



A Review: Environmental Awareness

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Abstract

This paper mainly focused on environmental awareness and practices related to various factors like causes of pollution, conservation of soil, forest, air, etc., energy conservation, conservation of human health, conservation of wild life and animal husbandry. It also discusses environmental practices among college students with regard to the usage of plastic and its disposal, alternative for plastic, toilet usage, its use in the cultivation of saplings, rainwater harvesting and also their participation in environment related programmes.. The target was college students because environmental education is part of their curriculum; they can implement what they learnt. This study will support those who are working with for the environment related cases. The study is quantitative in nature. It reveals that the level of awareness is high among the respondents irrespective of gender difference but in practice level there is difference between genders i.e. males practicing more than females. This study also proposes some recommendations to safeguard the environment in India

Introduction

The growing concern with environmental issues and their impact on general awareness is one of the most noticeable phenomena of the last two decades. Increase in economic activities in

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developing countries results in more energy and consumption demand which generally leads to environmental degradation. There is a conventional belief that such environmental degradation would resolve as soon as these countries grow economically, since that would Master of Computer Application Thakur Institute of Management Studies, Career Development and Research Mumbai University enable them to afford environmental friendly technology as well as pro environmental regulations and policies. However, several studies indicated that many developing countries already equipped with environmental policies, legal frameworks and economic instruments, which are regarded as highly sophisticated by international standards (Huber et al, 1998, Fujisaki et al, 1997) and yet face the worsening of environmental conditions. Major difficulties these countries confront are not only the lack of legal and economic framework for environmental protection, but also lack of participation among general public in pro environmental behaviors. Some of the environmental problems which are critical at the present are fairly widely known because of the growing awareness of all levels of society, including governments, general public and the scientific community. However, the present study is trying to discuss the environmental awareness and practice among college students in Rajasthan . The fact that people from different cultures act with a nationalistic awareness, which is seen as one of the biggest problems of globalization, is taken into consideration. It will be inevitable for us to face the fact that it would not be easy to find a solution to environmental problems. India has more than 40% of young people in the world. The sensitizations and practice of environmental manner is will improve the present environmental conditions.

Environmental protections in India

The World Bank expert reveals that in the year 1995 to 2010, India has become one of the fastest progressing countries in the world, in addressing its environmental issues and improving its environmental quality. Still, India has a long way to go to reach environmental quality similar to those enjoyed in developed economies. Pollution remains a major challenge and opportunity for India. India has adopted various international and national strategies to solve and mitigate many environmental issues such as Environmental Courts, Environment Friendly Products, Un-leading of Petrol, and Ban on Harmful Pesticides, National Waste Management Council, Public Liability Insurance, and Pollution by Motor Vehicles,

Regulation of Sea Shore Hotels, National River Action Plan, Solar Energy Commission, and Prohibition of Smoking in Public Places. Even though, many environmental problems remain unresolved. Environmental issues in India are many. Air pollution, water pollution, soil pollution and wildlife natural habitat pollution challenge India.

Environmental status in Rajasthan.

Rajasthan is the largest state in the country. The Aravali range, running from northwest to southeast, divides the state diagonally into two distinct regions, the western arid region and the eastern semi-arid region. Over 61 percent of the State, mostly in the western part, is desert. The State has only 1.1 percent of India's total water resources as against 10.5% of the country's geographical area and 5.5% of the country's population. Except for the Chambal, the 13 other rivers of the state are non-perennial. Precipitation is scanty, and constitutes the only source of annually renewable water supply. As such, the State is prone to frequent droughts. This Page lists Information & Recent News articles related to Environment of Rajasthan. It includes Biodiversity and its conservation with special reference to the state of Rajasthan.

- As per a TOI report over 90 thousand deaths in 2017 in Rajasthan were linked to air pollution.
- According to a 2020 study on health and economic impact of air pollution published in Lancet journal, over 1.13 lakh deaths in Rajasthan have been attributed to air pollution for the year 2019. This is 21.2% of the total deaths reported from Easthan in2019 and is higher than India's average of 18%.
- The number of deaths caused by air pollution is a sum of deaths attributable to ambient particulate matter, household air pollution and ambient ozone pollution
- In Rajasthan, the number of deaths resulting from ambient particulate matter pollution stood at 58,167, while 49,352 deaths

have been caused by household air pollution and over 2,000 deaths have been attributed to ambient ozone pollution. (source)

Methodology

Scientific Principles and procedures for test construction are followed and I developed a questionnaire on my own. Pilot study of the questionnaire was done by pre-testing of the questionnaire by the project teacher to detect any weakness and find out whether the questionnaire was clear to the respondents. During this exercise, unclear and ambiguous questions were reframed and others scrapped. The tool developed for the study of environment awareness & attitude is a questionnaire which consists of total 23 items, covering the areas of : • Basic environmental knowledge • Waste recycling • Air & Water pollution • Sources of energy • Importance of forests & other questions of environmental concern.

Results & discussion

- **Particulate matter (PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀):**

Particulate matters (PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀) in the atmosphere produced as a result of chemical reactions involving particulate matter forming (precursor) gases: SO₂, NO_x, NH₃ and non-methane volatile organic compounds. Airborne particulate matter represents a complex mixture of organic and inorganic substances(Guerreiro et al. 2014). PM poses the greatest risk, as it penetrates into sensitive regions of the respiratory system and can lead to health problems and premature mortality (Krzyzanowski & Cohen 2008; Hosamane & Desai 2013).

- **Respirable Suspended Particulate Matter (PM₁₀) :**

The Figure 1 represents the graphical presentation of mean PM₁₀ values for every month from year 2005 to 2015. It is observed from the Figure 1 that during study period 2005- 2015, mean PM₁₀ values has been increased considerably after year 2009. The range for mean PM₁₀ values for years 2005- 2009 was 50-200µg/m³ whereas it was 50-300µg/m³ 2010 to 2015 which is higher than the NAAQ standard 60 µg/m³ annually. It is also observed from the Figure 1 that mean PM₁₀ value was lowest in monsoon season and higher values are observed during winter and summer season.

Conclusion

The present study highlights that the air pollution become a major problem for the Jaipur city during last decade. This study reveals that both the particulate pollutants, PM 10 and PM2.5 are mostly above permissible limits at study site. It is observed that there is no gradual increasing or decreasing trend in the studied air pollutants i.e. PM10 and PM2.5. PM10 and PM2.5 values varies seasonally and decreases in monsoon season between months July to September, in rest of the months in winter and summer season every year observed values shows considerable increase in pollutant level. It is observed that PM2.5 values are highest in the summer season. ARIMA model fitted the observed value with good correlation coefficient for duration 2005 to 2015. The residuals are also very small for the ARIMA model for forecasting the level of PM10 for the year of 2016 to 2017. The findings of this study may provide a comprehensive database for framing an appropriate strategy for necessary preventive measures. In addition to above, public awareness for environment protection should be adopted and green plantation along highway and within industries should be encouraged. It may, thus be concluded that strict implementation of environmental regulations and adoption of adequate pollution control measures is need of the hour.