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Education

AWARENESS REGARDING OZONE LAYER CONSERVATION AMONG SCHOOL STUDENTS

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ABSTRACT The conservation of ozone layer is necessary to save universe as its depletion is increasing which allow UV radiation to earth. UV radiations are cause of skin cancer, blindness and immunity suppression etc. The prospects of ozone recovery are still undiscovered. For conservation of ozone layer awareness among people is necessary. For this purpose, in the syllabi of environmental studies knowledge of ozone depletion has made its part at school level. In present study, awareness among school students is focused.

KEYWORDS : Ozone Layer , UV radiation , Chlorine Atoms , Chloro Fluoro carbons (CFC)

Introduction:

The ozone layer is the earth's shield located as thin layer in earth's stratosphere. UV ray generated from the sun is best natural source of vitamin D. Too much exposure to this radiation presents up with a myriad of health problems as sun burns, premature ageing, skin disease, eye sight problems also reduced crop yields. The ozone layer which contains high concentrations of ozone protects us by absorbing UV radiation. The layer has been in a steady state decline of around 4% since the past 50 years or so. In the Antarctic zone, the depletion level is so high that there is a hole in ozone layer. The main cause of ozone layer depletion is the presence of chloro fluoro carbon, halons, methyl bromide and nitrous oxide in the atmosphere. When chloro fluoro carbons (CFC) reach upper atmosphere, react with high UV radiation and release chlorine atoms. These free chlorine atoms with ozone thereby leading to the depletion of ozone layer. One free chlorine atom destroy millions of ozone atoms. Therefore chloro fluoro carbons are extremely damaging to the ozone layer. Chloro fluoro carbons are released by applications of refrigerant, anesthetics, aerosol etc. Unregulated rocket launching, global warming are causes of ozone depletion.

People do not know about side effects of these appliances & CFC thus the public awareness would be a landmark in the management of CFC. A revolution may come in the field by slogans or phrases & reduces the use of these appliances & decrease the emission of CFCs and other Ozone Depleting Chemicals. To increase awareness about ozone conservation environmental studies has started at school level as optional paper. Govt. organizes many events on earth day, environment day so that people may know this issue.

Objective of Study:

To find awareness about conservation of ozone layer among student of class VI-VIII students

To find awareness about conservation of ozone layer among student of class IX-X students

To find awareness about conservation of ozone layer among student of class XI-XII students

Hypothesis:

There is no significant awareness about conservation of ozone layer among student of class VI-VIII students.

There is no significant awareness about conservation of ozone layer among student of class IX-X students.

There is no significant awareness about conservation of ozone layer among student of class XI-XII students.

Methodology:

Descriptive survey method used for present study. 600 students of 5 govt. and 5 private schools were randomly selected. From every school 20 students of class 6-8, 20 from class 9-10 and 20 from class 11-12 were taken in equal ratio of male and female as sample. Sample was tested for awareness about conservation of ozone layer using a self prepared test paper. Awareness was categorized as higher, middle and lower. Collected data was tabulated, converted into percentage and comparatively analyzed.

Finding and Analysis:

Table- Status of Awareness about Conservation of Ozone Layer among School Students

Class	Gender	No. of Students %		
		Higher Awareness	Middle Awareness	Lower Awareness
Class VI-VIII	Male	8	18	74
	Female	10	19	71
Class IX-X	Male	11	23	66
	Female	12	26	62
Class XI-XII	Male	12	25	63
	Female	14	27	59

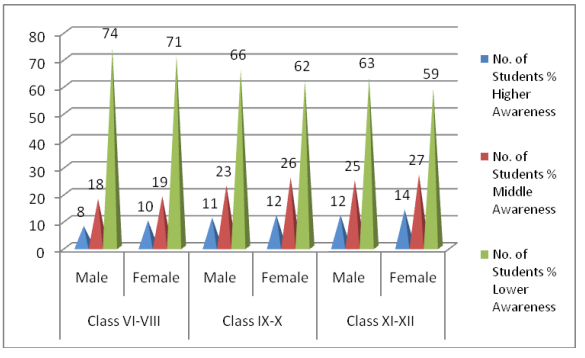

Chart- Status of Awareness about Conservation of Ozone Layer among School Students

Data shows that among students of class VI to VIII, 8% male, 10% female students have high awareness while middle awareness found in 18% male and 19% female. Lower awareness searched in 74% male and 71% female. Hence, hypothesis 1 there is no significant awareness about conservation of ozone layer among student of class VI-VIII students is accepted.

Data related to class IX to X, exhibits that 11% male, 12% female students show high awareness and 23% male, 26% female indicate middle level awareness. 66% male and 62% female are searched to have lower awareness. Thus hypothesis 2 there is no significant awareness about conservation of ozone layer among student of class IX-X students is accepted.

Higher secondary class student's data depicts similarly low awareness. 12% male and 14% female students are found having higher awareness. 25 % male, 27% female students searched as having middle awareness. Lower awareness found in 63% male and 59% female students. Thus lower awareness strength is higher and female students are more aware than male students. Therefore hypothesis 3, there is no significant awareness about conservation of ozone layer among student of class XI-XII students is accepted.

Conclusion:

Our life is existed with environment but our activities have spoiled it. Ozone layer is protection layer for persons living on earth and we are leaving harmful CFCs which are making holes. We have only way to save ozone layer i.e., awareness. Result shows our lack of efforts, sincerity that's why awareness among school students is not significant. It's a matter of concern how our students will act to serve environment in future. It is bigger threat to the future of today's children. Awareness programs, workshop, quiz, plantation, multimedia presentation should be organized at different level of students. Aware students will able to conserve ozone layer and other environment related issues.

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