

Career Aspiration among the Higher Secondary School Students
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Abstract

Career aspiration is one of the most significant choices that people regardless of race or socio-demographic background should make at a genuinely beginning period in their lives. The present study aims to find out career aspiration among the higher secondary school students in Birbhum district. According to the nature of the objectives, this study is followed by descriptive survey research. The population of the study consists of Higher Secondary school students of Birbhum District. Simple random sampling is used to select 5 schools and 200 students. In order to carry out the present investigation, translated version (Bengali) of career aspiration scale developed by Anand (2013). Results and findings show that (i) by their mean values the difference of career aspiration between male and female higher secondary school students can be seen in the table (male= 109.41, female=112.19), where the female students excel than counterpart male students in their career aspiration score. It means the career aspiration of female students is high than male students in their mean value (i) by their mean values the difference of career aspiration between arts and science higher secondary school students can be seen in the table (arts= 114.88, female=116.25), where the science stream students excel than counterpart arts stream students in their career aspiration score. It means the career aspiration of science stream students is high than arts stream students in their mean value.

Keywords: Career Aspiration, Higher Secondary School Students, Female Students, Male Students, Arts Students, Science Students.

Introduction

Career aspiration is one of the most significant choices that people regardless of race or socio-demographic background should make at a genuinely beginning time in their lives. Since society characterizes people regarding their occupations, one's career turns into a significant source of individual personality. Deciding on one's life course is a procedure that must happen right off the bat throughout everyday life on the off chance that one is to have any valuable effect on himself, family, and society at large. Career can be considered as the way the individual conveys what needs be and identifies with society through life. Popoola (2004) considers it to be an occupation or profession for which one experiences managed instruction and preparing over some stretch of time and which one expects to pursue an incredible life. It is a picked interest, life work, and accomplishment in one's profession. Career is the grouping of significant positions involved by an individual all through their lifetime. It is the totality of work one does in one's lifetime and it is person-centered. Career also is a significant movement on an individual's working life or a course sought after over some stretch of time. Career aspiration has been concern with in Indian education. The recent thrust in career education has emphasized at all the level including higher secondary students.

Aspiration of career option is required of higher secondary students to make critical decisions which all set the stages of their educational and career choice.

Career has a predominant job in molding and guiding one's life way inevitably deciding personal satisfaction of life. Being satisfied with one's career is one of the most significant parts of individual life and individual satisfaction. In the higher secondary level students in some way or another ought to have their career aspirations which are individual desire identified with occupations. Students' aspirations can impact their future careers. By understanding students aspirations can assist educators with relating their teaching activities as indicated by students' inclinations. High aspirations can persuade students to study hard and attempt to accomplish their objectives. More often than not career aspiration is something that is too perfect to even think about reaching. Rather, career desire is more realistic. It is an occupation that students think they can accomplish it. Compare to early childhood, adolescence has picked their career aspirations and desire dependent on some knowledge and experiences. Thus it is important to explore career aspiration in higher secondary school level.

Research Gap

Samuel E.et.al (2017) conducted a study on “*Career Aspiration of Secondary School Students with Visual Impairment in Enugu state, Nigeria*”. **Uzma (2017)** conducted a study on *Career aspiration and Life satisfaction of final year Medical School Student.*” **Gregor et.al (August, 2016)** conducted a study on “*Understanding Career Aspiration among Young Women*”. **Hafsyan (2015)** conducted a study on “*Educational and Career Aspirations of University Honors and Non-Honors Student.*” **Ravi and Kumar (2014)** conducted a study on “*Career Aspiration and Perspective among students Pursuing Master Course in a Private Dental College, Chennai.*” **Oluwatimilehin et.al. (2014)** conducted a study on “*Career Aspirations: an Investigation of Senior Secondary Schools Students Awareness of Contemporary High Profile Careers.*” **Choi (2013)** conducted a study on “*Gender Identities and Career aspiration of leaders: Cases in Hong Kong secondary schools.*” **Najma(2012)** conducted a study on “*career Aspiration and Adolescent in the Indian context.*” **Saxesena and Jain (July, 2012)** conducted a study on “*Managing Career Aspiration of Generation Y at Work place.*” Wired, empowered, nexters - are some of the words associated with generation Y. Generation Y comprises of people born between the years of 1980-

1995. **Caroline et.al (2012)** conducted a study on “*Gender and Students’ Perceptions of career Aspiration in Secondary Schools.*” **Chen et.al. (2012)** conducted a study on “*Ethnic identity and Career Aspiration of the Taiwanese indigenous students in the era of globalization*”. **Beatrice (2010)** conducted a study on “*Influence of Sociological Factors of Career Aspiration for High School Girls in Mosoch Division, Kenya.*” **Hirschi (2010)** has conducted a study on “*Swiss Adolescents’ Career Aspirations: Influence of Context, Age and Career Adaptability.*” **Anne (2008)** conducted a study on “*Gender Differences in the College and Career Aspiration of High School Valedictorians.*” **Prasetyo (2005)** conducted a study on “*Educational and Career Aspiration of Semarang Freshmen Universities, Indonesia.*” **Foster (2005)** conducted a study on “*Career Aspirations of Female Engineering Students at an FET Institution*”. **Singer and Saldana (2001)** conducted a study on “*Educational and Career Aspiration of High School Students and race, gender, class differences author.*” **Ann (1992)** conducted a study on “*Comparison and prediction of the level of career aspirations of adolescent males and females.*” **McNulty et.al (1983)** conducted a study on “*Adolescents’ Career Aspirations and Expectations: The Influence of Gender, Grade, and Locus of Control.*” By observing

the above mentioned studies the researcher found that several studies were conducted on Career aspiration of school students but there are less studies conducted on Career aspiration of higher secondary students in Birbhum District. Aspiration of career and data identified with careers are important to students particularly at the higher secondary level. Thus researcher found here a knowledge gap in the field of research on career aspiration of higher secondary school students as they are future destiny makers of our nation. So, the question is; does the student of higher secondary level have sufficient aspiration regarding their career? Present study will try to find out the answer of this question and will try to fill the research gap.

Statement of the Problem

The problem formally stated as:

Career Aspiration among the Higher Secondary School Students.

Operational definitions of key terms Used

Career aspiration

Career aspiration, researcher refers to the aspirational goals relate to career achievement. Aspirations are powerful urges to arrive at something high or incredible. Youngsters' aspirations direct

what students realize in school, how they get ready for grown-up life, and what they eventually do.

Higher Secondary School Students:

Higher Secondary School Students, researcher refers to School standard XI and XII students.

Objectives of the Study:

1. To Find out the career aspiration of the higher secondary school students
2. To compare the career aspiration among male and female higher secondary students.
3. To compare the career aspiration among science and arts higher secondary students.

Hypothesis of the Study

The following hypothesis were tested:

H0₁. There is no significance difference of career aspiration between male and female higher secondary school students.

H0₂. There is no significance difference of career aspiration between science and arts higher secondary school students.

Delimitations of the Study

1. The study is delimited to 5 higher secondary schools.
2. The study is delimited to 200 higher secondary school students.

3. This study is delimited to birbhum district only.

Methodology of the study

The research methodology is a way to solve the problem systematically. According to the nature of the objectives this study is followed descriptive survey research.

Population

The population of the study consists of Higher Secondary school students of Birbhum District.

Sample of the study

In this Study, simple random sampling technique has been used in the selection of schools and students. Out of the existing higher secondary institution in Birbhum District 5 higher secondary schools were selected for this study. ie. Bolpur High School, Bolpur Girls High School, Srinanda High school, Bandhnabagram Gandhi Vidyapith and Goalpara Tanayendra Vidyalaya.

Tools used

In order to carry out the present investigation, translated version (Bengali) of career aspiration scale developed by Anand (2013).

Career aspiration scale

For each and every types of research are needed certain types of instrument to gather relevant data. The choice of reasonable instruments or apparatuses is of the crucial significance of gathering information and it relies on different contemplations, for example, destinations of the study, the measure of time of the disposal of the investigator, accessibility of the appropriate test, scoring methodology and effortlessness of interpreting the outcomes.

The scale is entitled as Career as Career Aspiration Scale so that the students could know the purpose of testing. The title of scale suggested that the statements are related with the thinking aspect of the psyche of the respondents. It is related to the aspiration for their future career which they have gained through their personal experience. The tool was a five point scale that is to say; there was five scale point against each items so that respondent's degree of agreement to a particular item could be known.

The available research tool career aspiration scale was in Hindi and population of the study was from Bengali language, that why there was a need of translation of tool from Hindi to Bengali. For research initially consulted with her research guide and with his suggestion she translated the Career Aspiration Scale in Bengali with expert of

the field. The translated version of Career Aspiration Scale was distribution to the five experts of the field and with their experts suggestions the career aspiration scale was finally translated in Bengali for further use. Thus there were 30 items in the final list. There five scale point against each items.

Scoring

Table 1. Showing Scoring of the Scale:

Response	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Positive	5	4	3	2	1
Negative	1	2	3	4	5

The respondents were asked to put tick mark (✓) is appropriate option box given against each statement. By summing up the scores of each statement, the total score of each respondent were obtained. The maximum and minimum score of career aspiration scale is 150 and 30 respectively.

Reliability of the Scale

The coefficient of internal consistency as determined by spilt-half method was to be 0.86 and the coefficient of stability as determined by the test-retest method was found to be 0.90.

Validity of the Scale

Likert’s 5-point scale has been found appropriate for CAS because this scaling techniques assigns a scale for each statement with five response for scoring ranging from ‘strongly agree’ through 1 ‘strongly disagree’. Point values of positive items and for negative items have the following meaning:

The present scale is validated by employing the methods of face validity, content validity and intrinsic validity.

Face validity

The career aspiration scale has sufficient face validity.

1. The very little of the tool and the words of the items as well as the construction of sentences in them obviously refer to the career aspiration.
2. The items are related to daily life situation of the respondents, involving the expression of career aspiration.

Content validity

The content validity of the scale determined by the 30 subject experts. Twenty five out of thirty experts expressed the opinion that items are measuring the characteristics indicating by the respective dimensions.

Intrinsic validity

Intrinsic validity of the test was found to be 0.94.

Techniques Used

Descriptive statistics Mean and SD and Inferential statistics viz “t” test methods were applied.

Results

Result 1. Table 2. Find out the career aspiration of higher secondary school students

Variable	N	Average	Level of career aspiration
Career aspiration	200	110.39	Below average

From the table 2 clearly show that it can be seen that the average of 200 students is 110.39 which have below average level of career aspiration. It means the level career

aspiration of 200 higher secondary school students is below average which not high or not low.

Result 2 Table 3. Comparison of the career aspiration of male and female higher secondary school students

Variable	Gender	N	Mean	SD	df	t-value
Career aspiration	Male	130	109.41	11.053	198	1.731^{NS}
	Female	70	112.19	10.391		

NS: Not Significant at both the level, at 0.01 and 0.05 level of confidence

From the table 3 clearly show that there is no significant difference between male and female higher secondary school students. The calculated t-value is 1.731 which is not significant at both the 0.01 level of

significance and 0.05 level of significance. Consequently, the null hypothesis **“There is no significance difference between male and female higher secondary school students”** is not rejected.

Result 3. Table 4. Comparison of career aspiration of science and arts higher secondary students

Variable	Subject stream	N	Mean	SD	df	t-value
Career aspiration	Arts	139	114.88	85.009	198	.125^{NS}

	Science	61	116.25	10.071		
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NS: Not Significant at both the level, at 0.01 and 0.05 level of confidence

From the table 4 clearly show that there is no significant difference of career aspiration between science and arts higher secondary school students. The calculated t-value is .125 which is not significant at both the 0.01 level of significance and 0.05 level of significance. Consequently, the null hypothesis **“There is no significant difference among science and arts higher secondary school students”** is not rejected.

Conclusion

So after studying all these phenomena, it can be said that By their mean values the difference of career aspiration between male and female higher secondary school students can be seen in the table (male=109.41, female=112.19), where the female students excel than counterpart male students in their career aspiration score. it means the career aspiration of female students is high than male students in their mean value. By their mean values the difference of career aspiration between arts and science higher secondary school students can be seen in the table (arts=114.88, female=116.25), where the science stream students excel than counterpart arts stream students in their career aspiration score. it mean the career aspiration of

science stream students is high than arts stream students in their mean value.

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Recommendations

The following recommendations have been made accordingly based upon the findings of the study

1. The study give au an idea that career aspiration of higher secondary school students have below average level which is not high so that teachers, principals, policy maker should pay attention to schools and their students.
2. The mean difference in career aspiration of male and female higher secondary school students will give an opportunity to help teachers to directed school in right way.
3. The findings of the study can be used in career development and discussion in school.
4. The knowledge difference in career aspiration of science arts higher secondary school students in their mean, will give an opportunity to help teachers

should give special emphasis on arts students.

Suggestions for further study

The following study may be undertaken by investigator to further strengthen the research areas of career aspiration in higher secondary school students-

1. Some studies may be conducted on higher secondary students in different districts in India.
2. Some studies conducted in secondary school students in different districts.
3. Further studies can be undertaken on college students,
4. Further studies can be undertaken in central, state, deemed university students.
5. Further studies can be undertaken in foreign university students.
6. Further studies can be undertaken with different variables. Such as academic achievement, self-efficacy, career decision making, career options etc.
7. The study can be conducted in different part of country comparing the east-west states.

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