

(ABSTRACT) Education is a basic human right for all and is important for everyone to make the most of their lives. The present situation of education in India is that, despite the fact that notable progress has been made in universalization of elementary education, as is clear from the improved access, near total enrollment and higher literacy levels, the situation is still characterized by irregular attendance and dropouts among children.

It is specifically against this background that the present sponsored by ICSSR study is an attempt to explore the school dropout percentages among all educational levels in Pune district. This research work is descriptive in nature and the Secondary data has been collected of Pune districts especially of academic three years from 2013 to 2016 for all educational levels in talukas of Pune district.

The observations and findings reveal maximum for all combined educational levels are a fluctuating increasing trend for Pune district, very few governmental actions could control the school dropouts.

KEYWORDS: School Dropouts, UDISE, Secondary Data, Pune district, Elementary education, Secondary education. Pune Talukas.

INTRODUCTION:

Student dropout from school is an important concern, which is visible through two indicators. First, since the last century there has been a significant rise in the number of academic papers addressing this issue. A substantial amount of research is done in this area. Second, the EBSCO Search engines also provides thousands of academic papers for the key words "dropouts" and "education".

In the same way, there are fewer studies committed for Maharashtra state and especially for Pune district. The current revision on Pune district will add to the existing knowledge on the trends in dropout percent for the state. The curiosity originated for the reason being, it is reported only 75 percent of the children went to school for pursuing education in Pune district; 14 percent children remained Out of School and 11 percent of the children were completely School Dropouts. (NUEPA–UDISE Reports, 2016).

Hence, for understanding the gist of overall dropout percentages for Pune district, an attempt is made in this study to explore the trends in talukas of the Pune district.

METHODOLOGY/APPROACH:

ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION:

The present study is purely based on the analysis of secondary data retrieved from the official website of the ministry of Human Resource Department, Government of India. The data set of three years from 2013 to 2016 was retrieved in October 2017.

The different Taluka (15 Talukas) figures are pooled together centered on *five* administrative sub-divisions. These sub-divisions are defined by the government for administrative purpose. Since the data on the website stands up-dated up to the year 2017, as such the findings simply reflect a trend in the dropout percent in Pune District (talukas/blocks) till then and it may show variation by the time figures if updates done in later period.

Limitations:

The existing study is general in nature and is confined only for Primary, Upper primary and Secondary level. The scope of study covers only the trends of dropout percentages of elementary and secondary educational levels in all Taluka of Pune district for three years from 2013 to 2016. The other aspects such as enrollment growth rates, dropout differentials based on socio-economic / demographics are not covered in the study. Hence, based on diverse socio-economic conditions of the district, the findings cannot be generalized for other districts of Maharashtra state.

The analysis on the trends in dropout percentages in varied talukas of Pune district are presented below in four sections:

- 1. Primary School Level Trends 1st to 5th Standard;
- 2. Upper Primary School Level Trends -6^{th} to 8^{th} Standard;
- 3. Secondary School Level Trends 9th to 10th Standard;
- 4. Overall School Level Trends -1^{st} till 10^{th} Standard.

able 1 Pune District: Trends In Enrollment & Dropout At Primary	y Level(1 st To 5 th Standard)	(in Figures)
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Administrati	Taluka	2013-14		2014-15		2015-16		In Percentages			
ve Sub- divisions		Enrollment	Dropout	Enrollment	Dropout	Enrollment	Dropout	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	Average Of Three Vears
Baramati	Baramati	36116	0	34995	329	35379	0	0.00*	0.94	0.00*	0.31
Sub-Division	Daund	33823	115	32912	721	33313	154	0.34	2.19	0.46	1
	Indapur	35450	530	35938	420	36344	489	1.5	1.17	1.35	1.34
	Total	105389	645	103845	1470	105036	643	0.61	1.42	0.61	0.88
Bhor	Bhor	12483	118	12126	119	11981	111	0.95	0.98	0.93	0.95
Sub-Division	Purandar	17403	142	17394	47	17651	155	0.82	0.27	0.88	0.66
	Velhe	3970	116	3789	59	3537	120	2.92	1.56	3.39	2.62
	Total	33856	376	33309	225	33169	386	1.11	0.68	1.16	0.98
Pune	Haveli	168791	0	174872	68	180639	1677	0.00^{*}	0.04	0.93	0.32
Sub-Division	Punecity	284051	610	285517	3976	286745	4762	0.21	1.39	1.66	1.09
	Pimpri Chinchwad	69890	0	68055	3497	70730	103	0.00*	5.14	0.15	1.76
	Total	522732	610	528444	7541	538114	6542	0.12	1.43	1.22	0.92
Khed	Ambegaon	17731	37	16976	41	16715	54	0.21	0.24	0.32	0.26
Sub-Division	Junnar	32866	104	32231	102	31800	304	0.32	0.32	0.96	0.53
	Khed	38959	0	39742	0	41546	0	0.00^{*}	0.00^{*}	0.00*	0
	Shirur	35048	163	35718	105	36880	27	0.47	0.29	0.07	0.28
	Total	124604	304	124667	248	126941	385	0.24	0.2	0.3	0.25
Submi	itted : 29 th I	March,2019		Accepte	ed : 04 th	June,2019		Publicatio	on: 01 st Se	ptember,	2019

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Maval	Maval	32787	0	33785	0	34999	295	0.00*	0.00*	0.84	0.28
Sub-Division	Mulshi	19973	0	21739	0	23390	34	0.00^{*}	0.00^{*}	0.15	0.05
	Total	52760	0	55524	0	58389	329	0*	0*	0.56	0.19
	GRAND	839341	1935	845789	9484	861649	8285	0.23	1.12	0.96	0.77
	TOTAL										
Source: U-DIS	SE-Schoolrep	ortcards in: N	Note: (*) d	enotes percenta	iges are not	calculated due	to inconsis	tent enrollm	ent data rer	orted for th	ne Taluka

1. Primary School Level Dropouts (Analysis and discussion):

• The Pattern of primary school level dropout percentages for Pune District as a whole has been fluctuating in range of 0.23 percent to 1.12 percent for the past three years from 2013 to 2016.

- Bhor sub-division, Pune sub-division records the highest 0.98 percent and 0.92 percent respectively followed by the next level Baramati sub-division which is 0.88 percent.
- Khed Sub-division and Maval Sub-division witnessed a low dropout of 0.25 percent and 0.19 percent accordingly in Primary school level.

Key highlights noted in different talukas (for Primary level):

In Baramati Sub-division, Daund Taluka is recorded to have the

highest dropout percentage as compared to Indapur.
In Bhor Sub-division, Purandar Taluka and Bhor Taluka is witnessed to have dropout percentage less than 1 percent throughout the noticed three years.

- In Khed sub-division, Shirur taluka showed a consistent decline in the dropout percentage for the observed years. Ambegoan Taluka and Junnar Taluka witnessed a consistent mild increase in dropout percentages for all the three years. (*The increase is from 0.21 percentage to 0.32 percent in Ambegoan Taluka and 0.32 percent to 0.96 percent for Junnar Taluka*).
- In Pune sub-division, the dropout percentage for primary school level is higher in Pimpri-Chinchwad region (5.14 percent) in comparison to Pune city (1.39 percent) the highest especially for the year 2014-15.

Table 2pune District: Trends In Enrollment & Dropout At Upper- Primary Level(6th To 8th Standard) (in Figures)

Taluka	2013	-14	2014-	-15	2015-16			In Percentages			
	Enrollment	Dropout	Enrollment	Dropout	Enrollment	Dropout	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	Average Of	
										Three Years	
Baramati	22728	25	23074	142	22440	246	0.11	0.62	1.10	0.61	
Daund	20431	262	20355	240	19902	223	1.28	1.18	1.12	1.19	
Indapur	21052	32	21042	0	20929	10	0.15	0.00*	0.05	0.07	
Total	64211	319	64471	382	63271	479	0.50	0.59	0.76	0.62	
Bhor	8221	256	7927	118	7666	99	3.11	1.49	1.29	1.96	
Purandar	11211	52	11276	58	10866	34	0.46	0.51	0.31	0.43	
Velhe	2903	70	2677	61	2493	43	2.41	2.28	1.72	2.14	
Total	22335	378	21880	237	21025	176	1.69	1.08	0.84	1.20	
Haveli	96628	284	99855	344	101163	1293	0.29	0.34	1.28	0.64	
Punecity	156519	3059	157931	4419	159965	4055	1.95	2.80	2.53	2.43	
Pimpri Chinchwad	35400	684	35293	2059	36633	635	1.93	5.83	1.73	3.16	
Total	288547	4027	293079	6822	297761	5983	1.40	2.33	2.01	1.91	
Ambegaon	12108	12	11846	11	11276	61	0.10	0.09	0.54	0.24	
Junnar	21103	129	21050	143	20527	188	0.61	0.68	0.92	0.74	
Khed	23711	21	23906	283	24034	461	0.09	1.18	1.92	1.06	
Shirur	20508	133	20842	60	20915	207	0.65	0.29	0.99	0.64	
Total	77430	295	77644	497	76752	917	0.38	0.64	1.19	0.74	
Maval	19222	132	19247	167	18979	292	0.69	0.87	1.54	1.03	
Mulshi	9418	0	10231	0	11293	37	0.00*	0.00*	0.33	0.11	
Total	28640	132	29478	167	30272	329	0.46	0.57	1.09	0.71	
GRAND TOTAL	933686	10170	943626	16044	947890	15439	1.07	1.67	1.61	1.45	

Source: U-DISE-Schoolreportcards.in; Note: (*) denotes percentages are not calculated due to inconsistent enrollment data reported for the Taluka.

2. Upper-Primary School Level Dropouts: (Analysis and discussion):

- There is existence of Upper Primary school dropouts for the district and the percentage of dropouts' level is 1.45 percent. The dropout percentage is greater than 1 percent when compared with primary level dropout percentage.
- Pune sub-division and Bhor sub-division recorded greater than 1
 percent (1.91 percent and 1.20 Percent respectively) when
 compared with other sub-divisions. To indicate, Khed subdivision, Maval sub-division and Baramati sub-division recorded
 0.74 percent, 0.71 percent and 0.62 percent respectively a little
 lower than 1 percentage.
- Thorough, Upper primary level dropouts has been moving from 1 percent to 2 percent in Pune district for the previous three years from 2013 to 2016.

Key highlights noted in different talukas (for Upper Primary level): In Baramati Sub-division, Baramati Taluka alone recorded an

increase of upper primary level dropouts' percentage, *(the increase is from 0.11 to 1.10 percent in 2013-16)*, whereas, Daund and Indapur Talukas witnessed a decline over the observed years.

- In Bhor sub-division, Purandhar Taluka exhibited a fluctuating percentages for the observed period which is quite noteworthy. Whereas, Bhor Taluka and Velhe Taluka records a decline for the year 2013 to 2016.
- In Pune Sub-division, Pimpri Chinchwad extended city and Pune city Taluka witnessed an increase in upper primary dropouts from 1.95 percent to 2.53 percent in 2013-16. Despite the fact, Haveli Taluka compared with the Pune city Taluka' had an increase in dropout percentage, but comparatively lower.
- In Khed Sub-division, Ambegoan Taluka, Junnar Taluka and Khed Taluka has a steady increase in upper primary school level dropout percentages for all the observed years.
- In Maval Sub-division, there is an upsurge observed for upper primary dropout percentages especially in Maval Taluka. The fact is from 0.69 percent to 1.54 percent for the period 2013-2016.

Table 3pune District: Trends In Enrollment &	Dropout At Secondary Level(9	9 th To 10 th Standard) (in Figures)
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Taluka	2013-14		2014-15		2015-16		In Percentages			
	Enrollment Dropout Enroll		Enrollment	Dropout	Enrollment	Enrollment Dropout 2		2014-15	2015-16	Average Of
										Three Years
Baramati	14192	875	14280	7291	14455	5342	6.17	51.06	36.96	31.4
Daund	12058	2037	12573	2021	12657	1999	16.89	16.07	15.79	16.25
Indapur	13188	2150	13531	2475	13701	1242	16.3	18.29	9.07	14.55

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[•] The district average recorded 0.77 percent of school dropouts existed in primary school level.

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Total	26250	2912	40384	11787	40813	8583	11.09	29.19	21.03	20.44
Bhor	5335	623	5383	606	5376	543	11.68	11.26	10.1	11.01
Purandar	7339	960	7383	751	4244	794	13.08	10.17	18.71	13.99
Velhe	1876	705	1874	614	1842	589	37.58	32.76	31.98	34.11
Total	14550	2288	14640	1971	11462	1926	15.73	13.46	16.8	15.33
Haveli	29820	9786	61350	8639	61300	8932	32.82	14.08	14.57	20.49
Punecity	58424	15467	92714	13432	94193	14522	26.47	14.49	15.42	18.79
Pimpri Chinchwad	18900	3205	19584	3889	20429	3979	16.96	19.86	19.48	18.77
Total	107145	28458	173648	25960	175922	27433	26.56	14.95	15.59	19.03
Ambegaon	7896	1118	8070	1316	8122	1124	14.16	16.31	13.84	14.77
Junnar	13341	1739	13449	1509	13561	1535	13.04	11.22	11.32	11.86
Khed	13691	3029	13788	3629	13832	3217	22.12	26.32	23.26	23.9
Shirur	12310	1735	12860	1727	6869	1685	14.09	13.43	24.53	17.35
Total	47238	7621	48167	8181	42384	7561	16.13	16.98	17.84	16.98
Maval	11865	2963	11972	3010	11777	3154	24.97	25.14	26.78	25.63
Mulshi	5390	1487	5660	1032	5862	703	27.59	18.23	11.99	19.27
Total	17255	4450	17632	4042	17639	3857	25.79	22.92	21.87	23.53
GRAND TOTAL	420809	89159	571310	99840	558801	94862	21.19	17.48	16.98	18.55
Source: U-DISE-So	choolreportcards.i	n; Note: (*) c	lenotes percer	itages are no	t calculated du	le to inconsi	stent enrol	lment data	reported f	or the Taluka.

3. Secondary School Level Dropouts (Analysis and discussion):

- There is existence of greater level of secondary school level dropouts for the district. The dropouts recorded is to be on an average of 18.55 percent for the observed years.
- The dropout percentages are very higher in almost all the subdivisions. The highest is recorded in Maval sub-division (23.5 Percent) and Baramati sub-division (20.44 percent) followed by Pune sub-division (19.03 percent); Khed sub-division (16.98 percent) and Bhor Sub-division (15.33 [percent).
- Overall, the trend of secondary level dropouts has been between 16 percent and 21 percent in Pune district for the previous three years from 2013 to 2016.

Key highlights noted in different talukas (for Secondary level):

In Baramati Sub-division, there is an extremely increase of secondary level dropouts witnessed especially in Baramati Taluka. To mention, the increase recorded 6.17 percent in 2013-14 to 51.06 percent the consecutive year in 2014-15, which is quite alarming.

Besides, Indapur Taluka witnessed fluctuations and Daund Taluka a continuous decline in secondary school level dropout percentages over the observed years.

- In Bhor Sub-division, though Purandhar Taluka witnessed an increase and fluctuations in percentages of secondary level dropouts, Velhe Taluka noted the highest dropout percent among the rest talukas.
- In Pune Sub-division, Pimpri Chinchwad extended city and Pune city Taluka witnessed fluctuations in the observed period, however, Haveli Taluka noted as the highest secondary level dropout taluka among all in this sub-division.
- In Khed Sub-division, Ambegoan taluka, Khed Taluka and Shirur Taluka noted an increase along with fluctuations in secondary level dropouts for the period 2013 to 2016. At the same time, Junnar Taluka had the lowest and decreasing dropouts.
- In Maval Sub-division, Maval Taluka reported the highest and Mulshi Taluka recorded the lowest and decreasing trend for secondary level dropouts.

Administrative	Taluka	2013-14		2014-	2014-15		-16	In Percentages			
Sub-divisions		Enrollment	Dropout	Enrollment	Dropout	Enrollment	Dropout	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	Average Of Three Years
Baramati	Baramati	73036	900	72349	7762	72274	5588	1.23	10.73	7.73	6.56
Sub-Division	Daund	66312	2414	65840	2982	65872	2376	3.64	4.53	3.61	3.93
	Indapur	69690	2712	70511	2895	70974	1741	3.89	4.11	2.45	3.48
	Total	209038	6026	208700	13639	209120	9705	2.88	6.54	4.64	4.69
Bhor	Bhor	26039	997	25436	843	25023	753	3.83	3.31	3.01	3.38
Sub-Division	Purandar	35953	1154	36053	856	32761	983	3.21	2.37	3.00	2.86
	Velhe	8749	891	8340	734	7872	752	10.18	8.80	9.55	9.51
	Total	70741	3042	69829	2433	65656	2488	4.30	3.48	3.79	3.86
Pune	Haveli	295239	10070	336077	9052	343102	11902	3.41	2.69	3.47	3.19
Sub-Division	Punecity	498994	19136	536162	21827	540903	23338	3.83	4.07	4.31	4.07
	Pimpri Chinchwad	124190	3889	122932	9445	127792	4717	3.13	7.68	3.69	4.83
	Total	918424	33095	995171	40324	1011797	39958	3.60	4.05	3.95	3.87
Khed	Ambegaon	37735	1167	36892	1368	36113	1239	3.09	3.71	3.43	3.41
Sub-Division	Junnar	67310	1972	66730	1754	65888	2027	2.93	2.63	3.08	2.88
	Khed	76361	3050	77436	3912	79412	3678	3.99	5.05	4.63	4.56
	Shirur	67866	2031	69420	1892	64664	1919	2.99	2.73	2.97	2.90
	Total	249272	8220	250478	8926	246077	8863	3.30	3.56	3.60	3.49
Maval	Maval	63874	3095	65004	3177	65755	3741	4.85	4.89	5.69	5.14
Sub-Division	Mulshi	34781	1487	37630	1032	40545	774	4.28	2.74	1.91	2.98
	Total	98655	4582	102634	4209	106300	4515	4.64	4.10	4.25	4.33
	GRAND TOTAL	1546130	54965	1626812	69531	1638950	65529	3.56	4.27	4.00	3.94

Table 4pune District: Trends In Enrollment & Dropout At All Levels (overall)(1st To 10th Standard) (in Figures)

Source: U-DISE-Schoolreportcards.in;

4. Overall -Elementary and Secondary Education level dropouts (All educational level analysis):

Table 4 presents the dropout percentage trends of previous three years OVERALL for all Educational Levels (from 2013 to 2016) in each

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sub-division as well as Taluka of Pune District.

Baramati Sub-division: (The sub-division include Baramati Taluka, Daund Taluka and Indapur Taluka)

- In Baramati sub-division, taluka-wise observations exhibited quite thought-provoking facts. Merely Baramati Taluka detailed an increase in complete educational levels dropouts up to 10.73 percent in 2014-15. This chance is associated with due to high secondary school level dropouts (table 3). In 2015-16, Baramati Taluka witnessed total dropouts up to 7.73 percent (from 1st standard to 10th standard) which is comparatively high among all talukas of Pune District.
- Daund and Indapur talukas recorded fluctuations in overall dropouts over the past observed three years.
- Largely the observations for Baramati sub-division shows an increasing dropout trends and it fluctuated wide-ranging in the middle of 2.88 percent to 6.54 percent when all educational levels are considered.

Bhor Sub-division:

(The sub-division include Bhor Taluka, Purandhar Taluka and Velhe Taluka)

- Taluka wise observations displays that there is a decreasing trend of dropouts in Bhor taluka when considering the overall educational levels. It is 3.83 percent in 2013-14 to 3.01 percent in 2015-16.
- Purandhar Taluka nonetheless witnessed a decline (2.37 percent) in complete dropouts in 2014-15 compared with the previous year, yet again recorded a slight increase up to 3 percent in 2015-16.
- Velhe Taluka recorded the highest dropout percentages. The trend is wide-ranging from 8.80 percent to 10.18 percent for all levels. The chance is associated with secondary school level dropouts figures (Table 3).
- Generally, Bhor Sub-division all educational level dropouts are stated as 4.30 percent, 3.48 percent, and 3.79 percent in 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 respectively.

Pune Sub-division:

(The sub-division includes Pimpri - Chinchwad extended city, Pune city taluka, and Haveli Taluka)

- Typically in Pune sub-division, the trends in dropout percentages against enrollment figures are observed to be wide-ranging from 3.60 percent to 4.05 percent. Pimpri - Chinchwad extended city Taluka recorded a high dropouts especially in 2014-15 (7.68 percent). The Chance associated for this observation is the higher upper primary school level dropouts reported for the same year.
- Pune city Taluka overall displayed a continuous increasing dropout trend, from 3.83 percent in 2013-14 to 4.07 percent in 2014-15 followed by 4.31 percent in 2015-16.
- Haveli Taluka witnessed a declining tendency overall due to slight fall in upper primary dropouts (table 2) in 2014-15. It is 2.69 percent, whereas for the other observed years the percentages were 3.41 in 2013-14 and 3.47 in 2015-16 for all educational levels.

Khed Sub-division:

(The sub-division includes Ambegoan Taluka, Khed Taluka, Junnar Taluka and Shirur Taluka)

- Taluka wise observations exhibited an increasing trend in Shirur Taluka dropouts wide-ranging from 2.73 percent to 2.99 percent.
- Junnar Taluka and Ambegaon Taluka saw an increase in dropouts, but a fluctuating tendency noted from 2.93 percent to 3.08 percent and 3.09 percent to 3.43 percent respectively for the period 2013-2016.
- While Khed Taluka at specific level is observed (for all educational levels), witnessed the highest dropouts among all talukas. The trend is 3.99 percent in 2013-14 to a higher 5.05 percent in 2014-15 and 4.63 percent in 2015-16. Overall dropouts in Khed sub-division (inclusive of all educational levels) are observed to vary from 3.30 percent to 3.60 percent.

Maval Sub-division:

(The sub-division includes Maval Taluka and Mulshi Taluka)

- The trend for Maval sub-division as a whole is observed to have an increasing trend. Overall, sub-division had 4.10 percent to 4.64 percent for the observed years. Simply Maval taluka reported 4.85 percent to 5.69 percent in 2013-2016.
- Alternatively, Mulshi Taluka exhibits a decreasing trend over the years. To quote, from 4.28 percent in 2013-14 to 2.74 percent in

2014-15 and further decrease in all level dropouts occurred is 1.91 percent in 2015-16.

- Complete Dropouts for Elementary and Secondary Education (OVERALL (1st to 10th standard) for All Educational Levels):
- Overall for the elementary and secondary education level the average dropout percentage is 3.94 percent.
- Among all sub-divisions, Baramati sub-division records the highest 4.69 percent (especially this is due to secondary level increase in dropouts). This is again studied in Maval sub-division which is 4.33 percent. Both the sub-divisions are above 4 percent.
- The other sub-divisions Pune sub-division (3.87 percent), Bhor sub-division (3.86 percent) and Khed Sub-division (3.49 percent) reported percentages trending between 3 and 4 percent.
- On the whole, for overall Pune district and for all combined educational levels *the school dropout pattern observed is fluctuating though at a slower pace, but an increasing trend.*

Plausible Causes for remaining a Dropout (As Identified from Literature Review):

The review of literature identifies a number of factors that appear to influence the decision to dropping out of school. A substantial amount of research has been dedicated to establishing the causes leading to school dropouts. Majority of them indicate that that there is not a single factor, but rather a combination of factors. Dropout factors are so intertwined that it is extremely difficult to separate them both theoretically and empirically. [Lyche (2010); Govindaraju and Venkatesan (2010); Chirtes (2010); Lamot et al., (2013); Rumberger (1983); .Dalton (2009)]

Accessibility and Availability: Poverty, availability and convenience are the major reasons of school dropouts in India. In some of the schools, students do not get sufficient infrastructure, sufficient transport facilities and even the schools are too far. Thus all these aspects affect the education of the students and which leads to dropping out of the schools. [Tilak (1996); Shanta Sinha (2000)].

School Atmosphere: The schools are detrimental to student learning, Students are sometimes suspended for minor violations (such as "talking back to the teacher"), or placed in "remedial classes, etc. Many of the schools lack adequate guidance counselling. The curriculum is not relevant to the needs of the students being taught. Teachers are not trained in the latest teaching/learning/technology techniques. [Rumberger (1987); Baluch and Shahid (2008); Chirtes (2010)].

Lack of attentiveness: It is usually observed that every class of students has some of those learners who refuse to show any attention to the subjects being taught. Their lack of interest is caused by their lack of attention in whatever is being taught. It is not that such students do not try. They do try as and when they are forced and pressurized to. It is then that these students prefer going the other way. They prefer dropping out of their school. Many students leave the schools because of the inability to deal with the academic pressure and debilitating anxiety. Many parents have high expectations about their children they never consider the abilities and interests of the children. Children are forced to go to schools where they have no interest and they never complete and most of the time becomes a failure. Some of them end up in alcoholism and substance abuse [Govindaraju and Venkatesan (2010)]

Family upbringing of the students: There is often a bang between the family values and those of the school. The students come from families from low socio-economic backgrounds, where there are many other children. Older children often have to go to work in order to supply the family with much-needed funds for basic family needs or need to stay home to take care of younger siblings so that their parents can work. Many children are products of divorce, separation or, sometimes, family violence. [Roul and Sahoo (2005)]

Absence of supportive family: It is unfortunate that students have to give up their education in the face of economic reasons. The inability to pay the school fee can be one such reason. Several demanding situations surfaces where adolescent children of the family are asked or looked upon as a helping hand to the family. These children are often emotionally led into abandoning their academic life and focus their attention to the family crisis. Most of the girls abandon their studies to Supplement Household Income. [Rao (2000); Neyazi Ahmed (2002);

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Sharma et al, (2007)].

Learning Not Echoed as Necessary: Many individuals feel that what to do after studies. They have to do the same job that their parents have been doing. Therefore these children leave the schools during the primary schooling itself. Neither parents nor children consider education as a need. In their own words 'padayi kyom karana hai, waise bhi yehi kaam karna hi'. [Nayan Tara (2005)].

Misbehavior and Wrong decisions made by the students themselves:

This is a tough truth of life. Children in their teens, as school students are not well aware of the various facets of the world. They get fascinated by the fancy things that life seems to offer. But every shortcut taken to acquire all those fanciful things is a step ahead towards law-breaking. They make wrong decisions. They get involved with gangs, drugs/alcohol, and commit crimes, in case of girls get pregnant. Many have a poor school attitude and are frequently bored by school. They are disconnected to their families, school and life. They do not see the reasons they need to go to school. [Entwisle et al, (2004); Satadru and Mukherjee (2012); Dewitt et al, (2013)].

Constant failure/disappointment: Some students fail repeatedly, be it in class tests or examinations. The constant failure causes the lack of self confidence in them. As and when the failure persists, the lack of self-confidence vanishes, starts to feel disinterested in the consequences any more, and they drop out of the schools. The fear of being judged and laughed at holds them back from coming in the light. They start making excuses from going to school [Jimerson et al, (2000); Chirtes (2010)].

Frequent change of schools: Some students adapt themselves pretty easily irrespective of the number of schools they change. Frequent changes causes adjustment problems to children leads to disinterest and they drop out of the schools. The few other contributing reasons are following traditions, such as not sending girls to school once they get into teens, child marriage and pregnancy, etc.

CONCLUSION:

Thus the reality of school dropouts is caused by various aspects. Some drop out of schools voluntarily while others are forced to do so under terrible circumstances. School dropout is a widespread fact. Whatever be the reason, the mere fact that a child is not completing her/his school education is not righteous. Such children, many a times fail to be an asset for the nation given their helplessness to contribute in any way. No reason can be big enough and act as a replacement for school education. It forms the base of a person's life making them efficient in all phases.

Even though the governmental actions have improved the enrolments but very few actions could control the school dropouts. It is in the interest of the society to deal with issues of school dropouts and school completion, hence, only then achievement of zero percent dropouts and universalization of education can be realized.

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