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#### **RESEARCH ARTICLE**

## ASSESSMENT OF STRESS LEVEL AND STRESS MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES AMONG BANK EMPLOYEES IN MADURAI

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#### **ABSTRACT**

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Stress is any physical, substance or emotional factor that causes substantial or mental unsettling. People with strong social help report less pressure and more positive indications of stress than the people who need social assistance. Stress management strategies consolidate unwinding techniques, time management abilities, counselling, exercise and the maintaining an overall healthy lifestyle. Stress prevents the body from resting, which can decrease productivity at work. Hence, the present study aims to assess the stress level and stress management techniques of sample respondents in Madurai city.

#### **Article History**

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#### I. Introduction

Stress management gives you a scope of apparatuses to reset your caution system. It can support your brain and body adapt. Without it,

your body may consistently be on high caution. After some time, chronic stress can prompt serious medical issues. Try not to hold up until stress harms your well-being, relationship or



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quality of life. Begin to follow the stress management methods today.

#### II. Objectives of the Study

The broad objective of this research work is to assess stress level and stress management techniques among the bank employees in Madurai district and the specific objectives were to study the sex, age, educational qualification, job experience, monthly salary, stress levels and the coping strategies that respondents are practicing themselves to reduce stress.

#### **III. Literature Review**

Gopal C. Mahakud et al. (2013) in their research work on stress management the concept and approaches found that stress is a mind boggling marvel and is impacted by different components. There is no single technique for enduring the stressful occasions in life; rather, it is a procedure of making sense of what works best for individual at the hour of stress. The coping strategies will direct the person to work through both ordinary stress just as crisis stressors. Cognitive behavioural approaches are compelling in managing stressful situations. Mindfulness based methodologies are as of late featured as intercession for managing stress.<sup>1</sup>

Swarnalatha C and Gopalakrishnan R (2012) in their research work on the occupational stress of the nationalized and non-nationalized bank employees in the city of Madurai shows that the non-nationalized bank

representatives have high role conflict contrasted with nationalize bank employees. This demonstrates a lot of desires applied to the officeholder by the organisation and the job they perform inside the organisation isn't in harmoniousness with one another. Lower the degrees of role clarity individuals feel at work higher the degree of stress.<sup>2</sup>

### IV. Research Methodology

The present study has adopted an empirical and descriptive research approach. The sample consists of 120 bank employees from both nationalized and non-nationalized bank in the city of Madurai. The research has used both the primary and secondary data, primary data was collected through survey using self-designed structured questionnaire and secondary data were from various articles, books and journals. Data was analysed through SPSS by using statistical tools such as percentage, mean, standard deviation, rank and correlation analysis.

### V. Analysis and Discussion Sex

The distribution of sample respondents by their sex is presented in table 5.1. The study shows that majority of the respondents (64.2 percent) were female category and remaining 35.8 percent of the respondents were fall under male category among the sample respondents.

## Table 5.1 Distribution of the sample respondents by their sex



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| Sl.<br>No. | Sex    | Frequency | Percentage |
|------------|--------|-----------|------------|
| 1.         | Male   | 43        | 35.8       |
| 2.         | Female | 77        | 64.2       |
|            |        | 120       | 100        |

Source: Primary data

### Age

Table 5.2 presents the distribution of the employees by their age group. It reveals that 39.2 percent of the sample respondents' age group was between 21 years to 30 years of age, 26.7 percent of the respondent's age was between 30 years and 35 years, 20.8 percent of the respondents' age were between 35 years and 45 years and 13.3 percent of the sample respondents age was 45 and above years of age.

Table 5.2

Distribution of the sample respondents by their age

| Sl.   | Age     | Frequency | Percentage |
|-------|---------|-----------|------------|
| No.   |         |           |            |
| 1.    | 21 - 30 | 47        | 39.2       |
| 2.    | 30 - 35 | 32        | 26.7       |
| 3.    | 35 - 45 | 25        | 20.8       |
| 4.    | 45 &    | 16        | 13.3       |
|       | above   |           |            |
| Total |         | 120       | 100        |

Source: Primary data
Educational Qualification

The distribution of employees by their educational qualification is presented in the table 5.3. The study disclosed that 42.5 percent of the

sample respondents had completed bachelor's degree and Institute of Banking Personnel Selection (IBPS) exam qualified, 29.1 percent of the employees had completed master's degree, 16.7 percent of the employees had completed bachelor's degree and additional course and 11.7 percent of the employees had completed only bachelor's degree in the study area.

Table 5.3

Distribution of the sample respondents by their educational qualification

| Sl.  | Educational  | Frequenc     | Percentag |
|------|--------------|--------------|-----------|
| No   | qualificatio | $\mathbf{y}$ | e         |
| •    | n            |              |           |
| 1.   | Bachelor's   | 14           | 11.7      |
|      | degree       |              |           |
| 2.   | Bachelor's   | 20           | 16.7      |
|      | degree &     |              |           |
|      | additional   |              |           |
|      | course       |              |           |
| 3.   | Bachelor's   | 51           | 42.5      |
|      | degree &     |              |           |
|      | IBPS exam    |              |           |
|      | qualified    |              |           |
| 4.   | Master's     | 35           | 29.1      |
|      | degree       |              |           |
| Tota | ો            | 120          | 100       |

Source: Primary data

### **Job Experience**

Table 5.4 presents the distribution of sample respondents by their job experience. The study shows that 33.3 percent of the sample respondents were have 5 years to 10 years, 30



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percent of the sample respondents was had less than 5 years, 18.3 percent of the sample respondents were having 11 years to 15 years, 10.9 percent of the respondents were having 16 years to 20 years and 7.5 percent of the sample respondents were having more than 20 years of job experience among sample respondents.

Table 5.4
Distribution of the sample respondents by their educational qualification

| Sl.  | Educational  | Frequenc | Percentag |
|------|--------------|----------|-----------|
| No   | qualificatio | y        | e         |
| •    | n            |          |           |
| 1.   | Less than 5  | 36       | 30.0      |
|      | years        |          |           |
| 2.   | 5 -10 years  | 40       | 33.3      |
| 3.   | 11-15 years  | 22       | 18.3      |
| 4.   | 16- 20 years | 13       | 10.9      |
| 5.   | More than    | 09       | 07.5      |
|      | 20 years     |          |           |
| Tota | ıl           | 120      | 100       |

Source: Primary data

#### **Stress levels**

The distribution of the sample employees by their stress level is presented in table 5.5. The study reveals that everybody responds to stress in their own manner, nobody stress level test can give a complete diagnosis of the stress levels. This stress level study is proposed to give an outline in particular. A vast majority of us can oversee differing measures of pressure without feeling stressed. Anyway to an extreme or unreasonable pressure, regularly

made by our own reasoning patterns, can overstretch our capacity to adapt and afterward stress is experienced. The research work found that five factors that affecting work stress hence, the respondents are bound to encounter stress related sick well-being either mental, physical or both. The respondents are affected through four or less factors than they are to the least extent liable to experience the ill effects of stress related sickness. The sample respondents affected by at least fourteen factors and more than they are the most inclined to stress demonstrating a large number of attributes or qualities that are making unsound practices. This implies they are likewise bound to encounter stress and stress related illness for example migraine, irritable bowel, the back and neck pain, hypertension, coronary illness, mental ill health may be stress, depression and anxiety.

Table 5.5 Distribution of the sample employees by their stress level

| S.  | Variables              | Yes   | No    |
|-----|------------------------|-------|-------|
| No. | variables              | No.   | No.   |
|     | I as often as possible | 0     | 120   |
| 1.  | bring work home        | (0.0) | (100) |
|     | around evening time    |       |       |
|     | Insufficient hours in  | 0     | 120   |
| 2.  | day to do all things   | (0.0) | (100) |
|     | that I should do       |       |       |
|     | I deny or overlook     | 0     | 120   |
| 3.  | issues with the        | (0.0) | (100) |
|     | expectation that they  |       |       |



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|     | will leave                |        |        |
|-----|---------------------------|--------|--------|
|     | I carry out the           | 0      | 120    |
| 4   | responsibilities myself   | (0.0)  | (100)  |
| 4.  | to assurance they are     |        |        |
|     | done appropriately        |        |        |
|     | I think little of to what | 0      | 120    |
| 5.  | extent it takes to get    | (0.0)  | (100)  |
|     | things done               |        |        |
|     | I feel that there are     | 0      | 120    |
|     | such a large number of    | (0.0)  | (100)  |
| 6.  | deadline times in my      |        |        |
|     | work/life that are hard   |        |        |
|     | to meet                   |        |        |
|     | My self-confidence        | 08     | 112    |
| 7.  | /confidence is lower      | (6.7)  | (93.3) |
| /.  | than I might want it to   |        |        |
|     | be                        |        |        |
|     | I much of the time        | 21     | 99     |
|     | have blameworthy          | (17.5) | (82.5) |
| 8.  | sentiments on the off     |        |        |
|     | chance that I unwind      |        |        |
|     | and sit idle              |        |        |
|     | I end up contemplating    | 17     | 103    |
| 9.  | issues in any event,      | (14.2) | (85.8) |
|     | when I should be          |        |        |
|     | unwinding                 |        |        |
|     | I feel exhausted or       | 0      | 120    |
| 10. | tired in any event,       | (0.0)  | (100)  |
|     | when I wake after a       |        |        |
|     | satisfactory rest         | 0      | 100    |
| 1.1 | I regularly gesture or    | 0      | 120    |
| 11. | finish different people   | (0.0)  | (100)  |
|     | groups sentences for      |        |        |

|     | them when they talk gradually              |        |        |
|-----|--|--------|--------|
| 10  | I tend to eat, talk, walk                  | 0      | 120    |
| 12. | and drive rapidly                          | (0.0)  | (100)  |
|     | My hunger has                              | 0      | 120    |
| 13. | changed, want to gorge                     | (0.0)  | (100)  |
| 13. | or have lost                               |        |        |
|     | craving/may skip food                      |        |        |
|     | I feel aggravated if the                   | 13     | 107    |
|     | vehicle or traffic in                      | (10.8) | (89.2) |
| 14. | front is by all accounts                   |        |        |
|     | going too gradually/I                      |        |        |
|     | become baffled at                          |        |        |
|     | holding up in a line                       | _      |        |
|     | On the off chance that                     | 0      | 120    |
| 15. | a person or thing truly                    | (0.0)  | (100)  |
|     | pesters me I will                          |        |        |
|     | restrain my sentiments                     | 0      | 120    |
|     | At the point when I                        | 0      | 120    |
| 16. | play game or games, I                      | (0.0)  | (100)  |
|     | truly attempt to win                       |        |        |
|     | whoever I play                             | 0      | 120    |
|     | I experience state of mind swings, trouble | (0.0)  | (100)  |
| 17. | deciding, focus and                        | (0.0)  | (100)  |
|     | memory is impaired                         |        |        |
|     | I discover blame and                       | 0      | 120    |
|     | condemn others as                          | (0.0)  | (100)  |
| 18. | opposed to lauding,                        | (0.0)  | (100)  |
| 10. | regardless of whether                      |        |        |
|     | it is merited                              |        |        |
| 10  | I am by all accounts                       | 0      | 120    |
| 19. | listening despite the                      | (0.0)  | (100)  |



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|     | fact that I am distracted with my |        |        |
|-----|-----------------------------------|--------|--------|
|     | •                                 |        |        |
|     | own contemplations                | 0      | 120    |
|     | My sex drive is lower,            | 0      | 120    |
| 20. | can encounter changes             | (0.0)  | (100)  |
|     | to menstrual cycle                |        |        |
| 21. | I end up grinding my              | 0      | 120    |
| 21. | teeth                             | (0.0)  | (100)  |
|     | Increase in solid a               | 23     | 97     |
|     | throbbing painfulness             | (19.2) | (80.8) |
| 22. | particularly in the               |        | ()     |
|     | neck, head, lower                 |        |        |
|     | back, shoulders                   |        |        |
|     | I can't perform                   | 0      | 120    |
|     | undertakings just as I            | (0.0)  | (100)  |
| 23. | used to, my judgment              | (0.0)  | (100)  |
| 23. | is blurred or not in the          |        |        |
|     |                                   |        |        |
|     | same class as it                  |        | 4.5.0  |
|     | I discover I have a               | 0      | 120    |
|     | more noteworthy                   | (0.0)  | (100)  |
| 24. | reliance on liquor,               |        |        |
|     | caffeine, nicotine or             |        |        |
|     | medications                       |        |        |
|     | I find that I don't               | 0      | 120    |
|     | possess energy for                | (0.0)  | (100)  |
| 25. | some interests/leisure            | , ,    | , ,    |
|     | activities outside of             |        |        |
|     | work                              |        |        |
| 1   |                                   | I      | ı      |

**Source:** Computed from the sample survey, **No.:** Number of respondents, **Note:** Figures in parenthesis represent the percentages, calculated.

#### **Coping strategies to reduce stress**

The sample bank employees coping strategies to reduce stress is presented in table 5.6. The study found that only 3.3 percent of the respondents most of the times practice yoga or meditation but 37.5 percent of the respondents most of the times practice some physical exercise and 30 percent of the respondents only had a chance to rarely away from stressful situations and 44.2 percent of the sample respondents never had a sound sleep but 31.7 percent of the respondents were most of the times chatting with likeminded persons when they are in stressful situations and close to (49.2) percent) of the respondents never play with pet animals when they are in stress and 43.4 percent of the respondents always practice time management as coping strategies among the sample respondents in Madurai.

The calculated mean score concentrated to 5 scores for the coping strategies to reduce stress, such as; practice time management and chatting with likeminded person. The calculated mean score was between 1.43 and 3.15 for the coping strategy, such as; practice yoga or meditations, playing with pet animals, have sound sleep, away from stressful situations and practice some physical exercise.

Among the 7 coping strategies to reduce stress that was considered for the present study, practice time management was ranked 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> rank was given for the chatting with likeminded person, practice some physical exercise was



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ranked 3<sup>rd</sup>. Away from stressful situations, Have sound sleep, Playing with pet animals and Practice yoga or meditation was ranked 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> respectively.

Table 5.6
Distribution of the respondents by their coping strategies to reduce stress

| S . N o. | Copin<br>g<br>Strate<br>gies                         | Al<br>wa<br>ys   | M<br>ost<br>of<br>th<br>e<br>ti<br>m<br>es | So<br>m<br>e<br>ti<br>m<br>es | Ra<br>rel<br>y   | Ne<br>ve<br>r        | M<br>ea<br>n<br>Sc<br>or<br>e | Stan<br>dard<br>Devi<br>atio<br>n | R<br>an<br>k |
|----------|--|------------------|--|-------------------------------|------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| 1.       | Practi<br>ce<br>yoga<br>or<br>medit<br>ation         | 0 (0.0 )         | 04<br>(0<br>3.<br>3)                       | 07<br>(0<br>5.<br>8)          | 26<br>(21<br>.7) | 83<br>(6<br>9.2<br>) | 1.4                           | 0.75                              | VI<br>I      |
| 2.       | Practi<br>ce<br>some<br>physic<br>al<br>exerci<br>se | 23<br>(19.<br>2) | 45<br>(3<br>7.<br>5)                       | 08<br>(0<br>6.<br>7)          | 16<br>(13<br>.3) | 28<br>(2<br>3.3<br>) | 3.1                           | 1.48                              | III          |
| 3.       | Away<br>from<br>stressf<br>ul<br>situati<br>ons      | 19<br>(15.<br>8) | 21<br>(1<br>7.<br>5)                       | 15<br>(1<br>2.<br>5)          | 36<br>(30<br>.0) | 29<br>(2<br>4.2<br>) | 2.7                           | 1.41                              | IV           |
| 4.       | Have<br>sound<br>sleep                               | 19<br>(15.<br>8) | 10<br>(0<br>8.<br>3)                       | 12<br>(1<br>0.<br>0)          | 26<br>(21<br>.7) | 53<br>(4<br>4.2<br>) | 2.3                           | 1.49                              | V            |
| 5.       | Chatti   | 30               | 38   | 11                            | 13               | 28                   | 3.2                           | 1.52                              | II           |

|    | ng<br>with<br>likemi<br>nded<br>perso<br>n | (25.<br>0)       | (3<br>1.<br>7)       | (0<br>9.<br>2)       | (10 .8)          | (2 3.3 )             | 4   |      |    |
|----|--|------------------|----------------------|----------------------|------------------|----------------------|-----|------|----|
| 6. | Playin<br>g with<br>pet<br>anima<br>ls     | 10<br>(08.<br>3) | 08<br>(0<br>6.<br>7) | 22<br>(1<br>8.<br>3) | 21<br>(17<br>.5) | 59<br>(4<br>9.2<br>) | 2.0 | 1.30 | VI |
| 7. | Practi<br>ce<br>time<br>mana<br>geme<br>nt | 52<br>(43.<br>4) | 43<br>(3<br>5.<br>8) | 09<br>(0<br>7.<br>5) | 12<br>(10<br>.0) | 04<br>(0<br>3.3<br>) | 4.0 | 1.10 | I  |

Source: Computed from the sample survey, No.: Number of respondents, Note: Figures in parenthesis represent the percentages, calculated.

### Correlation between age and coping strategies to reduce stress of bank employees

Table 5.7 shows the correlation between age and coping strategies to reduce stress of bank employees. The correlation is about -0.912, which indicates negative relationship between age and coping strategies to reduce stress of bank employees in the study area and is significant at 1% level.

Hence, there is no relationship between age and coping strategies to reduce stress of bank employees in the study area.

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Table 5.7 Correlation between educational qualification and precautionary measures of the unorganised construction workers

| Variable             | Age   | <b>Coping strategies to reduce stress</b> |  |  |
|----------------------|-------|---|--|--|
| Age                  | 1.000 | -0.912**                                  |  |  |
| Coping strategies to | -     | 1.000                                     |  |  |
| reduce stress        |       |   |  |  |

<sup>\*\*</sup> denotes significant at 1% level

#### VI. Conclusion

The study concludes that majority of the sample employees were female category with 39.2 percent of the sample respondents' age group was between 21 years to 30 years of age and the five variables among twenty five that influencing work stresses therefore, respondents are more likely to have stress related ill health either mental, physical or both and close to half (49.2 percent) of the respondents never play with pet animals when they are in stress and 43.4 percent of the respondents always practice time management as coping strategies among the sample respondents in Madurai and there is no relationship between age and coping strategies to reduce stress of bank employees in the study area.

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