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Job Satisfaction among University Teachers: An Empirical Study

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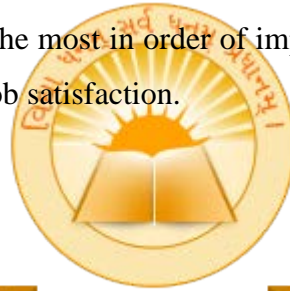
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Abstract

Teachers are the pillars of the society, who help students to grow to shoulder the responsibility of taking their nation ahead of others. They desire security, recognition, new experience and independence. When these needs are not fulfilled they become tense. Dissatisfaction among workers is undesirable and dangerous in any profession; it is suicidal if it occurs in teaching profession (The Education Commission, 1966). If factors responsible for dissatisfaction can be differentiated, attempts can be made either to change those conditions or to reduce their intensity so as to increase the holding power of the profession. So keeping in view this situation, it has been decided to find out which facet or dimension affects the job satisfaction of university teachers the most. The present study takes into account intrinsic and extrinsic factors to find out the level of job satisfaction and to see the effect of age, gender, marital status, education, occupation level and length of employment on the job satisfaction of academicians. This paper aims at identifying the facets affecting the job satisfaction of a teacher the most in order of importance and accordingly suggests strategic action for creating and maintaining their job satisfaction.



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Section 1

Introduction

Job is not only main source of income but also an important life domain in other ways. Work occupies a large part of each worker's day and is one's main source of social standing. It helps to define who a person is and affects one's health both physically and mentally. Because of work's central role in many peoples' life, satisfaction with one's job is an important component in overall well being (Smith 2007). Hence, the big question is-are you satisfied with the job? Employee satisfaction is supremely important in an organization because it is what productivity depends on (Wagner & Gooding 1987; Wright & Crapanzano 1997). If your employees are satisfied they would produce superior quality performance in optimal time and lead to growing profits. Satisfied employees are also more likely to be creative and innovative and come up with breakthroughs that allow an institution to grow and change positively with time and changing market conditions.

Improving educational performance ranks high on the national agenda, with educators and policymakers focusing on testing, accountability, curriculum reform, teacher quality, school choice, and related concerns. A high quality teaching staff is the cornerstone of a successful system. Attracting and retaining high quality teacher is thus a primary requirement for an educational institution (Sharma and Jyoti 2006). For the development of quality teachers one has to understand factors associated with it. Job satisfaction is one of those important factors. Teachers' job satisfaction is a multifaceted phenomenon (Sharma and Jyoti 2006, Srivastava, Holani & Bajpai 2005) that is critical to turnover (Hom & Griffeth 1995), commitment (Mathieu & Zajac 1990), and school effectiveness. Researchers, policymakers, and education leaders agree that teacher satisfaction is a vital factor that affects student achievement. Teachers' job satisfaction is one of the key factors in institutional dynamics and is generally considered to be primary dependent variable in terms of which effectiveness of an organisation's human resource is evaluated. Thus, the understanding of factors affecting teachers' satisfaction at the workplace is of paramount importance for a successful educational system.

Factors Affecting Teacher Satisfaction

The factors that are associated with teachers' job satisfaction are intrinsic, extrinsic and demographic factors.



Intrinsic factors

Intrinsic satisfaction to the teachers can come from classroom activities. Daily interactions with students inform teachers' feelings about whether or not students have learned something as a result of their teaching. Student characteristics and perceptions of teacher control over the classroom environment also are intrinsic factors affecting teacher satisfaction (Lee, Dedrick and Smith, 1991). Several studies have found that these factors are related to both attrition and satisfaction in teaching as well as other professions. Advocates of professional autonomy claim that conferring professional autonomy will enhance the attractiveness of the [teaching] profession as a career choice and will improve the quality of classroom teaching and practice (Boe and Gilford, 1992).

Intrinsic factors play a significant role in motivating individuals to enter the teaching profession because they enjoy teaching and want to work with young people. Very few teachers enter the profession because of external rewards such as salary, benefits, or prestige (Choy et al. 1993).

Extrinsic factors.

A variety of extrinsic factors have been associated with teacher satisfaction, including salary, perceived support from administrators, school safety, and availability of school resources, among others (Bobbit et al, 1994). These and other characteristics of a teacher's work environment have been targeted by public commissions, researchers, and educators who claim that "poor working conditions have demoralized the teaching profession. These groups (i.e., public commissions, researchers, and educators) believe that when teachers perceive a lack of support for their work, they are not motivated to do their best in the classroom, and when teachers are not satisfied with their working conditions, they are more likely to change schools or to leave the profession altogether (Choy et al, 1993).

However, while intrinsic forces may motivate people to become teachers, extrinsic conditions can influence their job satisfaction and their desire to remain in teaching throughout their career.

Demographic Factors

Similar to professionals in other occupations, job satisfaction in teachers has been related to demographic variables including age, education, marital status and gender. Perie and Baker (1997) in a study conducted on job satisfaction among more than 36,000 elementary and secondary public school teachers



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reported that female teachers reported higher levels of job satisfaction than male teachers and that teachers' job satisfaction showed weak correlations with salary and benefits.

It has been consistently established that job satisfaction varies with age for men as well as women in various occupations. Majority of studies afterwards observed a "U" shaped relationship (Smith 1982; Clark, Oswald & Warr 1996), while still others reflected a linear relationship (Stone, 2000; Haque 2004).

Generally married adults are better adjusted than unmarried counterparts (Orden & Bradburn 1968). As adjustment is positively related to JS (Herzberg et.al. 1957) one may expect married teachers feeling more satisfied with their jobs.

Section 2

Research Gap: The literature reviewed provided a piecemeal account of various dimensions of job satisfaction (JS). None of the study completely entails on the subject of job satisfaction and its related variables. Therefore, the present study takes into account all the variables (intrinsic and extrinsic) viz., job contents, superior's behaviour, co-worker's behaviour, students' behaviour, growth opportunities, pay and promotion pattern etc as well as demographic factors to study the job satisfaction of university academicians. An attempt has also been made to find the relationship between the aforesaid variables and JS and to identify that which of these variables account for maximum variance in the job satisfaction of the university academicians.

Hypotheses and Objectives:

Within the broader scope of research gap as emerged, certain core studies available in the existing literature lead to the formulation of following hypotheses and objective for the present study:

1) It has been experienced that challenging jobs create an environment of satisfaction. High strained jobs result in ill health (emotional exhaustion, psychomatic health problems) and active jobs give rise to positive outcomes like job challenge and JS (Jonge et. al. 2000). The nature of work done is very important element of JS. Infact, it can probably be said that it is the major determiner of JS. Herzberg et. al. (1959) found positive events dominated by reference to intrinsic aspect of job itself while negative events dominated to extrinsic aspect of JS. From this literature the first hypothesis stands as:



Hyp.1) There is strong relationship between job elements and JS.

2) One of the frequently cited reasons given by former teachers for leaving the job was dissatisfaction with their principals. Ahuja (1976) reported that dissatisfaction increases when one has to work under an incapable, inefficient and indifferent head or boss. Foles et al. (2000) revealed that there is a significant but small tendency for the groups experiencing democratic leadership to be more satisfied than those experiencing autocratic leadership. The role played by the superior towards the JS of an employee as indicated in the literature leads to setting of the second hypothesis:

Hyp.2. There is a strong relationship between JS of a teacher and behaviour of leader (H.O.D.).

3) According to Dwivedi (1977) friends, co-workers exercise their influence on an individual and affect his JS. Ramakrishanaiah (1998) found that 93 percent of college teachers who were highly satisfied with their job expressed cordial relations with their colleagues. Thus, this next hypothesis:

Hyp.3. There is positive relationship between co-workers' attitude and JS.

4) The Herzberg theory (1959) emphasised job characteristics rather than individual differences. It suggested that jobs with opportunities for growth, achievement, recognition and advancement enhance motivation and JS. Career planning and development have also been recognised for enhancing job satisfaction of an individual (Sharma and Jyoti, 2006) and lack of career development is reported to be directly and negatively related to job satisfaction (Yousef, 2002). Thus, the next hypothesis:

Hyp.4. Growth opportunities and recognition affect JS of an individual.

5) It has been cited quite often by teachers that working with children was a source of satisfaction with their jobs (Smith 1978). Parelius (1982) revealed majority of teachers were displeased with a large number of poorly prepared and unmotivated students. This helped to frame next hypothesis:

Hyp.5. Student's positive behavior adds to JS of teachers.

6) Pay is arguably one of the most critical aspects of JS. The problem of employee attrition, the industry is facing, is mainly due to pay dissatisfaction. Actual pay and employee's attitude towards it is subject of much research. Lawler (1971) suggested that pay satisfaction is a function of two perceptions (1) the



amount of pay he feels that he should receive and (2) the amount of pay he receives. Although the root desire for pay as such is individual's desire to satisfy his physical needs yet it can mean more than this. Thus the next hypothesis is:

Hyp.6. There is a significant relation between pay and financial aspects of job and JS of teachers.

7) Proper physical environment makes the job comfortable. Poor working conditions like poor building design and maintenance create situations for teachers that affect not only academic outcome but health too. Poor lighting, dirty and in-operational windows and dirty rest rooms are the source of teacher dissatisfaction (Schneider, 2003). Plananandanond, Laksana and Jose (2004) researched that overall working conditions are able to predict the satisfaction. On the basis of this literature the hypothesis is:

7) Physical environment prevalent in the university affects the satisfaction of teachers.

8) Time and again it has been reported that age exercises its influence on the job satisfaction of an individual (Dwivedi, 1977) and has been found to be an important variable in predicting the job satisfaction of an individual and relationship between them is both complex and fascinating (Rao, 1997). It is further revealed that job satisfaction is high in initial years i.e. 20-25, and above 40 years (Herzberg et. al. 1957; Sharma and Jyoti, 2004). All this leads to formulation of following hypothesis:

Hyp8: There exists a non-linear relationship between age and JS of an individual, other factors remaining constant.

9) Job experience is related to JS in a rather interesting fashion as one might expect new employees to be relatively more satisfied with their jobs but this honeymoon terminates after a period of time unless the worker feels that he is making steady progress towards the satisfaction of his occupational and social needs. Lewis (1982) found that teachers who had continuous experience in the current school were more satisfied than others. On this basis the following hypothesis was taken:

Hyp.9 Job satisfaction increases with length of employment

10) Educated workforce affects the degree of association between education and satisfaction in service as opposed to manufacturing organizations. For example, education may be negatively associated with satisfaction in manufacturing organizations because education may increase job expectations beyond a level



generally attainable in these settings. Service organizations, on the other hand, may be able to meet or even exceed the expectations of highly educated employees. Education may be positively associated with satisfaction (Metle, 2001, Glenn and Weaver, 1982). Thus, next hypothesis is:

Hyp.10 The education level of an academicians positively affects his/her job satisfaction.

11) A survey of skilled and unskilled workers indicated that occupation level was an important variable in determining employee's satisfaction. Probe (1971) in a research project observed that higher the level of occupation, the higher is the satisfaction of the teachers. However, some of the research revealed that the elementary teachers are more satisfied than their secondary level colleagues (Birmingham, 1985 and Smith, 1982). Oshagbemi's (2000) finding confirms the almost obvious statement that research satisfaction is related to rank – the higher the rank, the greater the level of satisfaction of academicians and that lead to formation of next hypothesis:

Hyp.11 Higher the level of occupation higher is the job satisfaction of academicians.

12) Park (1992) has asserted that women traditionally perceive themselves as teachers and nurturers of pupils and that, owing to social expectations as well as informal gender stereotypes, they are more likely to desire job satisfaction in their teaching career. This view has repeatedly been confirmed by studies in which women teachers have been observed to experience greater job satisfaction than their male counterparts. According to Lissmann and Gigerich (1990), female teachers are more pupil-oriented than male teachers and consequently spend more time improving the class climate. This literature lead to the formation of next hypothesis:

Hyp.12 Female teachers are more satisfied than their male counterparts.

13) The correlation between marital status and job satisfaction appears statistically significant for male under age of 30 years, female aged 30 to 49, male over age 50, and female over age 50. Conversely, this association is statistically insignificant for females under age 30 and males aged 30 to 49. While interpreting these results proves facile, explaining them remains considerably more difficult. Meanwhile, we must conclude that married people generally possess higher job-satisfaction than their single counterparts (Knerr 2006) because married adults are generally better adjusted than unmarried counterparts. Hence, the next hypothesis is



Hyp.13 Married teachers are more satisfied.

Section 3

Research Design & Methodology:

The study is evaluative cum diagnostic in nature as it tries to find the type of relationship between JS and various dependent and independent variables and stresses upon the aspects that affect this relationship. The following steps were taken to make the study effective and accurate:

Sample Size & Design:

Teachers working in University of Jammu have been selected as respondents for the sample. There are 255 teachers in the university. 150 teachers were approached for collection of data. Twelve teachers did not return the questionnaire and out of the rest only 120 teachers responded properly. The sample was selected on random basis with the help of random number table. A three digit random number table (Webster 1995) was selected and first 150 numbers of that table were picked up and the teachers' names falling on those numbers in the alphabetical list of the teachers were selected as sample for the present study.

Data Collection Form & Generation of Scale Items:

To produce a reliable questionnaire both primary and secondary information has been used. The questionnaire has been prepared on the guidelines of Job Descriptive Index (JDI) (Smith, Kendall & Hulin 1969), the validity of which had already been tested (Angelo, Frances, Chester & Kenneth 2002). Likert's five point scale (5-----1) and summated scale have been used for measuring attitudes. Besides, the demographic profile items, the questionnaire was divided into following sections:

- 1) Job itself;
- 2) Pay & rewards;
- 3) Superior's behaviour;
- 4) Colleagues' behaviour;
- 5) Growth opportunities & recognition;



- 6) Students' behaviour;
- 7) Physical environment.

Besides, the demographic profile items, the questionnaire consisted of 84 statements in all seven sections i.e.; (a) 21; (b) 10; (c)8; (d) 15; (e) 11 and (f) 7 and (g) 12 and a master statement (global measure) "you are satisfied with your job" was also added that was used to find the relationship between above mentioned dimensions and job satisfaction. In order to collect to the data, visits were paid to teachers working in University Of Jammu and the respondents were personally detailed about the purpose of the study and all other queries of the respondents before administering the questionnaire to them.

Data Purification:

Factor analysis was carried out through SPSS to identify underlying factors that explain the pattern of correlation within a set of observed variables and to simplify and reduce the data to identify a small number of factors that explained most of the variance observed into much larger manifested variables (Foster 2002). It was carried with principal component analysis along with orthogonal rotation procedure of varimax for summarizing the original information with minimum factors and optimal coverage. The statements with factor loadings less than 0.5 and eigen values less than 1.0 were ignored for the subsequent analysis (Hair, et. al. 1995). Factor analysis was performed dimension wise that resulted into 16 factors with 57 statements (Table 1). The total variance explained (V.E) by factors in all the dimensions of JS ranged between 62 to 82percent. High KMO values revealed the adequacy of the data for factor analysis (Table 1).

Reliability and Validity:

The reliability of the data collected has been judged through tests. The split half, ANOVA and Cronchbach's Alpha were applied to test the reliability of the data collected. The mean values of both the halves were above the average (mean of first half = 3.95, mean of second half = 3.69). The coefficients of reliability show very high values (alpha for first part =.947, alpha for second part = .939, correlation between the forms =.727, Guttman Splithalf = .839, Equal Length Spearman Brown =.842, Unequal Length Spearman Brown = .842) signifying the reliability of the data collected.

Further, Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin (KMO) measure of sampling adequacy has proven very good as the 7 dimensions constituting JS have generated values between 0.66 to .92. The Eigen values have also come between 1.88 - 4.62 for the 16 factors extracted through factor analysis. The total variance explained (V.E)



by seven sub-scales ranged between 62 to 82 percent, which proved the construct validity. Face and content validity was proved through internal check ups. The positive correlation matrix between the different items has also proven the convergent validity.

Section 4

Measurement of JS

The degree of JS enjoyed by teachers has arrived at 3.74, which is above the average on five point scale. JS is a multidimensional phenomenon and to measure overall degree of JS, the satisfaction obtained from all the dimensions was calculated separately which is as under:

1) Attitude Towards Job or Work Itself:

After factor analysis the mean satisfaction secured from four factor of job itself namely work, idealness, autonomy and job rules came to 4.20. Near about 79 percent respondents found their profession as ideal one (t value= -.374 at .709 significance level) and 82 percent agreed with the aspect of autonomy in their job (t value .462 at .645 sig. level) Although the teachers are not happy with rules and regulation aspect, only 15 percent strongly voted for the appropriacy of service rules (t value=.994 at .322 sig. level), still most of them (97%) enjoy the element of job security. Hence, the element of job security keeps the teachers intact with their present jobs as only 6 percent desired to change their profession.

The psychological phenomenon of appropriacy of the employee for the job and desire to join the profession also adds up to the satisfaction as 88 percent gave highest rank to teaching profession. The coefficient of correlation (r) and coefficient of determination (r^2) between job itself and JS has arrived at .867 and .750 respectively. Job autonomy, enrichment, creativity, appropriacy, sense of achievement, proper workload, and feeling of freshness are some of the elements of job that account for maximum job satisfaction of university academicians. All these facts and figures are indicative of strong relationship between elements of job and satisfaction of university teachers which is in line with earlier research by Smerek and Peterson (2007) and Hackman & Oldham (1976). Thus, the first hypothesis stands accepted.

2) Attitude Towards Leader (H.O.D):

The factorial mean for this dimension has arrived at 3.59. Near about 27 percent teachers pointed at their H.O.D's habit of getting things done according to their own will which adds to their dissatisfaction, 18



percent were indifferent towards this and 55 percent did not agree with it (t value 1.41 at .161 sig. level). Positive attributes viz., good administration, appreciating the subordinates, impartiality etc. have added to the satisfaction of the university teachers. It indicates that positive attributes and behaviour of the leader heightens the degree of satisfaction of his subordinates. The value of r and adjusted r^2 for this dimension has come to .391 and .146 respectively revealing a positive association between attitude of the superior and JS of the teachers, which is in line with research by Sharma and Jyoti (2006) who found that guiding approach of superiors towards their subordinates adds up to the job satisfaction. So, the second hypothesis is also accepted.

3) Attitude Towards Colleagues:

Hawthorne Experiment have shown that man is not mere an economic tool, he has emotions and presence of other people at work place makes job more interesting. The mean satisfaction drawn from this dimension by the university teachers came to 3.52, which is minimum as compared to satisfaction drawn from other dimensions of satisfaction (Table 1). About 56 percent teachers reported that there is policy of groupism in their departments (mean=2.5, t value .551 at .583 sig. level). There are very less family interactions amongst the colleagues as only 10 percent agreed with this statement (mean= 2.38. t value -.362 at .718 sig. level). The element of team work is also lacking (mean= 3.30, t value 1.106 at .718 sig level). The analysis of this dimension reveals that stimulating, friendly and helping attitude of colleagues adds to the satisfaction (Winter and Saros, 2002) and policy of groupism, lack of team spirit and interrelationships leads to dissatisfaction (Ishawara and Laxmana, 2008; Sharma and Jyoti, 2005). The values of r and r^2 have arrived at .341 and .109 respectively indicating a positive relation between colleagues and JS. Thus, the hypothesis that there is positive relationship between co-workers attitude and job satisfaction is accepted.

4) Attitude Towards Promotion & Recognition:

The mean satisfaction secured from this facet of JS arrived at 3.70. Teachers (28%) viewed that promotions don't happen at right time but mostly (63%) agreed that it is done on merit basis. They also revealed (24%) recognition does not come in the form of financial rewards but they (65%) agreed that it comes in the form of appreciation. The positive aspect of this facet is that 86 percent feel that this profession gives them recognition in the society also (Mean=4.18).

The value of r and adjusted r^2 came to .467 (sig. < .001) and .212 respectively, which lead to acceptance of fourth hypothesis that growth opportunities and recognition are significantly related to job satisfaction of



academicians (Cano and Miller 1992). The earlier research by Sharma and Jyoti (2006) also recognised opportunities for career planning and development for enhancing job satisfaction of an individual and lack of career development was reported to be directly and negatively related to job satisfaction (Yousef, 2002).

5) Attitude Towards Students:

The mean satisfaction driven the two factors under this dimension namely literary aspects and negative behaviour of the students has arrived at 3.94, which is second high most after the satisfaction obtained from elements of job itself. The anti social element is very low among the students (mean= 3.69, t value -1.050 at .296 sig. level). Near about 91% teachers revealed that students don't insult the teachers and they are eager to consult library as well as interact with faculty members (mean= 3.89, t value -1.598 at .113 sig. level) which is very satisfying feature of this dimension. The r and r^2 values have arrived at .354 (Sig. < .001) and .118 indicating positive relationship, which is in line with the research by Perie and baker (1997) that students' behavior is associated with teachers' job satisfaction as they are the integral part of their profession.. Thus, the hypothesis that positive attitude of students adds to JS of the teachers is accepted.

6) Attitude Towards Pay and Financial Aspects:

The mean satisfaction obtained from this dimension has arrived at 3.65 from two factors namely appropriateness of pay and monetary assistance. Only 28 percent teachers strongly agreed that their pay is appropriate (t value 1.23 at .221 sig. level) and approximately 63 percent did not find retirement benefits adequate (t value 2.731 at .007 sig. level) but still they were not ready to change the profession on the same pay. This analysis indicates that despite being less satisfied with pay and rewards mechanism teachers are not ready to change the profession due job security provided to them. The coefficient of correlation (r) and the coefficient of determination (r^2) for this dimension have arrived at .530 (Sig. < .001) and .274 respectively indicating a positive and significant relationship. So, the hypothesis that there is significant relation between pay & financial aspects of job and teachers' job satisfaction is accepted.

7) Attitude Towards Physical Environment:

The satisfaction secured from this aspect has arrived at 3.70. Most of the teachers (79%) agreed with proper light in the class rooms and staff rooms. About 68 percent agreed to proper infrastructure facilities. On the whole (83%) teachers are satisfied with their physical environment (Mean=3.79). The correlation coefficient and coefficient of determination has come to .365 (Sig. < .001) and .133 respectively. This shows



the positive relationship between physical environment and JS of the university teachers. Result of step-wise regression analysis (Table 15) reveal that physical environment is not a predictor of job satisfaction which is against the earlier research by Pılananadanond, Laksana and Jose (2004). Hence, the hypothesis that physical environment prevalent in the university affects teachers' satisfaction is rejected.

Section 5

Calculation of overall JS lead to age-wise, gender-wise, length-wise (job experience), status-wise (marital and designation) analysis of job satisfaction. The details of findings are discussed as under:

Age-Wise Analysis of Job Satisfaction

Age wise analysis of job satisfaction revealed insignificant coefficient of correlation between the two at .086, indicating further lack of linear relationship between age and job satisfaction of an employee. The results are identical with the previous research (Sharma and Jyoti, 2004, 2006; Amoran et al., 2005). Few of the previous researches (Leary 2000) have reported a cyclical relationship between the two. So, an attempt has been made in this direction also. To prove this, the class intervals of age have been made and accordingly mean job satisfaction obtained by teachers in each group has been calculated. The results, thus, obtained revealed a curvilinear pattern (Fig. 2). The level of job satisfaction obtained by the academicians is above average in all the age groups. It is least during initial years (20-25) and maximum during 56-60 years. After initial years the level of job satisfaction increases and remains almost constant till 45 years and then it decreases during 46-50 years after that it again starts increasing and is maximum during 56-60 years. The mean satisfaction scores were found to be significantly different (Table 3). The above analysis shows that satisfaction level varies for different age groups and it is maximum during last years of service. Hence, the hypothesis that relationship between age and job satisfaction is non-linear is accepted (Chandriah et al, 2007; Pickett and Sevastoss, 2003).



Table 2: Age-wise mean JS

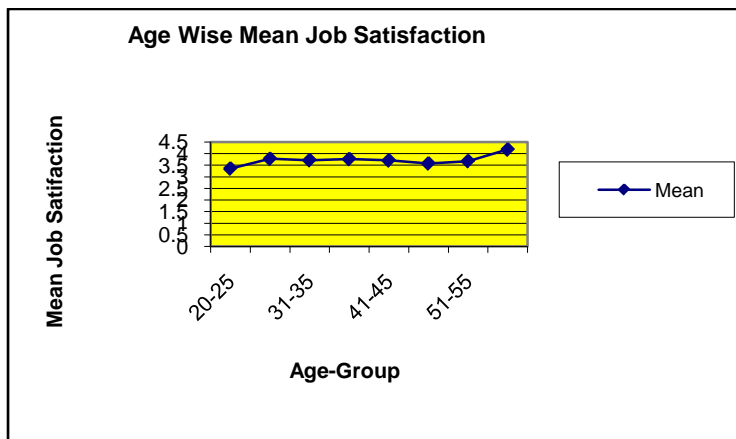
AGE	Mean	N	Std. Deviation
20-25	3.36	1	.
26-30	3.78	6	0.2257
31-35	3.72	15	0.328
36-40	3.77	26	0.3536
41-45	3.71	26	0.309
46-50	3.58	21	0.7294
51-55	3.68	15	0.7057
56-60	4.18	10	0.5239
Total	3.74	120	0.5023



Table 3:Age-wise ANOVA

	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	2.671	7	0.382	1.562	0.045
Within Groups	27.358	140	0.244		
Total	30.029	147			

Fig: 1



Length of Employment(Job Experience) and Job Satisfaction

The study revealed insignificant coefficient of correlation between length of employment and job satisfaction at .081, indicating lack of linear relationship between two. So, an attempt was made to check for cyclical or curvilinear relation. To prove this, the class intervals of total service have been made and accordingly mean job satisfaction obtained by teachers in each group has been calculated. The results, thus, obtained reveal a cyclical pattern (Table 4).

The level of job satisfaction obtained in the initial years of job experience (1-5) is more and afterward it starts declining and is minimum during 16-20 years of service. In next few years it starts increasing and is maximum during 21-25 and 31-35 years. This shows that job satisfaction is cyclical in relation to length of employment. Application of One-Way ANOVA Test revealed that the mean difference in satisfaction level



is significant (Table 5). As far as kind of relation between length of employment and job satisfaction is concerned, the findings disclose a non-linear relation between the two, hence, the hypothesis that job satisfaction increases with length of employment stands rejected.

Although the employees with maximum service are highly satisfied teachers as they have achieved serenity in work and are confident in their ability to teach and handle tasks that their work requires (Brunetti, 2001) but relationship is not linear. The findings are in line with Lewis (1982) and against Jenning (1999) and Reudavey, Ling & Dickie (2003), who did not find any relationship between the two.

Table 4: Length of employment-wise

Mean job satisfaction

Length of Employment (years)	Mean JS	N	Standard Deviation
1-5	3.8	23	0.316
6-10	3.71	21	0.436
11-15	3.66	20	0.365
16-20	3.56	28	0.619
20-25	4.07	13	0.535
26-30	3.57	7	0.767
31-35	4.08	8	0.288
Total	3.74	120	0.502



Table 5: Length of employment-wise ANOVA Table

	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	3.608	6	0.601	2.572	0.023
Within Groups	26.421	141	0.234		
Total	30.029	7			

Fig. 3:



Level of Education and Job Satisfaction

Previous researches have shown that as the level of academic qualification increases, the level of job satisfaction enjoyed by an individual also increases and the respondents' education background is of substantial importance in affecting job satisfaction (Metle, 2001, Glenn and Weaver, 1982). The results of the present study revealed that satisfaction level increases with an increase in the level of education (Table



6) and the difference is significant (F 2.404, Sig. = 0.05). The step-wise regression analysis revealed standardised beta coefficient at 0.100 (t 2.077, Sig. < .05, Table 15), which reflects that education has significant effect on job satisfaction (Previous research has studied only the relation between job satisfaction and education level and none has analysed effect of education level on job satisfaction). Thus the hypothesis that the level of education of an academician positively affects his/her job satisfaction is accepted.

Table 6: Level of education and job satisfaction

Qualification	Mean	N	Std. Deviation
Post graduate	3.57	18	0.261
M.Phil	3.65	3	0.117
Ph.D	3.79	73	0.593
M.Phil, Ph.D	3.74	26	0.339
Total	3.74	120	0.502

Designation-wise job satisfaction

Higher designation (occupation level) leads to higher job satisfaction (Probe, 1971) has been proved in this study. The degree of job satisfaction enjoyed by a professor is greater than that of a lecturer or reader but the relation is not linear because the level of job satisfaction secured by a reader is less than that of a lecturer (Table 7). The mean difference was found to be significant because the level of significance is < .001 (Table 8). Hence the hypothesis stands rejected that satisfaction increases with an increase in designation level as the satisfaction level of Reader is less than that of a Lecturer, which is against the earlier research (Oshagbemi, 2000).



Table 7: Designation-wise mean job satisfaction

Designation	Mean	N	Std. Deviation
Lecturer	3.71	49	0.415
Reader	3.51	37	0.572
Professor	4.03	34	0.394
Total	3.74	120	0.502

Table 8: Designation-wise ANOVA Table

	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig
Between Groups	4.849	2	2.425		
Within Groups	25.18	11	0.215		
Total	30.029	11		11.266	0

Gender Wise Analysis of Job Satisfaction

The proportion of male and female respondents was 3:2. Gender wise analysis of job satisfaction revealed that the female teachers are more satisfied (3.88) than the male teachers (3.65). The difference was found to be significant when subjected to test of variance (Table 10), so the hypothesis that female teachers



are more satisfied is accepted.

The reason for female teachers being more satisfied can be attributed to low expectation about job status among the female teachers as compared to the male teachers. Moreover the female teachers (90 per cent) like this profession due to nature and socio-cultural value of teaching profession. Clark (1997) concluded that 'women's higher job satisfaction does not reflect that their jobs are unobservedly better than men's, but perhaps because their jobs have been so much worse in the past, they have lower expectations. Although the analysis cannot rule out other possible explanations for this trend in women's job satisfaction, it supports the prediction made by Clark (1997).

Table 9: Gender-wise mean job satisfaction

Gender	Mean	N	Std. Deviation
Male	3.65	73	0.518
Female	3.88	47	0.449
Total	3.74	120	0.502

Table 10: ANOVA

	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	1.429	1	1.429		
Within Groups	28.599	118	0.242		
Total	30.029	119		5.898	0.017



Marital status and job satisfaction

The analysis of the degree of job satisfaction of the married (91 per cent) and unmarried (9 per cent) revealed that the mean level of job satisfaction secured by the married teachers (3.77) is more than their unmarried counterparts (3.47, Table 11) and this difference is significant when subjected to the ANOVA test (Table 12). The findings are in line with Knerr (2006), Knoop (1995) and Rao (1997). Thus, the hypothesis that married teachers are more satisfied stands accepted.

Table 11: Marital status-wise mean job satisfaction

Status	Mean	N	Std. Deviation
Married	3.77	109	0.513
Unmarried	3.47	11	0.286
Total	3.74	120	0.502



Table 12: Marital status-wise ANOVA Table

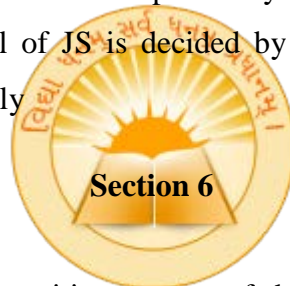
	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	.982	1	.982	4.711	.032
Within Groups	24.589	118	.208		
Total	25.571	119			

**Result of Multiple Regressions:**

In order to find out the extent of variance caused by different factors in determining the degree of JS of the university teachers, step-wise multiple regression equation was fitted through SPSS with all variables studied above and it resulted into .762 coefficient of multiple correlation (R) and .572 adjusted R^2 (Table 13). The ANOVA analysis also justified the model as the regression sum of squares is greater than the residual sum of squares (F 68.112, Sig. < .001, Table 14). The regression equation (Table 15) is as under:

- $JS = -.334(\text{constant}) + .630 (\text{job itself}) + .158 (\text{Promotion \& recognition}) + .109 (\text{Gender}) + .100 (\text{qualification})$

Only four variables are predicting job satisfaction as per the above equation. Job characteristics or job itself is the most significant predictor of job satisfaction (t 11.670, Sig. < .001) followed by promotion and recognition (t 2.968, sig. < .005), gender (t 2.311, Sig. < .05) and level of education (t 2.077, Sig. < .05). So, it may be concluded that various dimensions of JS are positively correlated with it but the extent of influence exerted by them in determining the level of JS is decided by characteristics of job itself, promotion & recognition, gender and education level only.

**Conclusions**

First, the study has highlighted some positive aspects of the work life. They include continuing high levels of autonomy, creativity, sense of achievement, idealness and appropriateness of job. These motivating core job characteristics (Hackman & Oldham, 1980) satisfy an academic's need for engaging on meaningful work activities: a critical psychological state associated with job satisfaction. The job characteristics like autonomy and flexibility clearly stand out as the most important factors for job satisfaction as revealed by Bellamy, Morley and Watty too (2003). Of all the dimensions of JS, the job itself has accounted for 63 percent contribution in job satisfaction of academicians. Opportunities for further study, growth and training intrinsically contribute to the job satisfaction. Societal and professional recognition positively affects job satisfaction. The contribution of other dimensions namely pay, colleagues, students and working conditions is insignificant. The findings also cement Herzberg's two way hygiene theory that distinguishes between satisfiers (Intrinsic elements) and dissatisfiers (extrinsic elements). Job characteristics and promotion & recognition are the intrinsic elements, hence they account for maximum variation in job satisfaction. Among the demographic variables gender (Egbule, 2003) and level of education significantly affect job satisfaction.



Age-wise and length-wise analysis of job satisfaction has revealed a non-linear association, which is in accordance with earlier studies (Sharma and Jyoti, 2004, 2005). From the analysis of the results it was evident that both male and female teachers experience job satisfaction in their profession. There was, nevertheless, a proportion of teachers (mostly males) who felt that they were less satisfied with teaching and indicated that if opportunity is provided to choose again, teaching would not be their first choice as indicated by earlier research (Mwamwanda 1997). As against the earlier notions (Knerr, 2006), this study found that marital status of an individual does not effect his/her level of job satisfaction.

Level of occupation i.e., designation does affect the degree of job satisfaction enjoyed by the academicians (Oshagbemi's, 2000). Professors are enjoying higher level of job satisfaction than the lecturers and readers but step is not completely straight as readers are less satisfied than lecturers.

An overall review of the paper reveals that teachers' satisfaction declines in middle years as indicated by age-wise, experience-wise and occupational level-wise analysis that needs to be tackled by the organisations.

Strategic Actions for Improving Job Satisfaction

Although the university teachers are on an average satisfied with all the dimension of job satisfaction but if they are to be fully satisfied stress needs to be given on following points:

1) Appropriate Recognition: Everyone appreciates getting credit when it is due. The occasions to share the success of employees with others are almost limitless. The work of meritorious teachers should be given due recognition in the form of publicised recognition and financial and non-financial rewards. At end of each year celebration should be held and families of the selected teachers should be formally invited and these teachers should be given red carpet welcome as is the ritual in corporate sector. This will act as motivating factor for teachers to keep on giving good performance and enhance their level of job satisfaction.

2) Right Follow-Up of Promotion Policy: Although promotion happen through CAS (Career Advancement Scheme) but the procedure sometimes takes quite long time and teachers get frustrated. So the formalities should begin quite in advance so that the teachers are promoted at right time. Further teachers reported that promotions do not happen on merit basis in open selection. For this there should be transparency in the promotion procedure and if some one wants to have some information about the



candidate selected it should be readily made available by the concerned authority

3) Encourage Team Work: Teachers should be given proper orientation regarding team work and they should be encouraged to take joint projects. The HOD should identify teachers with same wave length and often put them in situation where they are required to work together. This will increase the intimacy among the teachers and in future they will not be reluctant to work in teams.

4) Improve the HOD's Approach: Most of the teachers reported that their HOD is in habit of getting things done on his own will which is quite dissatisfying. So the administration should give some kind of behavioural orientation to the HODs, so that they change their authoritarian approach to guiding approach which is appreciated by one and all (Sharma and Jyoti, 2006)

4) Better Pay Package: If the university wants to attract competent people to its organisation, it will have to offer them lucrative pay packages and more of financial incentives so that they do not think they are underpaid. The recommendations of sixth pay commission should be implemented at earlier possible. So, when they will be handsomely compensated, it will improve their over all level of job satisfaction as well as life satisfaction.

6) Special Attention to Middle Aged Teachers: Special steps should be taken to increase the level of job satisfaction of middle aged teachers because at this age people have tension of reaching high positions as well as personal problems like settlement of their children (professionally) in good colleges and this tension in their life may flow to job also as these have a spill-over effect. They should be counseled for such matters and proper guidance should be provided for career planning and development. They should also be counseled about different professional opportunities available for their children.

Implications

The empirical revelations are important in terms of human resource management since academicians seem to value most the intrinsic factors. Thorough analysis of different elements of job satisfaction reveals the importance of job characteristics like autonomy, job enrichment, idealness and appropriateness of job for enhancing an academicians' job satisfaction. Before appointing an individual it should be stressed upon that his/her expectations and values match with that of the job. Lesser the discrepancy higher would be the level of job satisfaction. Special attention should be paid to increase the job satisfaction during the middle years of the service (36-50 years age group) when the level of job satisfaction starts declining. For further research it is suggested to find out the reasons that cause decline in level of job satisfaction during these years.



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Table 1: Summary of Results From Scale Purification:

Factor Loadings, Variance Explained, Mean Satisfaction, KMO Values and Eigen Values

Dimensions of JS	Factors	Mean Satisfaction	Factor Loading	Percentage of Variance Explained	KMO value	Eigen value
job itself	F(1)work			27.48	0.85	4.67
	desire to change	4.26	0.66	1	7	2
	find creativeness	4.25	0.70	2		
	allotment of course	3.9	0.76	3		
	teaching aids	4.08	0.73	6		
	feel fresh after class	4.28	0.85	8		
	no professional worries	4.26	0.84	6		
	no restriction	4.24	0.75	9		
	Total mean of F(1)	4.18				
	F(2) idealness				20.2	
	enjoy teaching	4.72	0.83	2		4



	appropriate job	4.51	0.71 1			
	ideal profession	4.48	0.62 4			
	sense of achievement	4.53	0.66 8			
	commitment to job	4.68	0.83 2			
	Total mean of F(2)	4.58				
	F(3) autonomy			14.67		2.49 4
	job gives autonomy	4.24	0.78 3			
	job enrichment	4.4	0.64 2			
	allotment of work	4.22	0.78 9			
	Total mean of F(3)	4.29				
	F(4)rules			10.98		1.86 7
	service rules	3.78	0.88 1			
	teacher oriented	3.68	0.89			
	Total mean of F(4)	3.73				
	Total mean of job itself	4.2				



	Total V.E of job itself			73.33		
				2		
Pay	F(5)appropriateness			45.24		2.71
				6	0.78	5
	appropriate pay	3.83	0.92			
			8			
	satisfied with pay	3.79	0.93			
			6			
	equal to deservance	3.6	0.89			
			3			
	Total mean of F(5)	3.74				
	F(6)monetary assistance			31.34		1.88
	get rewards	4.39	0.76			
			9			
	resources for participation	3.25	0.83			
			7			
	steady employment	4.03	0.64			
			9			
	Total mean of F(6)	3.56				
	total mean of pay	3.65				
	Total V.E of pay			76.58		
				6		
Leader	F(7) Attributes of H.O.D					
(H.O.D.)	impartial	3.84	0.70	62.25	0.91	4.35
			5	5	1	8



	fits the job	3.85	0.89 5			
	interested in well being	3.86	0.88 4			
	appreciates good work	3.79	0.82 7			
	good administrator	3.77	0.86 2			
	satisfied with superior	3.83	0.88			
	Total mean of F(7)					
	F(8) negative feature			20.36 8		1.42 6
	gets work done on his will	3.35	0.95 1			
	total mean of superior	3.59				
	Total V.E of superior			82.62 2		
Colleagu es	F(9)Qualities of colleagues			37.09 4	0.82 2	3.33 8
	smart	3.65	0.80 3			
	stimulating	3.61	0.75 5			
	get along well	3.92	0.83			
	friendly	3.8	0.78 2			



	no groupism	2.54	0.60 2			
	Total mean of F(9)	3.5				
	F(10)interrelations			36.61 6		3.29 5
	no conflict	3.47	0.88 6			
	help each other	3.52	0.87 8			
	staff get-together	3.68	0.75 4			
	unite in times of crisis	3.46	0.83 2			
	Total mean of F(10)	3.53				
	Total mean of colleagues	3.52				
	Total V.E of colleagues			73.71		
Promotion & recognition (P&R)	F(11)Further advancement			47.11 8	0.76 6	3.29 8
	further studies	4.17	0.78 3			
	facilities for training	3.54	0.60 6			
	recognition in the society	4.18	0.65			
	chance of advancement	4.1	0.76 1			
	Total mean of F(11)	4				



	F(12) promotion			14.86		1.04
				7		1
	timely promotion	3.13	0.79	6		
	opportunities for promotion	3.52	0.68	7		
	appreciative recognition	3.55	0.83	2		
	Total mean of F(12)	3.4				
	total mean of P&R	3.7				
	Total V.E of P&R			61.98		
				5		
Students	F(13) Literary aspect			34.12	0.60	1.09
				6	7	4
	consult library	3.66	0.95	1		
	interact with faculty/scholars	4.89	0.79	4		
	Total mean of F(13)	3.78				
	F(14) negative behaviour			45.95		1.47
				9		4
	antisocial element	3.69	0.95	9		
	insult teachers	4.05	0.66	6		
	Total mean of F(14)	3.87				



	total mean of students	3.94				
	Total V.E of students			89.08		
				5		
Physical	F(15) Infrastructure			42.78	0.79	2.99
				1	9	5
Environment	proper light in class room	3.82	0.92			
			5			
(P.Env.)	proper light in staff room	3.81	0.92			
			3			
	infrastructure facilities	3.61	0.79			
	canteen facility	3.37	0.61			
			6			
	Total mean of F(15)	3.65				
	F(16) physical facilities			34.28		
				4		2.4
	well equipped lib/lab	3.56	0.73			
			2			
	drinking water	3.96	0.89			
			2			
	Satisfactory phy.env.	3.79	0.87			
			8			
	Total mean of F(16)	3.77				
	Total mean of P.Env.	3.7				
	Total V.E of P.Env.			77.06		
				4		
	Over all mean JS	3.82				



Table13: Model Summary Of Multiple Regression

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of Estimate
4	0.762	0.580	0.572	0.448

Table 14: ANOVA (Regression)

Model 4	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Squares	F	Sig.
Regression	35.246	1	35.246	21.932	.000
Residual	10.346	3	3.449		
Total	45.592	4			

Table 15: Regression Coefficients

Model		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
		Beta		
4	(Constant)	-.334	-1.159	.248
	Job Itself	.630	11.670	.000
	P & R	.158	2.968	.003



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	Gender	.109	2.311	.022
	Educational	.100	2.077	.039
*Dependent variable: Job Satisfaction				

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