Research Paper

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B. Ed Students' Perception Towards Man-Made Hazards

Education

KEYWORDS : Man made hazards; disaster management

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ABSTRACT

A survey was conducted to emphasize the level of perception of B.Ed students' towards man made hazards. A 5-point rating scale consists of 50 test items in 5 dimensions was used as a tool for the present study. The sample consists of 450 randomly sampled B.Ed students (includes both gender) procured from 6 different colleges of education in Puducherry. The data collected from the sample was statistically analyzed using SPSS package. The result revealed that the sample have high level of perception towards man-made hazards. Significant difference is exhibited in the level of perception of B.Ed students with respect to different demographic variables.

INTRODUCTION

Man-made disasters are the result of human action; act; intent, error; and negligence. These disasters includes accidents in roadways, waterways and airways; human design structure collapse; oil spills, stampedes; industrial hazards outbreak; CBRN hazards; pollutions, bomb explosions; war; terrorism and its related threats.

In recent years man-made disasters occur frequently and vibrantly. The advancement of science and technology on its devil face leads to epidemic increase of man-made hazards which demolish both biotic and environment with its poisonous flange irrespective of colour, creed, religion, caste, community, race and socio-economic status of the people. The erratic losses of human lives and their belongings in terms of casualties and sufferings are irreversible and making a permanent black scar in anthropo-development. In this context this study has been more momentous in present day situation.

NEED FOR THE PRESENT STUDY

The base for the prevention and mitigation of man-made hazards is to acquire knowledge about different man-made disasters and the underlying causative factors in order to rescue their lives and their possessions and to sustain their livelihood. Hence it is inevitable for every citizen to equip with proper knowledge and skill to combat those man-made hazards. Majority of the research reports indicates that the children and women are highly vulnerable to such types of disasters. The B.Ed students are the future teachers, who are going to uphold millions of future citizen and nourish them with required knowledge and skills for their sustainability in this modern webbed universe. Hence they are the apt candidature to act as conduits to bring changes in the society in terms of managing the disasters with the aid of community participation in time. The knowledge sharing about man-made hazards in top down model to the students will reach the society within the need of the hour. Therefore in this context the study gains its significance by facilitates to develop a safe society.

OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

The following objectives are framed for this study:

1. To study the B.Ed students' perception towards man-made hazards .
2. To find out whether there is any significant difference exist in the perception of B.Ed students' towards man-made hazards with respect to different demographic variables (gender, locality, main subject, type of family, educational qualification and marital status)

HYPOTHESES OF THE STUDY

The following hypotheses are framed for this study:

1. The perception of B.Ed students towards man-made hazards is low.
2. There is no significant difference exist in the perception of B.Ed students' towards man-made hazards with respect to gender, locality, main subject, type of family, educational qualification and marital status

METHODOLODGY

Normative survey method was used in this study.

TOOL USED

1. Personal data sheet
2. A 5-point rating scale (Strongly Agree, Agree, Undecided, Disagree and Strongly Disagree consists of 50 questions under five dimensions (**Sociological Hazards:** Civil Strikes/Riot; Terrorism and War; (2) **Technological Hazards**: Structural collapse; power outage and industrial accidents; (3) **Fire:** arson; industrial and residential fire; (4) **Transportation**: accidents related to roadways; waterways and airways and space related accidents; (5) **Peculiar Phenomenon** radioactive materials, pollution, global warming, drought etc) was used as the tool for the present study. The test items have both positive polarity and negative polarity.

Scoring

The scoring procedure is that the sample response in strongly agree column yield 5 marks followed by 4 marks for agree; 3 marks for undecided; 2 marks for disagree and 1 mark for strongly disagree for positive test items. The scoring was reversed for negative test items (1,2,3,4 and 5)

Reliability

Pilot study was conducted with 50 students to establish the reliability. The reliability co-efficient value of the tool was calculated by using test retest method (retest in 15 days interval) and is found to be 0.823 and validity index was found to be 0.907.

ANALYSIS OF DATA

The collected data for the main study was analyzed with the aid of SPSS package, and the results were presented in the tables 1 and 2.

Table 1: Level of perception of B.Ed students towards Man-made hazards.

N	Mean	Median	S.D
450	171.90	178	35.82

The obtained mean value 171.90 shows that the level of perception of the sample is above average level, hence the sam-

ple have high level of perception towards man-made hazards. Hence the stated hypothesis is rejected.

Table 2: Perception of B.Ed students towards man-made hazards with respect to different demographic variables.

Variables	Sub variables	N	Mean	SD	t-value
Gender	Male	234	181.18	14.25	2.98**
	Female	216	178.61	12.53	
Locality	Rural	242	177.25	11.42	3.92**
	Urban	208	182.05	14.54	
Marital Status	Married	216	179.12	12.61	0.571*
	Unmarried	234	178.84	14.11	
Subject Specialization	Science	215	183.21	14.44	2.58**
	Arts	235	176.21	16.32	
Degree Qualified	UG	288	179.64	13.45	0.369*
	PG	162	179.12	12.69	
Birth Order	First	222	173.43	35.11	0.607*
	Second	140	171.56	36.08	
	Third	88	168.51	37.65	

Note: ** Significance at 0. 05 level.
*** Not Significance at 0. 05 level.**

The results revealed that significant difference exist in the perception of B.Ed students' towards man-made hazards with respect to gender, locality and subject specialization. On the other hand, the marital status, degree possessed and birth order of the B.Ed students do not differ significantly with respect to their level of perception of man-made hazards.

RESULTS AND INTERPRETATIONS

The male students have high level of perception than the female student in man-made hazards because the male B. Ed students are practically linked with the society in terms of conversation, reading newspapers, watching media apart from the college hours, whereas the female students have to look after their traditional household works and child care after the college hours.

The urban based students have more perception than the rural students in man-made hazards, which highlights that the media and versatile sources are readily available and quickly accessible to gain information regarding the need, in the urban city limit than from the rural area.

Science students have more level of perception than the arts students in man-made hazards which substantiate that science students (includes social studies) are normally have high scientific temper, inquiry apart from what they learned in their curriculum than the arts students.

CONCLUSION

The findings of the present study highlights that the enhancement of attitude and awareness of the B.Ed students towards disaster management is the paramount need of the hour. The conceptualization and widen of the perception may increased through curricular and co-curricular forms.

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