IMPORTANCE OF ICT USE FOR URBAN YOUTH

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ABSTRACT

Internet technology of communication, its universal acceptance by communities and subsequent globalization within a short span of a few years is a classic example of what sustained investment and commitment to research and development have been achieved. The internet is a worldwide network of networks. It is a conglomeration of smaller networks and other connected machines spanning the entire globe. It is existing areas where you can find information about almost every topic you have books, encyclopedias, magazines, articles and every other type of reference material at your fingertips. In addition you have access to expert opinion on various topics and can communicate with people offering commentaries / views on all ranges of the subjects. It provides an inter-connection between several computers of different types belonging to various networks all over the globe. It is a network of networks. The kind of colossal powers that the internet gives yours machine is mind- bogging. To send or receive data within a matter of seconds to someone placed beyond the pacific was unthinkable before the advent of the internet. The internet represents the transformation and evolution of the entire information age. It is due to these factors that people all over the globe have recognized the internet as their latest developmental tool. Internet has changed life as a few things have done. It has added a new dimension to our existence by placing within easy reach, mind boggling range of information. It gives each of us the option to be as publisher of our information and views, and as the number of people on internet multiplies and commerce transforms the internet, the opportunities are getting larger.

Keywords: *Internet Technology, Globalization, Transformation, Colossal Powers.*

Introduction

In the era of networked information, Internet, the largest worldwide network of networks, has emerged as the most powerful tool for an instant access to information. Information is now just a „finger touch" distance away from the user and it would not be inappropriate to say that the Internet has become the biggest global digital information library which provides the fastest access to the right kind of information in nano-seconds of time to end-user at any time and at any place in the world. The Internet has become the most extensively used information source that empowers the average person to get in roaming with the latest information. Today's users can no longer depend on conventional information sources to cope with the latest developments in their respective fields.

The internet is clearly an ideal medium for the youth of today because it is based on communication and collaboration, can be enriched with multimedia capability that enhances the learning experience. It enables true student -centered learning by ensuring that:

- Students learn the way that suits them best in environment of anonymity.
- Students control the content and pace and share perspectives with peers and faculty.
- Opportunities are provided for exploration.
- Students get rehearsal time.
- Student-to-student and faculty-to-student interaction is enhanced.

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To explore an enormous scope of using internet facilities in all research and academic institutions students, research scholars can link themselves to remote computer via the internet and gain access to the data, information and programs stored on it and they can do almost anything like sending and receiving messages, receiving news update about specific events or topics, reading or copying information stored on other computers, reading newspapers, magazines and newsletters, downloading computer software, sharing of expensive hardware, centralized administration of all computers, posting and reading public messages to exchange news and information about certain topics or area of interest.

The adoption of internet facilities into the research, education and extension is to use the potential of the new information and communication tools to revolutionize an outmoded NARS, to better prepare students and scientists for the information age and accelerate national development efforts. Technology is a great key that changes social, cultural, political, values. Today we are living in the age of science, technology information and knowledge. By the improvement in technology, internet becomes a guide to analyze these changes and also inform the people about changes.

Methodology

Internet has been the most useful technology of the modern times which helps us not only in our daily lives, but also our personal and professional lives development. The internet helps us achieve this in several different ways. For the urban students and educational purposes the internet is widely used to gather information so as to do the research or add to the knowledge of any sought of subject they have. Even the business personals and the professions like doctors, access the internet to filter the necessary information for their use .The internet is therefore, the largest encyclopedia for everyone, in all age categories. Internet is also used to upgrade the internet and use as special software to work on the projects and documentation works as internet enables the user to download a myriad of different software for a variety of different purposes, making it much easier than buying the costly software CDs. Thus, looking to present scenario it was felt to study Internet utilization behaviour of P.G. Girls students in the following objectives:

- To assess the utilization pattern of internet among post-graduate students.

Delimitations of the Study

The study will be delimited to urban college's post graduate students that were enrolled in home science faculty of Maharana Pratap University of agriculture and technology Udaipur.

- **Locale and Sampling:** The present study was conducted in Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture and Technology Udaipur.
- **Selection of Campus:** There are One PG teaching campus under the Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture and Technology Udaipur. Udaipur campus has three faculties namely Home Science, Agriculture, College of technology and agriculture engineering. Out of there three colleges Home Science campus is selected purposively as.
- **Selection of Respondents:** In order to get representative sample college wise list of P.G student who were enrolled in the year 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 as follows:

S. No.	Name Of College	Total Student Class Wise	Total Student
1	College Of Home Science	Previous - 14 Final - 11	25

- **Construction of Research Tool:** Questionnaire was developed on the basis of literature and objectives of the study. The questionnaire contained close-ended questions to obtain information regarding the personal, and usage of internet. The structured questionnaire consisted sections which were as follows:
    - **General Information:** This section included general information about the age, sex, education, mass-media exposure and personal information of the respondents.
    - **Personal Information** This part dealt with questions related to personal information of internet like own computer, use internet where, computer training, search engine etc.

Age: The respondents were classified into three major categories of age.

S.No	Category	Age
A	Lower age	Below 22 yr
B	Middle age	22-27 yr
C	Upper age	Above 27 yr

Class (Stream): Education of the respondents was obtained in four stream as follows:

S.No	Discipline
1.	M.sc Pre
2.	M.sc Final
3.	PhD Pre
4.	PhD Final

Mass-Media: Respondents according to their exposure to different mass-media were categorized into following category.

S. No.	Category
A	Daily
B	3-6 days in a week
C	Once in a week
D	Fortnightly
E	Rarely
F	Never

Specific Information

This section included the questions related to Internet like.

Utilization Pattern of Internet: this part dealt with questions related to utilization pattern of internet for different activities such as education, research, entertainment etc. Under Utilization Pattern of Internet, the respondents were categorized into three categories low, Medium and High with the help of frequency and percentage.

- **Procedure of Data Collection:** Data was collected through a questionnaire method. In the beginning the purpose of the study was clearly explained to the respondents. The questionnaires were distributed to the students and each one of them filled up the questionnaire without the help of investigator.

Result and Discussion

- **Utilization Pattern Adopted by youth/Students**

The data on this aspect has been presented in Table 1: Use of internet by the respondents was classified into 3 categories i.e. Lower, Medium, Higher utilization with the help of mean score and standard deviation. It is evident from the Table that (48%) of the respondents were belonged to the category of medium (20-46hrs/week) while rest of the respondents were found in the category of lower utilization (<20hrs/week) and higher utilization (>46hrs/week) respectively.

Above finding exhibit that majority of students belonged to medium utilization category because they felt that the time of 20 -46 hours (per week) was more than sufficient for doing the work on internet.

Table 1: Overall Utilization of Internet by the Respondents

(N=25)

S. No.	Category	Frequency	Percentage
1	Lower utilization (<20hours/week)	6	24%
2	Medium utilization (20-46 hours/week)	12	48%
3	Higher utilization (>46 hours/week)	7	28%

- **Internet use for Different Purposes**

The data exhibits from Table 2, that **education** (prepare presentation, prepare notice, documents downloading, visit library book, visit libraries for study) was (48%) most important reason to surf the internet among students with highest utilization. The popular percentage (60%%) was felt that **research** (access reports, search review, and literature, collect data and access case study) has own importance in their academic career so it is also important reason to browse the Internet with highest utilization. 60% was also showed the interest towards e-mail purpose with lower utilization.

The Table 2, (ll) further shows that (56%) respondents were using Internet for entertainment with medium utilization and followed by the purpose of chatting with (72%) medium utilization. Remaining purposes were found job searching and any other purposes (Access on-line news, access news group, online banking, online tour/travel booking, E-booking for hotel) with (68%) respectively.

Table 2: Various Purposes for Internet Use

(N=25)

S. No	Purpose	Lower utilization (>3hours)	Medium utilization (3-8 hours)	Higher utilization (>8hours)
A	Education(Prepare presentation, notes, documents downloading, visit online library, access online encyclopedia	5 (20%)	8 (32%)	12 (48%)
B	Research (Access reports, collect data, online database for preparation of reports, search review & literatures access e-journals for report and project)	**4 (16%)**	6 (24%)	15 (60%)
C	Entertainment (Send or receive E-cars, video & audio music download , play online games)	7 (28%)	14 (56%)	4 (16%)
D	E-mail	**15 (60%)**	5 (20%)	**5 (20%)**
E	Chatting	4 (16%)	18 (72%)	13 (52%)
F	Job searching	3 (12%)	17 (68%)	5 (20%)
G	Any other (Access online news, access news group, online banking, online tour/travel booking, E-booking for hotel)	3 (12%)	17 (68%)	5 (20%)

The data shows that majority of the respondents (48%) were in the medium utilization of (20-46hours/week) followed by high utilization (28%) of (>hours/week) and lower utilization (24%) of (<20 hours/week) category.

Majority of the respondents were (48%) using internet for higher utilization education followed by (60%) for research (20%) e-mail,(52%) chatting,(20%) job searching and for any other.

Conclusion

The present study indicates that a majority of users use internet as their source of information it has been established that internet serves as an important tool of world of information. However, students regularly use the internet for their education, research, chatting and other purpose. The internet is helpful for preparing notes and presentation when books are not available, easy contact with people in worldwide and useful for research purpose.

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