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E-Education: An Accelerator towards Achievement of National Educational Growth

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Abstract

A learning system is based on formal teaching but with the help of electronic resources it is known as E-learning. While education can be based in or out of the classrooms with the use of computers and the Internet forms are the major component of E-learning. E-learning can also be called as a network enabled transfer of skills and knowledge, and the transfer of education is made to a large number of receivers at the same or different times.

This research study is experimental in nature. This study focuses mainly on E Learning and Blended Learning which are identified as an accelerators contributing towards the achievements of National Educational Growth. Primary Survey has been conducted and responses are collected from the people and the collected data has been analyzed by using statistical tools and techniques.

Keywords: E – Learning, accelerators, formalized teaching, electronic resources, blended learning



Introduction:

E-education or e-learning is the transfer of education or any type of training by electronic teaching methods. This electronic method can be a computer or a Smartphone where teaching material is retrieved by use of the internet usually. Other than the internet, CDs, DVDs, TV and other similar tools can also be used for E-learning. There are several E-learning entrances offering online courses in India and abroad now. Many people avail number of professional certificate courses to enhance their learning and career.

E-learning can be attained anywhere. A student does not need to be tangibly present in a class and the teachers do not need to reach to a place on a planned time to deliver a lecture. A person can study from the relaxations of his home through E-learning. You can also access it while roaming. In this way, it is good for professionals who can't avoid their job but still want to study. This is a type of Online learning that is highly practical because of its user-friendliness and flexibility.

On the way towards achievement of National educational Growth following are the two major **Accelerators:**

- 1) Complete Online Learning
- 2) Blended Learning

Complete Online Learning: This type of learning depends totally on e-learning tools. Delivery of course materials, dialogues, assignment evaluation, examination and other assessments are performed only on e learning platform. It provides maximum suppleness to the learners regarding place and time of learning.

Blended Learning: In this category e-learning tools are used to increase the effectiveness of conservative face-to-face methods as on add on tools. Sometimes these tools are used for decreasing face-to-face contact time. Somepart of education activities is occurred in classroom and rest of the part at e-learning platform.

Advantages of E-learning:

- Worldwide Connectivity



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- Fast Access
- Convergence of different mediums
- Flexibility
- Quick formation, up gradation and revision of course material

Review of Literature

The newness and growing accessibility of computers have given educators the chance to more carefully design how to teach. (Paul A. Soukup, 2011). Fong and Hui (2005) have claimed that educators should not simply recreate the traditional classroom but take advantage of what new communication and information technologies offer. Technological progression has made available a broad scope of creativity in generating learning material.

Wang & Woo (2011) claimed that the Facebook group had the prospective to be used as Learning Management System (LMS). It has educational, social and technological affordance. The use of available social networking websites for teaching-learning activities has been examined and discussed in various research works.

Chen and Tsai (2007) highlighted the role of gender in web based learning Atmosphere. On an average male students have more positive attitude towards web based learning than females. (Edmunds and Richardson, 2009). Various factors like gender, age and subject background play important role in deciding the learners' attitude towards e-learning environment. While going through the various research papers and projects on e-learning, I observed the huge gap between developed countries and developing countries. Many study projects and activities are going on about the utilization of e-learning tools and platforms, even in primary school education of developed countries. They are using e-learning tools for primary teaching to higher teaching. On the other hand maximum e-learning research activities are focused on higher education in context of developing countries including India. It indicates our backwardness in this field.

Objectives of the Study



1. To identify the different accelerators contributing for achieving the National Educational Growth.
2. To determine the impact of identified accelerators contributing towards achieving the National Educational Growth.

Hypothesis of the Study

1. Online Learning has a significant impact on achieving National Educational Growth.
2. Blended Learning has a significant impact on achieving National Educational Growth.

Scope of the Study

The study would help to examine the potential of the need for Electronic Based education. The research analyses the importance of E learning & Blended Learning. It would also study about how technology has carved in to education and opened more avenues. The research also studies about how much is the acceptability of E- Learning courses at work places. The study verifies the employees of the organization preference for E-Learning Courses and if they are acceptable by the Industries at par with traditional class room learning. The e-learning research studies about the various barriers in the organization for e learning. This research conducted would help education industry to completely analyze the growth of E-Learning market, preference of industries regarding E-Learning, the various groups of organization and their preferences and the need for technological innovation in Education.

Research Methodology:

A **research methodology** involves specific technique that is adopted in **research** process to collect, assemble and evaluate data. It defines those tools that are used to gather relevant information in a specific **research study**. Surveys, questionnaires and interviews are the common tools of **research**.

The research is Descriptive in nature.

The Secondary Data is collected from various available sources through desk research including literature survey and referring e-libraries etc. Review of literature and other



available material from various published and unpublished reports, Journals, books, newspapers etc

Primary Research

The primary data was collected using the instruments in the study. Questionnaires were used as instruments for data gathering from the respondents.

Size and Design of Sample

The study was conducted across Nagpur. The sampling method used was **Stratified Random Sampling**. The sample units were the people working in the corporate sector and in the field of HR, marketing, IT, Finance etc. across Nagpur.

Sample Size: The total valid sample for the study was 104 E-Learners.

Sampling Plan

The target population of the study is identified as people from organizations across Nagpur. Since the universe cannot be defined, the sample size of the study is ascertained to 104 E- Learners.

The sample units were E-Learners across Nagpur. The total sample size was ascertained to be 150 questionnaires were circulated. Out of these 104 questionnaires were returned. 46 questionnaires are invalid as they were not users of E- learning and therefore the valid samples were considered to be 104 E- learners.

Research Instrument

The research was conducted using a questionnaire for E learners. It comprises of quantitative and qualitative statements.

Limitations of the Study

1. The study could not be conducted all over the country as it was difficult to analyze the samples.
2. Most of the learners keep the information confidential.
3. The other factors which were difficult for the researcher were the data and perspectives of the employees.
4. The study was limited to the employees of the organization i.e. working population.
5. Study was limited to 104 employees only.



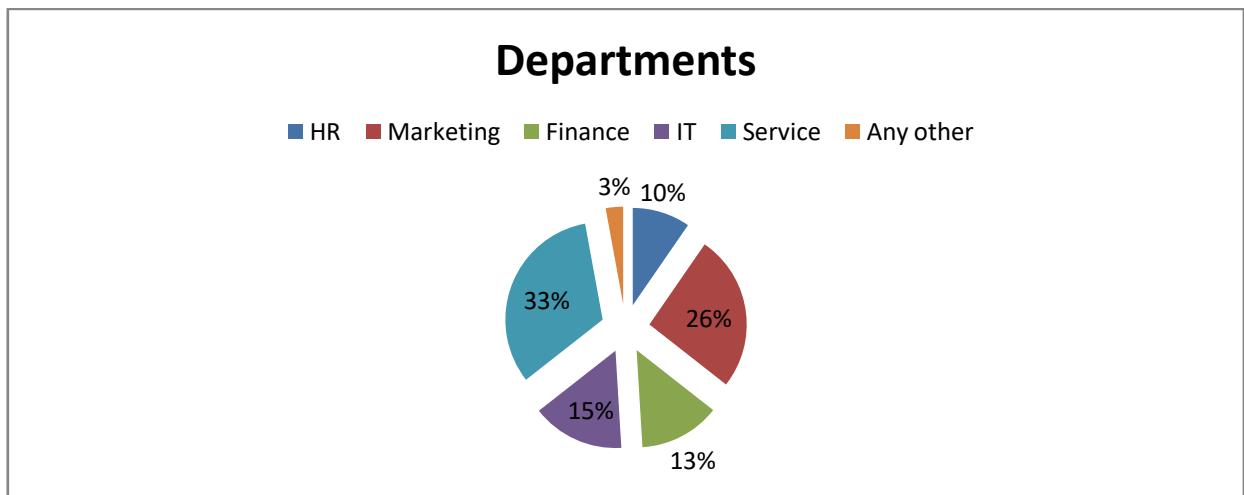
Data Interpretation & Analysis

Q.1 Which department of the Organization do you belong?

Table No. 1.1

Departments	Response	Percentage
HR	10	9.6
Marketing	27	26.0
Finance	14	13.5
IT	16	15.4
Service	34	32.7
Any other	3	2.9

Graph No. 1.1



Interpretation:

From the above pie chart it is clear that maximum i.e. 33% of respondents belongs to service, 26% of the respondents belongs to Marketing, 15% and 13% belongs to IT and Finance sector respectively.

Q.2 If you use a computer/Laptops, where do you use?

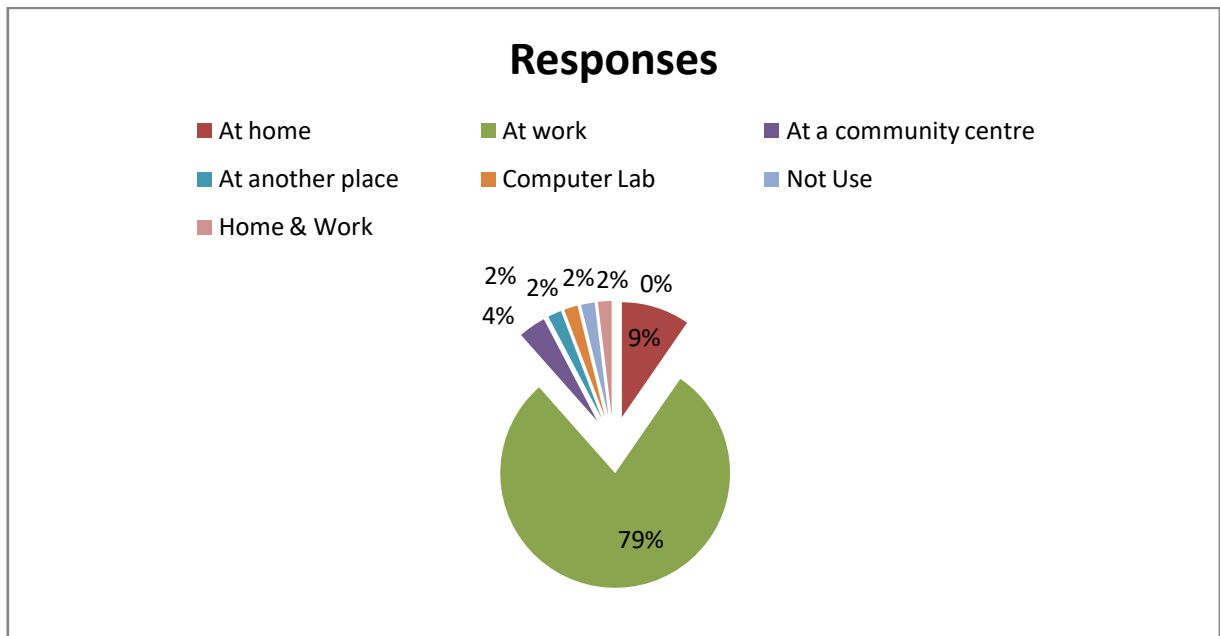
Table No. 1.2

Parameter	Responses	Percentage
At home	10	9.6%
At work	82	78.8%



At a community centre	4	3.8%
At another place	2	1.9%
Computer Lab	2	1.9%
Not Use	2	1.9%
Home & Work	2	1.9%

Graph No. 1.2



Interpretation:

From the above pie chart it is clear that maximum i.e. 79% of respondents use their computer/ Laptops at work only. From the responses it is clear that the respondents use their computer/ Laptops mostly at work.

Q.3 Are you aware of E- Learning?

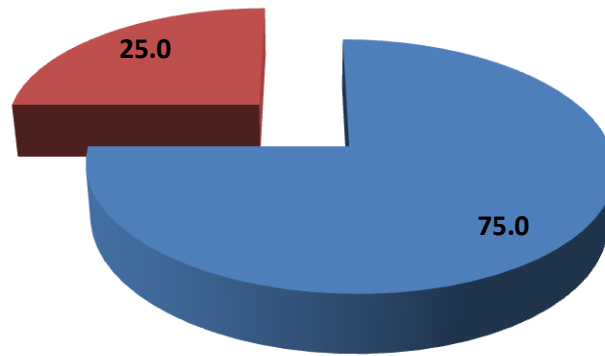
Table No. 1.3

S.No.	Options	Responses	Percentage
1	Yes	98	94.2%
2	No	6	5.8%

Graph No. 1.3



Awarenes Regarding E Learning



Interpretation:

It is clear from the above pie chart that the awareness regarding E- Learning is 94% among the respondents. From the above responses the researcher can identify that majority of the people are aware about E- Learning as a great contributor towards Educational growth.

Q.4 Are you aware of Blended Learning?

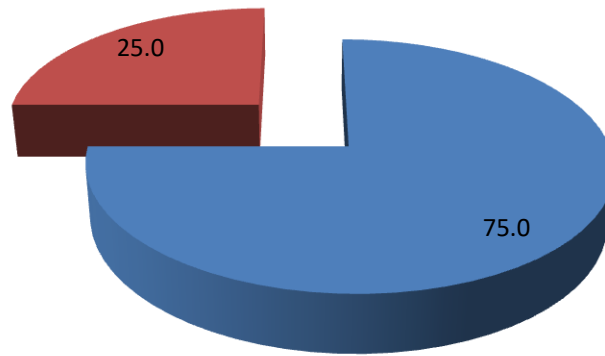
Table No. 1.4

S.No.	Options	Responses	Percentage
1	Yes	78	75.0
2	No	26	25.0

Graph No. 1.4



Awareness Regarding Blended Learning



Interpretation:

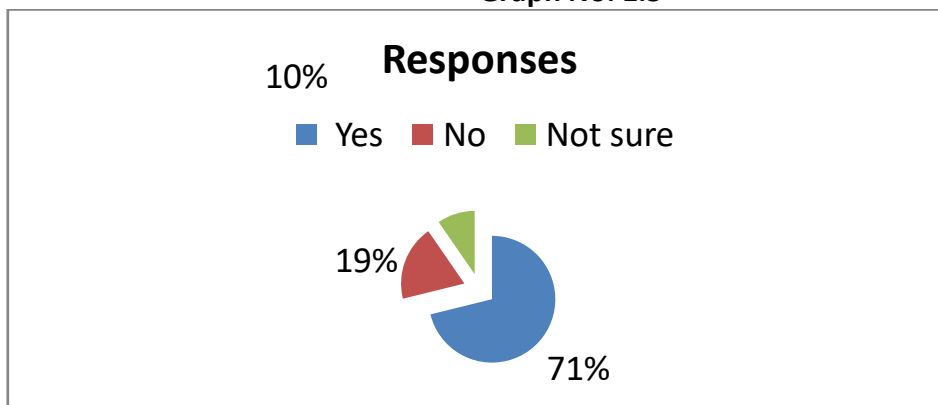
It is clear from the above pie chart that majority i.e. 75% of the respondents are aware of Blended learning. They are also aware about its contributor towards Educational growth.

Q.5 Does your organization make use of e-learning?

Table No 1.5

Parameters	Responses	Percentage
Yes	74	71.2
No	20	19.2
Not sure	10	9.6

Graph No. 1.5





Interpretation:

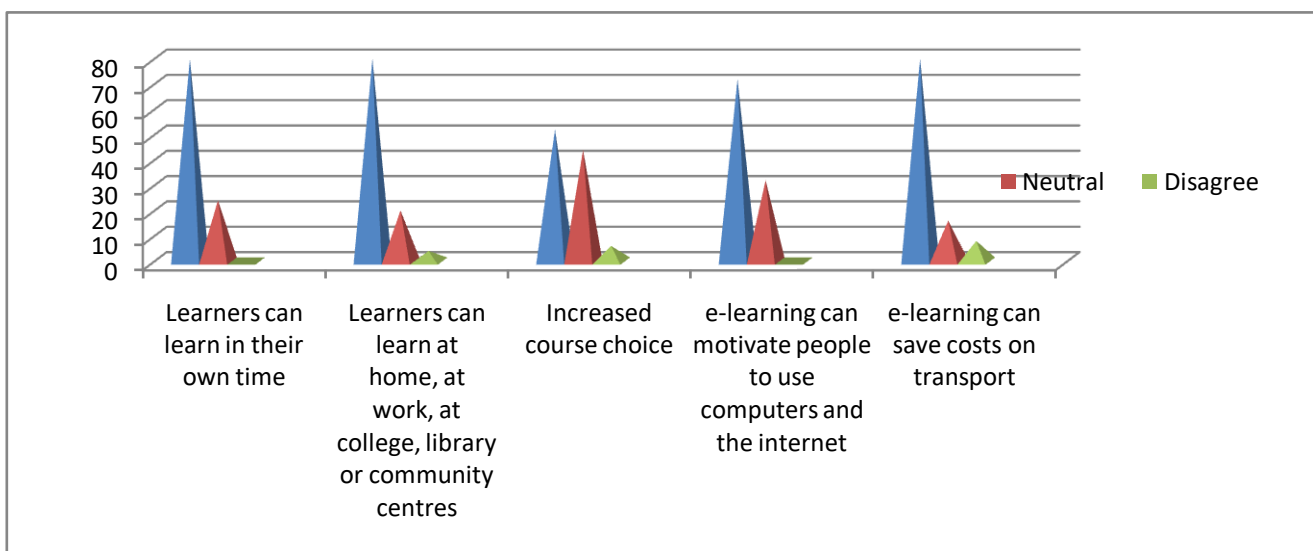
From the above pie chart it is clear that majority i.e. 71% of respondents uses e-learning. 19% of respondents are not aware of e learning and the rest i.e. 10% is not sure about the e-learning.

Q.6 How do you think your group would get benefit from e-learning? Please tick

Table No. 1.6

Parameters	Strongly agree	Neutral	Disagree	Total
Learners can learn in their own time	80	24	0	104
Learners can learn at home, at work, at college, library or community centers	80	20	4	104
Increased course choice	52	44	6	104
e-learning can motivate people to use computers and the internet	72	32	0	104
e-learning can save costs on transport	80	16	8	104

Graph No. 1.6



Interpretation:

From the above chart it is clear that majority of the respondents are aware about the benefits of the E-learning. Majority thinks that learners can learn in their own time. The



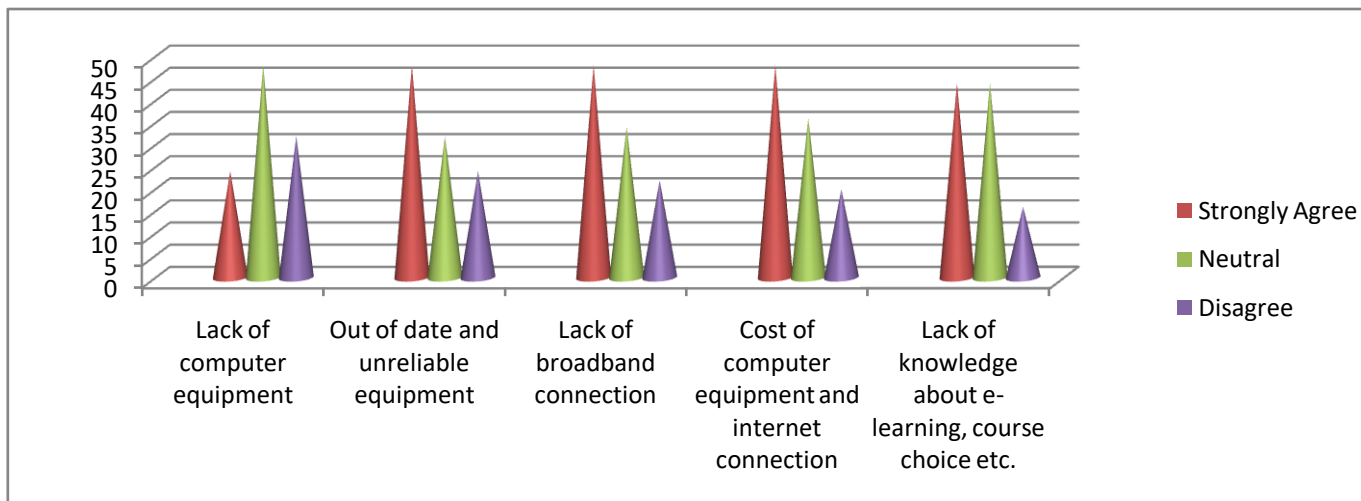
beneficiaries of E-learning also think that these types of online learning can motivate the people to use computer and it also save the cost of transportation.

Q.7 What do you think could be the barriers to your organisation making the most of e-learning? Please tick

Table No. 1.7

S.No	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Total
Lack of computer equipment	24	48	32	104
Out of date and unreliable equipment	48	32	24	104
Lack of broadband connection	48	34	22	104
Cost of computer equipment and internet connection	48	36	20	104
Lack of knowledge about e-learning, course choice etc.	44	44	16	104

Graph No. 1.7



Interpretation:

Majority of the respondents think that Lack of computer equipment and lack of outdated computer equipment is the major barrier for E learning. In the opinion of the E learner respondent's lack of knowledge about E learning and the unavailability of broadband connection is also responsible as a barrier.

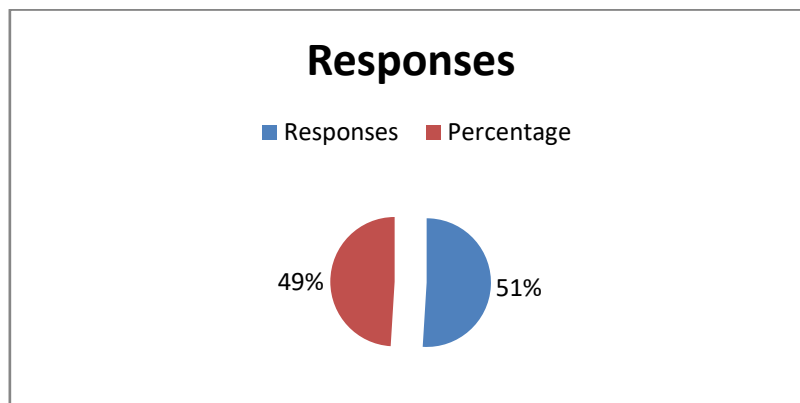


Q.8 Does your organization produce educational material for Online Training?

Table No. 1.8

S.No.	Options	Responses	Percentage
1	Yes	57	54.8
2	No	47	45.2

Graph No. 1.8



Interpretation:

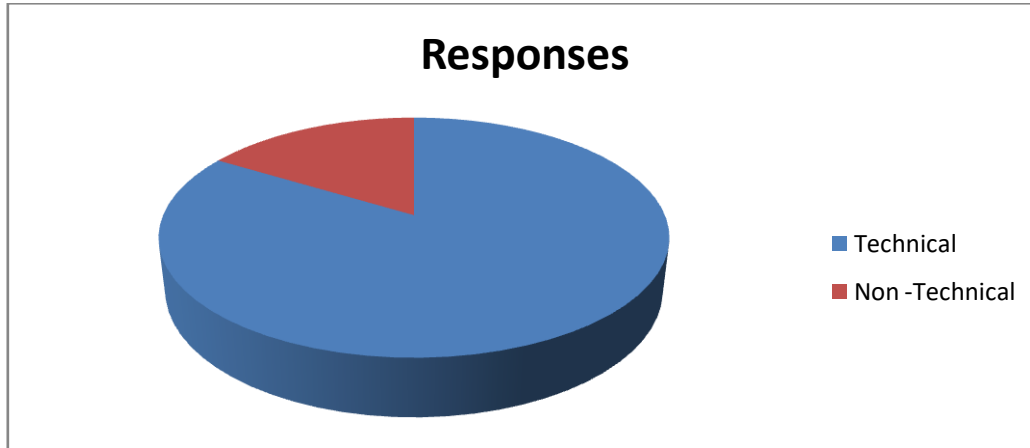
In the opinion of majority of the respondents their organizations provide Online Training and they also provide the educational material for such training. It is clear that the organization is aware of the importance of Online Learning and Online training. As it is not possible for the organization to reach their each and every employees working at their different branches.

Q.9 If yes, in what area?

Table No. 1.9

S.No.	Options	Responses	Percentage
1	Technical	87	83.7
2	Non -Technical	17	16.3

Graph No. 1.9



Interpretation:

In the opinion of majority of the employees the organizations mainly provide online training in Technical areas. In the view of very few employees the organizations gives Non-Technical Training to their employees.

As far as market scenario is concerned the technology is changing at a very fast pace. So to reach the technicalities of the market and to be in the competition there is a need to give technical training to the employees of the organization so that they can be in the competition in a successful way.

Findings

1. From the pie chart No. 1.1 it is clear that maximum i.e. 33% of respondents belongs to service, 26% of the respondents belongs to Marketing, 15% and 13% belongs to IT and Finance sector respectively.
2. From the pie chart No. 1.2 it is clear that maximum i.e. 79% of respondents use their computer/ Laptops at work only. From the responses it is clear that the respondents use their computer/ Laptops mostly at work.
3. It is clear from the pie chart 1.3 that the awareness regarding E- Learning is 94% among the respondents.
4. It is clear from the pie chart No. 1.4 that majority i.e. 75% of the respondents are aware of Blended learning. They are also aware about its contributor towards Educational growth.
5. From the pie chart 1.5 it is clear that majority i.e. 71% of respondents uses e-learning. 19% of respondents are not aware of e learning and the rest i.e. 10% is not sure about the e-learning.



6. From the chart 1.6 it is clear that majority of the respondents are aware about the benefits of the E learning.
7. Majority of the respondents think that Lack of computer equipment and lack of outdated computer equipment is the major barrier for E learning.
8. In the opinion of majority of the respondents their organizations provide Online Training and they also provide the educational material for such training.
9. In the opinion of majority of the employees the organizations mainly provide online training in Technical areas.

Conclusions

Throughout this study, the primary focus was to discuss regarding the awareness of Online Learning in the current scenario. It started with a basic overview of online education as studied and perceived which served as the theoretical framework for this study. The Researcher first examined the environment Online learning & Blended Learning over time, its evolvement, and the technologic impacts on online education.

The Researcher also examined the Online Training which is given to the employees of the organization. It is proved by the research that the organization knows the awareness and importance of Online Learning, Blended Learning and online training. As per the researcher it is clear from the responses of the respondents that Online Training is the easiest way to provide the training and approach their employees.

Within the territory of online learning, the researcher directed the attention on creating the awareness and importance of an online learning with blended learning by means of promoting social presence and interactions among respondents.

It is very clear from the study of the above research that the respondents are more aware of the Online Learning & Online Training as it is being promoted and given by the organizations.

Recommendations and Suggestions

It has become clear in the 21st century that online education is entering mainstream and becoming a growing market as it continues to expand access to learning for more people so there is a need to synthesize information across subjects to critically weigh significantly different perspectives and incorporate various inquiries.



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In this fast pace of life when there is a need to attain the National educational growth of the country, it is very important for the people to know the importance of Online & Blended Learning.

The study might also be useful to the institutions that want to institutionalize online education in the era of the fast-growing technology and the intensified financial strictness. Individual institutions have their own vision and mission, and this study may make it possible for them to create innovations for teaching and learning.

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