ABSTRACT

Guide
Dr. IYAPPEN M.A., M. Phil. Ph. D

Candidate
S. Samuel Ravi
Reg. No. 8337

TITLE : SOCIO – ECONOMIC IMPACT OF HIGHER EDUCATION CHOICES

The present study has been undertaken with the paramount objective of identifying the determinants and motivators of higher educational choices in Kanniyakumari District. The role of higher education is important in achieving the goals in terms of employment income and ultimately a better life. So, it attracts both the rich and the poor to join either professional or non-professional courses at post-higher secondary level. Privatisation has made higher education a commercial product which is offered in different forms according to the needs of human capital in the changing industrial-technological world. Consequently, choice of higher education has become an important problem of the students and their parents. In fact, cost, duration, availability, employment chances and income opportunity of one course are different from another. Moreover, the choice of higher education of socially and economically advanced people is different from that of backward ones. Hence, the determinants and motivators of higher educational choices have constituted the core of the present study.

The choice of higher education varies from person to person based on his/her socio-economic background. In this study, many social factors such as gender, caste, community, religion, age of marriage, parental education, size of family, success of others, distance of educational institutions, health and family tradition and economic factors such as parental employment, type of occupation, income, size of land, educational loan, cost of education, number of fee instalments, financial support of others, employment chances and income opportunity have been identified as important factors which determine the choice of higher education.