Assessing The Impact of Digital Awareness and Life Skills Training On Rural Youth of India

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Abstract

The COVID 19 pandemic has made awareness about digital devices and internet imperative for economic activity. At the same time, learning life skills is essential for people for their empowerment and for ensuring their active participation in local governance that impacts them. Given the problem in using a single question/indicator as the outcome indicator while dealing with interventions related to digital awareness and life skills, using an index becomes imperative. The present paper shows how Multiple Correspondence Analysis (MCA) can used for creating indexes incorporating the various indicators that in combination shows the impact of interventions related to digital awareness and life skills training. In addition to this, the present paper shows how Quantile Regression analysis can be used for analysing distributional effects. The paper shows that while the use of ordinary least square (OLS) regression didn't showed the significant impact of gender on the achievement with respect to the intervention, the use of Quantile Regression showed that the significant impact of gender in the 0.50th and 0.75th quantiles.

Keywords: Quantile Regression, Multiple Correspondence Analysis (MCA), Digital Awareness, Life Skills, Ordinary Least Square