



A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS BETWEEN EDUCATED AND UNEDUCATED FAMILY HEADS: A CASE STUDY OF NGAIKHONGKHULLEN VILLAGE, BISHNUPUR DISTRICT, MANIPUR

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Abstract

Level of education is considered to be an important factor for the Socio-Economic status of a person or a family as higher levels of education are associated with better economic and psychological outcomes along with the skill sets required to get a job. It has been attempted to analyse the socio-economic status of households in the study area based on their levels of education of the heads of the families by dividing them into educated and uneducated.

It has been found that the socio-economic status or conditions of the head of the family has a direct relationship with the intelligence, physical and mental well being of the children. For a prosperous and civilized society, the heads of every family need to be well aware of the global changes and developments taking place in and around them. And, for this, they need to be well educated as well as functional.

It has been observed from the study that the educated heads of the family enjoy a much higher socio-economic status than the uneducated heads and the level education also highly related to the size of the family.

Keywords: Levels of Education, Socio-Economic Status, Educational Outcomes, Family Size, Educational Values.

Introduction

Education also plays a role in income. Median earnings increase with each level of education. The highest degrees, professional and doctoral degrees make the highest weekly earnings while those without a high school diploma earn less. Higher levels of education are associated with better economic and psychological outcomes (i.e. more income, more control and greater social support and networking). Education plays a major role in skill sets for acquiring jobs.

Occupational status reflects the educational attainment required to obtain the job and income levels that vary with different jobs and within ranks of occupations. Additionally, it shows achievement in skills required for the job.

The present study deals with the comparative study of socio-economic status of the households with educated and uneducated family heads of NgaikhongKhullen Village in Bishnupur District of Manipur.

Objectives of the Study

The main objectives of the study are as follows:

- To find out the monthly income of the educated and uneducated heads of the family of NgaikhongKhullen and to do a comparative analysis.
- To find out the monthly expenditure of the educated and uneducated heads of the family.
- To find out the main occupation of the educated and uneducated heads of the family of NgaikhongKhullen.
- To do a comparative analysis of the family size between the families of the educated heads and that of the uneducated heads.
- To find out the type of family existing in the families whose heads are educated and those whose heads are uneducated.

Significance of the Study

Everyone is aware of the fact that education is necessary for bringing peace, development and prosperity in the society. It provides skilled manpower needs for the economy. Education also attempts to compensate for the unsatisfactory home environment of children coming from poverty stricken families. Scientific and technological advancement has led to the emergence of many powerful and economically sound societies.

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need to be well aware of the global changes and developments taking place in and around them. And, for this, they need to be well educated as well as functional.

The present study aims at analysing the socio-economic status of the educated (having educational qualification of X and above) and the uneducated (having educational qualification below X) heads of the family by using socio-economic status variables (income, education and occupation).

Review of Related Literature

Various research studies proved the link between socio-economic status (SES) and educational outcomes. In the study conducted by Purcell-Gates, McIntyre and Freppon (1995), it was found that children from low socio-economic status families often begin with significantly less linguistic knowledge. Zhang (2003), reported that children in impoverished settings are much more likely to be absent from school throughout their educational experiences, further increasing the learning gap between them and their wealthier peers. National Centre for Education Statistics (2002) concluded that while national High school drop- out rates have steadily declined, drop-out rates for children living in poverty have steadily increased. Hochschild (2003) also found that children from less advantaged homes score at least 10 percent lower than the national achievement scores in Mathematics and reading. Harris (2005) found that between 60 and 70 percent of students in low income school districts fail to graduate from High school.

Modi (1981) studied the influence of education on the socio-economic status and found that the status enjoyed by a person depended on his educational level that the quantity of landholding had no relation with the socio-economic status of the person, that illiterates thought that their status was determined by age but educated persons did not give importance to age. Reddy (1981) among other things, discussed the correlation between the socio- economic status of students and their academic achievements and found that there was a positive correlation between the socio-economic status of the students and their academic achievements.

Satyanandam (1969) highlighted two sub-aspects of socio-economic status, namely, educational level of parents and economic status of parents. The results indicated that the children of graduate parents performed far better than the children of matriculate parents. Children of upper and lower and upper and middle economic strata only differed significantly on the variable of achievement.

Research Methodology

For the present study, the investigator used Normative Survey method. So, a convenient random sample consisting of 100 heads of the family- 50 educated and 50 uneducated, of NgaikhongKhullen village, Bishnupur District, which is considered to be representative of the whole population, is selected and subsequently. A household survey schedule was developed to collect the necessary information on socio-economic status (income, education and occupation) of 50 educated and 50 uneducated heads of the family of NgaikhongKhullen village.

Analysis and Interpretation of Data

1. A Comparative Study of Monthly Income of Educated and Uneducated Family Heads:

Table-1: Comparison of Monthly Income				
Monthly Income (in Rupees)	No. of Uneducated	Percentage of Uneducated	No. of Educated	Percentage of Educated
Below 10000	7	14%	3	6%
10000-19000	32	64%	15	30%
20000-29000	8	16%	14	28%
30000-39000	2	4%	11	22%
40000-49000	1	2%	3	6%
50000 & Above	0	0%	4	8%

Source: Compiled from Questionnaire

From the above table, it is found that the monthly income of the educated head of the family is much higher than that of the uneducated head of the family. Out of the 50 selected uneducated heads, majority of them, i.e., 32 (64%) have a monthly income of Rs.10000-19000; 7 (14%) have a monthly income below Rs. 10000 while none of them have a monthly income of Rs. 50000 or above.



On the other hand, out of the 50 educated heads of the family, only 3 (6%) have a monthly income below Rs. 10000; 15(30%) earn between Rs. 10000-19000; 14(28%) earn between Rs. 20000-29000 while 4 (8%) have a monthly income of Rs. 50000 or above.

2. Comparison of per capita or average income per month

Per capita or average income per month of the uneducated heads of the family=Total monthly income of the uneducated heads/No. of uneducated heads

=Rs. 778000/50

=Rs. 15560.

Per capita or average income per month of the educated heads of the family= Total monthly income of the educated heads/No. of educated heads

=Rs. 1258000/50

=Rs. 25160.

Thus, the per capita or average income per month of the educated heads of the family is much higher than that of the uneducated heads of the family.

3. A Comparative Study of Monthly Expenditure of Educated and Uneducated Households:

Monthly Expenditure (in Rupees)	No. of Uneducated	Percentage of Uneducated	No. of Educated	Percentage of Educated
Below 10000	21	42%	11	22%
10000-19000	28	56%	21	42%
20000 & Above	1	2%	18	36%

Source: Compiled from Questionnaire

The above table shows that monthly expenditure of the uneducated heads is much lesser than that of the educated heads of the family. 42% of the uneducated heads have a monthly expenditure below Rs. 10000; 56% expend between Rs. 10000-19000; while only 2% of them have a monthly expenditure of Rs. 20000 and above. The educated heads of the family, on the other hand, expend a lot more than the literates do. 22% of the literates spend below Rs. 10000 per month, 42% expend between Rs. 10000-19000 per month, while 36% of them have a monthly expenditure of Rs. 20000 and above.

4. Comparison of Per Capita or Average Expenditure per month of the Educated and Uneducated heads of the family:

Per capita or average expenditure per month of the uneducated heads of the family= Total monthly expenditure of the uneducated heads/No. of uneducated heads

= Rs. 515000/50

= Rs. 10300.

Per capita or average expenditure per month of the educated heads of the family = Total monthly expenditure of the educated heads/ No. of educated heads

= Rs. 800000/50

= Rs. 16000.

Thus, the per capita or average expenditure of the uneducated heads is much lower than that of the educated heads of the family.

5. A Comparative Study of Occupations of Educated and Uneducated Family Heads:

Occupation	No. of Uneducated	Percentage of Uneducated	No. of Educated	Percentage of Educated
Government Employee	1	2%	20	40%
Private Business	19	38%	20	40%
Cultivation & Others	30	60%	10	2%

Source: Compiled from Questionnaire

Table 3 shows the comparison of occupation of educated and uneducated heads of the family. Out of the 50 selected uneducated heads, 30 are engaged in cultivation and related activities as the main means of livelihood, 19 are private businessmen and only 1 is employed in government service. It means that 60% of the uneducated heads of the family are



cultivators and workers of allied fields, 20% are engaged in private business while only 2% are employees in government services.

On the contrary, out of the 50 selected educated heads of the family, 10 are engaged in agriculture and allied activities, 20 are private businessmen and 20 are employed in government services. It means that 20% of educated heads of the family depend on agriculture and allied activities, 40% are engaged in private business while 20% are employed in government services.

6. A Comparative Study of Family Size of Educated and Uneducated Family Heads:

Family Size in Number	No. of Uneducated	Percentage of Uneducated	No. of Educated	Percentage of Educated
2	0	0%	0	0%
3	1	2%	6	12%
4	7	14%	15	30%
5	16	32%	17	34%
6	14	28%	9	18%
7	6	12%	1	2%
8 or More	6	12%	2	4%

Source: Compiled from Questionnaire

Table 4 shows a comparison of family size between the families whose heads are educated and whose heads are uneducated. From the table, it is found that the family size of the uneducated is comparatively larger than the family size of the educated. 84% of the families whose heads are uneducated have a family size equal to 5 or more members and only 16% of those families have a size lesser than 5 members. On the other hand, 58% of the families whose heads are educated have a family size of 5 or more members and 42% of those families have a size lesser than 5 members.

7. A Comparative Study of Type of Family of Educated and Uneducated Family Heads

Type of Family	No. of Uneducated	Percentage of Uneducated	No. of Educated	Percentage of Educated
Joint	34	68%	17	34%
Nucleus	16	32%	33	66%

Source: Compiled from Questionnaire

The above table shows a comparison of the type of family existing in the families whose heads are educated and those whose heads are uneducated. Out of the selected 50 families whose heads are uneducated, 34 (68%) are joint families, while 16 (32%) are nuclear families. On the other hand, out of the 50 families whose heads are educated, 17 (34%) are joint families, while 33 (66%) are nuclear families.

Findings of the Study

Some of the common findings made on the study of the comparative analysis of the socio-economic status of the educated and the uneducated heads of the family of NgaikhongKhullen village are as follows:-

i) Monthly Income

a) The monthly income of the educated heads of the family is much higher than the uneducated heads of the family. On calculation, the per capita or average monthly income of educated heads of the family is found to be Rs.25160 while that of the uneducated is found to be Rs.15560.

b) The study also found some fluctuations in the income among the heads of the family. The monthly income of a few uneducated heads of the family was found to be greater than some of the educated heads of the family.

ii) Monthly Expenditure

The monthly expenditure of the educated head of the family was found to be higher than those of the uneducated head of the family. On calculation, the per capita or average expenditure per month of the uneducated heads was found to be Rs. 10300 while that of the educated heads of the family was Rs. 16000.



iii) Occupation

- a) The present study shows that about 60% of the uneducated heads are engaged in agriculture and other allied fields as the main occupation while only 20% of the educated are engaged in agriculture and allied activities.
- b) The study also depicts that a healthy proportion of about 40% educated heads of the family are in Government Services while only 2% of the uneducated are employed in Government Services.

iv) Family Size

- a) The family size of the families whose heads are educated were found to be comparatively smaller than those families whose heads are uneducated.
- b) 84% of the families whose heads are uneducated have family size of 5 or more members while it is only 58% for the families whose heads are educated.

v) Type of Family

The present study shows that joint families are more common in those families whose heads are uneducated, while nucleus families are more common in those families whose heads are educated.

Suggestions

Some of the suggestions for the improvement of the socio-economic conditions of the people especially the heads of the family are as follows:

- a. To improve the socio-economic conditions of the people of the village, functionality of the people is very important. They must be able to apply what they have learnt into their practical lives.
- b. Vocational and technical education must be provided to the heads of the family. It will make them more active, practical and enthusiastic about the work they are engaged to.
- c. There is an urgent need to broaden the concept of continuing education and life-long learning as only education can light up the ignorant and unaware minds of the village people.
- d. Awareness should be given to the villagers about the improved practices in the field of agriculture and allied fields in order to improve the productivity as majority of the people are still engaged in indigenous and outdated methods. Increased production can boost the economic prospects of the farmers.
- e. The village Panchayat should organise regular discussions and meetings for the overall development of the village with the active participation of all the sections of the society.

Conclusion

It has been found out that the educated heads of the family enjoy a much higher socio-economic status than the uneducated heads. It has also been found from the research that the educational status of the head of the family has a profound relationship with the family size. Thus, it can be concluded that the socio-economic status has a significant correlation to the educational values.

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