

A Study on Customer Satisfaction and Preference towards the Mobile Network Service Providers with Special Reference to Coimbatore City

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ABSTRACT

The project entitled "A study on customer satisfaction and preference towards the mobile network service providers with special reference to Coimbatore city" is carried out with an objective to determine the consumer preference and satisfaction. A descriptive study was conducted to achieve the objectives. In total 125 respondents filled a well-structured questionnaire having a list of statements pertaining to the products and services & facilities provided by the service provider. The main objective of the study was to know how the customers of all mobile network service providers in Coimbatore broadband perceive its in service provider. And also identifying the factors affecting the preferences of the customers results reveal that the dimensions which influence the satisfaction and preference level of customers are: core services (like good coverage, good connectivity and network quality) and talk time. Further results show that there is a significant relations between the brand name and the preference of the customers. Hence, it has been recommended that telecom companies should focus connectivity, talk time plans, coverage and network quality.

Keywords: Network services, Telecom sector, various mobile network service providers, Simple percentage analysis, Likert scale analysis, Rank analysis.

1. Introduction

Telecommunication companies also take of their customers being most important assets, just like companies in other business domains but rarely are this reflected in a company's strategy and operations. The telephony and telecom sector are moving ahead with times and have started buying cellular services just like daily house hold times such as tooth paste. Therefore it Is a necessary in today's business scenario the fact that the idea of consumer being a company's most important assets. In India also service sector playing greater role in the nation's economy by contributing nearly 64 per cent of the GDP, having higher share in exports, 42 per cent of total exports from India, and providing high number employment opportunities. This indicates that the growing importance of the service sector. That is the reason why, companies well recognized the need for the better service quality and are looking for ways to perform better and attract and retain their customers in a high competitive manner (Wang. Y, 2003) Many researchers have been focused on this area of service quality for the last few years and recognized as one of the most important strategy of the business firms in the service sector to improve financial as well as marketing performance.

Network Service quality is considered as the most critical determinant of competitiveness for establishing and sustaining satisfying relationship with customers (Lewis, 1989). Business firms including banks have recognized the fact that the only one best way to manage the competition is the quality differentiation. Advance technology, customer oriented corporate culture, a well-designed service-system and excellent information system are the major factors that decide the superior quality of service of an organization. Providing excellent service quality and maintaining the high customer satisfaction is the important issue and the challenge facing contemporary service industry (Hung,2003).Thus Network Service Quality is an important subject in both public and private sectors business firms and service industries. The Telecom sector is not an exception to this.

2. Objectives of the Study

- To analyse the customer opinion regarding product, price and promotion activities of various schemes provided by the various mobile cellular operators.
- To understand the problems faced by the mobile network users.
- To find out the factors influencing the customer.

3. Statement of the Problem

There are various mobile network service providers in our country and they are playing an essential role in fulfilling the needs of the customers. Their taste, needs and preference are changing as per current scenario. However the following questions may arise regarding customer satisfaction and preference.

- What are the problems faced by the customers regarding service provided by the mobile phone network operators?
- Whether the service provided by various mobile network providers is satisfying the customers?
- Which of the most factors attract the customers while choosing mobile cellular and network services? And why the customers are frequently using some specific mobile network providers?

4. Research Methodology

SOURCE OF DATA

- Primary data is used in the study. It is original data for the purpose of collection of primary data, e-questionnaire were filled by the respondents. The e-questionnaire comprises of close ended.
- The secondary data was collected from various possible records like books, magazines, periodicals and websites.

RESEARCH DESIGN

- **Sampling technique**
The sampling technique used in this study was convenient sampling.
- **Sample size**
The study was conducted with a sample size of 125 respondents.
- **Area of study**
The study was undertaken in Coimbatore city.

5. Research Tools for Analysis

- Simple percentage method
- Likert scale analysis
- Rank analysis

6. Limitations

- Sample size restricted to 125 customers.
- The study was focused only in the Coimbatore city.
- Findings of the study purely depends upon the responses given by respondents.

7. Review of Literature

Silky ViggKushwah, AhutiBhargav (2014), this study entitled Service Quality expectations and perceptions of telecom sector in India. For service providers, the pursuit of service quality is essential for competitiveness and gaining momentum. In fact, mobile telecommunication has become one of the most effervescent service sectors in the country with its growing network coverage. From the preceding analysis, it is obvious that the customers' expectation from the mobile phone service providers is higher than the perceived quality of the service provided by them.

Dr. IpseetaSatpathy, Dr.B.C.M. Patnick, and Sharad Kumar (2017), this study entitled Service Marketing and Service Quality- A Conceptual Framework. Service industry in India has a significant contribution towards Indian GDP and many service industries are growing which is not only attracting foreign investments but also helps in creating job opportunities within the territorial boundary of the country. To undertake the empirical study on service quality provided in the aviation sector, service quality is an important component in modern-day business. The very survival of the business depends upon the quality of service provided to customers.

Pankaj Sharma, DeepikaJhamba (2017), this study entitled Measuring service Quality in the Telecom Industry in India. In the global competitive atmosphere of today, the quality of the service offered is considered an essential strategy to achieve and survive. The telecom industry has been under enormous pressure to provide quality offers and increase efficiencies. To experience Serquel reliability and internal consistencies of the five dimensions as proposed through Parasuraman et al. (1988), the survey tool used using Cronbach's alpha values for each dimension. As a way to bridge the gap between satisfactory customer service perceptions in the Telecom industry in India, the service providers must give extra coaching to improve their customer service talent.

8. Data Analysis and Interpretation

The chapter deals with the analysis and interpretation of the study "A Study on Customer Satisfaction and Preference towards the Mobile Network service Providers". Based on the data collected, the collected data have been analyzed using the following statistical tools.

- Simple Percentage Analysis
- Likert Scale Analysis
- Ranking Analysis

1. SIMPLE PERCENTAGE ANALYSIS

Table- 1 Showing type of service preferred by respondents

Type of connection	No. of Respondents	Percentage %
9. Pre-paid	10. 98	11. 78.4
12. Post paid	13. 27	14. 21.6
15. Total	16. 125	17. 100

(Source: Primary Data)

INTERPRETATION

From the above table 78.4% of the respondents are using prepaid mobile connection, 21.6% of the respondents are using Post-paid mobile connection.

INFERENCE

Hence the Majority 78.4% of the respondents are using prepaid mobile connection.

2. LIKERT SCALE ANALYSIS

Table- 2 Showing the respondents satisfaction level of their current mobile network service provider

Factors	No. of Respondents	Likert Scale	Total Score (fx)
Highly Satisfied	50	5	250
Satisfied	51	4	204
Moderate	21	3	63
Dissatisfied	2	2	2
Highly dissatisfied	1	1	1
Total	125	15	520

(Source: Primary Data)

Interpretation

Likert scale value is 4.15 is greater than the mid value (3). Hence the majority of the respondents are satisfied in using their current mobile network service providers.

3. RANK ANALYSIS

Table – 3 Showing the respondents with respect to the basis of their currently available mobile network service providers

Service Providers	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	Total	Final Rank
Airtel	28(5) 140	40(4) 160	21(3) 63	13(2) 26	23(1) 23	412	2
Jio	32(5) 160	29(4) 116	34(3) 102	20(2) 40	10(1) 10	428	1
Idea	8(5) 40	30(4) 120	48(3) 144	23(2) 46	16(1) 16	366	4
Vodafone	12(5) 60	29(4) 116	45(3) 135	31(2) 62	8(1) 8	381	3
BSNL	6(5) 30	27(4) 108	50(3) 150	30(2) 60	12(1) 12	360	5

(Source: Primary Data)

INTERPRETATION

It can be seen from table 4.3.1 Jio is ranked first (1), Airtel is ranked second (2), Vodafone is ranked third (3), Idea is ranked fourth (4) and BSNL is ranked fifth (5) on the basis of currently available mobile network service providers.

FINDINGS:

1. SIMPLE PERCENTAGE ANALYSIS

- Majority 49.6% of respondents are in the age group of 18-25years
- Majority 50.4% of the respondents are Male.
- Majority 60% of the respondents are unmarried.
- Majority 46.4% of the respondents have educational qualification is UG level.
- Majority 31.2% of the respondents are students.
- Majority 48.8 % of respondents are residing at Semi-urban area.
- Majority 57.6% of the respondents are using android mobiles.
- Majority 36.8% of the respondents are using JIO currently.
- Majority 78.4% of the respondents are using prepaid mobile connection.
- Majority 62.4% of the respondents they aren't choosing the post-paid connection.
- Most 37.6% of the respondents reason for choosing prepaid mobile connection for cheaper cost on tariff.
- Majority 44.8% of the respondents are spending amount for recharge to their mobiles is Rs. 200-400.
- Majority 28% of the respondents are consider for fair price.
- Most 29% of the respondents are choosing for high speed of internet.
- Most of the respondents are not choosing the other services reason for low validity of recharge plans.
- Majority 35.2% of the respondents are influenced by mobile phone.
- Most 52% of the respondents are recharge on 3 months once frequently.

2. LIKERT SCALE ANALYSIS

- The Likert scale value is greater than the mid value. Hence the majority of the respondents are satisfied in using their current mobile network service provider.

3. RANK ANALYSIS

- It is observed that the Jio have been ranked first (1) from currently available mobile network operators.
- It is resulted that price have been ranked first (1) from the services provided by their current mobile network operators.

9. Suggestions

- From the overall study, it was found that, the Reliance Jio users are expecting high speed of network. So Increasing network speed to great extent. It would be better.
- Jio should be introduce some new schemes for the Jio Subscribers.
- More numbers of customers feel that starter pack amount for getting recharge is too high. So the Airtel has to reduce the starter pack amount for its customer.
- It is inferred that most of the respondents feels that BSNL should be improve their quality of services.
- It should be improve their network quality and unstable network coverage, voice clarity for betterment communication. It would be better among the customers.
- The other cellular companies of Idea and Vodafone should improve the advertisement strategies, and only few respondents are satisfied with these two service providers.
- Hence, it is suggested that the company to give importance to that and make the entire customers to be satisfied. Most of the customers are moderately satisfied about the performance of their current using cellular providers, so they may try to add some advanced features towards their services.
- The above reviews have to be carefully taken note of and cellular companies should take appropriate steps to expose and ensure to face stiff competition with better strength.

10. Conclusion

This study was undertaken to examine the study on "Customer satisfaction and preference towards Mobile Network Service Providers" is found that, majority of the respondents prefer to use Jio and Airtel cellular services because of high internet speed, stable network coverage, and unlimited voice calls,

sms and data at better service quality. So, the other service providers shall pay special attention on these factors to make their business more successful and satisfying the customers.

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