

INTERNET USE BEHAVIOUR OF CIVIL ENGINEERING STUDENTS: A CASE STUDY OF THIRUVALLUVAR POLYTECHNIC COLLEGE, SOOLAPURAM, MADURAI DISTRICT, TAMILNADU

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Abstract

The academic community heavily relies on internet for many of their intellectual, research, classroom and entertainment needs. The present descriptive study aims at analyzing the information use behaviour of 110 civil engineering students (95 male and 15 female) randomly selected from Thiruvalluvar Polytechnic College, Soolapuram, Madurai District, Tamilnadu. Questionnaires were distributed to collect the required data. The findings of the study are : 51 (46.36%) respondents use internet daily and 33 (30%) respondents use internet once a week. 60.91% of respondents possess ‘High’ level of internet usage skills and 8.18 % of the respondents have ‘Low’ level of internet usage skills. 40 (36.36%) respondents access internet in the computer lab or department concerned in the college. While 34 (30.91%) respondents access internet in Net Cafes, 26 (23.64%) respondents browse internet in the college library. 74 (67.27%) respondents have voted Google as their most preferred search engine. 35 (31.82%) respondents report that they have been using internet since last 6 months. The same number of respondents are using internet last 1-2 years. Forty four (40%) respondents have learnt about internet skills with the help of guidance from friends and 34 (30.91%) respondents learnt it by self-instruction. 28 (25.45%) respondents use internet for education purposes followed by 13 (11.82%) respondents who use internet for getting health information. 40 (36.36%) respondents access internet to update their knowledge and 29 (26.36%) respondents access internet to get information for carrying out their project work. Thirty (27.27%) respondents feel “slow access speed” is their problem in using internet and 19 (17.27%) of them found “overloading of information” and “long time to view/download pages are their problems.

Keywords : Internet, Civil Engineering students, frequency, purpose, obstacles, search engine, search strategy

INTRODUCTION

Internet has become visible god for many of the incumbents working in academic environment. The students, research scholars and the faculty members of different backgrounds of information needs rely upon the ready-made, click-away cluster of electronic digital resources and services available in user friendly interfaces. The quaintly and quality of information made available in the vast ocean of world wide web, the easy-to-use navigation tools existing over there along with the speed at which the information is displayed to the users etc are all the extra bonanza features of this new tool of 22nd century-“internet”.

NEED FOR THE STUDY

Studying the internet usage pattern of the students in an educational institution will help the administrators to take certain strategic decisions on issues like number of computers, availability of internet connection, the speed of the internet connection, bandwidth required, anti-virus and fire-wall software's to be used, the kind of user orientation or education programmers need to be conducted, the variety of e-resources to be made available etc. A planned tool should be used to find out the exact level of awareness of students on the user of internet to enable us take these decisions.

Polytechnic College libraries deal with the adults-the builders of future of India. The extent of internet use by the diploma students for their academic and other purposes in a college decide their achievement in various fields of work. This study aims at analyzing civil engineering student's attitudes towards the use of internet for learning at Thiruvalluvar Polytechnic College, Soolapuram. This study will definitely give an insight to the librarian, library committee and the administrators on the internet infrastructure-both hardware and software-required to be built up both in the library and in the college campus.

Institutional Profile

Thiruvalluvar Polytechnic College, Soolapuram is located in Madurai District, Tamilnadu State. It was established in 2008. It is a self-financing, co-educational and non-minority institution. It offers various courses diploma courses in engineering like Dip. in Civil Engineering, Dip. in Computer Engineering, Dip. in Electrical and Electronics Engineering, Dip. in Electronics and Communication Engineering and Dip. in Mechanical Engineering.

Review of Literature

Hinson and Amidu (2006) carried out a study among the final year students of Ghana's oldest business school to evaluate the level of awareness and utilization of the internet for academic research and learning and found that 42% of the respondents indicated that they were introduced to the internet by friends/family members. The factors that attracted to the internet by 69% of respondents were information convenience, educational use and the possibility of finding information. 48% of respondents reported that their lack of skills in the use of the internet was the obstacle for using internet. Regarding the use of internet

services for research 36% of respondents always use E-mail, 2% always use Telnet and 2% always uses Discussion groups.

Lal et al. (2006) studied the use of internet among students and resident doctors of Maulana Azad Medical College, Delhi. 90.6% of respondents were aware of the internet café in the medical college campus. Post Graduate students and senior students were more aware than the UG students in the medical college. The major purpose of using internet were educational such as visiting websites providing information related to the medical field and this purpose was mostly among the PG students and the Senior residents. But surfing, chatting and entertainment were mostly among the UG students.

Mahajan (2006) conducted a survey to study the use of the internet by the researchers at Punjab University, Chandigarh in all the three field of knowledge sciences, social sciences and humanities, so as to determine its influence on their academic life. 80% of science researchers and 90% of social science researchers used internet at their respective departments. But in the case of humanities researchers cyber cafes were the internet point. 90% of science, 30% of social science and 5% of humanities Researchers use internet for academic purpose. The study revealed that researchers in sciences are more positive about internet use and its impact on their educational needs.

Suhail and Bargees (2006) surveyed the Internet use pattern of 200 undergraduate students studying at the Government College University, Lahore. It was found that most of the students used Internet for enhancing their academic skills and achievements. Majority of the students reported positive than negative effects of Internet use. The results indicated that a great majority of the students (84%) found the Internet helpful for worldwide communication; 78% reported that Internet use actually helped improving their grades; 74% agreed that their reading, writing and information processing skills had expanded by using the Internet.

Anasi (2006) examined the pattern of the Internet use by undergraduate students of university in study titled, “Internet Use Pattern of Undergraduate Students at the University of Lagos, Nigeria”. The level of the Internet use was found low among students under study as they were lacking the search strategies to locate information.

Asan and Koca (2006) carried out a study of Omani university students and found that majority of the students had positive attitudes and they concentrated on positive and consciousness about Internet. Great percentage of students was thinking that Internet is a universal digital library, provides easy life, and is a fastest way to reach knowledge.

Biradar, Rajasekhar and Sampath (2006) conducted a study on internet usage by the Student and faculties in Kuvempu University. The results indicated that 42.1 % students use internet twice a week and 31.25% faculties use it every day. The majority of students as well as faculties use Internet for study/ teaching purpose. The favourite place for using Internet is library followed by commercial places. A thumping majority of respondents are satisfied with Internet sources and services.

Anunobi (2006) carried out a study of the students of a Nigerian university and revealed that 81% used Internet for academic purposes as 53 Internet Use Among University Students compared to 15% who used it for entertainment purposes.

Rhoades et al. (2007) did a survey of Internet usage of the students of an American agricultural college and found that most of them used Internet at their homes and used a search engine when online. The majority of students tended to indicate seeing the Internet as good, easy to understand, important, beneficial, believable, credible, and accurate.

Joiner et al. (2007) studies the purpose of using internet at university of Greenwich in UK and Macquarie University in Australia. They found that majority of students (42%) use internet for email and shopping. In addition, they observed that students have experience in downloading course material as well as searching library websites. Male students were less anxious about internet than female students.

Riahinia and Azimi (2007) carried out a study among the females of Tarbiat Moalem University in Tehran. Among the respondents 40% used the internet an average of one to five hours per week and 9% use 5-20 hours per week of internet services. 50% of students, 26% of faculty members and 24% of staff had used the internet resources and services. Those who were using women-oriented web sites constitute 18% of faculty members, 47% students and 35% of staff. E-mail had the highest use followed by new discoveries, search for resources and gaining information.

Madhusudhan (2007) conducted a study among the 60 science and technology research scholars at Central Science Library, in the Delhi University Library system. Concerning the frequency of internet use 70% of research scholars used it daily, 16% used it more than two or three times in a week, 12% used once a week and 2% used occasionally. Through search engines majority of the research scholars accessed information from internet and the most preferred search engine was Google followed by Sirus, Yahoo, Altavista, Lycos, webcrawler and Infoseek. 74% of the research scholars preferred keyword searches for browsing information. The second preference was for the author searches followed by subject, journal title and title of the article.

Khare et al (2007) conducted a survey to study the pattern of internet use of Ph.D scholars of Dr. H.S. Gour University, Sagar, Madhya Pradesh. From the study it was found that 66% of research scholars use internet and 34% were non users of internet. The purposes of the users of internet were educational, job search, entertainment, communication and business. E-mail was the most commonly used internet services and there were no users of TELNET and USENET service. Google, Yahoo, Web crawler were the most used search engines. The difficulties faced by research scholars in using the internet were technical problems, language related problems and network related problems.

Shihab (2007) investigated a survey of internet use among the faculty members in library profession and librarians in different parts of Kerala. Out of 90 respondents only 43% were using internet daily. 19% used the internet 2-3 times a week and more than 12% used internet once in a week. But most of the library users were aware of internet and its resources. 83% of respondents were having e-mail id. Concerning the amount of time

spent on the internet, 53.85% used for 0-1 hour, 26.9% for 2-4 hours, 3.8% for 5-6 hours and 3.8% for 7-9 hours in a week. Only 11.5% have using the internet more than 10 hours in a week. Among the library professionals most frequently used location was their offices. The purposes of using internet by them were for information search, academic purpose, and communication purpose and for entertainment purpose.

Cheieme et al. (2007) conducted a study among the users from five institutions in south western Nigeria. The population consisted of 250 persons stratified into 3 groups; lecturers, undergraduates and Post Graduate students from the above five institutions. Out of 223 returned questionnaires 200 were selected for research purposes. Concerning the purpose of using internet 61 used for general reading, 50 for preparation of examination and 89 for research purposes. Among the 200 respondents 177 respondents were using internet often. 165 respondents were using internet at cyber café, 25 at office and 10 at home.

Ansari and Jilani (2008) carried out a study among the students of the Delhi University during the academic year of 2006-2007. The investigator found out that : 22% used the internet for about 30 minutes in a day, while 68.8% spent between one—two hours, 12.5% between two-four hours and about 0.3% spent more than 4 hours on the internet. Among the post graduate students, the corresponding figures being approximately 24%, 58%, 13% and 5% respectively. In the case of research scholars 33.3% of research scholars, they spent less than 30 minutes and an equal percentage between one-two hours while 16.6% used between 2-4+ hours. Internet explorer was the more widely used browser. The purpose of using internet by Undergraduate students and PG students were for academic achievements and competitive examinations. But research scholars were using internet for research purposes. E-mail, WWW and Chatting were the most commonly used internet services by the students.

Biradar and Kumar (2008) investigated Students and Faculties' searching behaviour and the internet use of search engines for retrieval of scholarly information in the Kuvempu University, Shimoga. 96% of faculties and 76% of students used internet for different purposes. Many of the respondents reported that the information available on the Internet had proved to be a great asset and they responded that with internet resources their professional competence were improved and they were abreast with the latest information. According to the frequency of Internet use a large number of faculty members frequently used Internet for their academic work regularly. The major purposes of internet were Study/Teaching, Research and sending e-mail. The most popular used search engines by students and faculties were Yahoo and Goggle.

Ani (2010) investigated the extent and level of Internet access as well as the use of electronic resources by undergraduate students in three Nigerian Universities. Ani's findings revealed that undergraduate students use the Internet extensively. However, access to the Internet in the university libraries, departments/faculties and university computer/ICT centres was grossly poor due to the infrastructure. The majority of the respondents relied on private, commercial Internet services, and cybercafés. It was also found that Internet education for the respondents is needed for the use of electronic resources and databases.

Sokol and Sisler (2010) conducted a Study on Internet Use among University Students in the United Arab Emirates. The study aims to analyzes socializing on the Internet and attitudes towards the Internet as a medium of social interaction among university students in the United Arab Emirates (UAE). The result reveals that the Internet can largely act as a vehicle for resisting social exclusion and gender segregation; it can also simultaneously serve as a mechanism for reinforcing pre-existing norms within newly networked traditional communities.

Jung and Chang (2010) have examined gender differences in junior high school students who use internet. They found that gender level of internet use by male and female students are medium. Furthermore, 86% of boys and 82% of girls have computers at home. Boys and Girls use internet for different purposes such as listening music, mailing, searching and talking.

Swain (2011) carried out a survey on 45 million Internet users in India and noted the integration of Internet use with public spaces in respect of young generation of Internet users. The study revealed the negative effects of using the Internet on social involvement and psychological well being among new Internet users which included a decline in communication with family members, social contacts and human relations in Indian society. The researcher also observed that Internet helped extraverts to get socialized and introverts become self – centred in modern society.

Sivagamasundari and Sivasami (2014) discussed the experience, purpose, computer literacy, awareness, satisfaction level, and rate of access time in using internet and e-resources among the user of management institutions in Chennai. 42.16 percent of them accessing e-resources for 2-4 years. 21.72 percent of them using e- resources for their study purpose. 56.79 percent of them strongly agree to have computer literacy classes. 42.28 percent of them are satisfied with the level of internet e-resources available.

Padma and Ramasamy (2014) analysed the internet usage pattern of engineering students of two engineering colleges viz. Pannai College of Engineering and Technology and Pandian Saraswathi Yadav Engineering college located in Sivagangai District. All the 150 respondents (100%) use the Internet. 42.67% of respondents access the internet from their department/office. 28.67% of the respondents use the Internet for the preparation of class notes. 43.33% of the respondents use the Internet an hour per day. 48% of the respondents use Google chrome Browser for accessing information from internet. 52% of the respondents use Google in search of information from Internet. 52% of the respondents access to getting information from the internet giving URL. All the respondents use E-mail for communication.

Objectives of the study

The objectives of the study are, *inter alia*:

1. To provide gender-wise and year of study-wise distribution of the respondents
2. To list the frequency of internet use and internet usage skills of the respondents
3. To identify the most used search engines among the respondents
4. To trace out the preferred location of the respondents to use internet

5. To know the period of internet usage among the respondents
6. To understand the sources that help them learn Internet skills
7. To list the kind of information sought by the respondents from internet
8. To enumerate the general and academic purposes of using internet by the respondents
9. To know the modes of internet access by the respondents
10. To ascertain the problems faced by the respondents in accessing and using internet

Scope and limitations

The present study has the following scope and limitations within its operating purview.

- The study is a case study of only one polytechnic college and so the inference cannot be applied universally.
- The purpose of the study was only to study the internet use behaviour of the polytechnic students. .
- The research did not attempt to address the following issues: ethical issues, cyber crime, netiquette, hacking problems etc.

Research methods

a) Research type

The study undertaken by the researcher belongs to descriptive research study. The researcher has used survey method in his study.

b) Sampling Frame

The civil engineering students at the “Thiruvalluvar Polytechnic College, Soolapuram, Madurai district’ constitute the sampling frame of the study.

c) Sample size

The researcher has decided to collect data from 120 Diploma Civil Engineering students of the college under study.

d) Selection of samples

The sample of 120 students is taken using stratified random sampling method. This 110 will be in the ratio of 40:40:30 i.e. 40 students are from first year, another 40 is from II year and the remaining 30 is from III year civil engineering.

e) Tool for data collection

Questionnaire is the tool selected by the research for collecting data from the chosen sample. A simple but a clearly presented questionnaire with 20 questions was used as a tool. No open ended question was included.

f) Data collection period

The data was collected from the sample users in the month of March-April 2015.

g) Method of data collection

The questionnaires were distributed to the library users on the day of visit by the researcher personally. The queries put forward by the respondents were clarified by the researcher now and then. The duly filled-in questionnaires were collected back from them immediately after they were filled.

Data Analysis and Interpretation

1. Gender-wise distribution of the Respondents

Table-1: Gender-wise distribution of respondents

| S.No. | Gender | No. of respondents | % |
|--------------|--------|--------------------|------------|
| 1 | Male | 95 | 86.36 |
| 2 | Female | 15 | 13.64 |
| Total | | 110 | 100 |

(Source : Primary Data)

Table 1 shows the gender –wise distribution of respondents. Out of One hundred ten respondents under the study , 95 (86.36%) respondents are male and the remaining 15 (13.64%) respondents are female. Majority of the respondents of the study are male.

2. Year-wise distribution of the respondents

Table 2 : Year-wise distribution of the respondents

| S.No. | Year of Study | No. of respondents | % |
|--------------|---------------|--------------------|------------|
| 1 | I Year | 40 | 36.4 |
| 2 | II Year | 40 | 36.4 |
| 3 | III Year | 30 | 27.3 |
| Total | | 110 | 100 |

(Source : Primary Data)

It is inferred from Table 2 that out of 110 respondents selected for the study, 40 (36.4%) respondents are I year civil engineering students, another 40 (36.4%) respondents are II year civil engineering students and the remaining 30 (27.3%) respondents are III year civil engineering students.

3. Frequency of internet usage

Table -3: Frequency of internet usage

| S.No. | Frequency of internet usage | No. of respondents | % |
|--------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|------------|
| 1 | Daily | 51 | 46.36 |
| 2 | Weekly | 33 | 30 |
| 3 | Occasionally | 16 | 14.55 |
| 4 | Once a month | 7 | 6.36 |
| 5 | Twice a month | 3 | 2.73 |
| Total | | 110 | 100 |

(Source :Primary Data)

Table 3 makes it transparent that 51 (46.36%) respondents use internet daily and 33 (30%) respondents use internet once a week. While 16 (14.55%) respondents browse internet occasionally, 7 (6.36%) respondents use internet once a month and just 3 (2.73%) respondents access Internet twice in a month. Thus, the use of internet among the civil engineering students of the polytechnic college is highly positive and encouraging.

4. Level of internet usage skills

Table -4: Level of internet usage skills

| S.No. | Level of internet usage | No. of | % |
|--------------|-------------------------|------------|------------|
| 1 | Very high | 17 | 15.45 |
| 2 | High | 67 | 60.91 |
| 3 | Fair | 17 | 15.45 |
| 4 | Low | 9 | 8.18 |
| Total | | 110 | 100 |

(Source :Primary Data)

It is understood from Table 4 that 60.91% of respondents possess ‘High’ level of internet usage skills and 8.18 % of the respondents have ‘Low’ level of internet usage skills. 17 (15.45%) respondents each have ‘Very High’ and ‘Fair’ level skills in using Internet. Thus, most of the respondents do possess “high” level internet use skills.

5. Internet Access Points

Table -5: Internet Access Points

| S. No. | Internet Access Points | No. of respondents | % |
|--------|---------------------------|--------------------|-------|
| 1 | Computer Lab / Department | 40 | 36.36 |

| | | | |
|--------------|-----------------|------------|------------|
| 2 | College Library | 26 | 23.64 |
| 3 | Net Cafe | 34 | 30.91 |
| 4 | Home | 10 | 9.09 |
| Total | | 110 | 100 |

(Source :Primary Data)

Table 5 makes it clear that 40 (36.36%) respondents access internet in the computer lab or department concerned in the college. While 34 (30.91%) respondents access internet in Net Cafes, 26 (23.64%) respondents browse internet in the college library. Just 10 (9.09%) respondents access internet at their homes. Thus, 66 respondents access internet in the college campus itself.

6. Preferred search engines

Table -6: Preferred search engines

| S.No. | Search engines | No.of respondents | % |
|--------------|----------------|-------------------|------------|
| 1 | Google | 74 | 67.27 |
| 2 | Bing | 9 | 8.182 |
| 3 | Yahoo | 16 | 14.55 |
| 4 | Ask.com | 6 | 5.455 |
| 5 | Others | 5 | 4.545 |
| Total | | 110 | 100 |

(Source :Primary Data)

Table 6 shows the preferred search engines used by the respondents under the study. 74 (67.27%) respondents have voted Google as their most preferred search engine. While Yahoo is the favourite search engine for 16 (14.55%) respondents, Bing is the preferred search engine for 9 (8.18%) respondents. Just 6 (5.45 %) respondents preferred to use Ask.com. Thus, Google is emerged as the most preferred search engine by the civil engineering students under the study.

7. Period of internet use

Table-7 : Period of internet use

| S. No. | Period of internet use | No. of respondents | % |
|--------------|------------------------|--------------------|------------|
| 1 | Less than 6 months | 35 | 31.82 |
| 2 | 6 months-1 year | 18 | 16.36 |
| 3 | 1-2 years | 35 | 31.82 |
| 4 | 2-4 years | 13 | 11.82 |
| 5 | More than 4 years | 9 | 8.18 |
| Total | | 110 | 100 |

(Source : Primary Data)

Table 7 clearly shows that 35 (31.82%) respondents report that they have been using internet since last 6 months. The same number of respondents are using internet last 1-2 years While 18 (16.36%) respondents are using internet for 6 months to 1 year, 13 (11.82 %) respondents are using internet for 2-4 years. A marginal number of 9 (8.18%) respondents are using internet for more than 4 years.

8. Methods of learning internet skills**Table -8 : Methods of learning internet skills**

| S.No. | Methods of learning internet skills | No. of respondents | % |
|--------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|------------|
| 1 | Guidance from friends | 44 | 40 |
| 2 | Self instruction | 34 | 30.91 |
| 3 | Guidance of Library staff | 5 | 4.55 |
| 4 | Training from college | 17 | 15.45 |
| 5 | External course | 10 | 9.09 |
| Total | | 110 | 100 |

(Source : Primary Data)

Table 8 reveals the methods adopted by the respondents to learn internet skills. Forty four (40%) respondents have learnt about internet skills with the help of guidance from friends, 34 (30.91%) respondents learnt it by self instruction, 17 (15.45%) respondents learnt about internet skills with the help of “training program attended in the college, 10 (9.09%) respondents learnt about internet skills by attending some external courses and 5 (4.55%) respondents learnt those skills with the help of library staff.

9. Purpose of using Internet**Table -9: Purpose of using Internet**

| S.No. | Purpose of using Internet | No. of respondents | % |
|--------------|---------------------------|--------------------|------------|
| 1 | Education | 28 | 25.45 |
| 2 | Health News | 13 | 11.82 |
| 3 | Job Opportunities | 11 | 10 |
| 4 | Result and Application | 3 | 2.73 |
| 5 | Entertainment | 38 | 34.55 |
| 6 | Sports | 8 | 7.27 |
| 7 | Others | 9 | 8.18 |
| Total | | 110 | 100 |

(Source : Primary Data)

Table 9 makes it clear that 38 (34.55%) respondents use internet for entertainment purposes. 28 (25.45%) respondents use internet for education purposes followed by 13 (11.82%) respondents who use internet for getting health information. While 11 (10%) respondents use internet to know about job opportunities, just 8 (7.27%) respondents use internet for collecting sports related information. It is inferred that majority of the respondents (66 %) visit the library for entertainment and education purposes.

10. Purpose of accessing information in internet

Table -10: Purpose of accessing information in internet

| S.No. | Purpose of accessing information in | No. of respondents | % |
|--------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|------------|
| 1 | For preparing class seminar | 11 | 10 |
| 2 | For doing project work | 29 | 26.36 |
| 3 | For entertainment | 26 | 23.64 |
| 4 | For updating knowledge | 40 | 36.36 |
| 5 | For doing research work | 4 | 3.64 |
| Total | | 110 | 100 |

(Source : Primary Data)

It is noticed from Table 10 that 40 (36.36%) respondents access internet to update their knowledge and 29 (26.36%) respondents access internet to get information for carrying out their project work. It is followed by 26 (23.64%) respondents who access internet for their entertainment. While 11 (10%) respondents access internet to prepare themselves for class seminars, only 4 (3.64%) respondents access internet for doing their research work. Thus updating knowledge and completing project work are the major reasons why the respondents (69) access internet to gather required information.

11. Use of Internet for Academic Purposes

Table -11: Internet for academic purposes

| S.No. | Internet for academic purposes | No.of respondents | % |
|--------------|--|-------------------|------------|
| 1 | Downloading E-books | 17 | 15.45 |
| 2 | Information about the college | 15 | 13.64 |
| 3 | Information from websites | 7 | 6.36 |
| 4 | Information about Software | 47 | 42.73 |
| 5 | Information for assignments, projects etc. | 18 | 16.36 |
| 6 | Searching articles from journals | 4 | 3.64 |
| 7 | Communicating with faculties | 2 | 1.82 |
| Total | | 110 | 100 |

(Source : Primary Data)

Table 11 describes about the usage of internet for academic purposes by the respondents under study. Forty seven (42.73%) respondents use internet to download softwares and 18 (16.36%) respondents browse internet to download notes. While 17 (15.45%) respondents use internet for locating books in the library, 15 (13.64%) respondents surf internet for finding out information about the university. Only 4 (3.64%) respondents use internet to find required journals articles and 2 (1.82%) respondents to communicate with lecturers.

12. Method of accessing information in the internet

Table -12: Method of accessing information in the internet

| S. No. | Method of accessing information | No. of | % |
|--------------|------------------------------------|------------|------------|
| 1 | Type the web address(URL) directly | 61 | 55.45 |
| 2 | Use of search engines | 49 | 44.55 |
| Total | | 110 | 100 |

(Source :Primary Data)

Table 12 shows that 61 (55.45%) respondents search for information by typing the web address directly. 49 (44.55%) respondents use search engines to get required information in internet.

13. Problems faced while using the internet

Table -13: Problems faced while using the internet

| S.No. | Problems faced | No. of | % |
|--------------|--------------------------------|------------|------------|
| 1 | Slow access speed | 30 | 27.27 |
| 2 | Difficulty in finding relevant | 18 | 16.36 |
| 3 | Information overload | 19 | 17.27 |
| 4 | Privacy problem | 17 | 15.45 |
| 5 | Popups of unwanted websites | 19 | 17.27 |
| 6 | Other problems | 7 | 6.36 |
| Total | | 110 | 100 |

(Source :Primary Data)

Table 13 explains the problems faced by the respondents while using internet. Thirty (27.27%) respondents feel “slow access speed” is their problem in using internet and 19 (17.27%) of them found “overloading of information” and “long time to view/download pages are their problems. 18 (16.36%) respondents opined that finding relevant information’ is the problem for them. While privacy is the problem for 17 (15.45%) respondents, 7 (6.36%) respondents report about some other problems. Thus, slow access speed and overload of information are the two main problems faced by the respondents while using internet.

Conclusion

It is suggested that : Wi-fi access may be enabled in the college campus. Sufficient, suitable and ergonomic infrastructure for internet usage in the library needs to be made available by the college management to meet the ever growing demands of the growing net generation students. Enough number of modern, latest and up-to-date computes should be installed in the library. Workshops, symposiums and orientations classes may be organized on improving the internet usage skills of the users. Since Google is the most favoured search engine of the users, enough user education content on the special features, advanced search options etc available in Google. Special broadband connection with high bandwidth is to be given to the library so that slow access problem may be overcome. Information literacy classes should be introduced into the college curriculum so that the students will be able to evaluate and get right document amidst the prevailing overloaded information. Let's create a new world of internet surfers being capable of uplifting themselves and the society they dwell in.

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