



Awareness on food security education Among students

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ABSTRACT

Food security means when all people, at all times, have physical and economic access to enough safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy lifestyle. Through this study, children may develop their knowledge about the importance & protection of food and its relation to healthy life. The major objective of the study is to develop knowledge about food security education. In this study, the investigator used survey method. The reliability of research tool is 0.5416. The samples collected for the study is simple random sampling. By using appropriate statistical techniques, the investigator identified that students have high level of awareness and particularly boys students in co-education school have more knowledge about food security education.

Keywords : Education, Students, Food

Introduction

Education is the process by which the human beings develop the knowledge of food security. Food is the chief of essential materials which the body needs for its well being. These essential materials are called nutrients. Food is indispensable for health at all stages of life and for satisfactory growth.

Food security implies the responsibilities undertaken by the people to protect the food materials for getting adequate nutrition to have healthy life. It must be taught in school, where students belong to different culture meet together. Food security education is the best element for understanding how the food is insecure. It creates knowledge about importance of soil quality, water availability, food crops affected by drought, temperature, frost, climate change, chemical fertilizers, etc., Therefore in promoting food security education the world community gets lots of benefits like healthy generations, soil fertility is maintained, usage of pesticides and artificial fertilizers are reduced. Apart from this, the students will be more eager to learn about food security, because the health of their body is one of the victim affected by the insecure food.

Further, heavy mixture of chemical fertilizers to increase the food production, causes sterility, among in human beings overgrowth which results in diseases like cancer, etc., Therefore, the natural fertilizers are to be preferred by the farmers rather than artificial fertilizers. Development of new technologies for agriculture requires a cross disciplinary approach. The cross disciplinary approach creates "green revolution" which is needed to feed the present population.

Food Security Education-meaning

Food security means when all people, at all times, have physical and economic access to enough safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy lifestyle.

Need And Significance Of The Study

1. In the field of agriculture, development of new

technologies promotes for the cultivation of hybrid varieties in order to provide food for the huge population but it should not affect the healthy lifestyle of the human beings. Therefore the study is a needed one and it is also considered as an important one.

2. The study may be an essential one because it gives an idea about the nutritional values of the food materials among students.
3. The study is considered as an important one to develop responsibilities among people to protect food materials.
4. The study educates the children regarding the importance of food and its relation to healthy life. Therefore it is a needed one.
5. The study may be useful to develop healthy food habits among students and therefore it is considered on an essential one.

Scope Of The Study

The present study may be useful and bring out some changes in the following aspects:

1. To build a healthy society in future.
2. To create knowledge about the responsibilities to protect food materials among students.
3. To ensure the necessity of balanced diet among students at secondary level.
4. To develop the knowledge about essential nutritional requirements needed for the society.
5. Food security education is not only limited to the health food education curriculum but also through many kinds of health education in young people's daily study and the life such as food security, nutrition, smoking control, personal hygiene and so on.

Objectives Of The Present Study

1. To identify the key concepts that are related to food security education.
2. To find out the level of awareness among secondary school students on food security education.

- To find out the significant difference if any between the different groups of biographical variables such as Sex, Caste, Nature of school and Types of school in awareness on food security education at secondary level.
- To suggest some ways and means to improve the awareness level on food security education.

Hypotheses For The Present Study

- Students studying in secondary schools have average level of awareness on food security education.
- There exist significant difference between different groups of demographic variables such as Sex, Caste, Nature of school and Type of school in awareness on food security education.
- Boys have more awareness on food security education than girls.
- Students studying in coeducation school have more awareness on food security education than students of girls schools.

Research Method

The investigator used descriptive survey method to reveal the awareness on food security education at present situation.

Research Tool

The investigator himself constructed a research tool on "Identification of awareness on food security education among secondary school students".

Pilot Study

The investigator conducted a pilot study in two schools namely Alagappa model higher secondary school, Alagappapuram, Karaikudi and Muthukaruppan Visalakshi Government higher Secondary school, Muthupattinam, Karaikudi.

Validation Of Research Tool

Reliability

The reliability of the research tool is established by split half method. The reliability established was found to be 0.5416.

Validity

The investigator established content validity of the research tool.

Sampling Technique

Sampling Technique is used to collect data is simple random sampling.

Data Collection

The investigator himself visited all the schools located in Karaikudi Area.

Data Analysis

In the process of data analysis, the investigator used descriptive analysis and differential analysis.

Delimitation Of The Study

- In this study, the questionnaire was administered only for IX standard students of secondary school.
- This study is confined to the area of in and around karaikudi only.
- The investigator selected only few areas of food security education.
- Only 240 samples were collected from the students.

Descriptive Analysis

i) Percentage Analysis

Table:1 Distribution of percentage scores of various groups of Awareness on food security educations at secondary level.

S.No	Categories	Percentage	
1.	Overall categories	70.67%	
2.	Sex	Male	71.34%
		Female	69.86%
3.	Communal Categories	Forward Community	72.58
		Backward Community	72.23
		MostBackward Community	68.34%
		Scheduled Community	69.10%
4.	Nature of School	Boys School	72.68%
		Girls School	67%
		Co-Education School	72.25%
5.	Type of School	Govt School	70.95%
		Govt Aided School	70.34%

Findings

- Students studying in secondary schools have high level of awareness on food security education.(i.e 70.67%).
- Boys school students studying in secondary schools have high level of awareness on food security education.
- Male students, forward community students and govt. school students have awareness but their level of awareness is found to be more (or) less same with their allied groups.

ii) Differential Analysis

Distribution of mean difference between different group of biographical variable of Awareness on food security education at secondary school.

S.No	Categories	N	DF	t-value	Level of Significance	
1.	Sex	Male Vs Female	126	238	t=1.009	Not Significant
			114		M ₁ =14.26 S ₁ =2.40 M ₂ =13.97 S ₂ =2.07	
2.	Community	FC Vs BC	81	99	t=0.120	Not Significant
			81	89	M ₁ =14.51 S ₁ =2.52 M ₂ =14.45 S ₂ =2.10	
		FC Vs MBC	81	50	t=1.607	Not Significant
			50	89	M ₁ =14.51 S ₁ =2.52 M ₂ =13.67 S ₂ =2.04	
		FC Vs SC	81	79	t=1.259	Not Significant
			50	79	M ₁ =14.51 S ₁ =2.52 M ₂ =13.82 S ₂ =2.20	
		BC Vs MBC	99	50	t=1.32	Not Significant
			50	157	M ₁ =14.45 S ₁ =2.10 M ₂ =13.67 S ₂ =2.04	
BC Vs SC	99	50	t=1.683	Not Significant		
	50	147	M ₁ =14.45 S ₁ =2.10 M ₂ =13.82 S ₂ =2.20			
MBC Vs SC	50	50	t=0.369	Not Significant		
	50	147	M ₁ =13.67 S ₁ =2.04 M ₂ =13.82 S ₂ =2.20			
3.	Type of School	Govt. School Vs Govt Aided School	120	20	t=0.295	Not Significant
			20	238	M ₁ =14.19 S ₁ =4.32 M ₂ =14.06 S ₂ =2.14	
4.	Nature of School	Boys Vs Girls School	80	80	t=3.46	Significant at 1% level
			80	158	M ₁ =14.53 S ₁ =2.33 M ₂ =13.40 S ₂ =1.75	
		Co-Education Vs Girls School	80	80	t=	Significant at 1% level
			80	158	M ₁ =14.45 S ₁ =2.33 M ₂ =13.40 S ₂ =1.75	
Boys Vs Co-Education School	80	80	t=0.217	Not Significant		
	80	158	M ₁ =14.53 S ₁ =2.33 M ₂ =14.45 S ₂ =2.33			

Findings

- Government school students studying in secondary schools have high level of awareness on food security education (i.e 70.95%).
- The awareness on food security education among secondary level students and their communal categories such as forward, backward, most backward and scheduled committees, govt. and aided school students, boys and co-education school students are found to be same.
- The awareness of boys school students is found to be higher in food security education than girls school students.
- The students studying in co-education school at secondary level have higher awareness on food security education than girls school students.

Research Implications

The present research study implies that the male students (71.34%), forward community students (72.58%), Govt. school students (70.95%) are found to be same in awareness on food security education. Students studying in boys schools (72.68%) have high level of awareness on food security education than girls and co-education school students.

Conclusion

The food security education is very useful to students for developing their knowledge and responsibilities to protect the food materials in order to get adequate nutrition for their healthy life. In developing the feeling of food security education, Teacher should play a vital role, in the form of conducting programmes, activities and varieties of techniques through instructional practices. So that the future student's community may be benefitted a lot to enhance the knowledge about food security education.

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