

EPSDIC-2016



ISSN: 2321-7758

IMPORTANCE OF ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

P.NEERADA

Lecturer in Chemistry, V R S & Y R N College, Chirala, Prakasam Dt, A.P.

E-mail:kiranneerada@gmail.com Cell:9291678238,9290461736.

ABSTRACT

Environment is the physical and biotic habitat that surrounds us. The need to have a working knowledge of environmental issues is not confined to environmental scientists, engineers and policy makers. The major goals of environmental education programs are to raise consciousness about environmental conditions and to teach environmentally appropriate behaviour. The greatest challenge we face is to rediscover our place on this planet. Our inventiveness has enabled us to overcome virtually any ecological barrier, hence we in habitat and exploit every part of the world. Environmental education is evolving to be the education for sustainable and ethical development. Knowledge about the environment is not an end, but rather a beginning. Thus the environmental education is aimed at increasing the public awareness and knowledge about environmental issues and provides facts, opinions to make informed decisions and take environmentally responsible actions.

Key Words: biotic habitat, ecological barrier, ethical development, sustainable empowerment.

INTRODUCTION

The country accepted the need for environmental education with the recommendations of Tiwari Committee. Many people recognized the need for environmental education. Besides introducing the subject of environmental science at all levels of education, we must give much emphasis on the new approaches and programmes of environmental education. The lay public in rural, tribal, slum and urban areas, women and students and teachers in schools, colleges and universities need to be educated about environment. Environmental education must strongly promote the need for personal initiatives and social participation to achieve sustainability. Environmental education is important for understanding the basis of our existence. Environmental education together with sound legislation, sustainable management; responsible action by Indian communities is an important component of an effective policy framework for protecting and managing the environment.

Environmental education is a new focus for education. It's a way of helping individuals and societies to resolve fundamental issues and future use of world's resources. However, simply rising awareness of these issues is insufficient to bring about change. Environmental education must strongly promote the need for social participation to achieve sustainability. The concept of environmental education is not a new one as major part of human knowledge is derived from nature. Environmental pollution in different forms continues to trouble us but environmental education makes it possible for us to understand the clear outcome of human activity on environment. Those who want to pursue environmental education seriously shall also study related disciplines such as Physical Sciences, Social Sciences, Biological Sciences and applied sciences. Environmental education can be pursued at UG and PG level.

OBJECTIVES OF ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION:

Awareness: - To acquire an awareness and sensitivity to the total environment and allied problems.

Attitudes: To gain a set of values and feelings of concern for environment and motivation for actively participating in environment improvement and protection.

Knowledge: To gain a variety of experiences in and acquire a basic understanding of the environment and its associated problems.

Skills: To acquire the skills for identifying and solving environmental problems.

Participation: To encourage citizens to be actively involved at all levels in working towards resolution of environment protection.

Evaluation ability: to evaluate environment measures and education programmes in terms of social, economic, ecological and aesthetic factors.

TEACHER EDUCATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION:

In order to show students in knowledge, skill and values, attitudes and awareness relevant to environment teacher is expected to be not only dispenser of information and knowledge but also manages to teaching learning situation. The ways of classroom education has to be drastically changed. Teacher preparation assures greater significance of teacher, with right attitude and will to equip the future generation moulded during the period. In the present study investigators highlight the need to understand the one's immediate surroundings and the right attitude to preserve our local environmental resources at all costs.

The effectiveness of environmental education relies heavily on knowledge, skill and attitudes of educator. Environmental education is not only a change in what is being taught (content) but also a new perspective on why and how. The key to any change in formal educational system is the teacher, and unless the teacher is convinced about the feels of competent to handle this, very little will change. The teacher has to internalize a change in his/her role from one of the facilitator in learning process. If teachers are to be effective facilitators in bringing environmental education into teaching and learning their capacities in understanding and internalizing the characteristics of environmental education and skills, these need to be built and strengthened. One way to do this is through pre-service and in-service orientation and training.

REFERENCES

1. Centre for Environmental Education, Preliminary report, Ahmedabad.
2. Environmental Education, Anmol Publications, New Delhi.
3. Indian Journal of Environmental Education.
4. Journal of Education for teaching.