
Effectiveness Of Awareness Program On Disaster Management Among Youth Club Members, Pillaiyarkuppam, Puducherry

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Abstract:

*Disasters are sudden catastrophic events that disrupt patterns of life and property in addition to multiple injuries. India is one of the most disaster prone countries in the world, affecting over all 85% of Indian land and more than 50 million people thus far. This study was aimed to assess the effectiveness of awareness program on disaster management among the members of the youth club in Pillaiyarkuppam Puducherry, 40 samples were selected by using purposive sampling technique and Quasi-experimental design (One group Pre-test- Post-test design) was adopted for the study. The study result shows that the pre- test mean score was 11.85 with the standard deviation 3.12 and in the post-test mean score was increased about 32.5 with standard deviation of 5.03 and $p\text{-value} < 0.001^{**}$. The pre- test and post-test mean difference for knowledge was 11.85, 32.5 respectively. Thus there is a significant difference between pre-test and post- test score knowledge on Disaster management. Hence there is a significant improvement in post-test level of knowledge, hence it is highly effective.*

Keywords: *Assess, knowledge, Disaster management, youth club members.*

INTRODUCTION

Disasters are sudden catastrophic events that disrupt patterns of life and property in addition to multiple injuries.¹

The organization and management of the resources and responsibilities for dealing with all humanitarian aspects of emergencies among in particular preparedness, response and recovery in order to lessen the impact of disasters. The disaster event that occurs without any prediction. The term disaster is loosely used to refer as any incident, manmade or natural occurrence.¹

A disaster is a serious disruption, occurring over a relatively short time, the functioning of a community or a society involving widespread human, material, economic or environmental loss and impacts, which exceeds the ability of the affected community or society to cope using its own resources¹.

Objectives

- To assess the knowledge about disaster management.
- To assess the effectiveness of the awareness program on disaster management.

Need for the study

In 2017, there were 330 natural disaster events. Asia experienced the highest number of natural disasters, most likely due to its size and susceptibility.⁸

Developing countries suffer the greatest costs when a disaster hits-more than 95% of all death caused by hazards occur in developing countries, and loss due to natural hazards are 20 time greater (as a percentage of GDP) in developing countries than in industrialized countries.⁹

Disaster can outbreak at any time. At state and individual level disaster preparedness is essential to avoid distress. Disaster causes shock, anxiety and distress among people and lead to frustration. Hence we felt there is a need to assess the knowledge among the rural adolescents who are in the risk of disaster prone areas and planned to develop awareness program for that kind of youth club members in Pillaiyarkuppam.

Methodology

Quantitative research approach and Quasi-experimental research design was adopted. Purposive sampling technique was used to select the samples (includes both boys and girls of Youth Club in Pillaiyarkuppam) based on the inclusion criteria. The data were collected through interview method and pre-test data collection was done by using Structured questionnaire consists of demographic variables and 40 questions on phases of Disaster Management. Disaster Management Training was given to youth club members and the post-test was conducted after the training. The data were analyzed in terms of both descriptive and inferential statistics

Results

Major study findings

Among the youth members selected in the study, majority of them 21 (53%) were

in the age group of 18-24 years and 17(42%) were in the age group of 25-29 years and (25%) in the the age group of 30-39 years. In gender most of the samples 23(58%) were males and 17 (42%) were females. With respect to religion 25 (63%) of them were Hindus and 11(27%) of them were Christians and 4(10%) of them were Muslims. Out of 40 samples 13(32%) were married and 27(68%) were unmarried. In type of house 14(35%) were living in pucca house and 26(65%) were living in kutcha house. In educational status 9 (22%) studied up to secondary school education and 17(43%) studied up to high school education and 14(35%) were graduates. In occupational status 15 (37%) were unemployed and 1(3%) were self-employed and 22 (55%) were daily wage employees and 2(5%) were other type of employees. In nature of occupation 3(8%) were sedentary workers and 35(87%) were moderate workers and 2(5%) were heavy workers. In most of the samples 21(53%) had an income of 7001-10,000 and 10(25%) income was 5001-7000 and 7(17%) income was <5000 and 2(5%) were >10,000. Out of 40 samples 24(60%) were residing at rural areas and 10(25%) were in semi urban areas and 6(15%) were in urban areas. In source of information 32(80%) got information through social media and 3(8%) got information through newspaper and 2(5%) received information through friends. In history of previous exposure 28(70%) were exposed previously and 12(30%) were not exposed previously.

The pre-test and post-test level of knowledge regarding disaster management among the members of youth club. In pre-test out of 40 samples, no one had adequate knowledge, 1(3 %) had moderate knowledge, 39 (97%) had inadequate knowledge. After awareness program 33(82%) had adequate knowledge, 6 (15%) had moderate knowledge and 1(3) had inadequate knowledge. In post-test majority of the sample had adequate knowledge. It shows

that awareness programme on disaster management among the members of youth club was effective.

The pre-test and post-test knowledge regarding disaster management among the members of youth club. Mean score knowledge level of the disaster management in pre-test was 11.85 with the standard deviation of 3.12 respectively. After implementation of awareness programme, the post-test knowledge mean score was increased about 32.55 with the standard deviation of 5.03 respectively. The improvement of knowledge was statistically tested by Wilcoxon signed ranks test which was found to be highly statistically significant at $p < 0.001^{**}$ level. It indicates that awareness program on disaster management among the members of youth club was effective.

Table 1: Frequency and Percentage Distribution of knowledge on disaster management among youth club members.

N = 40

Level of Knowledge	Pre test		Post test	
	Frequency (n)	Percentage (%)	Frequency (n)	Percentage (%)
Adequate knowledge	-	-	33	82
Moderately knowledge	1	3	6	15
Inadequate knowledge	39	97	1	3
Total	40	100	40	100

Table 1: Shows the distribution of pre-test and post-test level of knowledge regarding disaster management among the members of youth club. In pre-test out of 40 samples, no one had adequate knowledge, 1(3 %) had moderate knowledge, 39 (97%) had inadequate knowledge.

After awareness program 33(82%) had adequate knowledge, 6 (15%) had moderate knowledge and 1(3) had inadequate knowledge. In post-test majority of the sample had adequate knowledge. It shows that awareness programme on disaster management among the members of youth club was effective. Hence stated hypothesis (H1) was accepted.

TABLE 2: Comparison of mean and standard deviation of pre-test and post-test knowledge regarding disaster management among youth club members.

N = 40

Test	Mean	Standard deviation	Wilcoxon on Signed Ranks Test	p-value
Pre test	11.85	3.12	-5.503	<0.001**
Post test	32.55	5.03		

**** Highly significant at $p < 0.001$ level**

Table 2: Depicts that the effectiveness of awareness program on knowledge regarding disaster management among the members of youth club. Mean score knowledge level of the disaster management in pre-test was 11.85 with the standard deviation of 3.12 and the post-test knowledge mean score was increased about 32.55 with the standard deviation of 5.03 respectively. The improvement of knowledge was statistically tested by Wilcoxon sign rank test which was found to be highly significant at $p < 0.001^{**}$ level. It indicates that awareness program on disaster management among the members of youth club was effective. Hence the stated hypothesis (H1) was accepted.

Conclusion

The study finding reveals that 33(88%) subjects had adequate knowledge, 6(15%) subjects had moderate knowledge, and 1(3%) had inadequate knowledge during post-test on disaster management among YouthClub members.

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