

# Educational Loan for Religious Minority Under Arivu Scheme

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## Educational Loan for Religious Minority Under Arivu Scheme

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### ABSTRACT

**Objective:** Education is the system of instruction designed to provide individuals with the tools they need to take part in day-to-day activities. It rejects ignorance and instils moral values in individuals. The functioning of the education sector is dependent upon the availability of different resources, most notably financial resources. Education funding comes from a variety of sources, including government spending, fees, educational loans by nationalized banks, cooperative societies, and others. Among these, educational loans have been identified as an alternative method of financing education. This study attempts to examine the Arivu loan Scheme's education loans for religious minorities. ABCD analysis was performed to determine its advantages, benefits, constraints, and disadvantages.

**Methodology:** This study made use of secondary sources in order to have comprehensive evidence-based research on educational loan under the Arivu scheme. The semi-systematic review is carried out using various government publications and articles from newspapers, Google Scholar, Srinivas publications, Research Gate, SSRN, and other sources.

**Findings:** A thorough examination revealed that in India religious minorities face challenges in the areas of social status, economic expansion, and higher education opportunities. Students from religious minority communities can pursue professional courses through the Arivu loan Scheme. This scheme benefited a large number of religious minority students and also found that Pupils are adversely affected because the government has ceased releasing funds for Arivu loan scheme during the Covid-19 pandemic.

**Practical Implications:** This research will inform students about the state government-sponsored Arivu Educational Loan under KMDC, which helps students from religious minorities pursue higher education. It will also assist government officials in learning more about the funds allotted by the government and the total number of students in Dakshina Kannada who benefited from the Arivu educational loan scheme, which improves minorities' educational standing.

**Originality/ value:** As a secondary data-driven study, it may provide an overall perspective on Arivu Educational Loans under KMDC. This Arivu loan will improve the status of the religious minority community, but the concept of the Arivu education loan by KMDC can also be better understood by conducting a primary survey, which serves as the study's limitation.

**Paper type:** Case study

**Keywords:** Religious minorities, Education, Educational loan, Arivu loan, ABCD listing.

### 1. BACKGROUND :

Education is a critical component of development and growth. Different countries' levels of education are almost perfectly correlated with their economic status. It's also a major contributor to growth. The greater a country's human capital, the higher its relative level of living standard. Poverty and development have an impact on education as well [1]. Higher education has already become increasingly important in the world, not just for individuals to make their lives superior and keep

improving their position, and also for the larger society to promote economic prosperity and the advancement of good governance [2]. India is a diverse nation where people come from many ethnic, cultural, linguistic, and religious backgrounds. These groups have different educational advancements. By granting parity of position to all of its residents and empowering the society, the Indian Constitution seeks to close these gaps [3]. For India's minority communities, education is one of their biggest challenges. There are issues with their school-level education system in terms of access, participation, and retention. The Muslim, Sikh, Christian, Jain, Buddhist, Zoroastrian, and other minority communities are only a few of the many that exist in India. Muslims, who make up 13% of the country's overall population according to the Census of 2001, are the largest minority in India. According to data, India's minority communities are underprivileged in terms of social status, economic development, and educational opportunities. The minority communities' access to and participation in educational development remain limited despite several attempts in this direction [4]. The term "minority" refers to a non-archives group of the population that has and wishes to preserve stable ethnic, religious, or semantic customs or qualities that are distinct from those of the majority of the population [5]. Minorities have essential constitutional protections that prohibit the state from treating them unfairly in the educational system [6]. The Indian Constitution guarantees certain fundamental rights (Articles 15-17, 25 to 30) and directive principles (Articles 330-339 and 350) to minorities in India [7]. The Prime Minister announced a 15-point plan in June 2006 to execute varied government initiatives for the well-being of India's underprivileged minorities. The main emphasis of this 15-point program was on increasing the educational opportunities for minorities, improving the effectiveness of various schemes and completing them within the allotted timeframe, creating the resources for their livelihood, increasing employment and self-employment, creating loan facilities, creating special reservations in the government sector, and paying more attention to fostering racial harmony in the nation [8]. The higher education of young citizens has long been a primary focus for the Indian government. This opened the door for parents and students to become aware of the need for better educational facilities, particularly at the higher education level. The parents were delighted to send their children to distant locations for better higher education in technical, non-technical, and management courses because the students had options [9]. Given the recent increase in demand for professional education, the Central Government has actively supported educational loans, and the government has initiated policy measures to encourage education loans among aspiring students of higher education [10]. Cooperative Societies are far more significant than anywhere else on the planet. This Societies' distinguishing features are low-cost service and service without exploitation [11]. Two departments, Devaraj Urs Backward Class Development Corporation and MDC, implement two schemes known as 'Arivu.' These programs provide loans to students from poverty- stricken families and minorities to help them pay for their higher learning. The loans are granted at the lowest possible interest rate, with repayment terms that are flexible [12]. Education loans have recently emerged as a viable option for financing higher education while also achieving fiscal consolidation. Student loans allow for the rapid mobilisation of large sums of money [13].

## **2. LITERATURE REVIEW :**

Religious communities that are culturally distinct and numerically smaller than Hindus on a national scale are classified as a minority. Religious minorities such as Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Jains, Buddhists, and Parsis are thus recognised [14]. These minority communities are still backward in the education sector also as compared to other communities because of their financial instability. Given the obvious educational gap amongst certain minorities, the government has introduced a number of initiatives to improve their opportunities for learning. These include the establishment of schools and the improvement of educational infrastructure in minority-concentrated localities/areas, scholarships for deserving minority students at the secondary and college/university levels, free mentoring, the modernization of madrasas, and the implementation of an interest subsidy on educational loans for overseas study [15]. Various articles have been sourced using keywords 'Education', 'Education of Minorities', 'Backwardness of minority education', 'Government Schemes', 'Educational loan' and 'Challenges of educational loan' from Google Scholar. This process helped the researcher to easily find the study pertinent articles and to review those articles to find the gap.

**Table 1:** This table shows the review of literature on education, government schemes for minorities.

S. No.	Keywords	Contribution	References
1	Education	Any country's prosperity is dependent on its educational system, and research has shown that education is essential to both social and human advancement. A strong instrument for empowering individuals is education.	Asma, S., & Shazli, T. (2006) [16].
2	Education of Minorities	India is the largest democracy in the world. Its constitution guarantees equal rights to its every citizen irrespective of their caste, religion, sex, culture and place of birth, etc. from time and again it has made several provisions and policies, schemes, etc. to bring about equality among its citizens. It has also ensured the favorable act in the form of reservation which brings the socio-economically backward section of the society at par with the mainstream. Despite its constant effort to bring about equality among its people, some communities, especially Muslims, are still lagging behind in almost every parameter of socio-economic development. They are still backward both educationally and economically.	Kafi, K. A. (2020) [17].
3	Backwardness of minority education	The government has taken the initiative to minimise educational imbalance between men and women, castes, classes, and religions, but gaps continued and have widened at higher educational levels.	Khatoun, F. (2022) [18].
4	Government Schemes	It wasn't until the seventh five-year plan that the Indian government started to develop particular plans for the welfare of religious minorities. They kept receiving the developmental advantages alongside Other Backward Classes (OBCs). In 1983, the Indian government unveiled the Prime Minister's 15-point agenda for the welfare of minorities shortly after the HLC report was submitted but without making it public.	Waheed, A., & Salam, M. A. (2011) [19].
5	Educational loan	Education loans are monetary assistance provided to deserving and meritorious students to meet the expenses related to higher education studies. Students who wish to borrow an education loan are suggested to apply for loan depending on some factors such as borrower's family income, the need of money to incur expenses of higher education i.e., whether student wants to pursue higher education in India or Abroad?	Gethe, R. (2022) [20].
6	Challenges of educational loan	Acquiring a student loan in India may appear to be simple, but it is fraught with complications and formalities. The government has simplified the rules in order to speed up loan disbursement, but there are still many that stand in the way of a student receiving an educational loan.	John, M. (2016) [21].

### **3. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY :**

1. To know about KMDC.
2. To describe the Arivu educational loan.
3. To analyze the impact of Arivu educational loan.
4. To evaluate the advantages, benefits, constraints, and drawbacks of the Arivu loan.

### **4. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY :**

The current research is based on secondary sources of information the majority of the data for the study is taken from published reports and newspaper articles, Government reports, Google Scholar, Srinivas publication, Research gate, SSRN, etc.

### **5. KARNATAKA MINORITIES DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED :**

#### **5.1 About the department:**

According to the 2011 Census, there are approximately 96,00,475 religious minorities in Karnataka, accounting for 15.92% of the total population. Religious minorities include members of the Muslim, Christian, Buddhist, Jain, Sikh, and Parsi communities. After it was found that the majority of the minority community was living below the poverty level and their economic and social status is symbiotic, the task of providing assistance to the minority community in their socioeconomic development was handed to the then Karnataka Backward Classes Development Corporation. [22]. Karnataka Minorities Development Corporation Limited, with an authorised share capital of 150 crores, was established on February 7th, 1986 by the Government of Karnataka for the advancement of religious minorities, namely Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Parsis, Jain, and Buddists. According to the 2011 Census, the actual population of religious minorities in Karnataka is 15.92% of the total population, or 96,00,475. [23].

#### **5.2 Schemes of KMDC:**

1. Business direct credit scheme.
2. Ganga kalyana scheme.
3. Arivu education loan scheme.
4. Self-employment scheme.
5. Shrama shakthi loan scheme.
6. Taxi / goods / passenger auto purchase subsidy scheme.

#### **5.3 Arivu Education Loan Scheme:**

Under this scheme, Religious Minority Community students who wish to pursue professional courses such as M.B.B.S., M.D., M.S., B. E., B.Tech., M. E, M. Tech., B.D.S., M.D.S., B. Ayush, M. Ayush, M.B.A., M.C.A., L.L.B., B. Arch, M. Arch, B.Sc in Horticulture, Agriculture, Dairy Technology, Forestry, Veterinary, Animal sciences, Food Technology, Bio-Technology, Fisheries, Sericulture, Home/community Sciences, Food Nutrition and Dietetics, B.Pharma, M.Pharma, Pharma.D, and D.Pharma will be granted loans ranging from Rs. 50,000/- to Rs. 3,00,000/- for every year until the course duration. Such a student shall repay the loan with service charges of 2% after 6 months of completion of the course. The annual income of the beneficiary's family under this scheme should not exceed Rs. 8,00,000/- per annum. [24].

The Karnataka minority development corporation's (KDMC) "Arivu Loan" plays a critical role in the upliftment of students from the minority community. It provides loans to the poorest minorities, allowing them to become self-sufficient. It also provides social justice, infrastructure, and educational opportunities [25]. The "Arivu Loan" was created by the Karnataka Minority Development Corporation. Thousands of learners from minority communities all across state have been forced to withdraw out of higher education institutions after that the Karnataka Minorities Development Corporation (KMDC) eventually stopped renewing student loans under the Arivu scheme. The stated reason is that as a result of the epidemic, the corporation's grants have been reduced [26]. Across the state, more than 30,000 students were taking advantage of the Arivu scheme. Unfortunately, the students are inconvenienced because the government has stopped releasing the amount during the Covid-19 pandemic. The GIO has urged officials and ministers to begin the scheme as soon as possible [27].

Table 2: Progress made under Arivu education scheme, DK

S. No.	Year	Name of the scheme	Goal		Achievement	
			Physical	Financial in lakhs	Physical	Financial in lakhs
1	2017-18	Arivu educational loan	2158	863.15	4795	1901.97
2	2018-19		1712	656.81	3130	932.98
3	2019-20		1384	567.37	6573	179439.96
4	2020-21		285	171.12	695	20267.79
5	2021-22		307	122.99	564	285.00

Source: KMDC district office Pandeshwar, Mangalore [28].

Table 2 exhibits the progress made under Arivu education scheme in Dakshina Kannada. The table demonstrates the amount distributed by the Government in the form of Arivu loan with special reference to Dakshina Kannada. As per the table, no. of targeted pupils it has been reduced from the year 2017-2022. The no. of targeted students for this long has been reduced from 2158 to 307. Similarly, targeted loan amount has also been reduced after 2017 from 863.15 lakhs to 122.99 lakhs. But when it comes to the no. of beneficiaries of this scheme, in the year 2017-18, 4795 students were benefitted double the targeted students then it reduced further increased to 6573 with a loan amount of 179439.96 lakh's. Moreover, the no. of beneficiaries (564), as well as the amount of loan (285 lakhs) has been drastically reduced in the year 2021-22. Drastic reduction in the no. of beneficiaries and loan amount in the year 2021-22 is due to the alteration in the Arivu loan scheme of providing the loan to only those students who have cleared the competitive exams (i. e., NEET and CET).

## 6. ABCD LISTING :

ABCD analysis entails systematically identifying business advantages, benefits, constraints, and disadvantages and linking them to major determinant factors influencing them [29]. This includes identifying numerous challenges for models/concepts/systems depending on a generalised structure and then deriving a specific framework for a business model, concept, or system [30]. While studying the business value in society, the ABCD framework can be used to analyse personal characteristics, system characteristics, the effectiveness of a concept or idea, and the effectiveness of a strategy [31]. The Advantages, Benefits, Constraints, and Disadvantages (ABCD) of a Mechanism can be used to effectively analyse and understand the model/system [32]. The ABCD Model is a technique for understanding various models and researching their successfulness in providing value to stakeholders [33]. In this study the researchers attempt to conduct ABCD listing of Arivu education loan scheme. Which is discussed below.

### 6.1 ABCD LISTING OF ARIVU EDUCATION LOAN SCHEME:

This section discusses lists of various advantages, benefits, constraints and disadvantages of Arivu education loan scheme (fig. 1).

## 7. FINDINGS :

Based on the above review and discussion following findings have been listed out;

1. Inequity in educational opportunity has emerged as serious concern in India.
2. Minority communities in India face challenges in regards to social status, economic growth, and access to higher education.
3. Both Central and state government supported educational loans for aspiring students for their higher studies.
4. KMDC offers only 2% of service charges on Arivu educational loan.
5. Minority students who are interested in pursuing professional education will be given loans ranging from Rs. 50,000 to Rs. 3,000,000 per year until the course is completed.

6. According to a survey conducted by Girls Islamic Organisation and others, Arivu Loan applicants in Karnataka have not received the scholarship amount since 2019. As a result, students pursuing professional courses are facing significant issues and are unable to pay fees [34].
7. Despite the fact that the Karnataka Minorities Development Corporation (KMDC) scheme, which was halted in 2019, was renewed in November 2021 following protests, the scheme's two-year break appears to have worsened students' problems [35].
8. Arivu loan will be availed to only those students who selected to Government or Private Colleges through Karnataka Examination Authority for CET / NEET under the Government quota, this denies students to get the benefit of the scheme who obtained seats in management quota.
9. Six months after completing the course, students must repay the loan with 2% service charges.
10. In the year 2021-2022, no. of students who got benefited from Arivu education loan was 1287 (fresh application) and 3751 (Renewal).



Fig. 1: ABCD Framework

Source: Author

## 8. RECOMMENDATIONS :

The above findings have directed the researcher to propose the following recommendations to enable Arivu loan obstacle free;

- (1) Due to the discontinuation of Arivu Loan for few courses in 2019, a large amount of students who were solely reliant on this scheme have turned to other financial institutions for fee payment to avoid this problem Government should reintroduce the scheme as it was earlier.
- (2) The KMDC and the students' educational institutions should keep records of the students who received loans and assist them in finding jobs to repay the loans.
- (3) KMDC should monitor students' progress and also see that students are continuing education.
- (4) KMDC should keep track of students who acquired Arivu loans and are employed after completing their higher education through colleges and their parents in an effort to prevent wilful defaults
- (5) KMDC should extend the period for the repayment of Arivu loan.

- (6) The Indian government should promote education loan schemes, and loans should be made accessible to the needy at low rates of interest and with longer repayment terms.

## **9. CONCLUSION :**

Many countries both developed and developing have implemented student loan programmes to assist needy students in pursuing tertiary education [36]. Education loans in India have ordinarily been geared at deserving students from the middle and lower classes, and the product has been planned around the Indian Banks Association's model education loan scheme (IBA) [37]. Higher education investment is required to raise a productive population that will contribute to the nation-building process. Given the recent increase in demand for professional education, the Central and State Government has actively supported educational loans, and the government has introduced strategies and methods to promote education loans among potential students of higher education. Education loans have a positive impact on the poor and SC/ST communities. Unofficially, some banks request securities from students who need educational loans of less than four lakh rupees, depending on the student's parental income [38]. Students from underprivileged backgrounds are either excluded from higher learning or enter institutions of non-professional education to overcome this problem faced by religious minority students. Securing an education loan in India can sometimes appear simple, but it is fraught with complications and formalities. KMDC provides an Arivu educational loan with a 2% interest rate, which encourages students belonging to religious minority groups to enter professional and technical courses. KMDC implemented various methods to progress the social and economic status of religious minority groups. A large number of people are living in poverty and require assistance to enhance their socioeconomic and educational standing.

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