

A study on use of cellular phone

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ABSTRACT

Cellular phones have transformed the telecommunications industry. These devices make the life easy and comfortable, for this reason, the growth of cellular telephone uses crosses all ages and gender boundaries. The study is focused on the general use pattern of cell phones and awareness among respondents. The study was conducted in 100 respondents of HAU campus, comprising of 60 students and 40 staff members. About three fourth of the student respondents (70 per cent) used cellular phone for personal need and 43 per cent of students use cell phone because parents want to be in their contact at any time. Three fourth of staff used it for personal need fulfillment. Cellular phone was more frequently used by staff respondents, as compared to students. Main use of cellular phone for both types of respondents was mobile talk and SMS. Regular charging of cellular phone was very hectic and felt as a big problem by both the type of respondents, as over charging can disturb instruments functioning and also time consuming. Headache and irritation and vibrations of cellular phone was the big problems among students being 18%, 30% and 45%, respectively, where as in staff respondents the percentage was 25%, 10% and 15%, respectively.

Key words : Cellular phone, Radio frequency radiation, Mobile talks, SMS, Mobile games, Network.

Since the introduction of cellular telephones in 1983, there has been dramatic change in the cellular industry, with a growth rate of about 40 per cent per year. Changes in the technology, from heavy, cumbersome and expensive cellular phones, to inexpensive, miniature hand held units, smaller than a pack of cigarettes, have had a significant impact on when, where and how one conducts the affairs, both business and personal. Cellular phones have become integral parts of our daily life. They are used to schedule appointments, broker deals, calls for assistance and maintain contact with loved ones. According to a new report losing a mobile phone would be similar to bereavement for almost half of young people, they could not live without their mobile phones. Because mobile cellular phones are two-way radios, they produce radio frequency (RF) radiation and they expose people near them to RF radiation. A recent study concluded that cellular phones might affect the health of persons who use them.

Keeping in view the above facts, the present study was carried out to find out the reasons for using cellular phones and the awareness regarding cellular phone among respondents.

METHODOLOGY

The present study was carried out in the campus of CCS Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar. Samples comprised of 100 respondents out of which sixty students and forty staff members were selected purposively, who were cell phone users. The data were collected personally by means of a pre-tested interview schedule. Data were analyzed accordingly.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Reasons for the use of cell-phones:

Respondents used cell phone due to different reasons. Table 1 depicts the reasons for the purchase of cell phone.

From the Table 1 it could be concluded that approximately three fourth *i.e.* 72 per cent of respondents used it for personal need out of which 70 per cent were students who purchased mobile as their parents want to know about them any time whereas one fourth of the staff members kept it to be in touch with the family members every time and 13.3 per cent of students purchased the cell phone due to the pressure

Table 1 : Reasons for using cellular phone

		(n = 100)		
Sr. No.	Reasons	Students (n = 60)	Staff (n = 40)	Total
1.	Needed by yourself	42 (70.0)	30 (75.0)	72 (72.0)
2.	Parents/family members want to know where about you	26 (43.3)	10 (25.0)	36 (36.0)
3.	Pressurized by friends	8 (13.3)	- (00.0)	8 (08.0)
4.	Status symbol	4 (06.6)	- (00.0)	4 (04.0)

Multiple choices

Figure in parentheses indicate percentage