

Volume 6, Issue 2 (XXXIX)
April - June 2019

ISSN 2394 - 7780



International Journal of
Advance and Innovative Research

Indian Academicians and Researchers Association
www.iaraedu.com



Journal - 63571

UGC Journal Details

Name of the Journal : International Journal of Advance & Innovative Research

ISSN Number :

e-ISSN Number : 23947780

Source: UNIV

Subject: Multidisciplinary

Publisher: Indian Academicians and Researchers Association

Country of Publication: India

Broad Subject Category: Multidisciplinary

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IMPACT OF SANT GADGE BABA GRAM SWACHATA ABHIYAN ON DABHA VILLAGE: (WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO HEALTH)

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ABSTRACT

The present research paper is Dabha village represent Aurangabad district of Maharashtra that participated in the campaign. In the village majority of people were unaware about their health before the campaign. The study looks at the achievement of the campaign regarding people health.

Keywords: Awareness, Health, Hygiene.

INTRODUCTION

The democratic system in India promises welfare state to the people that includes not only economic and social development but also public health. The public health engages the issues like hygiene and sanitation. The concept of hygiene is related to personal cleanliness like the practices of regular bathing, washing hands before eating and after shaking hands in public etc. However, the concept of sanitation deals with maintaining cleanliness at public places, promising healthy environment to every citizen. It promises safety, security and dignity to human beings at public places regarding their practices of urination and defecation. Now slowly and gradually the central as well as state governments are found applying solid measures in this regard, anticipating good health, better social and best economic environment to the people.

Many times, villages are found racing towards top in the list of epidemics like diarrhea, Cholera, Malaria, Polio etc. It attracts attention towards critical analysis of customs, traditions, practices and awareness of the rustics towards various diseases, hygiene and sanitation. They were observed with many hurdles and prejudices towards cleanliness of drinking water, proper disposal of domestic waste and human muck. The single practice of open defecation at the villages has been observed as the root cause of many natural as well as social hazards, creating risk for the lives of these people. To overcome such situation, the Department of Water Supply and Sanitation, Government of Maharashtra has introduced 'Sant Gadge Baba Gram Swachata Abhiyan' to all the villages in the state from 2000-2001. It invites all the villages, particularly the *Grampanchayats* of these villages to participate in this campaign for cleanliness at village level. It anticipates clean rural Maharashtra, a dream of Sant Gadge Baba. The campaign is formed in the form of competition among the villages to accelerate the villagers for certain awards at village level.

The innovative Campaign surprisingly received good response from most of the villages, reflecting the rustic orientation for public hygiene. Thus, the Government Maharashtra finds the rapid advancement towards phenomenal change at villages. The Government has incorporated it with another icon of cleanliness i.e. Mahatma Gandhi, so that the period for this campaign has been fixed during 2nd October to 17th October. Due to the image of Sant Gadge Baba, the campaign has reached to every corner in each village of Maharashtra, involving every citizen. The campaign rightly attracted their attention towards littered public places and particularly awareness for the need of sanitation.

LITERATURE AND RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The study was undertaken in Aurangabad district of Maharashtra. There are nine Panchayat Samiti in the district of Aurangabad. These are Panchayat Samiti, Aurangabad, Panchayat Samiti, Sillod, Panchayat Samiti, Vijapur, Panchayat Samiti, Gangapur, Panchayat Samiti, Paithan, Panchayat Samiti, Phulambri, Panchayat Samiti, Kannad, Panchayat Samiti, Khultabad and Panchayat Samiti, Soygaon. Out of these, Panchayat Samiti, Soygaon and particularly Dabha village is selected for the present study as it has been awarded for the Sant Gadge Baba Gram Swachata Abhiyan for two times. It has received first prize for 2004-2005 second prize and 2010-2011 first prize in Panchayat level.

As the present paper is based on field survey, the research has seriously engaged with concerned literature, government amendments, primary data, secondary data, questionnaires, interviews, interactions and observations. A Total of 20 respondents were selected purposive sampling method.

OBJECTIVES

- To understand the meaning of Health concept.
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- To understand awareness for health among the rustic people through Sant Gadge Baba Gram Swachata Abhiyan.
- To notice the change about health before and after Sant Gadge Baba Gram Swachata Abhiyan.

DEFINITION OF HEALTH

Health, as defined by the (WHO), is “a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity.”⁴

Public Health: “Science and art preventing diseases, prolonging life and promoting mentail and physical health and efficiency through organized community efforts for the sanitation of the environment, the control of communicable infection, the education of the individuals personal hygiene, the organization of medical and nursing services for early diagnosis and preventive treatment of disease, the development of the social machinery to ensure to every individual a standard of living, adequate for the maintenances of health and so organizing these benefits as to enable every citizen to realize his birth right of health and longevity”, (WHO, 1952)⁵

INFORMATION IN TABULAR FORM

Table-1: The following table analyzes various answers of the respondents to a key question ‘Were the people facing problem regarding health before campaign?’

Were the people facing problem regarding health before campaign?			
		Frequency	Percent
Valid	Yes	20	100.0

The above mentioned data clearly indicates that 100 % (20) respondents replied assertively regarding the were the people facing problem regarding health before campaign. The information and analysis lead to the observation that almost all the people were the people facing problem regarding health before campaign. It means all peoples unaware about health.

Table-2: The following table analyzes various answers of the respondents to the subsequent question after answering the above one. The subsequent natural question is ‘If yes, which are the causes?’

If yes, which are the causes?			
		Frequency	Percent
Valid	Unclean drinking water	4	20.0
	Lack of personal Hygiene	2	10.0
	Uncleanness	4	20.0
	All	10	50.0
	Total	20	100.0

The above mentioned data clearly indicates that 20% (4) respondents state that unclean drinking water cause of health problem. Only two respondents stated that lack of personal hygiene, 20% (4) respondents replied that uncleanness was the reason of health problem. 50% (10) respondent’s state that unclean drinking water, lack of personal hygiene as well as uncleanness factor affected on health. Thus it reflects that majority of the respondents state that above factor created health problems before the campaign.

Table-3: The following table analyzes various answers of the respondents to another relevant question after answering the above mentioned one. The question is ‘Has campaign reduced your health problems?’

Has campaign reduced your health problems?			
		Frequency	Percent
Valid	Yes	20	100.0

The above mentioned data clearly indicates that 100% (20) respondents replied that has campaign reduced health problems. It means before the campaign health problems increased but when campaign was implemented that time health problems reduced, but also all peoples aware regarding health and care to prevent health problems after the campaign.

Table-4: The following table analyzes various answers of the respondents to another question after answering the above mentioned one. The question is ‘If yes, how?’

If yes, how?			
		Frequency	Percent
Valid	Personal hygiene	2	10.0
	Care of drinking water	-	-

	Use of toilet	4	20.0
	Premises cleanness	4	20.0
	All	10	50.0
	Total	20	100.0

The above mentioned data clearly indicates that 10% (2) respondents affirmed that they have personal hygiene, 20% (4) respondents state that use of toilet, 20% (4) respondents replied that we are care to premise cleanness in this way to prevent health problems. 50% (10) majority of respondents state that personal hygiene, care of drinking water, use of toilet and premises cleanness in this way care to prevent health problem after the campaign. It means aware about health after this campaign and regularly care of health its positive impact of campaign. It reflects that the campaign had created positive impact regarding awareness as well as health.

CONCLUSION

Before the Sant Gadge Baba Gram Swachata Abhiyan mostly rural people unaware regarding health problems. They don't know which causes affected health problems were but when this campaign implemented then aware about health and care to prevent not only individual health problems also public health. The campaign brought out positive changes regarding sanitation among the villagers.

REFERENCE

1. Public health conditions related to clean drinking water and adequate treatment and disposal of human excreta and sewage.
2. Panchayat Samiti is rural local government (panchayats) at the intermediate level in panchayat raj institutions (PRI). It has been said to be the "panchayat of panchayats." The 73 rd. Amendment defines the level of panchayat raj institutions as: District ((apex) level, Intermediate level, Base level, It operates at the tehsil level and oovern the villages of the tehsil that together are a development block. The panchayat samiti is the link between the gram panchayat (village council) and the zilla parishad (district board). The name varies across states: mandal praja parishad in Andhra Pradesh. Taluka panchayat in Gujrat, Mandal panchayat in Karnatka.
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