AWARENESS AMONG THE YOUTH ABOUT DIGITAL ACCOUNTING

Kavya Mohan Rao
T.Y.BAF
Patkar Varde College

Abstract-
The objective of this study is to analyze how much the youths are acquainted about Digital accounting. New technologies and developments in finance are transforming the works of accounting. The Digital accounting refers to the formation, representation and transmission of financial data in an electronic format. Business accounting software refers to all the systems and applications that are used to record, manage and process financial data. Accounting software is a computer program that abet bookkeepers and accountant in recording and reporting a firm’s financial transactions. Organizations have a choice to apply tailored solution that integrates an immense amount of data from many different departments. Accounting software allows tracking of financial transaction. Accounting software allows better financial decision-making through timely reporting. There are generic accounting software packages that can be used right away for all types of companies, while other packages require personalization for provisional needs of an industry or business. Accounting software generally constitutes various commonly used modules such as accounts payable and receivable, trial balance, general ledger, and payroll. There are several modules split up into Core modules and non-core modules. The focus of accounting digitalization is the uniformity of the basic systems used in accounting, as well as a routine evaluation of the quality and accuracy of master data. It helps in Billing & Invoicing, Quotation & Estimates, Production Management, Taxation handling and many more. One of the best ways for a small business to cut costs and create savings is to deploy and utilize accounting software. Well-designed accounting software can help any business reduce costs by increasing the efficiency.

Looking at online accounting it’s worth reviewing the merits of accounting software versus the trusty accounting tool of many businesses, the spreadsheet. As spreadsheets became more complex, a business owner needs to spend more time keeping it up to date. For findings of the research, youths have been questioned about accounting software.

Keywords-
Youth, Digital accounting, Accounting software, Packages, Modules.

1. Introduction

E-accounting is the application of online and internet technologies to the business accounting function. Similar to e-mail being an electronic version of traditional mail, e-accounting is “Electronic Enablement” of lawful accounting and traceable accounting processes, which were traditionally manual and paper based. E-accounting involves performing regular accounting functions; accounting research and accounting training and education through various computer based accounting tools. Accounting systems put finance control in the hands of a non-accounting audience, as they were designed to give numbers a meaning, and to perform automated calculations. With little to no training at all, the business owner can complete all accounting operations and comply with legal standards from his own computer and without paying an external party to keep his budget in the loop.
Online accounting through a web application is typically based on a monthly charges and zero administration approach to help business concentrate on core activities and avoid the hidden costs associated with the traditional accounting software. E-accounting might just be perspective that “India is the place which can deliver the best”. So e-accounting has visited India with a rainbow of Opportunity. Accounting Software is vital for a business to fully understand their situation, determine the success of their business performance, and run a successful venture. After mid 1990s the businessman sensed the importance of accounting software and after that every businessman started to use the accounting software in his business and currently every business from small scale to large-scale business have started using the accounting software in their business for recording every business transaction made by them. Accounting software were introduced after the innovation of computer which was the foundation to use the accounting software but before the innovation of computer there was a system which was used to record their business transaction it is called as the book keeping and accountancy. All accounting software is based on this accounting technique. Today accounting is called ‘the language of business’ because it is the driving force for reporting financial information about a business entity.

1.1 History

In 19th century the growth of industry was growing fast that the industry was not able to maintain all the records of business and that affected the industrial development. That’s why the industry wanted some technique which would be useful to maintain to record all transactions made by them and to analyses the profit and loss of the business. They also wanted to increase their market and expand their business in all around the world. But they were unsuccessful in doing it because if they did this then they were unable to prepare the proper record of these books of accounts. In middle of 19th century after the innovation of Super computer they can use that to maintain books and record their transaction but supercomputer was highly priced and takes a lot of space. After the innovation of minicomputer and microcomputer the industry started to use the system to maintain the records of accounting. Because it is not so costly and it took less space to store. Industrialist liked to welcome this system to their entity to store his day to day transaction. After some time this computer also was not so useful to maintain the accounting transactions so they wanted to innovate some special software which can be used to maintain all accounting transaction and also the bill of business and also the software which will create trial balance of the business and also the balance sheet of the business. To develop the accounting software they wanted to use the accounting functions used in book keeping and accountancy. In1972 SAP accounting software was introduced. After SAP was introduced there were many other companies who introduced different types of accounting software such as Tally, Busy, Oracle etc. some developed their own accounting software which they wanted in their business. The best practice of accounting in today’s world is to have automated accounting practices. Initially accounting was paper based systems, but with the innovative developments of a wide varieties of accounting software, the digital file system and digital books have become desired. Accounting software not only helps in speeding up the process, but also it provides you to compress information about the performance of the organization. Earlier, when accounting software was not in the use, businesses had to disburse resources and time to maintain huge data of accounts department.

The Accounting Journal describes early accounting software as "handcrafted literally byte by byte over the course of months." Companies relied massively on proprietary systems. As computers became more powerful, programmers created more generalized software that could succor many different customers.
2. Review of literature

- Kabir, Rahman, Yunus & Chowdhury

For sound management of an entity the use of accounting information is a must. Once it was possible to maintain only paper works of the transactions when the number of transactions and users of accounting information was limited to the boundary that could be managed manually. This paper also attempts to identify the barriers in the applications of accounting software and problems encountered with such applications. The study revealed that almost 80% private universities are now using accounting software. The result of the study shows that 100% of the respondents think maintaining record in accounting software is easier than manual systems, 97.87% of the respondents think chance of error and difficulties in identifying errors is much less in accounting software and 100% of the respondents showed their opinion in favor of accounting software that it is faster to apply. 65.96% of the respondents agreed that reluctance of the top management is the main barrier in the applications of accounting software while other two factors which create obstacles are reluctance of employees and initial cost of installations and training. The study also revealed an alarming fact that some of the universities do not provide any special training on accounting software though they are using such software and almost 36% of the accounts personnel doesn’t have academic background on accounting discipline. The authors have identified a few limitations which should be bear in mind in using the findings of the study. Firstly, the study focuses on accounting software application of the private universities only. Secondly, the study does not consider public and international universities.

- Kathrine Bygren

Technological revolutions have occurred for markets and industries since the rise of organized communities and societies. In the past few years a technological revolution has been in process with the growth of digitalized markets. Digitization has been seen to change innovation processes and some experts believe it will change whole markets. The findings of the research indicate that digitalization had a direct effect on how companies should strategically organize a business. Many of the implications on digitalized accounting will have direct impact on strategies, actions and processes. The digitalization will require company cultures, which are digitalization friendly. Some of the found results are: digitization will give accounting companies digital accounting tools, knowledge sharing and communication channels. It will put pressure on employees for having different knowledge than analogue businesses and more expertise skills. Digitalization it is estimated to affect the offerings provided to customers. The digitalization is also most likely to have key partners, targeted customer segment, cost structure and revenue streams specific for being digitalized. Digitalization of the accounting industry is likely to change the market from being a supplier driven to becoming demand driven and new actors with less accounting knowledge could get an opening for entering the market. And there are many barriers and a few facilitators for being a digitalized accounting business. This has been taken in consideration when mapping a general business model for a digital accounting firm in this report.

- Dr Markus Kreher, Prof Dr Thorsten Sellhorn and Prof Dr Thomas Hess

From the respondents’ point of view, the focus of accounting digitalization is the uniformity of the basic systems used in accounting, as well as a routine evaluation of the quality and accuracy of master data. By contrast, real-time reporting, cloud computing or complex big data analyses do not, as yet, play a large role for most companies. Apart from this focus, companies have, in particular, increased the speed of reporting and accelerated the digitalization of end-to-end processes. Cost savings were rarely the focus here. Approximately 66 percent of the companies surveyed are in the middle of the maturity level model in terms of applying digital solutions and the management of digitalization within the accounting system. Only 15 percent can be described as “digital pioneers”. For these companies, both the application of digital solutions and also the
management of the digitalization process are already well advanced. All of the selected aspects were confirmed by over 45 percent of the companies surveyed with agreement

- Massimiliano Barbato

Digitization is the transitioning of your accounting and reporting documents and storage from a traditional paper-based system to an electronic format. Because it reduces process time and errors, aids cash flow and improves transparency on income, digitalization helps business leaders make better decisions about how to lift business performance. It can also make an organization more competitive. As companies face mounting pressure to optimize pricing, costs and efficiency, more business are creating a “paperless office” within their finance functions. Companies of all sizes that manage more than 3,000 documents annually could consider digitalizing their financial functions. With the necessary technologies and regulatory frameworks in place to support a digitized business environment in finance and accounting, organizations only need to implement the right technologies, systems and procedural changes to start deriving benefits.

3. **Research Methodology**

3.1 **Objective**

- To have information on youths knowledge about accounting software.
- To sense the reason behind for being unaware of the accounting software.
- To learn the most prominent Software among the youths.

3.2 **Data Collection**

The data for this research has been collected from the youth. The data for the scrutiny of this study were collected through a survey from the youth between the age group of 15-30.

For this research work youths from non-accounting background has also been considered. Thus, the nature of the data is primary. The data collected for the study were analyzed through pie charts. Few Questions were framed to find out what the youth know about accounting software. Total responses received are 49.

4. **Hypothesis**

In summarization of the above, I have formulated the following research hypothesis;

H1= Youth are aware about accounting software.
H2= They have been using it.
H0= Youth have no idea about accounting software.
5. **Data Interpretation**

The questions asked to the youths and its analysis are as follows:-

I. **Age Group**

![Graph showing age group distribution](image)

In the above graph, the data shows that the survey was responded by how many of them under different categories. The graphical representation constitutes the percentile of people who answered this survey. Out of 49 youths 53.1% of youths were under the age category of 15-20 years old whereas 38.8% and 8.2% for age category of 21-25 and 26-30 years old category respectively.

II. **Do you know what an accounting software is?**

![Pie chart showing accounting software knowledge](image)

The above Pie Chart depicts the responses received by youths whether they know what an accounting software is. The states that 81.6% youth are aware about accounting software whereas 18.4% youths are unaware about it. Youths were from different streams like Commerce, arts and science.
III. Have you used Accounting software?

The above illustration shows how many of the youth have used the accounting software. In this context there are 63.3% who have actually used the software. They have used it in their computer course or in college or in their business. But the subsequent percentile that is ‘36.7%’ is for those who have never used the accounting software.

IV. Which accounting software are you familiar with?

POPULAR AMONG THE YOUTH

- ZOHO Books: 14.9%
- Tally ERP 9: 66%
- SAP ERP: 12.8%
- Quickbooks: 6.4%
The illustration above portrays the popular accounting software among the youth. The graph above reveals that the most familiar accounting software is the ‘Tally ERP 9’ with 66%, next with 14.9% youth say that ZOHO Books are popular whereas 12.8% and 6.4% youth say that SAP ERP and QuickBooks are more familiar.

V. Is accounting software beneficial?

The above given graph represents the view of the youths whether the software is beneficial or not. 69.4% youth think that the accounting software is beneficial whereas 28.6% youth are not sure about it and 2% say that it is not beneficial.

6. Limitation

i. Lack of prior research studies on this topic-
   There were no research work done on my topic ‘Awareness among the youth about Digital accounting’. So for Review of literature I had to pick up topics related to accounting software. This Limitation made it difficult to proceed forward.

ii. Shortage of information among the youth-
    Some youths were unaware of accounting software. So there was shortfall of information.

iii. Reliability on this survey -
    As this survey was conducted to know the thought process of the youth, few of them were at their maturity stage and don’t take up survey seriously and end up giving answers by fluke. At times they cannot be reliable. We have to take what the youth says, in the survey, at face value.

7. Suggestions

a) The youths should be trained sooner in their college hours.
b) Youths should be educated about the digital accountancy.
c) Accounting software should be brought to the limelight.
d) Conduct workshops and drills for youths to educate them about accounting software.
8. Conclusion

Accounting has come to occupy an ever more significant position. Competing in the global market place, however, entails a new set of accounting challenges. Accounting software is a solution that gathers under the same roof all systems and applications dedicated to managing and processing financial data. While conducting this research I found out that accounting software is favorable to the industries to record their transactions. Many youth were interviewed on this topic. Most of the youth under working population are aware of accounting software as they use them. Even few non-commerce background youths knew about accounting software. The Well-known software among the youth is ‘Tally ERP 9’. This software is considerably more popular than other software among the youths. The youth thinks that accounting software are beneficial. This research shows that the youths are aware of digital accounting.

9. Bibliography

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