

## REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-54004

Date: 24/09/2025

**Title:** *Academic Anxiety among Higher Secondary School Students of Aizawl City and Bilkhawthlir Town in Relation to their Stream of Study*

### Recommendation:

Accept as it is .....

✓Accept after minor revision.....

Accept after major revision .....

Do not accept (*Reasons below*) .....

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality		√		
Techn. Quality		√		
Clarity			√	
Significance		√		

Reviewer Name: Dr Anam Zehra

Date: 24/09/2025

### Reviewer's Comment for Publication.

This manuscript investigates academic anxiety among higher secondary school students across Aizawl City and Bilkhawthlir Town, with a focus on gender and stream of study. The study employs standardized tools and appropriate statistical methods (t-test and ANOVA). The topic is highly relevant to contemporary educational psychology, especially in the Indian context, where academic stress is a growing concern. The findings confirm that anxiety is prevalent but not significantly different across gender or academic streams, thereby offering both confirmation and contrast to earlier research. The study is well-designed, but the manuscript requires refinement in clarity, literature synthesis, and discussion depth before publication.

**Recommendation:** Accept after minor revision

## Detailed Reviewer's Report

### Strengths

- Relevant and Contextualized Topic** - The study addresses the issue of academic anxiety in higher secondary students, an area of significant concern in educational psychology.
- Clear Objectives and Hypotheses** -The objectives and hypotheses are well-formulated and logically connected.
- Appropriate Methodology** - The use of Siddiqui & Rehman's standardized Academic Anxiety Scale ensures credibility.
- Adequate Statistical Analysis** - The application of the t-test and ANOVA strengthens the reliability of results.
- Practical Significance** - The recommendations can inform interventions such as counseling programs, stress-management strategies, and parental involvement initiatives.

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### Weaknesses

1. **Literature Review** - While comprehensive, it could better synthesize findings from different regions and critically analyze contradictions in the literature.
2. **Discussion Section** - The discussion could be more interpretative, linking statistical results with socio-cultural and contextual explanations (urban–rural contrasts, parental pressure, teaching styles).
3. **Presentation Issues** - Minor grammatical inconsistencies, formatting errors in tables, and repetitive statements in the literature review need correction.
4. **Limitations** - The study acknowledges sample limitations but should also emphasize the need for larger, more diverse samples and longitudinal approaches.
5. **Conclusion** - Needs sharper articulation, especially in terms of actionable strategies for teachers, parents, and policymakers.