



Use of Internet by Teachers of Agricultural College Bapatla

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ABSTRACT

Majority of the respondents used internet services such as search engine, e-mail, world-wide-web, online database and chatting. From the study, it was found that majority of the respondents utilised internet formats in the form of document/text formats, PDF file, power point, video files and audio files. The strategy for improvement of internet uses in the agricultural college by supply system with internet facility to all staff members, one technical person must be appointed for system management and made complete campus Wi-Fi.

Key words : Internet, Electronic-mail, World Wide Web.

The internet has been describes as the gateway to a world of seemingly inexhaustible resources and information superhighway of unlimited opportunities. The internet provides several opportunities for all academicians, business organisations, the employed and unemployed, the young and the old. The present needs discussed on extent of consumption of internet service, their purpose, file formats, extent of usage and satisfaction of internet users expected to give proper guidelines to the institution to plan for efficient browsing. The investigation will be beneficial to the universities, developmental departments and other organisations apart from policy makers, researchers and extension functionaries etc. To adjust suitably for effective communication by modifying according to the present needs.

Keeping this in a view a study was conducted with the objectives to explore the relationship between use of internet services and profile of the teachers, to know the access of internet by the teachers, to know the use of different types of software by the teachers, to know the extent of use of file formats by the teachers, to know the purpose of internet uses by the teachers, to know the extent of satisfaction level of teachers with current state of internet utilisation, to find out the problem faced by the teachers and suggest a suitable strategy for the better use and development of the internet facility at the Agricultural College, Bapatla.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The study was conducted by using ex-post-facto research design duly following the random sampling procedure. Agricultural College Bapatla in

Guntur district of Andhra Pradesh was selected for the study with the sample size of 30 staff members. The data was collected primarily through questionnaire were coded, tabulated and analysed.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Keeping in view the objectives, the empirical evidences obtained in terms of factual data through objectives, research procedures designed and developed for the study have been analysed by subjecting them to appropriate statistical tests.

Table-1 clearly indicates that majority (63.33%) of the respondents were of 36 - 55 years age group followed by 26.66 per cent who were above 55 years age group and 10 per cent were of below 35 years age group. As far as the gender component is concerned majority (83.34%) of the respondents were male and the remaining 16.66 per cent were female respondents. With regard to level of education, 90.00 per cent of the respondents had doctorate and remaining 10.00 per cent of the respondents had post graduate education. Majority (63.34%) of the respondents belonged to crop science discipline followed by social science (33.33%) and others (3.33%). With respect to job experience, 56.67 per cent of the respondents had >15 years of experience followed by 6-15 year experience (26.67%) and <5 years experience (16.66%) in their job. These findings are in tune with the results of Nataraju (1997).

RATIONAL ANALYSIS:

The relationship between use of internet services and selected independent variables shown in table 2 reveals that age, gender, educational qualification and job experience were non-significant

Table 1. Distribution of Respondents according to their Profile.

S. No	Variables	Category	Frequency	Percentage
1	Age	<35 years	3	10.00
		36-55 years	1	63.33
		>55 years	9	26.66
2	Gender	Male	8	83.34
		Female	25	16.66
3	Educational Qualification	Graduate	5	0
		Post graduate	0	10.00
		Doctorate	3	90.00
4	Educational discipline	Crop science	27	63.34
		Social science	19	33.33
		Others	10	3.33
5	Job experience	< 5 years	1	16.66
		6 to 15 years	58	26.67
		>15 years	17	56.67

Table 2. Relationship between use of Internet services and Profile of the Respondents.

S. No	Independent variable	'r' value
1	Age	0.118 NS
2	Gender	0.119 NS
3	Educational qualification	0.228 NS
4	Educational discipline	-0.075NS
5	Job experience	0.1746 NS

Table 3. Distribution of respondents according to their access of location.

S. No.	Location	Frequency	Percentage	Rank
1	Home	17	56.66	2
2	Department	22	73.33	1
3	Private browsing centre	1	3.33	6
4	College library	4	13.33	4
5	ARIS	8	26.66	3

Table 4. Distribution of respondents according to use of different software.

S.No		WWW	e-mail	News groups	Discussion forum	FTP	Student groups	chatting	Online database	Search engine
1	Rarely	2 (6.66)	3 (10)	18 (60)	23 (76.66)	24 (80)	24 (80)	20 (66.66)	15 (50)	3 (6.66)
2	Occasionally	9 (30)	6 (20)	8 (26.66)	5 (16.66)	6 (20)	6 (20)	5 (16.66)	5 (16.66)	3 (10)
3	Frequently	19 (63.66)	21 (70)	4 (13.33)	2 (6.66)	0 (0)	0 (0)	5 (16.66)	10 (33.33)	24 (80)

Table 5. Distribution of respondents according to extent of use of file formats.

S. No	File formats	Rarely	Occasionally	Frequently
1	Document/text file	4 (13.33)	1 (3.33)	25 (83.33)
2	Audio file	20 (66.66)	3 (6.66)	7 (23.33)
3	Video file	14 (46.66)	8 (26.66)	8 (26.66)
4	Power point	6 (20)	6 (20)	18 (60)
5	Files in PDF	5 (16.66)	8 (26.66)	17 (56.66)
6	Files in post script format	21 (70)	9 (30)	0 (0)
7	Files in compressed formats	21 (70)	4 (13.33)	5 (16.66)

Table 6. Distribution of respondents according to purpose of internet uses.

S. No	Purpose	Frequency	Percentage	Rank
1	Research project	18	60.00	4
2	Collection of literature	26	86.66	2
3	Sending and receiving mails	27	90.00	1
4	Accessing online database	16	53.33	5
5	Means of communication with professionals	14	46.66	6
6	Banking	11	36.66	7
7	Downloading programmes	19	63.33	3
8	Portals	7	23.33	9
9	Entertainment	10	33.33	8

Table 7. Distribution of respondents according to extent of internet uses.

S. No	Use of internet	Upto 1 hour		2-3 hours		> 3 hours		Total	
		Fre.	%	Fre.	%	Fre.	%	Fre.	%
1	Everyday	7	23.33	10	33.33	2	6.66	19	63.33
2	Once in a week	1	3.33	1	3.33	0	0	2	6.66
3	Twice in a week	3	10.00	2	6.66	1	3.33	6	20
4	Once in a fortnight	2	6.66	0	0	0	0	2	6.66
5	Once in a month	1	3.33	0	0	0	0	1	3.33

Table 8. Distribution of respondents according to extent of satisfaction with current state of internet utilization.

S. No	Extent of satisfaction	Frequency	Percentage
1	Not sure	1	3.33
2	Dissatisfied	4	13.33
3	Less satisfied	7	23.33
4	Satisfied	17	56.66
5	Fully satisfied	1	3.33

relationship and educational discipline was negatively non-significant with the use of internet services.

It was evident from the table-3 that majority (73.33%) of the respondents access the internet in their own department (73.33%) followed by home (56.66%), ARIS (26.66%) and College library (13.33%). These results are in conformity with the findings of Henry Jay Becker (1998).

It was connoted from table-4 that majority of the respondents using search engine (80%) followed by e-mail (70%) and World Wide Web (63.33%) frequently. This finding was in conformity with the findings of Pradeep Kumar (2011).

It was evident from table 5 that respondents used file formats such as Document/text file, Power Point, PDF files, Video files, Audio files and Files in compressed formats were used frequently by (83.33%), (60%), (56.66%), (26.66%), (23.33%), and (16.66%) respectively. This result was in conformity with the findings of Maheswarappa and Emmanuel (2003).

It was indicated from the table 6 that majority (90%) of the respondents using the internet for the purpose of sending and receiving mails, followed by collection of literature (86.66%), downloading programmes (63.33), research project

(60%), accessing online database (53.33%), means of communication with professionals (46.66%), banking (36.66%), entertainment (33.33%) and portals (23.33%).

It was connoted from table 7 that majority (63.33%) of the respondents were using internet everyday followed by twice in a week (20%), once in a week (6.66%), once in fortnight (6.66%) and once in a month (3.33%).

It can be depicted from the table 8 that majority (56.66%) of respondents were satisfied followed by less satisfied (23.33%), dissatisfied (13.33%), fully satisfied (3.33%) and not sure (3.33%) with current state of internet utilization respectively. This finding was in conformity with the findings of Ali and Hasan (2003).

It was indicated from the table 9 that the constraints faced by the respondents such as virus transfer (40%), low bandwidth (20%), and power fluctuation (26.66) to some extent. This result was in accordance with the findings of Sahoo (1998).

It was indicated from table 10 that out of all the suggestions given by respondents supply of internet facility to all the staff members (53.33%) is most preferred suggestion followed by training on internet could be arranged (16.66%), one technical person must be appointed for system management

Table 9. Distribution of respondents according to extent of constraints encountered while browsing the Internet.

S. No	Problems	Not at all	To a little extent	To some extent	To greater extent	To full extent
1	Getting connected	12 (40)	5 (16.66)	6 (20)	6 (20)	1 (3.33)
2	Low bandwidth	15 (50)	6 (20)	6 (20)	2 (6.66)	1 (3.33)
3	Virus transfer	6 (20)	6 (20)	12 (40)	3 (10)	3 (10)
4	Power fluctuation	5 (16.66)	3 (10)	8 (26.66)	9 (30)	5 (16.66)
5	Lack of training	17 (56.66)	6 (20)	2 (6.66)	4 (13.33)	1 (3.33)
6	Printing and downloading	16 (53.33)	3 (10)	4 (13.33)	4 (13.33)	3 (10)

Table 10. Strategy / Suggestions for the better use and development of the Internet at Agricultural College, Bapatla.

S. No	Suggestions	Frequency	Percentage
1	Computer with high end configuration should be provided	2	6.66
2	Supply system with internet facility to all staff members	16	53.33
3	Training on internet could be arranged	5	16.66
4	One technical person must be appointed for system management	4	13.33
5	Provide the UPS to all computers	4	13.33
6	Increase the speed for fast downloading and uploading	4	13.33
7	The existing desktop system has to be replaced with new laptop/computers	2	6.66
8	ARIS should always be opened	1	3.33
9	Unwanted sites can be banned	1	3.33
10	Complete campus Wi-Fi may be provided	3	10.00
11	Increase the number of portals	1	3.33

(13.33%), Increase the speed for fast downloading and uploading (13.33%) and provide the UPS to all the computers (13.33%).

An overview of the findings indicated that majority of the respondents used internet services such as search engine, e-mail, World-Wide-Web, online database and chatting. It was manifested from the findings that majority of the respondents used internet services for the purpose of sending and receiving mails, collection of literature, downloading of programme and research project.

From the study, it was found that majority of the respondents utilised internet formats in the form of document/text formats, PDF file, power point, video files and audio files. Majority of the respondents used internet everyday followed by twice in a week, with regard to the satisfaction of internet usage, it was revealed that majority of them were satisfied with the current state of internet utilisation.

The strategy for improvement of internet usage in the Agricultural College, Bapatla by supply

internet facility to all staff members, one technical person must be appointed for system management and made the complete campus Wi-Fi.

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