

Earth Science Education for the New Era: A Study on Understanding the Perceptual variation Among Educationists in a Developing country- India

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The present day is confronted many problems related to man made impacts on earth system and also on the environment where we are living. Knowingly and unknowing the changes introduced in to the earth system causes major alarms to the extent resulting into man made catastrophes and sometimes it is quite unscalable in its intensity. Knowledge barriers and functional gaps that exist at all levels of education including at school to college levels. What is essential today in the event of changing conditions of life and threatened life from the nature, lack of security in life and also from other natural catastrophe and calamities determines the need for reorientation in our earth science education in this new era. Due to climate change and global warming, unprecedented changes took place at large scale sometimes at local to national and global levels. Global environmental problems have been increasing and natural resources diminishing, general public's sound understanding about the systems and processes of Earth becomes critical. The present study is an attempt to focus on the essentials in Earth science education that faces many challenges to meet the rapidly changing situation. The present study was based on a questionnaire survey (500 respondents chosen on a purposive random sampling) conducted among experts as well as students at School, college and University levels about their perception on Earth Science Education and the need to incorporate news eras in modernizing the education with the blend of information technology in the digital world in a developing country context like India. The study probed into the major dimensions and explored the possibilities for enhancing and revitalizing the Earth Science education in the years to come.