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Behaviour and outlooks towards environmental issues

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study is to gather baseline data on the level of environmental behaviour and outlook of junior science college student in Bidar, District of Karnataka. A sample of 200 (both male and female) was selected and behaviour and outlook scales were administrated. Accordingly the data were subjected to statistical analysis. Results were clearly indicated there is a significant difference observed between rural and urban college students towards environmental issues and also male students have most environmental behaviour and outlook rather than female students.

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KEYWORDS

Statistical;
Behaviour;
Outlook;
Scales;
Students.

INTRODUCTION

The major environmental problems that the world currently faces such as deforestation, loss of biodiversity, ozone depletion, global climate change, pollution and over-consumption of natural resources directly impacts our ability to develop economically while at the same time sustaining the health of people as well as plants and animals. As clearly as the 1972 United Nations Conference of the Environment held in Stockholm, environmental awareness has been a priority of the international community who recognized that economic security and development is directly tied to the healthy of the environment. As a result of directives from the Stockholm Conference, from which the declaration of the United Nations Conference of the human Environment was created, the Intergovernmental Conference of the Human Environmental Education was held in Tbilisi, Georgia in 1977 where the

Tbilisi Declaration was adopted. The critical objectives of the Tbilisi Declaration included heightening people's environmental awareness, sensitivity, attitude and concern for the environment, skill and motivation to act for environmental improvement and protection, and participation in solving environmental problems^[1].

Against this background of growing interest in environmental education, a survey was conducted to find out the existing level of environmental behaviour and outlook of sample students in the region of Hyderabad-Karnataka. It is fundamental to know how many students have already been known, how they feel and what their responsibilities regarding environmental issues and protection.

The need for such information has been recognized in other countries^[2-6] as it would be useful for better planning, organization and implementation of environmental programmes and projects. In addition, the information can provide educators with some insight

Environmental Policy Analysis

into the curriculum content of environmental education.

Objectives

- (1) This facilitates to resolve the level of environmental behaviour and outlook towards environmental issues.
- (2) To contrast the environmental behaviour and outlook among urban and rural students.
- (3) It shows the deviation if any, between the government and private students environmental behaviour and outlook concerning environmental issues.

Hypothesis

- (1) There is no significant difference in the consciousness and behaviour of urban college students and rural students towards environmental education.
- (2) There is a significant difference between in the consciousness and behaviour of Government and private college students towards environmental education.
- (3) There is no significant difference in the consciousness and behaviour of male and female students towards environmental education.

METHOD

Sample

Randomly 200 college students have been taken as sample for the current study out of which 100 students from urban and rural areas. Further, out of 100 students 50 students government and others private colleges. Again farther 50 students 25 students are male and others are female students.

Tools used for study

- (1) Taj Environmental Attitude Scale by Dr. Hassen Taj, Bangalore.
- (2) Measuring Successes in Environmental Behaviour by Dr. Peggy Green.

Data collection

For present study researcher were collected total sample of 200 P U college students i.e., each 100 students from urban and rural. Again, 50 students male and female were selected in both government and private colleges.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The results were indicated that urban students and rural students exhibited statistically significant difference. The data was analyzed by using statistical *t*-test. It was found that there is a significant difference between the urban and rural college's students ($t = 8.924, 6.671$ $p < 0.01$). So, the null hypothesis 1 is rejected. Urban students have more environmental behaviour and outlook towards environmental issues rather than rural students.

There is a significant difference were exhibited between government and private college students. Under the analysis of statistical *t*-test it was reveals that there is a significant difference exhibited between government and private college student's environmental behaviour and outlook towards environmental issues ($t = 4.623, 3.207$ $p < 0.01$). Hence, the null hypothesis 2 is retained in the study.

Also there was a significant difference were exhibited in both male and female students of the study area. From, statistical *t*-test data it was clear that there is a significant difference observed in male and female student's environmental behaviour and outlook towards environmental issues in the area of research ($t = 3.924, 2.985$ $p < 0.01$). Thus, the null hypothesis 3 was rejected.

FINDINGS

- (1) There is statistically significant difference between rural and urban student's environmental behaviour and outlook towards environmental issues.
- (2) Type of colleges with respective (Government and private) the differences were also noticed with respect to environmental behaviour and outlook towards environmental issues in the area of study.
- (3) There is a significant difference between male and female student's to environmental behaviour and outlook towards environmental issues.

CONCLUSION

Some of the findings in the present study may be of interest to educators and have implications for curriculum development in environmental education in region

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of Hyderabad-Karnataka. The study suggests that though the students sampled had high environmental behaviour scores, there are certain areas in which they were not adequately informed. These and related areas should be especially addressed in the college curriculum. Particular attention should be placed on developing the students' level of factual environmental behaviour which is relatively lower than their understanding of concept and generalizations to protect the environmental issues.

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