RESEARCH ARTICLE

A STUDY ON VOCATIONAL NEEDS OF INMATES OF GOVERNMENT CHILDREN’S HOMES IN KERALA

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Abstract

Education helps a child to develop personally, socially as well as economically in future. Proper care and support given to children helps in the personality development which means the set of qualities which makes a person distinct from the other. It is a fact that all the problems and needs can’t be solved and satisfied always. Even then, everyone will try to attain the goals through realising various needs and overcoming the problems to an extent. It is in this context, education helps one to acquire new skills and wisdom to overcome the challenges they face. But children may not be able to tackle all the barriers that come across them during the flow of their life. In the present study the investigator identifies the vocational needs of child in need of care and protection. As the inmates of children’s homes are dejected by the society, the investigator tries to identify their needs especially vocational need as it would help the teachers and the officials to support these children to have a goal in their future to have a successful life.

Introduction:

Each and every child who is born in this world has the right to be loved and cared. Unfortunately all the little buds who are born in this world do not taste the love and care of their parents and dear ones due to various reasons. And these children are referred as children in need of care and protection.

The real life in this world is to be experienced by a child from the moment he or she is born. He has the right to taste all the sweet and sourness of life. No one is a pace away from having the right of attaining the essence of life. But somehow due to various reasons all the children doesn’t get the opportunity to taste the nectar of life in its fullest sense. Some face the fate of tasting the sourness due to reasons related to familial, economic or sociological factors. But it is the duty of the society and the authorities to provide all the situations and facilities for the child to experience his life in its fullest length.

Vocational Needs Of Children

That vocational training or education is an under researched and under-theorised area. Vocational education is, fundamentally, the requirement of every social order because it is a way of helping man to advance in job-related areas. It is advisable to have education along with some vocational training for a better life for the children.
As technological changes are rapidly influencing the society, changes should also be made in vocational education and its purpose. Its transformation is primarily concerned to fulfil the existing requirement of the society. In schools along with formal education, vocational education can also be implemented. For the proper vocational training an institution need enough equipment and tools according to variety of vocations. The availability of trained vocational instructors is also required for the effective vocational training. The children need motivation and encouragement to accept vocational training along with formal education.

As opponent to the fulfilment of needs, problems are there to obstruct the flow of accomplishment of goals. With regard to the vocational education in schools, the formal education is the main opponent. The teachers, parents and even the children are giving importance to formal education. In other way giving more importance to formal education and all are neglecting vocational education. The children are not motivated or encouraged to be trained in any vocation. All are nowadays prefer for white collar profession and the children too are trained for it. They won’t get enough time to have any training in any vocation. Lack of variety of vocation is also another problem faced by the children. As the present situation demands more technological trades are needed by the children which still needs to be satisfied.

Vocational education is a deficit approach to training those considered unsuited to the perceived rigours and status of an academic education rather than educating or filling something to children’s brain. It is about meeting the skill requirements of occupation, however narrowly defined such skills might be. It is about enhancing productivity and educating individuals into a worthwhile form of life with a sense of craftsmanship. It is also a learning as a sense of becoming a worthy member in the society rather than purely the acquisition of technical skills and knowledge to foster behavioural competence.

It is important to consider the degree to which vocational education is focused on the needs of specific vocations, or even on the notion of work itself. Corson(1985) made an important distinction between vocational education as ‘education for work’, and as ‘training for work’. If seen as ‘training’, vocational education could simply be removed from the institution of education altogether, and the job of ‘training’ given to employers. Vocational education thus includes ‘training for work’ but is more than just training. According to him Corson being educated demands more than being highly trained; it involves the possession of a body of knowledge along with a conceptual scheme to raise that body of knowledge above the level of a collection of disjointed facts.

In the present study as the sample is the inmates of government children’s homes, the area of vocational training gains attention. They are referred as the children who are in need of care and protection. But they are children who also need proper guidance in relation to vocational education, their needs and problems related to vocational education need great attention and is included in the present study.

Need and Significance of the Study
According to Swami Vivekananda a child is future father and mother, future employee and prospective citizen, since they are the future of the country, they need special care. Protecting their rights and status are important since they are the responsible citizens of tomorrow. Education is a sub-system of the society and the type of education depends upon the society we live in. Education builds foundation for the society which contributes economic growth, social prosperity and national development.

As far as the children in the children’s homes are concerned, education is the leading light for them to a bright future and through education only they can overcome their deprivation. It is the duty of the society to provide them with all the facilities a normal child possesses. The Juvenile Justice Act recommends all the facilities a child should have in the child care institutions. As per the Act even the accused juvenile have the right to education.

Today, even a normal child cannot manage with the social set up. The atrocities against children are increasing in such a way that the parents have to carry their children with them in each and every second. Then what could be the situation of the children who doesn’t have any one to take care of them. The children are kept in the children’s homes and for an extent they are protected inside the children’s homes.

The investigator understood the importance of having a detailed study about the child in need of care and protection under the full control of Government of Kerala and hence the study is significant. Even though the educators, social workers, politicians, students etc have been visiting the children in need of care and protection but only a few
significant studies were conducted among them regarding their needs and problems and rehabilitation. So, in this context, the researcher felt the importance to conduct a study on the vocational needs of the children in need of care and protection. Apart from this the researcher’s own experience with a child care institution stimulated her to take up such a topic.

**Review of Related Studies**

It is important to review the existing literature related to the topic you wish to research in order to learn more about the topic, determine the contexts in which the topic might have been researched previously, and obtain guidance that will help your research efforts. Regardless of the basis on which the problem has been formulated, it is a good idea to recheck research already done and any theoretical writing that may be relevant because the review of the theory and research gives an insight also how the research problem is arrived at. The guidance from the review helps keep the research on course towards a satisfactory conclusion.

Chinyere Christy Amadi1; Monday T. Joshua and C.G. Asagwara, (2007) did research on the Assessment of the Vocational Maturity of Adolescent Students in Owerri Education Zone of Imo State, Nigeria. The study primarily investigated the vocational maturity and occupational preferences of adolescent students in Owerri Education Zone of Imo State, Nigeria. The sample consisted of 600 senior secondary three students drawn from a population of 23,229 senior secondary school students. The instrument used for data collection was 40-item questionnaire. Statistical tools used were the population t-test and one way analysis of variance. Some of the finding were: (a) that students were vocationally matured in four dimensions of vocational maturity namely: self-knowledge, occupational information, involvement in decision making and independence in decision making (b) that gender had no significant influence on three out of four dimensions of vocational maturity.

Byron K. Hargrove; Arpana G. Inman and Randy L. Crane, (2005), Family Interaction Patterns, Career Planning Attitudes, and Vocational Identity of High School Adolescents. The purpose of the study by Byron K. Hargrove; Arpana G. Inman and Randy L. Crane, on Family interaction patterns, career planning attitudes, and vocational identity of high school adolescents was to examine how perceptions of family interaction patterns as defined along three dimensions of family environment (quality of family relationships, family goal-orientations, and degree of organization and control within the family system) predict vocational identity and career planning attitudes among male and female adolescents living at home. One hundred twenty three high school students completed measures of family environment, vocational identity, and career planning attitudes. Analyses revealed that the quality of family relationships (i.e., degree to which family members are encouraged to express feelings and problems) played a small, yet significant role in predicting career planning attitudes of adolescents.

Darja, Kobal and Janek, Musek (2001) Self-Concept and Academic Achievement: Slovenia and France. According to research evidence, self-concept and academic achievement are mutually interdependent. Some investigations also found national differences concerning the relationship between academic success and self-concept. In the present study, we tested the hypothesis that academic achievement affects different components of self-concept The French subjects exceeded Slovenians in some domains of self-concept (i.e. verbal, academic, relations with same sex peers, relations with parents, religion and spirituality, and general self-concept), while Slovenian subjects exceeded French subjects in the domain of problem solving and creativity. There was no significant difference between both national samples in self-esteem. Also, the French subjects exceeded Slovenian pupils in general academic achievement. The results were interpreted on the grounds of theoretical expectations related to the formation of self-concept and academic achievement, as well as on the basis of national differences in the school system and personality structure.

Akos, Patrick; Lambie, Glenn W.; Milson, Amy; Gilbert, Kelly Michigan, (2007) conducted a study on Early Adolescents’ Aspirations and Academic Tracking an Exploratory Investigation. Early adolescents make early career decisions in the form of curriculum choices for high school, and these choices can affect future postsecondary education and career paths. This exploratory study examined relationships between school and demographic variables and 522 eighth graders’ choices of high school academic tracks. Analysis of variance and chi-square analyses identified statistically significant relationships between curricular choices and various school and demographic variables. The potential for aspiration gaps and implications for school counselor educational and career planning are discussed.
De Bruin (2002) examined the relationship between personality traits and vocational interests in a South African context. De Bruin used a sample of 1503 first year university students from a South African University. The data was collected using the 16 Personality Factor Questionnaire - Form A (16PF) and 19-Field-Interest Inventory (19FII). The 19FII consists of 19 interest areas which could be expressed in terms of the Holland’s six vocational interest types. The results were based on the relationship between the five Second-Order Factors extracted from the 15 out of 16 scales of the 16PF test. The five second-order factors are: Extraversion, Tough Poise, Control, Independence and Anxiety. Results indicated meaningful relation between personality traits and vocational interests.

First, the Extraversion factor was correlated significantly with following interest areas of 19FII: Sociability (.57), Public Speaking (.38), Travel (.25), Sport (.23), Law (.22), and Service (.20). These fields of interest indicate contact with other people and the high correlations of Sociability and Public Speaking with Extraversion factor clearly indicate extravert’s need for contact with other people. Second, the low scores on the Tough Poise factor indicate toughmindedness and a high score indicate emotional sensitivity (similar to Openness to Experience of Big Five). The Tough Poise factor correlated significantly with following 19FII interests: Welfare (.33), Language (.33), Performing Arts (.26), Numerical (-.25), Practical-Male (-.22) and Business (-.20). According to De Bruin the positive relation of language and Performing Arts with Tough Poise indicates support for the link between Holland’s Artistic interest and Openness aspect of Big Five. Further it could be seen that emotionally sensitive people are interested in Welfare of others and they are not interested in fields mostly related to ‘things’ (Business, Numerical) rather than people. Third, the second-order factor of Control denotes Conscientiousness of the Big Five. High scores on Control factor indicate perfectionism and adherence to societal norms and rules. Low scores indicate a lack of personal control and a disregard for societal norms and rules. This factor was not found to be associated meaningfully with any of the 19FII interest areas. But previous studies have suggested a link between Conscientiousness of Big Five and the Conventional interest (e.g. Blake & Sackett, 1999; Hogan & Blake, 1999).

Fourth, the second-order factor of Independence showed a positive and meaningful relationship with only one interest area from 19FII, namely Creative Thinking (.24) suggesting that independent individuals generate novel ideas. (High scores on the independence factor indicate critical and domineering interpersonal style and low scores indicate group dependence and submissiveness and according to De Bruin this factor is similar to the Agreeableness factor of the Big Five Model.) Fifth, the high scores on the second-order factor of Anxiety (similar to Neuroticism of Big Five) indicates emotional instability and a lack of self-confidence and low scores indicate emotional control and high self-confidence. De Bruin found no significant correlation with any of the 19FII interest areas with Anxiety. According to De Bruin the correlations between personality traits and interests are relatively weak, although psychologically meaningful, personality traits and vocational interests appear to be two clearly different domains of behaviour and his findings did not support Holland’s theoretical view that interest inventories are also personality inventories.

Messersmith et al. (2016) conducted a longitudinal study to examine the effect of external influences on choosing a career in information technology in emerging adults. Socialization processes and specifically role of family, educational experiences, and influence of gender on participants choosing or not choosing information technology as a career was explored in a mixed methods study. They examined individuals from the time they were in seventh grade till they were 25 years old. Semi-structured interviews were conducted with 28 participants and data was analyzed using interpretive phenomenological analysis. The analysis revealed the substantial role of parents in determining career choice of participants. Parental support, parents as role models and means of exposure to careers in the field of information technology emerged as themes in the study. This study restricted its scope to careers in one field. Further research can extend this investigation to understand influences on other career avenues.

Logue, C.T; Lounsbury, J.W., Gupta, A. and Leong. (2007) examined the relationship among Holland’s Vocational Interests, Big Five and narrow personality traits and satisfaction with college major of business students (N = 164). Contrary to their hypothesis Enterprising interest theme was unrelated to major satisfaction. Investigative, Artistic, and Realistic interests were negatively related to major satisfaction. In case of personality traits Conscientiousness, emotional stability, Optimism, Extraversion and Assertiveness were positively related to major satisfaction. The combination of personality traits and vocational interest themes successfully predicted the satisfaction in college major (business) explaining 49% of variance in major satisfaction and the predictors were: Optimism, Realistic interest, Assertiveness, Conventional interest and Artistic interests.

GarciaSedeno et al. (2009) examined the relationship between vocational choice or occupational preferences and personality traits of 735 last year high school students. The researcher first performed hierarchical cluster analysis on the data and identified two groups: scientific/technological careers and humanities/social sciences. Then the
personality profiles were examined in relation to each of these groups. The results indicated substantial personality –
interest relations. Extraversion correlated negatively with Mechanical and Arithmetical interests, and Extraversion
positively correlated with Persuasive interest area. The Tough-mindedness trait negatively correlated with the
Artistic interests. The Independence trait correlated negatively with Persuasive and Welfare interests

Research Questions
The following are the research questions put forward for the present study.
What are the vocational needs of inmates of Government children’s homes in Kerala?

Statement of the Problem
The Right to Education and the Juvenile Justice Act put forward so many options for the protection and education of
the children who are in need of care and protection. Their needs and interests are to be taken care of as any normal
children. Even the Juvenile Justice Act insists on the rehabilitation of the children in need of care and protection, it
is important to monitor the process and to supplement them with proper rehabilitation as per the need of the hour.
The present study envisages to identify the vocational needs of children in children’s homes in Kerala run by the
state Government. The problem under investigation has been stated as follows: “A Study On Vocational Needs Of
Inmates Of Government Children’s Homes In Kerala.”

Objectives of the Study:–
The objectives of the study are stated below.
1. To identify the present vocational needs of inmates of Government children’s homes in Kerala
2. To compare the vocational needs of inmates of Government children’s homes in Kerala based on the
   subsamples age, gender and locale

Hypotheses of the Study
The hypotheses of the study were formulated based on the theoretical assumptions, the review of literature and
the variables selected for the study. The study is initiated with the following hypotheses in mind.
H1: There is significant difference in the vocational needs of inmates of Government
   children’s homes in Kerala based on sub samples
H2: There is significant difference in the vocational needs of inmates of Government children’s homes in Kerala
   based on the subsamples age, gender and locale

Methodology:–
As far as a research work is concerned methodology is one of the core process of it. Methodology marks the success
of a research study on the basis of the tools and techniques adopted. An appropriate methodology helps the
researcher to investigate the varied stands of the study and satisfactorily measure them so as to satisfy the
requirements and thus it is the way to an end.

Method Adopted for the Study
The present study was to identify the vocational needs of Children’s homes in Kerala run by state
Government. Examining the objectives and nature of the data to be collected, the investigator followed survey method,
interview observation and case analysis for collecting data for the study. Implementation of the survey method in the
present study helped the researcher to collect appropriate data from an ample number of children who are in need of
care and protection in children’s homes in Kerala run by state Government.

Sample Selected for the Study
The statistics reveals that in Kerala, around 75,000 children below 18 years are living in orphanages and other
private child care institutions. It is estimated that around 1500 child care institutions are there in Kerala. According to
Kerala Government records, only 369 child care institutions are registered under Juvenile Justice Act. Child in need of care and protection is taken care by the Government in Children’s homes. There are only ten
children’s homes fully under the control of Kerala Government. So considering the children’s homes as clusters,
the sample of the present study consists of the inmates of children’s homes fully under the control of government of
Kerala. The inmates of Children’s homes between the age group of 13-18 years were taken for the study. So,
ccluster sampling is adopted for the present study and the total population of children’s homes in Kerala run by
state Government is 348 and the sample had been taken from all over Kerala which reached up to 320. The rest of
the children were either unwilling to co-operate with the data collection or belong to other states. The researcher had
taken sample from ten children’s homes in Kerala run by state Government run by State Government. The sample
is taken from three zones of Kerala which include ten districts. The split up of these institutions are given below in Table 1

| Locale      | Institutions                              |
|-------------|-------------------------------------------|
| South zone  | Trivandrum, Kollam, Alappuzha             |
| Middle zone | Kottayam, Ernakulam(Girls), Nooranadu     |
| North zone  | Thrissur, Kozhikode(boys), Kozhikode(Girls), Kannur |

127 inmates are taken from South zone, 86 inmates are taken from middle zone and 107 inmates are taken from
north zone.

**Tools and Techniques Adopted for the Study**

Preparation, selection and application of appropriate tools are necessary for any study.

The following tools and techniques were employed to collect data for the present research study.

**Preparation of Tool Used for the Study**

In order to conduct the study the investigator prepared appropriate tools were prepared for collecting relevant data.

The description of tools and details of preparation of the tools used in the study are given below.

The Investigator prepared a questionnaire for collecting the data of the vocational needs. The details regarding the
preparation of the questionnaire to identify the vocational needs is given below.

**Item Preparation**

Open ended items as well as closed ended items were included in the questionnaire to identify vocational needs of
inmates of children’s homes in Kerala run by state Government. Intense care was taken to state the items as to
 evade ambiguity for collecting the data. In this questionnaire, the items are included to identify the vocational needs
of the inmates of the government children’s homes. Altogether there were 20 questions in the draft questionnaire.

**B. Try out:**

A try out of the draft questionnaire was made on a sample of 45 inmates of children’s home in Trivandrum district.
Number of questions has been reduced to 15 after the try out.

**C. Validity and Reliability of the tools.**

The content validity and face validity was established by consultation with experts. The experts ensured that the tool
has sufficient coverage of content. The reliability of the questionnaire was estimated by the test-retest method. In the
test-retest method this questionnaire was administered twice on same sample of 45 inmates of Government
children’s home, Trivandrum. The obtained Pearson’s correlation coefficient value is 0.72 showed the very strong
relationship between the two tests.
Statistical Techniques Adopted for the Study
The scores obtained by the students were treated for statistical procedures.
1. Percentage analysis was used to identify the vocational needs of inmates of children’s homes in Kerala run by state Government.
2. Test of significance for difference between the means of percentages (t-test) was used to study whether there is any significance difference between the vocational needs of the child in need of care and protection based on the sub samples age and gender
3. ANOVA was used to study whether there is significant difference between the vocational needs of inmates of Children’s homes based on the subsample locale.

Results and Interpretation:-
Vocational Needs Of Inmates Of Government Children’s Homes In Kerala: Sub Sample: Age
This section of the analysis is intended to identify the present vocational needs of inmates of children’s homes under Government of Kerala based on sub sample age. The details of test of significance for difference between percentages of responses of inmates of government children’s homes in Kerala having vocational needs for sub sample age is presented below in Table 2

| Vocational needs                                | Age 12-15 | Age 15-18 | C. R. | L.S. |
|-------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-------|------|
| Need for motivation and appreciation            | 65        | 80        | 2.97  | 0.01 |
| Need for space for vocational training          | 63        | 75        | 2.27  | 0.05 |
| Need for trained instructors                    | 55        | 80        | 4.74  | 0.01 |
| Need for appropriate equipment and tools         | 58        | 85        | 5.38  | 0.01 |
| Need for interesting courses                     | 70        | 95        | 6.18  | 0.01 |
| Need for technical training                      | 60        | 85        | 5.04  | 0.01 |
| Need for providing valid certificates for vocational training | 62        | 90        | 6.01  | 0.01 |
| Need for placement after formal education and training | 56        | 84        | 5.24  | 0.01 |

From Table 2 it is clear that the test of significance for difference between percentages of responses of inmates of government children’s homes in Kerala based on subsample age revealed that there are significant difference in the vocational needs, need of motivation and appreciation (C. R. =2.97; p<0.01), Need for space for vocational training (C. R. =2.27; p<0.05), Need for proficient instructors (C. R. =4.74; p<0.01), Need for appropriate equipment and tools (C. R. =5.38; p<0.01), Need for interesting courses (C. R. =6.18; p<0.01), Need for technical training (C. R. =5.04; p<0.01), Need for providing valid certificates for vocational training (C. R. =6.01; p<0.01) and Need for placement after formal education and training (C. R. =5.24; p<0.01).

Tenability of the Hypothesis :
The test of significance for difference between percentages of responses of inmates of government children’s homes in Kerala based on subsample age revealed that there are significant difference in the vocational needs, need of motivation and appreciation (C. R. =2.97; p<0.01), Need for space for vocational training (C. R. =2.27; p<0.05), Need for trained instructors (C. R. =4.74; p<0.01), Need for appropriate equipment and tools (C. R. =5.38; p<0.01), Need for interesting courses (C. R. =6.18; p<0.01), Need for technical training (C. R. =5.04; p<0.01), Need for providing valid certificates for vocational training (C. R. =6.01; p<0.01) and Need for placement after formal education and training (C. R. =5.24; p<0.01). Hence hypothesis H.1 formulated in this context is accepted.

Vocational Needs Of Inmates Of Government Children’s Homes In Kerala Sub Sample: Gender
This section of the analysis is intended to identify the present vocational needs of inmates of children’s homes under Government of Kerala based on sub sample gender. The details of test of significance for difference between percentages of responses of inmates of government children’s homes in Kerala having vocational needs for sub sample gender is presented below in Table 3
Table 3: Test of significance for difference between percentages of inmates of children’s homes in Kerala having vocational needs for sub samples Gender.

| Vocational Needs                                      | Boys | Girls | C. R. | L.S. |
|-------------------------------------------------------|------|-------|-------|------|
| Need for motivation and appreciation                   | 73   | 55    | 3.26  | 0.01 |
| Need for space for vocational training                 | 65   | 52    | 2.27  | 0.05 |
| Need for trained instructors                           | 68   | 63    | 0.9   | N.S. |
| Need for appropriate equipment and tools                | 83   | 55    | 5.39  | 0.01 |
| Need for interesting courses                           | 85   | 63    | 4.48  | 0.01 |
| Need for technical training                            | 76   | 50    | 4.71  | 0.01 |
| Need for providing valid certificates for vocational training | 90   | 65    | 5.47  | 0.01 |
| Need for placement after formal education and training | 65   | 61    | 0.8   | N.S. |

From Table 1.37 it is clear that the test of significance for difference between percentages of responses of inmates of government children’s homes in Kerala based on subsample gender revealed that there are significant difference in the vocational needs such as need of motivation and appreciation (C. R. =3.26; p<0.01), Need for space for vocational training (C. R. =2.27; p<0.01), Need for appropriate equipment and tools (C. R. =5.39; p<0.01), Need for interesting courses (C. R. =4.48; p<0.01), Need for technical training (C. R. =4.71; p<0.01), Need for providing valid certificates for vocational training (C. R. =5.47; p<0.01) and Need for placement after formal education and training (C. R. =0.8; p>0.05).

The test of significance for difference between percentages of responses of inmates of government children’s homes in Kerala based on subsample gender revealed that there is no significant difference in the vocational need, Need for trained instructors (C. R. =0.9; p>0.05).

Tenability of the Hypothesis
The test of significance for difference between percentages of responses of inmates of government children’s homes in Kerala based on subsample gender revealed that there are significant difference in the vocational needs, need of motivation and appreciation (C. R. =3.26; p<0.01), Need for space for vocational training (C. R. =2.27; p<0.01), Need for appropriate equipment and tools (C. R. =5.39; p<0.01), Need for interesting courses (C. R. =4.48; p<0.01), Need for technical training (C. R. =4.71; p<0.01), Need for providing valid certificates for vocational training (C. R. =5.47; p<0.01) and Need for placement after formal education and training (C. R. =0.8; p<0.01). Hence with regard to the above mentioned vocational needs hypothesis H2 is accepted.

Vocational Needs Of Inmates Of Government Children’s Homes In Kerala: Sub Sample: Locale
This section of the analysis is intended to identify the present vocational needs of inmates of children’s homes under Government of Kerala based on sub sample locale. Test of significance for difference between percentages of responses of inmates of government children’s homes in Kerala with regard to vocational needs for sub sample Locale is presented below in Table 4

Table 4: Test of significance for difference between percentages of responses of inmates of Government children’s homes in Kerala with regard to vocational needs for sub sample Locale.
From Table 1.39 it is clear that, the test of significance for difference between percentages of responses by inmates of Government children’s homes in Kerala based on subsample locale, with regard to the south and the middle zone that there are significant differences in the vocational needs such as Need for trained instructors (C. R. =2.21; p<0.05), Need for appropriate tools and equipment (C. R. =4.02; p<0.01), Need for interesting courses (C. R. =2.95; p<0.01) and Need for technical training (C. R. =2.21; p<0.05).

The test of significance for difference between percentages of responses by inmates of Government children’s homes in Kerala based on subsample locale, with regard to the south and the middle zone that there are no significant differences in the vocational needs such as Need for motivation and appreciation (C. R. =0.5; p>0.05), Need for space for vocational training (C. R. =0.51; p>0.05) and need for providing valid certificates for vocational training (C. R. =1.82; p>0.05).

From Table 1.39 it is clear that, the test of significance for difference between percentages of responses by inmates of Government children’s homes in Kerala based on subsample locale, with regard to the south and the middle zone that there are no significant differences in the vocational needs such as Need for motivation and appreciation (C. R. =1.25; p>0.05), Need for space for vocational training (C. R. =0.92; p>0.05), Need for trained instructors (C. R. =1.26; p>0.05), Need for interesting courses (C. R. =1.26; p>0.05), Need for technical training (C. R. =1.57; p>0.05), Need for providing valid certificates for vocational training (C. R. =0.32; p>0.05) and Need for placement after formal education and training (C. R. =1.26; p>0.05).
Tenability of the Hypothesis
The test of significance for difference between percentages of responses by inmates of Government children’s homes in Kerala based on subsample locale, with regard to the south and the middle zone that there are significant differences in the vocational needs, Need for trained instructors (C.R. =2.21; p<0.05), Need for appropriate tools and equipment (C.R. =4.02; p<0.01), Need for interesting courses (C.R. =2.52; p<0.05), Need for technical training (C.R. =2.95; p<0.01) and Need for placement after formal education and training (C.R. = 2.21; p<0.05). The test of significance for difference between percentages of responses by inmates of Government children’s homes in Kerala based on subsample locale, with regard to the south and the north zone that, there is significant difference in the vocational need Need for appropriate tools and equipment (C.R. =2.01; p<0.05). The test of significance for difference between percentages of responses by inmates of Government children’s homes in Kerala based on subsample locale, with regard to the middle and the north zone that, there is significant difference in the vocational need Need for appropriate tools and equipment (C.R. =2.08; p<0.05). Hence hypothesis H3.3 formulated with regard to the above mentioned vocational needs is accepted.

The test of significance for difference between percentages of responses by inmates of Government children’s homes in Kerala based on subsample locale, with regard to the south and the middle zone that there are no significant differences in the vocational needs such as Need for motivation and appreciation (C.R. =0.5; p>0.05), Need for space for vocational training (C.R. =0.51; p>0.05) and need for providing valid certificates for vocational training (C.R. =1.82; p>0.05).

The test of significance for difference between percentages of responses by inmates of Government children’s homes in Kerala based on subsample locale, with regard to the south and the middle zone that there are no significant differences in the vocational needs such as Need for motivation and appreciation (C.R. =0.86; p>0.05), Need for space for vocational training (C.R. =1.56; p>0.05), Need for trained instructors (C.R. =0.96; p>0.05), Need for interesting courses (C.R. =1.29; p>0.05), Need for technical training (C.R. =1.38; p>0.05), Need for providing valid certificates for vocational training (C.R. =1.56; p>0.05), Need for placement after formal education and training (C.R. =0.96; p>0.05).

The test of significance for difference between percentages of responses by inmates of Government children’s homes in Kerala based on subsample locale, with regard to the south and the middle zone that there are no significant differences in the vocational needs such as Need for motivation and appreciation (C.R. =1.25; p>0.05), Need for space for vocational training (C.R. =0.92; p>0.05), Need for trained instructors (C.R. =1.26; p>0.05), Need for interesting courses (C.R. =1.26; p>0.05), Need for technical training (C.R. =1.57; p>0.05), Need for providing valid certificates for vocational training (C.R. =0.32; p>0.05) and Need for placement after formal education and training (C.R. =1.26; p>0.05). Hence with regard to the above mentioned vocational needs the Hypothesis H3.3 formulated in this context is rejected.

Conclusions And Suggestions:
From the analysis it is clear that most of the inmates of children’s homes have the vocational needs such as need for motivation and appreciation (66.87%), need for space for vocational training (60.31%), need for trained instructors (66.25%), need for appropriate tools and equipment (73.44%), need for interesting courses (77.5%), need for technical training (86.87%), need for providing valid certificates for vocational training (81.25%) and need for placement after formal education and training.

Educational Implications And Recommendation:
The major recommendations based on the study are summarised below.
1. The importance of vocational training is revealed through this study and proper measures can be taken to provide vocational training in Children’s homes.
2. The present study delivers an extensive inspiration on the social workers. The study reveals various psycho-social needs and problems, which can be reduced or rather be eradicated by conducting various programmes, social helps and support.
3. The study reveals the present situation of the rehabilitation programmes provided to the inmates of children’s homes in Kerala run by state Government and measures can be taken to provide better rehabilitation.
Scope And Limitations Of The Study:
The present study is intended to identify the vocational needs of the child in need of care and protection residing in the government children’s homes. The limitations of the study are mentioned below
1. As the study took place at the children’s homes in the presence of care takers, the environment may have stimulated feelings of discomfort, even though an obligation to privacy was made to the respondents.
2. The present study is limited to the vocational needs of the child in need of care and protection, and the tools used for the study may have limitations.

Delimitations Of The Study
The following are considered as the delimitations of the study
1. The study is delimited to children who are in need of care and protection only from the age range of 13 to 18.
2. The investigator decided to limit the study only to the inmates of children’s homes under the total control of the Kerala State Government and left out private children’s homes due to practical difficulties.

Suggestions For Further Research:-
On the basis of obtained information and findings, the major suggestions for further research is summarised below:
1. The present study was confined to the inmates of Government children’s homes. Further study can be conducted on the inmates of private as well as semi-Governmental child care institutions.
2. The present study was confined to the inmates of the age between 13-18 ofchildren’s homes in Kerala run by state Government in Kerala. Similar studies can be conducted among inmates of other age limits.
3. The present study was focused on children’s homes in Kerala run by state Government in Kerala. Further research can be done in other states.
4. Research on cultural, moral, environmental and religious needs and problems of studies in the areas may be done for future research.
5. Further investigations may be conducted to identify the health and hygienic needs and problems and mental health status of the inmates of the children’s homes in Kerala run by state Government in Kerala.

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