ROLE OF INTERNET IN EDUCATION OF COMMERCE STUDENTS

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ABSTRACT

Background

Introduction of globally adopted modern technologies in the field of education provides an opportunity for modernization teaching methods, E-Learning and the facility to gain knowledge in each language, better understanding of the meaning of words through online dictionaries and easy download of the educational and literary things.

Materials and Methods

The proposed research work attempts to study the role of internet in education of college students. The study was undertaken in St. Peters College Kolenchery. The respondents of the study were commerce students. The data were suitably classified and analyzed based on the objective of the study. Analysis was done via statistical software 16.0. Statistical tools like percentages, rank test and Friedman repeated measures analysis of variance on ranks have been applied for analyzing the data.

Results

Google was the most preferred browser of the students and Mozilla Firefox was the next preferred browser for them. The most used search engine by the students was All the Weband

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Alta Vista was ranked second and the least rank was given to Info Mine. Internet was mainly used for completing assignments and to check exam timetables.

Conclusion

Google was the most preferred browser of the students. The most used search engine by the students was All the Web. Most of them used internet for completing assignments and to check exam timetables and results.

Key words: E-Learning, All the Web, Dog Pileand Mozilla Firefox.

Manuscript

Introduction

Internet is the fastest and cheapest source of sharing knowledge.There has been significant development in Internet and information and communication technologies in the last two decades which has made drastic changes in the field of education. Introduction of globally adoptedmodern technologies in the field of education provides an opportunity for modernization teaching methods, E-Learning and the facility to gain knowledge in each language,better understanding of the meaning of words throughonline dictionaries and easy download of the educational and literary things.Lazinger et al. (1997)[2] conducted a survey of the faculty members of the Herbrew University of Jerusalem ,provided data on internet access as of 1995.The results showed higher usage by the members of the faculties of science, medicine and agriculture than the members of the faculties of social science and humanities. Becker (1998)[3] conducted a study on the Internet use by 2250 teachers from public and private schools in the U.S. The study revealed that 90% of the teachers had Internet access. More than half of the teachers (59%) had Internet access at home. A majority of the teachers (68%) used Internet to find information resources for preparing their lessons. Singh (1998)[3] conducted a research study on the use of Internet by the librarians in Malaysia. The main findings of the study indicated that 90% of the students used the Internet for work related purposes. Most of the students were recent users.

Significance of the Study

The internet plays a significant role in education as it provides instant availability of vast stores of information on 24x7 basis. With the introduction of internet, learners have instant access to information on virtually any subject which they had to be physically near the information they wished to learn earlier.The internet has superseded libraries as a source for information gathering and research. On line learning facilitates the students to learn whatever they want, provides comfort, helps to acquire an online degree from a prestigious universityat a low cost, self-paced learning etc.The variety of sources allows students to pursue subject in much greater details rather than being limited to class-room learning. In this context, the present study entitled "Role of Internet in Education of Commerce Students" hasgreater significance.

Scope of the Study

The scope of the study is limited to the role of internet in education of commerce students ofSt. Peter'sCollege, Kolenchery. The respondents of the study are students of Department of Commerce.

Objective of the study

To analyse the role of internet in education of commerce students ofSt. Peter'sCollege, Kolenchery.

Hypothesis of the study

H_{O1}- There is no difference in the usage of internet for education purpose among the commerce students of St. Peter's College Kolenchery.

Research Methodology

Selection of sample

The students of Dept. of Commerce of St. Peter'sCollege Kolenchery form the population of study. There were in all 184 students (both U.G &P.G) in the Department of Commerce during the academic year 2015-2016.All the students were selected for the purpose of study.

Collection of data

The study was mainly based on primary data. Secondary data were also used wherever necessary.

Primary Data

The primary data were collected through well-structuredquestionnaire. The questionnaire was used in such a way as it covers the entire objectives of the study.

Secondary Data

Secondary data were collected from journals, books and from various websites etc.

Tools of Analysis

The data were suitably classified and analyzed based on the objective of the study. Analysis was done via statistical software 16.0.percentages, rank test and Friedman repeated measures analysis of variance on ranks were used.

Period ofstudy

The survey was conducted in the month of December 2016.

Major Findings of the study

15 % of the students always used, 36 % often used, 28 % rarely used, 12% sometimes used internet for education. However, 9 % had no opinion in this regard (Table 1).65.2% of the students used mobile phone as gadgets for internet connection and 34.8% of them had internet connection in their computer (Table 2). Home was the main place of usage of internet for the students (Mean score=3.22) college was the next place (Mean score=3.12) and café was ranked as last (1. 14)(Table 3). Google was the most preferred browser (Mean score=4.86) of the students and Mozilla Firefox (3.36) was the next preferred browser and Yahoo was the least preferred browser (Mean score=2.84) (Table 4).The most used search engine by the students was All the Web (Mean score=3.76), the second rank was given to Alta Vista (Mean score=3.29) and third rank was given to Dog Pile and the least rank was given to Info Mine (Mean score=2.33)(Table 5).16.3% always used, 31% often used, 37% sometimes used and 15.8%

rarely used internet for learning activities (Table 6).30.4% of the students always used, 44% often used, 21.7% sometimes used and 3.8% rarely used internet for completing assignments (Table 7) 9.8% of students always used, 27.7 % often used, 32.6% sometimes used and 16.3% rarely used internet for informing useful websites to friends (Table 8). 11.4% of the students always used, 19% often used, 19% sometimes used, 27.7% rarely used internet to put bookmarks to websites (Table 9).6.5% of students always used, 9.2% often used, 14.7% sometimes used and 34.8% rarely used internet to communicate with teachers (Table 10).2.2% of the students always used, 14.1% often used, 25% sometimes used and 37.5% rarely used internet to exchange of e-mails with friends (Table 11). 12% of the students always used, 8.2% often used, 24.5% sometimes used, 40.8% rarely usedinternet to access the library websites (Table 12). 31.5% of the studentsalways used, 30.4% often used, 20.1% sometimes used and 14.7% rarely used internet as the main source of information.(Table 13). 12.5% of the students always used, 15.8% often used, 33.7% sometimes used and 31.5% rarely used internet for finding latest information about the university.(Table 14). 12% of the students always used, 22.3% often used, 26.1% sometimes used and 24.5% rarely used internet for downloading software.(Table 15). 6% of the students always used, 33.2% often used, 29.3% sometimes used and 21.7% rarely used internet to download notes.(Table 16). 1.6% of the students always used, 7.6% often used, 39.1% sometimes used and 32.6% rarely used internet for finding articles from journals.(Table 17). 7.1% of the students always used, 10.3% often used, 21.7% sometimes used and 34.8% rarely used internet to upload files/documents (Table 18). 47.8% of the students always used, 21.7% often used, 15.2% sometimes used and 13.6% rarely used internet to check exam timetables and results.(Table 19).7.6% of the students always used, 8.2% often used, 19.6% sometimes used and 31% rarely used internet to participate in online quizzes and exams.(Table 20). 4.9% of the students always crosschecked, 46.2% often crosschecked, 23.4% sometimes cross checked, 14.7% rarely cross checked the accuracy of information accessed through internet with other sources of information(Table 21).Most of them used internet for completing assignments and to check exam timetables and results.

The hypothesis of the study was that there is no difference in using internet for education purpose among the commerce students of St. Peter's College Kolenchery.Friedman test was used to test the hypothesis. The test result given in Table 22 revealed that there is a significant

difference in the usage of internet for education purpose among the commerce students of St. Peter's College Kolenchery since the p value is less than 0.01. therefore, the **null hypothesis H_{01} is rejected.**

Conclusion

Google was the most preferred browser of the students and secondly, they preferred Mozilla Firefox, third and fourth ranks were given to Internet Explorer and Yahoo. The most used search engine by the students was All the Web, the second rank was given to Alta Vista and third rank was given to Dog Pile and the least rank was given to Info Mine. Most of them used internet for completing assignments and to check exam timetables and results.

References:

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Table 1 Frequency of Usage of Internet for Education

Responses	Frequency	Percent
Always	**28**	**15**
Often	**66**	**36**
Rarely	**51**	**28**
Sometimes	**22**	**12**
No opinion	**17**	**9**
Total	**184**	**100.0**

Source: Primary data.

Table 2 Gadgets Used

Gadgets used	Frequency	Percent
Mobile phone	120	65.2
Computer	64	34.8
Total	184	100

Source: Primary data.

Table 3 Place of Usage of Internet

Place of Usage	Mean	Rank
Home	3.22	1
School/college	3.12	2
Cafe	1.14	4
Friend's/relatives' house	2.52	3

Source: Primary data.

Table 4 The Browser Used

Browser used	Mean	Rank
Google	4.86	1
Internet explorer	2.90	3
Mozilla Firefox	3.36	2
Yahoo	2.84	4

Source: Primary data.

Table 5 Search Engines Used

Search engine used	Mean	Rank
Dog pile	2.90	3
Alta vista	3.29	2
All the web	3.76	1
Info mine	2.33	5
Academic. us	2.72	4

Source: Primary data.

Table 6 Learning Activities

Responses	Frequency	Percent
Always	30	16.3
Often	57	31.0
Sometimes	68	37.0
Rarely	29	15.8
Total	184	100.0

Source: Primary data.

$\chi 2$ =25.000 with 3 degrees of freedom significant at 5%level.

Table 7 Complete Assignments

Responses	Frequency	Percent
Always	56	30.4
Often	81	44.0
Sometimes	40	21.7
Rarely	7	3.8
Total	184	100.0

Source: Primary data.

$\chi 2$ =62.652 with 3 degrees of freedom significant at 5%level.

Table 8 Inform Useful Websites to Friends

Source: Primary data.

Responses	Frequency	Percent
Always	21	11.4
Often	35	19.0
Sometimes	35	19.0
Rarely	51	27.7
No opinion	42	22.8
Total	184	100.0

$\chi 2$ =34.750 with 4 degrees of freedom significant at 5%level.

Table 9 Put Bookmarks to Websites

Source: Primary data.

$\chi 2$ =13.174 with 4 degrees of freedom significant at 5%level.

Responses	Frequency	Percent
Always	18	9.8
Often	51	27.7
Sometimes	60	32.6
Rarely	30	16.3
No opinion	25	13.6
Total	184	100.0

Table 10Communicate with Teachers

Source: Primary data.

χ 2 = 70.185 with 4 degrees of freedom significant at 5%level.

Responses	Frequency	Percent
Always	4	2.2
Often	26	14.1
Sometimes	46	25.0
Rarely	69	37.5
No opinion	39	21.2
Total	184	100.0

Table 11 Exchange E-Mails with Friends

Source: Primary data.

χ 2 = 63.011 with 4 degrees of freedom significant at 5%level.

Responses	Frequency	Percent
Always	12	6.5
Often	17	9.2
Sometimes	27	14.7
Rarely	64	34.8
No opinion	64	34.8
Total	184	100.0

Table 12 Access the library website

Responses	Frequency	Percent
Always	22	12.0

Often	15	8.2
Sometimes	45	24.5
Rarely	75	40.8
No opinion	27	14.7
Total	184	100.0

Source: Primary data.

$\chi 2$ = 62.957 with 4 degrees of freedom significant at 5%level.

Table 13 Use of Internet as Main Source of Information

Responses	Frequency	Percent
Always	58	31.5
Often	56	30.4
Sometimes	37	20.1
Rarely	27	14.7
No opinion	6	3.3
Total	184	100.0

Source: Primary data.

$\chi 2$ = 50.620 with 4 degrees of freedom significant at 5%level.

Table 14 Find Latest Information about the University

Source: Primary data.

$\chi 2$ = 53.011 with 4 degrees of freedom significant at 5%level.

Table 15 Download Software

Responses	Frequency	Percent
Always	22	12.0
Often	41	22.3
Sometimes	48	26.1
Rarely	45	24.5
No opinion	28	15.2
Total	184	100.0

Source: Primary data.

$\chi 2$ = 13.772 with 4 degrees of freedom significant at 5%level.

Table 16 Download Notes

Responses	Frequency	Percent
Always	23	12.5
Often	29	15.8
Sometimes	62	33.7
Rarely	58	31.5
No opinion	12	6.5
Total	184	100.0

Responses	Frequency	Percent
Always	11	6.0
Often	61	33.2
Sometimes	54	29.3
Rarely	40	21.7
No opinion	18	9.8
Total	184	100.0

Source: Primary data.

$\chi 2$ = 51.924 with 4 degrees of freedom significant at 5%level.

Table 17 Find Articles from Journals

Responses	Frequency	Percent
Always	3	1.6
Often	14	7.6
Sometimes	72	39.1
Rarely	60	32.6
No opinion	35	19.0
Total	184	100.0

Source: Primary data.

$\chi 2$ = 93.554 with 4 degrees of freedom significant at 5%level.

Table 18 Upload Files/Documents

Source: Primary data.

$\chi 2$ = 47.793 with 4 degrees of freedom significant at 5%level.

Responses	Frequency	Percent
Always	**88**	**47.8**
Often	**40**	**21.7**
Sometimes	**28**	**15.2**
Rarely	**25**	**13.6**
No opinion	**3**	**1.6**
Total	**184**	**100.0**

Responses	Frequency	Percent
Always	**13**	**7.1**
Often	**19**	**10.3**
Sometimes	**40**	**21.7**
Rarely	**64**	**34.8**
No opinion	**48**	**26.1**
Total	**184**	**100.0**

Table 19 Check Exam Time Tables and Result

Source: Primary data.

$\chi 2$ = 108.446 with 4 degrees of freedom significant at 5%level.

Table 20 Participate in Online Quizzes and Exams

Responses	Frequency	Percent
Always	14	7.6
Often	15	8.2
Sometimes	36	19.6
Rarely	57	31.0
No opinion	62	33.7
Total	184	100.0

Source: Primary data.

Responses	Frequency	Percent
Always	9	4.9
Often	85	46.2
Sometimes	43	23.4
Rarely	27	14.7
No opinion	20	10.9
Total	184	100.0

$\chi 2$ = 55.402 with 4 degrees of freedom significant at 5%level.

Table 21Cross Check the Accuracy of Information with Other Information Sources

$\chi 2$ = 95.457 with 4 degrees of freedom significant at 5%level.

Source: Primary data.

Table 22Usage of internet for Education purpose (Friedman repeated measures analysis of variance on ranks)

Education purpose	Mean	Rank
Use for learning activities	10.04	4
Collect materials to complete assignments	11.80	1
Inform friends about useful websites	8.23	7
Put bookmarks to website	7.02	9
Communicate with teachers	5.08	14
Exchange emails with friends on academic matters	5.88	12
Access library websites	6.81	10
Main source of information	10.76	3
Downloading software	7.98	8
Download notes	8.52	6
Find articles from journals	5.95	11
Upload files/documents	5.86	13
Check exam timetables and results	11.59	2
Participate in online quizzes and exams	5.54	15
Cross check the accuracy of information with other sources of information	8.95	5

Source: Primary data.

$\chi 2$ = 731.720with14 degrees of freedom significant at 5%level.