

## **Use of Commercial and Non-commercial Fuels for Household Activities in the Panchrukhi Block of Himachal Pradesh**

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**KEYWORDS** Commercial. Non-commercial. Energy Farming. Non-farming

**ABSTRACT** The present study was conducted on the consumption of energy on 120 women in two villages of Panchrukhi block of Himachal Pradesh. A self-structured interview schedule was prepared and administered on the respondent. Women were found to be mainly responsible for performing various household activities. The maximum energy was spent on meal preparation and service. The most commonly used rural cooking units were found to be ordinary chullah, smokeless chullah and kerosene stove. The total energy consumption was found to be 312.71 and 390.95 MJ per day per household in farming and non-farming families respectively. The main fuel used was firewood followed by agricultural/forest waste and dung cakes. The findings of the study revealed that a large amount of non-commercial energy is being used in rural homes, the homemakers can be made aware of the importance of conserving this energy by using non-conventional energy sources like solar energy and biogas.