

# **Effective Management Solution of Problems faced by School Students in the Hostels**

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## **Abstract**

This study investigated the problems faced by students of Jaipur and Dausa districts at hostels and presented suggestions for proper management and solution of the problems. The descriptive design and survey method has been used in this study. To find out the problems 400 students of secondary and senior secondary level has been selected through simple random sampling technique. This study focused on 10 main problems, which were analyzed using percentages. The findings of the study indicate that the school students at hostel of Jaipur and Dausa districts have faced various problems i.e, home sickness, adjustment issues, economic, tough routine, strict discipline, warden's behavior etc. Therefore, adequate efforts should be made by the hostel management to keep all the facilities in good condition, to ensure their proper maintenance and to manage the hostels most efficiently to maintain the academic performance of the students.

**Keywords:** *Hostel Management, Problems of Students, Adjustment, Opportunities and Solutions.*

## **Introduction**

A hostel is a place where students live and is usually located within the school premises and where students have to stay away from their homes. All facilities are provided to the students in the hostel for their individual needs. According to Suki and Choudhury (2015), a hostel is referred to as a place where people can stay when their residence is located away from the educational institution and which is considered necessary for the needs of the students which is also called student accommodation. Gilbert (2011) stated that the management of hostels is not

related to the construction of hostels alone. It involves planning and controlling both the people and the facilities available to meet the needs of the students residing in the hostel.

In some countries the term hostel is used specifically for student and travellers' accommodation. Although, in India, hostel is considered to be a residence which is a school, college or university, all hostels are supervised by the hostel warden and other staff. Hostels usually have hundreds of students. They all form a group of students. These students come from diverse ethical, social, geographical and economic backgrounds. Hostel is a place where students stay to get formal education away from their homes. But the concept of hostel is not limited to the residence only, the hostel is a human practical laboratory. Hence the hostel is not just a place to live, it is a center of education.

Students learn as much from their teachers as from peers during their stay in the hostel. It enriches the understanding of the curriculum through analytical discussion among the students residing in the hostels, and can also contribute to character building. In the hostel students not only learn theoretical material but they also learn how to enhance their personal abilities and learn to live independently.

In the educational system of India, the hostel facility is provided by the government or private institution for the students from the upper primary level of education. Hostels are provided by various schools to meet the educational and personal needs of the students of upper primary, secondary and higher secondary level. Hostel is very important for the students as it is the only place where they can take their education away from home. Hostel is a suitable place to develop the art of collective living among the students. It is a place where students take training to lead a life of cooperation, companionship and self-reliance for future life. Due to this, self-government, self-reliance, mutual cooperation, self-building etc. qualities develop in them, which are necessary for the development of citizens of any democratic system of governance. Proper physical development of the students is also done due to the provision of suitable playground and internal sports along with the hostel and the spirit of sports is developed in life and if proper tendencies are organized in it, then the opportunities for moral and mental development in the students also increases. It is very important to make proper arrangements for the students in the hostel and this work is done by the hostel management.

## **Hostel Management**

Management consists of people who come together to achieve organizational goals in a systematic manner. Management is concerned with planning, organizing, directing and controlling the resources of an organization to achieve the set goals. Hostels are managed by persons appointed by the administration or by a committee. Hostel management is concerned with the proper management of hostels and the facilities available in them to achieve the desired goals of the institute. Hostel management plans, controls and organizes resources within the hostel to achieve its predetermined goals. Most importantly, they organize these resources to meet the needs of students and to maintain and enhance their academic performance. Hence, hostel management involves the creation, allocation and security of hostel facilities in an organized and planned manner. Hostel management includes all the activities of hostel like admission in hostel, fees, room, mess allocation, managing hostel shops, hostel staff, record of students, keeping account of day to day activities of students, management of hostel fee, records of visitors, allotment of rooms to new students, and preparation of related reports for smooth transactions, etc.

Hostel management is an essential and integral part of the school system. If proper management is done in the use of hostels and its facilities, it will go a long way in enhancing the academic performance of the students and preserving the facilities available. Therefore, adequate efforts should be made by the management to keep all the facilities in good condition, to ensure their proper maintenance and to manage the hostels most efficiently to maintain the academic performance of the students. The following members are selected in the Hostel Management Committee for the conduct of the hostel –



### Review of Related Literature

- Ohaeri (2020) investigated hostel management for sustainable academic performance of students in public universities in Rivers State. The study investigated ways of managing the academic performance of hostels for sustainable students in public universities in Rivers State. Three research questions and three hypotheses were formulated for the study. The design adopted for the study was a descriptive survey. The findings of the study revealed, among other things, that hostels were not adequately provided for students in public universities in Rivers State. It was also revealed that the hostel managers were not managing the hostels well enough and were also biased in allotting rooms to the students. It was recommended that universities partner with governments on how to provide more hostels in these universities.
- Shaibu (2019) analyzed the challenges and strategies for managing school facilities for effective teaching delivery in federal and state universities in the north central states of Nigeria. The study examined the challenges and strategies for managing school facilities for effective teaching delivery in federal and state universities in north central Nigeria. The results of the analysis resulted in the following findings: Problems faced by lecturers and managers in managing school facilities include poor funding, lack of statistical data

and poor maintenance culture. There was no significant difference between the mean ratings of lecturers and heads of federal and state schools of education in the North Central states of Nigeria on the challenges encountered in managing school facilities for effective teaching delivery. The findings also revealed that some of the strategies include: better funding for education, adequate provision of statistics and a good culture of facility maintenance. There was no significant difference between the mean ratings of executives and lecturers from federal and state universities regarding strategies to be adopted to improve school facilities for effective teaching delivery.

- Ado (2018) studied the evaluation of the quality and condition of student hostel in kano university of science and technology, Wudil, kano state, Nigeria. The study assessed the quality and condition of student hostel at Kano University of Science and Technology, Wudil. The findings revealed that more than two-thirds of respondents were young people aged 15-25 who are experiencing new housing. from parents' homes to campus. Furthermore, it was revealed that more than two-thirds of the respondents lived in overcrowded rooms of up to more than 6 people due to the presence of squatters. This results in increasing pressure on available facilities, which affects their living conditions. Data analysis shows that most facilities in the student dormitory are in good condition, including electricity supply, water supply, efficient waste disposal system, backup generator, security, fence, bathroom and toilet, fire fighting equipment and sleeping quarters. However, other facilities such as galley, recreation area, drainage, laundry, privacy and desks were found to be in poor condition while information and communication technology (ICT) facilities were fair.
- Amina (2015) studied a qualitative study investigating the impact of living in a hostel. This qualitative study used grounded theory to examine the effects of hostel life on student behavior and personality. The results showed that hostels are of great importance in the educational journey of Pakistani students. Hostel life expands the social circle of students in the hostel because the hostel is a combination of a multicultural social group. The personality characteristics associated with hostel students are that they are considered to be self-confident, accurate, sociable, realistic, compromising, responsible and sharp in many areas of life. While staying in hostel, students learn to live with different types of individuals and hostel life also increases the patience of students. It

prepares students to accept challenges in practical life. Individual differences are very common among hostel roommates. Most hostel students are negatively affected by drug use. The result of the study can help improve the quality of hostel services in Pakistan, which can increase students' satisfaction with hostel life.

- Sharma (2012) investigated possible management strategies that can be adopted to improve student accommodation problems in secondary schools in Abia State. The result of the study showed that management strategies that could be adopted to improve student accommodation problems in hostels include: allowing private hostel providers to participate in building student hostels and dormitories to meet the demand for more accommodation infrastructure.

### **Rationale of the Study**

Just as 'housing' is considered the next necessity for human beings after food, and globally it is seen as an essential resource. Similarly, education is regarded worldwide as a major means of achieving economic, social, political and technological development, and thus there is a need to provide accommodation to the 'learner'. Hostel is the accommodation provided for those students who take education far away from their homes. Hostel is an essential requirement of the school when the students studying in it are from distant places. Because the main reason for staying in the hostel is the continuation of education. Students prefer to stay in hostel as they feel that they can concentrate better on studies where alone and secluded environment is provided for study. This gives them an opportunity to polish their academic abilities. Also the study period is specially arranged and all other activities are restricted during this period. Thus all these functions improve the academic performance of the hostel students.

Hostel life is a combination of different individuals where all the students live as a social group. The reason why students' confidence levels increase during hostel life is because they learn to protect themselves, and accept their self-worth. Hostel life also makes students self-dependent. Hostel life also affects the behavior and way of life of the students. It helps the students to adopt new behaviours, enhance management abilities and confidence level. By staying here, students learn to make adjustments. The hostel also makes the students punctual, confident, independent, social, realistic, disciplined and sharp. Students learn to solve their own problems without

parental guidance and support which can enhance their problem solving skills. While hostel has many benefits, on the other hand hostel life is not easy at all. Hostel students face many problems. One of the biggest problems students face is adjusting to the hostel environment and roommates. The students used to miss their home and family a lot and sometimes after talking to the parents on the phone, they would cry for a while and then get control of their emotions. At that time roommates and hostel friends help in adjusting to the hostel. It is difficult for students to adjust to the hostel as hostel life was completely different from home, and especially since everyone has different temperaments. Students living in hostels have to face many difficulties and hurdles such as financial crisis, adjustment issues, personal helplessness, distress, change in eating and sleeping habits and many other issues. That is, it can be said that the students living in the hostel have to face many types of problems. Proper management is needed to solve these problems. Therefore, through this study, suitable suggestions have been given to solve the problems of the students living in the hostel.

### **Objective of Study**

- To find out the problems faced by school students in the hostel.
- To provide effective management and solutions to problems faced by school students in the hostels.

### **Research Methodology**

This study was carried out in Jaipur and Dausa District of Rajasthan state. The descriptive research design has been used in this study. In this study required the descriptive design because the researcher described the problems faced by school students in hostel. For this the survey method has been used. The population of the study comprised the all those school students of Jaipur and Dausa district, who leaves in hostel. Simple random sampling has been used in the selection of school, through this 400 school students of secondary and senior secondary level has been selected in which 200 boys and 200 girls included. To find out the problems of school students of hostel a self-developed check-list has been used. In this checklist, 10 problems were selected, which are generally faced by the students living in hostels. Two options were given in this check list - yes and no. The students had to choose either of these two options. The data collected from the check-list has been analysed through percentage.

## Result and Discussion

### Objective – 1

To study the problems faced by school students in the hostel.

**Table : 1**

**Problems faced by school students in the hostel**

S.N.	Problems	Responses of Boys (100)		Responses of Girls (100)	
		Yes	No	Yes	No
1	Missing Home	93%	7%	91%	9%
2	Adjustment Issues	84%	16%	63%	37%
3	Unhygienic Food	49%	51%	54%	46%
4	Accommodation problem	53%	47%	43%	57%
5	Financial Crisis	77%	23%	54%	46%
6	Tough Routine	92%	8%	52%	48%
7	Strict Discipline	86%	14%	64%	36%



8	Bad Roommates	58%	42%	43%	57%
9	Warden's Behaviour	75%	25%	60%	40%
10	Security Issues	37%	63%	38%	62%

### Analysis and Interpretation

Table 1 shows the responses of 200 boys and 200 girls to the problems faced by the students in the hostel. With regard to the existing conditions of hostel facilities, a total of ten hostel problems were assessed using percentages. The findings are-

- 93 % of boys and 91 % of girls are missing their home in hostel.
- 84 % of boys and 63 % of girls are facing adjustment problems in hostel.
- 49 % of boys and 54 % of girl's have problem with the unhygienic food in hostel.
- 53 % of boys and 43 % of girls are facing accommodation problems in hostel.
- 77 % of boys and 54 % of girl's have problem with financial crisis in hostel.
- 92 % of boys and 52 % of girl's have problem with tough routine of hostel.
- 86 % of boys and 64 % of girl's have problem with strict discipline of hostel.
- 58 % of boys and 43 % of girl's have problem with bad roommates in hostel.
- 75 % of boys and 60 % of girl's have problem with tough routine of hostel.
- 37 % of boys and 38 % of girls are facing security related issues of hostel.

Findings showed that, out of total ten facility related dimensions, most of the students were found to be satisfied with only four facilities i.e., food, accommodation, roommates and security. Whereas students were found to have problems with missing their home, adjustment issues, economic, tough routine, strict discipline, warden's behavior etc. The probable reason for this result might be that Due to lack of cleanliness, lack of common room/TV room, electricity supply system, recreational facilities etc., students are facing problems of home recall and adjustment. Since the hostel has a strict and disciplined routine, which is followed by the warden. So the students are finding it difficult to adapt themselves to this routine. The main reason for the

lack of these hostel facilities, misuse of funds provided for maintenance, less supervision and monitoring of hostel facilities, disregard of hostel rules, lack of effective student complaints system regarding lack of facilities and funds Delay in issuance etc.

## **Objective – 2**

**To provide effective management and solutions to problems faced by school students in the hostels.**

Hostel management is really as important as school management. For the smooth running of the hostel system, the hostel warden has to work in a planned manner with full discretion. For this the hostel in-charge (warden) has to be alert at all times. A good hostel warden should be of strong character and affectionate. Only a regular and disciplined warden can earn the praise of the students. He/she should be free from all addictions. Otherwise even the hostel will not be able to live without addictions. Efficient in-charge, calm and patient listening to the students, fair, visionary administrators, as good hostel administrators, are able to provide efficient hostel arrangements while keeping control over the students.

The following facts are also considered for resolve the problems of school students at hostel -

- The students should be provided with a happy and healthy environment in the hostel. They should be looked after like family by the warden and staff. So that they don't miss their home too much.
- The problems of the students should be listened to by the hostel management and efforts should be made to remove them as much as possible. so that they can be properly adjusted.
- Healthy and nutritious food should be arranged in the hostel.
- The hostel building should be very close to the main school building and all the facilities for the daily needs of the students should be provided there.
- Students should be provided with the materials related to studies and daily needs through the hostel so that they do not need money themselves.
- To make the students follow strict discipline in the hostel, they should be explained with love and affection.

- If any student has any problem with their roommate, then the hostel manager should be appointed to redress such complaints.
- It is not easy for the students to follow the rigorous routine in the hostel, so internal games and cultural programs should be organized in the hostel. So that the student can adjust himself well.
- For the safety of the students in the hostel, arrangements for watchmen, CCTV cameras, biometric attendance etc. should be made.

Apart from this, some suggestions for management are as follows-

- The environment around the hostel should be clean and there should be arrangement of suitable trees and plants.
- Hostel facilities should be inspected from time to time
- The hostel buildings should be repaired from time to time.
- Damaged bathrooms should be repaired immediately.
- Regular monitoring of student activities
- The hostel facilities should be supervised and monitored from time to time.
- There should be adequate disbursement of funds to complete the facilities
- There should be no delay in release of funds
- Competent technical personnel should be appointed for regular inspection of the facilities.
- Hostel facility should be provided through Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) arrangement
- Hostel management staff should be trained on current trends in facility management.

## **Conclusion**

Hostel life is a combination of different cultural backgrounds, where students learn to live with people from different cultural backgrounds. The hostel environment enhances the sense of socialization among the students. The study examined the effective management and solution of the problems of the students in the hostels. From the finding it is concluded that students have problems with missing their home, adjustment issues, economic, tough routine, strict discipline, warden's behavior etc. To solve these problems the hostel management should be supervised and

monitored from time to time. There should be adequate disbursement of funds to meet the facilities and Hostel Manager should be appointed to take the grievances of the students. This study helps teachers and parents of students to understand the importance of hostel life and academic performance. In addition, the study helps the students to overcome the problems they face during their stay in the hostel. The results of this study will help in improving hostel services.

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