

A Study of Academic Accomplishment and Learning Styles of Senior Secondary Students of Public Schools



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Abstract

The main focus of educative process is to improve the performance or learning of the students. The learning outcomes of the students are measured with the help of their achievement or performance. Learning style variable is very important in context of Academic Accomplishment at secondary education level. Purpose of this study is to access & compare the Academic Accomplishment of Senior Secondary Students of Public Schools and Saraswati Shishu Mandir Schools in relation to High and Low Learning Styles, caste, locality and gender. Null Hypothesis is used. Descriptive survey method of research and synthesized model, named as Causal-Comparative Method was used. The study covers the 512 Senior Secondary Students of Saharanpur Mandal on the basis of Multi-Stratified Random Sampling. Factorial Design (2X2X2X2) process of sampling is used. The researcher used High School Marks will be used as Academic Accomplishment and one standardized tool viz. Learning Styles would be used. Learning Styles Scale made by Prof. B.P.Verma. Data analysis is based on the important parametric statistical techniques viz. Histogram, t Test, Product Moment correlation. Researcher found positive relationship between academic achievement and learning style. The findings of this study has important and significant Educational, Psychological, Social and National implications.

Keywords: Learning Style, Academic Accomplishment..

Introduction

In Programme of Action (POA) - 1992, it has been stated that education for women's equality is a vital component of the overall strategy of securing equity and social justice in education. --- Education for women's equality is too important to be left to the individual commitments or proclivities of persons in charge of implementing programmes. It should be incumbent on all actors, agencies and institutions in the field of education at all levels to be gender sensitive and ensure that women have their rightful share in all educational programmes and activities.

The NCERT, Delhi took the initiative to setup the first chair in the country in 1988. According to Nayar (1997) the researches that have emerged from these centres have had a definite influence in shaping not only educational policies, plans and programmes but also in giving a direction to the national effort in the area of secondary education development as important contributor in a secular democracy, and in bringing home the centrality of secondary education to a sound empowerment as a non-negotiable area of societal progress and enhancement of society status. After 1986, the researchers have not only emerged from studies centres of secondary level on their own but a lot of policy researches have been Commissioned by national government and the UNO, UNESCO, UNICEF, ILO, WHO and other international agencies like the commonwealth secretariat.

Self Image, Learning Styles and Home Climate in relation to academic accomplishment of Senior Secondary Students have not been studied so far by any researcher in India, The above three variables are very important in context of Academic Accomplishment at secondary education level. Its situation warrants that these aspects be given due attention by the researchers.

Statement of The Problem:

"A Study Of Academic Accomplishment And Learning Styles Of Senior Secondary Students Of Public Schools "

Definition of Term

In the following paragraphs operational definition of the important terms used have been given below:

Academic Accomplishment

Academic Accomplishment is a successful Academic Achievement (More than 70% Marks) after completion a lot of academic work so this has been defined here as Academic Accomplishment in terms of composite of 5 categories viz. (1) Hindi, (2) English, (3) Science, (4) Mathematics, and (5) Social Science Study (SST) of an Achievement Test.

Senior Secondary Students

Senior Secondary Students has been defined here as the students who are studying in XI or XII classes in the Senior Secondary public Schools and Saraswati Shishu Mandir Schools of Saharanpur Mandal.

Public Schools

Public schools has been defined here as the schools upto XII classes which are goverened by Private Mangementand running with rules and regulations of UP Board Allahabad or CBSE Board New Delhi in Sahaaranpur Mandal.

Learning Styles

Learning Styles has been defined here in terms of composite of 6 categories viz. (1) Independent, (2) Dependent, (3) Competitive, (4) Collaborative, (5) Participant, and (6) Avoidant.

Different Levels

Different Levels has been defined here as high and low level of Self Image, Learning Styles, Home Climate which are having T-Score (Standardized Score) more than 50 comes in high level group and having 50 or less than 50 comes in low level group..

Objectives of The Study

The following objectives will be formulated to pursue in the proposed study,

1. To access & compare the Academic Accomplishment of Senior Secondary Students of Public Schools and Saraswati Shishu Mandir Schools.
2. To determine & compare the Academic Accomplishment of High and Low Learning Styles Senior Secondary Students of Public Schools and Saraswati Shishu Mandir Schools.
3. To investigate & compare the Academic Accomplishment of Boys & Girls, General & Reserve, and Rural & Urban Senior Secondary Students of both Schools.
4. To calculate & compare the relationship between Academic Accomplishment and Learning Styles for Boys & Girls, General & Reserve, and Rural & Urban Senior Secondary Students of both Schools.

Hypotheses of The Study

In this study Null Hypothesis will be used. This hypothesis is explained, as there is no significant difference between mean score of first & second

group of Secondary School Students in respect to above objectives. Hence, the hypothesis are formulated & tested by the investigator according to the objectives of the study as follows,

1. There is no significant difference between the mean score of Academic Accomplishment of Senior Secondary Students of Public Schools and Saraswati Shishu Mandir Schools.
2. There is no significant difference between the mean score of Academic Accomplishment of High and Low Learning Styles Senior Secondary Students of Public Schools and Saraswati Shishu Mandir Schools.
3. There is no significant difference between the mean score of Academic Accomplishment of Boys & Girls, General & Reserve, and Rural & Urban Senior Secondary Students of both schools.
4. There is no significant relationship between the scores of Academic Accomplishment and Learning Styles for Boys & Girls, General & Reserve, and Rural & Urban Senior Secondary Students of both schools.

The researcher has to several delimits the scope of his investigation in order to make it not only realistic, but also feasible. The present study was delimited in terms of the like as research tools, dependent & independent variables, sample size, field of the study, research hypotheses, review of related literatures, sampling method and other related aspects.

Related Literatures

Researcher has found very important researches related to his problem and after analysing these researches he reached on this point that no any research same as his problem was found.

Chauhan, R.S. (2004) in his study titled as "A study of learning styles of high school students in the context of their adjustment and extroversion-introversion" found that sex and locality puts a positive impact on the pupils while giving their degree of performances of a various learning styles.

Mayya, S. and Rao, A. Krishna (2004) in his study titled as "Association between learning styles preferences and performance in the examination Medical studies" found that the significant negative correlation between tactile performance score and % marks in the university examination. Traditional teaching methods were favour in the auditory and visual learning styles.

Dwivedi, R.D. (2005) in his study titled as "Influence of school enviournment and approval motive on academic achievement of students" found that academic achievement of students of the urban school was significantly higher than the students of rural school. Seekers of students and enviournment of school influence the academic achievement of students.

Satya Prakash, C.V. and Patnaik, S.P. (2005) in their study titled as "Effect of cooperative learning in achievement motivation and achievement in Biology" found that there was positive effect of cooperative learning on achievement motivation and

on achievement in Biology in terms of knowledge, understanding and application objectives.

Malathi, S. and Maliny, E. (2006) in their study titled as "Learning styles of higher secondary students of Tamil Nadu" found that there was no significant difference in the learning styles of higher secondary students regarding their class and type of school. There was significant difference in the learning styles of boys and girls.

Methods and Procedure

In the present study, descriptive survey method of research was used. According to John W. Best (1977) "Descriptive research describes what is. It involves the description, recording, analysis, and interpretation of conditions that now exist. It involves some type of comparison or contrast and may attempt to discover relationships that exist between existing non-manipulative variables." Due to the dubious nature and requirement of the problem, we are using a synthesized model may be named, as **Causal-Comparative Method** is best suited to the nature and requirement of the problems of this study. The researcher for the present study will make the above methods and procedure.

Variables of the Study

The present study involves two kinds of variables entitled as (1) Dependent Variables, (2) Independent Variables. The Dependent variable named as Academic Accomplishment. The Independent variables are bifurcated into psychological and social variables. The psychological variables named as Learning Styles. The social variables named as (1) Sex, (2) Caste, (3) Locality, and (4) Nature of Schools.

Sample

In the present study all Senior Secondary Students studying in Public Schools (Managed by Private Body) and Sarswati Shishu Mandir Senior Secondary Schools (Managed by Vidhya Bharti Society Body) of Rural and Urban regions of Saharanpur Mandal in science and arts streams constituted the population of the study.

The study covers the 512 Senior Secondary Students of Saharanpur Mandal on the basis of Multi-Stratified Random Sampling. There will be prepared a list of Senior Secondary Schools of Saharanpur Mandal are situated in Rural and Urban area both & bifurcate this list into Public and Sarswati Shishu Mandir Schools. Further randomly selected 4 schools from each lists (Total 16 Schools) and lastly, randomly selected 8 Boys Students of General, 8 Boys Students of Reserve, 8 Girls Students of General, and 8 Girls Students of Reserve from each School. This process of Sampling is also called (2X2X2X2) Factorial Design.

Tools of the Research

The purpose of the present study is to obtain a reliable and valid measure of Academic Accomplishment of Senior Secondary Students. For this purpose the researcher used High School Marks will be used as Academic Accomplishment and one standardized tool viz. Learning Styles would be used. Learning Styles Scale made by Prof. B.P.Verma.

The tools School wise administrated individually to each Student for making their options on prescribed **ANSWER SHEET** and collected personally on the same day Response of Students will be converted in scores with the help of **SCORING KEY** as per instructions & procedure adopted by the tool constructor. Lastly, the row scores will be displayed on a **MASTER SHEET** of all 2 research tools along with other independent social variables.

Statistical Techniques

This is under preparation on the basis of data analysis will be based on the important parametric statistical techniques viz. Histogram, t-Test, and Product Moment Correlation. All the analytical Tables shows the objective and hypothesis of the present study in relation to proposed statistical techniques.

Conclusions

The present researcher reached certain conclusions related to already framed hypothesis and sub-hypothesis against each objective of the study in the perceiving chapter. We may be expected our conclusions or main finding in the form of objectives and hypothesis of this study are give below:

1. Study revealed that the Public Senior Secondary Schools and Sarswati Shishu Mandir Senior Secondary Schools were differing to each other on four dimensions of Academic Accomplishment Test due to their Significant result which exposes that the nature of Senior Secondary Schools was found the positive significant effect on four dimensions of Academic Accomplishment of Senior Secondary Students and this effect was not found only on SST Subject. Study also discovered on the basis of overall Mean Score that the Academic Accomplishment of Senior Secondary Students of Sarswati Shishu Mandir Schools were found more effective than students of Public Schools by Nature of School Variable.
2. (i) Study revealed that High and Low Learning Styles Students were differing to each other on all five Dimensions of Academic Accomplishment Test due to their significant result which exposes that these dimensions of the Test are influenced by Learning Styles Variable of Senior Secondary Students. Study was also found on the basis of overall Mean Score that Academic Accomplishment of High Learning Styles Students was observed highly favourable as compared to their counterpart Low Learning Styles Students.
(ii) Study also discovered on the basis of Subject wise comparison of T-Value of both schools that Academic Accomplishment of English & Science Subject of Public Schools and Hindi, Maths, & SST Subjects of Sarswati Shishu Mandir Schools were observed more effective by Learning Styles Variable.
3. (i) Study revealed that Boys and Girls Students were differing to each other on all five Dimensions of Academic Accomplishment Test due to their significant result which exposes that these dimensions of the Scale are influenced by

Sex Variable of Senior Secondary Students. Study also discovered on the basis of overall Mean Score that Academic Accomplishment of Girls Students was observed highly favourable as compared to their counterpart Boys Students by Sex Variable.

(ii) Study revealed that General and Reserve Students were differing to each other on all five Dimensions of Academic Accomplishment Test due to their significant result which exposes that these dimensions of the Scale are influenced by Caste Variable of Senior Secondary Students. Study also discovered on the basis of overall Mean Score that Academic Accomplishment of General Students was observed slightly favourable as compared to their counterpart Reserve Students by Caste Variable.

(iii) Study revealed that Rural and Urban Students were differing to each other on four Dimensions (except one i.e. Science Subject) of Academic Accomplishment Test due to their significant result which exposes that these dimensions of the Scale are influenced by Locality Variable of Senior Secondary Students. Study also discovered on the basis of overall Mean Score that Academic Accomplishment of Urban Students was observed slightly favourable as compared to their counterpart Rural Students by Locality Variable.

4. (i) Study revealed that Learning Styles of Senior Secondary Students were positively relate to different dimensions of Academic Accomplishment Test which exposes that different dimensions of Test were influenced by Sex Variable for Boys Senior Secondary Students and also for Girls Students. Study also discovered that Influence was found more on Girls Students than Boys Students.

(ii) Study revealed that Learning Styles of Senior Secondary Students were positively relate to different dimensions of Academic Accomplishment Test which exposes that different dimensions of Test were influenced by Caste Variable for General Senior Secondary Students and also for Reserve Senior Secondary Students. Study also discovered that Influence was found more on General Students than Reserve Students.

(iii) Study revealed that Learning Styles of Senior Secondary Students were positively related to different dimensions of Academic Accomplishment Test which exposes that different dimensions of Test were influenced by Locality Variable for Rural Senior Secondary Students and also for Urban Senior Secondary Students. Study also discovered that Influence was found more on Rural Students than Urban Students.

(iv) Study revealed that Learning Styles of Senior Secondary Students were positively relate to different dimensions of Academic Accomplishment Test which exposes that different dimensions of Test were influenced by Nature of School Variable for Public Senior

Secondary Students and also for Sarswati Shishu Mandir Senior Secondary Students. Study also discovered that Influence was found more on Sarswati Shishu Mandir School Students than Public School Students.

Generalizations

The present study with its multidimensional variables, as discussed in previous headings, has revealed that the Academic Accomplishment of students of Senior Secondary Schools, as an important component of educational inputs for programmes and practices are influenced by variables like (1) Learning Styles, (2) Sex, (3) Caste, (4) Locality, and (5) Nature of Schools of students of Senior Secondary Schools. A classified and categorized discussion regarding the impact of these five independent variables on the one dependent variable i.e. Academic Accomplishment is founded by the present study Significant Positive.

As generalizing the influence of all the above two major variables- Psychological Independent and Sociological Independent variables, the present researcher reached on the conclusion that we cannot assign any one variable as most responsible for better or worse Academic Accomplishment of Students. A cluster of Variables does interact and the total influence of all the above variables is responsible for the better Academic Accomplishment of the students of Senior Secondary Schools.

Educational Implications of Findings

It is for the above reasons that the findings of the study in hand will have important and significant Educational, Psychological, Social and National implications. Hence, the major finding of the present study can be utilized for the betterment of educational theory and practice in the following ways:

1. The knowledge of the SS Students perception of various attitudes of trainees may be utilized by the present day trainees to evaluate and improve their own functioning.
2. The findings of the study may be of great use to the planners of the programmes for the training of Secondary School level.
3. The findings of the study can also be incorporated as a part of the course of SS Students for secondary level.
4. The pattern of various attitudes evolved in the study has the potentiality of being utilized for evaluation purposes also.
5. The knowledge of the background factors affecting the various attitudes of the Senior Secondary Students may throw some light on the deeper basis of current problems found in the field of secondary education.
6. The findings have a message to the Senior Secondary Students to make efforts to develop better human relations with the other members of their teaching staff.

Due to the imminence importance placed on Academic Accomplishment of students of Secondary Education school and its major determinants, the present study has thrown same light and insight on the some determinants of Academic Accomplishment,

some broad area of suggestions on the lines on which further research studies can be conducted.

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