IJCRT.ORG

ISSN: 2320-2882



INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF CREATIVE RESEARCH THOUGHTS (IJCRT)

An International Open Access, Peer-reviewed, Refereed Journal

An In-Depth Analysis Of The Tamil Pudhalvan Scheme: Assessing Its Social And Economic Impact Of Selected Colleges In Coimbatore City

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Abstract

Empowering students through targeted educational initiatives remains a cornerstone of inclusive socioeconomic development. The Tamil Pudhalvan Scheme, launched by the Government of Tamil Nadu, is a
strategic intervention aimed at bridging the financial gap faced by Tamil medium male students in pursuing
higher education. This study explores the level of awareness, accessibility, and perceived effectiveness of the
scheme among students in Coimbatore city. Employing a mixed-methods research approach, the study
collected quantitative data through structured questionnaires from 120 respondents and qualitative insights
via interviews with key stakeholders. The findings reveal that while a moderate awareness of the scheme
exists, detailed understanding regarding eligibility, application procedures, and long-term benefits is limited.
The study highlights that students from urban and better-educated families tend to benefit more, whereas
rural and economically disadvantaged students face barriers due to limited awareness, infrastructure
challenges, and poor institutional implementation. Overall, the Tamil Pudhalvan Scheme is seen as a
promising initiative with considerable potential to enhance employability, reduce dropout rates, and promote
skill development—provided its outreach and implementation mechanisms are further strengthened.

Keywords: Education Policy, Awareness, Tamil Pudhalvan Scheme, Higher Education, Financial Assistance, Skill Development

INTRODUCTION

The Tamil Pudhalvan Scheme is an initiative by the Government of Tamil Nadu aimed at identifying and supporting talented youth, particularly from rural and underserved areas, who display leadership potential and a commitment to social change. The scheme provides financial assistance in the form of scholarships, educational support, and funding for skill development programs to help these young individuals overcome financial barriers and access better educational opportunities. It also offers specialized training to enhance leadership, communication, and other essential skills that can empower them to take on leadership roles within their communities. The scheme connects beneficiaries with mentors, experienced professionals and leaders who offer guidance and support in their personal and professional development. One of the main objectives of the Tamil Pudhalvan Scheme is to create a pool of young leaders who can contribute to the growth and development of Tamil Nadu, especially in rural areas where leadership and skill development opportunities may be limited. By fostering these young leaders, the program aims to address local issues, promote community welfare, and encourage youth participation in governance and social development.

The Tamil Pudhalvan Scheme is a financial assistance initiative for Tamil medium students of State board schools to pursue post SSLC technical and higher education. In this study, we use a mixed method approach to evaluate its design, implementation and impact. Survey and record data quantitative data on the number of beneficiaries, patterns of fund disbursement and enrolment rates in higher education. Quantitative methods include interviews with students, parents, teachers, and policymakers to understand the effectiveness and challenges of the scheme. "The study also compares educational trends both before and after the implementation of the scheme to show its impact on school enrolment and financial constraints. Findings are complemented with secondary data sourced from reports and academic studies to provide a thorough assessment of the scheme's successes and points where their impact could be enhanced. It is a highly welcoming initiative enabling Tamil medium students to pursue higher education without any financial constraints.

The quantitative data available is based on surveys and government records that give information on the number of beneficiaries, fund disbursement pattern and ratio of higher education enrollment. Interviews with students, parents, teachers and policymakers provide qualitative evidence regarding the benefits, challenges and real-world effects of the scheme. A difference in difference analysis of pre and post trend assesses its effectiveness to increase enrollment and reduce the cost barrier. The findings are supplemented by secondary data from reports and academic studies for a thorough evaluation. The study seeks to highlight areas for improvement and to ensure that the scheme is Tamil Pudhalvan Scheme. The Tamil Pudhalvan Scheme is an aid scheme to support students in pursuing higher education while overcoming financial barriers. The study uses a mixed-methods approach, collecting both survey data and existing records for quantitative information. It looks at how the scheme has affected enrolment rates, how funds are distributed, and its overall success in overcoming financial challenges.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Punam Bedi, Pushkar Goleb, Shiyani Dhimanc, Neha Guptad (2020), conducts a study on increase higher education for the students, Blockchain Smart Contract Central Sector Scheme of Scholarship for College and University Students. The primary objective of the study is to automate and improve the existing system, we propose Blockchain based Smart Contract for CSS Scheme. The aim of CSS Scheme is to help the meritorious students belonging to low-income families, in their educational expenses while pursuing their graduation, post-graduation, or some professional courses. This study implements a blockchain-based Smart Contract for the Central Sector Scheme of Scholarships, improving traceability, transparency, and automation. The system was tested against various cyberattacks, with plans for further security enhancements and expansion to a smartphone app.

Prof. Suresh Sharma, Ms. Ankita Singhn (2020), analysed a study about Importance of Scholarship Scheme in Higher Education for Students from the Deprived Sections. The primary objective of the study shows that while the GER in higher education is 26.3%, it rises to 28.25% without SC/ST categories. Means-based scholarships are less common, and most schemes don't fully cover course fees or maintenance, limiting their impact on equity and efficiency in India's higher education system. This reviews central government scholarship schemes in India and students' private expenditure on higher education. It contrasts indirect subsidization (through institutes) with direct subsidization (via scholarships and financial aid). The study evaluates 24 central government scholarships based on their coverage of disadvantaged groups and their ability to cover students' private expenses.

Marsha Lama, (2019), investigated a study on An Evaluation of the Post Matric Scholarship Scheme provided to the tribal students of Darjeeling Municipality. The study examines the educational development among Scheduled Tribe students, the challenges they face, and the effectiveness of post-matric scholarship schemes in promoting their educational progress in the research area. The research design in the study will be descriptive as well as exploratory in nature. Both primary as well as the secondary data have been used. The primary data was collected by interview method from the sampled beneficiaries (Scheduled Tribe students) of the academic year 2017-18 in the proposed research area. The requisite secondary data about the scheme was collected from the office of Backward Classes Welfare Department of Darjeeling.

Hakim Ashfaq Ahmed (2018), analysed the Provision of scholarships in the promotion of higher education. The primary objective of the study is to assess awareness of scholarships in higher education, explore challenges faced during the application process, and gather suggestions from Jammu University students for improving scholarship criteria and amounts. In this research they used descriptive method to collect the data by using self-developed questionnaire technique.from the students pursuing their PG courses in Jammu . The study examines scholarships play a crucial role in higher education by easing financial burdens, reducing student loans, and preventing dropouts. They motivate students to excel academically, improve access to education for disadvantaged groups, and encourage competition, leading to better academic outcomes and improved quality of education. Scholarships also help students focus on their studies by reducing the need for part-time jobs.

Ms.U.R.Punitha, Dr.S.Jeyalakshmi, (2014), conducted a study on awareness on scholarship schemes fostering higher education: with reference to coimbatore . the main objective of the study was This study aims to assess the accessibility of higher education scholarships among students, evaluate their awareness of available scholarship schemes, analyze the impact of scholarships on graduates and research scholars, and identify the challenges faced by applicants during the scholarship application process. This study examines both primary and secondary data and belongs to the descriptive method. The data have been collected among 110 respondents. This study shows that students in Coimbatore have limited interest in high school scholarships. Because of the terrible exchange of words and information sharing. Implementing accessibility campaigns and simplifying implementation strategies can improve awareness and achieve access rights. By helping with educational growth Regional economy and society.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The Tamil Pudhalvan Scheme aims to improve the skills and job prospects of young people in Tamil Nadu. Also, it is important to assess whether the scheme is truly helping these individuals socially and economically. The fund was initiated to address the economic challenges faced by Tamil medium students in accessing higher education. Many students particularly from economically weak backgrounds are still finding it hard to afford higher education despite the various government initiatives. The study also finds how well the scheme is working, whether it reaches people in both rural and urban areas equally This paper attempts to examine whether the scheme has aided removal of economic barriers increasing enrolment rates and helping the students to access quality education and identify any challenges or gaps in the scheme's design and suggest ways to improve its impact.

SCOPE OF THE STUDY

In this study, we examine the implementation and impact of the Tamil Pudhalvan Scheme on Tamil medium higher education students, in terms of quantitative data including the number of beneficiaries (participants), total funding for the scheme, and the status and share of funded enrolments. The scheme intends to eliminate the disconnect between standard academic learning and the kinds of skills needed in the work place. This guidance and career counselling prepares students using various mechanisms to align their academic studies to their career aspirations, with a model that clearly considers equity for disadvantaged groups.

OBJECTIVES

- To explore the main goals of the Tamil Pudhalvan Scheme in improving students' skills and employability
- To evaluate how the scheme helps students gain relevant job skills
- To identify the challenges of the scheme and suggest possible improvements.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The research methodology is the overall plan for finishing a research project. It involves all the procedures on data collection and analysis together with the theoretical framework guiding the study. The defined research methodology is thus essential to the completion of the research process, making it rigorous, reliable, and valid.

Research Design

- Sampling Size: 120 respondents
- Sampling Technique: Random Sampling Technique
- Statistical Tools used: Percentage Analysis, Likert scale analysis, Chi Square Test, Frequency Table
- **Primary Data:** Collected 120 respondents through the questionnaire
- Secondary Data: Journals, books and websites

LIMITATIONS

- The study is limited to Coimbatore district, and therefore the study cannot be extended to other areas.
- The sample size is limited to 120 respondents.
- The study is purely based on the opinion of the students

FINDINGS:

- Majority 45% (54) of the respondents belong to the category of 19 years.
- Majority 59.2% (71) of the respondents are male.
- Majority 49.2% (59) of the respondents are from undergraduate degree
- Majority 52.5% (63) of the respondents are from city.
- Majority 56.7% (68) of the respondents are 4 members in family.
- Majority 37.5% (45) of the respondents are earning monthly income of Rs.1,00,001-Rs.1,80,000.
- The majority, 62.5% (75) of the respondents are Somewhat aware about the Tamil pudalvan scheme
- The majority, 43.3% (52) of the respondents are problem-solving skills from the Tamil Pudhalvan Scheme
- The majority 55.8% (67) respondents are somewhat accessible for rural and underprivileged background.
- The majority 51.7% (62) respondents are satisfied for the quality of training provided under the scheme
- The majority 33.3% (40) respondents are Poor implementation at institutional levels are the challenges faced by the students pursuing the Tamil pudhalvan scheme
- The majority 46.7% (56) respondents are moderately relevant for the skills provided by the Tamil pudhalvan scheme
- The majority 43.3% (52) respondents are Better guidance and counselling services for skills provided by the Tamil pudhalvan scheme
- The majority 55.8% (67) respondents are Likely recommend the Tamil pudhalvan scheme to other students
- The majority 55.8% (67) respondents respondents are Provide more infrastructure and resources the further strengthening the Tamil pudhalvan scheme.
- The majority 48.3% (58) respondents are the respondents are moderately important in the gap between education and employment
- The majority 48.8% (49) of respondents are neutral in skill development for employability
- The majority 51.7% (62) of respondents are Manufacturing and engineering as skill development for employability
- The majority 63.3% (76) of respondents are partially aligned in current industry requirements
- The Likert value is 2.11, which is slightly below the midpoint value of 3. This suggests that students are agreed with the overall importance of Tamil pudhalvan.
- The Likert value is 3.22, which is slightly above the midpoint value of 3. This suggests that students are agreed with the overall importance of financial assistance in Tamil pudhalvan.
- The Likert value is 3.65, which is slightly above the midpoint value of 3. This suggests that students are agreed with the overall importance of job related skills.
- The Likert value is 3.6, which is slightly above the midpoint value of 3. This suggests that students are agreed with the overall importance of relevant soft skills.
- The Likert value is 3.75, which is slightly above the midpoint value of 3. This suggests that students are agreed with the overall importance of securing a better job in the future.
- The Likert value is 3.77, which is slightly above the midpoint value of 3. This suggests that students are agreed with the overall importance of additional career-oriented training.

• The majority of respondents prefer better career opportunities and improved confidence and selfreliance. The lower ranking of financial support for my education occurs rare as per the common issue of home delivery service.

SUGGESTION

- The study indicates that problem-solving skills are the most gained (43.3%). However, technical skills, leadership, and management skills need further emphasis.
- More accountability mechanisms should be in place to ensure the intended benefits reach students.
- Since 48.3% of respondents find this gap moderately important, strengthening vocational training and job placement support can be beneficial.
- Industry-aligned skill development, especially in manufacturing and healthcare, should be prioritized.
- Training programs under the scheme should be tailored to meet industry requirements, as only 11.7% of respondents believe it is fully aligned.
- Strengthening internships and apprenticeships with real-world applications can improve alignment.

CONCLUSION

Based on the analysis of the Tamil Pudhalvan Scheme, which has transformed the employability of Tamil Nadu youth through skill development, some areas for improvement were identified. Such as poorly executed service provisions, poor awareness of the service by the person seeking employment and/or service users, and deficiencies in training places and recruitment. Generally, home delivery services are conducive, yet there were some deficiencies related to prior communication, transparency in cost disclosure, and flexible working arrangement changes. Addressing these and major concerns with structured interventions and thoughtful collaboration with the industry or institution will improve the effectiveness of the Tamil Pudhalvan Scheme and associated services. This study identified the flexibility of delivery times, and capacity to create alternative service delivery experiences as major components to adaptability in the service industry, especially when determining home delivery options. There is a good chance to constructively gain a competitive advantage for companies pursuing consumer needs, and to provide a better quality and quantity delivery service expectation.

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