

Teachers' perceptions on biodiversity protection in Sri Lanka

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Abstract

Biodiversity is about the diversity in the range of different living things and systems in an area. The more plant, insect and animal species there are in one area the greater the biodiversity and the healthier the ecosystem. Biodiversity in Sri Lanka is rich and very high and it is a valuable resource for the country. As a small island in Indian Ocean this higher level bio diversity highly affect to development of the country and this high value biodiversity lead to enhance to tourism industry, Bio Science education, national and international research in the country. In addition, biodiversity affects our food, medicine, and environmental well-being. Therefore, this rich biodiversity protection is very important in the country. However the destroying of the biodiversity is a significant issue in the country. Many reasons are effected to this divesting of the valuable biodiversity in Sri Lanka. Among the reasons one of the main reason is unorganized human activities in the country and lack of people's knowledge for protection of the biodiversity. This study is focused to understand teachers' perception on the protection on biodiversity in the country. For this study survey research method in quantitative approach was applied. The data was collected by questionnaire, the questionnaires were administrated among graduate teachers they were fallowing Postgraduate Diploma in Education in Rajarata University of Sri Lanka (the sample (N) was 70). Limitation of the study is only selected sample was graduate teachers they were fallowing Postgraduate Diploma in Education program, the study did not consider all types of teachers in the country. According to the findings the majority (86%) of participants believe the awareness of the protection of biodiversity is not sufficient in Sri Lanka, and the knowledge should be given in secondary level students in the schools. Further people's attitudes are highly affected to save the biodiversity and environment in the country and therefore, different types of awareness programs need to be organized all over the country by the government and nongovernment organization. Further the education policies need to be change to adding new knowledge and information of environment of the general education and high education curriculums of Sri Lanka.

Keywords: *Biodiversity, Conservation, Ecosystem, Protection, Unorganized human activities*

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