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Findings

The study has found extrinsic factors to be important among students when deciding to enroll into teacher education programme. For lower attrition of teachers and higher commitment towards the teaching profession it is important to give due consideration to the extrinsic factors associated with enrolling into teaching profession. A significant 42.75% of students mentioned that if given a chance they would like to switch to different career option. This poses a serious concern on the quality, performance and retention of student teachers into teaching profession. Lesser number of students among the highest scorers accepts that teaching profession provides appropriate salary. Many studies have proved that one of the most important reason for an individual to pursue higher education is to join labour market and be able to achieve maximum benefits in terms of returns. Since these students are the highest scorers among all the students, therefore may have higher monetary expectation due to higher academic performance in terms of marks secured at senior secondary level. A high percentage of students have indicated the work-environment and job security associated with teaching profession as one of the factors for enrolling into B.Ed. programme. In current times high importance is given by the students to the work environment associated with the profession. This requires school administrators to give due attention to improving the overall working conditions in the schools. The present study recommends strengthening of policies related to work environment, job security, salary structure and in service career development programmes of teachers. This will improve the overall status of the teacher education programme which is required to attract as well as retain potential students into teaching profession. Also, such measures will improve the overall productivity of the teachers that will eventually improve the overall quality of education.