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## **Awareness and Barriers of SWAYAM Courses (MOOCs) among Prospective Teachers in Dindigul District, Tamil Nadu, India**

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**KEYWORDS** Digital Learning, Massive Open Online Courses, Online Courses, Pre-Service Teachers, Self-learning

**ABSTRACT** SWAYAM is an online, advanced self-learning platform initiated by the Indian Government. The focus of the current study is on the understanding and obstacles of SWAYAM courses among prospective teachers in the Dindigul District. In this study, data was gathered using a survey method. Google Forms were utilized to collect responses, and a total of 120 respondents participated, out of which 82 were undergraduate students and the remaining 38 were postgraduates. The study was conducted using the Simple Random Sampling method by the researchers. The sample consists of 120 prospective teachers selected from Dindigul District, Tamil Nadu. The SWAYAM awareness tool was constructed, validated by the investigators. The research revealed that prospective teachers in Dindigul District have a moderate level of awareness regarding SWAYAM courses. The barriers faced by the students, such as lack of time due to academic schedules, are less effective compared to traditional learning. Hence, prospective teachers have an average level awareness about SWAYAM courses.