



# A Study of Disaster Management Awareness of Secondary School Students

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## 1. Introduction

A disaster is an extreme disruption in the functioning of a habitat that causes widespread human, material, or environmental losses that exceed the ability of the affected population to cope with its own resources. Landslides, earthquakes, tsunami, cyclones, droughts, floods etc are some of the examples of disasters. Disaster management is the discipline by which human beings continuously make effort to mitigate the harm caused by the disasters.

Disaster refers to the mishap, calamity or the grave occurrence from the natural or man-made reasons which can't be stopped or tackled immediately by the affected community. Earthquakes, cyclones, droughts, floods etc are some of the natural disasters resulting into huge loss of lives and properties. The disaster management is the discipline by which human beings continuously makes efforts to reduce the harm caused by the disasters. India has set up many departments and organizations for the same such as national disaster management authority (NDMA). But we are yet to achieve satisfactory progress with regard to timely management of disasters. This can be done by raising adequate awareness about the ways to cope with disasters and greater co-ordination between the centre and state agencies.

Disaster management is a well-planned strategy for making efforts to reduce the hazards caused by the disasters. Disaster management though does not avert or eliminate the threats; it focuses on formulating plans to decrease the effect of disasters. In India, national disaster management authority (NDMA) has been set up to coordinate responses to natural or man-made disasters across the country. NDMA runs various programs for mitigation and responsiveness for specific situations.

These include the national cyclone risk management project, school safety project, decision support system etc. But going by the lack of preparedness exposed by the outbreak of recent disasters in the country, the NDMA needs to make more organized and effective efforts to mitigate the losses caused by disasters. In fact, the society as a whole must make efforts to co-operate with the central and state agencies in coming out with a collective response to deal with disasters.

## 2. Problem Narration

The problem for the study is as under:-

A Study of Disaster Management Awareness of Secondary School Students

## 3. Objectives of the Study

The Objectives of the present research is as follows

1. To study the disaster management awareness of secondary school students.
2. To determine the disaster management awareness of secondary school students.
3. To study the disaster management awareness of the secondary school students in the context of their standards.
4. To study the disaster management awareness of the secondary school students in the context of their gender.

5. To study the disaster management awareness of the secondary school students in the context of their academic achievement.

#### 4. Hypothesis

1. There will not be any significant difference between the mean score of disaster management awareness of the students of Std. 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>.
2. There will not be any significant difference between the mean score of disaster management awareness of the students of Boys and Girls of Secondary Schools.
3. There will not be any significant difference between the mean score of disaster management awareness of the students having higher academic achievement and having lower academic achievement.

#### 5. Limitations

1. This study confined to the students studying in Std. 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> in the academic year of 2019-20.
2. In this study only the std., genders and academic achievement have been taken as independent variables, which is also one of the limitations.
3. This study is confined to the school of Gujarati medium.
4. This study is confined to the students of Std. 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of Ahmadabad city.

#### 6. Variables

The researcher has selected two variables in the study independent variable and dependent variable which are as under.

**Table: 1 Independent Variable**

| Sr. No.                | Independent Variables. |                   |
|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| 1.Standard             | 9 <sup>th</sup>        | 10 <sup>th</sup>  |
| 2.Gender               | Boys                   | Girls             |
| 3.Academic achievement | Higher Achievement     | Lower Achievement |

The awareness about disaster management is dependent variable in present research.

#### 7. Selection of Sample

For the selection of the samples 5 schools of Ahmadabad city having co-education were randomly selected and lists of all the students studying in Std. 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> were prepared from the attendance sheet of these schools. Then separate lists of boys and girls were prepared and from these lists 15 boys and 15 girls each from Std. 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> were chosen by draw system and they were selected as sample from every school.

Thus, the sample was selected by stratified random sampling technique which is shown in the table below.

**Table: 2**

| Students     | Standard 9 <sup>th</sup> | Standard 10 <sup>th</sup> | Total |
|--------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|-------|
| Boys         | 75                       | 75                        | 150   |
| Girls        | 75                       | 75                        | 150   |
| <b>Total</b> | 150                      | 150                       | 300   |

#### 8. Tool of the Study

During the creation of the research plan, there arises a need to select tools or Instruments to obtain data of the research in this study, The Disaster Management awareness questionnaire was selected as a tool for the measurement of Disaster management of the students. This questionnaire was developed by researcher itself. Reliability of the test was examined by the test retest method, which is 0.88, whereas the validity of the test is 0.78.

### 9. Research Method

The main purpose of this study is to study the Disaster Management awareness of the students on the basis of their standard, gender and academic achievements keeping in mind the purpose and sample of the study the survey method was used in the study.

### 10. Data Collection Technique:-

For the collection of the required data for the study, the principals of the secondary school of Ahmadabad city were approached and their permissions were taken. Then the students selected from std. 9 and std. 10 was given the questionnaire. The students were given necessary instruction before they start answering the questionnaire .Explanation along with illustrations were given to the students and the importance of the questionnaire was conveyed to them before the test.

Like this the questionnaire were filled by visiting the select schools

### 11. Data Analysis Techniques

The data obtained was classified to the students standard, gender and academic achievements .Null hypothesis was formed to examine the purpose of the study, so the statistical technique was used for analysis of the data “T” test was used for examining the total scores, mean, SD and null hypothesis for the classified data in the context of various variables.

### 12. Testing of Null Hypothesis

**Ho<sub>1</sub>:** There will not be any significant difference between the mean score of disaster management awareness of the students of Std. 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>.

In order to test the above null hypothesis, the total scores, mean and SD obtained from Disaster Management awareness questionnaire is shown in table-3.

**Table-3 Total mean and SD of Disaster Management awareness questionnaire on the basis of standard**

| Std.             | N   | X      | SD    | SEd  | t-value | Remarks |
|------------------|-----|--------|-------|------|---------|---------|
| 9 <sup>th</sup>  | 150 | 472.17 | 49.08 | 6.33 | 0.38    | NS      |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> | 150 | 469.77 | 59.95 |      |         |         |

Here, the value of ‘t’ratio is 0.38. The table value at 0.05 level is 1.96 and at 0.01 level it is 2.58. The value of computed‘t’ ratio is less than the table value at 0.05 level. Therefore the null hypothesis is accepted here. There is no significant difference in the awareness of the students of std.9 and std.10.

**Ho<sub>2</sub>:** There will not be any significant difference between the mean score of disaster management awareness of the students of Boys and Girls of Secondary Schools.

In this study, the researcher found it necessary to find the effect of gender on the Disaster Management awareness of the students so the null hypothesis is formed as above

In order to test this null hypothesis, the total scores, mean and SD obtained from Disaster Management awareness questionnaire is shown in table-4.

**Table-4 Total mean and SD of Disaster Management awareness questionnaire on the basis of gender**

| Gender | N   | X      | SD    | SEd  | t-value | Remarks |
|--------|-----|--------|-------|------|---------|---------|
| Boys   | 150 | 473.63 | 54.52 | 6.32 | 0.84.   | NS      |
| Girls  | 150 | 468.30 | 54.96 |      |         |         |

Table 4 shows that the total mean and SD of the score of Disaster Management awareness of boys and Girls are 473.63 and 468.30 respectively which shows difference at the first sight. The value of 't' ratio has been computed to know whether the difference is signification or not.

The value of calculated 't' ratio in the table is 0.84. The level value at 0.05 level is 1.96 and at 0.01 level it is 2.58 the value of computed 't' ratio is less than the table value at 0.05 level. Therefore, the hypothesis is accepted. So there is no significant difference in the Disaster Management awareness of boys and girls.

**H<sub>03</sub>** There will not be any significant difference between the mean score of disaster management awareness of the students having achievement and having lower achievement

**Table-5 Total mean and SD of Disaster Management awareness questionnaire on the basis of academic achievement**

| Academic achievement | N   | X      | SD    | SEd  | t-value | Remarks               |
|----------------------|-----|--------|-------|------|---------|-----------------------|
| Higher achievement   | 154 | 477.02 | 53.18 | 6.29 | 2.09    | 0.05level significant |
| lower achievement    | 146 | 464.56 | 55.67 |      |         |                       |

The table 5 shows the computed total Scores, mean and SD of the scores obtained from Disaster Management awareness in the students having higher academic achievement and lower academic achievement. The means of Students having higher achievement is 477.02 and SD is 53.18.while of lower achievement is 464.56 and 55.67 respectively. The value of computed 't' ratio is 2.09 .The table value at 0.05 level is 1.96 and at 0.01 level it is 2.58.Here calculated value is more than the table value. Therefore there is a significant difference in Disaster Management awareness in the student having higher achievement and lower achievement. Here we can see that more awareness in students having higher achievement.

### 13. Findings

The following findings are found

- (1)There is no significant difference in the Disaster Management awareness among the students of std. 9 and std. 10.
- (2) There is no significant difference in the Disaster Management awareness among Boys and Girls.
- (3) The awareness is more in students having higher academic achievement.

### 14. Suggestions

1. The students should be made aware of the information about Disaster Management.
2. The teachers and principal should make aware to the students of Natural and man made calamities.
3. Co - curricular activities should be organized so that the students can become conscious about Disaster Management.
4. The principal of the school should maintain contacts with Disaster Management centers and should make maximum use of its programme.

### References

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