

EFFECTIVENESS OF ONLINE APPS IN COVID19 AMONG COLLEGE TEACHERS IN COIMBATORE DISTRICT

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ABSTRACT

In COVID19 Pandemic almost all higher educational institutions all over the world use online apps for various purpose such as online teaching , webinars, conferences, faculty development programmes and staff meetings. Several apps were being used. Purpose of the research is to find the Variables the effectiveness of using online apps and the research has been conducted among the college staffs in Coimbatore district with a sample of 55 staffs. The primary data was collected through Google forms. Simple percentage and scoring scheme was used to analyze the data and it is found that the college staffs are highly aware about Google Meet followed by Zoom and YouTube alive and so on. The availability of audio and video are the factor that contributes to the effectiveness for using online apps. Online apps with the technological development will survive for a long period with the advanced features in future.

Keywords: Apps, Effectiveness, Factors, Online.

Introduction

COVID19 lockdown has forced almost all the countries to use online apps for learning. Users of Online Apps have been immensely growing because of the COVID19 Outbreak. Several newer online apps have been rolling out today. Online Apps pave a way for systematic learning. COVID19 lockdown forced the higher educational institutions to conduct various programmes such as Faculty Development Program, Webinar, Conferences and Online Classes. Increasing in the use of various online apps makes all the higher educational institutions to implement online learning. Online apps provides a number of key features for effective implementation of online learning and teaching .The research aims to find out the factors considered for effectiveness of the online apps.

Statement of the problem

Online apps became part of our live in COVID19 lockdown period. Covid19 lockdown makes all higher educational Institutions makes the teaching faculties busy in organizing webinars, conference, faculty development programs, meetings and online classes. The uses of online apps become inevitable among college staffs. Hence an attempt is made to study
What is the level of awareness towards various online apps?
Which factor is considered for effectiveness of online apps?

Objectives of the Research

The research focuses on
To identify level of awareness on various online apps.
To ascertain the factors consider for effectiveness of online tools.

Scope of the Research

Scope of the research is limited only to college staff in Coimbatore District of TamilNadu. The study deals with the factors consider for effectiveness of online apps.

Methodology

This research work is based on primary data. So a structured questionnaire is prepared and the data was collected through Google forms. Simple percentage and rank analysis were used to consider the factors for effectiveness of online apps.

Limitation of the Research

The research has been confined only to the college staffs in Coimbatore District only. The sample size is limited only to 55 college staffs. The results vary according to the opinion of the college staffs.

Review of Literature

Dennis Kira and Raafat Saade (2006) in their study online learning is difficult for the students who have never been exposed to the field of information technology.

Oye, Mazleena Salleh and Iahad(2012) conclude in their study the tools has to be incorporated and to allow for flexible model and for this environment should be asynchronous.

Ramya Gangaiaraman and Madhumathi Pasupathi (2017) in their study finds observation skills are good than comparative skills.

Ravi P Bhatia (2011) in his study points out we have to be careful in using technical tools other learners do not get stress by the technology.

Sue Gregory and Michelle Bannister –Tyrrell (2017) in their study observe that some students respond both positive and negative in different tools and identify whichone is going to fulfill our learning needs.

ANALYSIS AND INTREPRETATION

I.PERSONAL DETAILS

Table :1

Particulars	Frequency	Percentage
Sex		
Male	26	47.2
Female	29	52.8
Age		
Up to 30 Years	5	9
31 - 40 Yrs	19	35
41 -50 Yrs	25	45
Above 50 rs	6	11
Educational Qualification		
PG	9	16
M.Phil	23	42
Ph.D	23	42
Occupation		
Government staff	Nil	
Aided Staff	3	5
Guest Faculty	19	35
Self Financing Staff	33	60
Area of Residence		
Urban	9	16
Rural	16	29
Semi urban	30	55
Monthly Income		
Up to Rs.10000	10	18
Rs.10001 to Rs15000	37	67

Rs.15001 to Rs. 20000	3	5
Above Rs.20000	5	10
Total	55	100

Source from Primary Data

Above table indicated Majority 52.8% are female and 47.2% are male.

Majority 45% belong to age group of 41 to 50 Years.

Majority 42% are M.Phil and Ph.D degree holders.

Most of the College staffs 60 % are self financing staff.

Majority 55% of College staff belongs to semi urban area.

Majority 67% staffs salary are between Rs.10001 to Rs15000.

2. Awareness of Online Apps

College staff may use any type of online apps depending upon the awareness level. Awareness level vary from one teacher to another. Table 2 shows the awareness level of various online apps.

Table :2 Awareness of Online Apps

S.No	Type of Online apps	Level of Awareness					
		Highly Aware	Percent	Aware	Percent	Not Aware	Percent
1	Zoom	36	65	19	35	-	-
2	Google Meet	40	73	15	27	-	-
3	You Tube Alive	35	64	20	36	-	-
4	GOTO Meeting	8	14	40	73	7	13
5	Cisco Webex	6	11	42	76	7	13
6	Skype	7	13	19	35	29	52

Majority of the 73% of College staff are highly aware, 35% are aware of Google meet and 65 % are highly aware and 35% are aware about Zoom apps. 64% are highly aware and 36 % are aware about YouTube alive.

3. Source of information

College staffs are well informed about various online apps through various sources such as media, friends and brochure.

Table :3 Source of information

S.No	Source of information	Number	Percentage
1	Media	14	27
2	Friends	12	22
3	Brochure	29	53

Out of 55 staffs 53% of the college staff came to aware of the apps through brochures, 27% came to know through media and 22% came to know through friends.

4. Frequency of using app

Online apps used may vary from one college staff to another depending upon the circumstances in their work place. They may use daily, weekly, monthly and whenever needed.

Table :4 Frequency of using app

S.No	Frequency of using app	Number	Percentage
1	Daily	9	16
2	Weekly	6	11
3	Monthly	25	45
4	Whenever needed	15	28

Majority 45% of the staff uses the apps monthly and 28% uses whenever needed, 16% uses daily and 11% uses online apps weekly.

5. Purpose of using app

Online apps may be in higher educational institutions for conducting faculty development program, conference, webinar and online classes.

Table 5 Purpose of using app

S.No	Purpose of using app	Number	Percentage
1	Faculty development Program	20	36
2	Webinar	9	16
3	Conference	8	14
4	Staff Meeting	12	22
5	Online Class	7	12

Mostly 36% the online apps have been used for faculty development programs and 22% for staff meetings during COVID19.

6. Effectiveness Details

Factors considered for effectiveness of Online Learning Apps.

S.No	FACTORS	RANK
1	Easy login	3
2	Independent Platform	4
3	Availability of Audio and video	1
4	Screen sharing	6
5	Number of Participant	5
6	Time Limit for Meeting	8
7	Chat Box	2
8	Recording option	7

Factors considered for effectiveness of Online Learning Apps.

S.No	Factors	Rank	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	Total score	Mean	Rank
		Score	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8			
1	Easy login	No	6	8	19	4	6	2	7	3	210	3.82	3
		Score	6	16	57	16	30	12	49	24			
2	Independent Platform	No	6	17	2	6	4	8	2	10	232	4.22	4
		Score	6	34	6	24	20	48	14	80			
3	Availability of audio and Video	No	18	1	13	4	3	7	6	3	198	3.60	1
		Score	18	2	39	16	15	42	42	24			
4	Screen sharing	No	4	6	7	3	7	23	4	1	258	4.69	6
		Score	4	12	21	12	35	138	28	8			
5	Number of Participant	No	14	2	2	7	3	3	23	1	254	4.62	5
		Score	14	4	6	28	15	18	161	8			
6	Time Limit for Meeting	No	2	9	3	1	7	8	1	24	315	5.73	8
		Score	2	18	9	4	35	48	7	192			
7	Chat Box	No	4	9	9	23	2	1	6	1	207	3.76	2
		Score	4	18	27	92	10	6	42	8			
8	Recording option	No	1	3	7	7	23	3	5	6	272	4.95	7
		Score	1	6	21	28	115	18	35	48			

From the analysis it is inferred that Availability of audio and video factor followed by chat box ranks first and second in considering the effectiveness of Online Apps.

SUGGESTIONS

- To make effective use of online apps high speed Internet facilities should be there.
- Offline apps should be introduced preferably in rural areas.
- Time limit should be extended for using the online apps.
- Number of participants should also be increased to join the apps.

CONCLUSION

Even after COVID19 online education is likely to survive and grow high and so the online apps. With the advancement in the technology the online apps will bring flexibility, accessibility and affordability in their features. In future online apps are going to play a predominant role all over the world in teaching and learning. Thus the research concludes that the availability of audio and video factor in online apps is effective in making successful online learning environment.

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