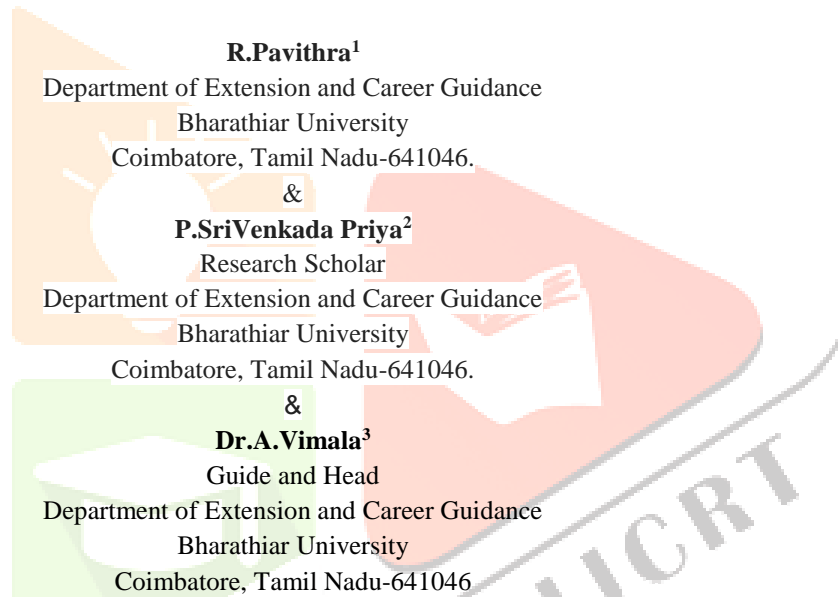
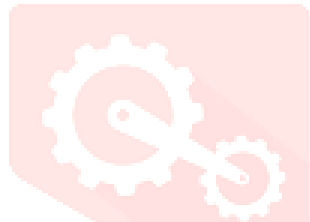
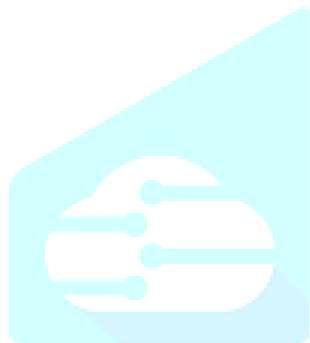




# An Awareness Survey On Government Special Scheme Of 7.5 Percent Reservation For The Admission Of Higher Education In The State Of Tamil Nadu Among The Students Of 12th



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**Abstract:** The research article dealt with the title of 7.5% Government reservation for higher education enrolment for the students of Government schools in Tamil Nadu. The 7.5% scheme is introduced by the Government of Tamil Nadu in the year 2021. The focus of the scheme is to offer the opportunity to the Government school students to enter their Higher Education in the reputed Government and private medical, veterinary, fisheries, engineering, agriculture and Law colleges and Universities. The primary objective of the research is to assess the awareness among the 12th on going students of Government schools in Tamil Nadu. From the finding it reveals that 71% not aware the 7.5% reservation scheme for the enrolment of the Higher Education in the state of Tamil Nadu. It is recommended that the Career information program should be provided to government higher secondary students to know about the various welfare scheme, courses, and its entrance exams availability through qualified career counsellor.

**Key words:** Government scheme, 7.5% reservation, Career awareness and facilitating role of teacher.

## 1. Introduction

Education is the key to personal enlightenment, and it is also the instrument of nation and world progress. Education is the most important element in the development of any community. According to Dr.B.R.Ambedkar, he mainly emphasized that education is a vital force for individual development and social change. Even though the government provides free education for primary and higher secondary education, students face difficulties in joining professional courses due to economic factors, which was mentioned in times now (2021). As per local daily reports, less than 1% of the total students who took admission in Anna University in the year 2020 were from government schools. Subsequently, the overall volume of government school students in engineering, veterinary, fisheries, law and agriculture colleges are 6.14%, 3%, 3.7%, 3.3% and 6.79% respectively. It was found that on average only 5% of government school students were able to get admission in various professional courses in the last academic session in the state.

## 2. Reservation

Reservation is a part of the fundamental rights guaranteed to the socially, economically suppressed, deprived and historically disadvantaged people of India. Reservation is the process of facilitating people in education, scholarship, jobs etc. that were faced with historical injustice. It is a form of quota based affirmative action or positive discrimination which follows the concept of "There is nothing more unequal than the equal treatment of unequal people" "It is a system in India which constitutes a number of initiatives like reserving access to seats in the legislatures, to government jobs and to enrolment in educational institutions and these are governed by constitutional laws, statutory laws and other local rules and regulations. The reservation is made in order to eliminate the historical oppression, inequality and discrimination of these communities and give them a place. The main objective of the reservation system in India is to improve the social and educational status of underprivileged communities in order to improve their lives and to achieve the promise of equality enshrined in the constitution.

## 3. Reservation Policy in Tamil Nadu

Reservation policy in Tamil Nadu is a system of affirmative action that provides historically disadvantaged groups representation in education, employment, and politics. The reservations in the state rose from 41 percent in 1954 to 69 percent in 1990. A similar reservation policy is already being implemented in medical admissions since the 2020-21 academic year. The admission rate of students from government schools in these courses was found to be low, and the government asked a Commission, headed by Justice Murugesan, to study the reason behind this and suggest remedies. The government accepted his recommendations and introduced 7.5% reservation for government school students in professional courses," by G.O (Ms.) No.438 dated 29.10.2020.

#### 4. 7.5% Reservation and Its Implications

Tamil Nadu legislative assembly enacted a Bill that established a 7.5% horizontal reservation in undergraduate medical admissions for candidates who had studied in government schools. The aim was to provide opportunities for government school students who stand at a disadvantage compared to their private school counterparts, due to a 'cognitive gap' formed by socio-economic factors. The existing reservation structure for medical students in Tamil Nadu is 31% for Open Competition (OC), 30% for Backward Class (out of which 3.5% is reserved for BCM, 20% for MBC, 18% for SC and 1% for ST. Within this, 7.5% of the community within each can attain reservation.

This policy is important as it goes beyond the considerations of caste in providing reservations. Instead, it considers a different paradigm of deprivation – the schooling opportunities that the person has access to. In India, only those people opt for government schools who either do not have access to private schools or are unable to afford the fees. Thus, this policy targets those who are economically deprived or geographically disadvantaged within each community – SC, ST, OBC, MBC (Most Backward Classes) or BCM (Backward Class Muslim). The horizontal quota ensures that there is a minimum representation of a specific group within each of the vertical quotas. For example, a women's horizontal quota of 10% would mean that at least 10% of the seats in OC, BC, MBC, SC, and others are filled with women candidates. This means that the 7.5% quota doesn't change the 69% caste-based reservation, but ensures that 7.5% within each is reserved specifically for the students of government schools.

#### 5. Review of Literature

According to the **Nilesh Mulatkar (2021)**, reservation is an act of withholding certain things for being enjoyed by the particular person/community and no other person/community has the right to enjoy the reserved thing. The reason for incorporating the provision of reservation in the constitution of India was to promote social justice i.e. there shall be no discrimination against any person on grounds of backwardness and equal opportunity shall be provided to every person.

**Gopalan K.R (2020)** the study based on its findings and interpretations say that a majority of the respondents are unaware about the act and the criteria but still with the available knowledge most of the respondents welcome his act for providing reservations for EWS. They also feel the necessity to provide reservations based on the economic status and also introduce the creamy layer concept for the SCs and also in the Tamil Nadu state level and due to the non-implementation of creamy layers in Tamil Nadu level the people are ignorant about the concept.

**Mukti Jaiswal et.al (2019)** the article is to create experience of recognition of implemented and none carried out Percentage of reservation guidelines inside the all section. Because of Even after sixty-nine years of Independent still Ruling Governments are not imposing fully reservation facilities furnished in the Indian constitution. Now disadvantaged communities are elevating voice for equal representations in the all sections of the country. So,

there's need for implementation absolutely percent of reservation provided by using the Indian constitution for disadvantaged communities by the politicians and ruling governments.

## 6. Research Methodology

The research is descriptive in nature and a simple random sampling method was adopted to collect the primary data from the respondent and the sample size is 52 students of 12<sup>th</sup> from government school in Coimbatore Tamil Nadu. The questionnaire was adopted as a tool for collecting the primary data and the questionnaire consists of 2 parts, one is biography of the respondents and second one is pertaining to the awareness of 7.5 percentage reservation. The objective of the study is 1. To access the demographic profile among the higher secondary school students, 2. To access the awareness of 7.5% reservation among the government higher secondary students and 3. To identify the career choice of government higher secondary students under 7.5% reservation.

## 7. Findings and Discussions

The findings were derived from the analysis and interpretations by using frequency test as tool for the collected data. The following findings are pertaining to the framed objective of 1 to assess the demographic profile among the higher secondary school students. It found that 65.4% of the respondents were female, 73.1% of the respondents from 12<sup>th</sup> standard and 63.5% of the respondents were from Tamil medium. Regarding the respondent's parental status found that 28.8% of respondents mentioned their father studied from 10<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade, 36.5% of mothers were studied only 10<sup>th</sup> and 40% of respondents father were working as a daily wages and 53.8% of mothers were home makers.

**Finding for the objective to find the career choice of higher secondary school students under 7.5% reservation.** In this case it finds that 26.9% of school students opted for medicine (MBBS) as their career choice. 40.4% of school students opined that their career choice is (Engineering, Agriculture, Architecture, veterinary, Ayurvedic and fishery) as their career choice. 32.7% of students opined that they have no idea about their career choice.

**Findings for the objective to know the effectiveness of awareness among the students about 7.5% reservation.** In this case it finds that 71.1% of the students mentioned they were not aware of the 7.5% reservation and its eligibility. 67.3% of students mentioned they were not aware about the undergraduate course. 65.4% of students mentioned they are studying in government school from class 6<sup>th</sup> to class 12<sup>th</sup>. 73.1% of the students mentioned that their school has not given any awareness program about 7.5% reservation.

## 8. Recommendation

From the findings and analysis, the result found that 71.1% of the students were not aware about the 7.5% reservation and its eligibility in government school which relatively affects their future career decision making and 32.7% of students mentioned they have no idea about the career choice under 7.5% reservation. And 73.1% of students mentioned that their school has not given any awareness program about the 7.5% reservation and its

benefits. Keeping in view of the aforesaid background, the following recommendations are made. Based on the findings it is recommended that the schools should conduct an awareness program about 7.5% reservation and its benefits. Career information program should be provided to higher secondary school students to know about the various welfare schemes and Career orientation program also to be extended to teachers, parents, and students to bring the awareness about the 7.5% reservation, career information and guiding the students to choose the right course after their school education.

### **9. Conclusion:**

7.5% scheme is introduced by the Tamil Nadu government in the year 2021. The main aim of the scheme is to provide the opportunity for government school students to their higher education in the reputed government and private medical, veterinary, fisheries, engineering, agriculture and law colleges and universities. In the study it found that the majority of the students (71.1%) were not aware of the 7.5% reservation scheme. 67.3% of students mentioned they were not aware about the various undergraduate courses by using 7.5% reservation. 32.7% of students said that they have no idea about their career choice. The career information program should be provided to higher secondary school students to know about the various HE programmes in India and welfare schemes. There is an urgent requirement, and the school has to take serious steps to offer career guidance from the standard of 8<sup>th</sup> onwards. Especially whenever the government scheme is to be introduced for the welfare of the students it has to be reached among the stakeholders through proper career guidance by qualified career guide and the counsellors.

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## Appendix - I

Table 1

Choice of career of government school students	No of respondents	Total percentage
Medical	14	26.9
Engineering	10	19.2
Veterinary	1	1.9
Ayurvedic	1	1.9
Agriculture	6	11.5
Architecture	2	3.8
Fisheries	1	1.9
No idea	17	32.7

Table 2

Variables	Categories	Total Respondents	Percentage
Gender	Male	28	34.6
	Female	34	65.4
Class	11 <sup>th</sup> standard	14	26.9
	12 <sup>th</sup> standard	38	73.2
Medium	English	19	36.5
	Tamil	33	63.5

Table 3

AWARENESS OF 7.5%	YES	NO
Do you know about the 7.5% reservation for admission?	28.9%	71.1%
Do you know about the undergraduate courses where you can join with 7.5% reservation?	32.7%	67.3%
Have you studied in government school from class 6 <sup>th</sup> to class 12 <sup>th</sup> ?	65.4%	34.6%
Did your school has given any awareness program regarding 7.5% quota?	17.3%	82.7%

Table 4

Occupation	Father's occupation of government school students %	Mother's occupation of government school students%
Agriculture	6%	1.9%
Daily Wages	40%	20.9%
Business	8%	3.8%
Private Employee	12%	11.6%
Government Employee	12%	1.9%
Others	22%	4.6%
Home Maker	0	53.8%

