

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AWARENESS AMONG SECONDARY SCHOOL TEACHERS

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Abstract--Environment is an indicator of national health. Environment is nothing but everything around us. Humans are utilizing the environmental resources for the benefit of their welfare. Environment, which is under threat locally, nationally and globally and has become the concern of all academicians, intellectuals, scientist, policy makers and government across the continents. Environmental education for environmental awareness is necessary for every humans and will prepare human society to protect the ecological balance. In this research paper researcher had conducted a survey on awareness of environmental education in secondary schools of Maharashtra State. The main objective of this research is to study environmental education awareness among the secondary school teachers. Also the awareness among the male and female teachers. The study is also carried out on Arts and Science stream teachers.

Keywords: Environmental Education, Environmental Education awareness, Secondary School Teachers

I. INTRODUCTION

The term environment has been derived from a French word “*Environ means to surround.*” It refers to both abiotic (physical or non-living) and biotic (living). The word environment means surrounding in which organisms live. Environment and the organisms are the two dynamic and complex component of the nature. Environment regulates life of the organisms including human beings. Human being interact with the environment more vigorously than other living beings. Dum (1982) described environment as everything around as air, water, land, plants, animals and microorganisms. Environment includes biotic and abiotic factors. Abiotic factors are the non-living factors and humidity photoperiod topography etc. Biotic factors are living factors and include species of animal and plants.

In short, environment is an indicator of national health. We utilize the environmental resources for the benefit of the human welfare. The environment is the integration of physical, chemical and biotic factors that have influence on the lives of living organisms in a particular habitat. In summary, it includes all the factors that have effect on the life of organisms (Yucel 2006).

Environmental education for environmental awareness will prepare human society to protect the ecological balance. Environmental education aims at developing in them the knowledge, attitude, skills and communication to protect our nature. Environmental education is nothing but to educate human society to perceive environment in totality.

The Environmental awareness is the reaction that an individual or society faces environmental problems with the acts and thoughts for the protection of the environment in parallel with the development of environmental problems against the problems affecting them. Environmental awareness has emotional & behavioural dimensions. In other words, environmental awareness consists of the thoughts including decisions, principles and interpretations about the environment.

II. REVIEW OF LITERATURE:

The area of research in the field of environmental education is very broad. Many studies have been conducted in India as well as abroad regarding the environmental education programme and curriculum development. Its strategies, status, approaches, interest and attitude but the studies particularly related to awareness of the environmental education are a few. Studies that are done particularly on the school teachers have been highlighted.

Shahnwaz (1990) conducted a study on environmental awareness and environmental attitude of secondary and higher secondary school teachers and students. The study was conducted mainly through a survey method and application of a tool developed by the investigator to test attitude & awareness. It was found that 95% teachers and 94% students possessed positive environmental attitude. The environmental trained teachers & untrained teachers did not differ in their attitude. Teachers had more awareness of the environment than the students. Girls possessed significantly more awareness of the environment than the boys.

Patel D.G. and Patel N.A.(1995) has investigated into the environmental awareness and its enhancement in the secondary school teachers. A sample of 100 secondary school teachers was selected randomly from a large sample. The data obtained was analysed statistically by ANOVA technique. It was found that there was a significant effect of environmental awareness programme as a whole treatment on environment awareness of the teachers of experimental group. There was no significant difference in the mean score of environmental awareness possessing high and low experience of the teachers. There was no significant interaction between independent factors of environmental awareness programme and experience upon the environmental awareness of teachers.

Dr. Umesh Chandra Kapri (2017) conducted a study of attitude and awareness of pupil teacher towards environmental pollution. The study was conducted mainly through a survey method and the application of a tool (EAAM) developed by Praveen Jha and 'Environmental pollution Attitude Scale' developed by Dr. M. Rajamanickam. A sample of 120 pupil Teachers was selected randomly. It was found that majority of the pupil teacher of the teacher education colleges were found to be aware about environmental pollution. A significant difference was found between the male and female pupil teacher with reference to the environmental awareness. The female pupil teachers were found to be more aware than the male pupil teachers towards environmental problems. The male pupil teachers were found to be significantly more positive than female pupil teachers towards environmental pollution.

After reviewing the related literature it is conducted that several efforts to know environmental education awareness have been made. Generally these attempts had been done at the school level taking into consideration students, teachers and even parents. The result highlighted the influence of various factors like subject, sex, age different level of students and teachers, region of residence, educational qualification and experience, income, occupation, political view, caste etc. on the awareness towards environmental education.

III. OBJECTIVES

- i. To study the basic concepts of environment and environmental awareness.
- ii. To study the environmental education awareness of the secondary school teachers.
- iii. To study the environmental education awareness among Arts and Science secondary school teachers.
- iv. To study the environmental education awareness among male and female secondary school teachers.

IV. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The present study attempt to describe current situation among secondary school teachers. Thus the survey method of research was the most suitable type for this study. A sample of 50 teachers was selected from five different schools of Nashik District of Maharashtra state. There were 30 teachers from Arts stream and 20 teachers from Science stream.

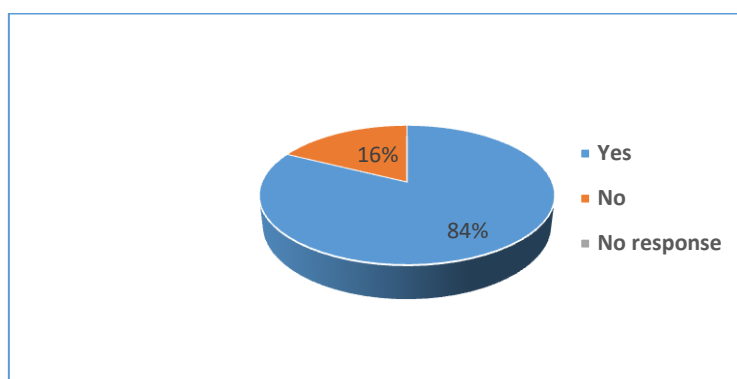
Researcher has prepared the questionnaire for the teachers. The questionnaire distributed to respondents of selected schools. The questionnaire collected from the respondents for the data analysis. The data analysis and interpretation is carried out by researchers through the data analytical tool. The analysed data is represented in tabular and graphical form.

V. DATA ANALYSIS & INTERPRETATION

The researcher has collected the data from respondents and represented in tabular form.

Table No.1 Basic Concepts of Environment and Environmental Education

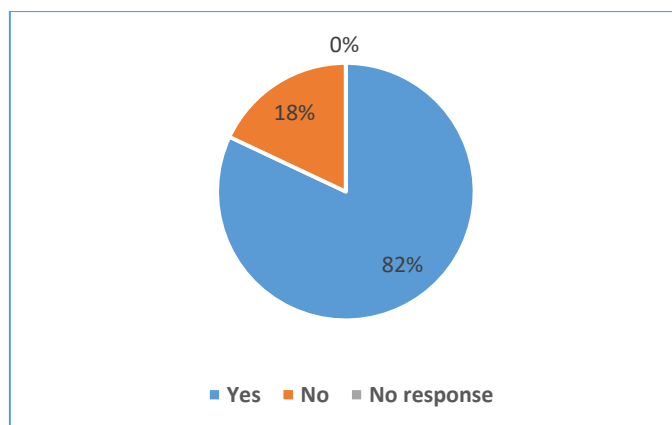
Sr. No.	Response	Total Number of Respondents	Percentage (%)
1	Yes	42	84%
2	No	08	16%
3	No response	00	00%
Total		50	100%



Graph No.1 Basic Concepts of Environment and Environmental Education

Table No.2 Environmental Education Awareness of the Secondary School Teachers

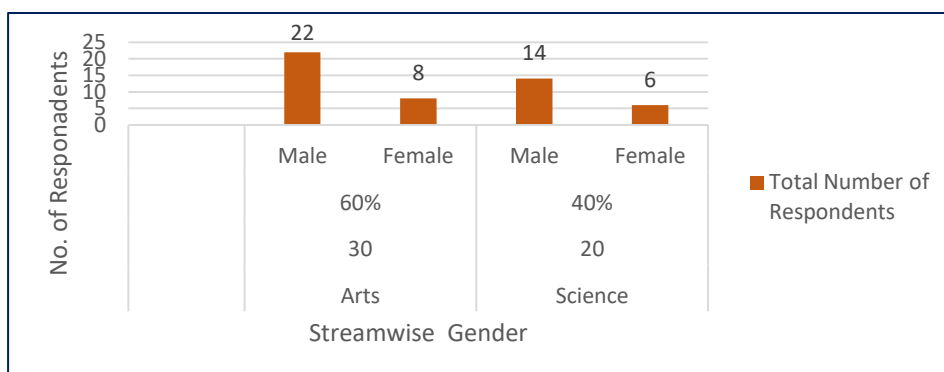
Sr. No.	Response	Total Number of Respondents	Percentage
1	Yes	41	82%
2	No	09	18%
3	No response	00	00%
Total		50	100%



Graph No.2 Environmental Education Awareness of the Secondary School Teachers

Table No.3 Details of Teachers-Stream wise and Gender wise

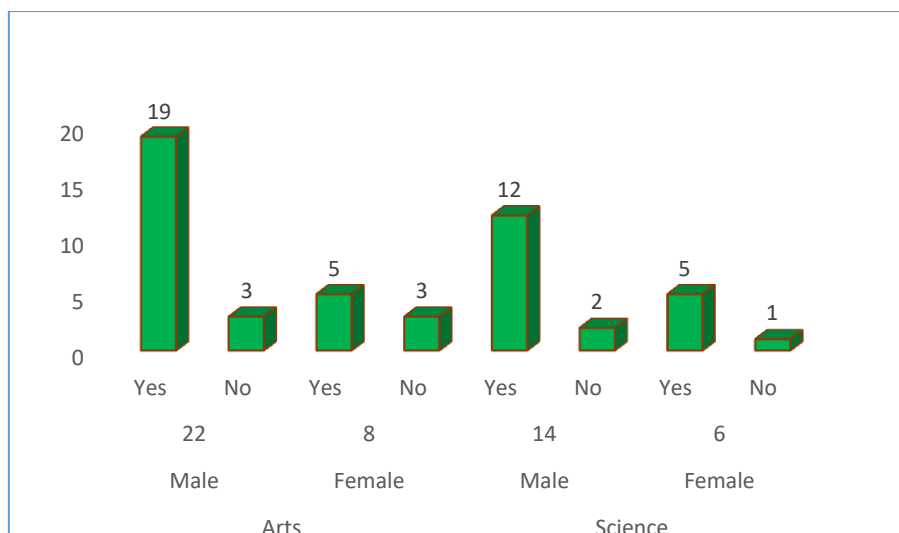
Sr. No.	Stream	Total Number of Respondents	Percentage	Gender	Total Number of Respondents	percentage
1	Arts	30	60%	Male	22	44%
				Female	08	16%
2	Science	20	40%	Male	14	28%
				Female	06	12%
Total		50	100%	Total	50	100%



Graph No.3 Details of Teachers-Stream wise and Gender wise

Table No.4 Details of Environmental Education Awareness of Teachers: Stream wise and Gender wise

Sr. No.	Stream	Gender	Total	Response	Total No. of respondents	percentage
1	Arts	Male	22	Yes	19	38%
				No	03	06%
		Female	08	Yes	05	10%
				No	03	6%
2	Science	Male	14	Yes	12	24%
				No	02	4%
		Female	06	Yes	05	10%
				No	01	2%
Total		Total	Total	50	100%	



Graph No.4 Details of Environmental Education Awareness of Teachers: Stream wise and Gender wise

VI. FINDINGS

Most of the respondents are having knowledge of environment, also they aware about environment. Most of secondary school teachers are aware about environmental education but 16% secondary school teachers are not aware about environmental education. It was found that majority of teachers from Arts stream are aware about environmental education and very few teachers from Arts stream are not aware about environmental education. It was found that majority of teachers of Science stream are aware about environmental education and very few teachers of Science stream are not aware about environmental education. There are 38% male teachers from Arts stream & 24% male teachers from Science stream are aware about environmental education and 10% female teachers from Arts stream as well as Science stream are aware about environmental education. The only 6% male teachers from Arts stream & 4% male teachers from Science stream are not aware about environmental education. Also 6% female teachers from Arts stream & 2% female teachers from Science stream are not aware about environmental education.

VII. CONCLUSIONS

Most of secondary school teachers are aware about environmental education. There is lack of awareness programme on environmental education for teachers of Arts and Science stream. The school teachers from Science stream are more aware about environment education than Arts stream teachers. Formal system of education should also incorporate some elements of environment Awareness Programs in its curriculum. This should be a compulsory part of the curriculum. Male and female teachers have no similar environmental education awareness ability. It would be more beneficial and effective, if special programmes are launched to develop environmental awareness among the Teachers. Environment Education should enable Teachers to analyse, evaluate and draw inferences about problems and issues related to environment.

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