COMPUTER AWARENESS AMONG STUDENT - TEACHERS

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Abstract
The present investigation was carried out to study the Computer Awareness among Student - Teachers. A sample of 1000 Student - Teachers were drawn from the Colleges of Education, Tamil Nadu. Computer Awareness Inventory was developed and validated by Investigator. The Student - Teachers have responded to the questionnaire. The data thus collected were put into appropriate statistical analysis. The results revealed that Computer Awareness among Student - Teachers is not adequate.

Key words: Computer - Awareness, Student - Teachers.

Introduction
The present century is rightly called the “Technological Century”. The influence of advancements in the fields of Science and Technology on the varied aspects of life is more. Science and technology are playing a significant role in the formation of modern civilization of any society. Day by day, the increasing scientific and technological impact upon human life activities is developing the scientific attitude of people. In turn, the society has begun to adopt scientific and technological principles and apply their results. As in every field of life, computer has become an essential part of our education also.

Computer Awareness
Computer Awareness is, knowing about the computers - how they work, how they help to solve problems of today’s world. This can be learnt by seeing pictures, visiting computer centers, listening to talks or written reports etc. It makes an understanding of what a computer is how it works and the role and impact of computers in society. Computer Awareness is widely known, although the majority of both children and adults. In industrialized countries they do not know exactly what a computer is nor how to use. The concept is known because the majority of people have seen computers and are aware of the fact that in the very near future they will need to overcome their own “Unaware”.

Computer Awareness and Student - Teachers
Computer serves the Student - Teachers in many ways such as it provides the opportunity to the students for teaching - learning process. It is used to correct the Examination papers and helps to draw the graphics and tables. Computer allocates learning resource to individuals and groups. It provides direct interaction between students and the subject matter to be learned. They engage the students in tutorial interaction and dialogue. It aids instruction in the form of Computer Assisted Instruction, Computer Assisted Learning and Computer Managed Instruction. In B.Ed., the Student - Teachers learn - what is teaching? How to teach? What are the aids for teaching? etc. They learn to teach through computer. They learn to use computer as a tool for teaching. In Colleges of Education, Computers are used for teaching purpose in the classroom, but they do not provide the opportunity to operate and interact with computer. They teach about computer without using computer.

Need for the Study
Modern technologies have several stages and sequences in the earlier decades. Teacher should be exposed to modern technology in the designing and use of instructional systems appropriate to classroom
situations. Student - Teachers in this study, means would be teachers who are undergoing training in teaching skill. The trainees specialize in two optional subjects, which they had specialized in the degree course and which they will teach in the high school. The Student - Teachers Create Programme Instruction or the technique or devices to achieve learning objectives using Computer. Computer provides better teaching - learning performance and relate the learning to suit their cognitive potentials. Computer awareness is very essential to the Student - Teachers in Teacher Education. As far as the theses reviewed by the investigator, many researchers have been conducted on the impact or effectiveness of Computer Assisted Instruction, Computer Assisted Learning, Computer Assisted Language Learning, use of computers for learning different subjects at various levels. These researches concentrated on general education but adequate research has not been conducted so deeply for the Student - Teachers, especially in the area of Student - Teacher’s Computer awareness. So, the investigator selected a topic for research to find out the computer awareness among the Student - Teachers.

Objectives of the Study

1. To find out the Computer awareness among Student - Teachers Colleges of Education.
2. To find out whether there is any significant difference between the mean scores of computer awareness of male and female Student - Teachers.
3. To find out whether there is any significant difference between the mean scores of computer awareness of Student - Teachers who are below 21 years and above 21 years.
4. To find out whether there is any significant difference between the mean scores of computer awareness between the Student - Teachers with Under - graduate and Post - graduate qualification.
5. To find out whether there is any significant difference between the mean scores of computer awareness between the Rural and Urban Student - Teachers.
6. To find out whether there is any significant difference between the mean scores of computer awareness between Arts and Science Student - Teachers.
7. To find out whether there is any significant difference between the mean scores of computer awareness among the Student - Teachers based on their College Management.

Hypotheses of the Study

1. Computer awareness among the Student - Teachers is not adequate.
2. There is no significant difference between the mean scores of Computer Awareness between Male and Female Student - Teachers.
3. There is no significant difference between the mean scores of Computer Awareness between Below 21 years and Above 21 years Student - Teachers.
4. There is no significant difference between the mean scores of Computer Awareness between Under-graduate and Post-graduate Student - Teachers.
5. There is no significant difference between the mean scores of Computer Awareness between Arts and Science Student - Teachers.
6. There is no significant difference between the mean scores of Computer Awareness between Rural and Urban Student - Teachers.
7. There is no significant relationship between Student - Teachers’ Computer Awareness with reference to “College Management” (Government, Government Aided and Self-Finance).

Methodology in Brief

The investigator followed the “Survey” method for the present study. The Questionnaire was developed and administered to the Student - Teachers of Colleges of Education in Tamil Nadu. The Student
Teachers have responded to the questionnaire. The data thus collected were put into appropriate statistical analysis.

Sample for the Study

Random sampling technique was adopted for the present study. The investigator decided to collect data from Student - Teachers of Colleges of Education, which are under the jurisdiction of Tamil Nadu. 1000 Student - Teachers were the sample for this study.

Tools Used for the Study

Effectiveness of evaluation largely depends upon the accuracy of measurement. Accuracy of measurement in turn depends on the precision of the instrument. The investigator had selected the questionnaire form. The tool had 45 items. Each item was in the form of multiple choice. The correct response of every item carried one point score. The Computer Awareness Inventory was prepared and developed by the investigator and it was used to collect the data in this study. The reliability and validity of the tool were established.

Statistical Techniques Applied

Statistical Techniques serve the fundamental purpose of the description and inferential analysis. The t’ and Chi - Square test were used in the study.

Hypotheses Testing

The hypotheses formulated for the present study were tested by applying statistical techniques. Descriptive and Differential analyses were used.

Hypothesis - 1

Computer awareness among Student - Teachers is not adequate. This hypothesis was tested by using the mean scores of Computer Awareness among Student - Teachers.

| Table - 1 |
| Mean Scores of Computer Awareness among Student - Teachers |
| Student - Teachers | N | Mean | S.D. |
| Whole Sample | 1000 | 21.03 | 7.96 |

It was found that the Student - Teachers had Computer Awareness of 21.03 out of 45 (46.73 per cent). It was declared that the Student - Teachers of Tamil Nadu Colleges of Education do not have Computer Awareness as the mean awareness score was less than fifty per cent.

Hypothesis - 2

There is no significant difference between the mean scores of Computer Awareness between Male and Female Student - Teachers.

| Table - 2 |
| Significance of difference between means of Computer Awareness among Student - Teachers with respect to Gender |
| Gender | N | Mean | S.D. | t’ | Level of Significance at 0.01 |
| Male | 478 | 19.21 | 7.37 | 7.09 | Significant |
| Female | 522 | 22.69 | 8.14 |

The calculated t’ value 7.09 is greater than the table value 2.58 at 0.01 level. This implies that the relationship between the variables under study is significant at 0.01 level. Hence the null hypothesis is rejected. It was found that the Male Student - Teachers had less awareness of computer than those of Female Student - Teachers.
Hypothesis - 3

There is no significant difference between the mean scores of Computer Awareness between below 21 years and above 21 years of Student - Teachers.

Table - 3
Significance of difference between means of Computer Awareness among Student - Teachers with respect Age

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>S.D.</th>
<th>t'</th>
<th>Level of Significance at 0.01</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Below 21 Years</td>
<td>512</td>
<td>19.05</td>
<td>7.57</td>
<td>8.35</td>
<td>Significant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Above 21 Years</td>
<td>488</td>
<td>23.1</td>
<td>7.75</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The calculated t' value 8.35 is greater than the table value 2.58 at 0.01 level. This implies that the relationship between the variables under study is significant at 0.01 level. Hence the null hypothesis is rejected. It was found that the Student - Teachers who are Below 21 years had less awareness of computer than those who are Above 21 years.

Hypothesis - 4

There is no significant difference between the mean scores of Computer Awareness between Under Graduate and Post Graduate Student - Teachers.

Table - 4
Significance of difference between means of Computer Awareness among Student - Teachers with respect to Qualification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Qualification</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>S.D.</th>
<th>t'</th>
<th>Level of Significance at 0.01</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Under Graduate</td>
<td>552</td>
<td>19.62</td>
<td>7.94</td>
<td>6.33</td>
<td>Significant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post Graduate</td>
<td>448</td>
<td>22.76</td>
<td>7.68</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The calculated t' value 6.33 is greater than the table value 2.58 at 0.01 level. This implies that the relationship between the variables under study is significant at 0.01 level. Hence the null hypothesis is rejected. It was found that the Under - graduate Student - Teachers less awareness of computer than those of Post - graduate Student - Teachers.

Hypothesis - 5

There is no significant difference between the mean scores of Computer Awareness between Arts and Science Student - Teachers.

Table - 5
Significance of difference between means of Computer Awareness among Student - Teachers with respect to Subject

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>S.D.</th>
<th>t'</th>
<th>Level of Significance at 0.01</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arts</td>
<td>475</td>
<td>18.05</td>
<td>7.09</td>
<td>12.18</td>
<td>Significant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>525</td>
<td>23.72</td>
<td>7.62</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The calculated t' value 12.18 is greater than the table value 2.58 at 0.01 level. This implies that the relationship between the variables under study is significant at 0.01 level. Hence the null hypothesis is rejected. It was found that the Arts Subject Student - Teachers had less awareness of computer than those of Science Subject Student - Teachers.

Hypothesis - 6

There is no significant difference between the mean scores of Computer Awareness between Rural and Urban Student - Teachers.
Table - 6
Significance of difference between means of Computer Awareness among Student - Teachers with respect to Locale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Locale</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>S.D.</th>
<th>t'</th>
<th>Level of Significance at 0.01</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>592</td>
<td>19.56</td>
<td>7.65</td>
<td>7.13</td>
<td>Significant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>408</td>
<td>23.15</td>
<td>7.94</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The calculated t’ value 7.13 greater than the table value 2.58 at 0.01 level. This implies that the relationship between the variables under study is significant at 0.01 level. Hence the null hypothesis is rejected. It was found that the Rural Area Student - Teachers had less awareness of computer than those of Urban Area Student - Teachers.

Hypothesis - 7
There is no significant relationship between Student - Teachers’ Computer Awareness with reference to College Management.

3 x 2 Contingency table: Significance of relationship between Student - Teachers’ Computer Awareness with reference to College Management

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College Management</th>
<th>Above Mean</th>
<th>Below Mean</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>174 (191.49)</td>
<td>216 (198.51)</td>
<td>390</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government aided</td>
<td>181 (213.585)</td>
<td>254 (221.415)</td>
<td>435</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self finance</td>
<td>136 (85.925)</td>
<td>39 (89.075)</td>
<td>175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>491</td>
<td>509</td>
<td>1000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The calculated chi-square value 70.24 is greater than the table value 5.99 at 0.05 level. This implies that the relationship between the sub group variable under study is significant at 0.05 level. Hence the null hypothesis is rejected. It was found that the Self-finance Student - Teachers had more Computer Awareness than those of the remaining two viz. Government and Government Aided College.

Conclusion
The present study has investigated the computer awareness among Student - Teachers in Tamil Nadu. It is found that the Computer Awareness among Student - Teachers is not adequate. However, Student - Teachers who are Female, Above 21 years, Post-graduate Student - Teachers, Science Subject Student - Teachers, Urban Student - Teachers and Self - Finance Student - Teachers have Computer Awareness. The Government Student - Teachers and Government Aided Student - Teachers do not have Computer Awareness.

References