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A Study on Higher Secondary Students' Awareness towards Utilization of Computer

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ABSTRACT: Computer is the best hope for developing countries to accelerate their development process. It is the most powerful locomotive of growth. It forms the backbone of several fields. Hence, gaining a better understanding of the trends, developments, issues and impact of Computer on education has been identified as a key research priority, giving increase to a multi attitude of research streams. Over years, there is a shift from oral to written, formal to non-formal, teacher centered to student centered and rigid to flexible forms of instruction. The present study has been conducted to study about the awareness of higher secondary students towards utilization of computer in Thiruvannamalai district. A total sample of 750 students has been chosen and awareness towards utilization of the computer scale constructed and validated by Sridharan, K., and Vaiyapuri Raja, P., (2019) has been used to collect the data which has been treated with certain statistical techniques. Results revealed that no significant difference has been observed in the awareness towards utilization of computer among the higher secondary students with respect to their sex, locality and medium of the study.

KEYWORDS: Awareness, Utilization, Computer.

I. INTRODUCTION

Computer is the best hope for developing countries to accelerate their development process. It is the most powerful locomotive of growth. It forms the backbone of several fields. Hence, gaining a better understanding of the trends, developments, issues and impact of Computer on education has been identified as a key research priority, giving increase to a multi attitude of research streams. Over years, there is a shift from oral to written, formal to non-formal, teacher centered to student centered and rigid to flexible forms of instruction. The world of education is changing fast due to computer technological developments. An application of technologies is screen pervasively. The wider changes taking place in the society are providing content for instructional development. Over years, there is a shift from oral to written, formal to non-formal, teacher centered to student centered and rigid to flexible forms of instruction.

II. NEED AND IMPORTANCE

In recent years, computer has had, and is continuing to have, and increasingly significant impact on all aspects of society. There are few areas of life, at home, at school and in work, where this new computer technology has not made an impact. Computer expands our access to, and understanding of, the world at large. It allows people in all areas of life to benefit from the power of computer systems as personal tools; to collaborate in groups; and to communicate locally and globally. In addition to developing computer awareness and utilization for individuals and society at large, computer also offers the education process one of the most potentially powerfully leaning tools available. Not only can computers support learning across the whole curriculum, but communication networks also provide the student with

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fast and searchable access to vast amounts of information. Bindu, C N., (2017), studied about the attitude towards and awareness of using ICT in classrooms and found that the teachers are not aware of the wider opportunities of technology in education and suggests the teachers to take personal initiatives to make use of the available resources for the successful integration of ICT in teaching. Collaboration with teachers worldwide will help them to gain ideas about innovative teaching methods and web-based learning techniques to integrate ICT effectively in their classroom teaching. Ilodigwe, U T., and Fatma, T H., (2017), studied about the awareness of students on the Usefulness of ICT Tools in Education and found that there are no significance differences on the awareness level of students on the usefulness of ICT tools in their learning process in respect of their age and gender. Also significance differences have been observed on their awareness level regarding to their class level.

III. OBJECTIVES

The following are the objectives formulated for the present study

1. To study the higher secondary students level of awareness towards utilization of computer.
2. To study if there is any significant difference in awareness towards utilization of computer between.
 - a. The higher secondary boys and girls.
 - b. The higher secondary students studying in the schools located in the rural area and in the urban area.
 - c. The higher secondary students studying in English medium and in Tamil medium.

HYPOTHESES:

The following were the hypotheses frame from the objectives

1. The higher secondary student shows high level of awareness towards utilization of computer.
2. There is no significant difference in awareness towards utilization of computer between.
 - a. The higher secondary boys and girls.
 - b. The higher secondary students studying in the schools located in the rural area and in the urban area.
 - c. The higher secondary students studying in English medium and in Tamil medium.

IV. METHOD

Normative survey method has been used in the present investigation which gathers data from a large number of cares.

SAMPLE:

As many as 750 higher secondary students from Thiruvannamalai district of Tamilnadu, India were selected as the sample for the present investigation using simple random sampling technique. The sample forms representative sample of the entire population.

STATISTICAL TECHNIQUES:

In this present investigation the following statistical techniques have been used. Descriptive analysis – Measure of central tendency (Mean), Measures of variability (Standard Deviation), Differential Analysis – Independent sample 't' test.

TOOLS USED:

The tool namely, Awareness Towards Utilization of Computer Scale (AwTUCS) constructed and validated by Sridharan, K, and Vaiyapuri Raja, P., (2019). This tool has 34 statements which constitute of only positive statements having the response YES and NO bearing the arbitrary weights of 1 and 0. The highest score one can obtain is 34. Hence one who score upto 17 were said to have low level of awareness towards utilization of computer an one who

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scores above 17 were said to have high level of awareness towards utilization of computer. The reliability of the scale found by using the test – retest method was 0.93 and its intrinsic validity has been formed to be 0.87.

Statistical Techniques

S.No.	Sub-sample	N	Mean	SD	't' - value	Significance at 0.05 level
1	Entire sample	750	19.00	8.03	-	
2	Boys	402	18.88	7.92	0.42	Not Significant
	Girls	348	19.19	8.17		
3	Rural school students	294	18.81	7.89	0.50	Not Significant
	Urban school students	456	19.11	8.13		
4	Tamil medium students	353	18.84	7.90	0.51	Not Significant
	English medium students	397	19.14	8.16		

V. FINDINGS

The hypotheses formulated at the beginning of the study have been examined in the light of the data gathered. The following are the main findings of the present investigation.

- 1 Higher secondary school students are having high level awareness towards utilization of computer.
- 2 Higher secondary school students Boys and Girls do not differ significantly in respect of their awareness towards utilization of computer.
- 3 The students studying in the higher secondary school located in the urban area and in rural area do not differ significantly in respect of their awareness towards utilization of computer.
- 4 The higher secondary studying in the English medium and in Tamil medium do not differ significantly in respect of their awareness towards utilization of computer.

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