

PSYCHOLOGY RESEARCH UNIT
INDIAN STATISTICAL INSTITUTE

Seventy Fifth Annual Report
(April 2006 – March 2007)

The faculty members and scientific workers of the unit are actively involved in research and different project works. Guidance is also being provided by the faculty members to one Senior and two Junior Research Fellows for their Ph.D. works in Psychology in different State Universities.

1. TEACHING AND TRAINING

1.2 Ph.D. / D. Sc. Degree :

1.2.1 a) Name of the Research fellow : Susmita Mukhopadhyay

b) Title of the dissertation : A Study of Organizational Health and Job satisfaction in Rural banks from Psychological perspective

c) Name of the University : Calcutta University

d) Name and affiliation of the Supervisor : Deddulal Dutta Roy, Psychology Research Unit.

1.2.2 a) Name of the Research fellow : Manjishtha Maitra

b) Title of the dissertation : A Study on Short-term memory assessment with Successive decrease in stimulus presentation time using computer-aided digit span test.

c) Name of the University : Calcutta University

d) Name and affiliation of the Supervisor : Debdulal Dutta Roy, Psychology Research Unit.

3. RESEARCH AND OTHER SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES

3.1 Ego-identity status during Adolescence and Early Adulthood :

The objective of the project is to study the pattern of Ego-Identity status during adolescence and early adulthood. During late adolescence, many individuals are faced by a particular life crisis called “identity crisis” which includes deciding upon and committing oneself to what one is “to be” in terms of an occupation as well as formulating and taking action on what one “believes” in terms of an ideology. This becomes more important in this period of globalization and liberalization. Literature review have been done and scales and instruments have been selected. Data so far collected indicate that students with high identity achievement status have high self-esteem and have positive relationship with benevolence, self direction, stimulation and achievement dimensions of values.

Anjali Ghosh - Associate Professor

3.2 Team efficiency in work settings :

The objective of the present study is to identify important factors of team behaviour and teamwork which affects team efficiency of different work teams. Here team efficiency is defined in terms of individual and team performance. Emphasis is given on to explore the variables, which are, crucial for team performance in different work situations. The data for this study are being collected from the information and technology (IT) industry of Eastern, Western, Northern and Southern zones of India. Variables studied here are personality, self-efficacy, transactive memory system,

collective efficacy, team climate, satisfaction, and team efficiency. Results indicate that team performance and individual performance are positively correlated with some of the input and process variables, which lead to efficiency of the teams.

Monika Sharma – Senior Research Fellow, Anjali Ghosh- Associate Professor

3.3 Pattern of Distributive Justice in students of different age groups :

Cognitive-moral development is seen as major determinant of distributive justice and justice rule preferences. Contemporary researches on distributive justice in the context of reward allocation mainly deal with various determinants of preference for specific justice rules such as equality, equity (merit), and needs. There is very little evidence regarding the effects of maturity, parenting styles and aggression on justice rule preference of children and the relationship between altruistic behaviour and distributive justice. The objective of the present research work is to determine the pattern of justice rule preferences and its correlates in students of different age groups. Data collection from students of Kolkata are in progress.

Rita Karmakar – Junior Research Fellow, Anjali Ghosh – Associate Professor.

3.4

2.4 Assessing impact of Cognitive Skill Exercises :

Aim of the research is to examine the validity of Fast Forward tool for school students in India. Fast Forward tool is the computer and internet based cognitive skill development tools developed by the distinguished neuroscientists at Rutgers University, USA and at the University of California, San Francisco, USA. Criterion validity was estimated by box– plot analysis and by comparing performance of high and low ability groups . Results identified poor criterion validity of two training modules out of seven.

2.5 Assessing effectiveness of training imparted to self help group workers in the villages by the CBWE :

Aim of the study is to examine impact of self help group training on awareness and application of several issues on the workers of Rural Unorganized Sector. Data were collected from 37 non-trained workers using questionnaires and semi projective test. Data analysis is going on.

2.6 Evaluation of the social safety net programme and tracer study on impact of job satisfaction :

Aim of this collaborative study with Institution of public enterprise, Hyderabad was to predict mental health using three explanatory variables – attitude towards training, counselling and medical insurance benefits. Results revealed that mental health was more predicted by training and counselling than medical insurance benefits significantly.

2.7 Effectiveness of Training :

The aim of the present study is to examine the effectiveness of the training program on the officers, working in the Merchant Navy / port both in desk sites and Engineering sites for various competency courses. Data are being collected from the officers who are taking courses conducted by Indian Institute of Port Management, Kolkata.

3. WORKSHOP / SEMINARS / CONFERENCE AND LECTURES

3.1 A one day seminar on “Educational Testing , Counseling and Guidance” was conducted by Psychology Research Unit, Indian Statistical Institute on January 3, 2006.

3.2 Workshop on “Application of Advanced Multivariate Statistical Tools in Psychological and Educational Researches” was conducted by Psychology Research Unit, Indian Statistical Institute, during August 10 and 11, 2006 .

3.3 Workshop on “Development of Questionnaire to assess effectiveness of Rural Workers Education” conducted by CBWE on September 5, 2006 at Regional Directorate Office, Central Board for Workers Education, Kalindi, Kolkata .

3.4 Seminar on “Schedule Design For Psychological and Educational Survey Researches” was conducted by Psychology Research Unit, Indian Statistical Institute on December 8, 2006.

4. Talks delivered by Visiting Scientists :

- 4.1 Dr. Robert Klassen , University of Alberta , Canada delivered a lecture on “Motivation beliefs in diverse contexts” at the Psychology Research Unit, ISI, Kolkata on 3rd March , 2006 .
- 4.2 Dr. Chandramallika Basak , Fellow of Beckman Institute, University of Illinois at Urbana – Champaign, U.S.A. delivered a lecture on “Effect of Video- game training on Cognition” at the Psychology Research Unit, ISI, Kolkata on 3rd May, 2006 .
- 4.3 Dr. Rachana Chattopadhyay, School of Social Psychology, Australian National University, Canberra delivered a lecture on “Authority’s Group Membership and Non-Instrumental Voice” at the Psychology Research Unit, ISI, Kolkata on 20th November, 2006 .
- 4.4 Ms. Natalie Leader, Speech Pathologist, Australia delivered a lecture on “Language Assessment” at the Psychology Research Unit, ISI, Kolkata on 6th December, 2006.
- 4.5 Professor Olav Skille, President, International Society for Vibro Acoustic, Norway delivered a lecture on “Music Behaviour Scale” at the Psychology Research Unit, ISI, Kolkata on 6th December, 2006.
- 4.6 Professor Madhabi Chatterji, Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, U.S.A. delivered a talk on “Using Structural Equation modeling to Conform the Internal Structure of Attitudinal Constructs” at the Psychology Research Unit, ISI, Kolkata, on 22nd January, 2007.

5. Honours and Awards :

- 5.1 Ms. Monika Sharma, Senior Research Fellow has been awarded Indian Business Academy Award in COSMAR –2006, held at Dept. of Management studies, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore in September 2006.