

MINIMUM COMPETENCY BASED VOCATIONAL COURSES (MCVC) -A STUDY

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Introduction-

Education plays an important role in shaping an individual's career. The level of education helps people to earn recognition and respect in the society. Undoubtedly education is both socially & personally an indispensable part of human life. However, the inequalities in the standards of education are still a major issue that needs to be solved as early as it could be. The importance of education in our life cannot be ignored at any cost. Education is the only way to get knowledge.

Skills based education is marred by multiple access barriers like limited infrastructure facilities, quality of training, rigid entry requirements, lack of financial support, and negative perceptions. These shortcomings exist more for the disadvantaged, especially women and rural communities. Developing our human resources reservoir that not only feeds to the domestic market but also the global workforce and labour crunch is the urgent growth imperative. Indian workforce needs to be trained across the four levels, from White Collar to the Rust Collar workers linking them to job opportunities and market realities.

Meaning of Vocationalization

In India, education has little utility of life, as it does not prepare for earning a living. Due to this inadequacy the necessity of vocationalization of education has been keenly felt.

“Vocational subject should be given a place in curriculum of general subject so that the student become competent to earn his living after completing his general education” is called vocationalization”.

Vocationalization of education

Vocationalization has been defined by UNESCO as a “Comprehensive term embracing that aspect of the educational process involving, in addition to general education, the study of technologies and related science and the acquisition of practical skills, attitudes, understanding and knowledge relating to the occupation in the various sectors of economic social life. Such as education would be an integral part of general education and means of preparing for an occupational field and aspect of the continuing education.”

Need for Vocationalization of Education in India

Vocational Education and Training (VET) is an important element of the nation’s education initiative. In order for Vocational Education to play its part effectively in the changing national context and for India to enjoy the fruits of the demographic dividend, there is an urgent need to redefine the critical elements of imparting vocational education and training to make them flexible, contemporary, relevant, inclusive and creative. The Government is well aware of the important role of Vocational education and has already taken a number of important initiatives in this area.

Objectives of the study-

- 1) To study the adequacy of physical and other facilities available in institution in which Minimum Competency Based Vocational Courses are located.
- 2) To study academic administrative and financial difficulties faced by teachers and institution in conducting Minimum Competency Based Vocational Courses.

Hypotheses of the study

- There are adequate facilities available in the MCVC colleges of study region
- There is shortage of staff in the MCVC colleges of study region
- Majority of students learning in the MCVC colleges are satisfied with the facilities provided by their college

Scope and limitations of the study:-

- A. The study was limited the Maharashtra State.
- B. The study was limited up to the + 2 level of Minimum Competency Based Vocational Courses.

C. The study did not include general science & Arts course student.

Data Collection:-

In the present study primary data collection was done by using questionnaire

Sample Size

In the present study, data was collected from a total of 1350 respondents out of which 1000 respondents were students, 200 respondents were ex-students and 150 respondents were teachers.

Statistical Analysis of Data :-

Analysis of data was done with the help of suitable statistical tests. The descriptive statistics, such as mode, percentage, etc were determined from the collected data. The ‘Z’ test of proportion was used as inferential statistics test.

Significance Level :-

The significance level was chosen to be 0.05 (or equivalently, 5%) by keeping in view the consequences of such an error and to make the significance level as small as possible in order to protect the null hypothesis and to prevent, as far as possible, from inadvertently arriving at false conclusion.

Results and discussion-

Gender wise distribution of MCVC students-

	No. of respondents	Percentage
Male	789	78.9
Female	211	21.1
Total	1000	100

Above table shows gender wise distribution of MCVC students selected in the study. It was apparent from the information that 78.9% MCVC students are male whereas 21.1% MCVC students are female. Hence it is evident from the study results that majority of MCVC students selected in the study are male.

Information regarding facilities available in the MCVC College where students studying-

Facilities Available in College	Yes		No		Can't Say	
	N		N	%	N	%
Regular teaching staff for separate subjects	120	12	687	68.7	193	19.3
Well-developed library with adequate literature of subjects	213	21.3	596	59.6	191	19.1
Guidance for employment opportunities.	312	31.2	456	45.6	232	23.2
Fee Concession facility for EBC and SC/ST.	878	87.8	0	0	122	12.2
Playground.	121	12.1	756	75.6	123	12.3

Above table shows information regarding facilities available in the MCVC College where students studying. It was apparent from the information that facility of fee concession for EBC and SC/ST was available in MCVC college where 87.8% students studying, whereas facilities such as guidance for employment opportunities, well-developed library with adequate literature of subjects, playground and regular teaching staff for separate subjects were available in the MCVC colleges where 31.2%, 21.3%, 12.1% and 12% students respectively were studying. Hence it is evident from the study results that facility of fee concession for EBC and SC/ST is available in the colleges where majority of MCVC students studied.

Whether your college guides you in the field of employment-

Information regarding availability of facility of guidance to MCVC students in the field of employment in the college where they studying-

	No. of respondents	Percentage
Yes	312	31.2
No	123	12.3
Can't Say	565	56.5
Total	1000	100

Above table shows information pertaining to availability of facility of guidance to MCVC students in the field of employment in the college where they studying. It was apparent from the information that 56.5% students were uncertain regarding availability of facility of guidance in the field of employment in their college, whereas facility of guidance in the field of employment was available in the college of 31.2% students. However this facility was not available in the college of 12.3% students. Hence it is evident from the study results that majority of MCVC students were uncertain regarding the availability of facility of guidance in the field of education in the college where they studying.

Have you paid any amount other than the fees to college?

Information regarding payment of amount other than fees to the college by MCVC students-

	No. of respondents	Percentage
Yes	216	21.6
No	724	72.4
Can't Say	60	6
Total	1000	100

Above table shows information regarding payment of amount other than fees to the college by MCVC students. It was apparent from the information that 72.4% students did not pay amount other than fees to the college, whereas 21.6% student paid amount other than fees to the college. Furthermore 6% students were uncertain regarding payment of amount other than fees to the college. Thus, it is evident from the study results that majority of MCVC students did not pay any amount other than fees to the college.

Ex-students-

Gender wise distribution of ex-students

Gender wise distribution of ex-MCVC students selected in the study-

	No. of respondents	Percentage
Male	158	79
Female	42	21
Total	200	100

Above table shows gender wise distribution of ex-MCVC students selected in the study. It was apparent from the information that 79% ex-MCVC students are male whereas 21% ex-MCVC students are female. Hence it is evident from the study results that majority of ex-MCVC students are male.

Present work based on MCVC education

Information regarding dependence of present work of ex-MCVC student on MCVC education-

	No. of respondents	Percentage
Yes	132	66
No	45	22.5
Can't Say	23	11.5
Total	200	100

Above table provides information regarding dependence of present work of ex-MCVC student on MCVC education. It was apparent from the information that present work of 66% ex-MCVC student based on MCVC education, whereas present work of 22.5% ex-MCVC student did not base on MCVC education. However; 11.5% ex-MCVC students uncertain regarding dependence of their present work on MCVC education. Hence, it is evident from the study results that the present work of majority of ex-MCVC student based on MCVC education.

Benefit of MCVC education for ex-MCVC student in getting the present work

Information regarding type of benefit of MCVC education for ex-MCVC student in getting the present work-

	Yes		No		Can't Say	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Technical Help	164	82	21	10.5	15	7.5
Financial Guidance	146	73	13	6.5	41	20.5
Management of resources	122	61	16	8	62	31
Legal Guidance	112	56	20	10	68	34
Guidance of Raw material sources	142	71	22	11	36	18
Work related practical training	185	92.5	3	1.5	12	6
Information regarding job opportunities	53	26.5	88	44	59	29.5

N= No. of respondent; %-Percentage

Above table shows information regarding type of benefit of MCVC education for ex-MCVC student in getting the present work. It was apparent from the information that the MCVC education provides help such as work related practical training to 92.5% ex-MCVC students in getting present work, whereas it provided technical help to ex-MCVC student in getting present work. Furthermore it provided financial guidance and guidance of raw material sources to 73% and 71% ex-MCVC students in getting present work, whereas it provided guidance of management resources to 61% ex-MCVC students for getting present work. The detailed information regarding benefits of MCVC education for ex-MCVC student in getting the present work is shown in Table 4.13. Hence, it is evident from the study results that majority of ex-MCVC student get benefit such as work related practical training in getting present work.

Satisfaction of ex-MCVC student with their choice of opting MCVC as part of their educational qualification

Information regarding satisfaction of ex-MCVC student with their choice of opting MCVC as part of their educational qualification-

	No. of respondents	Percentage
Yes	121	60.5
No	12	6
Can't Say	67	33.5
Total	200	100

Above table shows information pertaining to the satisfaction of ex-MCVC student with their choice of opting MCVC as part of their educational qualification. It was apparent from the information that 60.5% ex-MCVC students were satisfied with their choice of opting MCVC as part of their educational qualification, whereas 33.5% ex-MCVC students were uncertain

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regarding satisfaction with their choice of opting MCVC as a part of their educational qualification. However, 6% ex-MCVC students were not satisfied with their choice of opting MCVC as part of their educational qualification. Hence, it is evident from the study results that majority of ex-MCVC students are satisfied with their choice of opting MCVC as part of their educational qualification.

Gender wise distribution of teachers

Gender wise distribution of MCVC teachers-

Gender	No. of respondents	Percentage
Male	123	82
Female	27	18
Total	150	100

Above table shows gender wise distribution of MCVC teachers. It was apparent from the information that 82% MCVC teachers were male whereas 18% MCVC teachers were female. Hence it is evident from the study results that majority of MCVC teachers are male.

Nature of MCVC course available in the college

Information regarding nature of MCVC course available in the college

	No. of respondents	Percentage
Linked with other courses	12	8
Independent	138	92
Total	150	100

Above table illustrates information pertaining to the nature of MCVC course in the college where teachers selected in the study worked. It was apparent from the information that according to 92% teachers MCVC course was independent in their college, whereas according to 8% teachers MCVC course in their college was linked to other courses. Hence it is evident from the study results that MCVC course is independent of other subjects in majority of colleges.

Facilities available in the college :-

Information regarding facilities available in the colleges where teachers worked

Facilities	Yes		No		Can't Say	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Regular teaching staff for separate subjects	-	-	150	100	-	-
Well-developed library with adequate literature of subjects.	75	50.0	42	28.0	33	22.0
Trained Assistants in laboratories.	123	82.0	12	8.0	15	10.0
Organization of industrial and educational tours	131	87.3	8	5.3	11	7.3
Frequent guidance by subject experts.	128	85.3	7	4.7	15	10.0
Organizations of seminars.	122	81.3	4	2.7	24	16.0
Project studies.	138	92.0	3	2.0	9	6.0
Guidance for employment opportunities	41	27.3	32	21.3	77	51.3
Guidance for resource availability.	38	25.3	58	38.7	54	36.0
Computer Facility	142	94.7	3	2.0	5	3.3
Internet Facility	126	84.0	12	8.0	12	8.0
Hostels for outside students.	23	15.3	112	74.7	15	10.0
Fee Concession facility for EBC and SC/ST.	150	100	-	-	-	-
Playground.	-	-	150	100	-	-

N= No. of respondent; %-Percentage

Above table illustrates information regarding facilities available in the colleges where teachers worked. It was apparent from the information that fee concession facility for EBC and SC/ST was available in MCVC colleges where 100% teachers worked, whereas facilities of computer education and project studies was available in colleges where more than 90% teacher worked. Furthermore facilities such as organization of industrial and educational tours, frequent guidance by subject experts, internet facility, trained assistants in laboratories and organizations of seminars was available in colleges where more than 80% teachers worked and MCVC colleges where 50% teachers worked have facility of well-developed library with adequate literature of subjects. However, facilities such as regular teaching staff for separate subjects and playground was not available in colleges where 100% MCVC teacher worked and there was lack of hostels facility for outside students in colleges where more than 70% MCVC teachers worked. The detailed information regarding the facilities available in MCVC colleges was shown in Table 4.3. Hence, It is evident that facilities such as Fee Concession facility for EBC and SC/ST, Computer Facility, Project studies, Organization of industrial and educational tours, Frequent guidance by subject experts, Internet Facility, Trained Assistants in laboratories and Organizations of seminars is available in MCVC of colleges where majority of teachers worked.

Difficulties faced by teachers in this profession

Information regarding difficulties faced by MCVC teachers in their profession

	Yes		No		Can't Say	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Insufficient salary	96	64.0	22	14.7	32	21.3
Inadequate teaching facilities	92	61.3	13	8.7	45	30.0
Inadequate funds for the laboratory and libraries	91	60.7	19	12.7	40	26.7
Inadequate teaching staff	94	62.7	24	16.0	32	21.3
Inadequate support from management	28	18.7	102	68.0	20	13.3
Inadequate working staff (assistants, clerks, attendants etc.)	56	37.3	62	41.3	32	21.3

N= No. of respondent; %-Percentage

Above table provides information pertaining to the difficulties faced by MCVC teachers in their profession. It was apparent from the information that more than 60% MCVC teachers faced difficulties such as insufficient salary, inadequate teaching staff, inadequate teaching facility and inadequate funds for the laboratory and libraries, whereas 37.3% MCVC teachers faced difficulty of inadequate working staff and 18.7% MCVC teachers faced difficulty of inadequate support from management. Hence, it is evident from the study results that majority of MCVC teachers faced difficulties such as Insufficient salary, Inadequate teaching staff, Inadequate teaching facilities and Inadequate funds for the laboratory and libraries in their profession.

Hypotheses Testing :-

There are adequate facilities available in the MCVC colleges of study region-

On the basis of the study results (Table 4.3), it was found that there are adequate facilities in the MCVC colleges of the study regions, hence, the hypothesis, which states that “*There are adequate facilities available in the MCVC colleges of study region*”, is **accepted**.

There is shortage of staff in the MCVC colleges of study region-

On the basis of the study results (Table 4.4), it was observed that there is shortage of staff in the MCVC colleges of the study regions, hence, the hypothesis, which states that “*There is shortage of staff in the MCVC colleges of study region*”, is **accepted**.

Majority of students are satisfied with the MCVC courses-

On the basis of the study results (Table 4.16), it was observed that majority of students learning in the MCVC colleges of the study region are satisfied with these courses, hence, the

hypothesis, which states that “Majority of students are satisfied with the MCVC courses”, is **accepted**.

Conclusion-

Vocational Education system is dynamic in nature. It faces many hurdles in response to societal, technological and economic changes in the environment both home and foreign. The debate today is not only about the value and role of vocational education in the social and economic development of a nation but has a broader aspect. Vocational education is widely recognized as a vital part of the total education and training system. The real challenge is how to reposition it by shifting towards a developmental paradigm that holds sustainability as its core.

Vocational education is only likely to succeed when a large part of the nation has become sufficiently literate. It is an excellent thing to train an electrician’s son in the latest development of his trade, but it is ridiculous to expect him to become a first rate electrical engineer unless he has gone through a primary course in liberal education. It is, therefore, not wise to put liberal and vocational educations in water-tight compartments. The proper policy would be to stress liberal education in the early stage, say till Matriculation, and then commence with the main course of vocational education basing on the student’s choice of scientific research on aptitude and inclination.

Following data collection, statistical analysis was carried out and the results were interpreted in view of the study objectives. The data was collected regarding the problems and prospects of vocationalization of education at minimum competency based vocational courses (+2 level) in Maharashtra State in relation to occupational choice. The conclusions drawn on the basis of statistical analysis of data are presented hereunder.

Students

Gender wise distribution

- It may be concluded on the basis of study results that majority of MCVC students selected in the study are male.

Facilities available in college

- It may be concluded on the basis of study results that facility of fee concession for EBC and SC/ST is available in the colleges where majority of MCVC students studied.

Satisfaction of students with the facilities provided by their college

It may be concluded on the basis of study results that majority of MCVC students are uncertain regarding satisfaction with the facilities provided by their college.

Whether your college guides you in the field of employment

- It may be concluded on the basis of study results that majority of MCVC students were uncertain regarding the availability of facility of guidance in the field of education in the college where they studying.

Have you paid any amount other than the fees to college?

- It may be concluded on the basis of study results that majority of MCVC students did not pay any amount other than fees to the college

Ex-Students

Gender wise distribution of ex-students

- It may be concluded on the basis of study results that majority of ex-MCVC students are male.

Present work based on MCVC education

- It may be concluded on the basis of study results that the present work of majority of ex-MCVC student based on MCVC education.

Benefit of MCVC education for ex-MCVC student in getting the present work

- It may be concluded on the basis of study results that majority of ex-MCVC student get benefit such as work related practical training in getting present work.
- **Satisfaction of ex-MCVC student with their choice of opting MCVC as part of their educational qualification**
- It may be concluded on the basis of study results that majority of ex-MCVC students are satisfied with their choice of opting MCVC as part of their educational qualification.

Teachers :-

Gender wise distribution of teachers

- It may be concluded on the basis of study results that majority of MCVC teachers are male.

Facilities available in the college

- It may be concluded on the basis of study results that facilities such as Fee Concession facility for EBC and SC/ST, Computer Facility, Project studies, Organization of industrial and educational tours, Frequent guidance by subject experts, Internet Facility,

Trained Assistants in laboratories and Organizations of seminars is available in MCVC of colleges where majority of teachers worked.

Difficulties faced by teachers in this profession

- It may be concluded on the basis of study results that majority of MCVC teachers faced difficulties such as Insufficient salary, Inadequate teaching staff, Inadequate teaching facilities and Inadequate funds for the laboratory and libraries in their profession.

Suggestions and Recommendations:-

1. Government should establish more and more MCVC institutes to increase technical manpower needed in industries
2. Government should provide special grants to MCVC institutes for their development
3. Every MCVC institute should have hostel facility for the students as majority of students come from rural areas
4. Government should establish MCVC institutes in rural and tribal area of state also to generate skilled manpower and employment from these areas
5. A clear cut strategy should be made by technical education board to encourage MCVC institutes
6. Government should also think of providing employment to students taken education through MCVC institutes.
7. Institutes should motivate the students to begin self-employment on the basis of their education
8. An arrangement should made in the course to take practical experience of industrial operations for the students
9. Similar studies should be carried out for industrial technical institutes in the rural areas of Maharashtra state

A study should also make for measuring impact of MCVC education on generating self-employment.

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