4.7 FINDINGS BASED ON CASE STUDIES:

CASE STUDY: 1
Name: Vaibhav
Age: 15
Locality: Urban
Type of institutions: Private

Vaibhav, a 15 year old boy, was an over-enthusiastic student. He loved cracking jokes in the class. He irritates all the teachers, girls and his juniors. He got a good sense of humour and loved all types of electronic gadgets. He loved being on social networking sites. He had the view that in today’s world a person gets acknowledged in the society only if he was active on social networking sites. On the very first visit the investigator found a naughty student in him. He was good in academics. He did not worry about his studies and career as he feels that he was very hard-working and efficient student. He maintained time table and follow the same strictly. He holds the view that he is the writer of his own destiny. There is a God but he has left everything on the humans to shape their destiny. There is no such thing like destiny. His parents did not force him to do anything in life, not even studies. He said that he has fixed and planned everything in his mind as how, when and what to do in his career. He also told the investigator that he plans a task before starting the same and always think about the pros and cons, alternative plans if previous do not work. This is what made him different from other students of the class.

While the investigator was giving the instructions, he kept talking with his classmate. While filling the questionnaires, he raised many questions regarding various items of the questionnaires. He found many items invalid and baseless. He discussed each item with the investigator. Other students got irritated by him. He was a kind of problematic student of the class. The students told that it is his habit to irritate every teacher.
When the investigator was about to leave, Vaibhav stand up from his table and asked the investigator if she had an account on social networking site. If yes, he would like to send friend request. When the answer came in negative, he said that there was no space of the investigator and she had no social status. On asking, why so, he gave several reasons. He kept on arguing about the matter. The teacher concerned told that Vaibhav was academically strong, in other words a fast learner. He learns everything very fast in comparison to other students. He completes his task very fast while other students were still working on the task. He had the urge to learn new things.

**Conclusion:** Higher thinking ability (metacognition) and believing in oneself and one’s abilities to shape one’s life (locus of control) are helpful in maintaining good academic records and also make one intellectually sound.

**CASE STUDY: 2**

**Name:** Kajal  
**Age:** 16  
**Locality:** Urban  
**Type of institutions:** Private

Kajal Chalotra, a 16 year old girl, usually smiling all the time. When the investigator had a very first visit to her school, all the students were listening and seemed to be curious to know who the investigator was and what was the purpose of the investigator to disturb their normal time schedule. But the investigator saw a girl busy in herself, smiling all the time without any reason. While the investigator was giving instructions to the students about the questionnaires, the girl was turning the pages of the questionnaire and with every turn of the page her smile got even bigger. The investigator found that there must be a problem with the girl. On being asked why the girl was smiling, she covered her face with notebook and kept on smiling. Other students told that the girl was mentally challenged. The teacher concerned was enquired regarding the unusual behaviour of the girl. The teacher told that the girl was having some neural problem but academically she was good.
On interacting with the students the investigator came to know about the students’ interest. While some of the students were shy and got nervous when they asked so but Kajal was very confident and spoke about her wishes and ambitions. The teacher told the investigator that the girl was very possessive about achieving her goals and has got a very high internal motivation and feels herself efficient of doing every task but due to some problem did not have a good social relation. Her friends think that she was insane but in reality she has got motivation from within to do good in academics and career; she feels herself efficient to do a task. But the only barrier in her life was neural problem. She was not afraid of anything except her problem due to which others think that she was retard or insane.

Conclusion: Motivation and self-efficacy can be helpful in enhancing academic results (except some problems like low social relations).

CASE STUDY: 3
Name: Anil
Age: 15
Locality: Rural
Type of institutions: Government

Anil, a 15 year old boy, was very studious and hard-working student of the class. He was a son of a farmer. The family belongs to below poverty line class. The members of the family were being devoid of basic amenities of life. He was the topper of the class, very less friends and usually sits alone. On the very first interaction, the investigator found him very active in filling the questionnaire, also helping his mates in understanding the items. But the only thing that was little upsetting was the other boys of the class did not like him and has given him several names. But he was a strong boy, did not bother by all these things.

The teacher concerned told as he comes from a poor background, students did not accept him initially but after sometime his talent and good academic results were enough for him to be in the list of meritorious students. The teacher revealed that he was such a dedicated and strong willed boy that when some students bully
him or rags him, he was least bothered and deals with the situation boldly. He did not believe in getting rewards of God without hard-work. He believed that it is a person who can make his destiny and believed that he is the master of his life. No teacher, friend and parents had any control on his life. He was a very good learner as well as planner as he plans his learning and work on the plans to make his learning permanent and long-lasting. He was determined and academically very strong student.

**Conclusion:** Locus of control and metacognition can help in enhancing better academic results.

**CASE STUDY: 4**

**Name:** Sheetal  
**Age:** 15  
**Locality:** Urban  
**Type of institutions:** Government

Sheetal, a 15 year old girl, looks very older than her age. She loves to imitate older girls. She wanted to pursue career in modelling. She came to the school wearing a lot of make-up. She talks as if she was a girl of 25 years. She wanted to flaunt her beauty. She was the most talked about girl of the school. Academically she was not a good student. She got pass in every class on the edge of marks. Teachers wanted her to study and achieve good marks but she did not seem to be serious about her studies. A very talkative girl of the class, she has a good and long list of friends in the class as well as from other classes too.

On the very first interaction, the investigator saw some bruises and marks of cuts on the wrist of the girl. She was asked about the reason of the marks to which she replied that she attempted to commit suicide number of times but failed and survived. She was again asked about the reason of suicide. Then, she replied that she belongs to a middle class family, she wanted to become a model (which was obvious from her behaviour too). But her family did not support her because of their conservative outlook. They even beat her. She said modelling was there in
her blood and dreams. She was passionate about it. Her parents wanted her to study and marry with a boy of their choice. She was not in good terms with her parents. She has no interest in studies and feels that she has no plan to study and if she got failed she will not repent as she wanted to defeat her parents by not studying. She said that she will be happy if she got failed in the external examinations because her parents will leave the desire of study and instead send her for modelling.

The teacher concerned was called and the investigator told that the girl was not normal and she needs counselling. The school administration called a counsellor and parents of the girl so that she can lead a healthy life.

**Conclusion:** Lack of family support and motivation from parents make children mentally unhealthy and academically poor.

**CASE STUDY: 5**

**Name:** Rehina  
**Age:** 14  
**Locality:** Rural  
**Type of institutions:** Government

Rehina, a 14 year old girl student of grade 10, was a very reserved girl. The investigator when went to the class for the very first time, all the students interacted with her and were excited about knowing what the investigator has came for? Was it some kind of fun game or some guest lecture from outside their school faculty? Suddenly the investigator found a girl who was sitting all alone and was afraid of something. On asking what was the matter with her, she did not said anything but started crying instead. The investigator immediately informed the teacher concerned. The teacher told that Rehina always sits alone and she did not has any friend in the classroom. She was one of the dull students of the class and did not have a good academic record. When the investigator went close to her, it was found that the girl has folded her school uniform dupatta all over her wrist and is frightened of something. She was sweating profusely. When the investigator tried to touch her wrist, that girl started screaming and blood fell down to the floor.
After removing the dupatta, it was found that there was a huge wound over her wrist. It was looking as if the wrist was burnt and very badly infected.

The girl was asked about what has happened to her wrist, but she did not give any response. Then, the doctor was called and the girl was given proper treatment. The doctor also did a kind of counselling to her. This made the girl little relaxed and then she revealed that her mother had died when she was 10 years old. Her father got married again after one year of her mother’s death. Her step mother did not like her and she engaged her in doing domestic work. She reported that if she denies the task for the sake of study her step mother gave her punishment in the form of physical and mental torture. Her step mother abuses her and that particular day of blood falling on the floor her step mother told her to cook food for her and her father. She denied as she was having a class test. This made her step mother angry and she put hot boiling water on her. She somehow managed to save herself but could not save her wrist. The wound got worst and got infected very badly leading to miserable condition. She could not bear the pain anymore. It was on that day the whole school came to know about her loneliness and quietness.

Her class teacher further told that the girl was one of the bright students of the class. Rehina used to have the habit of reading and reciting poems (shayri) but she has grown into a totally different personality from the last few years. She told the investigator that she wanted to study and had the desire of becoming a police official who can handle the cases of children’s right and abuses. She also added that she wanted to leave her home and wanted to stay in a hostel as her home was a living hell for her. The environment of her home did not make her study. Her home environment is what made her academic record bad.

**Conclusion:** Home environment is very important for the success of an individual. It is also helpful in maintaining good academic records.