

ABSTRACT

The present study was aimed to study the environmental knowledge and values of the undergraduate students of The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Vadodara. An urgent need was found of understanding the concepts of environment and developing environmental knowledge and values in people especially among youth as they are going to be the future policy makers and those who have to live in this environment for years.

Population of the study comprised of undergraduate students of The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Vadodara. The sample consisted of 900 undergraduate students from selected faculties of The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Vadodara.

A structured questionnaire was prepared as a tool for data collection consisted of profile of the respondents, environment knowledge test and scale for measuring environment values of the respondents. Survey method was used for data collection. The analysis of the data was done by using different statistical measures like percentage, t - test, F- test, ANOVA, post hoc statistics, intensity indices and correlation coefficient.

The purpose of this study was to propose an efficient and unbiased method of finding out environmental knowledge and values of the students and to identify factors influencing an individual's environmental knowledge and values.

Overall majority of the undergraduate students of The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Vadodara showed moderate level of environmental knowledge and high level of environmental values. This implies that there is scope for strengthening student's knowledge regarding environment and its conservation through strategic efforts so that they become environment conscious and friendly and get actively involved in environment conservation practices. A positive and strong correlation coefficient was found between environmental knowledge and environmental values of the respondents that showed that high environmental knowledge will result in high environmental values. Thus, strengthening knowledge will further enhance the inculcation of strong environmental values. A significant difference was found in the

environmental knowledge of the undergraduate students of The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Vadodara in relation to their faculty, medium of instruction in school, board of school education, mother's education, father's education, family type, family size and family income.

This study can assess the further need for adding environmental knowledge and inculcating the environmental values in students. Thus it will help the researchers in planning further studies about environment and environmental educational programmes.