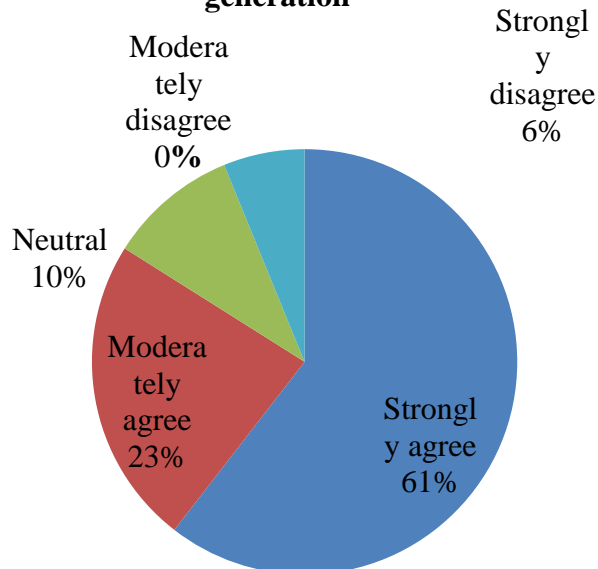


B1. Workers and Staff should ensure that their area of work, unit and its surroundings are clean.

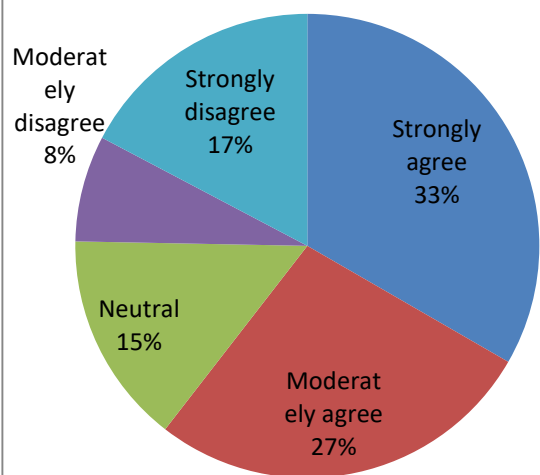
- Strongly agree
- Moderately agree
- Neutral
- Moderately disagree
- Strongly disagree



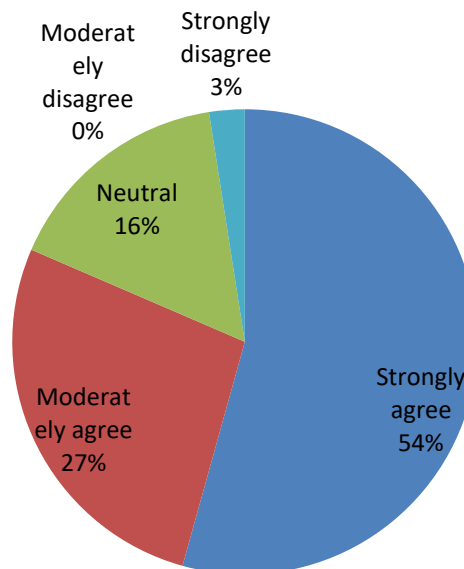
B2. Workers and Staff must be made aware that using more resources than they need during production is a serious threat to the health and welfare of future generation



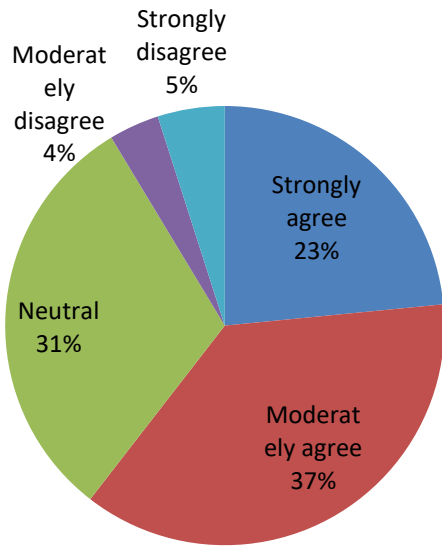
B3. Laws and rules to protect the environment need not be stricter than they are now because it will slow down growth.



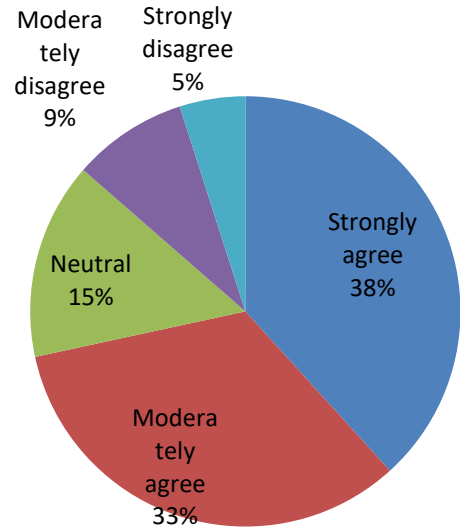
B4. Green energy must be used by the industry and is an important aspect for Sustainable development.



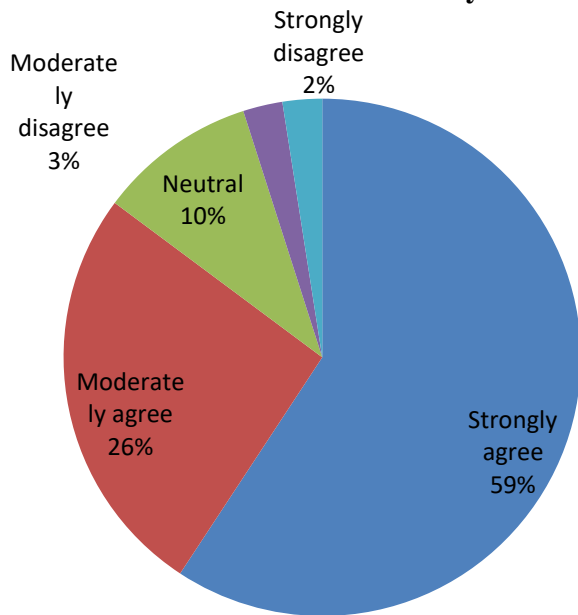
B5. Sustainable development in India will not be possible until industries use bio gas and bio gas energy generation systems.



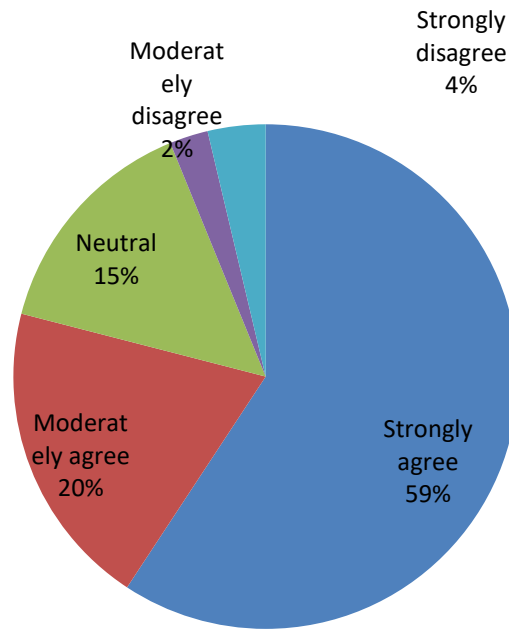
B6. Workers and Staff knows are following Sustainable practices In their personal routine.



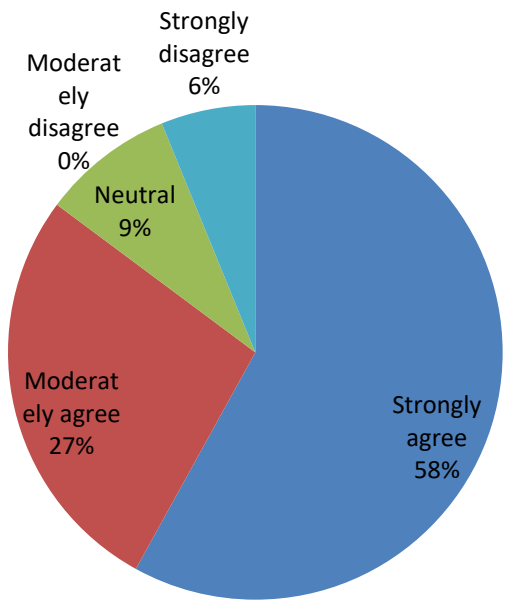
B7. The government should initiate programs that encourage companies to make products that are environment friendly.



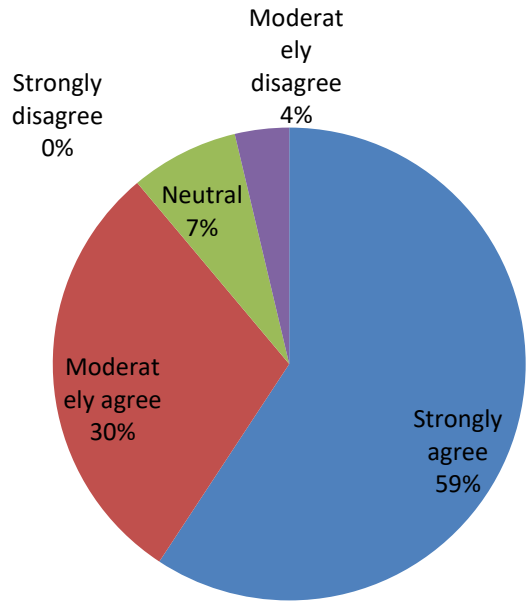
B8. Tax benefits should be given to companies that are environmentally responsible.



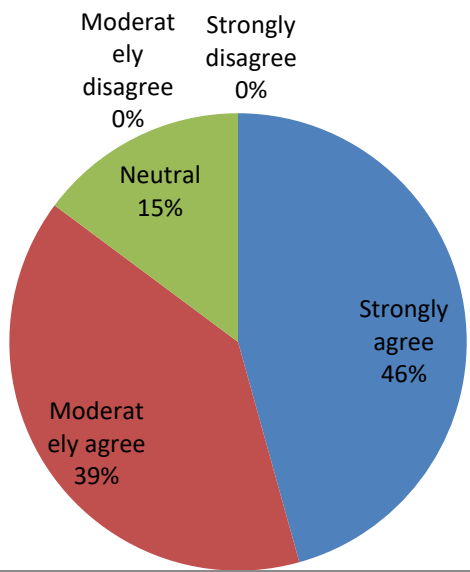
B9. Sustainable development requires that Industries install rain water harvesting and water recycling systems.



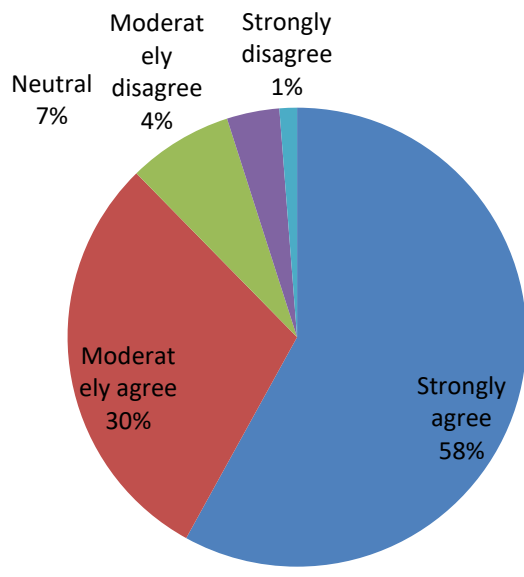
B10. The training program on Sustainable should be imparted to all staff and workers.



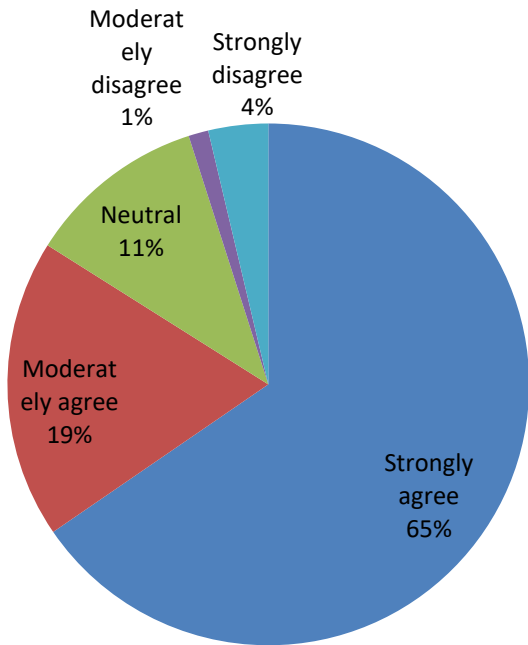
B11. Industry must encourage in increasing and maintaining biodiversity in their plant and surroundings.



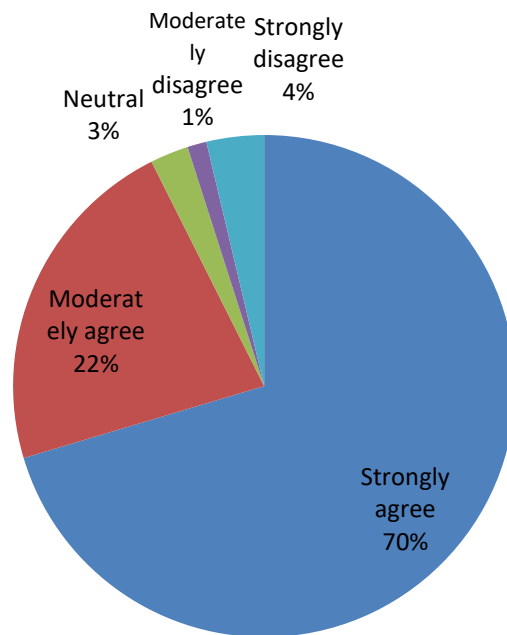
B12. Renewable resources should be used for production such as solar and wind power.



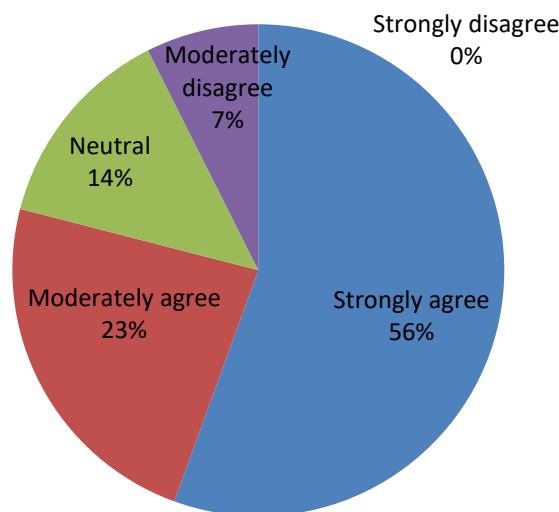
B13.To make India less polluted country Government must give additional incentive for installing pollution control systems



B14. The Schools/ Colleges/ Universities must encouraged to educating Industry on Sustainable development.

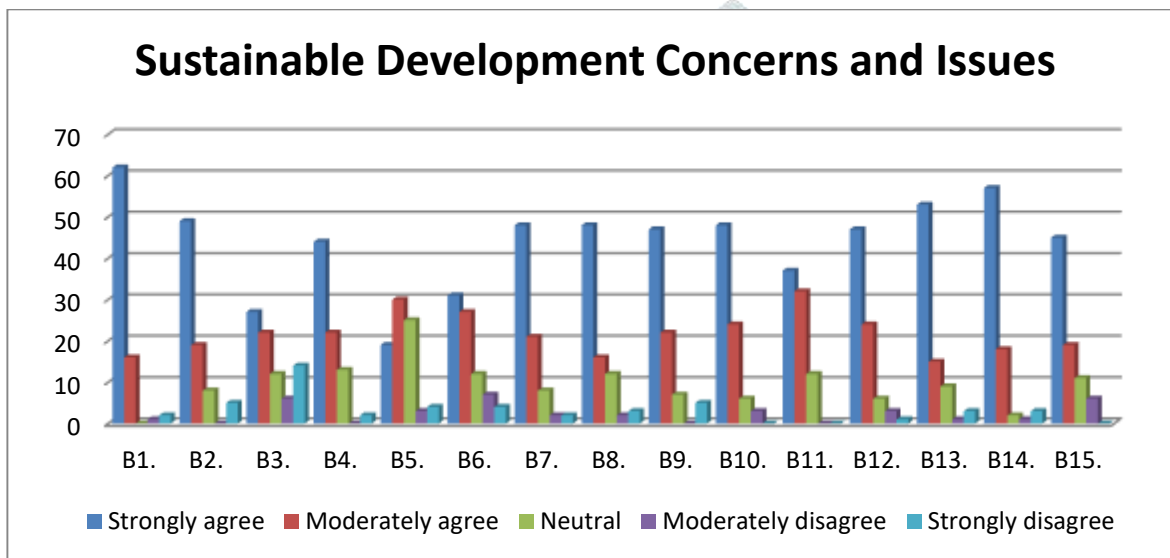


B15.Industry must install Solid waste processing systems to contribute in Sustainable development.



Frequency of Part B on Sustainable Development Concerns and Issues

Rating	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6	B7	B8	B9	B10	B11	B12	B13	B14	B15	Total
Strongly agree	62	49	27	44	19	31	48	48	47	48	37	47	53	57	45	662
Moderately agree	16	19	22	22	30	27	21	16	22	24	32	24	15	18	19	327
Neutral	0	8	12	13	25	12	8	12	7	6	12	6	9	2	11	143
Moderately disagree	1	0	6	0	3	7	2	2	0	3	0	3	1	1	6	35
Strongly disagree	2	5	14	2	4	4	2	3	5	0	0	1	3	3	0	48
TOTAL	81	81	81	81	81	81	81	81	81	81	81	81	81	81	81	1215



Findings On Awareness on Sustainable Development (Part A)

1. 69% of the respondents agree that planting more of trees will help in the Sustainable development and minimizes the pollution emitted from the Industries.
2. 68% of the Respondent agrees that to help the Sustainable development Recycling process for the Scrap must be made mandatory in all the factories.
3. 88 % of respondents agree that renewable energy to be used, and industry must install an automatic Cut off timers for all the machines to save power.
4. 58% of respondents agree that by minimizing the plastics in packaging of products in industry is good idea for controlling the pollution and improving Sustainable Development.
5. 65% of respondents agree that Solid waste has reached an alarming dimension in industries.
6. 60% of respondents agree consumption of non- degradable material should be avoided in the production
7. More than half of total respondents agree that Sustainable watch agency is a must in every industry to be established to ensure sustainable development cause.
8. More than half of total respondents believe that main reason for climate change is economic development and unplanned growth of industries. Therefore changes in the policies are needed.
9. More than 54% of employees are aware that sustainable transport plan by vendor must be a decision factor while finalizing transporter, and all vendors or suppliers must have sustainability plan in place before given an order.
10. 59% of employees agree that conservation of water is important because it is not abundance as a resource. Therefore water is very much needed to preserve.
11. 53% of respondents believe that Sustainable development means that planet is capable of handling development to create more wealth for people.

Finding On Sustainable Development Concerns and issues (Part B)

1. 78% of the total respondents ensure that their area of work and unit and their surrounding must be clean
2. 75% of respondents believe that the sustainable development is possible by education therefore awareness about Sustainable development must be taught to students at Schools, Colleges and University.
3. 68% of respondents agrees that to make India less polluted and to control of pollution generated by the industries there should be additional incentives given by the Government for Installation of Pollution Control Systems.
4. 58% of respondents agrees that the workers and staff must be made aware that using more resources than they need during production is a serious threat to the health and welfare of future generation, therefore modern technologies can be used to minimize the wastages and use of renewable energy for production such as solar and wind power .Rain water harvesting and water recycling systems must be installed in the plant.
5. 64% says that the industry must also install solid waste processing systems to contribute in Sustainable development. And green energy must be used by industries which is required for the Sustainable development.
6. 69% of respondents say that industry must encourage in increasing and maintaining biodiversity in their plant and in their surroundings. Workers should know the sustainable practices in their personal routine.
7. More than half of total respondents agree there should be support from the government to initiate programmes that encourage companies to produce environment friendly products. Government should provide tax benefits to the companies who are environmentally responsible and training the staff and worker on Sustainable development.
8. Government rules and laws towards the environmental should to strict to safeguard the environment effectively.
9. 68% of respondents agree that Sustainable development in India will not be possible until industries use bio gas and bio gas energy generation system. It is not only the use of bio gas energy system but also implementation of many new techniques to minimizes wastages and recycling, reducing harmful products like plastics in packages and use of renewable resources cab support the cause of Sustainable development.

Conclusion

From the above data analysis and findings we conclude that most of the MSMEs are aware of the Sustainable Development and many of them are aware of sustainable development issues and possible solutions . The awareness does exist for sustainable development among the MSMEs.

From the above analysis we come to conclude that MSME agree that green energy must be used by the industry. MSMEs also agree that pollution control system ,rain water harvesting systems and water recycling and solid waste processing systems must be installed to achieve sustainable development in the economy..

Suggestions:

It is established through this research that MMSME sector is aware about sustainable development. MSME sector also have fairly good knowledge about concern and issues related to sustainable development . A separate research study will be required to identify what percentage of the MSME units follow sustainable development processes and practices.

It is suggested that government at central , state and local level must incentivize industries which follow sustainable development practices. The incentive can be in terms of tax breaks, cash subsidies for installing sustainable development processes and practices.

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