



A study on the Salaried Assessee's Awareness on E-Filing of Income Tax Returns with reference to the Coimbatore City

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ABSTRACT

The researcher studied about the salaried assesses awareness on e-filing of Income Tax Returns with special reference towards Coimbatore city. Here the researcher has collected data through primary method. The researcher used Quota sampling technique to collect the data. The researcher collected data from 250 respondents based on their occupational status. The researcher used tools like Percentage Analysis, ANOVA in the study. The awareness on e-filing of Income Tax Returns varies among age group, educational qualification, occupational status, employment status, working experience and gross total income taken for the study.

KEYWORDS : Assessee's, Awareness, Income Tax, Occupational Status

Introduction:

It is a legal obligation for every individual to file their income tax returns whose total income for the previous year has exceeded the maximum amount according to Income Tax Act 1961. Every sector and segment in the world is partially or completely dependent on the internet. Now-a-days people in their daily life come across most of the internet processes like online banking, online news, online mutual fund investment, online buying and selling etc. These online processes save the time and also it is convenient for the people. Hence, the Department of Income Tax also framed an electronic filing of income tax returns. The process of electronically filing of income tax returns through the internet is known as e-filing. This was enforced from the Assessment year 2004-2005. Through e-filing process, citizens of the country can file the tax returns in a hassle free way. For filing the returns through e-filing, one must need to have a PC with internet connection. Through internet connection, just log on to the official website of the Income Tax Department and fill the form and submit it, online or offline. So paying the tax in a few clicks is the latest style of serving government financially.

Statement of the Problem

It is compulsory for everyone to furnish Income Tax Returns on their income, whose total income exceeds the maximum amount which is not chargeable to Income Tax in any previous year ending on 31st March is liable to file the Income tax Returns. According to Income Tax Act, 1961, an assessee has to pay income tax on the basis of his income. Thus higher the income, higher will be the tax. Mostly the assessee's file their Income Tax Returns through auditors or tax advisors. Even though they file the returns with the help of auditors and tax advisors, the assessee's awareness on e-filing aspects were analysed.

Scope of the Study

In the study the assessee's awareness on e-Filing of Returns were studied. Here the assessee's taken for the study were individuals. Individuals include only the salaried employees. The occupational status on salaried employees taken for the study was Corporate employees, Bank employees, Professionals, Assistant Professors, Teachers.

Objectives of the Study

1. To find out the salaried assessee's awareness on e-Filing of Income Tax Returns
2. To offer suggestions to an assessee on e-Filing of Income Tax Returns

Methodology

To achieve the above objectives, primary and secondary data were required. Primary data was collected through Questionnaire and secondary data through referred books.

Period of Study

The study was conducted during 2015-2016 in Coimbatore city.

Sampling

The researcher studied about the assessee's awareness on e-Filing of Returns with special reference to Coimbatore city. Here the researcher has collected data through primary method. The researcher used Quota sampling technique to collect the data. The researcher collected data from 250 respondents based on their occupational status.

Statistical Tools

Tools like Percentage Analysis, ANOVA were used.

Hypothesis

Suitable null hypothesis was framed and applied wherever necessary

Awareness on e-filing aspects among the variables of Personal Profile

The e-filing aspects includes awareness on Filing tax, e-filing procedure, e-form, Time limit of return, Cost of e-filing, Website address, Digital Signature, ITR-V form, e-Payment, Filing the challan for payment, Using the computer software for e-filing, List of banks for payment, Tax deducted at source return, IRS, Terms and conditions of payment.

Table:1 ANOVA for Awareness score on e-filing aspects among the variable of Personal Profile

Variable	Source	Sum of Squares	Degree of Freedom	Mean Square	F Ratio	Sig.	Inference
Age	Between Groups	54.387	3	18.129	.460	.711	NS
	Within Groups	9702.790	246	39.442			
Educational Qualification	Between Groups	43.007	3	14.336	.363	.780	NS
	Within Groups	9714.169	246	39.488			
Occupational Status	Between Groups	308.937	3	102.979	2.681	.047	S
	Within Groups	9448.240	246	38.407			
Employment status	Between Groups	18.066	2	9.033	.229	.795	NS
	Within Groups	9739.111	247	39.430			
Working Experience	Between Groups	1052.214	2	526.107	14.928	.000	S

	Within Groups	8704.963	247	35.243			
No. Of Assesseees in the family	Between Groups	94.219	3	31.406	.800	.495	NS
	Within Groups	9662.958	246	39.280			
Gross Total Income	Between Groups	166.739	3	55.580	1.426	.236	NS
	Within Groups	9590.438	246	38.986			
	Total	9757.177	249				

Significance at 5% level, Ns- Not Significant at 5% level
Source: Computed Data

Age

Hypothesis: The awareness score on e-filing aspects do not differ significantly among the age groups.

One way ANOVA is applied to find whether the mean awareness score on e-filing aspects differs significantly among the age groups. It is inferred from the ANOVA table that the significant value is 0.711 and the p value is greater than the level of significance $p < 0.05$. There is no significant difference among the Age of respondents and Awareness scores on e-filing aspects. Hence, the hypothesis framed is accepted.

Educational Qualification

Hypothesis: The awareness score on e-filing aspects do not differ significantly among the level of educational qualification.

One way ANOVA is applied to find whether the mean awareness score on e-filing aspects differs significantly among the level of educational qualification. It is inferred from the ANOVA table that the significant value is 0.780 and the p value is greater than the level of significance $p < 0.05$. It is concluded that the awareness score on e-filing aspects does not differ significantly among the level of educational qualification. Hence, the hypothesis is accepted.

Occupational Status

Hypothesis: The awareness score on e-filing aspects do not differ significantly among the occupational status.

One way ANOVA is applied to find whether the mean awareness score on e-filing aspects differs significantly among the occupational status. It is inferred from the ANOVA table that the significant value is 0.047 and the p value is less than the level of significance $p > 0.05$. It is concluded that the awareness score on e-filing aspects differs significantly among the occupational status. Hence, the hypothesis is not accepted.

Employment Status

Hypothesis: The awareness score on e-filing aspects do not differ significantly among the employment status.

One way ANOVA is applied to predict whether the mean awareness score one-filing aspects differ significantly among the employment status. It is inferred from the ANOVA table that the significant value is 0.795 and the p value is greater than the level of significance $p < 0.05$. It is concluded that the awareness score on e-filing aspects does not differ significantly among the employment status. Hence the hypothesis is accepted.

Working Experience

Hypothesis: The awareness score on e-filing aspects do not differ significantly among the working experience.

One way ANOVA is applied to find whether the mean awareness score on e-filing aspects differs significantly among the number of years of service. It is inferred from the ANOVA table that the

significant value is 0.000 and the p value is less than the level of significance $p > 0.05$. It is concluded that the awareness score on e-filing aspects differ significantly among the years of experience. Hence, the hypothesis is not accepted.

No. of Assesseees in the Family

Hypothesis: The awareness score on e-filing aspects do not differ significantly among the number of assesseees in the family.

One way ANOVA is applied to find whether the mean awareness score on e-filing aspects differs significantly among the number of assesseees in the family. It is inferred from the ANOVA table that the significant value is 0.495 and the p value is greater than the level of significance $p < 0.05$. It is concluded that the awareness score on e-filing aspects does not differ significantly among the number of assesseees in the family. Hence, the hypothesis is accepted.

Gross Total Income

Hypothesis: The awareness score on e-filing aspects do not differ significantly among the gross total income.

One way ANOVA is applied to predict whether the mean awareness score one-filing aspects differs significantly among the gross total income. It is inferred from the ANOVA table that the significant value is 0.236 and the p value is greater than the level of significance $p < 0.05$. It is concluded that the awareness score on e-filing aspects does not differ significantly among the gross total income. Hence, the hypothesis is accepted.

Findings

The awareness score on e-filing aspects is compared among the variables of personal profile. The awareness is compared with the age group, the respondents with the age group of 45 and above have high level of awareness than the other age group respondents. When compared with gender, female respondents have high awareness than the male respondents as they have more exposure than the females. The respondents with the professional degree have high level of awareness on e-filing aspects than the other degree holders. The professional respondents have high level of awareness on e-filing aspects. The central government employees have high level of awareness on e-filing aspects by compared with state and private sector employees. The respondents with an experience of 20 years and above have high level of awareness on e-filing aspects. The respondents with three assesseees in their family have high level of awareness on e-filing aspects. In the case of comparison with gross total income, the respondents with an earning of ₹800000 and above have high level of awareness on e-filing aspects. **ANOVA** result shows that the awareness score on e-filing aspects differ significantly among the occupational status, working experience.

Conclusion

The study reveals that the e-filing have a difficulty on its network busy. Thus the Income Tax Department have to take measures to reduce the problem in the network. In this concern, though online tax payment is available, still more than 50% of the people are unaware of it or don't rely on it. Therefore some e-filing tax awareness programs can be conduct in almost all the concern covering private and government employees. Still to be successful procedure for e-filing tax payments and procedure for calculating tax deductions can be advertised through television media which proves to be best audio - visual means in reaching out people.

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