



**A STUDY ON CHALLENGES OF COMPETITIVE EXAM ASPIRANTS WITH
SPECIAL REFERENCE TO KOLHAPUR CITY**

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Introduction

Examinations are conducted to evaluate a person of his knowledge or ability. There are different types of examinations like qualifying or competitive exams. Qualifying exams are conducted to evaluate certain kind of knowledge or skills; they are decided as per the course. After completing a particular course or during the course these exams are conducted. Here the number of students is limited. Competitive exams are conducted either to qualify a candidate for a particular course or to give entry into the institution. Competitive exams are also conducted for selecting a person for a job. Clearing a Competitive exam will help a person to enter into his Dream College or institution or to pursue his dream job. This section will help students to get some vital information about those exams. Some of the major institutions of government conduct these examinations. To clear these exams dedicated efforts along with certain soft skills are required. One should have clear knowledge of one's goals, should know how to use time effectively for getting success in competitive exams.

The following exams offer by aspirants.

UPSC

MPSC

SSC

Banking Exam

Railways exam etc.

Review Of Literature

1 . D., & Jalaja, V. (2006)

The author conducted a study on the information needs of career seekers at various stages of their career search. He made an attempt whether career seekers having different levels of qualification differ significantly in the level of requirement for information resources and services. Verma, N. (2000) in a study on sample of 230 pre-employment candidates of public sector banks found that the most popular information sources were competition books and magazines. Julien, H.E. (1999) in her survey on Canadian adolescents tried to investigate the helpfulness of various information sources and barriers faced by them in information seeking for career decision making. The data were collected from 399 adolescent using open ended questionnaire and interview. The study revealed that parents, siblings, and other family members, family friends, peers, guidance counselors, teachers, school and public library resources, mass media and government career center were helpful in career decision making. Seeking was information scatter.

2.M. Laxmikanth (2011) : The book has been written to meet the growing requirements of the

candidates appearing for the competitive exams i.e Civil Services Examinations (Preliminary and Main) conducted by the Union Public Service Commission. It directly and fully covers the Indian Polity section of the paper is also useful for certain optional subjects like Public Administration, Political Science, Law, Sociology and Anthropology. This comprehensive volume would enable the readers to acquire a complete and detailed understanding of the subject. It covers all dimensions (constitutional, non-constitutional, political and administrative) of the subject. My first-hand experience of coaching the candidates for the Civil Services Examinations has been a great source of inspiration and has helped me immensely in writing this book. An effort has been made to make the contents of the book relevant, authentic, and up-to-date. The constitutional provisions are explained in the light of the debates of the Constituent Assembly of India as well as the judgments of the Supreme Court and the high courts. I have also used tables to make the presentation clearer. The Appendices, provided at the end of the book, serve as a reference section.

3 Mariswamy, C., Somashekara, Y. L., & Nagasundara. (2014).

The authors explain about brief view of Career Information Resource Centre and Portal services of Mysore University Library, usage statistics of student community, and supports of library. Dilli, K.T. (2010) in a study on the

services extended to the students preparing for competitive examinations in government and private colleges. He found that the age group of 20-22 has fair well over the age group of 23-25 in the Civil Service Examinations conducted by UPSC. The attitude of facing competitive examination prevails among more in the under graduate students than in post-graduate students in all type of colleges. Also, he found that the students' attitude of spending an hour or more in libraries for the preparation towards competitive examinations is found more in private colleges than in the government colleges.

Research Methodology

Research Design

For any research design is an important aspect as it is an evitable part of the research process depending upon the topic under the study. The research used **Descriptive Method** for the present study.

Descriptive research is defined as a research method that describes the characteristics of the population or phenomenon that is being studied. This methodology focuses more on the "what" of the research subject rather than the "why" of the research subject.

Objectives Of Study

1. To know the socio-demographic background of the respondents.
2. To study the challenges faced by the respondents.

Data Analysis And Interpretation

1. Preparing for

Sr.No	Preparing For	Respondents	Percentage
1	MPSC	19	76%
2	SSC	2	8%
3	PSI	3	12%
4	BANKING	1	4%
	Total	25	100%

The above table shows that, 76% of respondents are preparing for MPSC exam, 8% respondents are preparing for SSC exam, 12% of respondents

3. To understand the aspirations of the respondents
4. To give the suitable suggestions.

Universe Of Study

The universe of the present study is the student enrolled in the competitive study center running by Kolhapur Municipal Corporation at present approximately 250 students have been enrolled in this center, but it is different for researcher to cover whole universe and hence the sampling method is used.

Sampling Method

Researcher was used "simple random sampling method" for the Study.

Sample Size

From the total universe of 250 enrolled students with the competitive exam center. The 10% of this universe is been taken as a sample size for the present studies by following the simple random sampling method. 10% of the 250 i.e., 25 respondents are taken as a sample for a present study.

Sources Of Data Collection

The data was collected from both the sources that is primary and secondary.

Primary Source: -

Primary data was collected with the help of interview schedule, observation and discussion.

Secondary Source:

The secondary data was collected with the help of books, magazines, internet etc.

are preparing for PSI exam and remaining 4% of respondents are preparing for banking exam.

2. Reason Behind Stress

Sr.No	Reason Behind Stress	Respondents	Percentage
1	Competition	15	60%
2	Family Burdens	3	12%
3	Uncertainty	3	12%
4	Fear of Exam	4	16%
	TOTAL	25	100%

The above table shows that 60% of respondents are in stress due to competition, 12% of respondents are in stress due to family

burdens, and 12% of respondents are in stress due to uncertainty and remaining 16% of respondents are in stress due to fear of exam.

3. Health Problems Associated With Respondents

Sr.no	Health Problems	Respondents	Percentage
1	Backpain	12	48%
2	Eyesight	08	32%

3	Acidity	03	12%
4	Headache	02	08%
	Total	25	100%

The above table reveals that 48% of respondent reported that they face the Backpain problem, 32% of respondent complaint that they are facing with Eyesight problems, 12% of respondent

faces the Acidity problem while 08% of respondent reported that they face the Headache due to study of competitive exam

4. Expectation From The Government Regarding Competitive Exam

Sr.no	Expectation From The Govt.	Respondents	Percentage
1	No. of vacancies should be increased	13	52%
2	Speedy Result	7	28%
3	Increase the age limits	5	20%
	Total	25	100%

The above table indicates that 52% of respondents expected that, government should increase the number of posts for the competitive exams while 28% of respondents expecting that

government should follow the speedy result procedure for competitive exams and 20% of respondents expecting that age limit of eligibility for the competitive exams should be increased.

5. Respondents Suggestion For New Comers

Sr.no	Suggestion	Respondents	Percentage
1	Need to have definite goals	3	12%
2	Perfect time plan	3	12%
3	Keep an alternate plan	14	56%
4	Prefer the job first	5	20%
	Total	25	100%

The above table indicates that 12% of respondents has suggested that a definite goal should be there, 12% of respondents suggested to the new comers that time plan must there , while 56% of respondents suggested that candidates should have alternate plan with them & remaining 20% of respondents suggested that while doing job one may appear for competitive exam.

Findings

The analysis shows that majority 76% of respondents are preparing for MPSC exam. The analysis shows that majority 60% of respondents are in stress due to competition. This might be the reason that by becoming the successful in the competitive exam they want to change their economic status. The analysis shows that majority of 64% of respondents would like to go for private job as an alternative option if they get failure in the competitive exam. The analysis shows that majority 32% of respondents are tackle the stress by playing sports. The analysis shows that majority 28% of respondents do yoga as a regular exercise. The analysis shows that majority 60% respondents have given 3 times attempt to the competitive exam. The analysis shows that majority 48% of respondent would preferably join to the revenue department and this is a common trend found in the aspirants of competitive examination. The analysis shows that majority 48% of respondent reported that Back pain is associated with study of

competitive examination this might be due to consistently reading at one place for the study. The analysis shows that 24% of respondents have been admitted for different types of courses after their degree education with the intention that this course may help them in competitive examinations. The analysis shows that majority 52% of respondent expecting from the government that number of posts should be increased. It is due to inappropriate proportionate of students appeared and number of posts. The analysis shows that majority of 56% of respondents suggested to the new comers who wish to join the competitive exam should have some alternate plans with the competitive exam so to reduce the level of frustrations.

Suggestions

On the basis of findings and conclusions researcher would like to give the following suggestion.

1. It is suggested that aspirants should start their studies from undergraduate level so to increase the chances of passing the competitive exam.
2. It is also suggested by the researcher that aspirants should have perfect plan of action about competitive exams like specific targets of study i.e., 2 years or 3 years purely for competitive exams.
3. Researcher would like to also suggested that the aspirants use to face different levels of stress and to overcome on this aspirant

should take the guidelines from experts like psychologist professional social worker and so on.

4. It is suggested kindly on the parts of aspirants that they should do the yoga and other physical exercise very regularly.
5. It is kindly suggested by the researcher that, aspirants should continue their further education through the platform of open universities.
6. It is also suggested by the researcher to the government authorities that they should speed up the procedure of conducting the competitive exams to fill the declaration of the results.
7. By observing the facts, the researcher would like to suggest the aspirants of competitive examinations that they should have alternatives plan with competitive examinations so to reduce the level of frustration if fails to achieve the success of competitive exams

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