SUMMARY

The purpose of the present study was to find the effectiveness of problem based learning on achievement and retention in relation to achievement motivation and attitude towards biology of ninth graders. Achievement test based on 6 units of biology of class ninth Science NCERT text book, Achievement Motivation Scale by Deo and Mohan (2011 revised), Attitude towards Biology test developed by the investigator, Opinionnaire to analyse the reaction of students towards problem based learning were used as measuring tools. The study was carried out on a sample of 200 students of Government Model Schools of Chandigarh with English as a medium of instruction affiliated to CBSE (Central Board of Secondary Education) in the beginning of the 2016 session i.e April and May. Four classes of two schools were randomly selected for the experimental study. In each school one class consisted of experimental group taught through problem based learning and the other control group taught through traditional lecture method. Achievement Motivation Scale and Attitude towards Biology test was administered to classify the whole sample as students having high and low achievement motivation and further into students having high and low attitude towards biology. Achievement test was administered as pre, post and retention test. Descriptive and inferential statistical analyses was carried out using SPSS software and MS Excel on a sample of 188 students indicated that the students of experimental group who were taught class ninth biology through problem based learning showed better achievement and retention than the students taught by lecture method.