

A Study on the Environmental Awareness of Secondary School Students

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Abstract

The purpose of the study is to A Study on the Environmental Awareness of Secondary School Students. The sample of the present study includes 200 secondary school students from Bagalkot District using stratified random sampling techniques. Descriptive survey method was adopted. The findings concluded that; i) The boy students of government aided, aided secondary schools have different attitude towards environmental awareness scores; ii) The boy students of aided secondary schools have higher attitude towards environmental awareness scores as compared to boy students of government and unaided secondary schools; iii) The girl students of aided, unaided and government secondary schools have different attitude towards environmental awareness scores; iv) The girl students from aided and unaided school have higher attitude towards environment awareness scores, that the student of government schools; v) The girl students of unaided secondary schools have higher attitude towards environmental awareness scores as compared to girl students of aided secondary schools; vi) The girl students of unaided secondary schools have higher attitude towards environmental awareness scores as compared to girl students of government secondary schools.

Keywords : *Environmental awareness, Secondary school students*

Introduction

The present educational ladder has its background in the 19th century. Lord Macaulay, the first education minister presented the ladder though it was incomplete, later it was completed by the **Wood's dispatch** in 1854. According to it, there are three fundamental stages of education.

- The primary stage
- The secondary stage (or) the high school stage
- The university stage

At present in India, this three tier system is followed with exceptions in some states like Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka where the four tier system is still in vogue.

Word "environment" is most commonly used describing "natural" environment and means the sum of all living and non-living things that surround an organism, or group of organisms. Enrollment includes all elements. Factors, and conditions that have some impact on growth and development of certain organism. Environment includes both biotic and a biotic factors that have influence on observed organism. A biotic factor such as light, temperature,

water, atmospheric gases combine with biotic factors (all surrounding living species). Environment often changes after some time and therefore many organisms have ability to adapt to these changes. However tolerance range is not the same with all species and exposure to environmental conditions at the limit of an certain organism's tolerance range represents environmental stress.

Environmentalism is very important political and social movement with goal to protect nature environment by emphasizing importance of nature role in protection of the environment in combination with various actions and policies oriented to nature preservation. Environmentalism is movement connected with environmental scientists and many of their goals. Some of these goals include:

1. To reduce world consumption of fossil fuels
2. To reduce and clean up all sorts of pollution (air, sea, river...) with future goal of zero pollution
3. emphasis on clean, alternative energy sources that have low carbon emissions
4. sustainable use of water, land, and other scarce resources
5. preservation of existing endangered species
6. protection of biodiversity

First goal reducing the world consumption of fossil fuels is very important to fight against climate change and global warming phenomenon. Fossil (non renewable) fuels are mainly responsible for global warming as during the combustion of fossil fuels carbon dioxide (one of the greenhouse gases) gets released into the atmosphere. In fact reducing the emission of carbon dioxide is the most important thing if we want to successfully fight global warming.

Reducing and cleaning up pollution is also very important task. Every day we hear the news about tremendous pollution of our air, seas, rivers. Pollution creates unhealthy environment, and often causes many health problems and different diseases. Third goal is cry obvious. World needs a lot of energy and if we want to reduce the use of fossil fuels then we should have some other alternative energy sources to satisfy world energetic needs. These alternative energy sources such as wind energy, solar power and hydro energy, have all great potential, and are also ecologically acceptable. However their use is still negligent on global scale and fossil fuels are still dominant energy sources. Water is precious but also scarce resource that needs to be prerecord for future generations. Sustainable use of water, land and other resources is extinct in the last 50 years or so, Preservation of endangered species is important to number of ecosystems and to protect biodiversity of our planet. Biodiversity is very important in enabling the life on earth since all species are connected in perfectly balanced circle, each with their very own role. Humans are not owners of this circle but only one small part that needs even the smallest parts of this circle for its proper functioning. However we seem to be forgetting this more often than not.

Environmental Awareness:

The importance of environmental awareness cannot be over emphasized. We must understand that to improve the environment is to improve the quality of life. It is not only a question of air and water pollution. It includes elimination of disease, hunger, malnutrition and poverty, destruction of forests, extermination of wildlife, erosion of soil and accumulation of waste. Hence there is urgent need for proper management of the environment.

There has been worldwide concern over environmental pollution. In Kenya in order to encourage children to nurture and appreciate the environment, a program for planting a tree for every child on birthdays has been adopted. It is not to say those modern times. India is one of the countries of the world of which the Constitution emphasizes the need for the protection and careful use of natural resources. Article 48 (A) States that the state shall endeavor to protect and improve the environment to safeguard the forest and wildlife in the country. Besides, Article 51 (A) (G) requires protection and improvement of the natural environment including forests, lakes, rivers and wildlife India has firmly committed itself in its constitutional laws and regulations to protecting and improving the natural environment.

The environment Protection Act, Passed by the parliament during its monsoon session in 1986, formally came into force form 19 November 1986. The main hurdle in protecting the environment in India today is that there is a lack of scientific knowledge and the will to act. Society needs to be convinced of the importance of environment and we have to realize the fact that the way we live today will determine out future. As the problem is one of the people, for the people and by the people a proper understanding and support of the people will go a long way in carrying out anti pollution measures. Mr. R. Venkata Raman, a former president of India, while inaugurating the second International Conference on Environment Education at New Delhi on 4 March, 1986 suggested the introduced of environment education form the primary school level to imbibe a true love for nature in children and to bring an awareness of renewable natural resources land use patterns and soil conservation to the students.

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. Development also means meeting the needs of the people. While meeting the ever-growing needs, we put pressure on the environment. When the pressure exceeds the carrying capacity of the I environment to repair or replace itself, it creates a serious problem of environmental. Degradation. If we use any environmental resource such as ground

water beyond its limit of replacement, we may lose it forever. Therefore, there is a need to create awareness about Environmental protection. While efforts are being made at the national and international level to protect our environment, it is also the responsibility of every citizen to use our environmental resources with care and protect them from degradation. In this lesson we will discuss the meaning and causes of environmental degradation and the importance of environmental conservation.

After studying this lesson, the learner will be able to

- Explain the concept of environmental degradation;
- Identify various factors causing environmental degradation;
- Recognize the growing awareness about Environmental degradation;
- Explain the concept of sustainable development ;
- Recognize the national and international commitment to the protection of Environment

Objectives of the Study

1. Study the difference between boy students of government, aided and unaided secondary schools with respect to attitude towards environmental awareness.
2. Study the difference between girl students of government, aided and unaided secondary schools with respect to attitude towards environmental awareness.

Hypotheses

- Hypothesis: 1 there is no significant difference between boys students of government, aided and unaided secondary schools with respect to attitude towards environmental awareness.
- Hypothesis: 2 there is no significant difference between girls students of government, aided and unaided secondary schools with respect to attitude towards environmental awareness.

Methodology

The present study was mainly aimed to **Study of Personal Adjustment in Relation to Study Habits of High School Students.** In order to collect data descriptive survey method of research was followed.

Sample

In the present study the researcher draws a sample of 240 secondary school students from Bagalkot District using random sampling techniques.

Tools

Environmental Protection Tool

Statistical Techniques

ANOVA-test

Analysis and Interpretation

Hypothesis: 1 there is no significant difference between boys students of government, aided and unaided secondary schools with respect to attitude towards environmental awareness.

To achieve this hypothesis, the one way ANOVA test was applied and the results are presented in the following table.

Table 1: Results of ANOVA-test between male students of government, aided and unaided secondary schools with respect to attitude towards environmental awareness

Source of variation	Degree of freedom	Sum of squares	Mean sum of squares	F-value	P-value	Significance
Between management	2	181.99	90.99	3.5736	<0.05	S
Within management	119	3030.06	25.46			
Total	121	3212.04				

From the results of the above table, it can be seen that, the boys students of government, aided and unaided secondary schools differ significantly with

respect to attitude towards environmental awareness the f-Value (3.5736) greater than the tabled value higher than the students of unaided schools at 5% level of significance. Hence, the null hypothesis is rejected and alternative hypothesis is accepted. It means that, the boys students of government aided, aided secondary schools have different attitude towards environmental awareness scores.

If F is significant to know the pair wise comparisons of boys students of government, aided and unaided secondary schools by applying the Tukeys multiple post hoc procedures and the results are presented in the following table.

Table 2: Pair wise comparison of male students of aided, unaided and government secondary schools with respect to attitude towards environmental awareness by Tukeys multiple post hoc procedures.

Management	Government	Aided	Unaided
Mean	82.2593	82.5500	79.8800
SD	4.8405	5.1858	5.0803
Aided	-		
Unaided	0.9793	-	
Government	0.0441*	0.0937	-

*p<0.05

Interpretation

From the results of the above table, it can be seen that, the boys students of government and aided secondary schools differ significantly with respect to attitude towards environmental awareness scores at 5% level of significance. It means that, the boys students of aided secondary schools have higher attitude towards environmental awareness scores as compared to boys students of government and unaided secondary schools.

Hypothesis: 2 There is no significant difference between girls students of government, aided and unaided secondary schools with respect to attitude towards environmental awareness.

To achieve this hypothesis, the one way ANOVA test was applied and the results are presented in the following table.

Table 3: Results of ANOVA-test between Girls students of aided, unaided and government secondary schools with respect to attitude towards environmental awareness

Source of variation	Degree of freedom	Sum of squares	Mean sum of squares	F-value	P-value	Significance
Between managements	2	319.02	159.51	8.5542	<0.05	S
Within managements	175	3263.21	18.65			
Total	177	3582.22				

From the result of the above table, it can be seen that, the girls student of aided, unaided and government secondary schools differ significantly with respect to attitude towards environmental awareness The F-Value (8.5542) is grater then tabled value at 0.05 1. Level of significant Hence, the null hypothesis is rejected and alternative hypothesis is accepted it can be interpreted that, the girl students of aided, unaided and government secondary schools have different attitude towards environmental awareness scores.

The girls study students from aided and unaided school have higher attitude towards environment awareness scores, that the student of government schools.

If F is significant to know the pair wise comparisons of female students of aided, unaided and government secondary schools by applying the Tukeys multiple post hoc procedures and the results are presented in the following table.

Table 4: Pair wise comparison of female students of aided, unaided and government secondary schools with respect to attitude towards environmental awareness by Tukeys multiple post hoc procedures.

Management	Aided	Unaided	Government
Mean	82.4590	84.7860	81.3470
SD	3.4717	4.4587	4.8281
Aided	-		
Unaided	0.0197*	-	
Government	0.2938	0.0001*	-

*p<0.05

Interpretation

From the results of the above table, it can be intermitted that,

1. The girl students of aided and unaided secondary schools differ significantly with respect to attitude towards environmental awareness scores at 5% level of significance. It means that, the girl students of unaided secondary schools have higher attitude towards environmental awareness scores as compared to female students of aided secondary schools.
2. The girls students of unaided and government secondary schools differ significantly with respect to attitude towards environmental awareness scores at 5% level of significance. It means that, the girl students of unaided secondary schools have higher attitude towards environmental awareness scores as compared to female students of government secondary schools.

Discussion and Conclusion

In this study, the researcher aimed to Study on the Environmental Awareness of Secondary School Students. From the analysis report, it is concluded that, i) The boy students of government aided, aided secondary schools have different attitude towards environmental awareness scores; ii) The boy students of aided secondary schools have higher attitude towards environmental awareness scores as compared to boy students of government and unaided secondary schools; iii) The girl students of aided, unaided and government secondary schools have different attitude towards environmental awareness scores; iv) The girl students from aided and unaided school have higher attitude towards environment awareness scores, that the student of government schools; v) The girl students of unaided secondary schools have higher attitude towards environmental awareness scores as compared to girl students of aided secondary schools; vi) The girl students of unaided secondary schools have higher attitude towards environmental awareness scores as compared to girl students of government secondary schools.

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