

Educational Aspirations of Muslim Minority Students of North-East Delhi at Senior Secondary Level in Relation to their Certain Background Variables



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Abstract

Educational Aspirations of students is considered a very important aspect of modern educational scenario. A lot of efforts are made by the school authorities in general and parents of the students in particular for the achievement of academic goals by the students. But these are not sufficient and ensure the success of education system but it is the level of aspirations of the students along with their certain background variables. The present study is an attempt which has been conducted on a randomly selected sample of one hundred twenty (120) Senior Secondary Level Muslim Minority students selected randomly from the North-East District of Directorate of Education, Delhi in relation to their certain background variables.

Keywords: Educational Aspirations, Minority Students and Background Variables.

Introduction

Individual and the society are considered really important and complementary to each other which lead to their level of aspirations for carrying out a particular kind of work. As far as students are concerned, their working styles and the specific nature of work significantly affects various aspects of their life and all the students have their certain creative and specific potential which also influence their choices of a particular job or vocation. Basically the level of aspiration of an individual is in fact the level of his future performance in a task familiar to him in either way.

On the basis of his previous knowledge or past experience in that familiar job, an individual decides to achieve his level of aspiration. In other words the level of aspiration of a particular individual decides a desirable goal for which an individual and all his efforts continuously strives. The level of aspiration of an individual are not alike for all kind of tasks to be performed but specifically it differs in most of the areas as per the requirement of both time and space. But one of the most important decisions made in one's of life are derived towards the act of choosing one's career.

As every person willingly makes his continuous efforts and aspiration towards his possible achievement and attainment of a particular goal in a hierarchy of problems and difficulty that he is likely to face. According to Fraser (2011), "The level of aspiration of an individual is viewed in terms of his intensive efforts ranging from most realistic to most idealistic one for the attainment of a particular goal." According to Boyd (1952), "Level of aspiration means an individual's ambition in a dynamic situation that is it is an individual's goals or expectation in regard to the goodness of his own future performance for a given task."

Review of Literature

While conducting this particular research, the researchers have come through which directly or indirectly have some consequences on the present research. Some of those researches have been presented briefly as under:

Khatab, N. (2003) conducted a study on educational aspirations of minority students in Israel at high school level from Palestinian background. The findings from the study revealed that Palestinian students were found having very high educational aspirations; and educational aspirations were not affected by their low SES and minority status. The

study further revealed that educational aspirations of students and their social capital and perceptions are found positively correlated.

Marjoribanks, K. (2005) explored the educational aspirations of Young adults in Australia. The study being a longitudinal study examined the relationships were between educational aspirations and attainment of young adults in Australia from different socio-economic backgrounds. The results obtained from the study revealed that family background and aspirations combined have a significant association with each other. But there were differences in the relationships in terms of gender and family background.

Sim, W. (2016) conducted a study on the Educational Aspirations of Saudi Arabian Youths in the light of changes being made by the Govt. in the policies for higher education in Saudi Arabia. The study highlights the changes in the higher education system of Saudi Arabia in the form of a survey in which the data was collected from 316 respondents which was analyzed by using SPSS leading to the findings that strong educational aspirations of young Saudis who get motivated by their meritocratic way of thinking.

Bashir, L. & Kaur, R. (2017) conducted a study with a purpose of exploring the educational aspirations students at secondary school level in relation to their school environment in relation to certain background variables on a sample of 400 students from the schools of Kashmir division. The result from the study revealed no significant difference between rural and urban secondary school students in terms of their educational aspirations but there exists significant difference between rural and urban secondary school students in their school environment.

Need and Significance of the Study

There are various complexities existing in modern life that continuously affects every sphere of human life including their educational and vocational aspects. At present in modern scenario a school going student at senior secondary level is confronted with a variety of challenges in the form of varied courses out of which he or she has to make a choice. Sometimes due to the lack of proper guidance and counselling some students are unable to make proper vocational and educational choices according to his interest and personality. Thus the young students have to face a lot of problems in order to make a proper career choice after the completion of their study. He knocks every door in search of a job irrespective of suitability and unsuitability of the job, which leads to the increased level of frustration and aggression he has to confront and sometimes resulting into a state of mental conflicts or high tension in the individual. Various reports conducted by Govt. of India and various studies conducted in this prominent area have revealed that Muslim Minority students belongs to this particular group who doesn't meet the right guidance as per their requirement in time when it is extremely needed. In this study the researchers have tried to find out the Level of Educational Aspirations of Muslim Minority Students

of North-East Delhi at Senior Secondary Level in relation to their Certain Background Variables.

Title of the Study

The present study has been titled as, "Educational Aspirations of Muslim Minority Students of North-East Delhi at Senior Secondary Level in Relation to their Certain Background Variables."

Operational Definition (s) of the Terms and Concepts Used

For the present study the following variables have been used which have been defined as under:

Educational Aspiration

Educational Aspiration is individual student's expectation or ambition from their own educational efforts being initiated by themselves and through school authorities with respect to the suitability and probability of being successful of his own future educational performance for a particular goal.

Background Variables

For the present study the term background variables means the variables associated with the Muslim Minority Senior-secondary Level students i.e. their Gender, Stream of Study, Class of Study and Socio-economic Status.

Objectives of the Study

The following study has been conducted in order to fulfill the following objectives.

1. To find out the level of Educational Aspiration of Muslim Minority Students at Senior Secondary Level in relation to their background variables.
2. To study and compare the level of Educational Aspiration of Muslim Minority Students at Senior Secondary Level in relation to their background variables.

Hypotheses of the Study

The following hypotheses have been tested using suitable statistical techniques.

1. There is no significant difference between the Level of Educational Aspirations of Muslim Minority students at secondary level in relation to their Gender.
2. There is no significant difference between the Level of Educational Aspirations of Muslim Minority students at secondary level in relation to their Stream of Study.
3. There is no significant difference between the Level of Educational Aspirations of Muslim Minority students at secondary level in relation to their Class of study.
4. There is no significant difference between the Level of Educational Aspirations of Muslim Minority students at secondary level in relation to the socio-economic status of their parents.

Methodology

The present study is a descriptive survey research which has been conducted on randomly selected sample of One Hundred Twenty (120) Muslim Minority Students studying in the schools of North-East Delhi.

Population

The population for the present study comprises of all the senior secondary level students

which are enrolled in class XIth and XIIth in the Govt. and Govt.-aided schools of Directorate of Education, North-East District of Delhi.

Sample

The sample for the present study has been selected using Cluster Random Sampling Technique of probability sampling as under:

**Selection of Six Schools (03 Girls and 03 Boys)*
Selection of Twenty Students (20) from each school = 20*06 =120 Students.**

The detailed description of the sample has been given in the **Table No. 1** as under:

Table No. 1: Description of the Sample

S. No.	Gender	No. of Students	Further Description (s)
1.	Male	30 XI Class	15 Science & 15 Non-science Students
		30 XII Class	15 Science & 15 Non-science Students
2.	Female	30 XI Class	15 Science & 15 Non-science Students
		30 XII Class	15 Science & 15 Non-science Students
Total Students			120 (60 Science and 60 Non-science)

Tools Used

An information blank for exploring the background variables of the Minority students and a questionnaire prepared by the investigator himself, was used for finding their level of Educational Aspiration and other useful information. The scale contains 30 items which has to be mark by the students on a five-point scale ranging from Strongly Agree to Strongly Disagree. The Reliability of the scale was ascertained by using test-retest method and it was found to be 0.83 and the content validity of the test was ensured with the help of Expert opinion and it was found to be satisfactory.

Statistical Techniques Used

The statistical techniques like Mean, Standard Deviation, t-test and ANOVA have been used for analyzing the data and getting desirable information.

Findings from the Study

After analysis of data the findings from the study can be summarized as under:

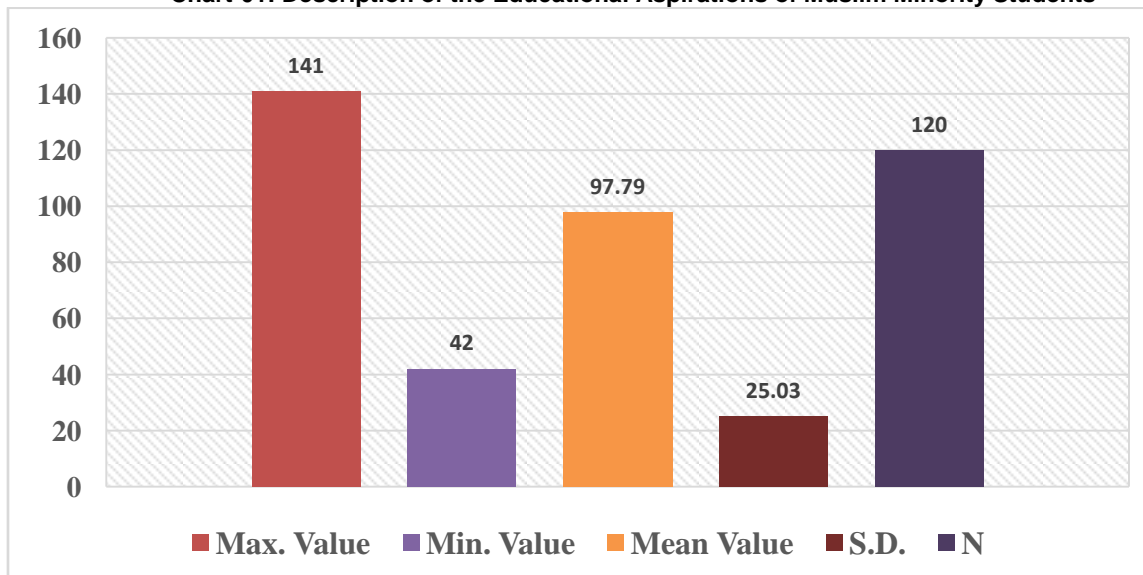
Section-A: Description of the Educational Aspirations of Muslim Minority Students

This section of the analysis presents a brief description of the basic statistics about the Educational Aspirations of the Muslim Minority students at senior secondary level.

Table-02: Description of Educational Aspirations of Muslim Minority Students

Max. Value	Min. Value	Mean Value	S.D.	N
141	42	97.79	25.03	120

Chart-01: Description of the Educational Aspirations of Muslim Minority Students



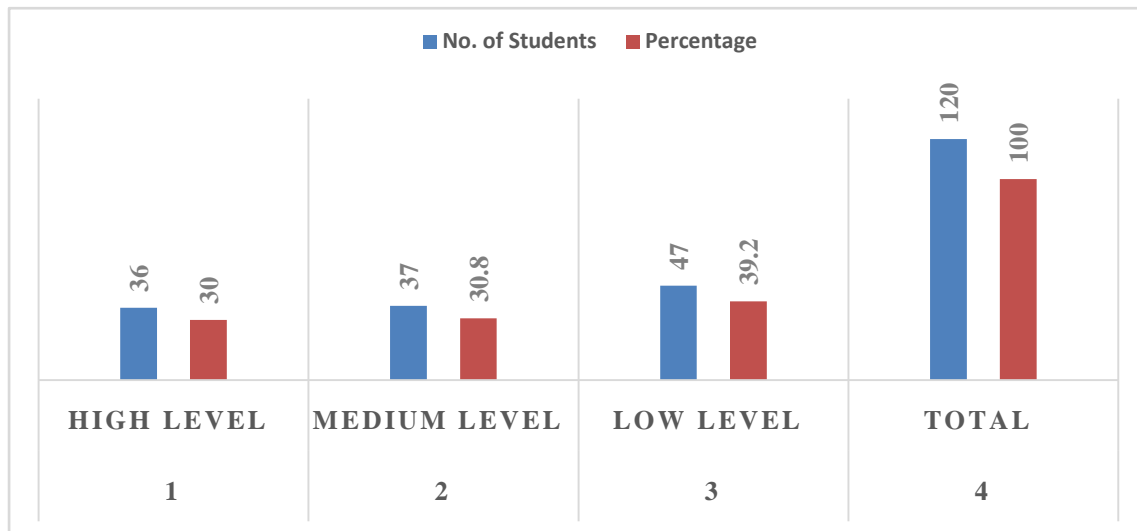
The Table No. 2 and its associated Chart No. 01 briefly presents the basic statistical analysis which shows that Maximum Value of Educational Aspiration of Muslim Minority Students is 141 and its

corresponding Minimum Value is 42. The Mean value of Educational Aspiration of 120 students is 97.79 with a Standard Deviation of 25.03.

Table-03: Description of the Levels of Educational Aspirations of Muslim Minority Students

S. No.	Level of Educational Aspirations	No. of Students	Percentage
1.	High Level (Above M+ S.D.)	36	30.00
2.	Medium Level (M- S.D. to M+ S.D.)	37	30.80
3.	Low Level (Below M- S.D.)	47	39.20
4.	Total	120	100.00

Chart-02: Showing the Levels of Educational Aspirations of Muslim Minority Students



The Table No. 03 and its associated Chart No. 02 presents the various levels of Educational Aspirations of Muslim Minority students at senior secondary level. Three levels of Educational Aspirations were formed i.e. High Level, Medium Level and Low Level. Out of 120 Muslim Minority

students, 36 i.e. 30% belongs to High Level, 37 i.e. 30.8% belongs to Medium Level and the rest 47 i.e. 39.20 belongs to Low Level. Which clearly shows that most of the Muslim Minority Students possess low level of Educational Aspiration.

Table-04: Comparisons of Educational Aspirations of Muslim Minority Students in terms of their Gender, Stream of Study and Class of Study

S. No.	Variable (s)	Mean Value	S.D.	t-value	df	Sig.
1.	Male (60)	88.72	22.73	4.24	118	0.00**
	Female (60)	106.87	24.06			
2.	XIIth (60)	103.52	24.18	2.59	118	0.00**
	XIth (60)	92.07	24.74			
3.	Science (60)	103.82	21.91	2.61	118	0.00**
	Non-science (60)	91.77	27.39			

** Significant at 0.01 Level

The Table No. 03 presents a brief description of the difference between Mean Levels of Educational Aspirations Muslim Minority students at Senior Secondary Level in terms of their Gender, Class of Study and Stream of Study.

1. At S. No. 1 of the above table i.e. in the context of the Gender the calculated t-value with a degree of freedom 118 is 4.24 which is significant at 0.01 level of significance. This leads to the rejection of our Null Hypothesis i.e. there is no significant difference between the Level of Educational Aspirations of Muslim Minority students at secondary level in relation to their Gender. We can safely conclude that the Level Educational Aspiration of Female Muslim Minority students is better than their Male Counterparts.

2. At S. No. 2 of the above table i.e. in the context of the Class of Study the calculated t-value with a degree of freedom 118 is 2.59 which is significant at 0.01 level of significance. This leads to the rejection of our Null Hypothesis i.e. there is no significant difference between the Level of Level of Educational Aspirations of Muslim Minority students at senior secondary level in relation to their Class of Study. We can safely conclude that the Level Educational Aspiration of XIIth Class Muslim Minority students is better than XIth Class students.

3. At S. No. 3 of the above table i.e. in the context of Stream of study the calculated t-value with a degree of freedom 118 is 2.61 which is significant at 0.01 level of significance. This leads to the

rejection of our Null Hypothesis i.e. there is no significant difference between the Level of Educational Aspirations of Muslim Minority students at secondary level in relation to their

Stream of Study. We can safely conclude that the Level Educational Aspiration of Science Stream Muslim Minority students is better than Non-science stream students.

Table-04: Comparisons of Educational Aspirations of Muslim Minority Students in terms of the Socio-economic Status of their Parents

Educational Aspiration	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	2879.712	2	1439.856	2.351	0.10 ^{NS}
Within Groups	71648.080	117	612.377		
Total	74527.792	119			

NS: Not significant at any level

The Table No. 4 provides a brief description of the Significance of difference between mean levels of Educational Aspirations of Muslim Minority students in relation to the socio-economic status of their parents. On the basis of the socioeconomic status three groups were formed i.e. high, medium and low. For this one way ANOVA was applied. The calculated value of 'F' with a degree of freedom (2,117) was found to be 2.35., which is not significant even at 0.05 level of significance. This leads to the non-rejection or acceptance of our Null Hypothesis i.e. there is no significant difference between the Level of Educational Aspirations of Muslim Minority students at secondary level in relation to the Socio-economic status of their parents.

Conclusion

On the basis of the findings revealed from the analysis of data, it can be concluded that Level of the Educational Aspirations of Muslim Minority Students is of Low-level. It was also revealed that the Level of Educational Aspirations of Muslim Minority students largely differs in the context of their gender, stream of study and their class of study. But it was also revealed that the socio-economic status of their parents doesn't have any impact on their level of Educational Aspirations. Their parents are also not very ambitious about the education of their wards. Also the factors influencing the Educational aspirations of students studying in both the streams differ significantly from each other. Thus it is desirable for the parents to motivate their Male wards in a more effective and concentrated manner since their female wards have better level of Educational Aspirations.

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