



A Study Of Environmental Awareness Among Secondary School Students In Relation To Gender And Type Of School In District Anantnag, J&K

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Abstract

The present study was undertaken to investigate the environmental awareness of secondary school students in relation to gender and type of school. The sample of the study consists of 100 secondary school students of District Anantnag. Equal representation was given to Gender and Type of school. Environmental Awareness Ability Measure (EAAM-2005) developed by Praveen Kumar Jha was used to collect the data. The collected data underwent statistical analysis, which included calculating Mean, Standard Deviation and t-test. The results of the study indicate insignificant difference between male and female secondary school students on environmental awareness and private secondary school students showed significantly more environmental awareness as compared to government secondary school students.

Key Words: Environmental Awareness, Secondary School Students.

INTRODUCTON

Environment awareness involves understanding the impact of human actions on the environment, recognizing environmental issues and fostering a sense of responsibility for sustainable practices . It encompasses knowledge about ecosystems, biodiversity, and the importance of preserving the planets well-being . The concept motivates individuals to make informed choices and actively engage in efforts that contribute to environmental conservation.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Gupta (2017) conducted a research on environmental awareness of rural and urban secondary school students. The findings of the study revealed that boys and girls of rural and urban schools had similar awareness regarding environment.

Dhanya and Pankajam (2017) found that there was a significant difference in environmental awareness among secondary school students between the groups based on type of school and that the students studying in private schools had higher environmental awareness as compared to government school students.

Patial (2016) found that secondary school students had low level of environmental awareness. The findings of the research also reveal that gender and settlement had no influence on the level of environmental awareness of students.

Singh, Kumari and Singh (2014) found that a significant difference between male and female teachers and female teachers were found to be more aware about the environment as compared to male teachers.

Gayatri and Reddy (2014) found that gender does not influence the environmental awareness of secondary school students.

Bharambe (2013) conducted a study on environmental awareness among secondary school students. Result of the research indicated that no significant difference was found between male and female secondary school students.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The problem under investigation reads as under: 'A Study of Environmental Awareness among Secondary School Students In Relation to Gender and Type of School'.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The following objectives have been formulated for the present study:

1. To study the level of environmental awareness among secondary school students.
2. To compare male and female secondary school students on environmental awareness.
3. To compare Govt. and Private secondary school students on environmental awareness.

HYPOTHESES OF THE STUDY

Keeping in view the objectives of the study, following hypotheses is formulated:

1. There is no significant difference between Male and female secondary school students on environmental awareness.
2. There is no significant difference between Govt. and Private secondary school students on environmental awareness.

OPERATIONAL DEFINITIONS OF VARIABLES AND TERMS

Environmental Awareness: Environmental awareness is operationally defined as the scores obtained from the sample subjects on Environmental Awareness Scale developed by Praveen Kumar Jha.

Secondary School students: In the present study, Secondary school students refers to the 9th and 10th class students of District Anantnag with an age group of 13-16 years.

Gender: In the present investigation, gender refers to the male and female secondary school students of District Anantnag.

Type of School: In the present study, type of school refers to the Government and Private Secondary Schools of District Anantnag.

METHODOLOGY

Research Method: The present study was designed to study the environmental awareness of secondary school students. For the present study “Descriptive Study Method” is used.

Sample: The present study was conducted on a sample of 100 secondary school students(50 males and 50 females) drawn through purposive sampling technique. It needs to be mentioned that the investigator classified the sample also on the basis of the type of school. As such among the 100 sample subjects 50 were taken from Govt. schools and 50 were taken from Private schools.

Tool: Environmental Awareness Ability Measure (EAAM-2005) developed by Praveen Kumar Jha was administered to assess the Environment Awareness of secondary school students.

Statistical Analysis: The raw data was subjected to percentage , mean ,S.D and t-test for statistical treatment.

ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

The analysis of the present study can be divided into two sections:

Descriptive Analysis

Table:1 Showing the levels of Environmental Awareness among Secondary School Students (N=100).

Status of Environmental Awareness	N	Percentage
High	80	80.0%
Average	16	16.0%
Low	4	4.0%
Total	100	100%

The above table levels of shows the environmental awareness of secondary school students. The Data depicts that 80% of secondary school students have high level of environmental awareness, 16% possess average environmental awareness and 4% exhibit low environmental awareness.



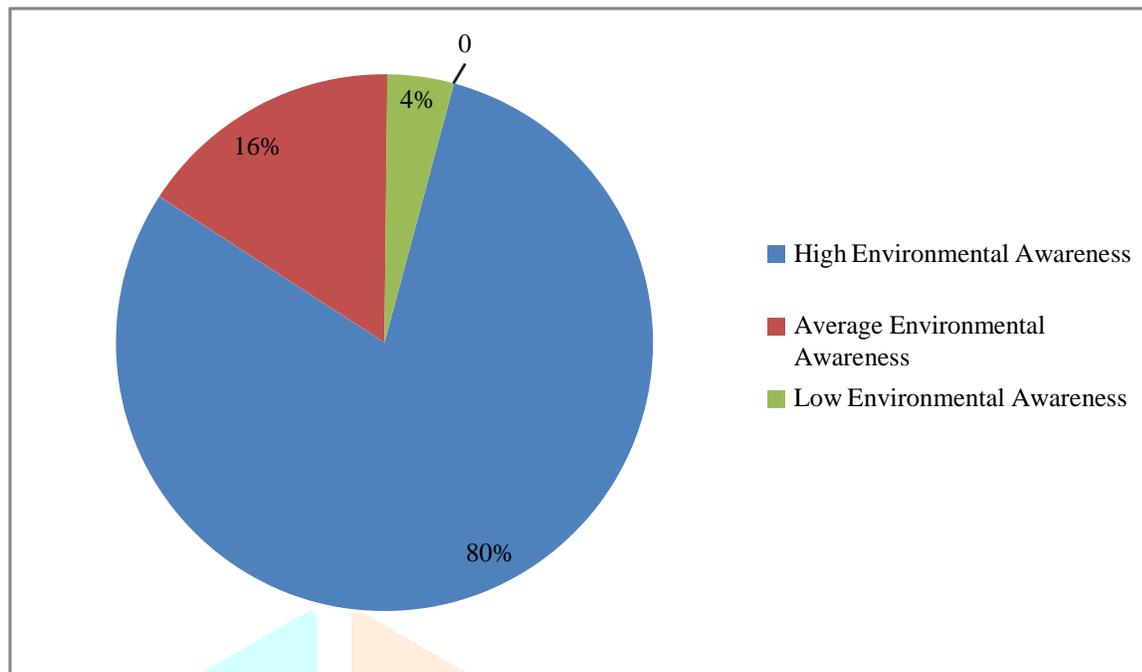


Fig 1 showing the levels of environmental awareness of secondary school students

Table:2 Showing environmental awareness level of male and female SecondarySchool students(N=100)

Awareness level	Male students		Female students	
	N	Percentage	N	Percentage
High	42	84	38	76
Average	6	12	10	20
Low	2	4	2	4
Total	50	100	50	100

Table 2 reveals that 84% male and 76% female secondary school students have high level of environmental awareness, 12% male and 20 % female have average and 4% of both male and female secondary school students have low level of environmental awareness.

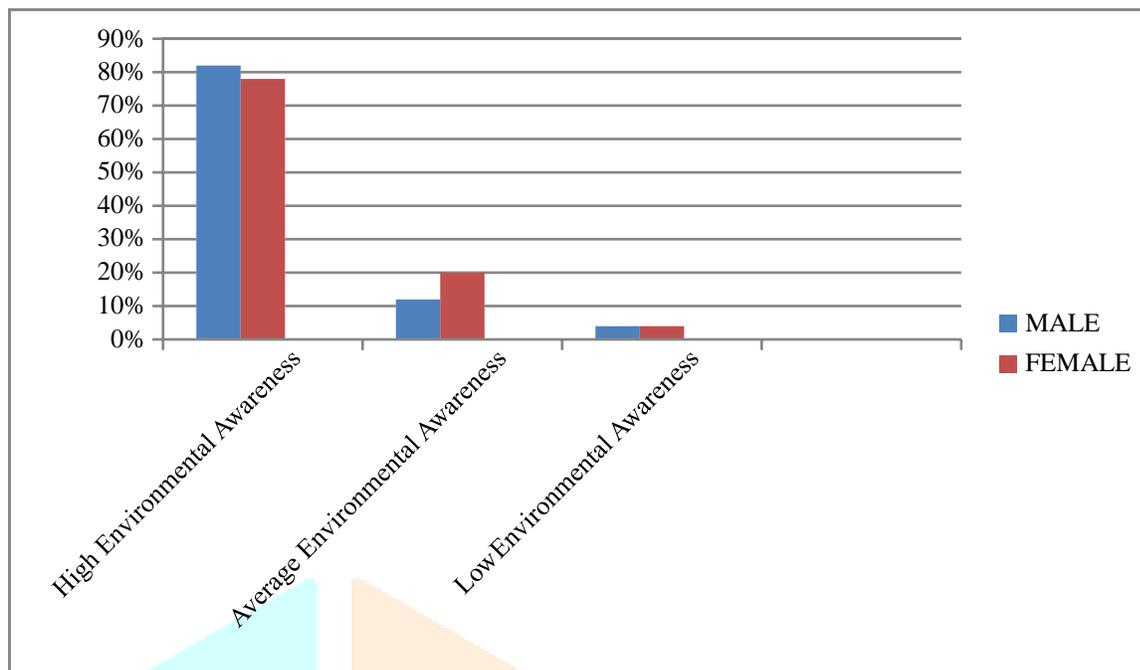


Fig 2 showing environmental awareness level of male and female secondary school students

Table:3 Showing environmental awareness level of Govt. and Private Secondary School students(N=100)

Awareness level	Govt.students		Private students	
	N	Percentage	N	Percentage
High	35	70	45	90
Average	11	22	5	10
Low	4	8	0	0
Total	50	100	50	100

The above table shows that 70% Govt. and 90% private secondary school students fall in high category of environmental awareness whereas 22% Govt. and 10% private secondary school students fall in average category of environmental awareness. The data also depicts that 8% Govt. students fall in below average category of environmental awareness.

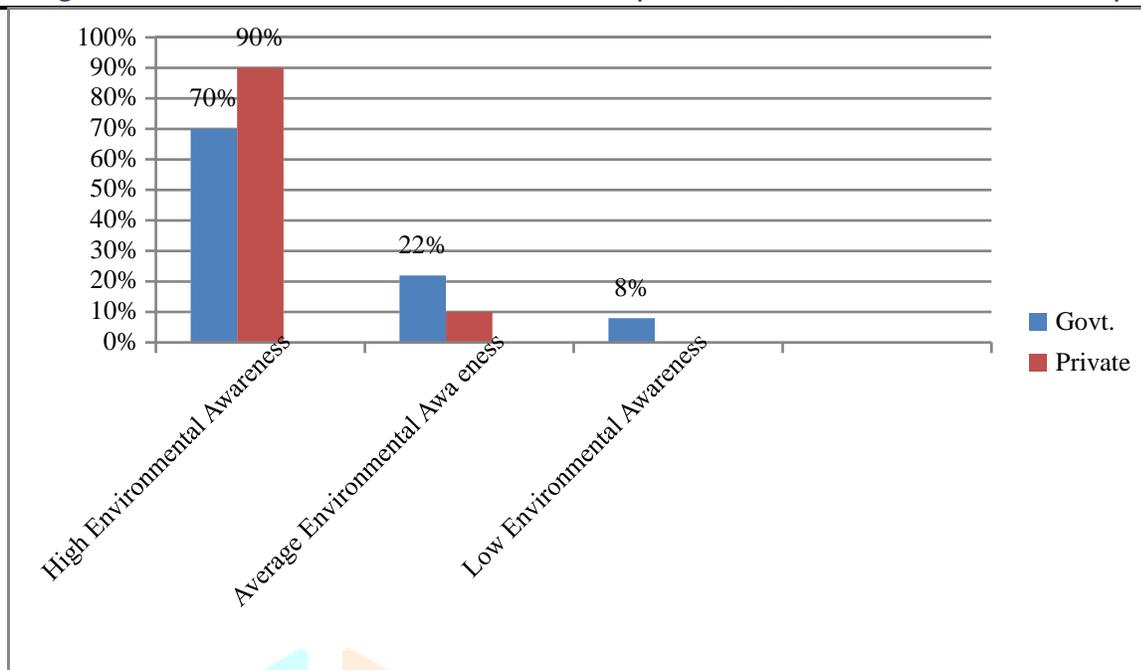


Fig 3 showing environmental awareness level of Govt. and Private secondary schoolstudents

Comparative Analysis

Table 4: Mean difference between Male and Female Secondary School students on Environmental Awareness (N=100).

Group	N	Mean	S.D	Df	t-value	Level of significance
Male	50	42.68	4.83	98	1.178	Insignificant
Female	50	41.42	5.81			

Table 4 shows that there is no significant difference in environmental awareness among male secondary school students ($M=42.68, SD=4.83$) and female secondary school students ($M=41.42, SD=5.81$) $t(98) p=1.178$. Hence the null hypothesis is accepted as there is no significant difference in environmental awareness among male and female secondary students.

Table 5: Mean difference between Govt. and Private Secondary School students on Environmental Awareness (N=100).

Group	N	Mean	S.D	Df	t-value	Level of significance
Govt.	50	38.74	4.99	98	7.84	Sig. at 0.01 level
Private	50	45.36	3.26			

Table 5 shows that there is a significant difference in environmental awareness among Govt. secondary school students ($M=38.74, SD=4.99$) and Private secondary school students ($M=45.36, SD=3.26$) $t(98) p=7.84$. Hence

the null hypothesis is rejected as there is a significant difference in environmental awareness among Govt. and Private secondary students.

CONCLUSION

Some of the conclusions drawn from the analysis of data are given below:

1. It was found that 80% secondary school students exhibit high environmental awareness, 16% possess average and a small chunk of 4% exhibit low environmental awareness.
2. It has been found that 84% male secondary school students exhibit high environmental awareness as compared to female students (76%) whose percentage is relatively less than male students. It has also been found that 12% male and 16% female possess average environmental awareness whereas 4% of both male female secondary school students fall in below average category of environmental awareness.
3. It has been found that 90% private and 70% govt. secondary school students exhibit high environmental awareness whereas 22 govt. and 10% private secondary school students possess average environmental awareness. It has also been found that 8% govt. students display low environmental awareness.
4. No significant difference was found between male and female secondary school students on environmental awareness.
5. Significant difference was found between govt. and private secondary school students on environmental awareness.

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