Proposal No.11
SCERT, SED, GoWB

A Study on Dropout rates at Primary, Upper Primary, Secondary and Higher Secondary Levels, Demography and Social Category wise and finding out the causes of Dropout in West Bengal

Objective of the Study

● To find out the dropout rates district wise, social category wise demographic wise at different levels (Primary, Upper Primary, Secondary and Higher secondary) among the children in West Bengal

● To find out the causes for dropping out of the children from school as perceived by the children, parents and teachers

Sampling

Two districts namely Dakshin Dinajpur and Murshidabad are randomly selected .

10 dropout students at each level (Pry, U Pry, Sec and HS) for
each of the two surveyed districts were identified.

Corresponding schools of dropped out students were identified .

The Head Teachers and the Class Teachers were identified.

Tools

A DCF was developed at SCERT(WB) for collection of secondary data from PBSSM on Dropout Rate (districts wise) of children at Pry, UP, Sec and HS levels for 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20.

Five questionnaires were developed at SCERT (WB) for which Google Forms were developed -

√ Questionnaire for the Head of Institution
√ Questionnaire for the Class Teacher
√ Questionnaire for the Guardian of the Dropped out child
√ Questionnaire for the Dropped out child
√ Questionnaire for a friend of the Dropped out child
 (Taking into consideration the absence of Dropped out child)

Tools

The questionnaire(s) were designed to ascertain the

factors behind children dropping out from school.

Questionnaires for the Head Teachers and Class Teacher

endeavoured to find out steps/efforts taken up the school to

address the issue.

Conduct of Survey

- SCERT (WB) carried out the study in collaboration with the DIETs and DEOs of the surveyed districts.

- The faculty/trainee of DIETs were engaged as Field Investigators (FI).

- The FIs went to the guardians/parents, dropped out child or his/her friend to collect the required information.

- The questionnaires for the Heads Teachers and the Class Teachers were sent through email or WhatsApp.

Data (UDISE) Analysis

According to the collected secondary data (UDISE Data) :

- At Up Pry level the dropout rates are negative for the year 2017-18, dropout rates are positive for the year 2018-19 and 2019-20 for both boys and girls.

- The boys' dropout rates for both Sec and Higher secondary level for the years 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20 are significant and also higher than the girls' dropout rate.
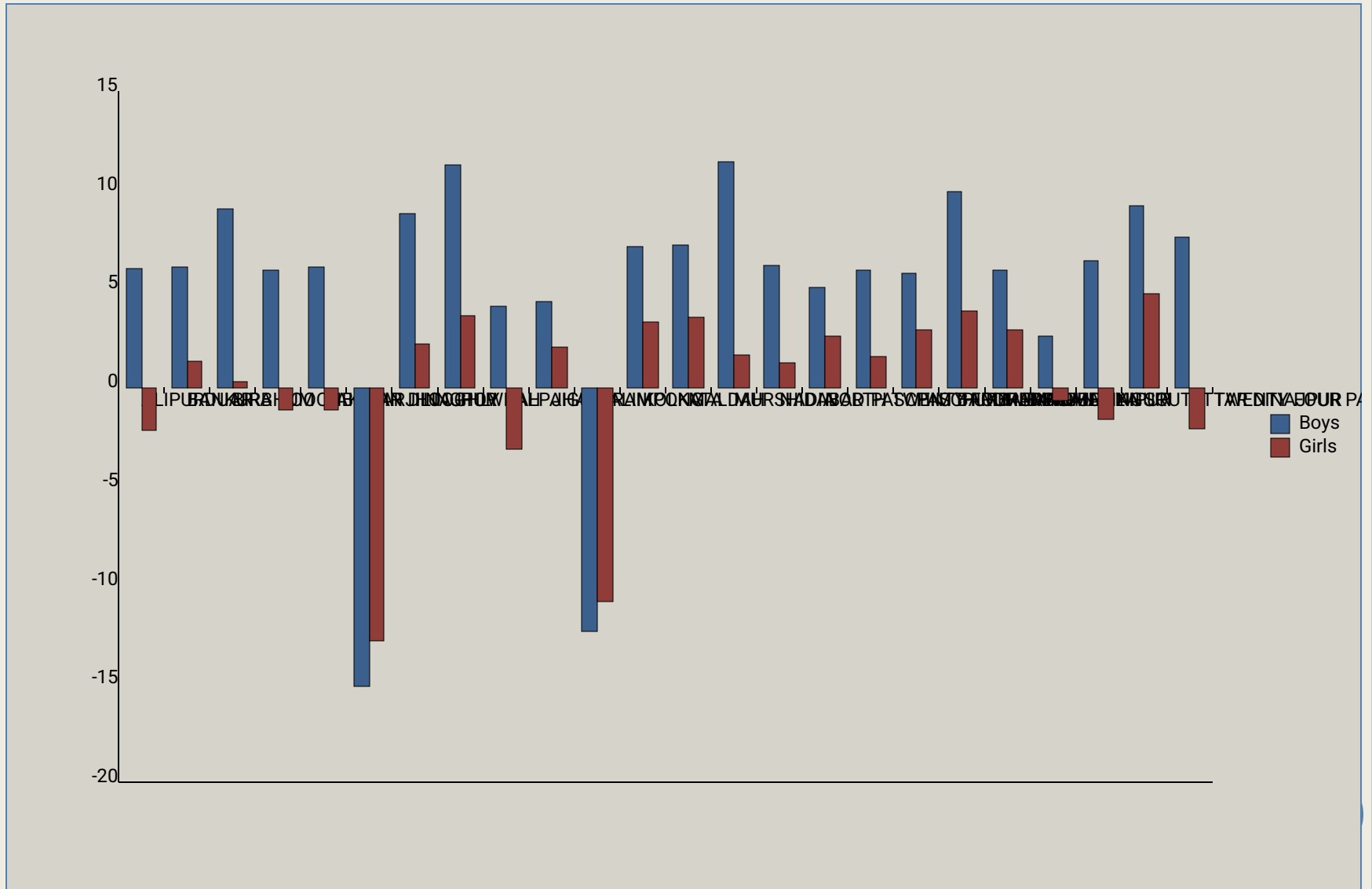
Dropout rates at secondary and h.s level for the year 2019-20

- The dropout rates at the Secondary level for the year 2019-20 are positive in 22 districts.

- Howrah has the highest positive dropout rate 7.15 and Jalpaiguri has the lowest positive dropout rate 0.24

- The Dropout rates (2019-20) at the Higher Secondary level are positive in 23 districts.

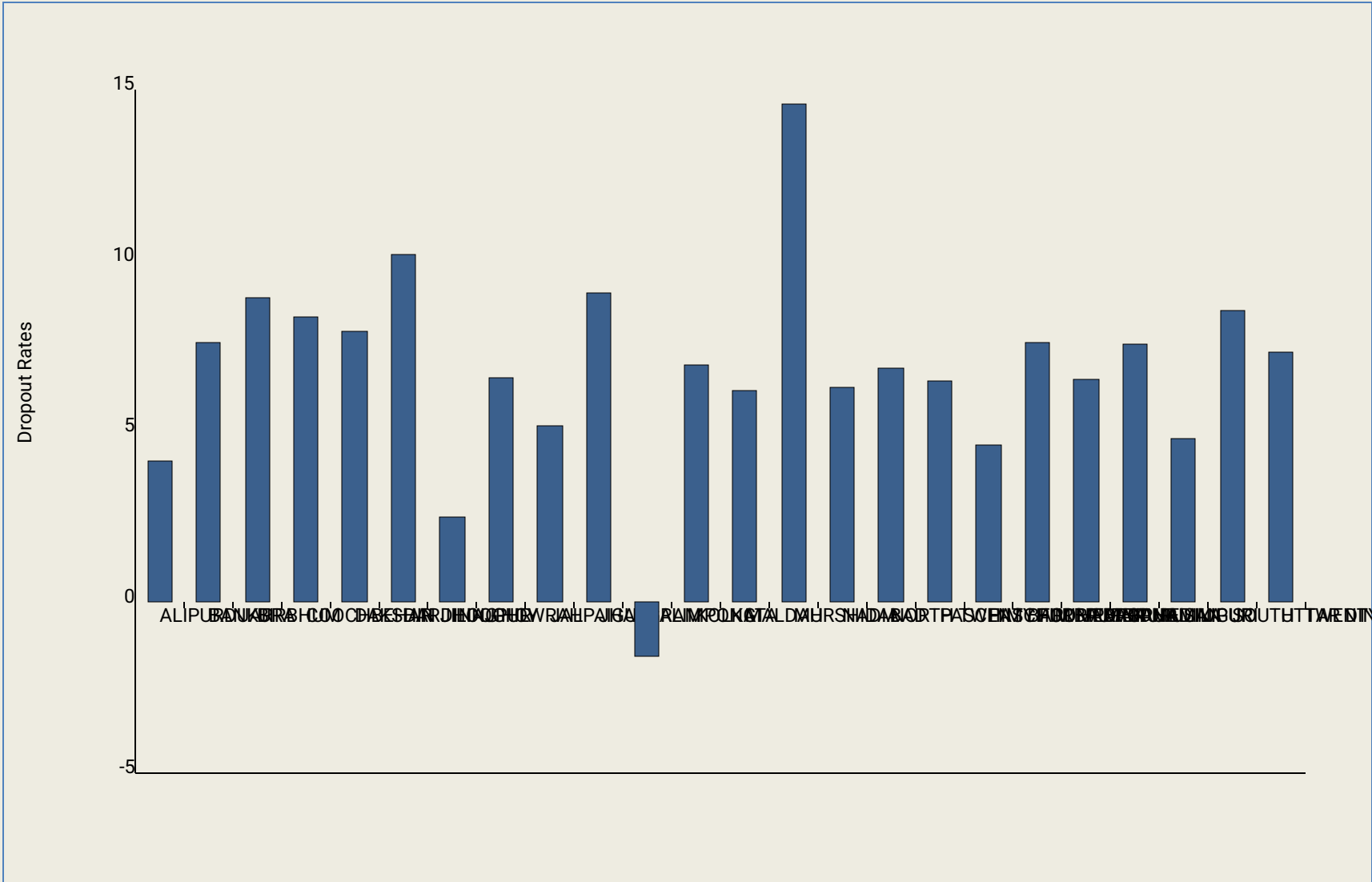- Murshidabad has the highest positive Dropout rate 14.57 and Hooghly has lowest positive Dropout rate 2.48
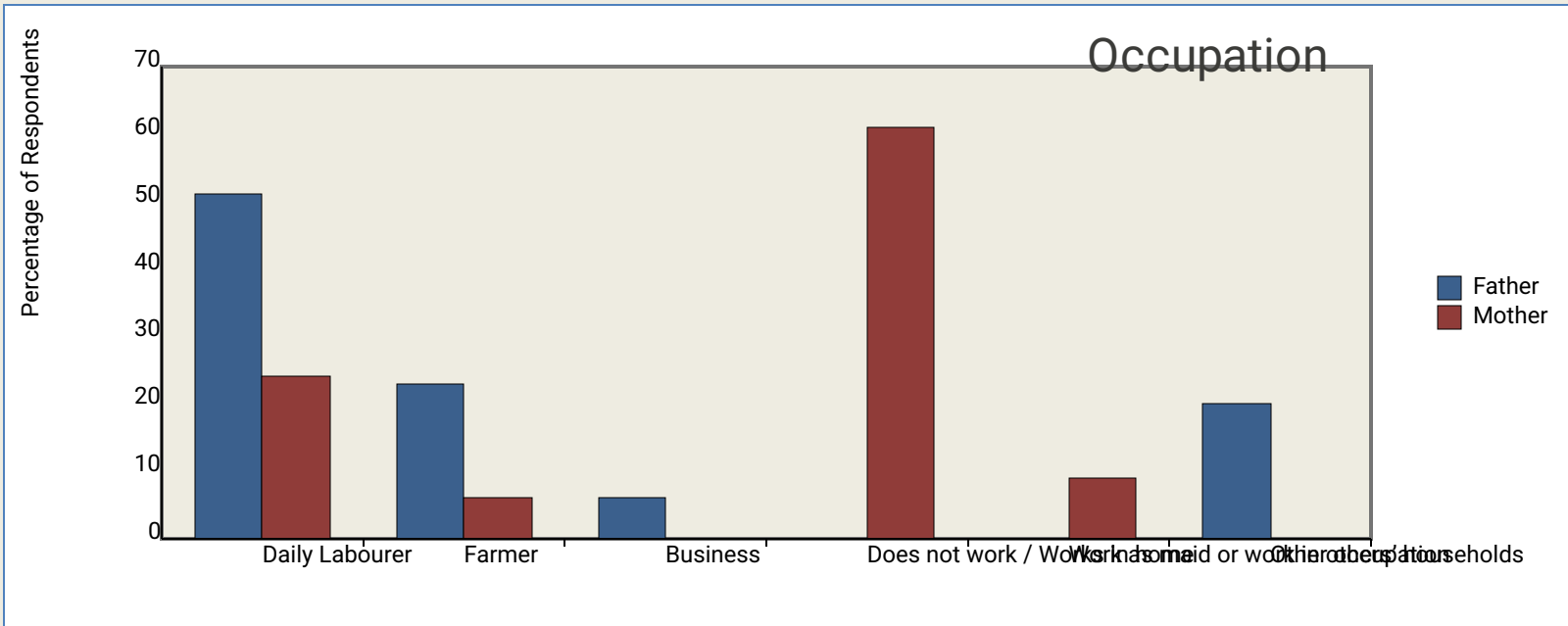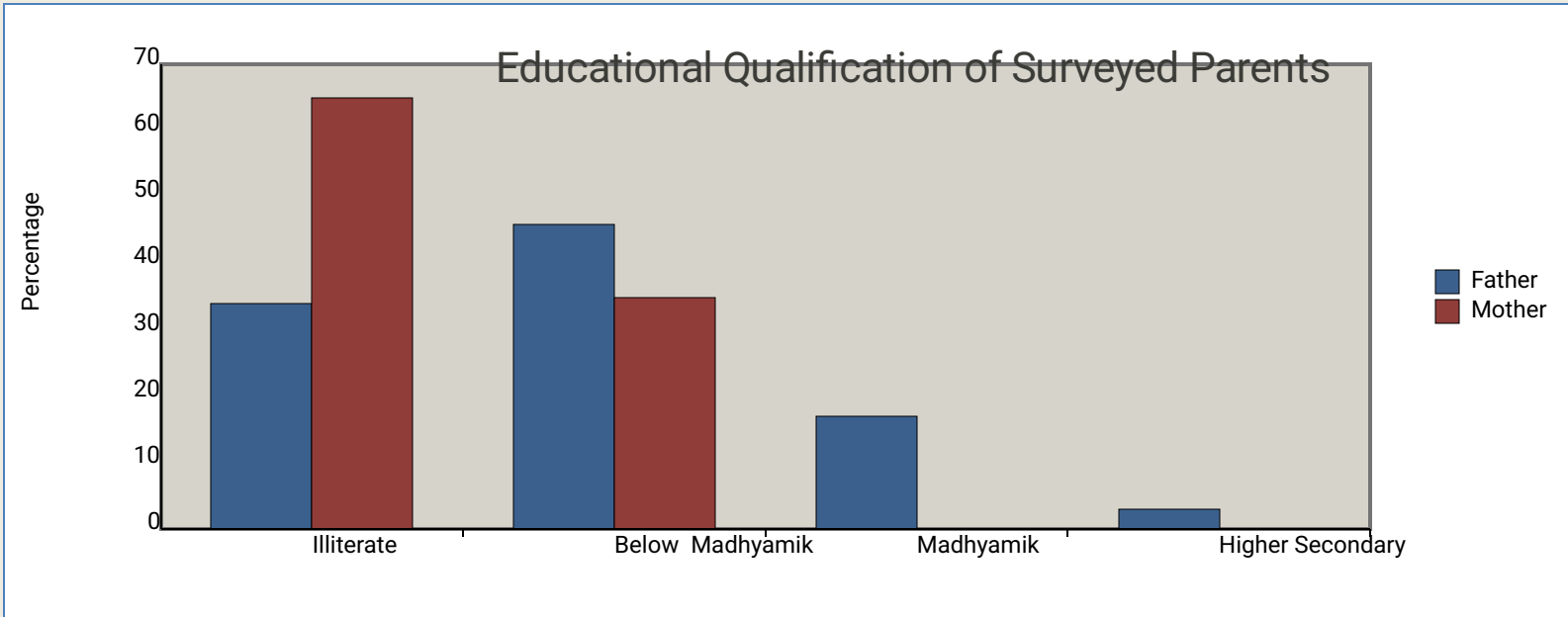
Dropout rates for boys and girls at secondary level for the year 2019-20

Dropout rates at higher secondary level for the year 2019-20

Educational Qualification of Surveyed Parents

Percentage

- Illiterate
- Below Madhyamik
- Madhyamik
- Higher Secondary

Legend: Father, Mother

Occupation

Percentage of Respondents

- Daily Labourer
- Farmer
- Business
- Does not work / Works at home
- Works as maid or works in households
- Other occupations

Legend: Father, Mother

Total monthly income of the surveyed parents

Monthly Income	Percentage of
Below Rs. 2000/-	15
Rs. 2001-5000/-	69
Rs. 5001-10000/-	16
Above Rs 10000/-	0

Reason for Not Going to School According to the Dropped out Child

- For 50 % of boys and 45% of
   girls it is dislike to study.

- 57 % and 52 % of boys respectively   indicated that they needed more time to handle household chores and in doing the on-field or other outside work.

- The desire to study is expressed by 23% of boys, yet their families do not want to send them to school. Similar is the case for 14% of girls.

- Families are unable to cover the expenses for the study for 40% boys and 64% of girls.

- 55% of girls have said that their families want to marry them off rather than to send them to schools.

- 64% of girls and 40% of boys have reasoned that due to the current pandemic situation normal school activities have been hampered.

Reason for Not Going to School According to the Dropped out Child

● 38% of boys and 9% of girls pointed out that they would rather earn more money by doing other jobs than going to school for helping their families.

● 23% of boys and 14% of girls stated that they did not understand the lessons taught in the class.

● 43% of boys and 45% of girls has mentioned that smart phone was not available with them for studying.

Reason for Not Going to School dropped out Child

23% of parents have pointed out that the children themselves do

not like to study.

13% and 15% parents think that working in farm or other

outside jobs is better than going to school as it provides them

with financial support.

- 20% parents have mentioned increased numbers of family
- members along with limited financial resources.

Pandemic as one of the reasons behind dropping out has been

cited by parents.

Reason for Not Going to School dropped out Child

CLASS TEACHER

92% of teachers reported economic condition of the family.

Normal school participation was disrupted due to pandemic, according

to 68% of teachers.

62% of teachers believed that owing to financial constraints, children

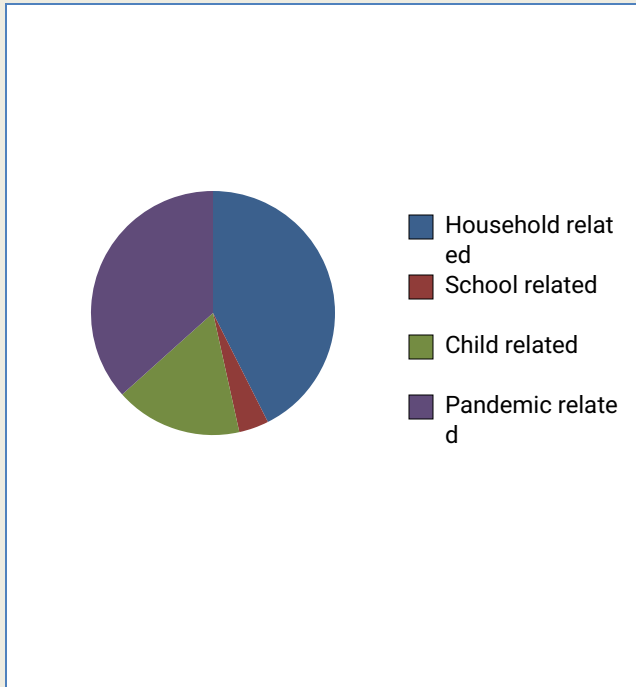are unable to obtain a smartphone

21% of teachers said students get married off during their early years of schooling.

62% of teachers stated that students do not have the requisite money to acquire a smart phone and recharge it on a regular basis.
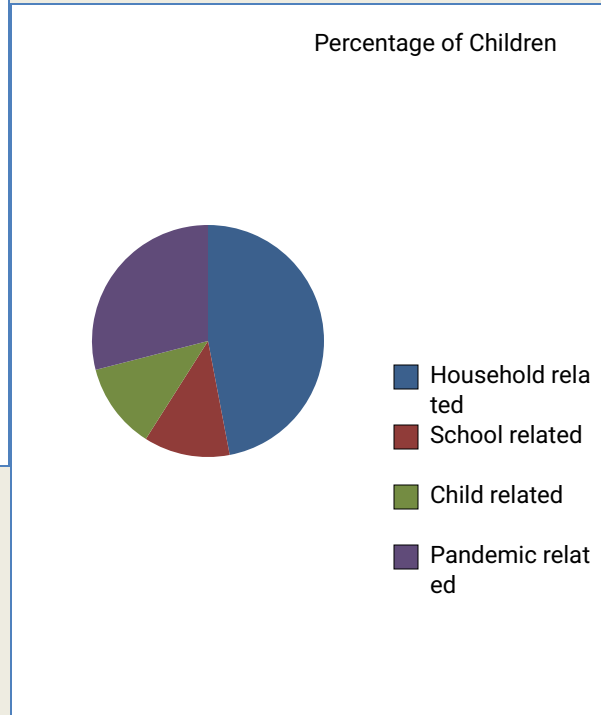
Group of reasons for which the child has dropped out of school as stated by the class teachers
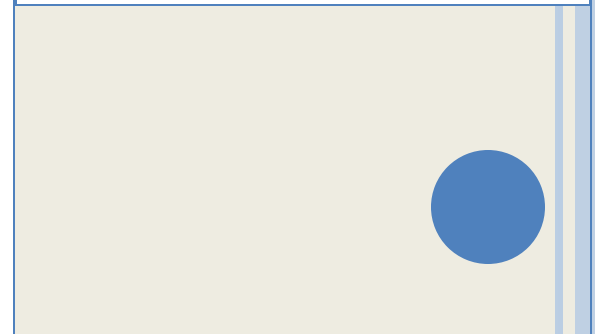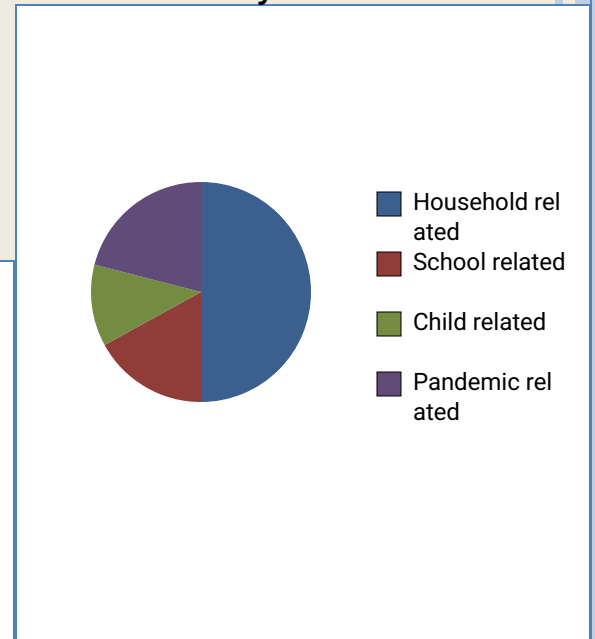
Reasons for which the Child has Dropped out of school as stated by the Class Teachers

- Household related
- School related
- Child related
- Pandemic related

Reasons for Which the Child has Dropped out of School as stated by the Dropped out Children

Percentage of Children

- Household related
- School related
- Child related
- Pandemic related

Reasons for Which the Child has Dropped out of School as stated by the Parents

- Household related
- School related
- Child related
- Pandemic related

suggestions

The Dropout rates of the UDISE data may be scrutinized with the
field−level data on regular basis.
Tracking in Child Registers at the Ward/Block levels .
Mid-day meal for all classes is to be provided.

Regular contact by school with the parents/guardians .
Periodic counseling / motivation of concerned children/ parents for attending schools .
Teachers may visit homes of irregular students and provide free teaching beyond school hours.
Guardian/parents to be updated about the progress of their wards.
Teachers may look into the needs of the slow-learners

suggestions

Discussions during School Managing Committee meeting
 in tackling Drop outs.
Issues related to dropout may be given priority in Gram   Sabha /Panchayat/Ward Committee/Borough level meetings. Awareness campaign at regular interval may be organized.
Sensitisation among parents / guardians regarding the ill effects of early marriage.

Thank You