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RESEARCH ARTICLE

IMPACT OF TEACHER E-READINESS ON USER-SATISFACTION LEADING TO E-LEARNING ACCEPTANCE IN HIGHER EDUCATION

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ABSTRACT

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*Corresponding author: *Tarun Kumar* In the context of India, the surge in popularity of e-learning, especially prompted by the COVID-19 pandemic, highlights the need to explore how learners perceive and accept this mode of education. The existing literature on this subject in India is limited, particularly in relation to teacher e-readiness relation to user-satisfaction. This study adopts an empirical research methodology, analyzing data from 62 e-learners of higher educational institutes in India engaged in various e-learning formats, including higher education, re-skilling, online skill certifications, institutional training, and hobby and language-related learning. The research framework is grounded in the Unified Theory of Acceptance and Use of Technology model and the End User Computing Satisfaction model. The collected data is subjected to multiple linear regression analysis using SPSS. The study's outcomes reveal a significant association of teacher e-readiness towards user satisfaction, thereby influencing the acceptance of e-learning in India. This research contributes theoretically to the understanding of factors influencing e-learning acceptance. Moreover, the findings and recommendations hold practical implications for educational providers, corporate entities in the education industry, and policymakers.

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INTRODUCTION

Online learning, also known as electronic learning, involves the dissemination of knowledge using advanced technologies like mobile phones, webinars, and tablets. The global advancement of educational practices has been supported by online learning, which has evolved to offer learning opportunities for everyone (Kem, 2023). The research study focuses on measuring the user satisfaction among the students of higher education with objectives of

- Focus on items of user-satisfaction in e-learning
- For use across a variety of e-learning platforms
- To explore the relationship between end-user computing satisfaction and independent variable of teacher e-readiness.

Existing Literature: (Akaslan and Law 2011) in a study titled "Measuring Teacher's Readiness for E-Learning", done in an online and blended environment, investigated the higher educational institutions (HEI) readiness for e-learning. Data collected through a survey of questionnaire which were returned by 289 participants mainly comprising of teachers and researchers was computed vide descriptive and inferential statistics.

The Survey questionnaire consisted of 41 questions across 3 segments of investigation 1/ E-Readiness, 2/ E-Acceptance, 3/ E-Training. E-Readiness sections. The result of the study revealed that the teachers of higher education showed positive attitude and confidence towards adoption of e-learning. Also while the teacher's e-readiness seems to be sufficient, their attitude need strengthening for adoption of e-learning. A research study was conducted by (Gay 2016) to assess their levels of e-readiness in the journey of course delivery including pre-course, during-course and post-course at the online campus. 208 online instructors participated in the survey which was conducted online and their response data were analysed. Results revealed only 72.6 % were individually e-ready with internet connection for dedicated time period, regular in using e-technologies for communication, selfmotivated and independent learners, and positive towards accepting and using new technologies while overall 90.6 % cohort were e-ready. The results identified characteristics of eteachers / instructors in the online environment and can be used for comparing levels of e-readiness across institutions. The study validates the relationship of teacher e-readiness with user-satisfaction in e-learning. (Geng et al 2019), in a study conducted in blended and hybrid environment investigated self-directed learning and technology readiness in blended online learning environment.

In this study two groups are formed one from blended learning environment and another set from non-blended learning environment. 96 UG students from blended learning (BL) and 111 UG students from non-blended earning (NBL) participated in the research. Results indicate self-directed learning and technology readiness have a positive influence on learning motivation in BL environment thus leading to satisfaction and intent of use. Learning motivation is found positively influencing the social presence in BL teaching environment. Technology readiness is important role in impact of teaching in the BL learning environment. The study evidenced that ereadiness positively influences online learning. In a research study conducted by (Yang and Xu, 2023) across 5914 students and 1752 instructors of e-learning, the results indicated three valuable components in e-learning including teacher presence and skill, teacher-student interaction and practicing problem solving activities. The review of literature revealed that the research studies has emphasized the importance of usersatisfaction as key to E-learner motivation and intention to use learning platforms in future. Also the literature review pointed that factor of teacher e-readiness is related to e-learner satisfaction. With online learning environment becoming the new normal, E-Learner satisfaction is set to play a significant role in both motivation and intention to continue to use online learning platforms. Given these scenario, there are no significant research done on the teacher e-readiness to online learning in Indian context and this is the gap that I would contribute to through my proposed research study.

METHODOLOGY

Regression analysis is a statistical method used to examine the relationship between one dependent variable and one or more independent variables. In the context this study, which aims to explore the impact of teacher e-readinesson e-learner satisfaction in higher education, regression analysis can be a valuable tool for assessing the strength and nature of these relationships. Dependent Variable (DV): The dependent variable in this study is "User-Satisfaction." This is the variable the research is trying to predict/understand based on the independent variable.

Independent Variables (IV): 1) Teacher E-Readiness

In this study, internal consistency reliability was assessed using Cronbach's alpha coefficient. Cronbach's alpha measures the extent to which items within a measurement instrument are correlated.



A higher alpha coefficient indicates greater reliability and internal consistency among the items. Analyzing the correlation of teacher e-readiness towards online learning through satisfaction. Six different constructs formed the basis of the survey that was conducted amongst 62 respondent students who have pursued or are pursuing online learning courses of short (upto 3months) to long term (6months and beyond) or continuous online courses. Total 18 items formed from the constructs were included in the survey as (IPG-8, IAIC-10).

Data analysis and Results

The survey is aimed to assess the teacher e-readiness towards online learning user satisfaction.

Sample Description: A total of 62 respondents participated in the survey, comprising students enrolled in education institutions offering online learning courses. The sample represented diverse academic disciplines and varying levels of familiarity with online learning platforms.

The statistical analysis of the respondents in the research study are detailed below:

Frequency Table:

Online course duration: The prerequisite of participation in the survey was completion of online courses of short-term duration (3 months), long-term duration (6 months), continuous online learning or all the options. The outcome of the research study shows students participants included 46.8% of short-term online course duration, 25.8% long-term online course duration, 6.5% from continuous online courses and 21% from all online course options.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
	Short term course	29	46.8	46.8	46.8
	Long term course	16	25.8	25.8	72.6
Valid	Continuous Online Learning	4	6.5	6.5	79.0
	All	13	21.0	21.0	100.0
	Total	62	100.0	100.0	

Gender: Gender analysis of the students participation in the research study shows 53.2% participation by males and 46.8% by female students.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
	Male	33	53.2	53.2	53.2
Valid	Female	29	46.8	46.8	100.0
	Total	62	100.0	100.0	

Educational Institution's category: Students participation in the research study shows 3.2% from government-run, 48.4% from privately-run, 1.6% from autonomous and 46.8% from EdTech online education platforms thus evidencing and increased presence of opportunity in this sector.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
	Government	2	3.2	3.2	3.2
	Private	30	48.4	48.4	51.6
Volid	Autonomous	1	1.6	1.6	53.2
valid	EdTech Platform	29	46.8	46.8	100.0
	(Coursera/Khan Academy)				
	Total	62	100.0	100.0	

Discipline: The majority of the participating students in the research study comprising of 40.3% are from Fashion education background, with 22.6% from business, 16.1% from others- denoted by 8 (medical, pharmacy, armed forces, skill development, etc), 8.1% from commerce, 4.8% from humanities, 3.2% from science and engineering and 1.6% from architecture & interior streams.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
	Business	14	22.6	22.6	22.6
	Fashion	25	40.3	40.3	62.9
	Architect-Interior	1	1.6	1.6	64.5
	Commerce	5	8.1	8.1	72.6
Valid	Humanities	3	4.8	4.8	77.4
	Science	2	3.2	3.2	80.6
	Engineering	2	3.2	3.2	83.9
	8	10	16.1	16.1	100.0
	Total	62	100.0	100.0	

Location: Region wise segregation of the research study samples shows participation of 66.1% from Delhi NCR, 1.6% from Northern India, 3.2% from Western India, 3.2% from Southern India and 25,.8% from online participants.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
	Delhi NCR	41	66.1	66.1	66.1
	Northern India	1	1.6	1.6	67.7
14-15-1	Western India	2	3.2	3.2	71.0
Valid	Southern India	2	3.2	3.2	74.2
	Online	16	25.8	25.8	100.0
	Total	62	100.0	100.0	

Accessibility of online learning: The devices in use for undertaking online courses as stated by the participating students shows 56.5% on laptop or desktop, 43.5% on laptop, desktop & mobile while no one chose mobile as an option for undertaking online courses.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
	on laptop or desktop	35	56.5	56.5	56.5
Valid	on both laptop-desktop & mobile	27	43.5	43.5	100.0
	Total	62	100.0	100.0	

Internet proficiency: Among the participants of the research study majority comprising of 48.4% each identified their proficiency skills in internet as experts and intermediate which implies that the skill set is already acquired at the higher education level while 3.2% identified themselves as beginners.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
	Expert	30	48.4	48.4	48.4
Mallal	Intermediate	30	48.4	48.4	96.8
valid	Beginner	2	3.2	3.2	100.0
	Total	62	100.0	100.0	

RESULTS

The Cronbach's alpha coefficient for the measurement instrument used in this study was calculated to assess its reliability. The value of Cronbach's alpha ranges from 0 to 1. A coefficient closer to 1 indicates high internal consistency among the items in the instrument. In overall scale of all 62 respondents in research study, Cronbach's alpha value of .952 suggests that the measurement instrument used in this study demonstrates high internal consistency. Table with details as illustrated below.

Case Processing Summary				
		N	%	
	Valid	62	100.0	
Cases	Excluded ^a	0	.0	
	Total	62	100.0	
a. Listwis	e deletion based o	on all variables ir	n the	

procedure.



For Instructor/Teacher presence and guidance in online course (IPG), Cronbach's alpha value of .872 suggests that the measurement instrument used in this study demonstrates high internal consistency. Table with details as illustrated below.

Case Process	sing Summar	y
	N	
Valid	62	

	valiu	02	100.0
Cases	Excluded ^a	0	.0
	Total	62	100.0
0			

a. Listwise deletion based on all variables in the procedure.

Reliability Statistics			
Cronbach's Alpha	N of Items		
.872	8		

For Instructor/Teacher ability in internet-based course (IAIC), Cronbach's alpha value of .914 suggests that the measurement instrument used in this study demonstrates high internal consistency. Table with details as illustrated below.

IAIC

	Case Process	ing Summary	
		N	%
	Valid	62	100.0
Cases	Excluded ^a	0	.0
	Total	62	100.0
a. Listwis	e deletion based o	on all variables ir	the
procedur	e.		
R	eliability Statistic	s	

Cronbach's Alpha N of Items .914 10

Correlation: Total 18 items formed from the 2 constructs were included in the research survey as (IPG-8, IAIC-10). The result outcome is discussed here.

	Correlations									
)		Overall_Stu_Sat	IPG1	IPG2	IPG3	IPG4	IPG5	IPG6	IPG7	IPG8
	Pearson Correlation	1	.582"	.599"	.244	.648"	.613"	.677"	.484"	.602
Overall_Stu_Sat	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000	.000	.056	.000	.000	.000	.000	.00
	N	62	62	62	62	62	62	62	62	6
	Pearson Correlation	.582"	1	.568"	.244	.676"	.481"	.584"	.532"	.621
IPG1	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000		.000	.056	.000	.000	.000	.000	.00
	N	62	62	62	62	62	62	62	62	6
	Pearson Correlation	.599"	.568	1	.166	.683**	.756"	.534"	.495"	.558
IPG2	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000		.198	.000	.000	.000	.000	.00
	N	62	62	62	62	62	62	62	62	6
	Pearson Correlation	.244	.244	.166	1	.192	068	.076	.084	.02
IPG3	Sig. (2-tailed)	.056	.056	.198		.136	.600	.560	.517	.85
	N	62	62	62	62	62	62	62	62	6
	Pearson Correlation	.648"	.676	.683"	.192	1	.667"	.686"	.532"	.632
IPG4	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000	.000	.136		.000	.000	.000	.00
	N	62	62	62	62	62	62	62	62	6
	Pearson Correlation	.613"	.481	.756"	068	.667"	1	.584"	.440"	.558
IPG5	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000	.000	.600	.000		.000	.000	.00
	N	62	62	62	62	62	62	62	62	6
	Pearson Correlation	.677"	.584"	.534"	.076	.686"	.584"	1	.617"	.646
IPG6	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000	.000	.560	.000	.000		.000	.00
	N	62	62	62	62	62	62	62	62	6
	Pearson Correlation	.484"	.532"	.495"	.084	.532"	.440	.617"	1	.703
IPG7	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000	.000	.517	.000	.000	.000		.00
	N	62	62	62	62	62	62	62	62	6
	Pearson Correlation	.602"	.621	.558"	.024	.632"	.558"	.646"	.703"	1
IPG8	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000	.000	.853	.000	.000	.000	.000	
	N	62	62	62	62	62	62	62	62	6

Construct-I: Instructor/Teacher presence and guidance (IPG)

E-learner satisfaction is positively correlated with instructor presence and guidance. This suggests that as instructor presence and guidance increase, E-learner satisfaction also increases. This indicates the importance of this factor in enhancing E-learner satisfaction. Results are detailed in the correlation chart as below:

		Querel Stu, Set	IAIC1	IAIC2	IAIC3	IAIC4	IAIC5	IAIC6	IAIC7	IAIC8	IAIC0	IAIC10
	Pearson Correlation	1	.498"	.603	.428	.558	.627"	.621"	.500	.643"	.769	.003
Overel_Riv_Set	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000	.000	.001	.000	.000	.000	.000	.000	.000	.00
	N	62	62	62	62	62	62	62	62	02	62	
	Pearson Correlation	498	1	.720"	.544	.531	.711	.052"	.342	323	.341	23
IAIC1	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000		.000	.000	.000	.000	.000	.006	.010	.007	.06
	N	62	62	62	62	62	62	62	62	62	62	
	Pearson Correlation	.603	.720	1	.842	.704	.727"	.618	.410	.502	.544	.451
IAIC2	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000		.000	.000	.000	.000	.001	.000	.000	.00
	N	62	62	62	62	62	62	62	62	82	62	
	Pearson Correlation	.426"	.544"	.642"	1	.513	.081	.546"	.284	.390"	.473	.410
IAIC3	Sig. (2-tailed)	.001	.000	.000		.000	.000	.000	.025	.002	.000	.00
	N	62	82	62	62	62	62	62	62	82	62	
	Pearson Correlation	.558"	.531"	.704"	.513	1	.647"	.421"	.361	.374"	.389"	.40
IAIC4	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000	.000	.000		.000	.001	.004	.003	.002	.00
	N	02	02	02	02	62	62	62	62	02	02	
	Pearson Correlation	.627"	.711"	.727"	.001	.647	1	.054	.534	.422"	.464	.421
IAIC5	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000	.000	.000	.000		.000	.000	.001	.000	.00
	N	62	62	62	62	62	62	62	62	62	62	
	Pearson Correlation	.621	.652"	.818	.548	.421	.054	1	.385	.448	.525	.431
IAIC6	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000	.000	.000	.001	.000		.002	.000	.000	.00
	N	62	62	62	62	62	62	62	62	62	62	
	Pearson Correlation	.500	.342	.410	.284	.301	.534	.385"	1	.683	.601	.03
IAIC7	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.008	.001	.025	.004	.000	.002		.000	.000	.00
	N	62	62	62	62	62	62	62	62	62	62	
	Pearson Correlation	.043	.323	.502	.390	.374	.422	.440	.683	1	.752	.72
IAIC8	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.010	.000	.002	.003	.001	.000	.000		.000	.00
	N	02	02	62	62	62	62	62	62	02	62	
	Pearson Correlation	.769"	.341"	.544"	.473	.389"	.484	.525"	.601	.752"	1	.81
IAICE	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.007	.000	.000	.002	.000	.000	.000	.000		.0
	N	02	02	02	02	02	02	02	02	02	02	
	Pearson Correlation	.663	.239	.455"	.410	.401	.429"	.438"	.681	.720"	.810	
IAIC10	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.082	.000	.001	.001	.001	.000	.010	.000	.000	
	N	82	82	62	62	62	62	62	82	62	62	

**. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).
*. Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).

Construct-II: Instructor/Teacher ability in internet-based course (IAIC). E-learner satisfaction is positively correlated with instructor's ability in internet-based course. This suggests that as instructor's ability in internet-based course increase, E-learner satisfaction also increases. This indicates the importance of this factor in enhancing E-learner satisfaction. Results are detailed in the correlation chart as below:

CONCLUSION

The survey provided valuable insights into the teacher ereadiness towards online learning. Both of 2 constructs shows positive correlation towards online learning. This further indicates that the e-learning teachers/instructors should be able to make course requirements clear; encourages and communicates important timelines to the e-learners and comments on the assignments timely; also apply right instructional techniques and suitable methods in course; facilitates discussions for in-depth learning among e-learners and continuously upgrades his/her technical skills.

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