



A Study Of Climate Change Awareness Among Senior Secondary School Students Of District Hamirpur Himachal Pradesh

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Abstract

The present study was undertaken to find out the difference in climate change awareness among senior secondary school students in relation to their gender, stream and locality. The sample for the study was selected on the basis of random sampling. A sample of 200 senior secondary school students was taken from 10 schools of district Hamirpur Himachal Pradesh, on the basis of a random sampling technique. The data were collected by using a climate change awareness test developed by the researcher itself. The investigator found that there is no significant difference in climate change awareness among senior secondary school students in relation to gender and stream, but a significant difference was found in locality.

Key words – climate, climate change, and awareness

Introduction

Environment includes all living and non-living things. The existence of our lives is due to the environment and everything we need to survive comes from the environment. Urbanization, population explosion, over exploitation of resources, disruption of natural ecology balance, loss of biodiversity for economic purposes are the chief factors of environmental degradation. Environmental degradation in any one country affects the global environment all over the world. Environmental problems like deforestation, loss of biodiversity, climate change and ozone layer depletion are of global concern.

Meaning of climate change

Climate change refers to significant, long term changes in the global climate. The global climate is the connected system of the sun, earth and oceans, wind, rain and snow, forests, desert and everything people do. The climate of a place say New York, can be described as its rainfall, changing temperature during the year and so on, but the global climate is more than the average of the climates of specific places. A description of the global climate includes how, for example the rising temperature of the pacific feeds typhoons that blow harder, drop more rain and cause more damage but also shifts global ocean currents that melt Antarctica ice which slowly makes sea level rise until New York will be under water. It is this systematic connectedness that makes global climate change so important and complicated. Reliable temperature records began in 1850 and our world is now about one degree Celsius hotter than it was in the period between 1850 and 1900. The change is more visible over a shorter period of time as compared to average temperature between 1961 and 1990. In year 2017, it was 0.68 degree warmer, whereas in 2016 it was 0.80 degree warmer. This temperature increase is more specifically referred to as global warming, which leads to climate change.

Definition of Climate Change

NASA define climate change “a broad range of global phenomena created predominantly by burning fossil fuels, which add heat trapping gases to earth’s atmosphere. These phenomena include the increased temperature trends described by global warming, but also encompass changes such as sea level rise, ice mass loss in Greenland, Antarctica, The Arctic and mountain glaciers worldwide, shifts in flower plant blooming and extreme weather events.”

Some review of related study

1. **Stefan Gossling et.al.(2022)** the paper concludes that without mitigation efforts tourism will deplete 40% of the world’s remaining carbon budget to 1.5 Celsius yet the most powerful carbonization measures face major corporate, political and technical barriers. Without global strategy efforts at the national scale to manage the sector’ emissions, tourism will turn into one of the major drivers of climate change.
2. **Carl Latkin et. al.(2022)** in this search article researcher discovered that climate change distress and social norm are positively associated with climate change activism. Although climate change distress may not usually impede climate change activism, organization addressing climate change should considers providing social support to members and assisting those with high levels of psychological and climate change distress. Social norm around climate change activism should be fostered.
3. **kumar, prabha and kumar, Rai (2013)** in this article they have highlighted that impact of climate change major problems on productive capacity of soils and in pattern on human settlement. It is linked to human healthy directly and indirectly. They explained how climate related environmental change may influence on human societies. So there is need to control over it through the green India.
4. **Mabobane, C. Sebopela, Kola. And Odeku, O. (2014)** in this article researcher have analyses the modest comparison of regulatory intervention on climate change in India. South Africa, India both developing countries they have responsibility that located in countries with or without obligations to reduced emissions to tackle global warming and climate change.

5. **Mariamamma, A.K. (2014)** in his research paper he said that environment is omnipresent so there is need to protect environment because of global warming and climate change. Environment law is an instrument to protect and improve environment and prevent the environment pollution. Global warming and climate change is the major problems of today's world and Indian judiciary is playing important role for protection of environment.
6. **Prasad, Sanjay (2015)** in his article he analyses that natural disaster and global warming can cause tremendous damage to people's health, safety. , CO₂ increase day by day in environment, green house gases, NO₂, increasing, modern industrialization are the responsible factors for global warming and climate change

Rationale of the study

The proposed study will have great importance in the present scenario. The climate change awareness which will be inculcated among students at the senior secondary stage will positively affect their future thinking towards the environment and environmental protection. Environmental issues affect all our activities to varying degrees. Environmental awareness at secondary stages helps in solve various problems in the future.

There is a need to raise awareness amongst the people and students specially so as to help them acquire an awareness of environment and its associated problems. The role of education in raising environmental awareness is very crucial. The present research work attempts to study the attitude of senior secondary school students towards the environment and climate change with the help of a self-made tool or questionnaire. The study will be helpful in developing the positive attitude of senior secondary school students towards the environment, which will result in increased environmental awareness and awareness regarding climate change.

Statement of the problem

The study is entitled as A study of Climate change awareness among senior secondary school students of district Hamirpur Himachal Pradesh.

Objectives of the study

1. To find out the significant difference in climate change awareness among girls and boys senior secondary school students.
2. To find out the significant difference in climate change awareness among rural and urban senior secondary school students.
3. To find out the significant difference in climate change awareness among science and arts stream senior secondary school students.

Hypothesis of the study

1. There will be no significant difference in climate change awareness among girls and boys senior secondary school students.
2. There will be no significant difference in climate change awareness among rural and urban senior secondary school students.
3. There will be no significant difference in climate change awareness among science and arts stream senior secondary school students.

Methodology

The present study was conducted in the descriptive survey design and Students of senior secondary schools of district Hamirpur Himachal Pradesh were consider as the population of the study. The sample of present study included 200 senior secondary school students of ten schools of district Hamirpur. In all 200 senior secondary school students are taken 50 % of boys and 50% of girls. for selection of sample, simple random sampling technique was used.

Tool used: self-made climate change awareness test was used to collect the data for the study. it consists of 41 multiple choice questions which measure the awareness response. The scoring is based on the choice of answer key.

Statistical technique used: in the present study statistical technique of mean, SD and the t -test was used to find out the significant difference in environmental awareness among senior secondary students in relation to gender, stream and locality.

Analysis and interpretation of data

Table-1

variables	Sub variables	N	Mean	SD	t-value	Level of significance
Gender	Girls	100	28.14	5.74	0.53	Not significant
	Boys	100	27.72	5.54		
Locality	Rural	100	28.82	5.67	2.28*	significant
	Urban	100	27.04	5.48		
Stream	Science	100	28.56	5.23	1.59	Not significant
	Arts	100	27.30	5.97		

* Significant at 0.05

Table given above shows that

- The mean score of girl students is 28.14 where as mean score of boy students is 27.72. There is slight variation in the mean score of the sample. Therefore, the calculated t-value is 0 .53 which is not significant at 0.05 level. Thus hypothesis 1 stand accepted, it shows that there is no difference in climate change awareness among girl and boy students.
- The mean score of rural students is 28.82 where as mean score of urban students is 27.04. There is variation in the mean score of the sample. Therefore, the calculated t-value is 2.28 which is significant at 0.05 level and not significant at 0.01 level of significant. Thus hypothesis 2 is rejected, it shows that there is difference in climate change awareness among rural and urban students.
- The mean score of science stream students is 28.56 where as mean score of arts stream students is 27.30. There is slight variation in the mean score of the sample. Therefore, the calculated t-value is 1.59 which is not significant at 0.05 level. Thus hypothesis 3 stand accepted it shows that there is no difference in climate change awareness among science and arts stream students.

• Main Findings of the study

Based on the analysis and interpretation of data, investigator arrived at below mentioned findings

- There is no significant difference in climate change awareness among girls and boys senior secondary school students.
- There is a significant difference in climate change awareness among rural and urban senior secondary school students.
- There is no significant difference in climate change awareness among science and arts stream senior secondary school students.

Conclusion and discussion of the results

The present study is limited to a sample of 200 senior secondary school students in the district of Hamirpur, Himachal Pradesh. The present study indicates that there was no significant difference found between boys and girls student in climate change awareness. Study also indicates that the stream does not affect the climate change awareness of students. The present study revealed that there was a significant difference between rural and urban senior secondary school students in regard to their climate change awareness. The study helps us to develop the positive attitude of senior secondary school students towards climate change.

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