

A study on awareness and use of ICT among undergraduate students of rural areas in Smt Chinnamma Basappa Arts and Commerce Degree College Chincholi

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ABSTRACT

Information and Communication Technology (ICTs) has changed the concept of education in the era of information. Today information is easily available to the students. Technology has made the process of education easier than ever before to transfer and access information. Research is done by surveying 120 undergraduate students of Government First Grade College, Indi using a structured questionnaire. It is evident from the study that most of the students use ICT to get the required information.

KEYWORDS: Internet, ICT, UG students, Degree College Indi

INTRODUCTION

The application of ICT is not only emphasized in corporate business and the industrial sector, but it is an essential part of education at all levels (Allen, 2011). ICT, including computers, printers, telephones, and the internet among others is generally believed to foster cooperative learning, provide more information and, through simulation, make complex learning experiences easier to understand. Therefore, the use of ICT cannot be ignored either by teachers or by students. The current rapid developments in the field of ICT have changed significantly the nature of work in academic libraries and other types of libraries as well. These rapid changes have brought about new opportunities like digital libraries, hybrid libraries, e-libraries, online cataloging, etc. to improve their resource management and services (1)

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Ravi Kumar M and Bhanu Sanka B (2023) this study aimed to determine the level of ICT awareness among undergraduate students concerning gender, locale, community, and type of management. The survey method was used to conduct the research. The students pursuing undergraduate courses at colleges which are located in the Guntur district of Andhra Pradesh constitute the population for the present study. The the researcher has selected a

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sample of 600 undergraduate students from the population by using a cluster sampling technique. To assess the level of ICT awareness of undergraduate students, the researcher has prepared and standardized an ICT Awareness Scale. Statistical techniques like mean, standard deviation, 't'-test, and ANOVA were used for the analysis of data

Angadi G.R (2012) disclosed that the majority of students feel comfortable using the Internet. The majority of the respondents felt that the Internet provides useful information. According to the respondents The Internet is easier to use than the library and is important for educational projects. Respondents enjoy collecting more information than written material. Two-thirds of respondents were overwhelmed with the Internet found in the studies. Doraswamy Modepalli 2010 disclosed that sixty-five percent of the post-graduate students are using the library daily. Most of them are using the library mainly to read or borrow books and to use the internet or email.

Thanuskodi.S (2013) the use of information and communication in technologies no doubt is gaining momentum in Indian higher education. The Internet is used by faculty, staff, and students to source information. Information and communication technologies assist libraries in providing efficient and current information services. Once the staff and students can use these technologies effectively, the teaching, learning, and research activities in the college will be made easier for the college community. ICT usage will facilitate development since there will be a free flow of information. The electronic revolution, specifically, the Internet is narrowing the information gap. The power of web technology is enabling the generator of information to disseminate their creativity at low cost and high speed. The Internet is the gateway for libraries and information centers to enter the Electronic Information Era and provides the information, generated by different organizations, institutions, research centers, and individuals all over the world

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

This research aims to achieve the following objectives:

- ✓ To find out the internet habits among UG students.
- ✓ To know the usage of ICT among UG students.
- ✓ To find out the popularity of ICT among UG students.
- ✓ To find out the purpose for which ICT is used.
- ✓ To find out internet facilities provided by college.

RESEARCH DESIGN

The survey method of research was deployed for the present study. For the survey of the primary data questionnaire method was adopted for the present study. For that, a questionnaire was prepared based on the objectives and background literature of the study. The structured questionnaire was distributed randomly among the target population of *undergraduate students of Government First Grade College, Indi*. There 130 questionnaires were distributed to the respondents, out of which 120 filled questionnaires were received with a response rate of 92.3%, which is considered to be a good presentation of the sample. The data so collected has been processed tabulated and analyzed for the analysis in the following manner.

FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

Table 1. Discipline wise distribution of respondents:

Respondents	Frequency	Percentage
Arts	108	90
Commerce	12	10
Total	120	100

Table -1 shows the discipline wise distribution of sample respondents, study population constitute 108 (90%) are from Arts and (12%) from Commerce respectively.

Table 2: Gender wise Distribution of the respondents:

Gender	Sample	(%)
Male	75	62.5
Female	45	37.5
Total	120	100

Table-2 indicates sex wise distribution of study population. It is found from the table that majority 75 (62.5%) of the respondents were male. While, 45 (37.5%) of the study population belongs to female category.

Table 2A: Distribution of Respondents by Age

Age	Respondents	Percentage
Below	21	17.50
20-22	41	34.17
23-25	40	33.33
Above 25	18	15.00
Total	120	100.00

Table-2A shows that out of 120 respondents, 41 (34.17%) of respondents were the age group of below 20-22, followed by 40 (33.33%) of respondents were 23-25 and 21(17.50%) of respondents were the age group of Above 21.

Table 3: Distribution of the respondents by Own Computers:

Own Computers	Number	(%)
Yes	41	34.2
No	79	65.8
Total	120	100.0

Above table 3 shows that, majority of the respondents i.e. 79 (65%) are replied that they do not have their own system and 41 (34.25%) are replied that they have their own system.

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Table 4: Distribution of the respondents by Usage of Computers:

Use Computers	Number	(%)
Regularly	34	28.3
Sometimes	86	71.7
Never	-	-
Total	120	100.0

The above table deals with the usage of computers by the respondents, about 34 (28.3%) of the respondents use computers regularly followed by 86 (71.7%) of the respondents use computers sometimes.

Table 5: Distribution of the respondents by Internet Connection at Home:

Internet Connection at Home	Number	(%)
Yes	29	24.2
No	91	75.8
Total	120	100

The above table 5 shows that, only 29 (24.2%) of the respondents have internet facility at home and about 91(75.8 %) of the respondents do not have internet connection at home.

Table 6: Internet Facility at college:

Internet Facility at college	Number	(%)
Yes	120	100
No	-	-
Total	120	100

The above table 6 shows that, 120 (100%) of the students responded that they have internet facilities at college and they are all allowed to use according to their requirements.

Table 7: Where do you Use Internet:

Place of use	Number	(%)
College	93	77.5
Cyber Café	27	22.5
Home	26	21.7

Though few students have internet facilities at home and cyber café is available outside. The majority of the respondents that is 93 (77.5%) of the respondents use internet in their college followed by 27 (22.5%) of the respondents use at cyber café and 26 (21.7%) of them use internet at home.

Table 8: Duration of use of computer:

How long have been using	Number	(%)
Below one year	71	59.2
One – Two years	29	24.1
Above three years	20	16.7
Total	120	100

The above table shows that out of the total respondents, 71 (59.2%) replied that they are using just below one year very recently they got to start using the internet followed by 29 (24.1%) of the respondents said between one – two years and just 20 (16.7%) of the respondents said that they have been using it for the past three or above three years. It was observed that those who had a computer and internet connection at home had been using Internet for three years.

Table 9: Distribution of the respondents by time spent on using internet:

Time Duration	Number	(%)
Up to one hour	78	65.0
One – Two hours	40	33.3
Three and Above Three hours	2	1.7

The above table refers to the time spent on using internet. Majority of the respondents that is 78 (65.0%) of the respondents use internet just up to one hour followed by 40 (33.3%) of the respondents spent time between one – two hours and just 2 (1.7 %) of the respondents spend three and more than three hours for internet.

Table 10: Distribution of the respondents by Source of Information:

Source of Information	Number	(%)
Library	37	30.8
Internet	73	60.8
Faculty Members	11	9.2

Table 10 shows that the majority of the respondents that is about 73 (60.8%) of them are dependent on the internet for information. However, about 30.8% of the respondents are dependent on the library for information, and just 9.2% of the respondents dependent on the Faculty Members for information. This conveys that the internet is very widely used by students even at the district level.

MAJOR FINDINGS

- Study population constitute 108 (90%) are from Arts and 12 (10%) are from Commerce respectively.
- Majority of the respondents i.e., 75 (62.5%) percent of the users are male and 45 (37.5%) percent are female.
- Majority of the respondents i.e. 79 (65.8%) replied that they do not have their system. 40 (34.2%) are have their system.

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- 34 (28.3%) of the respondents use computers regularly followed by 86 (71.7%) of the respondents use computers sometimes.
- Only 29 (24.2%) of the respondents have an internet facility at home and about 75.8 % of the respondents do not have an internet connection at home
- The above Table 6 shows that 120 (100%) of the students responded that they have Internet facilities at college and they are all allowed to be used according to their requirements.
- Though few students have internet facilities at home and cyber café is available outside. The majority of the respondents that is 77.5% of the respondents use the Internet in their college followed by 27 (22.5%) of the respondents use at cyber café and 26 (21.7%) of them use the internet at home.
- Out of the total respondents 71 (59.2%) replied that they are using just below one year very recently they got to start using the Internet followed by 29 (24.1%) of the respondents said between one year
- Majority of the respondents that are 78 (65.0%) of the respondents use the internet just up to one hour followed by 40 (33.3%) of the respondents spent time between one – two hours and just 2 (1.7 %) of the respondents spend three and more than three hours for the internet.
- The majority of the respondents, about 73 (60.8%) of them are dependent on the internet for information. However, about 37 (30.8%) of the respondents dependent on the library for information and just 11 (9.2%) of the respondents dependent on Faculty Members for information.

CONCLUSION

Usage of ICT has become a very a common issue among students. The knowledge of computers has changed the attitude of the students and opening up to a different dimension. It is evident from the study that a very negligible number of students use Libraries for information and refer book and go to faculty members for information which conveys that The Internet has occupied the space of Libraries as a result libraries are transformed into digital libraries and the virtual library concept has aroused in UG levels.

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