



ATTITUDE OF MUSLIM WOMEN STUDENTS ON ACCESSING HIGHER EDUCATION

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ABSTRACT

The present study is a descriptive type of survey research conducted in Murshidabad District of West Bengal. The objective of the study was to find out the effect of demographic variables on Attitude on Accessing Higher Education of Muslim Women Students in Murshidabad. The researcher collected the sample of 100 higher secondary school students. For data collection, the researcher applied simple random sampling technique. To analyse the collected data, the investigator used t-test and ANOVA. The findings reveal that there is significant difference in the mean scores of attitude on accessing higher education with respect to category, locality and parents' educational qualification. The result also shows that there is no significant difference in the mean scores of attitude on accessing higher education with respect to income.



KEYWORDS: *survey research conducted , analyse the collected data.*

INTRODUCTION

Higher education is very important for any country, as it is a powerful tool to build knowledge-based society of the 21st Century. With the growing size and diversity of the higher education sector particularly in terms of courses, management and geographical coverage, it has become necessary to develop a sound database on higher education. Higher education can lead country's overall development which includes industrial, social, economic etc. Indian higher education system is third largest next to United States and China in the World. The Indian higher educational institutes such as colleges and universities in the present time provide quality based education in the field of education, research etc to empower youth of the country. Higher education also provides knowledge, develops the student's ability and also gives him a wider perspective of the world around.

Accessing higher education is the emerging topic in the present scenario of Higher Education. Due to growing population in our country, the students are coming forward for higher education. So there is tremendous pressure in universities and college for admission. In one side there is high level of competition and in the other side there is problem of socioeconomic status for getting admission in higher education institutions. Therefore it is a big challenge to the students especially to rural students to access higher education.

2. REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

Alsalem, G.M. and Doush, I.A. (2018) took a study on "Access Education: What is Needed to Have Accessible Higher Education for Students with Disabilities in Jordan?". This study aims to highlight the accessibility needs of computer laboratories, libraries and websites for students with disabilities at Jordanian universities and colleges. The sample is consisted of staff in computer laboratories and libraries, web developers and e-learning staff to identify environmental and technological barriers from their perspective, as well as, to check their knowledge about assistive technology (AT) and other issues related to accessibility. Questionnaires are prepared to test accessibility of websites in the investigated universities and colleges. Results showed that current status of accessibility does not meet the expectations of equal access or the needs of students with disabilities where there is a shortage of ATs in computer labs and libraries, lack of awareness and insufficient training for the universities' staff and web developers related to accessibility issues, and all the evaluated universities web sites are inaccessible.

Nadaf, Z.A. and Bhat, B.A. (2016) studied on "Issues and Challenges in Higher Education System". This paper tries to highlight emerging issues and challenges in the arena of Higher Education (HE) in India, especially in provincial and semi-urban ranges. This paper concentrates on the issues identified with understudy and issues identified with biggest academic system in the third world, with more than of five million students taking H.E. in more than 12000 colleges & universities. It shows the issues and challenges that the students are facing in higher education like strikes, parades, mass gatherings, walk outs, setting libraries ablaze, harming labs and college properties, Economic difficulties, . The poor performance of the universities in research, Low expenditure on Higher Education, Low public expenditure on HE as percentage of GDP, Shortage of faculty and poor infrastructure, Interference of political factors, Lack of Moral values etc.

Jahan, K.K. and Selvarani, D.C. (2015) conducted a study on "Higher Education in India: Issues and Challenges". The present paper tries to highlight the significance of creating awareness of many issues of concern to be taken care of by the stakeholders in the national as well as the global levels. The study has a unique sense that it brings about better understanding of the present scenario in the higher education system in the country and its pattern of growth given the opportunities and challenges to the system under consideration. The present study gives a gainful insight on financing schemes and enrolment aspects of higher education in India.

3. METHODOLOGY

3.1 OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. To find out the effect of Demographic Variables on Attitude on Accessing Higher Education in Murshidabad - West Bengal.

3.2 Hypothesis of the Study

H₀ 1 There is no significant difference in the mean scores of Attitude on Accessing Higher Education with respect to Category.

H₀ 2 There is no significant difference in the mean scores of Attitude on Accessing Higher Education with respect to Locality.

H₀ 3 There is no significant difference in the mean scores of Attitude on Accessing Higher Education with respect to Parents' Educational Qualification.

H₀ 4 There is no significant difference in the mean scores of Attitude on Accessing Higher Education with respect to Income.

3.3 Research Method

In this present study, survey method has been considered to be the most appropriate one and applied to serve its purposes.

3.4 Population

Population under this study is Muslim Women Students of Higher Secondary School Level in Murshidabad – West Bengal.

3.5 Sample

The sample of the study is 100 Muslim Women Students who are studying at Higher Secondary Level.

3.6 Sampling Technique

For the collection of data, simple random sampling method has been used by the researcher. 100 samples are collected randomly from Muslim Women Students at Higher Secondary Level.

3.7 Research Instrument Used for Data Collection

In this present study, the researcher has used one research instrument namely “Attitude towards Accessing Higher Education Scale”. The researcher prepared this tool which consists of 62 items including three dimensions namely problems, prospects and government support.

3.8 Statistical Techniques Used Data Analysis

For the analysis of data collected in this present study, t-test and anova have been used by the researcher.

4. ANALYSIS OF DATA

After careful analysis of collected data in this study, the following results are found.

- General and OBC HSMWSs differ significantly in their Attitude on Accessing Higher Education.
- Rural and Urban HSMWSs differ significantly in their Attitude on Accessing Higher Education.
- There is significant difference in Attitude on Accessing Higher Education according to their Parents' Qualification.
- There is no significant difference in Attitude on Accessing Higher Education according to their Family's Income.

5. IMPLICATION

The present study is very significant in the perspective of higher education. For the students who are at higher secondary level and want to access higher education, the study give a ray of hope. It is also very significant to the Muslim students and parents. For policy makers, the study gives a new direction to make policies for the empowerment of women especially Muslim women.

6. CONCLUSION

This study is emerging and burning topic in present scenario of higher education in India. The present study highlighted the problems, prospects and government support for higher education among Muslim women students in Murshidabad district of West Bengal. The study shows the importance of parents' education for the education of their children. It also tries to highlight that parents' income is not a major problem for accessing higher education of Muslim women students.

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