ISSN(Print):2582-0680 ;ISSN(Online):2455-5061 Vol. - 7, Page-1-9, Year-2023

A STUDY OF CONSUMER ATTITUDE TOWARDS GREEN MARKETING PRODUCTS IN NAGALAND

Shamim Ahmed*, Manoj E. Prabhakar**

*Research Scholar, Department of Management, Nagaland University, Kohima, Nagaland,
India,shamim_rs2018@nagalanduniversity.ac.in

*** Associate Professor, Department of Management, Nagaland University, Kohima, Nagaland, India,
manojp@nagalanduniversity.ac.in

Abstract

Environmental issues are becoming increasingly popular as people and governments worldwide grow more conscious of them. Green marketing emerged as a result, and businesses now employ it as one of their profit-making and environmental-protection strategies. The late 1980s and early 1990s saw a gradual rise in the use of green marketing. Green eco-friendly items are now the focus for both consumers and manufacturers, leading to product innovation. When making purchases, green consumers, also called eco-conscious or sustainable consumers, prefer goods and services that are sustainable and favourable to the environment. Today's media and social movements are also raising consumer awareness of the potential environmental effects of products. Marketers have embraced the idea of green marketing in order to thrive in the face of these societal shifts. This study aims to investigate how green marketing affects consumers' attitudes and buying behaviour. The study was conducted in Nagaland using a structured questionnaire based on the Theory of Planned Behaviour (TPB), and the data was analysed using Exploratory Factor Analysis (EFA). The EFA identified three constructs of consumers' attitudes toward green marketing and eco-friendly products, viz. "Environmental Concerns and Green Products", "Customer Trust", and "Purchase Intention". The survey revealed that Nagaland consumers have a positive outlook on eco-friendly and green products. Consumer attitude toward purchasing green eco-friendly products are unaffected by demographic factors.

Index Terms: Green Marketing, Green Consumers, Theory of Planned Behaviour

1. INTRODUCTION

Promoting and selling goods and services based on their positive environmental impact is known as green marketing. These goods and services should be environmentally friendly by nature or through their production process. The term "green" has gained popularity in the modern era as debates about sustainable and equitable ways to produce, consume, and live in harmony are starting to take place globally with the increase in public opinion to address green issues (Van Dam & Apeldoorn, 1996). Green marketing is very important because environmental issues are being discussed in numerous international forums, and society is becoming more concerned with ecology. For instance, the Conference of the Parties (COP) is an international climate summit held annually under the aegis of the United Nations Convention to fight climate change. Nearly all countries in the world have adopted the Paris Agreement, also known as the Paris Climate Accords, which addresses climate change and reduces greenhouse gas emissions globally. Its primary goal is to keep a check on the rise in global temperature to no more than 2°C and

ideally to 1.5°C. To address the effects of marketing on the environment, the American Marketing Association (AMA) held the first workshop on ecological marketing in 1975. One of the first books on green marketing, "Ecological Marketing," was written from the workshop proceedings. Globally, big businesses and governments have increasingly adopted the quest for sustainability as their goal and top priority. Numerous studies have argued that the current consumption pattern is unsustainable and will eventually lead to disasters if left unchecked (Enkvist & Vanthournout, 2008). Environmentally irresponsible products and an unsustainable consumption pattern are the root cause of many environmental problems. Ensuring that meeting current needs does not interfere with future generations' ability to meet their needs is crucial for sustainable development (Brundtland, 1987). According to Fisk (1974), the emergence of green marketing, also known as ecological marketing, was prompted by the need to link private companies' profit-making goals with long-term economic sustainability for society.

1.1 Green Marketing

ISSN(Print):2582-0680 ;ISSN(Online):2455-5061 Vol. - 7, Page-1-9, Year-2023

American Marketing Association (AMA) defines "green marketing" as the promotion of goods that are thought to be ecologically friendly, and it includes strategies like product modification, adjustments to the production process, modifications of the packaging and advertising messages. The phrase "green marketing" was first used by McDaniel and Rylander (1993) to describe the efforts made by marketers to create strategies aimed at environmentally conscious consumers. Green marketing, sometimes called sustainable marketing or environmental marketing (Coddington, 1993), is the endeavour of a corporation to create, market, price, and deliver goods that do not negatively impact the environment (Pride & Ferrell, 1993). Green marketing is defined by Polonsky (1994) as any activity that aims to create and facilitate exchanges to meet human needs or desires in a way that has the least negative impact on the environment. Peattie (2001) identifies three stages in the development of green marketing. The initial stage was "Ecological Green Marketing", where all marketing initiatives during this time were centred on identifying environmental issues and providing solutions. "Environmental Green Marketing" was the second phase, where the emphasis shifted to clean technology, which involves developing innovative goods to address waste and pollution problems. The third phase we are currently in is "Sustainable Green Marketing", in which governments and large corporations began prioritising sustainability.

1.2 Green Consumer

Elkington (1994) defined a "green consumer" as someone who would avoid products that could endanger their own or others' health or seriously harm the environment in production, use, or disposal, use excessive amounts of energy, produce toxic waste, use raw materials derived from threatened species, involve the needless use of animals or animal cruelty, negatively impact other nations, etc. In traditional marketing, goods and services are offered to customers at a reasonable price that meets their needs. One of the most crucial presumptions in green marketing is that consumers are willing to pay more for environmentally friendly products (Veluri, Consequently, marketers face two challenges viz., in addition to creating and marketing goods and services that customers are willing to buy, they also need to educate their customers about the fact that many ecological issues are caused by human activity through the use of environmentally irresponsible products. Therefore, this research paper examines consumer awareness of green marketing and their propensity to purchase green goods.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

The concept of "green marketing" dates back to the 1970s when consumers and marketers became more aware of environmental issues. Nowadays, everyone is concerned about environmental degradation and climate change, and most people have realised they have a big part to play in protecting the environment. This realisation means people are willing to change their consumption patterns due to society's growing environmental concern. Businesses are also attempting to adapt to this new concern by engaging in green marketing initiatives and changing their behaviour.

Environmental marketing, sometimes called green marketing, is a new paradigm in societal marketing that includes all of the efforts made to create, package, advertise, distribute, use, and recycle products in a way that considers the environment. Thus, green marketing is a comprehensive marketing idea in which products and services are produced, consumed, and disposed of in a way that minimises environmental harm (Menon & Menon, 1997). Companies rebrand their products into different lines, highlighting the environmental advantages and using this idea to remarket their current product line while abiding by environmental safety regulations.

Growing consumer demand for environmentally friendly products led to this new marketing strategy, in which businesses consider environmental factors when creating their marketing mix (Coddington, 1993). Changing from conventional to green products may initially seem expensive, but it will undoubtedly be both adventurous and economical in the long run. In traditional marketing, goods are created to satisfy consumer needs at a reasonable cost, and products' main advantage is communicated to their intended market. Green marketing is way more complex as it involves developing products to satisfy the customers' requirements at an affordable price without compromising the product's core benefit and having less detrimental impact on the environment, be it in the manufacturing process, transportation, warehousing, consumption, usage or disposal.

Correia et al. (2023) looked into how much respondents' gender, educational qualification, and environmental attitudes were impacted by green marketing communications, as well as whether or not consumers' attention to these messages influences their propensity to make green purchases. Nek Mahmud and Fekete-Farkas (2020) attempted to determine Bangladeshi consumers' decisions regarding green product purchase intention. The researcher used the Theory of Planned Behaviour (TPB) model to address the research void concerning green purchase decisions by incorporating supplementary constructs like perceived green quality, environmental concerns, and future green estimates. Mahmoud (2018) investigated how employing a green marketing mix affected Sudanese customers. The statistical analysis

ISSN(Print):2582-0680 ;ISSN(Online):2455-5061 Vol. - 7, Page-1-9, Year-2023

revealed a strong correlation between the willingness of customers to purchase and the green marketing mix.

Sharma and Trivedi (2016) looked into what influences consumers' decisions to buy environmentally friendly products and found that eight factors mattered the most, viz. demography, eco-labels, eco-brands, environmental advertising, environmental awareness, green products, green prices, and green promotions. They claimed that the most significant barrier to the adoption of green products was their high cost. Kong et al. (2014) performed factor analysis and found that people's intentions to make green purchases are positively influenced by eco-labels, green product value, and green corporate perception. In comparison, green packaging or advertising does not influence people's intentions to purchase green products.

2.1 Objectives of the Study

No such study on customer attitudes toward green marketing in Nagaland was found. Furthermore, there was no evidence of any research on customer attitude measurement in this region of India using Confirmatory Factor Analysis (CFA) and Exploratory Factor Analysis (EFA). In light of this, the following objectives were formulated for the study:

- To evaluate consumers' behaviour towards green environment-friendly products.
- To determine the factors influencing green consumers' attitudes.

3. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Universe and Sample for the Study

Using a structured questionnaire to gather data, the study used a quantitative research design. Questions about consumer awareness, knowledge, perceived benefits, perceived barriers, and purchase intentions regarding environmentally friendly products were included in the survey questionnaire. Convenience sampling was used to select the sample from a broad group of consumers of various products. During market hours, the researchers went to the crowded market areas in Kohima and Dimapur to gather data. Friends, family members, and students from different institutions also participated in online surveys using Google Forms.

According to the Nagaland Statistical Handbook (2020), the district of Dimapur had a total population of 3,78,811 as of the 2011 census, with 1,97,394 men and 1,81,417 women, while 2,67,988 people reside in the Kohima district, with 1,38,966 men and 1,29,022 women. Thus, 6,46,799 individuals made up the study's universe. The primary data for the study was provided by 581 consumers in the districts of Kohima and Dimapur. 15 of the 581 respondents' questionnaires were deemed incomplete, so they were removed from the study.

Consequently, 566 people made up the study's sample size. The period of data collection was September 2021–July 2022. Descriptive statistics and exploratory factor analysis (EFA) were used to analyse the data, examine the relationships between variables, and identify critical factors affecting consumers' attitudes.

3.2 Development of Questionnaire

Following a literature review, the authors determined a number of variables to gauge consumer attitudes regarding environmentally friendly products. The Theory of Planned Behaviour (Ajzen, 1991) served as the foundation for identifying and adopting the study's factors. The well-known social psychology theory, the TPB, describes how attitudes, subjective norms, and perceived behavioural control influence people's intentions and subsequent behaviours. The TPB states that people's attitudes, views of the social norms surrounding a behaviour, and sense of control over engaging in the behaviour all influence their decision to engage in it. The TPB offers a useful framework for comprehending how attitudes, subjective norms, and perceived control interact to forecast consumers' intentions and subsequent actions about buying environmentally friendly products.

The constructs of "environmental concern," "green marketing and environment-friendly products," and "green advertising" can be seen as influencing people's attitudes, subjective norms, and perceived control over buying eco-friendly products in the context of consumer behaviour toward eco-friendly products. Environmental concerns, for instance, may affect buying intentions about eco-friendly products. In contrast, advertising and green marketing influence people's perceptions of the social norms surrounding the purchase of these products. Pricing, convenience and accessibility could influence people's sense of control over buying environmentally friendly goods.

In this study, 30 statements were docketed into three major components, and the TPB theory was used to establish the relationships between the statements. In order to investigate how consumer behaviour in Nagaland is influenced by green marketing and eco-friendly products, Exploratory Factor Analysis (EFA) was conducted using the following factors.

ISSN(Print):2582-0680 ;ISSN(Online):2455-5061 Vol. - 7, Page-1-9, Year-2023

Table 1: Items for Exploratory Factor Analysis.

Sl.	Statements	Codes	
No.	F	CEE	
1	Environmental Concern	CFE 1	
1	The general condition of the environment has an impact on the quality of my life.	CFE 1	
2	I am familiar with environmental issues	CFE 2	
2	such as global warming, climate	CPE 2	
	change, pollution, etc.		
3	Today's environmental initiatives will	CFE 3	
	help conserve the environment for	0120	
	future generations.		
4	Parents should teach their children the	CFE 4	
	importance of safeguarding nature and		NG
	the ecosystem.	OF E	140
5	Environmental protection courses	CFE 5	
	should be taught in educational		
	institutes.		
6	My involvement in environmental	CFE 6	
	conservation will persuade my friends	7) /	
	and relatives to do the same.		
7	I prefer public transportation or riding a	CFE 7	
	bike to reduce vehicular pollution.		
8	I make every attempt to avoid using	CFE 8	
	single-use plastic carry bags.	W.	
9	Products that pollute the natural	CFE 9	
	environment during production, use,	124	
	and disposal should be levied higher		
	taxes. Green Marketing and Environment-	GMP	
	Friendly Products	GMI	
10	I am acquainted with the concept of	GMP1	
10	green marketing.	GMI I	
11	Green, eco-friendly products help to	GMP2	411
	protect the environment and natural		
	resources.		
12	The products I use should not be	GMP3	
	harmful to the environment.		
13	I will recommend environmentally	GMP4	
	friendly products to my friends and	DKIN	JID!
	colleagues.		4 57
14	I avoid products that have a negative	GMP5	
	impact on the environment.		
15	I actively look for environmental	GMP6	
	information like eco-labels or green		
1.0	certification on the products I purchase.	CMD7	
16	Green products are healthier, energy	GMP7	
	efficient and less polluting than conventional ones.		
17		GMP8	
1/	I would choose green products over conventional products if given the	GIVIP8	
	choice between the two.		
18	If my budget permits, I would buy an	GMP9	
10	electric car over a gasoline-powered	O1V11 9	
<u> </u>	creetire car over a gasonine-powered		

	car.	
19	I actively seek out and purchase	GMP10
	products made of or packaged in	
	recycled materials.	
20	I prefer brands associated with green	GMP11
	marketing and have a	
	favourable attitude toward green	
	products.	
21	I am pleased with every green product	GMP12
	that I have used in the past.	
22	Most eco-friendly products meet my	GMP13
	expectations in terms of quality.	
	Green Advertising	ADV
23	Green advertising is effective at	ADV1
	addressing ecological problems.	
24	Companies promote environmental	ADV2
INF	awareness initiatives to encourage green	
	purchasing.	
25	Green advertising is also used by	ADV3
	businesses to maintain their reputation.	15771
26	Companies do not deceive customers by	ADV4
	making misleading eco-friendly claims	
	about their products.	15775
27	I get influenced by green certification or	ADV5
I The	eco-label on the package when	
20	purchasing any products.	ADUC
28	On the green certification or eco-label,	ADV6
20	sufficient information is presented.	ADUZ
29	The information provided on green	ADV7
20	certification or eco-label is accurate.	1 D 1 10
30	Green product advertising claims are	ADV8
	reliable.	

Source: Primary data

In the questionnaire, respondents were given five options ranging from 1 to 5, 1 stood for strongly disagree and 5 for strongly agree. Therefore, each question's quantitative score ranged from 1 to 5, with a minimum score of 1 and a maximum score of 5.

The first stage in any data analysis process is determining the reliability of the study's data. The Cronbach alpha value of the data was calculated using the SPSS software. Nunnally (1978) proposed 0.7 as a suitable reliability coefficient. The Cronbach Alpha value of 0.836 was calculated, indicating that the data acquired for this study was highly reliable.

4. RESULTS

4.1 Demographic Profile

The collected data was analysed using descriptive statistics such as mean, percentages, and frequency. Non-parametric statistics such as the Mann-Whitney U Test and the Kruskal Wallis Test were also used to see if there were any significant differences between the demographic

ISSN(Print):2582-0680 ;ISSN(Online):2455-5061 Vol. - 7, Page-1-9, Year-2023

variables and the consumer attitude. The distribution of responders was ascertained using percentages and counts of frequencies.

Table 2 Demographics Description of Respondents.

Variables	Frequency	Percentage
Gender		
Male	250	44.17
Female	316	55.83
Age Group (in years)		
Below 18	61	10.78
18 - 30	335	59.19
31 - 50	158	27.92
Above 50	12	2.12
Marital Status		
Married	183	32.33
Single	383	67.67
Education		Gr
Undergraduate	95	16.78
Graduate	190	33.57
Postgraduate	264	46.64
Doctoral Degree	17	3.00
Occupation	15/	
Public sector employee	73	12.90
Private sector employee	140	24.73
Businessman	57	10.07
Housewife	45	7.95
Students	178	31.45
Others	73	12.90
Household Income		7
(Monthly)	* \	
Below INR 30,000	221	39.05
INR 30,000 - INR 60,000	260	45.94
Above INR 60,000	85	15.02

Source: Primary data

Table 2 displays the data on the respondents' demographic profile, and it can be observed that the sample selected for the study is heterogeneous, as special care was taken to ensure that it accurately represented the population.

4.2 Exploratory Factor Analysis (EFA)

To do an Exploratory Factor Analysis (EFA), the reliability and validity of the obtained reduction must be established, and the sample size must be adequate. The Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin (KMO) and Bartlett's Test of Sphericity were used (Chawla & Sondhi, 2011). The derived KMO statistics value was 0.770, more than 0.5, and Bartlett's Test p-value was 0.000, less than the significance level of 0.05. Thus, we can conclude that the sample data from the study was suitable for Exploratory Factor Analysis.

Table 3 shows the total variance explained for factors influencing customer attitudes toward green marketing and environmentally friendly products. With Eigenvalues

greater than one, ten groups or dimensions were extracted and 66.891% of the variance was explained.

Table 3 Total Variance Explained.

	Rotation Sums of Squared Loadings					
Groups	Total	% of Variance	Cumulative %			
1	3.200	10.665	10.665			
2	3.038	10.127	20.792			
3	2.126	7.088	27.880			
4	2.126	7.086	34.965			
5	1.977	6.591	41.557			
6	1.894	6.315	47.872			
7	1.771	5.904	53.776			
8	1.333	4.444	58.220			
9	1.316	4.385	62.605			
10	1.286	4.286	66.891			

Source: Primary data

The rotated component matrix is shown in Table 4. The questionnaire's factor matrix and rotated component are displayed in the table, and a cut-off point for the coefficient is decided to interpret the results, which are typically taken greater than 0.5 (Chawla & Sondhi, 2011).

Table 4 Rotated Component Matrix.

- di				0						
					Comp	onent				
Ite	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
ms	THE REAL PROPERTY.							_		
CFE	1			9						0.
1			_/_	*			0.5			84
CFE			/				0.5			
2	0.7	4	1			y	03			
CFE	0.7	100	, NE	0						
3 CFE	49	A.								
4	New Property lies	. 2		To be a second						
CFE	Α		-						0.7	
5	*								24	
CFE	0.7							,		
6	38						1			
CFE		The state of the s						0.8		
7							1	_26	7	
CFE										
8							and the same of th			
CFE	0.5	- 1	T		-					
9	53	GH	1 "	and the second second	1					
GM	Sheet in		-				0.7			
P1							44			
GM										
P2										
GM										
P3	0.5									
GM P4	0.5 45									
GM	43		0.7							
P5			86							
GM			0.6							
P6			6							
GM	0.5									
P7	24									
GM										
P8										
GM				0.6						
P9				19						

NGIN

ISSN(Print):2582-0680 ;ISSN(Online):2455-5061 Vol. - 7, Page-1-9, Year-2023

GM		0.6						
P10		83						
GM								
P11								
GM			0.					
P12			83					
GM			0.					
P13			74					
AD				0.7				
V1				54				
AD								
V2								
AD				0.7				
V3				34				
AD	0.6							
V4	51							
AD		0.5		.,,				
V5		32				-		
AD	0.8			.,,	-	San		
V6	05				The state of the s		-	A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR
AD	0.8							E
V7	72						0	-
AD	0.7		,		A PORT OF THE PROPERTY OF THE	G		
V8	95			The same of the sa			Control of the last of the las	1

Source: Primary data

After performing the varimax rotation method with Kaizer normalisation in SPSS software, Group 1 consists of items CFE3, CFE6, CFE9, GMP4, and GMP7. Similarly, Group 2 consists of items ADV4, ADV6, ADV7, and ADV8. Group 3 consists of GMP5 and GMP6; Group 4 consists of GMP9, GMP10, and ADV5; Group 5 consists of GMP12 and GMP13; Group 6 consists of ADV1 and ADV3; Group 7 consists of CFE2 and GMP1; Group 8, Group 9 and Group 10 consists of only one item each viz. CFE7, CFE5, and CFE1 respectively. Groups 8, 9, and 10 each include only one item; Groups 3, 5, 6, and 7 only have two items. According to Fabrigar et al. (1999) and Costello and Osborne (2005), each group in factor analysis must have at least three items. As a result, Groups 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10 are omitted from further investigation and interpretation. The remaining groups, 1, 2, and 4, have 12 items in total, the most important and relevant factors influencing consumer attitudes regarding green marketing products.

Table 5 depicts the three new groups as well as their new nomenclatures. These three new groups account for 27.878% of the total variance.

Table 5 Name of New Groups.

Sl. No	Groupin g	Items Include d	Dimensions	Name of New Factor	Percenta ge of Variance
1	1	CFE3, CFE6, CFE9, GMP4, & GMP7	(i) Environmen tal Concern (ii) Green Marketing and Environmen t-Friendly Products	Environmen tal Concerns and Green Products	10.665
2	2	ADV4,	(i) Green	Consumer	10.127

		ADV6, ADV7, & ADV8	Advertising	Trust	
3	4	GMP9, GMP1 0, & ADV5	(i) Green Marketing and Environmen t-Friendly Products (ii) Green Advertising	Purchase Intention	7.086
	Total	27.878			

Source: Primary data

The Exploratory Factor Analysis identified three primary constructs of consumers' attitudes about green marketing and environmentally friendly products in Nagaland, as shown in Table 5.

4.3 Measurement of Consumer Attitude towards Green Marketing Products

As mentioned in the previous section, the measurement scale employed in this study was a five-point scale for the identified 12 items. As a result, the maximum possible score was 60, and the minimum possible score was 12. The score here signifies the overall level of Consumer Attitude. As a result, high scores suggest a favourable attitude. The estimated overall Consumer Attitude level can be interpreted as follows.

Table 6 Consumer Attitude Overall Score Interpretation.

Interpret ation of scale value	Highly unfavou rable attitude	Unfavou rable attitude	Moder ately favour able attitude	Favour able attitud e	Highly Favour able attitud e
Scale value for overall score	12 – 21.6	21.6 – 31.2	31.2 – 40.8	40.8 – 50.4	50.4 – 60

Source: Primary data

The Consumer Attitude score's mean value was 44.02, which falls under the favourable category. Therefore, it can be concluded that Naga consumers favour green marketing and eco-friendly products.

4.4 Testing of Hypothesis

The Whitney U Test and Kruskal Wallis Test were conducted to test the study's hypotheses. The results of these tests are summarised below in Table 7.

ISSN(Print):2582-0680 ;ISSN(Online):2455-5061 Vol. - 7, Page-1-9, Year-2023

Table 7 Hypothesis testing results.

Hypothesis	Null	Test	p-	Results
No.	Hypothesis Description		value	
H_1	There is no	Mann-	0.317	Failed to
	significant	Whitney		Reject the
	difference	U Test		Null
	in consumer			Hypothesis
	attitude			31
	towards			
	green			
	products			
	and the		and the same of th	and the same of th
	respondents'			-EE
	gender.			COL
H_2	There is no	Kruskal	0.780	Failed to
	significant	Wallis		Reject the
	difference	Test	-V"	Null
	in consumer		0	Hypothesis
	attitude			3 0 (%)
	towards	72		
	green	7		55
	products			1
	and the age	10		(7)
	of the	0)		87
**	respondents.	<u>M</u>	0.5:5	T
H_3	There is no	Kruskal	0.512	Failed to
	significant	Wallis	1	Reject the
	difference	Test		Null
	in consumer	4		Hypothesis
	attitude	7	U. \	4
	towards		30. '	
	green		130	
	products and the			
	educational			BI
	qualification		4	
	of the			
	respondents.			\checkmark
H ₄	There is no	Mann-	0.910	Failed to
114	significant	Whitney	0.710	Reject the
	difference	U Test	1	Null
	in consumer	3 2 550	LEI	Hypothesis
	attitude		- 10-	11) podiesis
	towards			
	green			
	products			
	and the			
	marital			
	status of the			
	respondents.			
H ₅	There is no	Kruskal	0.113	Failed to
J	significant	Wallis		Reject the
	difference	Test		Null
	in consumer			Hypothesis
	attitude			''
	towards			
	green			
	products			
	1 1		1	

	and the income level of the respondents.			
H ₆	There is no significant difference in consumer attitude towards green products and the occupation of the respondents.	Kruskal Wallis Test	0.472	Failed to Reject the Null Hypothesis

Source: Primary data

Mann-Whitney U Test conducted for hypothesis H1 generated a p-value of 0.317. Therefore, at a 5% significance level, the null hypothesis could not be rejected, and there is no significant difference in consumer attitude towards green products and the respondents' gender. For hypothesis H2, the Kruskal Wallis Test gave a p-value of 0.780, which is greater than the 0.05 significance level, and we failed to reject the null hypothesis and conclude that the respondents' age does not affect consumers' attitudes towards green products. Similarly, we also failed to reject the H3 hypothesis as the p-value generated was 0.512 at a 5% significance level. For the H4 hypothesis, the p-value (0.910) generated was greater than the 0.05 significance level, we failed to reject the null hypothesis as there is no significant difference in consumer attitude towards green products in relation to their marital status. As for hypothesis H5, the p-value (0.113) generated was greater than the significance level of 0.05, leading to the failure to reject the H5 hypothesis and conclude that there is no significant difference in respondents' attitudes towards green products in relation to their income level. Lastly, for hypothesis H6, the pvalue was 0.472, greater than the significance level of 0.05. Therefore, the authors failed to reject H6, and there is no significant difference in respondents' attitudes towards green products in relation to their occupation. Overall, it can be said that regardless of their demographic affiliations, Kohima and Dimapur district residents have similar attitudes towards green, ecofriendly products.

5. CONCLUSIONS

5.1 Major Findings of the Study

In the twenty-first century, global warming and climate change have caught the attention of every nation as these issues have become a universal concern due to their farreaching consequences for the environment, economy and society. Environmental protection from further deterioration has become the top priority of governments worldwide, including India. However, environmental

ISSN(Print):2582-0680 ;ISSN(Online):2455-5061 Vol. - 7, Page-1-9, Year-2023

protection is achievable with the active support of the population, and the present state of people's attitudes toward environmentally friendly green products in Nagaland is presented in this study.

Consumers in Nagaland feel positively about products that are promoted through green marketing. Regardless of their demographic affiliations, the consumers of ecofriendly products in Kohima and Dimapur, Nagaland districts share similar attitudes. These results are contrary to the findings of Sharma (2015), who discovered that respondents' perceptions and attitudes regarding green products are influenced by factors such as age, income, marital status, and level of education.

The present study explored the identified factors that affect the consumer attitude towards green eco-friendly products and identified three significant constructs: "Environmental Concerns and Green Products", "Consumer Trust", and "Purchase Intention". These three constructs represent 12 critical items that influence the consumers' attitude towards green, eco-friendly products. Vazifehdoust et al. (2013) and Kong et al. (2014) also attempted a similar approach, and their findings are comparable to the findings of this study.

5.2 Contributions of the Study

This study is the first of its kind in Nagaland and analytically measures consumer attitudes toward environmentally friendly, green products. The people of Nagaland feel positively about environmentally friendly products, which is a very positive indication for the nation's policymakers to create appropriate and workable environmental protection guidelines. A few government administration officials with whom the authors spoke expressed their opinion that eco-friendly products are more expensive and less readily available than the traditional alternatives in the market. This makes it more difficult for the government to implement many environmental protection directives effectively. This study will assist officials and workers in this field in identifying areas of concern and offer solutions. This study will assist officials and administrators in identifying areas of concern and offering solutions. This study will also encourage other academicians and students to learn more about environmental protection and the public's attitudes.

5.3 Limitations of the Study, Scope for Further Research and Conclusions

This study was carried out based on the factors identified by the Theory of Planned Behaviour (TPB) to empirically analyse the factors affecting consumer behaviour towards green marketing and eco-friendly products in the Nagaland districts of Dimapur and Kohima. Extending the study's geographical scope beyond Kohima and Dimapur to include the state's other districts and rural areas is possible. Additionally, comparative cross-sectional and longitudinal studies can be carried out to gain an additional understanding of consumer attitudes toward environmentally friendly green products. Since a non-probabilistic convenience sampling strategy was used in this study, errors in estimating different statistical results cannot be completely ruled out. Other random sampling methods can be used to carry out comparable investigations. Confirmatory Factor Analysis (CFA) can be used to confirm further the factors or constructs found in this study. The Structural Equation Modelling (SEM) approach can also be applied to developing and confirming a theoretical model.

According to this study, no significant differences in consumer attitudes concerning the demographic variables were found. However, more such research can be conducted by identifying and examining moderating and mediating variables influencing consumer attitudes toward green, eco-friendly products.

We are increasingly concerned about environmental issues and their detrimental effects, leading to a rise in global concern and concerted efforts to protect Mother Nature and Planet Earth in recent years. Issues like deforestation, holes in the ozone layer, excessive greenhouse gas emissions, fast depletion of natural resources and shrinking biodiversity, pollution, and global warming are still unsolved for the average citizen of our country and the world today. However, the objectives can be met if the public actively participates in environmental protection initiatives.

REFERENCES

- [1] Ajzen, I. (1991). The Theory of Planned Behaviour.
 Organizational Behaviour and Human Decision
 Processes, 50, 179-211. http://
 dx.doi.org/10.1016/0749-5978(91)90020-T_____
- [2] Brundtland, G. H. (1987). What is sustainable development. *Our common future*, 8(9).
- [3] Chawla, D., & Sondhi, N. (2011). Research Methodology Concepts and Cases. Noida: Vikas Publishing House Pvt Ltd.
- [4] Coddington, W. (1993). Environmental marketing's new relationship with corporate environmental management. *Environmental Quality Management*, 2(3), 297–302. https://doi.org/10.1002/tqem.3310020310
- [5] Correia, E., Sousa, S., Viseu, C., & Larguinho, M. (2023). Analysing the Influence of Green Marketing Communication in Consumers' Green Purchase

ISSN(Print):2582-0680 ;ISSN(Online):2455-5061 Vol. - 7, Page-1-9, Year-2023

- Behaviour. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 20(2), 1356.
- [6] Costello, A. B., & Osborne, J. (2005). Best practices in exploratory factor analysis: Four recommendations for getting the most from your analysis. *Practical assessment, research, and evaluation*, 10(1), 7.
- [7] Elkington, J. (1994). Towards the Sustainable Corporation: Win-Win-Win Business Strategies for Sustainable Development. *California Management Review*, 36(2), 90–100. https://doi.org/10.2307/41165746
- [8] Enkvist, P., & Vanthournout, H. (2008). How companies think about climate change. *McKinsey Quarterly*, 2, 46.
- [9] Fabrigar, L. R., Wegener, D. T., MacCallum, R. C., & Strahan, E. J. (1999). Evaluating the use of exploratory factor analysis in psychological research. *Psychological methods*, 4(3), 272.
- [10] Fisk, G. (1974) Marketing and the Ecological Crisis. Harper and Row, London.
- [11] Kong, W., Harun, A., Sulong. R.S. & Lily, J. (2014). The influence of consumers' perception of green products on green purchase intention. *International Journal of Asian Social Science*, 4(8), 924-939.
- [12] Mahmoud, T. O. (2018). Impact of green marketing mix on purchase intention. *International Journal of Advanced and applied sciences*, 5(2), 127-135.
- [13] McDaniel, S. W., & Rylander, D. H. (1993). Strategic green marketing. Journal of Consumer Marketing, 10(3), 4–10.
 https://doi.org/10.1108/07363769310041929
- [14] Nagaland Statistical Handbook. (2020, November).

 Directorate of Economics & Statistics Nagaland:

 Kohima. Statistics.nagaland.gov.in.

 https://statistics.nagaland.gov.in/statistics/category/14
- [15] Nek Mahmud, M., & Fekete-Farkas, M. (2020). Why not green marketing? Determinates of consumers' intention to green purchase decision in a new developing nation. Sustainability, 12(19), 7880.
- [16] Nunnally, J. C. (1978). Psychometric Theory. McGraw-Hill Companies.

- [17] Peattie, K. (2001). Towards Sustainability: The Third Age of Green Marketing. *The Marketing Review*, 2(2), 129–146. https://doi.org/10.1362/1469347012569869
- [18] Polonsky, M. J. (1994). An Introduction to Green Marketing. *Electronic Green Journal*, 1(2). https://doi.org/10.5070/g31210177
- [19] Pride, W.M. & Ferrell, O.C. (1993) Marketing: Study Guide, Business and Economics.
- [20] Sharma, M., & Trivedi, P. (2016). Various green marketing variables and their effects on consumers' buying behaviour for green products. *International Journal of Latest Technology in Engineering, Management & Applied Science*, 5(1), 1-8.
 - [21] Sharma, P. (2015). Green Marketing: An Exploratory Research on Consumers in Udaipur City. *Management*, 5 (1), 254-257.
 - [22] Van Dam, Y. K., & Apeldoorn, P. A. (1996). Sustainable marketing. *Journal of macromarketing*, 16(2), 45-56.
 - [23] Vazifehdoust, H., Taleghani, M., Esmaeilpour, F., & Nazari, K. (2013). Purchasing green to become greener: Factors influence consumers' green purchasing behaviour. *Management Science Letters*, 3(9), 2489-2500.
 - [24] Veluri, K. K. (2012). Green marketing: Indian consumer awareness and marketing influence on buying decision. *International journal of research in commerce & management*, 3(2), 60-81.