



Volume 10, Issue 1, January 2022
**International Journal of
Advance Research in
Computer Science and
Management Studies**
Research Article / Survey Paper / Case Study
Available online at: www.ijarcsms.com



Special Issue: National Conference on "Self Reliant India (Atmanirbhar Bharat) Opportunities & Challenges"
Organised by: Department of Commerce in association with IQAC of Sheth T.J. Education Society's, Sheth N.K.T.T. College of Commerce and Sheth J.T.T. College of Arts, (Reaccredited by NAAC B+ (2.62), 3rd Cycle, ISO Certified: 9001:2015).
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Students' Awareness on Government Schemes for Youths- A Case Study of Degree College Students Residing In KDMC Region

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Abstract: Indian Government, at all levels, announces Welfare Schemes for a cross section of the society from time to time. These schemes could be either Central, State specific or a joint collaboration between the Centre and the States. Government of India has come up with various government schemes for the youths like, Prime Minister's Financial Empowerment Scheme – Bank Account (PMJDY), Prime Minister's Personal Accident Protection Scheme (PMSBY), Prime Minister's Small & Micro Industries Development Scheme (PMMY), and so on. for skill development, entrepreneurs start-ups and various aspects associated with youths. All the schemes are available on websites, few are included in the syllabus some subjects/ courses. The I.T. revolution has brought abundance of information in few clicks to the youth of India. Though it has also brought in diversion, lack of attention and problem of plenty. The youths basically comprise of literate and illiterate; the literate being majorly student's category. The present paper is a case study of such students of degree colleges anywhere in and around Mumbai but residing in Kalyan-Dombivli Municipal Corporation region. The present generation of students need to be redirected and motivated to be focused. Measures and initiatives at ground level would lead to awareness and thereby implementation and use; only then these well formulated schemes will see the real light of the day. The study is based on secondary data. Secondary data is collected mainly from the journals, articles, books and related websites.

Keywords: Youth, Students' awareness, Government Schemes for youth

I. INTRODUCTION

Youth is one of the major contributors in nation building. The progress of any country depends upon its youth as they are the powerhouse of nation, if nurtured well they can become an asset for the country. Government of India has different set of committees which study the needs and requirements of youth so as to satisfy their needs and thereby converting them in to a productive asset for the country. The Government has created specific gateways in order to launch Schemes for youth. Government of India has introduced variety of schemes for youth so as to help them in monetary as well as non-monetary sense.

India will become a prosperous nation only when awareness is created among the youth about the schemes launched for them. This will lead to a revolution wherein we would have more hands to work than more hands to feed. The present study

focuses on Awareness of students about the Government Schemes for youth and its awareness among the degree college students residing in K.D.M.C. region.

II. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Dr. Diwate, Shivankar and Naktode (2015) in their research contribution on “A Study on “The Perception of Management Students towards Entrepreneurship as a Career and Role of Education” stated Entrepreneurship education is critical in shaping perceptions of what it takes to become an entrepreneur, "particularly among management students." An entrepreneurship education should not only provide theoretical knowledge, but also help students develop an entrepreneurial mindset by developing entrepreneurial skills, behaviours, and attitudes, as well as train them in entrepreneurial abilities to help them start their own business or engage in entrepreneurship activities. At the same time Government of India has launched different set of schemes for budding entrepreneurs in order to help them in Monetary sense as well as to support them in non-monetary sense through different licensing and documentation formalities. Entrepreneurship knowledge and abilities are critical to the overall growth of Nation.

Dr. Chandra and Gautham (2017) in their join research on “Status of Awareness about Government Schemes among Special Educators of Persons with Intellectual Disability in Uttar Pradesh” opined all the developing country in the world are making strides toward becoming a developed nation. In India, the government has legislated a slew of programmes aimed at promoting equality and justice in all aspects of life for people with disabilities. The government has put in place special programmes to encourage people to work for themselves and launch different schemes for people with different level of educational qualifications so that irrespective of educational qualification persons can take benefit of said schemes and use for their betterment.

Sardar (2019) in his study on “A study on youth perception and awareness towards entrepreneurship and Start up scheme” stated with the economy growing, every country should concentrate on creating a robust eco-system that is conducive to the development of new firms. India has a vast population, which means there is a large potential market for any organisation that develops creative inventive systems. Entrepreneurs contributes to economic progress of a country. Government all over the world have taken steps to encourage Entrepreneurship among their youth. Since the commencement of the Start-up India campaign in 2016, a number of programmes have been launched in India. Such programmes have stimulated the start-up culture, with start-ups becoming more well-known across the country and by assisting them in taking use of such programmes.

III. OBJECTIVES OF STUDY

1. To know about Government schemes launched by Government of India for youth.
2. To study the sources of information about Government schemes launched for youth.
3. To analyse level of awareness among students towards the schemes launched by Government of India.

Hypotheses

H₀: There is no significant difference between Gender and Awareness towards Government Schemes.

H₁: There is significant difference between Gender and Awareness towards Government Schemes.

H₀: There is no significant difference between Age and Awareness towards Government Schemes.

H₁: There is significant difference between Age and Awareness towards Government Schemes.

H₀: There is no significant difference between Stream and Awareness towards Government Schemes.

H₁: There is significant difference between Stream and Awareness towards Government Schemes.

H₀: There is no significant difference between Year of Study and Awareness towards Government Schemes.

H₁: There is significant difference between Year of Study and Awareness towards Government Schemes.

Research Methodology

The research study is indicative as well as analytical in nature. Both primary and secondary data was collected for the Study. Primary data was collected by floating structured questionnaire through Google form among students of Degree Colleges residing in Kalyan Dombivili Municipal Corporation region. The questionnaire was framed with five-point Likert scale. The secondary data was collected from different books, articles in journals and websites. The sample size for the study was 165 students residing in K.D.M.C. region. Convenience Sampling Method was used for Data collection. The questionnaire was subject to field and office editing. Data was classified, tabulated and summarized in the flow of paper.

Limitations of Study

1. The study is restricted to Degree College students residing in K.D.M.C. region.
2. Time is a constraint to meet large number of Students.

IV. DATA ANALYSIS

The data analysis was done by using S.P.S.S. The normality test was conducted to check normality of data by using Kolmogorov-Smirnov & Shapiro-Wilk test. The data was found to be non-normal hence null hypotheses were tested by using non-parametric tests i.e., Mann-Whitney U Test and Kruskal Wallis Test.

Normality testing

Normality of data was tested using Normality test.

H₀: Distribution is Normal

H₁: Distribution is non-Normal

Table 1 Tests of Normality

	Kolmogorov-Smirnov ^a			Shapiro-Wilk		
	Statistic	df	Sig.	Statistic	df	Sig.
Awareness about Government Schemes	.092	165	.002	.959	165	.000

a. Lilliefors Significance Correction
Source: Primary data

The table 1 indicated significant value for the variable was less than 0.05 which means the Null Hypothesis is rejected and alternate hypothesis is accepted that is distribution is non-Normal hence appropriate non-Parametric test Mann-Whitney U test and Kruskal Wallis test were used for further analysis.

Testing of Hypotheses

H₀: There is no significant difference between Gender and Awareness towards Government Schemes.

H₁: There is significant difference between Gender and Awareness towards Government Schemes.

Table 2 Mann-Whitney U Test – Gender and awareness towards Government Schemes

Null Hypothesis	Test	Sig.	Decision
There is no significant difference between Gender and Awareness towards Government Schemes.	Independent-Samples Mann-Whitney U Test	.177	Retain the null hypothesis.

Source: Primary data

Table number 2 indicated that significant value is 0.177 which is greater than 0.05 thereby indicating the null hypothesis is accepted that means There is no significant difference between Gender and Awareness towards Government Schemes.

H_0 : There is no significant difference between Age and Awareness towards Government Schemes.

H_1 : There is significant difference between Age and Awareness towards Government Schemes.

Table 3 Kruskal Wallis Test – Age and awareness towards Government Schemes

Null Hypothesis	Test	Sig.	Decision
There is no significant difference between Age and Awareness towards Government Schemes.	Independent-Samples Kruskal Wallis Test	.431	Retain the null hypothesis.

Source: Primary data

Table number 3 indicated that significant value is 0.431 which is greater than 0.05 thereby indicating the null hypothesis is accepted that means There is no significant difference between Age and Awareness towards Government Schemes.

H_0 : There is no significant difference between Stream and Awareness towards Government Schemes.

H_1 : There is significant difference between Stream and Awareness towards Government Schemes.

Table 4 Kruskal Wallis Test – Stream and awareness towards Government Schemes

Null Hypothesis	Test	Sig.	Decision
There is no significant difference between stream and Awareness towards Government Schemes.	Independent-Samples Kruskal Wallis Test	.246	Retain the null hypothesis.

Source: Primary data

Table number 4 indicated that significant value is 0.246 which is greater than 0.05 thereby indicating the null hypothesis is accepted that means There is no significant difference between stream and Awareness towards Government Schemes.

H_0 : There is no significant difference between Year of Study and Awareness towards Government Schemes.

H_1 : There is significant difference between Year of Study and Awareness towards Government Schemes.

Table 5 Kruskal Wallis Test – Year of Study and awareness towards Government Schemes

Null Hypothesis	Test	Sig.	Decision
There is no significant difference between Year of Study and Awareness towards Government Schemes.	Independent-Samples Kruskal Wallis Test	.038	Reject the null hypothesis.

Source: Primary data

Table number 5 indicated that significant value is 0.038 which is less than 0.05 thereby indicating the null hypothesis is rejected that means There is significant difference between Year of Study and Awareness towards Government Schemes.

H_0 : There is no significant difference between Area and Awareness towards Government Schemes.

H_1 : There is significant difference between Area and Awareness towards Government Schemes.

Table 6 Mann-Whitney U Test – Area and awareness towards Government Schemes

Null Hypothesis	Test	Sig.	Decision
There is no significant difference between Area and Awareness towards Government Schemes.	Independent-Samples Mann-Whitney U Test	.953	Retain the null hypothesis.

Source: Primary data

Table number 6 indicated that significant value is 0.953 which is greater than 0.05 thereby indicating the null hypothesis is accepted that means there is no significant difference between Area and Awareness towards Government Schemes.

V. FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

1. Out of the total respondents 55.8% were Female while 44.2% were Male. 37.6% were from the Age group of 18-20 years, 31.5% were below 18 while 30.9% were above 20 years. 57.6% were from Commerce stream, 28.5% were Science stream, while 13.9% were from Arts Stream. 37.0% were Third year students, 35.7% were from Second year while 27.3% were from First year. 58% were from Dombivili while 42% were from Kalyan.
2. 44.8% were Somewhat aware about Government Schemes, 34.6% were not at all aware while 20.6% were Fully aware about the Schemes launched by Government for Youth.
3. 45.5% of the respondents came to know about Government Schemes through Government Websites, 44.2 % through Newspapers, 40% through Magazines while 37.6 % came to know through Blogs.
4. 66.5% were aware about one or the other Government Schemes while 33.5% were not aware about any of the Government Schemes launched for Youth.
5. It was found that irrespective of Gender, Age, Stream awareness towards Government Schemes was same while for Year of Study there was a significant difference towards Government Schemes.

VI. SUGGESTIONS

1. Changes may be introduced in Syllabus framed for Degree College Students across all streams by introducing a subject on Government Schemes for Youth so as to make students aware about such Schemes.
2. Help desk may be set up across Degree Colleges where in students can be informed about Schemes launched by the Government and further students can be motivated to communicate the schemes across Society.
3. Government of India can take help of Public Private partnership through business tie up with corporate houses so as to ensure implementation of said Schemes in effective manner.

VII. SIGNIFICANCE OF STUDY

The study identified that level of awareness about Schemes launched by Government is quite low but slowly and gradually students are developing an awareness towards the Government Schemes. Keeping in mind the large population of a country like India where in more than 60%¹ of population is in age group of 15 to 60 years the level of awareness towards schemes launched by Government of India for youth is not that great. The study is Significant to Government as relevant suggestions towards improvising level of awareness among youth for the Schemes are given. It is significant to students and youth at large as better penetration of government schemes at ground level will be beneficial for them and they will be able to take benefits of the schemes over a large period of time.

¹ <https://www.statista.com/statistics/271315/age-distribution-in-india/>

VIII. CONCLUSION

“Schemes are like fruits, they require a certain ripening”, slowly and gradually government may try to ensure better penetration of schemes among youth. Government launches Schemes for the youth from time to time, previously one would require to go to some government office or get information from other sources to know about the Schemes. With the advent of I.C.T. and smartphone in hand of almost every youth, the level of awareness should have been much more but the study states otherwise and therefore the suggestions given may be useful for percolating the information and thereby satisfying the purpose of government schemes for youth. Until and unless the youth are aware and they take the benefits the core purpose will not be served.

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