



A Study on Constraints Encountered while Browsing Internet by the Students of Agricultural College, Bapatla - an Appraisal

Key words : Constraints, Internet.

The widespread availability and convergence of information and communication technologies-computers, digital networks, telecommunication, television etc, have led to unprecedented capacity for dissemination of knowledge and information. The impact of this fourth information revolution is felt in education, research, medicine, government, business and entertainment in many parts of the world. Any education is often regarded as Human Resource Development activity, as it is the greatest asset of a nation. A few years ago it was difficult to get latest information for Indian students on their academic interest, but now in India, many academic institutions have also made available many spectacular, wonderful and amazing facilities for speedy communication for the students. Internet offers innumerable avenues and prospects for the students and information centers to deliver the information products affectively and efficiently as compared to traditional modes. This technology has helped to build the strong image for supporting the rich information collection and provided one stop point to meet the completed needs of users. But at the same time, it offers constraints during browsing the Internet. Which involves frequent disconnection, low bandwidth, virus transfer, etc. Therefore, a study was conducted to know the various constraints encountered while browsing Internet.

Agricultural College, Bapatla was selected for the study. The sample constituted one hundred and twenty (n=120) respondents. Twenty students were selected each from four year's of under graduation and two year's of post graduation. An exploratory research design was followed for the study. The different constraints were identified and categorized for the study. The data was collected primarily through Questionnaire. The data was subjected for statistical analysis with percentage and frequency.

The different constraints were categorized into Technical, Educational, Skill, personal and Administrative. The constraints such as getting connected, low bandwidth, frequent disconnection, virus transfer, power fluctuation and printing / downloading were under technical. Further constraint like lack of training was under educational. Pop-up

ads / screens was under skill. The personal constraint was time allotted and finally under administrative constraints were number of nodes available and location.

It was indicated from the Table 1 that the constraints faced by the respondents such as number of nodes available (22.60%), time allotted (17.50%), printing / downloading (14.10%), location (10.70%), lack of training (8.30%), pop-up ads/screens (5.00%), low bandwidth (3.30%), getting connected (2.50%), virus transfer (1.60%), power fluctuation (1.60%) and frequent disconnection (0.80%) were considered to a full extent. With regard to the constraints such as number of nodes available (25.80%), time allotted (25.80%), frequent disconnection (22.60%), lack of training (20.20%), printing/downloading (20.20%), location (19.20%), getting connected (19.20%), power fluctuation (15.00%), low band width (14.10%), pop-up ads/screens (13.5%) and virus transfer (10.00%) were faced by the respondents to a greater extent. The constraints faced by the respondents to some extent were getting connected (37.50%), printing/downloading (33.80%), power fluctuation (33.50%), frequent disconnection (29.10%), time allotted (24.20%), low band width (22.60%), location (20.20%), virus transfer (20.20%), pop-up ads/screens (16.70%), number of nodes available (12.40%) and lack of training (24.50%). The constraints faced to little extent by the respondents were power fluctuation (35.80%), getting connected (35.80%), lowband width (35.00%), lack of training (33.50%), pop-up ads/screens (31.30%), frequent disconnection (30.90%), virus transfer (21.60%), number of nodes available (19.20%), time allotted (18.40%), printing/downloading (18.40%), location (17.50%). Finally the constraints faced by the respondents under not at all were such as virus transfer (46.60%), pop-up ads/screens (33.50%), location (32.40%), low band width (25.00%), number of nodes available (20.20%), frequent disconnection (16.60%), power fluctuation (14.10%), time allotted (14.10%), printing/downloading (13.50%), lack of training (13.50%) and getting connected (5.00%). This finding was in accordance with the findings of Sahoo (1998) and Oclay (1996).

Table 1. Distribution of respondents according to extent of constraints encountered while browsing the Internet.

| S.no. | Constraints | Not at all | To a little extent | To some extent | To greater extent | To full extent |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|--------------------|----------------|-------------------|----------------|
| Technical Constraint | | | | | | |
| 1 | Getting Connected | 6 (5.00) | 43 (35.80) | 45 (37.50) | 23 (19.20) | 3 (2.50) |
| 2 | Low Band width | 30 (25.00) | 42 (35.00) | 27 (22.60) | 17 (14.10) | 4 (3.30) |
| 3 | Frequent Disconnection | 20 (16.60) | 37 (30.90) | 35 (29.10) | 27 (22.60) | 1 (0.80) |
| 4 | Virus Transfer | 56 (46.60) | 26 (21.60) | 24 (20.20) | 12 (10.00) | 2 (1.60) |
| 5 | Power fluctuation | 17 (14.10) | 43 (35.80) | 40 (33.50) | 18 (15.00) | 2 (1.60) |
| 6 | Printing / Downloading | 16 (13.50) | 22 (18.40) | 41 (33.80) | 24 (20.20) | 17 (14.10) |
| Educational constraint | | | | | | |
| 7 | Lack of Training | 16 (13.50) | 40 (33.50) | 30 (24.50) | 24 (20.20) | 10 (8.30) |
| Skill Constraint | | | | | | |
| 8 | Pop-up Ads/Screens | 40 (33.50) | 38 (31.30) | 20 (16.70) | 16 (13.50) | 6 (5.00) |
| Personal constraint | | | | | | |
| 9 | Time Allotted | 17 (14.10) | 22 (18.40) | 29 (24.20) | 31 (25.80) | 21 (17.50) |
| Administrative constraint | | | | | | |
| 10 | Number of Nodes available | 24 (20.20) | 23 (19.20) | 15 (12.40) | 31 (25.80) | 27 (22.60) |
| 11 | Location | 39 (32.40) | 21 (17.50) | 24 (20.20) | 23 (19.20) | 13 (10.70) |

LITERATURE CITED

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