COMPUTER AWARENESS AMONG WOMEN IN JABALPUR

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INTRODUCTION

In the modern age, information and communication technology has influenced all aspects of human life. IT is the application of computers and telecommunications equipment to store, retrieve, transmit and manipulate data, often in the context of a business or other enterprise. The term is commonly used as a synonym for computers and computer networks. Now ICT has become an integral part of our lives. Every woman should have necessary knowledge of using ICT.

Information technology should be a primary tool for education/learning in the society for women. For this purpose, the department of information technology should take initials in order to affect upon the status of education sector of the country. Advanced Information technology should be implemented in the educational as well as in other institutions i.e. schools, college, universities, banks, offices etc. Attention should be given to improve computer access among women.

In today's modern society working as well as non working women can learn computer to remain updated with the latest happiness across the world. The needs are different and plenty. But anyone can satisfy this with little effort. Several online & offline basic computer courses are offered in India. These courses have been designed with a purpose in mind. Those who want to learn the basics of computer handling or operation can do crash course for a period of 6 months or 1 year. They are given training in MS Office, Soft skills, chatting, Internet browsing and emailing. They get to use Word, Excel, and Power Point etc.

The present study was undertaken to know the awareness of computer, usage of computer, usage of internet among literate women in Jabalpur. We have studied awareness level of computer among women of age group18-45 years in Jabalpur and its surrounding region. In this paper women were categorized in to following four groups:

1) Students (Under graduate & Post graduate)
2) Advocates
3) House wives
4) Working women
- Teachers, Assistant Professors, Clerks, Computer operators
- LIC agents, Nurses, Doctors, Physiotherapists etc.

Objectives of the Research Paper
- To study percentage of students having knowledge of computer
- To seek awareness of computer among advocates
- To study percentage of House wives having knowledge of computer
- To seek awareness of computer among working women
- To study opinion of women related to situation right to computer education.

METHODOLOGY USED

1) **Survey Method**

  Descriptive survey method is used to collect the relevant information for the present research. This is a very simple method for knowing the computer awareness level among literate women of Jabalpur district and its surrounding regions of age group 18-45 years.

2) **Selection Of Sampling**

  Hence in this paper we have adopted probability sampling method to collect the sample.

3) **Tool Used**

  To seek legal awareness among literate women a self constructed computer awareness scale questionnaire having twenty five questions with three options (agree/don't know/disagree) was used to collect data from literate women of age group 18-45 years.

4) **Collection Of Data**

  In this paper data was collected from literate women of age group 18-45 years by using probability sampling method i.e. random sampling by dividing them in to four categories i.e.

1) Students (Under graduate & Post graduate)
2) Advocates
3) House wives
4) Working women
  - Teachers, Assistant Professors, Clerks, Computer operators
  - LIC agents, Nurses, Doctors, Physiotherapists etc.

5) **Analysis Of Data**

In the present chapter data collected will be analyzed with the help of percentage and graph by quantitative statistical methods.

SAMPLE

  In this paper probability sampling method was used for the research depending on the nature of population and simplicity in adoption. In this paper to seek computer awareness among women, we have categorized women in to four classes: a) Students b) Advocates c) House wives d) Working women of age group 18-45 years. A self constructed questionnaire on computer awareness was distributed among women in Jabalpur city and its surrounding regions like Bargi nagar, Majholi, Katangi, Kundam etc. Samples were first collected from 300 females out of which 38 samples were rejected because some questionnaires were incompletely filled, some were blank, some were wrongly ticked, some were copied etc. Hence the scale was standardized among 262 (two hundred sixty two) females of various groups drawn from schools, colleges, High court & District court of Jabalpur, Offices and other institutions etc. by random sampling method.

  The scale was administrated among women of age group 18-45 years categorized in to four groups having different sample size:

  - Students   -   72   samples
  - Advocates   -   66   samples
  - House wives   -   60   samples
  - Working women -   64   samples

RESULTS OBTAINED

  We have adopted Probability method i.e. random sampling method to collect sample. We have taken collected sample from 262 females categorized in to four groups with the help of questionnaire having 25 questions with three options (agree/don't know/disagree) from Jabalpur and its surrounding region. Score will be **2** for agree, **1** for don't know and **0** for disagree.

We have calculated percentage of women who are aware of computer of from the following groups:

Table No. 1
Awareness level in Students (Post Graduate & Under Graduate)

Sample	Mean	More awareness seen	Less awareness seen
72	38.83	44(61.11%)	28(38.89%)

The above table states that mean is 38.83. It has been observed that out of 72 students 44 students are more aware of computer and less awareness is seen among 28 students. Thus, we can say that 61.11% of students are having sufficient computer knowledge and rest 38.89% is having insufficient knowledge.

Table No. 2
Awareness level in Advocates

Sample	Mean	More awareness seen	Less awareness seen
66	37.91	36(54.545%)	30(45.455%)

It is clear from the table that mean is 37.91. It has been seen that out of 66 advocates 36 are having more knowledge of computer and 30 are having less knowledge. Thus, we can say that 54.545% of advocates are having more computer awareness compared to rest 45.455%.

Table No. 3
Awareness level in House Wives

Sample	Mean	More awareness seen	Less awareness seen
60	37.5	30(50%)	30(50%)

The above table states that mean is 37.5. It has been observed that total sample drawn is 60 out of which 30 House wives are having more knowledge of computer and rest 30 are having less knowledge. Thus, we can say that 50% House wives are more familiar to computer compared to rest 50%.

Table No. 4
Awareness level in working women (Teachers, Asst. Professors, Computer Operators, Nurses, Physiotherapists, Insurance agents)

Sample	Mean	More awareness seen	Less awareness seen
64	39	40(62.5%)	24(37.5%)

It is clear from the table that mean is 39. It has been seen that out of 64 Working women 40 are more aware about computer and ICT tools and 24 are having less knowledge. Thus, we can say that 62.5% are having sufficient computer knowledge compared to rest 37.5%.

CONCLUSION AND DISCUSSIONS

We can conclude by saying that in today's modern society, not only highly educated women are aware of computer and ICT tools but also less educated women are also having some knowledge of computer. In present age computer education is very important but at places where formal education is not available there also it has been seen women are doing their duties with full responsibility & also aware of their basic rights.

It is also true that on statistical base computer awareness among women may be more or less but we cannot say they are totally unaware of it.

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