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Environmental Initiatives undertaken by Manufacturing companies: Supplementary study on Environmental Accounting in Karnataka

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Abstract: Environmental protection has become a key issue all over the world these days. Several factors and forces are responsible for destruction of environment. of these, growing hazardous industrialization is a major culprit. So the aim of the study is that to explore the initiatives undertaken by the manufacturing companies to protecting the environment and to evaluate the conservation and recycling activities of the manufacturing companies.The research study took place in Karnataka. Sample size is 77 manufacturing companies which are listed in BSE. A questionnaire is designed to find out the environmental initiation and conservation activities undertaken by the companies to control the Environmental pollution and Measures the environmental goal of the companies.

Key words: Environment, factors, destruction, Hazardous, Industrialization, Initiatives, Conservation

INTRODUCTION

The environment is something that makes up our surroundings and affects our ability to live on the earth. It forms the source of our existence. It encompasses the air we breathe, the water that covers most of the earth's surface, plants and animals around us, and much more. It denotes to both abiotic (non-living) and biotic (living) species on the environment.

Environmental protection has become a key issue all over the world these days. Several factors and forces are responsible for destruction of environment. of these, growing hazardous industrialization is a major culprit. Though swift industrialization is an essential perquisite for overall economic growth, yet it is damaging the environmental drastically, Water pollution, air pollution, solid and toxic waste pollution and other environmental contamination are common in many productions process- Every company has a overriding responsibility to make the fullest possible use of its resources both human and material. The issue of environmental responsibility and the sustainable industrial development has given birth to new branch of accounting i.e. environmental accounting and reporting. Environmental accounting is relatively a recent entrant in the domain of accounting. It is process of identification measurement and communication of information in the environmental responsibility performance of an

entity to permit economic decision. In the other words, "Environmental accounting forms that part of accounting that deals with environmental concerns".

The quantitative management of environmental conservation activities is an effective way of achieving and maintaining sound business management. In other words, in carrying out environmental conservation activities, a company or other organizations can accurately identify and measure investments and costs related to environmental conservation activities, and can prepare and analyze this data. By having better insight into the potential benefit of these investments and costs, the company can not only improve the efficiency of its activities, but environmental accounting also plays a very important role in supporting rational decision-making.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

people's awareness of climate change is rising more than ever due to the damages caused by natural disasters including heat waves, floods, large typhoons and droughts in various regions. Many issues that threatens the lives of people all over the world relates to each other in a complex way. To solve these issues, the world started moving to realize the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030. Continually improve our environmental performance.Develop and maintain environmental management programs with objectives and targets to minimize adverse environmental impacts.Comply with all applicable environmental, health, and safety laws, regulations, and other requirements.Implement effective pollution prevention and waste minimization programs to reduce, reuse, and recycle materials.Ensure that energy and water are used responsibly and conserved through innovative practices and procedures.Provide all institute staff with the knowledge and tools needed to meet the goals of this policy and to actively participate in efforts to prevent negative environmental impacts.Measure progress toward our environmental goals.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Diane Walters et al, (1994) The Study Entitled That "The Greening of Enterprise: An Exploration of the Role of Environmental Accounting and Environmental Accountants in Organizational Change"The aim of conducting this study is undertaken to attempt to assess the organizations respond to the environmental agenda. The researcher data was collected by secondary data through reading of published materials, attending workshops, colloquia and conferences, holding conversations with both corporate organizations and other organizations (such as consultancies, trade associations etc.) correspondence, action research, semi-structured interview, and postal questionnaire. The researcher find in this study was that find evidence of an increase in 'environmental accounts' which it seems, are playing an important role on both aiding the development of the organizations. The researcher finally concluded that Environmental reporting is currently being used to negotiate the conception of environment and whilst accountants are not yet much involved in this process.

Malgorzata Kamieniecka et al (2013): The study attempts explore the corporate social responsibility for protecting environment and social issues in business and national and international strategies and environmental law regulations are required for the development of ecology. The objective of this paper is that identification of legal requirements and determines the impact of these requirements on the development of accounting system. Authors studied one chemical industry reports presenting selected information on environmental issues in financial statements and reports on operations which are resulting from voluntary instruments of environmental management. An analysis of above reports shows that certain amount of information that entities are obliged to provide and those entities need to share voluntary information about their relationship with the environmental reporting by focus on

responsibility and sustainability development strategies. Authors founds that majority of statements of companies will continue to treat CSR superficially as a tool to build a positive image and those information discloses on charity and sponsorship. Authors concluded that the proper assessment of the environmental impact generally accepted and globally accepted environmental reporting standards are essential.

Vijaya Lakshmi et al (2018): The Author aims to develop a model which specifies six aspects to present a novel view of the different activities to be undertaken by organizations to facilitate environmental accounting and reporting and also the study tries to disclose the legal frame work for environmental accounting in India. They made an attempt to assess the benefits and cost of environmental damages and concluded with till now no clear-cut policies are formed and formulated at the National, state and even at the company level for environmental accounting.

Emilia Vasilet al., (2012):
Researcher made an attempt to register the environmental management activity of economic entity according to their connection with the flux of materials and energy. And they feels that environmental management accounting is not only a management tool of the interaction with the environmental among many others environmental management accounting is rather a set of principles and methods that provide data about materials and energy consumption and costs that are required by the success of all the activities in this field of management.
Anil Kumar, et al., (2015) this article titled "a Study on green accounting and its practices in India". The study revealed thatGreen accounting will help the organization to identify the resource utilization, incurred cost and analysing it practically for developing countries like India. It is a twin problem about saving environment and economic development and the researcher was analysed through descriptive research and researcher was used secondary data from various websites. Finally, the researcher finds that Green Accounting and reporting in India is in developing stage both at the corporate level and at the national level. The researcher will have concluded thatthe countries which are adopting green accounting are Norway, Philippines, Namibia, Chile, USA, and Japan ...etc. Green accounting in India is in developing stage. It is one of the best methods to be followed for sustainable development.
Hsuehen Hsu (2017): The study entitled that Environmental information disclosure and firm performance. This study investigates the association of environmental information disclosure and corporate financial performance for the steel industry. This study uses 68 A-share steel industry listed companies in Shanghai Stock Exchange from 2010 to 2014. This study shows that there is a negative association between environmental financial information disclosure and firm performance. The researcher finds that Environmental non-financial disclosure is more difficult to be quantified and therefore has no effect on enterprise financial performance. Finally, the researcher concluded that environmental financial disclosure for steel industry is still on the developing stage. Therefore, environmental financial disclosure has a negative impact on financial performance.

Vojislav Sekere (2014): The major objective of this paper is study the role of environmental accounting in developing management's strategic initiatives in the field of environmental protection and social responsibilities of companies by undertaking numerous activities for prevention, removal and minimizing the harmful effects on the environment. The researcher attempt to investigate the role of environmental accounting in achieving corporate sustainability based on interpretive methodology. It includes observation and content analysis of existing research papers in the literature. For analysis of the data qualitative methods are used to explain significance of environmental accounting in preparing of ever

demanding sustainability reports of companies. Researcher finds that ever increasing concerns by stakeholders providing broader information on environmental matters in recent years becomes one of the most important challenges faced by accounting and there is a stronger connection between environmental issues and financial reports has not been established yet. Finally, researcher concluded that traditional accounting is main cause of slowing down the progress in achieving better environmental disclosures and integration of social and financial reporting.

Alok Kumar Pramanik et al (2007): The author attempt to assess the public awareness towards environmental issues like environmental pollution, preservation and environmental development (i.e., protecting the nature) and disclosure on environmental matter in annual report of Indian companies or voluntary nature. At the end authors conclude that in India the level of environmental disclosure in the corporate annual reports both financial and non-financial is not an encourage level and There is absence of standardized environmental accounting practices at national and international level as well as legal enforcement.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:

- To explore the initiatives undertaken by the manufacturing companies to protecting the environment
- To evaluate the conservation and recycling activities of the manufacturing companies.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Research Design

The study aims to find out the various environmental initiativesand conservation activities under taken by the manufacturing companies Karnataka. The study is carried through a structured questionnaire.

Sampling Design

Sampling Technique

The sampling technique involved in this research study is convenient sampling.

Sample size of the study

The sample size considered for the study is 77 manufacturing companies. The companies were selected from Karnataka which are listed in BSE.

Data collection technique

Collection of data for the purpose of the research study is in the form of primary data and secondary data. Primary data is collected through face to face interview with the help of pretested, well-structured questionnaire which was administered personally. Secondary data were collected through websites, published articles, focus group transcript, newspaper and relevant journals.

DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

This section includes analysis of various environmental resources used by the companies, number trees planted and the area for planting those trees, period for conducting cleaning activities and various voluntary programmes undertaking by the companies to create awareness towards environmental activities are examine.

Opinion on Waste Management, Environmental audit and Research and Development

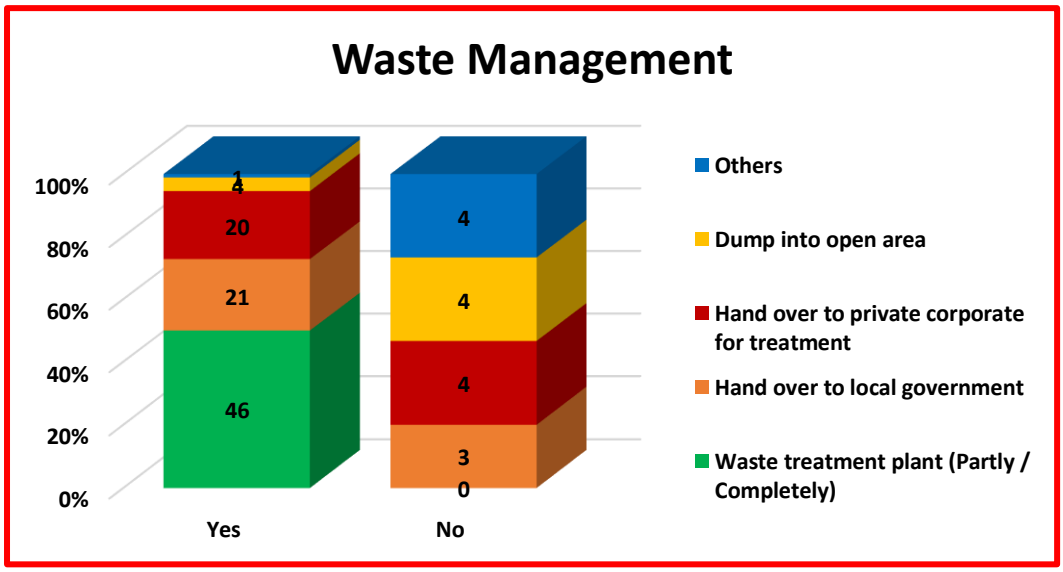
Waste Management

From the analysis made, it is found that out of the responses collected, 46 (100%) of them accept as Yes for the Waste treatment plant (Partly / Completely), and none of them say no. out of the responses collected, 21 (87.5%) hand over to the local government and 3 (12.5%) does not hand it over. Handing over to private Corporate Treatment 20 (83.3%) agree as Yes and 4 (16.7%) agree as No. 4 (50%) each agree as both Yes and No to dump into other areas and 4 (80%) of them does not follow other methods, and only 1 (20%) follow the other methods for waste management than that of listed below.

Table: Waste Management

Waste Management	Yes	No	Total
Waste treatment plant (Partly / Completely)	46	0	46
	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%
Hand over to the local government	21	3	24
	87.5%	12.5%	100.0%
Hand over to private corporations for treatment	20	4	24
	83.3%	16.7%	100.0%
Dump into an open area	4	4	8
	50.0%	50.0%	100.0%
Others	1	4	5
	20.0%	80.0%	100.0%
Total	92	15	107
	86.0%	14.0%	100.0%

Source: Field Study



Research and Development Cell

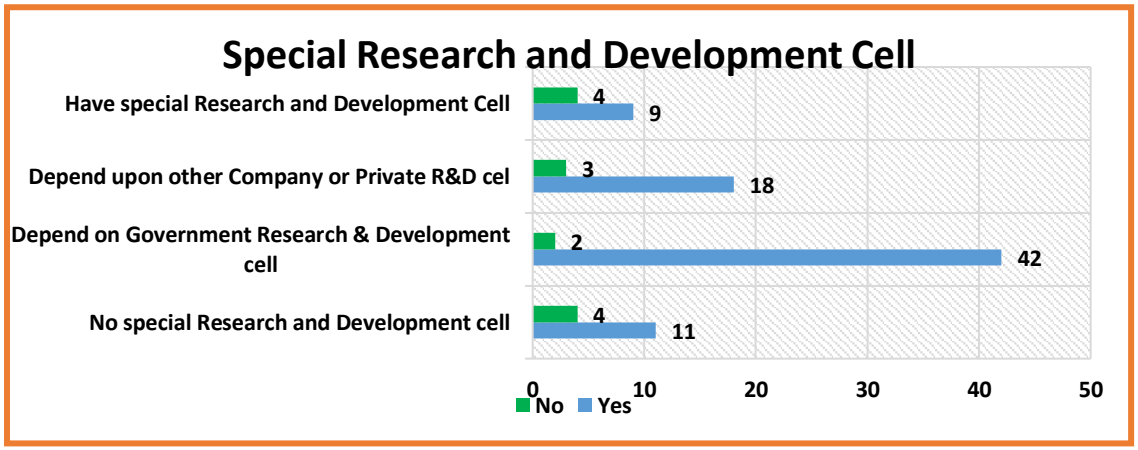
From the analysis made, it is found that out of the responses collected, 11 (73.3%) agree as Yes and agree as No for No Particular Research and Development cell, On the Dependency on Government Research and Development Cell 42 (95.5%) agree as Yes, and 2 (4.5%) agree as No. 18 (85.7%) agree as Yes, and 3 (14.3%) agree as No for dependency upon other company or private R & D cell, Having Special Research and Development Cell 9 (69.2%) agree as Yes, and 4 (30.8%) agree as No.

Table: Special Research and Development Cell

Particulars	Yes	No	Total
No special Research and Development cell	11	4	15
	73.3%	26.7%	100.0%
Depend on Government Research & Development cell	42	2	44
	95.5%	4.5%	100.0%
Depend upon other Company or Private R&D cell	18	3	21
	85.7%	14.3%	100.0%
Have special Research and Development Cell	9	4	13
	69.2%	30.8%	100.0%
Total	80	13	93
	86.0%	14.0%	100.0%

Source: Field Study

Graph: Special Research and Development Cell



Type of Research Carried Out in the Cell

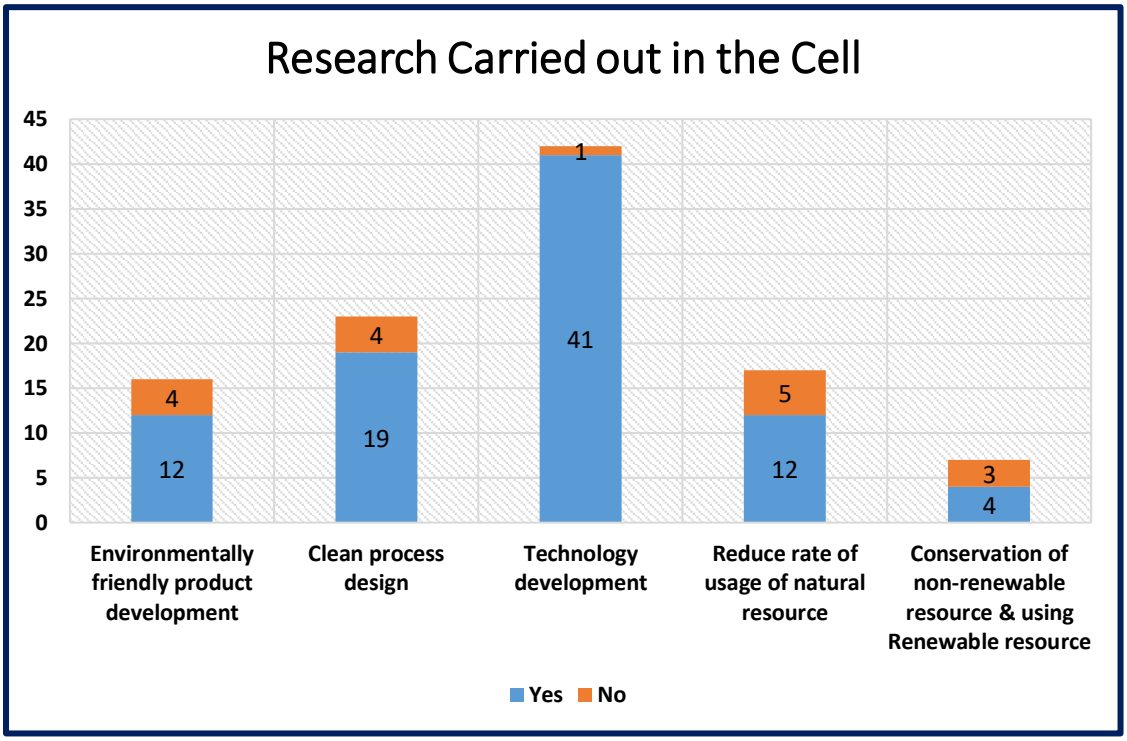
From the analysis made, it is found that out of responses collected, environmentally friendly product development research is carried out in another cell 12 (75%) agree as Yes and 4 (25%) agree as No. 19 (82.6%) agree as Yes and 4 (17.4%) agree as No for the clean process design. Technology development is agreed as Yes by 41 (97.6%) and no by 1 (2.4%). 12 (70.6%) agree as Yes, and 5 (29.4%) agree as No for a reduced rate of natural resource usage. Conservation of non-renewable resources and using renewable resources 4 (57.1%) agree as Yes and 3 (42.9%) agree as No.

Table: Type of Research Carried out in the Cell

Particulars	Yes	No	Total
Environmentally friendly product development	12	4	16
	75.0%	25.0%	100.0%
Clean process design	19	4	23
	82.6%	17.4%	100.0%
Technology development	41	1	42
	97.6%	2.4%	100.0%
Reduce the rate of usage of natural resource	12	5	17
	70.6%	29.4%	100.0%
Conservation of non-renewable resource & using Renewable resource	4	3	7
	57.1%	42.9%	100.0%
Total	88	17	105
	83.8%	16.2%	100.0%

Source: Field Study

Graph: Type of Research Carried out in the Cell



Opinion on Occupational Safety and Health Programme

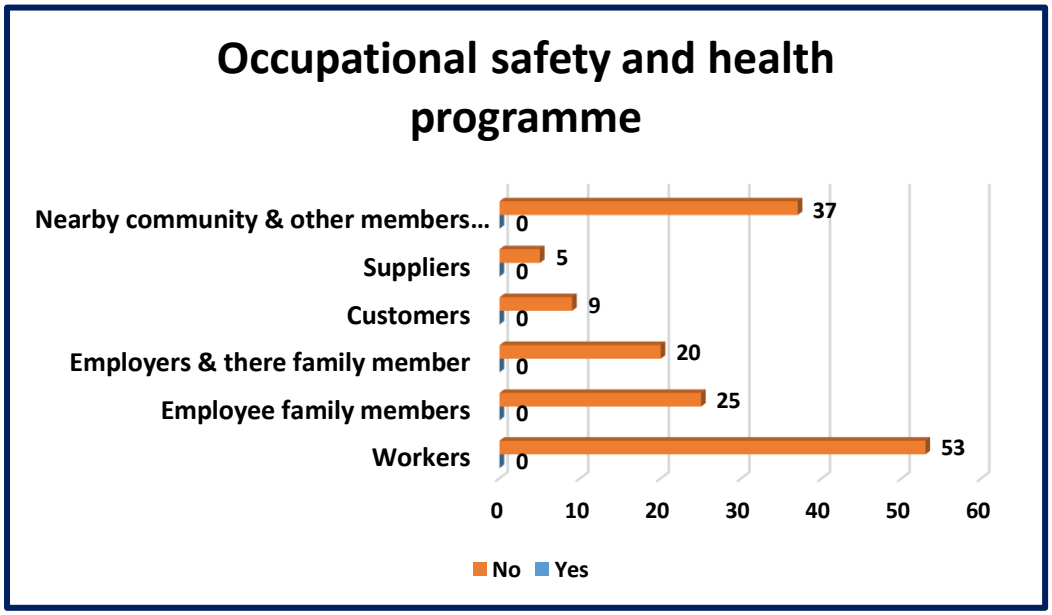
From the analysis made, it is found that out of responses, 53 (100%) of workers, 25 (100%) of Employee family members, 20 (100%) of employees and their family members, 9 (100%) of customers, 5 (100%) of Suppliers and 37 (100%) nearby community and other members affected by the workplace environment agree that they do not have any occupational safety and health Programme to Promote a Risk-free, safe environment.

Table: occupational safety and health Programme

Particulars	Yes	No	Total
Workers	0	53	53
	0.00%	100.0%	100.0%
Employee family members	0	25	25
	0.00%	100.0%	100.0%
Employers &their family members	0	20	20
	0.00%	100.0%	100.0%
Customers	0	9	9
	0.00%	100.0%	100.0%
Suppliers	0	5	5
	0.00%	100.0%	100.0%
Nearby community & other members affected by the workplace environment	0	37	37
	0.00%	100.0%	100.0%
Total	0	149	149
	0.00%	100.0%	100.0%

Source: Field Study

Graph: occupational safety and health Programme



Opinion on Emvironmental Management and Conservation

Environmental Management Departments

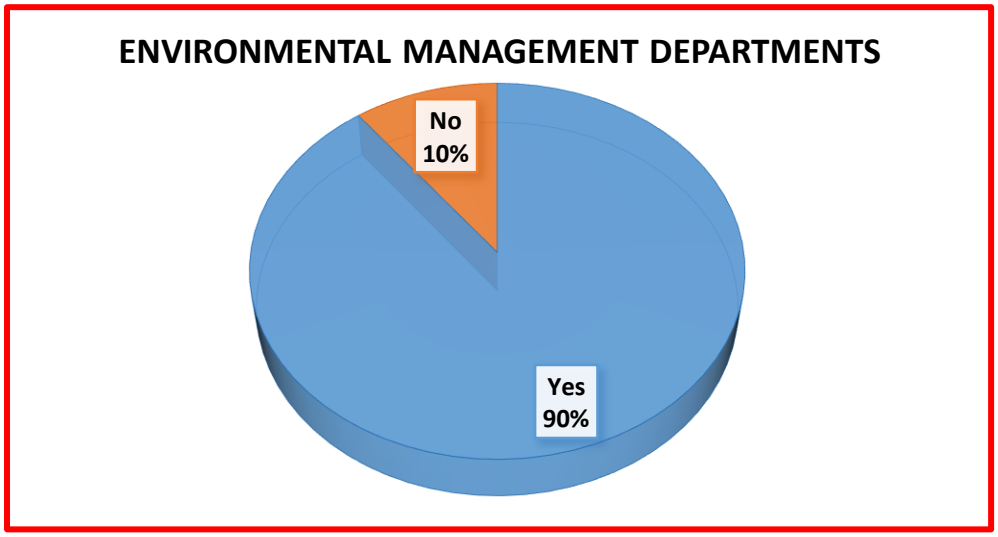
From the responses collected, out of 77 responses collected, 69 (89.61%) of them agree as Yes and 8 (10.39%) agree as No for the Environmental Management Departments. Therefore, 89.61% majority of the respondents agree that they have Environmental Management Departments.

Table: Environmental Management Departments

Environmental Management Departments	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Yes	69	89.61%	89.61%
No	8	10.39%	100%
Total	77	100.00%	

Source: Field Study

Graph: Environmental Management Departments



Environmental Conservation Initiatives.

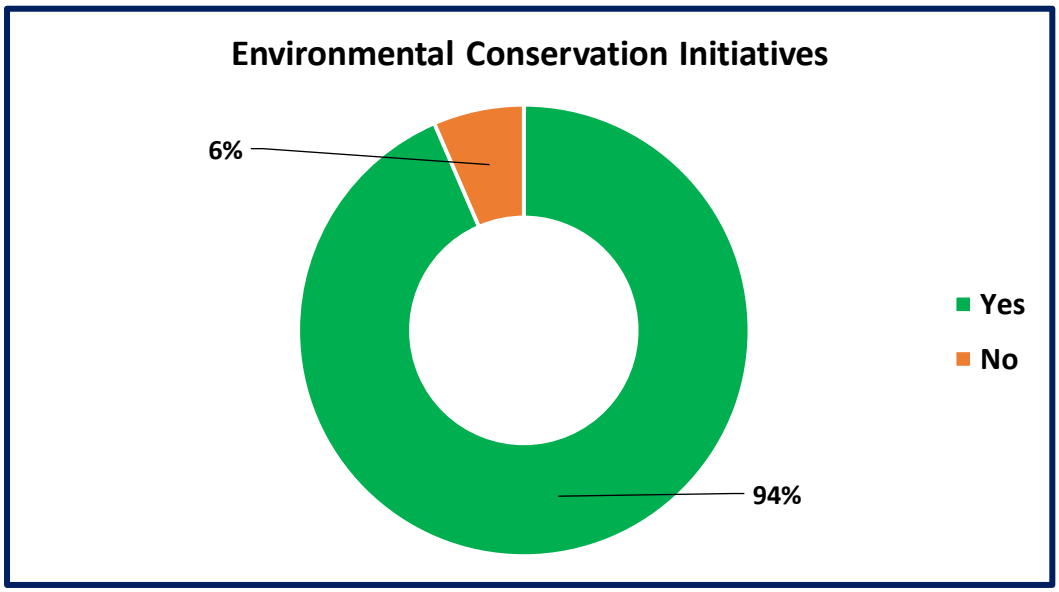
From the responses collected, out of 77 responses collected, 72 (93.51%) of them agree as Yes, and 5 (6.49%) agree as No for Environmental Conservation Initiatives. Therefore, 93.51% majority of the respondents agree that they have Environmental Conservation Initiatives.

Table: Environmental Conservation Initiatives

Particulars	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Yes	72	93.51%	93.51%
No	5	6.49%	100%
Total	77	100.00%	

Source: Field Study

Graph: Environmental Conservation Initiatives



Initiatives undertaken for conservation of Ecology

Initiatives Taken Supporting Recycling activities

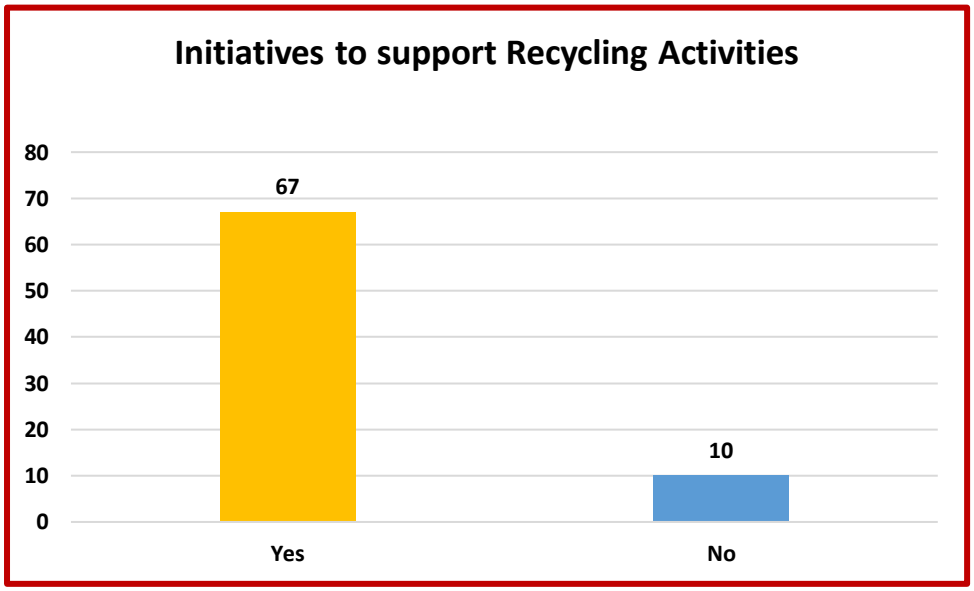
From the responses collected, out of 77 responses collected,67 (87%) of them agree as Yes and 10 (10%) agree as No for the Initiatives taken supporting recycling activities. Therefore, 87% majority of the respondents agree that they have taken initiatives supporting recycling activities.

Table: Initiatives Taken Supporting Recycling activities

Initiatives undertaken	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Yes	67	87.0	100.0
No	10	13.0	
Total	77	100.0	

Source: Field Study

Graph: Initiatives Taken Supporting Recycling activities



Type of things Recycled by company

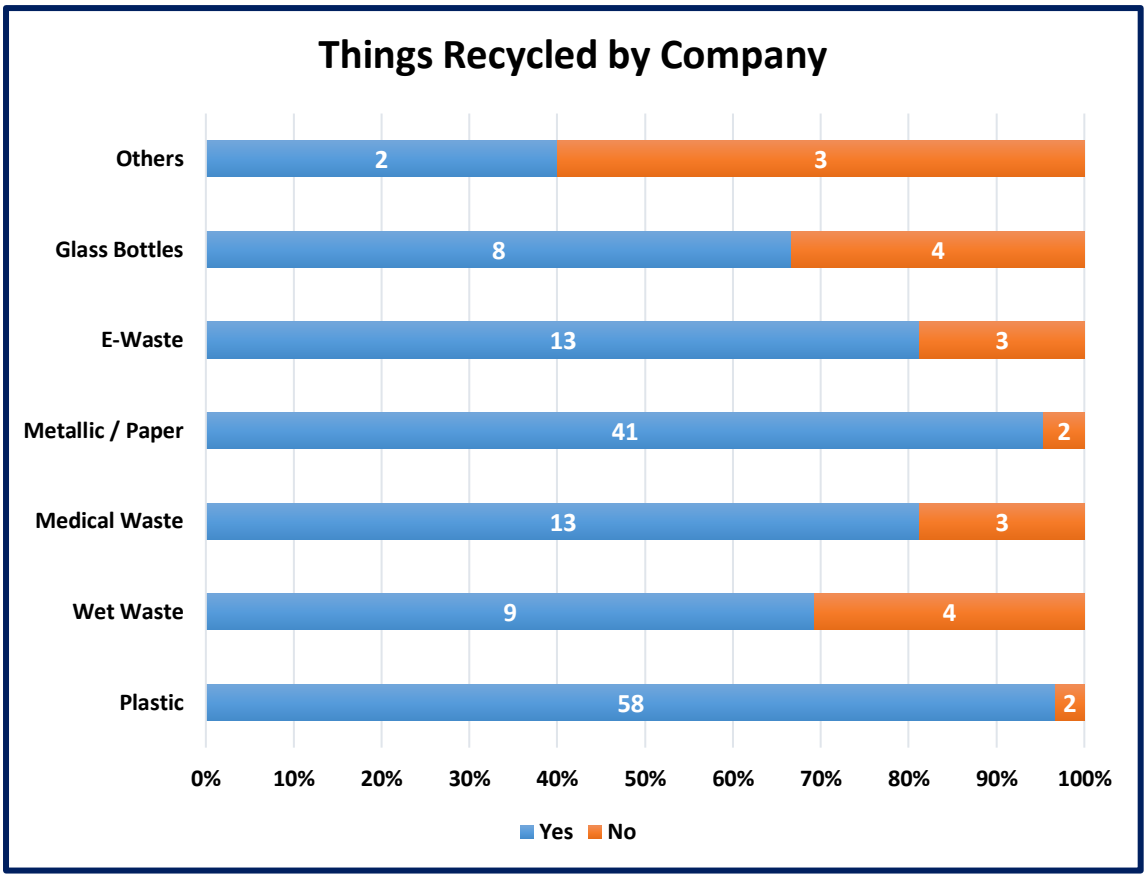
From the analysis made, it is found that out of responses collected, 58 (96.7%) agree as Yes and 2 (3.3%) agree as No for the recycling of Plastic, 9 (69.2%) agree as Yes, and 4 (30.8%) agree as No for recycling of Wet Waste, 13 (81.3%) agree as Yes and 3 (18.7%) agree as No for recycling Medical waste, 41 (95.3%) agree as Yes and 2 (4.7%) agree as No for recycling Metallic /Paper, 13 (81.3%) agree as Yes and 3 (18.7%) agree as No for recycling E-Waste, 8 (66.7%) agree as Yes and 4 (33.3%) agree as No for recycling Glass Bottles, 3 (60%) agree as Yes and 2 (40%) agree as No for recycling others.

Table: Things Recycled by Company

Things Recycled	Yes	No	Total
Plastic	58	2	60
	96.7%	3.3%	100.0%
Wet Waste	9	4	13
	69.2%	30.8%	100.0%
Medical Waste	13	3	16
	81.3%	18.8%	100.0%
Metallic / Paper	41	2	43
	95.3%	4.7%	100.0%
E-Waste	13	3	16
	81.3%	18.8%	100.0%
Glass Bottles	8	4	12
	66.7%	33.3%	100.0%
Others	2	3	5
	40.0%	60.0%	100.0%
Total	144	21	165
	87.3%	12.7%	100.0%

Source: Field Study

Graph: Things Recycled by Company



Number of Trees Planted

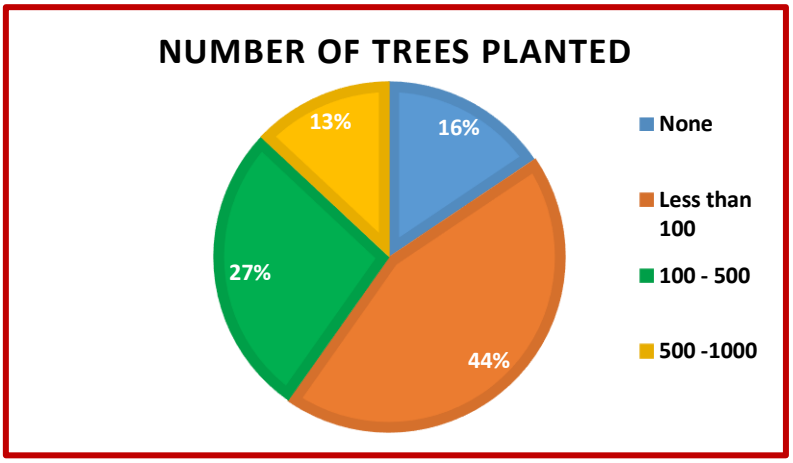
From the analysis made, it is found that out of the 77 responses collected, 34 (44.16%) have planted less than 100 trees, 21 (27.27%) have planted 100 – 500 trees, 12 (15.58%) have not planted any trees, and 10 (12.99%) have planted 500 – 1000 trees. Therefore, 44.16% majority of the respondents have planted less than 100 trees.

Table: Number of Trees Planted

No of Trees Planted	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
None	12	15.58%	15.58%
Less than 100	34	44.16%	59.74%
100 - 500	21	27.27%	87.01%
500 -1000	10	12.99%	100.00%
Total	77	100.00%	

Source: Field Study

Graph: Number of Trees Planted



Areas Where Trees are Planted

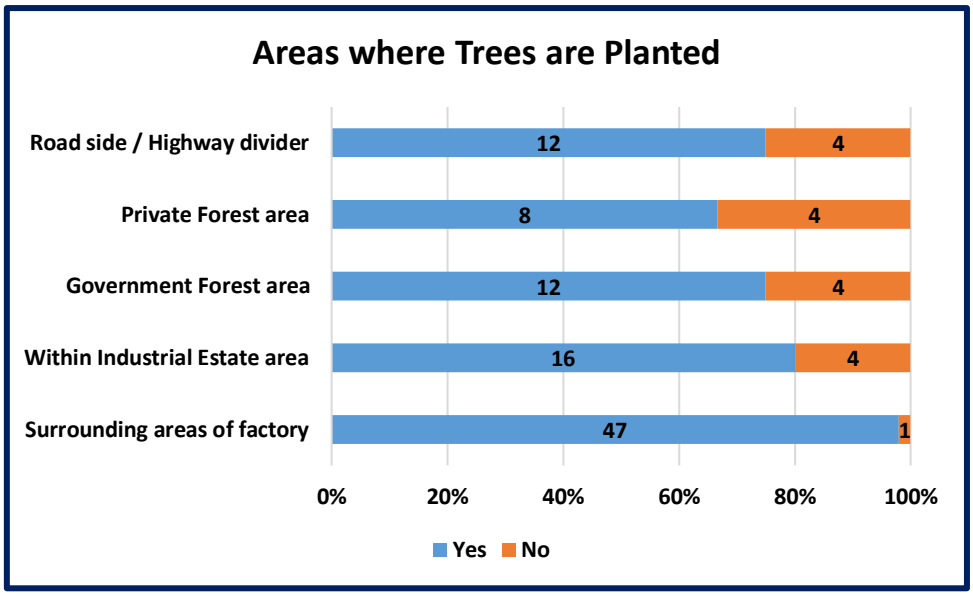
From the analysis made, it is found that out of the responses collected, 47 (97.9%) agree as Yes and 1 (2.1%) agree as No for planting trees surrounding of factory area, 16 (80%) agree as Yes and 4 (20%) agree as No for planting trees within Industrial Estate Area, 12 (75%) agree as Yes and 4 (25%) agree as No for planting trees in Government forest area, 8 (66.7%) agree as Yes and 4 (33.3%) agree as No for planting trees in Private Forest area, and 12 (75%) agree as Yes and 4 (25%) agree as No for planting trees in Road side or Highway divider.

Table: Areas where Trees are Planted

Areas	Yes	No	Total
Surrounding areas of the factory	47	1	48
	97.9%	2.1%	100.0%
Within Industrial Estate area	16	4	20
	80.0%	20.0%	100.0%
Government Forest area	12	4	16
	75.0%	25.0%	100.0%
Private Forest area	8	4	12
	66.7%	33.3%	100.0%
Road side / Highway divider	12	4	16
	75.0%	25.0%	100.0%
Total	95	17	112
	84.8%	15.2%	100.0%

Source: Field Study

Graph: Areas where Trees are Planted



Opinion on Cleaning Drive

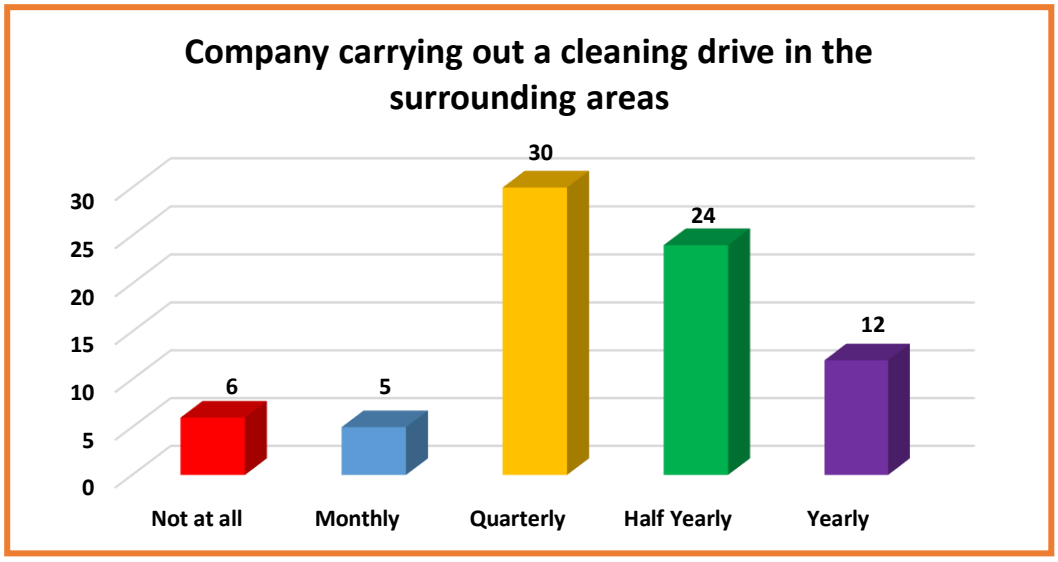
From the analysis made,it is found that out of 77 responses collected, 30 (38.96%) clean surrounding area Quarterly, 24 (31.17%) clean surrounding area Half Yearly, 12 (15.58%) clean surrounding area Yearly, 6 (7.79%) not at all clean surrounding area, and 5 (6.49%) clean surrounding area Monthly. Therefore, 38.96% majority of the respondents clean the surrounding area Quarterly.

Table: Opinion on Cleaning Drive

Time Interval	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Not at all	6	7.79%	7.79%
Monthly	5	6.49%	14.29%
Quarterly	30	38.96%	53.25%
Half Yearly	24	31.17%	84.42%
Yearly	12	15.58%	100.00%
Total	77	100.00%	

Source: Field Study

Graph: Opinion on Cleaning Drive



Opinion on Encouragement Given to Employees to Participate as Volunteers to Preserve Environment

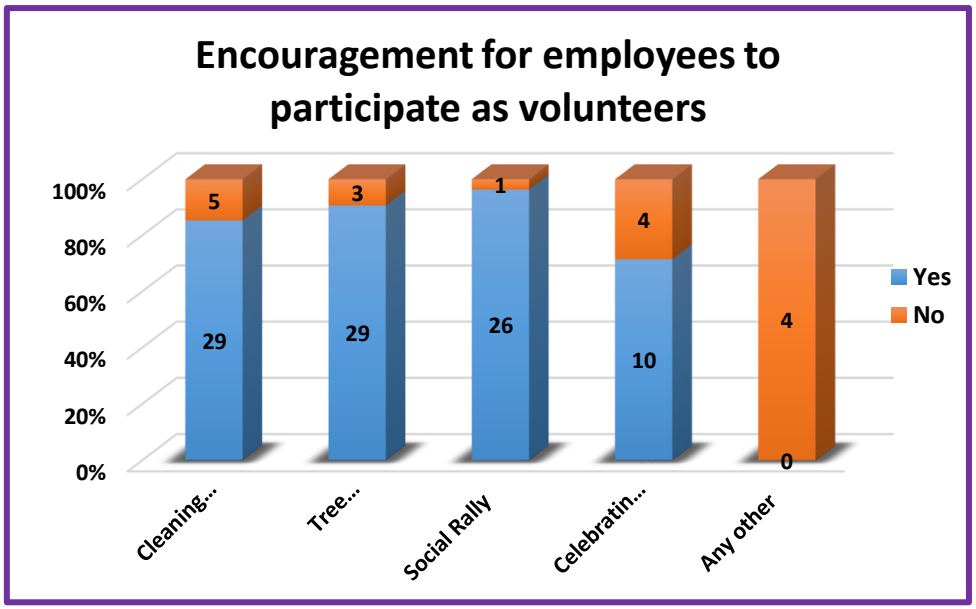
From the analysis made, it is found that out of responses, 29 (85.3%) agree as Yes and 5 (14.7%) agree as No for Cleaning Drivers, 29 (90.6%) agree as Yes, and 3 (9.4%) agree as No for Trees Plantation, 26 (96.3%) agree as Yes and 1 (3.7%) agree as No for Social Rally, 10 (71.4%) agree as Yes and 4 (28.6%) agree as No for Celebrating world environmental day. None agree as Yes, and 4 (100%) agree as No for any other activities.

Table: Encouragement for employees to participate as volunteers

Particulars	Yes	No	Total
Cleaning Drivers	29	5	34
	85.3%	14.7%	100.0%
Tree Plantation	29	3	32
	90.6%	9.4%	100.0%
Social Rally	26	1	27
	96.3%	3.7%	100.0%
Celebrating World Environmental Day	10	4	14
	71.4%	28.6%	100.0%
Any other	0	4	4
	0.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Total	94	17	111
	84.7%	15.3%	100.0%

Source: Field Study

Graph: Encouragement for employees to participate as volunteers



Opinion on Donation for environmental conservation activities

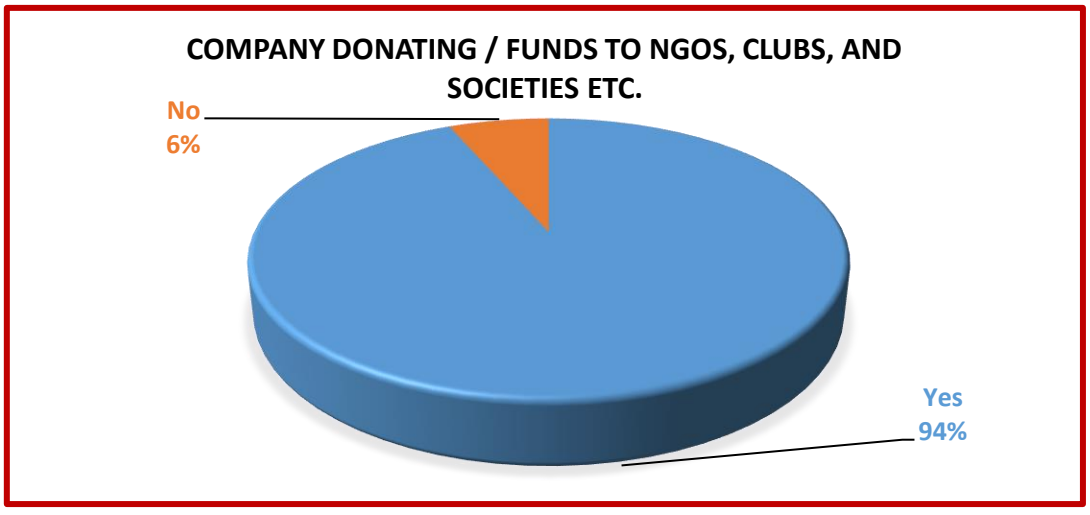
From the analysis made, it is found that out of the 77 responses collected, 72 (93.51%) agree as Yes and 5 (6.49%) agree as No for donating funds to NGOs, Clubs, and Societies, etc. Therefore, 93.51% majority of the respondents agree that they donate funds to NGOs, Clubs, and Societies, etc.,

Table: Donation for environmental conservation activities

Particulars	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Yes	72	93.51%	93.51%
No	5	6.49%	100.00%
Total	77	100.00%	

Source: Field Study

Graph: Donation for environmental conservation activities



FINDINGS AND CONCLUTION:

From the above analysis of the study identify the major findings and concluded the study:

- Most of the respondents are hand over the waste to the local government.
- Majority of the companies are not having their own Research and development cell. They dependent on government Research and development cell
- 87% of the respondents are taking initiatives for recycling activities in the organization
- Most of the companies are recycled the plastic, wet waste, medical waste and metallized/ paper waste
- Only 44.16% of the respondents are have planted less than 100 trees
- 97.9% of the respondents are planting the trees in surrounding areas of the factory
- Only 38.96% of respondents are clean the surrounding area quarterly
- Majority of the respondents are donating the funds to NGO's Clubs and Societies for environmental conservation activities.

The management of environmental conservation activities is an effective way of achieving and maintaining sound business management. It carrying out environmental conservation activities, a company or other organizations can accurately identify and measure investments and costs related to environmental conservation activities, and can prepare and analyze this data. The major polluters of the environment are manufacturing companies. These companies are started to use the environmental resources hence it is the responsibility of these companies has to undertake many environmental conservative activities to protect the environment and to create awareness through conducting many voluntary programmes.

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