Attitude towards ICT Applications and Internet usage among School Administrators

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Abstract- The school administrator uses a variety of tactics to support the smooth functioning of the institution, to unlock the full potential of its teachers and staff, and to deliver the best possible educational results. The use of ICT is an activity which requires thorough understanding and well-developed skills of the administrators. Thus, it is important that the administrators have sufficient Attitude on the availability and use of the ICT for performing their assigned administrative tasks. Attitude on ICT usage is the foundation upon which all the other competencies can be effectively acquired. Therefore, it is vital that the administrators possess the sufficient ICT skills before they can start engaging in use of ICT for administrative purpose. The usage of the internet in the school administration is a rapidly growing phenomenon that is becoming increasingly important for effective school management. The introduction of the internet has changed the face of school management significantly and has made the entire management process much more efficient and cost-effective. The investigator found it desirable to limit the study to a sample of 639 Post Graduate Teachers who were the administrators of Schools located in Bengaluru City of Karnataka State, India.

Key words: Attitude of ICT Applications, Internet usage, School Administrators

Introduction
Attitudes of administrators may also play a role in the acceptance and utilization of ICT in school administration. Administrators may view ICT as a time-consuming task or a challenge to daily routines. If they lack the knowledge or skills to manage ICT, then they are likely to be more resistant to its adoption. Stine (2020) reports that if administrators do not fully comprehend the potential benefits of ICT for school administration, they are more likely to be reluctant to employ it. Several factors that could influence the administrators’ attitude and motivation to use ICT for school administration. These are: (1) external constraints, such as the availability or funding of ICT resources; (2) socio-cultural norms of the community which may discourage the use of ICT; and (3) the administrator’s personal beliefs. The field of school administration is complicated, frequently including a large number of people with a wide range of duties. The headmaster, instructors, and students are typically the most significant members of the administrative team at a school. Each of these three people plays a specific duty, yet they all contribute significantly to making sure that a school runs well. The internet has become an essential part of the school administration process and has made it easier for school principals and other school personnel to access information, manage school finances, communicate with parents, assign work, and prepare reports more quickly and accurately than in the past. The present study is an attempt to meet this need.

Need for the present study
Technology can assist school administrators in managing data more effectively, reducing burden, and improving accuracy and communication. ICT is utilised in school administration to simplify and automate a number of processes, including data management, communication, reporting, and attendance tracking (Piva, 2017). Additionally, ICT can be leveraged to develop more interactive and engaging learning environments (Goldgder, 2012). ICT can be used, for instance, to build virtual classrooms and support online teaching and learning. CT use in school administration can assist in reducing burden, enhancing communication, boosting accuracy, and better data control (Moore & Kearsley, 2020). By allowing them to quickly and readily access information, ICT can also assist school administrators in enhancing student engagement and performance (Oecd, 2017). The school administrator uses a variety of tactics to support the smooth functioning of the institution, to unlock the full potential of its teachers and staff, and to deliver the best possible educational results. The purpose of the present study is to know the Attitude towards ICT Applications and Internet usage among School Administrators.

Title of the Study
The problem taken for the present study may be stated as “Attitude towards ICT Applications and Internet usage among School Administrators.”

Objectives
The present study has the following objectives.  
I. To find out the level of Attitude of School Administrators towards ICT Applications.
2. To find out the level of Internet usage of School Administrators.
3. To find out whether there is any significant difference in Attitude of School Administrators towards ICT Applications in terms of variable such as
   Gender: (Male/Female)
   Locale: (Rural/Urban)
   4. To find out whether there is any significant difference in Internet usage of School Administrators in terms of variable such as
      a) Gender: (Male/Female)
      b) Locale: (Rural/Urban)

Hypothesis of the study
The hypotheses of the study are as follows:
1. The Attitude of School Administrators towards ICT Applications is high.
2. The Internet usage of school administrators is high.
3. There is no significant difference in Attitude of School Administrators towards ICT Applications between male and female School Administrators.
4. There is no significant difference in Attitude of School Administrators towards ICT Applications between rural and urban School Administrators.
5. There is no significant difference in Internet usage between male and female School Administrators.
6. There is no significant difference in Internet usage between rural and urban School Administrators.

Tool
1. Attitude of Administrators towards ICT Applications for School Administration, Scale, developed and validated by Ajai Kumar David J and Senthilkumar K (2019)
2. Internet usage of school administrators scale, Internet usage of School Administrators Scale developed and validated by Ajai Kumar David J and Senthilkumar K (2019)

Method
Random sampling technique was used in the selection of sample. So, the sample includes 639 Post Graduate Teachers who were the administrators of Schools located in Bengaluru City of Karnataka State, India.

Analysis and the interpretation of data
Hypothesis-1
The Attitude of School Administrators towards ICT Applications is high.

Table-1 The Mean and SD of Attitude of School Administrators towards ICT Applications Scores

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Demographic Variables</th>
<th>Sub sample</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>SD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gender</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>307</td>
<td>149.34</td>
<td>15.522</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>332</td>
<td>140.73</td>
<td>16.332</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Locality</td>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>336</td>
<td>141.54</td>
<td>16.722</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>303</td>
<td>148.56</td>
<td>15.475</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entire Sample</td>
<td></td>
<td>639</td>
<td>144.87</td>
<td>16.508</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The School Administrators’ are possessing a moderate level of Attitude in ICT Applications for School Administration (M=144.87). Further, the mean values for the sub samples indicates that Male, Urban school, School Administrators are having higher level of Attitude in ICT Applications for School Administration than their counterparts.

Hypothesis-2
The Internet usage of school administrators is high.

Table -2 The Mean and SD of Internet usage of school administrators Scores

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Demographic Variables</th>
<th>Sub sample</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>SD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gender</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>307</td>
<td>153.75</td>
<td>29.123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>332</td>
<td>170.04</td>
<td>30.211</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Locality</td>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>336</td>
<td>169.36</td>
<td>31.411</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>303</td>
<td>154.28</td>
<td>28.024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entire Sample</td>
<td></td>
<td>639</td>
<td>162.21</td>
<td>30.768</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The School Administrators’ are possessing a moderate level of Internet usage for School Administration (M=162.21). Further, the mean values for the sub samples indicates that Female, Rural school, School Administrators are having higher level of Internet usage for School Administration than their counterparts.

**Hypothesis-3**

There is no significant difference in the Attitude of School Administrators towards ICT Applications with respect to in their sub samples.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table - 3 Differential analysis - Attitude of school administrator’s towards ICT Applications scores</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Demographic Variables</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Locality</td>
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<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Interpretation**

The mean Attitude in ICT Applications for School Administration score of the entire sample is 144.87. It shows that the Attitude of ICT Applications of school administrators is favorable. It is seen from table: 3 that there is significant difference between male and female, urban and rural administrators in respect of their Attitude of ICT Applications. Therefore in respect of the above pairs of sub-samples the null hypotheses concerned are rejected.

**Hypothesis-4**

There is no significant difference in the Internet usage of School Administrators with respect to in their sub samples.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table - 4 Differential analysis - internet usage of school administrator’s scores</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Demographic Variables</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Locality</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Interpretation**

The mean Internet usage of school administrators score of the entire sample is 162.21. It shows that the Internet usage of school administrators is favorable. It is seen from table: 2 that there is significant difference between male and female, urban and rural administrators in respect of their Internet usage. Therefore in respect of the above pairs of sub-samples the null hypotheses concerned are rejected.

**Major finding of study**

- The School Administrators’ possess a moderate level of Attitude in ICT Applications.
- It is inferred from the above table that there is a significant difference between male and female school Administrators in their Attitude of ICT.
- It is inferred from the above table that there is a significant difference between urban and rural Administrators in their Attitude of ICT Applications.
- The School Administrators’ possess a moderate level of Internet usage.
- It is inferred from the above table that there is a significant difference between male and female school Administrators in their Internet usage.
- It is inferred from the above table that there is a significant difference between urban and rural Administrators in their Internet usage.

**Conclusion**

From the above analysis, it is conducted that the majority of the entre sample of School Administrators’ possess a moderate level of Attitude in ICT Applications. The sub sample of the present study such as the Gender and Locality shows a significant difference in Attitude of ICT Applications. The School Administrators’ are having moderate level of Internet usage. The Male and Female, The Rural and Urban school administrators do differ in their Internet usage.

**REFERENCES:**


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