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Cyber Crime Awareness among Senior Secondary School Students in District Meerut

Abstract

The purpose of the study was to assess cyber crime awareness among Senior Secondary School students in the District of Meerut in relation to their gender, locality and type of school. It was found that there exists no significant difference among the students on the basis of their gender and locality. It was also found that there exists significance difference in the cyber crime awareness among students on the basis of type of their school. The private senior secondary school students revealed more cyber crime awareness as compared to government senior secondary school students. Hence, it is recommended that the students should be taught to be aware towards cyber crime for their safety and to avoid indulgence in cybercrime activities.

Keywords: Cyber Crime Awareness, Senior Secondary School Students, Gender, Locality, Type of School.

Introduction

Computer and internet have become very necessary and useful for our daily life. In present days people can get information, store information and share information through the internet. Back 20's years there were approx.100000 people users of internet but now around 4,574,150,134 people are surfing the net around the globe. The growing fastest world of internet is known as cyber world. Internet, though offers great benefit to society, also present opportunities for crime using new and highly sophisticated technology tools. Increase in cybercrime rate has been documented in the news media. Both the increase in the incidence of criminal activity and the possible emergence of new varieties of criminal activity pose challenges for legal system, as well as for law enforcement. Cybercrime is a term used to broadly describe criminal activity in which computers and computer network are a tool, a target, or a place of criminal activity and include everything electronic cracking to denial of service attacks. It is also used to include traditional crimes in which computer or network is used enable the illicit activity. Cybercrime is the latest and perhaps the most complicated problem of the cyber world and major concern of companies, universities & organizations, world wide governments, police departments, intelligence units have started to react as a result the issue of safety is the centre or concern for the children and adults. Common concerns regarding safety of their internet include malicious users (spam, phishing, cyber bulling, cyber stalking etc) websites and software's. As internet usage continues to rise throughout the world, the threat of cybercrime also grows. The various crimes where computer is a tool for unlawful acts are from mobile. Although there exist many technological solutions of safeguarding the data and computer networks but in India much needs to be done towards effective use of these technologies for safeguarding the precious data. In order to achieve this purpose it is important to be aware of cybercrime.

Khan, Afrozulla Z ;Rajesh Thakur Vaishnaviand Arjun (2018) conducted a study on Cyber Crime Awareness among MSW Students, School Of Social Work, Mangaluru. The study concluded that there is a significant difference between the awareness level of different age group. Results revealed the importance of awareness as a tool to decrease/ prevent cybercrime. The overall findings indicate unsatisfactory awareness on cyber-crime among MSW students. Therefore, it is concluded that the hypothesis has not been proved to be coherent, i.e., MSW students are not aware of cyber-crimes.

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Loyed, Martis P; Pradeep and Arjun (2018) conducted the study on Cyber Crime Awareness among Youth in Udupi District. The study proved that the youths in Udupi district are not thoroughly aware of cyber-crimes. The lack of awareness is observed drastically in case of protection towards their personal computers and laptops. Other than hacking, a quiet majority of users are not aware of crimes like cyber stalking, mobile hacking, Deep web crimes, copyright violation, cyber bullying, phishing, child soliciting and abuse, sharing disturbing content of pornography, identity theft, cyber-squatting etc.

Sunder, Prem (2018) investigated to ascertain the awareness of teachers (Male and Female working in Education Colleges, teachers working in Engineering and Degree Colleges, school teachers of government senior secondary schools, teachers of Social studies and Science and teachers form urban and rural areas). The Cyber Crime Awareness Scale of Dr. S. Rajasekar (2013) used to collect the pertinent data and it had been found that there was significant difference in each category except in terms of gender about the awareness towards cyber crime and need to be more awareness. The investigator recommended that there should be awareness among the teachers towards this crucial issue so that the teachers may protect themselves and educate the students towards cyber crime with preventive measures.

Sreehari A. et.al.(2018) conducted a survey among 200 college students of Kochi in the state of Kerala and collected data to understand the awareness level of cybercrime. The investigators also intended to find out the college students' awareness on the types of cyber crimes and the various government schemes. The findings revealed that most users are just aware about cyber crime but most of them are not properly aware of the cybercrime laws. Maximum respondents stated that they have no idea about the safety of their information while being online.

Moanes H. Tibi, Kholod Hadeje & Bashier Watted (2019) conducted a study to assess the level of cybercrime awareness among teaching students and to find out whether computer science students had heightened cybercrime awareness compared to students taking other majors at the same college. For this purpose, a sample of 73 Arab students from a teacher education college in the center of Israel was selected. The finding of the study revealed that the level of cybercrime awareness among the participants was inadequate and that the independent variables, such as year of study, major subject, and prior computer knowledge did not yield any statistically significant differences. In addition, no correlation was found between the students' prior computer knowledge and their susceptibility to being victims of cybercrimes. They recommended that higher education institutions should provide training courses on cyberspace security to all students in order to enable them to avoid becoming victims of cybercrimes.

Singh, Roma & Apeksha Sharma (2019) conducted a study of cyber law awareness in higher secondary level students of rural and urban areas in Jaipur District.They investigated to ascertain the awareness of higher secondary level students (Male and Female from urban and rural area schools).The self constructed cyber law awareness scale was used to collect the pertinent data and it had been found that there was no major significant difference in each category. They recommended that there should be awareness among the teachers towards this crucial issue so that the teachers may protect themselves and educate the students towards cyber crime with preventive measures.

Ismailova, Rita et.al.(2019) conducted a study of the cybercrime awareness rate of users in two Central Asian Countries. As a target group, students of two public universities from each country were chosen. Results of quantitative research showed that in Kazakhstan, gender and age of respondents affect the cybercrime awareness rate, while in Kyrgyzstan, none of the factors had an impact on this rate. Although there was a statistically significant difference in cybercrime awareness of users in terms of the country of residence, students in two Central Asian countries showed a little difference in information security knowledge, which is, in its own term, mostly depends on the computer literacy rate of students.

Vajagathali M., Navaneeth Kumar S & Balaji Narayan B (2019) conducted a study to investigate the attention of cyber-crime among faculty students in Mangalore by focusing varied threats. The results revealed that there is a significant difference between the awareness level of different disciplines. It was concluded that science students have high level of awareness compared to other disciplines. The findings of the study revealed that today's generation have the basic knowledge about the computer and its crime.

Poulpunita S., K. Manimekalai, P. Veeramani (2020) conducted a study to examine the problems and issues of cybercrime against women and girls in order to exhibit preventive strategies and means to fight back with the support of cohesive forces. They recommended that cyber cells and cyber courts assigned to deal such proceedings should be increased in number. It was also recommended that schools and colleges should regularly educate both students and parents on safe surfing, through workshops and seminars. Awareness of cyber crime should be a part of regular course work in educational institutions.

School children are exposed to ICTs from a young age and access to these devices is becoming easier and more affordable. However, school children in developing countries are not properly educated about using ICTs safety. With the use of ICTs, school children can be exposed to a number of cyber risks and threats that can range from sexting and cyber bullying to identity theft. It is, therefore, of vital importance that all school children are aware on how to use ICT devices properly and safely. The awareness on cybercrime is very much needed for the learners and also for teachers, so that they can prevent to face the unexpected problems or

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cybercrimes such as hacking, phishing, spam, computer viruses, sabotage, wire fraud, ATM fraud, internet fraud, identity theft etc. and they can take the appropriate measures to sort out these problems. Therefore, the investigator studied the cybercrime awareness among senior secondary school students in relation to some demographic variables viz., gender, locality and type of school management.

Objectives of the Study

1. To study the significant difference between boys and girls of senior secondary school students on their cybercrime awareness.
2. To study the significant difference between rural and urban senior secondary school students on their cybercrime awareness.
3. To study the significant difference between government and private senior secondary school students on their cybercrime awareness.

Hypotheses of the Study

1. There is no significant difference between boys and girls of senior secondary school students on their cyber crime awareness

2. There is no significant difference between rural and urban senior secondary school students on their cyber crime awareness.
3. There is no significant difference between government and private senior secondary school students on their cybercrime awareness.

Research Methodology

  Descriptive Survey Method was used for the present study. The population constituted all the Senior Secondary School Students of Meerut district of Uttar Pradesh. The sample constituted of 100 students studying in class XI and XII from different senior secondary schools of Meerut district through Simple Random Sampling Technique. The investigator used Cybercrime Scale (CCAS-RS) developed and standardised by Dr.S.Rajasekar (Annamalai Nagar) (2011). For the analysis and interpretation of data mean, standard deviation and 't'-test were used.

Analysis and Interpretation

1. Analysis of Mean Scores of Boys and Girls Senior Secondary School Students on their Cybercrime Awareness

Table 1
Significance Of Difference Between Mean Scores Of Boys And Girls Senior Secondary School Students On Their Cyber Crime Awareness

Variable	Gender	N	Mean	SD	SED	t-Value	Level of Significance
Gender	Boys	50	134.12	22.15	3.969	1.48	
	Girls	50	128.24	17.24			Not significant

  From the above table it is clear that mean scores of boys and girls on cybercrime awareness are 134.12 and 128.24 respectively. The t-value between the two groups comes out to be 1.48 which is smaller than the table value at 0.05 level of significance which means that there is no significant difference between the two groups on their cybercrime awareness. It can be further observed from the table that the boys have obtained higher mean scores on cybercrime awareness than the girls. Therefore, it is interpreted that boys have more cybercrime awareness than girls of senior secondary school students. Hence, the formulated null hypothesis number 1, that is, "There is no significant difference between boys and girls of senior secondary school students on their cybercrime awareness." is accepted.

2. Analysis of Mean Scores of Urban and Rural Senior Secondary School Students on their Cybercrime Awareness

Table 2
Significance Of Difference Between Mean Scores of Urban And Rural Senior Secondary School Students On Their Cyber Crime Awareness

Variable	Locality	N	Mean	SD	SED	t-Value	Level of Significance
Locality	Urban	50	118.73	11.24	2.806	0.0249	
	Rural	50	118.66	16,35			Not significant

  From the above table it is clear that mean scores of senior secondary students of urban and rural areas on cybercrime awareness are 118.73 and 118.66 respectively. The t-value between the two groups comes out to be 0.0249 which is smaller than the table value at 0.05 level of significance which means that there is no significant difference between the two groups on their cybercrime awareness. It can be further observed from the table that the senior secondary school students of urban areas have obtained higher mean scores on cybercrime awareness than the students of rural areas. Therefore, it is interpreted that urban students have more cybercrime awareness than rural students of senior secondary school students. Hence, the formulated null hypothesis number 2, that is, "There is no significant difference between rural and urban senior secondary school students on their cybercrime awareness." is accepted.

3. Analysis of Mean Scores of Private and Government Senior Secondary School Students on their Cybercrime Awareness

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Table 3
Significance of Difference between Mean Scores of Private and Government Senior Secondary School Students on Their Cyber Crime Awareness

Variable	Type of school	N	Mean	SD	SED	t-Value	Level of Significance
Type of school	Private	60	147.23	16.80	3.375	4.35	
	Government	40	132.52	16.12			Significant at 0.01 level

From the above table it is clear that mean scores of senior secondary students of private an,d government school on cybercrime awareness are 147.23 and 132.52 respectively. The t-value between the two groups comes out to be 4.35 which is more than the table value at 0.01 level of significance which means that there is significant difference between the two groups on their cybercrime awareness. Therefore, it is interpreted that Private and Government senior secondary school students significantly differ in their cybercrime awareness. It can be further observed from the table that the senior secondary students of private school have obtained higher mean scores on cybercrime awareness than the students of government school. Therefore, it is interpreted that Private school students have more cybercrime awareness than Government senior secondary school students. Hence, the formulated null hypothesis number 3, that is, "There is no significant difference between private and government senior secondary school students on their cybercrime awareness." is rejected.

Conclusion

It is interpreted that there exists no significant difference in the cyber crime awareness among senior secondary school students in relation to their gender and locality. It also interpreted that there exists significant difference in the cyber crime awareness among the senior secondary students in relation to their type of school. The private senior secondary school students showed more cyber crime awareness as compared to the government senior secondary school students. Hence, it is recommended that government school students should be made more aware towards cyber crime for their safety purpose and to safeguard them from indulging into cyber crime activities.

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