

USE OF INTERNET BY STUDENTS: A STUDY OF KURUKSHETRA UNIVERSITY

Naveen Mehla

Research Scholar, Dept. of Library and Information Sc.

Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra

E-mail: naveenmehlalis@gmail.com

Abstract:

Internet is very important and essential source of communication and information in different areas like business, banking, education and social gathering. This study aims to the use and awareness of internet by students of Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra. The survey method was used by questionnaire tool in this study. A total of 120 Questionnaire were distributed among the students, out of which 100 were received back after filling. After the responses of the students, this study shows that, the students of age group 20-30 uses the internet facilities mostly and equally. Mostly student accesses the internet in library. Most of the student accesses daily or twice a week at least one hour a day. Half of the respondents are satisfy with internet usage and they uses for study purpose. Google is the most used search engine. A great number of respondents need the training. Most of the respondents face problems and they suggest that good internet speed and high bandwidth should be provided.

Keyword: Internet, Frequency, Network, Bandwidth, Google.

1.0 Introduction:

Internet is network of computer networks. Internet play vital role in modern society. Today everyone is connected to internet for fulfilling their basic needs. In modern society internet is essential like as blood in human body. The Internet is a major source of communication and dissemination of information in the twenty-first century. Internet has become a global source of information resources accessible at anytime by anyone from anywhere in the world. It has converted the whole world into a global information society. Every aspect of our day to day life is affected by the Internet. Whether it is shopping, business, banking, communication, paying bills, social gathering, party, learning, education etc. Internet is everywhere, knocking at our door, making our life easier and smooth. Moreover, when it comes to education and research Internet is paving way for a great leap and sure library and information centers has no exception.

The Internet is a network of computers that links many different types of computer all over the world. It is a network of networks sharing a common mechanism for addressing computers, and a common set of communication between two computers on the network. Internet early knows as ARPANET (Advanced Research Project Agency) of the U.S. department of defense. It was started from 1969. Four basic services provided by the internet to its users are electronics mail, file transfer protocol, telnet and Usenet news. Some important use of the internet are for on-line communication, software sharing, exchange of views on topics of common interest, posting of information, on line journals and magazines, on line shopping video conferencing and world wide web casting. An internet search engine is an application, which helps locate web containing useful information and references to such information on the WWW.

1.1 About the Kurukshetra University Kurukshetra:

Kurukshetra University was established on 11 January 1957 by Dr. Rajendra Prasad, the first president of India. It is also known as the mother university in Haryana. It is located in kurukshetra city, the land of Bhagwadgita. It is spread over 400 acres of land on the south side of Brahmsarover. It offers various courses in Arts, Science, Commerce, sports, Management and Engineering. The University's programs combine the enduring value of a liberal arts education with the skills and experience offered by professional departments. The University has 445 teaching faculty members. The University also has 457 affiliated colleges and institutes in the Districts of Ambala, Panipat, Kaithal, Yamuna Nagar, Hisar, Fatehabad, Jind, Karnal, Sirsa, Kurukshetra and Panchkula.

1.2 About the JLN library, kurukshetra university:

The University Library was started in Kalsia House with Sanskrit books and later on continues to be housed at two places i.e the main library in the College of Education and Indic Studies Section in the top floor of the Administrative Block.

The foundation stone of the present building was laid down on 17th July, 1967 by the then Chief Minister Rao Virender Singh and ultimately library was shifted in its new building in July 18, 1972 having plinth area 33000 Sq ft in three storey Later on during 1984-85 due to shortage of space the building was extended and presently has plinth area 49230 sq. ft. In order to provide adequate reading space 57500 sq ft. area was added in the golden jubilee year of the university. It is now known as Golden Jubilee Reading Hall. After adding this library has area of 1,06,730 sq ft. Library reading capacity has increased from 470 users to 1270 users. Library has 1270 reading seat capacity.

2.0 Literature Review:

Prakash. (2013): A large number of researchers are using internet facility and satisfied with that. Mostly researcher uses this facility for quick access of information. It can be more useful by giving training to use. There is need to improve the facility being provided by IVRI. [1] **Bansode and Pujar. (2008):** This study conducted under the title "Use of Internet by Research Scholars at Shivaji University, Kolapur". Research community is the biggest user of internet. They use search tool and techniques to obtain information. So the university library can provide the training to researcher for information retrieval. Some time low bandwidth creates problem in front of researcher, so bandwidth should be increased. [2] **Pangannaya (2000)** is an attempt to investigate the use of Internet resources by the academic community of Mysore University, using survey as the research tool. The paper has investigated the faculty wise frequency and length of use of the Internet. Moreover, it describes the emergence of Internet, has revolutionized the academic world.[3] **Kumar and Kaur (2006)** In this founded that the internet was used by maximum respondents. There were need of technical staff, more computers and also training programs. Unnecessary site should be blocked like as entertainment.[4] **Khan et al.(2011)** The study showed that majority of students were new users of internet, aged between 20-25 (90%). Most of students learned how to use the internet. Most of students were found dissatisfied with internet facility. Study is the main purpose of using the internet. Attitude towards using the internet was positive. Google was most using search engine among the students. Major finding of the study, majority of student need of training for proper using the internet.

3.0 Objectives:

The purpose of this study is to explore the use and awareness of the Internet facilities by students of Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra. The objectives of the study are:

- To identify awareness of the Internet and its resources;
- To study the use of the Internet by the students;
- To find out the access frequency of the Internet;
- To identify the purposes for using the Internet;
- To discover problems faced by the students;
- The satisfaction level with Internet-based resources and facilities;
- To suggest ways to improve the Internet-based resources.

4.0 Methodology:

The survey method was used in this study. Question tool was used to collect data from the students. 120 questionnaires were distributed to the students following accidental sampling method. The students received 100(83.33%) questionnaires out of 120.

5.0 Data Analysis and Interpretation:

Table 1: Age of Respondents

Age	Respondents	Percent
20-25	45	45
26-30	43	43
31-35	12	12
Total	100	100

Table 1 shows that the majority (45%) of the respondents were aged between 20-25 years. (43%) respondents were 26-30 years old. Only (12%) of the respondents were between 31-35 years old.

Table 2: Gender of Respondents

Gender	Frequency	Percent
Female	48	48
Male	52	52
Total	100	100

Table 2 shows that (48%) of the respondents were female and (52%) were male.

Table 3: Access to Internet

Access to Internet	Frequency	Percent
Library	41	41
Departmental Computer Lab	27	27
University Hostel	18	18
At Home	11	11
Internet café	2	2
At friend's home	1	1

Table 3 shows that the majority (41%) of the respondents stated that they accessed the Internet from library, (27%) their departmental computer lab, (11%) at home, (18%) at the University hostel, (2%) at Internet cafes, and (1%) at a friend's home.

Table 4: Experience of Internet Use

Experience (in years)	Frequency	Percent
0-1	25	25
2-3	47	47
4-5	24	24
6+	4	4
Total	100	100

Table 4 shows that (25%) of respondents use the internet in starting period and most of the respondents (47%) were 2-3 year experience using the internet, (24%) for 4-5 years, and (4%) for more than six years.

Table 5: Frequency of Internet Use

Internet usage	Frequency	Percent
Daily	32	32
Twice in a week	28	28
Weekly	22	22
Monthly	17	17
Never	1	1

Table5 shows that (32%) of the respondents stated that they used the Internet daily, (28%) twice a week, (22%) weekly, and (17%) monthly. One respondent has not indicated his or her Internet use frequency.

Table 6: Daily Internet Usage

Time	Frequency	Percent
1 hour a day	58	58
2 hour a day	26	26
3 hour a day	12	12
4+ hour a day	4	4

Table 6 shows that most of the respondents (58%) spent one hour daily on Internet, (26%) two hours, (12%) three hour, and (4%) more than four hours a day.

Table 7: Satisfaction with Internet Service

Satisfaction	Frequency	Percent
Yes	42	42
No	54	54
Missing value	4	4
Total	100	100

Table 7 shows that the majority (54%) of the respondents was found dissatisfied with the Internet facilities provided by their university. However, forty two percent of the respondents were satisfied.

Table 8: Purpose of Internet Use

Use of internet for	Frequency	Percent
Study	64	29.5
Writing research article	9	4.1
Literature search	14	6.5
Preparing assignment	28	12.9
Preparing presentation	21	9.7
Sending e-mail	18	8.3
Reading newspapers	11	5.1
Reading sports information	6	2.8
Chatting with friends	11	5.1
Buying online products	3	1.4
Downloading / movies	14	6.5
Searching for jobs	8	3.7
Playing games	5	2.3
Other purpose	5	2.3

Table 8 shows that the majority 64(29.5%) of the respondents used the Internet for their study. 28(12.9%) used it to prepare for assignments and 21(9.7%) for presentations, 18(8.3%) to send e-mail, 14(6.5%) to do literature search, another 14(6.5%) to download songs or movies, 11(5.1%) for chatting with friends, another 11(5.1%) for reading newspapers, 9(4.1%) or writing research articles, 6(2.8%) for sports information, 5(2.3%) for playing games and other purpose, and 3(1.4%) for buying products online.

Table 9: Search Engine Preference

Search engine	Percentage
Google	64
Yahoo	20
MSN	6
AltaVista	5
HotBot	4
Netscape	1

Table 9 shows that Google was the search engine used most by the respondents (64%). Yahoo was used by (20%) of the respondents, MSN (6%), AltaVista (5%), HotBot (4%), and Netscape (1%).

Table 10: Internet Training Need

Responses	Frequency	Percent
Yes	66	66
No	26	26
Missing value	8	8
Total	100	100

Table 10 shows that the majority (66%) of the respondents needs training for Internet use and searching skills while (26%) does not need training to use the Internet.

Table 11: Suggestions from Respondents

Suggestions	Percent
Good Internet speed with high bandwidth should be provided.	24
More computers should be provided in computer labs.	5
Internet service should be provided 24 hours a day.	5
Internet and computer training should be provided to general public.	2
Restrictions on downloading movies/songs should be removed.	2
Internet should be used positively.	1
Useless websites should be blocked by the University.	1

Table 11 shows that in response to an open ended question in the questionnaire, 24 respondents suggested that good Internet speed with high bandwidth should be provided. Five respondents suggested that the number of computers should be increased. Another 5 suggestions were that the Internet service should be provided 24 hours a day. Two respondents suggested that the Internet and computer training should be provided to the general public. Two respondents suggested that the restrictions on downloading movies or songs should be removed at the University. One suggested that the Internet should be used positively. Another suggestion was that the useless websites should be blocked.

6.0 Conclusion:

Today internet is use like as a information source. If you need any type of information first of all you approach the internet to search that particular information. In the study total 100 respondents in which (48%) were female and (52%) were male. Majority of respondents were aged between 20-25. They were also new consumer of the internet. Most of respondents access the internet in the library. Frequency the use of internet is daily minimum one hour. Many of respondents were not satisfied with internet facilities specially low speed of bandwidth, need more computer in lab and also need of the training for using the internet. Google was most (64%) used search engine followed by yahoo (20). Most of respondents used the internet study purpose.

7.0 Reference

1. Prakash, Gyan, "Use of Internet by the Researchers of Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izzatnagar, Bareilly: A Survey" (2013). *Library Philosophy and Practice (e-journal)*. Paper 943. <http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/libphilprac/943>
2. Bansode,S.Y. and Pujar S.M.(2008).Use of internet by the research scholars at shivaji university, kolahapur, *Annal of library and information studies*, 55 (2), pp.123-126.
3. Pangannaya, N.B. (2000), "Use of Internet by the Academic Community: a case study", DRTC Annual Seminar on Electronic Sources of Information, (1-3 March: Bangalore).
4. Kumar, R., and Kaur, A. (2006). Internet use by teachers and students in engineering colleges of Punjab, Haryana, and Himachal Pradesh States of India: An analysis. *Electronic Journal of Academic and Special Librarianship*, 7(1). URL: http://southernlibrarianship.icaap.org/content/v07n01/kumar_r01.htm
5. Khan, S.A., khan, A.A. and Bhatti, R. (). "Internet access, use and gratification among university students: A study of the islamia university of Bahawalpur, Pakistan", *Chinese Librarianship: an International Electronic Journal*, 32. URL: <http://www.iclc.us/cliej/cl32KKB.pdf>
6. Kurukshetra University. [http:// www.kuk.ac.in](http://www.kuk.ac.in)
7. Ani, O. E. (2010). Internet access and use: A study of undergraduate students in three Nigerian universities. *The Electronic Library*, 28(4), 555-567.
8. Kumar, R., & Kaur, A. (2006). Internet use by teachers and students in engineering colleges of Punjab, Haryana, and Himachal Pradesh States of India: An analysis. *Electronic Journal of Academic and Special Librarianship*, 7(1). URL: http://southernlibrarianship.icaap.org/content/v07n01/kumar_r01.htm
9. G. Adika, "Internet use among faculty members of universities in Ghana, *Library Review*, 52 (2), pp 119-131, 2003.
10. R. Bhatti, "Internet use among faculty members in the changing higher education environment at the Islamia University of Bahawalpur, Pakistan", *Library Philosophy and Practice*, 1-9, 2010. [Online] Available <http://www.uidaho.edu/mbolin/bhatti3.htm>. [Accessed: July 13, 2012].