

# Issues of Adjustment Among Ladakhi Students Pursuing Higher Education In Jammu Region of J & K State-a Study. Investigator

## Abstract

Ladakh is a region of India in the state of J&K that lies between the "Kunium" mountain range in the north and the main great Himalayas to the south, inhabited by people of Indo Aryan and Tibetan descent. It is one of the most sparsely populated regions in J&K. The Ladakh being a remote region, current facilities for undertaking Higher Education are comparatively limited and relatively poor. The facilities for higher studies at the educational institutions in Ladakh are often negligible which compel the students to pursue their higher studies out of Ladakh. Owing to the distance and affordability factors, Ladakhi students opt to study either at Jammu, Srinagar, Delhi, Chandigarh and other Indian states. Present study was conducted with the objectives to study current status, to understand various problems and to suggest remedial measures to overcome these problems faced target population for their fullest development. Sample of 150 Ladakhi students selected purposefully from Govt. Colleges of Jammu city (B.A, B.COM, and B.SC) and various departments of Jammu University for current study. It is found in this study that majority of Ladakhi student's faces number of problems regarding adjustment in Jammu, like expensive accommodation, home sickness, health issues due to change in climatic conditions, expensive higher education in Jammu, discriminatory attitude of locals, language barrier while having conversation with locals etc. But inspite of these problems these students are continuously coming down to Jammu for studies (both general and professional courses)

**Keywords** : Issues, Adjustment, Ladakhi students and higher Education.

## Introduction

According to Crow and Crow (1956) "An individual's adjustment is adequate, wholesome or healthful to the extent that he has established harmonious relationship between himself and to conditions, situations and persons who comprise his physical and social environment." The dictionary meaning of the word 'Adjustment' is to fit, make suitable adapt, arrange, modify, harmonize or make correspondent. Thus, when we make an adjustment between two things, we adapt or modify one or both of them to correspond to each other. In some situations, one of the factors may not be changeable and so the one which is, has to be modified in some way to suit the other.

## Migration

The term migration has been understood in various ways by different scholars. Literally, it means the settlement or shifting of individual or a group of people from one place to another, more or less permanently. Donald defines migration as a rationally planned action which is the result of conscious decision taken after consideration or calculation of the advantages and disadvantages of moving and staying (Donald, 1979). Chauhan regards migration as "change of residence from one geographical area to another for a more than certain specified period of time (one year or more) (Chauhan, 1966). According to Everett Lee "Migration is defined broadly as a permanent or semi-permanent change of residence. No restriction is placed upon the distance of the move or upon the voluntary or involuntary nature of the act and no distinction is made between external and internal migration" (Everett, 1975).

## Educational Overview of J&K State

In 1970, the State Govt. of J&K established its own education board and university. Education in state is divided into Elementary, Secondary and Higher levels. J&K follows 10+2 pattern for education of children. This is handled by Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education (JKBOSE). Private and Public schools are recognized by the



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board to impart education to students. Board exams are conducted for students in class VIII, X & XII. In addition, there are Kendriya Vidyalayas run by the Govt. Of India) and Indian Army Schools that impart Secondary School Education. These schools follow the “Central Board of Secondary Education” pattern (CBSE).

Notable Higher Education or research institutes in J&K included Sher-e-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences (Soura Srinagar), Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University (Katra), National Institute of Technology, (Srinagar) Govt. College of Engineering & Technology (Jammu), Govt. Medical College (Jammu) etc.

**Profile of Ladakh**

Ladakh is the highest plateau in the state of Jammu and Kashmir, it is over 3000m (9800ft) above sea level. It spans the Himalayan and Karakoram mountain ranges and the upper Indus River Valley. Like the land itself the people of Ladakh are generally quite different from those of the rest of India. The faces and physique of the Ladakhis and the clothes they wear are more akin to those of Tibet and Central Asia than of Indian. The original population may have been dards, an Indo Aryan race down from the Indus and the Gilgit area. About 90% of them depend on agriculture for their livelihood. Barley, wheat, buckwheat, peas, and beans are the main agriculture products. Apples and apricots are grown in warmer regions of low altitude. Another occupation of the people is sheep-rearing. Ladakhi, Tibetan, Urdu, Kashmiri and Baltiare are mostly spoken language of the region. At present there are four degree colleges in Ladakh region i.e. GDC Leh (1994), GDC Nobra (2011), GDC Kargil (1995), and GDC Zanskar (2011) affiliated to Kashmir University. The Govt. of J&K also announced to set up two separate campuses of Kashmir University each in both districts of the region.

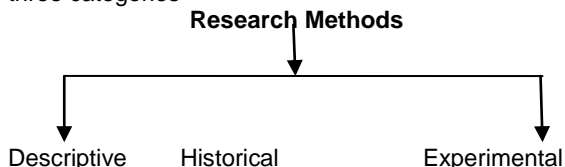
**Objectives of the Study**

Following are the objectives of the study:

1. To study the status of the Ladakhi students pursuing higher education in Jammu region of J&K state.
2. To study the various issues/problems faced by Ladakhi students pursuing higher education in Jammu.
3. To suggest the remedial measures to overcome the problems faced by Ladakhi students pursuing higher education in Jammu.

**Method**

The research methods are generally classified in three categories



In the present study the researcher used the descriptive method of research. Descriptive research studies are designed to obtain persistent and precise information concerning the current status of a phenomenon and wherever possible to draw valid general conclusion from the facts discovered.

**Tool Used**

For the purpose of data collection, a structured “Questionnaire” was standardized by the investigator.

**Sampling**

In the present study the researcher selected 150 Ladakhi students purposively. This sample of 150 Ladakhi students was selected from B.A., B.Sc., and B.Com. Colleges of Jammu and M.A., M.Sc. departments of University of Jammu.

**Sample Profile**

| S. No. | Name of the College              | No of Individuals |
|--------|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1      | GCW Prade                        | 48                |
| 2      | GWC Gandhinagar                  | 30                |
| 3      | M.A.M P.G. College               | 18                |
| 4      | G.G.M Science College            | 12                |
| 5      | SPMR commerce college            | 5                 |
| 6      | Department of Distance Education | 15                |
| 7      | Govt. Engineering college Jammu  | 3                 |
| 8      | Department of Political science  | 3                 |
| 9      | Department of History            | 3                 |
| 10     | Department of English            | 2                 |
| 11     | Department Geography             | 2                 |
| 12     | Department of Physics            | 2                 |
| 13     | Department of Geology            | 2                 |
| 14     | Department of Education          | 2                 |
| 15     | Department of Buddhist studies   | 4                 |
|        | Total                            | 150               |

**Statistical Techniques Employed**

In the present study, the investigator has used very simple statistical technique for analysis of data which is called calculation of frequencies. In this procedure the investigator marked tallies against each item in the questionnaire so as to work out frequencies for both negative as well positive responses. The Calculation of tallies enabled the investigator to work out with the frequencies of positive and negative responses (Yes/No) to be divided by the total sample and then multiplied it by 100.

$$\text{Percentage} = \frac{\text{No. of responses}}{\text{Total No of samples}} \times 100$$

**Findings**

following are the findings of present study:

1. It has been found that 56 percent of the Ladakhi students pursuing higher education in Jammu do not feel alien in Jammu.
2. It has been found that 82.67 percent of the Ladakhi students pursuing higher education in Jammu think that Ladakh is cut off from two other regions of J&K State
3. It has been found that 82.67 percent of the Ladakhi students pursuing higher education in Jammu find hardships/difficulties in living away from their parent/ relatives.
4. It has been found that 89.33 percent of the Ladakhi students pursuing higher education in Jammu face difficulties in getting LPG connection in Jammu
5. It has been found that 66.67 percent of the Ladakhi students pursuing higher education in Jammu agree that the locals gaze at them as if they are strangers.

6. It has been found that 54.67 percent of the Ladakhi students pursuing higher education in Jammu had unpleasant experiences with locals
7. Majority of Ladakhi students (80.67 percent) pursuing higher education in Jammu always feared that they may not be able to reach home in time in case they are needed there urgently.
8. It has been found that 64 percent of the Ladakhi students pursuing higher education in Jammu do not have any problem related to food in Jammu.
9. Majority of Ladakhi students (82 percent) pursuing higher education in Jammu face difficulties related to accommodation in Jammu.
10. It has been found that 60.67 percent of the Ladakhi students pursuing higher education in Jammu experienced many health related issues due to change in climate conditions.
11. Majority of Ladakhi students (88.67 percent) pursuing higher education in Jammu want separate university for Ladakh region.
12. It has been found that 60.67 percent of the Ladakhi students pursuing higher education in Jammu are in favour of giving the status of union territory to Ladakh.
13. Majority of Ladakhi students (84.67 percent) pursuing higher education in Jammu think that there are more avenues of higher education in Jammu than in Ladakh.
14. It has been found that 78 percent of the Ladakhi students pursuing higher education in Jammu face financial hardships in Jammu.
15. It has been found that 78 percent of the Ladakhi students pursuing higher education in Jammu think that their parents face hardships to bear the expenses of their studies outside Ladakh.
16. It has been found that 64 percent of respondents think that higher education is very expensive in Jammu.
17. It has been found that 65.33 percent of Ladakhi students pursuing higher education in Jammu believe that food and accommodation is more costly than education in Jammu.
18. It has been found that 58 percent of respondents observe silence in social conversation in Jammu
19. It has been found that 53.33 percent of Ladakhi students pursuing higher education in Jammu do not find language as a barrier while conversing with locals.
20. It has been found that 60.67 percent of Ladakhi students pursuing higher education in Jammu face difficulties in mixing up with locals.
21. It has been found that 52 percent of Ladakhi students pursuing higher education in Jammu do not like the living style of Jammu people.
22. It has been found that 50.67 percent of Ladakhi students pursuing higher education in Jammu are not getting proper environment for worship in Jammu.
23. It has been found that 65.33 percent of Ladakhi students pursuing higher education in Jammu celebrate their festivals in Jammu in the same way, as they wish to.

24. It has been found that 66.67 percent of Ladakhi students pursuing higher education in Jammu believe that quality of higher education offered by Jammu University is satisfactory.
25. It has been found that 62 percent of Ladakhi students pursuing higher education in Jammu believe that current facilities for undertaking higher education are limited in Ladakh.
26. It has been found that 63.33 percent of Ladakhi students pursuing higher education in Jammu think that the courses offered by Jammu University are relevant in present time.
27. It has been found that 67.33 percent of Ladakhi students pursuing higher education in Jammu think that the state government is continuously increasing the pool of educated unemployed youth in state.
28. Majority of Ladakhi students (98.66 percent) pursuing higher education in Jammu think that University of Jammu should introduce more and more vocational and professional courses.

#### **Suggestions**

1. The state government should construct more hostels in Jammu to accommodate Ladakhi students. So, that they may not face accommodation related problems anymore.
2. The University of Jammu should reserve more than one seat for Ladakhi students in every department offering P.G. courses. So, that they need not to go outside J&K for higher studies.
3. Two campuses of Kashmir University as promised by state Govt. in Leh and Kargil should be made functional as soon as possible. So, that they can complete their higher studies at their home town.
4. Subsidized LPG connections should be made available for Ladakhi students in Jammu. So that they can lead smooth life here in Jammu.
5. Frequent Academic, vocational and personal guidance should be given to Ladakhi students for their better adjustment .
6. State government should provide scholarship to the Ladakhi students who are pursuing higher studies outside Ladakh belongs from poor socio-economic background. So that their parents may not be overburdened.
7. University of Jammu should introduce free part time language learning classes, where Ladakhi students must be taught languages like Hindi and Urdu. So, that they may not face semantic barrier while conversation with locals.
8. Locals should show Democratic, cooperative, and friendly attitude towards Ladakhi students. So, that they can have homely atmosphere in Jammu and do not become home sick.

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