

# Effect of Poverty on Higher Education in North 24 Parganas District

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**Abstract:** The term poverty refers to the state or condition in which people or communities lack the financial resources and other essentials for a minimum standard of living. As such, they cannot meet their basic human needs. People and families who live in poverty may go without proper housing, clean water, healthy food, and medical attention. Poverty is an individual concern as well as a broader social problem. Poverty is a socioeconomic condition that is the result of multiple factors—not just income. These factors include race, sexual identity, sexual orientation, and access to education, among others.

Higher education refers to the advanced level beyond the primary and secondary levels. It typically includes education provided by universities, colleges, professional schools, and other institutions that offer specialized academic and vocational programs. Higher education focuses on in-depth learning in specific fields of study, enabling individuals to develop expertise and advanced knowledge in their chosen areas.

**Key Words:** Poverty, Higher Education.

## 1. INTRODUCTION:

Higher education, often regarded as the pinnacle of academic pursuit, represents a transformative phase in the educational journey of individuals. Beyond elementary and secondary schooling, higher education encompasses specialized and advanced learning, nurturing intellect, critical thinking, and personal growth. Through a diverse array of disciplines and fields, higher education is a gateway to knowledge, expertise, and innovation, empowering students to become specialists in their chosen areas. As an integral part of societal progress, it fosters a culture of research and intellectual curiosity, shaping well-rounded individuals poised to make meaningful contributions to their communities and the world. At its core, higher education embodies the pursuit of excellence and self-discovery, preparing learners for future challenges while enriching their lives with the transformative power of education.

At the higher education level, students pursue undergraduate and graduate degrees, such as Bachelor's, Master's, and Doctorate degrees, depending on their academic and career aspirations. The curriculum is more specialized and research-oriented than earlier education stages, encouraging critical thinking, analytical skills, and independent research.

## 2. Objectives of the Study –

1. To highlight about impact of poverty on students in North 24 Parganas.
2. To find out the causes of poverty.
3. To find out the gender wise relation between higher education and poverty.
4. To find out the Unreserve(General) vs Others caste relation between higher education and poverty
5. To find out the location wise relation between higher education and poverty.

## 3. Literature Review:

- Asha, S., Maney, K., Accamma, C.G., Riya, R. & Ridhi, R. (2022) have conducted a study on “Impact of poverty on Education in India”. The method of the study was questionnaire survey method. The main objective of the study is to understand the impact of the poverty on Education in India. the Researchers' found that 69.23% of the respondents are male and 30.77% of the respondents are female. 43.58% of the respondents that have responded are in the age group of 15 to 30 years 38.46% of the respondent are in the age group of 30 to 45 years 17.94% of the respondents fall under the age group of 45 to 60 years.

- Nortje, M.J. (2017), the researcher studied on "The Effect of Poverty on Education in South Africa". This study was qualitative research in the form of secondary data. The aims of the study are (1) to analyses current literature to determine the state of education in developing countries like South Africa. (2) To use literature to determine the factors affecting education in South Africa. The aim of this study was to show the effect of poverty on education. Based on the research there is a clear link between the poverty levels in a country and the standard of education. As clearly indicated by literature, educating the citizens of a country is a tool that can be used to reduce poverty in a country and increase economic growth and living quality for all. It was also established that many children in South Africa have limited access to education due to various factors such as living in impoverished households, poor infrastructure and lack of resources. Government can ease this burden by helping schools obtain the necessary resources to provide quality education to students.
- Amzata, I.H (2010), the researcher conducted the study on "The Effect of Poverty on Education Innigeria: Obstacles and Solutions". In this study were qualitative research methods. Objective of the study is to explore the effect of poverty on education in Nigeria. The findings of this study show that, there is a relationship between poverty and education in Nigeria. From the analysis, there is a poor accessibility of education in Nigeria. Some parents are unable to send their children to schools because of their low income while some parents can only send their children to public schools because that is what they can afford.
- Yadav, J.P. (2023), the researcher studied on "An Study of the Impact of Poverty on Education in India". This study was quantitative research method and both primary and secondary data sources were used to acquire the information. Objective of the study are (A) to comprehend the influence of poverty on pupil achievement in India.(B) to increase poor people's access to livelihood and opportunities for learning.(C) monitoring and evaluating poverty-reduction programmes. Finding of the study there are 70.00% of male respondents and 30.00% of female respondents. 26.25% of those who have replied are between the ages of 15 and 30. 24.00% of respondents are between the ages of 30 and 45. 21.75% of the Respondents range in age from 45 to 50 years. 19.25%of the respondent range in age from 50 to 55, and 08.75% in age 55 to 60. According to 65.00% of our respondents, education will be highly useful in eliminating poverty in India. 24.25% of our respondents believe it is vital, while 10.75% do not believe it is important or willbe effective.
- Nortje, M. J. (2017). The researcher studied on "The Effect of Poverty on Education in South Africa". The main objective of the study was to analyze current literature to determine the state of education in developing countries like South Africa. This study the researcher used mixed method research design. The aim of this study was to show the effect of poverty on education. Based on the research there is a clear link between the poverty levels in a country and the standard of education. The researcher clearly indicated by literature, educating the citizens of a country is a tool that can be used to reduce poverty in a country and increase economic growth and living quality for all.
- Pena, R., Wall, S., & Persson, L. A. (2000). The researcher conducted the study on "The Effect of Poverty, Social Inequity, and Maternal Education on Infant mortality in Nicaragua, 1988–1993". Objective of the study was to study assessed the effect of poverty and social inequity on infant mortality risks in Nicaragua from 1988 to 1993 and the preventive role of maternal education. The researcher found that during the period 1988 to 1993, 342 infants deaths were reported for 6394 infant-years of follow-up, yielding an estimated overall cumulative infant mortality rate of 50 per 1000 live births. Both young and older maternal age, as well as high parity, was linked to higher infant mortality risks. Boys had a higher mortality rate than girls. Infants whose mothers had higher education had a lower risk of dying, but the mother's position in the household, distance to health services, urban vs rural residency, and study period were not significantly associated with infant mortality risk.
- Jane, O. C., Uchenna, N. E., & Pauline, U. C. (2024). The researcher conducted the study on "Effects of poverty on academic performance of undergraduates in Nwafor Orizu College of Education, Nsugbe, Anambra State". The research design adopted in the study was a survey research design. The main objective of the study was to examine the extent to which poverty stressors affect the academic performance of undergraduates in Nwafor Orizu College of Education, Nsugbe, Anambra State. The researcher found that the effects of poverty on undergraduate students of Nwafor Orizu College of Education, Nsugbe; includes; that living in poverty is also correlated with school dropout, poor social skills, lack of acceptance from peers, focus and concentration, decrease in self-confidence, always poorly dressed and lacks most of study materials.

#### 4. RESEARCH GAP:

Analysis of the related literature shows that although there are several studies on the impact of poverty on higher education at the national and international levels, no research work has been found on the North 24 Parganas district of West Bengal. I have not seen a detailed explanation of how poverty effects on higher education can be mitigated in previous research papers. Also, all the research done at the national and international level has detailed

information on how poverty affects education, but there is hardly any research on the impact of poverty on higher education.

**4.1 VARIABLES:**

The variables of the study are 1. Effect of Poverty and 2. Higher Education. ‘Effect of Poverty’ was independent variables and Higher Education was dependent variables.

**5. METHOD & PROCEDURE:**

Depending on the situation, behaviour, values, methods, partnerships or patterns, the study relates to current events. The purpose and approach of the research means that each analysis is different. A variety of methods have been developed. Each method follows a systematic approach. Descriptive survey methods have been used to conduct the present study and its Quantitative too because this method is Consider useful to collected data from a relatively large number of Cases at a time and Collected Phenomenon.

**DESCRIPTION OF THE TOOLS IN MY STUDY:**

In the present study the researcher had used a research tool for the purpose of collection of data from the sample. In this perspective the researcher develop self-made research tool (Questionnaire) as per the basis of research objectives under different dimension Self-made. questionnaire on “Effect of Poverty on Higher Education in North 24 Parganas.

**DATA COLLECTION:**

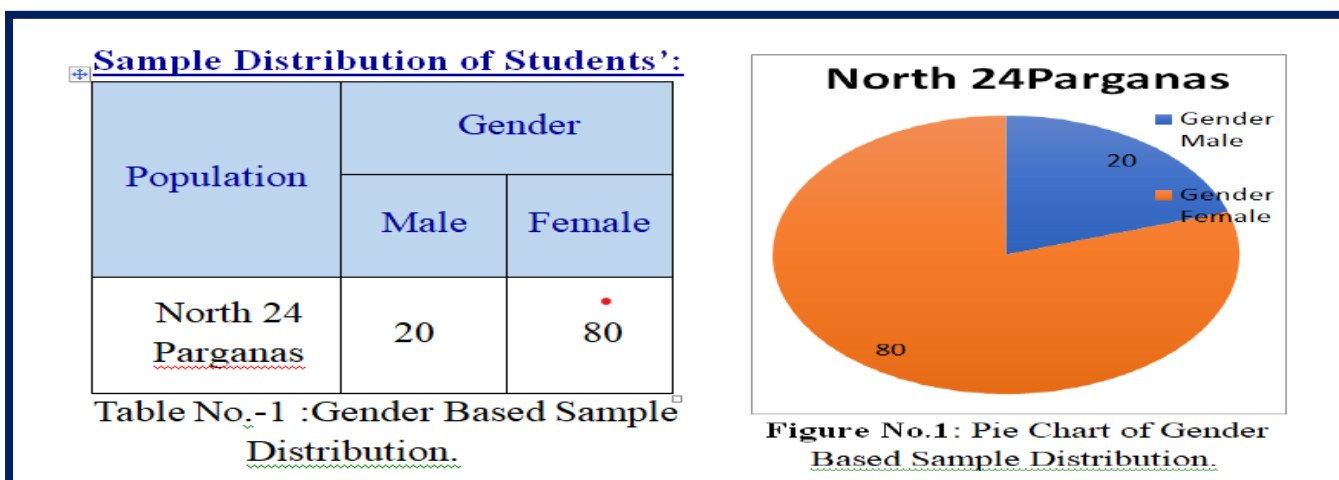
After Selecting the Higher secondary level Student State of West Bengal in North 24 Parganas district, the researcher used self-made Questionnaire in the study. The researcher send the offline questionnaire form many college and University in research area of Data collection.

**POPULATION:**

The population selected for the present research were all the Higher Education level students' in North 24 Parganas District. But it is not possible to take all the population as the sample of the study because time and limitations to conduct the study.

**SAMPLE & SAMPLING:**

For the selection of adequate sample simple random sampling techniques has been followed by the researcher. Researcher was randomly selected 100 (Number of Sample) Higher (UG,PG) Level Students’ from WBSU and some College of North 24 Parganas District.



Population	Locality	
	Rural	Urban
North 24 Parganas	65	35

Table No.2: Locality Based Sample Distribution.

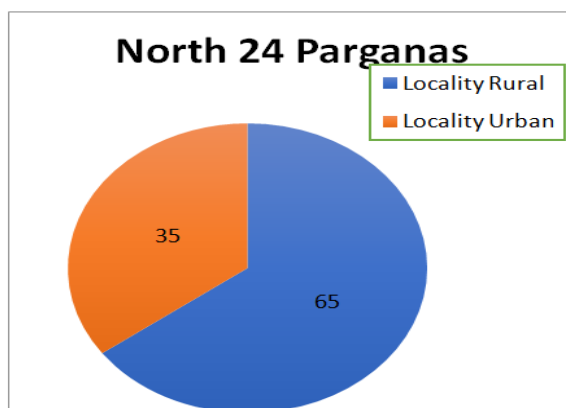
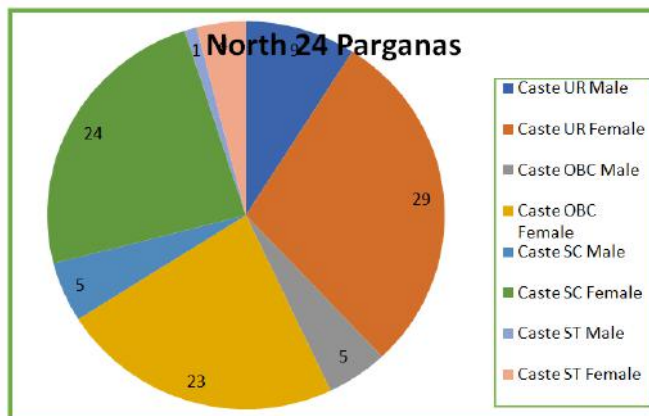


Figure No.2: Pie Chart of Locality Based Sample Distribution.

Table No.3: Caste wise Sample Distribution.

Population	Caste							
	UR		OBC		SC		ST	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
North 24 Parganas	9	29	5	23	5	24	1	4



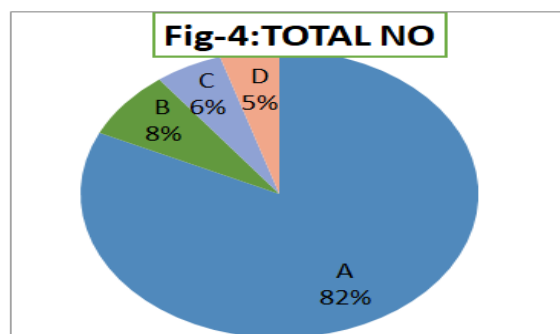
**STATISTICAL TECHNIQUE USED :**

Statistical techniques that were used for interpretation of data is based on the design and objectives of the study. The analysis was done throughout the Excel. Descriptive statistics were used to analysis and interpretation of data (t-test).was employed to find out the significance difference of different variables under the study.

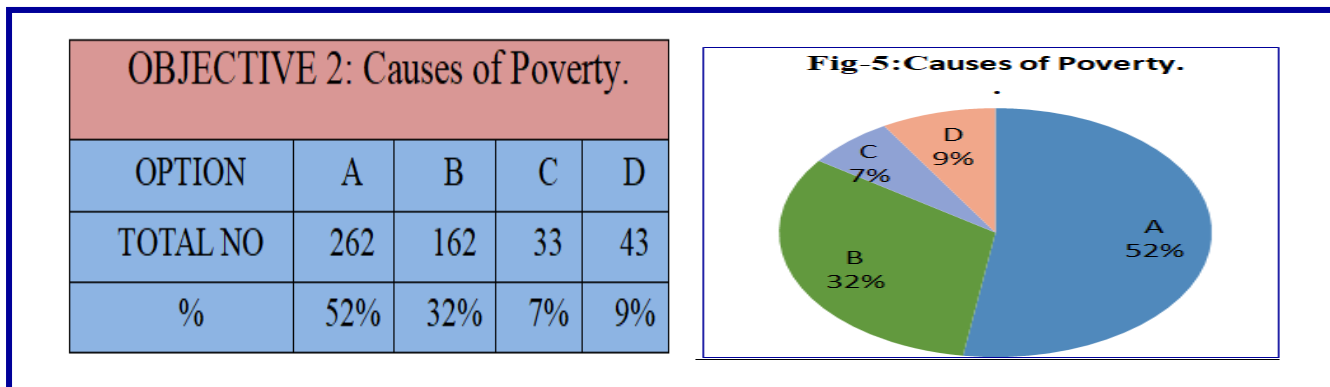
**ANALYSIS & INTERPRETATION:**

❖ **Analysis of Objective-1:To highlight about impact of poverty on students in North 24 Parganas.**

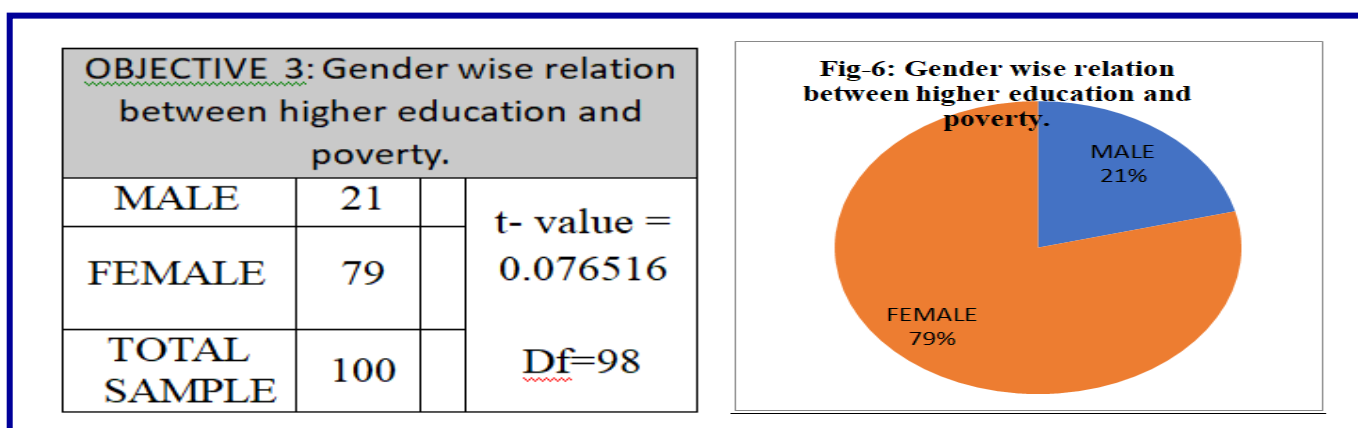
OBJECTIVE 1 (Questions No. 8,9,10,13,17,18)				
OPTION	A	B	C	D
TOTAL NO.	492	46	33	29
%	82%	8%	6%	5%



❖ Analysis of Objective-1: To find out the causes of poverty.

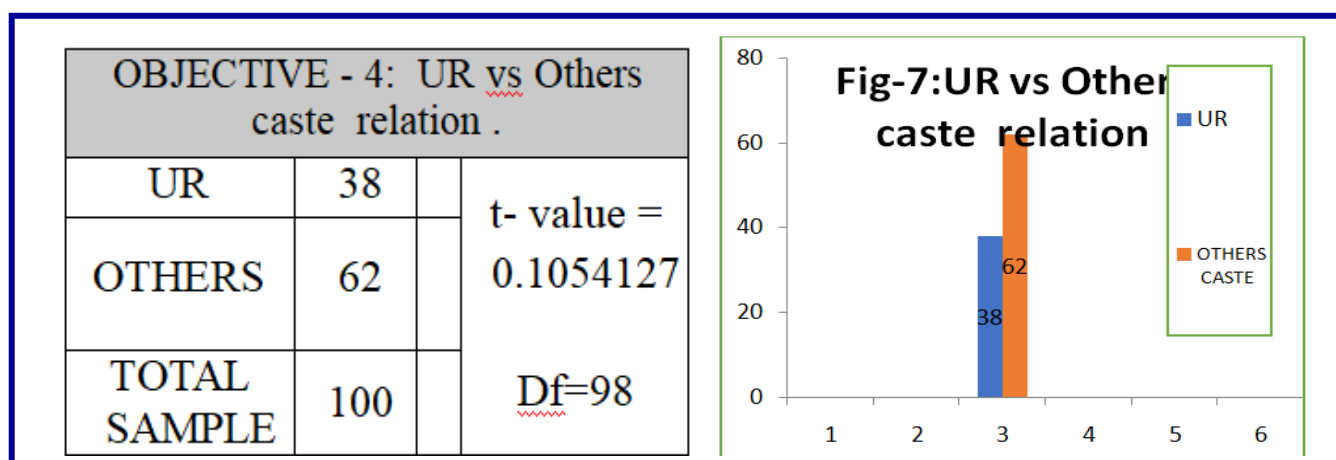


❖ Analysis of Objective-3: To find out the gender wise relation between higher education and poverty.



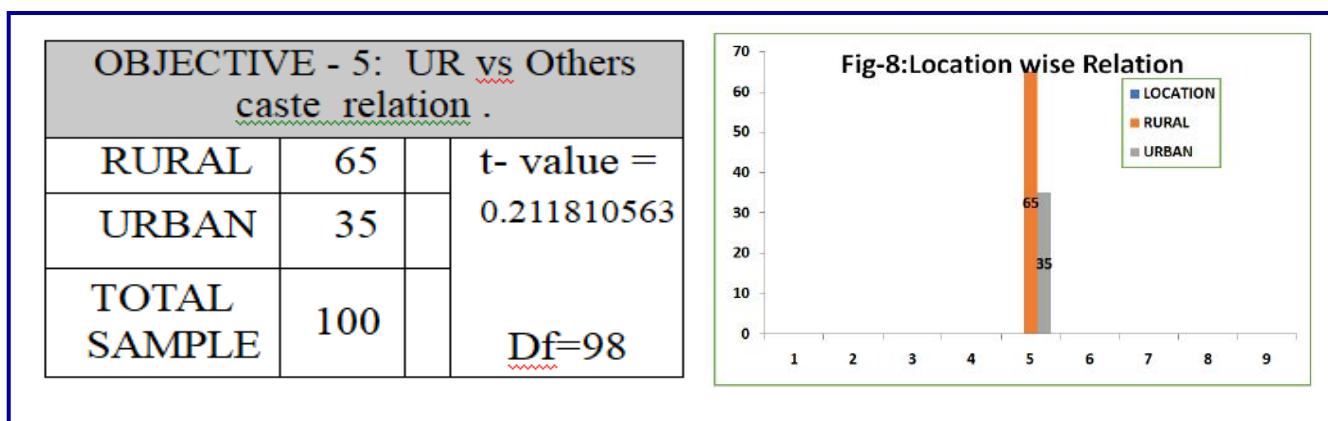
In the above table, show that the result t test calculate value is 0.076516 and significant value is 1.984. Hence can be said that 0.05 level (2 Tailed) Null Hypothesis is accepted.

❖ Analysis of Objective-4 : To find out the UR vs Others caste relation between higher education and poverty.



In the above table, show that the result t test calculate value is 0.1054127 and significant value is 1.984. Hence can be said that 0.05 level (2 Tailed) Null Hypothesis is accepted.

**Analysis of Objective-5:** To find out the location wise relation between higher education and poverty.



In the above table, show that the result t tests calculates value is 0. 211810563 and significant value is 1.984. Hence can be said that 0.05 level (2 Tailed) Null Hypothesis is accepted.

### 6. MAJOR FINDINGS OF THE STUDY:

The research problem (Effect of poverty on Higher Education in North 24 Parganas District) related objectives purpose on the basis of data analysis and interpretation (chapter - IV) the researcher presented the major findings of the study. The major findings as per the objectives are as follows:

- ❖ From the above table & figures we can say that,
  - i. Poverty can be alleviated through proper job recruitment after higher education.
  - ii. Poverty can be eradicated by bringing students under higher education.
  - iii. Poverty affects the future life of students.
  - iv. Corona pandemic has affected the future of students.
  - v. Poverty creates stress on students.
  - vi. Poverty creates stress on students which in turn has negative impact on education.
  - vii. Lack of education is the cause of poverty.
  - viii. According to the parents, the expenditure on higher education subsequently leads to unemployment.
  - ix. According to the parents, Higher education is not an expense.
  - x. Unemployment that occurs after spending money on higher education is a cause of poverty.
  - xi. Higher education is expensive.
  
- ❖ From the above table it is found that Null Hypothesis accepted. The hypothesis "there is no significant difference between Gender wise relationship between higher education and poverty" is accepted. So, we can be said that there is no significant difference between Gender wise relationship between higher education and poverty.
- ❖ From the above table, it is found that Null Hypothesis accepted. The hypothesis "there is no significant difference UR vs others caste relationship between higher education and poverty " is accepted. So, we can be said that there is no significant difference UR Vs Other Castes relationship between Higher Education and poverty.
- ❖ From the above table it is found that Null Hypothesis accepted. The hypothesis "There is no significant difference location wise relation between higher education and poverty" is accepted. So, we can be said that there is no significant difference location wise relation between higher education and poverty at North 24 Parganas District.

### 7. CONCLUSION:

Poverty is a serious problem. Effecting more or less all forms of education including higher education. The research paper will play an important role in North 24 pargans higher education students. These research findings will help how to solve Poverty problems in higher education. How has poverty affected higher education through this research? And there are some ideas of what is the cause of the difficulties in the education of the students.

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