

## **Socio-Economic Characteristics of Universities and Colleges Sports Persons of Hisar of Haryana State, India**

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### **Abstract**

Aim of study was to find out Socio-economic characteristics of university and colleges sports persons of Hisar, due to recently drastic changes in society in respect of socio-economic characteristics. A sample of 160 sports persons was selected from universities and colleges of Hisar between age group of 17 to 25 years on random selection basis. A five scale questionnaire was developed by researcher for collection of data. The reliability and validity of scale was checked through test-retest method and validity and reliability was found 98%. Thus, collected data was arranged, tabulated and presented in percentage form to find out results on educational, occupational, economical, social, cast and socio-economic characteristics among sports persons of Hisar. The conclusion of results predicts that 96.87% of sports persons have lower and middle characteristics of Education. Only 3.13% sports persons confirmed the higher characteristics of education. It concluded that majority of sports persons of Hisar were found with less interests and motivations of higher education. Occupational, economical, social and socio- economic characteristics among Hisar sports persons were dominated by middle group sports persons followed by higher and lower group. Almost 75% of sports persons were found from middle group in relation to these characteristics where as higher group sports persons were found slightly better than lower group in these characteristics. Out of 160 subjects 107 (66.88%) were found from upper casts where as 22 (13.75) and 31 (19.37%) were found from lower and middle caste respectively. So, it can be safely concluded that sports persons of Hisar were found with less interest towards higher education and a large number of them were found from upper casts, whereas one third sports persons of Hisar were

found with mediocre economic, social, occupational and socio-economic characteristics.

**Keywords:** Educational, Economic, Social, Occupation, Cast and Socio-economic characteristics.

## Introduction

The group of people with in a society who possess the same economic status, the term was first widely used in the early 19th century, following the industrial and political revolutions of the late 18th century. The most influential early theory of class was the Karl Marx, who focused on how one class controls and direct the process of productions while other classes are direct producers and the providers of services to the dominant class. The relation between the classes were thus seen as antagonistic. Max Weber emphasized the importance of political power and social status or prestige in maintaining class distinctions.

Socio-economic status is a weak and inconsistent indicator of participation in games and sports activity. The socio-economic status gradients do exist in children attitude towards physical activities and sports, students from low economic status group are. less inclined towards games and sports, whereas middle and upper socio-economic status students participate in these activities as per their desire and prevailing situations.

Status and specific socio-economic level influence the choice of sport in which students participate. Coakley and White (1992) support this notion as they suggest that individuals decision to participate in physical education activity and sports are shaped by .a complex dynamic, in which economic factors, class, gender, parental, peer influences, leadership and locality interact. Therefore, it is logical to assume that people of upper and upper middle classes may be inclined to participate in sports such as Golf, Tennis and Polo than that of middle and lower economic classes, whereas, students in lower economic classes may be more likely to participate in team sport such as Football, Basketball and Baseball etc.

The present investigation is significant in the manner that it will try to present clearly those socio-economic conditions which determine the failure or success of sports persons along with motivation of participation. The results of the study may be able to put forward, few guidelines for the coaches, parents, teachers, educationists and the trainees who are future of our society and country.

## Purposes

To determine the educational, occupational, economical, social, cast and socio-economic characteristics of sports persons of Hisar.

## Methodology

Study was conducted on 160 sports persons (Male & Female) hailing from different colleges and universities within the jurisdiction of Hisar District between the age group of 17 to 25 years selected on random selection basis. Only sports persons who had at least participated in a university or State championship of any game were selected as sample.

**Tools used:** Self developed questionnaire of five-scale is developed by researchers. Socio-economic status scale developed by Kapoor and Kochar was modified by investigator as per local situations, keeping in view the over all socio-economic development of Hisar district now a day. The reliability and validity of questionnaire was checked and confirmed through test, retest methods. It was found significant at 0.98° of significance. Questionnaire was employed for collection of data. Purposes, methods and instructions regarding the administration of test were explained cleared to subjects along with their doubts.

**Collection of data:** In this way data was collected, arranged, tabulated and systematically presented in the percentage method, interpreted and analysed.

## Results and Discussion

The result and discussion of study presented as under

**Table 1:** Showing educational characteristics. among sports persons of Hisar.

Sr. No.	Educational Characteristics		
	Name of Group	No. of Sports Person	Percentage
1.	Lower Group	89	55.62
2.	Middle Group	66	41.25
3.	High Group	05	3.13

Table 1 predict that out of 160 subjects 89 (55.62%) found less interested in higher studies and 66 subjects (41.25%) student interest level in education was found at mediocre level. Only 05 (3.13%) subjects were found with higher level of educational characteristics.

The reason of this may be that sports persons have sufficient resources regarding sports, acquire recognition through sports and avail opportunities for job through sports, so they sustain their more interest in sports. Only 5 (3.13%) of sports persons fall in higher educational group which is more intellectual group than other groups. They have better knowledge and resources, they channelize their energies on advance courses. This causes an adverse effect on their active participation in sports.

The above results of study are supported by Dolly and Usha (2010) they conducted a study on Kurukshetra University players and revealed the same results.

**Table 2:** Occupational characteristics among sports persons of Hisar.

Sr. No.	Occupational Characteristics		
	Name of Group	No. of Sports Person	Percentage
1.	Lower Group	19	11.87
2.	Middle Group	123	76.88
3.	High Group	18	11.25

Table 2 predict that 19 (11.87%) subjects were found with low occupational background, whereas 123 (76.88%) and 18 (11.25%) subjects were found with medium and high occupational back ground respectively. Occupation directly related to economic background of a family. Low occupational group subjects have poor economic status which effect their participation in sports. Mediocar group subjects and high group subjects have sufficient resources and sound economic background, which provide them better facilities for participation in sports. They can purchase sports kit and equipments as per need of their game, which boost their confidence for actively participation. Sports talent schemes. and sports hostels also encourage medium group occupational background sports persons for mass participation. They sweat more for more awards and economic assistance. Scholarship and awards to outstanding sports persons also enhance the participation of medium occupational group subjects. Study conducted by Gupta, S.K. (1986) supported above results of study. He found a positive correlation between sports participation and economic background of participants.

**Table 3:** Economic characteristics among sports persons of Hisar.

Sr. No.	Economic Characteristics		
	Name of Group	No. of Sports Person	Percentage
I	Lower Group	10	06.22
2.	Middle Group	110	68.75
3.	High Group	40	25.00

Table 3 scores shows that out of 160 subjects of study 110 (68.75%) subjects were found with medium economic characteristics, whereas 10 (6.22%) and 40 (25.00%) were found with low and high economic characteristics respectively.

Review of literature support that sufficient and better economic facilities enhance motivation and self concept of students for participation in sports. Low economic position of students have less motivation and inferiority complex in them which reduces their participation in sports. High economic position of a student generate so many other opportunities of their interest with superiority complex, which keep them away from mass participation. This group of students participate in costly games and sports such golf, lawn tennis and shooting etc. Baljit Singh (1996) conducted a study

on socio-economic status of Haryana sports persons and found that 80% of sports persons of Haryana were found with medium economic characteristics.

**Table 4:** Social characteristics among sports persons of Hisar.

Sr. No.	Social Characteristics		
	Name of Group	No. of Sports Person	Percentage
I	Lower Group	16	10.00
2.	Middle Group	112	70.00
3.	High Group	32	20.00

Results of Table 4 predict that out of 160 subjects 112 (70.00%) subjects were found middle social group characteristics, whereas this level among lower and higher group was found 16 (10.00%) and 32 (20.00%) respectively.

Lower group subjects are deemed as ritualistic and traditional. They are not so conscious about their future and not having facilities of participation in active sports. Parents motivation and day to day needs also keep them away from participation in sports. Middle and higher background social groups, have progressive social environment, resources and they were motivated and socially supported for participation in sports. Higher group social characteristics subjects have so many other options for their future plans which reduces their active sports participation. Om Parkash (1988) conducted a study on physical fitness and social status of Haryana sports persons and found that major portion of Haryana sports persons was found from middle social status families.

**Table 5:** Cast characteristics among sports persons of Hisar.

Sr. No.	Cast Characteristics		
	Name of Group	No. of Sports Person	Percentage
1.	Lower Group	22	13.75
2.	Middle Group	31	19.37
3.	High Group	107	66.88

Table 5 shows that out of 160 subjects 107.(66.88%) were found with upper cast status where as 22 (13.75%) and 31 (19.37%) subjects were found with low and medium cast status respectively.

The subjects from lower and lower-middle cast status have poor esteem, poor self concept and motivation due to which they hesitate from participation in sports. Their cast characteristics of occupational preferences also keep them away from education and active participation in sports. Sports persons from higher cast status have better self concept, self-esteem, motivation and family support so they participate in sports

open heartedly. They want to improve their prestige and status through sports performances. Medal won by Indian sports persons in the recently held Commonwealth games and Asian games and study conducted by Boora, J.S. (2000) support the results of Table 5. He conducted a study on socio-economic status of Haryana sports persons found that 90% of Elite Sports persons of Haryana were found from upper caste status.

**Table 6:** Socio-economic characteristics among sports persons of Hisar.

Sr. No.	Socio-economic Characteristics		
	Name of Group	No. of Sports Person	Percentage
1.	Lower Group	16	10.00
2.	Middle Group	112	70.00
3.	High Group	32	20.00

Table 6 reveals that out of 160 subjects 112 (70.00%) subjects were found from medium economic status families of society, where as low economic and higher economic status subjects were determined 16 (10.00%) and 32 (20.00%) respectively.

The lower, socio-economic group have poor education status, low economic condition, poor social status and low self esteem which effect their whole heartedly participation in sports. Inferiority complex, lack of motivation and family support also keep them away from sports. The higher group has superiority complex with higher motivation for their future. Other fields of interests attract them more inspite of sports. Professional education is preferred by them. Even participants from this group participate in costly sports, such as Golf, Lawn tennis and shooting.

The subjects of medium economic status have more positive sports environmental conditions and resources for participation in less costly games such as Judo, Boxing, Wrestling, Kabaddi, Volleyball, Handball and Football etc. so major section of sample was found from medium economic status background families. The results of table confirmed by Boora, J.S. (2000) study, who found major portion of sports persons in his study from medium economic status groups.

### Discussion on Hypothesis

It was hypothesized that there would be found differences among educational, occupational, economical, social, cast and socio-economic characteristics of sports persons of Hisar district. The results on findings of study confirmed a respectable difference among various characteristics of district Hisar sports person. Thus, the hypothesis of study is confirmed and accepted.

### Conclusion

In conclusion of results of study it was found that 97% sports persons were found

with less educational interests and backgrounds. Cast characteristics of sports persons of Hisar district shows dominance of higher casts whereas occupational, social, economical and socio-economic characteristics of district Hisar sports persons were dominated by medium group characteristics bearers.

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