

A SURVEY ON EVALUATION OF ALERTNESS ON DISASTER MANAGEMENT FOR SCHOOL-GOING STUDENTS IN GUJARAT

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ABSTRACT

Disasters are normally categorized into two categories: Rapid onset and slow onset disasters. Most of the disasters except for drought, insect infestation and epidemics are classified as rapid onset disasters as they strike with little or no warnings, i.e. giving no time to mitigate their effects. The traditional features of disasters show them to be continuous, unpredictable, and requiring rapid response, with unknown frequency, and thus hazardous. Maximum damage causing disasters involve earthquake, landslides, cyclones, tsunamis, tornados, fires and volcanic eruptions. Apart from affecting mortality and causing maximum health issues, disasters also cause huge range of displacement, epidemics and substantial financial losses to the communities. Though every disaster has its own features and necessities, different actions with the common measures under disaster management involve precautions, preventions, migrations, alertness, response and recovery for which gradual practice and alertness activities are required, specifically among students. The aim of this research is to measure the extent of alertness about disaster and their management among the school studying children.

It is an educational survey layout with a conceptual and traditional research theme accessing non-possibility purposive sampling protocol. Four of the private schools of major cities of Gujarat were selected. Survey procedure was worked among the 120 students aged between 12 to 16 years using a pre-tested semi structured questionnaire information sheet.

The result predicted that out of 120 students surveyed, 88.2 % (before intervention) and 97.2 % (after intervention) had information about disaster management.

These findings focus that the level of information is not yet satisfactory among the target and there is an extreme necessity of giving information to the school children. Disaster management can be mandatorily involved in academic syllabus of all the students. Effective, meaningful teaching and alertness programmes are to be maintained in timely manner.

KEYWORDS: *Disaster Management, Teaching Presentation, Alertness on Disaster, Natural Disasters, Preparedness for Disaster, Institutionalize Disaster Management*