

INTERNET KNOWLEDGE OF COLLEGE STUDENTS IN RELATION TO THEIR INTERNET ATTITUDE AND M-LEARNING ATTITUDE

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Abstract: The paper deals with the internet knowledge and its relation to their attitude towards internet and m-learning among college students. The present study has been conducted in Perambalur district and 1000 college students were selected as sample. Normative survey method was adopted, simple random sampling technique was used in selecting the samples. The result revealed that the level of internet knowledge has been found to be average and their attitude towards internet has been found to be favourable and regarding the m-learning the attitude has been found to be favourable for the college students. Also, there is significant and positive relationship among the internet knowledge and their attitude towards internet and m-learning of college students.

Keywords: Internet, knowledge, Attitude, m-learning, and College students.

INTRODUCTION

Internet knowledge consists of two aspects that are essential to the most common uses of the Internet, what people know about the Internet and what people can do using the Internet. Although Internet knowledge is a conceptually unique construct, the boundaries between this concept and Internet experience are fairly blurred in past research. The concept of experience often refers to the same implied meaning as knowledge, more familiar with and more knowledgeable about the technology of interest. Internet knowledge may be stated as "Knowing various fundamental aspects of Internet and the basic skills involved in the operation of the internet". It also includes the applications of Internet. In fact Internet knowledge can be considered as one of the important factors responsible for the development of Internet literacy as Internet literacy includes both awareness and understanding of Internet. Therefore, the Internet knowledge will help one to get Internet literacy easily.

Existing e-learning technology can replace cumbersome resources such as textbooks, visual aids, and presentation technology. Interactive and multi-mode technology allows students to engage and manipulate information. M-learning or mobile learning is defined as "learning across multiple contexts, through social and content interactions, using personal electronic devices. Mobile devices in the classroom can be used to enhance group collaboration among students through communication applications, interactive displays, and video features.

REVIEW OF THE RELATED STUDIES:

The following were the related studies in respect of the internet knowledge, internet attitude and m-learning attitude.

(A) INTERNET KNOWLEDGE:

Senthil. K., (2014) studied about the internet knowledge and access skills among B.Ed., college trainees in Dharmapuri district and found that there is significant difference between male and female trainees in internet knowledge and skills and there is significant difference between B.Ed., trainees in internet knowledge and skills with respect to their locality.

(B) INTERNET ATTITUDE:

Vijayarani. K., (2016), studied about the attitude towards computer and internet education among high school students, this study is conducted with aim of measuring the attitude towards computer and internet education among high school students. Survey method and simple random sampling technique has been used among 250 high school students belonging in Tiruchirappalli Educational district. The data is analyzed by percentage analysis and t-test. Results indicate that the level of attitude towards computer and internet education in Tiruchirappalli Educational District is average and there is significant difference between male and female & rural and urban high school students as most of the students are from rural area with poor economic background.

(C) M-LEARNING ATTITUDE:

Nitin Kumar Gupta and Vishwakarma.V.P., (2017) studied about shifting learning in to mobile learning and teachers' attitude towards it, this study sought that the potential of mobile phone technology was huge and it has broken the ground for enhancing knowledge, in higher education. However, it was found that there was lack of academic researches on the use of mobile phone technology for knowledge sharing process in educational system. Today's teacher must be updated with innovative technology like mobile technology if they want to sustain in the field of education. There is a lack of awareness of mobile learning among most of the teachers in our country. It has been found in this investigation that using mobile devices in the classrooms scenario and other educational purposes play an important role in enhancing learning. It has also been found that teachers and

students have positive attitude towards m-Learning in foreign countries and our country also. So researchers' main objective was to give emphasis on using the mobile devices in our education system.

NEED AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

The Internet has opened up new ways of communicating with other people, which is effective, inexpensive and fast. Using Internet students can communicate with their friends, teachers, peers and experts in any field, anywhere, anytime creating possible longer contact time and effective communication. They can get unlimited wealth of data and information for their research and studies through Internet. Since college students are such a wide users of the technology, it is important to examine the attitude of college students towards Internet. Everything is depending on the attitude of the students those who are using Internet. If they have right attitude, they will use it properly and same way when they use Internet in a proper and good way, they will develop good attitude towards it. Thereby the knowledge of internet brings all-round development in their life automatically. Hence, it is imperative to study the internet knowledge of the college students in relation to their attitude towards internet and m-learning. Almost few studies have been undertaken so far on the mention variables among the college students in India.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:

1. To study the level of internet knowledge of the college students.
2. To study the favourableness or unfavourableness towards internet of the college students.
3. To study the favourableness or unfavourableness towards m-learning of the college students.
4. To study if there is any significant relationship between the college students'
 - a. Internet knowledge and Internet attitude
 - b. Internet knowledge and m-learning attitude
 - c. Internet attitude and m-learning attitude.

HYPOTHESES OF THE STUDY:

1. The level of internet knowledge of the college students is found to be high.
2. The internet attitude of the college students is found to be favourable.
3. The m-learning attitude of the college students is found to be favourable.
4. There is no significant relationship between the college students'
 - a. Internet knowledge and internet attitude
 - b. Internet knowledge and m-learning attitude
 - c. Internet attitude and m-learning attitude.

METHOD OF THE STUDY:

Normative survey method has been used in the present study and random sampling technique was used in the selection of sample of many as 1000 college students from Perambalur district.

TOOLS USED IN THE STUDY:

The following tools has been used for the data collection in the present investigation

- a. Internet Knowledge Test (IKT) constructed and validated by Manikandan, K., and Vaiyapuri Raja, P., (2015).
- b. Internet Attitude Scale (IAS) constructed and validated by Manikandan, K., and Vaiyapuri Raja, P., (2015). and
- c. M-Learning Attitude Scale (MLAS) constructed and validated Manikandan, K., and Vaiyapuri Raja, P., (2015).

STATISTICAL TECHNIQUES USED:

The following statistical techniques has been implemented in the present investigation

- The percentage analysis and
- The correlation analysis

The calculated data has been computed with respect to the above statistical techniques and the results were furnished in the following tables

TABLE- 1
(a) INTERNET KNOWLEDGE OF THE ENTIRE SAMPLE

LEVELS	N	%
Very High Level	61	6.1
High Level	224	22.4
Neutral	501	50.1
Low Level	185	18.5
Very Low Level	29	2.9

(b) INTERNET ATTITUDE OF THEE ENTIRE SAMPLE

LEVELS	N	%
Highly Favourable attitude	40	4.0
Favourable attitude	225	22.5
Undecided	445	44.5
Unfavourable attitude	241	24.1
Highly unfavourable attitude	19	1.9

(c) M-LEARNING ATTITUDE OF THE ENTIRE SAMPLE

LEVELS	N	%
Highly Favourable attitude	40	4.0
Favourable attitude	255	25.5
Undecided	448	44.8
Unfavourable attitude	227	22.7
Highly unfavourable attitude	30	3.0

TABLE - 2

THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE (i) INTERNET KNOWLEDGE SCORES AND INTERNET ATTITUDE SCORES, (ii) INTERNET KNOWLEDGE SCORES AND M-LEARNING ATTITUDE SCORES AND (iii) INTERNET ATTITUDE SCORES AND M-LEARNING ATTITUDE SCORES

VARIABLES	N	Mean	Standard Deviation	'r' VALUE	Level of Significance
Internet knowledge scores and Internet attitude scores	1000	9.87	4.07	0.126	NS
	1000	77.39	14.32		
Internet knowledge scores and m-learning attitude scores	1000	9.87	4.07	0.114	S
	1000	77.01	12.14		
Internet attitude scores and m-learning attitude scores	1000	77.39	14.32	0.296	NS
	1000	77.01	12.14		

From the above table (i) the 'r' value ($r=0.126$) between the internet knowledge and internet attitude scores for the entire sample has been found to be not significant at the 0.05 level of significance, also it has been found that the relationship (ii) 'r' value ($r=0.114$) between the internet knowledge and m-learning attitude scores of the entire sample has been found to be significant at the level of 0.05 level of significance and finally for the 'r' value ($r=0.296$) between the internet attitude and m-learning attitude scores of the entire sample has been found to be not significant at 0.05 level of significance.

IMPORTANT FINDINGS:

The following are the important findings of the present investigation:

1. The entire sample of the college students show average level of internet knowledge.
2. The entire sample of the college students show neutral internet attitude.
3. The entire sample of the college students show neutral m-learning attitude.
4. There is no significant relationship between the college students' Internet knowledge and Internet attitude.
5. There is a significant relationship between the college students' Internet knowledge and m-learning attitude.
6. There is no significant relationship between the college students' Internet attitude and m-learning attitude.

9. DISCUSSION OF THE RESULTS

(a) Internet Knowledge:

In respect of the students' internet knowledge the investigator found that there is a significant difference between the male and female students. This gets support from a few earlier studies Sherman et.al, (2000) and Senthil. K.,(2014) which states that differences continue to exist between male and female students. It is found that majority of the students show high level of internet knowledge which get support from the earlier study conducted by Chin-Chien Wang et.al, (2009).

(b) Internet Attitude:

In respect of the internet attitude it is found that the majority of the students show a favourable attitude towards internet which gets the support from a few earlier studies namely Mohamed Rafi (2014), Li., N., and Kirkup (2007).

(c) M-Learning Attitude:

In respect of the M-learning attitude, the sex and Locality shows no significant different in respect of the M-Learning which gets support from the earlier study of Sharmila.V.(2014), Shih-Hsien Yang (2012), Nah et.al., (2008), Xiao-Binchen.,(2013), Naser Jamil Alzaidiyeen et.al.,(2011), Ishan Ismail.,(2010)., also the entire sample of the students results of the positive attitude towards M-Learning which gets support from the earlier study Daesang Kim et.al., (2013), Pollara and Broussard., (2011).

CONCLUSION:

The present investigation is a unique study conducted in Perambalur district of Tamilnadu, one of the pioneering states in the information technology field, to study the college students internet knowledge, internet attitude and m-learning attitude and hence this study has contributed to the field of computer education. Also the study has revealed that majority of college students were having an average level of internet knowledge, neutral level of internet attitude, and neutral level of m-learning attitude. Thus these college students can be given counseling with the facilities available in the psychological areas and attitude towards internet and m-learning which helps them to equip themselves to face globalization of world.

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