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**Research Paper**

### Perception of Secondary School Students towards Science Subject

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**Key words:** Perception, secondary school studnets, science subejct etc.

#### Abstract

The aim of the present study is to find out the perception of seconary school students towards science subejct. To serve this objective a sample of 120 students were selected by purposively accross the school of baripada town of Mayurbhanj district of Odisha. To collect the dare from selective sample, a selfdeveloped attitude scale towars science subject (ASS) was used . The findings revealed that there is a significant difference between boys and girls secondary school students on their attitude towards sceicne subject. Further, the urabn students were more positive attitude towards sceince subject as compare to rural students.

#### Introduction

Science occupies a very important place in curriculum at school level. A continuous advancement in educational research based on science and technology has led to the greater application of science in contemporary societies. Science education can lo longer be considered a matter of filling a student with subject matter. The science education of a student in school should be concerned with history, the process and the application of science to our present day problem.

Today teaching learning process is mostly focused on the pre-digested facts, rules, theories, and principles for which attitude, percetion and concern of the students is paramount

important. Curiosity and drive for continued learning are dependent on attitudes and emotions. The prime objective in individualistic perspective is the cultivation of scientific temper which include a spirit of inquiry, a disposition to reason logically and dispassionately, a habit of judging beliefs. It is also expected of science education that it would give individual a firm grasp on concepts and processes of science and impart to them the ability to use the scientific method of problem solving. We should inquire, what is there about the use of scientific method of problem solving. We should enquire, what is there about the present science education in school that causes the students to lose their enthusiasm for science. The present study tried to find out the attitude of high school students towards science subject.

### **Objectives of the study**

1. To study the attitude of high school students towards science subject.
2. To study the attitudinal difference between boys and girls students towards science subject.
3. To study the attitudinal difference between rural and urban high school students towards science subject.

### **Hypotheses of the study**

1. There exists a positive attitude of high school students towards science subject.
2. There exist no significant difference boys and girls with regard to attitude towards science subject.
3. There exists no significant difference between rural and urban high school students' attitudes towards science subject.

### **Research Methodology**

As per the nature of the study, descriptive study. The high school students studying in various schools of Mayurbhanj district of Odisha constituted the population of the present study. The investigators purposively selected 120 (70 boys and 50 girls) students from eight (four each) government and private high schools belonging to urban and rural areas. The sampling was done in two stages i.e. in the first stage selections of schools and in the second the selection of subjects for the study. In the present study, the investigators used self-developed "Attitude towards Science Scale (ASS). The scale is highly reliable and valid.

**Analysis and interpretation**

**Table-1**

**SIGNIFICANCE OF DIFFERENCE IN MEAN ATTITUDE SCORES BETWEEN BOYS AND GIRLS HIGH TOWARDS SCIENCE SUBJECT**

| Groups | N  | M      | S.D.  | t-ratio | Level of significance |
|--------|----|--------|-------|---------|-----------------------|
| Boys   | 70 | 134.38 | 10.05 | 2.02    | .05                   |
| Girls  | 50 | 130.09 | 11.01 |         |                       |

Table-1 denoted that the mean scores of attitude towards science subject of boys and girls high school students are 134.38 and 130.09 with SDs 10.05 and 11.01. The t-ratio came out from above two groups is 2.02 which is significant at .05 level of significance. That means there is a significant difference exist between boys and girls attitude towards science subject. Thus, the hypothesis-1 that 'there does exist a significant difference between boys and girls students on attitude towards science subject' is retained.

**Table-2**

**SIGNIFICANCE OF DIFFERENCE IN MEAN ATTITUDE SCORES BETWEEN URBAN AND RURAL HIGH TOWARDS SCIENCE SUBJECT**

| Groups | N   | M      | S.D.  | t-ratio | Level of significance |
|--------|-----|--------|-------|---------|-----------------------|
| Urban  | 100 | 125.14 | 11.05 | 3.25    | .01                   |
| Girls  | 100 | 128.03 | 10.01 |         |                       |

Table-2 denoted that the mean scores of attitude towards science subject of urban and rural school students are 125.14 and 128.03 with SDs 11.05 and 10.01. The t-ratio came out from above two groups is 3.25 which is significant at .01 level of significance. That means there is a significant difference exist between urban and rural areas high school students attitude towards science subject. Thus, the hypothesis-2 that 'there is exist a significant difference between urban and rural areas students on attitude towards science subject' is retained.

**Discussion and Conclusion**

The findings and conclusion of the study indicates that the maximum high school students have positive attitude towards science subject. Therefore the researchers suggested that

parents and teachers should take some step to make more conducive environment for learning science, so that, students should give more value to science in the daily life. Further, findings of the study indicate that high school boys' students have more attitudes towards science than the girl's students. Adequate opportunities should be given to the high school girls students so that they can also develop a better attitude to the study. So far as findings based on difference between urban and rural high school students on attitude towards science indicates that there is a significant difference between the above two groups. Again, the study found that, urban high school students have more positive attitude towards science than their rural counter parts. That means, high school students belonging to rural areas do not have adequate facilities to study science. So, special attention should be made to develop attitude towards science among the rural students for promoting science education in target areas.

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