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The positive and negative impact of internet on PG students

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Abstract

Use of the internet is a part of college student's daily routine in part because they have grown up with computers. It is integrated into their daily communication habits it has become a technology as ordinary as the telephone or television. College students use the internet for prepare subject matter, teaching assistance, send and receive mail, to collect information for research and carrier development, social communication. The study was conducted in three colleges of Swami Keshwan and Rajasthan Agricultural University Bikaner campus. Total 192 PG students were selected from college of agriculture, college of home science, institute of agribusiness management. In order to get of PG students who were enrolled during research process fifty percent student were selected by using chit method from each faculty thus the total sample comprised of 96 students. The data was analysed using suitable statistical parameters like mean score.

Keywords: Impact, Internet

Introduction

One of the most significant achievement in the information and communication sector is the "Internet", the technology connecting a computer with million of computers in the network. The internet today has become one of the most important mode of communication and its services are being exploited by people in every walk of life. In today's work environment there is a drastic change in the way how information are shared as well as networking and socialization take place in every society. No doubt that the internet has become a powerful tool for communication purposes, to exchange ideas, and even used in participation in local, national and international networking.

The history of the internet emerges back in 1960's when several computer scientist were hired by pentagon to build a system to decentralize communication network as a result the APRA net was born. Over time the network grew rapidly to interconnect numerous. Universities, research centers as well as commercial organization. Thereafter, the word and use of internet expanded globally. No doubt with that usage continues to develop rapidly over the years and now millions are using the internet.

The convergence of information and communication technologies as typified by the internet is increasingly having more influence on all aspects of the society as it has become an integral part of the daily lives of many people. It has had a transformative impact on the mode of information sharing and access globally. The internet is the fastest growing communication technology and has emerged as a major source of information that connects people, data and other computers. Today we are living in the age of science and technology. By the improvement in technology, internet becomes a guide to analyze these changes and also inform the people about changes. The only things that are needed to connect to the internet are a computer, a modem, a telephone line, an internet provide and internet software. Assuming that an education or student has access to all these, and the time and knowledge to use the internet, how can it be used as an educational tool. Below are just some of the many useful tools available to the internet user, and how they might be helpful to an educator or student.

E-mail: E-mail is an instantaneous electronic message from a sender to a recipient. E-mail is probably the most used application in the internet. With e-mail, the educator can let students set up internet. Pen pals with other student in nearby classrooms, in other states, in other

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countries, or even in other continents. Through e-mail, students can send messages to private individuals. Student can ask experts in a certain field, say in politics or science, and a list of questions to be answered. To use E-mail, the sender simply opens the E- mail program and types in an address, a subject, and the message in the body of the letter. Once the letter is ready to be sent. The user simply clicks a 'send' command, and the letter is instantly transmitted to its destination.

Search Engine: A web search engine is an interactive tool to help people locate information available via the World Wide Web. Web search engines is actually databases that contain references to thousands of resources. There are many search engines available on the web such as www.altavista.com, www.google.com, www.yahoo.com etc.

Material and Methods

The present study was conducted during the research process. The study was conducted in Swami Keshwanand Rajasthan Agricultural University Bikaner campus. Bikaner campus was selected purposively as it has three faculties offering post graduate programme namely Home Science, Agriculture and Agribusiness Management. Total 192 PG students were selected from college of agriculture, college of home science, institute of agribusiness management. In order to get of PG students who were enrolled during the research process fifty percent student were selected by using chit method from each faculty thus the total sample comprised of 96 students. Structured interview schedule was used for collection of information. The data were coded, categorized, tabulated, analysed and interpreted using suitable statistical parameters like frequencies, percentage, mean scores, standard deviation, and range.

Results and Discussion

Table 1 indicated the positive and negative impact of the internet. The scale used to measure opinion is five point scale viz, -completely agree, Agree, Neither agree or Disagree, Disagree, strongly disagree.

The most important five impact perceived by respondents were, "Internet has emerged as a powerful educational tool", "Helpful in preparing notes and presentation when books are not available", "Easy contact with people in world wide", "Makes it easier to obtain learning materials", "Internet is the medium of technology transfer". With 4.59, 4.57, 4.51, 4.50, 4.49 mean scores respectively and these got ranks as 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th respectively.

Rest of the lesser important impact expressed by the respondent were, "Reduce socialization", "Reinforcement", "Relation got less important", "Inhibits human critical thinking or creating", "Use of internet is causing global warming" with 3.99, 3.95, 3.91, 3.81, 3.63, mean scores respectively and these got ranks as 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, & 30th respectively.

It is crystal clear from the findings that the students had positive views towards internet is a vast source of knowledge not only related with contemporary topics but also relate with ancient and medieval subjects. Now a days it is the cheapest and quickest source of knowledge. The readily availability material on internet has made the existence of huge big libraries outdated and also, Internet is available to the end user for 24x7.

The present findings support from the study conducted by [Kumar and Kaur \(2005\)](#) on use of internet by students where it was found that students reported that the internet was easy to use (91.6%), more informative (89%), time saving (88%), and more useful (82.5%) and (76%) of the respondents also admitted that it was less expensive in comparison to conventional documents.

Table 1: Positive / Negative Impact of internet [N -96]

S. No.	Positive / Negative Impact	Extent of Impact					MS	Rank
		Completely agree (F)	Agree (F)	Neither agree nor disagree (F)	Disagree (F)	Strongly disagree (F)		
1	Internet has emerged as a powerful educational tool	57	39	0	0	0	4.59	I
2	To access information at a very low cost	43	40	8	5	0	4.26	XIII
3	Students' education levels are convenient to apply and use internet	52	38	6	0	0	4.48	VI
4	Student's can reach the competitive environment	44	39	9	3	1	4.27	XVIII
5	Increase self confidence	39	43	8	5	1	4.19	XVIII
6	Personality development	40	42	8	6	0	4.21	XV
7	Helpful in prepare notes and presentation when books are not available	65	23	6	2	0	4.57	II
8	Learners control	33	41	16	4	2	4.06	XXIV
9	Self motivation	39	42	11	3	1	4.20	XVI
10	Interactive learning	32	48	7	6	3	4.04	XXII
11	Don't have to drive any distance to collect information or reference materials.	51	36	5	3	1	4.39	IX
12	To provide easy life	30	48	14	3	1	4.07	XXI
13	Right kind of information in nano-second offline to end users at any time and at any place in the world	56	28	7	5	0	4.41	VII
14	Internet can be used as an instructional tool	32	51	11	2	0	4.18	XIX
15	Internet creates tendency to people for getting prepared / update of knowledge	53	34	7	1	1	4.43	VII

16	easy contact with peoples in world wide	59	28	8	1	0	4.51	III
17	Internet has reduced the face to face meeting	47	34	8	6	1	4.25	XIV
18	Diverse experience	38	43	12	2	1	4.20	XVII
19	Customized learning	32	43	15	5	1	4.04	XXIII
20	Reinforcement	31	39	17	8	1	3.95	XXVII
21	Smaller cheaper and faster all the time	51	34	7	4	0	4.38	X
22	Internet provider endless freedom to people	35	45	13	3	0	4.17	XX
23	Internet is a medium of technology transfer	57	29	10	0	0	4.49	V
24	Makes it easier to obtain learning material eg. Books, e-library / online etc.	60	27	6	3	0	4.50	IV
25	Makes us dependent on Internet/ Computers	44	41	7	3	1	4.29	XI
26	Internet cause to all privacy	30	47	11	7	1	4.02	XXV
27	Inhibits human critical thinking or creating	24	45	15	9	3	3.81	XXIV
28	Use of Internet is causing global warming	19	40	21	14	2	3.63	XXX
29	Reduce socialization	33	44	9	5	3	3.99	XXVI
30	Relations got less important	30	42	12	9	3	3.91	XXVIII

F- Frequency

MS- Mean scores

Pooled Mean – 4.22

Conclusion

Thus it can be summarized 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, entertainment and job searching purpose. Most of the students are satisfied that internet is an educational, informative and transformative tool because it has several positive impact such as “helpful in preparing notes and presentation when books are not available”, “easy contact with people in worldwide”, “internet is the medium of technology transfer etc.

Rest of the lesser important impact expressed by the respondent were, “Reduce socialization”, “Reinforcement”, “Relation got less important”, “Inhibits human critical thinking or creating”, “Use of internet is causing global warming” etc.

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