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A Comparative Study on Environmental Awareness among Senior Secondary Level Students of U.P. Board and C.B.S.E. Board

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Abstract: *Environment is a global concept today. Environmental education is an approach to learning. It endeavors to create a way of thinking requiring people to overcome prejudices. Environmental awareness means to help social groups and individuals to acquire an awareness of and sensitivity to the total environment and its allied problems. The importance of environmental awareness cannot be over emphasized. We must understand that to improve the environment is to improve the quality of life. With this viewpoint, the investigators conducted a study on environmental awareness among senior secondary level students of Bahjoi city of Sambhal district. The main Objective of the Study was to know the level of knowledge and compare environmental awareness among students belonging to U.P. Board and C.B.S.E. Board. The researcher selected 'Purposive Sampling' for the sake of collecting the data because the purpose of the study was to first select the sample of the students of 11th and 12th class from both U.P. Board and C.B.S.E. Board schools. With the purpose in mind, the researcher visited the schools affiliated to the two boards and collected the data, hereby constituting a total of 200 students with 100 boys and 100 girls,, from which 50 boys and 50 girls were from both U.P Board and C.B.S.E. Board. A standardized tool that is EAAM (Environmental Awareness Ability Measures by Dr. Praveen kumar Jha) was employed for the collection of data. The study revealed that students of CBSE Board are more aware about the environment than UP Board students.*

Key Words: Environmental awareness, Senior secondary level students, Environmental education.

Introduction- Environment is defined as a surrounding or conditions influencing development or growth. It can be understood as a system which includes all living and non- living things; I.e. air, water, soil, vegetation, flora and fauna. Man is a slave if environment. Environment has become the concern of all; the academicians, intellectuals, scientists, policy makers and government across the continents. awareness and education of environment is the paramount concern of all the citizens of society. Environment protection starts by creating awareness among the people so that it becomes part of their lifestyle. The key to achieving this goal lies in environmental education includes awareness, knowledge, attitude, skills and participation of people in protecting the environment. Environment is a global concept today. Environmental education is an approach to learning The environmental education is socially relevant as it helps us how unchecked and unplanned development pollutes air, water and soil and thereby threatening our subsistence and existence. On the other hand environmental awareness means to help social groups and individuals to acquire an awareness of and sensitivity to the total environment and its allied problems. The importance of environmental awareness cannot be over emphasized. We must understand that to improve the environment is to improve the quality of life. A number of environmental problems have just a local dimension both in rural and urban areas. People should be made aware of these. They relate to the use of water, electricity, detergents, chemicals, plastic, steel, wood etc. Above this level come the localities, villages and their common properties, and small towns. People should be encouraged in tree plantation and maintenance, social forestry, environment education, extension programmes etc. In industrial towns the problem of industrial wastes and effluents on the other hand and growth of slums and related urbanization problems on the other, assume importance.

Need of the Study-

- Environment is a global concept today. Environmental education is an approach to learning.
- It makes the pupil's education problem related to understanding the environment and hazards of its population.
- It helps us as how unchecked and unplanned development pollutes air, water and soil and there by threatening



our Subsistence and existence.

- As the problem is one, of the people, for the people, a proper understanding and support of the people will go a long way in carrying out antipollution measures.

People should be encouraged in tree plantation and maintenance, social forestry, environment education, extension programmes etc. In industrial towns the problems of industrial wastes and effluents on the one hand and growth of slums and related urbanization problems on the other, assume importance.

Statement of the problem - The problem studied has been conducted under the title - "A Comparative Study on Environmental Awareness among Senior Secondary Level Students of U.P. Board and C.B.S.E. Board."

Objectives of the Study-

1. To know the level of knowledge and compare environmental awareness among students belonging to U.P. Board and C.B.S.E. Board.
2. To compare environmental awareness among male and female students belonging to U.P. Board.
3. To compare environmental awareness among male and female students belonging to C.B.S.E. Board.
4. To compare environmental awareness among male students belonging to U.P. board and C.B.S.E. board.
5. To compare environmental awareness among female students belonging to U.P. Board and C.B.S.E. Board.

Hypothesis of the Study-

1. There is no significant difference on environmental awareness among students of U.P. Board and C.B.S.E. Board.
2. There is no significant difference on environmental awareness among male and female students belonging to U.P. Board.
3. There is no significant difference on environmental awareness among male and female students belonging to C.B.S.E. Board.
4. There is no significant difference on environmental awareness among male students belonging to U.P. Board and C.B.S.E. Board.
5. There is no significant difference on environmental awareness among female students belonging to U.P. Board and C.B.S.E. Board.

Methodology of the study - The researcher selected 'Purposive Sampling' for the sake of collecting the data because the purpose of the study was to first select the sample of the students of 11th and 12th class from both U.P. Board and C.B.S.E. Board schools. With the purpose in mind, the researcher visited the schools affiliated to the two boards and collected the data, hereby constituting a total of 200 students with 100 boys and 100 girls,, from which 50 boys and 50 girls were from both U.P Board and C.B.S.E. Board. The selected schools are as follow:

1. Silver Stone Senior Secondary School, Bahjoi affiliated with C.B.S.E. Board.
2. Anglo Vedic Senior Secondary School, Bahjoi affiliated with C.B.S.E. Board.
3. Bahjoi Inter College, Bahjoi affiliated with U.P. Board.
4. Krishna Murari Manorma Agrawal Saraswati Viddhya Mandir affiliated with U.P. Board.

The researcher administrated the EAAM (Environmental Awareness Ability Measures) on the class 11th and 12th students of 4 colleges for the purpose of collecting data.

The Tool of the Study- The researcher selected the EAAM (Environmental Awareness Ability Measures by Dr. Praveen kumar Jha).

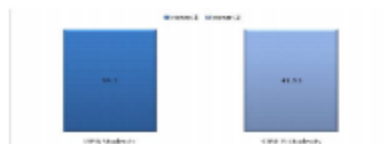
Reliability and Validity of EAAM- The reliability of the test reported by the author is .84(by K-R method) and validity coefficient is found to be 0.83. The test is highly valid and reliable for the U.P. population as well.

Analysis & Interpretation of Study- The collected data were analyzed as per the norms and instructions

are given in the manual of scale .

GRAPH-1

Graphical representation of the Means of the scores of Environmental Awareness of UP Board and CBSE Board students-



Environmental Awareness

Table 1

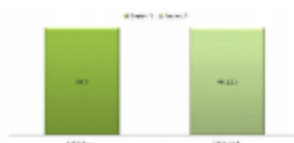
Mean and S.D. of the scores of Environmental Awareness of Secondary school students of UP Board and CBSE Board.

| Group | N. | d. f. | Mean | S.D. | SEM | Calculated t- Value | Tabulated t-Value at 0.01 level | H0 |
|------------|-----|-------|-------|------|------|---------------------|---------------------------------|----|
| UP Board | 100 | | 39.3 | 4.6 | | | | |
| | | 198 | | | 0.55 | 4.05 | 2.60 | R |
| CBSE Board | 100 | | 41.53 | 3.03 | | | | |

It is revealed from the above table that the difference between the means of the scores of the students of CBSE Board and UP Board is significant at 0.01 levels, with standard error 0.55 and t- value 4.05 which is more than the tabulated value 2.60 at the degree of freedom 198. Thus the above stated Null Hypothesis is rejected, which shows that students of CBSE Boards are more aware then UP Board students about Environment.

GRAPH- 2

Graphical representation of the Mean of the scores of Environmental Awareness of male and female students belonging to U.P. Board-



Environmental Awareness

TABLE-2

Mean and S.D. of the scores of Environmental Awareness among male and female students belonging to U.P. Board-

| Group | N. | d. f. | Mean | S.D. | SEM | Calculated t- Value | Tabulated t-Value at 0.01 level | H0 |
|-------------|----|-------|--------|------|------|---------------------|---------------------------------|----|
| UP B. Girls | 40 | | 40.225 | 3.57 | | | | |
| | | 98 | | | 0.83 | 2.10 | 2.63 | R |
| UP B. Boys | 60 | | 38.5 | 4.84 | | | | |

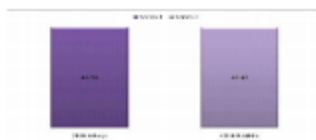
It is revealed from the above table that the difference between the mean of the scores of boys and girls of UP Board is not significant at 0.01 level, with standard error 0.83 and t- value 2.10 which is smaller than the tabulated value 2.63 at degree of freedom 98. Thus the above Null Hypothesis is accepted, which shows that both UP Bard



Boys and Girls are equally aware about Environment.

GRAPH 3

Graphical representation of the scores of Environmental awareness among male and female students belonging to C.B.S.E. Board



Environmental Awareness

TABLE-3

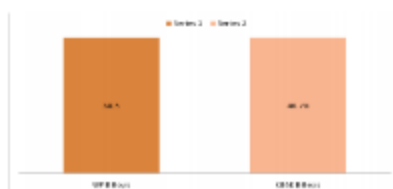
Mean and S.D. of the scores of Environmental Awareness among male and female students belonging to C.B.S.E. Board:

| Group | N. | d. f. | Mean | S.D. | SEM | Calculated t- Value | Tabulated t-Value at 0.01 level | H0 |
|--------------|----|-------|-------|------|------|---------------------|---------------------------------|----|
| CBSE B. BOYS | 50 | | 40.78 | 3.42 | | | | |
| | | 98 | | | 0.49 | 3.34 | 2.63 | R |
| CBSE | | | 42.42 | 2.37 | | | | |

It is revealed from the above table that the difference between the means of the scores of boys and girls of CBSE Board is significant at 0.01 level, with Standard error 0.49 and t- value 3.34, which is more than the tabulated value 2.63 at degree of freedom 98. Thus the above stated Null Hypothesis is rejected, which shows that girls of CBSE Board are more aware than CBSE Boys about environment.

GRAPH-4

Graphical representation of the scores of Environmental awareness among male students belonging to C.B.S.E. Board and U.P. Board



Environmental Awareness

TABLE-4

Mean and S.D. of the scores of environmental awareness among male students belonging to U.P. Board and C.B.S.E. Board:

| Group | N. | d. f. | Mean | S.D. | SEM | Calculated t- Value | Tabulated t-Value at 0.01 level | H0 |
|--------------|----|-------|-------|------|------|---------------------|---------------------------------|----|
| UP B. BOYS | 60 | | 38.5 | 4.84 | | | | |
| | | 108 | | | 0.78 | 2.92 | 2.62 | R |
| CBSE B. BOYS | 50 | | 40.78 | 3.43 | | | | |

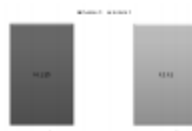
It revealed from the above table that the difference between the mean of the scores of male students of CBSE and UP board students is significant at 0.01 level, with Standard error 0.78 and t- value 2.92, which is more



than the tabulated value 2.62 at the degree of freedom 108. Thus the above stated Null Hypothesis is rejected, which shows that boys of CBSE board are more aware about environment than UP board boys.

GRAPH-5

Graphical representation of the scores of Environmental awareness among female students belonging to C.B.S.E. Board and U.P. Board



Environmental Awareness

TABLE-5

Mean and S.D. of the scores of environmental awareness among female students belonging to U.P. Board and C.B.S.E. Board:

| Group | N. | d. f. | Mean | S.D. | SEM | Calculated t- Value | Tabulated t-Value at 0.01 level | H0 |
|---------------|----|-------|--------|------|------|---------------------|---------------------------------|----|
| UP B. Girls | 40 | | 40.225 | 3.57 | | | | |
| | | 88 | | | 0.66 | 3.32 | 2.63 | R |
| CBSE B. Girls | 50 | | 42.42 | 2.37 | | | | |

It is revealed from the above table that the difference between the means of the scores of girls of UP and CBSE Board is significant at 0.01 level, with standard error 0.66 and t- value 3.32, which is more than the tabulated value 2.63 at degree of freedom 88. Thus above stated Null Hypothesis is rejected, which shows that girls of CBSE Board are more aware about environment than UP Board Girls.

Suggestions of Increasing Environmental Awareness among the Senior Secondary School Students.

After the systematic analysis of collected data the investigator found that the senior secondary school students of Bahjoi block of Sambhal had high environmental awareness. However, there are scope and necessity for further increment of environmental awareness among the senior secondary school students. In the concern the investigator provides the following suggestions.

- Adequate curriculum of environmental education according to the need and interest of senior secondary school students should be provided.
- Organization of seminars and workshop regarding different aspects of environment can be very useful for increasing environmental awareness among the senior secondary school students.
- Teacher from adequate background and experience should be specially appointed for teaching environmental education.
- Participation in N.S.S. camp should make compulsory by the school authority for all the students.
- Students should provide opportunity to participate in educational tours, excursions under the careful guidance of prescribed teacher.
- Organization of debates, extempore speech, quiz over the topics related to environment in relation to different school functions also prove to be helpful for increasing environmental awareness among the students.
- Visit to the areas effected from natural disasters like flood, earthquake, soil erosion can also be very significant for increasing environmental awareness among the students.
- Helping books, guide books, charts, kits, teaching materials and aids both for students and teachers should be provided.



- Teaching practical and action oriented field works can also create environmental awareness among students.
- Development of gardening skills is of great value for increasing environmental awareness among the students.
- Different activities should be organized on the occasion of world Environment Day by the school authority with the help of active participations of the students.

Conclusion of the Study - As reflected by the statistical analysis and interpretation of the data collected by the researcher, the conclusion of the present study may be stated in the light of its findings as follows:

- The comparison of the Environmental Awareness among the students of CBSE Board and UP Board revealed that students of CBSE Board are more aware about the environment than UP Board students.
- The comparison among male and female students belonging to U.P. Board shows that both male and female students of UP Board are equally aware about environment.
- The analysis of the data consisting of male and female students belonging to C.B.S.E. Board shows that female students of C.B.S.E. Board are more aware about environment than male students C.B.S.E. Board.
- The analysis of the data consisting of male students belonging to U.P. Board and C.B.S.E. Board shows that male students of C.B.S.E. Board are more aware about environment than male students of U.P. Board.
- The analysis of the data consisting of female students belonging to U.P. Board and C.B.S.E. Board shows that female students of C.B.S.E. Board are more aware about environment than female students of U.P. Board.

So the level of Environmental Awareness of CBSE Board Students is higher than UP Board students

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