

“A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF THE MALE AND FEMALE UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ON THEIR ATTITUDE TOWARDS ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN RELATION TO THEIR ACADEMIC- ACHIEVEMENTS”

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ABSTRACT

In general entrepreneurship is the ability of the person covering his/her skill of employing innovation creation, imitation risk-bearing, leadership in the organized way. It provides opportunity to a person means of earning by giving self-employment and in providing employment to others. In the present scenario there is earnest need for attracting the educated youth towards entering the field of entrepreneurship instead of running behind the government jobs. In this reference the attitude towards entrepreneurship should be cared and studied empirically. Thinking on these lines in present investigation a comparison of male and female undergraduate students on their degree of attitude towards entrepreneurship has been studied in relation to the level of academic achievement on the sample of 1048 undergraduate students of H.N.B. Garhwal Central University in the state of Uttarakhand. The attitude of subject towards entrepreneurship was assessed using self-developed tool. The study found that:

Male high academic achiever for better than to those with low academic achiever. Whereas the findings are reversed in case of female students. However the female students were found to have better attitude towards entrepreneurship than their male counterparts either high or low academic achievement.

KEYWORDS: Attitude towards Entrepreneurship, Under-Graduate Students, Academic-Achievement

INTRODUCTION

Education provides help to every individual, in the appropriate use of labor, power and time while performing a task. The extent of one's feeling, willing and entrepreneurship enhances one's empowerment, sociability, resourcefulness and risk taking behavior. It is the education which makes oneself awarded towards entrepreneurship. It helps oneself in identifying opportunities of entrepreneurship and in searching and selecting of the resources. It may also be presumed that education contributes in the attitude formation towards entrepreneurship. An attitude is an emotional reaction towards a personal response to any object or event. In other words attitude reacts and feeds about something. Attitudes affect behavior and in turn, performance. In general student's performance is expressed in terms of academic attainment/achievement which normally makes affect the various socio. Psycho aspects of that student. In this context student's academic achievement might be affecting his/her attitude towards his/her vocation/profession including even the entrepreneurship.

NEED AND SIGNIFICANT OF THE STUDY

In the present scenario the business sectors like banks, industries and other enterprises are making effort for attracting the talented youths for their recruitment and absorption. In this respect there is need of youth's attitude

formation towards these business sectors. It is very much true that youth's academic achievement influences his/her thinking, awareness, and attitude towards his/her career including the entrepreneurship. In this concern gender variable might be playing a remarkable role. But this phenomena can only examined through an empirical investigation. In the case of Uttarakhand, a neo Hill State there is earnest need of carrying out of such research study in the interest of the educated youths and the business sector. Thinking on these lines the present research study has been conducted.

The finding of study will certainly influence and motivate the youth (receiving University education), towards in adopting Entrepreneurship and they may join various skill development programs.

The investigator hopes that the finding of the present study will aware our University authorities in organ sing the entrepreneurship programmes for their students which will be in lines of fulfilling our Prime Minister Mission of enhancing Skill- Development among the University Students. Further the present study may draw attention of various enterprises in helping the students in becoming the entrepreneurs instated of running to government job.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The abilities and capabilities of one's dealing with certain elements of money capital, infrastructure, human beings and risk taking behavior related to any commercial venture are being termed as one's entrepreneurship. One's experiences of favoring/disfavoring to this entrepreneurship will determine one's degree of attitude towards entrepreneurship

Hence the problem is entitled as- **"A Comparative study of the male and female undergraduate students on their attitude towards entrepreneurship in relation to their Academic- Achievements."**

OPERATIONAL DEFINITIONS OF THE TERMS USED

Attitude towards Entrepreneurship: - Entrepreneurship creates a significant opportunities for individuals to achieve financial independence and benefit to economy by contributing to role creation, innovation and economic growth and social adjustment. Moreover, it has been accepted as potential catalyst and inculcator for developing technological progress, product and market innovation. One's Scores on the questionnaire determine the degree of one's attitude towards entrepreneurship.

Under Graduate Students: - Those students studying in II/III part B.A, B.Sc., and B.Com. Classes for pursuing graduation degree in any of the university campuses.

Academic Achievement: - The average of the scores obtained by the students in their previous year (1st year /2nd year) university examination was considered as their aggregate academic achievement.

Variables

Independent Variables -- Gender, Stream, Academic- Achievement

Dependent Variables **Attitude** towards Entrepreneurship

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- To study the Academic achievement of under graduate students of Art, Science and commerce stream.
- To assess the student's attitude towards Entrepreneurship with reference to their academic achievement level.

- To compare the high and low academic achiever students of Arts, Science and Commerce on their status of Attitude towards Entrepreneurship.
- To compare the male and female students having high and low academic achievement on their attitude towards academic- achievement with respect to arts, science and commerce streams.

HYPOTHESES OF THE STUDY

- There exists no significant difference between high and low academic achiever students on their degree of attitude towards Entrepreneurship.
- There exists no significant difference between the male and female high academic achiever students of Arts, Science and Commerce stream on their Attitude towards Entrepreneurship.
- There exists no significant difference between the male and female low academic achiever students of arts Science and Commerce stream on their Attitude towards Entrepreneurship.

DELIMITATION OF THE STUDY

The Present study was delimited on the undergraduate students studying in the Second/ Final Year (in session 2014-15) in the three of Campuses of H.N.B. Central University (Birla Campus Srinagar, Swami Ramtirth Campus Tehri, and B. Gopal Reddy Campus Pauri).

Research-Design

Research-design is a mapping strategy. It is essentially a statement of the object of the in inquiry and the strategies for collecting the evidences, analyzing the evidence and reporting the finding.

In the present research work, the investigator had to reveal the current status of the attitude of university undergraduate students towards the “Entrepreneurship” and various sub-groups of these students were to be compared on these phenomena therefore, the normative survey research method was considered appropriate to be used in the present research work.

Population: The present study was to be conducted on the students studying in the first degree courses, viz. B.A., B.Sc. and B.Com classes in the HNB Garhwal University, Srinagar (Garhwal). There are three Campuses in this University

- SRT Campus, Badshahithaul (Tehri-Garhwal)
- Birla Campus, Srinagar (Garhwal)
- B.G.R. Campus, Pauri (Garhwal)

The students studying in first degree courses in all the three campuses comprised as the population for the present research study. They were approx 2000 in number.

Sampling: The incident stratified random technique was applied in drawing the sample from the population. The investigator was strict in selecting of at least 50% of the enrolled students from B.A., B.Sc., and B.Com. Classes enrolled in each of the campus. The investigator had proposed primarily a sample structure for the present research study. But on actual data-collection days, among the available students who actively responded on the Attitude-scale data collection,

were finally included in the sample, so, the actual sample remained as under –

FINALLY SUBJECTS INCLUDED IN THE SAMPLE

	Name of the Campus	Arts Stream		Science Stream		Commerce		Total		Grand Total
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M
1	SRT Campus	57	71	82	76	20	11	159	158	317
2	Birla Campus	65	206	93	164	40	22	198	392	590
3	BGR Campus	32	28	50	31	-	-	82	59	141
	TOTAL	154	305	225	271	60	33	439	609	1048

Data-Collection Tool

The following two data collections tools were-

- A Scale of attitude towards Entrepreneurship
- Academic-Achievement score –sheet

A Scale of Attitude towards Entrepreneurship

The investigator, in spite of his level best could not find any research tool for measuring the attitude towards Entrepreneurship so; the researcher had decided to develop it at his own level. The construction procedure of the tool was followed as under –

- **Item Collection** – The investigator in consultation with his guide and after a long reading and consultation had framed 60 items in question form with response in three point liker-scale, This rough questionnaire was given to experts such as; teachers of economics and commerce departments and the Asset. Manager D/C, Tehri with request to improve the items of the questionnaire in terms of language and meaning.
- **First Format of the Tool:** In accordance with incorporating the suggestions of the experts' 07 items were deleted and a few items were reframed. Then 53 items remained in the first format.
- **Item-Analysis:** On the basis of item-wise scores of 50 students the item-analysis was performed. The facility-values and Discrimination index values were computed.

The total Score on the items achieved by each student were added. These achieved scores of 50 students were arranged in descending order. It was observed that Facility-value varied from 33% to 80%. Then 10% of the above and 10% of the below students were categorized as HAG and LAG respectively. Then, D.I. of each item was calculated.

It was noticed that

$$\text{F.V.} = 33\% \text{ to } 80\%$$

$$\text{D.I.} = -.51 \text{ to } +.67$$

In normal practice the items bearing the D.I. values up to $\pm .25$ are deleted after incorporating it, there remained 40 items accepted and 13 items rejected.

- **Try out of the second format tool:** The researcher made effort to administer the second format of the tool on a sub-sample of 50 students of B.A. part II studying in Tehri Campus and again after a gap period of one month, the

same tool was administered on same BA II students. The both scores sheets were prepared.

- **Reliability** – The researcher computed product moment correlation between the scores of both the sheets (scatter-diagram) in terms of r-value = 0.63 which is significant at .01 level for df =49. Thus reliability of the tool was found significant by using test-retest technique.
- **Validity:** The copies of this tool was given to **10 students** of different first degree courses and to **five university-teachers** with request to read each item of the tool in terms of meaning and understanding. The researcher took back these copies of the tool with their remark. The researcher was surprised that each item was acceptable.
- **Final format of the tool:** Thus, finally the tool “University students’ Attitude towards Entrepreneurship” was finally selected having **40 items** on three points Likert-system response for the undergraduate students.

Academic Achievement score sheet: The investigator asked the sampled students to bring their last year examination pass mark sheets and from this record. The average of marks obtained by each student was noted down. Thus, the academic achievement score sheets of the student’s class wise were prepared by the researcher.

Administration of the data collection tools: The researcher contacted the teachers of the different subjects of the undergraduate students in Tehri Campus and explained to him about his research work with their consent, the researcher visited to classrooms and administered his research-tool on them. He remained in the class for the whole time on their responding. As and when, the students completely responded, the researcher collected back the responded tool sheets from them. This process was followed also in the University Campuses Srinagar and Pauri (Garhwal) for tool-administration and collection of data.

Scoring and Tabularization: The researcher scored down all the responded sheets of the University undergraduate students and tabularization of the collected-data was performed keeping in view the objectives and hypotheses of the study and thus various data-tables were prepared.

DISTRIBUTION OF STUDENTS INTO HIGH, AVERAGE AND LOW ACADEMIC-ACHIEVEMENT LEVELS

The investigator after consulting his guide and other teachers in the Education department decided to assign the categories to students as under –

<u>Category</u>	<u>Marks-bassion</u>
High Academic-Achiever	60% and above
Average Academic Achiever	50% to 59%
Low Academic-Achiever	less than 50%

The investigator obtained the following distribution of the students –

Stream		High Academic Achiever	Average Academic Achiever	Low Academic Achiever	Total
Arts	Male	58	73	23	154
	Female	139	115	51	305
Science	Male	103	87	35	225

	Female	121	100	50	271
Commerce	Male	28	26	6	60
	Female	13	15	5	33
Total	Male	189	186	64	439
	Female	273	230	106	609
					1048

Thus, following tables emerged out for statistical treatment and discussion keeping in view the objectives of this research study –

Comparison High and low academic-achiever undergraduate students on their degree of attitude towards Entrepreneurship in respect to –

- Male and Female students.
- Arts stream students.
- Science stream students.
- Commerce stream students.

Comparison of Male and Female high academic achiever students in respect to Arts, Science and Commerce streams.

Analysis and Interpretation of Data

The researchers has tried to present the analysis of the tabularized-data on their possible interpretation on the basis of the results whatever were obtained after statistical operations in accordance with the objectives and framed hypotheses in the following manner-

Comparison of High and Low Academic-Achiever Undergraduate Students on their degree of Attitude towards Entrepreneurship –

In this respect the following hypothesis no. 1 was examined –

“There exists no significant difference between High and Low academic achiever students on their degree of attitude towards entrepreneurs...”

Table 1: Mean, S.D. and t-Values of High and Low Achieving-Students or Their Attitude towards Entrepreneurships

	High Academic Achiever			Low Academic Achiever			t-Value	Significant Level
	N1	M1	σ 1	N2	M2	σ 2		
Male students	189	101.97	8.97	64	100.61	9.40	1.01	NS
Female students	273	103.84	8.09	106	106.54	11.07	2.29	S
Total	462	102.90	8.39	170	103.82	10.48	1.03	NS

At df=630

t-Value to be significant at 0.05 level = 1.96
0.01 level = 2.63

It is apparent from the above table that –

- The high achiever male students obtained more mean-value than to that low achiever on their attitude towards entrepreneurs.

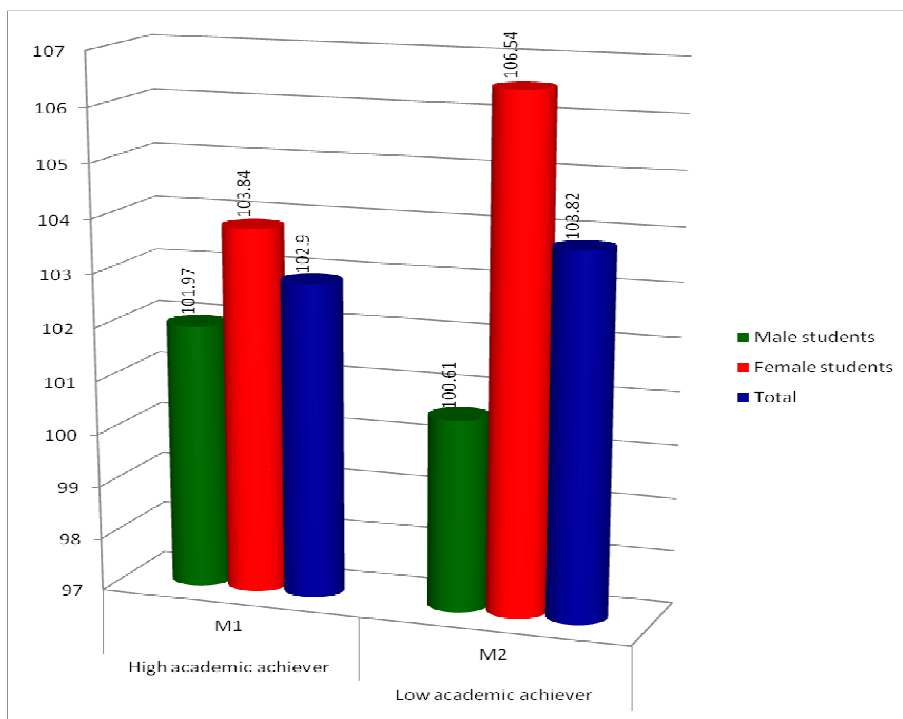
- The low achiever female students obtained more mean-value than to that high achiever on their attitude towards entrepreneurship.
- In general, high achiever students obtained less mean-value than to those low achiever students on their attitude towards entrepreneurship.

But the degree of difference between high and low academic achiever female students was computed to be significant beyond 0.05 levels and in case of male students and in general students, this difference could not be found to be significant even up to 0.05 levels.

It leads to infer that low achiever female students are more remarkably awarded towards entrepreneurship in comparison to those male students and the students in general.

This might be observed because of girls becoming attracted in more degree to the business sector particularly of low achiever girls. As such, the hypothesis no. 1 could not only be rejected in case of female students; whereas it remains accepted for the male students among in general students.

It has been further elaborated in the graphical presentation.



Graph 1: Comparison of High and Low Academic-Achiever Undergraduate Students on Their Degree of Attitude towards Entrepreneurship. (In Terms of Mean Value)

Comparison of High Academic Achiever male and female students in respect to Arts, Science and Commerce Streams on their Attitude towards Entrepreneurship

In this concern the following hypothesis no. 2 was tested.

“There exists no significant difference between the male and female students with high academic-achievement in Arts, Science and Commerce stream.”

Table 2: Mean, S.D. and t-Values of High Academic Achiever Male and Female Students on Their Attitude towards Entrepreneurship

Streams	Male High Achiever			Female High Achiever			t-value	Significant Level
	N1	M1	σ 1	N2	M2	σ 2		
Arts	58	102.69	9.38	139	103.35	8.32	0.46	NS
Science	103	102.08	8.94	121	104.71	7.96	2.31	S
Commerce	28	101.14	8.19	13	103.46	6.85	0.94	NS
Total	189	101.97	8.97	273	103.84	8.09	2.29	S

At df=380

t-value to be significant at 0.05 level = 1.96

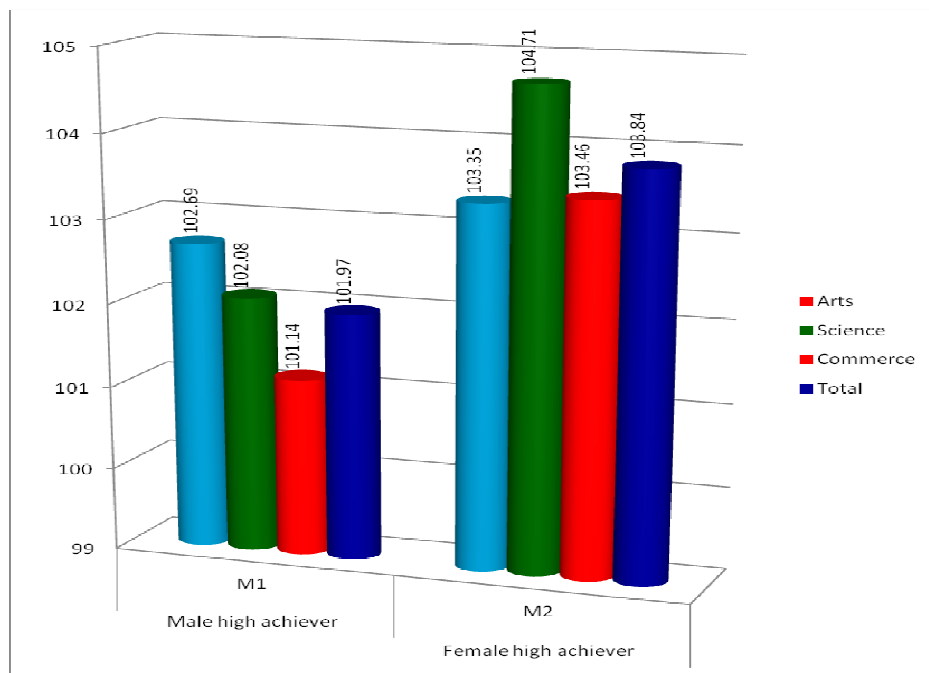
0.01 level = 2.63

The above table makes it clear that –

- The female high achievers have obtained more mean- values than to male high achievers on their attitude towards entrepreneurship in case Arts, Science and Commerce streams and in general too. But this difference in their attitude was estimated to be significant at 0.05 levels only in case of Science stream.

As such, the hypothesis no. 2 stands to be rejected in case of students of Science streams, whereas, it remains accepted in case of the students of Arts and Commerce stream and in general case the hypothesis also stands to be rejected. This might be due to the reason that in general, the female high achiever students are more aware towards their career in comparison to those male students. However, in more than 95% cases the females are found better than to the male students among the high achiever students of Science stream and in general too. It is surprising that female high achievers of Science streams are found to possess maximum attitude towards entrepreneurship in comparison to any male or female high academic achiever of any stream. It leads to infer that entrepreneurship area has attracted the female students of Science up to a greater degree than to those of other streams

It has been further elaborated in the graphical presentation.



Graph 2: (5) Comparison of High Academic Achiever Male and Female Students in Respect to Arts, Science and Commerce Streams on their Attitude towards Entrepreneurship (in Terms of Mean Value)

Comparison of Low Academic Achiever Male and Female Students in respect to Arts, Science and Commerce Streams

In this concern the following hypothesis no. 3 was tested.

“There exists no significant difference between the male and female students with low academic-achievement in Arts, Science and Commerce stream.”

Table 3: Mean, S.D. and t-Values of Low Academic Achiever Male and Female Students on Their Attitude towards Entrepreneurship

Streams	Male Low Achiever			Female Low Achiever			t-Value	Significant Level
	N1	M1	σ 1	N2	M2	σ 2		
Arts	23	102.91	11.53	51	105.02	10.52	0.75	NS
Science	35	102.77	8.23	50	107.40	11.68	2.17	S
Commerce	6	96.16	5.92	5	107.20	10.38	2.11	S
Total	64	100.61	9.40	106	106.54	11.07	3.72	S

At df=168

t-value to be significant at 0.05 level = 1.96
0.01 level = 2.63

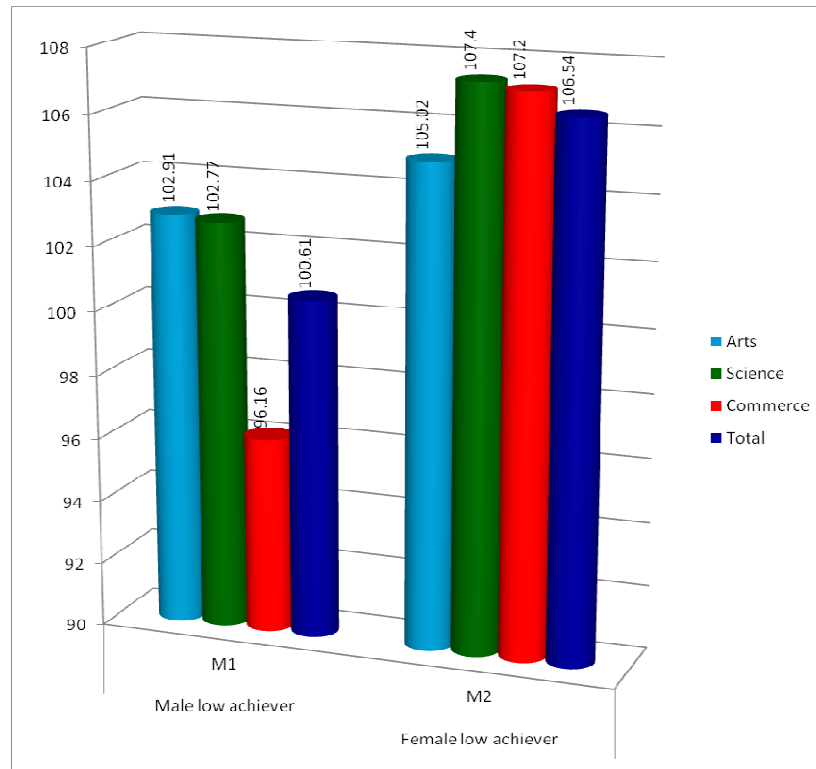
The above table demonstrates that –

- The female low achiever students both in case of Arts/Science streams and in general obtained more mean values on their attitude towards entrepreneurship in comparison to their male counterparts. However, the difference between the low achiever female and male students on their attitude towards entrepreneurship was computed beyond significant level 0.01 in general and beyond 0.05 levels in case of Science and Commerce streams except in case of Arts stream.

This leads to reject the hypothesis no. 2 in case of Science and Commerce streams and even in general but in case of Arts stream the hypothesis stands to be accepted.

It indicates that among the low academic achievers the students besides of Arts stream, become more awarded on their career choice including the business sector. It is surprising to note that females exhibit their better attitude than to the male students possessing low academic-achievement.

The same has been shown on the following bar-diagrammed.



Graph 3: (6) Comparison of Low Academic Achiever Male and Female Students in Respect to Arts, Science and Commerce Streams. (In Terms of Mean Value)

CONCLUSIONS

Meaningful conclusions are based upon the data-analysis and interpretation of the results obtained after statistical treatment on the tabularized data. The conclusions are the statements drawn on the basis of acceptance or rejection of the already framed hypotheses in the conducting of research study. The conclusions of any study lay the gist of the whole efforts done with respect to the research problem selected by the researcher. Following meaningful conclusions have been drawn as per objectives of the study:

- Assessing the attitude of high and low academic-achiever students towards entrepreneurship (Table no.1)

Among Male students: High academic-achievers > Low academic-achievers

Among Female students: Low academic-achievers > High academic-achievers (significant level)

In general, High Academic Achievers > Low Academic Achievers.

- Assessing the attitude of high achiever male and female students of Arts, Science and Commerce stream towards entrepreneurship (Table no.2)

Among the Arts, Science and Commerce: Female > Male students but significant only in case of science stream and in general.

- Assessing the attitude of low achiever male and female students of Arts, Science and Commerce streams towards entrepreneurship (Table no.3)

Among Arts, Science and Commerce stream: Female > Male low achiever

Among in general students: Female > Male (significant up to .01 level)

Educational Implication of the Study

It has been accepted that after passing the secondary level education, as the student enter in tertiary level education, the parents as well as the student himself/herself, begin to decide about the career to be opted in future life. The students while at study in the classes of tertiary education (there is, in first degree course) also come in touch with the various employment avenues including the govt. /private services and few non-service areas. In the present study, the students have even talked to researcher on this very issue of entrepreneurship. It is also very much true that day by day the opportunities in govt. or private sector are lowering down and it is causing increase in unemployment among the educated youths. It is appearing a very problem some for the guardians. The educational institution and the government authorities on how to divert the youth-students towards the business-sector or say entrepreneurship. In this respect, the colleges, institutes and the university have to do a lot. But before it, the need arises of creating their awareness on entrepreneurship by organizing various curricular and co-curricular activities which ultimately nurtures their positive attitude towards entrepreneurship.

In the present study more than 84 % undergraduate students have been found possessing their positive attitude towards entrepreneurship. It is a good sign and in favor of our Prime Minister's recommendation of sharpening the skills among youths. The **National Mission on Skill Development**, under the chairmanship of the Prime-Minister of India, has set a target of preparing 500 million skilled persons by 2022. Conversely, it is expected that nearly 80 million jobs will be created in India between 2012 -13 and 2016 – 17, which will require vocational training for raising the employability prospects. There is a pronounced 'skill gap' both in terms of quality and quantity; and current vocational education and training infrastructure are not geared to meet industry requirement (CII – 2009). The researcher hopes that the findings of the present work will be conducive to our prime minister expectations among the university students though it may vary from place to place depending upon the continuum of awareness and knowledge towards entrepreneurship prevailing the youth similarly, National skill Development Corporation (NSDC – 2009) an organization in public – private partnership (PPP) mode has been set up by the ministry of finance, Government of India, in 2009 to help the up – gradation of skills among the Indian workforce, especially in the unorganized sector, On the basis of results of the present research work, the university authorities along with the collaboration of District Industry Centre and the Employment Exchange Office may include the phenomena of entrepreneurship while the syllabus- framing.

On the basis of finding of the present research study, a campaign may be launched for motivating the students and their parents towards entrepreneurship and they should be told that entrepreneurship works as a key driver in their economy-improvement. They should be made to understand that by entering in entrepreneurship not only the student would get self-job but also would be able to give jobs to others.

With the findings of the study, the university teachers may be requested for inspiring their students towards entrepreneurship. Even some type of quizzes/essay-writing/seminar/symposium/conferences may be organized in the university campuses to highlight the advantages on entrepreneurship to the students.

Keeping in view the present study some NGO may be asked to make a working-project on the entrepreneurship, particularly in hill-region. Some successful entrepreneurs may be invited to share their experiences with university students as it will also create a will of entrepreneurship among the students and their guardians too.

Such a study should necessarily have a strong experiential component in introducing the students to the world of business by developing in them the core skills and competencies required for an entrepreneur. It may even develop the qualities such as leadership, self-confidence, initiative, facing uncertainties, commitment, creativity, people and team building, integrity and reliability among the youth. This may improve the economy of the state overall and these youths will emerge as star in the society.

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Appendices

“Scale of Attitude towards Entrepreneurship”

Initial Name of Student’s

Gender – M/F

Class – B.A./B.Sc./B.Com

Guardian Occupation -Shopkeeper/Hotel/Contractor/Service/Agriculture/Wages

Instruction

In today’s Society the people are not getting govt. jobs easily, so mostly they are diverting towards business or having an any enterprise, if you get the opportunity to join an entrepreneurship, then you have to develop your entrepreneurship ability. What may be your views about entrepreneurship, think over seriously and respond the following questionnaire/opinionnaire. Your responses will only be used for research work and will be strictly confidential.

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S No	Items	Agree	Indifferent	Disagree
1	It Provides Employment to self and others.			
2	It gives advantage of using creative talent.			
3	It increases self confidence.			
4	It generates healthy competitive spirit.			
5	It enhances tolerance.			
6	It increases risk taking ability.			

7	It provides decision making opportunities.			
8	It provides personal satisfaction.			
9	It makes oneself as a manager or boss.			
10	It creates achievement motivation.			
11	It makes oneself financially improved.			
12	It provides security of job.			
13	It increases one's social prestige & status.			
14	It provides social recognition.			
15	It lacks possibility of money saving.			
16	It provides the opportunities of using one's power and authority.			
17	It provides the opportunities of awarding social respect and honour.			
18	It increases production.			
19	It enhances one's organizational ability.			
20	It makes one more imaginative.			
21	It increases one's conflict resolving ability.			
22	It increases one's business dealing capacity.			
23	It makes oneself innovative.			
24	It provides opportunities of joining with other business market.			
25	It provides opportunities of obliging to others.			
26	It increases one's financial budgeting capacity.			
27	It improves one's overall personality.			
28	It provides forum of social leadership.			
29	It provides the better connections with banks and other financial Organizations.			
30	It improves one's communication skill.			
31	It increases trust of people in oneself.			
32	It provides the opportunities inspiring others.			
33	It makes oneself a hard making person.			
34	It makes oneself competitive in nature.			
35	It increases oneself of using the modern ICT instruments.			
36	It prepares one's work values.			
37	It prepares oneself to improve his living style suitable to other Entrepreneurs.			
38	It inspire oneself for having legal knowledge related to entrepreneurs.			
39	It prepares oneself to know about Consume Protection Forum Act and RTI etc.			
40	It improves one's family status.			

Signature of Student's