RESEARCH ARTICLE :

Economic and physical constraints faced by the Research Scholars while using internet of Agriculture Science in MPUAT, Udaipur (Rajasthan)

■ **L.R. CHOUDHARY AND B.S. BHIMAWAT**

SUMMARY : Internet has become a way of life for majority of higher education students all around the world. For most of universities and college students, the internet is a functional tool, one that has greatly changed the way they interact with each other and with information as they go about their studies. Considering the importance of the internet utilization the present investigation. The present study was purposively being conducted in Rajasthan College of Agriculture. Udaipur due to the reason that this College is the oldest Agricultural College in Rajasthan state and enjoys more and adequate facilities of internet surfing for agricultural students, especially for research scholars at central library as well as in their respective departments and Hostels as compared to other Agricultural Colleges in Rajasthan. Considering the importance of the internet utilization the present investigation "Attitude and Utilization Pattern of Internet among the Research Scholars of Agriculture Science in MPUAT, Udaipur Rajasthan".

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BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

Internet" is one of the tools of communication. Internet has changed of life as a few things have done. It has added a new dimension to our existence by placing within easy reach, mind boggling range of information. It gives each of us the option to be as publisher of our information and views, and as the number of people on internet multiplies and commerce transforms the internet, the opportunities are getting larger.

In the era of networked information, Internet, the largest worldwide network of networks, has emerged as the most powerful tool for an instant access to information. Information is now just a 'finger touch' distance away from the user and it would not be inappropriate to say that the Internet has become the biggest global digital information library which provides the fastest access to

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the right kind of information in Nan-seconds of time to end-user at any time and at any place in the world. The Internet has become the most extensively used information source that empowers the average person to get in roaming with the latest information. Today's users can no longer depend on conventional information sources to cope with the latest developments in their respective fields.

RESOURCES AND METHODS

The study was purposively conducted in Rajasthan College of Agriculture, Udaipur due to the reason that this College is the oldest Agricultural College in Rajasthan state and enjoys more and adequate facilities of internet surfing for agricultural students, especially for research scholars at central library as well as in their respective departments and hostels as compared to other Agricultural Colleges in Rajasthan From the RCA, Udaipur, a list of all the P.G. and Ph.D. research scholars was prepared from the student section of the college. There was 150 P.G. and 110 Ph.D. research scholars, *i.e.* a total of 260 research scholars registered in second semester during the session 2011-12. Since the whole population was not too big, hence, the whole population as such of 260 research scholars (150 PG and 110 Ph.D. research scholars) was treated as the respondents for the purpose of the study. The total size of the sample taken was 117 respondents (90 male and 27 female).

OBSERVATIONS AND ANALYSIS

The results obtained from the present study as well as discussions have been summarized under following heads:

Economic constraints faced by agricultural research scholars while using internet :

The data presented in Table 1 revealed that among the different economic constraints the "high cost of maintenance of computer, WIFI etc." was perceived as the most severe constraint at top priority by both the male (MS 2.22) and female (MS 2.67) agricultural research scholars and was accorded first rank as it was perceived upto high extent by 35.56 per cent male and 70.37 per cent female agricultural research scholars and upto medium extent by 51.11 per cent of male and 25.93 per cent female agricultural research scholars. It was

followed by "High cost of computer, modem etc" by both male (MS 2.20) and female (MS 2.56) agricultural research scholars which was placed at second position by them. In case of male agricultural research scholars "Cost of internet service providing is high" (MS 2.20) was perceived as the third most severe constraint whereas it had been perceived as the fourth most severe constraint by the female agricultural research scholars (MS 2.26). The constraint "High cost of internet training" was perceived as the fourth severe constraint by the male agricultural research scholars (MS 2.07) whereas, it was perceived as the third most severe constraint by female agricultural research scholars (MS 2.41).

The constraint "variation in the charges of internet surfing" (MS 1.97) and "It is not safe to make shopping, banking on internet" (MS 1.83") were ranked fifth, and sixth, respectively in case of male agricultural research scholars, whereas these were perceived sixth (MS 1.93) and seventh (MS 1.92), respectively by female agricultural research scholars.

The value of rank order correlation (r_s) was found to be 0.88 for which the calculated value of 't'(3.70) was higher than its tabulated value at 5 per cent level of significance. Hence, the Null hypothesis ($H_{04.1}$) was rejected and the alternate hypothesis was accepted. This leads to the conclusion that there is a significant correlation between the male and female agricultural research scholars with regard to their economic constraints faced them while using internet.

The findings revealed that the most severe constraints perceived by agricultural research scholars was the "high cost of maintenance of computer, WIFI etc.", which might be due to the reason that Udaipur is located in urban area, this might be the reason of high cost of the maintenance of computer, WIFI etc.

Physical constraints faced by agricultural research scholars while using internet :

The data presented in Table 2 indicated that among the different physical constraints the "Inadequate availability of computer and internet facilities" was perceived as the most severe constraint at top priority by both the male (MS 2.14) and female (MS 2.22) agricultural research scholars and was accorded first rank as it was perceived upto high extent by 36.67 per cent male and 40.74 per cent female agricultural research scholars and upto medium extent by 41.11 per cent of

male and 40.74 per cent female agricultural research scholars. The "inadequate accessibility to internet service" was perceived as the second most severe constraint by the male agricultural research scholars (MS 2.13), whereas it was perceived as the third most severe constraint by the female agricultural research scholars (MS 1.93). The "limitation of time imposed for internet surfing" was perceived as the third most severe constraints by male agricultural research scholars (MS 2.07) and second most severe constraints by female agricultural research scholars (MS 1.96). The "Lack of adequate infrastructure facilities" was perceived as the fourth constraints by both the male (MS 20.3) and female

(MS 1.74) agricultural research scholars and "Lack of knowledge about availability of internet source" were perceived as the last perceived constraint by male agricultural research scholars (MS 1.93) as well as female agricultural research scholars (MS 1.44) and were ranked as fifth constraint as 35.56 per cent of male and 55.56 per cent female

Agricultural research scholars perceived it upto low extent, 35.56 per cent of male and 44.44 per cent female perceived it upto medium extent and only 28.89 per cent of male agricultural. Perceived it upto high extent whereas no female agricultural research scholars had perceived it upto high extent.

Sr. No.	Economic constraints	Male agricultural research scholars (n=90)					Female agricultural research scholars (n=27)				
		Upto high extent	Upto medium extent	Upto low extent	MS	Rank	Upto high extent	Upto medium extent	Upto low extent	MS	Rank
1.	Cost of internet service providing is high	41 (45.56)	26 (28.89)	23 (25.56)	2.20	III	7 (25.93)	20 (74.07)	0 (0.00)	2.26	IV
2.	High cost of internet training	33 (36.67)	30 (33.33)	27 (30.00)	2.07	IV	11 (40.74)	16 (59.26)	0 (0.00)	2.41	III
3.	It is not safe to make shopping, banking on internet	21 (23.33)	33 (36.67)	36 (40.00)	1.83	VI	9 (33.33)	7 (25.93)	11 (40.74)	1.93	V
4.	Variation in the charges of internet surfing	18 (20.00)	51 (56.67))	21 (23.33)	1.97	V	7 (25.93)	11 (40.74)	9 (33.33)	1.92	VI
5.	High cost of computer, modem	36 (40.00)	36 (40.00)	18 (20.00)	2.20	II	16 (59.26)	10 (37.04)	1 (3.70)	2.56	II
6.	High of maintenance	32 (35.56)	46 (51.11)	12 (13.33)	2.22	I	19 (70.37)	7 (25.93)	1 (3.70)	2.67	I
	Overall				2.06					2.29	

Table 1 : Economic constraints faced by agricultural research scholars while using internet (n=117)

Rank correlation co-efficient (r_{sd}) = 0.88   t= 3.70* (Significant at 0.05 level of probability)
Tabulated value of t at 0.05 level of probability with 4 degrees of freedom = 2.78

Sr. No.	Physical constraint	Male agricultural research scholars (n=90)					Female agricultural research scholars (n=27)				
		Upto high extent	Upto medium extent	Upto low extent	MS	Rank	Upto high extent	Upto medium extent	Upto low extent	MS	Rank
1.	Nadequate availability of computer and internet	33 (36.67)	37 (41.11)	20 (22.22)	2.14	I	11 (40.74)	11 (40.74)	5 (18.52)	2.22	I
2.	Nadequate accessibility to internet service	24 (26.67)	54 (60.00)	12 (13.33)	2.13	II	3 (11.11)	19 (70.37)	5 (18.52)	1.93	III
3.	Lack of adequate infrastructure	25 (27.78)	43 (47.78)	22 (24.44)	2.03	IV	1 (1.11)	18 (66.67)	8 (29.63)	1.74	IV
4.	Lack of knowledge about availability of internet.	26 (28.89)	32 (35.56)	32 (35.56)	1.93	V	0 (0.00)	12 (44.44)	15 (55.56)	1.44	V
5.	Limitation of time imposed	31 (34.44)	34 (37.78)	25 (27.78)	2.07	III	7 (25.92)	12 (44.44)	8 (29.63)	1.96	II
	Overall				2.06					1.858	

Table 2 : Physical constraints faced by agricultural research scholars while using internet (n=117)

Rank correlation co-efficient (r_s) =0.90   t=3.58*
Rank correlation co-efficient (r_s) = 0.88   t= 3.58 (Significant at 0.05 level of probability)
Tabulated value of t at 0.05 level of probability with 3 degrees of freedom = 3.18

The value of rank order correlation (r_s) was found to be 0.90 for which the calculated value of 't'(3.58) was higher than its tabulated value at 5 per cent level of significance. Hence, the Null hypothesis was rejected and the alternate hypothesis was accepted. This leads to the conclusion that there is a significant correlation between the male and female agricultural research scholars with regard to their physical constraints faced them while using internet.

The results might be due to the reason of lack of knowledge of agricultural research scholars about internet. This might be due to limited number of computers available in the library for both M. Sc. and Ph.D. scholars.

Conclusion :

Majority of the male and female agricultural research scholars perceived the constraints about "high cost of maintenance of computer, WIFI etc.", "Inadequate availability of computer and internet facilities", and "lack of adequate knowledge about the hardware, software and internet explorer". In case of male agricultural research scholars the "Slow speed for internet access", "Due to internet there is a decrease in frequency of reading printed materials" and "Due to internet, there is decrease in live time discussion with friends" were also perceived as the most severe constraint, whereas in female agricultural research scholars the problem like "Computer is frequently infected with viruses", "Lack of free time to use internet" and "Due to internet there is a decrease in frequency of visit to library" were perceived as most severe constraints.

The educational constraint was most perceived by the male agricultural research scholars whereas the economic constraint was most perceived by the female agricultural research scholars.

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