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## **Environmental Awareness Ability Study of Higher Secondary School Students of Ahmedabad with Context to type of School and Area of School**

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### **Abstract**

Environment is the creator of human but human has demolished the presence of natural environment, altered it for its better and luxurious living. It is an utmost necessity to make an environmental awareness within the citizens for a better sustaining environment for our future generation. Environment education is known to play an important role for this activity. Also it plays a vital role in the process of sustainable development also. Education directly interacts with our future generations for preserving and maintaining the environment. The present study is based on environmental awareness ability of higher secondary school students of Ahmedabad district, Gujarat state considering variables type of school – granted and non granted and area of school – urban and rural. The researcher prepared questionnaire and collected the data from students using the standardized tool “Environmental Awareness Ability Measure”. Results showed that there was significant difference between the mean score on environmental awareness ability of higher secondary students school students considering Urban and Rural area, Granted and Non granted schools, Granted and Non granted Schools of Urban area and Granted and Non granted schools of rural area.

**Keywords:** Environmental Awareness, Environmental Awareness Ability Measure, Higher Secondary School Students, type of school.

### **Introduction**

Environment is the creator of human but human has demolished the presence of natural environment, altered it for its better and luxurious living. Environment is deteriorating day by day. The sudden increase in the temperature and irregularity of the seasonal changes are due to excessive pollution in the atmosphere caused by our unconscious activities being carried out daily. These activities have increased these days due to the major issue of less awareness amongst the people. Especially in the country like India, citizens are unaware of the spreading various pollutions and increasing environmental issues. Such an act may lead to endangered environmental conditions for our future generations. It is an utmost necessity to make an environmental awareness within the citizens for a better sustaining environment for our future generation.

Modern technological innovation for decreasing the ill effects of human activities on environment has been put into practice but for its successful implementation, the preservation and conservation of environment is also inevitable today. Environment education is known to play an important role for this activity. Also it plays a vital role in the process of sustainable development also. (Rio, 1992, Montreal, 1997)<sup>1, 2</sup>. Environmental Education is a key to the success of any overall environmental strategy, determined to help in the setting up of a Centre of Excellence in Environmental Education, to play the vital role of setting the pace and agenda for Environmental Education in the country (Kartikeya, 2000)<sup>3</sup>

Environmental education is an inevitable source for spreading environmental awareness. Education directly interacts with our future generations for preserving and maintaining the environment. Higher Secondary education seems to be the major source for playing a significant role as the students are at the verge of entering the future generation. Thus to measure

environmental awareness ability within the higher secondary school students forms an important aspect to study before the implementation of any act for environmental studies could be suggested. The estimation of environmental awareness ability of higher secondary school students has been used as a major factor by many researchers in India. Major research of such work is observed to be done in many different states, districts and cities of India, but there is little information available for Ahmedabad district, Gujarat state. According to past researchers, study for environmental awareness ability is affected by various variables like gender of students, stream of study of students, type of school students are studying, area where school is situated, etc. These factors aid and support the study. Many researchers have adapted such variables to have detailed analysis for the study in India.

Thus the present study is based on environmental awareness ability of higher secondary school students of Ahmedabad district, Gujarat state. The variables selected by the researcher are type of school – granted and non granted and area of school – urban and rural.

### **Statement of the problem**

A study of environmental awareness ability of higher secondary school students of Ahmedabad district in context to variables of gender of students, type of school and area of school

### **Objectives of the study**

To find out the significant difference in environmental awareness of higher secondary school students studying in schools which are in urban and rural area of Ahmedabad District.

To find out the significant difference in environmental awareness of higher secondary school students studying in grant aided and non grant aided schools of Ahmedabad District.

To find out the significant difference in environmental awareness of Students Studying in Granted and Non Granted Higher Secondary Schools of Urban Area of Ahmedabad District.

To find out the significant difference in environmental awareness of Students Studying in Granted and Non Granted Higher Secondary Schools of Rural Area of Ahmedabad District.

### **Hypothesis of the study**

There will be no significant difference between the mean scores of Environmental Awareness Ability of Students Studying in Higher Secondary Schools of Urban and Rural Area of Ahmedabad District.

There will be no significant difference between the mean scores of Environmental Awareness Ability of Students Studying in Granted and Non Granted Higher Secondary Schools of Ahmedabad District.

There will be no significant difference between the mean scores of Environmental Awareness Ability of Students Studying in Granted and Non Granted Higher Secondary Schools of Urban Area of Ahmedabad District.

There will be no significant difference between the mean scores of Environmental Awareness Ability of Students Studying in Granted and Non Granted Higher Secondary Schools of Rural Area of Ahmedabad District.

### **Method of the study**

The method used for this study was survey method and experimental method. Survey Method was used to collect the information regarding the personality traits of higher secondary students in relation to the type of schools students are studying in; and area of schools are situated. Data was collected from 2000 higher secondary school students of Ahmedabad district of which 1000 students studying in granted schools and 1000 students studying in non grant aided schools were

selected. From each 1000 students studying in grant aided schools, 500 students were from granted schools situated in rural areas and rest 500 students were from granted schools situated in urban area. Similarly from 1000 students from non grant aided schools were selected, 500 students were from non grant aided schools situated in rural area and rest 500 students were from non grant aided schools situated in urban area. These variables are with context to type of school and area of school. The study represented here is focused on the environmental awareness ability measure among students of higher secondary school students, with the influence of the type of schools they are studying in and the area of schools in which students are studying.

### **Tools used in study**

The researcher prepared questionnaire and collected the data from students using the standardized tool “Environmental Awareness Ability Measure” prepared by Praveen Kumar Jha. It is a highly related and valid test and standardized on 300 boys and 300 girls from higher secondary to college level ageing between 14 to 21 years.

### **Statistical Techniques for Data Analysis**

Mean, Standard deviation and t-test were the statistical techniques used for carrying out the analysis and interpretation of the data collected.

### **Results**

Environmental awareness ability of Students Studying in Higher Secondary Schools of Urban and Rural Area of Ahmedabad District.

After analysis of the data (Table 1) it was observed that t-value 7.61 is more than t-critical 1.96 at 0.05 level and thus there was significant difference between the mean score of environmental awareness ability among students of higher secondary schools situated in urban and rural area of Ahmedabad district and thus the hypothesis was rejected.

Environmental awareness ability of students studying in granted and Non Granted Higher Secondary Schools of Ahmedabad District.

After analysis of the data (Table 2) it was observed that t value 4.36 is more than t critical 1.96 at 0.05 level and thus there was significant difference between the mean score of environmental awareness ability among students of higher secondary granted and non granted schools of Ahmedabad district and thus the hypothesis was rejected.

Environmental Awareness Ability of Higher Secondary School Students Studying in Granted and Non Granted schools of Urban Area of Ahmedabad District.

After analysis of the data (table) it was observed that t value 2.67 is more than t-critical 1.96 at 0.05 level and thus there was significant difference between the mean score of environmental awareness ability among Higher Secondary students of granted and non granted schools of urban area of Ahmedabad District and thus the hypothesis was rejected.

Environmental Awareness Ability of Higher Secondary School Students studying in Granted and Non Granted Higher Secondary Schools of Rural Area of Ahmedabad District After analysis of the data (table) it was observed that ‘t’ value 3.63 is more than ‘t’-Critical 1.96 at 0.05 level and thus there was significant difference between the mean score of environmental awareness ability among higher secondary students of granted and non granted schools of Ahmedabad district and thus the hypothesis was rejected.

### **Findings of the study**

The table 1 interprets that there is no significant difference between the mean score on environmental awareness ability of higher secondary students school students of Urban and Rural area of Ahmedabad District. Further Table 2 shows that there is no significant difference between the mean score on environmental awareness ability of higher secondary students studying in granted and non granted schools of Ahmedabad District. Likewise, it was observed that from Table 3 there is no significant difference between the mean score on environmental awareness ability of higher secondary school students studying in granted and non granted schools of Urban area of Ahmedabad District. Correspondingly, it was analyzed that from Table 4 there is no significant difference between the mean score on environmental awareness ability of higher secondary school students studying in granted and non granted schools of Rural area of Ahmedabad District.

Above results shows us that there is significant difference in the environmental awareness ability of students studying in higher secondary schools with respect to the type of school they are studying and with the area in which school is situated. These results are in favor with some past research done related to same issue, S. Chandrashekhar (2012)<sup>4</sup>, M. Soundararajan (2013)<sup>5</sup>, Dr. Pillai (2012)<sup>6</sup>, Shiv Kant (2013)<sup>7</sup>, Kumud Ghosh (2014)<sup>8</sup>, Shazli Hasan Khan (2013)<sup>10</sup> whereas it is differing to the results of Dr. Kalpana Thakur (2012)<sup>9</sup> and Tripathi (2000).

## Conclusion

The present study provides us an imminent sight for the level of the environmental awareness within the students of higher secondary school. The area of school and type of school were the two basic variables selected within the study. The both type of school and area of school are slightly influencing factor for the students regarding the environmental awareness. These factors have major impact for the environmental awareness among the higher secondary school students.

Present study shows us an urge of involvement of educational system for the environmental awareness. In today's deteriorating environment, the future generation may be the major sufferers, to make them conscious regarding the preserving natural resources and to enhance the environmental awareness it has become the highest necessity. Thus to prevent the future worsening situation of environment, the environmental awareness should be developed in the considered base of future generation the higher secondary school students.

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Tables:

Table 1 Statistical Analysis of Environmental Awareness Ability of Higher Secondary School Students of Urban and Rural Area of Ahmedabad District.

Variable	No. of students	Mean	SD	t' value	CI
Urban Area	1000	37.07	7.67	7.616*	* Significant
Rural Area	1000	39.584	7.07		

\* Significant at 0.05 level

Table 2 Statistical Analysis of Environmental Awareness Ability of Higher Secondary School Students of Granted and Non Granted schools of Ahmedabad district

Variable	No. of students	Mean	SD	t' value	CI
Granted School	1000	37.599	6.927	4.368*	* Significant
Non Granted School	1000	39.055	7.941		

\* Significant at 0.05 level

Table 3 Statistical Analysis of Environmental Awareness Ability of Higher Secondary Students of Granted and Non Granted schools in Urban area of Ahmedabad district

Variable	No. of students	Mean	SD	t' value	CI
Granted	500	36.422	8.05	2.679*	* Significant
Non Granted	500	37.718	7.21		

\*Not Significant at 0.05 level

Table 4 Statistical Analysis of Environmental Awareness Ability of Higher Secondary School Students of Granted and Non Granted schools Rural area Ahmedabad district

Variable	No. of students	Mean	SD	t' value	CI
Granted	500	38.776	6.35	3.631*	* Significant
Non Granted	500	40.392	7.65		

\*Not Significant at 0.05 level