

# WHAT DO UNIVERSITY YOUNGSTERS DO ONLINE?

**Roshan Lal**

Assistant Professor, IMC & MT, KUK

Email: [reach4roshan@gmail.com](mailto:reach4roshan@gmail.com)

**Rupam Jha**

Student, B.A. Mass communication,

IMC & MT, KUK

## 1.0 Introduction:

On October 1969, scientists at the University of California, Los Angeles, were ready for a critical experiment. They had a computer and communication node, while colleagues installed similar equipment up the cost in Menlo Park. They planned to test whether they could link the two computers over telephone lines to operate as one system. The researchers began to tap in message: log in to make the link. The system crashed. Thus was the beginning of internet revolution. Mid 1960s, internet is much needed to linking military computer researchers in United States, was established to permit military exchange information. This was the origin of ARPANET, the network of the Pantagon's Advanced Research Project Agency<sup>1</sup>.

Since 1969 to 2016 internet and the speed of internet has changed the way of communication. People can use of internet for information as well as for chatting also. Internet provide many facilities to the user, user can do email, chatting, online information, online newspapers, social media, virtual community and much more. There are huge of information online. Internet provides opportunity to every user to get the information online.

In India, there are 978 million mobile and 140 million smartphone connections, with 243 million active internet and 118 million social media users. The top four metros continue to account for almost half of the social media users in urban India.

Usage of social media in rural India has grown by 100% during the last one year with 25 million users residing in that belt. However, urban India registered relatively lower growth of 35 % with the total number of users at 118 million as on April 2015. The largest segment accessing social media consists of the college-going students with 34% followed by young men at 27%. School-going children constitute 12% of the social media users. College-going students and young men still from 60% of the social media users in urban India. 61% of these users access social media on their mobile<sup>2</sup>.

## 2.0 Objective of the study

Internet changes the life of everyone. It influences the life of university youngsters. This study was conducted to know various aspect of using internet habit among university youngsters i.e. internet using hours, purpose of internet use and to know about addiction of internet use. This study is an attempt to know the affect of internet on youngster, following research objectives are:

- To know how much time they spent online?
- For which purpose they are using internet?
- What they feel without internet?
- To know there perspective about internet?

## 3.0 Review of literature:

There is a very important change in Indian Students and teenagers behaviour in their life by using the social sites. It could extinct the future of Indian teenagers and children and it had a very bad effect on education as it is argue above. Research has calculated that more than 85% of college students and teenagers use social media networks. Social Media sites deflect them towards non educational, immoral and unsuitable actions like as useless

chatting, time killing by unnecessary searching on internet. By watching social media sites for a long time the same display screen could cause high blood pressure and tension which could be risky for education as well as health also. It changes the mind of Indian students completely like imagination. This virtual life of Indian students demolished his thoughts from education towards other activities and by living inside delusion world student slowly starts to hate educated life and studies. (Anamika Bhargava, Minaxi Rani 2015) The use of internet among students in India has been bringing a fundamental change in their life styles and their study habits since its inception (DhyanSingh 2014). He conducted a study and confirms that more than 60% users of internet are students and they access the Internet primarily through their cell phones. After reviewed the past research on social networking sites research concluded that the use of social networking sites have both positive and negative impact of the students of India. The positive consequences of Internet use include enhanced self-confidence, increased frequency of communication with family and friends, and feelings of empowerment but, students are also facing some certain psychosocial problems after using internet. One more negative aspect of the Internet use is Internet addiction as well as online threats and risks such as acquaintance with sexually contents and online victimization containing cyber bullying, harassment and sexual solicitation. So he strictly suggested that Parents and guardians should pay proper attention about what their children are doing on internet. They should encourage children to participate in outdoor activities and motivate them to go out for playing and outings than using internet.

After growth of social media sites, the social media influenced the Indian youth. They were raising their voice against social acts like violation of Human Rights, corruption etc. Youth are getting more aware about the social issues mainly from Facebook (S.mehat, S.D.Mundhe 2014). In today's era youth are feeling sick and they are behaving like a drug addict without internet.

To recognize and analyse of the social networking addiction among the youth Shivani Arora (2014) conducted a study. In her study researcher emphasized that 76% of respondents agree that social networking is harmful to physical health with only 9% disagreeing with it. On the same pattern, 75% of the students studied revealed that they feel that spending a lot of time on Social Networking sites is detrimental to mental health. The response to both the statements is quite clear and undivided. Informal discussion revealed that the reason for the same is lack of physical activity and sleep deprivation, caused by spending hours on social networking websites. One of the symptoms of logging on to social networking websites before going to sleep checks out in majority of users, which further leads to sleep deprivation as they remain hooked on it for long hours, thereby causing harm to their physical and mental health. They also tend to agree that the medium is addictive, which indeed a positive finding, since once the knowledge is there, the chances are the youth is aware that if used excessively, it may turn out to be an addiction. The realization by the young people of it being addictive, harmful to physical and mental health may be construed as a positive sign. Hence, if Social networking is used judiciously it can be a blessing but has a potential of being a curse.

#### **4.0 Methodology:**

To conduct the study the researchers choose the Random Sample Survey. This survey was executed kurukshetra university youngsters of UG and PG classes. University youngster is the heavy user of internet and also early adopters of advanced application and information technology.

#### **4.1 Unit of Analysis**

This survey was conducted on the university youngsters of UG and PG classes. Same value of boys and girls was chosen i.e. 100 each.

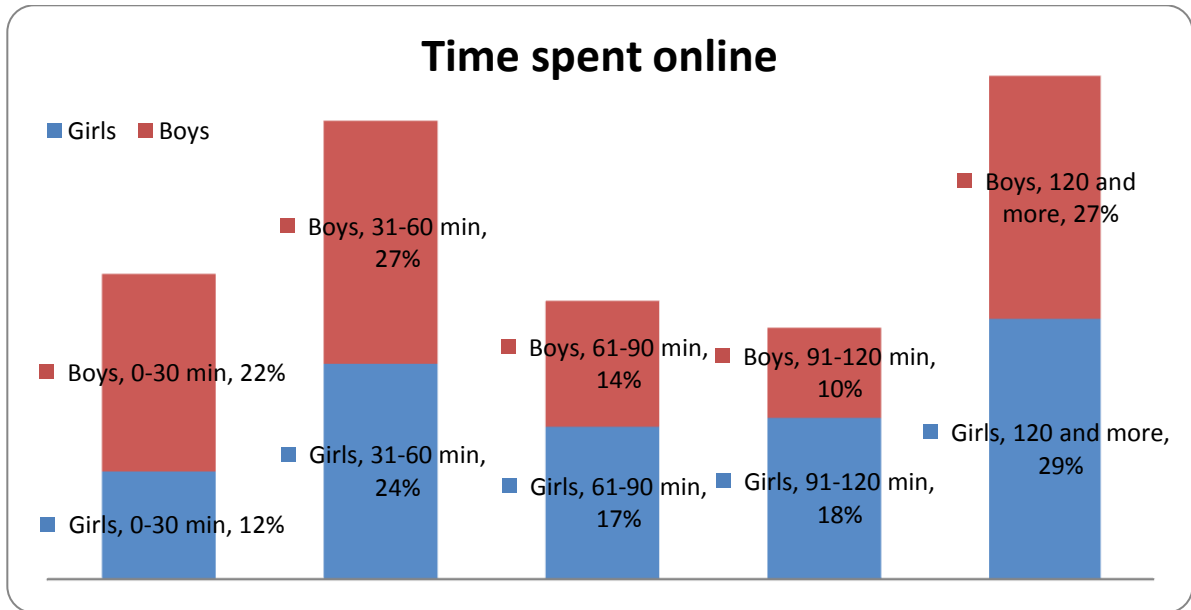
#### **4.2 Research Tool**

For research purpose, researchers developed a questionnaire to collect the data. Fifteen questions are close ended and question no.16 was open ended. This study analyzed two research models, namely Theory of Reasoned Action (TRA) and Theory of Addiction (TA).

#### **5.0 Data analysis and interpretations**

As the Figure 1 predicts the time spent online more than 120 minutes a day by the girls of the UG and PG classes is 29 % and that is the maximum time spent online. And the minimum time i.e 30 minutes, only 13% girls spent online

of UG and PG classes of the University. In respect of all these the 24% girls of University spent 30-60 minutes, 17% girls spent 60-90 minutes and 18% girls spent 90-120 minutes online .In opposites More than 120 minutes spent on line by the boys are 27% i.e the maximum time spent by PG and UG classes of the University. 22% of boys spent minimum time that is less than 30 minutes online in the University. If we revealed the whole table it shows that in boys 27 % of them spent 31-60 minutes on internet. 14 % boys spent 61-90 minutes online and 91-120 minutes were spent by only 10 % aspirants among the boys of UG and PG classes of the said university. Table shows that girls of the University spent more time on internet in respect of boys.



**Figure 1**

**Table 2 : PURPOSE OF USING INTERNET**

Variable	Social Sites	Educational Purpose	Playing games	Entertainment Purpose	other	Sns and education	SNS, Edu & Entertainment	Edu & Entertainment
Girls	16%	41%	2%	15%	04%	05%	12%	05% =100%
Boys	28%	39%	2%	17%	6%	2%	6%	0% =100%

Table 2 shows the purpose of using the internet by the youngsters in the university. It revealed other remarkable results of the users. In the category of girls it shows that education purpose the most using purpose among the girls. 41% girls used their internet for searching internet for the education purpose in the university and only 2% girls used the internet for playing mobile games. In respect of all these 16% girls used their internet for social sites, 15% for entertainment purpose ,12% for SNS , Education and Entertainment, 5% for SNS and Education, 5% also for Education and Entertainment and rest of 4% for other purposes. If we concluded the whole data interpretation among the girls then it shows that maximum girls used their internet for education purpose i.e. (41%+12% +5%+5% for SNS , Education and Entertainment). Rest of the percentage of girls used their internet for social sites and entertainment i.e. (. 41% +16% girls used their internet for education and social sites)

In comparison to boys of the university, study revealed that 39% boys used their internet for the purpose of Education and 28% boys used their internet for social sites. 2% boys used the internet for playing games, 17% used for entertainment, 6% for SNS, Education and Entertainment,2% for SNS and Education,6% for others and 0% for Education and Entertainment. The study of table concluded the results that number /percentage (41%) of girls of the

university are more than the boys (39%) used the internet for education purpose. In spite of these the use of social media sites boy's number /percentage are more than the usage of girl's i.e. (28% boys and 16% girls). Martin Fishbein and Icek Ajzen in 1967 gives a theory named Reasoned Action that predict the attitude and behavioral action by the user. Most of the boys and girls are using internet for education purpose.

### **DO YOU FEEL SICK IN ABSENCE OF FACEBOOK OR WHATTSAPP OR ANY OF THE SOCIAL SITES YOU USE?**

<i>variable</i>	Yes Very much	No	Don't matter	Can't say	Total
Girls	12 %	56 %	20 %	12 %	100 %
Boys	20 %	53 %	12 %	15 %	100 %

table 3 reveles the interpretation of feeling sick in absence of Facebook or what sapp among the boys and girls of university. The interpretation codes that 56% girls and 53% boys don't feel any sickness while the absence of facebook and whats app or any other social sites.12% girls and 20 % boys admitted that they feel very sick in the absence of facebook, whatsapp and any other social sites.12% girls and 15% boys were not able to answer the question. 20% girls and 12 % boys concluded their consent by saying don't matter in respect of the question of feeling sick in absence of facebook or whats app or use of any other social sites.

[Robert West](#) and [Jamie Brown](#) wrote in his book Theory of Addiction (2013) about addiction. The word 'addiction' these days is used to refer to a chronic condition where there is an unhealthily powerful motivation to engage in a particular behavior.

### **Table 4 INTERNET IS BEING USED EXTENSIVELY TODAY. WHAT YOUR PERSPECTIVE ABOUT INTERNET?**

<i>variable</i>	Good benefit	Wasting Time of students	Awareness Benefit	Can't say	Good & Wasting time	Good & Awareness benefit	Total
Girls	38 %	10 %	30 %	12 %	0 %	10 %	100 %
Boys	38 %	15 %	33 %	13 %	0 %	1 %	100 %

In the Table 4, researcher tried to find out the perspective of extensively used internet. Regarding this question, researchers concluded the result that 38% boys and girls of the sample admitted that internet in respect of perspective is good benefit for the users. 30 % girls and 33% boys counted the benefit of internet for the awareness purpose among the said sample. Other 10% girls and 15 % boys declared the using of internet is totally wasting the time for the students. Even 12 & girls and 13 % boys are not in the position to say anything about the perspective of Internet. !0% girls and only 1 % boys said that perspective of internet is for good and awareness benefit. In last no body admitted that internet is good but also a wasting of time. In nutshell table concluded that maximum student's i.e (38% Boys and Girls) admitted that perspective of internet is good and beneficial for the students.

#### **6.0 Findings**

This study revealed that most of university students are using internet. Major findings are:

- I. Most of the university boys and girls are online. They are the heavy user of internet. They spent much more time online. Maximum of boys and girls spent two hours and more time using internet.
- II. University youngsters are using internet on their smart phones.

- III. Awful number of boys and girls are using internet for education purpose, social networking sites and entertainment purpose.
- IV. The perception of university youngsters about internet is positive. Most of students have good benefit and awareness perception. Some of students said that using of internet is wasting of time. About 12% of students answer is can't say.

### **7.0 Conclusion:**

India is the country of youths. The strength of youths is seventy percent. India is in the edge of digital technology. In India 243 millions of people are active user of internet. Most of the youngsters are educated. They know how to handle with internet. They spent much of their time online. They are using internet for education, social networking sites and awareness purpose. With wide coverage and high speed of internet more influences to the youngsters. According to FICCI-KPMG, internet penetration in India is currently at 19%, which is lower compared to internet penetration in other countries. By the end of 2016, there were approximately 300 million internet users in India will reach 640 million in 2019. It is more than double in coming years. It seems that coming year is going to be technology years and the users will be depending on internet.

### **8.0 References:**

1. Seema hasan.(2012 )Mass communication, principles and concepts. New Delhi, CBS Publishers & Distributors. Page.769
2. Manorma year book 2016
3. Jacoby, W. G. (1994). Public attitudes toward government spending. *American Journal of Political Science*, 38(2), 336-361.
4. Dhyansingh. (2014). A Systematic Review of Literature on effect of Internet Use on Students in India. *International Interdisciplinary Research Journal*, 4, ISSN2249-9598.
5. Grover, S., Basu, D., & Chakraborty, K. (2010). Pattern of Internet use among professionals in India: Critical look at a surprising survey result. *Industrial Psychiatry Journal*, 19(2), 94. doi:10.4103/0972-6748.90338
6. Halder, D., & Jaishankar, K. (n.d.). Use and Misuse of Internet by Semi-Urban and Rural Youth in India: A Baseline Survey Report (2013). *SSRN Electronic Journal*. doi:10.2139/ssrn.2378968
7. Pratyasha Jain. (n.d.). Impact of Social Networking Sites (SNS) on The Youth of India.
8. Sharma, D. B., & Goswami, D. (2015). "Influence and Impact of Social Media on Our Society". *IMS Manthan (The Journal of Innovations)*, 10(1). doi:10.18701/imsmanthan.v10i1.5662