

**ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS AND ATTITUDE TOWARDS ENVIRONMENTAL
EDUCATION AMONG THE COLLEGE STUDENTS
IN GREATER SHILLONG**

ABSTRACT

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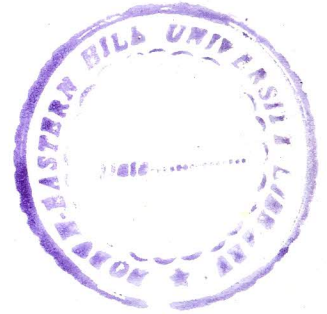
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ABSTRACT

By

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**SUBMITTED
IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENT
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**NORTH EASTERN HILL UNIVERSITY
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ABSTRACTS

To-day, there is an urgent need for generating an awareness of environment and its problems among people in view of growing conflicts between short and long term goals of development. Awareness leads to analysis of issues and action. In order to develop environmental awareness among the people, education is the best means, which can influence the people at large. Environmental Education is an effective instrument for developing environmental awareness among the people. Further, attitude plays an important role in learning a subject like Environmental Education.

Keeping in view, the need and importance of environmental awareness as well as attitude towards environmental education and the role of Environmental Education particularly in the state of Meghalaya, the present study was undertaken.

The major objectives of the present study were:

(i) to find out the environmental awareness among the college students in Greater Shillong; (ii) to find out the attitude of college students in Greater Shillong towards Environmental Education; (iii) to compare the awareness level among the college students on the basis of gender, courses of study and types of colleges; (iv) to compare the attitude of college students on the basis of gender, courses of study and types of colleges; and (v) to find out the relationship

between environmental awareness and attitude towards Environmental Education among the college students in Greater Shillong.

The sample of the present study was selected by adopting random sampling technique. The final sample included 200 third-year degree course college students of Greater Shillong (100 boys and 100 girls). Again, in the selected sample, 67 students were from Arts, 67 from Science and the remaining 66 were from Commerce stream. Out of the total sample, 130 students were from Deficit, 37 from Adhoc and the remaining 33 were studying in Private college. In the present study the Measure of Environment Awareness and the Attitude towards Environmental Education scale were used. They were administered to the selected sample by following a systematic procedure. The obtained data on the Measure of Environment Awareness and the Attitude towards Environmental Education Scale were analysed separately by computing Mean, Median, Mode, Standard Deviation, Quartile Deviation, Skewness and Kurtosis for the entire sample as well as separately for boys, girls, students studying in Arts, Science and Commerce courses and students belonging to Deficit, Adhoc and Private colleges. The 't'-test was applied to find out the various types of group differences in Environmental Awareness as well as Attitude towards Environmental Education. The relationship between Environmental Awareness and Attitude towards Environmental Education among the college students in Greater

Shillong was found out by employing Pearson's Product Moment Method. The reliability of the Measure of Environment Awareness was found out by Test-Retest Method and the content validity of the same instrument was also established.

The major findings of the present study were:

- (i) the level of environmental awareness of the total sample; Boys; Girls; Arts and Science students; students studying in Deficit and Adhoc colleges were "Very Good";
- (ii) the level of environmental awareness of the Commerce students and the students studying in Private college were "Good";
- (iii) the attitude of the total sample; Boys; Girls; Arts, Science and Commerce students; and students studying in Deficit, Adhoc and Private colleges towards Environmental Education were "favourable";
- (iv) the Measure of Environment Awareness was reliable. The reliability coefficient ('r') obtained by test-retest method was 0.75. It also possessed content validity;
- (v) there was no significant difference between Boys and Girls; Arts and Science students; Arts and Commerce students; students studying in Deficit and Adhoc colleges; students studying in Deficit and Private colleges and students studying in Adhoc and Private colleges in terms of their mean environmental awareness scores as well as attitude towards Environmental Education scores;
- (vi) there was a significant difference between Science and Commerce students in terms of their mean environmental awareness scores;
- (vii) there was no significant difference between

Science and Commerce students in terms of their mean attitude scores towards Environmental Education; (viii) there was a significant positive relationship between environmental awareness and attitude towards environmental education among the college students in Greater Shillong. The obtained value of coefficient correlation ('r') was 0.80.

Some suggestions have also been given for conducting further research in the same field.

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