

**ENVIRONMENTAL KNOWLEDGE OF MANAGEMENT STUDENTS: A STUDY****Dipak Chavan, Ph. D.***Associate Professor, Tilak College of Education, Pune***Abstract**

The present research work is anticipated to study the Management students' Environmental Knowledge. The objectives of this study were, to find the Environmental knowledge of would be Managers, to compare the Environmental knowledge of boys and girl students of Management studies and to compare the Environmental knowledge between urban and rural students of Management studies. The null hypotheses for this study were, there will be no significant difference between means of Environmental knowledge test scores of male and female students and there will be no significant difference between means of Environmental knowledge test scores of urban and rural students. The population is the Management students from MBA Colleges of Pune City and the sample includes 103 management students from five Management Colleges from Pune City. Environmental Knowledge Test (EKT) developed by the researcher was the tool for collection. Mean, Standard Deviation and t-test are the statistical tools used for analysis of data.

The conclusions of this research are the student teachers' environmental knowledge of Management students is good, the Environmental knowledge of Management male students is slight more than the female students, but this difference is not significant and the rural Management students from rural area have more environmental knowledge than the urban students and this difference is significant.

Keywords: *Environmental Knowledge, Management students*



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1. Introduction

Environmental protection has been a theme of great importance to us from ancient time. However, not much concern was expressed until some signs of its deterioration are noticed as a result of human activities. Several Governmental and Non-Governmental organizations have initiated programs to monitor and understand the Environmental issues. Pollution, Greenhouse effect, Global Warming, Deforestation, Seasonal Changes, Floods and Draughts are the prominent environmental issues of the 21st century.

Environmental Education (EE) is the best solution to overcome the effects of environmental issues and to protect our Mother Earth. Environmental Education is receiving considerable attention day by day and discussed in various International, National and local level meetings, seminars, workshops and conference throughout the World. The Supreme Court of

India directed all the States and Educational agencies in the country to introduce Environmental Education as a compulsory subject at schools and higher education level.

Environmental Education is a process aimed at developing a world population that is aware of and concerned about the total environment and its associated problems. It includes enhancement of Environmental knowledge, attitudes, concerns, commitments and skills to work individually and collectively toward solutions of current problems and the prevention of new ones. The curriculum of Environmental Education at higher level aims to provide knowledge, develop awareness and positive attitude towards environment.

As the management students are the Managers of tomorrow, they must have proper Environmental knowledge, favorable attitude towards the environment, required skills to manage environmental issues. Keeping this view in mind, the researcher decided to study the Management students' level of Environmental knowledge. He also decided to study the effect of gender and locale of the student on their Environmental knowledge.

2. Statement of the problem

To study the Environmental knowledge of management students from Pune city

3. Operational definitions

- **Environmental knowledge:** The knowledge about the environment, its factors, its problems and the ways to protect it is called Environmental knowledge.
- **Management students:** Students who are studying in Management colleges for pursuing MBA degree are the Management students

4. Objectives of the study

The objectives of this study were as follows:

- 1 To find the Environmental knowledge of would be Managers.
- 2 To compare the Environmental knowledge of boys and girl students of Management studies.
- 3 To compare the Environmental knowledge between urban and rural students of Management studies.

5. Assumptions

The assumptions for this study are as follows:

1. Management students have studied environmental knowledge as compulsory subject in school and graduation college level.
2. The environmental knowledge of individual helpful for the protection of the environment.

3. The environmental knowledge can be measured by the knowledge test.

6. Hypotheses

- **Research hypotheses**

Following are the research hypotheses:

1. There will be a significant difference between environmental knowledge of male and female students
2. There will be significant difference between environmental knowledge of urban and rural students.

- **Null hypotheses**

Null hypotheses formulated in this study are as follows:

1. There will be no significant difference between means of Environmental knowledge test scores of male and female students.
2. There will be no significant difference between means of Environmental knowledge test scores of urban and rural students.

7. Research Methodology

7.1 Method of Research

The method selected for the study was decided on the basis of the nature of the problem. The researcher wanted to find out the Environmental Knowledge of the management students. The research problem has the inherent need to have survey method of investigation which is a type of descriptive method of research.

7.2 Population and Sample

. The Management students from MBA Colleges of Pune City is the population for this research work.

The representative group of 103 management students from the larger population is the sample for this study. For the sample, five Management Colleges were randomly selected from all the Management Colleges in the Pune city which were affiliated to Pune University. Incidental sampling method was used for selection of Management students from these five colleges. This sample was divided into two sub-sample groups, their group-wise distribution was given in the table.

Table 1 Groups of the Management students in the sample

Sr. No.	Group	Sub sample	N	Total
1	Gender	Male	75	103
		Female	28	
2	Locale	Rural	40	103
		Urban	603	

7.3 Tool for Data collection

The Environmental knowledge of the Management students was measured by using Environmental Knowledge Test (EKT) developed by the researcher. The Environmental Knowledge Test was useful in measuring the knowledge of an individual related to environment and their problems is called Environmental Knowledge Test. The EKT prepared by the researcher that includes 50 multiple type questions. These MCQs are taken from the syllabus of Environmental Education, which they have been taught at second year graduation level and at school level. This EKT is of maximum 50 scores. The score limits for deciding the Environmental Knowledge of the Management students is as follows-

Table 2 Score limit and Environmental knowledge of the students

Sr. No.	Scores	Environmental Knowledge
1.	00 to 10	Very poor
2.	11 to 20	Poor
3.	21 to 30	Average
4	31 to 40	Good
	41 to 50	Excellent

7.4 Statistical techniques

To study the Environmental Knowledge Test (EKT) of management students, mean of the scores was used and to test the significance of difference between two means t-test was used.

8. Scope, limitations and delimitations

Scope: In this study the researcher proposed to find the Environmental knowledge of the Management students. This research work is related to the Environmental knowledge of the Management students from Management Colleges.

Limitation: The conclusions of this research are dependent on the responses given by the Management students to the Environmental Knowledge Test.

Delimitations:

1. The study is delimited to the Management Colleges affiliated to Pune University only.
2. It is delimited to the Management Colleges in Pune city only.

3. This research is limited to Environmental knowledge only.
4. It is also delimited to the Management students sample drawn from five Management Colleges only.

9. Administration of tool and data collection

The researcher made Environmental Knowledge Test was administered on the Management students from five Management Colleges from Pune city. This test was administered in a group situation under standard conditions, the responses were collected, Each Scale was evaluated according to the scoring key and the total score on Environmental knowledge was calculated. The data obtained were subjected to suitable statistical techniques.

10. Data analysis and interpretation

The mean and standard deviation for the total sample and relevant sub sample based on gender, locale, faculty and medium of instruction were computed. The mean and Environmental Attitude of all student teachers and sub sample is given in the table.

Table 3 The means and Environmental Knowledge of sample and sub samples

Sr. No.	Group	Sub sample	N	Mean	Environmental Knowledge
1.	Total sample		103	31.8	Good
2.	Gender	Male	75	32	Good
		Female	28	31.6	Good
3.	Locale	Rural	40	38.75	Excellent
		Urban	63	24.85	Average

11. Hypotheses testing

Two null hypotheses were stated and tested by using t test to compare two means. The Mean, Standard deviation and t-value of Environmental knowledge Scores of student teachers is given in table.

Table 4 Mean, Standard deviation and t-value of Environmental knowledge Scores

Hypothesis	Student	N	Mean	S D	t- value calculated	Null Hypothesis *
Hypothesis No. 1	Male	75	32	0.32	2.44	Accepted
	Female	28	31.6	1.07		
Hypothesis No. 2	Rural	40	38.75	1.26	19.8	Rejected
	Urban	63	24.85	1.62		

* t- value from Table at 0.01 level is 2.63

Table 4 reveals that there is no significant difference in the mean scores of environmental Knowledge of by male and female Management students. Therefore the null hypothesis No. 1 is accepted. As the t- value is not significant, this very little difference that exists may be due to sampling error.

It is also seen that there is significant difference in the mean scores of environmental knowledge of Management students from rural and urban area, therefore the null hypothesis No.2 is rejected.

12. Conclusions

Following are the conclusions of the study:

1. The student teachers' environmental knowledge of Management students is good.
2. The Environmental knowledge of Management male students is slight more than the female students, but this difference is not significant.
3. The rural Management students from rural area have more environmental knowledge than the urban students and this difference is significant.

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