

Periodic Research

Career Preferences of Male and Female students with Special Reference to Rural & Urban Areas of Sirsa District of Haryana State



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Abstract

Career is a matter of prestige for everyone, which an individual decides in the early stages of his life. An inhabitation and gender difference plays a vital role in taking a decision about the career choice. To study the career preferences by secondary students in relation to their gender and rural and urban inhabitation, a research was conducted. A standardized scale test was used to collect the data about the main area choices of male, female students of rural and urban areas of Sirsa, district in Haryana. The various career option considered are: Mass media & journalism, Artistic and Designing, Science & Technology, Agriculture, Commerce and Management, Medical, Defence, Tourism and Hospitality, Law & Order and Education. The career preferences data was collected from 200 male and female students residing in rural and urban areas. The Mean score, S.D and t-test were used to analyze the significance of each career preference.

Keywords: Career Preferences, Rural-Urban Inhabitation, Gender, Secondary Students.

The L.H.S.of Nomenclature			
Mass Media & Journalism	MMJ	Science & Technology	ScT
Medical	M	Agriculture	AG
Artistic & Designing	Ad	Commerce & Management	CM
Defence	D	Law & Order	LO

Introduction

Education is very correctly called the third eye of a person which gives him insight into all affairs. It teaches him how to act justly and rightly. It leads him to realize the true significance of life. Education is everyone's fundamental right. It is necessary for every citizen to be trained in some vocations so that he/she can be dependent. Today, science is more important and frequently used as a means to understand the options associated with development of technology. The future of the nation still depends to a large extent on continuity in the development of its human and material resources for science and technologies advancements.

Indian has seen a consistently high rate of economic growth in the recent years. It has now become a major player in the global knowledge economy. Skill based activities have made significant contribution to his growth. Such activities depend on the large pool of qualified manpower that is fed by its large high level of education and vocational system. Career planning is very essential for the peaceful living and quality of life. Therefore, every youth at the age of 18+ with the attainment of legal right of adulthood, should be very careful about the selection of one's career so that it may suited one's fully and he feels work satisfaction and the desired earning of money according to his need. To achieve satisfactory career in one's life must be the mission of youth today and student's morale can play an important role in deciding one's career and desired career plan.

Objective of the Study

To study and compare the career preferences of Male and Female students with special reference to Rural & Urban areas of Sirsa District of Haryana State

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Review of Literature

Career preference is the process of decision-making. A great number of studies, researches, and write-ups has been conducted for a period of time and still emerged as one of the top-priority of researches due to rapid changing and need of time. **Sharma Poonam and Kumar Mukesh, (2007), Vondracek (1983)** studied the vocational interests of Rural and urban students. In rural area the jobs like doctor, health officer, engineer, collector, magistrate, and army officer are considered respectable that's why rural secondary school students prefer these jobs in comparative to urban secondary school students. It has been noticed that in rural area students take part more in politics. **Jain, K. K. (1984)** A study of the Development of Interests among the School Students of Delhi in relation to certain variables. He reported that urban boys had higher interest in academics than rural boys. The rural boys were not much concerned about the choice of a career. Urban boys had higher interest in academics than rural boys. The rural boys were not much concerned about the choice of a career. The opportunities to appreciate art, property, music, dance, painting, drama etc. were far more widely available to urban boys than to rural boys. **Sidana, Ashok and Pareek M. (1996)** observed that there existed a significant difference between urban and rural students interest towards environmental education. The rural students possessed more interest than the urban students. **Jayapoorani N. (1982), Shanjimon P.K (2013)** found that boys (42%) showed interests in engineering job while girls (55%) preferred to work as doctor. **Chow et. al., (1993), Martin Joycee (2001)** while studying the canonical relationship between vocational interests and aptitude found there were moderate to strong correlations between aptitudes and interest. The interest's area of science, math and aesthetics had the clearest and most consistent relationship with aptitudes. Men and women had different aptitude interest patterns reflecting cultural differences. **Rajnish (2004)** studied vocational interest of 10th class students of sonapat city. The study has revealed that boys has shown keen interest for vocations related with science 23.33% male students had vocational interest in science related vocations like mechanical engineer, health officer, civil engineer and electric engineer etc. 20% girls had shown their first preference for vocations related with society. **Prerna**

Kaushik (2006) Tracey, Tarence J et al. (1993) conducted comparative study of vocational interest of boys and girls secondary class students of Karnal city and found that there exists significant difference between the mean scores of vocational interests of secondary class urban male students and female students in areas viz., science, commerce, constructive, social and household where as in remaining areas viz. Literature, executive, agriculture and persuasive. There exists no significant difference in the course of vocational interest of secondary class urban male and female students. **Archer (2000), Goldstein & Oldham (2001), Stockard & McGee (2002)** studied early social factors and personal preferences related to sex and gender also influence children's later vocational preferences and choices. **Javed, Quershi Abdul (2000), White K. M. et. al. (1980)** reported that rural students were not interested in agriculture and more interest in vocations connected with science. Students from Arts and Commerce faculties expressed high interest in persuasive and executive vocations. **Poonam (2008), Trice A. D (1991)** revealed that senior secondary students belonging to rural and urban differ significantly with respect to their educational interests in engineering. Students belonging to urban locality based families show more interest than their counterparts belonging to rural families. Senior secondary students belonging to rural and urban families differ significantly in the vocational interest in two areas namely household and literary.

Hypothesis of the Study

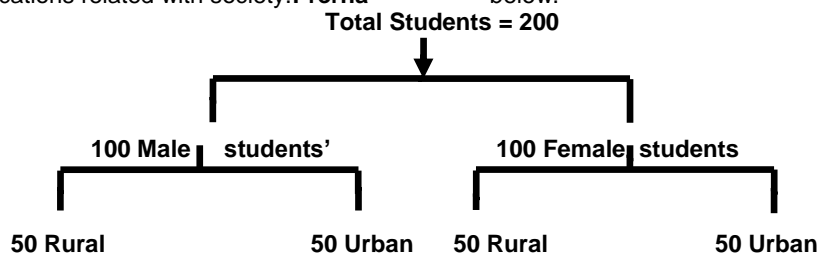
1. There is no significant difference between male and female secondary school students of rural area in career preferences.
2. There is no significant difference between male and female secondary school students of urban area in career preferences.

Research Method

Descriptive survey method was used.

Population & Sample

All secondary school students of Sirsa constituted the population of the study. Sample is a portion of a population which was selected for the purpose of study or investigation. Sample of 200 students (100 male and 100 female) was taken for the study. The researcher selected 10 secondary schools of rural and urban area in shown in the sample design below.



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Tools used

Career Preferences Record constructed by Vivek Bhargava & Rajshree Bhargava.

Career Preference Record (CPR)

This interest record was developed in the year 2001. The main purpose to develop CPR was to help the students/ youth to make a wise choice in his career preferences or vocations. CPR covers 10 main areas of vocational interest, they are

1. Mass Media & Journalism (MMJ)
2. Artistic & Designing (AD)
3. Science & Technology (ScT)
4. Agriculture (AG)
5. Commerce & Management (CM)
6. Medical (M)
7. Defense (D)
8. Tourism & Hospitality Industry (TH)
9. Law & Order (LO)
10. Education (E)

Statistical Techniques Used

In this work Mean, S.F and t-test was used for analyzing the data collected. To determine the significant of difference in mean scores of vocational interests in respect of two groups found on the basis of each independent variables' t' test were used. For this means standard deviations were also calculated. The ratio was computed as:

$$t = \frac{|M1 - M2|}{\sqrt{\frac{SD1^2}{N1} + \frac{SD2^2}{N2}}}$$

Analysis and Interpretation of Data

After having collected data pm wellbeing and thinking styles on a selected sample of secondary school teachers, organization of data was done according to the objectives of the study.

Comparison of Career Preference of Male and Female Secondary School Students

Table 1

Significance of difference between the Career Preferences of Male and Female Secondary Students

Variable Career Preference	Male (N = 100)		Female (N = 100)		t' Value	Df	Level of Significance
	Mean	S.D.	Mean	S.D.			
MMJ	7.76	4.17	7.51	4.39	0.41	198	NS
AD	7.31	4.20	9.01	4.07	2.90	-	**
ScT	8.95	4.60	7.91	4.44	1.62	-	NS
AG	7.40	3.97	5.59	4.09	3.17	-	**
CM	8.12	3.84	5.80	3.73	4.33	-	**
M	7.19	3.69	6.85	4.44	0.58	-	NS
D	8.91	4.63	6.79	4.19	3.39	-	**
TH	6.76	3.79	5.95	3.90	1.85	-	NS
LO	10.10	5.28	7.98	4.76	2.98	-	**
E	9.45	5.25	7.92	5.34	2.04	-	*

*=Significance At 0.05 Level, **=Significance At 0.01 Level, Ns= Not Significant, Df= Degree of Freedom

The table 1 depicts the significance of difference between the Career Preferences of male and female secondary students. The figure 1 shows the mean score of male & female secondary students and figure 2 shows the standard deviation of male & female secondary students.

Mean Score of Male & Female Secondary School Students

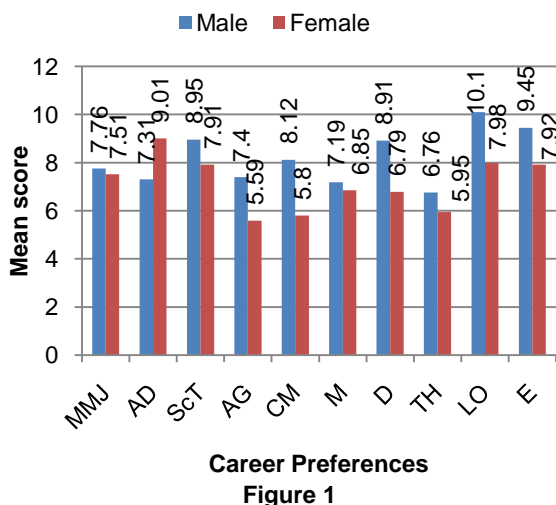


Figure 1

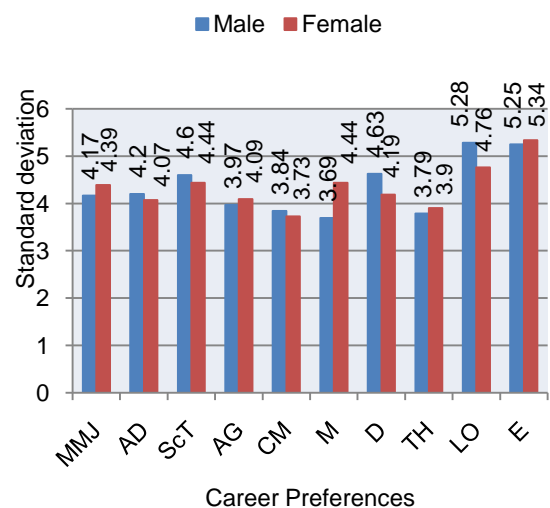


Figure 2

SD of Male & Female Secondary School Students Mass Media & Journalism (MMJ)

It was observed from the table 1 that t' value of 0.41 for Mass media & Journalism was less than the table value. This shows that there is no significant

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difference between the career preferences of Male & Female secondary students. The finding indicates that Male and Female secondary students are similar in their selection of mass media & journalism. Mass media and journalism vocation includes Radio, T.V. Generalist, T.V. Announcer, Script Writer & Press Photographer etc.

Artistic and Designing (AD)

It is further shows that calculated 't' value (2.90) of Area of Artistic and Designing is high than the table value which is, significant at 0.01 level. It was observed that there is significant difference in Artistic and designing Area of career preference of male & female secondary students. It means female shows high preference in artistic & designing area as compared the male secondary students. Artistic and Designing vocation includes Production Design, Graphic Design, Furniture Design, Design Articles & Interior Designing etc.

Science and Technology (SCT)

It may be observed from the table 1 that 't' value (1.62) of Science & Technology is less than the table value. This shows that there is no significant difference between the career preference of male & female secondary students. The finding indicates that male and female have similar interest in the career preference of science and Technology. Science and Technology vocation includes Electronic Engineer, Chemical Engineer, Software Programmer, Agriculture Engineer & Mathematician etc.

Agriculture (AG)

As shown in table 1 indicates that 't' value (3.17) of Agriculture is high than, the table value, which is significant at the level of 0.01. It shows that there is significant difference in agriculture area. The significant difference in agriculture is quite obvious. Agriculture vocation includes farming, farm management, growing crops and industries selling raw processed farm products to the consumers. The mean value of female (5.59) is less than the male (7.40). It indicates that male shows high preference in the career of agriculture as compared to female secondary students.

Commerce and Management (CM)

It is observed from table value for Commerce & Management that calculated value of 't' is 4.33 and table value is 2.60 at 0.01 level the calculated 't' value is more than the table value. It implies that there is significant difference in commerce and management area. The finding indicates that there is significant gender difference in career preference in commerce and management area. The mean value of female is (5.802) and the mean value of male is (8.127). It shows that the mean value of male is greater than the female according to their values. Male shows high preference in commerce and management area as compared to female secondary students. Commerce and Management vocation includes Accountancy, Financial Management, Banking, Stock Broking & Insurance etc.

Medical (M)

It may be observed from the table 1 that 't' value for the difference in the mean score of medical

area came out to be 0.58, which is less than from the table value. It indicates that there exists no significant difference in career preference in medical area. Both the groups show preferences in the equal area of medical. Medical vocation includes Homeopathic Doctor, Astrologist, Pathologist, Surgeon & Neuro Surgeon etc.

Defence (D)

It is further evident from table 1 that calculated 't' value (3.39) of Defence area is high than the table value. which is significant at 0.01 level, it indicates that there exists significant difference in male and female in defence area. The significant difference in male and female in defence area is quite obvious also. The mean score of female is (6.795) and the mean score of male is (8.915). It indicate that the mean value of male is greater than female. The finding indicates that there is significant gender difference in career preference in defence area. Defence Sector includes Platoon Commander, Rear Admiral, Air Marcel, Captain, Major & Wing Commander etc.

Tourism and Hospitality (TH)

It may be observed from the table 1 that 't' value for the difference in the mean score of tourism and hospitality area came out to be 1.85, which is not significant. This shows that there is no significant gender differences in tourism and hospitality as their career preference. This vocation involves income through Service, Hospitality and through attractive marketing. The tourism factor offers entry into Travel Agencies, Tour Operation, Guide Training, Publicity, Travel Promotion, Adventure Sports, and Transport Organization etc.

Law and Order (LO)

It is observed from the table 1 that 't' value for difference in the mean scores of law and order came out to be 2.98, which is significant at 0.01 level of significance. This shows that there is significant gender difference in career preferences in law and order. The mean score of female is (7.98) and the mean score of male is (10.104). It shows that the mean value of male is greater than female secondary students. Civil services and law are the career which deals with governance and justice and give the country and its people stability and confidence legal professions link the system and society. Previous researches have also shown that male opt more as compared to female career in law and order. Law and Order vocation includes Tax Lawyer, Solicitor, Notary, D.M., I.F.S., Customer Officer, Income Tax Commissioner, S.D.M., S.S.P. & District Judge etc.

Education (E)

It may be observed from the table 1 that 't' value for the difference in the mean score of education are came to be 2.042 which is significant at 0.05 level of significance. This shows that there is partial significant gender difference in career preference in education area. The mean score of female is (7.920) and the mean score of male is (9.450). It indicates that male shows high preference in education field as compare to female secondary students. Education vocation includes Professional

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Teaching, Research, Colleges, Universities, Professional Institutions, Private and Autonomous Colleges etc.

and urban secondary school students (50 boys and 50 girls in each rural and urban area). The figure 3 shows the mean score of rural and urban secondary students and figure4 shows the standard deviation of rural and urban secondary school students.

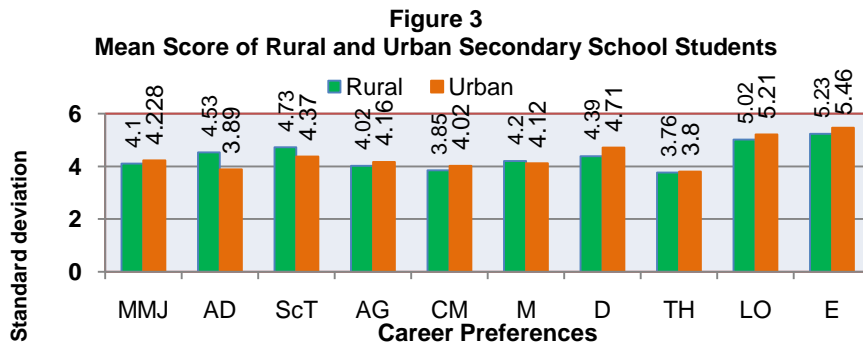
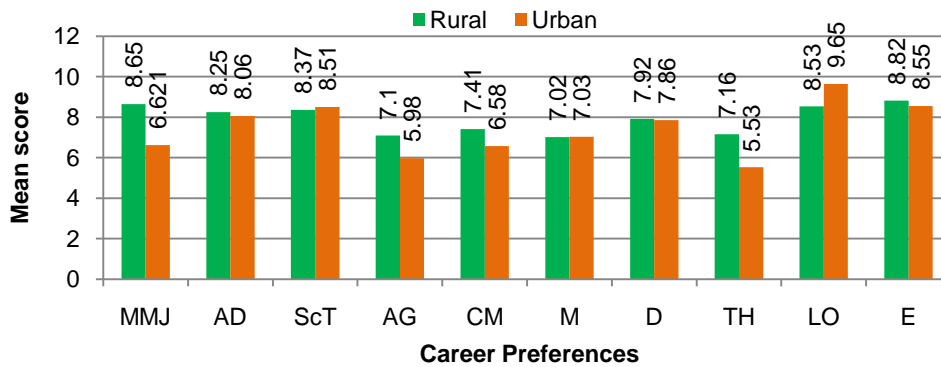
Comparison of Career Preference of Rural and Urban Secondary School Students

The table 2 depicts the significance of difference between the career preferences of rural

Table 2
Significance of Difference Between the Career Preferences of Rural and Urban Secondary School Students

Variable Career Preference Areas	Rural (N = 100)		Urban(N = 100)		df	't' Value	Level of Significance
	Mean	S.D.	Mean	S.D.			
MMJ	8.65	4.10	6.621	4.228	198	3.45	**
AD	8.25	4.53	8.06	3.89	-	0.318	NS
ScT	8.37	4.73	8.51	4.37	-	0.217	NS
AG	7.10	4.02	5.98	4.16	-	1.93	NS
CM	7.41	3.85	6.58	4.02	-	1.491	NS
M	7.02	4.2	7.03	4.12	-	0.017	NS
D	7.92	4.39	7.86	4.71	-	0.093	NS
TH	7.16	3.76	5.53	3.80	-	3.04	**
LO	8.53	5.02	9.65	5.21	-	1.54	NS
E	8.82	5.23	8.55	5.46	-	0.357	NS

*=Significance At 0.05 Level, **=Significance At 0.01 Level, NS= Not Significant, Df= Degree of Freedom



Mass Media and Journalism (MMJ)

It may be observed from table 2 that 't' value 3.45 is more than the table value, which is significant at 0.01 level of significance. This shows that there is significance difference in rural and urban area in the career preference in mass media and journalism. The mean score of rural is 8.65 and the mean score of urban is 6.62. It indicates that rural shows high career preference in mass media and journalism as compared to urban secondary students. Mass media

and journalism vocation includes Radio, T.V. Generalist, T.V. Announcer, Script Writer & Press Photographer etc.

Artistic and Designing (AD)

It is further evident from table value Artistic & designing that calculated 't' value (0.318) of artistic and designing is less than the table value which is not significant. It indicates that there is no significant difference in rural and urban in the career preferences for artistic and designing. The result indicates that

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rural and urban have similar interest in their selection of artistic and designing as the career. Artistic and Designing Vocational Includes Production Design, Graphic Design, Furniture Design, Design Articles & Interior Designing etc.

Science and Technology (ScT)

It shows that calculated 't' value (0.217) of area of science and technology is less than the table value, which is not significant. The mean score of rural is 8.37 and the mean score of urban is 8.51. It indicates that rural and urban shows similar career preference in science and technology. And there is a very mild difference is seen in the results that is may be due to the sampling & other environment factor. Science and Technology vocation includes Electronic Engineer, Chemical Engineer, Software Programmer, Agriculture Engineer & Mathematician etc.

Agriculture (AG)

As depicted in table 2 indicates that 't' value (1.93) is less than the table value. This shows that there is not significant difference between the career preference of rural and urban secondary students. It means rural and urban have similar interest in career preference of agriculture as their career preference. The selection of agriculture as their career preference is similar due to the modern techniques of farming. In today's scenario this can be seen a lot of modern equipment's are available for better farming. That's why rural and urban have similar choices in agriculture field. Agriculture vocation includes Farming, Farm Management, Food Inspector, Fishing Scientist and Rural Manager etc.

Commerce and Management (CM)

It is evident that from table value Commerce & Management that calculated value of 't' is 1.49 which is less than the table value at 0.05 level of significance at degree of freedom of 198. The mean scores of rural and urban are 7.41 and 6.58 in commerce and management area. It implies that rural and urban secondary students show mild significant difference in commerce and management field. The finding indicates that rural and urban have similar interest in the selection of commerce and management as their career preference. Commerce and Management vocation includes Accountancy, Financial Management, Banking, Stock Broking & Insurance etc.

Medical (M)

It is further shows that the obtained 't' value 0.017 came out to be non-significant at 0.05 level with degree of freedom of 198 as it is not equal to table value of 't'. It suggests that rural and urban shows similar interest in the career preference in of medical field. The finding indicate that rural and urban have similar interest in the medical area. Medical vocation includes Homeopathic Doctor, Gastrologist, Pathologist, Surgeon & Neuro Surgeon etc.

Defence (D)

It may be observed from table 2 that 't' value 0.093 of defence area is less than the table value. It means that there is no significant difference in the career preference of rural and urban in defence sector. The mean score of rural is 7.92 and the mean

score of urban is 7.86. Hence it can be stated that there is no significant difference in rural and urban secondary students in defence area. Defence Sector includes Platoon Commander, Rear Admiral, Air Marcel, Captain, Major & Wing Commander etc.

Tourism and Hospitality (TH)

It may be observed from the table 2 that 't' value 3.04 is higher than the table value. Which is significant at 0.01 level. It observes that there is significant difference in rural and urban secondary students in the field of tourism & hospitality. The tourism sector offers entry into travel agencies, tour operation, guide training, human resource development and hospitality sector jobs. This vocation involves income through Service, Hospitality and through attractive marketing. The tourism factor offers entry into Travel Agencies, Tour Operation, Guide Training, Publicity, Travel Promotion, Adventure Sports, and Transport Organization etc.

Law and Order (LO)

It is further shows that calculated 't' value (1.54) of area of law and order is less than the table value. Which is not significant at 0.05 level. It observes that there is not significant difference in the career preference law and order of rural and urban secondary students. The rural and urban shows similar career preference in career preference in the area of law and order area. Law and Order vocation includes Tax Lawyer, Solicitor, Notary, D.M., I.F.S., Customer Officer, Income Tax Commissioner, S.D.M., S.S.P. & District Judge etc.

Education (E)

Results as shown in table 2 indicates that 't' value (0.357) of career preference area of education is less than the table value. Which is not significant at the both the levels. It shows that there is not significant difference in area of education. Career preference of rural and urban secondary students. Both the group show the same career preference in education. Education vocation includes professional teaching, research, colleges, universities, professional institutions, private and autonomous colleges etc.

Conclusion

In Hypothesis No. I, there was mixed results in gender difference irrespective of the area in career preference of secondary school students. Male and female have similar career choices in the area of Mass media and Journalism, Science and technology, medical and tourism and hospitality. Male and female have significant difference in the area of Artistic and designing, Agriculture, Commerce and Management Defense, Law & Order and in the field of Education.

In Hypothesis No. II, there was significant difference in the career choices of rural and urban secondary school students irrespective of gender difference only in the field of Mass Media and Journalism and Tourism and Hospitality. Authors found no significant difference in the career choices of rural and urban in the fields of Artistic & Designing, Science and Technology, Agriculture, Commerce and Management, Medical, Defense, Law and Order and Education area.

From the result of collected data, it can be concluded by saying that there is significant difference in some areas of career choices of male and female students of rural and urban areas as well. The result of the study will be further prove helpful for parents, teachers and counselors in guiding students for the right and suitable path of career for them to brighten their future.

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