



ORIGINAL RESEARCH PAPER

Education

A STUDY OF CYBER CRIME AWARENESS AMONG B.ED STUDENTS

KEY WORDS: cybercrime, B.Ed students, awareness, locality, gender

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ABSTRACT

Now a days, Internet is becoming an important part of our life. Everyone is depending on cyber world which increases the possibility of cybercrime. There are many tricks used by cyber criminals to cheat people. The present study aims to find out the Cyber Crime Awareness among B.Ed. students. For this purpose, investigator took sample of 80 students from Rohtak district. For data collection Cyber Crime Awareness Scale (CCAS-RS) by Dr. S. Rajasekar (2013) was used. The study reveals that there is no significant difference between cyber-crime awareness among boys and girls but there is a significant difference between cyber-crime awareness among urban and rural students. The result shows that awareness towards cyber-crime is not significantly affected by gender but it is significantly affected by locality. We know that the cybercrimes are increasing day by day but we can reduce them by using proper preventive measures. Everyone should always take some precautions while using the internet. Students should be aware by organizing workshops, seminars and conferences etc.

INTRODUCTION:

Cybercrime is also called **computer crime** that takes place online by targeting computer network. These are illegal activities based on internet. Cybercrime is an attack on information of individuals, corporations, or governments. Nowadays cyber world is dominating every field like entertainment, business, sports and specify education. Criminals and hackers use the internet to commit many illegal activities like hacking, bank fraud, online shopping fraud, software piracy, viruses attack and many more. In the digital age our virtual identities are essential elements for us. Information storage with the use of computer and internet become very easy in which duplication and manipulation occurs easily. Maximum computers and mobile phones are always connected to internet, which provide a supportive environment to attacker to do unauthorized access to it.

Cybercrime used to describe a wide range of offences, including offences against computer data and systems (such as hacking), computer-related forgery and fraud (such as phishing) and copyright offences (such as the dissemination of pirated content).

Review of related literature

Choudhary (2020) conducted a study on Cyber Crime Awareness among Higher Education Students from Haryana with respect to various demographical variables. The study showed that professional students having more awareness towards cybercrime as compare to traditional students but no difference on the basis of gender. The study also showed Average Cyber Crime Awareness among the college students.

Sulaiman & Sreeya (2019) conducted a study on Public awareness on cyber crime with special reference to Chennai. This study revealed that cyber-crime is directly related to age of a person, but no significant difference between main cause of cyber-crime and gender.

Malhotra & Malhotra (2017) conducted a study on Cyber crime awareness among teacher trainees. The study revealed a significant effect of gender and locality on level of awareness. Urban pupil teachers are more aware than rural pupil teacher. On the other hand, male pupil teachers are more aware than female pupil teacher

Goel (2014) conducted a study on Awareness among B.Ed. teacher training towards Cyber-crime. The result of the study revealed that awareness towards cyber-crime is not significantly affected by gender, whether it is male or female but it is significantly affected by area and stream.

Mehta and Singh (2013) studied the awareness of cyber

crime laws in India. There exist firewalls, antivirus and many other effective measures to control cybercrime but India is still far behind in combating cybercrime. The study found a significant difference between the awareness level of male and female users.

S. Rajasekar (2010) found that the female students show more awareness on cyber crime than male students. Also urban students show more awareness on cyber crime than the rural students. The B.Ed. students belong to science subjects show high awareness of cyber crime than those belongs to arts subjects

Sukanya K.P and Raju C.V. (April 2017) research paper focuses on the awareness of cybercrime among youth of Malappuram district. The study found out that the youth have an idea regarding the security measures for combating cybercrime.

Rationale of the study:

Nowadays, Internet is becoming an important part of our life. It is used by everyone and some person uses it in a proper way and some makes misuse of it. Everyone becomes very habitual in using internet and easily becomes soft target of criminals. It is very important to be aware while using internet. Expansion of cyber world changed the form of illegal activities like online fraud, extortion and many more. So, there should be some measures to aware everyone so that they can prevent to face the unexpected problems of cyber crimes such as hacking, spam, computer viruses, ATM fraud, internet fraud, identity theft etc. and they can take the appropriate measures to sort out these problems. This study will help us to find out the awareness level among B.Ed. students of Rohtak district. And after knowing their awareness level, we can increase their level of cyber crime awareness. Awareness about cyber crimes will also help in decreasing the involvement of the students in cyber crimes. It will be beneficial for themselves and their teaching career also. They can aware their students about cyber crimes and reduce them by using proper preventive measures and by organizing workshops, seminars and conferences etc. related to cyber crimes.

OBJECTIVES OF STUDY:

In present study the objectives are as follow:

1. To study cyber-crime awareness among boys and girls students of B.Ed.
2. To study cyber crime awareness among urban and rural students of B.Ed.

Hypothesis of study:

1. There is no significant difference between cyber-crime

- awareness of B.Ed students on the basis of gender.
- There is no significant difference between cyber-crime awareness of urban students and rural students of B.Ed.

Design of the study:

- Methodology:** Descriptive survey method was used for the study of the Cyber Crime Awareness among B.Ed. students of Rohtak district.
- Sample:** Simple random sampling technique was used for the selection of 80 B.Ed students.
- Tool used:** Cyber Crime Awareness Scale (CCAS-RS) developed by Dr. S. Rajasekar was used .
- Statistical Technique:** Mean, Standard Deviation and T-test is employed.

Interpretation of data

Table 1 Cyber Crime Awareness of B.Ed. students on the basis of gender

Gender	N	Mean	SD	t-value
Boys	40	131.42	20.15	1.7109
Girls	40	124.75	14.21	

Interpretation

The Table 1 reveals that the mean score of boys of B.Ed is 131.42 which is higher than the mean score of the girls of B.Ed which is 124.75. It means that boys have more awareness towards cyber crime than girls. The 't' value is 1.7109 which is not significant at 0.01 and 0.05 level of significance. Hence, the null hypothesis "There is no significant difference between cyber crime awareness of B.Ed students on the basis of gender" is accepted. The obtained mean difference is not real difference. Hence, the cyber crime awareness is not affected by gender.

Table 2: Cyber Crime Awareness of B.Ed students on the basis of locality

Locality	N	Mean	SD	t-value
Urban	40	141.82	22.75	2.0402
Rural	40	132.51	17.76	

Interpretation

The Table 2 reveals that the mean score of urban students of B.Ed is 141.82 which is higher than the mean score of the rural students of B.Ed which is 132.51. It means that urban students have more awareness towards cyber crime than rural students. The 't' value is 2.0402 which is significant. Hence, the null hypothesis "There is no significant difference between cyber-crime awareness of urban students and rural students of B.Ed." is rejected. The obtained difference is real difference which is not by chance. It can be interpreted that urban students of B.Ed have more awareness towards cyber crime than rural students of B.Ed.

CONCLUSION:

The study revealed that cyber-crime awareness is significantly affected by locality and urban students of B.Ed in Rohtak district show more cyber crime awareness as compare to their counterparts. It also showed that cyber-crime awareness is not significantly affected by gender. Now a day the cyber-crimes are increasing day by day but we can reduce these crimes by some proper guidelines and with proper preventive measures.

Educational implication:

The present study can be useful for the school and college teachers and students. It can help the teacher to know the level of awareness of cyber crime in students and tell the students about the harmful effects of using internet without sufficient preventing measures. In this way students can protect themselves from hacking, phishing, spam, identity theft etc.

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