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ENVISAGE

Students' Research Journal

Editorial

Envisage is an inter-disciplinary students' research journal. The research papers written by the students have been reviewed by the Research Committee and edited under the guidance of faculty mentors. It is an initiative to give the students an opportunity to develop critical thinking skills and writing skills needed to succeed in academia. This journal is intended to provide a forum for students to explore their knowledge of current affairs and express their views on subjects relating to economics, trade, business, international affairs and social sciences.

The objectives of this research journal are as follows:

- To increase students' knowledge and promote their interest in future career research.
- To provide a medium to explore their knowledge related to current affairs and express their views.
- To develop analytical and critical skills and enhance their academic exposure.
- To enrich the academic education through experiencing the research publication process.

The current issue contains research articles on varied topics such as parenting, parental approach on adoption, psychological impact of Covid-19, Impact Of Moonlighting On Labour Markets, Economics of oil, Economics of opium, mobile banking for cashless economy, financial awareness, financial literacy and education, public policy related to environment, ideological gap between young adults and adults, impact of experiential learning, School bag weight, information technology in the agricultural sector.

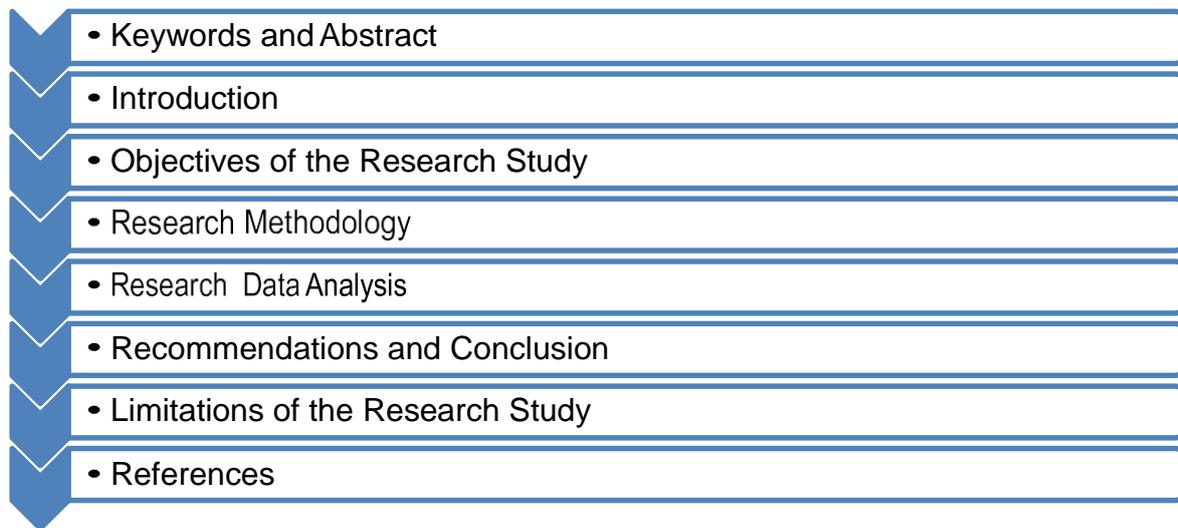
Envisage also allows students to participate in the editing, review, and publication processes. We anticipate that Envisage will provide an interesting venue for young students to participate in research efforts in a variety of themes that foster the growth of students

GUIDELINES FOR RESEARCHERS

“Envisage” strives to open the doors of research for young students and academicians. It presents to you papers from varied fields in a structured and organised manner.

Manuscript:

The manuscript has the following flow:



Research

It includes research articles that focus on the analysis of economic, political, social, business and other related issues which impact the economy as well as society.

References

Through the text there are references and sources of knowledge which the authors have used. Citing those is important because good research is thought to be based on knowledge and empirical (observed) evidence.

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ENVISAGE
Students' Research Journal

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COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH OF PARENTAL ADOPTION IN INDIA: A QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS WITH ADOPTION OF OLDSTERS

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Abstract:

The purpose of this research study is to make people aware of the concept of 'Parental Adoption'. The main goal of this research project is to adopt elderly parents who have either been abandoned by their biological children or have no children. They feel that their life is full of negligence and loneliness, and they lose hope for life. Through this adoption, they become full and permanent legal members of their new family while maintaining their psychological and financial ties with them. Data were collected using a phenomenological methodology and analysis of the data was guided by several research questions. The information was collected from a variety of sources including interviews with psychologists, lawyers, insurance agents, old age home managers, various website portals and a survey conducted in which we received 80 responses. The hypothesis of this study is to identify four aspects related to parental adoption, including psychological, legal, insurance, and financial aspects. The result of this research paper is to determine whether adoption of elderly people by middle-aged adults seeking parental love is possible during the era of leaving them in lurch (abandonment).

Keywords: Parental Adoption, Key Aspects: Psychology, Law, Finance, Insurance, Elderly, Abandonment.

Introduction:

Parental Adoption in India: Adoption is a legal proceeding that creates an arranged relation between persons not related by blood. Adoption is increasingly being understood as a lifelong process. The characteristics of this adoption itself is to create a distinctive ecosystem that is associated with a family's needs and likelihood of seeking parental affection.

Parental Adoption is the social, emotional, and legal process in which elderly people become full and permanent legal members of another family while maintaining similar psychological and financial connections to the adopter family. Parental Adoption is covered under Four Aspects: **Psychological, Legal, Insurance and Finance.**

A. *Psychological Aspects:*

In Parental Adoption, some parents' behavior changes happen and it takes time to adjust among the new environment. The behaviors learned and shaped in institutionalized living (or in foster homes in India), as well as those which result due to a major disruption in life, may require special attention. Generally after interacting with the elderly people from an Old Age Home, we can state that they have some expectations post adoption, which might determine their Behavioral Changes in near future.

These are their expectations:

- Warm and Homely Environment.
- Taking proper care and spending time with them.
- Getting engaged with various recreational activities.
- Getting love and affection which they were longing for.
- Having a good bonding and compatibility with the family.

It is important for the adopter family to understand the process of attachment and the ways to facilitate healthy attachment after adoption. Some adoptees report feeling supported

and nurtured by their adoptive families; others feel misplaced or struggle with feelings of abandonment, grief, or guilt.

B. Legal Aspects:

Intergenerational justice is a principle of natural justice. A generation that ignores their own parents, commits crimes, grows old and suffers the same fate. Inclusion of Parental Adoption under Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA) should be done.

The legal eligibility criteria must be introduced by the government for adopting a parent in nearfuture by considering the following terms and condition:-

- 1) The prospective adopting middle aged adult must be in good health, have stable mental health and financial health, and be free of any serious illnesses.
- 2) Consent of both spouses is required.
- 3) Either senior citizen of any gender may be adopted by a single female.
- 4) Unmarried men are ineligible to adopt female senior citizens.
- 5) There must be at least a 20 year age difference between the adoptive middle aged adultand the oldster.
- 6) Middle aged adults are not permitted to adopt a parent if they have a biological parent.

The following legal procedure must be introduced for adopting a parent in near future byconsidering the following terms and condition:-

- 1) The adoptive middle aged adult shall register in the Central Adoption Resource Authority System and follow due legal procedure as when released by the Central Adoption Resource Authority
- 2) The consent of the senior citizen must be taken into consideration
- 3) Affidavit of adoptive middle aged adult is required in cases of in-country relative adoptions in support of their financial and social status
- 4) The adoption of elderly person by an adopter shall file an application in the competent court in accordance with the guidelines when released by the Central Adoption Resource Authority.

C. Financial Aspects:

Growing your family through adoption can be a wonderful experience. There is really no price tag on the love you share with a child. At the same time, it is important to consider the costs associated with adopting, and they can vary significantly depending on the path you take.

The three paths that people take to adopt children are through:

Paths	Cost
NGO Senior Citizen Homes	Inexpensive
Public or Private Agency	Expensive
International Adoptions.	Most Expensive

The Financial Planning to be done before adoption:

- I. Plan early and get the basics in place:* Prior to commencing the process of adopting an aged person, it is important for you to have a firm grasp on your financial situation. Know what your assets (savings and investments) and liabilities (debts) are. Also consider your current income and expenses.
- II. Ensure Sufficient Liquid Assets:* Apart from ensuring that the concerned adult has a stable job, and work experience of at least five-seven years, adoption agencies also focus on the corpus of liquid assets available. Typically, an individual looking to adopt, should have a corpus of Rs 5 - 30 lakhs in liquid instruments, like bank fixed deposits, mutual funds and stocks.
- III. Fees associated with adoption:* All families will take part in a home study, where a certified representative will visit the prospective family's home to learn more about them and determine if a family is a good match for. The fees for adoptions that take place through the NGO Senior Citizen Homes may be waived, while private adoptions may cost some.
- IV. Budgeting for additional requirements:* An adopter would need to effectively juggle between the job and the responsibility of taking care of the senior citizen. Given the long hours that professionals increasingly spend at their workplaces, the adopter may require an attendant or other family member to keep them suitably occupied.

The possible expenditures might arise after adoption are:

- ❖ Daily Medical Expenditure

- ❖ Holistic Healing fees
- ❖ Basic needs expenses [Balanced food diet, Daily clothing, House for Residence]
- ❖ Recreational Activity Expenditure
- ❖ Insurance Related Expenditure, etc.

The above given financial aspects must be taken into consideration to mitigate financial crisis post adoption.

D. Insurance Aspects:

There are many reasons one might choose adoption, but the end result is the same: fulfill families' lives. It is an exciting, emotional and sometimes even challenging process. The adoption itself can be a lengthy affair, involving many steps and procedures that need to be followed. But after the age of 60, the chances of getting an insurance cover is very rare with options getting limited and higher premiums. The premium amount might vary looking at their health condition. Insurance policy premium is proportional to age and health illness factor. Some insurance covers which can be covered are:

Sr. No.	Health Insurance Plans for Senior Citizens	Age Criteria	Sum Insured (in Rs)	Pre-existing Diseases Waiting Period
1	Care Senior Health Insurance Plan	Min: 61 years Max: Lifelong	Min: 3 lakh Max: 10 lakh	4 years
3	Future Generali Varishta Bima Plan	Min: 60 years Max: No age limit	Min: 2 lakh Max: 10 lakh	1 year
4	Niva Bupa (Formerly known as Max Bupa) Senior First Health Insurance Plan	Min: 61 years Max: 75 years	Min: 5 lakh Max: 25 lakh	2 years
5	National Senior Citizen Mediclaim Policy	Min: 60 years Max: 80 years	Min:- 1 lakh Max: 10 lakh	2 years

Objectives of Studies:

1. To study Parental adoption scenarios in India.
2. To study the challenges faced in Adoption.
3. To understand the four aspects of adoption mainly: Psychological, legal, Financial and Insurance.

Literature Review:

1. *Name of Article/ Journal:* The Official Gazette of Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act.
Name of Author: Ministry of Law and Justice (Legislative Department)
Year of Publication: 2016 (Amended on 2021)
Journal Review: In this Article, the CARA [Central Adoption Resource Authority] mentions the meaning of adoption. In the official gazette of Juvenile Justice Act 2015, we have referred to some definitions related to adopting a child, which has been used for comparative study with Parent Adoption.
2. *Name of Article/ Journal:* Financial planning required to adopt a child by Economics Times
Name of Author: Amrit Mathur
Year of Publication: 2010
Journal Review: In this Article, the author discusses the financial planning to be done before adoption. Here, the author has also mentioned the required financial measures to be taken and minimum requirement of Liquid Assets to be needed post adoption.
3. *Name of Article/ Journal:* Life Insurance and Adoption.
Name of Author: Zhaneta Gechev
Year of Publication: 2021
Journal Review: In this Article, the author has given an overview about Insurance and requirements for getting insurance cover after the age of 60+ years. Here, she has also mentioned about the limited options and the proportional factors related to age and illness levels.

Note: The above mentioned references for literature review were mentioned mostly on the basis of Child Adoption, which has been used for making a comparative study for Parental Adoption.

Research Methodology:

Definition of the Issue: Understanding and analyzing the possibility of Parental Adoption in India.

Age group: Different age groups are considered for study starting from 18 years till 50+ years.

Hypothesis:

H0 – There is no significant relationship between Psychological and Legal.

H1 – There is a significant relationship between Insurance and Finance.

These two variables were proved using Anova and T testing tools

Sample selected for study: Total sample selected is 80; Stratified random sampling is selected for study

Sources of data collection: Different sources of data are Primary Data and Secondary Data.

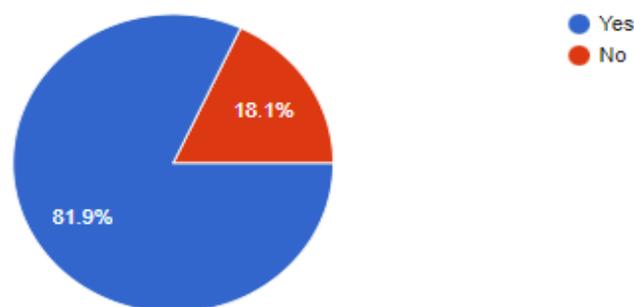
1] **Primary Data:** For this research project primary data was collected, using a self-administered survey through Google Survey Form, for which a questionnaire was created and posted on google docs, 80 responses were collected, some discussion sessions are also being done with Psychologists, Faculty specialized in the field of insurance and accounting & finance, NGO Old Age Home Management and Senior Citizens.

2] **Secondary Data:** For this research project, we referred from various websites, internet searches, other research papers, government databases, etc. about child adoption and to study psychological, legal, financial and insurance aspects. The above references were used to have a comparative understanding of parent adoption.

Statistical tools used for analysis of data: The statistical tools used in the study are tables, pie charts and bar graphs.

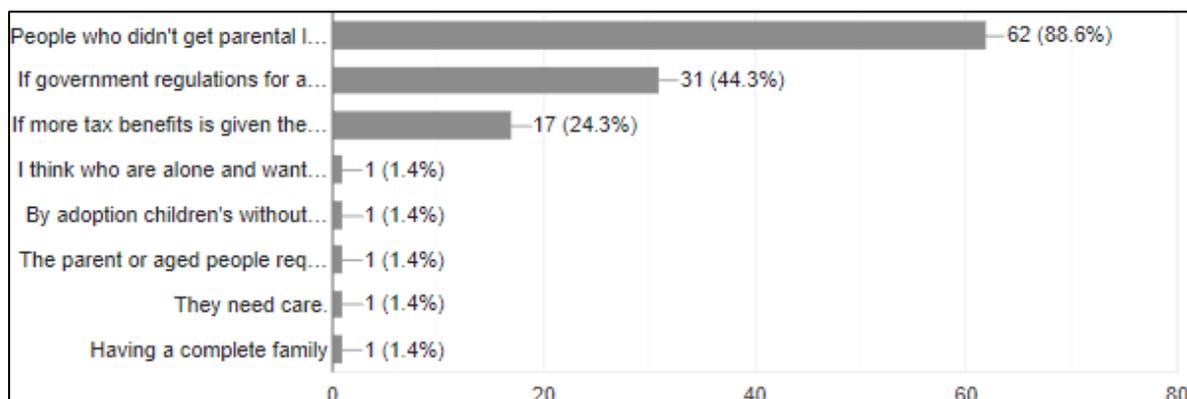
Data Analysis:

Fig. 1 Possibility of Adopting a Parent / Old Aged Person



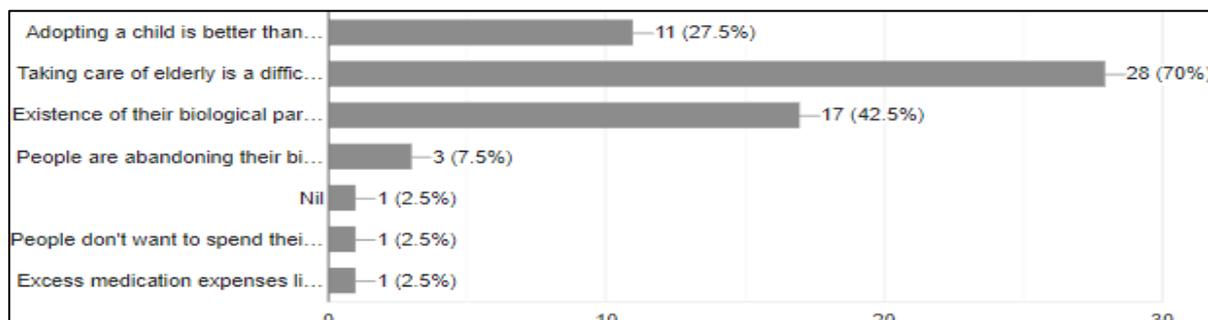
In this pie chart, we have analyzed the possibility of adopting an Aged Person in today's era. Through this chart, we have depicted the responses in which 81.9% have agreed that it is possible to adopt them.

Fig. 2 If adoption is possible, then why



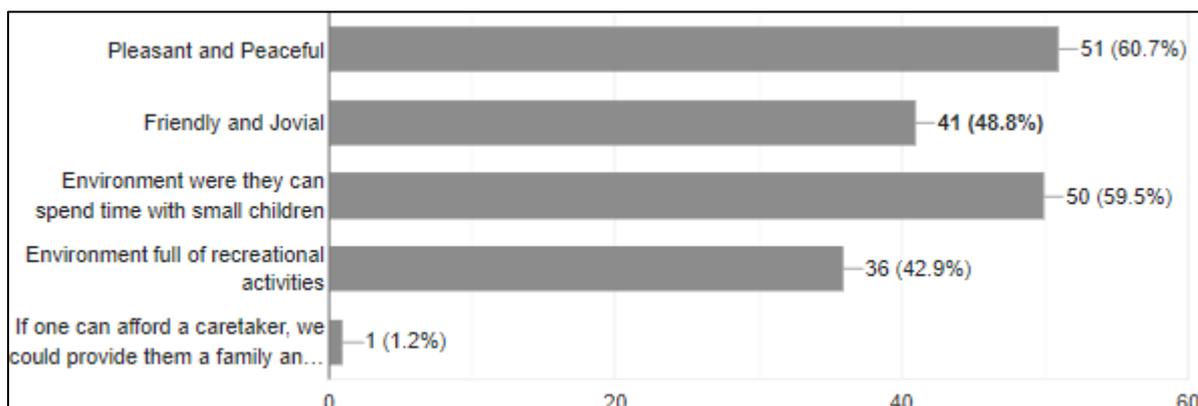
In this horizontal bar diagram, we have analyzed the answers from responses received which are supportive of the concept of adopting a parent. Here, we received the highest number of responses i.e. 62 (88.6%) responses in which people who didn't get parental love will adopt. This shows that willingness of people who didn't receive parental love and care during their childhood will be more.

Fig 3. If adoption is not possible, then why?



In this fig. 3 horizontal bar diagram, we have analyzed the answers from responses received which are not supportive of the concept of adopting a parent. Here, we received the highest number of responses i.e. 28 (70%) responses in which taking care of elderly people is a difficult task and a big responsibility.

Fig 4. The environment which can be provided for them



In this fig. 4 horizontal bar diagram, we have analyzed the answers from responses received for the environment to be provided for them. Here, we received the highest number of responses i.e. 51 (60.7%) responses mentioning a pleasant and peaceful environment.

In fig. 5 horizontal bar diagram, we have analyzed the answers from responses received for the challenges possible for adopter family post adoption. Here, we received the highest number of responses i.e. 40 (47.6%) responses proper Balanced diet especially home made food every time.

Fig 5. Challenges possible for adopter (Person Adopting) family post adoption

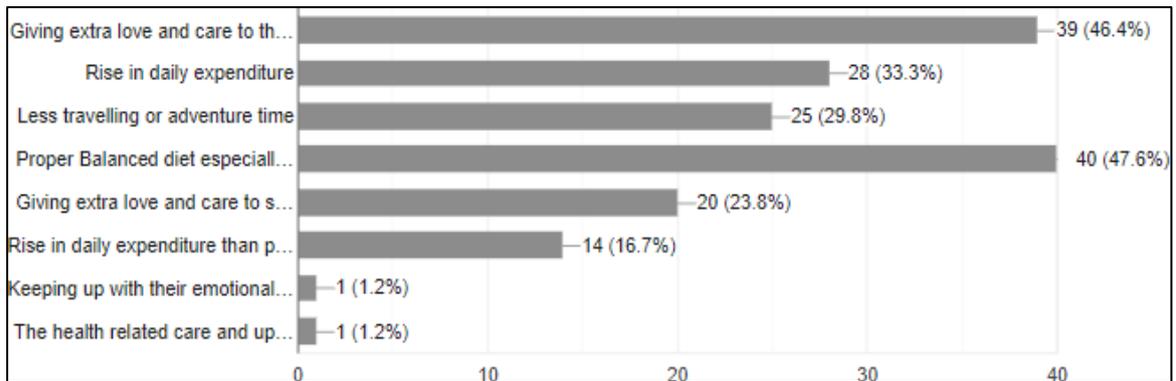
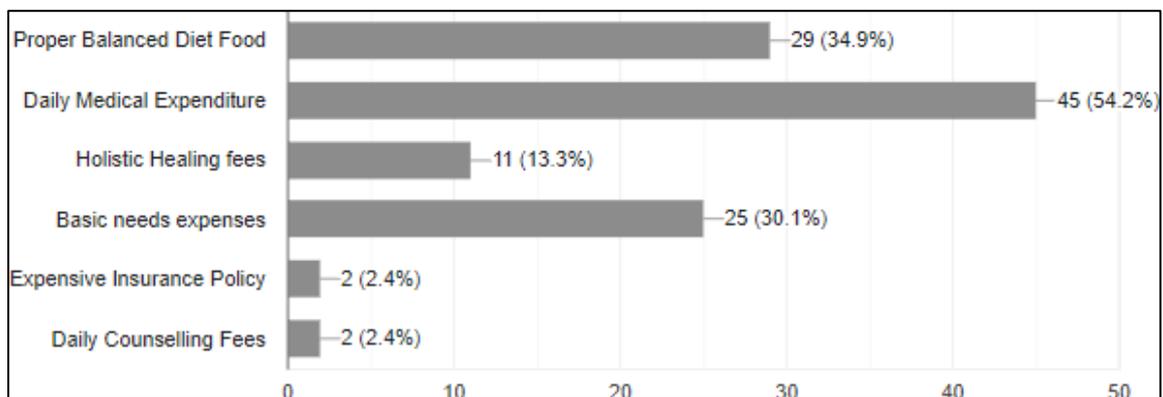
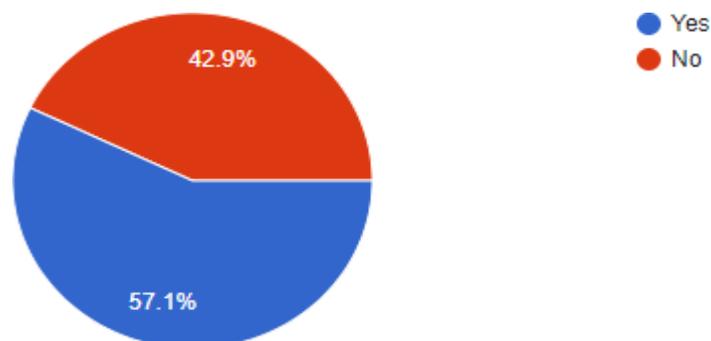


Fig 6. Financial expenditure possibilities for Adopter Family post adoption



In this fig. 6 horizontal bar diagram, we have analyzed the answers from responses received for the financial expenditure to be arised for the adopter. Here, we received the highest number of responses i.e. 45 (54.2%) responses mentioning daily medical expenditure.

Fig 7. Respondents willingness to adopt a parent after availing Tax Benefit option



In this fig. 7 pie chart, we have analyzed the answers from responses received for the respondents willingness to adopt a parent if they get a tax benefit option. Through this chart, we have depicted the responses in which 57.1% have agreed that they are willing to adopt.

Hypothesis Testing Result Analysis:

Particulars	Yes	No
Mean	17	3.75
Variance	191.3333	0.916667
Observations	4	4
Pearson Correlation	0.956448	
Hypothesized Mean Difference	1	
df	3	
t Stat	1.89634	
P(T<=t) one-tail	0.027093	
t Critical one-tail	2.353363	
P(T<=t) two-tail	0.044187	
t Critical two-tail	3.182446	

The result of the test shows that the significant value is 0.044187 which is less than 0.05. Thus the Nullhypothesis is rejected.

From the above table, it can be interpreted that the estimated age and financial factors are dependent. Thus it can be understood that financial factors and social factors are interrelated.

Anova Test and T Test is used for proving:

H0 -No significant relationship between Psychological and Legal

H1 - Significant relationship between Insurance and finance.

Result Analysis:

Parental Adoption is a distinctive, unique and unexplored concept. This paper is made for:

- to study the Parent adoption scenario in India,
- to study the challenges faced in Adoption, and
- to study Parental Adoption by doing a comparative study with child adoption.

Usually, when the word “Adoption” is depicted, we generally consider Child Adoption and Pet Adoption, not Parent Adoption.

This paper has stated that most of the senior citizens had a positive outlook towards parental adoption but few of them were against it. Most of the elderly people whom we interviewed mentioned that they are willing to be adopted if there are certain conditions and criteria to be fulfilled by the adopter. Some have mentioned that getting a same aged partner instead of adopting is a better option.

Here, we have used Anova Test and T Test for Hypothesis Testing. The result of the test shows that the significant value is 0.044186897891167 which is less than 0.05. Thus the Null hypothesis is rejected. It can be interpreted that the estimated age and financial factors are dependent.

Suggestions:

- The government should inculcate the procedures and eligibility criterias for Parental Adoption under the branch of CARA.
- The Legal Regulation from eligibility to the adoption procedures, should also be inculcated by the Ministry of Law and Justice (Legislative Department) in Juvenile Justice Act, 2015.
- The Ministry of Law and Justice should formulate a new section in JJ Act, 2015 for Senior Citizens Adoption.
- The claim procedures for Insurance should be more lenient for Senior Citizens Plans and should be made little stringent in order to safeguard them from any fraudulent offenses.
- The government should come up with some financial aids and schemes for adopting a elderly person.

- The adopter should compulsorily consult a counselor before adopting a parent.
- The government should give tax benefits over and above prevailing benefits for an adopter.

Limitation of Study:

- Only Mumbai and Coimbatore were selected for study.
- All conclusions are drawn on the basis of only 80 samples.
- Only 4 major aspects of adoption are covered under this project.
- In this project risk and mitigation of those aspects were not being considered.
 - A. For Psychological aspects few behavioral changes were considered
 - B. In the Legal aspects major focus was on eligibility and an overview on the legal procedure.
 - C. The Insurance Aspect study was not done on risk and its mitigation.
 - D. In the Financial Aspect some aspects of budgeting were being considered.

Conclusion:

It is certain that Parental Adoption in India might be possible after analyzing various aspects and data. There might be many challenges, however with appropriate precautions and adjustments, Parental Adoption can be possible. The central government and the state governments need to be lenient in adopting procedures and stringent in punishment charges and more attentive towards this avenue. The government might introduce some financial schemes and aids for encouraging Parental Adoption among youths and middle aged adults.

Public Awareness for Parental Adoption should also be promoted which might help the adopter and adoptee to have a family, both getting love and affection from both the parties. Their life expectancy might increase after getting adopted. This concept should be explored in more detailed manner to increase the number of adoptions among them.

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STUDY ON IMPACT OF SINGLE PARENTING ON THE OVERALL DEVELOPMENT OF A CHILD

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Abstract:

The most fundamental unit of society is the family. The perspectives of both parents give the child a lens through which to perceive the world and a foundation on which to build his or her own identity. In contrast, a single-parent in a family is responsible for all parental authority. As a result, the researchers have examined how it affects a child's physical, mental, moral, and social development. A survey had been conducted by using convenience and stratified sampling method to collect primary data. The researcher discovered that, in comparison to dual-parent families, single-parenting has detrimental effects on children based on the responses of the respondents from single-parent families. Lack of assistance from extended families, a lack of quality time spent with parents, and communication issues maybe to blame.

Keywords: single-parenting, overall development, boy child, girl child, negative impact, growth hindrance

Introduction:

A family is the most microscopic and fundamental part of a society. It has a significant impact on the child's physical, mental, moral, and social development and is the first socializing agent the infant interacts with. The child's education and upbringing in accordance with societal standards and values is the family's primary duty. It has been noted that a person's early years in the home establish the foundation for who they will become in society. In these formative years, adults have the ability to influence a child's mind in a particular way. For the youngster, the family acts as a source of first impressions and references. A child gains knowledge of life outside from the family and uses those experiences as a roadmap for future attempts.

In a child's developmental years, these memories and encounters serve as lessons, and both parents' viewpoints provide the child with the lens through which to view the world and the platform upon which to construct his/her own identity. So, having both parents around improve a child's mental development and cognitive abilities. These are the fundamental abilities which everyone needs in order to function in daily life.

However, there are some situations in families where a single-parent shoulders the responsibility of absolute parenting. These include separations of all kinds, including divorce, denied paternity, and death of either spouse. The breakdown of family structures, which has a negative impact on children's development in particular, is still a problem for society. An in-depth investigation of the phenomenon was therefore required in light of the fast-expanding single-parent population and its effects on the children raised in such families.

The study is conducted in two different aspects-

1. Issues that children in single-parent families face as a result of divorce.
2. Issues that children in single-parent families face when either spouse passes away.

Literature Review:

Erikson's (1902-1994) theory of development, which considers development across

the lifespan and divides the phases of maturity into those experienced by young adults, middle-aged adults, and older people, was chosen for the study because many developmental theories only cover up to adulthood. Erikson's theory is referred to as "psychosocial development" since it integrates personal, emotional, and social development rather than concentrating on one component of human evolution.

Bandura (1977) proposes that people occasionally imitate the behavior of others by representing it in their minds. The social learning theory by Bandura, which sees behavior as a learnt process, is appropriate for our study. It is rooted in the belief that children pick up manners from watching their parents or other significant others behaving in a particular manner.

Research Objectives:

1. To understand the impact of single-parenting on the children.
2. To analyze and scrutinize the effects on the children in single-parent families and dual-parent families.

Research Hypothesis:

The purpose of this study is to determine whether or not single-parenting has an impact on the development of a child.

1. Hypothesis 1

H0=There is no impact on the overall development of a child.

H1a=There is a great impact on the overall development of a child.

H1b=There is an insignificant impact on the overall development of a child.

2. Hypothesis 2

H0=There is no difference in level of impact between girl child and boy child

H1a=There is a greater impact on the boy child as compared to a girl.

H1b=There is a greater impact on the girl child as compared to the boy child

Scope of Research:

Single-parenting is one of the western trends that is getting momentum quickly. Therefore, it is crucial to analyze whether it has a predominantly favorable, neutral, or adverse influence. Despite an increase in single-parent families, the existence of single-parent child is still being questioned in society. A child from single-parent family encounters numerous hurdles in society. Therefore, the children are more stressed, which affects their overall development. So, the need to study this phenomenon is also parallelly increasing. The topic is need of an hour as it has the impact of these trends on the impressionable youth is also a reason to study the impact of single-parenting on child's development.

Social Relevance:

This particular topic has monumental social relevance as it is one of the rapidly spreading trends among today's youth which considers Single-Parenting to be just another futuristic western trend to be followed but it doesn't comprehend the fact that their children today, will be Pillars of the Nation tomorrow.

Research Methodology:

Data Collection Technique:

Primary data-Survey Method

Secondary data-Internet, Journals, Articles, and Previous Research Papers.

Sampling Unit:The sample is taken from an available population.

Sampling Size: 138 responses

Sampling Technique:Convenience and Stratified sampling

Data analysis techniques: Descriptive statistic techniques involving percentage, ratio, mean.

Limitations of the Study:

The limitations of the study are as follows: -

1. The survey is limited to those in their teens and older.

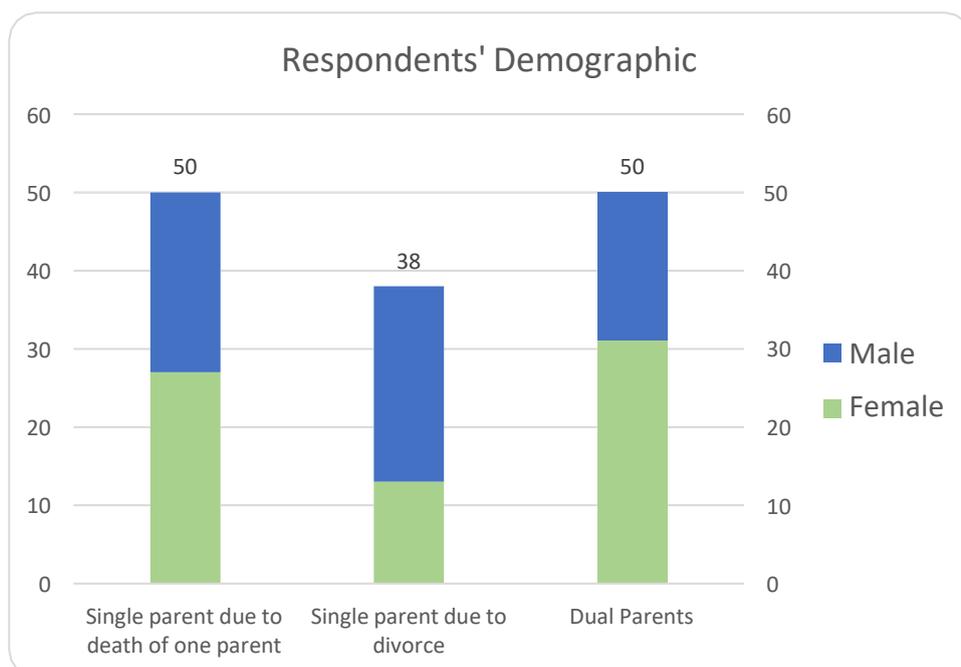
2. The search is restricted to individuals whose single-parenting began during the first 20 years of their life.
3. The researchers did not compare the parenting styles of male and female parents as parenting is an abstract relationship which is the ultimate form of love and affection for ones' own child.
4. Influence of siblings on parental assistance is not considered, (Mabuza, N; Thwala, SK; Okeke, CIO)
5. Due to time, budgetary, and geographic limitations, the study did not cover a widearea.

This reduced the likelihood of drawing broad conclusions about how single-parenting affects children's psychosocial development.

Data Analysis & Interpretation:

Respondent's Demographic

	Single-parent due to death of one parent	Single-parent due to divorce	Dual parents
Male	23 (46%)	25 (66%)	19 (38%)
Female	27 (54%)	13 (34%)	31 (62%)
Total	50	38	50

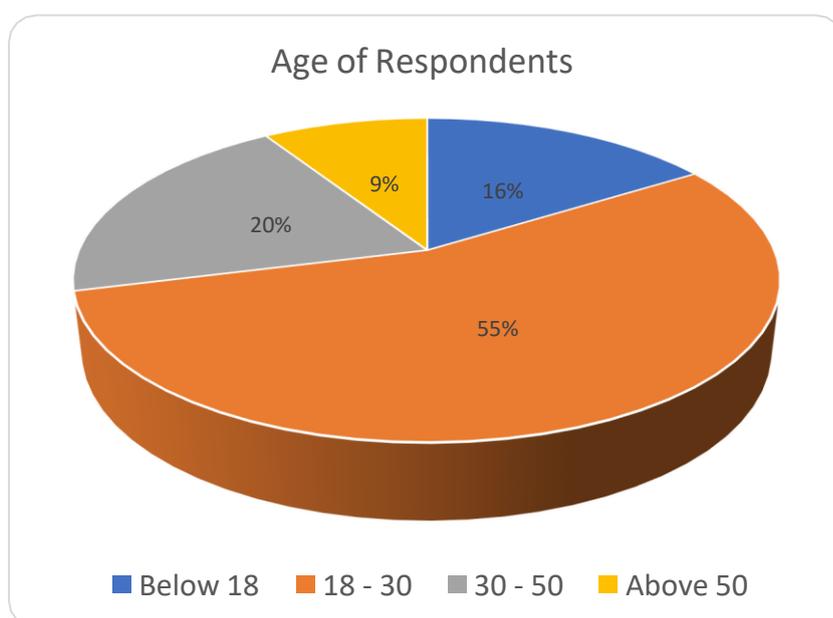


(Please note that lighter shade represents female perspective while darker shade represents that of male.)

The total number of respondents for the research are 138; out of which 50 respondents belonged to dual-parent families whereas 38 were from single-parent families as a result of divorce and the rest belonged to single-parent families as a result of death of one parent.

Age of respondents

Age of respondents	No. of respondents
Below 18	22 (15.9%)
18 - 30	77 (55%)
30- 50	27 (19.6%)
Above 50	12(8.7%)

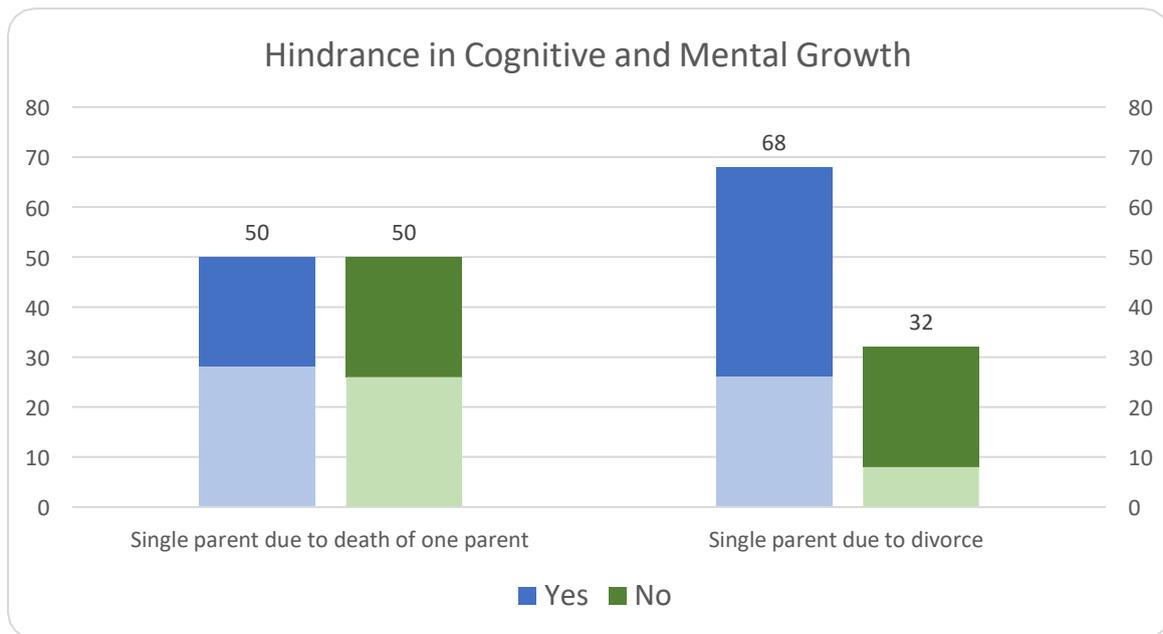


Interpretation

According to the above pie chart, 55% of respondents are between the ages of 18 and 30, while respondents above the age of 50 bring up the smallest percentage of respondents.

Hindrance in Cognitive and mental growth

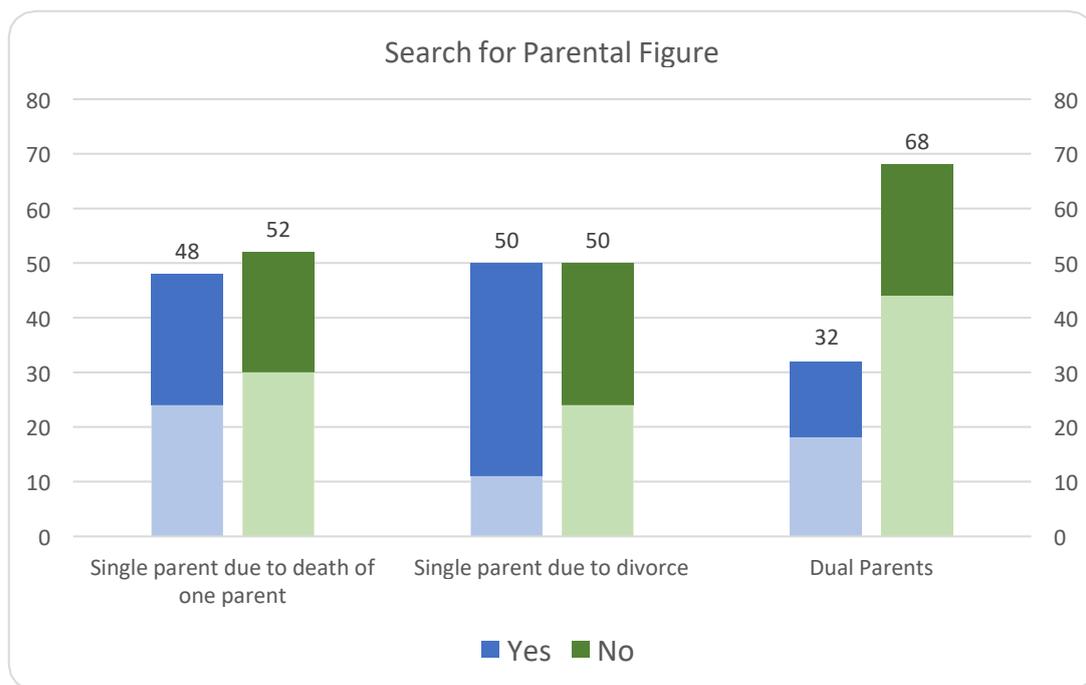
	Single-parent due to death of one parent			Single-parent due to divorce		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Yes	11 (44%)	14 (56%)	25 (50%)	16 (62%)	10 (38%)	26 (68%)
No	12 (48%)	13 (52%)	25 (50%)	9 (75%)	3 (25%)	12 (32%)
Sub-total			50			38



Interpretation- Here, it is shown that children who have a single-parent due to divorce experience more limitations than children who have a single-parent due to death of one parent. Speaking specifically of gender, males are more hindered in case of divorce and females are hindered more in case of parental death.

Search for Parental Figure

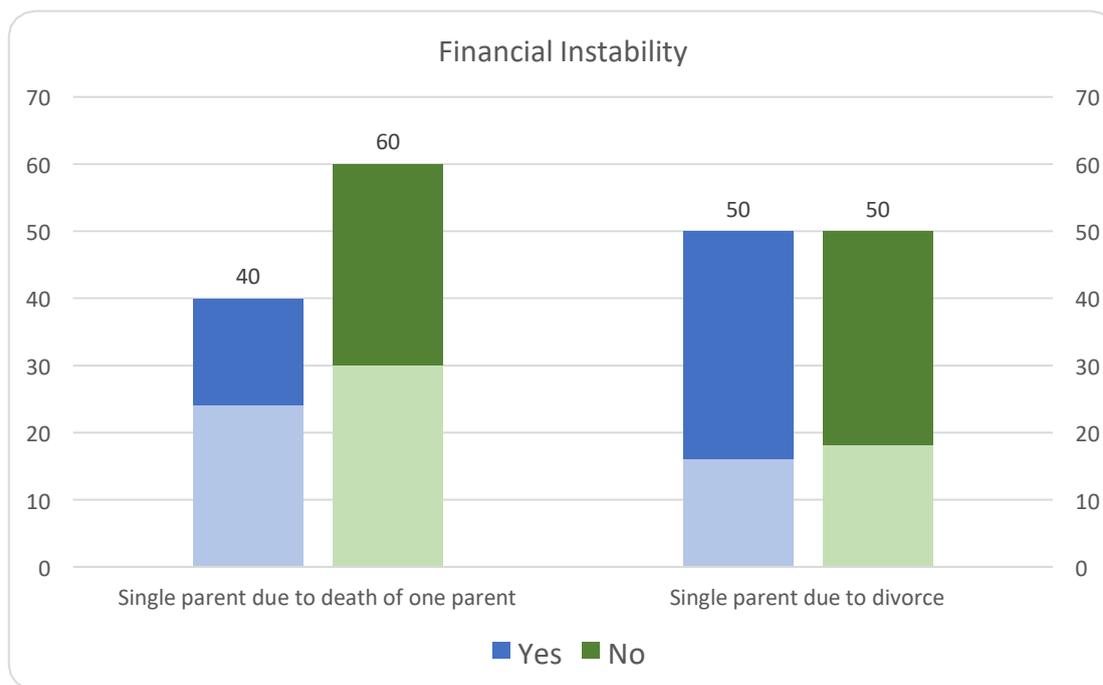
	Single-parent due to death of one parent			Single-parent due to divorce			Dual parents		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Yes	12 (50%)	12 (50%)	24 (48%)	15 (79%)	4 (21%)	19 (50%)	7 (44%)	9 (56%)	16 (32%)
No	11 (42%)	15 (58%)	26 (52%)	10 (53%)	9 (47%)	19 (50%)	12 (35%)	22 (65%)	34 (68%)
Sub-total			50			38			50



Interpretation - According to the responses received, the bar graph shows that children who have a single-parent due to divorce seek for a parental figure more frequently, and the ratio of men to women is higher.

Financial Instability

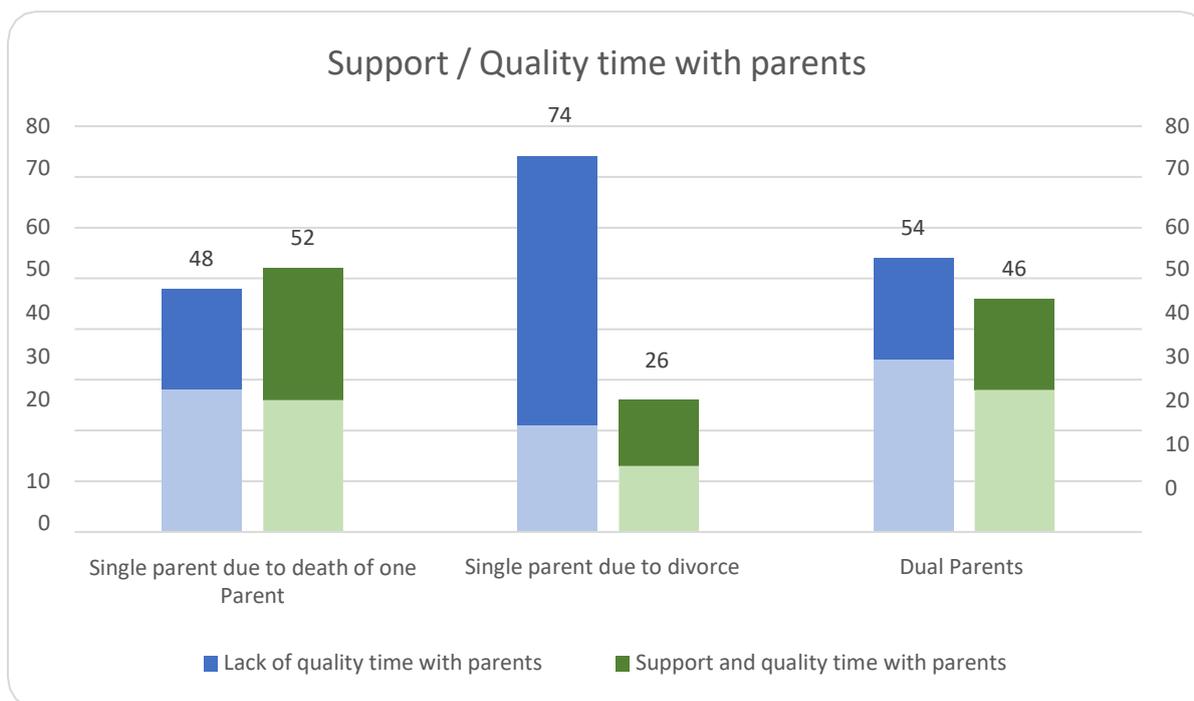
	Single-parent due to death of one parent			Single-parent due to divorce		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Yes	8 (40%)	12 (60%)	20 (40%)	13 (68%)	6 (32%)	19 (50%)
No	15 (50%)	15 (50%)	30 (60%)	12 (63%)	7 (37%)	19 (50%)
Sub-total			50			38



Interpretation- The above bar graph shows the condition of financial instability of the children in single-parent families. As compared to single-parent child due to death of one parent, children from single-parent families due to divorce have more instable finances and, in both cases, males seem to face the heat of being primary monetary supporter.

Support / Quality time with parents

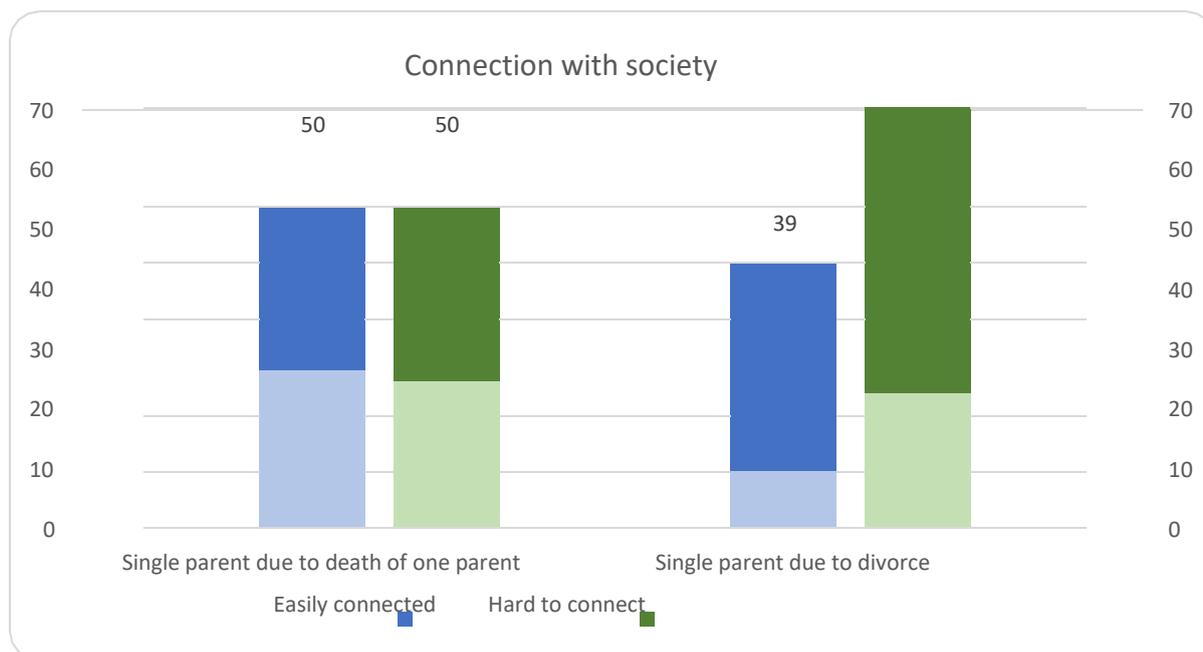
	Single-parent due to death of one parent			Single-parent due to divorce			Dual parents		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Lack of support & quality time with parents	10 (42%)	14 (58%)	24 (48%)	20 (71%)	8 (21%)	28 (74%)	10 (37%)	17 (63%)	27 (54%)
Support & quality time with parents	13 (50%)	13 (50%)	26 (52%)	5 (50%)	5 (50%)	10 (26%)	9 (39%)	14 (61%)	23 (46%)
Sub-total			50			38			50



Interpretation - According to the graph, children who have both parents receive more support and quality time than children who only have one parent due to either divorce or death of one parent. Lack of quality time is highest in child of single-parent due to divorce and surprisingly males experience this lack more than females.

Connection with society

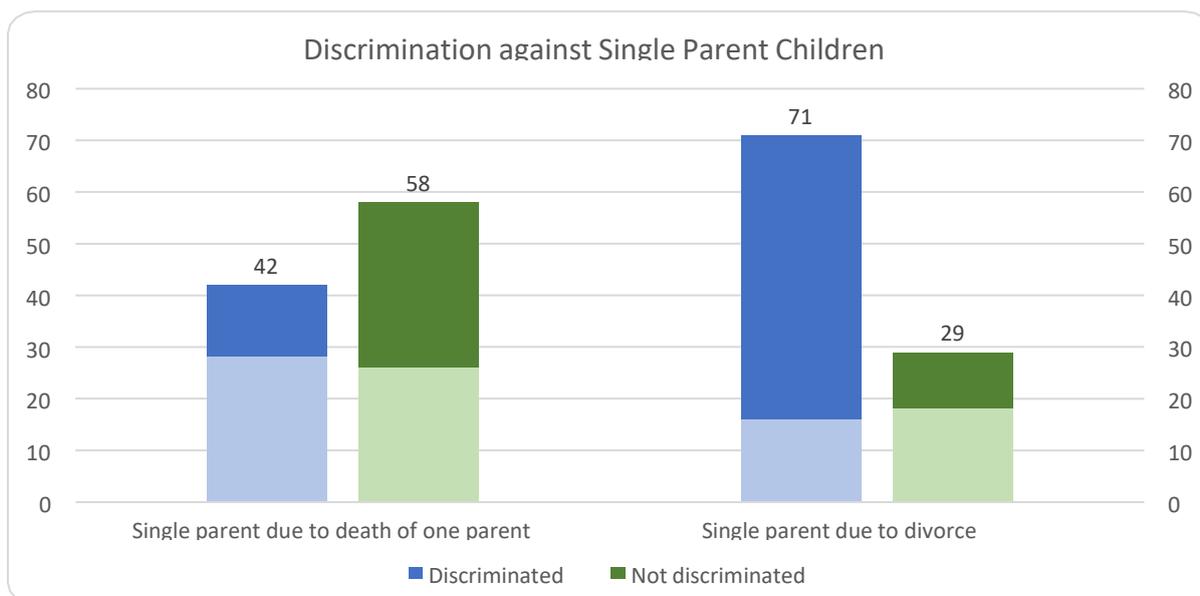
	Single-parent due to death of one parent			Single-parent due to divorce		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Easily connected	11 (44%)	14 (56%)	25 (50%)	11 (73%)	4 (27%)	15 (39%)
Hard to connect	12 (48%)	13 (52%)	25 (50%)	14 (61%)	9 (39%)	23 (61%)
Sub-total			50			38



Interpretation – The responses show that single-parent children due to death of one parent quickly integrates into society as compared to children of single-parent due to divorce. More number of males find difficulties while interacting with others.

Discrimination among children of single-parent

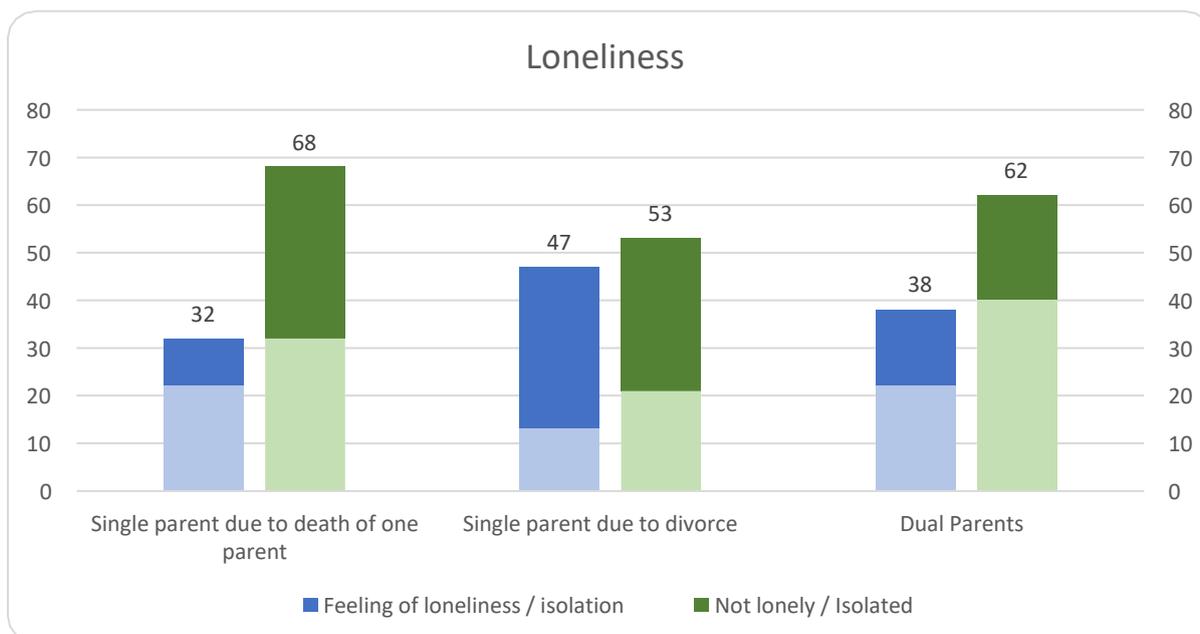
	Single-parent due to death of one parent			Single-parent due to divorce		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Discriminated	7 (33%)	14 (67%)	21 (42%)	21 (78%)	6 (22%)	27 (71%)
Not Discriminated	16 (78%)	13 (59%)	29 (68%)	4 (36%)	7 (64%)	11 (29%)
Sub-total			50			38



Interpretation – The bar graph represents the feeling of discrimination felt by children to single-parents due to death or divorce. Children of single-parents due to divorce feel discriminated by the society. But females are less discriminated as compared to male.

Loneliness

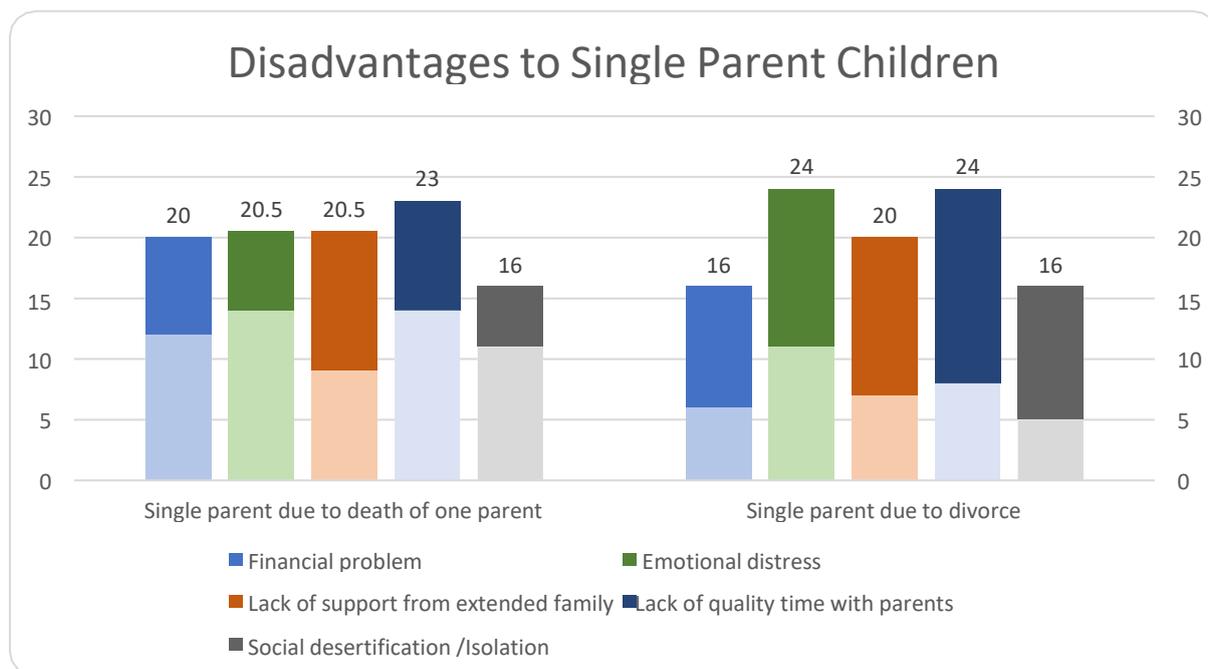
	Single-parent due to death of one parent			Single-parent due to divorce			Dual parents		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Lonely	5 (22%)	11 (41%)	16 (31%)	13 (52%)	5 (38%)	18 (47%)	8 (42%)	11 (35%)	19 (38%)
Not Isolated	18 (78%)	16 (59%)	34 (68%)	12 (48%)	8 (62%)	20 (53%)	11 (58%)	20 (65%)	31 (62%)
Sub-Total			50			38			50



Interpretation – A child may feel particularly lonely during their development spurt. Children raised in single-parent households seldomly experience loneliness. Child of single-parent due to divorce feels lonelier as compared to others and here the womenfeellonelier.

Disadvantage to Single Parent Children

	Single-parent due to death of one parent			Single-parent due to divorce		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Financial problem	8 (40%)	12 (60%)	20 (20%)	13 (68%)	6 (32%)	19 (16%)
Emotional distress	7 (33%)	14 (67%)	21 (20.5%)	17 (61%)	11 (39%)	28 (24%)
Lack of support from extended family	12 (57%)	9 (43%)	21 (20.5%)	16 (70%)	7 (30%)	23 (20%)
Lack of quality time with parents	10 (42%)	14 (58%)	24 (23%)	20 (71%)	8 (29%)	28 (24%)
Isolation	5 (31%)	11 (69%)	16 (16%)	13 (72%)	5 (28%)	18 (16%)



Interpretation – According to the data received, children of single-parent families due to divorce experience more issues than children of single-parent families due to death of one parent. The issue of lack of quality time with parents is highest in both cases. Also, emotional distress is seen more in male as compared to female in single-parent due to divorce.

Findings of the Study:

1. The respondent demographic is an indicator that divorce culture is less prevalent in the sample group spread across the country.
2. A lot of response was collected from children with single-parents due to death of a parent and the major reason for the same was the huge wave of COVID pandemic which claimed a lot of lives.
3. One of the striking findings was that, most of the negative emotions experienced by single-parent children such as loneliness, emotional distress, pressure to provide monetary support, lack of quality time with parents etc., affected a male child more than a female child.
4. Children of single-parents who have passed away adapt to life more readily than children of single-parents due to divorce; as a result, the latter experience mental development challenges and frequently experience social insecurity.
5. An intriguing discovery was that children of single-parent tend to look for and don't look

for parental figures in equal amounts in both situations. The most likely cause of this could be that each individual interprets an event differently, which causes them to make various choices.

6. Children of a single-parent who passes away have been seen to experience less financial instability. The government's numerous financial programs, assistance from non-profit organizations, and the children's own financial responsibility have all been identified as contributing factors.
7. The mental stress of self-blame experienced by children of divorced parents is the reason why children of single-parent due to death, on average, get considerably more quality time and support from parents than children of single-parents owing to divorce.
8. However, a baffling finding was that children having both parents are slightly lonelier than children who experience death of a parent leading cause of increasing dependency on social media for validation.
9. Single-parent's children due to divorce find it much more complex to interact and connect with the society after the emotional strain from their parent's divorce sets in and hence children who face a parent's death connect with the society better. Whereas children with both parents never face such challenge.
10. Children with a single-parent because of a parent's divorce have been observed to experience greater social discrimination than children whose parents passed away.
11. Children who face a parent's divorce experience loneliness more than a child with single-parent due to death of one parent.
12. Children who were raised by one parent, either because of divorce or the loss of a parent, experienced issues such as financial hardship, emotional pain, lack of support from family members, a lack of parent-child time and social seclusion.
13. It was discovered that children who experience single-parenting as a result of a divorce harbored negative feelings against the non-custodial parent or the spouse who requested the divorce.
14. Children who lost a parent and transitioned into a household with only one parent had bad feelings toward the deceased parent, especially in those cases where the child lost their parent very young in life.

Suggestions:

Measures to be taken before single-parenting starts-

1. Stable family planning
2. Effective and sincere communication
3. Future financial planning for family

Measure to be taken after single-parenting starts-

1. Confrontation about problems faced
2. Consult a counselor or therapist
3. Reasonable responsibility division

Conclusion:

Life as a single-parent family can be stressful for both, the child and the parent. Each single-parent family is unique, as is single-parenting. Thus, it has a varied impact on every child. Even if a single-parent strives to take on the responsibilities of both parents, he/she might not be able to do so.

This has negative impacts on the child's future as well as on their current mental development. The research has highlighted the main challenges experienced by children of single-parents, such as financial instability, loss of quality time with parents, isolation especially in case of divorce, discrimination by individuals of orthodox thinking, emotional anguish as well as loneliness and long-lasting emotional damage in case of parents' death. These single-parenting circumstances have the potential to be a double-edged sword for the kids since they could either spiral into depression or come out stronger and more resilient.

The responses from children of dual-parents suggest that those kids have had significantly more of sheltered upbringing than others. However, a recent trend points to an increase in loneliness among teenagers, even when both parents are present and supportive. This is likely due to the teens' growing reliance on social media for validation as well as a shift in their way of thinking.

Thus, it can be said that single-parenting likely has negative effects on a child's overall development, and very rarely does it result in the child becoming more responsible and independent. In contrast, having both parents result in the child not experiencing any

significant challenges and remaining emotionally vulnerable. Out of males and females the intensity of these negative effects is comparatively more on male children than on female children. Hence, it can be concluded that females are more emotionally stable whereas male children are emotionally impressionable and have greater personality changes due to single-parenting in their life.

- Hence, the objective of understanding the impact of single-parenting on a child's overall development was fulfilled and the results were that single-parenting regardless of the reason of its start is restricting and harmful to a child's overall development.
- Another objective of scrutinizing single-parenting with dual-parenting resulted in showing that dual-parenting has almost negligible negative effects in terms of development. Therefore, dual-parenting is always more preferable to single-parenting and in case of death the suggested solutions can be implemented to neutralize the ill effects of single-parenting.

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PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPACT ON YOUTH DURING COVID-19

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*This research paper won the **Third prize** at Research Fair 2022-23: An Intercollegiate Research Paper Presentation Competition held by the Research Committee of SVKM's Narsee Monjee College of Commerce and Economics on 20th January, 2023.

Abstract:

The consequence of COVID-19 has shown in every sphere of life. Every business and educational institution was forced to close down. This has brought many changes in the regular routine of one's life. The educational sector also had to face the brunt of the lockdown and the pandemic. The following research paper gives an in-depth knowledge of the psychological problems which were faced by the age group between thirteen to twenty-five. This research paper points out the positive as well as the negative side it had on teaching, students learning and methodologies used for evaluation at school, undergraduate and postgraduate levels. To continue with the teaching and learning process the authorities took the required measures. The digitization of education was a revolutionary change in education.

Keywords: Psychological problem, COVID-19, Teaching learning process.

Introduction:

● **Initial Phase:**

The outbreak of COVID-19 has brought a significant impact on the lives of many people including the lives of more than 1.6 billion students (UNESCO 2021) worldwide. Especially in India, more than 250 million students got affected due to the pandemic. COVID-

19 has forced many countries to enforce lockdowns which eventually brought educational institutions to a halt.

● **Closure of schools and colleges:**

Around the second week of March 2022, the state government across India began to shut down the school, colleges and universities. The closing down of the educational institutions had a major impact on the learners and teachers. There was a sudden shift in the mode of classes. The classes were now conducted virtually and were held through various online platforms such as ms teams, zoom and various others platforms.

● **Impact on health:**

The pandemic had a major impact in terms of health as well as on the wealth of the people. One of the most important areas of concern was the education sector. The transformation from physical classes to virtual mode was not easy to adapt. The teachers as well as the students got affected due to these abrupt changes. The positive change was that students were able to attend lectures at their ease by sitting at their homes. The drawbacks of the online lecture were poor internet connectivity, lack of availability of devices and e-learning facilities.

Problem Statement:

People worldwide have faced a similar situation two years ago. The disastrous situation was regarding the effect of COVID-19. The entire health, financial, and other sectors faced massive difficulty over the two years. People were affected mentally because of several lockdowns. One of the major sectors which had an adverse effect on working was the education sector. The education sector especially the school and college-going students had to face a lot of brunts. The students went through a lot of emotional trauma. During this period the students went through depression, anxiety, panic attacks and other emotional quotients. The research paper provides an in-depth knowledge of the problems that are faced by youth over the two years.

Objectives:

- To understand the behavioral changes in students, such as loss of usual routine, reduction in social contact and other emotional changes.
- To comprehend the psychological transition from practical knowledge to virtue knowledge.
- To study the effect of depression on students' education during COVID-19 also played a major impact on student mental health as well as physical health.
- To observe the attentiveness/weakness of students in virtual classrooms compared to physical classrooms.
- To analyze the impact on the mental health of students due to the increase in usage of the internet.

Scope:

This research aims at understanding the psychological effect on the youth. In a country like India with a vast population, it was important for the government to stop the spread of the virus. To do so the government took certain measures. One of the main measures undertaken by the government was the closure of schools and universities across the whole country. The effect of these closures harmed the youth. They started to have ill effects of self-isolation, loneliness, and the development of anxiety among them. The impact of the pandemic will be long-lasting because the youth are still not able to come out of the mental trauma which was caused to them by the lockdowns.

Limitations:

- The time duration for the research was limited for data collection.
- The scope and variety of the survey were only concentrated on commerce and students aged 19-21.
- The data was not diversified as the research only focused on urban areas.

Research Methodology:

Research Method: The two research methods used in the process of gathering information are a primary and secondary collection of data. Primary data are collected by the investigator himself from the individual respondent directly for some specific study. Secondary data are those data that are not collected by the investigator but are obtained from other records such as published or unpublished reports. In this research, we have used primary data through a survey and secondary data through a case study.

Research Philosophy: The main idea of the research philosophy involves strategies and understanding data and giving it a realistic view. The aspect of research mainly focuses on the problem faced by the youth during COVID-19 and the psychological impact on their health. The major issue faced by the youth when the education system was wholly shifted to online platforms and methods of learning had a major impact on their mental and physical health. The research analysis observes scientific study that helps to identify the problem and critically analyze them.

Hypothesis:

H0: There is no significant relationship between gender and behavioral changes in students, such as loss of usual routine, reduction in social contact and other emotional changes.

H1: There is a significant relationship between gender and behavioral changes in students, such as loss of usual routine, reduction in social contact and other emotional changes.

H0: There is no significant relationship between Physiological behavior and the effect of COVID-19 on students' mental health as well as physical health.

H1: There is a significant relationship between Physiological behavior and the effect of COVID-19 on students' mental health as well as physical health.

H0: There is no significant relationship between the health of students and the age of adverse effects on examination during covid-19

H1: There is a significant relationship between the health of students and the age of adverse effects on examination during covid-19.

t-Test: Paired Two Sample for Means		
	6	6
Mean	38	13
Variance	1094	148.6666667
Observations	4	4
Pearson Correlation	0.98	
Hypothesized Mean Difference	1	
df	3	
t Stat	0.27	
P(T<=t) one-tail	0.05	
t Critical one-tail	2.35	
P(T<=t) two-tail	0.36	
t Critical two-tail	3.18	

t-Test: Paired Two Sample for Means		
	25	8
Mean	13.5	5.25
Variance	143	11.58333333
Observations	4	4
Pearson Correlation	0.93	
Hypothesized Mean Difference	1	
df	3	
t Stat	1.63	
P(T<=t) one-tail	0.1	
t Critical one-tail	2.35	
P(T<=t) two-tail	0.02	
t Critical two-tail	3.18	

The results of the test shows that the significant value is less than 0.05. Thus the Null Hypothesis is rejected.

From the above table, it can be interpreted that the factors are dependent. Thus it can be understood that factors are interrelated.

Data Analysis and Interpretation:

Age Analysis:

Age	Respondents	Percentage (%)
13-16 years	12	11%
17-18 years	24	22%
19-21 years	65	60%
22-25 years	7	7%

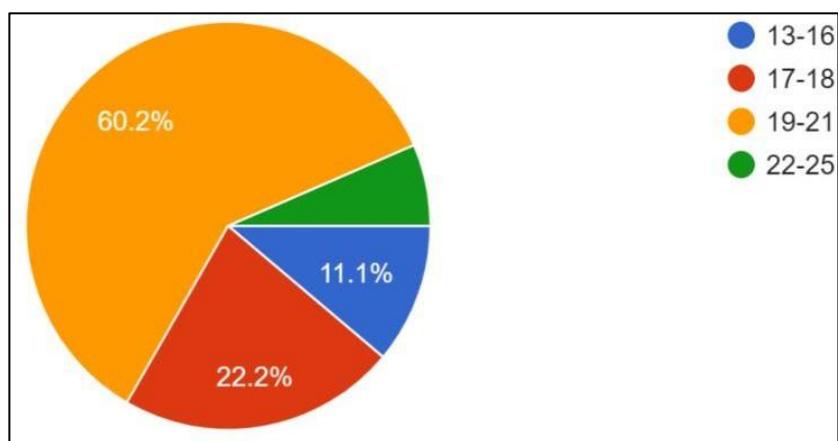


Fig 1: Age analysis.

In the above pie chart, there are 4 categories of age i.e. from 13-16 years, 17-18 years, 19-21 years and 22-25 years. The highest number of students i.e. 60% are from the age group of 19-21 years. It is followed by students from the age group of 17-18 years. The students from the age group of 13-16 years have shown 11% responses out of all. 7% of the respondents are from the age group of 22-25 years.

Gender Analysis:

Gender	Respondents	Percentage (%)
Male	29	27%
Female	79	73%
Others	0	0%

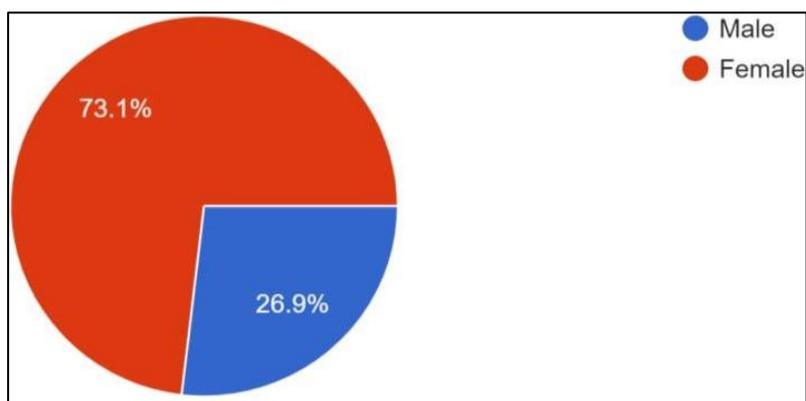


Fig 2: Gender Analysis

The above pie chart shows the gender analysis of the survey conducted. The female students (79) are higher in percentage than the male students (29).

Class Analysis:

Class	Respondents	Percentage (%)
8th -10th	13	12%
11th-12th	1	1%
UG	83	77%
PG	11	10%

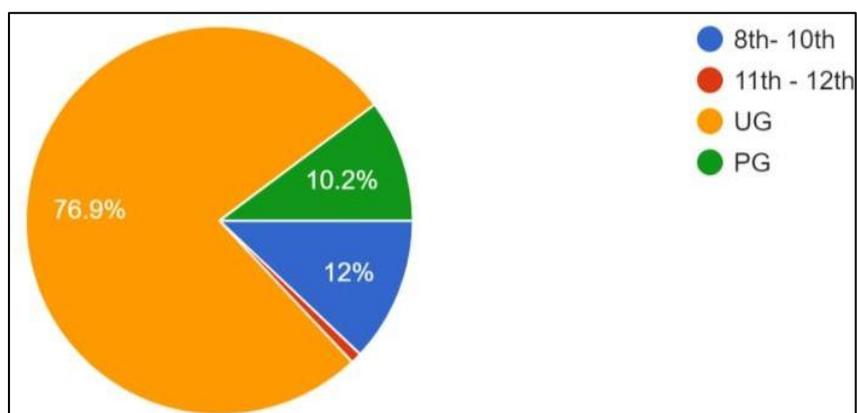


Fig 3: Class Analysis

The survey that we have conducted has shown that out of 108 students, 83 students are from Undergraduate. 13 students are from class 8th-10th. Other 11 students belong to the Postgraduate. Only one student belongs to the 11th-12th Class.

Stream Analysis:

Stream	Respondents	Percentage (%)
Arts	6	6%
Commerce	75	69%
Science	27	25%

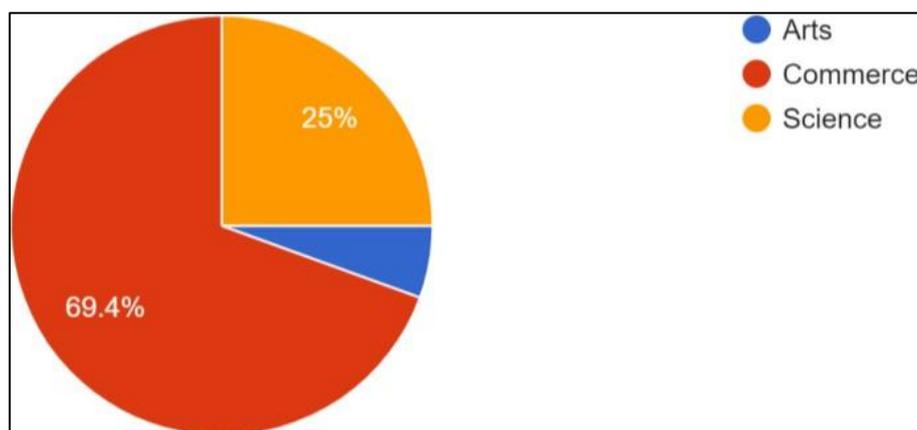


Fig 4: Stream Analysis

The highest percentage of students belongs to the Commerce stream i.e.70%. There are 25% of students belong to the Science stream. The remaining 6% of students are from the Arts stream which is the lowest of all.

Question 6: Where were you able to attend online lectures properly?

Opinion	Respondents	Percentage (%)
Yes	71	66%
No	37	34%

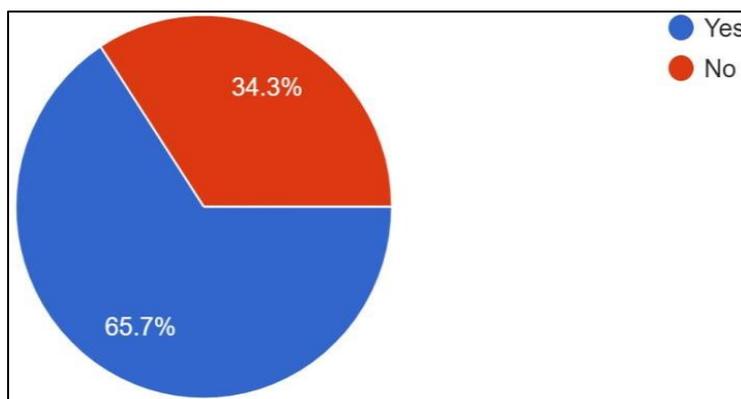


Fig 5

From 108 students, 71 students were certainly able to attend the lectures properly. The remaining 37 students were unable to attend the lectures.

Question 7: Were you mentally disturbed due to the sudden change in the mode of education?

Opinion	Respondents	Percentage (%)
Yes	71	66%
No	37	34%

Summary:

Groups	Count	Sum	Average	Variance
25	8	49	6.125	40.125
54	9	88	9.777778	89.69444

Anova

Source of Variation	SS	DF	MS	F	P-value	F crit
Between Groups	56.511	1	56.51062	0.848992	0.037142	4.543077
Within Groups	998.43	15	66.56204			
Total	1054.9	16				

Source: <https://www.chegg.com/homework-help/questions-and-answers/anova-source-variation-ss-df-ms-f-p-value-f-crit-sample-1006474017-1-1006474-1087651-00016-q7954259>

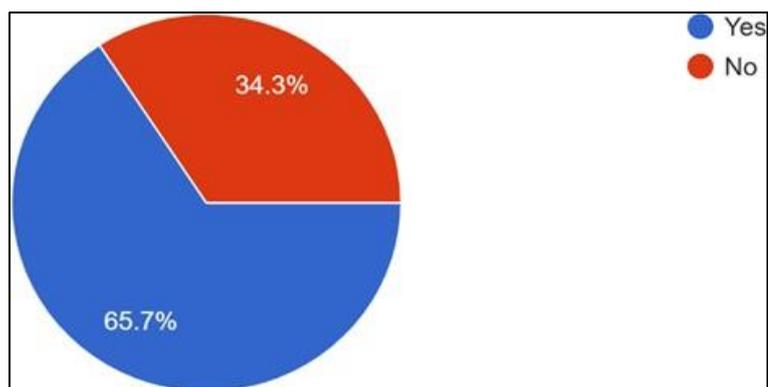


Fig 6

66% students said that they were mentally affected due to offline to online mode of studies. On the other hand, the remaining 34% of students were not affected due to the transition. This shows that most of the students were not ready to accept the sudden change in the mode of education.

Question 8: Did you find it difficult to cope up with practical classes?

Opinion	Respondents	Percentage (%)
Yes	69	64%
No	39	36%

Summary

Groups	Count	Sum	Average	Variance
30	7	48	6.857143	39.47619
49	9	89	9.888889	89.36111

Anova

Source of Variation	SS	df	MS	F	P-value	F crit
Between Groups	36.191	1	36.19147	0.532369	0.047764	4.60011
Within Groups	951.75	14	67.98186			
Total	987.94	15				

Source: <https://www.chegg.com/homework-help/questions-and-answers/anova-source-variation-ss-df-ms-f-p-value-f-crit-sample-1006474017-1-1006474-1087651-00016-q7954259>

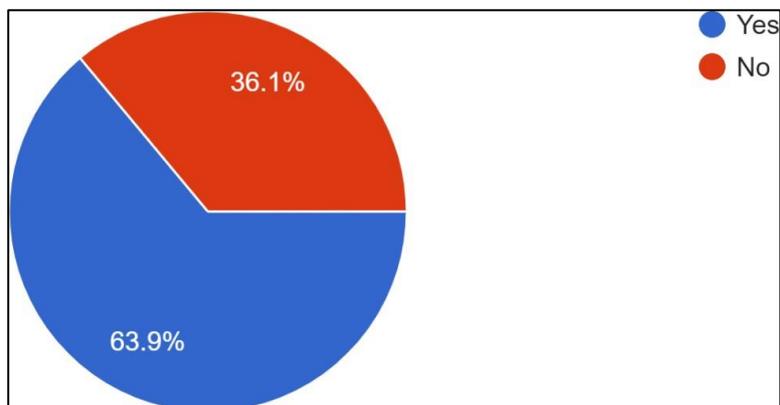


Fig 7

The majority part of students found it difficult to cope with the practical classes. Other 36% of students were able to attend the practical classes without difficulty. Due to circumstances during the pandemic, the highest numbers of students were not in a position to attend the practical lectures properly.

Question 9: Do you find online lectures to be more effective than offline lectures?

Opinion	Respondents	Percentage (%)
Strongly Disagree	21	19%
Disagree	25	23%
Neutral	45	42%
Agree	10	9%
Strongly Agree	7	7%

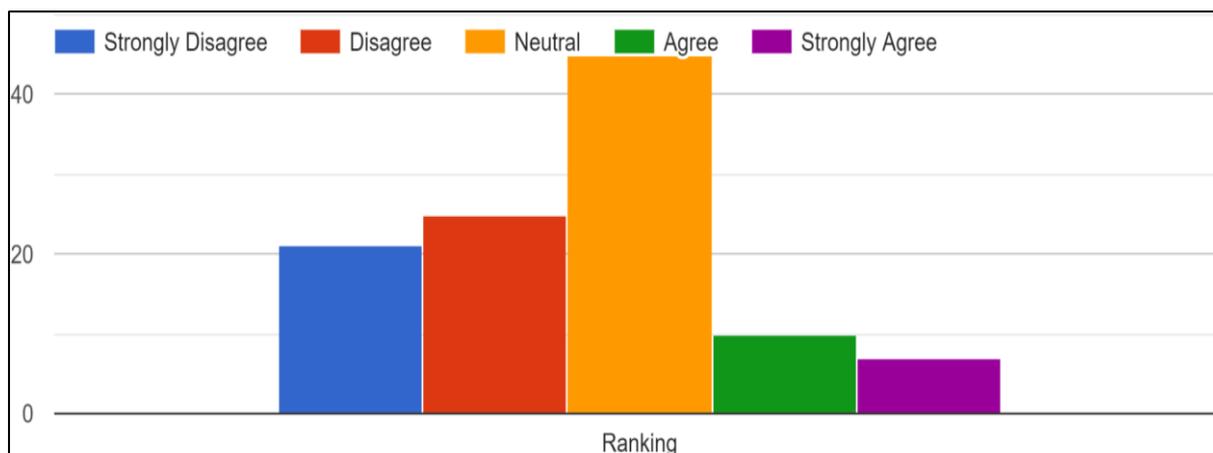


Fig 8

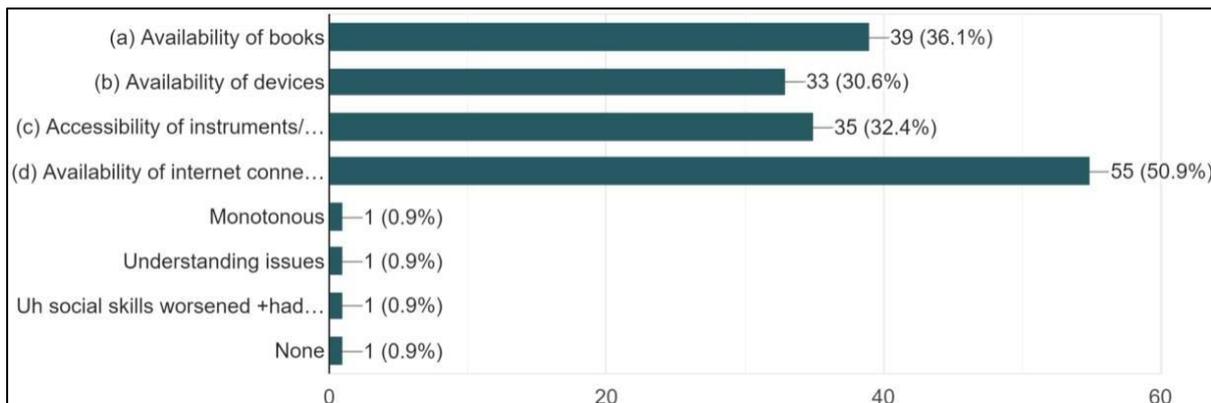
42% of students were neutral about the online vs offline transition. Only 7% of students were strongly supportive of online classes rather than offline classes. On the other hand, 23% of students had contrasting thoughts about online classes. 19% had a difference of opinion and had an interest in attending offline classes. The remaining 9% of students have chosen online classes.

Question 10: What were the challenges you were exactly facing while attending practical lectures?

Resources	Respondents	Percentage (%)
Availability of books	39	36%
Availability of devices	33	31%
Availability of instruments	35	32%
Availability of internet connection	55	51%
Others	4	4%

Fig 9

The majority of students were unable to avail of an internet connection. Another 36% of students were facing the difficulty of books during practical classes. Other 31% and 32% of students were facing the difficulty of devices as well as tools/ instruments respectively. The remaining students were facing problems such as not understanding the concept, and lacking variety and interest.



Question 11: Where there any disturbance created while attending online lectures?

Disturbances	Respondents	Percentage (%)
Network issue	70	65%
Lack of attentiveness	59	55%
Background noise	51	47%
Lack of demonstration skills by teachers	28	26%

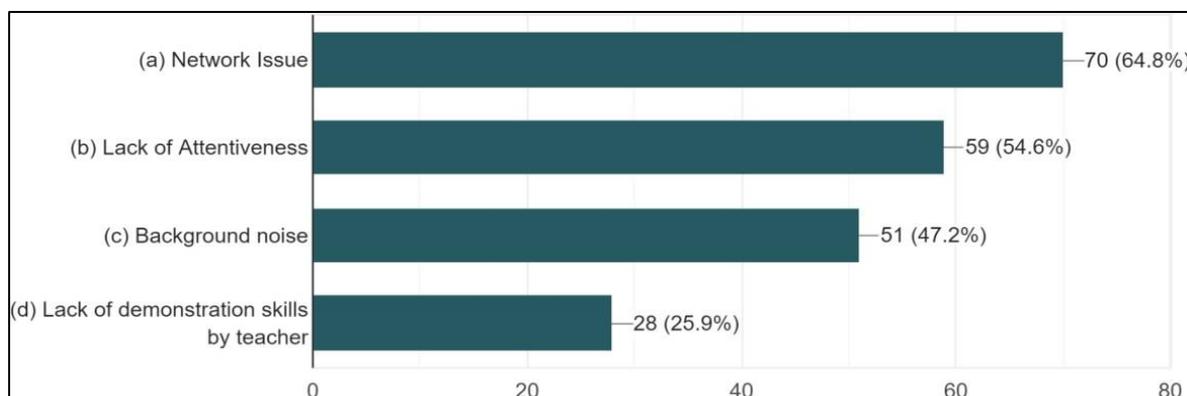


Fig 10

The above horizontal bar diagram shows the various types of disturbances faced by the students while attending the online lectures. Network issue is one of the most voted (70%) amongst the others. Some students were unable to attend the lecture with concentration and attentiveness. 51% of students were facing background noise while attending online lectures. The remaining 26% of students were positive about the lack of demonstration skills by teachers.

Question 12: How does reduction of social interaction plead in your social well-being?

Emotions	Respondents	Percentage (%)
Loneliness	54	50%
Negligence	28	26%
Ineffective Communication	70	65%
Online Bullying	13	12%
Others	2	2%

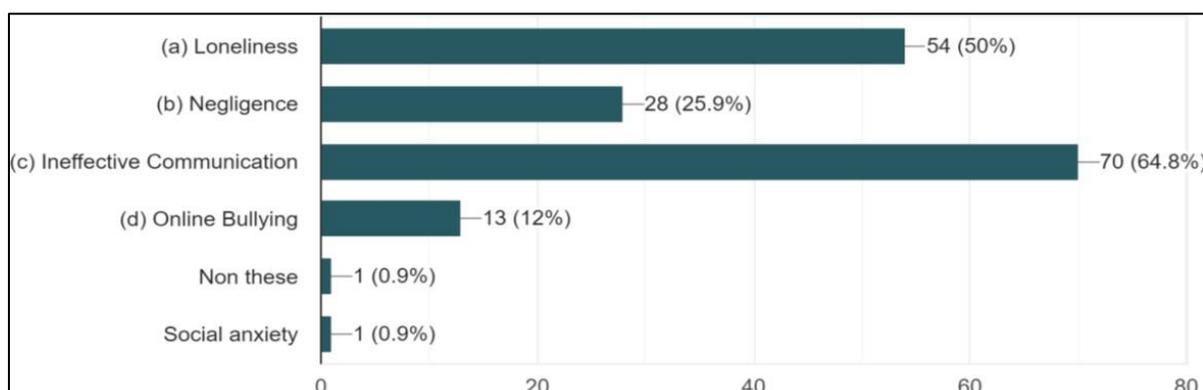


Fig 11

The data shown in the horizontal bar diagram revolves around the effects of the reduction in social interaction among the students. The majority of the students were unsuccessful in carrying out communication properly with the world outside. About 50% of students were facing loneliness due to a lack of social interaction. Online bullying, social anxiety, and negligence were other reasons that students were not able to interact with society.

Question 13: What were the adverse effects you experienced in exams during Covid-19?

Emotions	Respondents	Percentage (%)
Anxiety	49	45%
Lack of Concentration	87	81%
Depression	23	21%
Frustration	45	42%
Others	1	1%

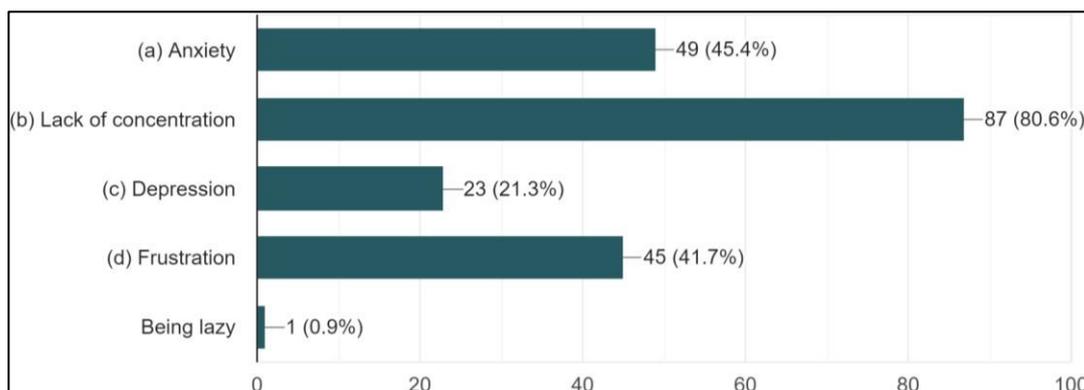


Fig 12

The horizontal bar diagram shows the effects of exams on the students during Covid-19. 81% had a lack of concentration while giving exams. Another 45% of students experienced anxiety. Some students found themselves frustrated while giving the exams. The remaining 21% were suffering from depression.

Question 14: Did excessive screen time have an adverse effect on your mental health?

Opinion	Respondents	Percentage (%)
Yes	82	76%
No	46	24%

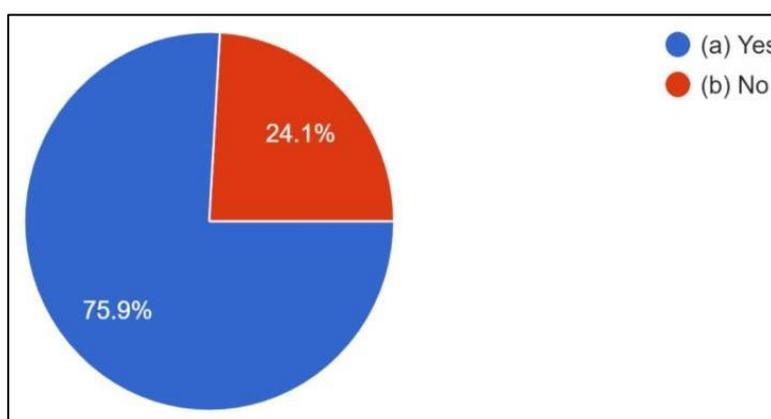


Fig 13

The above pie chart shows the count of students who were affected by excessive screen time. About 76% of students had an adverse effect of excessive screen time. But another 24% have a different opinion than the former ones.

Question 15: If yes, then

Effects	Respondents	Percentage (%)
Increase in depression level	15	14%
Rise in impatience level	44	41%
Increase in emotional quotient	28	26%
Increase in stress level	70	65%
Others	12	15%

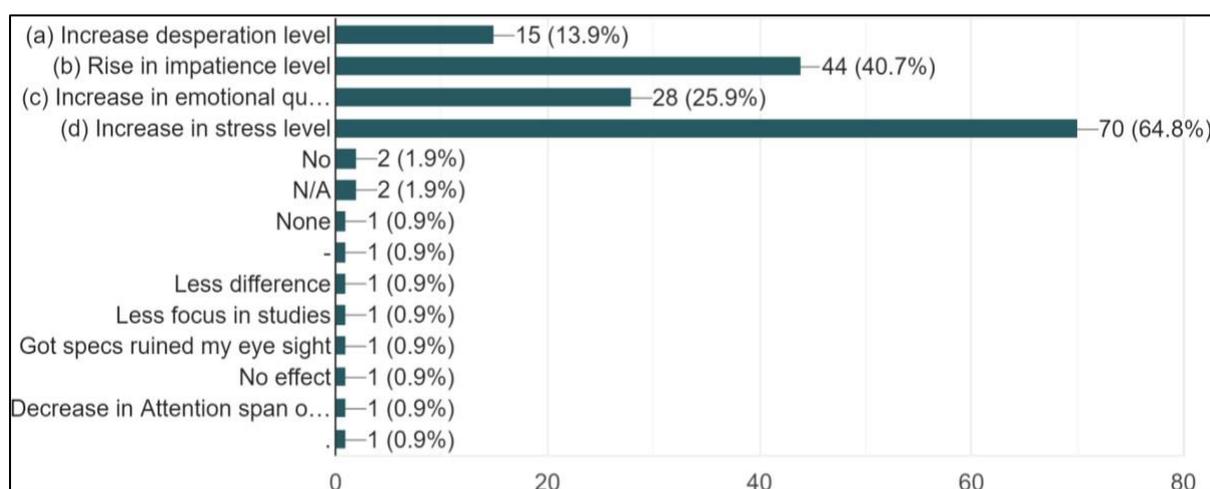


Fig 14

The horizontal diagram shown above depicts the adverse effects of excessive screen time on the mental health of the students. Majority i.e. 65% of the students had increased stress level. Followed by 41% of students who found a rise in impatience level in themselves. About 26% of students had an increase in their emotional quotient. Another 14% of students were found with an increased desperation level.

Question 16: Did excessive screen time have an adverse effect on you physically?

Opinion	Respondents	Percentage (%)
Strongly Disagree	3	3%
Disagree	6	6%
Neutral	42	39%
Agree	47	43%
Strongly Agree	10	9%

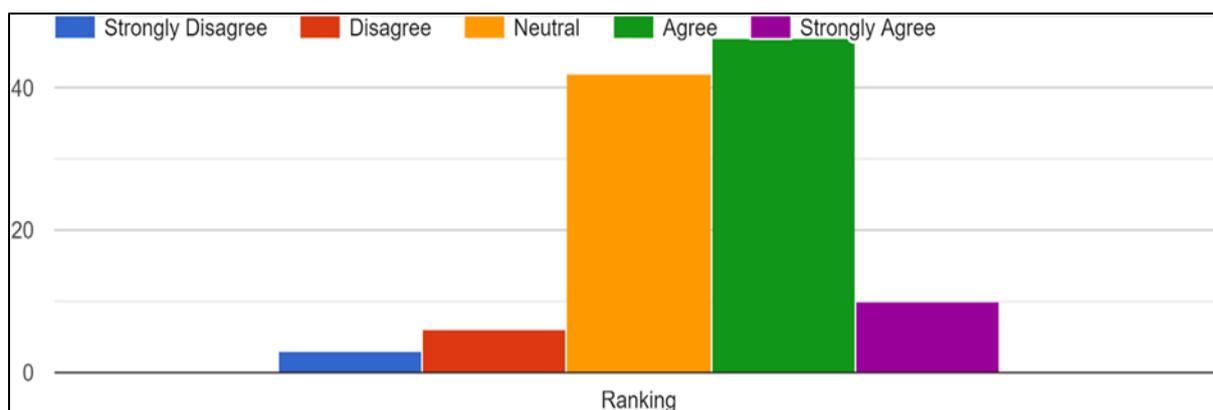


Fig 15

Out of 108 respondents, 47 students agreed with the said comment. Another 42 students were neutral and had no effects. 10 students strongly support the statement. The remaining 6 and 3 students differ from the others.

Question 17: What were the changes you observed during COVID-19 and how did they affect?

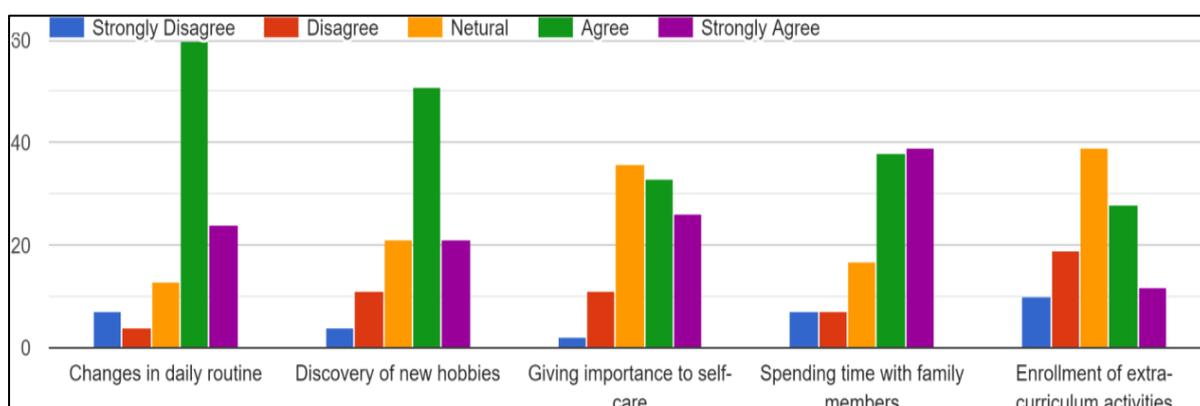


Fig 16

The above-grouped bar diagram shows the data on changes that occurred with the students and how it affected their life.

Case Study:

Over the past two and a half years people faced a lot of difficulties due to covid. People found it difficult to overcome the mental trauma and the various tragedies which occurred during these years. Especially school and college going students witnessed a

tremendous increase in suicide rates. On average 31 deaths occurred daily during the pandemic. Loss of parents, exams pressure, financial issues and other issues played a major role in the pressure on the minds of the youth. Especially the age group of 14 and 25 were suffering from depression and mental problems more often during the pandemic. According to reports almost seventy per cent of the youth were facing mental issues like depression, anxiety and emotional quotients.

Suggestions:

- The school and university should adopt the model of mental health promotion, prevention, and intervention
- The government should implement and ensure that each student diagnosed with mental health is taken care of and given the right treatment and a bare minimum amount.
- The school should introduce engaging activities such as reading books, yoga, and recreational activities for students to break the monotony from studying and help the students to socialize.
- The school should provide workshops before exams to help students to deal with their anxiety, fear, and pressure from their studies.

Conclusion:

Before the COVID-19 outbreak it was difficult to imagine schools and colleges being held online. The closure of schools and colleges brought a sense of isolation and made students question their careers. This brought many psychological problems such as sleeping problems, anxiety, frustration and many such emotions. The government took several steps to overcome these issues by introducing a national helpline number and implementing the National Mental health Program. As the pandemic is coming to an end the schools and colleges need to ensure that vision and mission as per the students requirements for the betterment of students' careers mentally and physically.

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IMPACT OF MOONLIGHTING ON LABOUR MARKETS

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Abstract:

The purpose of this research paper is to study the impact of moonlight on labour impact. Moonlighting refers to the phenomenon of taking up an additional job along with a primary job to supplement their income. We have progressively extended and analysed the labour markets and the impact of moonlighting on the same. We have explained the the impact of moonlighting on labour markets using the secondary data available and we have analysed the the data of using the chi-square statistics. Also, we have analysed this impact on different sectors using case studies. .

Introduction:

Market flexibility has recently resulted in less employee-employer loyalty, increased unemployment risk, and shorter job tenures. People must look for new techniques as a result of these changes in order to guarantee their employment security and a steady supply of higher revenue. The need for ongoing skill updating and the quick pace of technology change have made occupational mobility more crucial in today's employment marketplaces. Many workers have had to devise an active strategy of working numerous jobs or moonlighting to cope with the aforementioned volatility.

In addition to easing financial concerns, holding various jobs can guarantee continuous work periods and open up professional progression opportunities by building up occupation-specific experience. The ability to moonlight has grown in importance as the work market has gotten more flexible. A person takes on a side job, or side hustle, in addition to their principal employment to supplement their income. Some people work side jobs out of need, such as when their primary job's salary is insufficient to support them, or they do so to increase their income. Working a side job after regular working hours is referred to as moonlighting. You can work a full-time employment, a part-time contract, or freelance work in addition to other side jobs.

Multiple occupations have a detrimental effect on an employee's productivity, overall wellbeing, work-life balance, and health. More and more creative methods are being created to encourage workers to perform their jobs more efficiently. The survival of the best qualified is fiercely competitive everywhere, so businesses must change with the times and implement new human resource policies. People who are resistant to change will continue to struggle in the back yard. The firm must consequently use the most recent human resource techniques.

Objectives of Research:

1. To analyse the impact of moonlight on labour market
2. To understand the how moonlighting affects an individual's life
3. To understand the motives of moonlighting
4. To study the impact of moonlighting on work-life balance.

Research Methodology

The research paper aims at understanding the impact of moonlighting on labor markets. Its purpose is to analyze the dependency of individuals on the income from side gigs. To serve this purpose we have chosen to further analyze the secondary data that was collected prior.

The data were checked and cleaned to identify any missing values before conducting further analysis.

Why does moonlighting become necessary?

There are many reasons why employees choose to take up a side job.

- Monetary reasons are one of the obvious. Money drives the economy and individual households. In, Maslow’s hierarchy of demands, money helps satisfy the first 2 levels, NEEDS related to physiological health, SAFETY and SECURITY. Working 2 or more jobs means additional source of income thereby improving their standard of living.
- New entrants wish to gain maximum exposure in a limited amount of time. This is possible by doing to 2 jobs simultaneously as it allows them to gain more exposure and experience in respective fields.
- New skills are learned by employees which enhances their personal development. Their employability is further enhanced by their increased skill set.
- So, it makes possible for employees to explore other career options without leaving their current positions.
- Their stabilities of their job increases, when the first job becomes unavailable, they may switch to the side job to satisfy their basic needs.

Analysis:

Variable	Moonlighter (%)	Non- Moonlighter (%)	χ^2	P- value
Education			63.7	0.00*
Primary	91.10	8.90		
Secondary	47.40	52.60		
Higher	15.10	84.90		
Number of children			35.06	0.00*
No children	25	75		
One child	54.10	45.90		
More than one child	85	15		
Primary income			78.18	0.00*
Less than 10000	96.30	3.70		
Between 10000 - 39999	45.90	54.10		
More than 40000	8.70	91.30		

The above table represents how moonlighting is affected by variables like education, number of children, and primary income. It can be seen, that when it comes to education 91.10% people with primary education are moonlighters. While in case of population with secondary education 47.4% people are moonlighters and 15.10% people with higher education are moonlighters. This shows us that educational levels forms an important determinant of moonlighting.

Also, when it comes to number of children, 85% of people with more than one child are moonlighters, as people have to work more than one job to cope up with their increased expenditure demands. While out of the people who have one child 54.10% people are moonlighters. While only 25% out of the entire population with no children are moonlighters. Here the chi square result is 35.06 which shows that there is a significant influence of number of children in moonlighting.

Further, income level shows the most significant factor affecting moonlighting, with a chi square result of 78.18. Here 96.30% people out of the population who earn ‘less than 10,000’ are moonlighters. While among the population who earn between ‘10,000 to 39,999’ 45.90% people are moonlighters and among the one who earn ‘more than 40,000’ 8.7% people are moonlighters.

Motivation	# of observations
1) To meet regular household expenses	494
2) to pay off debts	125
3) to save for the future	149
4) to get experience in a different occupation or to built up a business	152
5) to help out a friend or relative	56
6) to get extra money to buy something special	89
7) enjoys the work on the second job	324
8) changed jobs during the week	5
9) other	205
10) NA	35

The most common cause of moonlighting is to meet the regular household expenses. Money is the main reason and motivation for working two jobs. Money helps in meeting the first two levels in Maslow's hierarchy of needs, which are needs for physiological health, safety, and security. Employees who take on a second job can increase their income. Employees are encouraged to work multiple jobs when the salary is not as great in order to cover their fundamental demands.

Enjoyment of working a second job forms the second most basic motivation. Some people prioritise enjoying life and following their passions over making money. However, passion might not always be financially rewarding. Hence, one must work a day job and perform as a DJ at night. Even though a project for fun isn't likely to be a significant source of money right soon, it might be beneficial in the long run. So, by working a second job, you may

follow your interests and have fun without having to worry about losing your primary source of income.

Variable	Definition	Mean	Median	Min	Max
h_1	Hours worked on job 1	44.2571	40	20	80
h_2	Hours worked on job 2	12.6857	10	1	40
I	Non-labor income	93.9865	47.714	4.93445	616.538
w_1h_1	Earnings on job 1	688.243	600	100	1923
w_1	Wage rate on job 1	15.4211	14	3.33333	42.8571
w_2h_2	Earnings on job 2	184.857	100	7	1927
w_2	Wage rate on job 2	16.5717	10.208	1.4	75
AGE	Age of respondent	42.6429	42.5	20	71
SCHOOL	Years of education	13.2	13	1	17

Although the mean no. of hours on the second job is less the maximum no. of hours worked can be as high as 40. While the maximum no. of earning on the second job can be upto 75. It also shows that the most prominent cause of working a second job is low income which can be due to less education. According to the above table the mean years of education for the population that has to work a second job is 13.2 years.

Case study: WIPRO

Wipro cut off 300 of their staff members who were found to be working of their competitors while still being on the company’s payroll. This is an apt example to explain the concept of moonlighting. The company considered it to be an act violating their integration.

Case study: INFOSYS

At first the company had fired several employees for taking up external gigs, this intolerance has been observed in several other big tech companies as well. However, they will now allow employees to take up side work for those who want to earn extra money provided the employee obtains prior consent of the company.

Case study: SWIGGY

It is at the discretion of individual companies whether to accept moonlighting or not. Many food delivery companies such as SWIGGY have taken up the policy of allowing their employees to take up work or projects apart from their regular employment.

Tech Mahindra is another example of an entity that supports moonlighting.

Conclusion:

- Moonlighting is considered unethical and breach of certain contractual obligations in some cases while others support the idea stating that it gives a young and low paid professionals a chance to earn extra and diversify their savings.
- It is difficult to come up with one set of rules and regulations for employees who moonlight.
- The pandemic is one such example when microwork and mini gigs proved to be of great help for individuals to carry on their livelihood.
- The pressure to perform for both the jobs increases and striking necessary balance between the two becomes extremely important.

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ECONOMICS OF OIL

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Abstract:

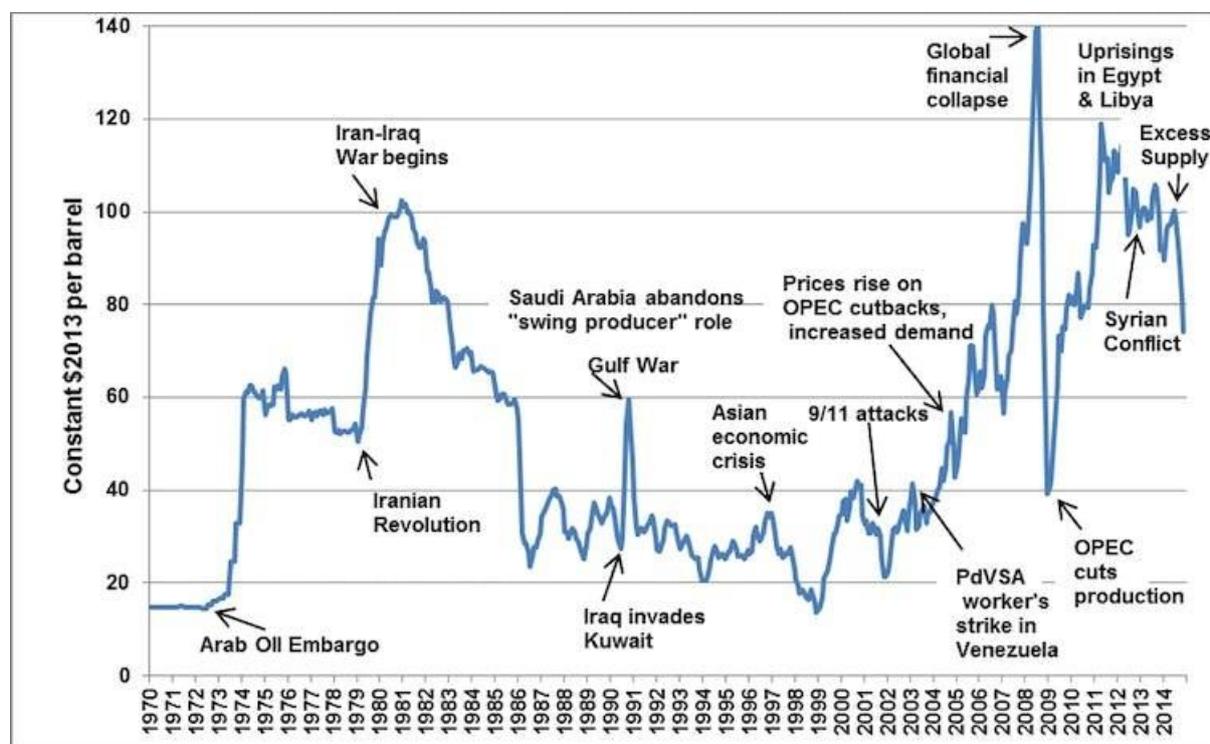
The economics of oil is a complex and dynamic field that encompasses a wide range of issues related to the production, consumption, and trade of crude oil and petroleum products. This research paper will examine the key factors that drive the global oil market, including supply and demand, geopolitical tensions, and technological advancements. The paper will also explore the economic impact of oil on different regions and countries, including the potential benefits and drawbacks of oil dependency. Additionally, the paper will examine current and future trends in the oil industry, including the shift towards renewable energy sources and the potential implications of these trends for the global economy. The goal of this research paper is to provide a comprehensive overview of the economics of oil and to offer insights into the challenges and opportunities facing the industry in the 21st century.

Introduction:

It's been 50 years since the last big reform in the oil industry which propped up the emergence of the one of the biggest legally recognized cartels in the oil industry, "the

Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries” better known by the acronym OPEC. This was due to the 1973 Arab-Israel War which caused the oil crisis of 1973/1974 also familiarly known as the Oil Embargo of 1973, where the Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) led by the Saudi King imposed sanction on exporting oil to the allies of the Israelis who were the United States, the United Kingdom and other vassals of the United States. This embargo banned both export of petroleum to these alien countries but also reduced its oil production significantly in order to deliberately create a crisis for their own benefit. This caused the US to go into an unprecedented crisis as they were heavily dependent on foreign oil.

Before the embargo, oil traded at about \$2.90/barrel, quadrupling to \$11.65/barrel by January 1974. This led to an spike in the price of US regular gasoline from a pre-crisis average of 39c/gallon to 53c/gallon in 1974, an increase of about 36% in under a year. In addition to the increase in prices at the pump, shortages have appeared, leading to distribution at gas stations and long lines of cars waiting to fill up. It also caused psychological panic among consumers trying to buy gasoline and similar products, making the situation worse.



SOURCE: US DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY VIA (Montgomery, 2022)

Although the situation was resolved, the price of oil remained high and caused high inflation all around the world. This gave birth to US Imperial actions to dominate the as it had

recently pegged the dollar to the oil standard after the Bretton Woods Agreement to peg the dollar to the gold standard failed and caused inflation and had overburdened the system, the then president of the United States Nixon pegged the dollar price to the oil. (July 1944, 44 nations joined together to negotiate ‘The Bretton Woods Agreement’ to peg the value of US dollar to gold and peg the world currencies to the value of US dollar. This fixed exchange rate system was one of the foremost strategies to make US Dollar a globally dominant currency. This agreement allowed securitization of the International Trade. Countries had an assurance to trade in US Dollar with foreign countries as it gave a guarantee of converting USD to Gold anytime. This led to conducting international transactions in USD only.)

In 1973 USA entered into a contract with Saudi Arabia, the second largest member of **OPEC (Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries)** to supply Military Weapons and Support to the Saudi in return for conducting all Crude Oil Sales in US Dollar. This means that every country who wants to buy crude oil from OPEC would have to buy them in US Dollars. Furthermore, the profits earned by OPEC due to exchange rate conversions into USD should be held in US Treasuries in the form of Bonds, Treasury Bills and pumped back into the American Economy. The main effect for this is

1. Entire World Economies started using US Dollars as a Global Reserve Currency. Since Oil is a commodity required for a nation to operate via industries, transport and logistics etc. every country had to maintain Reserve Currency in the form of USD so that they could buy crude oil from OPEC. This led to demand for USD for which every country rushed to buy US Dollar and keep it as Foreign Exchange Reserves
2. Saudi Arabia invests the exceed proceeds from sale of Oil in Dollar into US Treasury. This means that in addition to increase in the demand for US Currency, Dollars that were printed and supplied in Forex markets were invested back in the US Economy. Hence USA could justify its robust Economic growth in the 1980s-90s by leveraging this US Treasury Debt and rapid velocity of money supply to become the largest economy in the world.

Another major influence on the oil industry is the OPEC which control the demand or the production side of the oil industry.

How does OPEC influence global oil industry?

The 13 states that make up OPEC's present membership own more than 80% of the world's proven oil reserves. OPEC was founded in 1960.

An alliance known as OPEC+, which includes Russia and another ten significant oil-producing nations, has been formed.

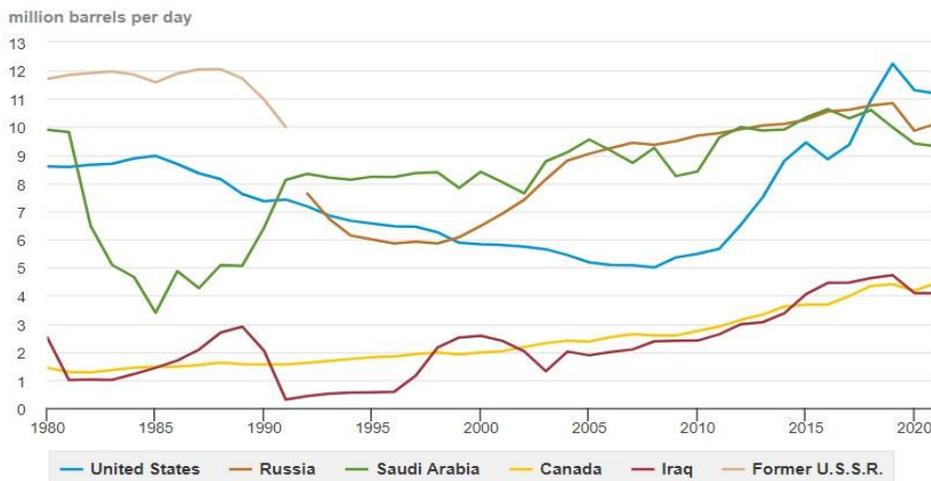
About 40% of the world's crude oil is produced by OPEC, and about 60% of the world's oil trade consists of exports from its members.

By working together to reduce or increase production, the cartel hopes to control global oil prices.

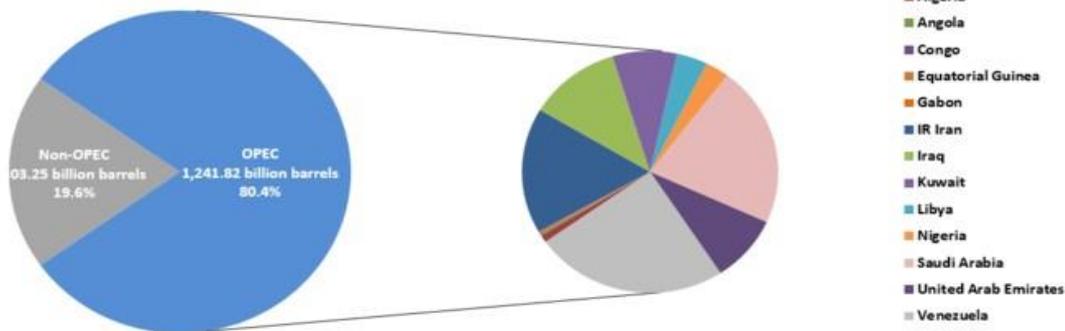
The top five crude oil producers and their percentage shares of world crude oil production in 2021 were:



Top five crude oil producing countries, 1980-2021



OPEC share of world Crude Oil Reserves, 2021



OPEC proven crude oil reserves , at end 2021 (billion barrels, OPEC share)

Venezuela	303.47	24.4%	United Arab Emirates	111.00	8.9%	Algeria	12.20	1.0%	Equatorial Guinea	1.10	0.1%
Saudi Arabia	267.19	21.5%	Kuwait	101.50	8.2%	Angola	2.52	0.2%			
IR Iran	208.60	16.8%	Libya	48.36	3.9%	Gabon	2.00	0.2%			
Iraq	145.02	11.7%	Nigeria	37.05	3.0%	Congo	1.81	0.1%			

The founding members of OPEC are – ‘Iraq, Iran, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and Venezuela’ OPEC presently has 13 members, with ‘Algeria, Angola, Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Libya, Nigeria, United Arab Emirates, and the five founding members.’ Its headquarters are in Vienna, Austria.

‘OPEC’ and other oil-producing countries joined together to create ‘OPEC+’ in 2016. The ten nations that make up ‘OPEC+ at the moment include Mexico, Oman, Kazakhstan, and Russia.’ Group decisions affect global prices due to market dominance. Its members meet regularly to decide how much to sell together in the international market.

OPEC and Geopolitics:

In addition, the group can lower prices by providing additional oil in the markets. Several OPEC restrictions have had a significant impact on the global economy. It is recognized in the United States and internationally as one of the factors that contributed to the prolonged economic crisis of the 1970s. Dubbed the "first oil shock," it caused oil prices to quadruple in three months and fuel shortages in the United States. The 1990–91 Gulf War, the 1980s Iran–Iraq War, the 1997 Asian Financial Crisis, and the 2007–08 Global Financial Crisis are other major geopolitical events that had a significant impact on oil prices.

Recently, in mid-2020, when many countries started to lock down, crude oil prices fell. Since then, members of OPEC + have decided to cut output by 10 million barrels per day, or 10 percent, in a bid to raise prices once again.

Factors affecting price determination of the oil are

1. Economic Factors

- eg - supply and demand, production and consumption

2. Geopolitical Factors

- eg - wars, sanctions, policies, etc.

3. Financial Factors

- eg - recession, forex reserves, inflation, etc.

Scope of Research:

Economics of oil is quite broad and encompasses a wide range of issues related to the production, consumption, and trade of crude oil and petroleum products. Some possible areas of research within the economics of oil include:

- **Supply and demand:** Examining the factors that influence the supply and demand of oil, such as changes in production levels, consumption patterns, and technological advancements.
- **Geopolitical tensions:** Analyzing the impact of geopolitical tensions on oil prices and the global oil market, such as the effect of sanctions and trade restrictions on oil-producing countries.
- **Economic impact:** Investigating the economic impact of oil on different regions and countries, including the potential benefits of oil dependency.
- **Market structure:** Analyzing the structure of the global oil market, including the role of oil-producing countries, oil companies, and international organizations such as OPEC.
- **Behavioral economics:** Applying behavioral economic theories to understand the decision-making processes of market participants and the impact on oil prices.

Objective of the Research:

- To show how economics of oil is driven by various economic factors like demand, supply, etc. and also through geo-politics.
- To understand how the US has a major impact on the oil industry.
- How Petro-Dollar dominates the world's oil transaction
- To understand how the price of oil is determined
- To show how OPEC works and how it has an impact on the oil industry
- To understand one of the main objectives of the Russian aggression on Ukraine based on Heartland Theory and how it affects the oil prices.

Methodology Used:

Methodology used by us in the dissertation is a hybrid of both Quantitative and Qualitative Data as the topic 'Economics of Oil' is a subject where there are certain established

theories and events which have taken place but have very less quantitative data to represent it through number.

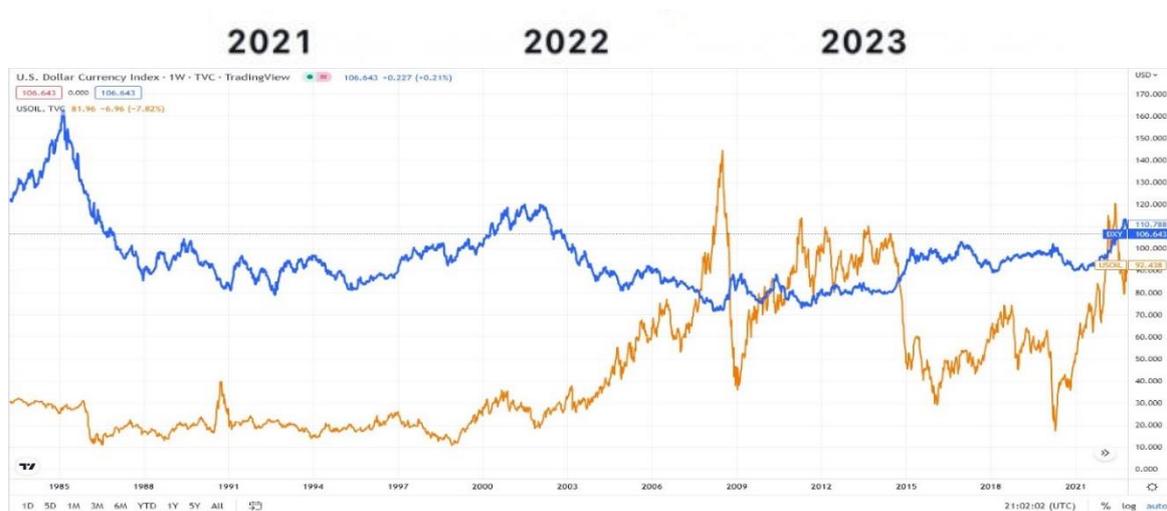
We have used existing material for both our quantitative and qualitative data in order to prove our analysis in this particular dissertation, we have used data from official government websites, published data from official sources, charts and graphs which represent official data and from cited sources.

Data Analysis:

The price of oil is determined by a variety of factors, including supply and demand, geopolitical tensions, and economic conditions. Statistical analysis can be used to examine these factors and to understand how they influence the price of oil.

USD and Oil Price

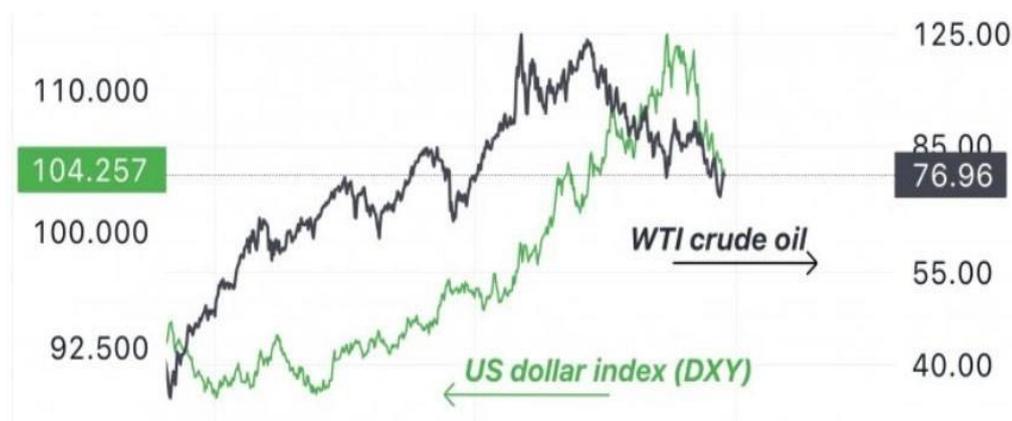
USD being the global reserve currency and being the most used and most dominant currency in the oil trade, it is a factor to determine the prices of oil. Due to the Petrodollar Strategy, Oil prices tended to fluctuate based on the change in US Dollar value. **US Dollar Index (USDX)** as compared to Brent Crude Oil price explains the rationale between negative relationship of USD and Oil price. If the Dollar's value is strong, it means that fewer dollars would be required to purchase a barrel and hence value of barrel decreases per dollar and vice versa.



(Trading View, 2022)

This was the state of USD-Oil price up till 2020 pandemic post which it was becoming a positive relationship. This is due to

1. USA by 2011 had changed its status from Net importer of Oil to Net Exporter of Crude Oil and Petroleum Products. Hence a strong dollar was beneficial for USA and its exports which helped reduce its Trade Deficit. Hence on one hand, with the huge economic growth of USA post Financial Crisis of 2008 and strengthening of Dollar, USA could get cheap imports of Crude Oil from OPEC and due to improvement in Oil Drilling Technology (called Fracking), USA started producing and exporting the Excess Crude Oil and related products.
2. Oil rose to all-time highs post pandemic recovery as the economies opened and demand for oil increased. The dollar also strengthened as the inflation rose and Investors around the world wanting to safeguard their money by buying the most stable and secure currency i.e. USD in the form of US Treasury Bills and Bonds. This period showed a positive association where both Dollar and Crude Oil prices rose.



Unprecedented Events Affecting Oil Prices:

1. Russia Ukraine war effect on Oil Prices

Russia Ukraine war had started from late 2014 with the annexation of Crimean Peninsula by Russia. By 2019, Russia was the second largest exporter of oil after Saudi Arabia. During pandemic, the value of oil barrels had touched negative levels owing to depleting demand for Oil amid Coronavirus fears. Post pandemic, when lockdowns were lifted, the economies began to restart functioning and thus arose the demand for Crude Oil.

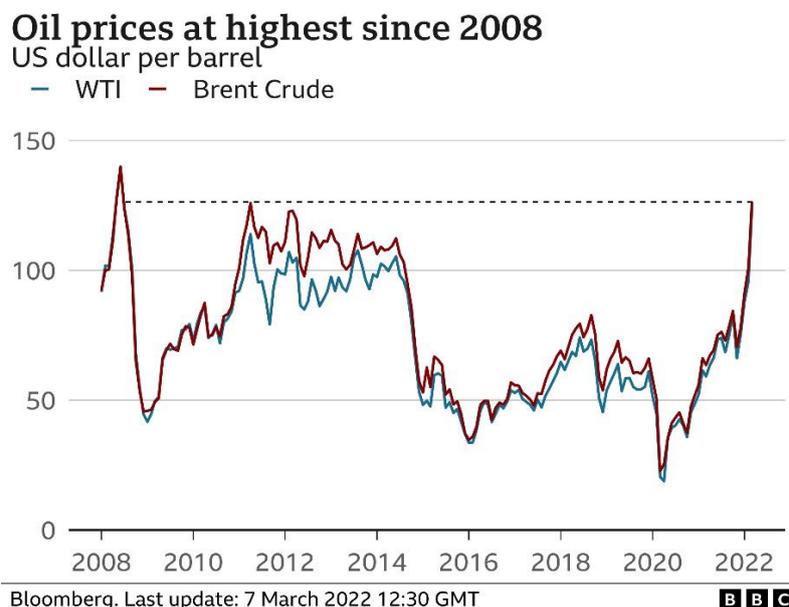
In 1904, Mackinder's '**The Geographical Pivot of History**' describing '**The Heartland Theory**' which states

'Who Rules Eastern Europe commands the Heartland, Who Rules Heartland commands the World Island Who Rules World Islands commands the World'.

The 'Heartland' is a landlocked area covered by mountain on 3 sides and water body in the north located in Eurasia and Central Asia said to consist of major natural resources capable of World Domination. Controlling parts of Ukraine, Belarus, Moscow and other Eastern European Countries ensures controlling a significant portion of Heartland.

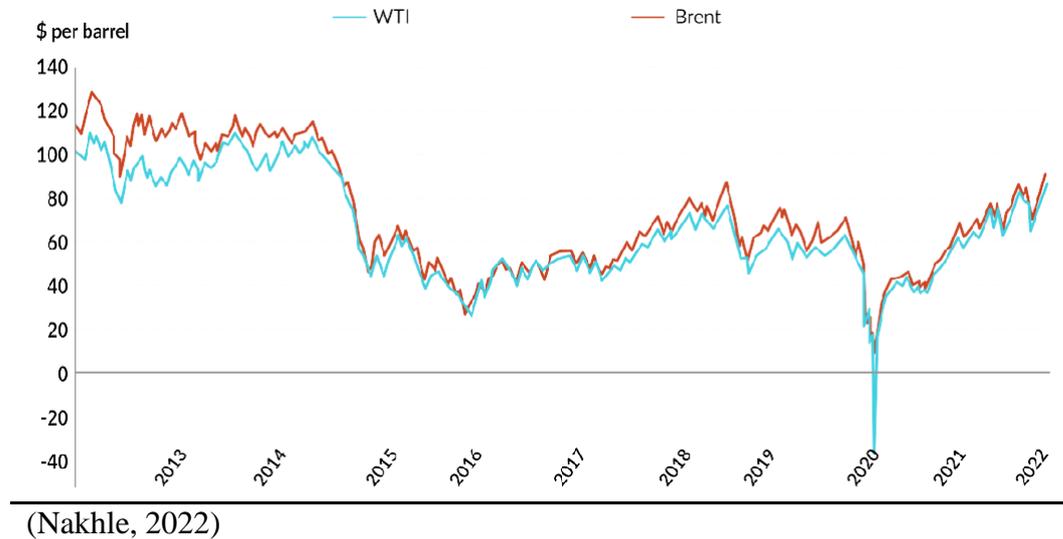
This could be a major reason for the **Russian invasion of Ukraine**. Due to the invasion of Russia on Ukraine, many countries like USA imposed Economic sanctions on Russia. This caused imports from Russia and Ukraine to become more expensive in the world where Mineral fuels and Oil were the largest export products of Russia. Europe imported almost 80% of their natural gas demands from Russia in 2021. Post war, Europe imposed sanctions on Russia and the cost of acquiring natural gas for Europe rose by 54%. The Nord Stream 2 pipeline upcoming project which was supposed to increase the supply of natural gas from Russia to Europe was stopped by Russia in retaliation.

Amid fears of shortage of Oil supply from Russia due to imposed sanctions, Crude Oil prices increased and touched its highest levels of \$120 a barrel. Russia post becoming a member of OPEC + had discussed with Saudi Arabia to reduce its production by 2 million barrels a day. (Nadig, 2022)

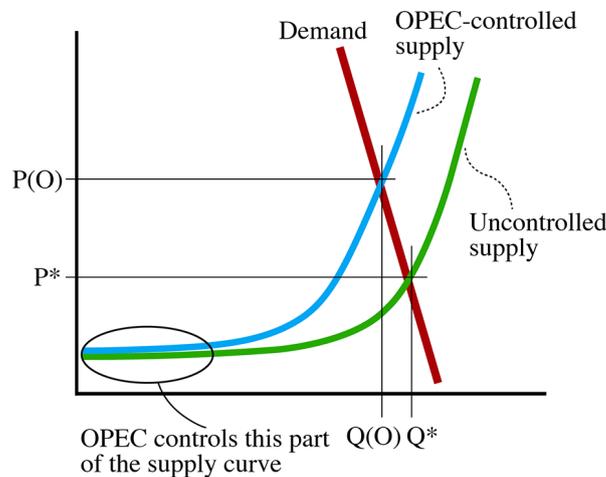


2. SARS Covid 19 Pandemic

It caused worldwide lockdowns. Businesses were shut down and manufacturing of goods (except essential goods) was closed for months. Reduction in economic activity caused reduction in consumption of crude oil in form of fuel for vehicles and raw material for petroleum-products. Even though OPEC + reduced the production of Oil by 10 million barrels a day in order to make supply side reforms to stabilize the falling oil prices, April 2020 saw oil prices reaching till negative \$37.63 showing the descending demand and bearish market sentiment of Oil plus a fear of Pandemic. The storage capacities were full and could not accommodate the surplus production which had to be sold out at cheap prices. (Nawaz, 2020)



OPEC the monopoly for oil production



The short-run elasticity of demand for oil is relatively high, so OPEC can raise prices significantly with little reduction in output. A very high oil price will encourage the development of alternative energy sources, which will replace oil and demand elasticity will not be as high, but in the long run this action can be harmful for OPEC countries. But more importantly, too much oil will cause a recession, which will reduce long-term demand. In this case, OPEC cannot control the price very tightly.

Instead, OPEC is engaging in a little game where they strive to find the highest price without encouraging the creation of substitutes. To achieve the greatest possible long-term profit, OPEC attempts to "stage-manage" the price of oil.

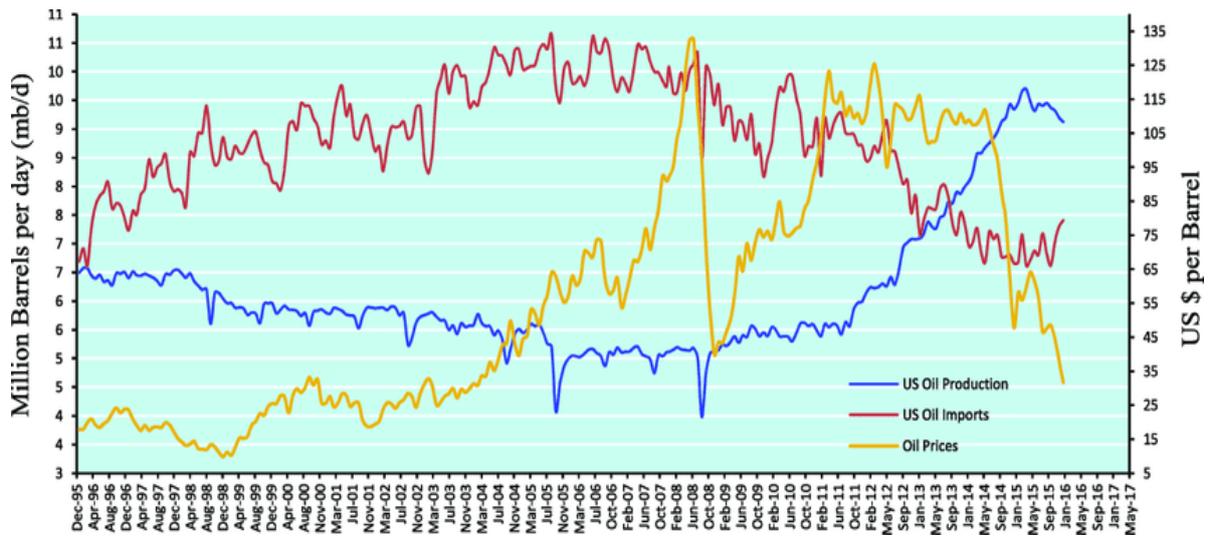
Regression Analysis:

Another way to use statistics to determine the price of oil is through regression analysis. Regression analysis is a statistical method that can be used to analyze the relationship between variables in economics, including the relationship between oil prices and other economic factors. Factors that could be included in a regression analysis of the economics of oil includes variables like global oil production and consumption, global economic growth, geopolitical events, and technological advancements in alternative energy sources. For example, a simple linear regression model for oil prices might take the form:

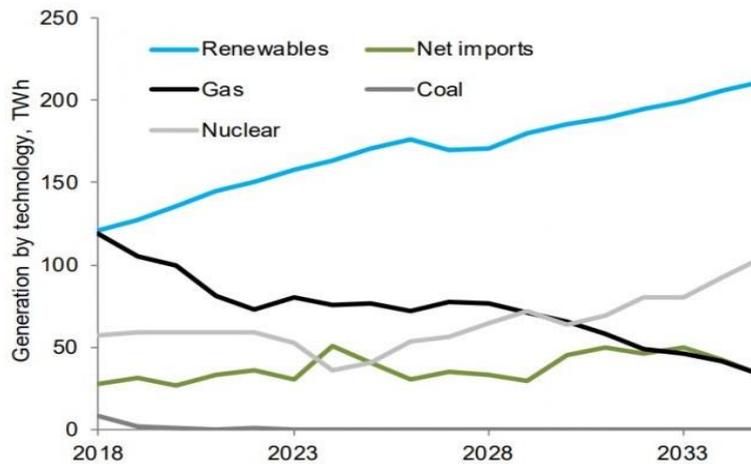
$$\text{Oil Price} = a + b*(\text{GDP}) + c*(\text{Inflation}) + d*(\text{Interest Rate}) + e*(\text{Political Instability Index}) + f*(\text{Alternative Energy Adoption})$$

Where a, b, c, d, e and f are coefficients that are estimated using the data, and GDP, Inflation, Interest Rate, Political Instability Index and Alternative Energy Adoption are independent variables that may influence the oil price.

Once the model is estimated, it can be used to make predictions about future oil prices based on changes in the independent variables. Additionally, the coefficients can be used to identify which variables have the strongest impact on oil prices and how they are related. This is just a simple example and in practice, economists may use more sophisticated models that take into account other factors such as seasonality, non-linear relationships, and interactions among variables.



EXAMPLE OF REGRESSION ANALYSIS



FUTURE PREDICTIONS OF RENEWABLE ENERGY

Conclusion:

We conclude that post the new global geo-political shift, the US backed petrodollar is losing its value and credibility. Now countries are leaving the dollar and are trading in their regional currencies, for example the Saudis, who initially were responsible for the petrodollar are moving away from the dollar trade. Even the Russians have started to trade in Rubles post the economic sanctions imposed by the West led by USA. In the new world order BRICS is emerging as the new central authority displacing the outdated UN, countries like Saudis, Egypt, Iran, Argentina have applied to the organization and there are talks of forming a new global reserve currency to displace the hegemonic US Dollar.

Furthermore, the future of oil and oil prices will be determined by the Russian advancement into Ukraine, advancement of technologies in the renewable energy sector, supply and demand and the production levels by the OPEC and sanctions and price cap on Russian Oil.

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A WORLD WITHOUT OPIUM

OPIUM INSTITUTIONS AND ECONOMIES- THE FATAL TRIANGLE

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Abstract:

The Golden Triangle, a globally significant area lying between the borders of Thailand, Myanmar and Laos which converge at the Ruak and Mekong rivers, centres its entire economy around poppy plantations, making Myanmar the second largest illicit opium producer in the world after Afghanistan. Unrivalled in its pain alleviation abilities, opium contains several alkaloids which attenuate anxiety, induce relaxation and lead to a state of euphoria or enhanced mood, making it an addictive drug causing physical dependence and withdrawal symptoms- all of which qualify it to be categorised as a narcotic substance. This paper seeks to understand how political and economic institutions across the world, specifically China interact with Myanmar, a significant constituent of the Golden Triangle to which the scope of this study is being limited, and its opium-dependent economy while exploring the possibility of a world where the stringent interdiction of opium can lead to far-reaching economic and social consequences, not just for Myanmar and its connection to the Golden Triangle but for every country involved in the transnational drug trade.

Introduction:

The growth of opium began to spread from Mesopotamia and Greece to China, where in the 18th century, the traders from Europe realised that they could acquire Chinese goods

such as silk and tea with spending their precious gold and silver due to the expanding and profitable market in China for opium. However, in 1773 the East India company gained monopoly rights over opium to fund its expansionary wars and flooded the Chinese markets with the narcotic. Use of methods of interdiction like imposition of a strict ban only led to the beginning of their widespread smuggling industry. The ban didn't act as a deterrent as the British officials found ways to smuggle the drug using corrupt Chinese officials and secret channels. Matters only worsened when EEIC's monopoly over the substance diminished, the prices reduced and congruently, people's dependency increased. When in 1858, China was forced to legalise opium imports, Chinese provincial authorities stopped actively discouraging local cultivation, putting China on the map as a global opium producer. the governments first attempt was to reform their people into proper, drug dearing citizens who would conform to modern standards, and raised the official prices but the realisation of needing funds dawned upon them after which they taxed the producing and dealing of opium, particularly with the Japanese and used it to weaken their military front.

Next came the Chinese Communist Party who, after coming into power, ordered 10 million addicts into compulsory treatment, executed dealers, replaced opium-producing regions with new crops, ultimately shifting to the south of the Chinese border , while being an insufficient measure taken to account for the 20 million Chinese outside of China who had taken to this addiction. This led to the surge of opium production and supply within the golden triangle region consisting of towns from Myanmar, Laos, Thailand. The cultivation of opium poppy in the remote and rugged northeastern part of today's Myanmar was originally introduced by Chinese traders coming from the neighbouring province of Yunnan after the control measures taken by the CCP. After the Chinese Revolution of 1912, the new Chinese government made it illegal to grow the drug. Its subsequent efforts to eliminate opium poppy cultivation in the Yunnan province lead another wave of Chinese opium poppy growers to move to Burma, in the Kachin and the Shan areas, where opium production further increased. 1912 is also marked by the adoption of the Hague Opium Convention, and the beginning of international pressures to control opium production.

However, the Shan States Opium Order which made the non-medical use of opium illegal did not apply to the largest growing areas, safeguarding their primary production locations under the pretext of government intervention to eradicate drug trade. During the Chinese Civil War in the 1940s, when many refugees and ethnic groups came to China, the

amount of opium grown in the mountains of Thailand, Myanmar, and Lao PDR grew exponentially. Poppy was the only cash crop available to the new highlanders, so they had to grow it to get out of poverty. Even so, they didn't make much money from it. By 1990, Myanmar was producing more than half of the world's opium. Over time, the opium-arms cycle led to internal fights, hidden by political rhetoric between rival commanders for control of opium-growing areas. The drug profits became more important to the commanders than the political goals they were meant to support, making drug addiction and its fueling by capitalism a political and economic problem that affects the whole world.

Scope of Research:

The scope of this research study primarily limits itself to Myanmar, which is an imperative contributor to the Golden Triangle and the opium trade which happens across the world. It makes use of secondary data sources based on surveys that examine the situation of farmers and cultivators in Myanmar on the supply side of the drug economy while also seeking to understand how the demand for opium is fuelled by institutions. The study uses historical data to understand the origins of poppy cultivation alongside 2014 data to support the claims made in the hypothetical scenario. However, it should be specified that Due to widespread underreporting of the prevalence of poppy cultivation in China, it is likely that the actual acreage devoted to poppy cultivation is significantly larger than what was recorded. It also makes use of recent statistical evidence to elaborate on the perpetuation of the opium economy in modern times, particularly in relation to the USA and China where we draw inferences by comparing China and Myanmar's policymaking to cope with a overbearing drug industry and emerge in a position where they can sustain themselves against vulnerabilities of illicit produce.

Aim/ Objective of Research:

To study how institutions, perpetuate the drug economy and the consequences of a world from which opium is eradicated with use of comparative case studies and hypothetical.

Methodology:

This study makes use of secondary sources of data in order to understand how the

economy of Myanmar functions and interacts with the Golden Triangle and the rest of the world. A majority of the data has been obtained from surveys conducted by the United Nations Office which sampled selected sites in South-East Asia and made use of information from local experts alongside qualitative and quantitative data collected from landowners, farmers and other producers involved in poppy cultivation. The 'Data Interpretation and Analysis' section includes counterfactuals in the form of hypothetical scenarios that aim to use real-time empirical data applied to a world where the absence of these factors and indicators could potentially lead to the collapse of Myanmar's economy.

Data Interpretation/ Analysis:

At the beginning of the 1940's, with over 30,000 people involved in the producing and trafficking drugs. The amount of opium imported into Nanjing, a rural town in China, was estimated to be roughly 2,500 kilograms per month. Overall, documents from the 1940's estimate that roughly 3 percent of the agricultural sector in rural China was dedicated to opium production. This rampant spread of opium was not limited to production in rural areas but extended to the consumption in urban cities like Shanghai which has been estimated to have at least 8,000 sellers and 20,000 opium dens in 1949. This took a drastic shift with the introduction of policies by the Chinese Communist Party in the year 1950.

They began with collecting necessary intelligence about all the areas plagued with opium addiction, production or both. A general order was issued, which included the essential elements of the plan of opium interdiction and education and uprooting of the problem from both demand and supply side. It included actions like spreading propaganda against the use of opium, creating rehabilitation centres to support the addicts and discussing measures to tackle the supply issue. Each region was targeted specifically and a special set of methods were utilised to tackle the unique problems of the individual region. For example in Yunnan, one of many regions with high production of opium, the government officials disseminated propaganda and began uprooting poppy fields. Yunnan uprooted over 6000 kilograms of opium poppy and went to educate people about the adverse effects of poppy, when that did not work, force was also applied and people were asked to register themselves as addicts and access the aid that was provided by the government. By 1951, the Yunnan government announced that it had eliminated opium in all but its most outlying counties. This could be said about all of China.

Now, let us focus on Myanmar, with its aforementioned and emphasised dependency on the opium economy and recognise that Myanmar is an example of an economy where such a combination of lenient and stringent measures were not applied, due to the lack of economic opportunities within the country, unstable governance in the form of a coup, and several other factors. The opium economy ended up driving it away and further into poverty at the same time. This combined with the internal conflicts it faces with its migrants, Myanmar struggled to deal with the impending problem of the drug trade and consumption. Even after a fall since 2014, Myanmar's production of opium was simply replaced with production of synthetic drugs, making it one of the leading producers of synthetic drugs.

This could occur due to problems within the institutions that were managing the methods of interdiction like corruption and use of drugs by the officials themselves. It could also be the result of the government's failure to offer an alternate crop or fall back economy and their inability to change the mindset of the people. In China, it was deemed anti-nationalist to produce or consume opium due to the government led propaganda but Myanmar simply was unable to instill even a remotely similar sentiment within its citizens who have continued its demand and supply which is evident by the 30,200 hectares of area under cultivation of poppy in 2021.

Now, consider the year 2014, chosen by the Government of the Republic of Myanmar (GOUM) as the completion year of their 15-year plan to eliminate illicit crop production.

Assuming a scenario where the world is no longer capable of sustaining the production of opium due to several possible reasons, including but not limited to, unviable soil conditions, stringent interdiction on behalf of governments or a shift in demand towards synthetic and more potent drugs, the dependency of Myanmar's economy on opium trade, particularly in 2014, can be examined. With the Shan State of Myanmar providing 89% of the poppy agronomy from the Golden Triangle and 63,800 hectares under cultivation employing over 135,000 households, it can be stated that Myanmar heavily relies on their opium cultivation and production units for sustenance. Poppy cultivation means employment for a large number of Burmese citizens and an economic survey conducted by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime further demonstrates the same. It has been found that the money generated from the poppy crop prevents food insecurity and poverty as there is a lack of other employment opportunities available for them. The sealing of production units and destruction of all opium created can lead to massive

job losses across a country that has inherited the drug trade from previous generations, surviving in an economy with few other alternatives. Poverty is overwhelmingly rural, and the measures of inequality have only risen since economic liberalisation, leaving farmlands to earn small incomes for their livelihood. The incapacity to produce opium and few other industries to provide large-scale support would mean plummeting employment and wage rates, negatively affecting Myanmar's GDP as well.

In a world where opium no longer exists, the absence of an addictive substance only implies a supply shock, while the demand remains the same, if not increasing exponentially as the repercussions of withdrawal. Opiates produce a physical dependence and withdrawal symptoms that can be assuaged only by continued use of the drug. The possibility of the black market driving up the prices of the last of the opium is very likely, potentially leading to small-scale drug wars and violent crimes condoned by several cartels, generating Herculean profits from drug trafficking, sometimes to the tune of half a trillion dollars.

Some of the biggest importers of opioids from the Golden Triangle, particularly Northern Thailand which processes the poppy they receive from Myanmar and Laos, include California and Hawaii which constitute a significant part of the 4 million opium users worldwide. The widespread eradication of opium will not only affect the medical healthcare sector, which it contributes to in the form of painkillers but also lead to highly intense withdrawal periods for individuals deprived from them. While in an idealistic world, it can be believed that the extensive bans of opium will only have positive effects for individuals, who will now seek rehabilitation, the introduction of synthetic substances in the drug market may negate any benefits the former might have. Synthetic opioids other than methadone are reported to have caused over 50,000 deaths, just in the USA.

Conclusion:

We examined the complete collapse of Myanmar, a key nation in the Golden Triangle, and emphasized its dependency on the opium economy for its survival using a hypothetical. Additionally, we realized that methods of interdiction and education alone will not be sufficient to combat the disease of drug addiction and individual or economic reliance on the same by comparing the case of China and our key focus, Myanmar; a change in the will of the institutions

and the people being governed by might bring about the change that Myanmar needs to be able to survive the crisis, which can be caused by both- the production of opium or the lack of it.

Thus, it can be concluded that drug-dependent economies which face the brunt of being the world's less developed countries tend to supply the highly developed nations at the cost of constant global threats and economic vulnerability while being unable to expand in other licit sectors that would pave their path towards achieving growth. The Golden Triangle may have expanded into a Crescent over the years but it hasn't been able to shorn off its luster due to the institutions that support and perpetuate it.

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A STUDY TO UNDERSTAND THE IMPORTANCE OF FINANCIAL AND STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT STUDIES IN PRIMARY EDUCATION

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Abstract:

This study is done in order to identify the reasons why subjects like financial literacy and strategic management need to be taught in the early stages of life (9th to 12th standard) of a student and what the possible effects of these subjects will have on their financial behavior and decision making process. In the early stages of education, nobody really discussed or thought about these subjects but as the world moved on and countries like ours were rising in economic power and status. One should know how the money works and how to make decisions accordingly.

Introduction:

Financial decisions are something which occurs in everyday life where most of them are impulsive purchases like ice cream, snacks etc. Others take some serious consideration of various factors like the reliability, value-for-money, customer service and others when they have to do a big purchase like buying a washing machine or car. But in the end it all comes down to the price.

Even in this modern age in India, most of the people who are not much aware about the term financial literacy think that it's only about investing and most of them don't use financial services provided by consulting companies. A research paper from Harvard Business School

Suggest that “Two plausible views could explain limited demand for financial services in emerging markets. First, because these services are expensive to provide, and often involve economies of scale, it may simply be that low income individuals do not demand formal financial services. Indeed, there is evidence that informal savings, credit, and insurance markets function reasonably well in emerging markets,¹ and the benefits of formal financial market participation may simply not exceed the relatively large fixed transaction costs associated with such products (Beck, Demirguc-Kunt, and Peria, 2007). An alternative view argues that limited financial literacy serves as an important barrier to demand for services: if individuals are not familiar or comfortable with products, they will not demand them. ”

It is just not enough to be financially literate if you can't take the right decision at the right time. Strategic management is the subject which teaches an individual on what basis or what factors one should consider when forming a strategy and making a decision. Most of the time this process takes place in big businesses at the top management level when they want to decide how they are going to conduct the business for the next 5 years or more. It mainly includes various kinds of matrix's with the help of which they evaluate their current state of business and what they have to do and don't do in order to grow and have competitive advantage in the market.

Now, this could be applied on an individual level when a person wants to develop themselves in the current competitive world. In the early stages of a child's life it's the parents that take the most important decisions and it could be about education, sports, career etc. But most of the time they fail to have a plan B or a full-fledged strategy for their child which causes a lot of problems for both parent and the child. So the ability of making a strategically accurate plan and decisions is something that needs to be taken seriously.

Objectives:

- 1) To understand the current ability of taking decisions and forming strategy for the longterm.
- 2) To understand the current financial behavior of the students.
- 3) To get the opinion of the students about being introduced in primary education.

The scope of the study is limited to the sample size of 58 people with the age which ranges from 18-25 y.o who will be contacted through WhatsApp and personal contact. The duration of this test would be of 2 weeks and will end until there are 100 respondents or until 2 weeks have passed. Each person from the sample would be asked to complete a questionnaire in order to understand the financial behavior and strategy building ability.

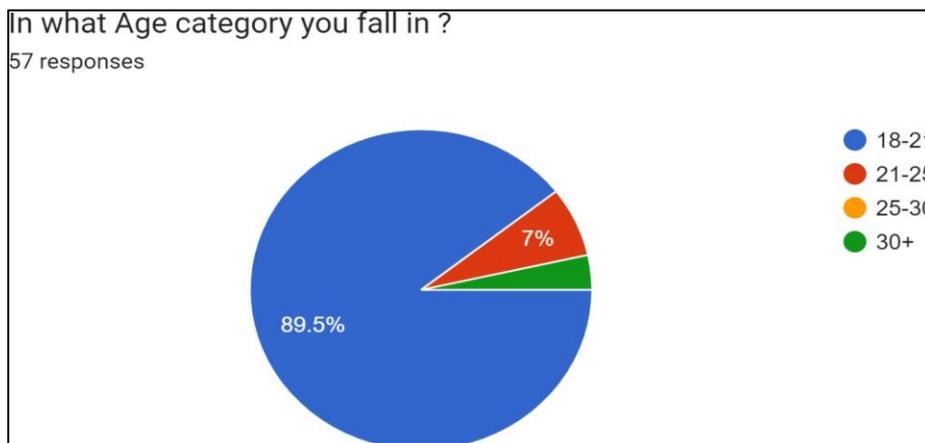
Methodology:

Primary Data : To collect first hand data , A questionnaire is formed which consists of 22 numbers of questions where 10 questions would be related to respondents financial behavior , 10 questions related to their decision making ability and other 2 is about what they think about the topic of the research .

Secondary Data: To analyze current psychology of masses. The internet research articles are included in this paper on the basis on which we created our questionnaire.

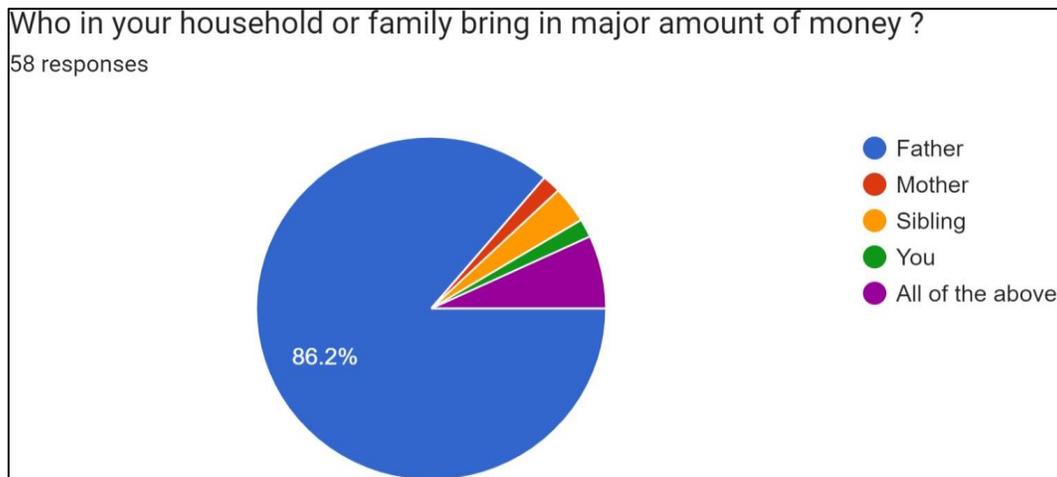
Data Analysis and Interpretation:

In order to get data to prove the hypothesis of introducing financial and strategic management as subjects in primary education, a questionnaire was made in google form and sent to the respondents through personal contact (WhatsApp) and below is the graphical presentation of the data we collected.



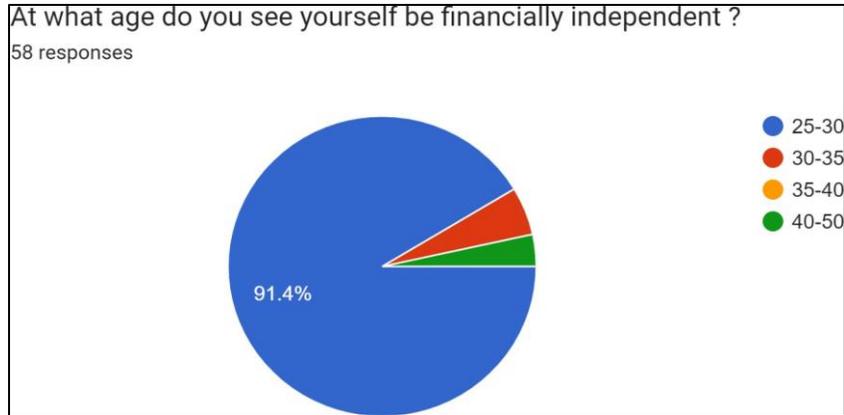
Answers	No. of Responses	Frequency
18-21	51	89.5%
21-25	4	7%
25-30	0	0%
30+	2	3.5%

Interpretation: The above graph and table shows us that most of the respondents are at the age of their undergraduate studies and don't know much or are just being introduced to higher education.



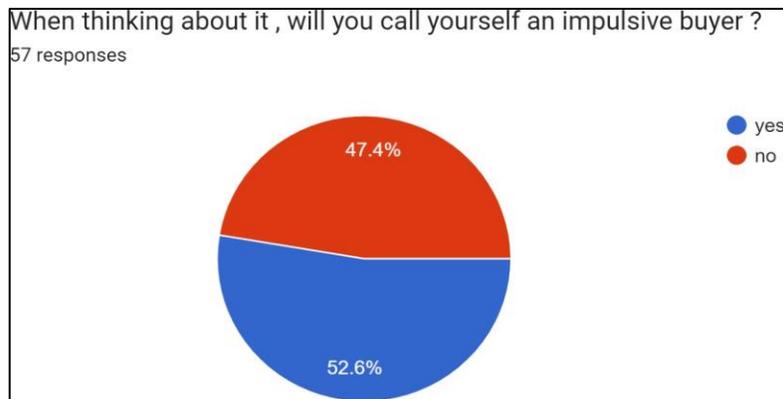
Answer	No. of Responses	Frequency
Father	50	86.2 %
Mother	1	1.7 %
Sibling	2	3.4 %
You	1	1.7 %
All of the above	4	6.9 %

Interpretation: From the above we get the idea that the majority of respondents don't have the control over the income which comes in the family hence they don't have authority over where they can spend the money.



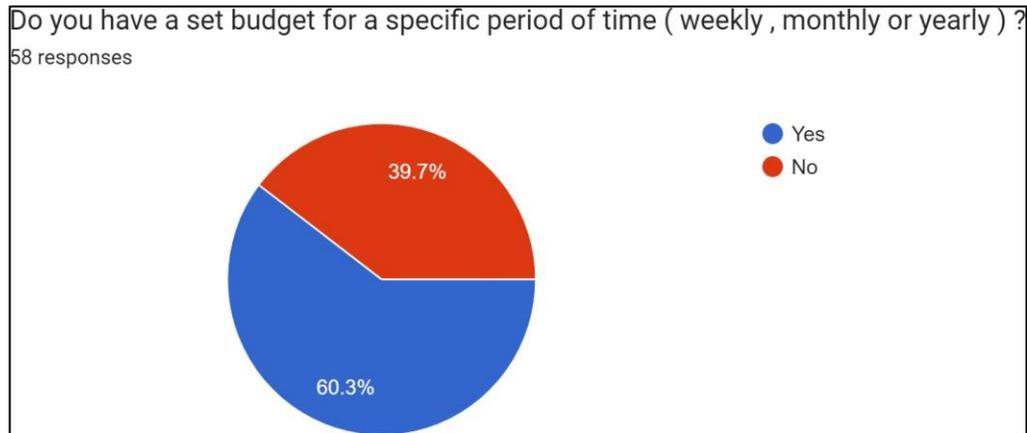
Answers	No. of Responses	Frequency
25 - 30	53	91.4 %
30 - 35	3	5.2 %
35 - 40	2	3.4 %
40 - 50	0	0 %

Interpretation: Majority of respondents want to be financially independent at a really early age of 25 - 30 which in this current time is much harder to achieve when compared with last or last - to- last decade .



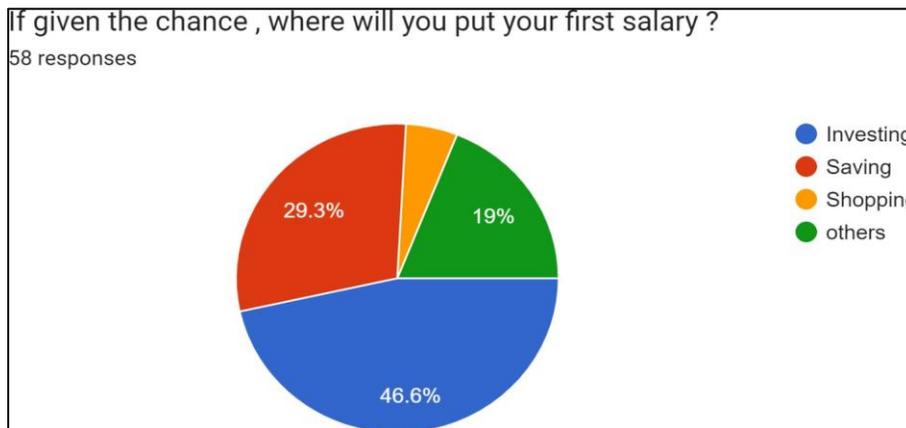
Answers	No. of respondents	Frequency
Yes	30	52.6 %
No	27	47.4 %

Interpretation: In the above graph we can see that the majority of people buy things on impulse and are very little responsible with their money and where others are not which shows a healthy or a rather very responsible attitude.



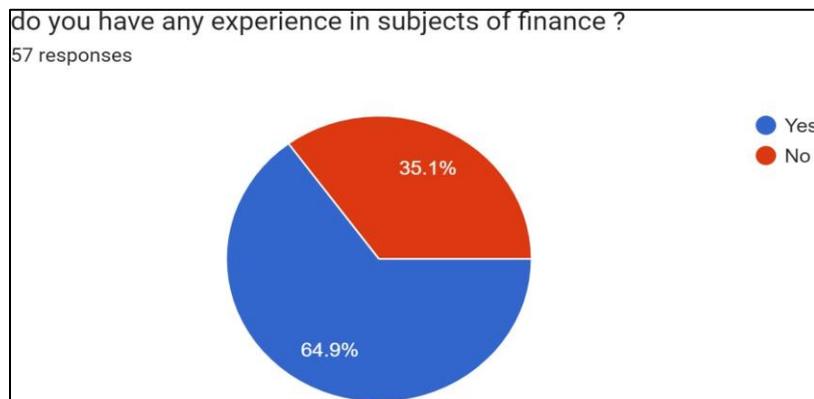
Answers	No. of Responses	Frequency
Yes	35	60.3 %
No	23	39.7 %

Interpretation: From the data we can see that the majority of respondents even though they buy on impulse they still put a limit on their purchases for a set period of time which makes them a responsible spender.



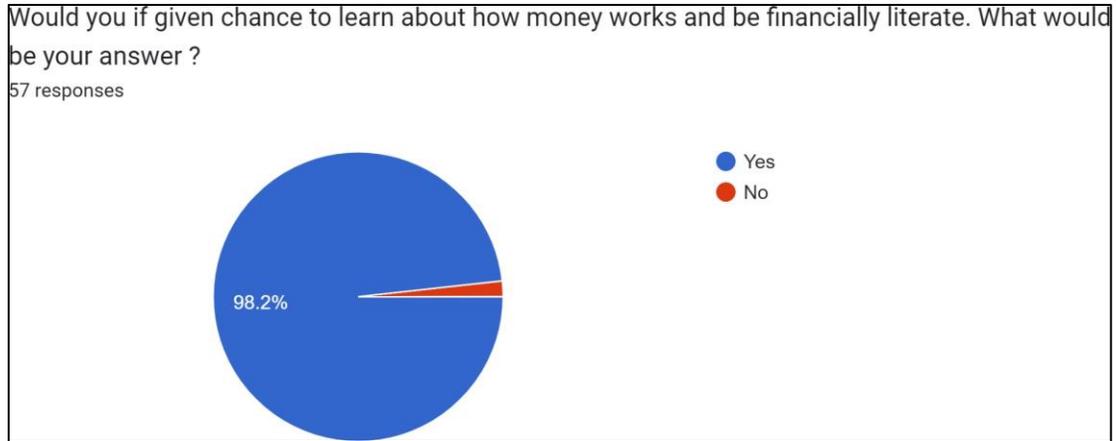
Answers	No. of Responses	Frequency
Investing	27	46.6 %
Saving	17	29.3 %
Shopping	3	5.2 %
Others	11	19 %

Interpretation: The above graph shows us that the traditional approach of putting your savings into savings is broken and the people are getting more financially aware and want to invest.



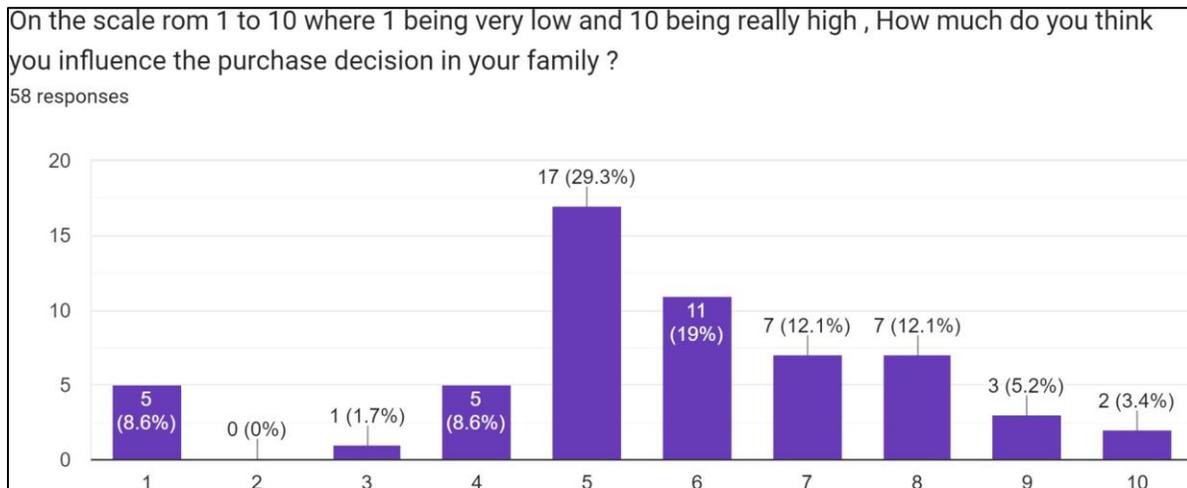
Answers	No. of Response	Frequency
Yes	37	64.9 %
No	20	35.1 %

Interpretation: Majority of respondents does know some basics and real life concepts of finance and can or does apply the knowledge at a very small level as we have seen in other graphs from above.

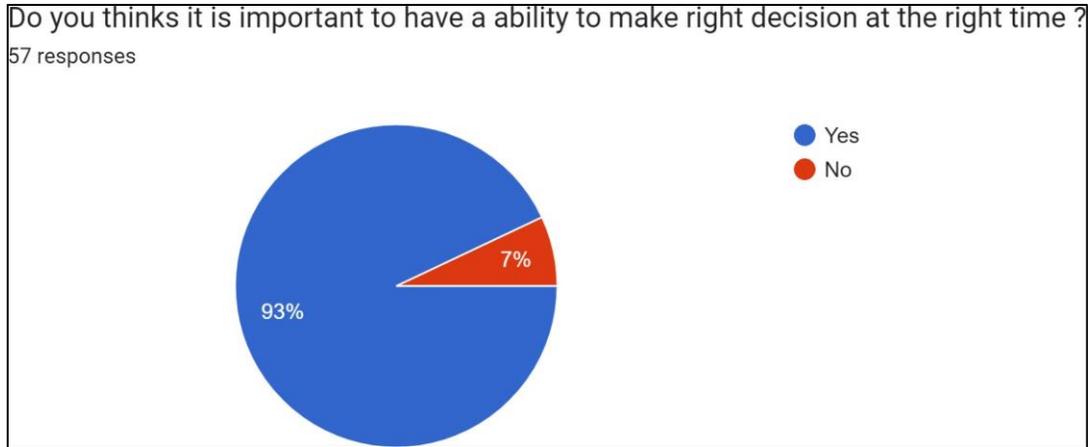


Answers	No. of Respondents	Frequency
Yes	56	98.2 %
No	1	0.8 %

Interpretation: Majority of the respondents are willing to learn and advance in the field of finance in order to become independent and want to help in the responsibilities of the family.

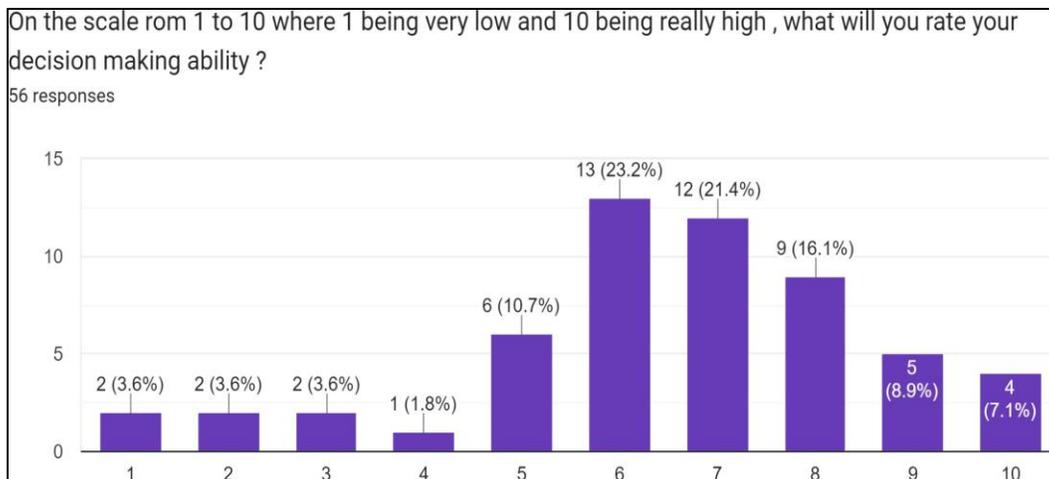


Interpretation : When asked to rate the influence the respondents have on any purchasedecision in the family, the majority of them rated on the scale of 5 which is not high but not also low which means they have influence but not a significant one .

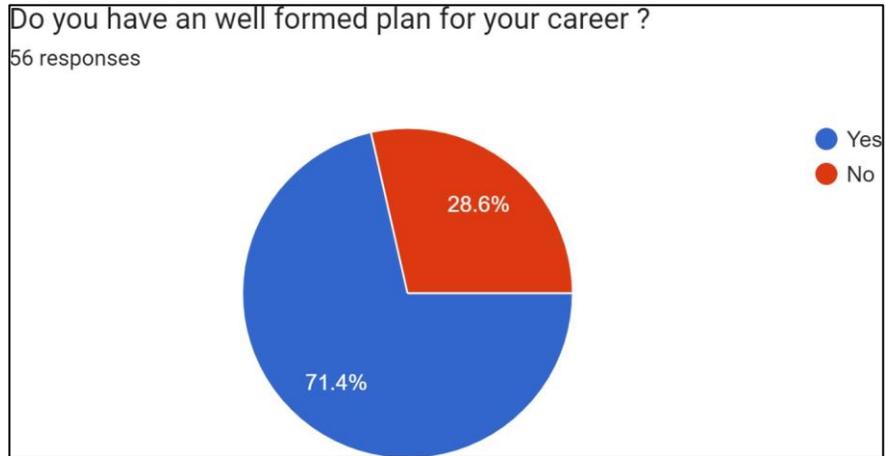


Answers	No. of Responses	Frequency
Yes	53	93 %
No	4	7 %

Interpretation: Majority of the respondents know the importance of decision making ability in their lives.

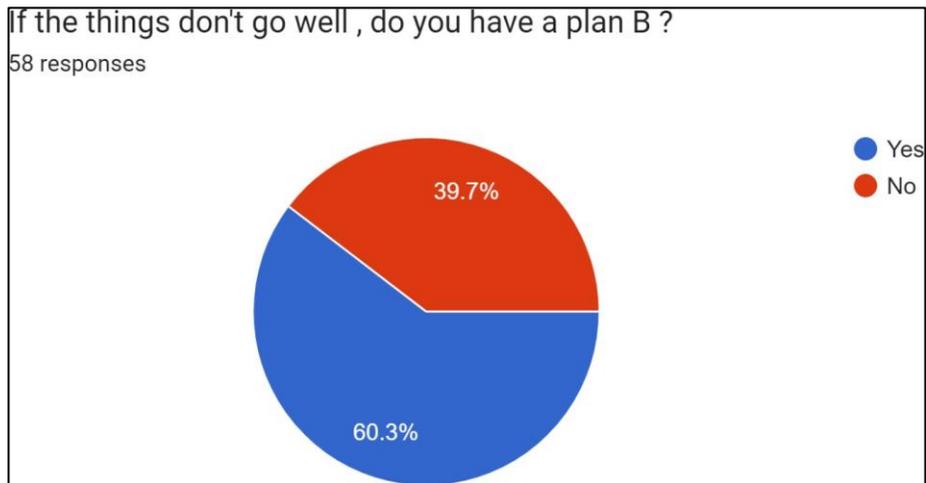


Interpretation: In the above scale we can see that most of the people think that they have above average decision making ability and not great, which tells us that the respondent have a sense of self-actualisation and knows that there is a room of improvement.



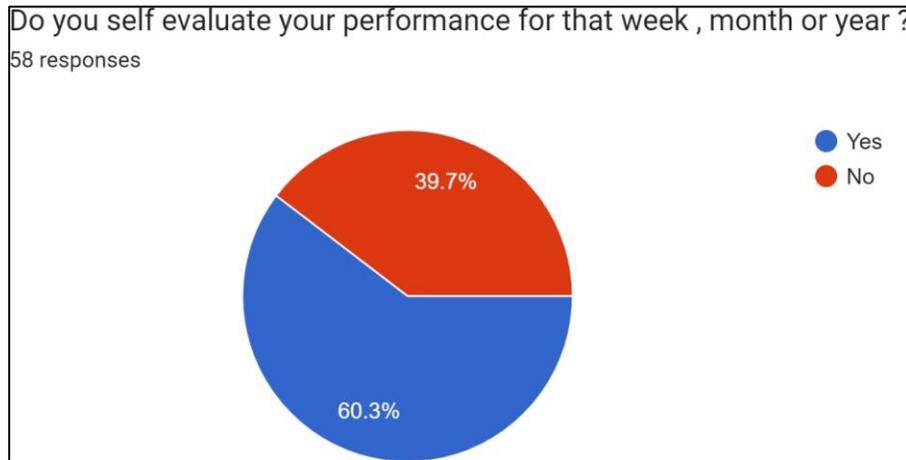
Answers	No. of Response	Frequency
Yes	40	71.4 %
No	16	28.6 %

Interpretation: Majority of the respondents have a plan for their future and remaining respondents do not, which could be problematic when most of the respondents are of the age of 18.



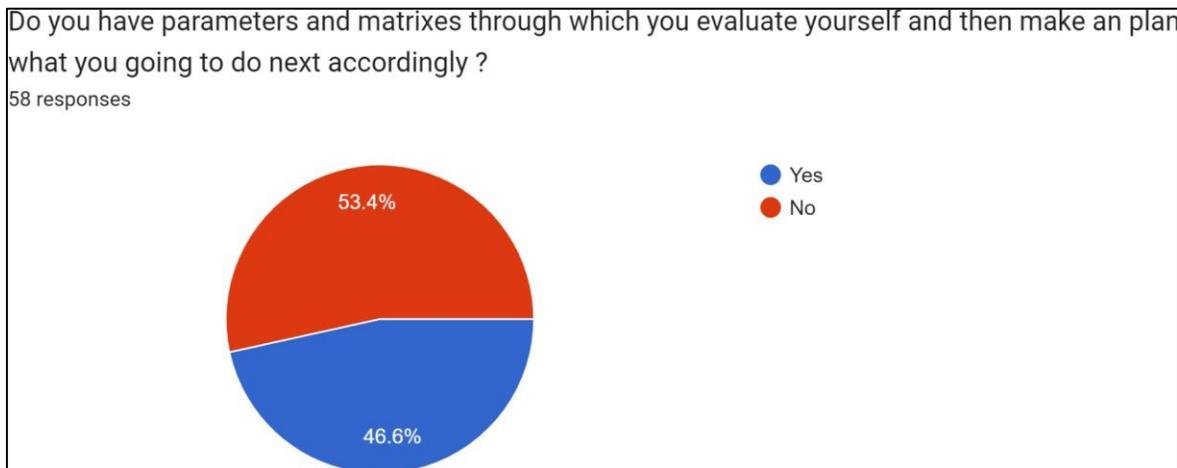
Answers	No. of Respondents	Frequency
Yes	35	60.3 %
No	23	39.7 %

Interpretation: From the above data we can see that the majority of the respondents have a plan which means they are aware that the current times are really unstable and unpredictable which makes them think that things may not be in their planned way but remaining ones don't which could cause a problem for them in the long term.



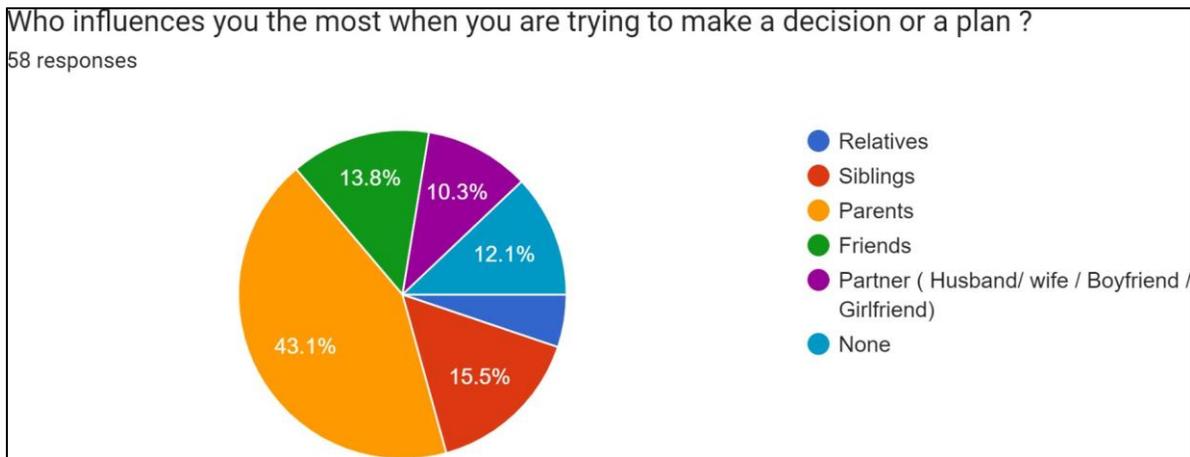
Answers	No. of Respondents	Frequency
Yes	35	60.3 %
No	23	39.7 %

Interpretation: From the above table we can see that the majority of the respondents evaluate themselves in order to where they are lacking and where the room for improvement is but again the remaining respondents lack this process which could be harmful in the long run.



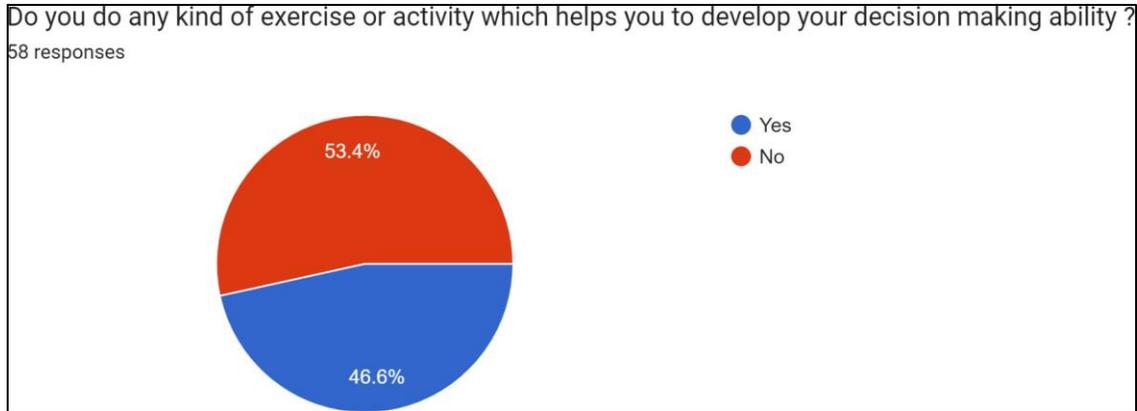
Answers	No. of Respondents	Frequency
Yes	27	53.4 %
No	31	46.6 %

Interpretation: From the above graph we can see that the majority of respondents don't have fixed parameters or a system through which they evaluate themselves and because of that their strategy could lack accuracy.



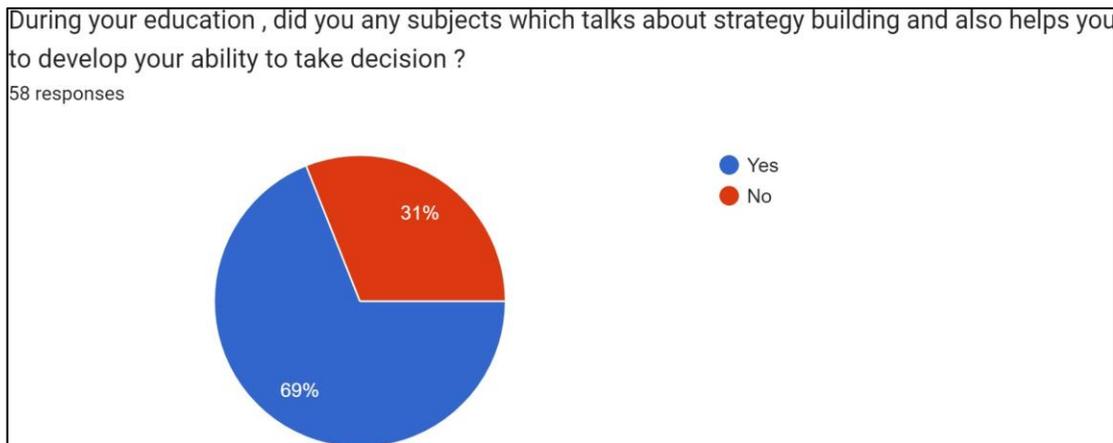
Answers	No. of Respondents	Frequency
Relatives	3	5.2 %
Siblings	9	15.5 %
Parents	25	43.1 %
Friends	8	13.8 %
Partner	6	10.3 %
None	7	12.1 %

Interpretation: From the above data we can see that for most of the respondents, the influence of parents is a major factor whenever they try to make a life decision which is not necessarily bad and in most cases proves to be great but in some it does not result as they want.



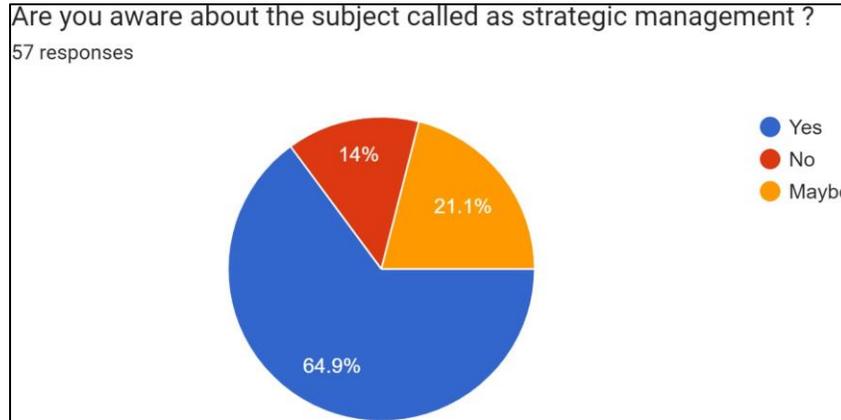
Answers	No. of Respondents	Frequency
Yes	27	53.4 %
No	31	46.6 %

Interpretation: From the above data we can see that the majority of respondents don't particularly do an exercise which involves having a critical decision taking ability like chess, checkers and any other activities hence making their decision taking ability slow and less accurate.



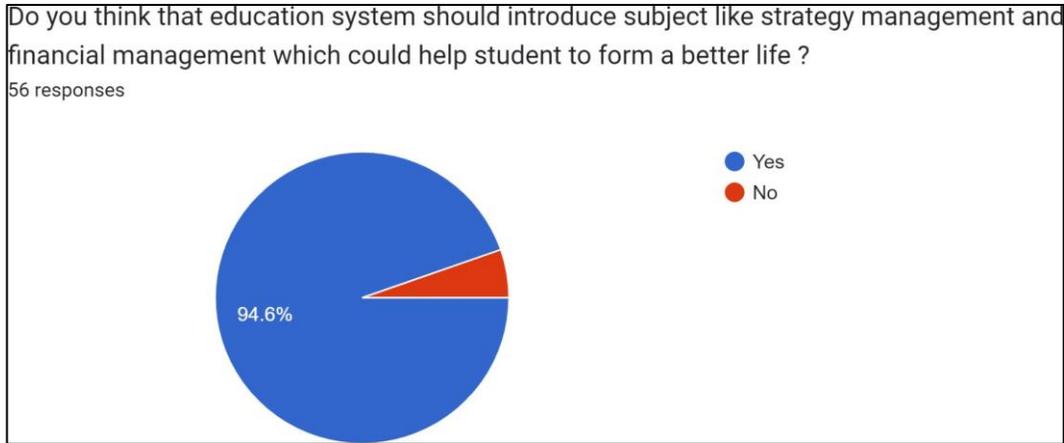
Answers	No. of Respondents	Frequency
Yes	40	69 %
No	18	31 %

Interpretation: From the above data we can see that majority of respondents had some kind of subject which talked about strategic building and ability of taking decisions during their academic duration in college but from the other above tables we can see that they are not able to totally apply the teachings of that subject in real life.



Answers	No. of Respondents	Frequency
Yes	37	64.9 %
No	8	14 %
Maybe	12	21.1 %

Interpretation: From the above table we can observe that majority of respondents have heard about a term called strategic management which is subjects that teaches you about the process which takes place at top management level in big corporates when they want to decide in which direction they want the company go in order to grow. So the majority only just heard about the subject but does not know about what the subject exactly is.



Answers	No. of Respondents	Frequency
Yes	53	94.6 %
No	3	5.4 %

Interpretation: In the above data we can observe that the majority of respondents agrees that introducing subjects such as financial management and strategic management in early or primary education would be beneficial for the upcoming generation which eventually make students mature and aware enough to not feel overwhelmed when exposed to the real world.

Conclusion:

After looking at the all the data from above, even if does not prove it we can surely see that there is demand for such subjects in a humans life in order to survive in the current competitive times and when a student gets to know the subject and is able to apply the real application of what they are taught it won't just affect the life of themselves but also of their close ones.

So in conclusion, we can safely say that introducing both of these subjects could and would givethe if not all but some students an edge over the others.

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USE OF MOBILE BANKING BY YOUTH: A WAY TOWARDS CASHLESS ECONOMY?

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Abstract:

Mobile banking enables clients and users to carry out various transactions. Mobile banking helps customers to receive up to date information to their services, which helps them to carry out their daily transactions by just clicking on one tab. Youth are aware about services of mobile banking and technologies which they are willing to use it in future. We can say that our economy is going to be cashless economy in nearby future.

This research work carried out to get perceptions of students regarding e-banking and cashless economy. Survey of this research carried out between Borivali to Bandra. An attempt has been made to know his views on mode of payments, future of cashless economy, operation system of their bank account etc.

Introduction:

Mobile Banking enables clients to carry out various transaction. Mobile Banking helps customer to receive up to date update of the service which help them to carry out their transaction by just clicking one tab. Mobile Banking also provide customer instant transaction, provide 24x7 services to the customers. Mobile Banking provide flexibility to the customers. The technology has enables more facilities to the banking as well as user of Mobile Banking. Mobile Banking usage is increasing in recent day is due to the easy to operate and convenient way of banking. Youth are more enthusiastic to do ease banking. Mobile Banking has enhance many facilities to the customers as well as bank.

Objectives of the Study:

1. To get an opinion of youth about cashless economy.
2. To know about the mode of payments mainly use by them.
3. To analyze future trends of cashless transactions.

Scope of the Study:

This research work helps the students those who wants to do research on e-banking facilities and cashless economy. Findings of this study will help to researchers and policy maker to get information about the future of the cashless economy.

Methodology:

Research Design: This study is descriptive in nature. Descriptive research studies are those which are concerned with describing character of particular individual or group.

Sampling method: It is a collection of a part or subset of the individuals of population which is selected for the purpose, representing the population sample obtained by collecting information only about some members of population.

Area of the study: Area of study is from Borivali to Bandra.

Sample size: The total number of respondents taken for research is 60.

Data collection method: Data is collected from respondents through google forms. Sources of data: Both primary and secondary data were collected for this study.

1. Primary Data: The objectives of the study has been accomplished with the help of primary data collected from 60 respondents.
2. Secondary Data: It is the data which already exists somewhere, taken by us only for the reference.

Results and Discussion:

This research paper carried out on use of e-banking by youth. We have collected primary information as well as subject related information of the respondents.

Gender

Table 1

Gender	No. of respondent
Male	22 (36.7%)
female	38 (63.3%)

In this research total 60 students opinion has been collected. Out of that 22(36.7%) are boys students and 38 (63.3%) are Girls students.

Age

Table 2

Age	No. of respondent
Below 20	15 (25%)
Above 20	45 (75%)

If we categorize age wise respondent in this research then we found that 15 (25%) respondents are below 20 years and 45(75%) respondents are above 20 years.

Level of Education

Table 3

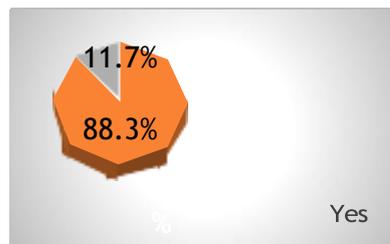
Level of education	No. of respondent
U.G	45(75%)
P .G	15(25%)

Level of education helps to get knowledge about technology in each sector of the economy. In this research we try to get information about student's education level. The above table shows that 45(75%) are under graduate and 15(25%) are post under graduate.

Do you have a bank account?

Table 4

Bank Account?	No. of respondent
Yes	53 (88.3%)
No	7 (11.7%)

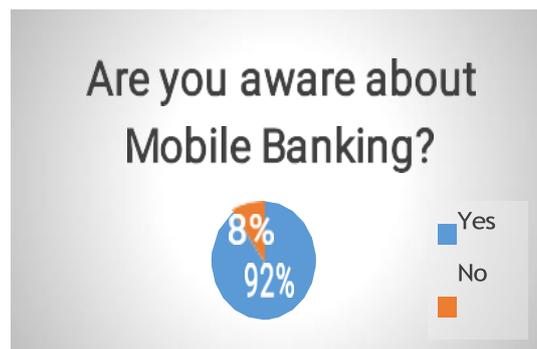


Here we try to get information that respondent have a bank account or not?. Above diagram and table shows that 53(88.3%) respondents have a bank account and 7 (11.7%) respondents don't have a bank account.

Are you aware about Mobile Banking?

Table 5

Mobile Banking awareness?	No. of respondent
Yes	55 (91.7%)
no	5 (8.3%)



Mostly young generation has a good knowledge about technology. In this research 55(91.7%) respondents very well aware about mobile banking but 5(8.3%) respondents are not aware about mobile banking.

Do you use Mobile Banking?

Table 6

Use of Mobile Banking	Do you
yes	50 (83.3%)
No	10 (16.7%)



Those who have a bank account and aware about the mobile banking not necessary that they are using mobile banking. In this research 5 respondent are not aware about mobile banking and 55 respondents are aware about mobile banking. Out of 55 respondent 50 respondents are using mobile banking and remaining 10 respondents are not using mobile banking.

How often do you use Mobile Banking?

Table 7

How often do you use Mobile Banking?	No. of respondent
Daily	26 (43.3%)
Once in a week	8 (13.3%)
Once in a month	6 (10%)
Occasionally	10 (16.7%)
Not using	10 (16.7%)

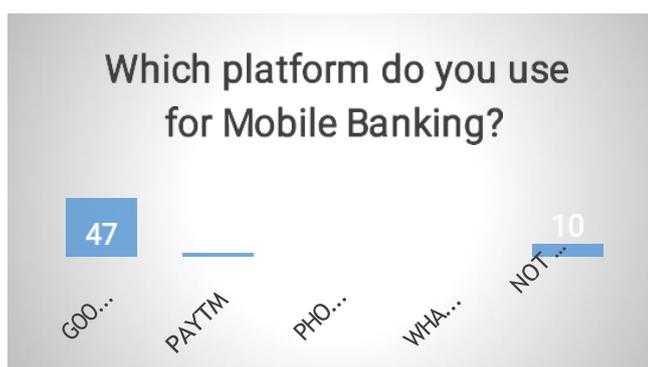


The above table show the frequency of use of Mobile banking. 26(43.3%) respondents are uses mobile banking daily basis. wher8 (13.3%) respondents are uses mobile banking once in a week. The once in a month users are 6 (10%). Occasionally users are 10 (16.7%) and 10 respondent are not using mobile banking.

Which platform do you use for Mobile Banking?

Table 8

Platform for Mobile Banking?	No. of respondent
Google pay	47 (78.3%)
Paytm	3 (5%)
Phone pay	0
Whatsapp payment	-----
Not using	10 (16.7%)

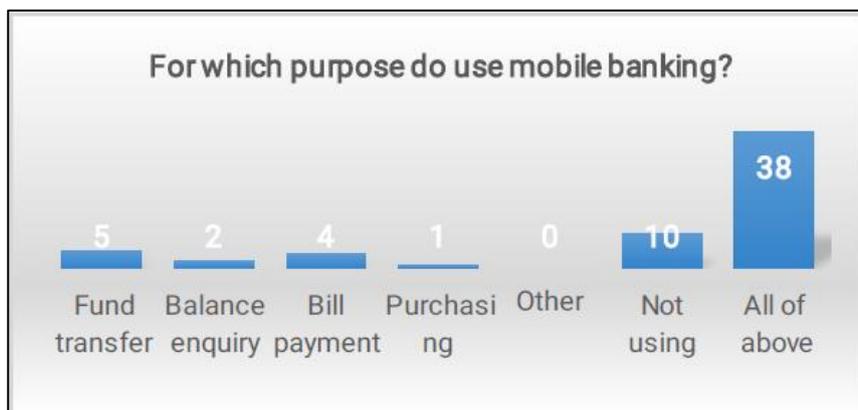


There are many types of transaction mode for e-banking. In this research most of respondents are using Google pay for e-transaction. Total 47(78.3%) respondents are using google pay rather than other mode of transaction. No one is using Phone pay and Whatsapp payment. Only 3 (5%) students are using Paytm.

For which purpose do you use mobile banking?

Table 9

Purpose of mobile banking	No. of respondent
Fund transfer	5 (8.3%)
Balance enquiry	2 (3.3%)
Bill payment	4 (6.7%)
Purchasing	1 (1.7%)
Other	-
Not using	10 (16.7%)
All of above	38 (63.3%)

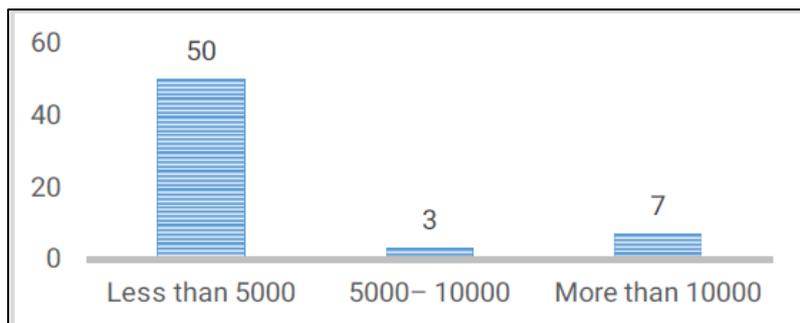


Here we try to know the purpose of the e-transaction and we found that 38 (63.3%) respondents are doing e-transaction for multipurpose like Fund transfer, balance enquiry, bill payment purchasing etc. 10 (16.7%) are not using mobile banking.

How much cash do you prefer to have in hand?

Table 10

Preference of cash	No. of respondent
Less than Rs. 5000	50 (83%)
Rs. 5000– 10000	3 (5%)
More than Rs. 10000	7 (12%)



The above table shows how much person prefer to have cash in hand. Here we found that those who prefer e-transaction willing to keep less amount in a cash. 50 (83%) respondent willing to keep less than Rs. 5000. Whether 10 respondent those who are not using e-banking wants to keep more than Rs. 5000 in a cash for multipurpose.

Are you willing to switch to cashless transaction?

Table 11

Willing to switch to cashless transaction?	No. of respondent
Yes	55 (91.7%)
No	5 (8.3%)

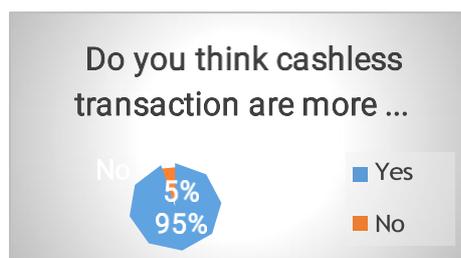


The above table shows whether the students are willing to switch for cashless transaction or not? As per data 55(91.7%) respondents willing to switch to cashless transaction and 5(8.3%). respondents are not willing to switch to cashless transaction

Do you think cashless transaction are more convenient than cash transaction?

Table 12

Cash transaction convenient?	No. of respondent
Yes	57 (95%)
No	3 (5%)
Maybe	---



57 (95%) respondents believe that cashless transaction is more convenient than cash transactions and 3(5%) respondent not agree that cashless transaction is more convenient.

Do you think that our society is ready for cashless economy?

Table 13

Our society is ready for cashless economy?	No. of respondent
Yes	52 (86.7%)
No	8(13.3%)



The above table shows whether our society is ready for cashless economy or not? 52(86.7%) respondents believe that most of people agree that cashless transaction is more convenient and young generation have enough knowledge about e-transaction. So, we can say that our society is ready for cashless economy. 8(13.3%) believe that our society is not ready for cashless economy.

Do you believe that our economy is going to be cashless economy?

Table 14

Future of cashless economy?	No. of respondent
Yes	56 (93.3%)
No	4 (6.7%)

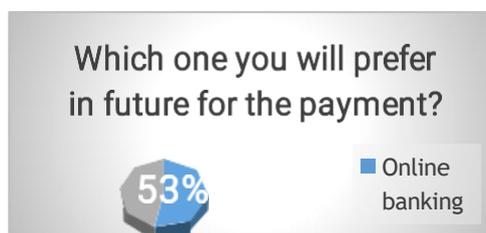


56 (93.3%) respondent opinion is that today’s generation prefer e-transaction and definitely our economy will go for cashless economy in nearby future. 4 (6.7%) believe that our economy will not go for cashless economy for nearby future.

Which one you will prefer in future for the payment?

Table 15

Preference for future payment?	No. of respondent
Online banking	32 (53.3%)
Offline banking	----
Others	28 (46.7%)

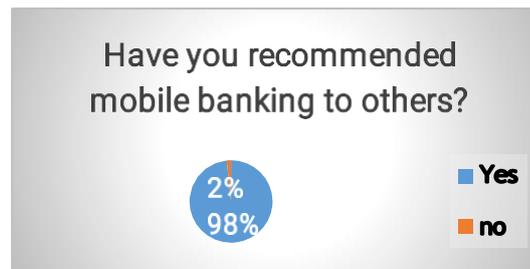


The above table shows that 32(53.3%) respondents are Preference online banking for future payment and 28(46.7%) respondents are Preference offline banking for future payment.

Have you recommended mobile banking to others?

Table 16

Recommendation for mobile banking	No. of respondent
Yes	59 (98.3%)
No	1 (1.7%)



Online banking is more convenient rather than offline banking. 59 (98.3%) respondents are willing to recommend to others for mobile banking.

Limitation of the Study:

1. Due to time shortage it is not possible to cover all the factors related to study.
2. Inability to cover large area.
3. Data given by respondents may by differ, whether it takes from different location.

Conclusion:

In this research paper, we try to get information about the youth are aware about the mobile banking and willing to use it or not? As per the findings of this research 88.3% respondents have bank account and they all are aware about the mobile banking, out of that 83.3% respondent's uses mobile banking for various purposes. Those who uses mobile banking, they prefer to keep less cash in hand. They are willing to do cashless transactions. They prefer e-transaction rather than cash. We can say that our youth is aware of the technological developments and willing to adopt them. So. We can assume that our economy will go for cashless economy in nearby future.

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A STUDY OF THE EFFECTS OF POTENTIAL CHARGES ON UPI USAGE AND ACCEPTANCE IN MUMBAI.

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Abstract:

UPI is one of India's most revolutionary breakthroughs in financial payment system innovation. With a monthly transaction volume of 8,036.89 million, valued at ₹1,298,726.62 Crore for January 2023 (NPCI, Jan 2023 Statistics), UPI has proven itself to be the best tool currently available with the RBI to achieve its vision of a "less cash less-card" India. This paper attempts to study, understand, and estimate the effects of potential transaction charges or MDR on UPI usage and acceptance and answer the question: "Will UPI charges lead to India getting closer to or farther from a cashless economy?" by surveying the users and merchants in Mumbai to understand the effects of potential charges on their respective use and acceptance of UPI as a method of payment and evaluate said opinions to ascertain whether imposing charges on UPI transactions is advisable in reference to the RBI's payment vision of "less cash, less card" India.

Keywords: UPI, Unified Payments Interface, Digital Payments, Transaction charge, Usage.

Introduction:

The Unified Payments Interface or UPI is a powerful instant payment system developed and managed by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) that allows users access to multiple bank accounts and the merging of multiple banking features in a single mobile application, facilitating real-time push (pay) and pull (collect) transactions. UPI is one of the fastest-growing payment systems and the most likely alternative to cash. UPI's development and subsequent success have allowed India to make significant strides towards

its vision of a cashless digital economy. The RBI, in its Payment Vision document 2025 acknowledges the influence and importance of UPI in achieving its vision of a less-cash less-card economy. With such phenomenal growth and enormous investment, a question arises: “Who should bear the cost of upgrading and maintaining UPI?” The RBI in its discussion paper titled “Charges in Payment Systems” attempted to explore the possibility of potential charges for UPI transactions, estimating the cost incurred by stakeholders for an average P2M (Person to Merchant) transaction of ₹800 to be approximately ₹2. This paper attempts to ascertain the potential impact of UPI charges on users and tries to answer the question: “Will UPI charges lead to India getting closer to or farther from a cashless economy?”

Review of Literature:

Das Ashish (2017) in his technical report titled ‘Discovering the right MDR for India’ studied the RBI’s Merchant Discount Rate (MDR) categorization for merchants and analysed the impact of such classification on the adoption of Digital payment systems by merchants. The report found that MDR when thrust, could be contested by merchants that have the capacity to contest and that small and medium merchants usually repel paying MDR by directly or indirectly extracting the cost from the consumer, and when direct avenues of extracting MDR from consumers were closed, small and medium merchants would either let go of digital payments or indirectly extract MDR costs from the consumers. The report recommended that UPI transactions should be brought to the forefront with low MDR as none of the small and medium merchants would be inclined to adopt UPI unless the MDR is significantly low.

Das Ashish (2020) in his technical report titled ‘Charging Consumers for Merchant Payments’ examined the concept of convenience fees charged by merchants and Payment Aggregators (PA) to consumers. The study found that many major airlines imposed a payment surcharge on consumers under the label ‘convenience fee’ and certain acquiring banks and Payment Aggregators (PAs) themselves imposed an implicit payment surcharge which is a breach of existing regulations as RBI regulations prohibit payment surcharging for payments made through debit/credit cards and BHIM-UPI. The report also found that card networks such as MasterCard and Visa were advocating cash payments, which portrayed a

serious disconnect with the current policy of a ‘less-cash’ society. The report concluded that convenience fees should not be used as a substitute for payment surcharges and that for pull payments initiated by the merchant, the acquiring banks and/or Payment Aggregators should not be allowed to charge consumers using digital modes of payment. It was also recommended that the advocacy of cash payments currently embedded in the rules set by MasterCard/Visa should be replaced by the promotion of merchant discounts for BHIM-UPI payments and that government or RBI intervention may be required in the event that networks do not conform to the national policy of a “less-cash” society. The report also mentions that the expenditure to develop and promote UPI as an alternative to cash should ideally be borne by the government and that an annual budgetary support of ₹2500 Crore would both support BHIM-UPI and render substantial savings in handling cash.

Das Amogh and Das Ashish (2022) in their paper titled ‘Critical Study of Unified Payment Interface (UPI): E-Payment Mode of Digital Revolution studied and analysed the trends and progress of UPI, the economics of providing this payments service and the associated regulatory interventions using online data repositories of the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) and Reserve Bank of India (RBI). The study found that UPI transactions had shown tremendous growth with year-on-year growth of over 100%. The study concludes by stating that with the increasing trend of smart phones, one can expect more and more people being enabled on UPI.

Das Ashish (2020) in his report titled ‘Deviating from BHIM-UPI Law’ studies and critiques the charging of UPI transactions by banks and system providers with reference to Section 10A of the Payment and Settlement Systems (PSS) Act, 2007. The paper argued that Section 10A does not explicitly mention the internal classifications such as “P for Person” and “M for Merchant” and advocates that banks should not use such classifications to justify imposing charges solely on the grounds that the beneficiary of the UPI transaction is not a ‘merchant’. The paper does, however, acknowledge the need for setting restraints on transactions to prevent the misuse of UPI through cash-back incentive schemes. The paper also states that the government is reasonably justified in making UPI payments free of charge because of the multifaceted savings that it brings to banks and the government, specifically for costs associated with cash management. The paper concludes by recommending that RBI make provisions in its books of accounts for bearing costs associated with UPI, similar to what it already does for the cost of cash.

Ashish Das (2022) in his report titled ‘Charges in UPI System’ addresses questions posted by the RBI in its discussion paper on Charges in Payment Systems examines the problems related to direct and indirect charges in the UPI system. The report considers UPI as a public good and estimates average monthly UPI transactions to be around 30 per user. The report also calls out the RBI for implicitly allowing Indian Overseas Bank, Canara Bank, and IDBI Bank to indirectly charge in the range of ₹5 to ₹20 per transaction for UPI by limiting the number of transactions in the Basic Savings Bank Deposit (BSBD) accounts, arguing that by allowing banks to indirectly charge for UPI transactions, the RBI condoned the violation of Section 10A of the Payment and Settlement Act. The report also estimates that the cost incurred by RBI on printing currency alone to be on average ₹5,400 crore annually and recommends that the cost of UPI operations and infrastructure be borne by the RBI by cross- subsidizing from the savings achieved in cash printing and management. The report also recommends that non-interest bearing funds lying in the UPI Lite wallet be explicitly brought into the DICGC’s insurance coverage of ₹5 lakh and that a uniform fee of 0.3% be introduced for all e-commerce related transactions across all payment modes in place of MDR.

Research Methodology:

This study contains elements of both descriptive and exploratory research design. The research was conducted using mixed method with the help of both primary and secondary sources of data. The primary data was collected using 2 separate sets of dynamically structured questionnaires. The questionnaires were shared with individuals and merchants respectively. The data from individuals was collected mainly through online means whereas the data from merchants was collected via a quasi-interview by physically visiting various merchant outlets. The questionnaires aimed to ascertain the awareness and penetration of UPI, identify the mode of payment currently preferred by consumers and merchants in Mumbai, and determine the potential impact of transaction charges (for users) and Merchant Discount Rate (MDR) (for merchants) on the usage and acceptance of UPI as a method of payment. The individual respondents are surveyed on the following parameters:

- Awareness of UPI as a payment method.
- Preference of UPI as a payment method.
- Effects of Transaction Charges on UPI as a payment method.

- Tolerable charges and acceptable alternative revenue models.

The merchant respondents are surveyed on the following parameters:

- Acceptance of UPI as a payment method.
- Preference of UPI as a mode of payment acceptance.
- Effects of charges/MDR on acceptance of UPI as a payment method.

The data obtained is analyzed using simple statistical tools and techniques. In addition, the likert scale data has been tested using Cronbach's alpha and the hypothesis is tested using Chi-square test for association.

Hypothesis:

H₀: There is no association between Age and the negative effects of charges on usage.

H₁: There is an association between Age and the negative effects of charges on usage.

Findings and Observations:

- **Cronbach's Alpha test for Likert Scale Questions:**

The likert scale questions were considered reliable for data analysis based on a calculated alpha value of 0.781404 which corresponds to a rating of 'Acceptable' on the Cronbach's Alpha internal consistency table.

Hypothesis Testing:

The chi square test for testing the hypothesis of this study is as follows:

CRITERIA	O	E	O-E	(O-E) ²	E	(O-E) ² /E
Less Frequent use						
18-27	50	45	5	25	45	0.5556
28-45	8	10.36	- 2.36	5.5696	10.36	0.5376
46-60	6	7.86	- 1.86	3.4596	7.86	0.4402
Over 60	1	1.78	- 0.78	0.6084	1.78	0.3418
Prefer to pay through other means						
18-27	46	47.77	-1.77	3.1329	47.77	0.0656
28-45	10	10.99	-0.99	0.9801	10.99	0.0892
46-60	12	8.34	3.66	13.3956	8.34	1.6062
Over 60	1	1.90	-0.90	0.81	1.90	0.4263
No effect						
18-27	12	11.77	0.23	0.0529	11.77	0.0045
28-45	1	2.71	- 1.71	2.9241	2.71	1.0790
46-60	3	2.05	0.95	0.9025	2.05	0.4402
Over 60	1	0.47	0.53	0.2809	0.47	0.5977
Stop using UP						
18-27	18	21.46	- 3.46	11.9716	21.46	0.5579
28-45	10	4.94	5.06	25.6036	4.94	5.1829
46-60	1	3.75	- 2.75	7.5625	3.75	2.0167
Over 60	2	0.85	1.15	1.3225	0.85	1.5559
TOTAL						15.4971

At a significance level of 5% and degree of freedom (D_f) of 9, a critical value of 16.919 is obtained. Since the calculated chi-square value of 15.4971 is less than the calculated value of 15.4971, we fail to reject the null hypothesis.

Observations:

From the analysis of the data collected for this study, the following observations were inferred:

❖ *For individual users surveyed via online questionnaire:*

- In the context of awareness of UPI as a payment method, 95.2% of the individual respondents (198 respondents) were observed to be aware of UPI which is consistent with the literature reviewed and the reports of UPI's exponential growth. This indicates that the awareness programs launched by the government, RBI, and the NPCI have mostly been successful.
- Of the 198 respondents aware of UPI, 94.4% (187 respondents) were observed to use UPI at least once which indicates a high customer engagement rate in addition to a high customer awareness rate.
- Of the 187 respondents that reported using UPI at least once, 52.4% reported initially using UPI either during or after the COVID-19 pandemic. This indicates that the COVID-19 played a significant role in increasing the number of UPI users which is consistent with the literature reviewed for this study.
- The adoption of UPI was observed to revolve around 3 factors, namely: Convenience, Necessity, and Economy, with convenience being the most influential factor that determines whether an individual will choose to adopt or use UPI as a payment method. This observation was consistent with the literature reviewed. UPI was also observed to receive an average score of 4.6 out of 5 by the respondents for the convenience it offers.
- Of the 187 respondents that reported using UPI at least once, 95.7% were observed to continue using UPI after initial use, indicating a high customer retention rate. The most reported frequency of use daily with an average transaction value between ₹100 and ₹500.
- In the context of importance, UPI received an average score of 4.10 out of 5 for its

importance in the daily lives of the respondents indicating that UPI has quickly become an important part of the respondents' daily life.

- In the context of charges, the majority of the sample was against the imposition of charges with 61.5% of the respondents reporting that the RBI was not justified in levying charges for UPI. 37.9% of the users stating their intention to switch to another mode of payment such as cash indicating that if charges are levied, the frequency of use of UPI would decrease, decelerating its growth. The increase in the use of alternative means of payment such as cash could also lead to slowdown in the adoption of digital payments. 38.5% of the respondents stated that any potential charges would affect their usage of UPI to a great extent and 29.1% stated that potential charges would affect their usage of UPI to a moderate extent indicating that potential charges if levied would moderately disrupt the usage of UPI. Acceptance of UPI as a mode of payment however, was observed to be unaffected regardless of charges.
- The respondents were observed to be willing to tolerate the lowest possible charge with the majority of the respondents (68.1%) accepting a maximum tolerable charge of ₹10 per transaction, the lowest option presented to them. The ideal charge structure according to the individual respondents was observed to be a percentage charge on the value of transaction, followed by slab-wise charges based on the value of transactions.
- In order to keep UPI transactions free, the respondents were observed to be willing to sacrifice some of the features offered by UPI. 61% of the respondents were willing to tolerate advertisements on UPI apps in exchange for UPI remaining free to use. 36.8% of the respondents are willing to tolerate a minimum limit. The areas where the respondents seem to be the least amenable to compromise were in Speed and convenience (24x7 availability).

❖ *For Merchants surveyed via offline visits:*

- The merchant sample was observed to be more or less evenly distributed; with the sample distribution skewing slightly towards large merchants with the majority of the merchant respondents was observed to be from the retail sector.
- Out of the 52 merchants surveyed, 92.3% accepted UPI as method of payment indicating that the adoption of UPI has been high for both individuals and merchants alike. The growing acceptance of UPI payments by the merchant respondents may be in response to the growing use of UPI amongst individuals. The average transaction

volume reported by the merchants was observed to be 100-200 UPI transactions per month.

- 52.1% of the merchant respondents preferred cash over UPI as a payment method. Only 39.6% of the merchants preferred UPI as a payment method indicating that although most merchants accept UPI as a payment method, many still prefer to be paid in cash. It was observed that although many merchants acknowledged the benefits and usefulness of UPI, cash would still be preferred if given the choice.
- The majority of the merchants surveyed were observed to be against the idea of imposing charges on UPI as one of the reasons that heavily influenced their decision to prefer UPI as a payment method was free transactions/Zero MDR. When asked if charges or MDR imposed on UPI transactions would negatively affect their acceptance of UPI, 89.5% of the merchants that preferred UPI as a payment method stated that charges/MDR would negatively affect their acceptance of UPI. If charges in the form of MDR were unavoidable, most merchants would prefer the charges to be as low as possible.
- 94.7% of the merchant respondents believed that the RBI should decide the charges. All merchants unanimously rejected the idea of a market-determined MDR.
- The impact of MDR on acceptance was observed to be relatively low. Although 52.6% of the merchant respondents state that they would use/accept UPI less frequently and 42.1% say that they would prefer cash and other means, no merchant explicitly mentioned discontinuing the acceptance of UPI as a payment method. This observation was reaffirmed when the merchants were asked to rate the impact of charges on their acceptance. 57.9% of the merchants rated the impact at 2 indicating a negligible impact of MDR on the acceptance of UPI as a payment method.

Limitations of Study:

1. The findings of this study represent the views of the residents of Mumbai. Similar studies conducted in other locations may yield different results.
2. Other factors that determine usage and acceptance of UPI such as transaction value, network availability, etc. have not been considered.

Conclusion and Suggestions:

UPI is one of India's most revolutionary breakthroughs in financial payment system innovation. Whilst conducting this study, it was observed that the rise of UPI could be attributed to 2 major catalytic events: the demonetisation of the Rupee in 2016, and the COVID-19 pandemic, the latter of which could be considered the greatest contributor to UPI's astronomical growth. Unlike other digital payment avenues such as online banking, debit cards, mobile banking, etc., where the users of the system grew organically, most people were induced to adopt UPI due to both these events. However, after conducting the study, it was found that most people chose UPI over the other forms of payment due to the convenience it offered and not because of coercion. The awareness initiatives undertaken by the RBI and NPCI seem to have also borne fruit as over 90% of the surveyed respondents were aware of UPI, although there is a slight gap observed from the survey responses from non-users of UPI in the app's practical use training. UPI has also become a significant part of the daily life of users with users rating UPI with an average score of 4.10 out of 5. The main reason for not using UPI by the respondents was disinterest i.e. the respondents that didn't use UPI did so because they were simply not interested.

UPI is currently exempt from any direct or indirect charges under Section 10A of the Payment and Settlement Systems Act. However, in its discussion paper on Charges for Payment Systems, the RBI points out that in any economic activity there is no justification for offering a free service unless there is an element of public good involved. The main aim of this paper was to further explore this notion in order to estimate the potential impact of any such charge on the acceptance and usage of UPI.

From the results of the respective surveys conducted for individuals and merchants, it was found that both individual users and merchants were averse to the idea of charges or an MDR imposed on UPI transactions. Although the acceptance of merchants will not change regardless of MDR on UPI, users would either reduce the frequency of their usage or switch to other alternatives such as cash, which would go against the goals of the RBI vision documents. A significant point to be noted was that even though the merchant acceptance of UPI was charge inelastic, most merchants, especially small merchants still preferred to accept payments in cash. The main reason stated by the merchants was that cash was essential to pay

the merchant's local suppliers who did not accept UPI as a payment method. Assuming no violation of tax laws, this reason indicates that UPI still isn't effectively utilized in supply chain and vendor management, making accepting payments exclusively using UPI very inconvenient for the merchant.

Subject to regulatory approval, UPI participants can look towards alternative sources of generating revenue in order to keep UPI free for users. Alternative sources of revenue such as revenue from advertisements were found to be tolerable to users. However, restraint and caution must be exercised in the use of advertisements to generate revenue so as to not alienate potential users and disincentivize them from using UPI.

In the event that imposing a transaction charge for UPI is unavoidable, the regulators should consider charging corporate users before approaching the retail user base as such discrimination can help mitigate user attrition due to transaction charges and the revenue generated from charging corporate clients can be used to subsidise the costs of retail transactions. In order to boost corporate and merchant usage of UPI, the upper limit for transactions may need to be raised in order to accommodate the transaction needs of larger merchants and corporates. Focus should also be placed on enhancing the supply chain management capabilities of UPI in order to attract merchants and companies.

Despite stating tolerable charges, respondents were still quite adamant about UPI remaining free. If retail users must be charged, the charges should be nominal and fixed by RBI or the government. However, it is the opinion of the researcher that charging retail users for UPI transactions should be avoided as this would go directly against the RBI Payment Vision document's goal of "inclusion" and its overall vision of a "less cash, less card" India. Instead, the cost associated with UPI transactions can be set off against savings gained in other areas such as cash management, issue and replacement of currency, etc. Although charges for UPI transactions may be inevitable sometime in the future, it is not advisable to impose such charges in the present.

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A STUDY ON THE FINANCIAL AWARENESS AMONGST THE TRANSGENDER COMMUNITY IN MUMBAI REGION

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Abstract:

The trans community, has been victim of antagonism from the society and most of the time have been restricted from access to healthcare, education and public spaces. Since recognition for transgender have always come at a high cost and struggles, they often go unheard. The Reserve Bank of India in 2015 directed financial institutions and banks to include third gender in forms and applications to promote financial inclusion of transgender. But even after 6 years, the woes of financial inclusivity and the challenges faced by them are neither mitigated nor properly catered to. They still struggle to obtain legal credentials and have bank accounts.

With this paper, we have identified and understood the level of financial awareness and inclusion of the transgender in the Mumbai region. Since, a bulk of transgender migrate to Mumbai in search of better opportunities, leaving behind their identity and villages, the study also attempts to find out their social challenges and the expectations of living in Mumbai and of the government in helping them live with dignity.

Keywords: transgenders, financial inclusion, financial awareness

Introduction:

To be financially included and have access to various financial services, one needs to

be associated with a financial institution. The most basic form of doing so is opening an account and having regular transaction. Now to open accounts with banks and financial institutions, one needs to have valid identity proofs, which is fairly easily obtainable for people who identify as male or female. The issue arises for those who identify as the third gender.

Socially excluded and stigmatized gender groups are excluded from the formal financial system. Various governmental organizations and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) have made some efforts to include women in the formal financial system. But surprisingly, there are no policy initiatives undertaken by any governmental organizations to include the transgender people in the formal financial system. They are far away from obtaining any formal financial services. Hence, the inclusion of transgender people in the formal financial system will help to enhance gender equality in the formal financial market. To fulfil the objectives of SDGs, transgender people must get freedom from violence and social discrimination and importance should be given to universal inclusion irrespective of their sex, race, place of birth and other status (Divan et al., 2016).

Review of Literature:

In What Constraints Financial Inclusion for the Transgender Community? Field Based Evidences from Odisha, R. Barik and P. Sharma conducted detailed interviews with transgenders from Cuttack and Bhubaneswar. Their study highlights how the transgender community lacks the access to financial products and services not only because of unawareness and low literacy, but also for lack of initiatives taken by the govt. and financial institutions.

The study on **Financial Inclusion among Transgender Community**, by Aneesha M.A and P.K. Baag, highlights the issues faced by the transgender community while accessing formal financial services. The research highlights the financial inclusion of transgenders in India in general and the research was conducted in Kerala. They have discussed various policy implications of mitigating the social stigma and suitable policies.

Research conducted by V. Divan, C. Cortez, M. Smelyanskaya and J. Keatley, titled **Transgender social inclusion and equality: a pivotal path to development**, talks about the extremely social exclusion the transgender community faces and their work fundamentally

relates to advocating the rights of the transgender community and their development, helping them achieve better standards of health, justice and social inclusion.

Study conducted on **Inclusion and Exclusion of Third Genders- Social Hindrance in India**, by N. Gayathri and Dr. P. Karthikeyan focuses on the issues faced by the transgender community such as oppression, and how marginalised they have been. Their paper highlights the contemporary stance of the transgender community in the Indian society.

Objectives;

1. To understand the financial awareness in the transgender community.
2. To find out about the legal identification proofs the transgenders have.
3. To analyse the extent of financial inclusion in the transgender community.
4. To identify the expectations of the transgenders from the govt. and financial institutions.
5. To understand the social standing of transgenders.

Research Design:

This study is conducted through a survey of transgenders across Mumbai.

- The sample size is 67
- Sampling method: Random sampling, Snowball Sampling
- Data collection: Primary – conversational interviews and questionnaire ;

Secondary data- through research papers, newspapers and journals

- Questionnaire has both open-ended and close-ended questions
- Tools and techniques used are graphs and charts.

Data Analysis and Interpretation:

As per the findings, the transgenders interviewed can be divided into two categories-

- Category I- born and brought up in Mumbai

* Category II- migrated to Mumbai

Category II can be further divided into transgenders who earn around 35000 to 40000 per month and those earning 12000 to 15000 monthly.

Category I transgenders

Educational qualification class 12th and above

Living with their families in Mumbai

Have updated Aadhar and PAN card for identification

Are working and have had multiple jobs

Have bank accounts with public sector banks

They have not faced any issues when it comes to availing banking services

When it comes to the transgenders who have been born and brought up in Mumbai, they are relatively woke and have had opportunities. One of them was working at a CA firm (Akshara) and the other was working with Amazon (Bonny) and they did not complain of any mistreatment in their workplaces. They both currently work in a café called *Bambai Nazariya* in Andheri West, which prides itself in being a café run by transgenders. Akshara doesn't fail to mention with a proud smile "*mai yahan ki manager hu*" (I'm the manager here (Bambai Nazariya)). Even though they have bank accounts, they still were unaware of investment options such as mutual funds and even the mainstream ones like fixed and recurring deposits. When we enlightened them about how keeping a lumpsum amount in fixed deposit will give a higher rate of return and mutual funds as investments are rising in popularity, they were much grateful.

Category II transgenders

- They are the ones who have shifted to Mumbai from states like Orissa, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh and rural Maharashtra. Most of them are uneducated, while others have studied till class 5th or in some cases class 10th. They speak broken Hindi and their native language.
- The transgenders on an average earn 10000-12000 monthly, the amount might go upto 20000. We also talked to some transgenders earn upto 35000-40000 per month, however that number was meagre.
- All of them have their old Aadhar cards, which specify their old names and gender. While some of them have applied for new Aadhar cards and have not received them yet, majority expressed no interest in getting an identification card altogether.

- Since they have either left their villages or ran away from home, they live with the transgender communities in various areas like Bandra, Byculla, Thane and Khar. Living in those communities, the *Gurus* or the heads, are in-charge of everything- their lodging, conversion surgery, rituals, insurance, money.
- Majority of the transgenders don't have bank accounts, citing reasons such as lack of sufficient funds, awkwardness and unnecessary. The transgenders who have bank accounts, have it linked with their old Aadhar cards.
- The ones without bank accounts let their *Gurus* handle all their finances, or rather, they have to let their leaders control everything as that's the rule they all abide by.
- A few of them also mentioned how they ended up closing their accounts because there was no sufficient funds to be kept in bank accounts. The money collected is sent to gurus, head-gurus, police men etc, which hardly leaves them with anything to put in bank accounts. This brings us to the fact that only 3 out of all the transgenders interviewed were aware of PM Jan Dhan Yojna.
- None of the transgenders we interviewed had any knowledge of insurance policies, mutual funds, fixed or recurring deposits or any other avenues where they could possibly invest.
- Though some of the transgenders who have climbed up the social ladder and belong to the inner circle of the guru, earning close to 40000 per month, have significant amount of gold jewellery and have bought plots of land.

Guru Chela relationship

From our interactions and interviews we found out that, the transgenders who do not live with their families, live with the transgender communities across Mumbai. These communities are headed by leaders who they call *Guru* or *Guru Ma*. These *gurus* serve as their guardian and caretaker as some of the transgenders leave home in their teens or as young as 12. The gurus take care of everything, be it the cost of transformational surgery, the responsibility of the gender altering ritual they undergo, their finances, insurance, lodging, food, identification, bank accounts etc. But since the *guru* takes care of their finances, the transgenders either become complacent and do not bother opening accounts or are just intimidated by their *gurus*. The transgenders even hesitate in taking the name of their *gurus*

because they believe its disrespectful. The relationship of the gurus and the chelas ranges from maternal affection to even mafia like terror.

These *gurus* are influential people who have connections high up with local goons and politicians. Hence, the transgenders never face any issues when it comes to opening of bank accounts, applying for loans or any other financial assistance, provided they are willing to take up financial services. We also found that the transgenders who have rose to prominence and have had supportive and influential gurus, even managed to procure jobs at call centres which added to their source of income.

Unwillingness to work

The transgenders believe that since they were born different, they are supposed to lead the kind of life they are living. Most of them expressed an unwillingness to work or even show some inclination towards education. They are content with the companionship of the community and the money they earn daily asking around. When asked about what changes they expect from the government for their benefit, some of them said they are happy as they are and don't covet anything, while others were completely clueless. However there were some, who expected the govt. to provide them with jobs or some source of dignified livelihood. Some even worked odd part time jobs before moving to Mumbai.

Lack of proper Identification

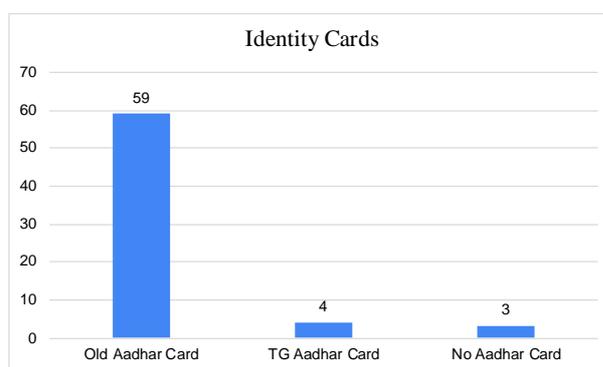
Majority of the transgenders mentioned that they have their old identity cards which basically has their old names and their genders mentioned as Male. Since they don't have updated identity cards or transgenders certificate, they are unable to open bank accounts which is the primary step when it comes to financial inclusion.

While some of them have applied for the updated cards and are waiting for the same, other either seem unaware or disinterested in pursuing the endeavour of obtaining proper identity cards. For them its more about existing peacefully under their *Gurus*, in their community, sheltered from the outside world. Some seemed much bothered about their lack of identity cards and how it stymied their everyday life. They aren't able to obtain train passes

and one particularly frustrated transgender mentioned how there is no record of their life or death.

Charts

1. Having an identity card enables citizens to open bank accounts and be a part of the financial system. This charts represents the number of transgenders who have Aadhar Cards vs the ones that don't.



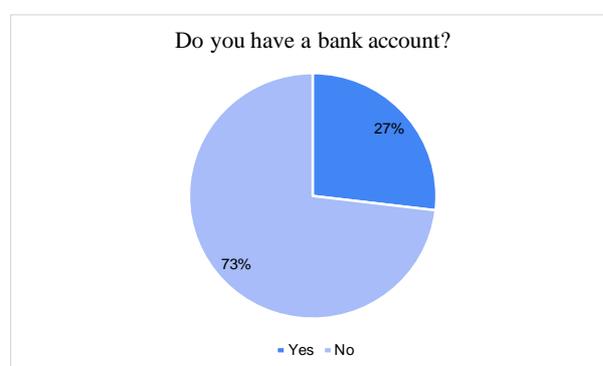
(Source: Primary data)

Chart 1: Identification cards

2. The first step of financial inclusion is having bank accounts.

Out of the 27% respondents who do have bank accounts, the number of respondents who have bank accounts through updated Aadhar cards is just 4 (refer Chart 1).

The others have it linked with their old male Aadhar Cards and those accounts are with branches back in their villages, where they do not reveal their identity as transgenders.

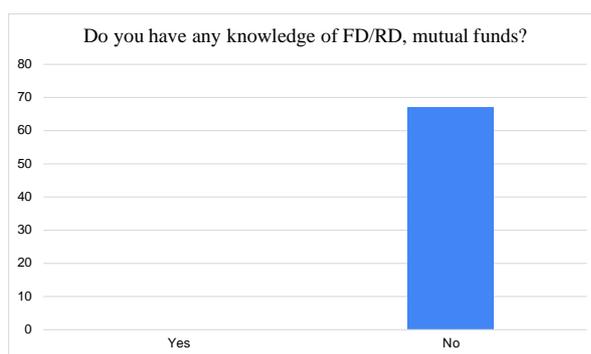


(Source: Primary data)

Chart 2: Do you have a bank account?

3. Knowledge of investment avenues such as fixed or recurring deposits and mutual funds signify financial awareness. Surprisingly, none of the respondents had any knowledge of these, not even the ones who had jobs and substantial education.

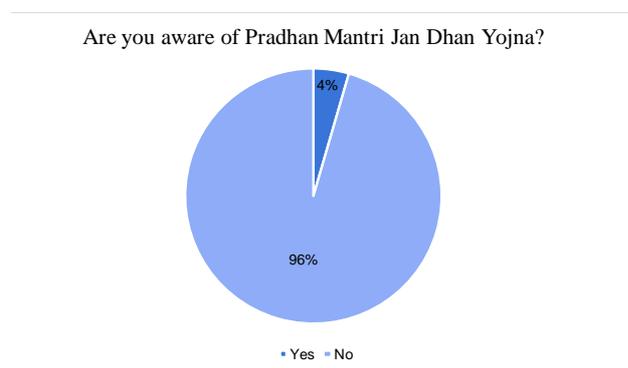
Banks usually persuade customers to open FD accounts, it was hence a bit unusual when even the respondents with bank accounts seemed unaware. The chart indicates the alarmingly low level of financial awareness amongst the Transgenders.



(Source: Primary data)

Chart 3: Do you have any knowledge of FD/RD, mutual funds?

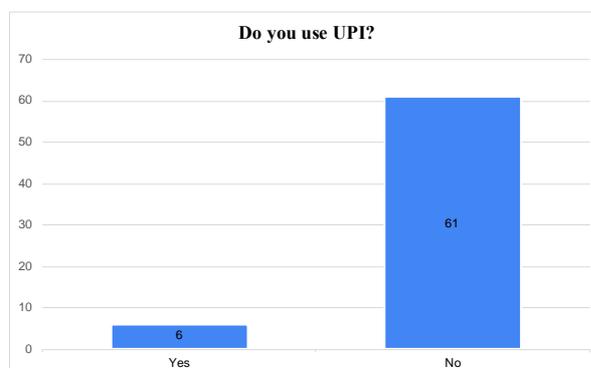
4. 96% i.e., 64 of the respondents were unaware of PM Jan Dhan Yojna. Given how a lot of them mentioned that they do not have bank accounts because of insufficient funds or had closed their bank accounts because they could not maintain sufficient balance, knowledge of this scheme would have allowed them to at least be financially included.



(Source: Primary data)

Chart 4: Are you aware of PM Jan Dhan Yojna?

5. From our interviews we found out how only the ones with bank accounts (4 respondents) and 2 others who had at some point used UPI through someone else's account had any knowledge of UPI or any sorts of digital payments.



(Source: Primary data)

Chart 5: Do you use UPI?

Conclusion:

In this paper, we make the case for transgender people's financial inclusion and identify the key causes of their exclusion from the legal financial system. According to this study, both demand and supply side issues have made it difficult for transgender people to use official financial services. Because of social stigma and misconceptions, transgender persons are compelled to live outside of mainstream society, which has led to poor literacy rates, social marginalisation, a lack of formal work, homelessness, and exclusion from the formal financial system. On the other hand, transgender people have not been given enough attention by supply side elements to participate in the legal financial system. Dearth of data availability in relation with financial inclusion of transgenders, issues relating to that of legal documents, less spread of information, less awareness programmes or financial literacy programmes among the transgender community in Mumbai cause them to be excluded from the formal financial system. The transgender community, has largely been ignored, with few initiatives aimed at raising their awareness or promoting their inclusion in the financial system. Transgender people are not included because there is a lack of awareness on their inclusion, a lack of official identifying documents, a lack of financial literacy programmes, and a lack of initiatives to disseminate information.

Policy Implications:

If we talk about policy implications, it can be categorised into 3 sub levels which will help in dealing with the sensitization, awareness and inclusion of the transgender community.

Policy Implications from Academic Point of View

1. Sensitization about third gender should start right from schools.
2. Children should be taught to be respectful to every human and not outcast someone for not fitting into the conventional societal norms.
3. Schools and colleges should normalize and encourage the culture of coming out of the closet and accepting each individual's identity.
4. Bullying and shaming should be strictly prohibited.

Policy Implications from Economic Point of View

1. Government should ensure proper and legal identification cards for transgenders by easing the process of gender alteration for Aadhar cards.
2. Banks should initiate financial awareness drives primarily focused on the transgender community.
3. Schemes where higher rate of interest could be provided on bank accounts, owned and operated by a transgender.
4. Jobs with fixed minimum wages exclusively tapping the transgenders.

Policy Implications from Social Point of View

1. Social stigma leads them to live in harsh and dingy conditions along with being left out of jobs and opportunities.
2. As a society, we need to stop discriminating, tabooing and demeaning the trans community. Every human has the right to live with dignity and have equal opportunities.
3. It takes a lot of efforts to unlearn notions which have been stereotypically imbibed in one's mind, but it's not impossible. We as a society should overcome personal prejudices and stereotypical thoughts against individuals of any sexuality.

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SUSTAINABILITY FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC POLICY IN INDIA

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Abstract:

“By 2070, India will achieve the target of net-zero emissions. I promise that India will get 50% of its energy from renewable resources by 2030 and reduce our total projected carbon emissions by one billion tonnes.” - Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the COP26 summit in Glasgow (2021).

In the era of rising temperatures, climate change prevention activities have seen exponential growth and its importance. Policy makers, industries, public movements and think tanks are analysing the effects and consequences of humanity’s temperature-altering behaviour which would ultimately lead to many future changes in society’s outlook towards the Earth as a whole. This research paper seeks to build a small framework for a sustainable public environmental public policy for India.

The idea spans across three major frameworks which affect economic, social and energy outlooks of India. Economically, a carbon credit exchange paves way for alternative ways to raise capital while penalising polluters. This can also assist MSME participation, thus involving many important stakeholders.

Socially, a thought policy level decision at bureaucratic level. Such a policy will involve government participation in sustainable development. This can be varied across electric fleets and green infrastructure to frequently publish emissions data, similar to our neighbour, Bhutan. Lastly, an energy model based on the nuclear hydrogen model which will be key to solve India's power crisis. Using nuclear fusion reactions for hydrogen atoms, we can easily achieve convertible costs which would eventually bring us close to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's net zero by 2070 goal.

Keywords: Environment, Sustainability, Renewable

Introduction:

This paper seeks to explore the possibility of three major public policy level changes for a more sustainable and environment friendly future outlook for India.

Firstly, the proposal for a hydrogen fusion based energy generating reaction. In the era of a dynamic energy generation source, nuclear energy emerges as the most cost effective fuel. The radioactivity of uranium makes it less viable and availability of thorium is not helpful with its ineffective cost structure. The future of this method is based on a recently conducted study which was able to build and prove the working hydrogen fusion model using plasma energy. While this discovery is nascent, the technology that can be leveraged to make a completely clean source of energy. India needs to build the resources for utilising this technology through expenditures in research and development for implementing as well as infrastructural developments to push work in this technology. While the implementation can take ages, this will provide India a first mover advantage instead of inheriting most of the new age developments from western nations.

Secondly, a proposal for establishing a carbon credit exchange. India is a top exporter of carbon credits, this shows strong bedrock of existing arrangements towards carbon utilisation. A carbon credit exchange would increase market participants, allow a more regulated sphere instead of OTC exchanges, manage the price control previously unavailable in OTC markets and provide MSMEs to participate in the credit offsetting process.

Lastly, we propose a thought overhaul towards environment protection by initiating government level initiatives towards environment conservation. Electric/hybrid vehicle fleet for officials, incorporating more green infrastructure using public private partnership models, a detailed declarative report on ecological impact of all government policies and an active disclosure of national CFC and carbon emissions. Such initiatives will prompt a socio-cultural economic change towards a sustainable demography.

Research Design and Methodology:

This research article uses a cross-sectional analysis to examine the viability of making India a country with net zero carbon emissions in relation to Bhutan. The study is secondary research conducted by referring to various past articles, journals and research papers on the same or closely relevant topics. Existing data was relied upon to reach research outcomes. It is a descriptive research that evaluates the feasibility of renewable energy sources by taking into account aspects of India. The research is heavily reliant on qualitative information because statistical information is not taken into consideration. The research paper considers data from the previous three years.

Strengths:

Hydrogen Fusion

The high calorific value of hydrogen makes it an ideal energy source for electricity and heat generation in combustion based industries. This assists the green shift required in industries like steel, cement and energy generation. This is also an abundant energy source.

Carbon Credit Exchange

Carbon credits exchange can create a free flow open market for dealing in securities.

Environmentally conscious businesses can further finance their projects by creating an alternative financial source. Such securities can act as a penalty for their polluting counterparts.

Bhutan Model

The Bhutanese model of development is a testimony to mutual progress of environment and economy. It elucidates that a country can economically progress while also being environmentally responsible. Economical agendas should complement a country's environmental responsibilities.

Weakness:

Hydrogen Fusion

- The hydrogen model is still at a very nascent stage and requires abundant research and development for it to be implemented in our routine.
- The hydrogen model will require a massive inflow of funds from the public and private sector.

Carbon Credit Exchange

- Some companies can evade large emissions of greenhouse gases simply by purchasing carbon credits instead of investing in more sustainable and environmentally friendly alternatives. This does not help in reducing the amount of carbon in the environment. Carbon Credit should be considered as a penalty for polluters instead of a licence to pollute.
- Corporates can mitigate emission liabilities through carbon credit purchases. Such alternatives do not promote incorporating more sustainable and green processes directly. Furthermore, it effectively takes no actions on reducing emissions in the environment.

Bhutan Model:

- Environmental projects may not be financially viable in their initial stages as they are expensive to implement and take time to generate proportional revenue
- Changing the mindset of policy makers requires extensive efforts from thought

leaders. Policy changes are delayed due to red tapism and varying political agendas.

Limitations:

It is evident from the available literature that various researchers have made considerable efforts to study and develop sustainable ways of energy consumption conceptually, theoretically and empirically but in the developing countries it is still in a nascent stage and more research is needed.

There are a few deficiencies to this study that must be highlighted. The research has been based on the perceptions of the masses and differs in seriousness. **Lack of finance** for early-stage research and development is one of the main obstacles to the transition to a net zero economy. These turn into the explanations for why a lot of great prospective **ideas get stuck in the lab**.

Hydrogen is a versatile energy source with numerous commercial and industrial uses. Since it is almost rarely present in nature in its elemental form, hydrogen must always be separated from other substances that contain hydrogen if it is to replace carbon emissions. It also implies that the degree to which the production process is clean and environmentally friendly determines how effectively hydrogen aids in decarbonization. Compared to hydrogen made from fossil fuels, green hydrogen production is **far more expensive**. Green hydrogen will eventually become economically viable because of falling renewable energy costs and economies of scale, but there is **still more work to be done**. When compared to oil and gas, hydrogen's sourcing and supply chain are more sophisticated because it may be manufactured using a variety of processes and is used in a range of industries. Furthermore, as was already said, **transporting and storing hydrogen** still presents significant difficulties and will necessitate significant infrastructural improvements. Governments around the world have historically shown little support for hydrogen policy. Even though hydrogen has the potential to have a considerably greater impact, other technical options and end users have received more policy attention. Finally, there are **no or outdated standards** for the usage of hydrogen. This transformation may benefit India given the size, scope, and economic competitiveness of its renewable energy sector. Given that electrolyzers must grow more affordable for hydrogen to

be cost-competitive, scaled manufacture of electrolyzers is becoming a field of competition in global technology.

Considering India in reference to Bhutan which has been successful in achieving net zero emissions, its viability in India is much **more difficult**. The **cost of transition** to a net zero emission country is much more compared to Bhutan. Reducing the amount of greenhouse gases that warm the atmosphere and cause climate change requires shifting power production away from coal, expanding the use of renewable energy sources, and altering mobility with electric vehicles. India's **heavy reliance on coal and fossil fuel** is what stands as an obstacle in its powerproduction shift.

Benefits to Society:

1. Carbon Credit Exchange-The importance of carbon credits will push prices fuelled by free market operations. This price rise will compel companies to switch to greener industrial alternatives. This modern machinery will be more efficient thus providing better products to the society and cause less environmental damage. This would help reduce production cost and makethe products more accessible to the public.

Green MSMEs can be a part of a joint securities (like NSE Emerge model) to raise fundsby offsetting their carbon credits and later utilise the capital for growth and operational efficiency. This would act as a subsidy to the MSMEs for being carbon efficient.

2. Hydrogen (Nuclear Fusion) - Since this energy is self-sustaining in the hydrogen cycle and is a steady source of supply, it can easily be transported to the country's rural areas without any power outages occurring there. This energy source will be cathartic to the environment and emerge as a cheap source of energy that will appeal to the general public. Boththe environment and the population economy will gain from it.

3. Thought Policy - If a comprehensive plan is established to put the Bhutan greenhouseindex model into practice, it can work wonders for India. If the green house index is implemented, it will also force the government to take the required steps to set an example for the populace, such as mandating that government officials drive electric vehicles, which

will inspire the populace to follow suit and raise awareness. The index will also aid in monitoring the carbon footprint and the effectiveness of governmental programmes. Additionally, the government will take the required actions to raise the index.

Future Scope:

With the potential of decarbonizing highly polluting sectors like steel and cement, nuclear hydrogen could be the fuel of the future. As hydrogen has a higher calorific value than most fossil fuels, the future of hydrogen presents itself to be bright and investments in this sector are likely to increase. As a means to reduce India's imports of fuels needed to power the country, the non-Energy Conservation (Amendment) Bill 2022 proposes boosting the use of non-fossil fuel energy. Acute provisions to replace traditional fossil fuels with hydrogen as a major fuel energy should be made as it plays an indispensable role in decarbonizing the economy and in allowing us to achieve Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 2070 net-zero target.

McKinsey (2021) estimates that the demand for carbon credits could increase by a factor of 15 or more within the next 8 years or even up to a factor of a 100 by the year 2050. With the demand for carbon credits that could ensue from global efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, the world would need a voluntary carbon market that is substantial in size, verifiable, and environmentally compelling. The carbon credit market in India is set for accelerated growth, especially with the allegiance made at the COP 26 climate action summit to achieve 'net-zero' emissions by the year 2070. The timing is perfect for India to add a carbon credit exchange to its portfolio of financial institutions. This will act as a platform for carbon credit dealings and further solidify the presence of green finance in the Indian economy. The government is pushing for a uniform carbon trading market through various policy changes and legislations. India being one of the largest exporters of carbon credit, is likely to see a steady rise in the market.

The government can contribute at an institutional level by implementing green processes in its everyday functions. Acts like providing electric vehicles to its officers and solar powered offices go a long way to exemplify environmental sustainability in the minds of the people. Such policies increase government accountability in environmental protection. As accountability leads to awareness, the social norm will deviate towards more sustainable

practices. These government practices could create an environmental zeitgeist in the Indian mindset which will bring forward a collaborative community effort for developing sustainable practices.

Discussion & Conclusion:

The policies of carbon credit, implementing the hydrogen cycle (Nuclear Fission) by the lawmakers will help to increase public level understanding regarding the importance of greenhouse gases and global warming. Future public policies will then incorporate carbon footprint and economic impact. This creates a more environmentally inclusive indicator of growth. Emulating the greenhouse gases Index of the Bhutan Model will also help to check the success of such policies. If the government will take environmentally proactive steps like using electric vehicles, a small step towards creating a public awareness and positive changes will take place and make the public more responsible. Some other creative initiatives will be taken by India to have a better Index of the greenhouse gases.

Carbon credit exchange and nuclear hydrogen are policy level suggestions which can stride towards implementing an environmentally conscious public policy.

Carbon credit exchange can provide a platform to reward the conscious and penalise the violators. This corporate level initiative is a way to develop awareness in stakeholders of economic growth. They will take more conscious steps and make the environmental implementation easier.

While carbon credits are at a corporate level, hydrogen adoption can be used at an energy generation level. As the demand for green energy will increase it will encourage firms and companies to adopt Hydrogen Cycle and avoid using non-renewable sources of energy. India has recently faced an economic crisis and has also been called out globally for using non-renewable energy sources. The hydrogen replenishing cycle creates an evergreen source of energy which would eliminate the need for non-sustainable sources.

Such policy level adoptions will help India achieve Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of a net-zero goal by 2070.

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ASSESSING THE FINANCIAL LITERACY AMONG WOMEN INCLUDING WORKING WOMEN, COLLEGE STUDENTS AND RURAL WORKING WOMEN.

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Abstract:

Financial literacy is an essential aspect of life that has a significant impact on an individual's financial well-being. However, research shows that women lack financial literacy skills relative to men. Even in today's culture, the male paying money as a breadwinner of the family is considered normal. The share market is yet considered a very male-oriented sphere to study on. This research paper aims to examine financial literacy among women by exploring the factors that influence women's financial literacy, the impact of low financial literacy on women's financial well-being, and the methods used to improve financial literacy among women. The study has been divided into three categories of women including college-going students, working women, and rural women who work in urban areas for their source of livelihood.

Introduction:

Financial literacy is the ability to use knowledge and skills to manage financial resources effectively for a lifetime of financial well-being (PACFL, 2008). The knowledge about financial terms is divided into the two-term known as basic financial literacy and advanced financial literacy (Lusardi, 2008). Financial literacy is the knowledge and understanding of personal finance and its management, including financial planning, budgeting, investing, and debt management. It is essential to achieve financial security and be able to make informed decisions about money. As per this report, it is ignorance and lack of knowledge that prevent women from taking investment decisions. As per the research

conducted via survey and questionnaires, it is evident that several factors influence women's financial literacy, including education, socioeconomic status, family and cultural background, age, and personal experiences. Speaking about women empowerment, the general focus is on gender equality and literacy and independence in financial decisions is very essential. This lack of financial education contributes to low financial confidence and difficulty in managing household finance and over reliance on the traditional means of keeping money thereby incurring an opportunity cost which many are not even aware of. A detailed explanation is given in section VI of the paper.

Objectives of the Study:

The objective of the research is to analyse the current financial literacy rates among women who are working, college students, and rural women. Since drastic steps have been taken to get women at an equal standing including women's IPL and equal pay in sports, the paper also aims to conclude a basis of reasoning for low financial knowledge among women even in the emerging modern era and suggests ways to improve the same for achieving a holistic means of empowering women even in the urban areas. It also highlights the importance of being able to make one's own investment decisions and handling finances to achieve equality in its truest sense.

Research Methodology:

For this study exploratory and descriptive research design method has been used. Primary data as well as secondary data have been collected to draw conclusions and conduct the research. Primary data has been collected through surveys of 50 respondents including working women and students who are in their last year of graduation to draw an effective analysis for the study. Secondary data is gathered from various websites (including research-based sites), journals, newspapers, articles, etc. Simple random sampling is used in the research and the data is collected from the respondents about their financial knowledge through structured questionnaires consisting of different questions for both the categories relating to their knowledge of financial investment avenues and their own investment choices. For the rural women, personal interviews have been conducted of female workers in the premises of Narsee Monjee College of Commerce and Economics, India and personal

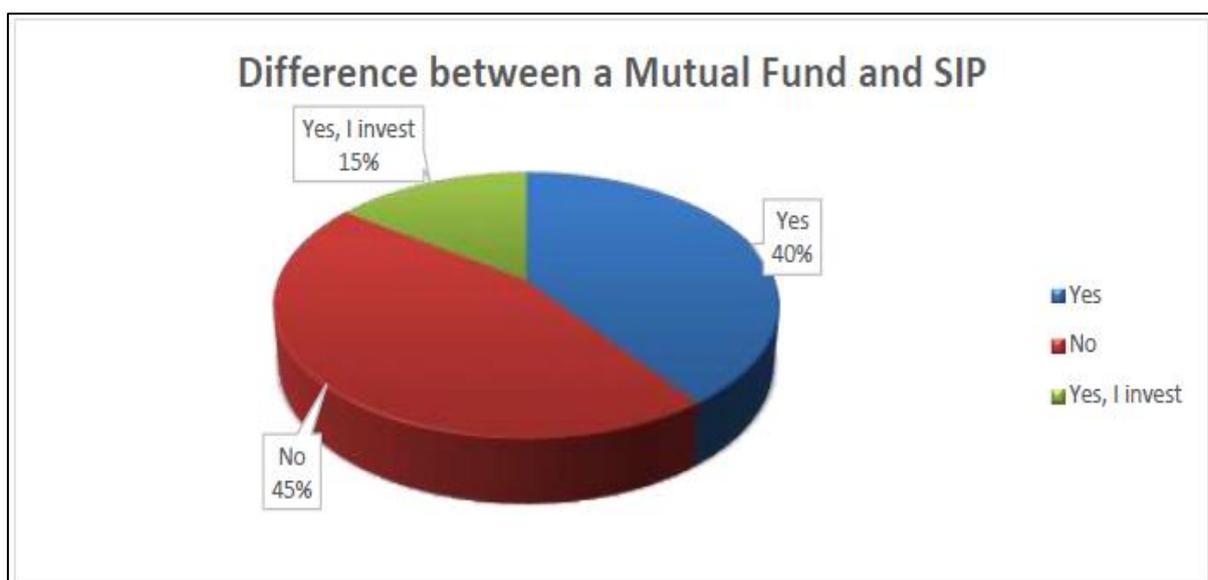
domestic helps in Mumbai. Based on statements in the questionnaire, actual financial knowledge was tested so that its parameters can be set for analysis.

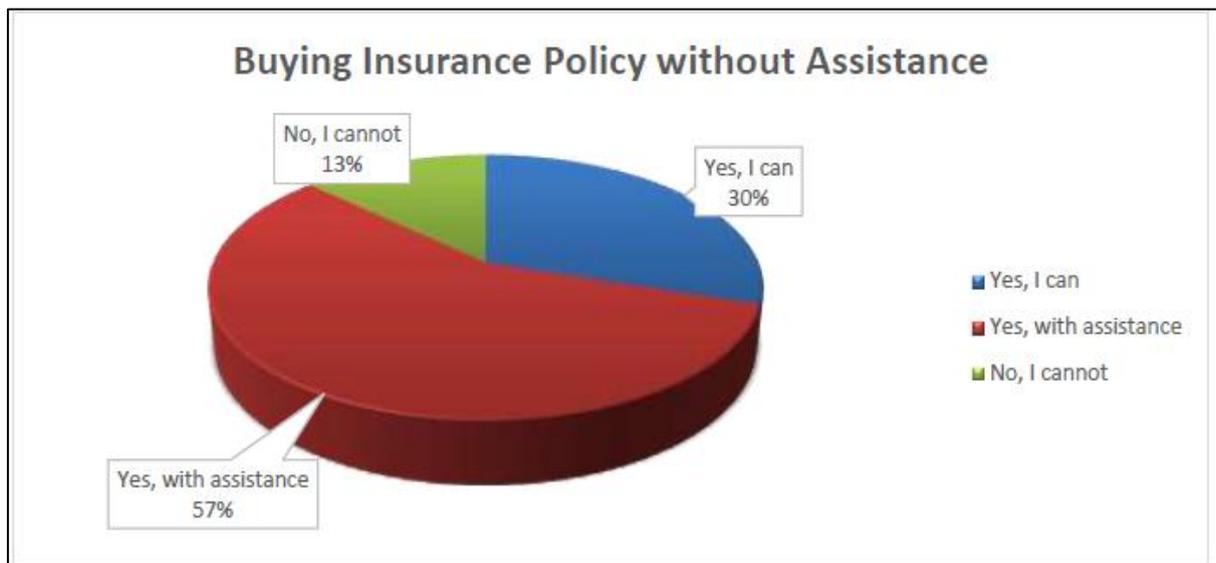
Seminars from Project Samriddhi- An initiative of the Finance and Investment Cell of NM College (Asia Book of Records) have been analysed to gain a thorough understanding while questioning the committee the need to focus the spotlight on financial literacy specifically among women. Classrooms in Narsee Monjee College of Commerce and Economics were shown a video on the financial aspects and education among the women population at a young age. An activity was conducted on the occasion of International

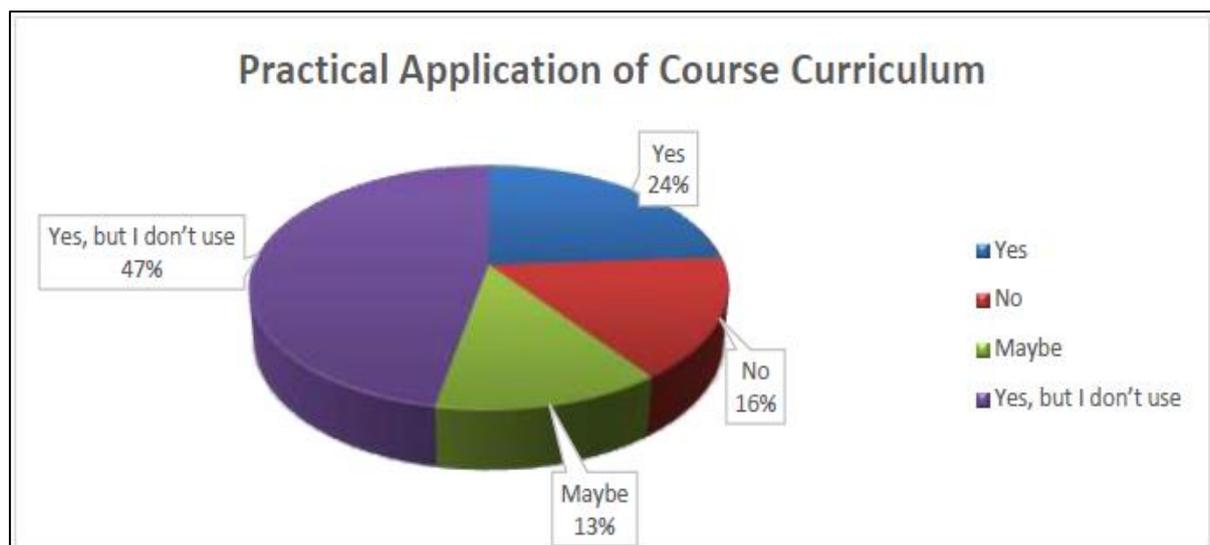
Women’s Day in classrooms where students were questioned on basic aspects like filing taxes, investing in Government schemes or shares and securities while trading on stock markets and a few more discussed in section VI of the research.

Results and Discussions:

CATEGORY	COLLEGE STUDENTS (FEMALES)
CONDUCTED AT	COLLEGE LEVEL ONLY
AGE GROUP	19-21 YEARS

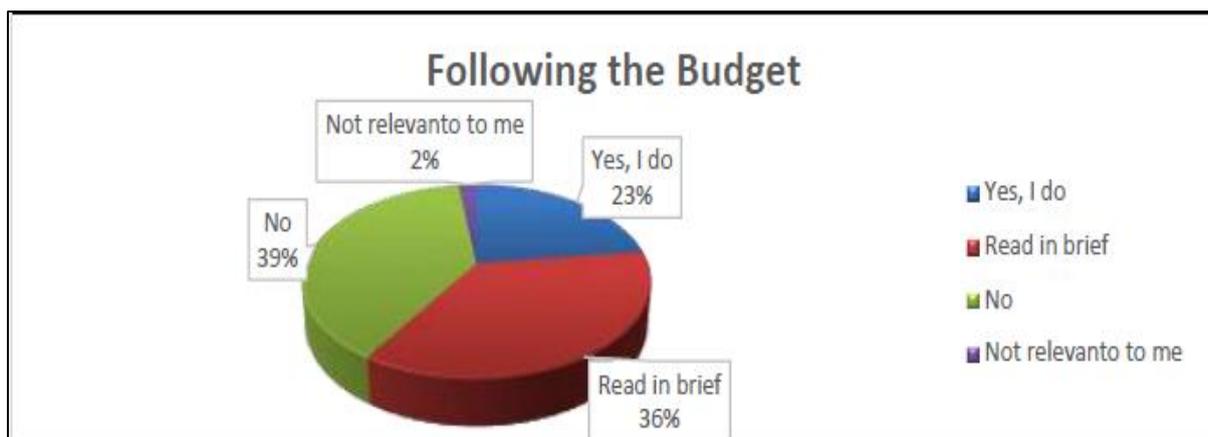




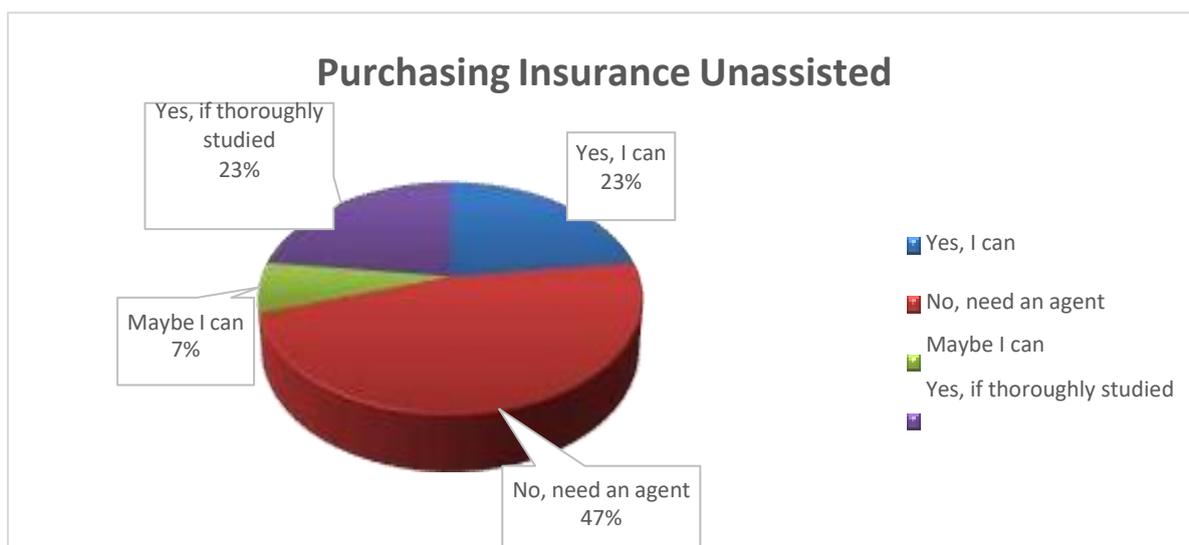


It is clearly evident that all the questions included in the structure of the google form were aimed at depicting the financial knowledge among students. On an average, even today 53% of the total college female population is not aware about the practical applications of handling money or general knowledge of real-life situations like the budget or stock markets. The course curriculum involves financial modelling and budgeting chapters which are not efficiently used in the practical life. The video shown and responses collected from the respondents was inspired by the Paytm Ad Campaign- ‘The Divide’ which was released in 2022. When questioned about basic things like riding a bicycle, the entire class would raise their hand but when questioned about the difference between a mutual fund and SIP, more than 60% of the class had their hands put down, with the majority of hands being the female students. This calls for the growing need of conducting real life application programs and seminars even for graduating students and further education to instil its importance for a brighter nation as a whole (discussed in Section VII and VIII of the paper). The audience is targeted at the women who are educated but yet financially illiterate due to lack of confidence and the environment to implement things in real time money.

CATEGORY	WORKING WOMEN
AGE	22-55 YEARS
CONDUCTED AT	ALL INDIA BASIS

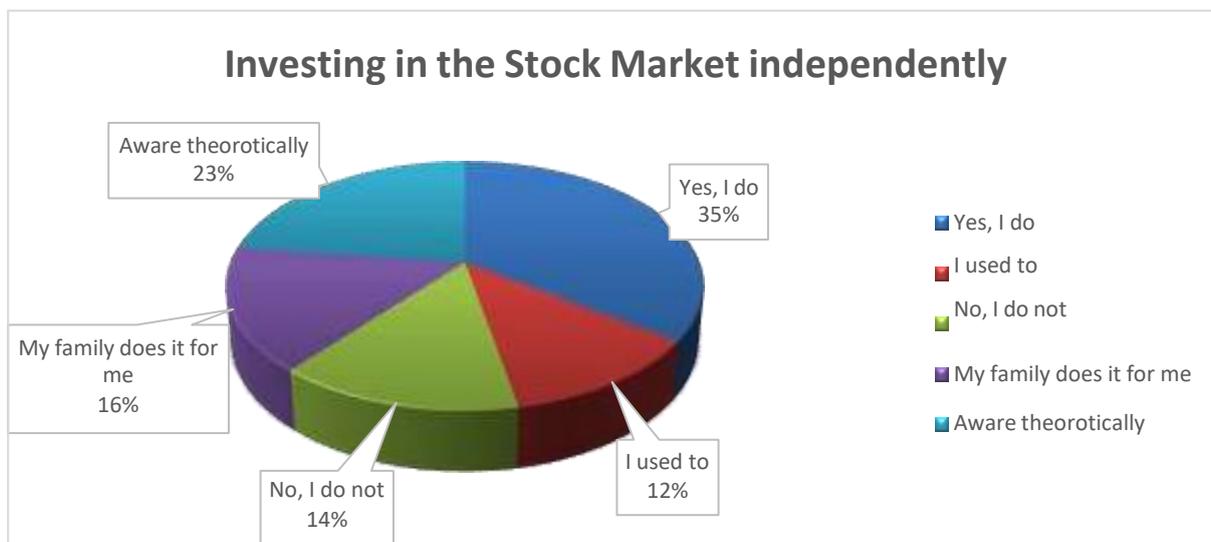
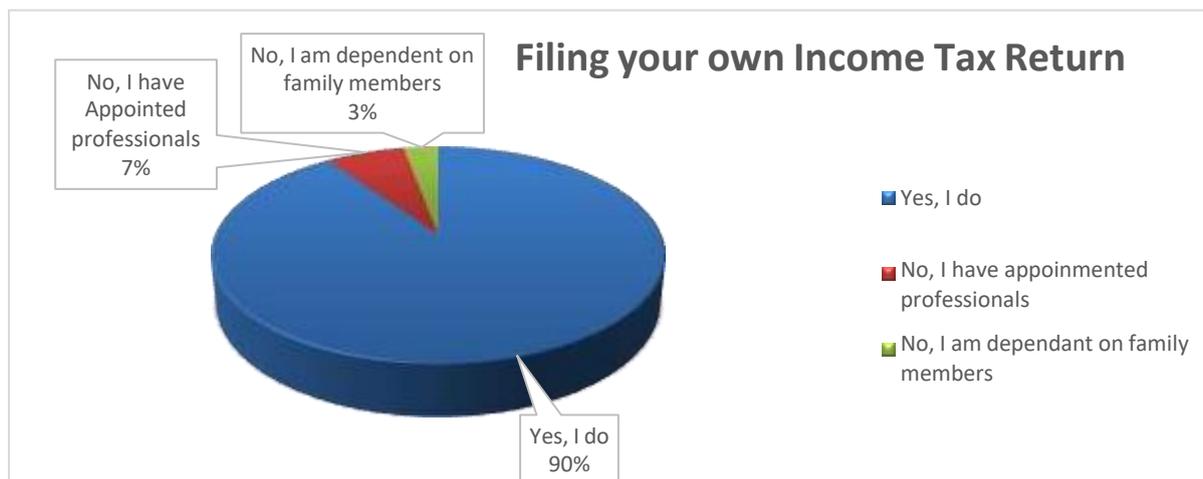


It is assessed that working women in the majority only follow and read the theoretical aspect of the financial budget presented in February each year while highlighting the provisions relevant to their income streams. The working environment or attitudes do not permit them to get a three-sixty-degree view of the condition of the entire economy.

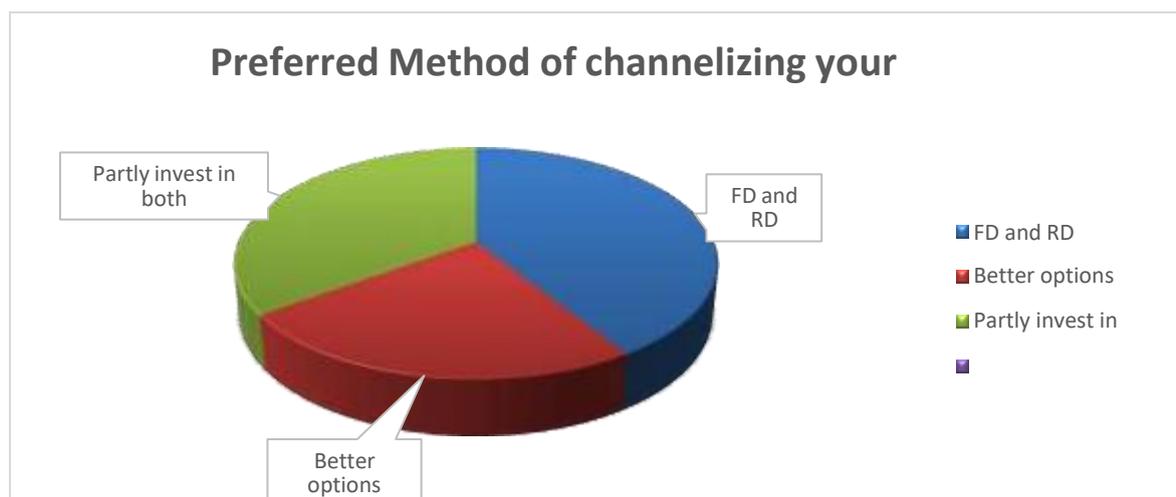


Even though today’s women have become more active and currently take a front seat when it comes to financial decision-making, sectors like insurance, purchasing automobiles, and artificial intelligence are yet laid back in terms of independent decision-making. Majorly, subjects are not aware of the exact terms of the policy that is provided by the organization or do not wish to purchase it by themselves due to the technical difficulties which are faced while receiving the claim without professional guidance. The generation usually relies on traditional means of hiring agents and not relying on online information even though 100% data is available digitally. 23% of the population is yet well versed with how the process works but is intimidated to risk their hard-earned income if they are in good health. There is

no doubt that an informed woman is a powerful one. Therefore, women need to take the time to understand what insurance policies are available to them, what each policy offers, and how to choose the best option. By acquiring the necessary knowledge, women can make informed decisions that can help them achieve financial stability and protect themselves against unplanned events.



Even when women earn their own means of livelihood, they are reluctant to rely on their judgment and intellect to file their tax returns, invest in stocks and channel their salary in a way to earn maximum returns. Many are not aware of the exact breakup of their salary including variable and fixed components. Traditional methods of savings which are the most secure are commonly more trusted irrespective of the interest rates. This attitude has rooted in not only the fear of losing money but also the lack of self-confidence to use their own earnings efficiently and effectively to maximize returns.



CATEGORY	DOMESTIC HELP AND COLLEGEPEONS (WOMEN)
AREA	MUMBAI, INDIA

After a detailed conversation with numerous rural women who migrate to urban cities like Mumbai for work and to supplement the income of their family, it is noticed that 100% of the income is majorly diverted to the spouse of such women who then runs the house in their own manner. When females are not supported by husbands who are indulged in alcoholism or other addictions, these women keep a huge amount of cash reserves with them or the other family members. It is next to impossible to convince them to switch to online or modern banking systems. They do invest in a lot of gold, from Middle Eastern countries to keep as reserves for financial instabilities and health contingencies. Rural women often rely on informal financial tools and savings mechanisms such as rotating savings and credit associations (ROSCA), which may not provide them with adequate financial protection, and they are often limited in their ability to borrow and save for the future. Moreover, rural women also face cultural and social barriers that prevent them from receiving formal financial education and participating in financial decision-making processes. For example, many women in rural areas are unable to attend financial literacy programs due to family responsibilities or lack of transportation.

However, there are initiatives that are addressing the financial literacy gap among rural women. Microfinance institutions, for instance, offer loans and financial education programs specially designed for rural women. These programs educate them on important financial topics such as budgeting, savings, and investment, which are essential for building sustainable economic livelihoods. Similarly, governmental and non-governmental organizations can design interventions to enhance the financial literacy of rural women.

These interventions could include practical training on financial products and services that would meet the needs of rural women and support their financial capacity. For instance, mobile banking services, which leverage local agents or digital technologies to provide access to financial services could be a low-cost solution. It was also analysed that a group of these women who work house-to-house form a group of 10-15 subjects where they pool their money and based on a chit system, one of them has to collect a bulk amount and pay the others in monthly instalments with or without interest. This is basically the function of banks but due to lack of education and awareness, threat of money loss due to bank insolvency, etc. They usually store huge cash reserves at houses back in their rural regions.

With the personal round of interviews with female subjects, it can be analysed that-

Factors Affecting Women's Financial Literacy:

Firstly, education plays a significant role in determining an individual's financial literacy, which is an essential determinant of financial behaviour. Empirical studies show that women with higher education levels are more likely to be financially literate than those with limited education. Secondly, socioeconomic factors such as income, occupation or job status, and wealth affect women's financial literacy. Research shows that women with higher incomes, higher occupations, and more wealth are more financially literate than those with lower socioeconomic status. Additionally, family and cultural background also play a significant role in determining financial literacy. Individuals from families with backgrounds that emphasize financial education and responsible financial behavior are more financially literate than those who do not. Age may also influence financial literacy as older women are more likely to be financially literate. Personal experiences with financial products and services may also influence financial literacy.

Methods which can be essential and efficient to improve women's financial literacy:

Low financial literacy has many negative impacts on women's financial well-being. One of the primary consequences is the inability to make informed financial decisions, resulting in unfavourable outcomes, such as high levels of debt, financial stress, and inadequate retirement savings. Women who lack basic financial skills are more likely to make poor financial decisions, including choosing the wrong investments, over-expenditure, and

miscalculating their financial risks. There is a need to improve women's financial literacy, which can be done through various methods. Firstly, educational programs, including workshops, seminars, and training sessions on financial literacy, can help women acquire financial education and skills, enabling them to make informed financial decisions.

These programs can cover critical topics such as budgeting, saving, investing, insurance, and credit management. Additionally, financial education programs should be tailored to meet the specific needs and financial concerns of women, including retirement savings, debt management, and caregiving issues. Secondly, financial institutions can contribute to financial literacy by offering financial literacy education as part of their services, developing products that are accessible and tailored to the needs of women, and promoting female financial inclusion. Lastly, governments can implement policies that improve women's financial literacy, including laws that enforce gender equality in the labour market.

Benefits to the Society:

Financial literacy is an essential tool for women, as it offers numerous benefits to women's lives and society as a whole. As female-led households continue to grow, the importance of financial literacy is more significant than ever before because women control most household expenses. Overall, financial literacy can aid in breaking down economic barriers, which allows women to take control of their financial lives and promote stability, independence, and growth for themselves, their families, and their communities. Financially literate women can positively influence their future generations. Children who witness their mothers managing their finances better can then learn the importance of financial literacy and how it can improve their lives. Financially literate mothers can also offer their children better guidance when it comes to managing money, investing early in their future, and understanding the significance of saving for emergencies and retirement. Financially literate women can also act as role models for young girls, promoting a positive outlook on the importance of financial management.

Women who are financially literate can break the negative cycle of poor money management and future financial struggles that can affect society. As a result, this can enhance the future of the economy, providing more economic opportunities, and reducing

economic dependence.

Future Scope:

The future scope for financial literacy among women is immense. Encouraging women to take control of their financial lives, it can lead to better financial decisions, increased earnings, and greater participation in the broader economy, resulting in overall financial prosperity. As more women enter the workforce and become financially independent, they will require important knowledge to manage their income and invest in the best possible options. A strong understanding of financial literacy can help women to set up their entrepreneurial ventures, thus providing much-needed employment opportunities.

Women entrepreneurs with better financial knowledge are in a better position to manage and expand their businesses' finances. Providing them with access to comprehensive financial education can help them take better-informed financial decisions and grow their wealth. This subject holds immense significance since it empowers them to take control of their financial well-being. However, despite efforts to promote financial education among women, there is still a significant gap in their financial knowledge.

Conclusion:

In conclusion, financial literacy is a critical aspect of women's financial well-being, yet women face challenges in acquiring adequate financial education and skills. Financial illiteracy among women has negative consequences, including high levels of debt and financial stress. Therefore, there is a need to improve financial literacy among women through educational programs tailored to their specific needs and financial concerns.

Increasing financial literacy among women is critical to closing the gender wealth gap and achieving financial security in the long run. Women who are financially literate are more likely to save for retirement, invest, and make informed decisions about their finances.

Financial institutions and governments can also contribute to improving women's financial literacy through policies, products, and services that are gender-sensitive and

inclusive.

Improved financial literacy among women can contribute to reducing the financial inequality gap and promote their economic empowerment.

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GOLDEN TRIANGLE AND THE OPIUM ECONOMY

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Abstract:

Opium trade has been helping people make billions and billions. It is addictive in nature and once people start consuming it, they start demanding more of it. One of the major opium producing areas is the golden triangle. The golden triangle is known as the area formed by borders of Myanmar, Laos and Thailand, which come together at the meeting point of the Mekong and Ruak rivers. It was the first largest producer of opium poppy, but soon it was left behind by Afghanistan, and it became the second largest producer. With so many laws and enforcements coming in, Opium Production in Golden Triangle has reduced drastically. This research paper discusses the golden triangle's dependency on opium and how all the three countries of the Golden Triangle are individually dependent on it. Furthermore, it will also elaborate on how & why opium production is decreasing rapidly and its impacts. Secondary method of data collection has been used in this paper and the data was collected from various platforms by carrying out a thorough research.

Keywords: Golden triangle, opium, illegal, Myanmar, Laos, Thailand

Introduction:

“Silky flowers held high on elegant stems, turning entire fields white, red, pink and purple.”

– Frank Dikotter

Seems very pretty, right?

This is opium. This is how pretty it looks.

But don't get deceived by how it looks? It has extraordinarily bad effects on society. It

is highly addictive, and is also illegal to consume. One of the major producers of opium is the Golden Triangle. The Golden triangle consists of 3 countries Myanmar, Laos, and Thailand. It's an area where the borders of these 3 countries meet, at the junction of two rivers, namely Ruak and Mekong. Setting aside the geographic reference, the word 'Golden' refers to the most important feature of the region that is, the production of opium and its trade. After Afghanistan from the Golden Crescent, this area is the second largest producer of Opium. In the golden triangle itself, the largest producer of opium is Myanmar. The golden triangle's economy is very much dependent on opium production, especially in the times of economic slowdown. And so, in the times of covid, when everything was shut down, Myanmar's population which was not dependent on opium, shifted to this sector to make ends meet.

Beginning from 1950s till 1990s, the golden triangle was the major producer of opium, and was a literal gold mine for the drug trade in the world. It all started when Chinese opium trade was stamped out and it was totally eradicated. But major business man didn't stop there they slipped over the border to Myanmar and set up their new opium poppy fields there. As the demand for heroin (which is made from opium) was growing throughout the world opium production boomed the economy, and made the economy dependent on illicit things which the economy is still based on today. But the opium trade in Myanmar eventually got disrupted not because of the internal reasons but because of the reason that happened thousands of miles far, when Soviet Union invaded Afghanistan in 1979 and they kickstarted opium production there which eclipsed the golden triangle's opium producers. And the market shifted to Afghanistan making it the world's largest producer of Opium. Though Myanmar or golden triangle doesn't produce much of the opium now but they are still an illicit economy based on the production and trade of methamphetamine which is way easier to produce than heroin and way more profitable than Opium.

Scope:

The focus of the project is to understand the economy of Golden Triangle and its individual countries and how producing illegal drug is sustaining the economy, how are they working with all the restrictions and still able to trade illegal drugs. And if not opium how will they be funding their economy for survival and growth.

Objectives:

The aim of the research paper is-

1. It talks about the dependency of the golden triangle on opium production
2. Talks about the individual dependency of the countries Myanmar, Thailand and Laos on opium
3. How a strict ban on opium production will affect their economies

Methodology:

This research is based on the desk research. The data that has been used is collected by the data released by United Nations office on Drugs and Crime and several other articles, research papers, magazines published online.

Data Analysis and Interpretation:

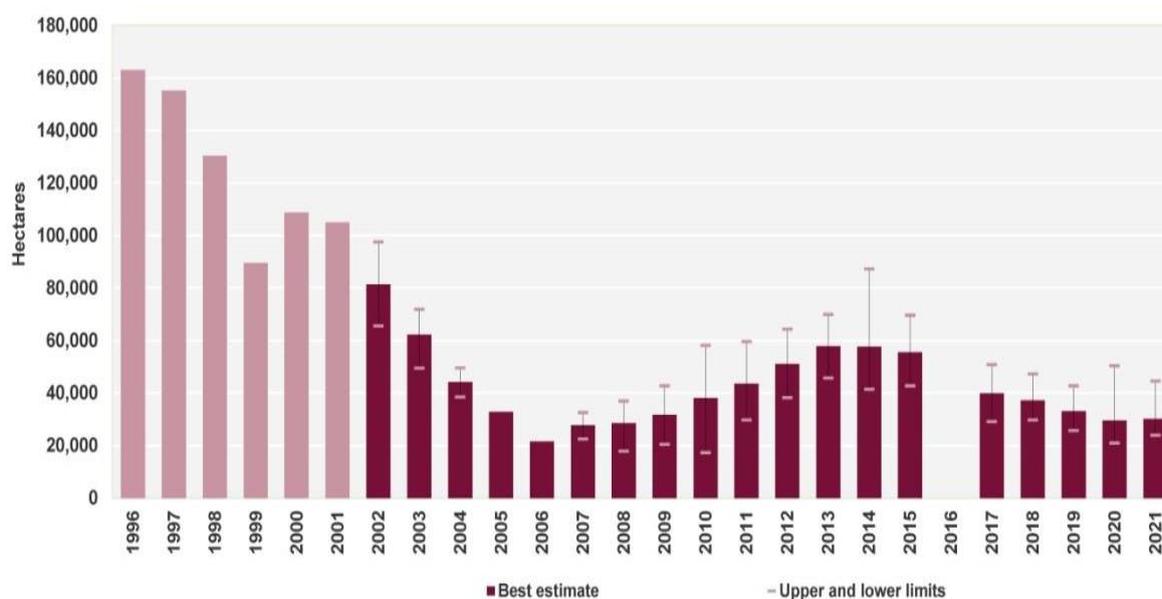


Figure 1 Myanmar's Opium Production area since 1996-2021

Opium poppy cultivation in Southeast Asia, 1998-2015 (Hectares)

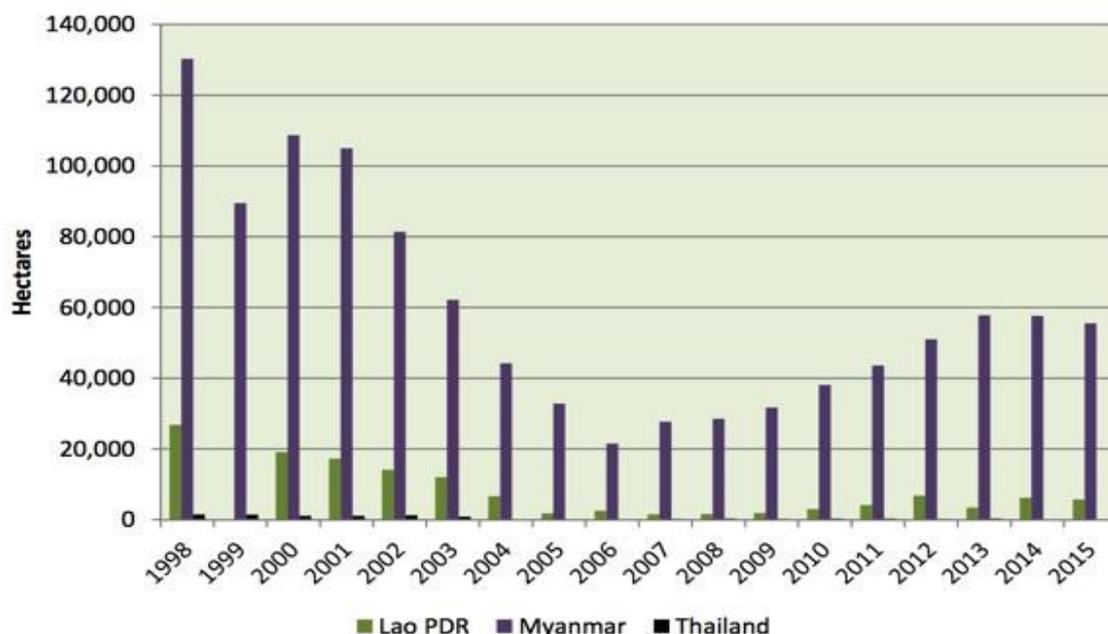


Figure 2. Area under Opium Production in Thailand, Myanmar and Laos

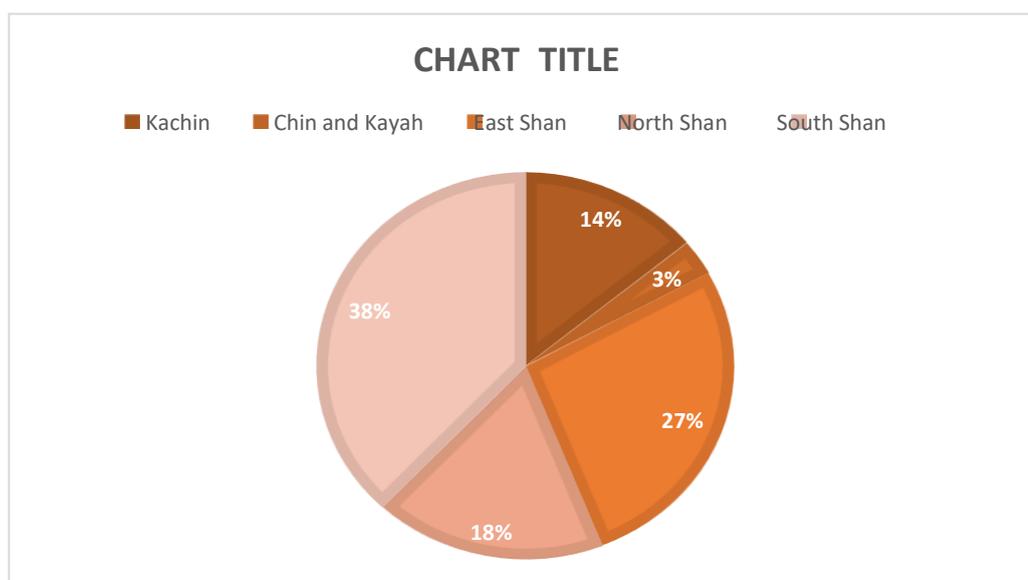


Figure 3 Myanmar region wise production

It has been found that the opium production in golden triangle has drastically reduced from 2014. Myanmar was the largest producer and Laos second largest. There was a sudden surge in the production of opium in Myanmar in the year 2020, but still it was half of what was produced in the year 2014. The area which cultivated opium poppy was estimated to be 29,500 ha in 2020. In the following year, there was a 2% increase and the area increased to 30,200 ha in 2021. The area under cultivation in the year 2014 was 57,600 ha which is almost double of

that in 2020. The opium that was produced in 2013 was double the 405 metric tons of opium produced last year.

Even now, Myanmar holds the title as the second largest producer of Opium. As a whole, Myanmar produces 25% of the opium consumed by the world. In Myanmar, the Shan state in the northern region is the largest producer of opium (as per figure 3). Even though strong laws and enforcements have been carried out in the Golden Triangle against opium production, it is still increasing in Shan state.

As per figure 2, Thailand has stopped its opium poppy cultivation and has been moving more towards sustainable production and legal practices. Even the government of Thailand is seizing the drugs that are being coming from across the borders from Myanmar and Laos. People in Myanmar's Northern region are the most illiterate compared to the population of the rest of the country. That's why the major opium producing area is Myanmar whereas Thailand's people are very well developed and urbanised and thus, Thailand used to produce the least amount of opium of all. Now, opium production in Thailand has been eradicated completely, and it was possible only because of the coordinated efforts of all the major parties like the Royal family of Thailand, certain NGOs, and Thailand's government. They first started with alleviating poverty in the region by providing everyone with basic healthcare facilities and elementary education and introducing new entrepreneurial opportunities. And now it is in its final stage of growth and development. But still, it is not completely out of the drug production. Indeed, opium is completely eradicated but laboratory-produced drugs are still being produced there.

Laos was known as the world's third largest producer of opium in the year 1998 but since that year, the opium production has decreased by whopping 97% and was so till the year 2014 (as per UNODC reports 2014). Laos is a mountainous region with no proper infrastructure and the population is majorly below the poverty line. So, because of poor infrastructure Laos is hardly connected to the local markets. This limits the consumption of food produced in the country to only the local population. And when it comes to producing cash crops, there are no transportation facilities to sell them in the market and thus there is no benefit in producing those. Whereas opium can be stored and it is not compulsory for it to be sold immediately after production. Plus, its high market value makes it more beneficial for the farmers to produce. The mountain farmers who already face difficult conditions would be

driven to extreme poverty with the opium ban and no alternative solution. There is a need for an alternative crop which would have advantages associated to it similar to those associated to opium; thus, UNODC introduced coffee as the major cash crop in 12 villages of Laos in the year 2015.

An alternative development project by UNODC has been working with the community since 2016. This project aims to establish a sustainable solution that breaks this cycle of growing poppy for generations and feeding individuals who suffer from a vicious cycle of addiction.

Though in Thailand opium production is replaced by coffee and other cash crops but if we take into account Myanmar and Laos, their cut in opium production is basically due to the increase in the production of synthetic drugs. There has been a surge in the production of Methamphetamine which is a laboratory produced drug. Thailand has been strict in reducing illicit activities from the economy and it has seized nearly 17 metric tons of ice and 400 million yaba pills in 2020.

Conclusion:

Due to poor socio-economic conditions, like the lack of education, improper infrastructure and prevailing poverty in the region, people often engage themselves in illicit activities. Illicit activities may include production of drugs, money laundering, stealing etc. This may be due to the lack of options available to them, or maybe due to the lack of proper education, that they are not able to recognise the good job options available out there. And these activities are usually more beneficial in monetary terms, and without much of education money can be made out of these.

As seen above, Myanmar and Laos have lower socio-economic background and thus these two countries were the ones most affected by illicit opium production. These two were the largest producers and it is still prevalent. If not opium, they have different alternatives which too are illicit; they have opened casinos, they have started production of synthetic drugs which is making them even more money and is easy to export as it is in pills.

Even if opium production is decreasing in Myanmar and Laos, it is for no good. They have found the better illegal alternatives which is providing them with more money. The money that comes from these illicit activities goes into the hands of the people performing these illicit activities. With this money they continue these actions, instead of putting this money to good use, by using it for their own development.

If illicit activities are to be completely removed from the world, firstly the areas with lower socio-economic background should be targeted like Myanmar and Laos and the method that was followed in Thailand in eradicating production of opium should be followed with more seriousness. What Thailand did to eradicate the illicit activities should be taken as an example by other countries. Firstly, poverty should be removed by providing the poor with basic necessities. They should also be educated with regards to what they are doing and should be made acquainted with better options available out there which would make them more money and would be actually good for the economic growth and public.

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Investigating Organized Crime in the Golden Triangle — Drug Trafficking (gijn.org)

A STUDY ON THE IDEOLOGICAL GAP BETWEEN YOUNG ADULTS AND ADULTS

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Abstract:

IDEOLOGY plays an important role in the life pattern of an individual. People with different ideologies and mindsets co-exist in society. Various factors like family pattern, education, peers, etc. influence an individual's ideology. However, a major factor guiding ideology is age group/generation. The researchers hypothesized that adults have more traditional opinions and a rigid ideology as compared to the youth. A survey was carried out using the questionnaire method where a set of questions pertaining to various issues like LGBTQ rights, Consumerism and trend following were asked. Results shows that youth has a more liberal approach toward social issues as compared to the adults who are quite conservative. Over a period of time, an ideological shift has taken place which has some positive as well as some negative components.

Keywords: Ideological gap, consumerism, opinion on LGBTQ, trend following

Introduction:

In general terms, **IDEOLOGY** refers to a set of ideas forming the basis for a political or economic system. However, the personal ideology of a person is the philosophy followed by him/her regarding how his/her life should be. A person's ideology can be defined by his opinions regarding various factors like social issues, social interactions, acceptance of others' thoughts, and general philosophy of life.

In this research, the researchers have studied the ideology of the people in the Mumbai

Suburban and Thane City regions. A comparative analysis of the thoughts of the **YOUNG ADULTS** and **ADULTS** on various issues like social interactions, finance, trend following, social issues such as **LGBTQ** Rights, and geo-political issues have been carried out to study the difference **IF ANY** between their ideologies.

In this research the researchers have considered three areas for analysis:

1. Opinion on **LGBTQ** Rights
2. Consumerism and Consumer Behaviour
3. Trend Following.

Literature Review:

In **1987, Reddy. K.S.** researched to find out the differences in family ideology between the Youth (17-20) and Adults. The findings of the study stated that Adults irrespective of their dwelling whether rural, urban or metropolitan show a rigid ideology compared to the youth. Industrialization and the consequent urbanization are the major factors that are drifting apart the youth ideology from that of the adults.[1]

In **January 2021 Packiaraj Thangavel, Pramod Pathak, and Bibhas Chandra** researched the generational cohort analysis of Indian consumers. The purpose of this study is to explore the consumer decision-making styles which are prevalent among Indian Millennials and Generation Z e-shoppers, and how significantly they differ from one another on each of those decision-making attributes. The results suggested that, though both cohorts favour e- shopping, Generation Z are more enthusiastic about online shopping than their Millennial counterparts. [2]

In **2018, Alison Munsch** researched about the impact of digital marketing on Gen Z and Millennials in the United States of America. This research explored questions on how marketers can better serve the Millennial consumer in the United States with digital marketing. The findings suggested that digital marketing/advertising that is short, with music, humour and the use of social media influencers has a positive impact on both age cohorts.[3]

In **May 2020, Meredith G. F. Worthen** researched about the negativity against the LGBTQ+ community in the United States of America. The results suggested that the “dude bros”

(typically young (millennial), straight, White cisgender males of privilege who express masculinity in entitled, obnoxious, and toxic ways) may be related to a trend in decreasing LGBTQ support among millennial men that drastically contradicts previous research that suggests that being “young” and being “woke” are one in the same.[4]

Research Gap:

The available literature suggests the ideological gap between **Young Adults** and **Adults** through various aspects taken into consideration individually. We aim to achieve an analysis of this gap collectively by taking various factors into consideration. As there are a few studies on this topic done particularly, this study might help understand the gap between generations and thereby inspire people to fill these gaps.

Need for Research:

It is often seen that various generations grow with certain perspectives and ideologies. This seems to be fine until their ideologies clash or overpower each other. Therefore, it seems very important to bridge the gap between these generations and rebuild their ideologies through mutual understanding. With the constantly changing times, culture and environment it is important for everyone to understand each other to help this planet and society become a better place to live. This research might also help people at offices, homes, schools etc to understand the generations and age groups clearly and thereby coexist peacefully or at least with less conflicts. Our motive for this research is to find out common grounds between these generations and help them deal with issues around themselves collectively.

Objectives of the Research:

1. To study the mindset of the youth and adults and get an overview of their ideologies based on the following parameters:
 - A. Social Inclusion/Exclusion of the LGBTQ community and Advocating/Opposing their rights.
 - B. Consumer behaviour and spending patterns.
 - C. Trendsetting and Trend Following.

- D. Other issues related to society.
2. To carry out a comparative analysis of the mindset of both groups from the data collected.
 3. To find out any deviation/change in the ideology, whether positive or negative after interpreting and analysing the data.
 4. To find out whether the developments at the global level on various fronts like technology, education, awareness, etc have been able to break through the traditional rigid conservative ideology or not.
 5. To understand to what extent the gap in age/generation affects the ideology of an individual.

Research Hypothesis:

H0 – There is a slight gap in ideology between Young Adults and Adults.

H1– There is major gap between the ideologies of Young Adults and Adults

H2- There is no ideological gap between Young Adults and Adults.

Limitations of the Study:

1. Restricted to Mumbai Suburban and Thane City only.
2. Restricted to certain topics and doesn't involve broad study.

ResearchMethodology:

The sample size for the research was selected through convenience and stratified sampling technique. The respondents of the research belong to the areas of Mumbai Suburban and Thane city.

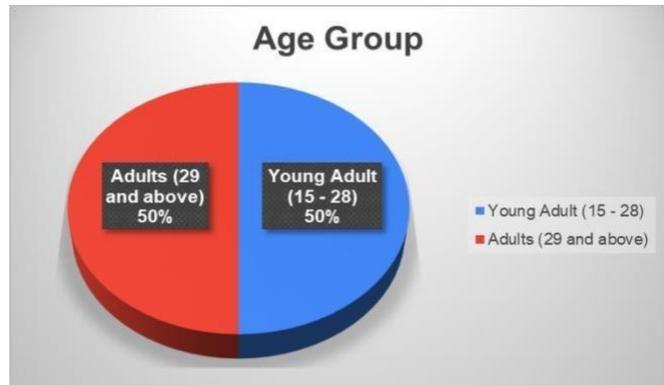
Primary Data - All the first-hand information and raw data has been collected through Questionnaire in the format of Google Form which was filled by 92 respondents, out of which 80 were selected (40 belonging to each group).

Secondary Data – Internet, Research papers and Articles were referred by us in the literature review.

Data Analysis:

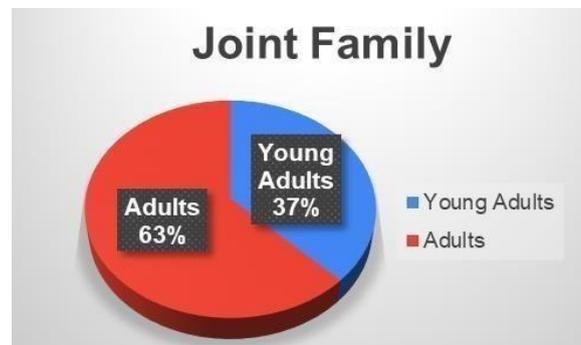
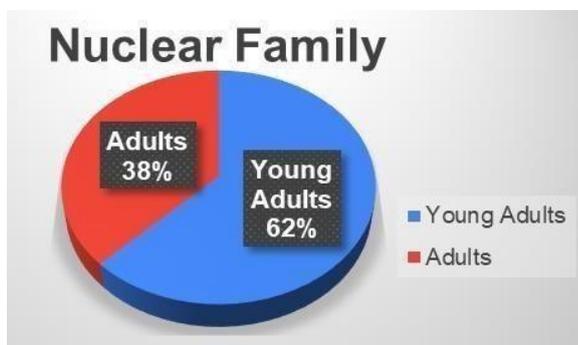
Respondents used for research – 80

Age Group	No. of Respondents
Young Adult (18 - 28)	40
Adults (29 and above)	40



Social Perspectives:

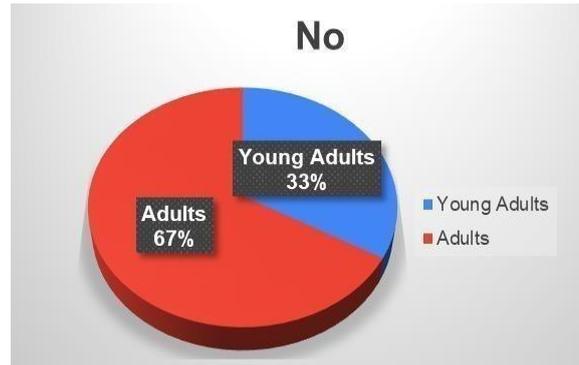
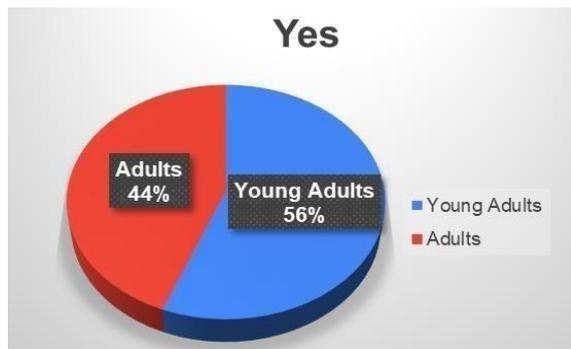
Preference toward family patterns



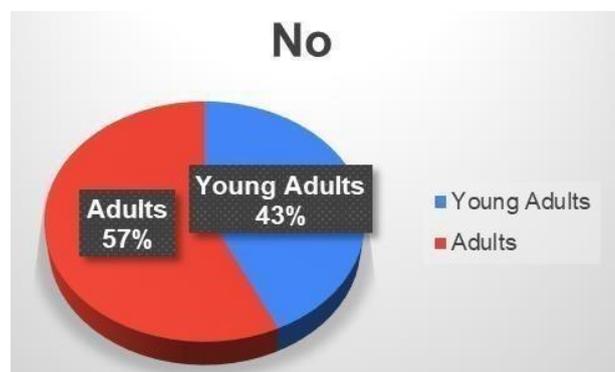
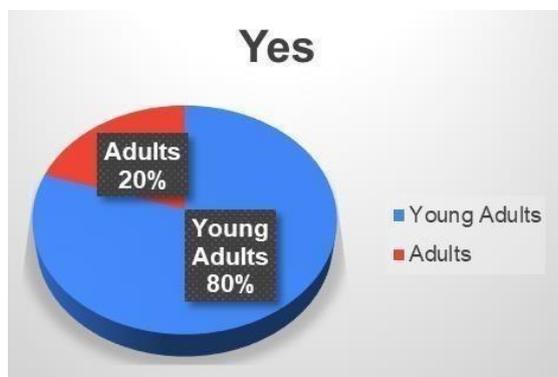
Majority of the young adults prefer to live in a Nuclear Family. Whereas, majority of the adult generation prefer to live in a joint family.

The concept of YOLO

YOLO is an acronym meaning you only live once, used to express the view that one should make the most of the present without worrying about the future. As seen in the above diagram almost 60% of Young Adults believe in the concept of YOLO. On the other hand, almost 70% of the Adults refuse to believe in this concept.

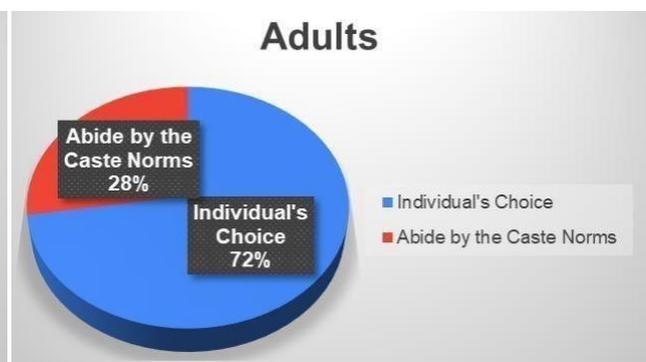
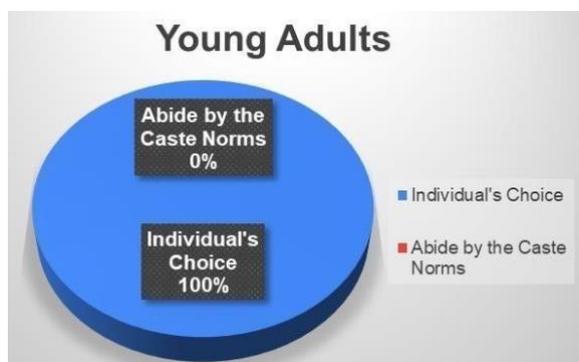


The concept of DINK (Dual Income, No Kids)



DINK (Dual Income No Kids) is an abbreviation to refer to either one of a couple who both have jobs and no children. 80% of the young adults which constitute to the majority believe in the concept. While 57% of the adult generation do not believe in this Concept.

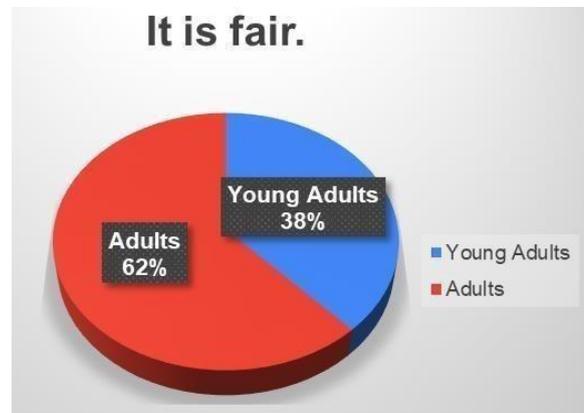
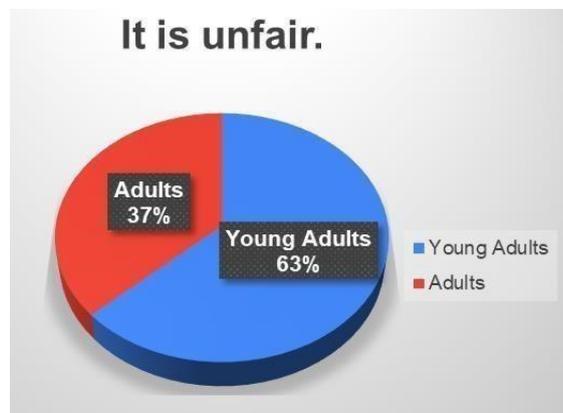
Opinions on inter-caste Marriage



Here the Young Adults & Adults have a similar opinion, both being accepting towards intercaste marriage. Young Adults show complete acceptance (100%) while a

majority of adults too are supportive (72%)

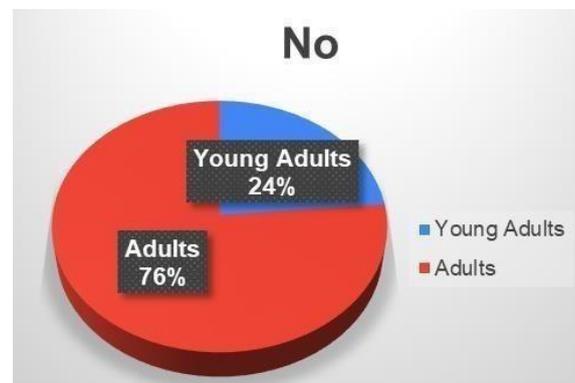
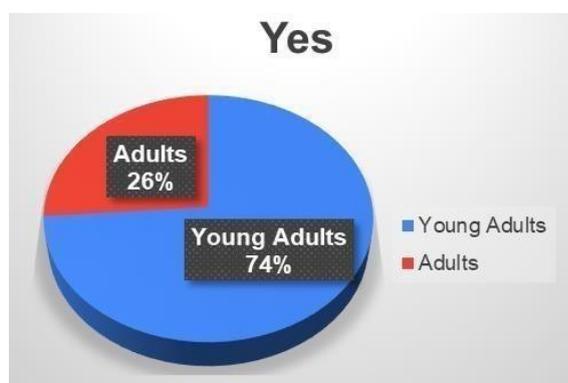
Opinion on the new norms on prohibition of abortion in the US



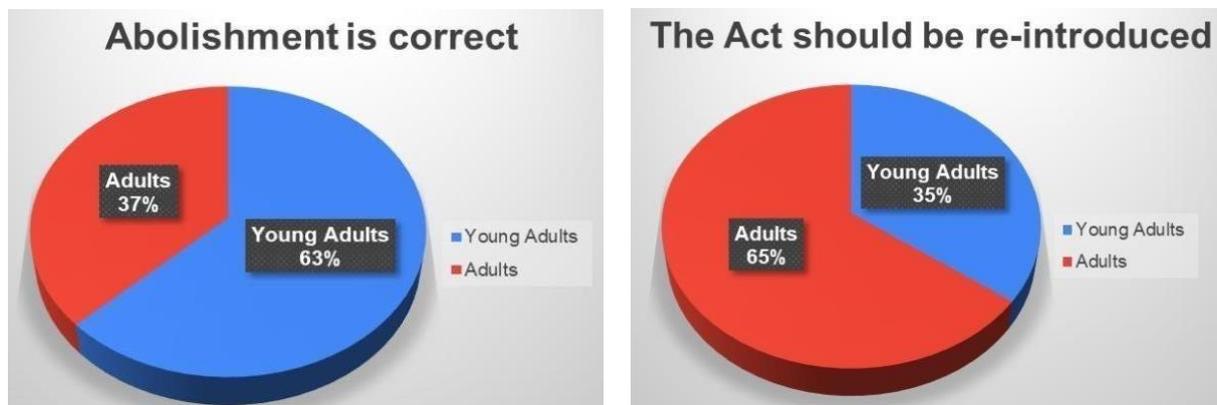
The 63% of Young Adults, which constitutes the majority believe that prohibition of Abortion is unfair because each woman should have right to do whatever she wants with her body. On the other hand, 62% of adults believe that prohibition of Abortion is fair as nobody has the right to kill a life who isn't even born.

Acceptance of same sex marriage

74% of the Young Adults, which constitutes the majority accept marriage among people of the same sex. On the other hand, 76% of adults do not accept marriage among people of same sex.

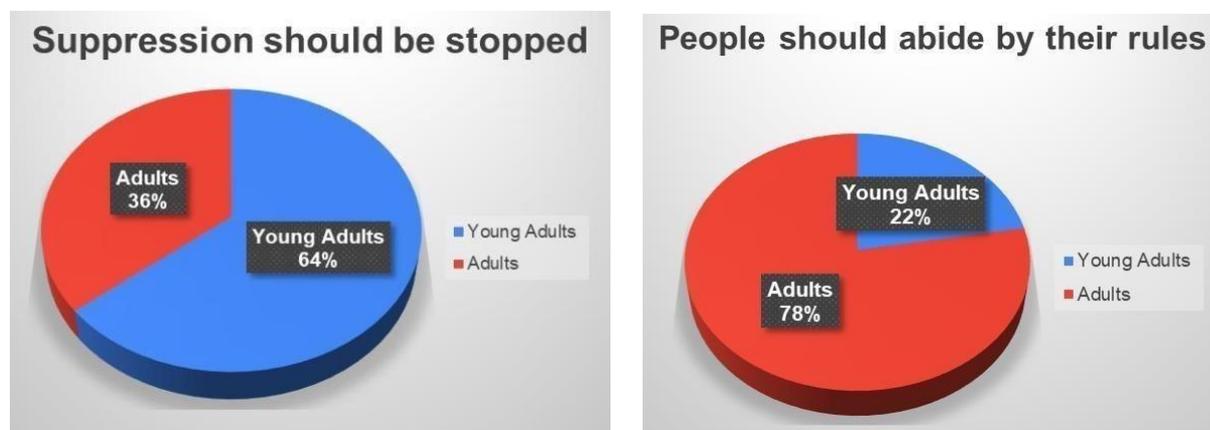


Views on abolishment of Article 377 in India



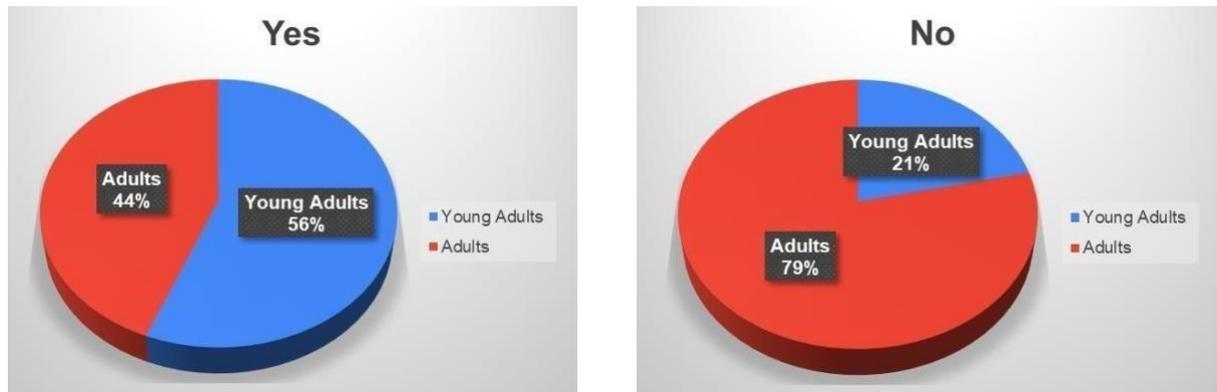
Article 377 considered same-sex relationships to be unnatural which has now been abolished. 63% of Young Adults believe that abolishment of Article 377 is correct while 65% of Adults believe that Article 377 should be re-introduced.

Thoughts on suppression of Pro-LGBT activities/movements at Qatar world cup 2022

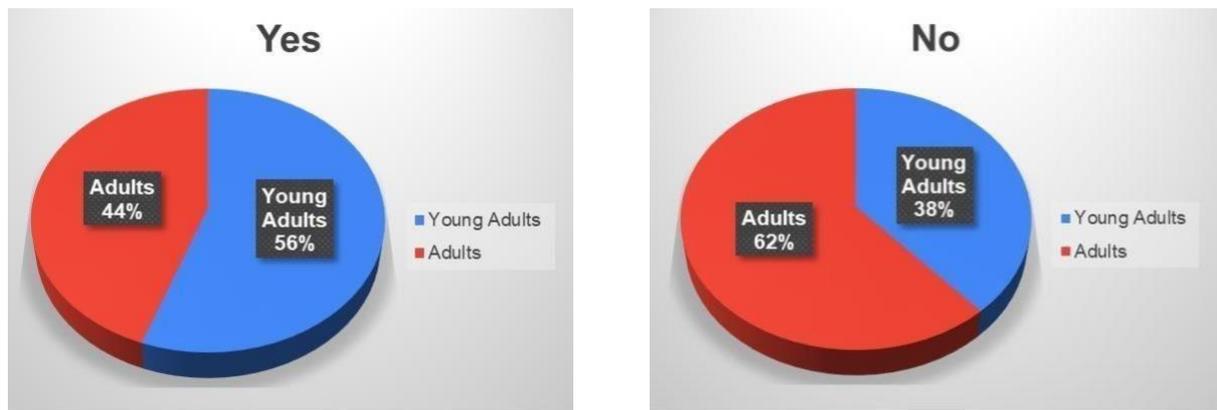


The 64% of Young Adults believe suppression of Pro-LGBT movements at Qatar World Cup 2022 shall be stopped and individual rights shall be prioritized while 78% of Adults believe that people should abide by rules of Qatar being host country.

Opinion on creating awareness to understand sexuality



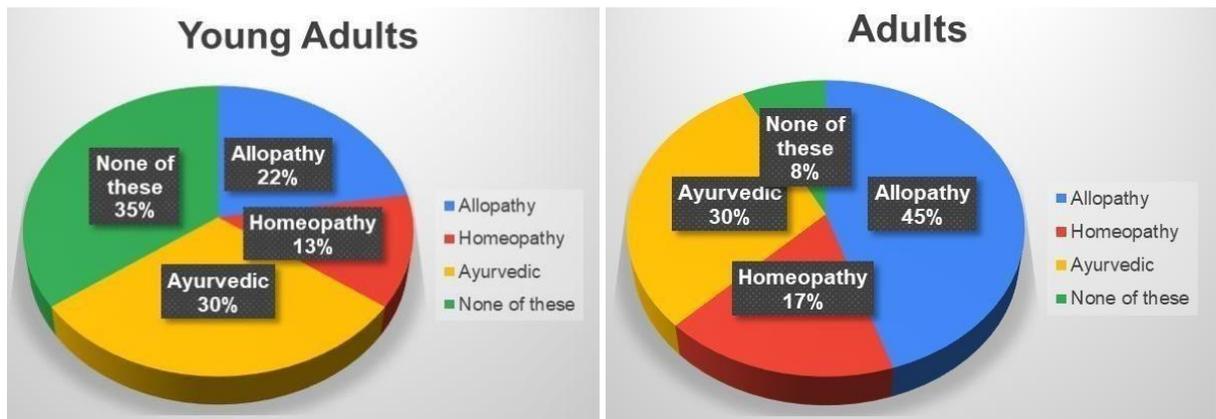
The 56% of Young Adults, which forms majority believe that awareness should be created for people to understand their sexuality. On other hand, 79% of the Adults believe that there is noneed for awareness to be created for people to understand their sexuality. **Opinion on social media** Influencing one’s choices and decisions



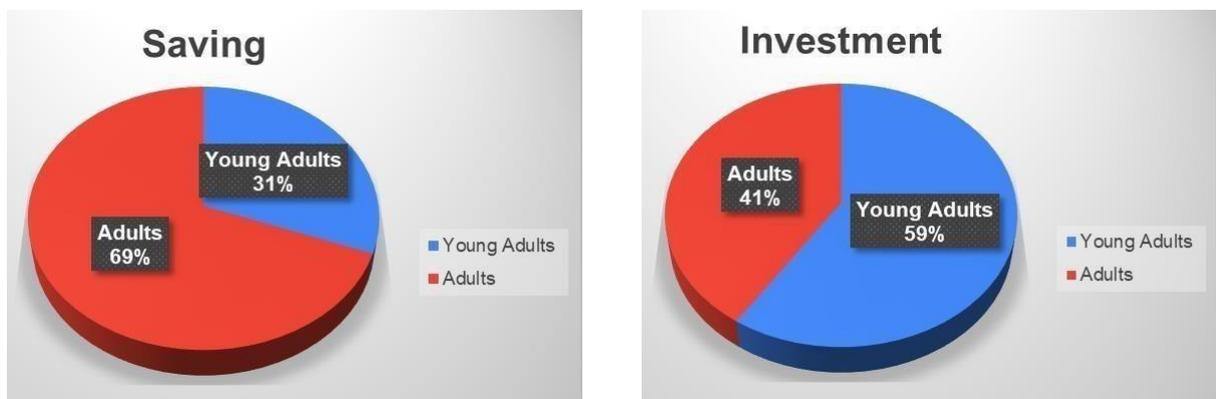
The 56% of Young Adults, which make up majority are of belief that social media influences their choices and decisions. Meanwhile, 62% of adults are of belief that their decisions and choices are not influenced by social media.

Preference of medicinal treatment

In the case of Young Adults, 35% which form majority do not prefer any kind of medicinal treatment from given options. Meanwhile, in case of adults, 45% of adults which constitute to be majority, prefer Allopathic medicinal treatment.

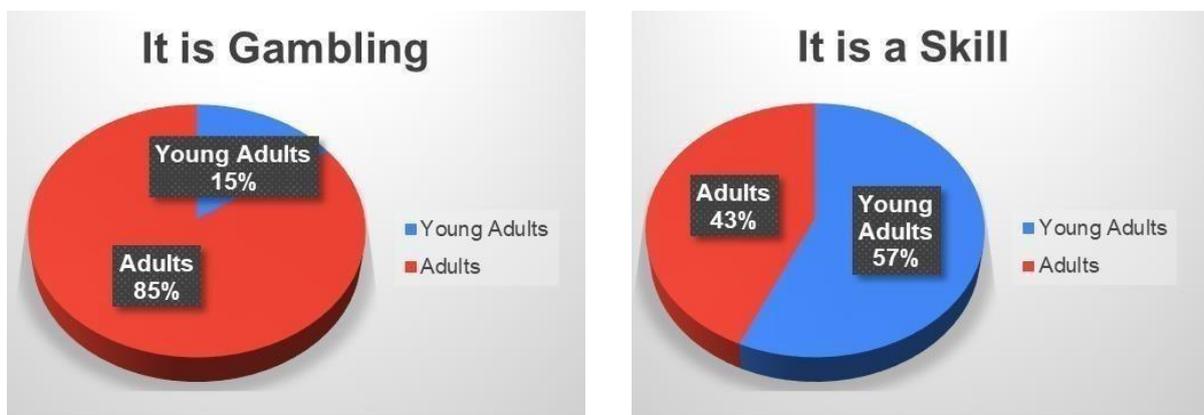


Monetary perspective



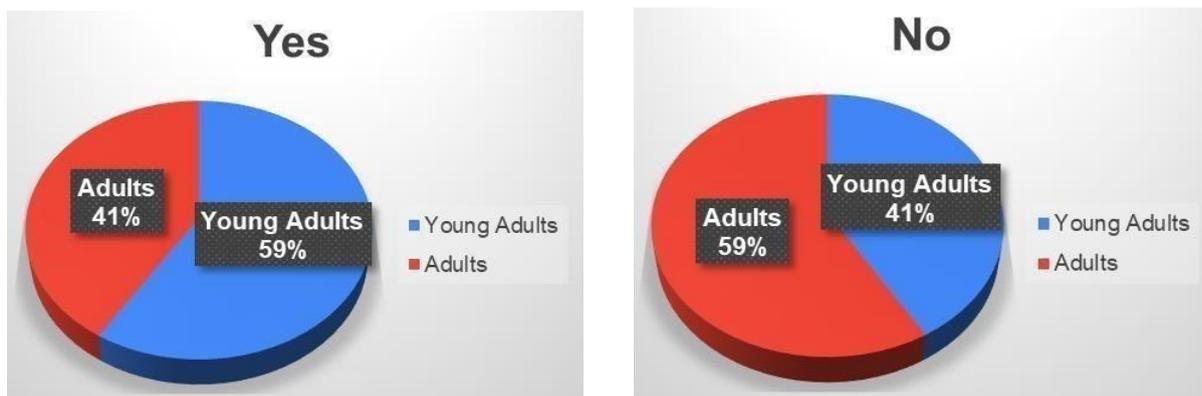
The 69% of adults, who form majority prefer to save their money rather than investing it. On otherhand, 59% of Young Adults prefer to Invest their money.

Views on stock market



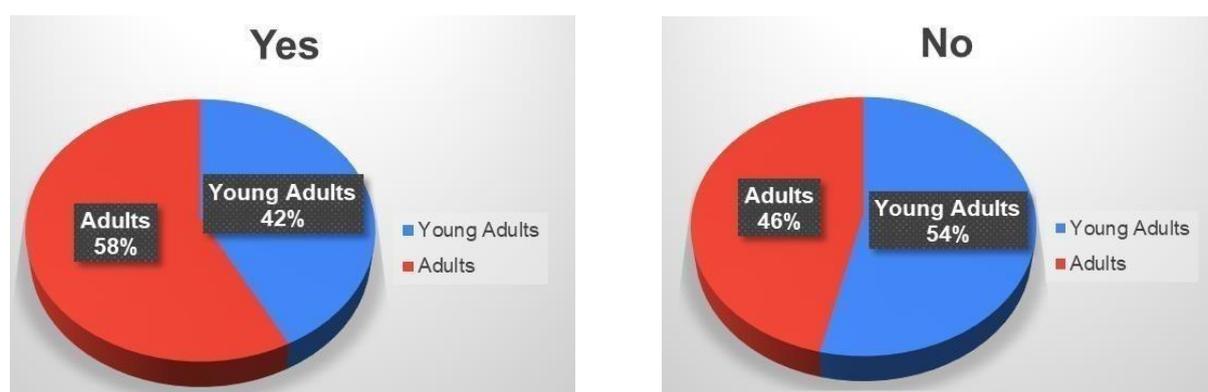
The 85% of Adults which constitutes to majority are of belief that Stock market is gambling. Whereas, 57% of Young Adults are of belief that investing in Stock market requires skill.

Views on legalization of cryptocurrency in India



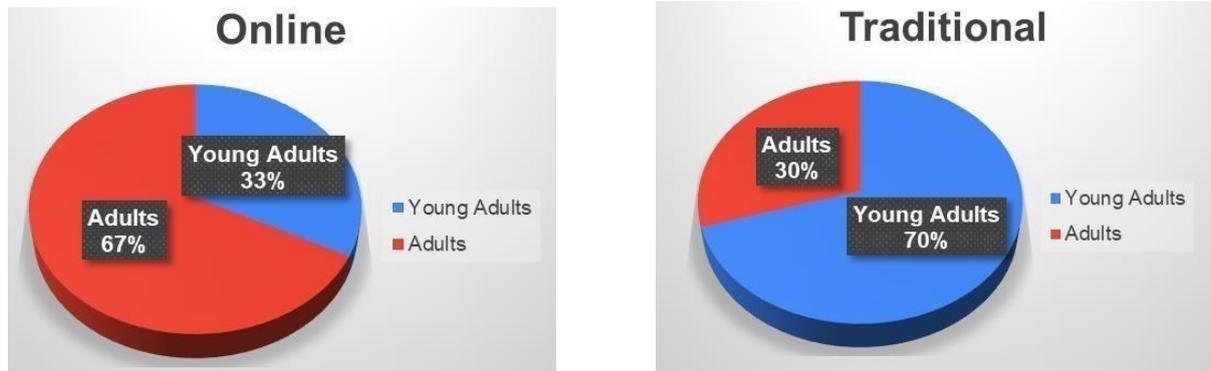
A cryptocurrency, digital currency, alternative form of payment created using encryption algorithms. 59% of Young Adults which are majority believe that Cryptocurrency should be recognised as legalized in India. On other hand, 59% of Adults believe that Cryptocurrency should not be recognised as legalized in India.

Impulsive buying



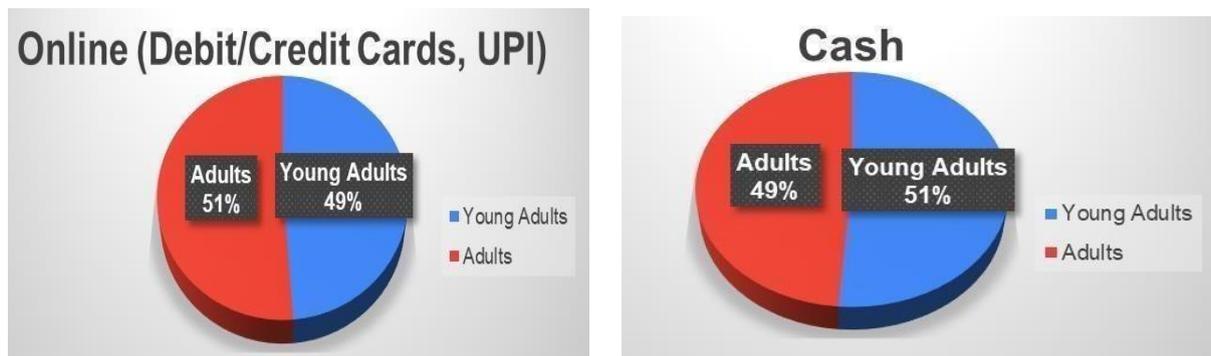
Impulsive buying tendency of customer to buy goods and services without planning in advance. 58% of Adults admit that they are impulsive buyer. On other hand, 54% of Young Adults say that they are not impulsive buyer.

Preference in mode of Shopping



The 67% of adults that is majority prefers Online method while shopping. On other hand, 70% of Young Adults prefers Traditional method of shopping.

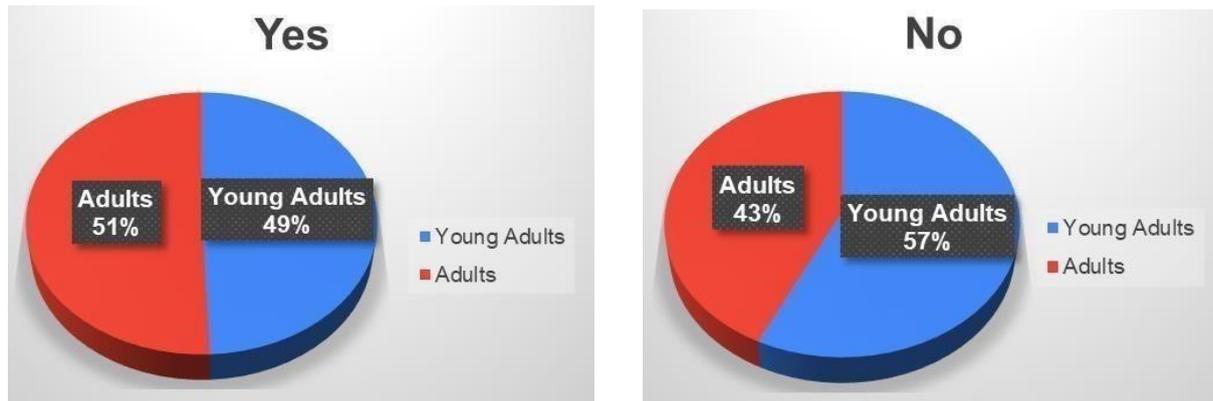
Preference in method of payment after shopping



The 51% of Adults, which constitutes majority prefer Online method of transaction i.e., Debit/Credit cards, UPI. On other hand, 51% of Young Adults prefer Cash for transactions.

Comparison of prices of goods from various goods before purchase

The 51% of adults, which constitutes to majority prefer to compare prices of goods from various sources before making purchase. On other hand, 57% of the Young Adults do not prefer to compare prices.



Findings:

All findings of this research are dependent on majority basis between opinions of Young Adults and Adults. Hence findings are as follows;

1. Young adults are seen to be preferring to live in a nuclear. Meanwhile adults mainly belonging to Millennial and Gen X generation prefer to live in joint family system.
2. Young Adults are seen to be believing the concept on YOLO (You Only, Live Once) which can leave us to a conclusion that they like to be free and live in the moment. While the Adults seem express their disbelief towards this YOLO concept.
3. Adults belonging to the older generations do not believe in the concept of DINK(Dual Income, No Kids). Young Adults tend to believe in this concept.
4. Inter-caste marriage is a concept where young adults have defeated the majority to become completely accepting towards inter-caste marriage. While there are some of the adults that do not accept this concept, majority of them agree with the young adults on this topic
5. US Abortion norm created a lot of ideological differences. The majority YoungAdults believed it is unfair to abolish the abortion norm as it is the basic right of everywoman to do whatever she wants with her body. The adults on the other hand supported this as they believed no one has the right to kill the unborn.
6. Same sex marriage is another ideologically controversial topic. Through this research, the young adults showed their acceptance towards same sex marriage while the adults were still resentful towards it.
7. Young adults showed their support towards abolishment of the Article 377 which considered same sex relationship unnatural. Adults on the other hand showed support

- for reinforcing it.
8. Qatar recently suppressed the pro-LGBT activities at FIFA World Cup 2022. The young adults opinionated that the suppression of this community should be stopped. Adults on the other hand, believe that people should abide by the rules of Qatar, which was the host country.
 9. Understanding one's sexuality basically means to understand which gender you are attracted to and on this the young adults supported to understand their sexuality. Meanwhile, the adults refused to believe in this concept of understanding one's sexuality.
 10. Social media has become a very important part of everyone's life today, the young adults believe that their choices and decisions are influenced by it. Meanwhile, the adults are of the belief that their decisions and choices are not influenced by it.
 11. Majority of the young adults do not believe in any of the medicinal systems out of allopathy, homeopathy and ayurvedic. Whereas, the adults are seen to believe in the allopathic system.
 12. Young adults are seen to be believing in the investment perspective of money. Whereas, the adults prefer saving money rather than investing it.
 13. People have always had varied opinions about the stock market. In this research we have found out that adults believe stock market is nothing but gambling. However, Young Adults on the other hand believe that stock market is a skill which requires a lot of knowledge.
 14. Cryptocurrency is a digital currency, which is a form of payment created using encryption algorithms. This digital currency has brought about conflicting opinions between people. In this research, the young adults are of the belief that cryptocurrency should be legalized in India. Meanwhile, adults believe that it should not be legalized in India.
 15. Impulsive buying has become very common in today's generation. In this research, the researchers have found that the adults' generation are impulsive buyers. Meanwhile the young adults are not impulsive buyers.
 16. In recent time the various online methods of shopping have become popular. In this research, it has been found that majority of the young adults prefer to use traditional methods of shopping. Whereas, adults prefer to use online shopping methods.
 17. Unified Payments Interface (UPI) transactions have increased recently with increase in the online banking services. This research found that young adults and adults have

similar opinions regarding which transaction method to use. A lot of adults prefer to use online transaction method, while a lot of young adults prefer to use cash as a, but majority isn't formed in either of the cases.

18. Adults prefer to compare price of various goods before purchasing them. Whereas, young adults do not compare prices of a product before purchasing it.

Conclusion:

This research was conducted to understand the ideological gap between young adults and adults who belong to different age groups and generations. This ideological gap was understood and analysed through different perspectives and angles through a questionnaire. In the case of social viewpoint of people belonging to the two age groups, they seem to share the same point of view on the topic of inter-caste marriage. There the young adults show hundred percent of their support towards this and the adults too have majority. This gap was clearly identified through differences in opinion on various topics such as LGBTQ, consumerism, financial viewpoint, trend following, and lifestyle patterns. It can be seen that the adult generation were majorly against the concept of LGBTQ community and the entire idea of love being gender fluid. On the other hand, the young adults' generation were seen to be accepting of the LGBTQ perspectives. Consumerism and financial viewpoints were somehow interconnected to each other and still created differences of opinions. This research found that young adults were more inclined to invest money in various financial institutions, whereas the adults believe in saving. They had same perspective regarding various investment institutions such as stock market, cryptocurrency etc.

From this research it can be concluded that the young adult's generation are the ones that creates trends and follow them for a long period of time, while the adults prefer following a present pattern.

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A STUDY ON THE IMPACT OF EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING: A NEW WAY TOWARDS LEARNING WITH ENJOYMENT

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Abstract:

Experiential Learning (EL) is a type of experience we get through interaction and also by connecting with other people. From the title only we can understand that this research project focuses on the new ways that can be used by us while learning something with enjoyment. The need for it is not only for academic purposes but also to create a link with the real world. We as Accounting & Finance students had conducted certain activities like movie reviewing, and video making to get a clear idea of the topic which we have chosen. The knowledge that we got from learning about different Investment Avenues made us concentrate on the involvement of it. We prepared questionnaires, flashcards collected feedback and also communicated face to face by interviewing some groups of people about the financial market phenomena about their before and after effects.

The main aim of our research is to create awareness of the benefits that we can get in our academics concerning the new education policy where the concept of the academic bank of credit is coming up in the market.

Keywords: Experiential Learning, Involvement, Academic bank of credit

Introduction:

Experiential Learning is a process in which students learn by doing certain activities, they reflect on their previous experiences and relate them while learning. It is also called experiential education. It involves the individual learning process and also it is connected with the Learner and learning methods. It needs the active involvement of Students as well as the Teacher who is guiding them.

It can be described as a sequence of activities that involves classroom exercises and also to learn beyond the classroom exercise. It not only focuses on Student Learners but will also have a great impact on Adult Learners. It is a type of learning that can help us to form the educational structure which can develop learning skills and increase the chances of graduating and postgraduate. The Students like to manage their learning without being told what to do, when to do and how to do it. EL is a combination of primary and secondary experiences. This learning can allow us to search for our interested areas, increase our confidence by knowing more about ourselves and developing connections with the real world, educate us to solve any problem, thinking power, mindset changes, etc. Students and also Adult Learners like to learn things that are practical, easy to understand, expand their knowledge and so different learning styles motivate them to learn more. Any age group, education level, or background can go for it as there are no restrictions. The concept of any particular subject can get clear if we utilize the technique of Experiential Learning. It is deep learning about various methods, reading, observing, thinking, discussing, and trying to find solutions for it. As we know that every experience gets counted even if we receive the outcomes or not. An example that we can include in knowing more about this is Kolb's classic model (2014) which gave us the idea that we have some kind of real experience, from which we reflect and make some new understanding as well as act on it. Experiential learning is a four-stage process which is formulated by Dr. David A. Kolb including 1. Concrete experience (Feeling) 2. Reflective Observations (Watching) 3. Abstract Conceptualization (Thinking) 4. Active Experimentation (Doing).

It concentrates on the learning process rather than outcomes. With respect to NEP' 2020 – Academic Bank of Credits have given much scope to experiential learning teaching – learning pedagogy.

Objective of the Research:

1. To focus on experiential process of learning & its impacts over traditional teaching learning process.
2. To suggest different ways that can be useful to students to learn & also gaining in terms of academic bank of credit.
3. To prepare students for their future careers with all practical & theoretical skills

Scope of the Research:

- It provides opportunities to apply data and ideas in a real-world situation, which helps them develop new skills in experiential learning.
- Students can absorb experiences with new concepts and analyze how they performed in the situation and this aids them to grow problem-solving ability and also teaches them how to adapt to the circumstances.
- According to New Education Policy 2020, Academic bank of credit which is a virtual storehouse that contains the credit earned by the students throughout their learning journey is coming up and so we thought of creating the scope with Experiential learning method adoption by giving credits to the student who are using these techniques.

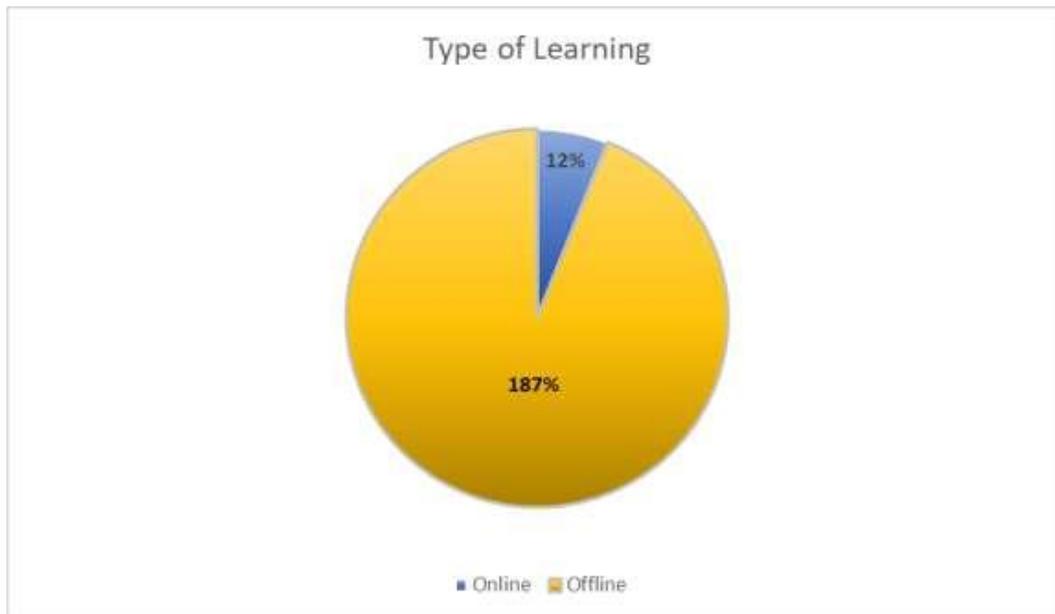
Methodology Used:

- Research Universe: Thane
- Sample Size: 200 respondents
- Sampling Technique: Purposive Sampling
- Method of Data Collection: Primary Data: Pre - Structured Questionnaire
Secondary Data: Research Papers, Articles, Projects
- Data Analysis Techniques: Percentage (%) Technique, Pie Graph

Data Analysis and Interpretation:

The primary data we collected is analyzed and interpreted below: Source- Primary data.

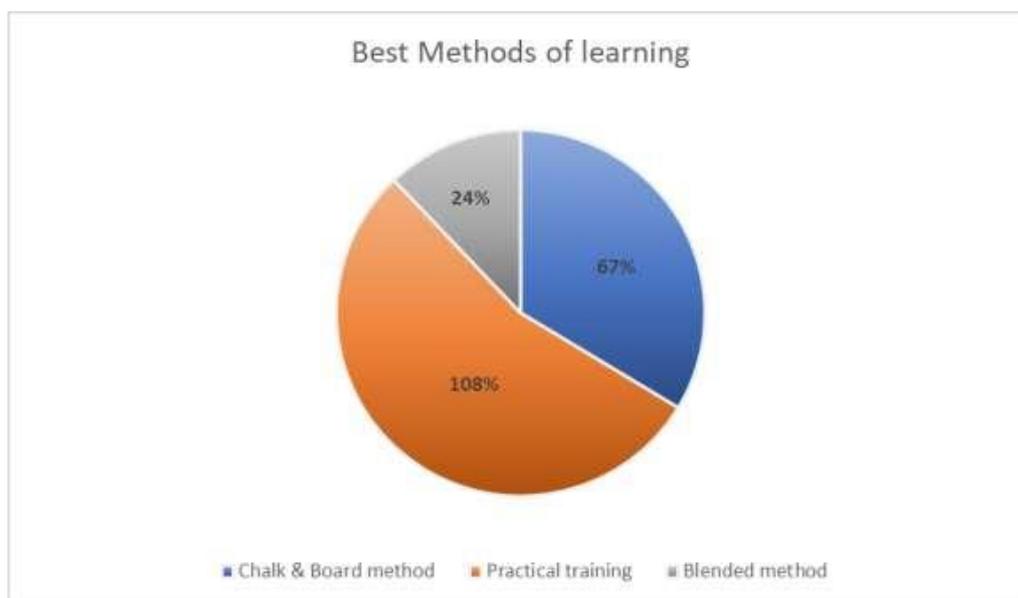
1. What type of learning do you enjoy?



Data analysis: Most response were concentrated in the favor of offline learning whereas 12% students would like online learning process.

Data interpretation: We interpreted that students are fond of offline learning than online learning as that gives them a better understanding of the topic.

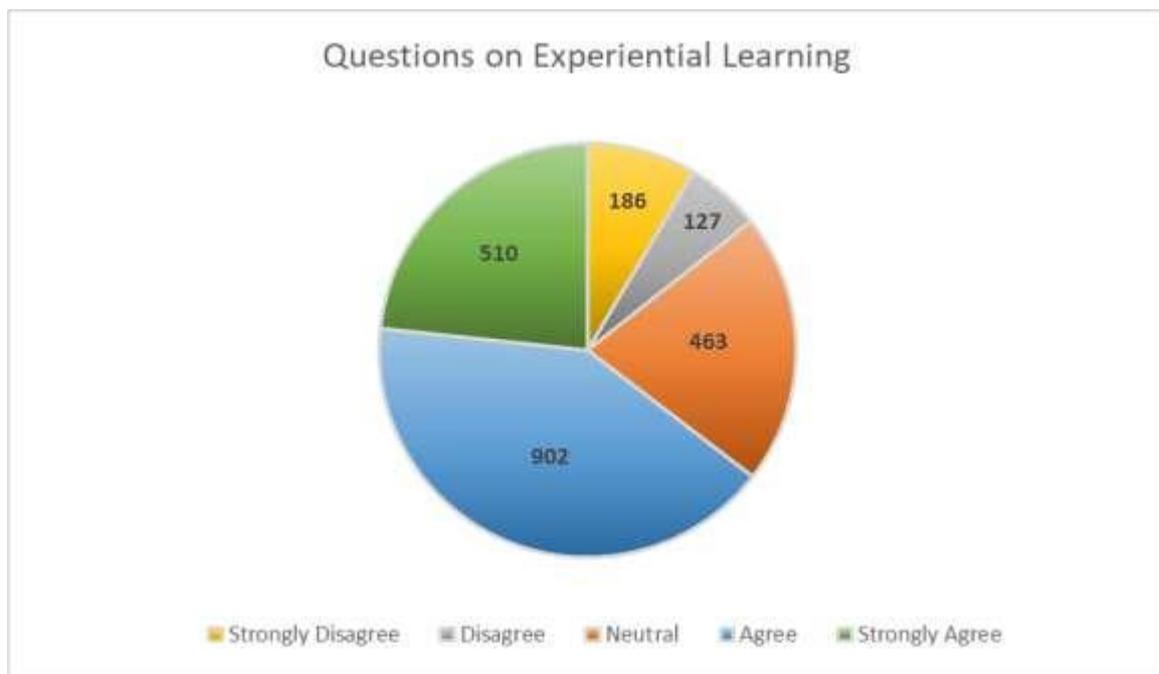
2. One of the best methods of learning is...



Data analysis: Practical learning has 108% responses which is highest among the remaining twomethods whereas chalk & board method and blended method had 67% & 24% respectively.

Data interpretation: So it means students are most interested to learn practically and we canalso say that we may use chalk and board methods as it will also help them to grasp the knowledge more effectively.

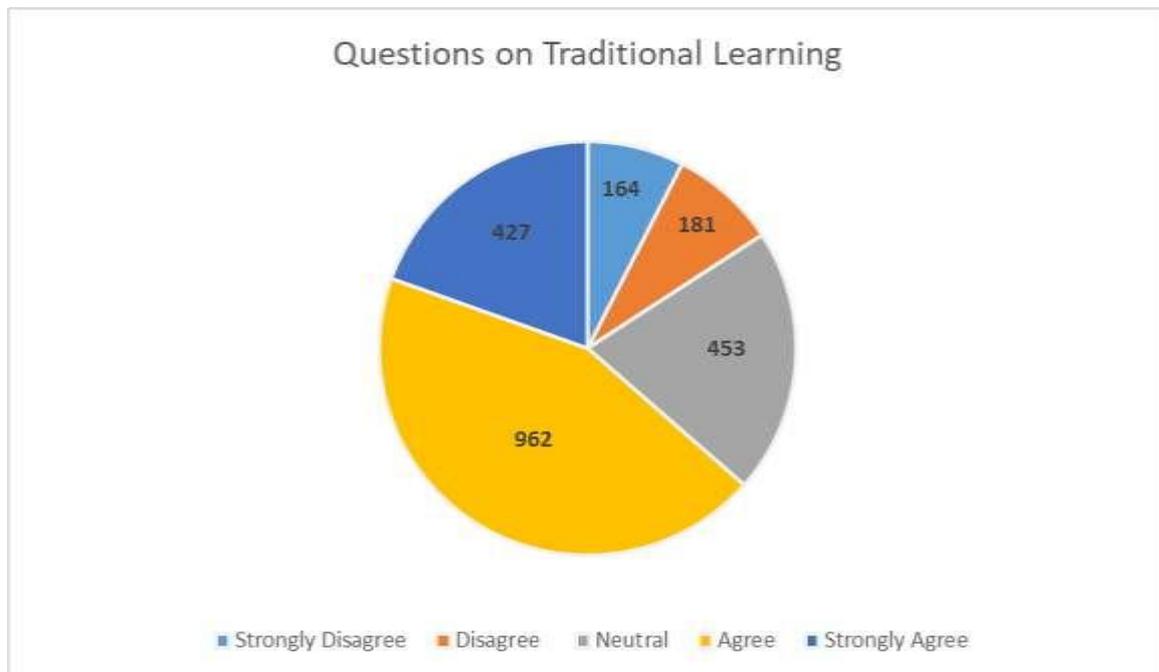
3. Questions on EL



Data analysis: The Questions like knowledge gained from sessions, by applying EL we can better correlate the knowledge, case studies, sessions inspired to study the topic, understandingof concepts, cycle of experiencing, reflecting, thinking and acting, confident to solve the problems, helped in organizing & planning approach, learning material provided gave us the responses of students agreeing for this learning.

Data interpretation: We can say that most students would like to use these EL method while some would go for other methods like TL.

4. Questions on TL



Data analysis: The Questions like knowledge gained from sessions, by applying TL we can better correlate the knowledge, case studies, sessions inspired to study the topic, understanding of concepts, cycle of experiencing, reflecting, thinking and acting, confident to solve the problems, helped in organizing & planning approach, learning material provided gave us the responses of students agreeing for this learning.

Data interpretation: We can say that mainly students would like to use these TL method while some would choose neutral both EL and TL (Blended method).

From Overall Analysis, we can interpret that EL can also be one of the effective way of learning as it will give us better understanding of the topic through practically carrying out field visit and experiencing by reflecting on it.

Conclusion:

From the Overall research work, we as a student who will use Experiential Learning as a teaching learning pedagogy should earn maximum credit points as Experiential learning is really giving us hands-on experience and making us confident to learn the subject theoretically as well as practically and also with study tools and field visits, by creating awareness campaign

we are helping in Government of India initiative not only that but we are building a strong nation by doing Experiential Learning activities with respect to Financial literacy Awareness and Digital Literacy Awareness.

Reflection is a main part of the experiential learning process. By thinking about concrete experiences with abstract concepts, and then reflecting on the outcome, students get involved in more and make true, personal connections. They analyze how their actions affected the outcome, and how their outcome may have varied from other students. This analysis helps them better understand how the concepts learned can be applied to others, in different circumstances.

And lastly, it will help us to carry out some activities which will increase our knowledge easily.

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IMPLICATIONS OF ECONOMIC SANCTIONS ON THE ECONOMY

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Abstract:

Economic sanctions are frequently regarded as an acceptable, non-violent alternative to war and its usage has been increasing ever since the end of World War II. This paper aims to discern the effects of Economic Sanctions on food and health indices of the target nations. To determine this, a macro analysis of Cuba and Haiti, using Secondary data from various sources, with respect to these variables has been conducted. The results find that both direct or indirect Economic Sanctions on food, have a profound impact on the food and health of nations, although varying in degree. The results thus display that sanctions should be used only if other less coercive measures have been tried, and if it is sure to make a difference. Provision of humanitarian aid is important, and efforts must be made to minimize and to monitor the consequences of sanctions.

Introduction:

According to Galtung (1967), economic sanctions can be defined in this manner: “We shall define sanctions as actions initiated by one or more international actors (the ‘senders’) against one or more others (the ‘receivers’) with either or both of two purposes: to punish the receivers by depriving them of some value and / or to make the receivers comply with certain norms the senders deem important.”

Economic sanctions have become an increasingly common tool of diplomacy since the end of the Cold War (Cortright et al., 1998). Aidt et al. (2021) count more than 1,400 incidents of states being threatened with or targeted by sanctions since the end of World War II. Rather

than using traditional military tactics, conflicts are now frequently resolved through economic means.

Economic sanctions have been used in a number of recent international affairs scenarios, for instance in countries like Iraq, Iran, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Cuba, Yemen, Haiti.

Economic sanctions have a wide range of effects on the people living in the affected nations. One among the many is by restricting the provision of adequate nutrients, which then harms the health of people. The 1996 World Food Summit defines food security as “When all people, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient safe and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life.” Sanctions lead to a sharp rise in the price of basic products thus reducing food imports which cause undernutrition and calorie shortages, which increase the susceptibility of children and high risk individuals to infectious diseases. This affects the food security of the country negatively.

Scope of Research:

This study focuses on the effect of Economic Sanctions on the food supply and health of individuals of the target country. This research is concentrating on Cuba and Haiti to understand the long-lasting impacts, with regards to food supply and health of individuals, of direct and indirect Economic Sanctions.

Aim / Objective of Research:

This study aims to understand how food and health are impacted by different Economic Sanction regimes. The objectives of this paper are:

1. To understand how different Sanctions affects the food supply of a country by analyzing the implications of the Economic Sanctions of Cuba and Haiti.
2. To discern the effect of Sanctions on the health of the people living in the target countries by analyzing the consequences of Economic Sanctions of Cuba and Haiti.

Research Methodology:

The effects of sanctions have been examined with respect to these variables: health statistics, food security, food prices. This was done by applying macro analysis to show the effects of sanctions. To determine the impact of economic sanctions on food and health in different parts of the globe Secondary Research method was used. The data used in this macro analysis is from the World Bank, United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), World Health Organization's (WHO), Food and Agriculture Organizations (FAO), United States Census Bureau, American Association for World Health Report, United Nations Development Program (UNDP), US Agency for International Development (USAID) and other prominent reports and research papers.

Data Interpretation / Analysis:

Cuba:

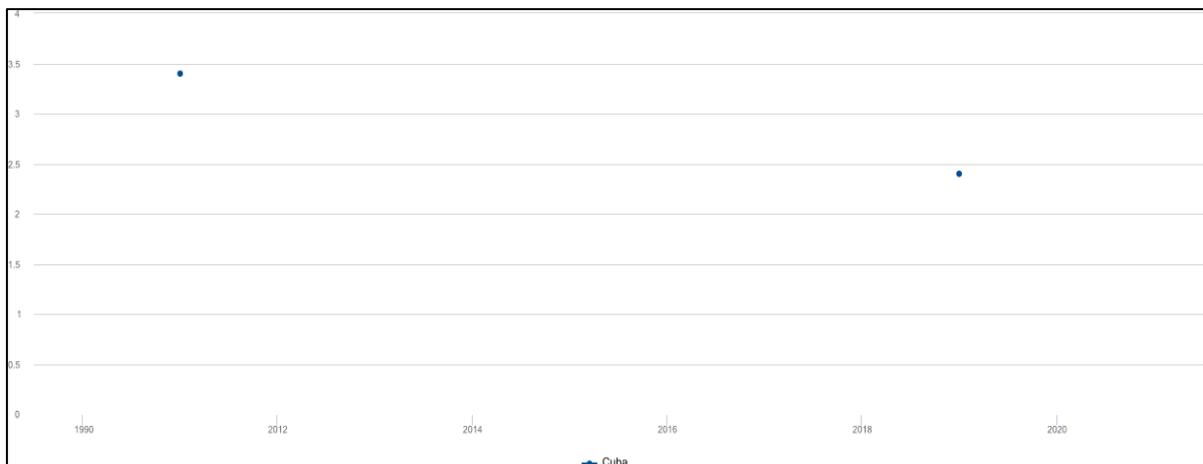
The United States put forth an embargo on Cuba in 1961 whose detrimental impact on the Cuban economy was deterred by the Soviet Union countries subsidised trade and provision of aid. 85 percent of Cuban trade was not affected by this embargo. Following the collapse of East-bloc commerce in 1989, the embargo's effects became more pronounced and Cuba started buying more goods from American businesses abroad. Cuba was forced to continue relying on imports further as the 1990s economic crisis had a negative impact on its meat, dairy products and harvests. The American Association for World Health (AAWH) found that by 1990, grain, wheat, and other consumer goods accounted for 71 percent of Cuba's imports from the United States. By 1992, 89% of all imports to Cuba were from US Foreign Subsidiaries. The Cuban Democracy Act (CDA) 1992 worsened the circumstances by banning trade with Cuba from foreign branches of United States companies. This act reflects one of the few sanctions worldwide that explicitly includes food and further defines trading restrictions that block access to medical supplies (Barry, 2000). The embargo's explicit ban faced no licensing provision even though it directly violated international human rights conventions. According to the AAWH, the Cuban Democracy Act (CDA) compelled suppliers to withdraw contracts for the purchase of items like baby food and \$100 million worth of wheat, soy, beans, peas, and lentils. The embargo prohibited vessels docking, if they have been in Cuba during the previous six

months, from docking in United States ports, deterred shippers and caused long delays in the imports and substantial upsurge in cost. The AAWH report stated that by 1993 Cuba was overpaying for shipment by as much as 43%. In fact, at the worst of the recession, high fuel prices contributed to a number of food industry closures.

The AAWH report further explained that without the trade barrier Cuba would be able to buy grain from United States suppliers and get it from United States ports at around \$13 per ton but the embargo compelled them to buy wheat at an expensive rate of \$25-28 per ton, from European countries. Also, crop yields and productivity were severely harmed by the embargo's ban on the export of fertilisers, insecticides, animal forage, and gasoline. For instance, Bayer AG of Germany stopped selling the pesticide Sencor in September 1992 after the production of the pesticide's active ingredient moved to Kansas City. They requested a U.S. licence for continuing export, but was categorically rejected. Eventually, Cuba switched from Sencor to a more expensive insecticide for potatoes which put off the planting of the main crop. Reduced imports and a shift toward lower quality protein products are significant health threats: a daily glass of milk used to be provided to all children in schools and day care centres through age 13; it was subsequently provided only up to age six (Garfield, 1999). The process for getting permits for agricultural product exports to Cuba sped up since the declaration of the 2000 Trade Sanctions Reform and Export Enhancement Act (TSRA) which permitted US firms to engage in trade of food and agricultural commodities to Cuba and other countries. The TSRA helped US exports to Cuba rise and data from the US Census Bureau shows that total US exports to Cuba grew from US\$ 7.2 million to US\$ 711 million between 2001 and 2008. This had a substantial influence on food imports and the country's food supply.

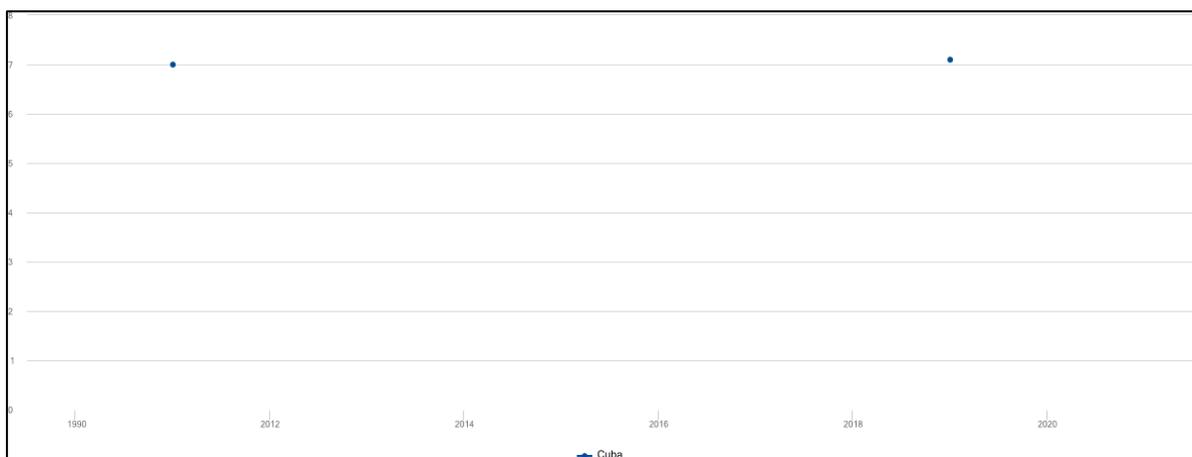
UNICEF reported that, regardless of the improvement in the food imports and supply, Cuba could not import nourishing commodities for children and for utilisation in schools and hospitals. This had a negative impact on the health and nutritional status of the population and is thought to play a role in the rampant spread of iron deficiency anaemia. The government started a food rationing programme, kept a sizable budget each year to subsidise food ration which significantly reduced the detrimental effects of sanctions on nutrition. Figure 1 shows Prevalence of Underweight, weight for age in percentages of children under 5, in Cuba. Figure 2 shows Prevalence of Stunting, height for age in percentages of children under 5, in Cuba. In 1994, the prevalence of undernourishment in Cuba was roughly 22% of the population; however, with improved government performance, it is presently at 3% of the population.

Figure 1: Prevalence of Underweight, weight for age (% of children under 5) in Cuba.



Source: World Development Indicators

Figure 2: Prevalence of Stunting, height for age (% of children under 5.) in Cuba.



Source: World Development Indicators

Haiti:

A coup expelled Jean-Bertrand Aristide, president of Haiti in September 1991, which led to economic sanctions being enforced by the Organization of American States (OAS) in October 1991. Initial sanctions forbade international assistance to the de facto administration and froze Haitian government assets in the US. The UN enacted a resolution on November 24, 1992, asking members to impose a trade embargo; however, it did not implement a global oil

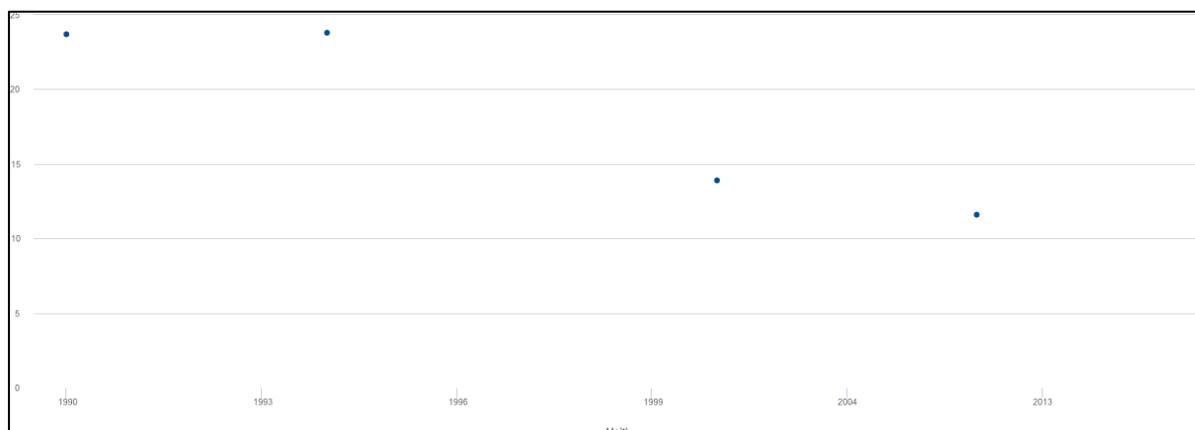
and armaments embargo, ban of the majority of imports and exports, restriction of commercial flights, embargo until June 23, 1993. The ban made exceptions only for narrowly defined humanitarian aid, including some food. In Haiti, the cost of essential commodities rose by five times, through the years 1991 to 1993, unemployment rate soared, and the export of mangoes, which was an important source of livelihood for the poor, stopped. The value of the national currency plummeted and hyperinflation occurred, making an average monthly salary equivalent to the market price of eighteen eggs (Garfield, 1999). In this already poor nation damage to nutrition, education, and child-rearing practices took place. Thousands of employment in its industries were lost as a result of the export prohibition. Harvard School of Public Health, Sanctions in Haiti: Crisis in Humanitarian Action paper found that Haiti's GDP decreased by 5.2 percent in 1991 and 10 percent in 1992. The Harvard study also reported that "the human toll from the silent tragedy of humanitarian neglect has been far greater than either the violence or human rights abuses." The study found that over 4000 children under the age of five died in Haiti each month on average. According to the report, there may have been 100,000 additional cases of moderate to severe malnutrition as a consequence of the embargo. The study's conclusions were based on 'The Save the Children' project which was frequently referenced by the Harvard researchers.

The typical calorie intake was between 80% and 90% of the recommended amounts before the coup. According to a monitoring study from the US Agency for International Development (USAID), the cost of infant formula grew by 283% in markets between November 1991 and September 1994. In 1993, data from 42 healthcare facilities nationwide revealed that 18% of clinic visitors under the age of five were either moderately or severely malnourished. By September 1994, the percentage in the same facilities increased to 24%, and in regions outside of the capital it had become as bad as Port-au-Prince. The healthcare organisations that provided the data were NGOs who were participants in a USAID Child Survival program.

When sanctions are implemented, child nutrition suffers the most in the nations that are most dependent on imports. Pregnant and nursing mothers, kids under five, people with chronic illnesses, and the elderly are the ones who are most impacted. According to a demographic and health survey conducted in 1994–1995, with funding from USAID, it was found that between 1987 and 1994, the mortality rate for children between the ages of one and four increased from 56/1000 to 61/1000. UNDP Human Development Report 1996 shows that during the crisis,

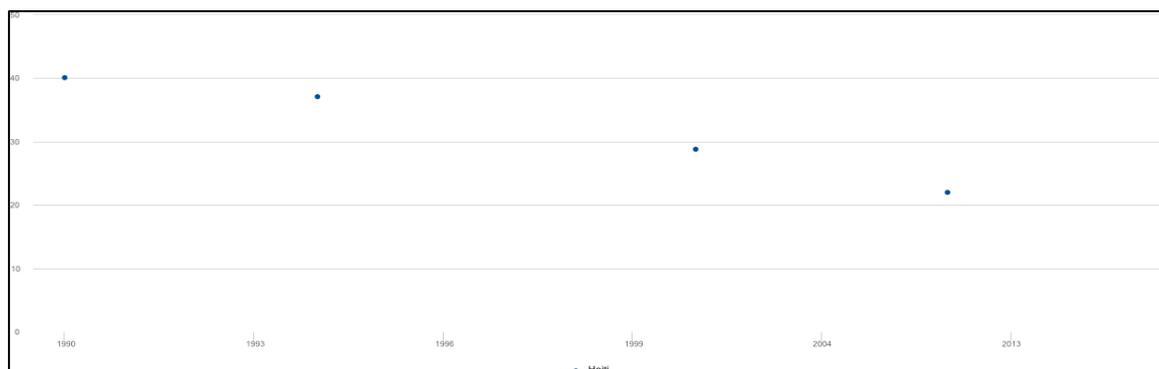
Haitians' average longevity fell by 2.4 years, reaching 54.4 in 1994. The aforementioned survey also discovered that 7.8% of children under the age of 5 endured acute malnutrition, up from 3.4% in the 1990 national demographic and health survey. According to the 1994 survey, 21% of rural women in Haiti had protein-energy malnutrition, compared to 18% of all women. Estimated rates of low birth weight were stated to have increased from 10% to 15% of newborns. Figure 3 shows Prevalence of Underweight, weight for age in percentages of children under 5, in Haiti. Figure 4 shows Prevalence of Stunting, height for age in percentages of children under 5, in Haiti. One reason proposed for this by studies is that women's time in this period was used in other activities which may have affected the nutritional health of the family. Although humanitarian exemptions included medicines, vaccines, the scarce delayed shipping, a result of the embargo, affected the accessibility and utilisation of immunisation program stocks. With regards to Haiti, both the Haitian people and the international community did not foresee that sanctions would undermine democracy for years after the embargo ended by lowering economic activity, restricting access to both health and education, reducing the middle class to penury, reducing child care, and made national institutions fragile.

Figure 3: Prevalence of Underweight, weight for age (% of children under 5) in Haiti.



Source: World Development Indicators

Figure 4: Prevalence of Stunting, height for age (% of children under 5.) in Haiti.



Source: World Development Indicators

From the above two country’s case studies, we can understand that Economic sanctions have a detrimental impact on food security and health indices of the population of the receiver country. While in the embargo of goods to Cuba the export of food and agriculture related products were explicitly banned, this was not the case for Haiti. The secondary impacts of the sanctions on banking, shipping, and insurance have an impact on the import of food and medicine, even though regulations and sending countries typically exempt these items from penalties to reduce the impact on people. For instance, exporters are deterred from shipping to the target country by the growing use of financial sanctions since they have trouble getting paid as a result of the restrictions on money transactions and further restrictions on shipping insurance. Furthermore, it takes a lot of time and effort to provide the licence necessary for exporting to the target country. Additionally, these two nations' experiences display that in their quest to promote human rights the U.S., OAS, U.N., all inadvertently caused a detrimental impact to the targeted nations children's rights to health and education.

Conclusion:

The health of the individuals of a nation plays a crucial role in the growth of a country's economy. Even though economic sanctions have been used to pressure governments into changing their policies, they severely shock the economy and have a notable negative impact on the health of the populace in sanctioned nations and, consequently, the economic growth and development of said nations. The most severe effects of food and medicine shortages are frequently felt by the most vulnerable and powerless individuals which are typically the socio economically weaker section of the civilian populations.

Through this study it is clear that through sanctions, the international community, whether intentionally or unintentionally, adds to chronic human rights violations. By employing the use of macro analysis this study finds that economic sanctions have a detrimental effect on the population's health and food security indicators in the target nation. While the shipping of agricultural and related goods to Cuba was officially prohibited by the embargo, this was not the case for Haiti. The results show that although the degree of impact varies, both direct and indirect sanctions have detrimental impacts on food and health.

It has been demonstrated that food shortages and the weaker public health infrastructure brought on by embargoes notably harm women and children under the age of five. As Lincoln C. Chen, director of the Harvard Center for Population and Development Studies, said: "Food and medicines are exempted from embargoes, so everyone assumes that everything will be all right, but what we have found is that even when they are not legally impeded, these kinds of things are practically impeded." Economic sanctions typically have profound and unanticipated consequences on the nutrition and well-being of vulnerable populations in sanctioned countries. Consequently, one can understand that Economic Sanctions cause non negligible damages in many aspects. Ergo, it is important that sanctions be used only if other less coercive measures have been tried and if it is sure to make a difference. It is also important to provide humanitarian aid, and measures should be undertaken to diminish and to track the repercussions of sanctions.

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SCHOOL BAG WEIGHT - POST PANDEMIC ISSUES AND COMING NEP - 2020

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Abstract:

The school bag policy 2020 as formulated by an experts committee composed of members from National Council of Education and Training (NCERT) and Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has been finalized by the expert committee and released by (NCERT). According to this committee, the weight of the students' bags for class 1st to 9th should be 10% of their weight. According to this policy the problem has been arisen of overweight students and underweight students. So, researchers are trying to give the best solutions on how to minimize the weight of the bags of the students. Students of std.6th and 7th are observed and will be given a solution for.

Keywords: School bag, Children, Weight, School bag weight

Introduction:

Nowadays, children become more important than their family education. Education is an important part of every child's life. And that's why being a student they carry a heavy load of their bags. This heavy load is caused by the fact that the children bring textbooks, guides, homework notebooks etc, to class room every day. But the school bag for primary classes weighs between 2-3 kgs which is more than the permissible weight. And it's generally said that children should not carry more than 10% of their body weight.

Literature review:

Today, the problem of school bags weight is an issue faced by almost all the children enrolled in many schools or educational institutions. However, there are a number of researches done on this topic to reduce the weights of school bags, yet the problem has not come to an end by getting a satisfactory solution. Researchers have found that the excessive bag weights causes severe back pain (when heavy bags are taken to school for a long period of time), tiredness, discomfort in children. Most researches says that ideally the bag weight should be 10% of the students' weight. Since ,it does not give a proper number for how much should be bags' weight but gives a percent which varies or fluctuates with the students weight, it is not helpful to come to an acceptable solution or conclusion to the problem. There are other solutions such as ergo bags, educating students on right way to use bags but it does not help much.

Methodology:

Research Universe	Schools in thane
Sampling Technique	Purposive Sampling
Sample Size	20
Data Collection Method	Primary Data From 6th & 7th standard 20 Students of 20 school in Thane

Objectives:

- To check the weights of school bags of standard 6th and 7th.
- To compare school bag weight with respect to NEP-2020 guidelines.
- To give a solution against the overweight of school bags.

Analysis:

Research Question:-

1. What is the height of the student?
2. What is the weight of the student?

3. In which standard he was currently studying?
4. In which school he is currently studying?
5. How many periods/lectures are conducted in a day?

Findings:

Sr. No.	Student Name	School Name	Height	Weight	Bag Weight	Category of Weight of student
1	Devdatta Bhome	A K Joshi	1.5m	43 kg	5kg	Obese
2	Anish Barve	Hari omprimary School	1.3m	41 kg	6.75 kg	Obese
3	Mohak Kamble	DAV	1.3m	28.6 kg	5kg	NormalWeight
4	Kunal Joshi	SINGHANIA	1.2m	32kg	6.5kg	Overweight
5	Devshree Mulik	SARASWATI	1.3m	39kg	5.2kg	Obese
6	Suvarna chavan	ST. LAWRENCE	1m	42kg	5kg	Obese
7	Avinash Thorat	LITTLE FLOWER	1.6m	29kg	6kg	Underweight
8	Prasad Shinde	SREE MA	1.4m	35kg	5kg	Overweight
9	Sonam Bhise	DON BOSCO	1.5m	42kg	6kg	Overweight
10	Swara Naik	DAV	1.2m	36kg	5kg	Obese
11	Aaditya Bhosle	SHREE MA	1.6m	41kg	4.5kg	Overweight
12	Mitali Moghe	SARASWATI	1.4m	34kg	6kg	NormalWeight
13	Bhavana Gavli	LITTLE FLOWER	1.5m	30kg	5kg	NormalWeight
14	Chaitanya Saste	DON BOSCO	1.9m	45kg	4.5kg	NormalWeight
15	Mayur Chitale	A K JOSHI	2.0m	38kg	6kg	NormalWeight
16	Monika singh	ST LAWRENCE	1.9m	35kg	5kg	Underweight
17	Vidya Desai	SINGHANIA	1.5m	44kg	4.5kg	Overweight
18	Maheshwari Limaye	SBJ School	1.3m	42kg	5kg	Obese

19	Kadau Mane	Sanket Vidyalaya	1.2m	34kg	6kg	Overweight
20	Nayan Gaikwad	Gurukul primary school	1.8m	41kg	4.5kg	NormalWeight

Limitation and Future Scope:

This study follows an earlier baseline study on convenience and therefore had a limited choice of sample.

Conclusion:

This study of interventions for mitigating a rather disturbing proportion of heavy school bags in rural schools shows that awareness measures with teachers and students helped to reduce the problem at least halfway. However, for the complete elimination of the problem more efforts are necessary at school management level to follow (a) uniform upper limits for each standard and (b) cap the daily subject list from above six to four.

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THE POPPY BOOM AND THE GOLDEN TRIANGLE

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Abstract:

Opium was initially used in China as a medicine, but due to its calming properties, it quickly evolved into a narcotic. Opium and tobacco were once used to combat malaria, but ultimately smokers began eliminating the tobacco from the concoction. This marked the debut of opium as a smoked substance. It quickly spread to the nearby regions. Thailand made measures to reduce opium use, but a much more powerful institution—the British East India Company—was pressing Thailand to allow drug use by hunting for new export markets to sell opium from its Indian colonies. The golden triangle saw the beginning of opium cultivation to meet the demands of addicts. After Afghanistan, Myanmar was the second-largest producer in the world in 1990.

Thailand, Laos, and Burma's optimum environment offered the best conditions for growing cultivation and allowed export to China's larger market. Opium had been discovered to be a stimulant; it was a luxury for the affluent and the poor utilized the same, less expensive, diluted form to get away from their woes. Opium cultivation benefited people since it increased their revenue significantly and allowed them to concentrate on a variety of other sources of income or even plant, more food crops. However, once the use of opium was outlawed, families that were unable to find adequate alternatives continued to suffer. Opium usage in families got so widespread that it not only became common amongst college students and truck drivers but also inspired serious crimes.

Keywords: Opium, golden triangle,

Introduction:

The cultivation of opium has long been linked to Southeast Asia's Golden Triangle, where the borders of Thailand, Laos, and Burma intersect. Local residents used small amounts of raw opium, while heroin, its derivative, was transported to markets in Southeast Asia, Australia, North America, and Europe. More than 2000 tonnes of raw opium were harvested yearly in the 1990s. Given that one kilogramme of heroin requires ten kilos of raw opium in addition to various precursor chemicals, there was more than enough heroin available to satisfy the needs of all addicts worldwide.

But what happened when, in recent years, international drug organizations started to make substantial announcements about their efforts to stop the production of opium in the Golden Triangle's Burmese sector, where the majority of the region's poppy plants have historically been grown? Hardly. The output is just back to where it was before the 1990s opium boom in terms of the amounts being harvested.

Scope of Research:

The study covers the different countries in the golden triangle ranging from the number of people addicted to opium, opium production, opium abuse, impacts of opium on the common people, on the economy, and the aftermath of opium ban.

Objectives of the Study:

The objective of the study is to examine how opium production in the Golden Triangle changed from a therapeutic plant to a recreational drug, as well as what factors ultimately led to its use as a narcotic despite early restrictions that prevented people from using the substance. Which institution truly thrust the usage of opium in those areas? We will also be examining in the second half on how opium influenced the economy and homes- leaving a positive or a negative impact, as well as how households were hit when it was outlawed.

Methodology Used:

Secondary data- The study has been based on secondary data and collected from articles, factsheets, journals.

Origin of Opium:

Sometime in the Neolithic Age, the opium poppy, or *Papaver somniferum*, was found growing wild in the mountains around the eastern Mediterranean. Hundreds of years before the Christian era, medical records from antiquity reveal that raw opium, scraped off the poppy pods, was highly esteemed by early physicians. In ancient Greece, Hippocrates was aware of it; throughout the Roman Empire, Galen, a brilliant physician, was also aware of it. Opium originated in what is now Afyon in Turkey, and from there it moved east to India and China as well as west to the Balkan Peninsula.

Contrary to common opinion, opium has not always been prohibited to sell and use, nor has it always been a significant revenue crop in the Golden Triangle. All of Southeast Asia's nations had opium monopolies under government control before World War Two, just like tobacco monopolies do now. Opium smuggling and unlicensed trading were both prohibited. The majority of local addicts were of Chinese ethnicity, who had immigrated to Southeast Asia's urban centers in the 19th and early 20th centuries, bringing with them the practice of smoking opium from their former homes in China.

Opium was first used as a drug in China more than thousand years ago. But because of its sedative properties, it swiftly changed into a recreational drug, and some users began smoking it rather than eating it. The Spanish brought their tobacco-smoking habit from South America to their colony in East Asia, the Philippines. From then, smoking spread to China in the first half of the 17th century. The Dutch in Formosa (modern-day Taiwan) had learned to smoke a mixture of opium and tobacco to combat the ravages of malaria; some Chinese had also picked up this habit.

Thailand (formerly Siam) had really made attempts to put an end to the practice in the beginning. King Loetlahnaphalai (Rama II) had issued Siam's first official prohibition on the sale and use of opium in 1811. King Nangklao (Rama III) reaffirmed the ban and instituted the death sentence for significant opium smugglers in 1839. But these initiatives were bound to fail. The British East India Company, which had begun substantial production in its Indian colonies and was eager for new export markets in the region, was pressuring Siam to accept the substance. Although ethnic Chinese drug dealers could be captured and prosecuted, a far more

powerful institution was pressuring Siam to adopt the substance.

Opium Production

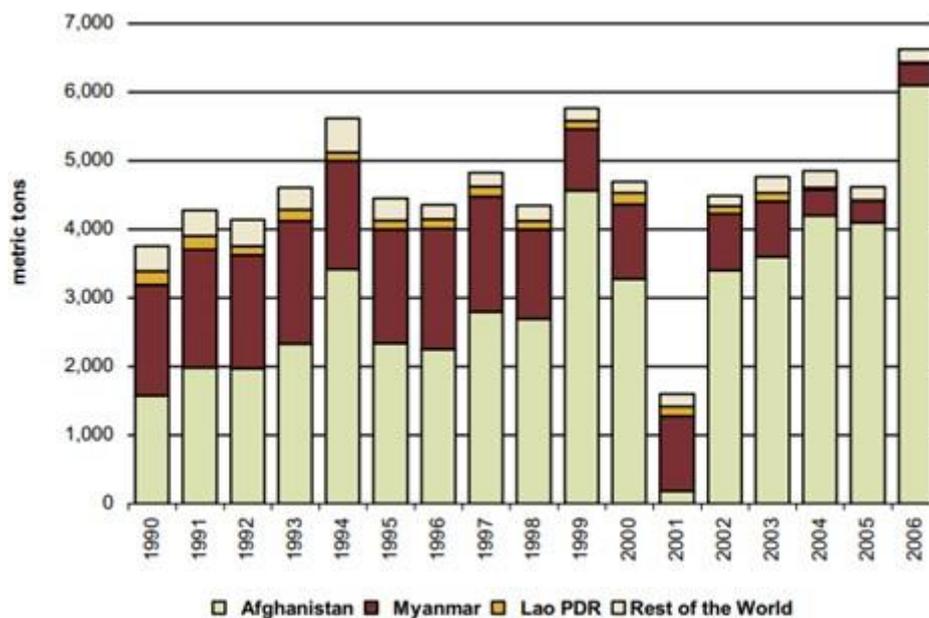


Figure 1- Global opium production (metric tons), 1990 - 2006*

Myanmar continues to be the world's second-largest producer of opium poppies behind Afghanistan, despite years of declines. Its proportion of opium poppy cultivation worldwide, nevertheless, decreased from 63% in 1998 to only 11% in 2006. This significant proportionate drop resulted from a decline in opium poppy growing in Myanmar combined with a significant increase in Afghanistan. Laos, which still cultivated 11% of the world's opium in 1998, currently only contributes approximately 1%. It is obvious that the Golden Triangle is no longer the main area for opium poppy cultivation. Its percentage of opium production worldwide decreased from 66% in 1998 to barely 12% in 2006.

Opium cultivation has been made possible by the golden triangle. The perfect climate and soil conditions exist for the growth of opium. There is also a ready market for opium derivatives as well as a plentiful and affordable supply of labour. During the 16th and 17th centuries, opium was transported to Burma from the Near East, and many of the mountain tribes in Burma began to produce and consume it in modest amounts. The production of a cash crop from opium growing allowed the Burmese farmers to enhance their earnings. After the opium is harvested, rice and maize crops can be sown, although the opium-growing season lasts from

September to March. The farmer may now cultivate both food and cash crops in the same space thanks to this.

Although opium cultivation was mostly for local consumption, the market developed as urban Chinese neighbourhoods with addict populations grew. The biggest draw was China, with its thronging millions of inhabitants. It appeared that there would be a sizable market for the goods produced by the expanding British Empire, and China could offer things that were gaining popularity in Europe itself, particularly tea. However, Britain had significant issues in its trading dealings with China. The British initially had little to offer that the Chinese were interested in. In actuality, only silver from Britain and British India piqued the curiosity of the Chinese. By the end of the 18th century, 90% of the cargo on every British ship sailing from India to Guangzhou (Canton) was silver bullion.

In this context, it should be emphasised that in the 17th century, European countries brought opium to China, and that the movement of Chinese labourers to South-East Asia fueled the rise of the opium addiction in Burma and Thailand. Opium has developed into a well-liked cash crop in the Golden Triangle Area by the 20th century. In order to connect the growers with the expanding metropolitan markets, traders and brokers sprang up on the scene.

Opium as a Medicine:

Thomas Sydenham, the celebrated “father of English medicine,” once said: “Among the remedies which the Almighty God has pleased to give to man to relieve his sufferings, none is so universal and so efficacious as opium”. Because of its morphine and heroin contributions, the former being the gold standard of analgesics and the latter being an infamous and lethal recreational drug, opium is both a blessing and a scourge to modern humans. Since opium was first used as early as 4200 B.C., its historical impact goes well beyond China's well-known opium wars in the 19th century (Rudgley 1999). Opium and its legacy, despite the stigma attached to it, have provided mankind with centuries of worldwide medical advancement.

Homer wrote about the negative effects of opium use in the Iliad and the Odyssey, two Greek mythological works that date to the ninth century BCE. He advised soldiers to avoid eating beverages that contain poppy extract since they make people forgetful and insensitive to

pain. It is clear that people believed in the alleged holistic and therapeutic properties of the opium poppy plant throughout history.

More than a thousand years ago, opium was initially used as a medication in China. However, because of its sedative effects on the user, it quickly evolved into what is now referred to as a "recreational drug," and some users started smoking it instead of eating it. The Spaniards carried their tobacco-smoking habit to their colony in the Philippines in East Asia after picking it up in South America. In the first half of the 17th century, smoking spread from there to China. To fight the ravages of malaria, the Dutch in Formosa (today's Taiwan) had learnt to smoke a combination of opium and tobacco; some Chinese had also picked up this practice. Some of the smokers gradually started to remove the tobacco from the mixture. Opium had been found to be a stimulant. But there were many other justifications for smoking. It was largely a luxury for the wealthy, who utilized it similarly to how they currently snort cocaine at upscale parties or use ecstasy before going to discos. The same way that heroin combined with glucose or yaa baa does in Klong Toey or other slums now, cheaper, diluted versions of opium formerly let the impoverished escape from their everyday sufferings.

Opium and the Household:

Opium poppy cultivation is a labour-intensive, high-risk crop, and several homes like the fact that they now have more time to concentrate on more dependable livelihood activities such as rearing small animals, doing handicrafts, and farming other crops. Opium prohibition, on the other hand, has caused severe cash difficulties, food shortages, and rising debt for many individuals. Farmers in Wa's Naung Khit Township, for example, frequently say that their families are now unable to buy essential household necessities such as cooking oil, salt, and clothes. About half of the stores in the Naung Khit town market have lately closed owing to a lack of clients, indicating the widespread dearth of cash in the northern Wa region.

An opium poppy producing household's average yearly cash income was calculated to be US\$437. In contrast to prior years, the average yearly income of households not engaged in the cultivation of opium poppies was projected to be US\$318. Due to increased yields this year, fewer families (-34%) than in 2005 produced the same quantity of opium (315 mt), but at a significantly higher price (+23%). As a result, fewer families received a larger share of the

overall value of the nation's opium output, which climbed significantly (+25%). The average family income in opium poppy-growing villages was especially high as a result of this concentration; it rose by 50% from the previous year. The results of the 2006 study show that households in villages that never produced opium poppy had average incomes that are greater than families in communities that stopped growing opium poppy. The results also demonstrate that households in communities who stopped growing opium poppies were unable to find a suitable replacement for the lost opium revenue. They just become poorer, and they will require help to deal with this challenging scenario.

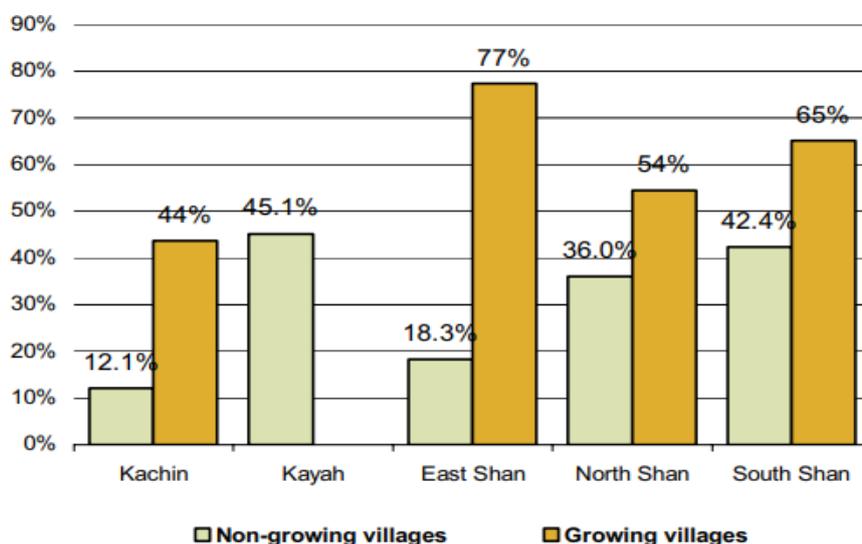


Figure 2 - Percentage of households practicing shifting cultivation

Fields are typically farmed for two years before becoming fallow. There was no discernible difference between communities that grew opium poppy and those who did not.

The average period of agriculture was determined to be 1.4 years in Kachin villages and 2.4 years in South Shan State.

Other coping strategies adopted in Laos and Myanmar were:

1. The majority of households increased their upland rice and/or corn farming land, but not all of them were able to attain food security.
2. Gathering non-timber forest products was one of the most popular coping mechanisms, however the amount of money earned varies. While some towns had been able to raise

their revenue, others had not.

3. Livestock sales: This tactic was particularly crucial in Laos, but to a lesser extent in the Wa area of Myanmar.
4. Increased employment as an unskilled daily wage labourer: In Wa (Myanmar), where it is the primary yearly source of income for certain households, wage labour was becoming more essential as a source of income, but less so in Laos.
5. Agricultural diversification became effective when certain factors were met, such as having access to markets, transportation, finance, resources, and technology, as well as land.

However, many of these items were typically absent from homes in opium poppy districts. It was shown that opium poppy-producing communities had much less food security than opium poppy-free ones. Villages that have access to rice fields tend to grow less opium poppies since they can grow rice with great food security. In comparison to communities that do not cultivate opium, opium poppy-growing villages exhibit a much greater intensity of shifting agriculture, both in terms of the area of forest cleared and the length of fallow periods. The most typical coping mechanism used by farmers who have quit growing opium poppies is to increase their production of rice and maize and sell their cattle. In the areas where opium growing has been stopped, no migration has been noted.

Drug Abuse:

The people in Bangkok who saw it found it difficult to forget what they had seen. A young female student named Patcharaphant Jiravanich was being choked by Paitoon Puthiporn, a 29-year-old drug addict with blood flowing down his face. He had taken prisoner Patcharaphant, a 19-year-old, after cutting himself in a fit of wrath. The pupils of Paitoon's rolled-back eyes were hidden by his closed eyelids. He was going fast, but it was obvious he had no idea what he was doing. The young lady was standing still and her eyes were closed. Unsure of what to anticipate. Below the balcony where they were standing, a crowd had gathered. Then a police officer in plainclothes pretended to be a doctor and ascended a ladder resting on the balcony to engage Paitoon in conversation. The insane drug addict freed Patcharaphant inside the home, where police arrested him, much to the relief of the bystanders.

Thailand has a long history of drug usage; opium was formerly smoked in dens in Bangkok's Chinatown and more recently in hill tribe settlements in the northern highlands. Then, in the 1970s and 1980s, heroin—a far stronger opium derivative—became the drug of choice. The Golden Triangle's poppy fields provided raw opium, with Ema serving as the primary production hub. In addition, Burma was home to the labs where the opium was transformed into the white powder known as heroin. It was offered for sale at petrol stations, where truck drivers would take a pill to stay awake while traveling long distances. It was also used by college students to keep awake before examinations.

Conclusion:

We come to the conclusion that opium was introduced to China by European nations, and the influx of Chinese labourers into South-East Asia contributed to the emergence of opium addiction in Burma and Thailand. Opium gained popularity because farmers utilized it as a source of money and smokers used it to alleviate their pain. Although it had a direct influence on the economy and enhanced farmers' income, its excessive usage was encouraging criminal activity. Therefore, the effects of opium were favorable only temporarily; over the long run, they led to acute misery.

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USAGE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY IN THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

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Abstract:

The agro-industrial sector in developing countries such as India is faced with numerous hurdles like the lack of availability of capital, lack of proper irrigation facilities, and constant demand to increase productivity leading to excessive usage of fertilizers which eventually leads to the degradation of soil. This sector is influenced by global factors such as global warming and other fast changes. Such as supply from other nations leading to lowering of price, domestic price hike leading government to close down export market. Information Technology can be used to deal with these challenges by aiding production and marketing. However, the potential of Information Technology is not yet fully utilised by the sector. Our aim through this paper is to analyse how the use of Information technology can be utilised to improve the condition of the agricultural sector and what are the hurdles which act as barriers towards its furtherance. Our findings are based on an analysis of available literature that suggests that usage of IT can lead to effective, efficient usage of available resources.

Introduction:

Agriculture is the basis on which the human population has managed to survive and has achieved its growth through time. India is an agriculture dependant country and a majority of our population is depending on the sector for its livelihood. As per the Intensive Agriculture report, by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmer Welfare, Government of India, 60% of the rural population and 50% of the total population are dependent on Agriculture for their living. Besides these, the sector also contributes to the

development of many allied sectors like companies dealing with agriculture machinery, fertilizers, crop yield marketing, transportation and cold storage and many others. Agriculture contributes 18.8% to the Gross Value Added of the country, as per the Economic Survey 2021-22. The success of the sector is mainly influenced by soil fertility, climatic conditions, weather forecast, temperature, irrigation facilities, the salinity of soil and many other factors. Many of these factors are based on predominant natural factors which are prone to change due to changes in the atmosphere. Thus, leading to severe uncertainty when it comes to productivity. Big data Analysis and the use of tools based on information technology can greatly help in meeting these uncertainties. Therefore, a study of how information technology can be used to meet these uncertainties becomes extremely relevant.

Scope of Research:

The scope of this study will be open to understanding how the use of technology occurred in the sector to mitigate its problems like the green revolution, grey revolution, brown revolution, etc. in the country. It will also study the current challenges before the sector and how the use of information technology can contribute towards bridging the ends. This paper is aimed at delivering information about these aspects and informing the reader about their possible limitations. Lastly the paper, also highlights the suggestions from the authors, to bridge these limitations.

Objectives of Research:

The various objectives of research of this paper are:

- a. To understand how the use of modern technology has emerged in the agriculture sector.
- b. To understand the current challenges faced by the agricultural sector.
- c. To investigate how the use of information technology can be made to mitigate the risk involved and what are the adversaries along its path.

¹ <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1793829>)

² J. W. Jones, et al., “Toward a new generation of agricultural system data, models, and knowledge products: State of agricultural systems science,” *Agricultural Systems*, pp. 269-288, 2017

Usage of Technology in Agriculture and Allied Sectors in Past:

The Agricultural and all its allied sectors depend majorly on the availability of natural resources. Therefore, as the landscape changed, the method of farming, and types of crops, also changed. These changes come along to create a revolution. It brings along a series of discoveries, inventions, implementation of new technologies and creation of new policies aiding the sector. Given below are some of the revolutions which occurred in the sector in post-independent India.

1. **Green revolution:** Green revolution promoted the usage of advanced technology to increase crop productivity. Dr Norman Borlaug also called the father of the green revolution was an agronomist who developed genetically modified varieties of wheat which could resist pest-related diseases. Its main aim was to save the lives of people from starvation.
2. **Evergreen Revolution:** The revolution primarily focuses on the importance to increase productivity along the lines of minimising environmental harm. The term was coined by M.S. Swaminathan, who is accredited in developing genetically modified high-yield crops. These are seedlings which are made to expedite the growth process.
3. **White revolution:** This revolution was brought in by the initiatives of Dr Verghese Kurien. It focuses on creating a cooperative-based dairy operation in the country and making the country self-sufficient in milk productivity. The revolution ran along the government program: Operation Flood to support the initiative.
4. **Yellow revolution:** It brought major changes in the oilseed production in the country. Various initiatives like market intervention support policy, institutionalised support, etc. were brought in to support the oilseed farmers. Sunflower and mustard farming was promoted. Mr. Sam Pitroda is credited with the success of this revolution.
5. **Brown revolution:** Brown revolution dealt with the promotion of leather, cocoa, coffee beans and all other non-traditional products. It started in tribal areas in the eastern part of the country. As part of the initiative, tribal communities were educated and trained on how to cultivate these products. It also brought many socio-economic changes in the lives of people.
6. **Grey revolution:** Grey revolution deals with incentives given to fertiliser manufacturers. It was meant to overcome the negative impacts of the green revolution

by increasing land productivity and sustaining it to be utilised for the next harvest.

Challenges Before The Agriculture Sector:

○ Use Of Information Technology To Mitigate The Risk Involved And Its Limitations

Good Information a requirement to improve all areas of Agriculture. Timely and relevant information, to make decisions in the agricultural sector and allied sectors is very necessary to prepare for any economic outcome in advance. However, most commonly this relevant information is not readily available to the farmers. Information to be delivered needs to be available in a format which is convenient and easy to understand to make timely decisions for agricultural production improvement. With improved facilitation, detailed analysis of costs and sophisticated marketing strategies can be made, which will help farmers to make better decisions and greater profits.

The following information can help farmers improve agricultural production:

1. Information on crops- Information about their crops such as their categories of seeded crops, land size with specific crops, time of seed dropping, harvest time, yields etc. can be collected and transferred via the internet in the database server. This information can be analysed to create statistical reviews and tables that can be accessed by farmers through the internet with an ordinary web browser. This can help farmers make informed decisions and production plans based on the data.

Agricultural institutes conduct experiments and develop new and improved agricultural techniques. Information about these techniques and such stations for agriculture improvement can be collected and incorporated. This can be made easily accessible to farmers via the internet and other channels including in-person training by agriculture trainees.

³ Cecchini, S., Scott, C. (2003): Can Information and Communications Technology Applications Contribute to Poverty Reduction? Lessons from Rural India, Information Technology for Development, Vol. 10, Issue 2, pp.73-84.

Farmers can now access information on agricultural areas through the government helpline or Kisan Call Centres for any query as to crop yielding. Toll-free no. 1800 180 1551 or 1551 has been issued by the Government of India for the benefit of farmers.

2. Market information- To support farmers in gaining the best prices for their products, information on the market of various agricultural products should be created. The purpose of market information activities is to show a review of prices on various markets and to facilitate the reorientation of farmers' production to markets where better prices are expected. Farmers need overall reviews of food market information. The reviews present valuable information on some most important import and export markets. IT can provide forecast information on main agricultural products in subsequent years. Such information helps farmers and traders to make an informed decision as to when and how to sell their harvest.

○ **Data Analysis Through Big Data Analytical Tool:**

Big Data analysis refers to the process of collecting, organising, curating, analysing and modelling data to discover patterns and trends in them. These patterns help the user to forecast predictions and to derive decisions upon them. The Analysis involves the segregation and processing of data into information, storage of information, and presenting the information in a pictorial, diagram-based format.

On this day and age we have data on minute changes relating to the environment, climate and economy; this combined with computing power, it is easy to use the Big Data Analytical tools to help agricultural needs. Disasters like short rainfall or cloud burst, and floods could lead to crop failures thus leading to food insecurity for the nation. Big Data Analysis can give weather forecasts, and climate projections thus reducing the risk involved. The access to such tools can unlock access to a whole new range of possibilities in agriculture from increasing productivity to decreasing the risk involved. The usage of Information Technology, the Internet of things, sensors and cloud computing can aid the development of a newer generation of smart device.

○ **Limitations In The Implementation Of IT-Based Solutions:**

As per some researchers, the biggest limitation in the implementation of these solutions is the lack of reach of technological tools to receive these inferred data. These may include a lack of hardware tools like computing devices, accessory devices or lack of access to proper internet to receive these data. It must be kept in mind that the target audience lives in villages which often lack this basic infrastructure. Another point is that often these tools are either hard to access or hard to understand. Even if the said information is conveyed by information modules, thus modules are not hard to understand and lack flexibility and ease of asking questions which we get in personal conversation. Besides that, these pre-recorded modules are also susceptible to language barriers.⁶

Suggestions:

1. Bringing in small kiosks in each village through a public-private partnership. These kiosks will contain information bulletins and pre-recorded modules to help the farmers. The kiosks could contain static information and any update as to dynamic information can be remotely transferred to the device via either internet or a physical copy from Block town.⁷
2. Engage agriculture graduates to work as liaisons and instructors for the users. Their responsibility will be to train the users to operate the kiosks and bridge the language barrier and answer any point of information as to the module.
3. Private ed-tech companies should be encouraged to create modules for the kiosks. Besides that, private players can also step in to collect survey information for the government machinery. They can also help farmers in accessing government services and schemes.

⁵ Shivappa, Himesh. (2018). Digital revolution and Big Data: A new revolution in agriculture. CAB Reviews: Perspectives in Agriculture, Veterinary Science, Nutrition and Natural Resources. 13.

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⁶ Mittal, S.C. (2012): Role of Information Technology in Agriculture and its Scope in India.

⁷ Ibid.

4. Government should incentivise start-ups in the agriculture sector by providing cheap capital to these young entrepreneurs.

Conclusion:

Information technology in the agricultural sector can be used with a primary purpose of meeting basic food requirements of individuals. While India has made progress in the field of agriculture, she falls behind in the productivity of major agricultural and horticultural crops as compared to other nations. The usage of such technology falls quite short.

India's population is expected to reach 1.5 billion by 2025, therefore to feed them we will have to expedite our food production. This can only be done through an increase in productivity per hectare. Land is a scarce resource, therefore after a certain limit, it is impossible to increase the further stretch of land. Agriculture is the primary occupation of the countryside and is the biggest source of bread earning there. Therefore, special emphasis should be given to solving the problems of farmers. Start-ups relating to agriculture should be promoted.

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