

**EFFECTIVENESS OF ONLINE APPS IN COVID19 AMONG COLLEGE TEACHERS IN  
COIMBATORE DISTRICT**

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**ABSTRACT**

In COVID19 Pandemic almost all higher educational institutions all over the world use online apps for various purpose such as online teaching , webinars, conferences, faculty development programmes and staff meetings. Several apps were being used. Purpose of the research is to find the Variables the effectiveness of using online apps and the research has been conducted among the college staffs in Coimbatore district with a sample of 55 staffs. The primary data was collected through Google forms. Simple percentage and scoring scheme was used to analyze the data and it is found that the college staffs are highly aware about Google Meet followed by Zoom and YouTube alive and so on. The availability of audio and video are the factor that contributes to the effectiveness for using online apps. Online apps with the technological development will survive for a long period with the advanced features in future.

**Keywords:** Apps, Effectiveness, Factors, Online.

**Introduction**

COVID19 lockdown has forced almost all the countries to use online apps for learning. Users of Online Apps have been immensely growing because of the COVID19 Outbreak. Several newer online apps have been rolling out today. Online Apps pave a way for systematic learning. COVID19 lockdown forced the higher educational institutions to conduct various programmes such as Faculty Development Program, Webinar, Conferences and Online Classes. Increasing in the use of various online apps makes all the higher educational institutions to implement online learning. Online apps provides a number of key features for effective implementation of online learning and teaching .The research aims to find out the factors considered for effectiveness of the online apps.

**Statement of the problem**

Online apps became part of our live in COVID19 lockdown period. Covid19 lockdown makes all higher educational Institutions makes the teaching faculties busy in organizing webinars, conference, faculty development programs, meetings and online classes. The uses of online apps become inevitable among college staffs. Hence an attempt is made to study

What is the level of awareness towards various online apps?

Which factor is considered for effectiveness of online apps?

**Objectives of the Research**

The research focuses on

To identify level of awareness on various online apps.

To ascertain the factors consider for effectiveness of online tools.

**Scope of the Research**

Scope of the research is limited only to college staff in Coimbatore District of TamilNadu. The study deals with the factors consider for effectiveness of online apps.

**Methodology**

This research work is based on primary data. So a structured questionnaire is prepared and the data was collected through Google forms. Simple percentage and rank analysis were used to consider the factors for effectiveness of online apps.

**Limitation of the Research**

The research has been confined only to the college staffs in Coimbatore District only. The sample size is limited only to 55 college staffs. The results vary according to the opinion of the college staffs.

**Review of Literature**

Dennis Kira and Raafat Saade (2006) in their study online learning is difficult for the students who have never been exposed to the field of information technology.

Oye, Mazleena Salleh and Iahad(2012) conclude in their study the tools has to be incorporated and to allow for flexible model and for this environment should be asynchronous.

Ramya Gangaiaraman and Madhumathi Pasupathi (2017) in their study finds observation skills are good than comparative skills.

Ravi P Bhatia (2011) in his study points out we have to be careful in using technical tools other learners do not get stress by the technology.

Sue Gregory and Michelle Bannister –Tyrrell (2017) in their study observe that some students respond both positive and negative in different tools and identify whichone is going to fulfill our learning needs.

**ANALYSIS AND INTREPRETATION****I.PERSONAL DETAILS**

Table :1

| Particulars                      | Frequency | Percentage |
|----------------------------------|-----------|------------|
| <b>Sex</b>                       |           |            |
| Male                             | 26        | 47.2       |
| Female                           | 29        | 52.8       |
| <b>Age</b>                       |           |            |
| Up to 30 Years                   | 5         | 9          |
| 31 - 40 Yrs                      | 19        | 35         |
| 41 -50 Yrs                       | 25        | 45         |
| Above 50 rs                      | 6         | 11         |
| <b>Educational Qualification</b> |           |            |
| PG                               | 9         | 16         |
| M.Phil                           | 23        | 42         |
| Ph.D                             | 23        | 42         |
| <b>Occupation</b>                |           |            |
| Government staff                 | Nil       |            |
| Aided Staff                      | 3         | 5          |
| Guest Faculty                    | 19        | 35         |
| Self Financing Staff             | 33        | 60         |
| <b>Area of Residence</b>         |           |            |
| Urban                            | 9         | 16         |
| Rural                            | 16        | 29         |
| Semi urban                       | 30        | 55         |
| <b>Monthly Income</b>            |           |            |
| Up to Rs.10000                   | 10        | 18         |
| Rs.10001 to Rs15000              | 37        | 67         |

|                       |           |            |
|-----------------------|-----------|------------|
| Rs.15001 to Rs. 20000 | 3         | 5          |
| Above Rs.20000        | 5         | 10         |
| <b>Total</b>          | <b>55</b> | <b>100</b> |

Source from Primary Data

Above table indicated Majority 52.8% are female and 47.2% are male.

Majority 45% belong to age group of 41 to 50 Years.

Majority 42% are M.Phil and Ph.D degree holders.

Most of the College staffs 60 % are self financing staff.

Majority 55% of College staff belongs to semi urban area.

Majority 67% staffs salary are between Rs.10001 to Rs15000.

## 2. Awareness of Online Apps

College staff may use any type of online apps depending upon the awareness level. Awareness level vary from one teacher to another. Table 2 shows the awareness level of various online apps.

**Table :2 Awareness of Online Apps**

| S.No | Type of Online apps | Level of Awareness |         |       |         |           |         |
|------|---------------------|--------------------|---------|-------|---------|-----------|---------|
|      |                     | Highly Aware       | Percent | Aware | Percent | Not Aware | Percent |
| 1    | Zoom                | 36                 | 65      | 19    | 35      | -         | -       |
| 2    | Google Meet         | 40                 | 73      | 15    | 27      | -         | -       |
| 3    | You Tube Alive      | 35                 | 64      | 20    | 36      | -         | -       |
| 4    | GOTO Meeting        | 8                  | 14      | 40    | 73      | 7         | 13      |
| 5    | Cisco Webex         | 6                  | 11      | 42    | 76      | 7         | 13      |
| 6    | Skype               | 7                  | 13      | 19    | 35      | 29        | 52      |

Majority of the 73% of College staff are highly aware, 35% are aware of Google meet and 65 % are highly aware and 35% are aware about Zoom apps. 64% are highly aware and 36 % are aware about YouTube alive.

## 3. Source of information

College staffs are well informed about various online apps through various sources such as media, friends and brochure.

**Table :3 Source of information**

| S.No | Source of information | Number | Percentage |
|------|-----------------------|--------|------------|
| 1    | Media                 | 14     | 27         |
| 2    | Friends               | 12     | 22         |
| 3    | Brochure              | 29     | 53         |

Out of 55 staffs 53% of the college staff came to aware of the apps through brochures, 27% came to know through media and 22% came to know through friends.

## 4. Frequency of using app

Online apps used may vary from one college staff to another depending upon the circumstances in their work place. They may use daily, weekly, monthly and whenever needed.

**Table :4 Frequency of using app**

| S.No | Frequency of using app | Number | Percentage |
|------|------------------------|--------|------------|
| 1    | Daily                  | 9      | 16         |
| 2    | Weekly                 | 6      | 11         |
| 3    | Monthly                | 25     | 45         |
| 4    | Whenever needed        | 15     | 28         |

Majority 45% of the staff uses the apps monthly and 28% uses whenever needed, 16% uses daily and 11% uses online apps weekly.

### 5. Purpose of using app

Online apps may be in higher educational institutions for conducting faculty development program, conference, webinar and online classes.

**Table 5 Purpose of using app**

| S.No | Purpose of using app        | Number | Percentage |
|------|-----------------------------|--------|------------|
| 1    | Faculty development Program | 20     | 36         |
| 2    | Webinar                     | 9      | 16         |
| 3    | Conference                  | 8      | 14         |
| 4    | Staff Meeting               | 12     | 22         |
| 5    | Online Class                | 7      | 12         |

Mostly 36% the online apps have been used for faculty development programs and 22% for staff meetings during COVID19.

### 6. Effectiveness Details

**Factors considered for effectiveness of Online Learning Apps.**

| S.No | FACTORS                         | RANK |
|------|---------------------------------|------|
| 1    | Easy login                      | 3    |
| 2    | Independent Platform            | 4    |
| 3    | Availability of Audio and video | 1    |
| 4    | Screen sharing                  | 6    |
| 5    | Number of Participant           | 5    |
| 6    | Time Limit for Meeting          | 8    |
| 7    | Chat Box                        | 2    |
| 8    | Recording option                | 7    |

**Factors considered for effectiveness of Online Learning Apps.**

| S.No | Factors                         | Rank  | I  | II | III | IV | V   | VI  | VII | VIII | Total score | Mean | Rank |
|------|---------------------------------|-------|----|----|-----|----|-----|-----|-----|------|-------------|------|------|
|      |                                 | Score | 1  | 2  | 3   | 4  | 5   | 6   | 7   | 8    |             |      |      |
| 1    | Easy login                      | No    | 6  | 8  | 19  | 4  | 6   | 2   | 7   | 3    | 210         | 3.82 | 3    |
|      |                                 | Score | 6  | 16 | 57  | 16 | 30  | 12  | 49  | 24   |             |      |      |
| 2    | Independent Platform            | No    | 6  | 17 | 2   | 6  | 4   | 8   | 2   | 10   | 232         | 4.22 | 4    |
|      |                                 | Score | 6  | 34 | 6   | 24 | 20  | 48  | 14  | 80   |             |      |      |
| 3    | Availability of audio and Video | No    | 18 | 1  | 13  | 4  | 3   | 7   | 6   | 3    | 198         | 3.60 | 1    |
|      |                                 | Score | 18 | 2  | 39  | 16 | 15  | 42  | 42  | 24   |             |      |      |
| 4    | Screen sharing                  | No    | 4  | 6  | 7   | 3  | 7   | 23  | 4   | 1    | 258         | 4.69 | 6    |
|      |                                 | Score | 4  | 12 | 21  | 12 | 35  | 138 | 28  | 8    |             |      |      |
| 5    | Number of Participant           | No    | 14 | 2  | 2   | 7  | 3   | 3   | 23  | 1    | 254         | 4.62 | 5    |
|      |                                 | Score | 14 | 4  | 6   | 28 | 15  | 18  | 161 | 8    |             |      |      |
| 6    | Time Limit for Meeting          | No    | 2  | 9  | 3   | 1  | 7   | 8   | 1   | 24   | 315         | 5.73 | 8    |
|      |                                 | Score | 2  | 18 | 9   | 4  | 35  | 48  | 7   | 192  |             |      |      |
| 7    | Chat Box                        | No    | 4  | 9  | 9   | 23 | 2   | 1   | 6   | 1    | 207         | 3.76 | 2    |
|      |                                 | Score | 4  | 18 | 27  | 92 | 10  | 6   | 42  | 8    |             |      |      |
| 8    | Recording option                | No    | 1  | 3  | 7   | 7  | 23  | 3   | 5   | 6    | 272         | 4.95 | 7    |
|      |                                 | Score | 1  | 6  | 21  | 28 | 115 | 18  | 35  | 48   |             |      |      |

From the analysis it is inferred that Availability of audio and video factor followed by chat box ranks first and second in considering the effectiveness of Online Apps.

### **SUGGESTIONS**

- To make effective use of online apps high speed Internet facilities should be there.
- Offline apps should be introduced preferably in rural areas.
- Time limit should be extended for using the online apps.
- Number of participants should also be increased to join the apps.

### **CONCLUSION**

Even after COVID19 online education is likely to survive and grow high and so the online apps. With the advancement in the technology the online apps will bring flexibility, accessibility and affordability in their features. In future online apps are going to play a predominant role all over the world in teaching and learning. Thus the research concludes that the availability of audio and video factor in online apps is effective in making successful online learning environment.

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