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EFFECTS OF INTERNET UTILIZATION ON OVERALL PERFORMANCE OF MALE AND FEMALE SDAU STUDENTS

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Abstract- The present study was conducted in Sardarkrushinagar Dantiwada Agricultural University, Sardarkrushinagar, by personally interviewing the randomly selected 100 internet-utilizing students from Chimanbhai Patel College of Agriculture and 100 internet-utilizing students from College of Veterinary Science and Animal Husbandry. For measuring the effect of internet utilization on overall performance of the SDAU students, an interview schedule was developed by the investigator in light of the expert's suggestion. The finding reveal that among the different academic performances the boys SDAU students (MPS 96.29) perceived the most important effect on their academic performance by the attribute 'Internet facilitates saving in terms of time and energy looking for information' at top priority whereas the girls SDAU students (MPS 95.00) perceived the most important effect on their academic performance by the attribute 'Internet facilities to retrieve latest information through number of sources found' at top priority. There is no significant difference between the internet-utilizing boys and girls SDAU students in perceiving the effect of different attributes of internet on their academic performances. It was further found that among the different non academic performances the 'Internet use has increased the dependency on internet' was perceived as the most important effect non-academic performance at top priority by both boys (MPS 81.43) and girls SDAU students (MPS 81.00). There is no significant difference between the internet-utilizing boys and girls SDAU students in perceiving the effect of different attributes of internet on their non-academic performances.

Keywords- Internet, Utilization Behaviour, Effects, Academic and Non-academic performance, Agricultural University.

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Introduction

The 21st century is witnessing a communication revolution with information processing and retrieving which are being reliably done at incredible speeds. The most prominent invention in the field of education is the integration of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in education. The word 'Internet' is derived from the words "global" and "network". Internet is an inter-connection between several computers of different types belonging to various networks all over the globe. Internet is a network of networks. The kind of gigantic powers that the internet gives yours machine is mind-bogging. To transmission, data within a material of seconds to someone located beyond the pacific was impossible before the arrival of the internet. The internet represents the revolution and progression of the intact information age. It is because of that people all over the earth have acknowledged the internet as their latest developmental tool [10].

Internet provides facilities, includes e-mail, World Wide Web browsing, telephoning and telex/ video conferencing. Availability also in the internet is audio broadcasting, news and discussion/ chat group facilities. Using these facilities available in the internet, further noted that students and researchers are disposed to access maximum information and communicate world level. Thus they can discuss democratically while being exposed to happenings in their fields of activities as well as others subjects [2].

Communication is imperative for social change by which variation occurs in the same formation and task of a social system. Today, agricultural colleges are playing an important role in imparting technical education. The Agriculturist, who are the outcomes of these colleges, requires the latest and pinpointed information in their respective fields. Due to the high cost of Agricultural information resources, developing countries cannot provide these resources to their users. But the internet with its advantages, make the way for the developing countries to access information at a very low cost. The present survey is, therefore, an attempt to assess the effectiveness of internet as an educational tool, and what role it actually plays in the educational system with special reference to the Agricultural colleges in the state of Gujarat. The Internet facility for connecting students and faculties with each corner of the world reduce the time lag to a considerable extent. It helps academicians, research workers and students get quick solution of their questions and queries. This facility makes possible to keep a live contact between the scientists, academicians, research scholars and students of the university globally.

Materials and Methods

The present study was conducted in Sardarkrushinagar Dantiwada Agricultural University (SDAU), Sardarkrushinagar (Gujarat), which was purposively, selected. SDAU, has eight constituent Colleges, out of which two colleges i.e. C. P. College of Agriculture (CPCA) and College of Veterinary science and Animal Husbandry (CVS&AH) were selected purposively due to the reason that all the students of these colleges have been provided internet facility at free of cost. A lists of boys and girls students from Under Graduate, Post Graduate and Doctor of Philosophy degree, registered in 2011-12 were prepared with the help of records of students sections of the selected colleges and from these lists 100 internet utilizing students from CPCA and 100 internet utilizing students from CVS&AH were selected for this study by using simple random sampling method in such a way that internet utilizing boys and girls students from different colleges were selected in the ratio of 70:30. In this way a total sample comprised of 200 internet utilizing students (140 boys and 60 girls students) from Under Graduate, Post Graduate and Doctor of Philosophy degrees.

For measuring the effects of internet utilization on overall internet utilizing

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agricultural male and female students an interview schedule was developed by the investigator by getting the experts opinion. The data were collected by personal interview method. The data collected were classified, tabulated and inferences were drawn after subjecting the data to the mean percent score was calculated, rank were awarded in the descending order according to the frequencies / MPS and 'Z' test was used to find out the significant difference between sample mean for the large sample size, which led to the following major findings.

Results and Discussion

For measuring the effect of internet utilization on overall performance of the SDAU students, sixteen effects of internet utilization on academic and non academic performance were identified on the basis of a review of literature and discussion with the subject experts as described in the chapter methodology. The findings regarding these effects have been presented under the following heads:

Effect of internet utilization on the academic performance of the boys and

airls SDAU students

The data presented in [Table-1] indicated that among the different academic performances the 'Internet facilitates saving in terms of time and energy looking for information' (MPS 96.29) was perceived as the most important effect on the academic performance of the boys SDAU students and was accorded the first rank, whereas in case of girls SDAU students it was placed at second rank (MPS 93.00). The most important effect of the internet on the academic performance of girls SDAU students was 'Internet facilitates to retrieve the latest information through a number of sources found' (MPS 95.00) which was ranked first, whereas in case of boys SDAU students it was placed in the third rank (MPS 92.71). Similarly, in the boys SDAU students 'the internet had a positive impact on academic experience in general' was perceived as the second most important effect of the internet on their academic performance (MPS 93.71), whereas in girls SDAU (MPS 91.33) students it was perceived as the third most important effect of the internet.

Table-1 Effect of internet utilization on the academic performance of the boys and girls SDAU students

n = 200

S. No.	Category	Boys stud	dents (n =14	0)			11 - 2	Girls students (n =60)							
		SA (5)	A (4)	N (3)	DA (2)	SDA (1)	MPS	Ra nk	SA (5)	A (4)	N (3)	DA (2)	SDA (1)	MPS	Ra nk
1.	Internet facilitates to retrieve latest information through number of sources found	117 (83.57)	23 (16.42)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	96.7 1	≡	45 (75.00)	15 (25.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.0 0)	95.00	I
2.	Due to Internet usage, there is a decrease in actual study- hours and live discussions with friends	8 (5.71)	44 (31.42)	87 (62.14)	0 (0.00)	1 (0.71)	68.2 9	IX	4 (6.66)	18 (30.00)	38 (63.33)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.0 0)	68.67	IX
3.	Internet facilitates saving in terms of time and energy looking for information	114 (81.42)	26 (18.57)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	96.2 9	I	39 (65.00)	21 (35.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.0 0)	93.00	II
4.	Internet services are cost- effective	19 (13.57)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	121 (86.4 2)	0 (0.00)	48.1 4	Х	11 (18.33)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	49 (81.66)	0 (0.0 0)	51.00	Х
5.	Due to Internet usage there is a decrease in frequency of reading printed materials	12 (8.57)	66 (47.14)	62 (44.28)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	72.8 6	VI	2 (3.33)	27 (45.00)	31 (51.66)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.0 0)	70.33	VI
6.	Internet services facilitate improvement in systems of communication	27 (19.28)	87 (62.14)	26 (18.57)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	80.1 4	٧	8 (13.33)	37 (26.42)	15 (25.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.0 0)	77.67	V
7.	The Internet had a positive impact on academic experience in general	114 (81.42)	8 (5.71)	18 (12.85)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	93.7 1	II	45 (75.00)	4 (6.66)	11 (18.33)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.0 0)	91.33	≡
8.	Due to Internet usage there is a decrease in frequency of visit to library as well as preparation of hand- written notes.	45 (32.14)	95 (67.85)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	86.4 3	IV	22 (36.66)	38 (63.33)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.0 0)	87.33	IV
9.	Internet improved the professional competence of the students	1 (0.71)	78 (55.71)	61 (43.57)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	71.4 3	VIII	0 (0.00)	30 (50.00)	30 (50.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.0 0)	70.00	VII
10.	Internet expedited the research process conducted by the students	12 (8.57)	57 (40.71)	71 (50.71)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	71.5 7	VII	2 (3.33)	25 (41.66)	33 (55.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.0 0)	69.67	VIII
						Mean score S.D.	= 38.70 = 1.81								

Calculated 'Z' value = 1.95 NS

SA = Strongly agree; A= Agree; N=Neutral; DA= Disagree; SDA= Strongly disagree

Figures in parenthesis indicate percentage

MPS = Mean percent score

On the other hand 'Internet services are cost-effective' was the least perceived effect on the academic performance of the boys SDAU students (MPS 48.14) as

well as girls SDAU students (MPS 51.00) and was accorded last rank by both boys and girls SDAU students. The calculated 'Z' value between boys and girls

SDAU students was found to be 1.95, which was found lower than the tabulated value at 5 per cent level of significance, which indicates a non-significant difference between boys and girls SDAU students. Hence, the null hypothesis (Ho) was accepted and alternate hypothesis was rejected. This leads to the conclusion that there is no significant difference between the effects of internet utilization on the academic performance of the boys and girls SDAU students. These findings are in line with the finding of the [3], [7] and [8].

Effect of internet utilization on the non academic performance of the boys and girls SDAU students

The data presented in [Table-2] revealed that among the different non academic

performances the 'Internet use has increased dependency on Internet' was perceived as the most important effect on the non-academic performance of the boys SDAU students (MPS 81.43) and girls SDAU students (MPS 81.00) and was accorded the first rank. The 'Internet services facilitate to maintain a wide circle of friends' was perceived as the second most important effect on the non-academic performance of the boys SDAU students (MPS 70.14) and girls SDAU students (MPS 70.66) and was accorded the second rank. The 'Internet use disturbs the live social interaction with friends' was perceived as the third most important effect on the non-academic performance of the boys SDAU students (MPS 66.86) and girls SDAU students (MPS 69.66) and was accorded the third rank.

Table-2 Effect of internet utilization on the non academic performance of the boys and girls SDAU students

n = 200

S. No.	Category	Boys students (n =140)								Girls students (n =60)							
		SA (5)	A (4)	N (3)	DA (2)	SDA (1)	MPS	Rank	SA (5)	A (4)	N (3)	DA (2)	SDA (1)	MPS	Rank		
1.	Internet services facilitate to maintain a wide circle of friends	0 (0.00)	71 (50.71)	69 (49.28)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	70.14	II	0 (0.00)	32 (53.33)	28 (46.66)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	70.66	II		
2.	Internet use disturbs the "live" social interaction with friends	0 (0.00)	68 (48.57)	52 (37.14)	20 (14.28)	0 (0.00)	66.86	III	0 (0.00)	35 (58.33)	19 (31.66)	6 (10.00)	0 (0.00)	69.66	III		
3.	Due to Internet use, there is a decrease in my participation in the extracurricular activities at the college/ university level	16 (11.42)	1 (0.71)	69 (49.28)	54 (38.57)	0 (0.00)	57.00	V	6 (10.00)	0 (0.00)	28 (46.66)	26 (43.33)	0 (0.00)	55.33	IV		
4.	Due to Internet use, I get health-related problems like eye-pain, back-pain neck-pain and head ache, etc.	16 (11.42)	1 (0.71)	70 (50.00)	53 (37.85)	0 (0.00)	57.14	IV	6 (10.00)	0 (0.00)	27 (45.00)	27 (45.00)	0 (0.00)	55.00	٧		
5.	Internet use has disturbed my sleeping- pattern erratically.	9 (6.42)	17 (12.14)	61 (43.57)	50 (35.71)	3 (2.14)	57.00	٧	1 (1.66)	8 (13.33)	24 (40.00)	27 (45.00)	0 (0.00)	54.33	VI		
6.	Internet use has increased my dependency on Internet	19 (13.57)	112 (80.00)	9 (6.42)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	81.43	I	6 (10.00)	51 (85.00)	3 (5.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	81.00	I		
Mean score = 19.48																	

SA = Strongly agree; A= Agree; N=Neutral; DA= Disagree; SDA= Strongly disagree

Figures in parenthesis indicate percentage

MPS = Mean percent score

Calculated 'Z' value = 0.50 NS

On the other hand 'Internet use has disturbed my sleeping pattern erratically' was the least perceived non academic performance by the boys SDAU students (MPS 57.00) as well as by the girls SDAU students (MPS 54.33) and was accorded last rank by both categories of students.

The calculated 'Z' value between boys and girls SDAU students, was found to be 0.50 which was found lower than the tabulated value at 5 per cent level of significance which indicates a non-significant difference between boys and girls SDAU students. Hence, the null hypothesis (Ho) was accepted and alternate hypothesis was rejected. This leads to the conclusion that there is no significant difference between the effect of internet utilization on the non-academic performance of the boys and girls SDAU students. These findings are in line with the finding of the [1] and [3].

Conclusion

Among the different academic performances the boys SDAU students (MPS 96.29) perceived the most important effect on their academic performance by the attribute 'Internet facilitates saving in terms of time and energy looking for information' at top priority whereas the girls SDAU students (MPS 95.00) perceived the most important effect on their academic performance by the attribute 'Internet facilities to retrieve latest information through number of sources found' at top priority. There is no significant difference between the internet utilizing boys and girls SDAU students in perceiving the effect of different attributes of internet on their academic performances.

Among the different non academic performances the 'Internet use has increased the dependency on internet' was perceived as the most important effect non-academic performance at top priority by both boys (MPS 81.43) and girls SDAU

students (MPS 81.00). There is no significant difference between the internet utilizing boys and girls SDAU students in perceiving the effect of different attributes of internet on their non academic performances.

Conflict of Interest: None declared

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