

Factors Affecting Students' Academic Performance

A case study of District Dir Lower and Malakand Agency, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

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Abstract: In the present study, the factors affecting the students' academic performance is investigated. Students from various colleges were identified using cluster sampling technique. Total of 72 students are selected for data collection. Structure questionnaire was used to collect information from them. Table for obtained marks in higher secondary school certificate (HSSC) and secondary school certificate (SSC) were formatted. In order to assess the significant factors affecting on students' academic performance, multiple linear regression model was used. The result of the model showed that HSSC obtained marks, mother education, and teacher regularity were significant factors. It is recommended that female education ratio should be rise that they become educated mother. Also, effort should be made to prepare student well that they obtained higher marks in(SCC) examination. The teacher should ensure their presence in college. Because that lead to higher marks in future education.

Keywords: academic performance, multiple linear regression model, mother education, SSC marks, teacher regularity.

1. Introduction

Academic performance plays a key role in future success of students. Taking admission into post graduate program, access to job markets, financial aid and recruitment in universities as teaching assistant depend mostly on score of students in examination. Moreover, best quality graduates become great leaders and manpower for the nation thus leads the country's economic and social development (Olufemi et al., 2018).

The achievement of students depends on some factors which are identified in various studies. Getahun(2022) investigated factor affecting college student academic performance, some of which are; gender, age, family monthly income, study hours, stimulant use during the study, English language proficiency, teacher satisfaction, and field of study placement satisfaction. In another study, Nazir et al. (2022) carried out study on academic performance. Some of the influential variable in their study was mother education and father education of the students.

Daniyal et al.(2011) identified factors; family income, parent's education, size of family, motivation of parents, involvement in co-curricular activities, regularity of teacher and interest in subject, as

Factors Affecting Students' Academic Performance

influential for academic achievement. Hijazi et al. (2006) mentioned that study hours after college time, family income, mother education and age of mother, were important factor affecting the performance of students. AL-Mutairi(2010) described that student's performance was varying due to socio economic, psychological and environmental factor.

Little work has been done on the performance of students in colleges of Pakistan. I believe no study have been done in college students' performance in Dir Lower and Malakand Agency. Therefore, this study is conducted in this area to identify the factors. Which can be used to improve the college student's performance level.

3. METHODS AND MATERIALS

Population of this study was graduate college students both male and female of District Dir Lower and Malakand Agency. A structure questionnaire was formatted to collect the required information. Sample of 5 Government Degree colleges, 3 boys and 2 girl's colleges were selected through cluster sampling. Students from of BA/B.Sc part first in colleges were selected using random sampling. Data was presented by frequency distribution and graph. Multiple Linear regression model was used to test the effect of explanatory variable on response variable. Response variable was obtained marks of students in intermediate. Explanatory variables were mother education, obtained marks in HSSC of the respondent. The model as follows

$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1X_1 + \beta_2X_2 + \beta_3X_3 + U$$

Where Y = obtained marks of students in SSC

X₁ = obtained marks of students in HSSC

X₂ = Mother's education of the respondent

= 1 if the mother of respondent is educated

= 0 otherwise

X₃= Regularity of teachers

U = Disturbance term

Result and discussion:

In this study researchers want to investigate factors affecting achievement of students of part first in B.A and B.Sc. Three factors were found significant; HSSC obtained marks, regularity of teachers and mother's education of the students.

Table 1 Mother's education of the students

| Value | Number of Students | Percent |
|--------------------|--------------------|---------|
| Illiterate Mothers | 39 | 54 |
| Literate Mothers | 33 | 46 |
| Total | 72 | 100 |

Table 2: Frequency distribution of obtained marks of respondent in HSSC examination

| Obtained Marks (Total marks 1100) | Frequency | Percentage |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|------------|
| 500–579 | 13 | 18 |
| 580–659 | 31 | 43 |
| 660–739 | 17 | 24 |
| 740–819 | 08 | 11 |
| 820 and above | 03 | 04 |
| Total | 72 | 100 |

Table 1 shows the number of students whose mother were educated. Table 2 showed that majority of the students i.e, 43% obtained 580 to 659 (53% to 60% approximately) marks in HSSC examination. This was not good marks, overall obtained marks of the student in the area were very low. This is alarming points for the parents and teacher of the students, enrolled in B.A and B.Sc in Government colleges.

Table No 3: Frequency distribution of obtained marks in SSC of students

| Obtained Marks | Frequency | Percentage |
|----------------|-----------|------------|
| 380–499 | 09 | 12.5 |
| 500–599 | 25 | 34.7 |
| 600-699 | 28 | 38.8 |
| 700-799 | 08 | 11.3 |
| 800 and above | 02 | 02.7 |
| Total | 72 | 100 |

Table 3 shows the obtained marks in SSC examination. Most of the students obtained 600-699 marks. Very low portion of the students obtained 800 and above marks.

The estimated regression model as under,

$$Y = 396.789 + 0.359 X_1 + 74.319^{**} X_2 + 3.368^{**} X_3 + 4.368^{*} R \text{ square} = 0.47$$

*Significant at 0.05

**Significant at 0.01

The model shows that SSC obtained marks, mother education of the students, and regularity of the teachers were significant factor affecting the academic performance of the college students. Moreover, the R square is 0.47 showing that 47% of the variation in response variable (obtained marks in HSSC) is explained by three predictor variables in the model.

SSC Obtained Marks

Students having good grade in early examinations have good performance at high level examination. Our analysis showed that students having high marks in HSSC obtained good grade in intermediate examination. This result is not only true in our sample but for population of the area this result is true too. P value of the explanatory variable HSSC obtained marks (X_1) highly significant result.

Mother education

Mother's education has a great effect on the affection, attention, personality and education of their children. Mother is the first school for their children. According to Glad Childhood (2011) the process of education provided by a mother had carried out since the baby still in the womb. What mother listen to or read to the baby in the womb, then it will be heard also by the baby. Faiz (2011) study on the effect of education level of mother on performance of their children in enrolled in secondary school. He found that the performance of students was better having educated mothers than illiterate mothers. Various others studies found that those students whose mothers were highly educated secured high score vis-à-vis those whose mothers were uneducated (Enbeyle et al., 2020; Awan and Hassan, 2020)

Factors Affecting Students' Academic Performance

In our survey 46% of mother of respondent were educated, who achieved good marks intermediate examination. Our analysis indicates a significance result for effect of mother education on academic achievement of students. Concentrating in regression model, the coefficient of the explanatory variable mother education (X₂) is 55.781 which are high enough. This explanatory variable is dummy in nature therefore, on the average 53.238 marks is higher of students having educated mother then illiterate one. The result of this explanatory variable is highly significant, showing that the result is true in population also.

R square of the model was equal to 0.37 indicated that 37% of variation in response variable academic achievement was explained by explanatory variables mother education and HSSC obtained marks of the B. A and B.Sc students of Government colleges.

Conclusion

This study focused on the factors affecting academic performance of the students of enrolled in B.A and B.Sc. Regression model indicates positive and highly significant result of explanatory variables; SSC marks, mother education and marital status to the response variable academic achievement of the students.

Special attention required to improve the grade of students enrolled in B.A and B.Sc in Government colleges. College principals, teachers and parents of the students should pay attention towered better education of the students. Mores girls education institutes should be built to provide educated mother to the nation and improve the academic performance of the assets of the nations.

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