

## Earning While Learning: A Study with Special Reference to Preference for Part-Time Jobs among College Students in SNGS College Pattambi, Palakkad District

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### Abstract

In recent years, the idea of "earning while learning" has become increasingly relevant, especially for college students who want to combine their academic goals with practical experience and financial independence. The desires, reasons, and difficulties related to part-time work among SNGS College, Pattambi students are investigated in this study. Finding out how many students work part-time jobs and what influences their choices is the main goal. The core data used in the study was gathered from a representative sample of students from various disciplines using standardized questionnaires. It looks at important topics such as preferred part-time job kinds, working hours, effects on academic achievement, and how socioeconomic background influences job choices. Results demonstrate that a significant percentage of students have a favorable inclination toward part-time employment, primarily due to the need for financial assistance, skill development, and job experience. But there were also issues like time management, pressure to perform well in school, and a lack of employment possibilities. The study comes to the conclusion that while part-time work might benefit students' personal and professional development, a balanced approach is necessary to guarantee academic performance is not jeopardized.

**Keywords:** EWL, Part Time Jobs, Self-Employment

### Introduction

Students frequently juggle work and school in today's changing educational environment, looking for part-time jobs that fit their schedules, interests, and career goals. In order to pay for their own expenditures and obtain experience, many students choose to work a part-time job while they are in college. Most students in European countries work part-time jobs in addition to their studies. But in India, the idea of a part-time work is not widely accepted. Along with their studies, very few students work in any capacity. The lack of options for students to work part-time jobs connected to their course of study is one of the primary causes of this culture. In Kerala, a significant portion of students' term-time jobs involve food delivery and catering.

For students, a part-time employment has many benefits. These positions accelerate a variety of important abilities, like time management, responsibility, and the capacity to balance several commitments, in addition to the apparent cash help. When juggling part-time work with their academic endeavors,

students frequently encounter a variety of difficulties. Students may struggle with time management as a result of juggling work obligations with a full educational load. Furthermore, there aren't enough part-time job options offered by the government. These factors make it challenging for students to land a solid job since they lack experience or practical knowledge when they enter the workforce.

### Statement of the Problem

Employees who work part-time jobs put in fewer hours than those who have full-time jobs. College students and workers who want to supplement their income are the main groups who choose part-time employment. Taking on a part-time job has several advantages for college students. It allows them to gain real-world experience in the workforce and earn money to help pay their bills. Additionally, it solves the issue that many job seekers nowadays have with a lack of real-world experience. Students who work part-time employment face both unique problems and invaluable experience. They offer

independence, financial assistance, and useful skills, but they also require a careful balancing act between employment and school. Students gain resilience, time management skills, and firsthand knowledge of the challenges of juggling several duties as they negotiate various jobs.

**Scope of the Study**

Questionnaires are used to gather data for this study, which aims to explore college students' preferences for part-time employment. The concept of a part-time employment, its advantages, and the range of part-time job prospects in Kerala are all thoroughly explained in this paper. The main goal of this study is to shed light on college students' preferences for part-time employment and the reasons behind them. Additionally, it looks at what prevents students from working part-time employment and whether they prefer jobs that are relevant to their course of study.

**Objectives of the Study**

1. To determine the preference of college students for part-time jobs.
2. To identify the reasons why college students, prefer part-time jobs.
3. To identify the reason for the non-preference of college students towards part-time jobs.
4. To identify the difficulties faced by the students while working part-time

**Research Methodology**

**Research Design**

This research is descriptive in nature

**Sample Design**

**Population**

Population constitutes the college students in SNGS college Pattambi.

**SAMPLE SIZE:** 60 samples were included in the study.

**Sampling Method**

Convenience sampling method was used for selecting samples from the population

**Sources of Data**

Both primary and secondary data were used for the study.

**Secondary Data:**

The secondary data collected from different sources of literature like journals, magazines, textbooks and Internet.

**Primary Data:**

The primary data for the study was collected by the investigator by using questionnaires

**Tools Used for the Study**

Data collection is done by using questionnaires

Tools like percentage analysis and mean score were used for data analysis.

**Review of Literature**

Kureková & Žilinčíková (2016) Due to flexibility and financial considerations, many students chose part-time jobs, according to this study that looked at student employment trends. It was discovered that student-oriented occupations exist in a variety of industries and are not restricted to low-skill work, suggesting that students actively look for careers that fit their academic schedules and skill sets.

Muluk (2017) the study concentrated on the connection between academic success and part-time employment. It showed that although some students encountered delays in finishing their coursework, students who worked part-time were nevertheless able to retain above-average academic performance. This implies that despite scholastic difficulties, students prefer part-time jobs because of the financial and personal advantages.

Saddique *et al.* (2023) According to this study, students view part-time work favorably, especially when it comes to increasing their employability and obtaining work experience. Even while there was some income dissatisfaction, students' desire for part-time work was largely influenced by flexible working hours and prospective career prospects.

Khanal (2022) the study examined postgraduate students who worked part-time and discovered that obtaining job experience and surviving financially were the primary drivers. However, it also revealed a trade-off in students' preferences, as part-time employment may have a detrimental impact on academic attention and general contentment.

Nga (2020) According to this study, part-time employment is becoming more and more common among students since it gives them the chance to put their academic knowledge to use in real-world scenarios. Because these jobs improve skills, independence, and future work chances, students choose them.

**Data Analysis and Interpretation**

**Table 1:** The Gender of Respondents

Gender	No of Response	Percentage
Female	35	58.3%
Male	25	41.7%
Other	0	0%
Total	60	100%

Source: Primary data

**Table 2:** The Age of Respondents

Age	No of Response	Percentage
18	3	5%
19	12	20%
20	35	58.3%
21	2	~3.3%
22	3	~5%
Above 22	5	8.3%
Total	60	100%

Source: primary data.

**Table 3:** The Educational Qualification of Respondents

Educational Qualification	No of Response	Percentage
Undergraduate	56	93.3%
Postgraduate	4	6.7%
Total	60	100%

Source: Primary data

**Table 4:** Number of Earning Members of Respondents

Number of earning members	Number of Response	Percentage
1	28	46.7%
2	23	38.3%
3	7	11.7%
Above 3	2	3.3%

Source: primary data.

**Table 5:** The Preference for Part-Time Job According to the Nature of Job

Nature of job	No of Response	Percentage
Teaching	21	41.7%
Data entry Job	14	23.3%
Content Writing	2	3.3%
Social Media Management	7	11.7%
Freelance Photography	2	3.3%
Delivery Services	6	10%
Customer Support	4	6.7%
Total	60	100%

Source: Primary data.

**Table 6:** Preference for Mode of Doing Part-Time Job

Mode	No of Response	Percentage
Online	18	30%
Offline	16	26.7%
Both	26	43.3%
Total	60	100%

**Table 7:** The Time Preferred for Working Part-Time

Time	No of Response	Percentage
Morning	12	20%
After Noon	4	6.7%
Evening	27	45%
Night	17	28.3%
Total	60	100%

Source: Primary Data

**Table 8:** Reasons for Preferring of Part-Time Job

Reasons	Strongly agree (5)	Agree (4)	Natural (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)	Total Frequency	Total score	Mean	Rank
To cover personal expenses	29	24	7	0	0	60	262	4.37	1
To contribute family expenses	16	31	13	0	0	60	179	2.98	5
For gaining Practical Knowledge	19	28	13	0	0	60	246	4.10	3
To understand working environment	16	27	16	1	0	60	238	3.97	4
To apply Knowledge and Skills	23	27	9	0	1	60	251	4.18	2

**Major Findings**

1. Out of 60 respondents, 58.3% of the students are female and the remaining 41.7% are male.
2. A large majority of the respondents fall in the age group of 20.
3. About 93.3% of the respondents have qualified undergraduate and 6.7% qualified as postgraduate.
4. 58.3% of the respondents were lived in rural area and 41.7% of the respondents were in urban area.
5. Out of 60 respondents, 51.7% of respondents had 4 members in their family 33.3% of respondents had 5 members in their family.
6. Out of 60 respondents, 46.7% have 1 earnings members in their family and 38.3% had 2 earning member in their family.
7. 36.7% respondents fall into the category of income below 50000 38.3% respondents fall into the category of income between 50000-100000.
8. Among the respondents, 18.3% of respondents are currently engaged in part-time jobs 81.7% of respondents are not doing part-time jobs.
9. Out of 60 respondents, 81.7% of respondents prefer part-time jobs and the remaining 18.3% not prefer part-time jobs.
10. Out of 60 respondents, 41.7% of respondents are interested in teaching. Least of the respondents that is 3.3% of respondents prefer doing content writing and freelance photography.

**Suggestions**

1. Students should take initiative to explore various part-time job opportunities available to them. There are many opportunities available for students online and offline which may include tutoring, data entry, shop assistants, editing works, etc. They should make an effort to identify such opportunities.

2. The government should increase the part-time job opportunities available for students and encourage them to take up such jobs.
3. Students and their parents should be given proper advice and awareness about various part time job opportunities and the benefits they can derive from undertaking such jobs.
4. Students should try to increase their skills in various fields. In addition, professors, universities, government, professional associations, etc. can conduct skill development programs for improving their skillset.
5. College timings should be adjusted for enabling students to balance their studies and job.

**Conclusion**

The purpose of this study was to determine whether college students in the Palakkad district preferred part-time employment. Students from a variety of district colleges provided the data. Convenience sampling was used to select a sample of sixty pupils. We used a well-structured questionnaire to get the data. Students are mostly interested in working part-time jobs, according to the report. The main driving force behind this inclination is the desire to become financially independent by paying for their own needs. The majority of responders are interested in working as teachers. Furthermore, the study revealed that the majority of students were prepared to pursue online employment in order to make good use of their leisure time or because they had pressing financial demands. Even though they are interested in doing part-time employment, many students stated that they are unable to do so because of a lack of possibilities, the unavailability of technical requirements, a lack of support, and other reasons. Additionally, the survey found that students generally Favor careers that are relevant to their field

of study in order to obtain real-world experience and expertise. Additionally, the study discovered that while most students had tried to work a part-time job, very few of them were truly employed in any capacity. Therefore, we can draw the conclusion from this research that most students prefer to work part-time jobs linked to their course of study, even though many of them are unable to work at all because of numerous obstacles.

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