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Career preferences and academic achievement of secondary school students with respect to their dichotomy

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Abstract
The study was carried out to find the career preferences of students at secondary level with respect to their dichotomy. A sample of 400 secondary school students was drawn randomly from two district of Kashmir valley viz, Bandipora and Srinagar within the age range of 16 plus. The preferred sample comprised of different Government secondary schools of these two districts. Career preference record by Vivek Bhargava and Rajshiri Bhargava was administered to collect the data and Academic Achievement was obtained from the earlier two years performance records of the sample subjects. Data was subjected to statistical treatment by applying percentage and 't' values. The results revealed some significant differences on the basis of rural and urban secondary school students in various dimensions of career preferences. The results also suggest significant mean difference between rural and urban students on their Academic Achievement and urban student`s have higher Academic Achievement as compared to rural secondary school students.

Keywords: career preferences, academic achievement, rural, urban, secondary school students

Introduction

Career is defined by the Oxford English dictionary as a person's course or progress through life (or a distinct portion of life)". Career Preferences are free opportunity to select a desired career. It is also a decision making in a confusing situation which occurs during the senior year of secondary school level. Career is a complex term, and different authors define it in different ways. In the past, people did not consider this term to be so complex and important as now, and it was considered that when a person had a job, it was for a life long term. People used to start their job when they were young, and they used to stay in the same organisation, and even at the same position, till they retired. It was taken for granted that a person if hard worker, reliable, competent, loyal and making no problems, would have a job as long as he/she wanted it. In return for such behaviour of employees, companies offered them job security and stability of job. All the system, including organisation and employees, functioned like a family, where the organisation was the one that acted in paternalistic way. In those days career started as soon as a person finished his/her education and started to work, and did not require any additional knowledge or professional development.

Career Preferences means which career paths they find attractive regardless of job market conditions. Thus, respondents are asked to ignore job availability and rate how attractive they find each of the following careers: (a) a faculty career with an emphasis on teaching; (b) a faculty career with an emphasis on research or development; (c) a government job with an emphasis on research or development; (d) a job in an established firm with an emphasis on research or development; (e) a job in a startup with an emphasis on research or development; and (f) other career.

Career development, it is useful to present the term of career, its meaning as well as its implications for individuals. It is necessary to distinguish career from the concrete job. Job represents a set of activities that a person undertakes to fulfill his/her tasks and duties in order to get his/her monthly compensation, monthly pay check. Career is more complex and is more demanding than a job itself. While most people think that the term career means advancement in an organisation, a broader view defines career as an individually perceived sequence of attitudes and behaviours associated with the work-related activities and experiences over the span of a person's life. For an individual in an organisation, career is observed as a continuous movement among jobs, positions, challenges and different responsibility levels. It represents the main link between organisation and its employees, and also it defines the level which the individual in a company wants to reach. Individuals' goals, plans and wishes have to be in correlation with organisational core plans and goals in order to succeed in creation of personal career. The main goal of all companies is to create successful organisational development. In order to reach that level, companies should pay great attention to personal interests of their employees, because they represent the companies' most important capital. Companies should plan their achievement and make it possible hand by hand with their employees. In this way they will form a strong connection between their needs and personal needs of their employees. Those companies the treat their main resource, employees, in the stated way, will for certain have benefits in the future. Companies that are aware of that fact organise human resourced by (HR) departments whose most important task is professional planning and development of individual careers.

Today's world is full of educated people, so the chances of

getting a very good job are getting tougher day by day. Nowadays mere qualification and education is not enough for getting a good job but meritorious and successful achievement in academics is highly preferred. Academic Achievement is a term used in school when a student does well in academics. Academic Achievement or academic performance is the outcome of education- the extent to which a student, teacher or institution has achieved their educational goals. Academic Achievement is commonly measured by examinations or continuous assessment but there is no general agreement on how it is best tested or which aspects are most important – procedural knowledge such as skills or declarative knowledge such as facts. Beyond any doubts, Academic Achievement is important for the successful development of young people.

Objectives of Study

The following objectives were formulated for the present Investigation:

1. To study the Career Preferences of Rural and Urban Secondary School Students.
2. To study the Academic Achievement of Rural and Urban Secondary School Students.
3. To compare Rural and Urban Secondary School Students on Career Preferences.
4. To compare Rural and Urban Secondary School Students on Academic Achievement.

Hypotheses

The following hypotheses were formulated for the present study:

1. Rural and Urban Secondary School Students differ significantly on Career Preferences.
2. Rural and Urban secondary school students differ significantly on Academic Achievement.

Operational Definition of Variables

1. **Career Preference:** For the purpose of present study, Career Preference has been operationally defined as the score which the investigator was got by administering Vivek Bragawa and Rajshri Bragaw Career Preference Record.
2. **Academic Achievement:** For the purpose of present study, Academic Achievement has been operationally defined as the score which was obtained from the previous two years performance records of the sample subjects.

Sample

The sample for the study consisted of 400 secondary school students (200 Rural and 200 Urban students). The sample for the study was selected randomly from the different schools of Srinagar (as Urban district) and Bandipora (as rural district). The sample was selected in such a way to ensure that every unit of the population could get equal chance to be selected in the sample.

Selection of the Tools

The tools for the present study were selected in a manner to achieve an optimum level of confidence by the investigator for the objectives of the study. Since the study principally contained two variables namely Career Preferences and academic achievement, therefore, such tools were decided to be chosen as could validly and reliably measure these variables. The investigator after screening a number of available tests finally selected the following tools to collect the data:

1. Career Preference Record (CPR) by Vivek Bhargava and Rajshiri Bhargava.
2. Academic Achievement of rural and urban secondary school students were collected from the official records of the respective schools.

Analysis and Interpretation

Section-A (Descriptive Analysis)

The following tables reveal the descriptive analysis of the sample of secondary school students on Career Preferences and Academic Achievement.

Table 1: Showing the percentage wise distribution of high school sample students on main career preference area of CPR (N= 400).

Career preference area	Number	%age	Rank
Medical	186	46.5%	I
Science & Technology	100	25%	II
Education	44	11%	III
Mass Media and Journalism	25	6.25%	IV
Commerce & Management	15	3.75%	V
Law and order	12	3%	VI
Agriculture	07	1.75%	VII
Artistic and designing	05	1.25%	VIII
Defense	04	1%	IX
Tourism and Hospitality	02	0.5%	X

The above table provides the description of the main career preference areas of the sample high school students. The table makes it clear that the main career preference areas of sample high school students in order of rank are medical (46.5%), science and technology (25%), education (11%), Mass Media and Journalism (6.25%), commerce and management (3.75%) law and order (3%), agriculture (1.75%), artistic and designing (1.25%), defense (1%), Tourism and Hospitality (0.5%).

Table 2: Showing the percentage wise distribution of high school sample students of 2nd career preferences area of CPR (N= 400)

Career Preference Area	Number	%age	Rank
Science and Technology	157	39.25%	I
Medical	95	23.75%	II
Commerce & Management	40	10%	III
Education	32	8%	IV
Mass Media and Journalism	25	6.25%	V
Law and order	21	5.25%	VI
Agriculture	15	3.75%	VII
Artistic and designing	07	1.75%	VIII
Tourism and Hospitality	05	1.25%	IX
Defense	03	0.75%	X

The above table provides the percentage wise distribution of the 2nd career preference areas of the sample high school students. The table makes it clear that the 2nd career preference areas of sample high school students in order of rank are science and technology (39.25%), medical (23.75%), commerce and management (10%), education (8%), mass media and journalism (6.25%) law and order (5.25%),

agriculture (3.75%), artistic and designing (1.75%), tourism and hospitality (1.25%) defense (0.75%).

Table 3: Showing the percentage wise distribution of high school sample students on 3rd career preference area of CPR (N= 400)

Career Preference Area	Number	%age	Rank
Education	120	30%	I
Commerce & Management	85	21.25%	II
Science & Technology	62	15.5%	III
Medical	45	11.25%	IV
Mass Media & Journalism	33	8.25%	V
Agriculture	22	5.5%	VI
Law & Order	14	3.5%	VII
Artistic & Designing	12	3%	VIII
Defense	5	1.25%	IX
Tourism & Hospitality	2	0.5%	X

The above table provides the percentage wise distribution of the 3rd career preference areas of the sample high school students. The table makes it clear that the 3rd career preference areas of sample high school students in order of rank are education (30%), commerce and Management (21.25%), science and Technology (15.5%), Medical (11.25%), Mass Media and Journalism (8.25%), Agriculture (5.5%) Law and order (3.5%), Artistic and Designing (3%), Defense (1.25%), Tourism and Hospitality (0.5%).

Table 4: Showing the percentage wise distribution of high school sample students on least career preference area of CPR (N=400)

Career Preference Area	Number	%age	Rank
Defense	145	36.25%	I
Tourism & Hospitality	102	25.5%	II
Artistic and Designing	75	18.75%	III
Law and Order	42	10.5%	IV
Agriculture	19	4.75%	V
Commerce and Management	7	1.75%	VI
Mass Media and Journalism	5	1.25%	VII
Education	3	0.75%	VIII
Science and Technology	2	0.5%	IX
Medical	0	0.00	X

The above table provides the percentage wise distribution of the least career preference areas of the sample high school students. The table makes it clear that the least career preference areas of sample high school students in order of rank are defense (36.25%), Tourism and Hospitality (25.5%), Artistic and Designing (18.75%), Law & Order (10.5%), Agriculture (4.75%), Commerce and Management (1.75%), Mass Media and Journalism (1.25%), Education (0.75%), Science and Technology (0.5%) and Medical (00%).

Table 5: Showing the percentage-wise distribution of Secondary School Students (Rural and Urban) on Performance Standards of Academic Achievement (N=400)

Category	N	%age
Distinction	62	15.50
1st Division	248	62.0
2nd Division	88	22.0
3rd Division	2	0.5
Total	400	100

The above table shows the percentage-wise distribution of secondary school students (rural and urban) on performance standards of academic achievement. The table depicts that 15.50% were distinction holders, 62.0% were 1st division holders, 22.0% were 2nd division holders and only 0.5% were 3rd division holders.

Section B (Comparative Analysis)

The following tables reveal the comparative analysis of the sample of secondary school students on Career Preference and Academic Achievement.

Table 6: Showing the comparison of percentage distribution of career preference areas among rural and urban secondary school students

Group	MCPA	2nd CPA	3rd CPA	Least CPA
Rural	Medical (49%)	Science and Technology (43.5%)	Education (31.5%)	Artistic and Designing (32.5%)
Urban	Medical (44%)	Science and Technology (35%)	Education (28.5%)	Artistic and Designing (40%)

The above table depicts the comparison of percentage distribution of career preference areas among rural and urban secondary school students. In case of rural secondary school students, the table shows 49% were medical as a main career preference area, 43.5% were science and technology as a 2nd career preference area, 31.5% were education as a 3rd career preference area and 32.5% were artistic and designing as a least career preference area.

Further, In case of urban secondary school students, the table shows 44% were medical as a main career preference areas, 35% were science and technology as a 2nd career preference area, 28.5% were education as a 3rd career preference area and 40% were artistic and designing as least career preference areas.

Table 7: Showing the comparison of percentage distribution between rural and urban high school students on main career preferences area of CPR (N=200 in each case).

Career preference area	Rural Number %age	Rank	Urban No. %age	Rank
Medical	98 (49%)	I	88 (44%)	I
Science & Technology	47 (23.5%)	II	53 (26.5%)	II
Education	25 (12.5%)	III	19 (9.5%)	III
Mass Media & Journalism	10 (5%)	IV	15 (7.5%)	IV
Commerce & Management	6 (3%)	V	09 (4.5)	V
Agriculture	4 (2%)	VI	03 (1.5%)	VII
Law & Order	4 (2%)	VII	08 (4%)	VI
Defense	3 (1.5%)	VIII	01 (0.5%)	IX
Artistic & Designing	2 (1%)	IX	03 (1.5%)	VIII
Tourism & Hospitality	1 (0.5%)	X	01 (0.5%)	X

A minute analysis of the findings reported in above table showed the percentage distribution of the main career

preferences areas with ranking order of the rural and urban secondary school students. The main career preferences areas of rural secondary school students in order of rank are as Medical (49%), Science and Technology (23.5%), education (12.5%), Mass media and Journalism (5%), commerce and Management (3%), agriculture (2%) law and order (2%), defense (1.5%), artistic and designing (1%), Tourism and Hospitality (0.5%).

The main career preference areas of urban secondary school students in order of rank are as Medical (44%), Science and Technology (26.5%), education (9.5%), Mass Media & Journalism (7.5%), commerce and Management (4.5%), Law and order (4%), Agriculture (1.5%), artistic and Designing (1.5%), defense (0.5%), tourism and Hospitality (0.5%).

Table 8: Showing the comparison of percentage distribution between rural and urban high school students on 2nd career preference area of CPR (N=200 in each case)

Career preference area	Rural Number %age	Rank	Urban No. %age	Rank
Science & Technology	87 (43.5%)	I	70 (35%)	I
Medical	42 (21%)	II	53 (26.5%)	II
Education	22 (11%)	III	10 (5%)	V
Law & Order	14 (7%)	IV	06 (3%)	VI
Mass Media & Journalism	12 (6%)	V	14 (7%)	IV
Agriculture	10 (5%)	VI	05 (2.5%)	VII
Commerce & Management	06 (3%)	VII	34 (17%)	III
Artistic & Designing	03 (1.5%)	VIII	04 (2%)	VIII
Defense	02 (1%)	IX	01 (0.5%)	X
Tourism & Hospitality	02 (1%)	X	03 (1.5%)	IX

The above table shows the comparison of percentage distribution between rural and urban high school students on 2nd career preference area of CPR. The table shows that in case of rural secondary school students the 43.5% were science and technology, 21% were medical, 11% were education, 7% were law and order, 6% mass media and journalism, 5% were agriculture, 3% were commerce and management, 1.5% were artistic and designing, 1% are both tourism and Hospitality.

On the other hand urban secondary school students, the table shows that 35% Science & Technology, 26.5% Medical, 17% Commerce & Management, 7% Mass Media & Journalism, 5% Education, 3% Law & Order, 2.5% Agriculture,
2% Artistic & Designing, 1.5% Tourism & Hospitality0.5% Defense.

Table 9: Showing the comparison of percentage distribution between rural and urban secondary school students on 3rd career preference area of CPR (N =200 in each case)

Area	Rural No. %age	Rank	Urban No. %age	Rank
Education	63 (31.5%)	I	57 (28.5%)	I
Commerce & Management	37 (18.5%)	II	48 (24%)	II
Science & Technology	35 (17.5%)	III	10 (5%)	VI
Medical	27 (13.5%)	IV	19 (9.5%)	IV
Mass Media & Journalism	14 (7%)	V	9 (4.5%)	VII
Agriculture	12 (6%)	VI	8 (4%)	VIII
Law & Order	5 (2.5%)	VII	27 (13.5%)	III
Defense	4 (2%)	VIII	3 (1.5%)	IX
Artistic & Designing	2 (1%)	IX	01 (0.5%)	X
Tourism & Hospitality	1 (0.5%)	X	18 (9%)	V

The above table shows the comparison of percentage distribution between rural and urban high school students on 3rd career preference area of CPR. The table shows that in case of rural secondary school students the 31.5% preferred education, 18.5% commerce and management, 17.5% science and technology, 13.5% medical, 7% mass media and journalism, 6% agriculture, 2.5% law and order, 2% defense, 1% artistic and designing and 0.5% tourism & hospitality.

On the other hand urban secondary school students, the table shows that 28.5% preferred education, 24% commerce and management, 9.5% medical, 13.5% law and order, 9% tourism & hospitality 5% science and technology, 4.5% mass media and journalism, 4% agriculture, 1.5% defense and 0.5% artistic and designing.

Table 10: Showing the comparison of percentage distribution between Rural and Urban high school students on least Career Preference Area of CPR (N=200 in each case).

Area	Rural No. %age	Rank	Urban No. %age	Rank
Defense	65 (32.5%)	I	57 (28.5%)	I
Artistic & Designing	46 (23%)	II	80 (40%)	II
Tourism & Hospitality	45 (22.5%)	III	29 (14.5%)	VI
Law & Order	23 (11.5%)	IV	2 (1%)	IV

Agriculture	11 (5.5%)	V	19 (9.5%)	VII
Commerce & Management	4 (2%)	VI	3 (1.5%)	VIII
Mass Media & Journalism	3 (1.5%)	VII	8 (4%)	III
Education	2 (1%)	VIII	1 (0.5%)	IX
Science & Technology	1 (0.5%)	IX	1 (0.5%)	X
Medical	0	X	0	V

The above table shows the comparison of percentage distribution between Rural and Urban High School Students on least Career Preference Area of CPR. The table shows that in case of Rural Secondary School students the 32.5% opted for Defense, 23% Artistic and Designing, 22.5% Tourism & Hospitality, 11.5% Law & Order, 5.5% Agriculture, 2% Commerce & Management, 1.5% Mass media & Journalism, 1% Education, 0.5% Science & Technology and 0% Medical.
On the other hand Urban Secondary School students table shows that 40% Artistic and Designing, 28.5% opted for Defense, 14.5% Tourism & Hospitality, 9.5% Agriculture, 4% Mass media & Journalism, 1.5% Commerce & Management, 1% Law & Order, 0.5% Education, 0.5% Science & Technology and 0% Medical.

Table 11: Showing the pattern of career preference (Main) of Rural and Urban Secondary School students

Rural Secondary School Students	Urban Secondary School Students
Medical	Medical
Science and Technology	Science and Technology
Education	Education
Mass Media and Journalism	Mass Media and Journalism

The above table show pattern of main career preference areas of CPR Rural and Urban secondary school students. The table shows the main Career Preference of both Rural Secondary School Students and Urban Secondary School Students are Medical, Science and Technology, Education and Mass media & Journalism.

Table 12: Showing the pattern of career preference (2nd) of Rural and Urban Secondary School Students

Rural Secondary School Students	Urban Secondary School Students
Science and Technology	Science and Technology
Medical	Medical
Education	Commerce & Management
Law and Order	Law and Order

The above table show pattern of 2nd Career Preference Areas of CPR Rural and Urban Secondary School Students. The table shows the 2nd Career Preference of both Rural Secondary School Students and Urban Secondary School Students are Science and Technology. Rural Secondary School Students 2nd Career Preference are Medical, Education and Law and Order. Urban secondary school students 2nd career preference are Medical, Commerce & Management and Law and Order.

Table 13: Showing the pattern of Career Preference (3rd) of Rural and Urban Secondary School Students

Rural Secondary School Students	Urban Secondary School Students
Education	Education
Commerce And Management	Commerce and Management
Science and Technology	Law and Order
Medical	Medical

The above table show pattern of 3rd Career Preference Areas of CPR Rural and Urban Secondary School Students. The table shows the 3rd Career Preference of both Rural Secondary School Students and Urban Secondary School students are Education, Commerce and Management. Rural Secondary School Students 3rd Career Preference were Science and Technology and Medical. Urban Secondary School students 3rd Career Preference are Law & Order and Medical.

Table 14: Showing the pattern of Career Preference (least) of Rural and Urban Secondary School Students

Rural Secondary School Students	Urban Secondary School Students
Defense	Defense
Artistic and Designing	Artistic and Designing
Tourism and Hospitality	Mass Media and Journalism
Law and Order	Law and Order

The above table show pattern of least career preference areas of CPR Rural and Urban Secondary School Students. The table shows that the least Career Preference of both Rural Secondary School Students and Urban Secondary School Students are Defense, Artistic and Designing. Rural secondary school students least Career Preference are Tourism & Hospitality and Law & Order. Urban secondary school students least Career Preference are Mass Media & Journalism and Law and Order.
On the basis of the above evidence, the objective no. 2 which reads as, "To study the Career Preferences of Rural and Urban Secondary School Students" has been realized.

Table 15: Showing the Significance of difference between Means of Rural and Urban Secondary School Students on Mass Media and Journalism (MMJ) dimension of Career Preference.

Groups	N	Mean	S.D	t-value	Level of Significance
Rural	200	6.28	3.63	5.16	Significance at 0.01 level
Urban	200	8.05	3.60		

The above table shows the significance difference between rural and urban secondary school students on Mass Media and

Journalism dimension of career preference. The above table reveals that there is significant mean difference between Rural and Urban Students on Mass Media and Journalism dimension and difference was found to be significant at 0.01level. As the mean difference favoured urban secondary school students which confirms that urban students were found to be more inclined towards Mass Media and Journalism than Rural students.

Table 16: Showing the Significance of difference between Means of Rural and Urban Secondary School students on Artistic & Designing (AD) dimension of Career Preference.

Groups	N	Mean	S.D	t-value	Level of Significance
Rural	200	7.04	4.12	2.84	Significant at 0.01 level
Urban	200	8.17	3.76		

The above table shows that there is significant difference between Rural and Urban Secondary School Students on Artistic and Designing (AD) dimension of Career Preference. The above table reveals that there is significant mean difference between Rural and Urban students on Artistic and Designing dimension and difference was found to be significant at 0.01level. As the mean difference favoured urban secondary school students which confirms that urban students were found to be more inclined towards Artistic and Designing as compared to Rural Secondary school students.

Table 17: Showing the Significance of difference between Means of Rural and Urban Secondary School students on Science and Technology (ScT) dimension of Career Preference.

Groups	N	Mean	S.D	t-value	Level of Significance
Rural	200	8.20	3.87	4.10	Significant
Urban	200	9.77	3.56		Significant at 0.01 level

The above table shows that there is significant difference between Rural and urban secondary school students on Science and Technology (ScT) dimension of Career Preference. The above table reveals that there is significant mean difference between Rural and Urban students on Science and Technology dimension and difference was found to be significant at 0.01level. As the mean difference favoured Rural Secondary school students which confirms that rural students were found to be more inclined towards Science and Technology as compared to urban secondary school students.

Table 18: Showing the Significance of difference between Means of Rural and Urban Secondary School students on Agriculture (AG) dimension of Career Preference.

Groups	N	Mean	S.D	t-value	Level of Significance
Rural	200	9.80	3.68	7.32	Significant at 0.01 level
Urban	200	6.80	4.06		

The above table shows that there is significant difference between Rural and Urban Secondary school students on agriculture dimension of career preference. The above table reveals that there is significant mean difference between rural and urban students on agriculture dimension and difference was found to be significant at 0.01level. As the mean difference favoured rural secondary school students which confirms that rural students were found to be more inclined towards agriculture as compared to urban secondary school students.

Table 19: Showing the Significance of difference between Means of Rural and Urban Secondary School students on Commerce and Management (CM) dimension of career preference.

Groups	N	Mean	S.D	t-value	Level of Significance
Rural	200	7.29	3.88	5.95	Significant at 0.01 level
Urban	200	9.46	3.49		

The above table shows that there is significant difference between rural and urban secondary school students on commerce and management dimension of career preference. The above table reveals that there is significant mean difference between rural and urban students on commerce and management dimension and difference was found to be significant at 0.01level. As the mean difference favoured urban secondary school students which confirms that urban students were found to be more inclined towards commerce and management as compared to rural secondary school students.

Table 20: Showing the Significance of difference between Means of Rural and Urban Secondary school students on Medical (M) dimension of Career Preference.

Groups	N	Mean	S.D	t-value	Level of Significance
Rural	200	8.02	3.95	4.76	Significant at 0.01 level
Urban	200	9.88	3.54		

The above table shows that there is significant difference between Rural and Urban secondary school students on medical dimension of career preference. The above table reveals that there is significant mean difference between rural and urban students on medical dimension and difference was found to be significant at 0.01level. As the mean difference favoured urban secondary school students which confirms that urban students were found to be more inclined towards medical as compared to rural secondary school students.

Table 21: Showing the Significance of difference between Means of Rural and Urban secondary school students on Defense (D) dimension of Career Preference.

Groups	N	Mean	S.D	t-value	Level of Significance
Rural	200	8.76	3.37	4.77	Significant at 0.01 level
Urban	200	6.91	3.95		

The above table shows that there is significant difference between rural and urban secondary school students on defense dimension of career preference. The above table reveals that there is significant mean difference between rural and urban students on Defense dimension and difference was found to be significant at 0.01level. As the mean difference favoured rural secondary school students which confirms that rural students were found to be more inclined towards Defense as compared to urban secondary school students.

Table 22: Showing the Significance of difference between Means of Rural and Urban secondary school students on Tourism and Hospitality (TH) dimension of Career Preference.

Groups	N	Mean	S.D	t-value	Level of Significance
Rural	200	7.13	3.91	6.01	Significant at 0.01 level
Urban	200	9.35	3.32		

The above table shows that there is significant difference between rural and urban secondary school students on Tourism and Hospitality dimension of career preference. The above table reveals that there is significant mean difference between rural and urban students on Tourism and Hospitality dimension and difference was found to be significant at 0.01level. As the mean difference favoured urban secondary school students which confirms that urban students were found to be more inclined towards tourism and hospitality as compared to rural secondary school students.

Table 23: Showing the Significance of difference between Means of Rural and Urban secondary school students on Law & Order (LO) dimension of Career Preference.

Groups	N	Mean	S.D	t-value	Level of Significance
Rural	200	8.10	3.77	4.07	Significant at 0.01 level
Urban	200	9.58	3.32		

The above table shows that there is significant difference between rural and urban secondary school students on law and order dimension of career preference. The above table reveals that there is significant mean difference between rural and urban students on law and order dimension and difference was found to be significant at 0.01level. As the mean difference favoured urban secondary school students which confirms that urban students were found to be more inclined towards Law and Order as compared to rural secondary school students.

Table 24: Showing the Significance of difference between Means of Rural and Urban secondary school students on Education (E) dimension of Career Preference.

Groups	N	Mean	S.D	t-value	Level of Significance
Rural	200	9.91	4.00	0.25	Insignificant
Urban	200	9.80	3.93		

The above table shows the significant difference between rural and urban secondary school students on education dimension of career preference. The above table reveals that there is insignificant mean difference between rural and urban students on education dimension of career preference.

Table 25: Showing the Significance of difference between Means of Rural and Urban secondary school students on Composite Score of Career Preference

Groups	N	Mean	S.D	t-value	Level of Significance
Rural	200	75.66	27.48	6.85	Sig. at 0.01 level
Urban	200	92.63	18.82		

The above table shows that there is significant difference between rural and urban secondary school students on composite score of career preference. The above table reveals that there is significant mean difference between rural and urban students on career performance and difference was found to be significant at 0.01level. As the mean difference favoured urban secondary school students which confirms that urban students were found to be more inclined to their career preference as compared to rural secondary school students.

Table 26: Showing the percentage-wise distribution of Rural Secondary School Students and Urban Secondary School Students on Performance Standards of Academic Achievement (N=200 each)

Category	Rural		Urban	
	N	%age	N	%age
Distinction	10	5.00	52	25.00
1st Division	117	58.50	131	65.50
2nd Division	71	35.50	17	8.50
3rd Division	2	1.00	0	0.00
Total	200	100	200	100

The above table shows the percentage wise distribution of rural and urban secondary school students on performance standards of academic achievement. in case of rural secondary school students, the table revealed that 5% were distinction holders, 58.50% were 1st division holders, 35.50 were 2nd division holders and 1.0% were 3rd division holders. In case of Urban secondary school students the table revealed that 25% were distinction holders, 65.50% were 1st division holders, 8.50 were 2nd division holders and 0% were 3rd division holders.

Table 27: Showing the mean comparison between rural and urban secondary school students on their academic achievement

Groups	N	Mean	S.D	t-value	Level of Significance
Rural	200	62.40	7.43	10.14	Significant at 0.01 level
Urban	200	69.61	6.90		

The above table shows that there is significant difference between rural and urban secondary school students on their academic achievements. The above table reveals that there is significant mean difference between rural and urban students on their academic achievement and difference was found to be significant at 0.01level. As the mean difference favoured urban secondary school students which confirms that urban students have higher academic achievement as compared to rural secondary school students.

On the basis of the above results, it is evident that the hypotheses No. 3 which reads as, "Rural and urban secondary school students differ significantly on academic achievement stands accepted.

Major Findings of the Study

On the basis of the results the following major findings have been drawn out from the present study.

1. It was found that main career preference areas of high school students are medical (46.5%), science and technology (25%), education (11%), Mass Media and Journalism (6.25%), commerce and management (3.75%) law and order (3%), agriculture (1.75%), artistic and designing (1.25%), defense (1%), Tourism and Hospitality (0.5%). It was found that 2nd career preference areas of the high school students are science and technology (39.25%), medical (23.75%), commerce and management (10%), education (8%), mass media and

journalism (6.25%), law and order (5.25%), agriculture (3.75%), artistic and designing (1.75%), tourism and hospitality (1.25%) defense (0.75%). It was found that 3rd career preference areas of high school students in order of rank are education (30%), commerce and Management (21.25%), science and Technology (15.5%), Medical (11.25%), Mass Media and Journalism (8.25%), Agriculture (5.5%) Law and order (3.5%), Artistic and Designing (3%), Defense (1.25%), Tourism and Hospitality (0.5%).

2. The findings of the study showed that least career preference areas of high school students are defense (36.25%), Tourism and Hospitality (25.5%), Artistic and Designing (18.75%), Law & Order (10.5%), Agriculture (4.75%), Commerce and Management (1.75%), Mass Media and Journalism (1.25%), Education (0.75%), Science and Technology (0.5%) and Medical (00%).
3. The findings of the study showed the urban secondary school students are 44% were medical as a main career preference areas, 35% were science and technology as a 2nd career preference area, 28.5% were education as a 3rd career preference area and 40% were artistic and designing as least career preference areas.
4. The findings showed the main career preferences areas of rural secondary school students in order of rank are as Medical (49%), Science and Technology (23.5%), education (12.5%), Mass media and Journalism (5%), commerce and Management (3%), agriculture (2%) law and order (2%), defense (1.5%), artistic and designing (1%), Tourism and Hospitality (0.5%). It was found that main career preference areas of urban secondary school students in order of rank are as Medical (44%), Science and Technology (26.5%), Education (9.5%), Mass Media & Journalism (7.5%), Commerce and Management (4.5%), Law and order (4%), Agriculture (1.5%), Artistic and Designing (1.5%), Defense (0.5%), Tourism and Hospitality (0.5%).
5. It was found that rural high school students on 2nd career preference area of CPR are 43.5% were science and technology, 21% were Medical, 11% were Education, 7% were Law and order, 6% Mass media and journalism, 5% were Agriculture, 3% were Commerce and Management, 1.5% were Artistic and Designing, 1% are both Defense and Tourism and Hospitality.It was found that urban secondary school students on 2nd career preference area of CPR are 35% Science & Technology, 26.5% Medical, 17% Commerce & Management, 7% Mass Media & Journalism, 5% Education, 3% Law & Order, 2.5% Agriculture,, 2% Artistic & Designing, 1.5% Tourism & Hospitality and 0.5% Defense.
6. It was found rural high school students on 3rd career preference area of CPR are 31.5% Education, 18.5% Commerce and Management, 17.5% Science and Technology, 13.5% Medical, 7% Mass media and Journalism, 6% agriculture, 2.5% Law and Order, 2% Defense, 1% Artistic and designing and 0.5% Tourism & Hospitality.
7. It was found that urban secondary school students on 3rd career preference area of CPR are 28.5% education, 24% commerce and management, 13.5% law and order, 9.5% Medical, 9% Tourism & Hospitality, 5% Science and Technology,, 4.5% Mass media and Journalism, 4% Agriculture,, 1.5% Defense, 0.5% Artistic and Designing.
8. It was found that rural secondary school student`s on least career preference area of CPR are 32.5% defense, 23% artistic and designing, 22.5% tourism & hospitality, 11.5% law & order, 5.5% agriculture, 2% commerce & management, 1.5% mass media & journalism, 1% education, 0.5% science & technology.
9. It was found that urban secondary school students least career preference area of CPR are 40% Artistic and Designing, 28.5% Defense, 14.5% Tourism & Hospitality, 9.5% Agriculture, 4% Mass media & Journalism, 1.5% Commerce & Management, 1% Law & Order, 0.5% Education, 0.5% Science & Technology.
10. It was found that both rural and urban secondary school students on main career preference areas of CPR, preferred Medical, Science and Technology, Education and Mass media & journalism.
11. It was found that 2nd career preference of both rural and urban secondary school students are Science and Technology. Rural secondary school students 2nd career preference are Medical, Education and Law and Order. Urban secondary school students 2nd career preference are Medical, Commerce & Management, and Law and order. It was found that the 3rd career preference of both rural and urban secondary school students are Education, Commerce and Management.
12. It was found that rural secondary school student`s least career preference are tourism & hospitality and law & order. Urban secondary school student`s least career preference are mass media & journalism and law and order.
13. It was found that on performance standards of Academic Achievement of rural and urban secondary school students, 15.50% were distinction holders, 62.0% were 1st division holders, 22.0% were 2nd division holders and only 0.5% were 3rd division holders. It was found that on performance standards of Academic Achievement of rural secondary school students, 5% were distinction holders, 58.50% were 1st division holders, 35.50 were 2nd division holders and 1.0% were 3rd division holders. In case of urban secondary school student`s the table revealed that 25% were distinction holders, 65.50% were 1st division holders, 8.50 were 2nd division holders and 0% were 3rd division holders.
14. It was found that there is significant mean difference between rural and urban students on Agriculture dimension of career preference and rural student`s were found to be more inclined towards agriculture as compared to urban secondary school students.
15. It was found that there is significant mean difference between rural and urban student`s on commerce and management dimension of career preference and urban students were found to be more inclined towards commerce and management as compared to rural secondary school students.
16. It was found that there is significant mean difference between rural and urban students on medical dimension of career preference and urban students were found to be

more inclined towards medical as compared to rural secondary school students.

17. It was found that there is significant mean difference between rural and urban students on defense dimension of career preference and rural students were found to be more inclined towards defense as compared to urban secondary school students.
18. It was found that there is significant mean difference between rural and urban students on tourism and hospitality dimension of career preference and urban students were found to be more inclined towards tourism and hospitality as compared to rural secondary school students.
19. It was found that there is significant mean difference between rural and urban students on law and order dimension of career preference and urban students were found to be more inclined towards law and order as compared to rural secondary school students.It was found that there is insignificant mean difference between rural and urban students on Education dimension of career preference.
20. It was found that there is significant mean difference between rural and urban students on career preference and urban students were found to be more inclined to their career preference as compared to rural secondary school students.
21. It was found that there is significant mean difference between rural and urban students on their Academic Achievement and urban student`s have higher Academic Achievement as compared to rural secondary school students.

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