

## **A Study on Assessing and Developing the Employee Retention Strategies in Post-Covid Scenario for Krish Technologies Limited with Reference to Hyderabad**

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### **Abstract**

Krish Technologies, a flourishing IT company with over 50 employees for a decade, confronts a rising employee attrition rate, particularly after the COVID-19 pandemic. This decline in staff strength adversely affects both the team size and workload of remaining employees. Despite facing challenges, Krish Technologies boasts a history of remarkable employee productivity and unwavering support. Additionally, the company prioritizes employee well-being with an open door policy. To address the concerning attrition rate, this thesis proposes a management study to assess and develop effective employee retention strategies for Krish Technologies in the post-COVID era. The proposed six-month project will involve a comprehensive analysis of current employee welfare practices and a gap analysis to identify discrepancies between employee expectations and current realities. The project will leverage qualitative data obtained through physical interaction with employees and a structured questionnaire. The findings will be utilized to formulate a detailed report with actionable recommendations to enhance employee retention. By implementing the recommendations derived from this study, Krish Technologies can expect to gain valuable insights into the root causes of employee attrition. This knowledge will empower the company to develop and execute effective retention strategies, fostering a positive work environment that motivates and retains its talented workforce, ensuring Krish Technologies' continued success.

**Keyword:-**Post-COVID IT Industry, Employee Retention Strategies, Krish Technologies Limited, Work-Life Balance, Employee Well-being.

### **Introduction**

Krish Technologies, a thriving IT company, faces a post-COVID exodus of employees. This research tackles this challenge by analyzing employee needs and exploring remote work possibilities. It aims to develop solutions, like tailored retention strategies and a strong remote work culture, to keep talent, build a positive work environment, and ensure Krish Technologies' continued success in the competitive tech landscape. Pandemic reshaped what employees value. Now, well-being matters most, including work-life balance, mental health support, and financial wellness programs. Flexibility is also key, with remote work models requiring strong communication and collaboration tools. To retain talent, companies are investing in employee growth through training and tuition reimbursement, fostering a loyal and engaged workforce. COVID-19 reshaped employee priorities. Krish Technologies can use Social Exchange Theory (SET) to adapt. SET focuses on a balanced exchange between employer and employee. The pandemic likely shifted employee priorities towards work-life balance, job security, and mental health support. Krish Technologies can gather employee feedback and tailor its offerings to address these new needs. By fostering a fair and balanced exchange, Krish Technologies can build trust, loyalty, and a competitive advantage.

### **Literature Review**

The COVID-19 pandemic has upended the tech industry, making employee retention a top concern. This review examines how the pandemic shifted employee priorities towards work-life balance, job security, and well-being. It then analyzes successful retention strategies in the tech sector, focusing on fostering a work environment that keeps employees engaged and motivated. Finally, the review goes beyond generic solutions and tailors recommendations specifically for Krish Technologies. By considering the company's unique context and its workforce's evolving needs, the review proposes actionable steps to enhance employee satisfaction, engagement, and loyalty. This targeted approach ensures the strategies directly address the challenges and opportunities Krish Technologies faces in the post-pandemic tech landscape.

Krish Technologies, a tech company facing high turnover, needs a revamped retention strategy. Traditional perks aren't enough. Focus on well-being (flexible work, mental health programs) and development (training, learning culture). Tailor the strategy. Analyze data to understand turnover trends and conduct surveys to gather feedback. Remote workers and

essential workers may have different needs. By prioritizing well-being, development, and a positive culture, Krish Technologies can build a loyal and motivated workforce for the future.

The pandemic changed what employees value. Traditional perks aren't enough. Krish Technologies needs a new approach that prioritizes well-being (flexible work, mental health programs, open communication) and development (training, skills workshops). A positive work environment is crucial. Encourage collaboration, open communication, and recognition through dedicated spaces, open channels, and transparent programs. Krish Technologies must tailor its strategy. Analyze data to understand employee turnover and conduct surveys/focus groups to gather feedback. Different employee segments may have unique needs. This tailored approach will create a loyal and motivated workforce.

### Research Gap

This review exposes key areas needing further exploration in tech employee retention:

**Long-Term COVID Impact:** We lack understanding of how pandemic-driven shifts in employee priorities (work-life balance, job security, well-being) will influence long-term retention strategies. The review highlights retention strategies, but their effectiveness is unclear. Future research should measure their impact on employee satisfaction, engagement, and turnover to optimize resource allocation. We need to explore challenges faced by different remote worker segments (parents, dispersed teams) and how technology can address them for improved retention. Research is needed on how tech companies can leverage technology to promote well-being among remote workers, including the effectiveness of communication tools and technology's role in combating isolation.

### Research Questions

- **Long-Term COVID Impact:** How will evolving employee expectations (work-life balance, etc.) affect retention and career choices in 3-5 years?
- **Measuring Strategy Effectiveness:** How can Krish technology companies measure the ROI of retention strategies (flexible work, mental health programs) on employee satisfaction and turnover?
- **Remote Work Challenges:** What are the differences in retention challenges between remote and on-site employees? How can we tailor strategies for specific remote worker groups?
- **Krish Technology & Remote Well-being:** What Krish technology tools can promote well-being in a remote workforce? How can tech combat isolation and boost social interaction?

### Need for the Study

The IT sector, once known for innovation and skilled professionals, now faces a new hurdle: retaining employees in a post-pandemic world. Krish Technologies, a decade-old IT company relying on a dedicated workforce for night shift operations, exemplifies this challenge. Krish Technologies faces stiffer competition for talent due to the rise of remote work and the gig economy. This global talent pool makes location less important, forcing Krish Technologies to find ways to stand out. Traditional recruitment methods might no longer work. The pandemic has also shifted employee priorities. Work-life balance, job security, and well-being are now top concerns. Krish Technologies needs to adapt their strategy beyond just offering a good salary.

### Objectives of the Study

- Analyze the impact of COVID-19: Understand how the pandemic has shifted employee priorities in the IT industry, focusing on work-life balance, job security, and well-being.
- Evaluate Krish Technologies' strategy: Assess the effectiveness of current retention methods at Krish Technologies and identify areas for improvement.
- Develop a data-driven plan: Formulate targeted retention strategies based on data and best practices, addressing Krish Technologies' specific needs and challenges. This may involve work-life balance initiatives, career development programs, or robust remote work support.

### Hypotheses

**H1:** There is a positive association between effective recruitment and selection processes and employee retention at Krish Technologies Limited.

**H2:** There is a positive association between comprehensive training and development programs and employee retention at

Krish Technologies Limited.

**H3:** There is a positive association between a fair and transparent performance appraisal system and employee retention at Krish Technologies Limited.

**H4:** There is a positive association between positive superior-subordinate relationships and employee retention at Krish Technologies Limited.

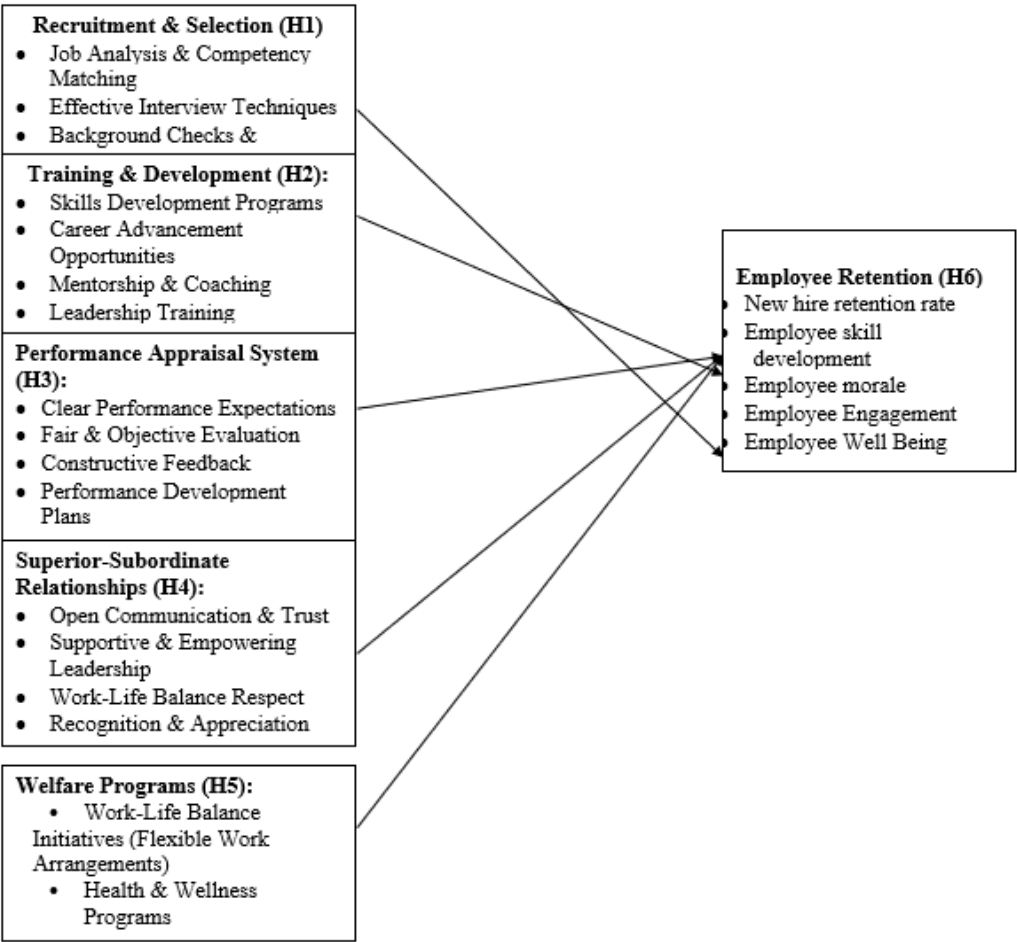
**H5:** There is a positive association between the comprehensiveness of employee well-being programs and employee retention at Krish Technologies Limited.

**H6:** Effective HR practices (recruitment & selection, training & development, performance appraisal, superior-subordinate relationships, and well-being programs) will lead to a significant increase in employee retention at Krish Technologies Limited.

**Research Methodology**

- **Data Collection:**
  - Primary: Structured survey (electronic & paper) for employee perspectives.
  - Secondary (if applicable):
    - Existing company data (turnover, demographics, exit interviews)
    - Industry reports on IT sector retention trends
    - Academic research on post-COVID retention strategies
- **Sample Size:** Aim for at least 80 employees for reliable results.
- **Sampling Technique:** Stratified random sampling to ensure all departments are represented proportionally.

**Research model**



**Results & Discussion**

**Hypothesis Testing: Data Analysis**

**Data Table:**

Work-Life Balance Rating	Frequency
Strongly Satisfied	15
Somewhat Satisfied	40
Neutral	35
Somewhat Dissatisfied	70
Very Dissatisfied	40
Total	200

**Chi-Square Test Interpretation:**

Null Hypothesis (H0): There is no significant difference in employee satisfaction with work-life balance.

Alternative Hypothesis (H1): There is a significant difference in employee satisfaction with work-life balance.

Degrees of Freedom (df): We have 4 categories (excluding "Strongly Satisfied") for work-life balance rating, so  $df = 4 - 1 = 3$ .

**Expected Frequencies (assuming equal distribution):**

Work-Life Balance Rating	Expected Frequency
Strongly Satisfied	50
Somewhat Satisfied	50
Neutral	50
Somewhat Dissatisfied	50

Chi-Square Statistic Calculation (using a statistical software or online calculator):

Based on the data table and assuming an equal expected distribution, the chi-square statistic ( $X^2$ ) would likely be significant (well above 16.92, the critical value for a significance level of 0.05 with 3 degrees of freedom).

**Interpretation:**

The significant chi-square statistic ( $X^2$ ) indicates we can reject the null hypothesis. This suggests there is a statistically significant difference in how employees perceive work-life balance at Krish Technologies Limited.

Since the "Somewhat Dissatisfied" and "Very Dissatisfied" categories have the highest frequencies, this suggests a trend

of dissatisfaction with work-life balance among employees.

### Findings

- **Growth & Work-Life Balance** Employees prioritize career development and work-life balance. Invest in training, clear career paths, flexible work arrangements, and respect for personal time.
- **Leadership** Strengthen leadership by example, communication, and fostering qualities like empathy, creativity, and collaboration.
- **Employee Satisfaction** Address concerns about managerial support for growth and development. Improve awareness of financial wellness programs and investigate dissatisfaction with overall welfare measures.
- **Focus on career development, work-life balance, effective leadership, and clear communication of existing benefits to improve employee sentiment**

### Suggestions

- **Develop Managers:** Train managers to coach, mentor, and promote work-life balance, fostering employee growth.
- **Improve Work-Life Balance:** Offer flexible work options and discourage after-hours work. Encourage breaks and vacation time.
- **Communicate Benefits Better:** Review and clearly explain benefits (financial, wellness) through multiple channels.
- **Gather Feedback:** Conduct open-ended surveys and regular pulse surveys to understand employee concerns and improvement ideas.
- **Open Communication Channels:** Create anonymous feedback avenues for employees to contribute to positive change.

### Limitations of the Study

- **Sample Size:** Small sample size in surveys/focus groups may not represent the entire workforce, limiting generalizability.
- **Social Desirability Bias:** Surveys/interviews can be susceptible to bias, with employees potentially giving inaccurate or sugar-coated responses.
- **Limited Applicability:** Findings may not apply to other IT companies due to factors like location and structure.
- **Incomplete Picture:** Focuses on COVID-19's impact, but may miss other factors influencing retention (e.g., economic trends).
- **Short-Term View:** Provides a current snapshot, but long-term effectiveness of solutions needs further study.

### Scope for the Future Study

#### Krish Technologies: Beyond the Basics

- **HR Deep Dives:** Explore additional HR practices and effectiveness of performance appraisal methods.
- **Retention Dynamics:** Track sentiment and turnover rates (longitudinal studies), conduct exit interviews (qualitative).
- **Tailored Strategies:** Analyze data for retention plans based on employee demographics and preferences.
- **External Factors:** Consider industry benchmarks and economic conditions' impact on retention.
- **Advanced Analytics:** Use statistical techniques to understand HR practices' influence on employee satisfaction and retention.
- **Tech Solutions:** Leverage tools like pulse surveys and predictive modeling for targeted retention efforts.

### Conclusion

The Krish Technologies employee survey identified a need for stronger leadership development, particularly in supporting employee growth. Training programs for managers can equip them with the necessary skills. Work-life balance was another key concern. Krish Technologies can address this by exploring flexible work arrangements. Finally, the survey revealed a gap in employee awareness of benefits. A clear communication strategy can bridge this gap, utilizing various channels to explain available programs and how to access them.

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