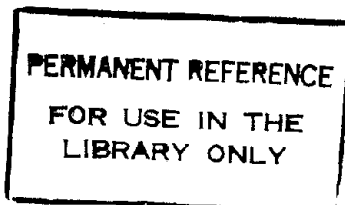


C
574.S
MAN

**A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF THE
KNOWLEDGE ON BIODIVERSITY
IN TOWN SCHOOLS AND
VILLAGE SCHOOLS IN KANDY**



A PROJECT REPORT PRESENTED BY

SUBRAMANIAM MANOHARAN
✓

to the Board of Study in Science Education of the
POST GRADUATE INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE

*in partial fulfillment of the requirement
for the award of the degree of*

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN SCIENCE EDUCATION

of the

**UNIVERSITY OF PERADENIYA
SRI LANKA**

2004

ABSTRACT

Biodiversity is a unit in the G.C.E O/L Science syllabus. Teaching experience suggests that there is a knowledge gap in Biodiversity between town school students and village school students. The village school students have a better understanding in identifying plants, their importance and medicinal aspects compared to the town school students. Hence, the theoretical knowledge of town school students is much better and advanced than of village school students.

To identify these knowledge gaps a research study was conducted. Data was collected by a diagnostic test, interviews and discussions with Grade XI Science students and teachers from selected schools located in the Kandy town and nearby village areas. Information gathered from other sources such as Grade XI Science syllabus and Teacher's guide was also used to strengthen the research study.

The research study identifies the problems faced by the town school students and village school students in the subject of Biodiversity. The major constraint in town school was the lack of practical knowledge, where as the limitation in village school was the lack of infrastructure facilities including appropriate teaching staff. The study suggests different teaching methods and activities that a teacher could introduce to improve the situation. It is important to create an interest in Biodiversity in town school students as well as village school students.