SUMMARY

The purpose of this investigation was to study the effect of vocational choice situations upon decision making. This study has been undertaken to investigate the effect of such variables as vocational maturity, manifest anxiety and experimental treatment, namely information regarding the world of work, on vocational choice and to verify the incidence of indecision and indecisiveness in the 'No Choice group' which has been formulated on the basis of the first administration of Trow's vocational choice inventory (VCI) to the sample population.

A few survey type and some field studies of the decision making process have been undertaken in our country. We have for the first time undertaken an experimental study of the decision making process. The experimental variable (information regarding the world of work) of this study does provide an important clue to the vacillation of our youth in the present day society. A survey of earlier studies has shown that there is no systematic experimental study in the field of vocational choice as yet.

No empirical study of indecision and indecisiveness has been made so far. Several theoretical articles have been written. Carter (1944) stated inability to make a choice is not a matter of chance.
vocational choice is integrated with other aspects of development. Experimental support for these propositions about vocational indecision and indecisiveness is almost non-existent. The only studies available are those by Gessel et al., (1956) and Hackeye (1927). The result of these studies are only partial and fragmentary. Tyler (1961) has proposed that there are at least four factors which may produce state of indecision. We have added the fifth factor in the form of the experimental variable of our study regarding the world of work in general.

Critics have quoted Goodstein (1965) who has suggested an experimental paradigm of research in the field of vocational choice. On these suggested lines this study has been conducted. This paradigm makes it possible to delineate and define the 'indecisive' and indecision subjects in terms of the role played by anxiety. In the former 'antecedent anxiety' as a personality trait seems to be at work, while in the latter lack of information and preparation hinders the choice making process and arouses subsequent anxiety.

Studies carried out in this field have used the questionnaire technique for collecting data; and this technique remains still in vogue. Vocational development questionnaire was constructed to study the vocational maturity of subjects. V.C.I. and M.A.S. were also used. This investigation tries to tackle the problem of vocational indecision and indecisiveness in its various aspects and has employed sophisticated statistical techniques in analysing and interpreting the data obtained.
Three statistical techniques have been employed, viz., the Chi-square, Kruskall Wallis one way analysis of variance and critical ratio 'CR' or 't'.

A representative sample of 100 undergraduates of B.Sc., B.Com. and B.A., from the Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, were taken as the sample of this study.

The results of the statistical analysis are presented in the form of tables. The first table is \( \chi^2 \) table which deals with the maturity variable. In the case of the analysis of data for the inter-group comparisons for maturity variable, 't' test has been employed.

The results of in-group comparison for maturity variable are given in tables 1.15 to 1.18. In the same way the results for anxiety variable are given in tables 2 to 2.18.

In the case of the analysis of the data regarding conflict resolution time the 't' test and Kruskal Wallis one way analysis of variance was used. Tables 3.1 to 3.13 give results regarding this category.

The study was conducted in two phases. Results of the first phase of the study are given in Appendix A. As far as the problem of indecision and indecisiveness is concerned the results of this study strongly and definitely indicate trends regarding the importance of the role of anxiety. The results also show that this experimental
approach to the problem and the paradigm on the lines of which this study was conducted are fruitful approaches and proved rewarding in sifting out, in a scientific manner, subjects showing the characteristics of indecision and indecisiveness. (First phase Appendix 'A').

The importance of relating the concepts of indecision and indecisiveness to such an experimentally established concept as conflict resolution was taken up in the second phase of this study. Results arrived at, in this second phase of the study are not unequivocal, and suggest a number of possibilities, which are definitely worth pursuing in this area of vocational psychology.