

**STUDIES IN RELATION TO MANAGEMENT OF RESOURCES FOR MUSHROOM PRODUCTION TO ENHANCE INCOME AND NUTRITION INTAKE OF PEOPLE LIVING IN SLUMS OF INDIA.** Bindra Ban V., Kumar S. Institute of Home Economics, University of Delhi, South Extension-1, New Delhi-110049, India.

There are about 930 slum bastis all over Delhi where about 15 lakh people reside today. It is important to evolve a rural development approach by technological empowerment of the resource poor. Growing oyster mushroom is an ideal income generating activity for landless women and rural youth. Availability of cheap raw material, low initial investment, simple technology and limited space requirement makes it a worth while proposition. In spite of their poor education and social pressures the trainees absorbed the process of cultivation and post harvest process very well and acquired the knowledge of this agricultural activity. They could consume the product and sell it in the nearby market. The substrate for cultivation could easily be gathered from the local fruit market as it is used in packing material. Therefore, mushroom growing could be well internalised within the daily routine of the family work. In this development effort the emphasis has been on economic development along with improvement in the quality of life of rural people therefore, our goal should not be only to initiate a process of economic development but also a process which will improve the quality of life through an integrated effort. Thus an integrated process involving the identification of technologies which are economically viable, environmentally compatible and socially equitable and adapting them to specific socio economic conditions of the participants; internalising the technology through on production training; enabling to transfer the technology into production and also facilitating production by ensuring the supply of inputs and the marketing of outputs is the need of the hour.