Constraints Faced in Internet Utilization by the Post Graduate Students and Suggestions Obtain for Better Internet Utilization by Them

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Abstract: Rapid growth and easy access to the Internet have facilitated its influence on the studentslife.This research study explores the student behaviour in using the Internet sources of information in their academic work. Considering the importance of Internet utilizationthe present study was conducted in Dr. Balasaheb Sawant Konkan Krishi Vidyapeeth, Dapoli of Maharashtra state. Sample of 120 students were selected by Ex-post facto design for selected area. The data were collected by personal and well-structured interview schedule.Result indicated that the constraints faced by respondents were recorded under five different categories, i.e. physical, technical, economical,operational and socio-psychological constraints. Among the different physical constraints the 'Inadequate accessibility to Internet services', among the different technical constraints the 'Privacy problem' as the most important constraints,among the different economic constraints the 'Variations in charges demanded at different cyber cafes', among the different operational constraints the 'Lack of adequate knowledge about hard wares, software and Internet explorer',among the different Socio-psychological constraints the 'Un favorable attitude of seniors and family members' as the most important constraints and were ranked first under above-said five respective categories. The suggestions for effective utilization of Internet services, as perceived by the respondents in rank order were, 'Proper knowledge about search engine, search sites, browsing, paid and un paid sites' and 'Improve broadband connection' were perceived as the most important suggestions of the PG students (46.66 per cent) and was accorded first rank.

Keywords: Perceived constraints, Suggestions, Internet use, PG student.

INTRODUCTION

Internet enables rapid access to ideas and experiences from a wide range of people, communities and cultures, and allows pupils to collaborate and exchange information on a wide scale. Internet as a substantial communication tool is characterised by information, versatility and interactivity. Use of Internet has become a part of college students' daily routine. The Internet is clearly an ideal medium for delivering true learning, because it is based on an interconnected architecture that allows communication and collaboration and can be enriched with multimedia capability that enhances the learning experience.

To explore an enormous scope of using Internet facilities in all research and academic institutions, students and research scholars can link themselves to a remote computer via Internet and gain access to the data, information and programmes stored on it, they can do almost anything like sending and receiving messages, receiving news updates about specific events or topics, reading or copying information stored on other computers, reading newspapers, magazines and newsletters, downloading computer software, sharing of expensive hardware, centralised administration of all computers and posting and reading public messages toexchange news.Institutions of higher

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Table 1
Physical constraints faced by PG students while using Internet

Sr. No.	Constraints	Respondents (N = 120)		
A	*Physical constraints*	*High Extent*	*Medium Extent*	*Low Extent*
1.	Inadequate availability of computer and Internet facilities	21(17.50)	69(57.50)	30(25.00)
2.	Inadequate accessibility to Internet services	28(23.33)	75(62.50)	17(14.16)
3.	Lack of adequate infrastructure facilities	19(15.33)	61(50.83)	40(33.33)
4.	Lack of knowledge about availability of Internet source	15(12.50)	54(45.00)	51(42.50)
5.	No Wi-Fi facility	19(15.83)	34(28.33)	67(55.83)

education encourage use of the Internet through several means. Increasingly, incoming students automatically get an email address and Internet access account. Access to the school's network is often provided free of charge or for a nominal fee. This makes it an affordable and convenient option. Moreover, most college campuses have the latest technologies in their computer labs, which usually have high-speed connections, allowing for faster downloads and Internet surfing at the very least, these terminals are being used for email when the student is not engaged in academic work.

Aside from the numerous benefits of this now ubiquitous technological tool, the problem of over use and the resulting 'Internet Addiction' is becoming increasingly apparent. College students represent a particularly vulnerable group for problem Internet use.

METHODOLOGY

The present study was conducted in Dr. Balasaheb Sawant Konkan Krishi Vidyapeeth, Dapoli of Maharashtra state. Ex-post facto design was used for the study. Sample of 120 post graduate students were selected. The data were collected by personal and well-structured interview schedule.

RESEARCH FINDINGS

Constraints Faced in Internet Utilization by PG Students and Suggestions Received from PG Students

Constraints faced by students while using Internet

In this section, it was tried to find out the constraints in utilization of Internet by the Dr. B.S.K.K.V students in the study area. All the possible

constraints, faced by the respondents were grouped in to five major categories *viz.* Physical constraints, Technical constraints, Economic constraints, Operational constraints, Psychological constraints and the data regarding the overall constraints faced by Internet utilizing students are given in Table 1.

The data presented in Table 1 revealed that among the different 'physical constraints' (23.33 per cent) students were perceived 'Inadequate accessibility to Internet services' as the most important constraints of 'high extent',(62.50 per cent) students were perceived 'Inadequate accessibility to Internet services' as the most important constraints of 'medium extent' and 55.83 per cent students were perceived 'No Wi-Fi facility' as the most important constraints of 'low extent.'

The data presented in Table 2 indicated that among the different 'technical constraints' (45.00 per cent) students were perceived 'Slow access speed'

Table 2
Technical constraints faced by PG students while using Internet

B	*Technical constraints*	*High Extent*	*Medium Extent*	*Low Extent*
1.	Slow access speed	54(45.00)	52(43.33)	14(11.66)
2.	Server breakdown	46(38.33)	54(45.00)	20(16.66)
3.	Electricity failure	11(9.16)	49(40.83)	60(50.00)
4.	On-line advertisements distract attention	20(16.66)	53(44.16)	47(39.16)
5.	Virus threats	36(30.00)	48(40.00)	36(30.00)
6.	Opening of pop-up mails	13(10.83)	44(36.66)	63(52.50)
7.	Privacy problem	18(15.00)	37(30.83)	65(54.16)
8.	Takes more time to download/view pages	37(30.83)	55(45.83)	28(23.33)

as the most important constraints of 'high extent', (45.83 per cent) students were perceived 'Takes more time to download/ view pages' as the most important constraints of 'medium extent' and 54.16 per cent students were perceived 'Privacy problem' as the most important constraints of 'low extent.'

'Lack of adequate knowledge about hard wares, software and Internet explorer' as the most important constraints of 'medium extent' and 42.50 per cent students were perceived 'Difficulty in finding out relevant information' as the most important constraints of 'low extent'

Table 3
Economic constraints faced by PG students while using Internet

C	Economic constraints	High Extent	Medium Extent	Low Extent
1.	Availability of Internet facility at higher price	42(35.00)	36(30.00)	42(35.00)
2.	Variations in charges demanded at different cyber cafes	32(26.66)	55(45.83)	33(27.50)
3.	High cost of Internet training	33(27.50)	52(43.33)	35(29.16)

Table 5
Psychological constraints faced by PG students while using Internet

E	Psychological Constraints	High Extent	Medium Extent	Low Extent
1.	Lack of free time to use Internet	17(14.16)	49(40.83)	54(45.00)
2.	Lack of interest to use Internet	5(4.16)	45(37.50)	70(58.33)
3.	Unfavorable attitude of seniors and family members	7(5.83)	31(25.83)	32(68.33)

The data presented in Table 3 revealed that among the different 'economic constraints' (35.00 per cent) students were perceived 'Availability of Internet facility at higher price' as the most important constraints of 'high extent', followed by 45.83 per cent students were perceived 'Variations in charges demanded at different cyber cafes' as the most important constraints of 'medium extent' and 35.00 per cent students were perceived 'Availability of Internet facility at higher price' as the most important constraints of 'low extent'.

The data presented in Table 4 indicated that among the different 'operational constraints' (20.83 per cent) students were perceived 'Lack of adequate knowledge about hard wares, software and Internet explorer' as the most important constraints of 'high extent', while 51.66 per cent students were perceived

The data presented in Table 5 indicated that among the different 'psychological constraints' (14.16 per cent) students were perceived 'Lack of free time to use Internet' as the most important constraints of 'high extent', (40.83 per cent) students were perceived 'Lack of free time to use Internet' as the most important constraints of 'medium extent' and 68.33 per cent students were perceived 'Un favorable attitude of seniors and family members' as the most important constraints of 'low extent'

Suggestions given by PG students for overcoming the constraints faced them while utilizing Internet facility

The data regarding the Suggestions given by PG students for overcoming the constraints faced them while utilizing Internet given in Table 6

Table 4
Operational constraints faced by PG students while using Internet

C	Operational constraints	High Extent	Medium Extent	Low Extent
1.	Lack of adequate knowledge about hard wares, software and Internet explorer	25(20.83)	62(51.66)	33(27.50)
2.	Difficulty in finding out relevant information	11(9.16)	58(48.33)	51(42.50)
3.	Lack of knowledge about paid and un-paid sites	19(15.83)	59(49.16)	42(35.00)
4.	Lack of Internet oriented education and training	20(16.66)	56(46.66)	44(36.66)
5.	Overload of information on Internet	22(18.33)	53(44.16)	45(37.50)

Table 6
Suggestions given by PG students

Sr. No.	Suggestions	Respondents (N=120)	Percentage %
1.	Training need	30	25.00
2.	Extra computer facilities (In library and Hostel)	22	18.33
3.	High access speed	52	43.33
4.	Wi-Fi zone should be available at whole campus	35	29.16
5.	Better antivirus facilities (Timely antivirus update)	31	25.83
6.	Improve broadband connection	56	46.66
7.	Privacy	22	18.33
8.	Proper knowledge about search engine, search sites, browsing, paid and un paid sites	56	46.66
9.	Inadequate infrastructure	41	34.16
10.	Select good technical staff	43	35.83

The data presented in Table 6 revealed that among the different suggestions received from students the 'Proper knowledge about search engine, search sites, browsing, paid and un paid sites' and 'Improve broadband connection' were perceived as the most important suggestions of the PG students (46.66 per cent) and was accorded first rank. While a 43.33 per cent student gives 'High access speed' was the measure constraints in Internet use and was accorded second rank.

CONCLUSION

Several terms have been used to describe excessive Internet use that leads to problems in various contexts of students life including physical, economical, technical, operational, socio-psychological constraints. The present study highlighted the existing situation of Internet facility at campus level, availed by the students. It can be concluded from the findings of the study that the most of these problems are related to the concerned academic institution. If proper steps are taken by the academic institutions to promote the use of ICT for academic purposes taking into consideration the findings and recommendations of this study. The present study concludes and suggests that the university should relook into the matter of providing better broadband connection, high-speed, Wi-Fi Internet facility at the university campus.

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