

**"NEW NPE 2016 – A REFLECTION ON FOCUS, ISSUES AND CHALLENGES" WITH
SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION**

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ABSTRACT


Environmental issues attracted popular attention and it was felt that education had to respond appropriately to this crying need of the time. Environmental education is education about the environment, through the environment and for the environment. The syllabus of environmental education would aim at generating among young learners an awareness of and sensitivity to the total environment in a holistic manner and the problems associated with it. It would also equip the future custodians of the earth with the requisite knowledge of the total environment, natural and social, the problems associated with it and the necessary skills for solving these in a positive and sustainable manner.

Today it can be very well understood that the philosophy of human being with his environment has to be changed. Also it's a fact that the concern for nature and natural resources is not at all a new concept for Indians. Admiration for nature and the urge to concern and protect it has always been a part of our civilization. Therefore our government announced a **National Policy of Education in 1986 (renewed in 1992)** which recommended that:

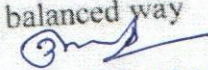
Education and Environment

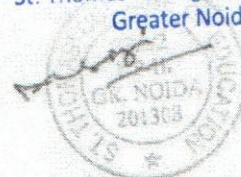
8.15 "There is a paramount need to create a consciousness of the environment. It must permeate all ages and all sections of society, beginning with the child. Environmental consciousness should inform teaching in schools and colleges. This aspect will be integrated in the entire educational process." (8.15, p.39)

Thus, environmental education may be considered to be an approach to education, which incorporates considerations of environment, rather than being a separate part of education. In other words environmental approach aims to evolve an environmental ethics i.e. a balanced way of thinking, feeling and acting towards the environment.


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INNOVATIVE TEACHING TRENDS

Opportunities and Challenges

Edited By Dr. Babita Bhardwaj

Since teaching is a practical activity and teachers face challenging situations during teaching-learning process no matter where they teach or since when they are teaching. Despite similarities appearing on the surface, every classroom situation is unique and depends on several internal and external factors that should have been taken into account. Of all the components of education, the role of the teacher is the key factor which determines quality of education. Teacher acts as an instrument to bring innovation and evolution in educational system which is essential for an individual, a nation, and humankind to survive and progress. Education needs new ideas and inventions to meet the performance expectations of today's status quo. Educational innovation helps in finding new, positive, impactful ways to rethink roles and responsibilities, create meaningful learning opportunities, and enable students and teachers to untangle complexity. Innovative teaching trends are of particular importance because education plays a crucial role in creating a sustainable society.

The purpose of the articles in this book is to find ways to address the challenging situations in the classroom and to use innovative methods in educational institutions not only to improve education, but also to empower people, strengthen governance and galvanize the effort to achieve the human development goal for the country. This book has been designed with the intention of providing insightful knowledge on recent classroom practices, innovative strategies and pedagogies in modern educational scenario.

The articles in the book are compiled for the growing number of people including pre-service or in-service teachers, student teachers, teacher educators and research scholars who wish to explore innovative teaching trends in contemporary society.



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"Teachers are the backbone of any country, the pillar upon which all aspirations are converted into realities".
- Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam

Education system is dynamic and vibrant which enriches society with the help of diverse teaching activities. Of all the components of education, the key which determines the success or failure of a state in educating its citizens is the role of the teacher in the educational set-up. It is beyond argument that teachers are the backbone of the society, country and the educational system. The citizens of tomorrow are their students and thus the future of the country lies in their hands. But there is another element which is equally important, if not more. That is the degree of motivation and commitment of teachers. This factor goes into the making or breaking of an education system. Teachers' professional competencies, knowledge and pedagogic skills mold the minds and personalities of the generations of tomorrow. Therefore, teachers have the power to bring reform in the society.

Preface

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A Study on environmental awareness amongst B.Ed. Students in terms of NCF (2005)

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ABSTRACT: In this research paper, the environmental awareness of B.Ed. students in teacher-training colleges has been measured and the relationship between awareness and background variables has also been investigated. Since environmental awareness is related with the present day concern of our society, it is presumed that the study will be helpful in solving present day environmental problems. It was carried out on a sample of total 151 B.Ed. students (both boys and girls) selected through random sampling. To measure the environmental awareness of B.Ed. students, the researcher has used self-developed tool viz., a multiple-choice questionnaire. To know the results obtained from scores, statistical calculation of scores was done using Mean, Standard Deviation, Correlation Coefficient and t-Test. The findings which emerged from detailed data analysis and interpretation according to the research objectives and conclusions of the study were made keeping in mind the objectives of study.

KEYWORDS: Environmental Awareness, Environmental Education, Teacher Education, NCF 2005

1. INTRODUCTION

All social, biological, physical and chemical factors, is environment, that create both in man and nature as creator and moderator. Mankind has prospered but at the expense of environmental quality. Anthropogenic activities (caused by human actions) and consequent developments have brought about the specter of an overwhelming degradation of all facets of the natural environment: physical, chemical, biological and social. It has now become a global concern which is believed to have been brought about by multiplicity of factors like pressure from rapid population increase, uncontrolled and lavish consumption of precious environmental resources, industrialization and consequent urbanization, injudicious application of service and technology in the exploitation of resources. This has precipitated a serious environmental crisis.

India, since the early seventies, has taken an active part in global efforts to tackle environmental problems. Common people, non-governmental organizations, voluntary agencies as well as government have made several efforts for environmental conservation. Though Acts are enforced in the country, their implementation is not so easy. Substantial resources, technical expertise,

political and social wills, awareness among the people and their support are required to implement these rules. Much of it can be prevented by proper education. The needs and aspirations of society are reflected in the education system. In order to meet this need the concept of environmental education was first evolved in 1960's and 1970's at international level. At present one can find its reflection at each level of our education system.

Environmental education, which has a special relevance in contemporary world and is a focused issue attracting the global concern, has to have special emphasis on Teacher Education so that the quality of environmental education improves the formal system of education. From the above discussion, we can very well appreciate the necessity of environmental awareness in the present scenario. For sustainable development education is considered as a crucial factor that creates literate society environmentally. To strengthen the professional development among teachers is major challenge facing Environmental Education. It is the main component of pre-service education.

Thus, the present study is a significant investigation because the aim of the study is to know the environmental awareness amongst B.Ed. students. The awareness amongst B.Ed. students is essential for environmental education.

