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A STUDY OF ENVIRONMENTAL KNOWLEDGE OF B.Ed. TRAINEES IN CUDDALORE DISTRICT

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Abstract:

In the Present investigation, an attempt has been made to study the Study the Environmental knowledge of B.Ed. trainees in Cuddalore District, Tamil Nadu, India. The result revealed that Male and Female trainees, Arts and Science group trainees, Rural and Urban area trainees had significant difference in respect of their Environmental knowledge.

KEYWORDS:

Environmental , Investigation, Trainees , Economical.

INTRODUCTION:

Environment is the universe of Biotic and other physical elements as organized into dynamic systems. These systems are ecological systems which represent the integration of biotic and abiotic elements in the environment. The concept of environment is often misunderstood to represent only the physical world around us. But it includes physical, biological, social, cultural and economical factors which constitute the surroundings of man, who is both the creator and moulder of his environment. Knowledge about the environment especially its holistic nature and laws that govern the ongoing processes in the environment, particularly in an ecosystem and the Inter-dependence of different elements in the environment is a priority need for better understanding, protection and improvements of the environment.

NEED FOR THE STUDY

Environment is the most vital part, as the interaction between man and environment has existed ever since he first appeared on earth. Therefore, it is highly necessary to maximize the efforts to conserve, protect, save and develop this environment for the future. A study of environmental knowledge of our trainees will throw light in to what extent they are conscious of the various aspects of environment and its allied problems. A strong environmental knowledge may result in a strong concern for the protection and conservation of environment. Hence, there arises a need to carry out this investigation.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The problem selected for the present study is entitled as "A study on Environmental knowledge of B.Ed. trainees in Cuddalore District".

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

To find out,

- 1.The difference, if any, between Male and Female trainees in respect of their Environmental knowledge.

2. The difference, if any, between Arts and Science group trainees in respect of their Environmental knowledge.
3. The difference, if any, between Rural and Urban area trainees in respect of their Environmental knowledge.

HYPOTHESES OF THE STUDY

The following null hypotheses were formulated for the purpose of testing.

1. There is no significant difference between Male and Female trainees in respect of their Environmental knowledge.
2. There is no significant difference between Arts and Science group trainees in respect of their Environmental knowledge.
3. There is no significant difference between Rural and Urban area trainees in respect of their Environmental knowledge.

METHOD OF THE STUDY

In order to realize the above said objectives, normative survey method was employed. Normative survey method describes and interprets what exists at present. They are concerned with existing conditions or relations, prevailing practices, beliefs and attitudes etc.

TOOLS USED

Environmental knowledge test was constructed and validated by P.C. Naga subramani (2008). The Environmental knowledge test consists of 63 multiple choice items. The maximum mark for a question is 1 and the minimum mark is 0. Therefore one can get a maximum score of '63' and a minimum score of '0' for this test. The test used in this study, in order to measure trainee's Environmental knowledge has construct validity. Also the intrinsic validity found by the authors (P.C. Naga subramani, 2008) of this tool was 0.89 and the reliability was found to be 0.79 by the split-half technique. The investigator has also found the reliability of the tool as 0.72 by the split-half technique and the intrinsic validity as 0.85. Thus the Environmental knowledge test has reliability and validity.

SAMPLE OF THE STUDY

Random sampling technique has been used in the selection of the sample and as many as 500 B.Ed. trainees in Cuddalore District, Tamil Nadu, India.

STATISTICAL TECHNIQUES USED

1. The Environmental knowledge scores of the various sub-samples were collected and their means and standard deviations were calculated (vide: Table-1).
2. The test of significance was used to test the hypotheses and the details of the calculations were given in Table-2.

TABLE - 1
ENVIRONMENTAL KNOWLEDGESCORES OF THE SUB-SAMPLES

Sub-samples	N	Mean	S.D.
Entire sample	500	46.24	5.76
Male trainees	230	42.24	5.86
Female trainees	270	43.02	4.62
Arts group trainees	280	40.42	4.64
Science group trainees	220	45.61	4.82
Rural area trainees	285	43.31	5.97
Urban area trainees	215	48.95	5.16

The means of Environmental knowledge are found to range from 43.31 to 48.95 in respect of their entire sample and its sub-samples. The mean of the Environmental knowledge scores for the entire sample is 46.24. Its median is 45.82 and its mode is 46.14. Its kurtosis is found to be 1.422 which is greater than 0.263 and hence the distribution is platykurtic. Its skewness is found to be 0.188. It can be seen from Table-1, that the standard deviation range from 4.62 to 5.97 and the interval is not very wide, suggesting that the group is nearly homogeneous. Because the mean, the median and the mode do not vary much, the distribution can be considered nearly normal.

TABLE - 2
DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE MEANS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL KNOWLEDGE SCORES OF THE SUB - SAMPLES

Sub - samples	N	Mean	S.D	't' value	Level of significance
Male trainees	230	42.24	4.86	4.02	0.01
Female trainees	270	43.02	4.62		
Arts group trainees	280	40.42	4.64	3.64	0.01
Science group trainees	220	45.61	4.82		
Rural area trainees	285	43.31	5.97	3.17	0.01
Urban area trainees	215	48.95	5.16		

The details of the calculations are given in Table 2. In respect of Male and Female trainees ('t' value = 4.02), Arts and Science group trainees ('t' value = 3.64) and in respect of Rural and Urban area trainees ('t' value = 3.17) the 't' values are found to be significant at 0.01 level. Therefore, the null hypotheses (1), (2) and (3) are rejected. It is concluded that there is significant difference between Male and Female trainees, Arts and Science group trainees, Rural and Urban area trainees had significant difference in respect of their Environmental knowledge. Moreover, the Female trainees (Mean = 43.02) are found to be better than their Male counter parts (Mean = 42.24) in their Environmental knowledge. Moreover, the Science group trainees (Mean = 45.61) are found to be better than their Arts group counter parts (Mean = 40.42) in their Environmental knowledge. Moreover, the Urban area trainees (Mean = 48.95) are found to be better than

their Rural counter parts (Mean = 43.31) in their Environmental knowledge.

IMPORTANT FINDINGS

1. There is significant difference between Male and Female trainees in respect of their Environmental knowledge.
2. There is significant difference between Arts and Science group trainees in respect of their Environmental knowledge.
3. There is significant difference between Rural and Urban area trainees in respect of their Environmental knowledge.

CONCLUSION

Thus the present study has shown that Male and Female trainees, Arts and Science group trainees, Rural and Urban area trainees differ significantly in their Environmental knowledge.

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