
A Review of Environmental Awareness: Exploring its Relationship with Environmental Behavior and Environmental Protection

Mrs. Kirti Sharma¹ & Dr. Deepti Kumari²

¹Assistant Professor, Department of Education, NSN PG College, Lucknow

²Assistant Professor, Institute of Education, Bundelkhand University, Jhansi

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Abstract

Environment includes all living and non-living objects. We live in the environment and use the environmental resources like air, land and water to meet our needs. We use environmental resources in our day-to-day life. These resources are renewable and non-renewable. If we use any environmental resources such as ground water beyond its limit of replacement, we may lose it forever. 'Vasudhaiv Kutumbkam' is the indigenous concept important to the civilization living on planet Earth. Now today onwards the existence of planet Earth is on back counting. What left to us to begin with is the breath of the environmental awareness, among the population basically the young generation. Without spreading environmental awareness, we cannot Passover the development across generation. Therefore, there is a need to create awareness about Environmental protection.

Keywords- Environment, Environmental Awareness, Environmental Behavior, Environmental protection.

Introduction

Environment always remained the center of curiosity among civilizations along Vedic eras passing through Puranic, Upanishad, Ancient, Medieval, Modern and up to present postmodern stage. Need to generate awareness regarding environmental protection equally runs through parallel historical journey. The ongoing journey today feeling injured due to irrational, illogical, brutal and uncivilized exploitation of natural resources to achieve individual and institutional greed.

A lot of literature available attending the issue of environmental awareness attaching a particular target group or jointly as well.

M. S. Taat, E. F. Charlie, F. H. Saikim (2018), The Influence of Interpretation, Commitment and Nature Conservation Knowledge on Pro-Conservation Behavior Among Malaysian Students. Human behavior has caused negative impact on our environment. The exploration, exploitation and destruction of our planet occurred merely to satisfy the desires of human being. Thus, to sustain a better future particularly in terms of healthy lifestyles and maintain environmental sustainability, the human behavior towards conservation must be changed. Therefore, this quantitative research involved secondary students in order to identify and explore the level and influence of students' interpretation, commitment, knowledge and pro conservation behavior. The respondent consists of 500 students from selected urban secondary schools in Sabah, Malaysia. Questionnaire adapted from previous researches was the instrument used to collect the data. Descriptive and inferential statistics were used to analyze the data. The results revealed that there was significance influence of student's knowledge and commitment on pro-conservation behavior. The research findings revealed that the students' interpretation, commitment, nature conservation knowledge and their behavior were important and needed more attention from various parties in order to develop their lifelong attitude towards environment and biodiversity conservation. Hence, the environmental organizations need to design and organize a lot of

conservation programs in schools in order to promote conservation and build positive impact on the students' behavior towards environment and biodiversity conservation.

Anju Gupta (2018), A Comparative Study of Environmental Awareness in Rural and Urban Pupil-Teachers through Social sites and Traditional Methods. The above research is about the comparative study of environmental awareness in low and high SES rural and urban pupil teachers through social sites and traditional method. Post environmental awareness is found high comparative of pre environment awareness. High SES, low SES, urban/rural pupil –teachers environmental awareness is high by social sites comparison to traditional method but in case of rural pupil-teachers low SES pupil-teachers are more aware by traditional method comparative to social sites. So we can't solely depend upon the social sites for developing environmental awareness. It can prove a helping hand to traditional method.

Sujit Bordhan (2017), A study on the environmental awareness among secondary school students in a district of Assam. The present investigation reveals the level of Environmental Awareness of Secondary School students in a district of Assam based on gender, locale of study and medium of instruction. Random sampling was used to select 158 secondary school students from Kamrup (Metro) District, Assam. Normative survey method was used for the present investigation. Environmental Awareness Scale constructed and validated by the investigator was used. Calculation of means and standard deviations and test of significance. Total scores of environmental awareness stood at a low level (<50). Girls' environmental awareness was greater than boys, urban students' awareness greater than rural students and Assamese medium students' awareness greater than English medium students. Environmental education, a process for increasing environmental knowledge and awareness is essential for the future of this world. This study evaluates awareness about the environment among students to remedy lacunae in existing situation.

Harpreet Kaur¹ and Ramandeep Kaur (2017), Study of Environmental Awareness among Adolescents in Relation to their Scientific Attitude. The study examined environmental awareness among adolescents in relation to their scientific attitude. The sample in the study was 482 adolescents from schools of S.A.S. Nagar, Sangur & Mansa and were selected randomly. The descriptive statistics such as mean, median, mode, S.D., skewness, kurtosis and ANOVA were used to analyse the data. The results revealed that there was no significant mean difference in environmental awareness in relation to gender and caste but location had significant effect on environmental awareness among adolescents. Environmental awareness was positively and significantly correlated with scientific attitude in total group and in sub-groups such as male group, female group, rural adolescents, urban adolescent, in Schedule caste (SC) and among general category adolescents. The correlation between environmental awareness and scientific attitude among was positive but not significant among Backward class (BC) adolescents.

Vinit Kumar, K. Yadav, N. Gupta, N Gautam, . S. Vishwakarma (2016), Examining environmental education and awareness among girls in higher secondary schools: A case study of Jhansi city, U.P., India. The present study attempts to study the level of environmental education and awareness among higher secondary students of different colleges of Jhansi city. A questionnaire was distributed to 803 students constituted 295 of IX standard, 205 of X standard, 143 of XI standard and 160 of XII standard. The questionnaire was based on various elements of environment. The data was collected and analyzed statistically by using "One-way ANOVA." Level of knowledge among different group of students was significant. The students of higher standard had more knowledge as compared to the preceding one. The status of environmental education and awareness was found not satisfactory as the student advances in next class, their age and mental level of

understanding also improves and there is an immediate need to start awareness program for students and teachers as well.

Sharma, (2015), A Study on Environmental Awareness of College Students in Relation to Sex, Rural-Urban Background and Academic Streams Wise. The pristine environment was so pure, virgin, undisturbed, uncontaminated and quite hospitable for all life form to exist. Man for the first time in his entire cultural history is facing one of the most horrible problems i.e., of ecological crisis. Though the destruction of environment in the past may be excused from the point of view of ignorance but it can't be now. Therefore, the environmental education is socially more relevant today than the past. There is an urgent need for new approach to environment which cuts across barriers of class, color, creed and nationality. Everybody has to contribute its share for protection of environment before it is too late. In the present research paper, an attempt has been made to assess the environmental awareness of students of Govt. Degree College Dharmshala Himachal Pradesh.

Srivastava (2015), A study of impact of literature on the Environmental Awareness at B.ED. level. Bhopal Disaster of 1984, who sounded the wake-up call for India to take note of the crisis situation and realize the need of environmental awareness and education at all levels of the society. Therefore, National policy on Education (NPE, 1986) emphasizes thus, "There is a paramount need to create a consciousness of the environmental. It must permeate all ages and all sections of society beginnings with the child. Environmental consciousness should inform teaching in the schools and colleges. This aspect will be integrated in the entire educational process". National Curriculum Framework for Teacher Education, National Council for Teacher Education, 2009, emphasized the critical importance of environmental education at all levels. Keeping these policies along with recommendations and role of educational institutions for the formation of the destiny of India (highlighted by Education Commission, 1964-66), we cannot deny their importance. Well infrastructure, well organized institution, proper equipped labs, library and games facilities, all of these play a vital role in the grooming and development of a student. Library is called the heart of an institution and its literature has significant impact on environment awareness on the dimensions air pollution, Water pollution Soil pollution, noise pollution and environment- friendly habits, we get significant difference between boys and girls readers in their awareness regarding water pollution.

N. Kaur (2015), Study of Environmental Awareness among senior secondary school students in relation to their Gender and Academic Stream. Since its evolution environment has remained both a matter of awe and concern to man. The frontier attitude of the industrialized society towards nature has not only endangered the survival of all other life forms but also threatened the very existence of human life. The realization of such potential danger has necessitated the dissemination of knowledge and skill vis-a-vis environment protection at all stages of learning. Therefore, learners of all stages of learning need to be sensitized with a missionary zeal. This may ensure transformation of students into committed citizens for averting global environment crisis. The advancement of science and technology made the life more and more relaxed and man also became more and more ambitious. With such development, human dependence on environment increased. He consumed more resources and the effect of his activities on the environment became more and more detectable. Environment covers all the things present around the living beings and above the land, on the surface of the earth and under the earth. Environment indicates, in total, all of peripheral forces, pressures and circumstances, which affect the life, nature, behavior, growth, development and maturation of living beings. Irrational exploitation (not utilization) of natural resources for our greed (not need) has endangered our survival, and incurred incalculable harm. Environmental Education is a science, a well thought, permanent,

lasting and integrated process of equipping learning experiences for getting awareness, knowledge, understanding, skills, values, technical expertise and involvement of learners with desirable attitudinal changes about their relationship with their natural and biophysical environment. Environmental Education is an organized effort to educate the masses about environment.

R. Reddy (2022), Environmental Awareness and Attitude among Secondary School Students. Environment refers to the surrounding areas of any form of life and it is more pertinent with regard to human beings. The environmental education is connected formidably with nature and it consists of both inorganic (water, air, minerals, land etc) and organic substances (microbes, animals, plants, birds etc). The environmental degradation which has been the culmination of mindless usage of natural resources, unrelenting growth of population and controlled industrialization, uninhibited urbanization and putting science and technology to bad use has resulted in the looming environmental crisis. In order to protect the environment from further damage it is highly essential that awareness must be imparted to the people with the help of education for making them know about the environmental degradation that is taking place and which is going to put all forms of life in quandary. Objectives of the study were to find out the significant differences in the environmental awareness and attitude among the secondary school students due to variation in their gender and community. As a result, it can be understood that there is vast scope for providing orientation, and training programs to the secondary school students for acquire environmental awareness and attitude and to greater extent. Similarly, the government must make efforts to incorporate content pertaining to environmental education in secondary school curriculum.

Conclusion

This study concludes that environmental awareness, behavior and environmental protection among students is good. From the results of this study shows that there is a relationship between gender and origin of students with the environmental awareness. The students feel that protecting the environment is important and it should be performed in their daily life routine. The students show actions to protect the environment by turning off lights, fans, AC etc after being as a form of energy saving, reducing plastic use, using alternatives for plastic such as paper/cloth bag, and participating in environmental activists and programs.

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