

Information Literacy on Instructive Background for Effectual use of e-Learning Technological Practices- A Study.

T.R.Sridevi

Librarian

R.V.College of Engineering, R.V.Vidyaniketan Post, Mysore Road Bangalore

Mob : 9449517483, Karnataka, India : Pin Code -560 0589

E-mail : trsidevi@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

Information literacy has become a vital issue in today's development and progress. As information and communication technology has been developing rapidly the information set up becomes increasingly complex, where in the educators are recognizing the need for learners to engage with the information technology that can be reached by everyone. This paper is a case study of Information Literacy on Instructive Background for Effectual use of E-learning Technological Practices.

It reveals a strong relation between the instructive backgrounds and extends of learning information technology. However a few exceptions were observed in which the aspirants with reasonable instructive background were able to cope up with the present information technology environment through their constant effort of involvement.

Keywords: *E-learning, Information Literacy, Instructive Background, E-learning Technological Practice.*

1. Introduction:

In the present society with rapid growth of information transformation one needs to upgrade their knowledge and skills to meet the present scenario requirement. Information communication technology has helped the society with various modern technological practices which need to be adhered and practice by the aspirants. Information literacy is the ability to evaluate information across range of information need to locate, synthesis and use in an effective manner.

The present day education is measured by the resources and infrastructure available for learning on campus and off campus and the extend to which the students use the same. The focus on e-learning is to prepare students towards a life long continuous learning, to accomplish this, students need to become information literate for which they must

- Understand the process and system for acquiring current information.
- Develop skill in acquiring and storing information from books and documents.

The adoption of new e-learning technological practices may lead to failure without complete participation from the users and service providers. In this context, a study on Information Literacy on Instructive Background for Effectual use of E-learning Technological Practices has been carried out, which discusses the issues concerned.

2. Literature Review:

Information literacy gap: challenge in bridging the divide, the author Shyama Rajaram(1) highlights challenges faced in different countries while initiating information literacy programme. Though information literacy is evolving owing to the tremendous progress in information technology, but computers, digital literacy could not be equated to information literacy. The author also indicates the importance of information literacy has to be an independent lifelong learner, it is essential to achieve a high level of information literacy. The challenges as mentioned were political hurdles, inadequacy of technological infrastructure and IT skills. Further author Shyama Rajaram concludes raising several emerging issues such as, is information literacy a library issue. Why teaching faculty is not taking the lead in information literacy initiatives etc.

Learning is natural to living beings, it helps them to grow, develop and survive as highlighted in the paper virtual learning environment and information literacy: concepts, contents and cases by the author Tariq Ashraf (2), The authors describes various models of information literacy and course contents through some cases. Information literacy should

aim to help users to reach their information but also to organize, evaluate and use systematically. This paper also highlights information literacy, course contents and modules. Information literacy is an important factor that is provided by libraries today in view of the increasing volume of information knowledge societies, was the concluding remark made by the author Tariq Ashraf(2).

The advantage of education on information literacy in library, different types of information literacy are been discussed, by author Chithra (3), states that fundamentals of information literacy are the resources based learning. A library with rich collection of printed as well as facility to access elective resources in the lab will go useless without the involvement by the users and service providers.

Information literacy scenario has changed over the past few years with the evolution of internet and online resources. This has resulted in the evolution of new learning methods and information literacy strategies. Ravivenkat(4), highlights on conceptual models of information seeking and analysis. The current view in information seeking and analysis emphasis understanding, reflection and communication based upon the needs, characteristics and actions of information seekers. Author (4) concludes that objectives of information literacy are resource based learning.

Information literacy on educational background and information technology discussed in the literature has been taken into consideration in the current study. Further as case study has been made to relate the effective usage of e-learning technological practices with instructive background of the users.

3. Discussions:

The need for adopting E-learning technology for Information Literacy:

- Information literacy is required to proliferate information access and resources
- Identify and articulate needs, which require information solutions
- Interpret and analyse search results from relevant sources
- Evaluation of information retrieved.

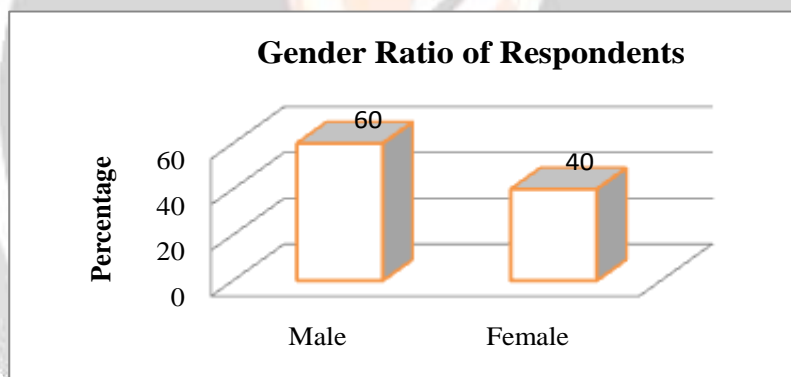


Figure 1. The plot showing percentage of gender ratio of the respondent

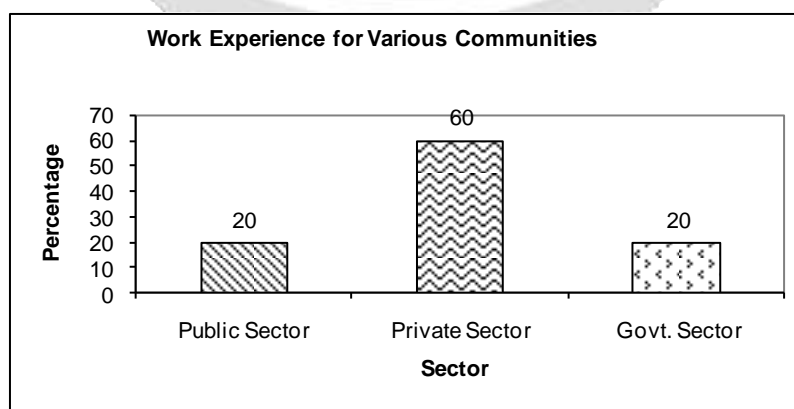


Figure 2. Work experience for various communities in percentage

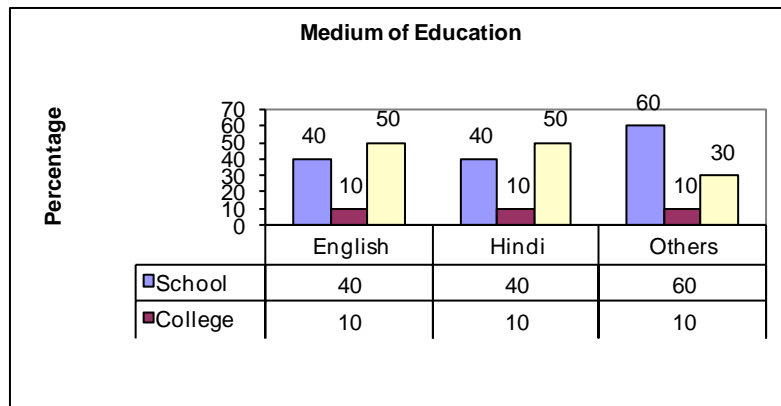


Figure 3. Medium of Education of the respondents

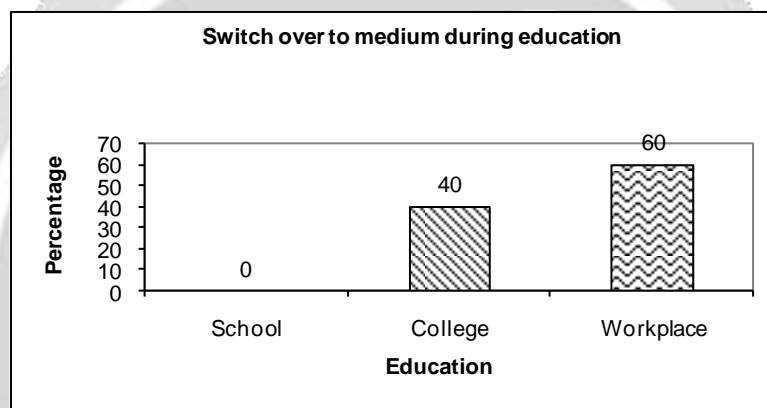


Figure 4. Stage of switch over to medium during education of respondents

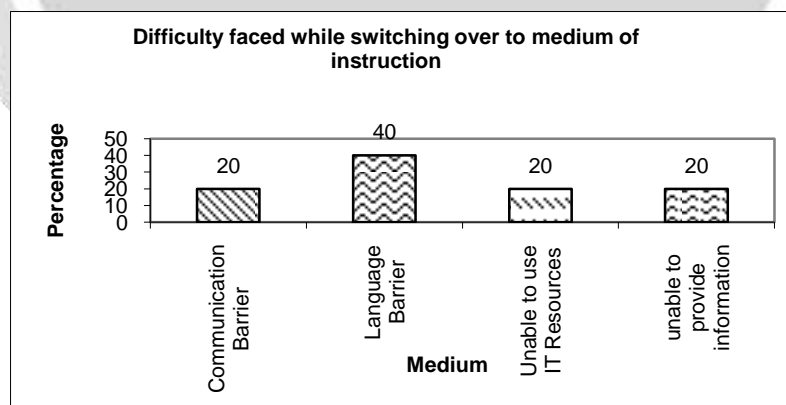


Figure 5. Difficulties faced by the respondent while switching over medium of instruction in their education

4. Analysis:

1. Current study shows 60% males and 40% females (Fig.1) although males dominate over females in terms of number, a continuous growth in number of females getting to information communication technology sector is constantly growing.

2. 60% of the respondents work relates in private sector, where as 20% each in public and government sector as shown in (Fig.2), this shows limited job opportunity is available in government sector. The implementation of reservation is effective in government sector, which would provide an opportunity for deprived classes, however the above statistics shows that government sector covers only a smaller part of over all library staff.
3. Medium of instruction is shown 50% in English and 30% in other language as shown in (Fig.3), people have a tendency to migrate to city where there is a need to change medium to English for both studying and working due to which there is a greater demand to learn English.
4. Among the three English shows a steady increase from schooling to workplace with an increase from 40% to 60% respectively as seen in (Fig. 4), which shows a positive result in English as a standard medium for continuous growth and development.
5. 40% of respondents as shown in (Fig. 5), had language barrier as they were migrated from village and town, they could not immediately cope up which in turn affected their performance level. To fill the gaps various training and workshop may be conducted to help the aspirants in upgrading their language usage capability.

5. Summary:

- It is observed that most respondents carried out their education in city.
- Most of respondents work relates in private firm than government and public.
- Through the change of medium most of them were able to reach their goal.
- Through the changed medium most of them had language barrier and were unable to use the IT resources.

6. Conclusion:

Information literacy occurs at the juncture of teaching, thinking and learning within the broader environment of technology. The adoption of new technology for e-learning leads to complete failure without proper participation from the users and service providers. In this context the current study on Information Literacy on Instructive Background for Effectual use of E-learning Technological Practices. A Study has recommended a few gap filling activities for the effective usage of e-learning technological practices in education.

REFERENCES:

1. Shyama Rajaram, "Information Literacy Gap: Challenges in Bridging the Divide", *4th International Convection, CALIBER-2006*, Gulburga, 2-4 February, 2006, pp 193-199.
2. Tariq Ashraf; Jaideep Sharma; Suresh Jindal, "Virtual Learning Environment and Information Literacy: Concept, Contents and Cases, Library Services", *ICAL -2009*, pp 536-544.
3. Chithra, K, "Knowledge Management- Emerging Perspectives", *Proceedings of the National Conference on Future Technologies for Empowering LIS Professionals: Challenges and Opportunities*, SALIS 2007, pp436.
4. Ravivenkat, "Abstract of Impact of E-Information Literacy on Information Searching", *Proceedings of the National Conference on Future Technologies for Empowering LIS Professionals: Challenges and Opportunities*, SALIS 2007, pp.76.