



PERCEPTION OF THE PARENTS TOWARDS CHILDREN WITH LEARNING DIFFICULTIES

Mrs. Amrapali Amit Dumbre¹ & Devanand V. Shinde², Ph. D.

¹Research Scholar, Tilak Maharashtra University

²Professor, Karve Institute of Social Work

Abstract

Parenting is a skill that gets developed over the period of time. Parenting a child with learning difficulties is the challenge. In spite of having normal intelligence still the child is unable to cope up with the normal academic curriculum. The child with learning difficulties when find it difficult to cope up with the classroom activities may get distracted or disinterested in the studies. Parents' role in this process is important and they need to be real guide and motivator for their child.

Keywords: learning difficulties, Perception, attention, distraction.



Scholarly Research Journal's is licensed Based on a work at www.srjis.com

Introduction: Learning problems or difficulties is a vast field to understand and study. In the inclusive schools, we can usually see children with learning problems in each and every class. As we are aware that learning problems affects the scholastic difficulties, professionals and parents usually tries to come together to help the child in best possible way. Learning problems are most vague to understand and study. Learning problems may affect the children variedly at different stages. Certain times, we may see the comorbidity in the children that means combination of learning and behavioural problems.

It is necessary to understand the exact concern of the child instead of labeling the children. The learning difficulties are of three types – Learning Differences, Learning Concerns and Learning Disorders. Learning Disorders further can be divided into Dyslexia, Dyscalculia and Dysgraphia. Children with learning difficulties may have behavioural concerns at times. Behavioural concerns are classified as Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder (ADHD) or Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD). When children with learning difficulties either have two or more concerns then it is mentioned as comorbidity. Children with low attention span or hyperactivity may have to face learning concerns. ADHD is considered as behavioural disorder but children with ADHD lack in studies in spite of their abilities to perform better due to impulsivity or low attention span. So it is often said that there is comorbidity of two disorders. Even though they have normal intelligence still children lack in academic performance. At times we could see ADHD or ADD hand in hand

Copyright © 2017, Scholarly Research Journal for Interdisciplinary Studies

with LD. DSM – V test is preferred to identify the intensity, frequency of the concerns reflected in children. The children should undergo proper process of screening, monitoring, evaluation and treatment. This process should be implemented across the schools and home settings. Hence comorbidity is an increasing scenario in today's education system.

Certain children have exceptional needs and we need to understand it. Each child learns uniquely and has diverse strengths in them. Parents need to identify their strengths and understand the limitations especially when they deal with the child having learning problems. As these children have normal intelligence but due to certain learning difficulties they are perceived differently from the other children in the class. The teachers may have complaints about the poor academic performance or behavioural concerns in the class. It becomes a challenge for the parents to deal with this concern. Benjamin Franklin has rightly put forth the thought that "Tell me and I forget, teach me and I remember, involve me and I learn." It is significant to understand that every child has a caliber only parents need to identify and polish it. Parents are role model for their child.

Objectives:

1. To study the parents awareness level about their child with learning problem and being aware of supportive alternate strategies as remedies for children.
2. To study the parents level of understanding about the competencies of their child with learning problem and its inclusion in normal school.

Review of Literature:

Gupta Ashum, SinghalNidhi (2004), "Positive perceptions in parents of children with disabilities" Asia Pacific Disability Rehabilitation Journal, New Delhi. A lot has been written about the stressors in the lives of parents of children with disabilities. Studies have been done to understand the types, causes and the effects of these stresses. Most often, only the negative aspects of this situation are highlighted. The authors move away from the negative outcomes and highlight the process of developing positive perceptions in these parents. The focus is on the process of coping that generates positive perceptions and the ways that these positive perceptions are used as an effective coping strategy. The identification of a disability in a child most often comes as a shock.

Horowitz Sheldon H., "Behaviour Problems and Learning Disabilities," National centre for Learning Disabilities. Research studies with children, adolescents and adults with LD frequently point to sometimes erratic and often confusing profiles of individuals who seem to

be able to do some things quite well while struggling dramatically to perform other tasks. Some individuals with LD can remember the most obscure visual details and recall long and involved lyrics to songs but have trouble retrieving specific vocabulary words for conversation, comprehending spoken or written narrative, or writing grammatically correct narrative.

Dr. Kumar Subodh (February 2013), "*Learning Disabilities and Behaviour Disorder – an overview of Research.*" Rehabilitation Council of India, New Delhi, Volume 2. Children and adolescents with learning Disabilities face a variety of challenges in their lives, and may be at risk for emotional and behavioural problems. This article overviewed the researches carried out on Behavioural Disorder and Learning Disability. When a professional is handling children with learning disabilities they should not only concentrate on their learning disability intervention programmes. They should also plan for behavioural therapy which helps the child to cope up with their behavioural problems. The article would help the researcher to understand and note the concept that children with learning disabilities also need a help in behavioural issues.

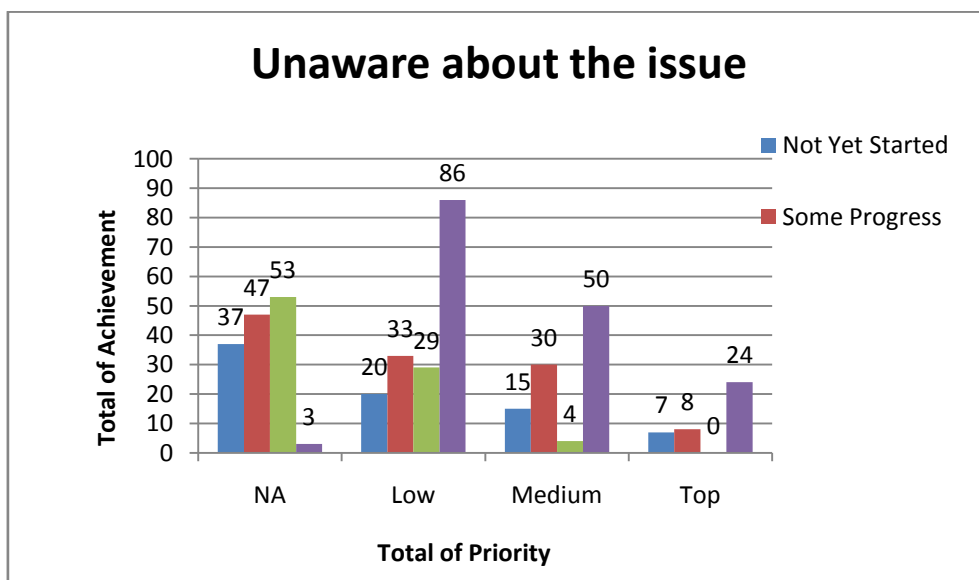
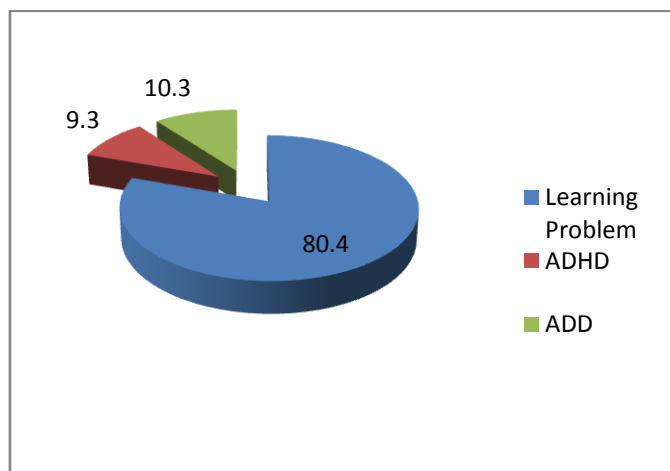
BhargavaShruti, NarumanchiAmruta (2011), "*Perceptions of parents of typical children towards inclusive education*", Formerly Asia Pacific Disability Rehabilitation journal, Baroda. This study would be different from above previous studies as it will be helpful for many areas at a glance. It will benefit Counselors, student teacher, Parents, Schools, government sectors in planning their policies and lastly the children with learning problems. It could illustrate the research done earlier and try to put an own inputs of the in it. It would be guideline for the teachers who are dealing with these children in schools or while remediation. It will be guideline for parents while dealing with their own children. It may help to the institution to help the parents to shift from admittance to acceptance of the problem by general awareness.

Methodology: The research paper was covered under Descriptive Research Design. The number of respondent was the parents of children with learning difficulties. There around 300 parents were interviewed during the research. The structured interview method was followed for the study. The parents of learning difficulties were interviewed in the school with an official permission. Individual interaction with the parents was done. The parent of the child whose age group follows between 6 to 14 years i.e. Primary and Secondary School were targeted as a sample. The sampling design had adopted from the random selection so the

method of sampling was **Probability Sampling Method**. Once the availability was checked then the respondents were chosen by **Proportionate Stratified Sampling Method** which means that specified characteristics in exact proportion to those the same characteristics was interviewed individually. Data were collected through interview method of parents personally, observation and by discussion with the respondents.

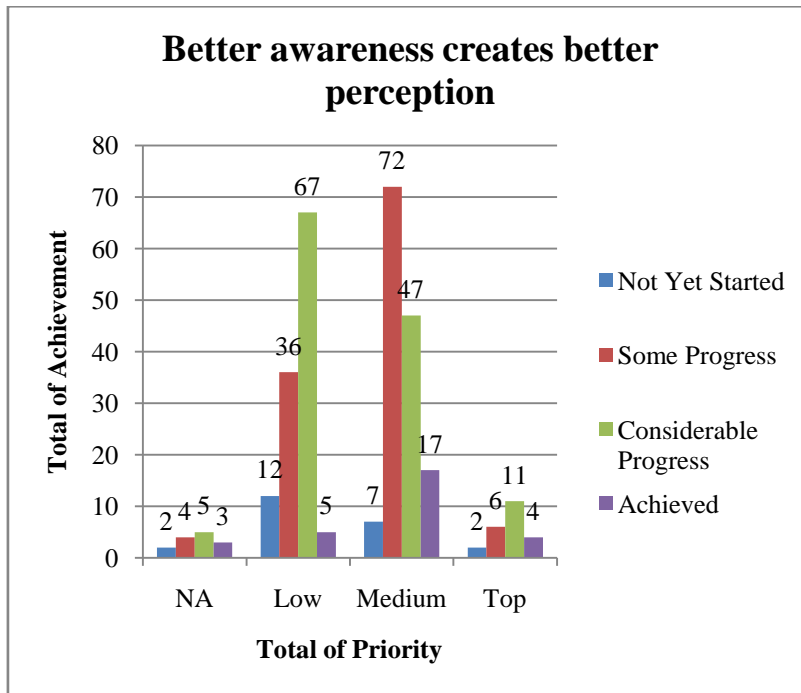
Findings and Results:

There were 300 parents interviewed with learning difficulties in that children were having learning as well as behavioural concerns. The following data shows that 80.4% parents were having learning difficulties, 10.3% ADHD and 9.3% ADD.

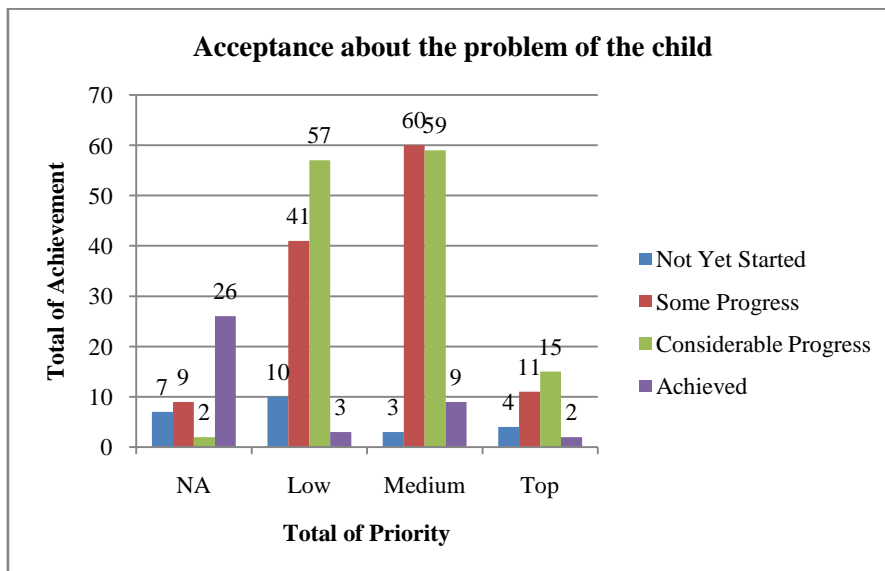


Overall, majority of parents expressed that it was difficult for them to understand the difficult as they were not aware. Parents mentioned that when their child was identified with learning

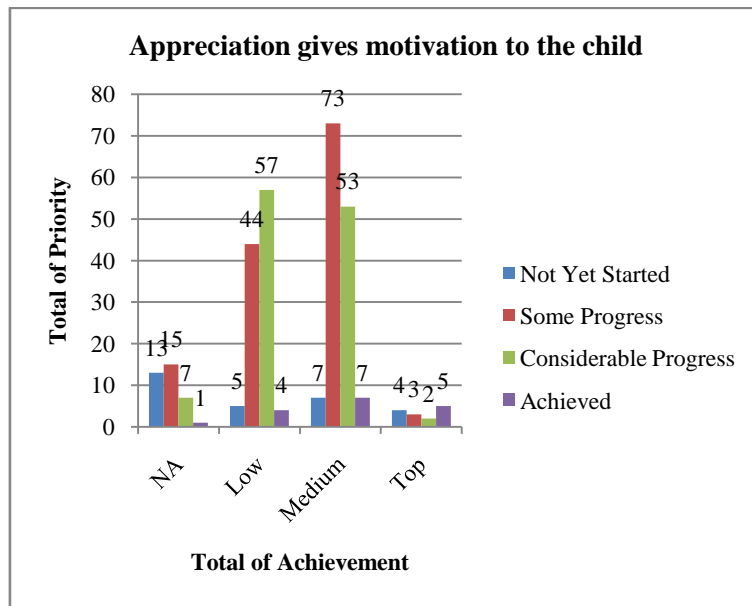
difficulties. They got awareness about the problem. It is noticed that maximum parents have started getting aware about the concerns over the period of time.



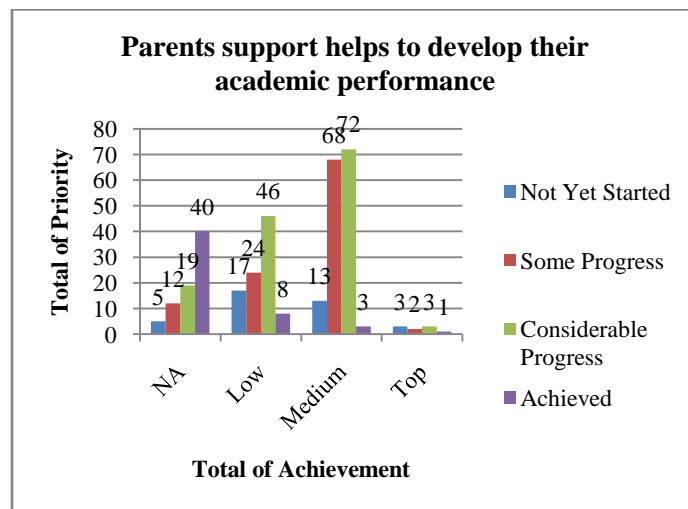
Parents have also started feeling that significantly better awareness among their thoughts creates better perception and even helps the child to get motivated to perform better each and every time.



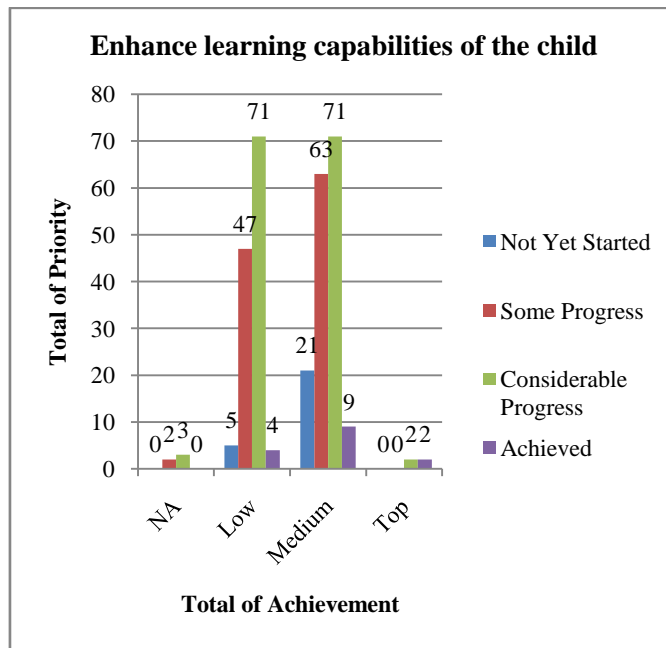
The respondent expressed that it has significantly or somewhat helped the parents to accept the child along with his or her concern. Hence, they have started accepting the difficulty of the child.



Appreciation is required each and every one of us to work better and better. The study has reflected that this strategy of appreciation is really helping the child to perform better each and every time. Overall, parents mentioned that considerable progress is seen in their child when they get appreciation then they are motivated to perform better.



Overall the respondent mentioned that their support as parents considerably help them to perform better. With their support, they have seen development in academic performance of the child.



Overall the respondent mentioned that their support and motivation enhance their learning capabilities of the child. There is considerable progress in the thought process of the parents about the same. Hence, Parents are being more supportive towards the child.

Overall the study and views of the respondent reflects that their support, help and motivation as parent is essential for the growth and development of the child with learning problems. Parents need to understand the concerns of the child and help him accordingly. Child with learning difficulties can perform the entire task normally as other children they only need support from parents and school.