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5. Title of the Thesis : A Study of Perception of Adults with
Hearing Impairment towards their Handicap
6. Findings :
 - 1) A positive social and emotional aspect of hearing handicap and degree of hearing impairment exists. The total perception of hearing handicap and hearing impairment is also related.
 - 2) The social problem and total hearing handicap increases as the degree of hearing loss increases from mild to severe hearing loss where as the emotional problem increases as the increase from mild to profound hearing loss.
 - 3) The perception of hearing handicap in terms of social problems is less in profound hearing loss due to use of social and communication coping mechanism with the realization of irreversible nature of hearing loss.
 - 4) The correlation value of perception of hearing handicap shows that other psychosocial and demographic conditions, in addition to hearing impairment, contribute in the perception of hearing handicap.
 - 5) Overall significant differences of social and emotional aspect of hearing handicap exist among the adults with different degrees of hearing loss. The significant social problems from mild to moderately severe, emotional problems from moderate to moderately severe and total hearing handicap from mild to moderately severe is observed. Also significant decrease of social and emotional problems is seen in individuals with severe or profound hearing loss.
 - 6) The social, emotional and total aspects of hearing handicap among adults from urban area is not significantly different than adults from rural area.

- 7) Overall no significant difference is seen among the people following different religions. However, the people following Christian religion have significantly lesser perception of social and emotion aspect of hearing handicap. On the other hand, the less number of subjects from Christian religion needs further confirmation.
- 8) There is no significant effect of types of family-nuclear and joint on perception of social and emotional aspect of hearing handicap.
- 9) The level of education has no effect on social and communication problems of the individuals except at graduate and post graduate level. In opposition, the emotional aspects of hearing handicap including worry, anxiety, frustration and fear increases with the increase of educational level from primary to higher secondary education. The problems reversed in the adults with graduate and post graduate level of education where the perception of hearing handicap decreases.
- 10) It is observed that there is overall no effect of occupation on social adjustment where as there is an effect of occupation on emotional aspect of hearing handicap. The total hearing handicap has been affected by the types of occupation. The students doing vocational training has significantly more social problems than daily wagers and more emotional problems than individuals with any other occupation.
- 11) As the income of hearing impaired persons increases perceived hearing handicappness decreases. A significant difference of perception of hearing handicap between the individuals with monthly income below Rs. 6500/ and above Rs. 6500/ exists.
- 12) The social and emotional aspects of the hearing handicap among adults of 18 years to 30 years significantly differ from the age groups of 30 years and above. The lower age group has more social and emotional problems than higher age group.
- 13) No significant difference of social and emotional perception of hearing handicap between male and female adults is observed.
- 14) The unmarried individuals have significantly higher social and emotional handicappness than married individuals.
- 15) The individuals with conductive hearing loss have significantly lower perception of hearing handicap in both social and emotional adjustment than individuals with sensorineural and/ or mixed types of hearing loss
- 16) The adults with congenital hearing loss have significantly higher social, emotional and total hearing handicap than adults with acquired hearing loss.
- 17) The hearing aid users do not find any significant betterment in their social and emotional adjustments.

- 18)** The hearing aids having different types in terms of size and shape and technology in terms of digital and analog do not make any difference in the perception of social, emotional and total aspects of hearing handicap among adults with hearing handicap.
- 19)** The hearing impaired individuals using speech as a mode of communication are significantly better in social and emotional adjustment than the individuals using sign language and total communication as a mode of communication.