



Different Impact on Academic Achievement in Secondary School Students in Rural and Urban Areas of Jaipur District

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Abstract- Education is considered imperative for not only the progress of the individuals, but also for the development of community and nation. In order to bring about improvements in all aspects, and utilize modern and innovative techniques and methods, individuals need to generate awareness and enhance their educational skills. The objective of this study was to investigate the relationship between academic achievement motivation and home environment among standard 10th pupils. The study was carried out on standard 10th from urban and rural secondary schools randomly selected from Jaipur district. Their age ranged between 15 and 18 years. Two questionnaires, Academic Achievement Motivation Test and home environment questionnaire were used to provide information on the pupil's levels of academic motivation and home environment. A significant ($p < 0.05$) positive relationship was found between different factors of the home environmental, that is father's occupation ($r = 0.24$), mother's education ($r = 0.19$), father's education ($r = 0.16$) teacher & students relation ($r = 0.29$) and academic achievement motivation. Parental encouragement was the only factor that was not significantly ($r = 0.04$) related to academic achievement motivation. Although these correlations are low, they showed that pupils' motivation to do well in academic work is to some extent dependent on the nature of their home environment. It was recommended that parents need to be aware of the importance of their role in their children's academic achievement motivation so that they can provide the necessary facilities at home.

Keywords: Academic Performance, Education, Learning, Poverty, Schools, Students, Teachers

INTRODUCTION

Education is one of the imperative aspects that not only inculcates the essential skills, abilities and knowledge among the individuals, but also leads to overall growth and progress of the individuals, community and nation as a whole. An educated person is not only able to accomplish his desired goals and objectives, but is also able to render an efficient contribution towards the well-being of the community. The inculcation of academic knowledge, skills, abilities and proficiency among the individuals is enhanced through learning and academic performance. In secondary schools, there are numerous factors that contribute an important part in enhancing the academic performance of students. The academic performance determines the future goals and objectives of students. What subject they will specialize in colleges and universities, which educational institutions they will get enrolled into, what career opportunities they would take up and so forth.

The determinants of academic performance of the students include, class participation, class assignments, home-work assignments, tests, examinations, and participation in competitions or other events. The pressure of the parents and other individuals upon teachers and school administrators to improve the academic performance has enabled schools to come up with advanced strategies. These include, promoting extraclasses for students, introducing effective teaching-learning methods and instructional strategies, using technology, rewarding students for good performance serves as a motivating factor and when they achieve low grades, than they usually tend to work more to make improvements (Nyagosia, 2011). When teachers implement the strategies for rewarding good performance, then they would be motivated to study and improve their

academic performance. Secondary school students usually belonging to upper class and wealthy families are aware and aspire to have a good career.

FACTORS INFLUENCING THE ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE OF THE STUDENTS

The factors that influence the academic performance of the students have been stated as follows:

1. **Attitude of the Students** – In secondary schools, the students are between 12 to 18 years of age. They possess the abilities to differentiate between what is appropriate and what is inappropriate. Goal-oriented students usually possess positive feelings regarding their school experiences, they possess the traits of discipline, diligence, and resourcefulness, are avid readers and tend to devote less time towards recreation and leisure activities. It is vital for the students to possess positive thinking in terms of their schools, teachers and academic subjects. With positive attitude, they will be able to dedicate themselves wholeheartedly towards learning and generate the desired academic outcomes (Maina, 2010).

2. **School Resources** – Within schools, it is vital to make provision of resources that can be utilized to enhance the academic performance of students. The textbooks, notes, learning materials, hand-outs, technology, library facilities and laboratory facilities, especially in science subjects should include the essential materials. When students will be provided the necessary tools and equipment, they will be able to acquire a better understanding regarding academic concepts and how to perform the experiments. In some cases, especially the students belonging to deprived, marginalized and socio-economically backward sections of the society, cannot afford the books and materials required for learning, hence, they are dependent upon the library facilities and fellow students to obtain the books and other materials (Maina, 2010).

3. **Leadership Aspects** – The principal, teachers and the administrative staff members of the school are vested with the authority to implement the managerial functions of planning, organizing, controlling, and directing the activities. The principal primarily has the right to make decisions. The decisions can be made either at one's own discretion or they may consult others and seek ideas and suggestions from teachers and other staff members of the school. The major role of leadership aspects in influencing the academic outcomes of the students is based upon the administration and management of the school. When there are proper rules, policies and management is put into practice in an appropriate manner, then there would be improvement in academic performance of the students (Maina, 2010).

4. **Skills and Abilities of the Teachers** – Teachers have an imperative role in influencing the academic performance of the students. They are bestowed with the authority to direct all the classroom activities and administer learning. It is vital for the teachers to possess the traits of professionalism and conscientiousness. They need to possess an approachable nature, listen and provide solutions to the problems experienced by the students. They should possess adequate knowledge and information regarding the subjects that they are teaching, usage of technology, modern and innovative methods in the teaching and learning processes, managing discipline and directing all of the classroom as well as school activities and functions in a well-organized manner. The teachers in some cases are strict, but strictness should be maintained within limits. The main objective of the teachers should only be to enhance the academic performance of the students and lead to their effective development (Maina, 2010).

5. **Classroom Environment** – The academic concepts are made known to the students by the teachers within classroom. Teachers have the main job duty of completing the subject syllabus. Therefore, it is vital that classroom environment should be disciplined and well ordered (Kudari, 2016). Within the classroom, it is vital for the teachers and the students to implement the traits of morality and ethics. It is vital to promote mutual understanding, amiability and co-operation among the teachers and students as well as among the fellow students. The efficiency in the management of the classroom, introduces a well-organized and efficient management of the lesson plans, instructional strategies, teaching-learning processes and so forth. When there is discipline and effective communication among the individuals, then it would help the students learn better and improve their academic performance.

6. **Role of Parents** – Home is referred to as the place from where the foundation of learning and education takes place. In order to produce good academic outcomes, it is vital for the parents, children and other family members to encourage a learning atmosphere within homes. For instance, when students experience problems in certain subjects, then parents are responsible for providing help. This help may be in the form of private tuitions or they themselves may teach their children. They make provision of technology and other learning materials at home to enhance the academic performance of their children. Parents play an important role in leading to operative growth and development of their children (Kudari, 2016). In schools, whatever problems that children go through regarding academics and other areas, they normally communicate to their parents. Parents are sources of security, encouragement and help their children in providing solutions to their problems.

7. **Social Circle** – Children get enrolled in schools not only to learn academic concepts, but they also learn, how to interact and socialize with others. Students usually form friendly terms and relationships with the fellow students. Forming a social circle and friendships have a positive effect upon the academic outcomes of the students. As when one has to work on a project or prepare for a test, then group study is in most cases beneficial. It also causes social satisfaction and happiness in one's student life (Kudari, 2016). Forming a social circle proves to be beneficial to the individuals in number of ways, such as, solving academic problems, getting involved in leisure activities, sharing one's joys and sorrows, and so forth.

8. **Psychological and Health Related Factors** – Learning is not an easy task for the students. It is essential for them to possess diligence, resourcefulness and conscientiousness to enhance their learning. In order to generate positive academic outcomes, it is essential for the students to maintain their psychological and physical health. When a student is healthy, then he will be able to contribute an active role towards learning. On the other hand, factors such as, stress, anxiety, fear, trauma, depression or physical health problems prove to be impediments within the course of their academic achievement. It is vital for the students to take pleasure and look towards their school and classroom activities from a positive viewpoint.

9. **Motivating and Encouraging Students** – In academic learning, some of the concepts are difficult to learn and understand. When problems and difficulties are experienced by the students, then they need to obtain assistance from others. When students are unable to achieve the desired grades, then instead of getting angry on them, the teachers and parents need to make provision of help and assistance. They should motivate the students and encourage them to do well in future. They need to understand their weaknesses and help them. When students find certain areas difficult to learn, then teachers should repeat the concepts, provide them class and homework assignments, so that they are able to acquire complete understanding of the concepts (Srinivas, & Venkatkrishnan, 2016).

10. **Counselling and Guidance Services** – In secondary schools, there are numerous problems and difficulties that students experience. Some may even get involved into violent and criminal acts, drug abuse, HIV, other sexually transmitted infections, teenage pregnancies, induced abortions and unemployment. These factors have a direct impact upon not only their academic performance, but also their lives. These may hamper their psychological approach and they may even experience problems of depression, trauma or stress to a major extent. Counselling and guidance services need to be established in schools to help the students to provide solutions to their problems, focus upon their studies, and become responsible members of the community (Maganga, 2016). It is vital for the individuals, who work as counsellors to specialize in a particular area and possess adequate knowledge, expertise and skills. Counselling is related to various areas, such as career, academics, depression, stress, health, family issues and so forth.

11. **Development of Study Skills** – In order to enhance one's academic performance, it is vital for the individuals to develop study skills within themselves. The students themselves need to generate awareness regarding study skills, so that they are able to produce desired academic outcomes. Some of the study skills include, memorizing from the textbooks or other materials, making notes, practicing writing essays and articles, especially in languages, practicing calculations in mathematics and so forth. One of the important areas is, when one is studying, it is vital to completely concentrate towards one's studies. Inability to completely concentrate is one of the factors that leads to undesired academic outcomes. Memorising is

regarded as one of the rare techniques, hence, the teachers encourage students to acquire understanding of the concepts instead of memorizing.

12. **Time Management** – Students in secondary schools have a busy schedule, hence it is vital for them to generate awareness in terms of effective time management. Research has indicated that the normal schedule of the secondary school students comprise of school hours, then they need to spend some time in completion of home-work assignments. They also get involved in some kinds of extra-curricular activities and sports. Playing and getting engaged in creative activities, not only help them concentrate better, but they are able to stimulate their mind-sets. For the secondary school students, it is important to get engaged in extracurricular activities and for this purpose, they need to implement proper time management skills. It is essential for the students to create a balance between all the tasks and activities. The activities that are more important should be given more time and lesser amount of time can be spent on the activities that are less important.

13. **Home Environment** – The home environment should be amiable and pleasant in order to generate appropriate academic outcomes. Within home, among the family members, it is vital to initiate measures to form effective terms and relationships. They should communicate with each other in an appropriate manner and minimize the occurrence of conflicts and disputes. Research has indicated that conflicts may take place among siblings in terms of use of technology or books or stationary, hence, it is vital for the parents to ensure that all children are provided with the necessary materials to enhance their learning. The availability of materials and amiable environmental conditions with the home are essential for the students to focus upon studies and generate the desired academic outcomes.

14. **Teaching-Learning Methods** – The teaching-learning methods and strategies should be appropriate and encouraging to the students. The teachers in school are the ones that contribute an imperative part in promoting learning among the students. It is essential for them to ensure that the teaching methods used should prove to be beneficial to the students. For instance, if the students are able to learn better through dictation of notes, then teachers should provide notes. If the students are able to learn better through verbal explanation, then they should promote verbal explanation and so forth. Within home, if students are taking private tuitions of certain academic subjects such as, mathematics or science, or their parents teach them, then too, it is vital for the parents and tutors to make sure that effectual teaching learning methods are implemented, which may encourage learning among the students and help them understand better.

15. **Teacher-Student Relationship**- The teacher student relationship & teaching techniques of ancient era creates a big change in education system. In Ancient India there was different education system-1. Gurukul education System, where pupils live with their guru and help them in their daily chorus and Guru taught them about Spiritual, Religious and Vedas in open environment. In Gurukul education system pupils belonging to different castes were educated. 2. Education in Medieval India: After the Islamic invasion of India education system has changed. The rising influence of Islam led to establish of Madrassa for Muslims and Vedic Schools for Hindus. 3. Education in Colonial Period: British stress on English (missionary) schools. The main aim of the missionaries was to convert the native Indian to Christianity. 4. Present education system: Soon after independence in 1947, giving education to all was a priority for the government. The present education system in India mainly comprises of 5+3+3+4 design that is lower primary, upper primary, high and higher secondary. This paper is focusing on the education system of ancient age.

ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE AND LARGE NUMBER OF STUDENTS IN CLASS

In India, there are many schools, which have large number of students in one class. Having large number of students in one class is referred to as classroom congestion. Classroom congestion is considered as a disadvantage in improving academic performance. The main problems due to this factor are experienced by the teachers. They are unable to implement the teaching-learning processes and instructional strategies in an appropriate manner. The teachers are unable to make provision of personal attention and as a result of

which, academic performance of the students may undergo detrimental effects. In some cases, when the number of students are large within classrooms, the teachers provide explanation of the academic concepts on black-board or through the use of technology and give class and home-work assignments. They correct the assignments, submitted to them by the students. Some students perform well, whereas others depict errors. In case of errors, the teachers usually ask them to learn from the students, who have performed well. Hence, teachers tend to move on to the next lesson in the next class, as they need to complete the syllabus within limited time (Maganga, 2016). In science subjects, when teacher is providing training to the students regarding the implementation of the experiment through making use of test tubes, burners, equipment and procedures, then it is not possible for the teachers to go to each and every student and check, how, he or she is performing (Maganga, 2016). The lesson plans need to be completed in schools within limited time. In such cases, if the students are hard-working and sincere in their work, then they would understand the procedure explained by the teacher and independently perform the experiment. On the other hand, there have been cases of students, who do not acquire adequate understanding in just one explanation and imitate their neighbour's work. Lack of sufficient understanding does affect their academic performance in an inappropriate manner. The teachers have the job of just providing explanation of the experiment once and then students are required to implement it and get it checked from the teacher. When the classroom has more than 100 students, then teaching-learning processes and checking of the assignments may take time. Research has indicated that when there are large number of students in class, then usually work gets distributed among two teachers. As it would not be possible for one teacher to carry out all the job functions and management of the classroom. Therefore, to facilitate the implementation of tasks and functions, there are two teachers, who work in co-operation with each other to manage the classroom activities and functions. This aspect has proved to be advantageous and one does not experience any job pressure. On the other hand, when teachers are required to control the teaching-learning processes, instruction and classroom management individually, then they experience job pressure. In most cases, the teachers just perform their job duties of providing training to the students regarding the academic concepts. On the other hand, it is up to the students to wholeheartedly dedicate themselves towards learning and improve their academic performance. When there are organization of class tests and exams, then students come to know, how they are performing. The teachers also are able to acquire knowledge regarding their job performance, their efficiency in the teaching methods and how they are able to control and administer the classroom activities and academic performance of the students.

CONTRIBUTION OF SCHOOL FACTORS TOWARDS THE ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE OF STUDENTS

The contributions of school factors in influencing the academic performance of the students have been stated as follows:

1. **Professionalism & behavior of Teachers** – It is vital for the teachers to be professional in their conduct, especially, while dealing with students. The main objective of the teachers is to enhance their teaching skills within their subject areas in such a manner that learning and development of the students can be improved. Professionalism of the teachers is depicted primarily in the teaching-learning processes, instructional strategies, communication and their approachable attitude. When the teachers depict professionalism in these areas, then they are revered not only by the principal, staff and other teachers, but they are also appreciated by the students and they take pleasure in learning from them. There have been cases in schools, when teachers get upset and angry. This is normally due to incompleteness of home-work assignments and deprived academic performance. In such cases, professionalism is depicted when teachers are decent in their communication. They should explain the consequences to the students in a calm manner and any kind of harsh behaviour should be avoided.
2. **Extra-Curricular Activities** – Students usually take pleasure in learning and acquisition of education, especially, when there are adequate provision of extra-curricular activities. Extra-curricular activities within the schools include, artworks, handicrafts, music, singing, dancing, role playing, sports, physical activities, games and so forth. These activities are considered as not only imperative in developing creativity among the students, but getting engaged in them stimulates their mind-sets and they are able to develop their concentration towards learning. Research has indicated that when students get actively involved in extracurricular activities, they perform well in their assignments and tests. When even one extracurricular

activity arouses interest and enthusiasm within the mind-sets of the students. When they take wholehearted interest in it, then it is likely possible that they may take it as a profession in future. In order to concentrate well on the studies, and enhance one's grades, it is essential to get involved in extra-curricular activities. Therefore, secondary school students mostly get engaged in outdoor games and sports.

3. **Technology** – In the present existence, technology is regarded as imperative to enhance learning. When students need to improve their skills and abilities regarding academic concepts, then internet serves as the imperative source of obtaining knowledge and information. In textbooks, sometimes the knowledge is limited, hence, in order to acquire better understanding of the lesson plans, the students make use of the internet, take down notes and are able to acquire a better understanding. In the present existence, technology is even made use of in the preparation of projects, reports, and assignments. Earlier when technology was not adequately made use of in schools, then students used to prepare their assignments using stationary items. In the present existence, not only in higher educational institutions, but also in secondary schools, it is been made use of to a major extent. The use of technology also helps in correcting the errors and making the assignment appropriate.

4. **Rewards** – Rewards are regarded as one of the most important factors that are used in motivating the students. In secondary schools, students usually enjoy playing and getting engaged in recreational and leisure activities. They in some cases neglect their studies, especially when they are unable to understand the concepts or have to watch a television show or go out with friends and so forth. Usually parents at home create means of motivating their children by saying that they will give them their favourite ice-cream or take them out for dinner or give them a gift etc. On the other hand, teachers make use of motivating forms to the students by giving them, stars or sweets or planning a picnic and so forth. Rewards are considered as stimulating factors that contribute in improving the academic performance of the students. When the teachers communicate about rewards within the classroom, then students develop the keenness to work hard and score good grades. They believe that through their good performance, their parents and teachers, both would get pleased.

5. **Evaluation Systems** – The evaluation systems are regarded as essential sources that are used to improve the academic performance of the students. When teachers have taught a particular concept or a lesson plan to the students, then they are usually not aware that all the students have understood the concepts or not. For this purpose, it is vital to put into practice, proper evaluation systems. Evaluation of the performance and learning abilities of the students takes place through organization of competitions, tests and giving them class and homework assignments. The grading systems should be fair and just. It is vital for the teachers to implement their evaluation systems on the basis of the performance of the students. They should consider all the students equally and not discriminate among them on the basis of factors, such as, gender, religion, ethnicity, caste, creed, race or socio-economic background. When students score well, then teachers and students come to know that they have understood the concepts. On the other hand, when they do not score well, this indicates that they lack in their understanding. The performance of the students also determine the teaching-learning processes and instructional strategies implemented by the teachers.

6. **Library Facilities** – The library is the place, where students usually are able to obtain the materials that are made use of to enhance one's learning. It is the building or the room, in which the collection of books, tapes, newspapers, articles and journals are kept. These are meant for the individuals to read and borrow. Library is important in the teaching-learning processes. It is regarded as one of the most important educational services. The main purpose of the school libraries is to make provision of books and the necessary materials to the members of the school, which are of interest to them. It occupies the central and the primary place within the schools. It makes provision of support and assistance in the teaching-learning processes and provides service and guidance to the individuals (David, 2014). In most cases, purchasing books is not affordable for the students, hence, they need to make use of the library facilities to enhance their learning and academic performance. In the present existence, the libraries also have computers, so that students can make use of them.

7. **Laboratory Facilities** – The laboratory is regarded as a room or a building, especially built for teaching by demonstration of a theoretical phenomenon into practical terms. Laboratories are made use of in the teaching-learning processes and experiments primarily related to science subjects. Within the laboratory, the teachers provide practical demonstration of the concept. The students tend to recall more what they observe rather than what they hear. It can be described as a place, where theoretical work is put into practical. Practical work in the learning of academic concepts involves students in activities such as, observing, counting, measuring, experimenting, recording, investigating, testing, analyzing and field-work. The science subjects not only involve the use of processes and experiments, but it affords the learners the basic skills and the scientific methods of problem solving. The knowledge acquired through laboratory work also stays within the mind-sets of the individuals for long period of time. The teachers need to be skilled and proficient, when they are imparting knowledge of experiments in science subjects. It also involves the use of chemicals, equipment and other tools (David, 2014).

8. **Provision of Meals** – The mid-day meal scheme has been introduced in schools to make provision of meals to the students (David, 2014). The mid-day meal scheme has been considered important as it makes provision of adequate nutrition to the students. When students will consume healthy food, they would be able to adequately concentrate upon studies. Food is considered as an integral part of education. In order to provide solutions to mathematical problems, understand science subjects, concepts in social science, write essays, improve grammar and language skills, get involved energetically in sports activities, perform creative activities i.e. artworks and handicrafts, memorise the concepts adequately, logical reasoning and problem solving skills, adequate nutrition is necessary. When students obtain their adequate nutrition, they not only maintain good health, but are able to enhance their academic performance. On the other hand, when students are malnourished, they are not able to obtain adequate nutrition, this results in deprived academic performance. Nutritious meals are provided in schools to boost the energy requirements of the students, so that they are able to concentrate well.

9. **Classroom Environment** – The academic concepts are made known to the students by the teachers within classroom. Teachers have the main job duty of completing the subject syllabus. Therefore, it is vital that classroom environment should be disciplined and well ordered (Kudari, 2016). Within the classroom, it is vital for the teachers and the students to implement the traits of morality and ethics. It is vital to promote mutual understanding, amiability and co-operation among the teachers and students as well as among the fellow students. The efficiency in the management of the classroom, introduces a well-organized and efficient management of the lesson plans, instructional strategies, teaching-learning processes and so forth.

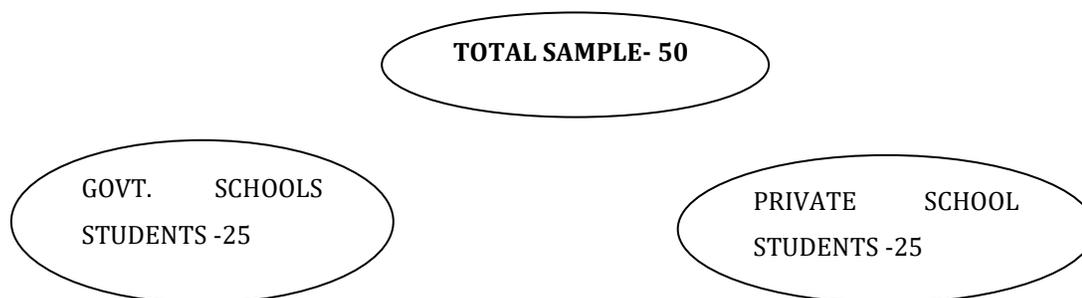
10. **Quality enhancement through different Skill programs**– In order to enhance one's academic performance, it is vital for the individuals to develop study skills within themselves. The students themselves need to generate awareness regarding study skills, so that they are able to produce desired academic outcomes. Some of the study skills include, memorizing from the textbooks or other materials, making notes, practicing writing essays and articles, especially in languages, practicing calculations in mathematics and so forth. One of the important areas is, when one is studying, it is vital to completely concentrate towards one's studies.

CONCLUSION

As it has been understood that education is imperative for leading to overall progress of the individuals, communities and the Nation. In order to attain educational qualifications and to enhance one's skills and abilities, it is vital to do well academically and obtain good grades. There are number of factors within school as well as outside school that affects the academic performance of the students. Within school, the factors mainly include, professionalism, skills and abilities on the part of the teachers, provision of library facilities, laboratory, appropriate teaching-learning processes and instructional strategies, effective communication between the individuals, formation of good terms and conditions, usage of technology and evaluation methods. The class and homework assignments and tests are regarded as aspects that determine the understanding of the students as well as utilization of teaching methods by the teachers. The other factors that influence the academic performance of the students are home environment, financial position of their families, conditions of poverty, provision of tuitions and assistance at home, counselling and guidance,

occurrence of conflicts and disputes, employment opportunities, household chores, needs and requirements of other family members and violent and criminal acts. The home environmental conditions and financial position of the families have been favourable as well as unfavourable towards the academic outcomes of the students. Finally, it can be stated that in order to achieve good academic outcomes, it is vital for the students to be dedicated and sincere towards their studies, the home environmental conditions should be peaceful and amiable, and teachers should be approachable in attitude and implement teaching-learning processes and instructional strategies in a beneficial manner.

DATA COLLECTION & RESULTS:



Tabulation Report of different Parameters on Academic Achievement:

Sl.No	Parameters	(%) Affected on Academic Achievement	
		In Rural Areas Schools	In Urban Areas Schools
1.	Professionalism & behavior of Teachers	2-6	10
2.	Extra-Curricular Activities	3	10
3.	Technology	2	10
4.	Rewards	2	10
5.	Evaluation Systems	5	10
6.	Library Facilities	2-4	10
7.	Laboratory Facilities	2-4	10
8.	Provision of Meals	5-10	0
9.	Classroom Environment	5-6	10
10.	Quality enhancement through different Skill programs	2	10

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