Abstract

In an emerging economy like India, education is developing day by day. But due to various factors, the gap between academic success and failure is increasing too. Students try to get into the best possible colleges and parents invest a major part of their resources to ensure their success. But still, it is found that the percentage of students getting successful results in academics is decreasing. The results not only affect the students, parents, education institutes but also affect the status of our country and its human resource development. This study is an attempt to collate literature in this area and identify and analyze the factors affecting students' academic success, to study the work done till now, observe the factors involved from a fresh perspective and to suggest improvement which can be taken up by graduate private unaided colleges to ensure students' success.

Introduction

Though academic education is not a parameter for success but still education is a key to a good productive life. It improves the value and excellence of one's life as well. Individuals who gain success in academics and acquire high professional qualifications have more options and are more inclined to be employed, be stable in future, have more ways to be successful than those with less academic qualification. Educated persons tend to attract jobs with higher salaries invest their earnings wisely and are less dependent on others. They are more inclined to follow rules and regulations and are less prone towards criminal activities. They enjoy a happy life and also help others. Academically successful people easily adapt with changing technologies as they have the habit to learn and thus with changing times they adjust and get demanding occupations of the future. Therefore it becomes very important to study and research the various factors affecting Students' academic success. The biggest indicator of development for any country is quality education. Only well educated society can pave way to brighter and progressive future. With rapidly increasing population in India, responsibility of colleges is increasing day by day.

Key words explained:

Factors: One of the elements contributing to a particular result or situation (http://www.dictionary.com). In this situation, result is academic success and elements which are contributing towards it are attendance of teachers as well as student, quality of teacher as well as student, social economic status of student as well as teacher, age, gender, demographic position of students, school etc.

Academic Success: Academic achievement or performance which is assessed by the student by facing exams.

Background Of Research:

Education System has evolved in various aspects since ancient times. In olden period education was more related to holy knowledge related to spiritual books and god. It was imparted according to caste and even discriminated on the basis of gender. But after independence it progressed gradually and now various levels like primary, secondary and higher education are a part of the educational system.

Education providers that came to the fore were public or private. Public institutes ran fully through government aid whereas private ran either through partial support from the government (aided) or fully self funded (unaided). Private unaided colleges soon mushroomed with increase in demand and as government had limited resources.
Current Status of higher education in India

At present in India, there are nearly 864 Universities, 40,026 Colleges and 11,669 stand-alone institutions. Total enrolment in higher education has been estimated to be 35.7 million, with 19.0 million boys and 16.7 million girls. Girls constitute 46.8% of the total enrolment. The B.A., B.Com and B.Sc courses are pursued by the maximum number of students when it comes to higher education (http://aishe.nic.in/).

Need And Justification Of The Study

The analysis of the following graphs and tables justifies the need to analyze the factors affecting student's academic success in private unaided under-graduate colleges of Uttar Pradesh.

GRAPH 1.1 (SOURCE: AISHE)

**Number Of Colleges And Eligible Population State Wise**

The above graph taken from AISHE (All India Survey for Higher Education (AISHE) for the year 2016-17) shows that Uttar Pradesh has the highest number of colleges and highest number of eligible population (18-23 years) in the top ten states, so Uttar Pradesh has been taken selected for study (http://aishe.nic.in/).

GRAPH 1.2 (SOURCE: AISHE-2016-17)

**Management Wise Distribution Of Colleges In India**

The above graph taken from AISHE (All India Survey for Higher Education for the year 2016-17) shows that Private Unaided Colleges are the highest when management wise distribution Of
college is viewed so Private Un-aided colleges of Uttar Pradesh are covered in this research (http://aishe.nic.in/).

![student enrolment by levels in india]

**GRAPH 1.3 (SOURCE: AISHE 2016-17)**

**Student Enrolment By Levels In India**

The above graph taken from AISHE (All India Survey for Higher Education for the year 2016-17) Shows that Students enrolment in Under Graduate Colleges is the highest so research covers Under-graduate students of private unaided colleges of Uttar Pradesh (http://aishe.nic.in/).

![student enrolment-passing data from 2011-12 to 2016-17 in uttar pradesh]

**TABLE 1.1 (SOURCE: AISHE)**

Student Enrolment-Passing Data

From 2011-12 to 2016-17 in uttar pradesh

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>B.A</th>
<th>B.COM</th>
<th>B.SC</th>
<th>TOTAL NO. OF STUDENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2011-12</td>
<td>60.46</td>
<td>24.65</td>
<td>21.02</td>
<td>106.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012-13</td>
<td>20.76</td>
<td>8.03</td>
<td>6.75</td>
<td>35.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013-14</td>
<td>75.11</td>
<td>28.86</td>
<td>25.37</td>
<td>129.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014-15</td>
<td>23.26</td>
<td>9.15</td>
<td>8.03</td>
<td>40.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015-16</td>
<td>85.97</td>
<td>32.61</td>
<td>31.83</td>
<td>150.41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016-17</td>
<td>21.04</td>
<td>8.09</td>
<td>7.55</td>
<td>36.68</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The above data taken from AISHE (All India Survey For Higher Education for the year 2015-16) (http://aishe.nic.in/) shows students enrolled in top graduate courses and students passing course wise in respective academic year. But as demonstrated in the Table 1.1 that number of students enrolled increased by 73.36% but students clearing these courses just increased by 5.75%. This clearly
indicates students failure to perform academically also it shows nothing much has been done to resolve the problem.

**Objectives Of Research**
This study is an attempt to explore
1. The factors affecting student academic success in private unaided graduate colleges of Uttar Pradesh.
2. How modifications can be incorporated by these institutions to improve Student’s Academic Success.

**Review of Literature**
To acknowledge and evaluate the affect of various factors affecting student academics a lot of studies have been done in various centers of learning. The identified factors are discussed below:

1. **The Problem Of Multiplicity Of Factors**
   Quality in performance of students is affected by a range of factors (Waters & Marzano, 2000). Various variables have to be kept in mind while acknowledging the factors influencing success in academics. Acknowledging the most impacting factor for successful academics is a **complicated and challenging job**. Students of schools or colleges come from variety of backgrounds. This multiplicity is very extensive and complicated in context to extensive and varied culture of India. Keeping in mind the diversities, various researches has been conducted to inspect the affect of different elements on the student and how these elements make a difference in the performance of students.

   Students educational success and their performance learning is affected by various factors including age, gender, guardian/father socio-economic status, students schooling, teaching faculty, students residential area, tuition trend, medium of instructions followed in schools, hours given for studies daily and whether the student is a day scholar or lives in accommodation as hostler.

2. **Impact Of Social Status Of Parents**
   Graetz (1995) suggested “A student educational success is contingent heavily on social status of student’s parents/guardians in the society.” Considine and Zappala (2002) too pointed that income of **parents and their social status affects** the examination results positively. Graetz (1995) too studied socio-economic status of the parents and its affect on students and proved that background of a student whether it is social or economic has a great impact on student’s academic performance. He also indicated main cause of education imbalance is the imbalanced socio economic society. Considine and Zappala (2002) too agreed on the views of Graetz (1995), they conducted a study on the influence of economic and social disadvantage and its impact on academic results. It also showed that parents or guardians that have social, economical and educational advantage definitely achieve higher success level in life. They also tried to prove that socially and economically sound parents provide sufficient emotional and psychological back up to their children by giving them good learning and educational environment that instill confidence and improves ability needed for success. Giving opposed point of view, Pedrosa et.al (2006) supported that students who are socially and economically poorer perform better those who are well off. Study conducted by Beblo and Lauer (2004) also pointed that labor market status and parents' income has an insignificant impact on education of a children. These conflicting results raise a question whether economic and social factors influence academic success or not?

3. **Impact Of High Income**
   Thorough research done by Agus and Makhbul (2002) showed that students with **high income of family** have better results than low family income students.

4. **Impact Of Income On Motivation**
   Checchi (2000) also proved that **motivation of a student is affected by the income of the family**, better family income student perform better, high income parents influence this affect by
providing more resources which can improve the studies or improve the environment for the education. Once the resources are provided students too tend to study to fulfill parent’s expectations. Through his research he proved that children from economically resourceful families perform better than those which are not economically well off.

5. Impact Of Parents Education And Guidance

Guidance is an important component through which a student is advised how to progress in his study and how to make schedules. Direction also affects its academic accomplishment. Those students who are properly shown way or directed by their guardians or parents have performed in the exams better. Singh et. al (2016) proved positive and significant impact of, communication skills, learning facilities and proper and correct guidance from parents on students performance in academics. Parent’s social and economic status, also includes parents education status. “Social and economical status of student is generally determined by combining parents’ qualification, occupation and income standard” (Jeynes, 2002). Many research works done on achievement in academics, surprisingly prove the same. Krashen (2013) studied that educated parents communicate well with their children guide them better in their homework, guide better in school activities and also in the information being taught at school. They better help their children in school work and also actively participate in activities of school. Ch, A. H. (2006) stated that the direction from the educator also affects student’s performance. The educators, their guidance and the guardians are related to the student’s performance in some way. Hijazi, S. T., & Naqvi, S. M. M. (2006) in their paper proved impact of mother’s education more than father’s education. As fathers are mostly out for work and always lack time.

6. Cumulative Affect Of Income And Environment

Escarce (2003) is his study found that income not only affects academic opportunities attainable to children but greatly affects their health too. He also proved that poor quality neighborhood gives rise to criminal activities, usage of drugs, smoking, sexual abuse all these adversely affects the students health. All these factors cumulate to affect student’s performance.

7. Impact Of Students Perception

Noble et. al (2006), found that perceptions of students adapting strategies to their academic activities, and background reasons (for example direction from parents, family income, parents level of education and negative circumstances at home) were indirectly influencing the scores, while studying academics in secondary school.

8. Impact Of School’s Grade

Beaumont-Walters, Y., & Soyibo, K. (2001) indicated that performance of a student is affected by social and economic background like, school type, grade level and location of a school. Sentamu (2003) agreed with the principle that quality of school impacts academic performance and educational performance of students. Elite schools students are expected to perform better as they are provided with best resources and facilities. Some researchers also agree to the fact that ownership of school and monetary fund available for resources in schools definitely influence the students success rate.

9. Impact Of Teachers’ Competency

Raychauduri et al. (2011) studied on Socio economic variables like, family salary, class participation and ratio of teachers in comparison to students, presence of competent teachers in school, parents’ education, distance of school and even students gender affect the performance of students. He found in his research that trained teachers affect student’s performance positively.

10. Impact Of Peer Influence

Numerous studies have also been done on the affect of peer influence on performance of a student (Gonzales et. al., 1996; Goethals, 2001). Hanushek et. al, (2002) asserted that peer influence too has impactful affects. Students’ average grade point was positively associated with peer
influence. Researches showed that students getting peer attention have more chances of solving qualitative problems. Rao and Di Carlo (2000) found that peer teaching also motivates student’s participation. Rangvid, B. S. (2003) pointed that mixing skills affect positively weak students but results were found negative for brilliant students.

11. Impact Of Student’s Group Type

Goethals (2001) pointed that group of homogeneous students perform better than heterogeneous group of students. Al-Otaibi (1996) proved in his study that gender affects student’s performance and female students perform better than male students.

12. Impact Of Student Engagement

Student engagement is being stated as the participation level of students and inherent interest of a student in college (Newmann, 1992). Behaviours (such as effort, persistence, attention) and attitudes (such as positive learning values, interest, pride in success and motivation) shows students engagement in college (Connell & Wellborn, 1991). Connell and Wellborn points that students engaged in outside and inside activities of the classroom, tends to be successful and this is also proved by Dowson and McInerney (2001). Kirsch et al, 2003 stated in his study that engaged students enjoy learning activities, learn and retain more than compared to those students who are not so engaged and they are more successful too.

13. Impact Of Faulty Study Practices

Kochhar (2000) highlighted the problems like faulty study practice, imperfect methods of learning and lack of correlation among achievement and talent.


One of the most prominent factor that affects students academic success is the authority of students in English. Harb and El-Shaarawi (2007) found that English is one of the most prominent factor affecting students grades. Language classrooms increases confidence among students. They like using new language to discuss, to communicate, and explore new ways of conveying thoughts and meanings (William & Burden, 1997).

15. Impact Of Student’s Previous Knowledge

Meece (1991) throws light that when classroom instructions are related to students’ previous existing knowledge and experiences from his actual life the learning session becomes more interesting and enjoyable which improves student learning and help in achieving better results in examination. As per Minnesota (2007) The academic result of students in graduation affects the education performance of students at higher education levels too. Miller and Birch (2007) studied the views of many educationists and researchers. They studied the link between the results of high school and university. This study proved a positive link between the previous education background of the student and academic success of student in future. Staffolani and Bratti, (2002) observed that if the student has performed better in previous classes it is an indicator that he will perform in the same manner in his future academics. Ramadan & Quraan, (1994) too supported the affect of high school grades on higher education.

Reddy and Talcott (2006) seems to disagree that academic performance in future is affected by preceding performances. In their study on the relation between achievement at university level and previous academic performance graduate level scores did not affected results at university level. Applegate & Daly (2006) in his case study from the University of Canberra pointed that previous grades affects students future performances.

16. Impact Of Working In Groups

Cohen (1994) too braced this finding that when students work in together in group rather than alone they tend to learn more and improve their performance.
17. Impact Of Study Hours At Home

Ali, Set al (2013) in their study of Islamia University investigated the factors affecting academic performance of graduate students. Variables taken were the performance in academics (student’s grades/marks) as a dependent variable and the elements affecting it as independent variables. Study revealed that student’s age, status of student socially and economically, daily study hours and father/guardian contribution do contribute to the performance of graduate students academically. A linear model was also proposed to upgrade the performance of graduate students at University level academically.

18. Impact Of Attendance

Kirby and McElroy (2003) studied relationship between attendance of classes and exam performance of first year economics students in a sample of 368, he found that attendance has a positive effect on grades and working hours and travel time taken by the student are the main factors determining class attendance, but being late has a low marginal affect on grade. Attendance has not much prominent affect on performance in an introductory statistics course taken sample size of 167 (Rodgers (2001).

19. Impact Of Student-Teacher Relationship

Student teacher relationship have evolved with time in Indian Culture. In ancient times teacher or Guru was not just for transmitting knowledge but it influenced greatly the life and character of a student. He was the teacher, a father, a mother, a friend, a counselor, a role model and a spiritual guide with changing time, teacher student relationship has lost its aura and respect towards teachers has deteriorated. But still we cannot ignore the fact that Student-Teacher Relationship affects Students’ Academic Success.

Romer (1993) is one of the few authors to throw light on the relationship between student attendance and exam results. It has been found that low attendance affects academic performance. Researchers have also been done to explore the factors affecting low attendance. The major reasons as per the students for non-attendance are assessment pressures, timing of lectures, poor delivery of lectures, and work commitments.

Ayas M et al, 2013 from Pakistan studied teachers and students of Government secondary schools in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The study showed significant differences among the views of students and teachers regarding impact of Student Teacher Relationship and its affect on academic achievement.

20. Impact Of Teacher’s Expectation

Sparkes (1999) highlighted the factor that school environment and expectation of teachers from their students also have strong impact on performance of students. Teachers who are themselves not well-off, have shortage of basic facilities often expect less from students which affects students performance.

21. Impact Of Ownership

Crosnoe and Elder (2004) highlighted in their study that school ownership; availability of resources and availability of facilities in school are a vital part of the school. Schools that are privately owned due to proper funding, dedicated ownership, availability of resources and motivated faculty perform better in compared to public schools. The extra resources and facilities provided in private schools nourish academic performance of their students.

22. Impact Of Anxiety

Every student feels stressed nervous or uncomfortable during her/his study career. Anxiety is negatively related to the achievement score (Mishra, S. G, et al 2014) while researches also proved extreme scores of high anxiety and extreme scores of low anxiety does not affect academic achievement (Dr. Shailendra Singh, 2015).
23. Impact Of Intelligence And Gender
   Chandra, R et al, 2013 studied “Influence of Intelligence and Gender on Academic Achievement of Secondary School Students of Lucknow City”. Intelligence was measured using “Dr.G.C.Ahuja’s Group Test of Intelligence” and Socio-economic status was measured using Dr. Meenakshi (2004) scale. Studies showed that gender has no significant affect on student’s academic success while Academic performance needs intelligence. Study was only limited to 14 secondary schools of Lucknow only. Torki, M. (1988) examined that under neutral conditions gender affect neutralizes. Hedjazi, Y., & Omidi, M. (2008) however found that female students perform better male students.

24. Employment Status
   Naser, K., & Peel, M. J. (1998) surveyed students of The Islamic Azad University and found that students who are unemployed showed better performances than students that are employed.

25. Students Desire
   Al-Rofo, M. A. (2010) in his study indicated if student selects specialization as per his desires and abilities he secures better scores.

26. Impact Of Study Habits

27. Impact Of Marital Status
   Abdullah (2011) studied student performance in Arab Open University and factors affecting it and he noticed a significant difference on the basis of marital status. He found students who are married perform better in comparison to unmarried students.

Research GAP:
   Through extensive research of previous literature it was found that students being an important concern all over the world, immense work has been done to uplift the quality of educational institutes. Work done indicated that not much research has been done focusing particularly private unaided graduate colleges of Uttar Pradesh. Need is there to review all the factors like age, gender, economic status, college distance, parents education, scholarship, previous academic score, entry criteria ,class attendance etc.

   Student teacher relationship and its affect on Students Academic Success needs special attention as this factor has not yet been researched empirically in Uttar Pradesh Colleges. Immediate research is required to fill the gap and improve the academic success of private unaided colleges in Uttar Pradesh.

Significance:
   My research will benefit the society at large, especially the students, parents and educational institutes. It will surely improve the academic success of students and help in uplifting the status of Indian education around the globe.

Limitations of the study:
   This study covers private unaided colleges located in Uttar Pradesh. In the current research marks have been taken as the indicator of academic success and failure.

Conclusion:
   In a developing country like India with high youthful population quality education of youth is very important. The only way to measure academic success and its quality is to analyse the student’s
success as demonstrated by marks. There are a host of factors impacting the achievement of passing marks by the students. This paper is an attempt to identify the prominent factors affecting academic success for future research and study.

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Conference Proceeding


Papers


