

CHAPTER III

METHODOLOGY

This chapter describes in detail about the procedure adopted for selection of subjects, selection of variables, reliability of instrument, testers competency, reliability of data, collection of data and statistical analysis that were used have been explained.

An introductory meeting will be organized between the researcher and the participating school teachers. The aim of the orientation is to give information about the research study. The research scholar will give a brief introduction about her study and all the doubts of the participating school teachers will be clarified. The teachers also motivated to explain to the students that the information collected will be kept secret and it is only for the research purpose. Orientation is also a grate time to meet staff and share experiences.

3.1 Selection of subjects

The study was designed to find out the relationship among sports performance, academic achievements and economic status of school girl students. To achieve the purpose of the study the researcher has visited various schools in Chennai, Virudhunagar and Villupuram districts and enquired about the availability of subjects in each school. Then the scholar has obtained necessary permission from the school authorities to collect data from the subjects. Finally the scholar has selected 400 girls in the age group of 16 to 18 years at random from the following 16 schools.

Table - I

Sl.No	Name and address of the school	No. of girls selected
1	Anderson Day Girls Hr.Sec.School, 98, Acharappan Street, Chennai - 01	25
2	Bala Vidya Mandir, Adyar, Chennai - 20	25
3	Eve Mat. Hr. Sec. School, Triplicane, Chennai - 05	25
4	Lady Sivasamy Ayer Girls' Hr. Sec. School, Mylapore, Chennai - 04	25
5	Leo Mat Hr. Sec. School, Annanagar, Chennai - 110	25
6	Malathi Mat. Hr. Sec, School, Mylapore, Chennai - 04	25
7	P.S. Chidambara Nadar Senior Eng. School, Virudhunagar, 626001	25
8	Rosary Mat. Hr. Sec. School, Santhome, Chennai - 04	25
9	Sacred Heart AI Hr. Sec. School, Villupuram	25
10	St. Anne's Girls' Hr. Sec. School, Royapuram, Chennai – 13	25
11	St. Columbans AI Hr. Sec. School, Broadway, Chennai - 01	25
12	St. John's Mat. Hr. Sec. School, Mandaveli, Chennai - 28	25
13	St. Rapheal's Girls' Hr. sec. School, Santhome, Chennai – 04	25
14	TST Raja Mat. Hr. Sec. School, Tondiarpet, Chennai – 81	25
15	Vasanta Vidyalaya Mat. Hr. Sec. School, Arumbakkam, Chennai – 106	25
16	Vidya Vinaya Vinodha Mat. Hr. Sec. School, Besant Nagar, Chennai - 90	25

3.2 Selection of variables

The following three variables were selected as experimental variables,

- i) Academic achievements
- ii) Sports performance
- iii) Economic status

3.2.1 Academic achievements

Education is one of the important parts in our lives and it is difficult to strike a balance between academics and extra curricular activities in any country. If we want to spend more time on academics we can hardly have time to participate in extra curricular activities. Otherwise if we want to spend more time on extracurricular activities we can hardly do well on academics, it is difficult to do both of them at one time especially when we want to do well on both academics and extra curricular activities. Educators want students to have a better education to excel. Not only educators, but also students, parents and the whole society have expectations that society should demand a better balance between academics and extra curricular activities specially sports and games.

3.2.2 Sports performance

Sports activities can help academic performance in two ways, firstly because a person is chosen to be in that club and because it's something that the person is very good at developing confidence which can only help the person in the classroom. The second way in which it's going to help the person to develop relationships with teachers in a better way. A sport provides adolescents with unique developmental opportunities unlike other social contexts most notably school. A sport is a context in which adolescents are encouraged to manage their own experiences by exerting

personal control over their environments and acting autonomously. Sports also provide opportunities to identify exploration and skill building as well as both social differentiation and integration. Academics are the focus of high school and college but for many students participation in activities outside the classroom is what they enjoy the most. Athletics, clubs and other extra curricular activities have benefits beyond the enjoyment they provide these pursuits assist students in developing personally, socially and intellectually they might even help students to advance their academic and professional goals.

3.2.3 Economic status

Economic status is a measure of an individual's or group's standing in the community it usually relates to the income, occupation, educational attainment and wealth of either an individual or a group. These types of variables are summarized into a single figure or socio-economic index. Relative rank that an individual holds with attendant rights, duties and lifestyle in a social hierarchy based on honour and prestige status is often ascribed on the basis of age, family, relationships, the birth, placing one into a particular social group irrespective of ability or accomplishments. Achieved status on the other hand is based on educational attainment occupational choice, marital status and other factors involving personal effort. Status groups differ from social classes in being based on considerations of honour and prestige rather than purely economic position. Relative status is a major determinant of people behaviour toward one another and competition for status seems to be a prime human motivator.

The research scholar obtained detailed information about the students from the selected schools. The data has the following information in it.

Table - II

Sl.No	Variable	Data collection procedure
1	Academic achievements	Students percentage of marks in IX, X and XI std final examinations
2	Sports performance	Students level of achievements ie., zone/district / state / national
3	Economic status	Parents' occupation and annual income

3.3 Reliability of instrument

Even though the data were collected in the proper channel, the research scholar visited various schools in person to check certificates in sports, students mark sheet in random and also the office records of the school.

3.4 Tester's competency and reliability of data

To ensure uniformity and reliability of the testing techniques the investigator had an instruction session for all the participating school teachers. Orientation was given to them on what basis the students have to be selected, how to check their certificates, how to calculate the parents' annual income. How to enter the marks obtained by them in their previous examinations etc.,

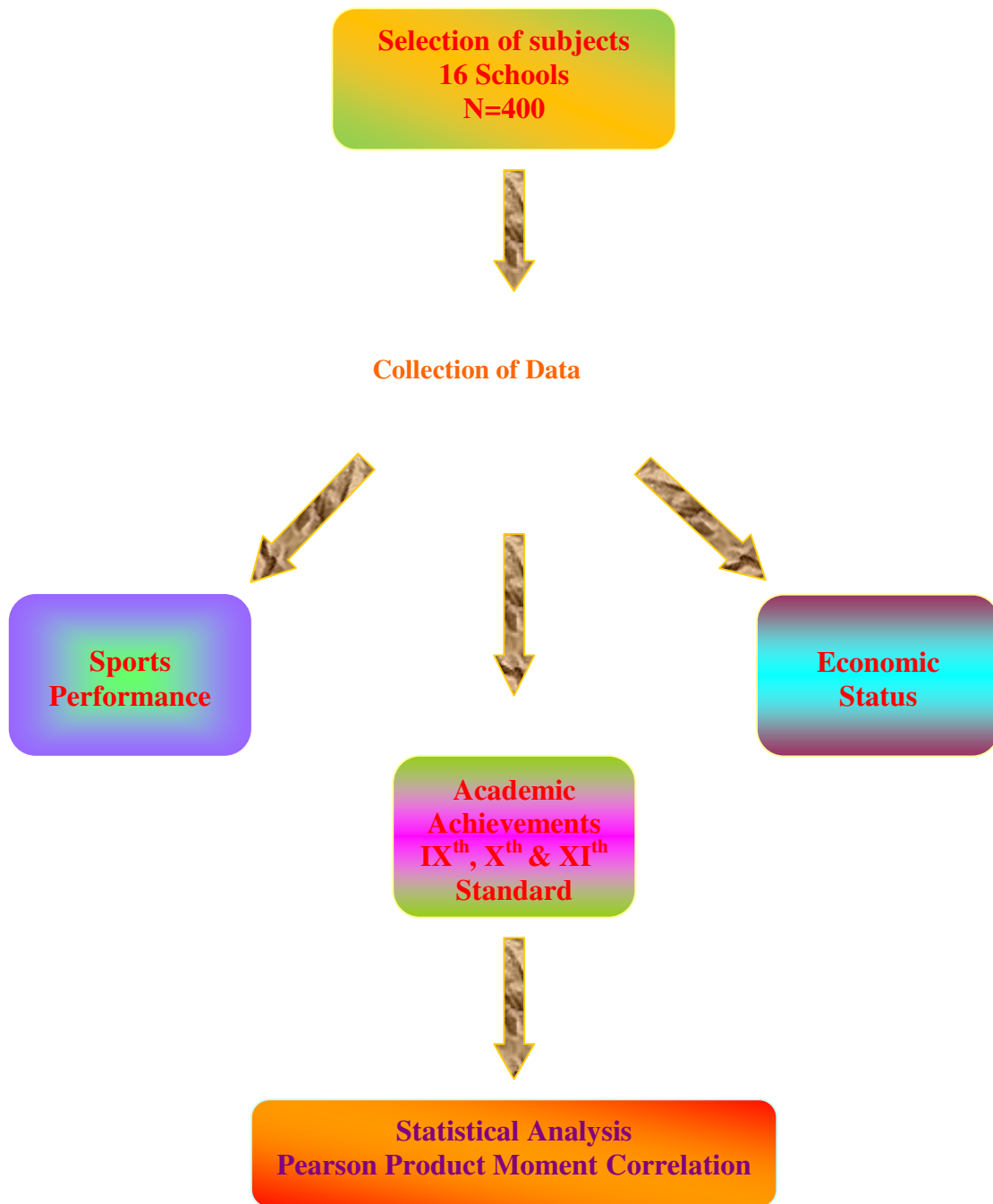


Fig 1: Diagrammatic representation of the procedure

3.5 Pilot Study

Prior to the conduct of the study a pilot study was conducted with five schools and ten students from each school to know the difficulties and shortcomings of the study.

3.6 Collection of data

The data on academic achievements, sports performance and economic status were collected by the research scholar for the study. The procedures adopted for the collection of data are described below.

3.6.1 Academic achievements

Academic achievements were calculated with the student's past performance, her percentage of marks in standard IX, X and XI. Standard IX and XI marks will be obtained by the school mark register and std X mark sheet will be checked by the researcher.

3.6.2 Sports performance

The criteria or the level of achievement was taken in to consideration. Priority will be given to the student who had represented national, state, district or zone in the interschool competitions in the particular year or the previous year. Sports performance scores were obtained by referring the subjects' level of participation as denoted in the appendix I.

3.6.3 Economic status

The economic status will be checked calculating both the parents' income based on the information given by the student and it was cross checked with the school records. Parents' monthly income was calculated for annual income and scores were given as mentioned in the appendix II.

3.7 Statistical analysis

The data collected from the selected subjects were statistically analyzed for significant relationship if any, by applying Pearson product moment correlation test. The level of significance was fixed as 0.05 level. All the data were analyzed using SPSS.