

Use of Internet by the Undergraduate students of MLR Institute of Technology, Hyderabad: A study

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***Abstract** – The present study surveys analyses the use of Internet by two hundred and eighty undergraduate students of MLR Institute of Technology. Observes that, the internet use is confined to education purposes and its potential in supporting curricular requirements has been realized by the students. The use of internet at college is being made by majority of the students. Also internet facility should be extended to throughout the campus, as it has become a important source of information, facilitating effective communication and being a major information retrieval tool. Concludes that awareness needs to be created among the students about library and other facilities for using through internet and training to be provided to acquaint students with internet and its resources.*

Keywords: Internet, User studies, MLR Institute of Technology, Engineering students

Introduction:

The internet is a “network of networks”. It is noted that internet plays a vital role in academic institution. “The internet provides access to unlimited sources of information. The internet eases and increases access to a large amount of data, saves time and money and provides www.ijnglt.study revealed that majority of the students made use of the internet. an opportunity to consult several experts with single request” Thanuskodi (2011). “The last few decades have witnessed a spectacular change in relationships between the users and libraries. This is only because of the impact of internet usages, it enables products, services and availability of online information resources has changed the way the services of academic libraries and institutions are being now delivered.” Rabindra and others(2011).

Internet has become a global source of information with resources accessible at anytime by anyone from anywhere in the world. The internet represents one of the most successful examples of the benefits of sustained investment and commitment to research and development. It is a mechanism for information dissemination and a medium for collaborative interaction between individuals and computers independent of time and geographical barriers. The internet is an interactive, dynamic, borderless and infinite space for the production and dissemination of information. As the information super highway is in constant transition, the role of the internet on education is in constant transition.

Review of literature

Tadasad et.al. (2003) surveyed the use of internet by one hundred and ninety-three undergraduate students of engineering. Observes that, the internet use is confined to general or recreational purposes and its potential in supporting curricular requirements has not been realized by the students. The use of Internet at college is being made by very few students and this needs to be increased. Also Internet facility should be extended to library, as it has become an important source of information, facilitating effective communication and being a major information retrieval tool. Concludes that awareness needs to be created among the students for using Internet in addition to the library facilities and training is to be provided to acquaint students with Internet and its resources.

Baljinder Kaur, Rama Verma, (2009) It has been found that usage of e-journals is increasing; this is due to awareness among the users about the library e-resources and services. Owing to an easy access available at various places in the institute, users are accessing these resources at hostels and departments more as compared to the library. The users coming to library have decreased.”

Satish Arya, Kallol Das Talukdar, (2010) This case study provides awareness of various internet tools and services used by the library staff and library users. The library will be aware of new internet services and provide their users.”

China Balu et.al. (2013) study examines the use of Internet by faculty and students in St. Peter’s Engineering College (SPEC). Study demonstrates and elaborates the various aspects of Internet use such as, frequency of Internet use, methods used for learning of Internet skill, most frequently used place for Internet use, purposes for which the Internet is use, use of Internet services, ways to browse the information from the internet, problems faced by the users and satisfaction level of users with the Internet facilities provided in the college.

Discusses on internet **Gurikar, Rushmanasab (2014)** effective use of internet especially by the college students by using the some freely available tools over the internet. Today many people are using and browsing the internet but many of them are getting frustrated to find the right information at the right time, especially the teenagers wasting the lot of time for getting their required information over the internet.

MLR Institute of Technology and it’s Library

MLR Institute of Technology is an Autonomous Institute, NAAC Accreditation with 'A' grade and also by NBA. The library and information centres strive for high quality of library services which emphasis the actual delivery of information rather than actual delivery of documents for meeting their generic as well as specific needs of the users.

MLR Institute of Technology established in the year 2005 encourages every student to use the library that has been carefully built up since the inception of the college. Digital library is equipped with 30 Systems connected to dedicate Internet Server. Digital Library is well stocked with NPTEL (National Programme on Technology Enhanced Learning) material covering most of the important subjects and to access E-journals, E-books, E-learning. Library has DELNET (Inter library loan) for resource sharing and it is fully computerized with bar-coding system.

Objectives:

- To find out the demographic profile of the respondents;
- To find out the awareness of Internet among Undergraduate students;
- To identify the availability of Internet facility;
- To find out the purpose of using Internet;
- To find out the problems faced while using internet.

METHODOLOGY AND LIMITATIONS

A questionnaire was designed to gather primary data which was distributed among 720 users of six different branches MLR Institute Technology college, totally 320 questionnaires were distributed out of which 280 filled in questionnaires were received back which accounts 87.5% and It consists of UG third year students, and the collected data was analyzed by using MS Excel Spread Sheets software.

Demographic Profile of the respondents

Table-1: Demographic profile of respondents

Gender-wise distribution of respondents			
S.No.	Gender	No. of Respondents	%
1	Male	182	65
2	Female	98	35
	Total	280	100
Branch-wise distribution of respondents			
S.No.	Branch	No. of Respondents	%
1	CIVIL	40	14.29
2	CSE	64	22.86
3	EEE	40	14.29
4	ECE	60	21.43
5	IT	26	9.29
6	MECH	50	17.86
	Total	280	100
Frequency of Internet usage			
S.No.	Frequency	No. of Respondents	%
1	Daily	194	69.29
2	Once in a Two days	47	16.79
3	Twice in a week	12	4.29
4	Once in a Week	11	3.93
5	Fortnightly	14	5.00
6	If required	2	0.71
	Total	280	100

Table 1 indicates that distribution of gender-wise was 182(65%) majority of the respondents are male and 98(35%) of the respondents are female. In case of branch-wise distribution 64(22.86%)of the respondents are from CSE branch, 60(21.43%) are from ECE, 50(17.86%) are from MECH, 40(14.29%) are from CIVIL and EEE and only 26(9.29%) of the respondents are from IT branch. Frequency of Internet usages was 194(69.29%) of the respondents are using 'Daily' following 47(16.79%) are using 'once in a two days', 14(5%)

of the respondents using ‘fortnightly’ 12(4.29%) are using ‘twice in a week’, 11(3.93%) are using ‘once in a week’ and only 2(0.71%) of the respondents using whenever they required.

Awareness of Internet

Table-2: Awareness of Internet

S.No.	Gender	CIVIL	CSE	EEE	ECE	IT	MECH	Total	%
1	Male	27	39	27	36	16	29	174	62.14
2	Female	13	25	13	24	10	21	106	37.86
3	Total	40	64	40	60	26	50	280	100

Table-2 shows the awareness of Internet among 6 branches of engineering. Out of 280 respondents, majority 174(62.14%) of the male respondents know about the internet, and 106(37.85%) of the female respondents are aware of Internet.

Amount of time spent on the internet

Table-3: Amount of time spent on the internet

S.No.	Time	CIVIL	CSE	EEE	ECE	IT	MECH	Total	%
1	15-30 min	14	21	12	16	9	11	83	29.64
2	30-60 min	19	27	20	26	12	26	130	46.43
3	1-2 hrs	6	10	5	13	4	9	47	16.79
4	More than 2 hrs	1	6	3	5	1	4	20	7.14
	Total	40	64	40	60	26	50	280	100

As per the above Table-3 it shows that majority of the respondents 130(46.43%) have indicated they spent 30-60 min, following 83(29.74%) respondents expressed that they use 15-30 min. for internet, 47(16.79%) of the respondents indicated 1-2 hours and remaining 20(7.14%) of the respondents expressed their opinion that they spent more than 2 hours for Internet.

Availability of internet facility in the college

Table-4: Availability of Internet facility in the college

S.No.	Availability	CIVIL	CSE	EEE	ECE	IT	MECH	Total	%
1	Department	11	21	14	17	8	12	83	29.64
2	Library	18	26	15	25	12	23	119	42.50
3	Hostel	4	6	4	10	3	9	36	12.86
4	Computer centre	6	6	5	5	1	2	25	8.93
5	Campus wifi	1	5	2	3	2	4	17	6.07
	Total	40	64	40	60	26	50	280	100.00

Table-4 indicates the availability of the Internet facility in the college, majority 119(42.50%) of the respondents using internet in the ‘Library’, 83(29.64%) of the respondents indicated that internet is available in their ‘Department’ 36(12.86%) are using through ‘Hostel’, 25(8.93%) are using through ‘Computer centre’ and remaining 17(6.07%) of the respondents using internet through ‘Campus wifi’ network.

Purpose of using the Internet

Table-5: Purpose of using the internet

S.No.	Purpose	CIVIL	CSE	EEE	ECE	IT	MECH	Total	%
1	Career development	15	20	12	20	11	14	92	32.86
2	Education	14	17	17	21	7	21	97	34.64
3	Communication	6	14	5	10	4	8	47	16.79
4	News	1	6	3	5	2	2	19	6.79
5	Entertainment	4	6	2	3	2	4	21	7.50
6	Others	0	1	1	1	0	1	4	1.43
	Total	40	64	40	60	26	50	280	100.00

Table-5 reveals that 97(34.64%) of the respondents are expressed their opinion that they use Internet for ‘Education’ purpose, 92(32.86%) are for ‘Career development’ purpose, 47(16.79%) are for ‘Communication’ purpose, 21(7.50%) are for ‘Entertainment’ purpose, 19(6.79%) are for ‘News’ purpose and remaining 4(1.43%) of the respondents expressed their opinion that they use Internet for ‘Other’ purpose.

Problems faced while using the internet

Table-6: Problems faced while using the internet

S.No	Problems	CIVIL	CSE	EEE	ECE	IT	MECH	Total	%
1	Allotted time slot is insufficient	19	32	17	27	9	17	121	43.21
2	Power fluctuations	12	14	13	19	5	18	81	28.93
3	Lack of knowledge of browsing internet	1	1	0	0	0	1	3	1.07
4	Disable of USB port	3	9	5	7	5	8	37	13.21
5	AV facility is not available	2	6	4	6	5	5	28	10.00
6	Lack of assistance from the staff	3	2	1	1	2	1	10	3.57
	Total	40	64	40	60	26	50	280	100.00

Table-6 shows the problems faced while using the Internet, majority 121(43.21%) of the respondents expressed their opinion ‘Allotted time slot is insufficient’, 81 (28.93%) are expressed ‘power fluctuations’, 37(13.21%) are expressed that ‘disable of USB port’, 28(10%) are expressed that ‘Av facility is not available’, 10(3.57%) of the respondents expressed that they face ‘lack of assistance from the staff’ and very few 3(1.07%) of the respondents expressed their opinion ‘lack of knowledge of browsing internet’.

Reasons for dissatisfaction with the internet facility

Below Table-7 shows the reasons for dissatisfaction with the internet facility in the college library. Majority of the 79(28.21%) respondents expressed their opinion ‘old version of computer systems’ in the library, 63(22.50%) are expressed that ‘no sufficient systems’, 41(14.64%) are expressed that ‘USB port is not available’, 35(12.50%) are expressed that ‘print out facility is not available’, 33(11.79%) are expressed that ‘no multimedia peripherals’ and 29(10.36%) of the respondents expressed their ‘accessing speed is very slow’ of the internet. All above reasons respondents are showing dissatisfaction with internet facility.

Table-7: Reasons for dissatisfaction with the internet facility

S.No.	Opinion	CIVIL	CSE	EEE	ECE	IT	MECH	Total	%
1	Old version of Computer systems	12	21	11	14	7	14	79	28.21
2	No sufficient systems	6	17	9	12	9	10	63	22.50
3	USB Port is not available	5	8	7	9	4	8	41	14.64
4	Accessing speed is very slow	7	9	6	3	2	2	29	10.36
5	No multimedia peripherals	4	4	4	10	2	9	33	11.79
6	Print out facility is not available	6	5	3	12	2	7	35	12.50
	Total	40	64	40	60	26	50	280	100.00

Findings:

- Among 280 respondents, majority of 182(65%) are the male respondents.
- It is observed that 64(22.86%) of the respondents are from CSE branch.
- Frequency of Internet usages was 194(69.29%) of the respondents are using ‘Daily’
- Out of 280 respondents, majority 174(62.14%) of the male respondents know about the internet, and 106(37.85%) of the female respondents are aware of Internet.
- Majority of the respondents 130(46.43%) have indicated they spent 30-60 min, following 83(29.74%) respondents expressed that they use 15-30 min.
- Majority 119(42.50%) of the respondents using internet in the ‘Library’ only.
- Most of the 97(34.64%) respondents are expressed their opinion that they use Internet for ‘Education’ purpose.
- Majority 121(43.21%) of the respondents expressed dissatisfaction on ‘Allotted time slot is insufficient’.

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