

# A STUDY ON THE LEVEL OF SOCIAL INTELLIGENCE OF COASTAL SCHOOL STUDENTS IN KERALA

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## Abstract

The main purpose of the study was to find out the level of Social Intelligence of Coastal School Students in Kerala. It was found that majority of the Coastal School Students in Kerala have only moderate Social Intelligence. And the female students have better Social Intelligence compared to the male students. In total Social Intelligence of Coastal School Students in Kerala is more or less similar.

**Keywords:** *Social Intelligence; Billows; Coastal School Children; Coastal- area; Marine; online test.*

## Introduction

The Indian fisher folk, unlike their counterparts elsewhere, are always exposed to the horrible vicissitudes of life as fishing involves a fierce struggle in the high seas. With the mighty billows and awe-inspiring currents. Practically speaking they are quite under equipped. Fishermen population was 7, 75,130 lakhs according to 2012-13 census. From the total number of marine fishermen population, total number of male is around 1, 75, 411 lakhs, the female 2, 71, 989 lakhs and children 1, 99, 483 lakhs respectively. The details are given below;

**TABLE 1**

Sl. No	Name of District	2011-2012				2012-2013			
		Male	Female	Children	Total	Male	Female	Children	Total
1	Trivandrum	61261	54120	48120	163501	61568	54397	48362	164327
2	Kollam	38120	32316	18940	89466	38402	32478	19035	89915
3	Alappuzha	42352	38659	26193	107204	42565	38853	26325	107743
4	Ernakulum	28126	26366	16463	70955	28267	26499	16546	71312
5	Thrissur	27489	27697	15768	70954	27628	27837	15848	71313
6	Malappuram	30472	24778	22647	77897	30625	24902	22761	78288
7	Kozhikode	37345	32575	24944	94864	37533	32739	25069	95341
8	Kannur	20104	16269	15615	53988	20205	18361	15693	54259
9	Kasargode	16781	15844	9795	42420	16865	15923	9844	42632
	<b>Total</b>	302140	270624	19485	771249	303658	271989	199483	775130

(Source: Kerala Marine Fisheries Statistics 2013 (Department of Fisheries))

Education is pivotal to human progress and stays as an important tool that empowers individuals to make informed choices. While considering the education of the coastal school children, there are many factors that influence intellectual development; besides the major influence of a high fluoride environment, the occupation and education of the parents also appears to play a definite role. Another key factor is socio-economic status (SES) of parents, since low intelligence in children is somewhat more frequent among low-income families, and poverty itself has a strong negative association with child's development. There is considerable relationship between a person's degree of intelligence and range of activities, the level of achievement and the depth of understanding possible to him. Intelligence has been defined in many different ways including, but not limited to, abstract thought, understanding, self-awareness, communication, reasoning and learning, having emotional knowledge, retaining, planning and problem solving. Further research is required involving longitudinal study on the same target population to clarify the nature of the relationship between intelligence and these factors are clearly desirable.

*Social intelligence* is the capability to effectively navigate and negotiate complex social relationships and environments. Social scientist Ross Honeywill believes social intelligence is an aggregated measure of self- and social-awareness, evolved social beliefs and attitudes, and a capacity and appetite to manage complex social change. Psychologist Nicholas Humphrey explains, it is social intelligence, rather than quantitative intelligence, that defines humans.

### **Need and Significance of the Study**

The present study aims to find out the level of Social Intelligence of coastal school children in Kerala. Studies of this kind are not much in evidence in research literature. Indian researchers have not done any significant work in this area. A delineation of the nature of the influence of this variable on coastal children will lead to a better understanding of the nature of their behaviour and their talents in educational skills. The findings of the study, it is hoped would definitely help us to re-define the process of instruction itself, especially the instructional strategies intended to develop higher level outcomes.

### **Objectives of the Study**

1. To find out the level of Social Intelligence of Coastal School Students of Thiruvananthapuram, Alappuzha and Kannur Districts.
2. To compare the Social Intelligence of male and female Coastal School Students.
3. To compare the Social Intelligence of Coastal School Students belonging to Government, Aided and Unaided schools.

### **Method adopted for the Study**

Normative survey method was used for the present investigation.

### **Sample Selected**

A representative group of 410 Coastal school Students from different Districts of Kerala were selected for the study. The total sample was randomly selected from different districts namely, Thiruvananthapuram (97), Alappuzha (185) and Kannur (128).

### Tool Used

Online Social Intelligence Test

### Statistical Techniques Used

Mean, Standard Deviation, Percentage Analysis, t-test, ANOVA

### Analysis and Interpretation of Data

For the analysis 410 coastal school students belonging to three different districts of Kerala namely Thiruvananthapuram, Alappuzha and Kannur were taken as the sample. An Online Social Intelligence Test was used for the present investigation. The present study is mainly intended to find out the level of Social Intelligence of coastal school students in Kerala. Total marks for the Online Social Intelligence test was 130.

#### Analysis of the Level of Social Intelligence of Coastal School Students of Kerala

In order to find out the level of social intelligence of coastal school students of Kerala, the students were classified into three groups based on their social intelligence scores namely, those having high social intelligence, those having moderate (average) social intelligence and those having low low social intelligence. For this purpose, the mean and standard deviation ( $\sigma$ ) were calculated. Those getting scores above ( $M+\sigma$ ) were taken as students having high social intelligence, those getting score below ( $m-\sigma$ ) were taken as students having low social intelligence and those in between these were taken as students having moderate social intelligence. The details are given in Table 2.

**Table 2**

#### Level of Social Intelligence of Coast School Students of Kerala

Level of Social Intelligence	No.	%
High	113	27.56
Moderate	247	60.24
Low	50	12.20
Total	559	100

Table 2 Shows that 113(27.56%) students have high social intelligence, 247 (60.24%) have moderate social intelligence and 50 (12.20%) have low social intelligence. This shows that majority of the coast school students in Kerala have only moderate social intelligence. **Comparison of Social Intelligence of Male and Female Students**

The scores obtained by male and female students in social intelligence test were compared by using test of significance of difference between means and the obtained t-value was tested for significance. The data and result of the analysis are given in Table3.

**Table 3**

**Test of Significance of the Difference between Means of the Social Intelligence Scores of Male and Female Students**

Group	N	Mean	SD	t-value
Male	206	62.84	22.10	2.15*
Female	204	67.77	24.22	

*\*Significant at 0.05 level*

Table 3 reveals that the t-value obtained is 2.15 which are significant at 0.05 levels showing the male and female students differ significantly in their social intelligence. The higher mean value obtained female students indicates that they have better social intelligence compared to male students.

**Comparison of Social Intelligence of Coast School Students based on their District**

The social intelligence scores of coastal school students studying in Thiruvananthapuram, Alappuzha and Kannur districts were compared in order to find out whether there is any significant difference between these groups in their social intelligence. The details are given in the Table 4.

**Table 4**

**The Mean and Standard Deviation for the Social Intelligence Scores of Students belonging to Government, Aided and Unaided Schools**

District	N	Mean	Standard Deviation
Trivandrum	97	64.57	23.13

Alappuzha	185	64.58	23.04
Kannur	128	66.88	23.84

Table 4 shows the mean and standard deviation of social intelligence scores of coastal school students belonging to Trivandrum, Alappuzha and Kannur districts. It can be seen from the table that the mean score of students from Kannur district is higher than the mean scores of students from Allapuzha and Trivandrum districts.

The table 4 reveals that the mean social intelligence scores of students from Kannur district is higher than the mean social intelligence cores of students from Alappuzha and Trivandrum districts. But it does not reveal whether there is any statistically significant difference in the social intelligence scores of these three groups. In order to find out whether the difference is significant, the mean scores obtained by these groups were compared using the technique of Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) and the obtained F-value was tested for significance. The results of the analysis are given below.

**Table 5**

**Summary of ANOVA of the Mean Social Intelligence Scores of Coastal School Students from Trivandrum, Alappuzha and Kannur Districts**

Source of Variation	Sum of squares	Df	Mean square	F-value
Between groups	464.524	2	232.262	0.43
Within Groups	221224.766	407	543.550	
Total	221689.290	409		

Table value of F

$F(2,407)$  at 0.05 Level = 3.02

$F(2, 556)$  at 0.01 level=4.66

Table 5 reveals that there is no significant difference in the social intelligence scores of the three groups as obtained F-value is significant ( $F = 0.43$ ;  $p > 0.05$ ). It means that social intelligence of coastal school students' form Trivandrum, Alappuzha and Kannur districts is more or less similar.

### Major Findings

1. Majority of the Coastal School Students in Kerala have only moderate Social Intelligence.
2. Female coastal school students have better Social Intelligence compared to the male students.

3. Social Intelligence of Coastal School Students' from Trivandrum, Alappuzha and Kannur districts is more or less similar.

## Conclusion

The Instructional Strategy gives paramount importance to the socially equipped children. The major challenge of the teachers and parents are to enable the child to be socially capable and mature in all his/her dealings. Social intelligence is nothing but general intelligence applied into the social context. This study reveals the fact that majority of the coastal school students in Kerala have only moderate social intelligence. It is also interesting to note that female coastal students possess better Social intelligence than the male students. It is the Social Intelligence which makes the child to think about his surroundings and help and understand his fellow-beings. It is to navigate connect each other to help one another in the society in which one lives and moves. In this most modern world of today, studies of this kind especially among the coastal school children are of great important.

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