

Navigating Future Paths: An Insightful Study on Career Awareness Among Senior Secondary Students

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Abstract

This study investigated the level of career awareness of rural and non-rural students of Jalandhar district. Career awareness questionnaire developed by researcher was used for collecting the data. Questionnaire has forty items using a three pointer scale, agree, undecided and disagree sample size is (N=240, 12th grade). Simple random sampling technique was used to collect the sample. This study compares career awareness of male and female students and compares career awareness of rural and urban students of district Jalandhar.

The total 240 sample was drawn for the study, and the analysis and interpretation was done by computing Mean.

Keywords: Career Awareness, rural and urban students, Secondary School students.

INTRODUCTION

Education is one of the primary agents to transform every individual. Education involve individual in an activity and a process which may both improve the immediate living conditions and also increase the potential for future living. Career awareness is first stage of career development and important to choose a right career. After completing education, secondary and higher secondary education, students are confused regarding their career. Career is one of the primary concerns of every student while choosing streams for better options.

OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

Following objectives have been formulated for the study

1. To study the level of career awareness of rural and urban students.
2. To study and compare about the career awareness levels among Arts and Science and Commerce stream senior secondary school students
3. To compare the career awareness of male and female students.

To study and compare about the career awareness levels among Arts and Science and Commerce stream senior secondary school students .

METHODOLOGY

The research design for the present study is survey method of descriptive research. It aimed to find out

the level of career awareness of tribal and non-tribal students studying in senior secondary schools students in Nakodar area. The population of this study comprises of all the rural and urban senior secondary schools students in Jalandhar district.

THE SAMPLE

The population of the study is comprised of all the students of class XII of senior secondary schools studying in arts and science and commerce streams in area. The population included both male and female students studying in private and government school. The researcher already included that there are 4 government and 8 private schools . The sample for the present study involves 240 students studying in Arts and Science and commerce streams of class 12th at senior secondary schools in Jalandhar area by using Stratified random sampling method. The investigator has selected two government and two private senior secondary schools. 50 students have been recruited from each school. The study involves 100 male and 100 female students' i.e. total 240 students studying in Government and Private senior secondary schools of Nakodar block. And also 80students (40 male and 40 female) of Arts and 80 (40 male and 40 female) of Science stream students and 80 (40 Male and 40 Female) of commerce were selected as sample.

TOOL FOR DATA COLLECTION

The investigator used self-constructed questionnaire to know the career awareness level of students. The questions were prepared by going through different areas or dimensions like -

- Attitude towards selected course
- Knowledge about interest area.
- Interest about various jobs or occupations and starts-ups.
- Knowledge about various vocational courses

DATA COLLECTION

For seeking approval and procuring required participation the researcher informed the School authorities about the purpose and method of the study prior to data collection. The researcher asked the students to fill in the questionnaire in their classroom during the school days. The questionnaire was filled in by the students in 30 mints.

ANALYSIS AND DISSCUSSION

Table-1 Level of Career Awareness of school students

Variable	Level of Career Awareness(In percent)			
	Low	Average	High	Total
RURAL	40	36	24	100
URBAN	28	48	62	140
Total	68	84	86	240

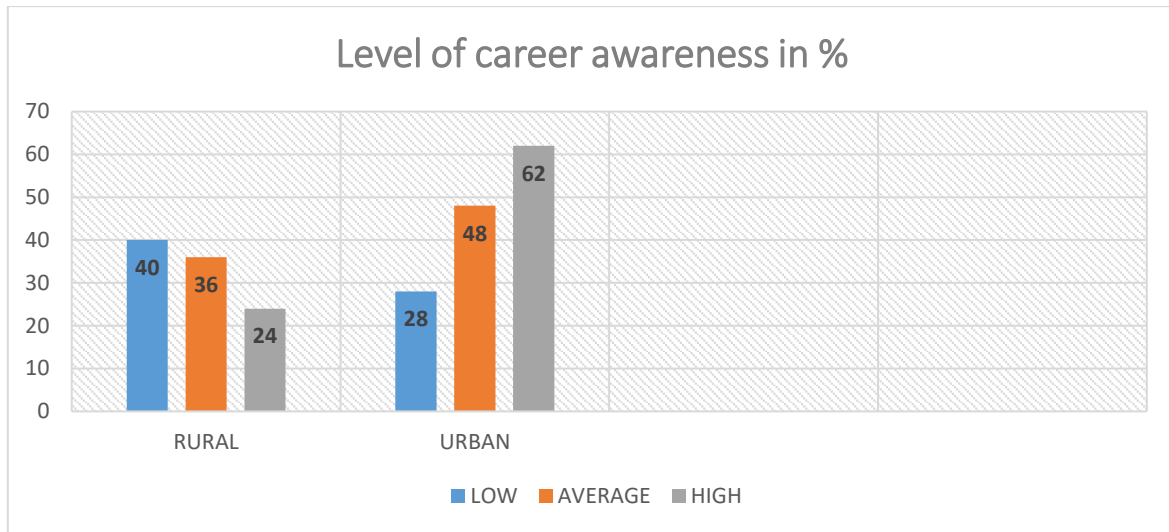


Table 1 shows the percentage level of career awareness of Rural and Urban area school. The results shows that 40 percent of rural and 28 percent urban of students were having Low awareness related to career (relationship of self and education, positive attitude and role identification, exploration of career decision making skill). On the other hand 36 percent of rural and 48 percent of urban students score below or average in awareness related to career. It was found that 24 percent of rural and 62 percent of urban having High level in career awareness. On the basis of result it may be said that most of rural student lying in low and average level of career awareness. So it shows that even after engaging rural students in academics but they were unaware about career goals. The factors behind this may be their parental education level, socio economic condition, low interest in academics and others.

Table 2. Career awareness between students of Arts and Commerce and science branches of higher secondary schools.

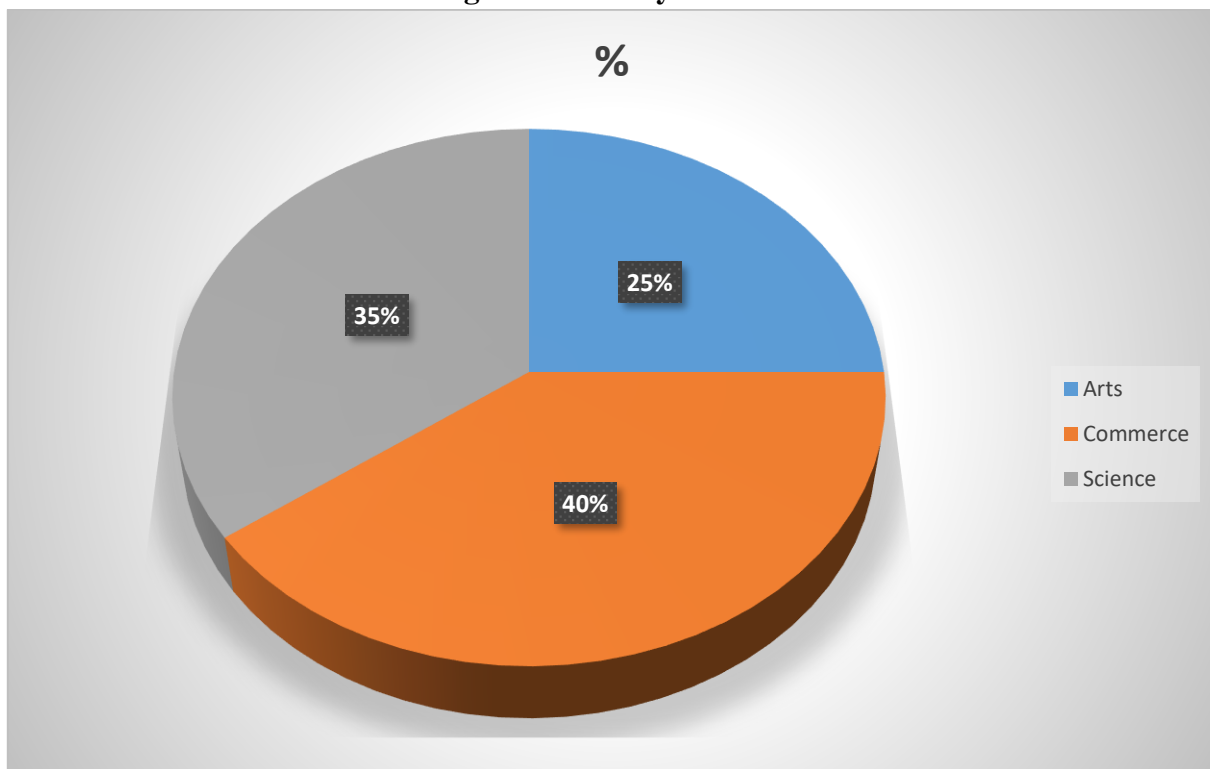


Table 2 elucidate the career awareness between Arts ,commerce and Science Streams of higher secondary schools.The result shows that 40% students were interested in Commerce stream and 35 % want to go with Science courses .On the other hand 25% want to opt the Arts or other vocational streams like Hotel Management, Tourism etc.

Table 3. 3. 1. To study and compare about the career awareness levels among rural and urban area with respect to choosing streams Arts and Science and Commerce stream senior secondary school students

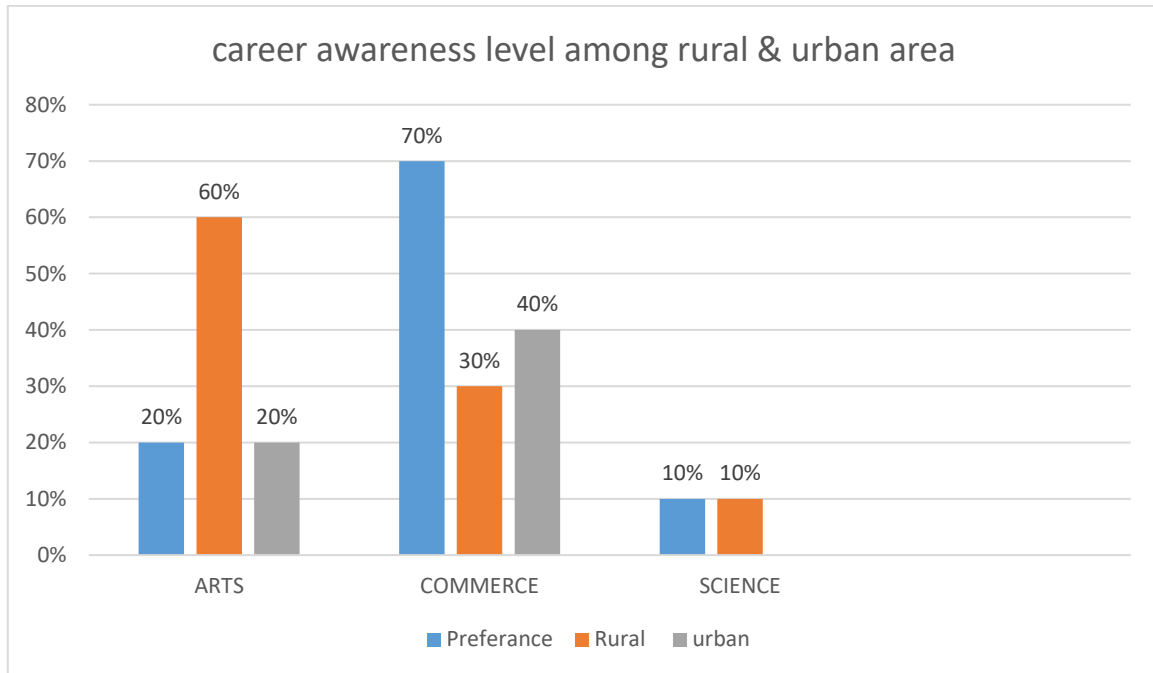


Table 3 shows that career awareness level among rural and urban area that 60% people want to Arts stream from Rural area and 70% people want to go with commerce.

DISSCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

Awareness about career is based on the four concept of career awareness that is knowledge, preference, value and self-concepts. Every student must be aware about career to select desirable career according to his personality, attitude and interest. Present study finds that majority of rural or Government school students were having low and average level of career awareness. Some findings draws support from Reddy, Devi and Reddy (2011) where the mean vocational education interest score obtained by students belonging to OBC group possessed more than SC/ST students..

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