A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS AND ATTITUDE OF TEACHERS AND STUDENTS OF SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN INDIA AND IRAN

ABSTRACT

The present investigation is essentially a descriptive-cum-comparative study of environmental awareness and environmental attitude of teachers and students of secondary schools in India and Iran. The study has the following three-fold purpose: (i) to assess the level of environmental awareness of secondary school teachers and students, (ii) to assess the level of environmental attitude of secondary school teachers and students, (iii) to relate the environmental awareness and environmental attitude of teachers and students separately as well as together and also to compare their background variables gender, age, length of experience, area of specialisation, academic qualification, class and type of school. In this study, environmental awareness and environmental attitude are dependent variables and gender, age, length of experience, area of specialisation, academic qualification, class and type of school are independent variables. The sample for the present study was selected in three stages. One thousand and four teachers and also nine hundred and ninety-one students were selected through the stratified random sampling technique from 103 secondary schools of Mysore city (India) and Tehran city (Iran). The data collected was analysed using the statistical techniques like Analysis of Variance (ANOVA), correlation and chi-square ($\chi^2$).

Three questionnaires were used to collect data about teachers’ environmental awareness and environmental attitude, and also students’ environmental awareness
and environmental attitude. Environmental Awareness Test (EAT) was used to
measure environmental awareness of teachers on six different aspects of the work.
Environmental Awareness Ability Measure (EAAM) was used to measure
environmental awareness of students on five different dimensions. Taj Environmental
Attitude Scale (TEAS) was used to measure environmental attitude of teachers and
students on six areas.

Findings of this study reveal that variables like gender, age and lengths of
teaching experience have no effect on teachers environmental awareness but type of
school management, academic qualification and subject specialisation have influence
on environmental awareness of teachers.

The study indicates that there is no significant difference between type of
school management, age, lengths of teaching experience and teachers’ environmental
attitude. Also, it is found that there is a significant difference between gender,
academic qualification, subject specialisation and teachers’ environmental attitude.

The study reveals that gender has no effect on students’ environmental
awareness but type of school management, different class have influence on
environmental awareness of students.

The study indicates that there is significant difference between gender, type of
school management, different class and students’ environmental attitude.

The present study reveals that there is relationship between environmental
awareness and environmental attitude of teachers and students in both the countries it
shows that the degree of relationship between environmental awareness and
environmental attitude is not the same for teachers and students in India and Iran.