



## “ATTITUDE OF PROSPECTIVE TEACHERS TOWARDS ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION”

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### ABSTRACT

Environmental education is a process that allows individuals to explore environmental issues, engage in problem solving, and take action to improve the environment. As a result, individuals develop a deeper understanding of environmental issues and have the skills to make informed and responsible decisions. It increases public awareness and knowledge of environmental issues. This investigation aims at finding out the attitude of prospective teachers towards environmental education. The sample included 210 student teachers selected by simple random sampling technique and the tool used for the study was Attitude towards Environmental education developed and validated by Dr.Anjuli Suhane (2011). The data was collected by following survey method and it was analyzed by following appropriate statistical techniques. The result showed that the prospective teachers high level of attitude towards environmental education.

**KEYWORDS** : Environmental education, awareness, attitude, prospective teachers

### 1.0.Title of study

The present research problem is entitled as “Attitude of prospective teachers towards environmental education”.

### 2.0.Significance of the study

Since environmental degradation has wide-ranging impacts, awareness about the problem and effective solutions must be enhanced through concerted efforts by stakeholders in the government, the corporate sector, the media, the NGOs, and educational institutions. The future citizens that are students' participation in Environmental protection could be enhanced significantly by increasing people's understanding of and knowledge about all issues of present environment. By exploring the existing attitude towards environmental education, we can create awareness among the students for sustaining the nature. Hence the present study is under taken.

### 3.0.Review of related literature

The investigator reviewed related literature and studies conducted in the area of awareness on environmental issues and e-waste materials management. The Studies reviewed are given below:

**Mandira Sikdar (2014)**, A Study of Awareness of E-Waste Materials among Students of Standard XI of English Medium Schools in Anand City of Gujarat, India. Objectives of the Study: - To study the awareness regarding e-waste materials among students of standard XI in English medium schools of Anand city of Gujarat. - To study the views of students regarding recycling of e- waste materials. The population of the study comprised of all the students of Standard XI of Anand city in the academic year 2010-11. From the population, 258 representative samples were randomly selected of the six English medium schools of Anand city. For the present study the researcher selected XI standard students using random sampling technique. In order to obtain the relevant data as required for the Study, the following tools were prepared by the investigator herself for data collection, Check list and Questionnaire. The first tool was check list, to meet the first objective which was 'To study the awareness regarding E-Waste materials among students of Standard XI in English medium school s of Anand city of Gujarat'. The tool had 16 questions, covering awareness of e-waste materials in students of Standard XI. The data will reflect awareness of e-waste materials in students of standard XI. The findings showed that the students were aware of the e-waste materials; they really required to know and were not aware of many things about the recycling of the e-waste materials. It was also noteworthy from the responses that most students were reluctant to throw or discard the e-waste materials that they made use of in their daily lives.

**Fatma Sadik (2014)** compared Environmental Knowledge and Attitudes of Teacher Candidates. The main purpose of this study is to investigate knowledge and attitudes of teacher candidates in Social

Sciences Education and Science and Technology Education department towards environment. 323 teacher candidates as 171 female and 152 male participated in the study. 43% of participants find the Internet and television more effective in environmental awareness. They think shortening of natural resources is the biggest problem of the world while urbanization is the biggest issue of Turkey. Teacher candidates have a moderate level environmental knowledge; have more positive attitude in terms of environment but low level environmental behaviors. The research study shows that teacher candidates considering themselves with positive attitude in terms of environmental thought, in fact, have environmental attitude close to negative level. The value people give to environment becomes solid in their behavior and people with environmental sensitiveness are expected to show useful behavior for their environment.

### 4.0.Objectives

1. There is moderate level of Attitude of prospective teachers towards environmental education.
2. There is no significant difference in Attitude of prospective teachers towards environmental education with respect to Gender.
3. There is no significant difference in Attitude of prospective teachers towards environmental education with respect to Pedagogysubject.

### 5.0.Hypotheses

1. There is moderate level of Attitude of prospective teachers towards environmental education.
2. There is no significant difference in Attitude of prospective teachers towards environmental education with respect to Gender.
3. There is no significant difference in Attitude of prospective teachers towards environmental education with respect to Pedagogysubject.

### 6.0.Methods

#### 6.1.Subjects

- **Population:** The population of the study consists of all the prospective teachers in Kancheepuram district.
- **Sample:** From the population, 210 representative samples were randomly selected from college of education in Madurantakam taluk of Kancheepuram district.
- **Sampling Techniques:** Using Random Sampling technique, the researcher selected the sample from the population.

#### 6.2.Procedure

The present investigator adopted survey method to carry out his study.

**6.3.Research tools-** Attitude towards Environmental education

developed and validated by Dr.Anjuli Suhane (2011) was used as research tool for the present investigation.

**7.0.Data Analysis**

The data collected was analyzed by using appropriate statistical techniques.

**8.0.Result**

Hypothesis 1: There is moderate level of Attitude of prospective teachers towards environmental education.

**Table 1 Level of Attitude of prospective teachers towards environmental education**

	LOW	MODERATE	HIGH
<b>Level of Attitude of prospective teachers towards environmental education</b>	0	95	155
	NIL	38%	62%

The above table reveals that there exists high level of attitude of prospective teachers towards environmental education. The student teachers have a paper on environmental education and hence they show high attitude level towards environmental education.

**Hypothesis 2:** There is no significant difference in Attitude of prospective teachers towards environmental education with respect to Gender.

**Table 2 Significant difference in Attitude of prospective teachers towards environmental education with respect to Gender**

Gender	N	Mean	SD	t- value	Level of Significance
Male	128	72.58	14.39	1.093	Not Significant
Female	122	75.39	14.32		

The above table reveals that there is no significant difference in Attitude of prospective teachers towards environmental education with respect to Gender since the calculated value is lesser than the table value. It is found out that gender has no influence on the attitude towards environmental education among prospective teachers.

**Hypothesis 3:** There is no significant difference in Attitude of prospective teachers towards environmental education with respect to Pedagogy.

**Table 3 Significant difference in Attitude of prospective teachers towards environmental education with respect to Pedagogy subject**

Pedagogy subject	N	Mean	SD	t- value	Level of Significance
Arts	86	68.97	14.30	2.712	Significant at 0.05 level
Science	164	76.49	14.38		

It is found from the above table that there exists significant difference in Attitude of prospective teachers towards environmental education with respect to Pedagogy. It also reveals that the mean score of Science students is more than the arts students. This may be due to the science students might have already studied about Environment and they may have positive attitude towards preservation and conservation of our environment.

**Conclusion**

It is important that we capture this enthusiasm and that no opportunity is lost to develop knowledge, understanding and concern for the environment through school education. The curricular, cross-curricular attempt of environmental education also should be a joy for the learner. In this direction, NCERT has published in collaboration with the Centre for Environmental Education, Ahemadabad a book titled "Joy of learning" with lot of

environmental activities, a handbook for teachers. Promoting positive attitudes towards the environment is essential if student teachers are to value it and understand their role in safeguarding it for the future.

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