Environmental Awareness Among NHG Women In Kannur District

[a]Maya Raveendran, [b]Kirubakaran Samuel

[a]Ph.D Research Scholar, Department of Sociology, Annamalai University, Annamalai Nagar, Chidambaram-608 002, Tamil Nadu, India
[b]Professor & Head, Department of Sociology, Annamalai University, Annamalai Nagar, Chidambaram-608 002, Tamil Nadu, India

Corresponding author: Maya Raveendran.

Abstract

Background: The present study aimed to know the "environmental awareness among NHG women in Kannur District". Waste management has become an essential service that need to be provided by government for the wellness of public. Due to the rapid growth at which economics are expanding along with the rising living standards, led to increase the quantity and complexity of waste generated. Today waste management has become a serious issue in Kerala. Growth of unmanageable waste generation and garbage pile ups is creating a lot of ecological issues such as global warning.

Methodology: 100 samples were selected randomly in Kannur district, Iritty taluk. Questionnaire and interview method was used to collect the necessary data. The statistical test used for F-test and t-test were used.

Objectives: To examine the level of awareness of NHG women. To Analyze the practicing of environmental related schemes.

Result: Research concluded that respondents differ in their level of environmental awareness of NHG women based on economic status. Have high mean value of APL than BPL. Result proved that respondents differ in their level of women environmental awareness among NHG women on the basis of practicing of environmental schemes. Analysis proved that respondents differ in their level of environmental awareness of NHG women based on education.

Conclusion: Also in women environmental awareness among NHG women on the basis of practicing of environmental schemes. Have high mean value of plastic shredding units. Result found that there is a significant difference in environmental awareness in women in Kannur district. Overall as a whole, the level of environmental awareness is good in the people of Kannur district.

KEYWORD: Environmental, Awareness, Women. Neighbourhood groups.

INTRODUCTION

Environmental awareness is a concern towards environment or environmental problem. In other word we can say understanding of natural system combine with how they insert with human social systems. It implies not only knowledge about environment but also attitude, values and necessary skills to solve environmental related problems.

Moreover, environmental awareness is the initial step ultimately leading to the ability to carry on responsible behavior by citizens. Since the initial resolution of the nineteenth century, the top priority in countries all over the world has been economic growth and rearing the national income. Increase in economic attributes in developing countries results in more energy consumption which generally leads to environmental degradation. Major difficulties many countries confront are not only the lack of legal framework for environmental protection, but also lack of participation among general public in pro environmental behaviors. Moderns (1996).

The success of environmental protection depends on collective efforts. Every member of the society shares the responsibility. Earlier environmental studies often adopted the post materialistic position, assuming that a general emphasis on the quality of the environment would only take place as part of a cultural level of socio-economic development was reached. Recent studies have pointed out that although people around the world have become more concerned about environmental issues (Dunlapet 1993). For individuals, the practice of environmental protection involves the need to make different kinds of sacrifices, such as giving up the driving of private cars and paying higher price for eco-friendly products, instead of simply raising slogans. The objective of environmental protection cannot be achieved without active and concerted efforts by the entire society.

DEFINITION NHG

Neighbourhood Groups (NHGs) are the primary units of the Kudumbashree community organisation. Ten to twenty women from a neighbourhood form a NHG.

Haritha Karma Sena

Waste Management has become an essential service that need to be provided by Government for the wellness of public. Due to the rapid growth at which economies are expanding along with the rising living standards, led to increase the quantity and complexity of waste generated. Today waste management has become a serious issue in Kerala. Growth of unmanageable waste generation and garbage pile-ups is creating a lot of ecological issues such as global warming.

Green Technicians are trained man power recruited to provide technical services and solutions on waste management projects.

By Using Haritha Karma Sena and Green Protocol units, we can manage waste in our society by recycling and reusing. This team is well trained in waste management, waste disposal, waste recycling, Composting, Bio Farmin.

By sharing washable utensils for parties, marriages and other programmes through Green protocol units with marginal fee, we can reduce the generation of waste at its source and can spread a good culture to our society. This implementation of green protocol activity will also help our Kudumbashree units in getting their income.

Plastic Shredding unit

Panchayats/ Municipalities/ Corporations are installing plastic shredding units with the help of Clean Kerala Company. These shredding units will be totally manned by

Kudumbashree. Also, Kudumbashree will form Micro enterprise groups for collection of plastic/ plastic waste from all homes on payment basis. These plastics collected bimonthly or once in a week, depending on volume, will be sent to the plastic shredding units where it will be shredded and the bailed plastic will be used for recycling or for mixing with tar for PWD roads.

This facility is very much useful for flats and hospitals for making a plastic free environment. By giving wages, Uniform and hygienic safety measures and vehicle facility any one can help this volunteers in protecting our environment.

Review of literature

Kalpana Thakur (2012) conducted a study on environment awareness among senior secondary school students of Chandīgarh. The major findings of her study were that student of both government and private schools showed comparable environment awareness, science students exhibited very high degree of environment awareness to compare with the students of arts. Moreover, male science students exhibited very high degree of environment awareness than female science students but overall.

Kumud Ghosh (2014) conducted a study on environment awareness among secondary school students of Golaghat district of Assam and their attitude towards environmental education. He found that environmental awareness and attitude towards environmental education among the secondary school students (both male and female) was not significant, but in case of rural and urban student the attitude towards environmental education was found significant. The in depth and positive relationship between environmental awareness and attitude towards environmental education found among those students was worthy to be mentioned.

Maryam Larijani (2017) conducted a study on assessment of environmental awareness among higher primary school teachers Mysore City in India. A total of 300 teachers (136 male and 164 female) teaching in 6th and 7th standards were randomly selected for the present study. The environmental awareness test was employed to assess the level of environmental awareness (EAW) among teachers. Chi-square test and contingency table analysis were employed to find out the significance of difference between the teachers with respect to their gender, age and school type. Results revealed that on the whole, majority of the teachers had moderate levels of environmental awareness. Female teachers had significantly higher levels of environmental awareness as compared to their male counterparts. Age-wise analysis also revealed that teachers with 31-50 years had higher levels of environmental awareness and lastly, teachers working in private schools found to have significantly higher environmental awareness than teachers working in government schools. Implications of environmental education were also stressed.

Methodology

Using simple random sampling. 100 samples are selected in iritty taluk, Kannur district. Analyse two types of using schemes like Haritha Karma Sena and Plastic Shredding Units.

Objectives

1. To examine the level of awareness of NHG women.
2. To Analyze the practicing of environmental related schemes.

Hypothesis

1. There is no significant difference between environmental awareness of NHG women based on age.
2. There is no significant difference between environmental awareness of NHG women based on education.
3. There is no significant difference between environmental awareness of NHG women based on caste.

Method of Data collection

To collect the primary data standard questionnaires were used. The tool were circulated among the selected respondents and interview method also adopted.

Statistical tool used

The following statistical tools were used to analyze the data . They were

- Descriptive analysis (Mean and Standard Deviation),
- Simple correlation analysis

The means, standard deviations of the entire sample are computed, In order to test the significance 't' test is used.

RESULT AND DICUSSION

Table: 1

level of environmental awareness of NHG women based on age

Age	Mean	S.D	F-value	P-value
30 to 35	18.96	3.17		
36 to 40	14.73	3.29	7.49	0.001 Significant
Above 40	8.59	2.89		

It is inferred from the obtained F-value there is a significant difference in respondents level of environmental awareness of NHG women based on age. F-value (7.49) which is significant at 0.001 level. It stated that null hypothesis is rejected and alternate hypothesis is accepted. It is concluded that respondents differ in their level of environmental awareness of NHG women based on age.

Figure: 1

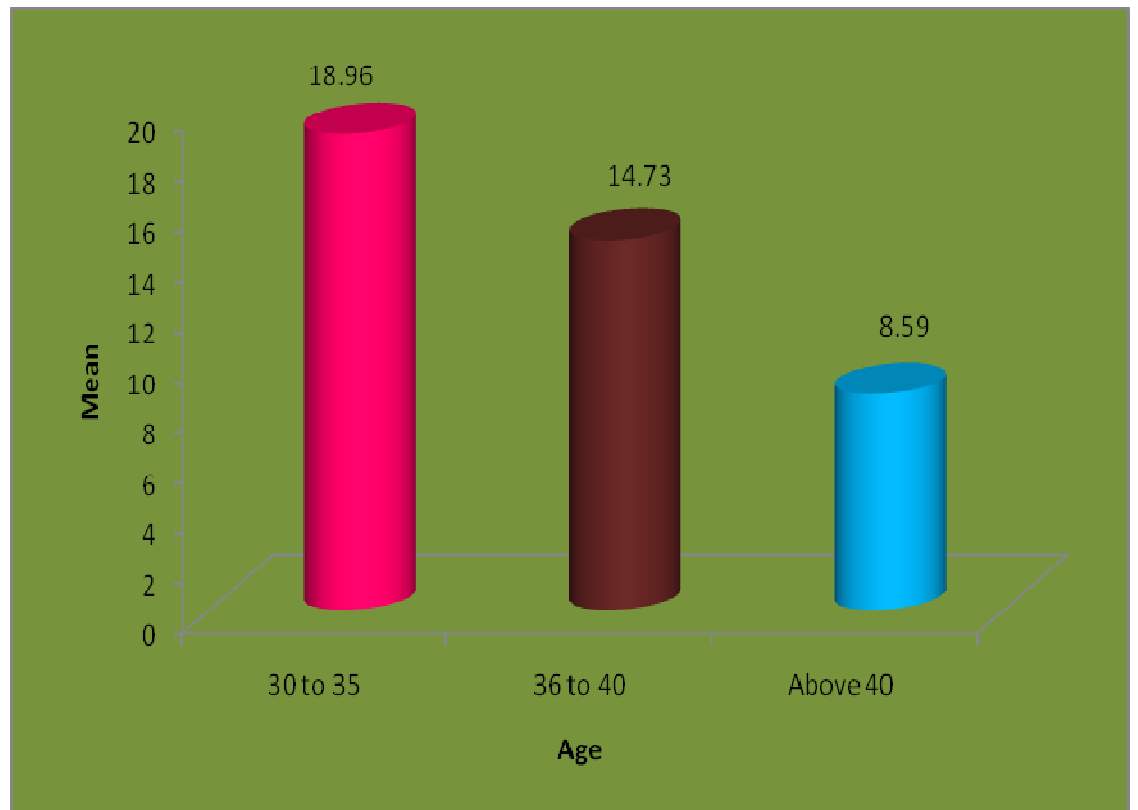**Showing Mean level of environmental awareness of NHG women based on age**

Table: 2

level of environmental awareness of NHG women based on education

Education	Mean	S.D	F-value	P-value
Primary	6.27	1.47		
Secondary	8.63	1.56	6.14	0.001 Significant
Graduate	15.6	2.06		

It is inferred from the obtained F-value there is a significant difference in respondent's level of environmental awareness of NHG women based on education. F-value (6.14) which is significant at 0.001 level. it is concluded that respondents differ in their level of environmental awareness of NHG women based on education.

Figure: 2

Showing Mean level of environmental awareness of NHG women based on education
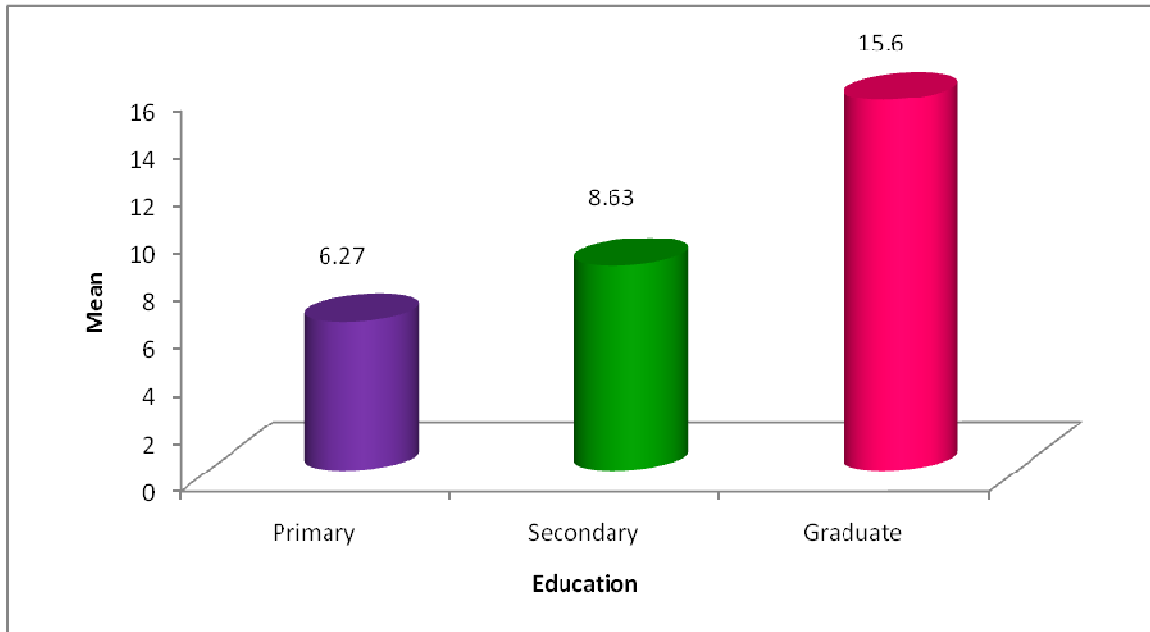

Table: 3

respondents level of environmental awareness of NHG women based on caste

Caste	Mean	S.D	F-value	P-value
General	7.12	1.46		
OBC	13.69	1.21	4.87	0.001 Significant
SC/ST	4.85	1.38		

It is observed from the obtained F-value there is a significant difference in respondent's level of environmental awareness of NHG women based on caste. F-value (4.87) which is significant at 0.001 level. Therefore the stated null hypothesis is rejected and alternate hypothesis is accepted. It is concluded that respondents differ in their level of environmental awareness of NHG women based on caste.

Figure: 3

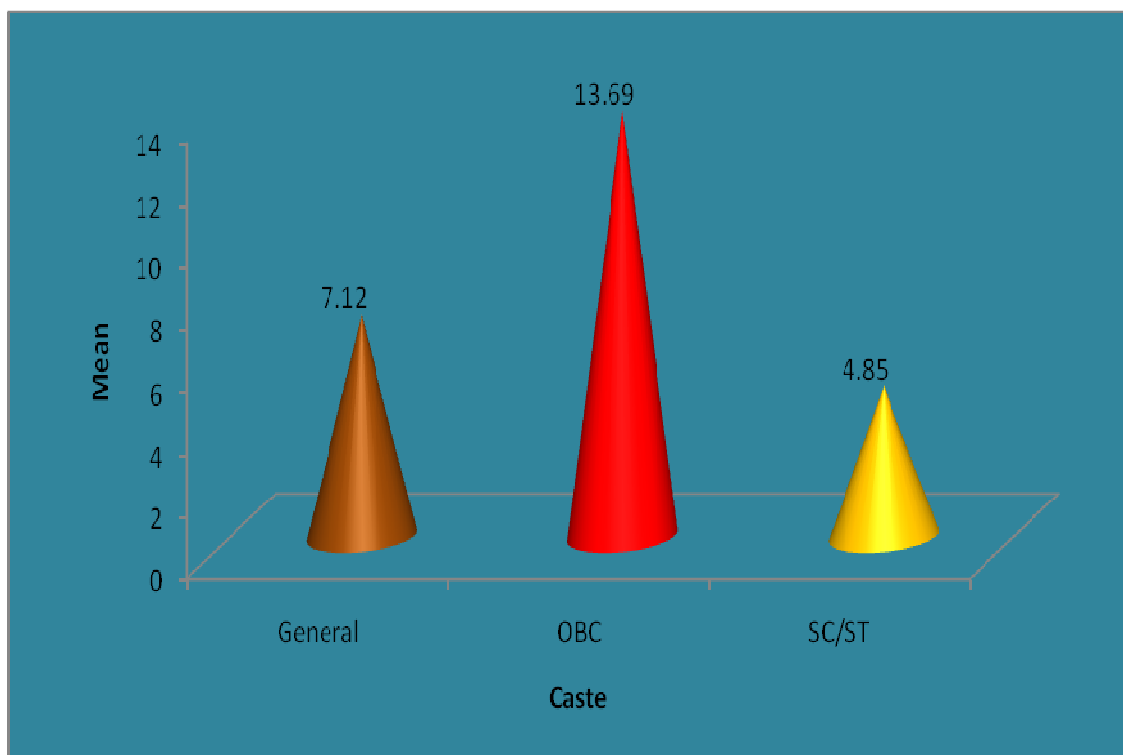**Showing Mean level of environmental awareness of NHG women based on caste**

Table: 4

level of environmental awareness of NHG women based on economic status

Economic status	Mean	S.D	t-value	P-value
APL	13.6	2.17	4.17	0.001(S)
BPL	10.8	2.13		

* Significant at 0.05 level

It is inferred from the obtained t-value there is a significant difference in respondents environmental awareness of NHG women based on economic status. Since the calculated t-value (4.17) which is significant at 0.001 level. Therefore it is concluded that respondents differ in their level of environmental awareness of NHG women based on economic status. Have high mean value of APL than BPL.

Figure - 4

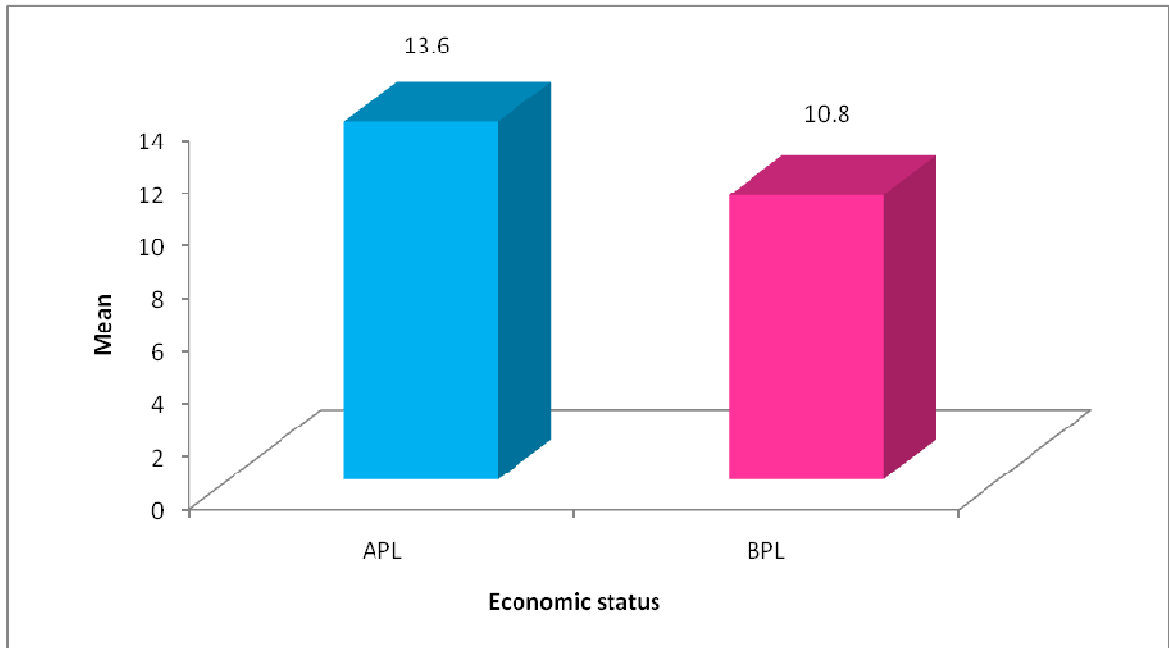**level of environmental awareness of NHG women based on economic status**

Table: 5

**level of practicing of environmental related schemes**

Group	Mean	S.D	t-value	P-value
Haritha Karma Sena	5.96	1.42		
Plastic Shredding unit	9.43	1.56	5.14	0.001(S)

* Significant at 0.05 level

It is inferred from the obtained t-value there is a significant difference in respondents environmental awareness among the NHG women on the basis of practicing of environmental schemes. Sinc t-value (5.14) which is significant 0.001. Therefore it is concluded that respondents differ in their level of women environmental awareness among NHG women on the basis of practicing of environmental schemes. Have high mean value of plastic shredding units.

Figure - 5

level of practicing of environmental related schemes
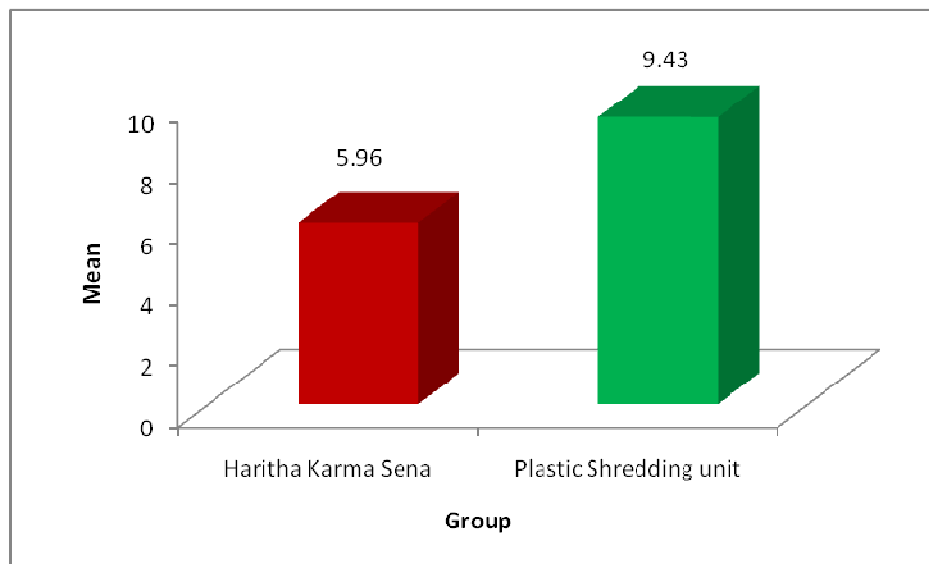
Findings

❖ Result concluded that respondents differ in their level of environmental awareness of NHG women based on age. The most of the respondents are 30 to 35 years of age group have high environmental awareness.

❖ Analysis proved that respondents differ in their level of environmental awareness of NHG women based on education.

❖ Survey exhibits that that respondents differ in their level of environmental awareness of NHG women based on caste.

❖ Research concluded that respondents differ in their level of environmental awareness of NHG women based on economic status. Have high mean value of APL than BPL.

❖ Result proved that respondents differ in their level of women environmental awareness among NHG women on the basis of practicing of environmental schemes. Have high mean value of plastic shredding units.

Conclusion

The present study aims to develop environmental awareness among NHG women in kannur district. 100 respondnets were selected studies were conducted among them. From the studies conducted it is clear that women of age 30 to 35 were mostly aware about the environment and women of age above 40 have the least environment awareness. So various measures must be taken to spread environmental awareness among the particular age group and the government and other welfare institutions must take initiative to educate women about environmental awareness. This would ultimately help

in the overall development of the nation. Further in environmental awareness of NHG women based on economic status. Have high mean value of APL (Above Poverty Line) than BPL(Below Poverty Line).

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