



Internet Access, Preferred Locations And Their Impact On Learning Of Female Undergraduates In AMU

Nakhat Nasreen, Noreen Jaral

Associate professor aligarh muslim university

Research Scholar Aligarh Muslim University

Corresponding Author; Noreen Jaral

ABSTRACT: Internet is one of the greatest and most useful discoveries of modern times that has brought the worldwide revolutionary change in the field of information and communication. Internet access and preferred locations form a necessary base or core for achieving improvement of quality in education. It opens the different doorways to the wealth of knowledge, information and increasing opportunities for learning in and beyond the classroom. Internet has fetched immense value in learning throughout the life of an individual with its higher use in academics at various levels of education. Right from the very beginning, from kindergarten stage to higher education and beyond it, is in use by all. However, it is important to know, what areas in this field of Internet have greater impact, which need to be explored. Keeping in view the above facts, this study was intended to analyze the impact of internet access, preferred locations on learning of female undergraduate students of the AMU Aligarh (U.P). A total of 366 female undergraduate students from four faculties i.e. Arts, Commerce Science, Social Science studying in Women's College of AMU were selected. The responses given by them were analyzed by using simple percentage and frequency tabulation. The findings of the study revealed that Internet Access and Preferred Locations has a positive impact on the learning of the female students as majority of them agreed that they used Internet for academic purposes by visiting educational sites for preparing their lessons, writing their assignments, extracting material for co-curricular activities such as debate, group discussions etc. In addition to that, students reported that they also access Internet mostly at the time of exams for material related to their learning.

KEYWORDS: Internet Access; Preferred Location; Learning; undergraduate students.

Received 13 October, 2018; Accepted 29 October, 2018 © The author(s) 2018. Published with open access at www.questjournals.org

I. INTRODUCTION

Rapid advances in the field of information, communication, storage and network technology have made the whole world a global village. As we all know that Internet is one of the largest computer networks in the world and connecting millions of computers at one time. In the early days, most of the people just used internet to search for information. Today's Internet has been persistently developing gradually, that not only contains an amazing variety of information but also provides us new ways of accessing, interacting and connecting with people. Due to this, new terms have been constantly appearing as well as new technologies are being introduced. According to some eminent scholars, "Internet is a grand and global network which helps for the information, management, storage, retrieval, communication and research." [1,2,3,4,5,6,7]. The Internet Access, communication, publishing and delivery of information.

Internet Access is the process of connecting to the Internet by using personal computers, laptops, or mobile devices by users. Internet access enables individuals or users to avail internet services. With the help of internet access, the users could be connecting at different places by different internet speeds. It enables the individuals or users to avail internet services such as internet access provided at home, schools, public places, workplaces, internet cafes, libraries and other preferred locations.

With the help of Internet access, the internet began to gain popularity all over the world. In the relatively short period, Internet Access technologies providing faster information to their users who are working at their places. Currently, broadband technologies such as cable internet and ADSL are the most widely used methods of internet access.

There are various ways or methods to obtain Internet Access, including wireless connection; such as Hotspots, Dial-up, Broadband, DSL, Satellite, etc.

1.1 Access To The Internet And Preferred Locations Of Internet Use

Preferred locations of Internet Access simply means what is your preferences of first few locations and areas that you what would like to work or study[8]. The Internet creates a new ways for everyone to communicate, congregate, and share their views, information and ideas across the world. For this there are various Preferred Locations or areas for accessing the internet. There are various places which provides internet availability like home,schools, public places like (railway station,airport) workplaces, Internet cafes, libraries. The internet is used in almost all the stages of education because it is one of the important element in gaining the overall experience to the students.

Learning requirements of students vary at various levels and according to the needs of the students.At the graduate level,students graduate level students generally needs e-learning, special learning requirement,computer literacy,strong reading and writing skills,experiential learning etc.

Internet is one of the beneficial tools in this era of information and communication technology and enhances the skills and capabilities which help them in studies and also in fulfilling their learning requirements.Students use the internet as the effective center of a network in their various fields of study.This can be seen that most of the students use the internet for assignments,presentations,research works and examinations.It also serves as a useful tool for both teachers and students to prepare their lessons using a numbers of sites Effective use of internet leads to good academic performance of students in various fields of education.

Internet Access form a necessary base or core for the future. It provides a ways to a wealth of information, knowledge and educational resources, increasing opportunities for learning in and beyond the classroom.The internet access provides great opportunities to individual learner for improving their quality of education,new way of teaching and learning, better access to a much wide range of information and resources, new skills for the digital age.The has led to important innovations in educational content such as open educational resources and massive online open courses etc.The Internet help everyone at every stage of life to improve their educational attainment in learning.

1.2 Challenges Faced In The Use Of Internet

It has been noticed that there are various challenges faced by the students while using the internet. Such as, students are unaware about the various use of electronic gadgets like computer,laptops, cell phones etc, lack of efficiency to use electronic resources available in library. There are various others problems related to internet technology such as poor connectivity of the sever and theirfrequent breakdown, improper time management, ineffective communication channel and language barriers[9]. Furthermore, lack of proper guidance, inability to use Internet, long distance to Access Internet services are some other critical problems need to be addressed. Due to this, students are lagging behind in developing the sereaching skills and spending huge sum of money in cybercafe [10].

There are various negative effects of using ISnternet also such as:

- ✧ The internet affect students by depriving them of face to face communication.
- ✧ Students are exposed to various offensive sites such as pornography,adult sites etc.
- ✧ As everything is found on the internet,student's don't have to make more efforts because whatever they need to know is only a click away.It decreases their creativity.
- ✧ Time spent on internet instead of studying. There's what is called non essential internet use, when students aimlessly surf the internet for information for what they can not even retain or remember after hours in a session.
- ✧ Social isolation and Less time to family.Excessive internet usage steals away time for family and they end up their developing close relationships with a lot of individuals andthey also often isolating them from their families and peers.
- ✧ Internet addiction.Those students who spend a lot of time on the internet tend to become apart of one or several online communities and also increased risk for developing internet addiction.
- ✧ The excessive use of Internet leads to various health issues among the students such as headache, low eyesight,back pain etc.Some students stay up late at night just poring over random things on the internet.This is very harmful to the minds of students[13].

II. REVIEW OF THE RELATED LITERATURE

A lot of related literature has been reviewed by the investigator to carry on the present study. It has been observed that Internet provides easy accessibility of the information to students which is more important than any other media[14],that Internet has increased access to information[15].According to this research it has been revealed that Internet has major role in helping undergraduates to access material[16].The most of the respondent accessed the internet from home[17],another survey also showed that 83%Internet user had access to the Internet at their home[18],it has been also found that some students do not have enough available centres to access Internet services both with in schools and in the available cybercafe.[19]. A number of researches have been carried out to examine the impact of internet on student's learning.It has been found that Internet Access has a positive impact on students academic performance[20],Furthermore students has a positive attitudes towards ICT as it helps them in facilitating in learning.

Investigator revealed that the impact of Internet Access and preferred locations on learning of undergraduates with special focus on female students has not been taken into consideration. Thus the investigator has attempted to conduct this study.

III. OBJECTIVES

- To know about the Preferred Location of Accessing Internet by the undergraduate students of AMU.
- To assess the influence of Preferred Location of Accessing Internet by undergraduate students of AMU on their learning.
- To find out the differences if any in the influence of different locations on their study.

IV. METHODOLOGY

Descriptive Survey method is used in this study to analyze the impact of Internet Access and Preferred Locations on the learning of female undergraduates of AMU.

4.1 Sample Of The Study

In the present study, a total of 366 undergraduate female students of four faculties of AMU Aligarh were taken as a sample which was drawn through simple random sampling technique.

The sample of the study is presented in the table 4.1.

S.No.	Faculty	No. of Female Students
1.	Arts	120
2.	Commerce	72
3.	Science	70
4.	Social science	104

V. STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

5.1 Location Of Accessing Internet

The students were asked to indicate the location from which they prefer to use the internet, whether it is home, department, library, computer center, hostel or any other place. The responses given by the respondents about the preferred place for using internet are presented in the Table 5.1:

Table 5.1: Location of accessing the Internet by female students of different faculties

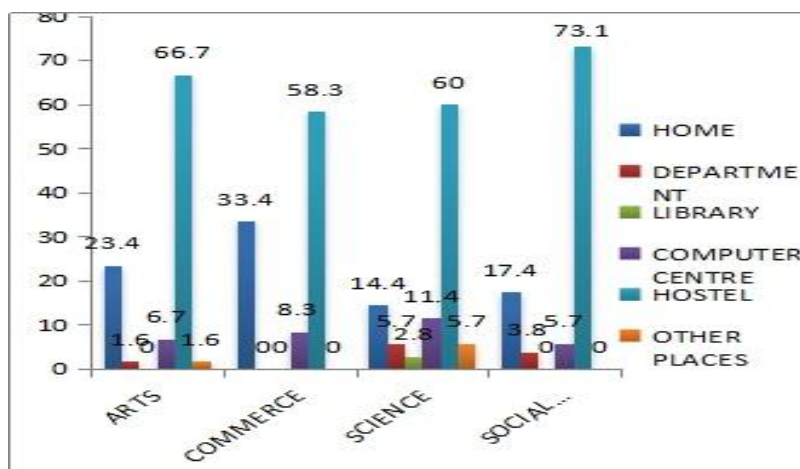
FACULTY	Home		Department		Library		Computer Centre		Hostel		Other Places	
	No. of resp.*	%	No. of resp.	%	No. of resp.	%	No. of resp.	%	No. of resp.	%	No. of resp.	%
Arts	28	23.4	2	1.6	0	0	8	6.7	80	66.7	2	1.6
Commerce	24	33.4	0	0	0	0	6	8.3	42	58.3	0	0
Science	10	14.4	4	5.7	2	2.8	8	11.4	42	60.0	4	5.7

Social Science	18	17.4	4	3.8	0	0	6	5.7	76	73.1	0	0
----------------	----	------	---	-----	---	---	---	-----	----	------	---	---

***Number of respondents.**

The analysis of the above table reveals that in the faculty of Arts the preferred place of respondents for internet browsing is hostel (66.7%) then home (23.4%) then computer center (6.7%) then department and some other places, i.e. 1.6% and no respondent preferred to use internet in library. In the faculty of Commerce, most of the students i.e. 58.3% prefer hostel for internet browsing, 33.4% of them prefer home and remaining 8.3% student's preferred place of using internet is computer center. No one liked to browse internet in department, library or some other place. Respondents of faculty of Science preferred different places, 60% of them prefer hostel for browsing internet, 14.4% of them prefer home, 11.4% prefer computer center, 5.7% of them prefer department, same percentage of respondents prefer other places and very few i.e. 2.8% prefer library for using internet. In Social Science faculty majority of respondents i.e. 73.1% prefer hostel, 17.4% prefer home, 5.7% prefer computer center, only 3.8% of respondents like to access internet from department. The result shows that most of the respondents prefer to access the internet in the hostel (as most of them are hosteller) and then at home .AMU is a residential university attracting nearly 30,000 boys and girls from all the states of india. There are separate halls for girls. The hostels are provided with Wifi facility. Most of the hostellers avail this facility in their halls of residence, whereas, the day scholars use internet at their homes. A few day scholars girls come to hostels to avail Wi-fi. The graphical presentation of the data is shown in figure 5.1:

The graphical presentation of the data is shown in figure 5.1:



5.2 Impact On Learning:

Table 5.2 Impact of using Internet on the learning of female student of different faculties:

FACULTY	Total Respondents	Positive		Negative	
		Number of respondents	Percentage	Number of respondents	Percentage
Arts	120	98	81.7	22	18.3
Comm.	72	54	75.0	18	25.0
Science	70	50	71.4	20	28.6
Soc.Sc.	104	80	76.9	24	23.1

The above table shows that most of the students feel that internet has a positive impact over their studies. 81.6% respondents in the faculty of Arts, 75% in Commerce, 71.4% in Science and 76.9% in Social Science favor the use of internet, Rest of theM feels that internet is influencing their studies negatively. Because of the spread of Ict worldwide, the learners in Higher Education have also been utilizing Internet access getting benefits out of it in their studies such as E-content ; audio, video and text material and it develop the highly creative and interactive environment.;The data has been presented graphically in the figure 5.2.

Figure 5.2: Impact of Internet use on study of female respondents of different faculties

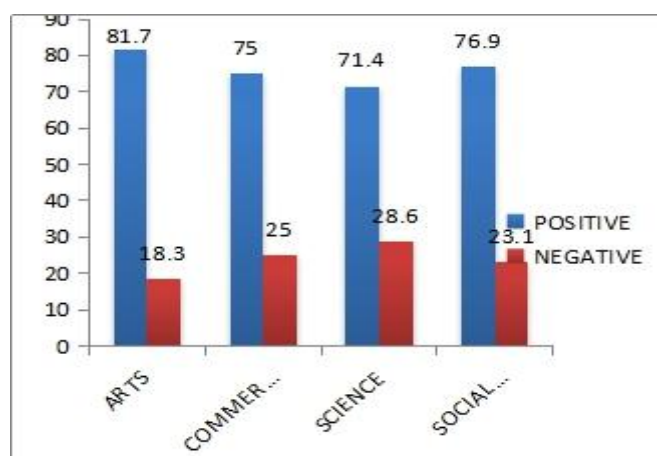


Fig. 5.2 that internet is influencing their studies negatively. The data has been presented graphically in the figure 5.2.

VI. FINDINGS

- ✧ In table 5.1 it has been found out that most of the respondents prefer to access internet in hostel as most of them are residential students, rest of the respondents prefer home for accessing internet.
- ✧ The result of the table 5.2 shows that internet is having positive impact on the learning of respondents as majority of agreed that internet is influencing their learning positively.

VII. CONCLUSION

The findings of the study revealed that majority of the female students prefer to access internet in hostel, as most of them are residential students, rest of the female respondents prefer home for accessing internet. Irrespective of their different Disciplines and faculties, all the female students preferred their place of access as home or hostel, that is the place of their living. Majority of the female students of AMU preferred their place of work as second choice of Internet Access.

Furthermore, it is revealed that Internet is having a positive impact on learning of the female students as majority of them agreed that internet has influenced their learning positively because it acted as a supplement for them to provide a lot of valuable information related to their studies which helped them directly or indirectly in making their learning effective. It can be concluded that internet is one of the important source of information and communication that brought the whole world together.

Keeping in view the above facts of the study, it has been realized that Internet has immense potential to improve the quality of education at all levels and specifically at undergraduate level. But due to lack of awareness of digital literacy among the users especially students they do not understand and reap the benefits available through Internet access. For this, building an accurate awareness of the Internet requires the efforts of multiple stakeholders (government, teachers, administrator) who need to work together to deliver awareness building campaigns and literacy training programmes. Government should play an active role in creating awareness of digital services and training citizens to use the available applications.

On the other hand it is also the responsibility of University administrator to integrate various ICT related programmes in their colleges and campuses to familiarize the teachers and students with these tools and should be given appropriate training for incalculating skills associated with ICT. It is expected that if the teachers are fully aware they will be able to guide their learners for their bright future.

REFERENCES

- [1]. Bankole, O.M 2013. The use of internet service and resources by scientist at Olbis Onabanjo University, Ago Iwoye, Nigeria. Program; 47(1)15-13
- [2]. Hinson, R 2004. Export and the internet in Ghana: a small and medium enterprise exporter benefits model, LBS. Management Review 9, 19(2004) 46-53.
- [3]. Watson, R. & Mckeown, P. 1999. Manheim auctions: transforming interorganizational relationship an extranet. International Journal of Electronic Commerce 3(1999) 29-46.
- [4]. Cox, B & Koelzer, W 2003. Internet Marketing. Prentice Hall: Engle wood Cliff: NJ.
- [5]. Liener, B. et al 1997. The evolution of a internet as a global information system, International Information and Library Review, 29(2) 129-51.
- [6]. Krol, E 1995. The Whole Internet User Guide and Catalog. O'Reilly and Associates Inc, Sebastopol, CA, P.10.
- [7]. Sheldon, T. 1996. Lan Times Encyclopedia of Networking, McGraw-Hill: Berkeley, CA.
- [8]. A.M. Ibrahim. 2004. Use and User Perception of Electronic Resources in United Arab Emirates University, Libri. (2004), 18-29.

- [9]. A.Ibegwan 2002. Internet Communication:E-mail and Medical Libraries.In Madu,E.C and Marie B.Drisueds Information Science and Technology for Libraries Schools in Africa(2002).
- [10]. V.Chifwepa 2003. The Use of Intranet and Internet by Teaching Staff of the University of Zimbabw. African Journal of Library,Archive and Information Science.13,2 (2003),119-132.
- [11]. K.O.Jagboro.2003. A Study of Internet usage in Nigerian Universities:A case study of ObafemiAwolowo University,Ile-ife, Nigeria.Retrieved from <http://www.firstmonday.org/issue/82jagbora/index.html>.
- [12]. V.C.Nwokedi 2007. Impact of Internet Use on Teaching and Research Activities of the Academic Staff of Faculty of Medical Sciences,University of Jos.A case study of University of Jos.Gateway Library Journal (2007)13-22.
- [13]. Ucek, Nazan. O. 2007. Internet Use Habits of Informayion Management, Hacettepe University, Ankara, Turkey;Journal of Academic Librarianship,. 33,(2007),6
- [14]. Loan,F.A.2011. Impact of the Internet Surfing on the Reading Practices and choices Webology, 9,(2011)No.1
- [15]. Emeka J.U& Nyeche S.O 2016. Impact of Internet Usage on the Academic Performance of Undergraduates Students:A case study on University of Abuja, Nigeria.International Journal of Scientific Research and Engineering Research 7,(October.2016) ,2229-5518.
- [16]. Nicholas,et al (2003) The British and their use of the Web for health information and Advice:ASurvey. Aslib Proceeding,5,6(2003) 258-260
- [17]. Mbah,T.B. 2010.The Impact of ICT on students Study Habits:Case Study,University of Buea,Cameroon.Journal of Science and Technology Education Research. 1,5 (october.2010),107-110.
- [18]. Yebowaah,F.A. 2018. Internet Use and its effects on Senior High School Students in Wa Municipality of Ghana.library philosophy and Practice (e-journal). Retrieved on july 2018 from <http://digital commons.un.edu/libphilprac/1817>.