

# Attitude Towards Tamil Computing Among Prospective Teachers

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## ARTICLE INFO

## ABSTRACT

Technology may transform the educational content and motivate teachers towards to become lifelong learners. Usage of technology is possible in all fields of education. The investigation was made an attempt to study about the attitude of an emerging program in technology in education that is Tamil Computing which aims to find out the level of attitude of prospective teachers towards Tamil Computing and the significant difference in the attitude with respect to selected demographic and institutional variables. The sample of the study consisted of 450 prospective teachers in the colleges of education in Chengalpattu and Villupuram districts. Simple Random sampling technique was used to collect the data. Tool used for the present study is an investigator made scale to find out the attitude towards Tamil computing among prospective teachers. The results of the study reveal that there existed a moderate level of attitude was found among Prospective teachers and there is significant difference in the level of attitude towards tamil computing among prospective teachers with respect to their demographic and institutional variables.

**Key words:** Technology, Attitude, Tamil Computing, Prospective teachers

## Introduction

Education has been the most important thing for the survival of an individual and society. In the field of education, technology was integrated in a vast size. No field is without technology in this present era. Rapid developments in technology have allowed the adoption of technology in every aspect of human life. Like all the other disciplines, educationists have tried to find out how technology can be integrated into classroom to benefit the students. New technologies manage to develop Teachers' interest in learning activities. Technology can make learning more interactive and enhance the enjoyment towards learning and teaching. Technology can individualize and customize the curriculum to match learner's developmental needs as well as personal interests. Tamil has been the oldest language among the Indian languages. The integration of technology in Tamil is more most important one. This enhances the learning of Tamil more interactive and teaching Tamil can be done in a effective way. The present investigation aimed to find out the attitude of Prospective teachers towards Tamil Computing.

## Review of related literature

**Suri & Sharma (2013)** carried out a study on The Impact of Gender on Attitude towards Computer Technology and ELearning: An Exploratory Study of Punjab University, India. The study aimed to understand the relationship between gender and attitude towards e-learning. The results showed that there was no significant relationship exists between gender and attitude towards computer and e-learning. The usage of various e-learning forms also showed a non-significant relationship with gender. The hypothesis tested to see the effect of gender on forms of e-learning also showed that the usage of tool/forms of e-learning has no impact of gender. This implies the university can think about applying the e-learning format as the students irrespective of their gender are receptive towards the various forms of e-learning.

**Vignesh Raj R.S.(2014)** conducted a study on attitude of Tamil speakers towards Tamil Computing. This research is about Tamil is being used as the language on internet and technology, it was felt that the most appropriate method to get responses from the users whose first or second language is Tamil was via an online questionnaire. Since the objective was to evaluate the attitude of Tamil users towards Computing in Tamil, social networking sites like Facebook was chosen to observe the behaviour of certain groups and users. The first questionnaire was bilingual encouraging all Tamils to participate regardless of their ability to read Tamil. The second and third questionnaire was only in Tamil as it was felt that a participant must at least know to read the language in order to make it more meaningful. The three questionnaire were open to the same audience and it was left to their choice. The participants were made aware of the DPA (Data Protection Act). A minimum of 30 responses is required for statistical analysis and all the three questionnaires exceeded the threshold. Research survey was entirely in Tamil and 100% of the respondent had Tamil as their first language of which 82% were from Tamil Nadu and about 6% were from other Indian states. 80.73% of the respondents claimed they were extremely fluent in reading, writing and speaking while 12% of the respondents said they couldn't speak Tamil without using English words but were able to read Tamil.

**Rajendran Sankaravelayuthan (2017)** conducted a workshop on Computing Tools for Tamil Language teaching and learning. In the month of August 2015 Tamil Virtual Academy (TVA) conducted a workshop to decide and finalize the futuristic road map for taking the Tamil Computing as well as promotion of Tamil language through online to the next level so as to fulfill the aspirations of the Tamils across the globe. Tamil Scholars, Linguistics Experts, Renowned Authors, Software industry representatives and experts from abroad were invited to participate in the workshop. It was decided in the workshop that TVA would collaborate with a group of institutes, industries and individuals to develop computing tools for Tamil to fulfil the immediate need of the Tamil around the world. One of the main focus was to develop computing tools which help Tamils and non-Tamils including children to learn as well as develop skills in Tamil language.

### Objectives

- 1.To find out the level of attitude towards Tamil computing among Prospective teachers.
2. To find out if there is any significant difference in the level of attitude towards Tamil computing among Prospective teachers with respect to gender.

### Hypotheses

*The hypotheses are formulated based on the above objectives*

- i.The level of attitude towards Tamil computing among Prospective teachers is moderate in nature.
- ii. There is no significant difference in the level of attitude towards Tamil computing among Prospective teachers with respect to gender.

### Population and Sample

The population of the study consisted of all the prospective teachers in colleges of education in Chengalpattu and Villupuram districts. From the population, 450 representative samples were randomly selected from the selected colleges of education.

### Tool Used

The investigator has used Attitude towards Tamil computing scale to collect data from the Prospective teachers. It consisted of 34 statements with 5 options such as SA- Strongly Agree, A- agree, UD- undecided and D- disagree, SDA- Strongly Disagree. All are positively worded. Each statement carries one score. The maximum score is 170 and the minimum score is 34. Pilot study was done and the coefficient of reliability was found to be 0.67.

### Methodology

To achieve the objectives, the investigator has followed survey method to collect the data from the selected sample. The data were collected from the random sample of 450 student teachers from the colleges of education in Chengalattu and Villupuram districts. The investigator has visited the colleges in advance and obtained prior permission from the heads of the institutions. The investigator has administered the scale to the sample. They were explained the procedure of recording the responses to the items given in the tool. They were asked to record their response to each and every item of the tool without any inhibition. They were given scheduled time to record their responses. They were assured of strict confidentiality. The response sheets were collected from the sample and tabulated for further statistical treatment.

### Analysis & Interpretation of Data

**Hypothesis 1:** The level of attitude towards Tamil computing among Prospective teachers is moderate in nature.

**Table 1 Level of attitude towards Tamil computing among Prospective teachers**

Level of Attitude towards Tamil Computing	Frequency	Percentage
LOW	75	16.67
MODERATE	275	61.11
HIGH	100	22.22
TOTAL	450	100.00

The above table reveals that there exists 22.22% of Prospective teachers falls under high level of attitude towards Tamil Computing. Then 61.11% of the respondents fall under moderate level and remaining 16.67% comes under low level. Hence the formulated hypothesis(1) is accepted.

**Hypothesis 2:** There is no significant difference between male and female prospective teachers in attitude towards Tamil computing.

**Table 2 Significant difference between male and female prospective teachers in the level of attitude towards Tamil Computing.**

GENDER	N	M	SD	t-VALUE	LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE
Male	120	78.02	15.974	2.62	Significant
Female	330	72.6	15.972		

From the Table 2, it is evident that the t-value 2.62 is significant at 0.05 level of significance. It reflects that the mean attitude towards tamil computing between male and female prospective teachers are differing significantly. In this context, the null hypothesis "There is no significant difference in the level of attitude towards Tamil computing among Prospective teachers with respect to gender" is **rejected**. It may therefore, be concluded that the male and female trainees are differing significantly in their attitude.

### Recommendations

Based on the results of the present study, the following recommendations were given:

1. Since the result of the present study reveals that there exists moderate level of attitude towards Tamil computing, the prospective teacher trainees should be provided awareness programs on the availability of variety of Tamil computing software.
2. The results of the present investigation show that the level of attitude towards Tamil computing among male respondents is better than females. So, female prospective teachers can be given special training in the Tamil computing usage.

### Conclusion

The present study reveals that the level of attitude towards Tamil computing among Prospective teachers is found to be moderate. It is inferred that there is significant difference in the attitude towards Tamil computing with respect to gender. Essential to the provision of 'Education for All' teachers who have been trained professionally to educate, improvise and integrate emerging technologies into the standard of education. In some educational institution's computer are available, these computers are not connected to the internet and the teachers can hardly access the computer. Adequate awareness of the prospective teachers towards Tamil computing and the positive attitude towards the use of computers in instruction is a need of hour.

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