AWARENESS OF NEW SCHEMES OF UNION GOVERNMENT AMONG FEMALE COLLEGE STUDENTS

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ABSTRACT
Education is the most important lever for social, economic and political transformation. A well-educated population, equipped with the relevant knowledge, attitudes and skills is essential for economic and social development in the twenty-first century. The Government of India is involved in a large number of programmes in sectors/area such as education, health, labour, skill development etc. that are in the State List through operation of Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) and provision of Central Assistance to State Governments. These programmes essentially arose from the above national objectives and cut across State boundaries. The CSSs are operationalized by Central Ministries based on scheme specific guidelines and are implemented by State Governments. The CSSs are implemented to achieve social objectives like poverty reduction, improving health services, raising food production etc. It is in this context that the present study is undertaken to measure and find out the significant differences to identify the awareness of the new schemes of the union government among female arts and science college students in Madurai district in terms of certain independent variables. Data were collected from 300 students. The collected data were subjected to ‘t-test’ between the means of large independent variables. Hypotheses were verified, meaningful conclusions drawn and educational implications worked out. Though this research is a small step it is expected that it would make a significant contribution to the economic well being of the students.

KEY WORDS: Awareness, New schemes, Union Government, Female College students.

INTRODUCTION
Students are the backbone of the educational process. Education is a process and acts also as an instrument to bring out the innate behaviour of the individual. The destiny of a nation lies in its classroom. The strength of our nation depends on the teacher’s ability to rear well educated, responsible, well-adjusted youth who will step forward when the adult generation passes on the retirement. The students of today are the builders of tomorrow and future citizens of the country, therefore it is the responsibility of teachers, society and government to see that they are physically, mentally, emotionally and educationally healthy. The needful steps taken at this period ensures a healthy democracy in the country.

College students are today’s stars and Leaders of tomorrow. Hence their awareness and usage of the new Government schemes should be in positive direction. The growth of the nation and its prosperity mainly depend on the hands of future life. Therefore, the present investigator is interested in knowing the awareness of female college students towards the newly introduced and implemented Government schemes. Only if they are aware, the schemes would bear fruitful results. Hence, the need for the present study.
OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:
1. To find out the awareness of new schemes of union government among female college students.
2. To find out, whether there is a significant difference among the female college students, in terms of certain select population variables in their awareness towards the new schemes of Union Government.

HYPOTHESES OF THE STUDY
1. Awareness of new schemes of union government among female college students is above the average level.
2. Each of the population variables involved in the study exert a significant influence on female college students’ awareness of new schemes of Union Government.

METHODOLOGY-IN-BRIEF
Design: Descriptive Method: Normative Technique: Survey

Sample: A stratified representative sample of 300 female college students from ten Colleges was constituted with due representation given to the variables, viz. Locality, and College Kind.

Tool: The instrument used in the current study is the Questionnaire on “AWARENESS OF NEW SCHEMES OF UNION GOVERNMENT” developed and validated by Jeyachandren.A and Shirley Moral.C. (2017)

Statistical Treatment: ‘t’ – test between the means of large independent samples was employed.

ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF DATA
AWARENESS OF NEW SCHEMES OF UNION GOVERNMENT AMONG FEMALE COLLEGE STUDENTS
The empirical average score of Awareness of new schemes of union government among female college students is found to be 12.63 while the theoretical average is 10. This shows that the Awareness of new schemes of union government among female college students is well above the average. In other words, Awareness is found to be higher among female college students.

DIFFERENTIAL STUDIES ON AWARENESS OF NEW SCHEMES OF UNION GOVERNMENT AMONG FEMALE COLLEGE STUDENTS.
The following table depicts the results of the differential studies on awareness of new schemes of union government among female college students.

TABLE: 1 STATISTICAL MEASURES AND RESULT OF THE TEST OF SIGNIFICANCE OF DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE MEAN SCORES OF NEW SCHEMES OF AWARENESS OF UNION GOVERNMENT AMONG FEMALE COLLEGE STUDENTS: POPULATION VARIABLES –WISE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. NO</th>
<th>Variables</th>
<th>Sub-Variables</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>Standard Deviation</th>
<th>‘t’-Value</th>
<th>Level of Significance at 0.05 Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Marital Status</td>
<td>Married</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>12.00</td>
<td>4.078</td>
<td>-1.029</td>
<td>NS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Single</td>
<td>261</td>
<td>12.73</td>
<td>4.409</td>
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</table>

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2. Locality

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Locality</th>
<th>Rural</th>
<th>188</th>
<th>11.58</th>
<th>4.131</th>
<th>-5.668</th>
<th>S</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>14.40</td>
<td>4.195</td>
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3. Domicile

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Domicile</th>
<th>Day scholar</th>
<th>222</th>
<th>12.89</th>
<th>4.292</th>
<th>1.662</th>
<th>NS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hosteller</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>11.91</td>
<td>4.528</td>
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4. College Type

<table>
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<th>Govt.</th>
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<th>12.74</th>
<th>4.929</th>
<th>-2.810</th>
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</thead>
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<td>Govt. Aided</td>
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<td>14.66</td>
<td>4.148</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>11.18</td>
<td>3.424</td>
<td>2.632</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Govt.</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>12.74</td>
<td>4.929</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Private</td>
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<td>11.18</td>
<td>3.424</td>
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5. College Kind

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<th>College Kind</th>
<th>Unisex</th>
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<th>14.05</th>
<th>3.916</th>
<th>3.872</th>
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<td></td>
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6. Course Kind

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<th>UG</th>
<th>177</th>
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<th>4.336</th>
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<td>PG</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>12.80</td>
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7. Newspaper Reading Habit

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<th>Newspaper Reading Habit</th>
<th>Daily</th>
<th>172</th>
<th>13.02</th>
<th>4.028</th>
<th>1.730</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Occasionally</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>12.12</td>
<td>4.753</td>
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8. Listening media

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Listening media</th>
<th>Daily</th>
<th>219</th>
<th>12.94</th>
<th>4.243</th>
<th>1.908</th>
<th>NS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Occasionally</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>11.81</td>
<td>4.615</td>
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9. Preparing for Competitive Exams

<table>
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<th>12.74</th>
<th>4.273</th>
<th>0.668</th>
<th>NS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>12.35</td>
<td>4.629</td>
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</table>

S- Denotes significant at 0.05 level
NS- Denotes not significant at 0.05 level

HYPOTHESES VERIFICATION

Hypothesis 1:

Awareness of new schemes of union government among female college students is above the average level.
Female college students possess higher awareness of new schemes of Union Government. Hence the hypothesis 1 is accepted.

Hypothesis 2:

Each of the population variables involved in the study exert a significant influence on female college students’ awareness of new schemes of union government.
Out of the nine population variables involved in this study three variables viz., Locality, College Type and College Kind are found influencing the awareness of new schemes of union government among college students. Hence the hypothesis 2 is minimally accepted.

CONCLUSIONS

1. Female college students have higher awareness of new schemes of union government.
2. The possession of awareness of new schemes of union government among female college students is found dependent on their
   - Locality
   - College Type
   - College Kind

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3. The possession of awareness of new schemes of union government among female college students is found independent of their
   - Marital Status
   - Domicile
   - Course Kind
   - Newspaper Reading Habit
   - Listening Media
   - Preparing for Competitive Exams
4. Awareness of new schemes of union government is found higher among
   - Urban students than the Rural students.
   - Students from Govt. Aided Colleges than the students from Govt. Colleges.
   - Students from Govt. Aided Colleges than those from Private Colleges.
   - Students from Govt. Colleges than those from Private Colleges.
   - Unisex College students than the students from Mixed Colleges.

EDUCATIONAL IMPLICATIONS

The awareness of new schemes of union Government among female college students is found lower among rural students from private mixed colleges. So the administrators may work on the enhancement of the awareness of new schemes of union government among female college students by providing or organizing a special lecture on importance of current affairs and related themes by experts and how to improve their awareness and to give training regarding this to achieve a supreme awareness of new schemes of union Government among female college students. This would be an essential initiative on the part of the college management so that the students would make the best use of the possible avenues open to them to avail the financial assistance/other welfare schemes. Besides the very construction of the Questionnaire on the Awareness of New Schemes of Union Government among the female college students is itself a novel contribution to the field of Education.

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