

A Study on the Relationship between Emotional Intelligence and Job Satisfaction among IT Millennial Employees with Reference To Bangalore

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ABSTRACT: IT organizations are adopting flatter structures, need agility to manage change due to rapidly changing technologies and technological disruptions, and work in teams. This can be demanding on the employees engaged with IT firms. EI has emerged as an essential factor in coping with pressure, building relationships, handling conflict, dealing with changes and has become a prerequisite for IT professionals who could be prone to, thereby indicating that EI plays a more important role than cognitive intelligence. Employees exhibit positive outcomes that are associated with high EI such as personal success, performance and job satisfaction.

Keywords: Emotional Intelligence, Job Satisfaction

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I. INTRODUCTION

From the early 1990s till 2019 – Indian IT sector has seen a phenomenal growth and it is the largest provider for IT services, globally. Over the years, global business environment is getting plagued with uncertainty due to rapid changes in technology which is disrupting the existing models of business and way of working. All this is causing a significant shift in the expectations from IT professionals in terms of skills and adaptability, due to organizations restructuring to flatter structure, team- based and relational organizing models. Businesses demand IT professionals learn and upgrade to new technologies, stretch beyond office hours, adapt to the global time zones, and cope with pressures from various stakeholders for success at work, and life.

EI can be a prerequisite to deal with the demands and stress that employees are subjected to. Emotional intelligence is the ability to recognize emotions in oneself and others and to use this knowledge for improved self-management and relationships with others (Berman & West, 2008). EI in the workplace has been widely researched and is associated with positive outcomes like productivity, success and job satisfaction.

Research in Korean hospitality industry on EI and Job satisfaction state that employees who can use and regulate emotions experience Job satisfaction (Hyo Sun Jung & Hye, 2016). In India the IT sector recruits millennials which incidentally is a huge population of their workforce. Research regarding EI and Job Satisfaction of Millennials were not found even though research among nurses, elementary teachers and public employees but no research was found among IT millennials. This forms the objectives of this study which are as follows:

1. To understand EI among IT millennial employee
2. To understand Job Satisfaction among IT millennial employees
3. To analyse EI impacting Job satisfaction among IT millennial.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

1.1 Emotional Intelligence: EI is made up of intelligence and emotion. Information provided by their emotions can enable people to alter their own behavior, which results in better decision making, influence the behavior of others and become a catalyst for change (Goleman, 1995). Leaders are recognizing interpersonal skills as the new benchmark when measuring a leader's effectiveness. One aspect of the interpersonal skills is emotional intelligence (EI). EI is the ability to sense, understand, manage, and apply information toward leadership, motivation, and influence (Burgan & Burgan, 2012).

Social and emotional intelligence equip managers with skills to turn challenges of generational differences into positives. These skills assist managers attend to individual employee needs irrespective of their generation (Njoroge & Yazdanifard, 2014). Emotional and Social intelligence are the antecedents to leadership behavior (Riggio & Reichard, 2008; Emmerling & Boyatzis, 2012). The study of employees in the

Telecommunication sector on EI, reveals a positive and significant impact of well-being, self-control and emotionality on Job satisfaction. (Haleem, 2018).

Job satisfaction: Job Satisfaction defined by Edwin Locke states Job satisfaction as, “a pleasurable or positive emotional state resulting from an appraisal of one’s job or job experiences” (Locke, 1976). Prior researches indicate that computer professionals have greater development needs as compared to non- computer professionals. Job satisfaction is positively associated with feelings of autonomy and influence on the job and with coworkers, job satisfaction decreases with an increase in the number of hours the worker is directly using the computer (Danziger & Dunkle, 2005).

EI and Job satisfaction: People with higher EI tend to develop better relationships, build trust and are sensitive and exhibit empathy. Employees with high EI can manage their emotions against situations that may result in decreased job satisfaction; so high EI is positively related to job satisfaction. (R Chiva & J Allegre, 2008). Studies on EI state the positive outcomes of EI are Job satisfaction and good work performance, which also result in good human relations (Lee, Chan, & M, 2017)

III. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Sampling technique–The data was collected using Judgmental sampling.

Sample size - The population for the study was IT employees working in IT services organizations in Bangalore. The data was collected by distributing the questionnaire to 225 employees out of which 204 response was collected. 4 responses were incomplete. A total of 200 responses were used for the data analysis.

Data collection: Primary data was collected from 200 IT employees of IT services companies of Bangalore

Instrument: A Bar –On scale was used for the construction of the questionnaire which was designed on a 5-point Likert Scale (1- Never, 5 – Consistently) and a Job satisfaction scale was used.

Tests: ANOVA and Correlation.

Duration: Respondents were contacted multiple times and it took 2 months to collect the data from the respondents.

IV. RESULTS: DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

Table 1: Demographic profile of the respondents

| Work Experience | Frequency | Percent |
|-----------------|------------|------------|
| 6- 8yrs | 124 | 63 |
| 8+-10yrs | 35 | 16 |
| 10+-12 yrs | 20 | 10 |
| 12+yrs | 21 | 11 |
| Total | 200 | 100 |

| Qualifications | Frequency | Percent |
|---------------------|------------|------------|
| Graduate | 90 | 45.5 |
| Postgraduate | 92 | 46.5 |
| Professional degree | 18 | 10.1 |
| Total | 200 | 100 |

| Gender | Frequency | Percent |
|--------------|------------|------------|
| Female | 74 | 37 |
| Male | 126 | 63 |
| Total | 200 | 100 |

| Age | Frequency | Percent |
|--------------|------------|------------|
| <30 yrs. | 79 | 40 |
| 31-35 yrs. | 78 | 39.4 |
| 35+-40 yrs. | 22 | 11.1 |
| 40+ yrs. | 21 | 10.6 |
| Total | 200 | 100 |

| Marital Status | Frequency | Percent |
|----------------|------------|------------|
| Married | 55 | 26.8 |
| Unmarried | 145 | 73.2 |
| Total | 200 | 100 |

Table 1 shows that most of the respondents have Work Experience of 6 – 8 years and the majority of the respondents are Postgraduate as their Educational Qualification at 46%. Majority of the employee, (40%) are < 30 years of Age followed by 39.4%, employees between 31 – 35 years, so we can conclude that majority of the respondents (79.4%) in this study have Age < than 35 years who are the Millennials. Majority (63%) of the respondents are Males in the Gender category. Majority of the respondents have their Marital status as Unmarried.

Table No. 2: ANOVA EI with Age

| | | Sum of Squares | Df | Mean Square | F | Sig. |
|----------------------|----------------|----------------|-----|-------------|-------|------|
| Intrapersonal | Between Groups | 17.239 | 4 | 4.310 | 5.272 | .000 |
| | Within Groups | 156.974 | 192 | .818 | | |
| | Total | 174.213 | 196 | | | |
| Interpersonal | Between Groups | 3.748 | 4 | .937 | 1.473 | .212 |
| | Within Groups | 122.140 | 192 | .636 | | |
| | Total | 125.888 | 196 | | | |
| Stress management | Between Groups | 1.748 | 4 | .437 | .583 | .675 |
| | Within Groups | 143.896 | 192 | .749 | | |
| | Total | 145.645 | 196 | | | |
| Adaptability | Between Groups | 13.608 | 4 | 3.402 | 6.065 | .000 |
| | Within Groups | 107.691 | 192 | .561 | | |
| | Total | 121.299 | 196 | | | |
| Developing Others | Between Groups | 3.618 | 4 | .905 | 2.036 | .091 |
| | Within Groups | 85.285 | 192 | .444 | | |
| | Total | 88.904 | 196 | | | |
| Inspirational Leader | Between Groups | 8.484 | 4 | 2.121 | 3.753 | .006 |
| | Within Groups | 108.511 | 192 | .565 | | |
| | Total | 116.995 | 196 | | | |
| Influence | Between Groups | 10.261 | 4 | 2.565 | 3.929 | .004 |
| | Within Groups | 125.353 | 192 | .653 | | |
| | Total | 135.614 | 196 | | | |
| Conflict Management | Between Groups | 17.646 | 4 | 4.411 | 8.264 | .000 |
| | Within Groups | 102.499 | 192 | .534 | | |
| | Total | 120.145 | 196 | | | |
| Change Catalyst | Between Groups | 3.660 | 4 | .915 | 1.794 | .132 |
| | Within Groups | 97.901 | 192 | .510 | | |
| | Total | 101.561 | 196 | | | |
| General Mood | Between Groups | 22.377 | 4 | 5.594 | 5.852 | .000 |
| | Within Groups | 183.558 | 192 | .956 | | |
| | Total | 205.935 | 196 | | | |

EI factors of Intrapersonal, Adaptability, Developing Others, Inspirational Leadership, Influence, Conflict Management and General Moods show a significant relationship with Age as it is $<.05$. There is no significant relationship of EI factors Interpersonal, Stress Management and Change Catalyst with Age as it is $>.05$

Table no. 3: ANOVA - Work experience with Job satisfaction

| | | Sum of Squares | Df | Mean Square | F | Sig. |
|---------------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|-----|-------------|--------|------|
| Variety in Job Responsibilities | Between Groups | 21.187 | 4 | 5.297 | 14.066 | .000 |
| | Within Groups | 73.433 | 195 | .377 | | |
| | Total | 94.620 | 199 | | | |
| My Job Role gives me independence | Between Groups | 31.092 | 4 | 7.773 | 21.414 | .000 |
| | Within Groups | 70.783 | 195 | .363 | | |
| | Total | 101.875 | 199 | | | |
| The opportunity to exhibit my efficiency is adequate | Between Groups | 35.007 | 4 | 8.752 | 17.712 | .000 |
| | Within Groups | 96.348 | 195 | .494 | | |
| | Total | 131.355 | 199 | | | |
| Recognition for duties performed and work accomplished- | Between Groups | 16.297 | 4 | 4.074 | 8.313 | .000 |
| | Within Groups | 95.578 | 195 | .490 | | |
| | Total | 111.875 | 199 | | | |
| Opportunity to utilize my skill and talent is high | Between Groups | 2.640 | 4 | .660 | .874 | .481 |
| | Within Groups | 147.315 | 195 | .755 | | |
| | Total | 149.955 | 199 | | | |
| Support of additional training and education | Between Groups | 8.668 | 4 | 2.167 | 2.993 | .020 |
| | Within Groups | 141.207 | 195 | .724 | | |
| | Total | 149.875 | 199 | | | |

From the above table we can conclude that “Variety in job”, “Independence”, “Opportunity to exhibit efficiency”, “Recognition for duties and Support of additional training” is $<.05$ which shows there is a significant relationship between Job satisfaction and Work experience. “Opportunity to utilize my skill and talent” is $.481$ which is $>.05$ hence there is no significant relationship with Work Experience.

Table No. 4: ANOVA Job Satisfaction with Qualification

| | | Sum of Squares | Df | Mean Square | F | Sig. |
|---------------------------|----------------|----------------|-----|-------------|--------|------|
| Job Condition | Between Groups | 25.643 | 4 | 6.411 | 11.968 | .000 |
| | Within Groups | 102.848 | 192 | .536 | | |
| | Total | 128.492 | 196 | | | |
| Workplace relationship | Between Groups | 7.263 | 4 | 1.816 | 3.533 | .008 |
| | Within Groups | 98.691 | 192 | .514 | | |
| | Total | 105.954 | 196 | | | |
| Use of skills & abilities | Between Groups | 9.732 | 4 | 2.433 | 6.916 | .000 |
| | Within Groups | 67.546 | 192 | .352 | | |
| | Total | 77.278 | 196 | | | |
| Culture | Between Groups | 26.801 | 4 | 6.700 | 15.370 | .000 |
| | Within Groups | 83.699 | 192 | .436 | | |
| | Total | 110.501 | 196 | | | |
| Promotion | Between Groups | 19.459 | 4 | 4.865 | 10.078 | .000 |
| | Within Groups | 92.674 | 192 | .483 | | |
| | Total | 112.133 | 196 | | | |

The above table shows that there is a significant relationship between Job satisfaction and employee Qualification. The data indicates that Post Graduate employees are satisfied with their jobs.

Table no. 5: Correlations

| | | Total Emotional Intelligence | Total Job Satisfaction |
|------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|
| Total Emotional Intelligence | Pearson Correlation | 1 | .346** |
| | Sig. (2-tailed) | | .000 |
| | N | 200 | 200 |
| Total Job Satisfaction | Pearson Correlation | .346** | 1 |
| | Sig. (2-tailed) | .000 | |
| | N | 200 | 200 |

** . Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

Table 5 shows a significant relationship between EI and Job satisfaction.

V. FINDINGS & CONCLUSION

The study reveals that there is a relationship between Emotional Intelligence & Job Satisfaction. From the above data we can conclude that majority of the respondents are Millennials as their age is < 35 years. Results show Millennials are self-aware, prefer collaboration, are adaptable and, can influence, to develop self and others. They also are optimistic. Millennials that there is a challenge for them to maintain Interpersonal relationship and Stress even though they can collaborate with teams. From the study we can conclude Millennial employee are efficient, want variety and independence in their jobs, are open to learning.

As Emotional Intelligence plays a pivotal role in performance and job satisfaction, IT Organizations could focus on Interpersonal Training, Stress Management through wellness programs and enable employees for transition during any Change. Millennial employees could be given better opportunities to utilize their skills leading to better job satisfaction based on talent and not only on qualification.

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