An Empirical Study & Interpretation of the Wifi Facility to the College Students (With Special Reference to Govt. Girls' College Dholpur)

Neeru Sharma
Lecturer,
Deptt.of Sociology,
Kamla P.G. College,
Dholpur, Rajasthan

Rajesh Kumar Sharma
Head,
Deptt.of Sociology,
Govt. Girls' College,
Dholpur, Rajasthan

Abstract

Wi-Fi is the name of a popular wireless networking technology that uses radio waves to provide wireless high speed internet and internet connections. A common misconception is that the term Wi-Fi is short for "*wireless fidelity,*" however this is not the case. Wi-Fi is simply a trademarked phrase that means *IEEE 802.11x.* These days the term wi-fi is known to almost every sensible man all over the world. India is not an exception to it. Wi-fi has reached every office and almost every house in cities these days. It is being taken as a strong milestone in the field of technology. It is now being taken as an utmost demand of the people. This is the reason why it is included even in the manifesto of some of the political parties at the time of the elections. It is supposed to have made made the process of communication incredibly faster.

Wi-Fi is now a common term and is easily understood by the persons of common intellect. The term enables the students in particular to understand that the Wi-Fi facility in the campus means the permission to the students to use internet in the campus and to download the study material required by them for the course they are enrolled in. These days this facility is availed not only by the staff and the male students, but also by the girls studying in schools, colleges and universities. Though a demand of time and the utmost necessity in the educational institutes, Wi-Fi is not used in most of the cases for the purposes it is meant for.

Conducted through both the participant and the non-participant observation, and through the interview method, the paper is an empirical study of 100 bona fide girls enrolled in the various courses in Govt. Girls' College, Dholpur selected randomly from all the courses and classes conducted in the college.

Introduction

The twenty first century has an inexhaustible stock of boons to the people, and particularly to the young, and obviously, Wi-Fi is one of them. It has helped the young pace with the world and connect within no time with the entire world for the sake of communication. The modern people find themselves much fortunate in the field of modern technology, as they are blessed with Wi-Fi to solve any of their problems.

These days the talks of the availability of the Wi-Fi facility to the students studying in Government and private public schools, colleges, universities is at the peak. Almost every day the news about it is published in the newspapers. The governments want the students to avail themselves of this facility and thus, to update them with the latest ongoing trends in the various subjects and courses. It is considered the utmost need of time in the interest of the students. Obviously, it is so. Every hour the trends are changing, and it is difficult for the students to get the books available on those changing trends. The tough competitions and the changing socio-educational scenario make it binding on the students collect the required study material within no time through internet. Under the changed educational scenario, the government takes it as its liability to facilitate the school and the college students with the Wi-Fi facility so that they can get within no time what they need and require for their studies. Indeed, this step of the government has brought new rays of hope to those students who fail to buy expensive books and printed notes. Wi-Fi to the students at

Shrinkhla Ek Shodhparak Vaicharik Patrika

colleges and universities is at the top priority of most of the state governments in India, and the students are eager to avail themselves of it. Generally it is believed that with the Wi-Fi facility in the colleges and universities the students can study in a better way and Wi-Fi can help them get globalized and be familiar with the latest trends in the various fields. Especially in the engineering and medical institutes Wi-Fi is considered essential.

Apart from the field of education, Wi-Fi enables the young in India to communicate with the people of the world at large. Wi-fi helps one to entertain oneself as much as one wishes through movies and games on mobiles and computer and through chatting on whatsapp. Indeed, but for Wi-Fi all this might not have been possible and the Indian youth might never have been conscious of the world of technology and of internet as it is now. However, when some innovation in any field takes place, the people take it in different ways. The same is true of the use of Wi-Fi by the students at colleges and universities in India.

The thinkers on the use of Wi-Fi may be classified into three groups. The first froup comprises of those who take the use of Wi-Fi by the students positively. Such thinkers believe that Wi-Fi is a new advancement in the field of technology, and that its use at the colleges and universities can lighten the burden of studies of the students. It is their idea that Wi-Fi can help them study in a directional way without wasting the time in searching for the books and printed material as well as for the tuitions and coachings. Considering Wi-Fi in the interest of the students, they make an advocacy for its use.

The second group comprises of those who take it as an invasion on and a serious threat to the ancient Indian culture. The members of this group are afraid that the use of Wi-Fi might deviate the young students from the long established norms and values. They are afraid lest its excessive unrestrained use should spoil the career of many a promising student. To such thinkers, Wi-Fi is nothing but a career spoiler, the wastage of time and energy. The use of whatsapp is very common these days. The boys and girls of every age group can be seen using whatsapp for chatting and for sending messages. Most of the students in the colleges and universities are victims to whatsapp menia that not only deviates them from studies but affects their efficiency negatively.

The third group of the thinkers on the use of Wi-Fi comprise of those members who have a mixed opinion and who believe that the students in the schools, colleges and universities should be allowed to use Wi-Fi in the campus only for the study purpose, and not for the purpose of being active on certain social sites, such as, whatsapp, facebook, twitter etc. They suggest that for the proper and genuine use of Wi-Fi in the campus, the government should make some policy in the interest of the students so that they can use it only for the educational purpose only. At least some punishment should be prescribed for the students who are found using Wi-Fi for the purposes other than the educational purpose, that is, for the downloading certain apps helpful in the studies or for

downloading study material available in the form of notes, books, audios and videos. It is only then that the policy of the availability of Wi-Fi facility to the students can be successful.

Objectives of the Study

1. To observe and study the need and requirement of WiFi for the students in colleges and universities
2. To explore the enthusiasm and reception of wifi by the young students in India and particularly in the colleges in Dholpur in Rajasthan
3. To be familiar with the controversial views of the people on the use of wifi by the students in the colleges and universities.
4. To explore the advantages and disadvantages of wifi in colleges and students
5. To observe the things that the students generally use to communicate with others through wifi
6. To study the adverse effects of the excessive use of wifi by the students in colleges
7. To study and observe in particular the students' inclination to wifi for the sake of chatting, surfing, exchanging pictures and sending messages
8. To study and explore the growing addiction among the college and university students to the use of wifi
9. To explore the solutions to the addiction of the students to wifi
10. To find out the ways that can help the students concentrate on their studies and achieve their goal in the field of studies in the changed socio-cultural scenario

Review of Literature

Research the effects of social media on students revealed that social networking sites are the tools of mainstream internet. In this concern social media containing the sites as Facebook, Twitter, Youtube, Myspace, Linkedin and Blogs. Students are affected by social media; no doubt these sites have been the crucial source of entertainment and a good way to release the pressure of students. On the other hand, moreover it affects the grades of college students pessimistically. It also point toward, that an approach is requisite to improve the balance relationship among social media and academic study.

Due to the amplified recognition of internet, economists and professors are curiously involve in discovering the fact that whether the grades of students are being affected by quantitative tendency of time is consumed with these sites. According to the study of J. Mathew stated that "with smart phones being able to access the internet and have applications of social networking, many are concerned about how smart phones with social networking applications will affect student's grades". Maximum utility of social networking tools like Facebook retender a pessimistic relationship between the consumption of social network on the students grades.

Extensive usage of internet and the particularly use of Facebook by students with extraverted personalities escort towards the poor academic performance. Students' cognitive absorption with facebook is synchronized only by their

Shrinkhla Ek Shodhparak Vaicharik Patrika

strength of will and personality qualities, which determine how much time they spend on facebook.

Internet has become an indispensable tool in our society for the purpose to gain information. Variety of people utilizes it according to their requirements with time availability. It has dual functions in our society as the source of entertainment also students use it for academic purposes. 51.4% ratio of people use internet for multiple objectives in Pakistan. People depend on internet to gain information for academic facilitation than for any other reason. More students use internet for the educational purposes as compare to computer professionals and teachers.

College students use internet most frequently and heavily as compare to the general population. Use of internet is the ingredient of student's daily routine. They are grown up with technological advancement. Computer and internet are included into their daily communication lifestyle and it is ordinary and accessible as the telephone or television. According to the American college students, internet has increased their education in order to the availability of online libraries, to do research, online communication and discussion with classmates and professors. Apart from the academics, internet has been changed their social life as well.

Google generation has the access of cheaper and faster speed internet and smart phones make capable the young adults in adoption of social networking sites. This reduces the trend of paper-based communication. The study also ascertains social networks sites most preferred by South African students, and SNS culture rapidly growing among them. Another important indicator of the study that, use of internet and SNS perpetually augment the progress of studies (from undergraduates to post graduates).

High school students use different SNS and it influenced their academic performance inconclusively. Female student's ratio is more, to participate in social networking as compare to male students but still they have higher grades than males. This study has publicized the fact that social networking can have a pessimistic impact on study habits and completion of homework assignments, but there was not a dire difference between students who spend more time and those who do not.

In the age of technology internet is a valuable apparatus for every field of life. As far as concerned it is not only vital for business concern but important for the educational point of view and has unpredictable benefits for students. Recently internet is the best source to enhance the skills and capacity of students. Internet playing the role of a leader which assist the students to step forward in their professional life. Students with the increase utilization of internet for the sake of their studies, information and knowledge gaining across the world contain high CGPA.

This study depicts the co-relation of internet usage and impact on academic performance from the Nigerian university undergraduates. Results show the positive relationship existing among the internet usage and academic achievements. Internet has been pretending the influence on student's academic performances both at local and international level.

While using SNSs, issues of privacy, identity protection, and e professionalism must be paid attention as proposed by Mattingly (2010) but a contrasting finding was given by Sengupta and Chaudhuri (2010) that SNSs memberships are not correlated with online abuse of teenagers.

Madhur, Palak and Nitika (2012) in a joint research work examined how college students employ Social Networking Sites to discuss and express their views on such social issues. Their research (2012) was conducted on college students between the age group of 18-30 years with the motive to know the level of awareness on the social issues and how far Social Networking Sites awakened today's youth in expressing their views on current and burning issues like corruption, human rights and etc. in India. In addition, companies have begun to use Social Networking Sites as a medium of communication with the users.

Mishra (2011) discussed the legal implications of social networking sites in USA and India, impact of Social Networking Sites on social life, legal issues raised in Social Networking Sites in Indian region, laws pertaining to social networking sites in India and USA and legal obligations for social networking users and sites. The facts revealed that Indian are less aware regarding the legal implications of these sites than USA.

Sharma, Bansal & Verma (2017) The modern means of communication have globalized the world through computer, mobile, phone, internet and its sites.

Hypothesis

1. In girls' colleges, the girls are not allowed to keep and maintain mobiles
2. Neither the parents nor the college administration allows them for the mobiles for several reasons.
3. The Government wants each and every student in every college to link with internet for the sake of updation of knowledge of all the subjects
4. For this purpose, the Goverent has even launched certain apps to be downloaded and used by the students
5. The Government is soon going to provide the facility of the language lab to the students in the college
6. The students in all the colleges including the ones in the specified college are full of enthusiasm
7. The college administration and even the parents and family members of the girls have started allowing them to maintain android cell phones for the sake of availing the facility of WiFi.
8. Most of the girls in the specified study area are from the rural background and poor families, and therefore, they are unable to afford the expenses of the android phone
9. They do not know how to operate android phones
10. At least some of them have arranged the required android phone, but failing to get the WiFi

Shrinkhla Ek Shodhparak Vaicharik Patrika

password, they fail to connect themselves to internet.

Research Methodology

The study was conducted on 100 units of information of Govt. Girls' College, Dholpur (Rajasthan) selected randomly. The units selected for the purpose are bona fide students of the college and are daily comers. They belong to all the courses of study available in the college. The sample size was 50% of the active and daily comer girls. In order to keep up the scientific spirit, all the steps of scientific method were followed. For the study, both the primary and the secondary data were used. The sources of the primary data was the schedule which comprised of about 30 questions touching all the major aspects of the availability of WiFi in the campus. The secondary data were collected from the books, newspapers, survey research reports, magazines and internet sites. In order to arrive at a judicious generalization the research scholar made participant observation.

Key Findings

1. The modern means of communication have globalized the world.
2. Computer, mobile phones, internet and various social sites are helping the people of the different age groups to join the world at large and to come closer to the cultures of the world.
3. The means of communication have brought about a revolution in the lives of the young in India in particular.
4. Android mobiles are within the access of most of the students in the colleges and universities.
5. The various state governments are motivating the students to use computer and internet in the colleges by giving laptops and tablets to the students.
6. The students in colleges and universities require wifi facility so that internet can be easily be accessible to them for the various purposes.
7. The students have an excessive love for the social sites, and essentially find time to use them.
8. An advocacy of the internet and wifi facility for the students is being made.
9. Positively taken, wifi helps the students find solution to their problems relating to their studies; prepare notes; prepare various projects; make e-learning etc.
10. The facility of wifi in the colleges and universities is making an adverse effect on the studies and career of the students.
11. The college and university students have whatsapp mania these days.
12. For the sake of chatting, the students use whatsapp and facebook.
13. The whatsapp and facebook culture in the colleges and universities is deviating the students from their goal.
14. In the colleges in Dholpur the wifi facility is available to the students in most of colleges.
15. The wifi facility in the colleges in Dholpur is directly or indirectly an invasion on the long age mixed culture of UP, MP and Rajasthan in Dholpur.

Conclusion

To sum up, Wi-Fi has brought about a revolution in the world. The world of education at present is not untouched by it. Even the government has arrived at the conclusion that the full educational and academic potential of both the teachers and the students cannot be used without linking them with the internet. If they are linked with internet, the teachers can teach their subjects in a much better way than before, and the students can not only learn in an effective way but can also prepare them for the various competitions they compete for. Considering it a very effective tool for the enhancement of the academic and educational environment in the nation, the government wants all the school, college and university students to avail themselves of the Wi-Fi facility, and thus, to prove their academic genius and potential in order to build up their career. However, because of the conservative approach of the family members and society and because of the rules of the college, several girls fail to connect themselves to internet through WiFi facility available in the college. It is hoped that soon the hurdles are going to be over, and the girls are going to avail themselves of this facility for the sake of updation of the knowledge.

References

1. Singh, K. P. and Gill, Malkeet Singh. 2011. "Use of Social Networking Sites By The Research Scholar; A Study of Guru Nanak Deve University, Amritsar". Library Herald, 49, 3; 229- 241.
2. Mishra, Madhusmita. 2011. "Social Networking Sites and Its Legal Implications in India; A Comparative Study". SSRN.
3. Park Ji-Hong. 2010. "Differences among University Students and Faculties in Social Networking Site Perception and Use: Implications for Academic Library Services". The Electronic Library, 28, 3; 417-431.
4. Parveen, Noushia. 2011. "Use of Social Networking Site in Making Awareness among the Library and Information Science Professionals of University Libraries of U.P.: A Case Study". International Journal of Digital Library Services, 1, 1; 9-17.
5. Sardar, Ramesh. 2010. "A Study on Social Networking Website in Arangabad City". Asian Journal of Research in Business Economics and Management, 2, 2; 132-140.
6. Sengupta and Chaudhuri. 2010. "Are Social Networking Sites A Source Of Online Harassment For Teens?". Children and Youth Services Review, 33, pp. 284–290.
7. Singh, K. P. and Gill, Malkeet Singh. 2011. "Use of Social Networking Sites By The Research Scholar; A Study of Guru Nanak Deve University, Amritsar". Library Herald, 49, 3; 229- 241.
8. Sharma, Bansal & Verma (2017). Soochna Prodyogiki, Samaj, Sanskriti Aur Mahila Sashaktikaran, Naman Publication, New Delhi, pp. 84-87.