PREFACE

India has been facing multifarious problems since her independence and the field of education has emerged as a major one. The general feeling of unrest among the present youth arising from the problem of indentification and social insecurity is making them reckless in their attitudes and behaviour. This state of uncertainty has affected their social and personal adjustments and is being reflected in the diminishing standards of educational achievement. In order to build a strong and prosperous nation, it is imperative to have well-educated, well-adjusted youths and to achieve this goal, attention must be focussed to the fundamental socializing agency — the home of the child.

It is agreed by psychologists and educationists that home has an important effect on scholastic achievement. The ambition, however awakened in the child, is usually transferred into a positive drive by the home and the family, and the individual pursues it till fulfilment. But inspite of this realisation, not much has been done to find out which aspect of home makes the major contribution to educational achievement or to ascertain the extent of home influence upon it.

The available literature on this topic shows that the major part of the studies are devoted to some particular aspects of home and its influence on educational progress.
In the present study a global approach to this problem has been made. As far as the author's knowledge goes, in no study undertaken in India this approach has been followed. Moreover, none has attempted a multiple regression analysis with so many variables as done by the present investigator to determine the contribution of home environment on academic achievement. In this respect, the present endeavour of the author may claim some originality.

Different phases of the work have been reported in different sections. The introduction gives a general idea of the topic. In the first chapter, a survey of available literature on previous investigations on the problem has been recorded. The second chapter deals with operational definitions and the instruments used for the study. The third chapter describes the study design, sample, method of data collection and method of computation. Results have been discussed in the fourth chapter. The fifth, and the final chapter, presents the conclusions from the obtained results, the limitation and potentialities of the work.

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