

## “A Study Of The Extent And Causes Of Dropouts In Primary Schools Withs PECIAL Reference To S.C And S.T Of North Karnataka”

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### Abstract

The problem of dropout has been continually troubling the primary education system not only in India but in other developing countries also. Dropout does not mean mere rejection of school by children. It lead to wastage of the funds invested in school buildings, Teacher’s salaries, equipment textbooks, and so on. It also means the existence of some deficiencies in the organization of the primary education system. The subject of dropout or wastage has been studied in India and other countries over the past 70 years and many of the reasons for this educational malady are known. However, it is not easy to deal with the malady because its origin lies partly within the system itself which has been designed by scholars, politicians and administrators. The intentions may beyond reproach but the major lacuna in their designs has been the absence of a comprehensive dialogue with the people to understand their perception of education and of the place of the child in the family. This is the reason why several developing countries are now recognizing the primary education system so as to make it people-oriented, instead of official- oriented.

**KEY WORDS:**Dropouts, Primary school, Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes.

### INTRODUCTION:

The problem of dropout has been continually troubling the primary education system not only in India but in other developing countries also. Dropout does not mean mere rejection of school by children. It lead to wastage of the funds invested in school buildings, Teacher’s salaries, equipment textbooks, and so on. It also means the existence of some deficiencies in the organization of the primary education system. The subject of dropout or wastage has been studied in India and other countries over the past 70 years and many of the reasons for this educational malady are known. However, it is not easy to deal with the malady because its origin lies partly within the system itself which has been designed by scholars, politicians and administrators. The intentions may beyond reproach but the major lacuna in their designs has been the absence of a comprehensive dialogue with the people to understand their perception of education and of the place of the child in the family. This is the reason why several developing countries are now recognizing the primary education system so as to make it people-oriented, instead of official- oriented.

The school dropout rate for SC/ST students is much higher than that of the other Categories, even as the debate over reservation for the weaker sections continue in the wake of the recent supreme court orders. High dropouts rate among the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes children remains a challenge for the Human Resource Development (MHRD) Ministry. Figures released by the ministry said that as many as 37% Scheduled Caste students and 49% Scheduled Tribe students stop studying after initial years of schooling. While the dropout rate of other categories of students has witnessed a phenomenal fall, the rate still remain high for SC and ST students.

The present study has found that all the usual causes of dropout exist in the blocks selected for study. It is also found that lack of proper roads essential to enable the children to walk to school is also one of the reasons for difficulties in school dropouts in some areas. Perhaps, for a similar reason, and a few other reasons also, no separate school for Girls and Boys, non fulfillment of high expectations of Parents/Teachers, Gender disparity in the Family, Ineffective Methods used by teachers, No importance for co-curricular activities, Non-availability of schools in surroundings, due to Caste they belongs, Poor economic conditions of the family and Non-affordable private fees. In Karnataka, the salaries of teachers are now reasonably good and this is no longer a factor which would adversely affect the teacher’s performance. But lack of supervision and also a lack of dialogue with the community due to the centralized nature of administration seem to be the major reasons for the teachers’ disinclination to work in unfamiliar communities where they are posted.

### OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:

The main objectives of this study is to examine the dropouts in the selected districts of North Karnataka region.

1. To find out the causes of dropout of students before passing the 7 or 8 class.
2. To study the extent of dropouts of primary school with reference to S.C and S.T students.

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3. To study the cause analysis of the dropouts of primary school with reference to S.C and S.T students.
4. To study the comparative analysis of Personal, Family, School, Infrastructure and Socio-economic reasons for dropouts of primary school with reference to S.C and S.T students
- 5.To suggest the measures to reduce the dropout students with reference to S.C and S.T

**METHODOLOGY:**

In the present study **Descriptive survey** method is the best method for finding the causes for dropouts in Primary schools of S.C and S.T Students. The researcher has prepared Questionnaire contains **55 Questions** and personally visited the Primary schools of Hyderabad Karnataka Districts such as Raichur, Koppal and Bellary and collected data from **150 Primary School dropout students** of S.C and S.T by applying **Stratified Random Sampling Technique**. The collected data were analyzed by applying Average Percentage.

**ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS:**

The collected data from 150 dropout students of primary school with reference to SC and ST students are analyzed by tabulating by average Percentage and presented in the following manner.

**Table No-1:**showing the percentage responses of the dropout students with respect to item related to **Personal dimension**.

Items	% of students who Strongly Agreed to the statement	% of students who said Un-decided answer to the statement	% of students who Dis- Agreed to the statement
01	87.00	00.00	13.00
02	10.00	00.00	90.00
03	35.00	00.00	65.00
04	29.50	07.00	63.50
05	65.25	05.75	29.00
06	10.00	04.00	86.00
07	80.00	03.00	17.00
08	14.50	00.00	85.50
09	30.00	08.00	62.00
10	31.00	00.00	69.00
<b>Total %</b>	<b>39.23</b>	<b>02.77</b>	<b>58.00</b>

From the above table it reveals that 39.23 average % of students left the school due to Personal reasons and 58.00 average % of students disagreed to the statement left the school due to personal reason and only 2.77average % of students gave the answer undecided. The detailed item wise analysis can be seen below.

For the Item no.1: About **87.00%** of students dropped out due to no separate school for Girls and Boys.

For the Item no.2:only 10.00% of students left school due to Continuous failure.

For the Item no.3:about 35.00% of students left school due to no interest in studies.

For the Item no.4:about 29.50% of students left school due to Poor health condition.

For the Item no.5:about **65.25%** of students left school due to Education is not linked with available job.

For the Item no.6:only 10.00% of students left school due to Sexual Harassment from students.

For the Item no.7:about **80.00%** of students left school due to non fulfillment of high expectations of parents/teachers.

For the Item no.8:about 14.50% of students left school due to friends left the school.

For the Item no.9:about 30.00% of students left school due to shyness due to maturation.

For the Item no.10:about 31.00% of students left school due to no use of such education.

**Table No-2:**showing the percentage responses of the dropout students with respect to item related to **Family dimension**.

Items	% of students who Strongly Agreed to the statement	% of students who Undecided answer to the statement	% of students who Dis- Agreed to the statement
11	69.00	06.00	25.00
12	34.75	02.00	63.25
13	65.65	00.00	34.35
14	50.00	03.50	46.50
15	04.00	16.00	80.00
16	22.00	00.00	78.00
17	65.00	07.00	28.00
18	62.00	00.00	38.00

19	29.50	00.00	70.50
20	35.50	04.50	60.00
<b>Total %</b>	<b>43.74</b>	<b>03.90</b>	<b>52.36</b>

From the above table it reveals that **43.74** average % of students left the school due to Family reasons and **52.36** average % of students disagreed to the statement left the school due to Family reason and only **03.90** average % of students gave the answer undecided. The detailed item wise analysis can be seen below.

For the Item no.11: About **69.00%** of students dropped out due to Household Chores

For the Item no.12:only 34.75% of students left school due to Parents Not shown Interest.

For the Item no.13: about **65.65%** of students left school due to early marriage.

For the Item no.14: about 50.00% of students left school due to Look after siblings.

For the Item no.15: Only about 04.00% of students left school due to Drunkered Parents.

For the Item no.16: only 22.00% of students left school due to Step Mother/Father.

For the Item no.17: about **65.00%** of students left school due to Gender disparity in the Family.

For the Item no.18: about **62.00%** of students left school due to parents forced to do work with them.

For the Item no.19: about 29.50% of students left school due to Death of Father/Mother.

For the Item no.20:about 35.50% of students left school due to Continuous migration of Parents for work.

**Table No-3:**showing the percentage responses of the dropout students with respect to item related to **School dimension**.

Items	% of students who Strongly Agreed to the statement	% of students who Undecided answer to the statement	% of students who Dis- Agreed to the statement
21	46.87	00.00	53.13
22	59.37	00.00	40.63
23	28.12	02.00	69.88
24	12.50	01.00	86.50
25	15.62	00.00	84.38
26	09.37	10.00	80.63
27	58.25	05.00	36.75
28	75.00	02.00	23.00
29	54.50	05.00	40.50
30	64.50	02.00	33.50
31	46.50	10.00	43.50
32	24.00	06.00	70.00
33	49.00	03.00	48.00
34	62.50	07.00	30.50
35	23.65	06.35	70.00
<b>Total %</b>	<b>41.95</b>	<b>03.95</b>	<b>54.09</b>

From

the above table it reveals that **41.95** average % of students left the school due to School reasons and **54.09** average % of students disagreed to the statement left the school due to School reason and only **03.95**average % of students gave the answer undecided. The detailed item wise analysis can be seen below.

For the Item no.21: 46.87% of students dropped out due to Travelling to school

For the Item no.22:only 59.37% of students left school due to not like to go to school.

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For the Item no.23: about 28.12% of students left school due to traveling to school in rainy season.  
 For the Item no.24: only about 12.50% of students left school due to continuous absenteeism of teachers.  
 For the Item no.25: Only about 15.62% of students left school due to Afraid of teachers.  
 For the Item no.26: only 09.37% of students left school due to sexual harassment from teachers.  
 For the Item no.27: about **58.25%** of students left school due to Improper curriculum.  
 For the Item no.28: about **75.00%** of students left school due to Ineffective Methods used by teachers.  
 For the Item no.29: about 54.50% of students left school due to Imbalance in curricular and co-curricular activities.  
 For the Item no.30: about **64.50%** of students left school due to No importance for co-curricular activities.  
 For the Item no.31: 46.50% of students dropped out due to Only Male/Female teachers in the school.  
 For the Item no.32: only 24.00% of students left school due to Medium of Instruction.  
 For the Item no.33: about 49.00% of students left school due to Home work not done.  
 For the Item no.34: about **62.50%** of students left school due to no scope for remedial teaching.  
 For the Item no.35: Only about 23.65% of students left school due to Punishment from Teachers/Headmasters.

**Table No-4:** showing the percentage responses of the dropout students with respect to item related to **Infrastructure dimension.**

Items	% of students who Strongly Agreed to the statement	% of students who Undecided answer to the statement	% of students who Dis- Agreed to the statement
36	35.00	00.00	65.00
37	68.00	02.00	30.00
38	24.00	00.00	76.00
39	33.00	07.00	60.00
40	30.00	00.00	70.00
41	81.00	04.00	15.00
42	62.50	03.50	34.00
43	55.00	00.00	45.00
44	28.00	02.00	70.00
45	16.50	07.00	76.50
<b>Total %</b>	<b>43.33</b>	<b>02.55</b>	<b>54.12</b>

From the above table it reveals that **43.33** average% of students left the school due to Lack of Infrastructure facility and **54.12** average % of students disagreed to the statement left the school due to Lack of Infrastructure facility reason and only **02.55** average % of students gave the answer undecided. The detailed item wise analysis can be seen below.

For the Item no.36: only 35.00% of students left school due to Improper school Building.  
 For the Item no.37: about **68.00%** of students left school due to Lack of Toilets and Sanitary measures.  
 For the Item no.38: about 24.00% of students left school due to Improper drinking water facility.  
 For the Item no.39: about 33.00% of students left school due to Lack of ICT facilities.  
 For the Item no.40: about 30.00% of students left school due to Improper seating arrangements in the school.  
 For the Item no.41: about **81.00%** of students dropped out due to Non-availability of schools in surroundings.  
 For the Item no.42: about **62.50%** of students left school due to Improper Transport facility.  
 For the Item no.43: about 55.00% of students left school due to Non-availability of teaching-learning materials.  
 For the Item no.44: only 28.00% of students left school due to Non-availability of Governmental facilities properly.  
 For the Item no.45: Only about 16.50% of students left school due to Punishment from Teachers/Headmasters.

**Table No-5:** showing the percentage responses of the dropout students with respect to item related to **Socio - Economic dimension.**

Items	% of students who Strongly Agreed to the statement	% of students who Undecided answer to the statement	% of students who Dis- Agreed to the statement
46	68.25	02.50	29.25
47	62.50	05.00	32.5
48	45.00	12.00	43.00
49	62.50	05.00	32.50
50	12.50	07.50	80.00
51	81.25	00.00	18.75

52	62.50	07.50	30.00
53	50.00	03.00	47.00
54	68.50	03.50	28.00
55	57.00	03.00	40.00
<b>Total %</b>	<b>57.00</b>	<b>04.90</b>	<b>38.10</b>

From above table it reveals that **57.00** average % of students left the school due to socioeconomic reason and **38.10** average % of students disagreed to the statement left the school due to socioeconomic reason and only **04.90** average % of students gave the answer undecided. The detailed item wise analysis can be seen below.

For the Item no.46: about **68.25%** of students left school due to Caste they belongs.

For the Item no.47: about **62.50%** of students left school due to Disparity from the teacher/students based on the caste.

For the Item no.48: about 45.00% of students left school due to Rigid customs and traditions.

For the Item no.49: about **62.50%** of students left school due to Un-touchability practice in schools.

For the Item no.50: Only 12.50% of students left school due to religious practices.

For the Item no.51: about **81.25%** of students dropped out due to Poor economic conditions of the family.

For the Item no.52: about **62.50%** of students left school due to Immediate need of employment.

For the Item no.53: about 50.00% of students left school due to easy availability of employment/ Demand of labour.

For the Item no.54: about **68.50%** of students left school due to Non-affordable private fees.

For the Item no.55: about 57.00% of students left school due to force from parents to engage in ancestral occupation.

#### MAJOR FINDINGS OF THE STUDY:

Following are the major findings of the study which has been revealed from the careful analysis of the data.

- 87.00% of students dropped out due to no separate school for Girls and Boys.
- 65.25% of students left school due to Education is not linked with available job.
- 80.00% of students left school due to non fulfillment of high expectations of Parents/Teachers.
- 69.00% of students dropped out due to Household Chores
- 65.65% of students left school due to early marriage.
- 65.00% of students left school due to Gender disparity in the Family.
- 62.00% of students left school due to parents forced to do work with them.
- 58.25% of students left school due to Improper curriculum.
- 75.00% of students left school due to Ineffective Methods used by teachers.
- 64.50% of students left school due to No importance for co-curricular activities
- 62.50% of students left school due to no scope for remedial teaching.
- 68.00% of students left school due to Lack of Toilets and Sanitary measures.
- 81.00% of students dropped out due to Non-availability of schools in surroundings.
- 62.50% of students left school due to Improper Transport facility.
- 68.25% of students left school due to Caste they belongs.
- 62.50% of students left school due to Disparity from the teacher/students based on the caste
- 62.50% of students left school due to Un-touchability practice in schools.
- 81.25% of students dropped out due to Poor economic conditions of the family.
- 62.50% of students left school due to Immediate need of employment.
- 68.50% of students left school due to Non-affordable private fees.

#### EDUCATIONAL IMPLICATIONS:

Following are the educational implications of the present study.

1. Education for students up to secondary stage should be made free in all parts of the country, besides, incentives like free supply of books, stationery, uniforms, midday meal, scholarships and stipends should be provided to all SC and ST students irrespective of socioeconomic standard.
2. Separate schools for Girls should be established wherever there is a demand for them. However the same standard and course should be made available in such schools as in co-education schools.
3. More women teachers should be employed and special facilities should be provided to attract them.
4. The school environment should be made more attractive, so that student participation in the education system is greater than at present. Adequate infrastructure facilities like, proper seating arrangement in the class, sufficient toilets for both girls and boys, and special attention should be given for suitable co-curricular activities and sports and games should be made available.

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5. The number of teachers should also be increased to maintain proper student-teacher ratio, and school timing should be made so flexible. The fee of private schools should be minimized and there is a need of establishing controlling body over private schools.
6. The school curriculum should be framed need based and it should be flexible. General and vocational training courses should be combined so that immediate employment can be facilitated. Proper training for teachers to use innovative methodology so that education should be reached to un-reached one.

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