

Benchmarking of Co-Curricular and Extra-Curricular Activities of Higher Secondary Schools in Thanjavur District-A Study

*** V. Kamala Kannan**

* Principal i/c, Andavar College of Education, Nagappatinam, Tamil Nadu

Educational benchmarking

A benchmark is a level of quality established by one institution that other institutions use as a goal. Benchmarking is a process of identifying understanding and adopting exemplary practices elsewhere to enrich and execute the work in one's hands.

Benchmarking is a universal phenomenon. It is also applicable in providing total quality management in educational institutions. Every one of us is aware of popular saying that "there is always room for betterment". Hence, by applying the concept of benchmarking attempts can be made to realize the long cherished dream of quality education.

Co-curricular an Extra-curricular activities

Co-curricular activities facilitate the development of various domains of mind and personality such as intellectual, emotional, social, moral and aesthetic developments. Creativity, enthusiasm, positive thinking is some of the facets of personality development and the outcomes of extra-curricular activities.

Co-curricular activities are earlier known as extra-curricular activities as there are organized after the school hours. They are the components of non-academic curriculum. For the all-round development emotional, physical, spiritual, social and moral aspects are required. For achieving this desirable goal co-curricular activities are indispensable as they supplement and complement the curriculum of on main syllabi activities. These activities are the very important part and parcel of all educational institutions; they strengthen the classroom teaching learning.

Significance of the Study

- The aim of these kinds of activities is to make the students fit for the future life and to develop some of the life skills such as competitive spirit, co-operation, leadership, diligence, punctuality and team spirit as well as to provide a backdrop for the development of their creative talents.
- These extra-curricular activities are a means to enhance social interaction, leadership healthy recreation, self-discipline and self-confidence.
- In today's competitive world, percentage of marks makes a lot of difference during admission into popular courses. In such situations certificates for participating in co-curricular activities brings additional weightage.
- When students are trained in responsibility in their formative years it helps them a lot in the real life situations.
- Success in organizations requires more than intellect. Thus prestigious educational and business organizations usually examine the applicant's co-curricular activities in the hope of selecting of all rounded developed aspirants who are emotionally intelligent and interpersonally skilled.

Objectives

- 1) To find out the level of co-curricular and extra-curricular activities of higher secondary school students
- 2) To find out the significant relationship between co-curricular and extra-curricular activities of higher secondary school students

Methodology

The method to be adopted for the present study is the survey method.

Population for the Study

The population for the study consists of all the higher secondary schools in Government, Aided and Matriculation in Thanjavur District in Tamil Nadu.

Sample

The sample consists of 45 higher secondary schools, in Government, Aided and Matriculation in each 15 samples.

N.S.S. Programs

National Service Scheme is a fast growing activity which is at present very popular in the colleges and higher secondary schools. It helps the students in giving them training of leadership. It also helps in character building.

Table 1 - The level of extra-curricular activities of NSS programs

Type of Institution	Government		Aided		Matriculation	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Programmes						
Awareness Creation	7	46.66	6	40	8	53.33
Medical Camps	6	40	9	60	8	53.33
Veterinary Camps	-	-	3	20	-	-
Environmental Projects	7	46.66	6	40	9	60
Traffic Regulation	7	46.66	6	40	7	46.66
Helping Local Authorities	4	26.66	5	33.33	6	40
Census Enumeration	3	20	5	33.33	3	20

Source: Primary Data

The table shows that the NSS programmes are divided into seven dimensions. All the three groups of institution undertake these programmes. Awareness creations provided by matriculation schools are better than other types of institution. Medical camps conducted by aided schools are at very good level. All these programmes are undertaken in government schools but only at average level.

Hypothesis: 1

The level of conducting N.S.S. programmes in government higher secondary schools is very high.

Table 2

Qualitative description of the level of the N.S.S. programmes in government schools

Type of activity Percentile	Awareness Creation	Medical Camp	Veterinary Camp	Environment Project	Traffic Regulation	Helping Local Authority	Census Enumeration	Qualitative Description
0 - 25	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	Low
26 - 50	7	6	-	7	7	4	-	Average
51 - 75	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	High
76 - 100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Very High

Source: Primary Data

This table shows that the NSS programmes are divided into seven dimensions. The government schools undertake these programmes. Most of the N.S.S. programmes undertaken average level of qualitative description. However, one of the N.S.S. programmes of census enumeration in 3 number of schools at low level of qualitative description.

Hence, all the government schools are N.S.S. programmes undertaken at moderate level to be concern.

Hypothesis: 2

The level of conducting N.S.S. programmes in aided higher secondary schools is very high.

Table 3

Qualitative description of the level of the NSS programmes in aided schools

Type of activity Percentile	Awareness Creation	Medical Camp	Veterinary Camp	Environment Project	Traffic Regulation	Helping Local Authority	Census Enumeration	Qualitative Description
0 - 25	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	Low
26 - 50	6	-	-	6	6	5	5	Average
51 - 75	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	High
76 - 100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Very High

Source: Primary Data

This table shows that the NSS programmes are divided into seven dimensions. The aided schools undertake these programmes. Most of the N.S.S. programmes undertaken average level of qualitative description. However, one of the N.S.S. programmes of veterinary camp in 3 number schools at low level and the remaining 9 schools are undertaken of awareness creation at high level of qualitative description.

Hence, all the aided schools are N.S.S. programmes undertaken at better level to be concern.

Hypothesis: 3

The level of conducting N.S.S. programmes in matriculation higher secondary schools is very high.

Table 4

Qualitative description of the level of the NSS programmes in matriculation schools

Type of activity Percentile	Awareness Creation	Medical Camp	Veterinary Camp	Environment Project	Traffic Regulation	Helping Local Authority	Census Enumeration	Qualitative Description
0 - 25	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	Low
26 - 50	-	-	-	-	7	6	-	Average
51 - 75	8	8	-	9	-	-	-	High
76 - 100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Very High

Source: Primary Data

This table shows that the N.S.S. programmes undertaken by the matriculation schools are either at average level at high level.

This table shows that the NSS programmes are divided into seven dimensions. The matriculation schools undertake these programmes. Traffic regulation and helping local authority of the N.S.S. programmes undertaken average level of qualitative description. But one of the N.S.S. programmes of census enumeration in 3 numbers of schools at low level and the remaining most of the schools is undertaken of awareness creation, medical camp and environment project at high level of qualitative description.

Hence, all the matriculation schools are N.S.S. programmes undertaken at very good level to be concern.

Table 5 - The level of sports participation at inter school competition in the three types of Institutions

Type of Institution	Government		Aided		Matriculation	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Zonal	2	13	8	53	2	13
Educational District Level	7	47	6	40	10	67
Revenue District Level	5	33	5	33	3	20

Source: Primary Data

This table shows that the activities are divided into three dimensions. First one at zonal level; Aided school students have participated in zonal level competition at high level. At educational district level interschool competitions; matriculation school students have participated in high level. At revenue district level interschool competitions all the three types of school students have participated in average level.

Hence most number of aided schools are participate in three level of inter school competition at better level than other two types of institutions.

Table 6 - Qualitative description of the level of sports participation in the inter school competitions in three types of institutions

Type of Sports Meet	Government			Aided			Matriculation			Qualitative Description
	*Zon	Edu Dis.	Rev Dis.	Zon	Edu Dis.	Rev Dis	Zon	Edu Dis	Rev Dis	
Percentile										
1 - 25	2						2		3	Low
26 - 50		7	5		6	5				Average
51 - 75				8				10		High
76 - 100										Very High

Source: Primary Data

* (Zon- Zonal level; Edu.Dis- Educaton District level; Rev.Dis- Revenue District level)

This table shows that among the 45 samples of three different types of institutions are participated in three level of inter school competitions at low level of 2 government schools and 5 matriculation schools.

The average level of 12 government schools and 11 aided schools are have participated, while 8 aided schools and 10 matriculation schools have participated in high level.

It is concluded that aided and matriculation schools are participated in inter school competition at better level.

Table 7 - Qualitative description of the level of co-curricular activities in three type of institutions

Type of Institution	Government		Aided		Matriculation	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Programmes						
Oratorical	13	87	12	80	10	67
Recitation	6	40	12	80	10	67
Drawing	9	60	10	67	10	67
Music	7	47	8	53	8	53
Drama	10	67	10	67	6	40
Fancy Dress	7	47	7	47	6	40

Source: Primary Data

This table shows that all the three types of institution are conducting co-curricular activities divided into six dimensions. First, one is oratorical programme, which is highly practiced in government schools. Recitation programme is highly practiced in aided schools. Drawing competition is conducted more or less equally in all the three types of school. Music competitions are highly practiced in aided and matriculation schools. Stage dramas are conducted in government and aided schools at a better level. Fancy dress competitions are at average level in all the three types of school.

Hypothesis: 4

The level of conducting co-curricular activities in government schools is very high.

Table 8

Qualitative description of the level of co-curricular activities in government schools

Competition Type Percentile	Oratorical	Recitation	Drawing	Music	Drama	Fancy Dress	Qualitative Description
0 - 25	-	-	-	-	-	-	Low
26 - 50	-	6	-	7	-	7	Average
51 - 75	-	-	9	-	10	-	High
76 - 100	13	-	-	-	-	-	Very High

Source: Primary Data

The table shows co-curricular activities in government schools participated in recitation, music and fancy dress competitions at average level. In drawing and drama competition are at high level. More numbers government schools participated in oratorical competitions at very high level

Hence, governments schools are participated in oratorical competitions have very good level.

Hypothesis: 5

The level of conducting co-curricular activities in aided schools is very high.

Table 9

Qualitative description of the level of the co-curricular activities in aided schools

Competition Type Percentile	Oratorical	Recitation	Drawing	Music	Dramas	Fancy Dress	Qualitative Description
0 - 25	-	-	-	-	-	-	Low
26 - 50	-	-	-	-	-	7	Average
51 - 75	-	-	10	8	10	-	High
76 - 100	12	12	-	-	-	-	Very High

Source: Primary Data

The table shows co-curricular activities in aided schools participated in fancy dress competitions at average level. In drawing, music and drama competition are at high level.

More numbers aided schools participated in oratorical and recitation competitions at very high level

Hence aided schools are participated in oratorical and recitation competitions have very good level.

Hypothesis: 6

The level of conducting co-curricular activities in matriculation schools is very high

Table 10 - Qualitative description of the level of the co-curricular activities in matriculation schools

Competition Type Percentile	Oratorical	Recitation	Drawing	Music	Dramas	Fancy Dress	Qualitative Description
0 - 25	-	-	-	-	-	-	Low
26 - 50	-	-	-	-	6	6	Average
51 - 75	10	10	10	8	-	-	High
76 - 100	-	-	-	-	-	-	Very High

Source: Primary Data

The table shows co-curricular activities in matriculation schools participated in drama and fancy dress competitions at average level. In oratorical, recitation, drawing and music competition are at high level.

Hence matriculation school are participated in most of competitions have better level.

Findings

The government schools are N.S.S. programmes undertaken at moderate level to be concern.

The aided schools are N.S.S. programmes undertaken at better level to be concern.

The matriculation schools are N.S.S. programmes undertaken at very good level to be concern.

The most number of aided schools are participate in three level of inter school competition at better level than other two types of institutions

It is concluded that aided and matriculation schools are participated in inter school competition at better level.

The governments schools are participated in oratorical competitions have very good level.

The aided schools are participated in oratorical and recitation competitions have very good level.

The matriculation school are participated in most of competitions have better level.

Hence this concluded that co-curricular and extra-curricular activities of government, matriculation higher secondary schools are better level performance and aided higher secondary schools are very good level performance.