A Study of ICT adoption among PG students

*** Pratibha Singh ** Dr.Om Pal Singh *** Abhay Pratap Singh**
* Research Scholar (Education) DAV PG College Kanpur
** Professor (Education), DAV PG College Kanpur
*** Research scholar LBS PG College Gonda

Abstract

Every person tries to bring about changes in his daily work and even in technology. Nowadays Information Communication Technology (ICT) has emerged as an important agent of change. The present study focuses on the use of ICT in changing learning methods and teaching styles. ICT has replaced old methods and approaches.Education in the present context is called upon to rethink capacity and change fundamental attitudes towards modernization.The use of ICT is bringing about profound changes in the skills and techniques of collecting, analysing and presenting information. A sample of 60 postgraduate (PG) students studying in the different faculties of various universities and their affiliated Colleges of Uttar Pradesh was selected through random sampling technique. The study concluded that the use of ICT by PG students ranged between 70% to 93.33%, with the most frequent use of ICT for research, library literature, downloading articles and chatting with friends being the most preferred surfactants by the respondent PG students, while reading emails was the least preferred.

Keywords: *ICT, Post Graduate.*

Introduction :

The entry of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) has not only fundamentally transformed business, industry and governance, but it has also changed the process of education to a great extent. While the world is rapidly moving towards digital media, the importance of ICT in the education sector has also increased as it enables anyone to learn anywhere, anytime and very easily at a low cost. There has been an unprecedented rise in the use of ICT in teaching, research and extension activities. There have been many changes in the current scenario of education. Among the various changes, ICT is the most relevant. The important thing is that with the use of ICT, students have become more efficient. The use of ICT has proved to be most effective. It has made students global students.The use of modern information, communication technology helps in gathering data in a few seconds. Access and dissemination of information can increase the learning capacity of students immensely. Various search engines, networks, Internet are used as sources of information retrieval.

The present study focuses on the use of ICT in changing learning methods and teaching styles. ICT has replaced old methods and approaches. Postgraduate (PG) students have to do their partial research work to fulfill their degree. Their work can be made easy by using ICT. Hence, here a systematic attempt is being made to know the opinion of PG students regarding the use of ICT.

Review of related literature :

Thanuskodi.S (2013) found that the ICT is helping to make information sourcing easier by faculty, staff and students. Information and communication technology helps libraries to provide

current information. Once the staff and students are able to use these technologies effectively, teaching, learning and research activities in the college will become easier for the college community. The use of ICT will facilitate development due to the free flow of information. The power of web technology is enabling information generators 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 age and provide information generated by various organizations, institutions, research centers and individuals across the world.

Nayak, S. (2024) conducted astudy on 120 undergraduate students and found that the use of ICT has become a very important and common issue among students. The knowledge of computers and the internet has completely changed the attitude of students and opened up a different dimension. It is evident from the study that very few students use libraries for information and refer books and approach faculty members for information, which shows that the internet has taken over the space of libraries, as a result of which libraries have turned into digital libraries and the concept of virtual library has been introduced in UG levels.

Paul, D. & Roy, S.K.(2023) conducted a study on 50 samples and found that the future roadmap of ICT-based education depends on the pace of broadband penetration, availability of learning content on mobile, and the knowledge and maturity of consumers in accepting digital forms of education. To promote student learning, the instructor must be able to integrate modern teaching and learning techniques with technology. Technology can set new standards for student education and learning experiences. Monitoring and evaluation must be prioritized to make ICT an effective part of education. As always, urban-rural, male-female divides in terms of awareness, access, equity, and resources remain key issues that Indian educators must address as the needs of the learning community keep changing based on priority.

The above study shows how important the use of ICT is for students and how it helps in studies and shows new ways. The present study is being done on the use of ICT by postgraduate students.

Objectives of the study:

The following objectives were followed in conducting the present study:

1. To find out the opinion of respondent students about the use of ICT in their learning.
2. To find out the various purposes of using ICT by the respondent students.

Hypothesis:

1. ICT is better used by PG students for reference collection.
2. ICT is used for downloading and studying literature.

Research Methodology:

A sample of 70 postgraduate (PG) students studying in the different faculties of various universities and their affiliated Colleges of Uttar Pradesh was selected through random sampling technique. A pre-designed questionnaire was being filled by the samples.

Results and discussion:

The above questionnaire was filled by 70 postgraduate students of various colleges and universities through Google forum. After which they were studied by drawing conclusions in percentage on a 2 point scale and the result that came is shown in the table below.

Table No. :1 Distribution of respondent PG students towards use of ICT.

SN	Students' opinion towards the use of ICT	Yes	Percentage	No	Percentage
1.	Use of ICT has great impact on learning process	51	72..85	19	27.14
2.	Use of ICT increases understanding	61	87.14	09	12.85
3.	Use of ICT increases understanding	55	78.87	15	21.42
4.	Do you think your syllabus do not	40	57.14	30	42.85
5.	Do you think use of ICT is better than use of library	64	91.42	6	8.57
6.	Do you think you know how to use ICT but are really not interested in using it	53	75.71	17	24.28

On going through the table it is found that 72.85% of respondent PG students were of the opinion that use of ICT has a great impact on learning, while 27.14% of respondent PG students were of the opinion that use of ICT does not have much impact on learning.

87.14% of respondent PG students were of the opinion that use of ICT increases understanding of the subject, while 12.85% of respondent PG students were of the opinion that use of ICT does not increase understanding of the subject.

78.57% of respondent PG students were of the opinion that teacher should use ICT for teaching, while 21.42% of respondent PG students were of the opinion that teacher should not use ICT for teaching.

57.14% of respondent PG students were of the opinion that their curriculum does not support the use of ICT, while 42.85% of respondent PG students were of the opinion that their curriculum supports the use of ICT.

91.42% respondent PG students were of the opinion that use of ICT is better than use of library, while 8.57% respondent PG students were of the opinion that use of ICT is not better than use of library.

75.71% respondent PG students knew the use of ICT but they were not really interested in using it, while 24.28% respondent PG students knew the use of ICT but they were really interested in using it.

From the above discussion it can be concluded that the usage of ICT by PG students ranged from 57.14 % to 91.42% with the highest usage of ICT for library literature in research.

After this, information was collected about how much the students use ICT for browsing, chatting, emailing, reading, downloading and other studies. And the opinions of various students came out. In which it was found out that in which activity the students are less interested and in which they are more interested, it has been explained in detail in the following Table 2.

Table No. : 2 Distribution of respondent PG students according to use of ICT.

SN	Use of ICT for different activities by students	Yes	Percentage	No	Percentage
1.	Browsing	50	71.42	20	28.57
2.	Downloading articles	59	84.28	11	15,71
3.	Reading Emails	49	70	21	30
4.	Chatting with friends	63	90	7	10

On going through the table it is found that 71.66% of respondent PG students were of the opinion that they used ICT only for the purpose of browsing, while 28.33% of respondent PG students were of the opinion that they did not use ICT for the purpose of browsing.

85.00% of respondent PG students were of the opinion that they used ICT only for the purpose of downloading articles, while 15.00% of respondent PG students were of the opinion that they did not use ICT for the purpose of downloading articles.

70% of respondent PG students were of the opinion that they used ICT only for the purpose of reading emails, while 30% of respondent PG students were of the opinion that they did not use ICT for the purpose of reading emails.

78.33% of respondent PG students were of the opinion that they used ICT only for chatting with friends, while 21.67% of respondent PG students were of the opinion that they did not use ICT for chatting with friends.

The overall discussions conclude that downloading articles and chatting with friends are the most preferred activities by the respondent PG students, while reading emails is the least preferred.

Both the hypotheses stated are accepted.

Conclusion :

The above study on the use of ICT by PG students concluded that the use of ICT by students ranged from 57.14 % to 91.42%, with the research finding that most ICT was used for library literature. It was also concluded that downloading articles through ICT and chatting with friends are the most preferred activities by the respondent PG students, while reading emails is the least preferred.

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