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A study of relationship between socio-economic status and academic achievement of SC and ST students of secondary level in the district of Bankura in West Bengal

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Abstract

Past research has indicated that among all the factors socio-economic Status is most commonly linked to academic performance. To find the relationship between Socio-economic Status and academic achievement of the SC and ST students, the investigator had taken up the present study entitled "A study of Relationship between Socioeconomic Status and Academic Achievement of SC and ST students of Secondary level in the District of Bankura in West Bengal". The objectives of this research were to study the relationship between socio-economic Status and academic achievement of SC and ST students and to study and compare the socio-economic status and academic achievement of SC and ST students. Survey method was used to collect data from 120 students (SC – 60; ST – 60) of class IX from three schools of Bankura District in West Bengal. The tools used were Socio-economic status scale by Prof. T. Pan and Teacher made test. Product moment co-efficient of Correlation (r) and t-test were used for data analysis.

Key words: Socioeconomic Status, Academic Achievement, Bankura, West Bengal.

1. Introduction

The Present education system is achievement oriented. It is given a lot of importance in admission to higher studies and in job selection etc. Students' achievement depend upon different factors- such as personal factors which include age, Sex and health etc, Socio-cultural factors which include Socio-economic conditions, the cultural background, home environment etc and Psychological factors like intelligence, creativity, achievement motivation, interest etc. Past research has indicated that among all the factors socio-economic Status is most commonly linked to academic performance.

Socio-economic is used to describe something that relates to or is concerned with the interaction of social and economic factors. It is basically, income and social position that is used to measure the status of a family or an individual in a community.

Socio-economic status is typically broken into three categories i.e.; high, middle and low. These three categories describe the three areas a family or an individual fall into. Low socio-economic status and its correlates, such as lower education, poverty and poor health, ultimately affect our society as a whole. The people SCs and STs are under the category of Low Socio-economic Status. Research indicates that children from low- socioeconomic status develop academic skills more slowly compared to children from higher socio economic status- group. Students coming from Scheduled castes and Scheduled Tribes are also likely to be deficient in the Scholastic areas. To find the relationship between Socio-economic Status and academic achievement of the SC and ST students, the investigator had taken up the present study entitled "A study of Relationship between Socioeconomic Status and Academic Achievement of SC and ST students of Secondary level in the District of Bankura in West Bengal".

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2. Objectives

The study was conducted to achieve the following objectives.

- i) To study the relationship between socio-economic Status and academic achievement of SC and ST students.
- ii) To study and compare the socio-economic status and academic achievement of SC and ST students.

3. Hypotheses

OH₁: There is no significant correlation between socio-economic status and academic achievement of SC students.

OH₂: There is no significant correlation between socio-economic status and academic achievement of ST students.

OH₃: There is no significant mean difference of Socio-economic Status with respect to SC and ST students.

OH₄: There is no significant mean difference of Academic achievement with respect to SC and ST students.

4. Methodology

Survey method was used to conduct the present study.

Sample: For this study 120 students (SC – 60; ST – 60) of class IX from three schools of Bankura District were taken as sample.

Tools: The following tools were used in the study.

- i) Socio-economic status scale by Prof. T. Pan.
- ii) Teacher made Tests of the Schools were considered as Achievement Tests.

Statistical Technique

The following Statistical techniques were used for the analysis of the data.

- i) product moment co-efficient of Correlation (r)
- ii) t-test.

5. Results and Its Interpretation

Table 1: Showing co-efficient of Correlation (r) between Socio-economic Status (SES) and Academic Achievement of SC – students.

SC Group	N	Mean	SD	r	Level of Significance
Socio-Economic Status	60	36	9.41	.44	Significant at .01 level
Academic Achievement		54	7.95		

The above table depicts the co-efficient of correlation between socioeconomic status and academic achievement of SC student. The calculated value of 'r' is .44 which is significant at 0.01 level.

It shows that socioeconomic Status and academic achievement of SC students are positively and significantly correlated to each other. Hence OH₁ is rejected.

Table 2: Showing Co-efficient of Correlation (r) between Socio-economic Status and Academic Achievement of ST students.

S.T Group	N	Mean	SD	r	Level of Significance
Socio-Economic Status	60	38	9.39	.61	Significant at .01 level
Academic Achievement		48	7.57		

The above table shows that the calculated value of 'r' is .61 which is significant at .01 level. Hence OH₂ is rejected. This indicates that there is positive correlation between Socioeconomic Status and academic achievement of ST students.

Table 3: Showing 't' ratio of Socioeconomic Status of SC and ST students.

Group	N	Mean	SD	SE _D	't'	Level of Significance
SC	60	36	9.41	1.71	1.17	Not Significant
ST	60	38	9.39			

From the above table it is found that the calculated value of 't' is 1.17 which is not significant. Hence OH₃ is accepted. This means that there is no significant mean difference of socioeconomic status with respect to SC and ST students.

Table 4: Showing 't' –ratio of Academic Achievement of SC and ST students.

Group	N	Mean	SD	SE _D	't'	Level of Significance
SC	60	54	7.95	1.41	4.25	Significant at .01 level
ST	60	48	7.57			

It is observed from the table–4 that the calculated value of 't' is 4.25 which is significant at .01 level. Hence OH₄ is rejected. This indicates that there is significant mean difference of academic achievement with respect to SC and ST students.

Findings and Conclusion

- (i) Socioeconomic Status and academic achievement of SC students are positively and significantly correlated to each other.
- (ii) There is positive correlation between Socioeconomic Status and academic achievement of ST students.
- (iii) There is no significant mean difference of socioeconomic status with respect to SC and ST students.
- (iv) There is significant mean difference of academic achievement with respect to SC and ST students.

From the findings of this study it can be inferred that socioeconomic status and academic achievement with respect to SC and ST students are positively and significantly related to each other. SC and ST students differ significantly in their academic achievement. But table – 3 shows that there is mean difference of socioeconomic status with respect to SC and ST but that difference is not significant.

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