

Saarth

E-Journal of Research

ISSN NO: 2395-339X

INTERNET USE AMONG COLLEGE STUDENTS AND ITS IMPACT ON THEIR LEARNING

Dr. Amul K Kotadia, Gaurav Gopalbhai Virpariya*

Abstract:

Internet has become the key component of our life. The internet has become an important tool for the society for information search, communication, research and learning. The use of internet is now common. However the use of internet for academic purpose is also increased. Students are now using different academic online tools for completing their assignments, project work, preparing project report, preparing presentation etc. The aim of this research is to summarize the internet usage patterns of college students and to show in what density students utilize from internet sources for educational purposes. The survey was conducted using structured questionnaire. A total of 207 questionnaires were collected as sample from the students of different colleges and different faculties. A total of 160 samples being 77.29% of total samples were analyzed for the present study. The result obtained from the survey is that that the younger generation has accepted the internet as a means of entertainment and learning. It is found that the use of the internet for an academic purpose is increased among the students of colleges. There is a positive impact of the use of internet found in the college students.

Key words: Internet usage, Academic performance, College students

1.0 Introduction:

The internet is an important part of the people in all over the world. The growth of internet has provided many opportunities to the people around the world in many different ways. It has revolutionized communication and methods of commerce in all over the world. It enables the users to collect useful information from different sources across the world easily. Its usage is expanding everyday with the technological change in the world. A few of the Internet's major uses are e-commerce, e-learning, knowledge sharing, social connectivity, variety of media, file transfer, communication, etc. Internet is also used for educational purpose widely in all over the world. It has made it possible for students, teachers, and educational technologists, to communicate, create content, services, applications and innovations for their staple endeavors. The internet has changed the way of teaching and learning. With students concern, the use of internet is mainly for social interaction and entertainment. However the use of internet is not limited to that, but it can also be used for academic and scientific purpose.

*Gaurav Gopalbhai Virpariya, Ph.D. Scholar, Bhakta Kavi Narsinh Mehta University, Junagadh
Dr. Amul K Kotadia , Asst. Professor, Shri Patel Kelavani Mandal College of Technology & B.Ed,
Junagadh

Saarth

E-Journal of Research

ISSN NO: 2395-339X

It can be used as a tool of learning and teaching with easy and interesting mode. During the corona pandemic, internet has played a very important role in the academic field. The latest information related to any topic from all around the world for any purpose can be easily collected through the use of internet. This study examined the use of internet among college students and its effects on their learning. In this context, the term learning was used to answer the question as to what extent students use internet for learning purpose. This study also aims to assess the use of internet among college students and its effects on their learning. This study is sought to answer the following research questions: First, how are students knowledgeable about internet access and use? And second what are the effects of the accessed internet applications on students' learning?

Objectives of the study:

The primary objective of the study is to analyze the internet use and its impact on academic learning of the college students. Specific objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To identify the sources of internet use among college students.
2. To examine the purpose of using the internet.
3. To check the awareness of college students towards the use of internet for academic purpose.
4. To Study the impact of Internet on users' study / learning

2.0 Literature review:

There have been many surveys are conducted at national level as well as international level regarding the use of internet. Most of the surveys favors' the positive impact of internet usage in the society. Rajeev Kumar and Amritpal Kaur (2006) have studied on the use of internet by teachers and students in India. The study was conducted in three States viz. Punjab, Haryana, and Himachal Pradesh. A questionnaire was distributed among 1980 teachers and students of all the engineering colleges of three states of India under study. In the study they found that 46.7% teachers and 36.7% student's daily use the internet. It was shortly found that internet has become a vital instrument for teaching, research and learning process of the respondents of that survey.

Biradar, Rajashekhar, & Sampath, (2006) have conducted another study on internet usage including the students and faculties in Kuvempu University. In the study they found that 42.1% students use internet twice in a week and 31.25% faculties use internet daily. The most of the faculties and students use internet academic purpose. The most favorite place for internet use is library found in the study. The majority respondents were found satisfied with the use of internet.

Ani (2010) has conducted a study to examined the percentage of internet access and the usage of electronic resources by undergraduate students at three Nigerian Universities. The study resulted that most of undergraduate students use internet. But they are facing the problems with the use of internet due to improper infrastructure and poor connection of

Saarth

E-Journal of Research

ISSN NO: 2395-339X

internet in the university libraries, departments and computer labs. The most of the respondents were dependent on private internet services and cybercafés.

Another study was conducted by Sakina et al., (2011) on the internet usage among university students in the University of Punjab, Lahore. The main objective of the study was to find out the internet usage behavior of the students. They found in the result that most of the students use internet for their academic and research purposes. They found university library, departments and homes as the most common places for internet usage.

Turel and Toraman (2015) have conducted survey on the relationship between internet addiction and academic success of secondary school students. The objective of the study was to determine the relationship between the Internet addiction level of secondary school students and their academic performance. They found that as academic performance of students deemed successfully increases, their internet addiction average decrease. This implies that, internet addiction has an effect on the academic performance of students.

Torres-Diaz et al., (2016) have studied on Internet use and academic success in university students. They conducted a survey on students from five universities in Ecuador. A random sample of 4,697 people was got up and categorized in two groups: the use of Internet in academic activities and entertainment. They found that people who perform interactive activities with peers and teachers or when they make a balance use of internet tools for their course work tend to have greater academic performance. They also opined that students who tend to use the internet more on educational materials are less likely to fail their examinations.

3.0 Significance of the Study

The present study of internet use among college students and its impact on their learning could be beneficial for students as well as for the institution. The study should help to the students to realize the benefits of internet in their academic study. Institutes would also realize the importance of internet in education and can invest more in internet facilities to enhance the academic performance of their student. The research will also help to students to understand the role of internet in their academic performance.

4.0 Methodology:

Methodology refers to a process by which researcher tries to find solution of given problem. Questionnaire is the proper method of data collection for such studies. For the present study a structured questionnaire was designed to collect the data. The data collected was analyzed and presented in this paper.

4.1 Population and sample size of the study:

The population for this research is the entire undergraduate students of colleges using internet frequently. A total of 207 questionnaires were collected as sample from the students

Saarth

E-Journal of Research

ISSN NO: 2395-339X

of different colleges and different faculties. A total of 160 samples being 77.29% of total samples were analyzed for the present study. 47 samples were rejected due to insufficient data.

4.2 Data presentation, analysis and discussion of result

A total of 207 responds were received from the students of different colleges. Out of which 160 responses were considered suitable for the given study.

1. Age wise distribution of respondents:

Age	15-18	18-20	20 or more
No. of respondents	18	111	31

Table 1: Age wise distribution of respondents

From the above table, 18 (11.25%) respondents are from the age between 15 to 18 years. 111(69.38%) respondents are from the age between 18 to 20 years and 31 (19.37%) respondents are from the age of more than 20 years. So its clear that majority students are from the age between 18 to 20 years.

2. Gender-wise distribution of respondents

3.

Gender	Male	Female
No. of respondents	67	93

Table 2: Gender wise distribution of respondents

From the above table, a majority of the respondents are female 93 (58.12%) and male respondents are 67 (41.87%).

4. Availability of mobile phone and internet connection:

In the given study, majority respondents have their own mobile phone. 133 (83.12%) respondents have their own mobile phone followed by 27(16.88%) respondents having not their own mobile phone. Almost all 158 (98.75%) respondents have internet connection with their mobile phones. Only 2 (1.25%) respondents have not internet connection with their mobile phones.

Saarth

E-Journal of Research

ISSN NO: 2395-339X

5. Frequency of Internet Use

Use of internet	No. of respondents	Percentage
Everyday	143	89.37%
More than once a day	10	06.25%
Once a day	07	04.37%
Once a month	00	00.00%

Table 3: Frequency of Internet use

From the above table, results gotten from the research shows that 143(89.37%) respondents use the internet every day, 10(6.25%) respondents use internet more than once a day, 7 (4.37%) respondents use the internet once a day and zero respondents use internet once a month. The findings show that majority of students use the internet every day.

6. Time spent on the Internet

Usage of internet	No. of respondents	Percentage
Less than one hour	09	05.62%
1-2 hours	39	24.37%
2-4 hours	62	38.75%
More than 4 hours	50	31.25%

Table 4: Time spent on the Internet

From the above table, results shows that 9 (5.62%) respondents spends less than one hour on the internet everyday, 39 (24.37%) respondents spends 1 to 2 hours on the internet everyday, 62 (38.75%) respondents spends 2 to 4 hours on the internet everyday and 50 (31.25%) respondents spends more than 4 hours on the internet every day. The findings show that majority of students use the internet 2 to 4 hours every day. It is also noted that no. of students using internet for more than 4 hours is also comparatively high.

7. Purpose of using the Internet

Usage of internet	No. of respondents	Percentage
Chat rooms	39	24.37%
Listening music	70	43.75%

Saarth

E-Journal of Research

ISSN NO: 2395-339X

Blogs	13	08.12%
News	67	41.87%
Shopping	09	05.62%
Internet TV	11	06.87%
Gaming	17	10.62%
Social networking (e.g. face book)	28	17.50%
Academic	53	33.12%
Others	01	00.62%

Table 5: Purpose of using Internet

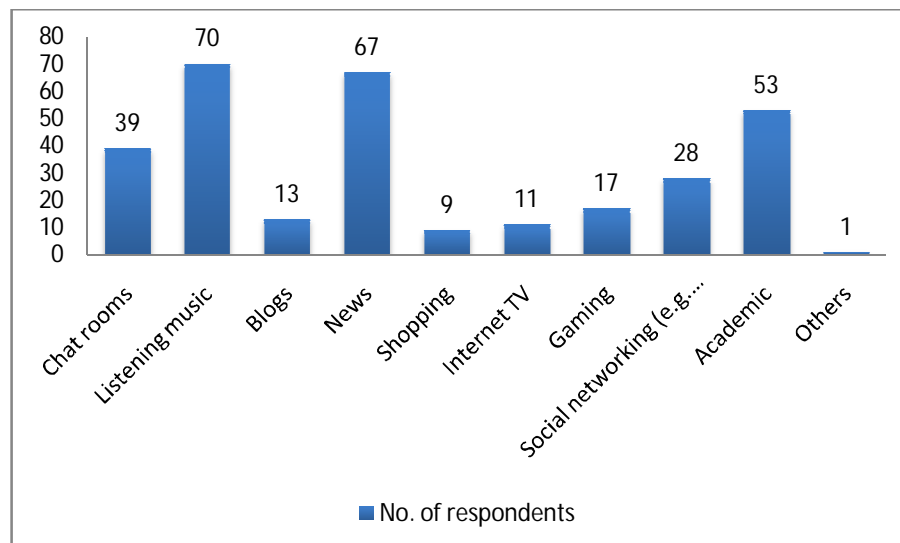


Chart 1: Purpose of using Internet

From the above table, results shows that 39 (24.37%) respondents use internet for chatting, 70 (43.75%) respondents use internet for listening music, 13 (8.12%) respondents use internet for reading blogs, 67 (41.87%) respondents use internet for reading news or watching news channels, 9 (5.62%) respondents use internet for online shopping, 11(6.87%) respondents use internet for watching TV online, 17 (10.62%) respondents use internet for online gaming, 28 (17.50%) respondents use internet for social networking sites e.g. whatsapp, face book, twitter etc., 53 (33.12%) respondents use internet for an academic purpose and only 1 (0.62%) respondents use internet for other purposes. The findings show that majority of students use the internet for reading news and followed by listening music online. Students also use internet for self study. From the study it is also found that 151

Saarth

E-Journal of Research

ISSN NO: 2395-339X

(94.38%) students use internet for academic purpose now and then. Only 9 (5.62%) respondents found not using internet for academic purpose. It is quite impressive that students are aware of different uses of internet for their academic development as well as overall development.

8. Frequency of Internet Use for academic purpose

Use of internet for academic purpose	No. of respondents	Percentage (%)
Everyday	113	70.62%
More than once a day	14	08.75%
Once a day	24	15.00%
Once a month	09	05.62%

Table 6: Frequency of Internet use for academic purpose

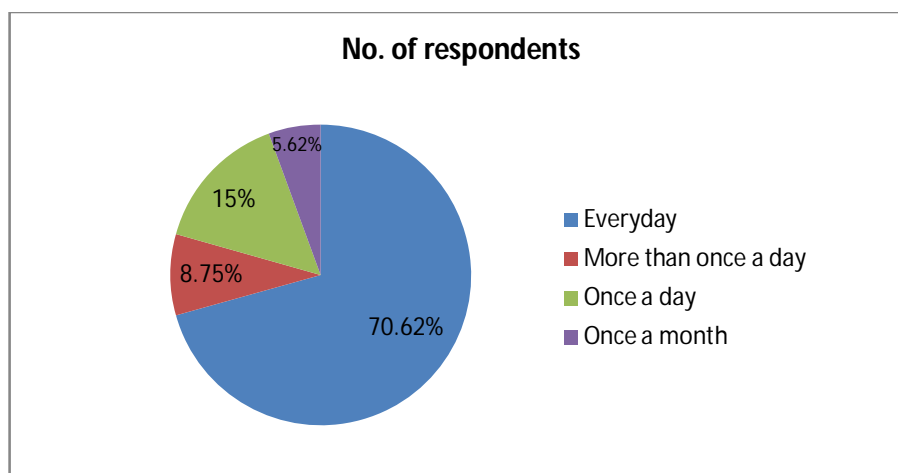


Chart 2: Frequency of Internet use for academic purpose

From the above chart, it is very clear that majority students spend their time on internet for academic purpose. It is also found that 113(70.62%) respondents use the internet for academic purpose every day, 14(8.75%) respondents use internet for academic purpose more than once a day, 24 (15.00%) respondents use the internet for academic purpose once a day and 9 (5.62%) respondents use internet for academic purpose once a month. The findings show that majority of students use the internet for academic purpose every day. It shows the awareness of the students towards their study.

Saarth

E-Journal of Research

ISSN NO: 2395-339X

9. Medium of internet use

Medium to access the internet	No. of respondents	Percentage (%)
Smartphone	138	86.25%
Modem and Laptop	08	05.00%
School	07	04.37%
Café	01	00.62%
Others	06	03.75%

Table 7: Medium of Internet use

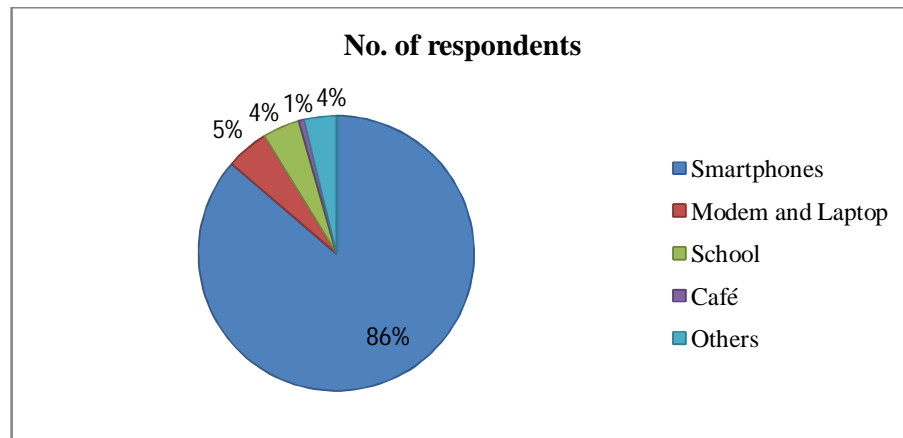


Chart 3: Medium of Internet use

From the above table, results shows that 138 (86.25%) respondents use their smart phone for internet use, 8 (5%) respondents use modem and laptop for internet use, 7 (4.37%) respondents use school internet, only one respondent use café for internet use and 6 (3.75%) respondents use other medium for internet use every day. The findings show that majority of students use their smart phones for internet use every day.

It is also found that 152 (95%) respondents believe that internet is one of the best tools for their learning and it is helpful in improving their academic research and learning. Only 8 (5%) respondents are not agree to that internet is helpful in their academic research and learning.

10. Benefits of the use of internet in academic learning.

Benefits of use of Internet	No. of respondents	Percentage (%)
Information is easily retrieved from the internet	96	60.00%
Availability of numerous sources	34	21.25%
Access to current and valuable research found on the internet	35	21.87%

Saarth

E-Journal of Research

ISSN NO: 2395-339X

Availability of effective easy learning tools	45	28.12%
Saves precious time	45	28.12%
Availability of online discussion on social media platform	29	18.12%
Helps in completing assignments and projects.	46	28.75%
Portable education through internet	34	21.25%
Develops communication skills	41	25.62%
Self-study from the internet	73	45.62%
Improve the research skill	44	27.50%
Useful tool for earning money	30	18.75%

Table 8: Benefits of the use of Internet in academic learning

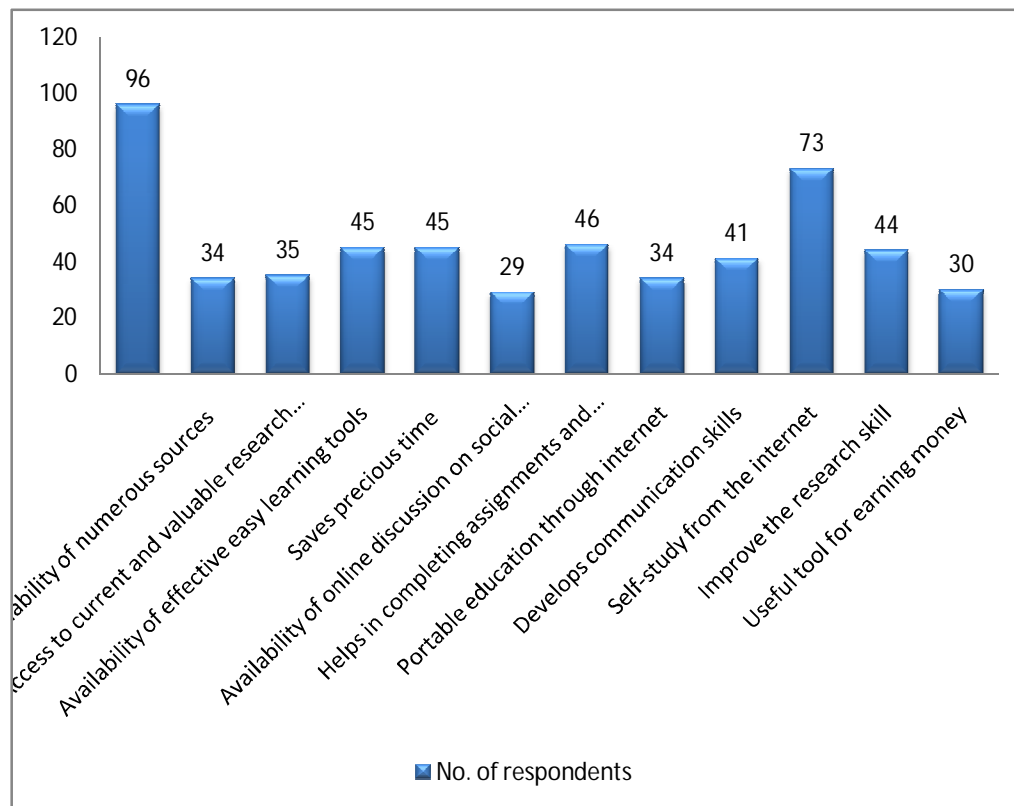


Chart 4: Benefits of the use of Internet in academic learning

- Form the above chart; it is found in the study that 96 (60%) respondents believe that information is easily retrieved from the internet. It is very easy to get any type of information at any time with the use of internet.

Saarth

E-Journal of Research

ISSN NO: 2395-339X

- From the study it is also found that 34 (21.25%) respondents are agree that numerous sources are available in internet use. Different sources at free of cost are available in internet for academic as well as social life.
- From the study it is also found that 35 (21.87%) respondents are agree that latest researches are available in internet. Latest and updated information can easily be accessed through internet. Information is updated very speedily in the internet, so users can access updated information within a very short time.
- It is also found that 45 (28.12%) respondents believe that effective and easy learning tools are available on internet. Students can access free as well as paid easy learning tools online easily. These types of tools will enrich the knowledge of the students.
- It is also found that 45 (28.12%) respondents believe that internet saves time. Information in a large quantity can be easily be availed with the help of internet. Internet is very useful tool to conduct research and surveys.
- It is also found that 29 (18.12%) respondents believe that internet is an useful tool for discussion on social media.
- It is also found that 46 (28.75%) respondents believe that internet is very helpful tool for completing assignments and project works. Necessary information related to assignments and projects can be easily get by only one click with the help of internet. Project presentations can also be made more attractive by using online tools.
- It is also found that 34 (21.25%) respondents believe that internet also provides facility of portable education. Portable education is a just like virtual classrooms. Students can learn academic concepts easily like they are learning in the physical classroom. They can also learn concepts online as well as offline mode through portable education.
- It is also found that 41 (25.62%) respondents believe that internet is useful to improve communication skills. Students can use various online social media platform for group discussion and presentation. They can also chat and debate with others using internet. This will develop communication skills in students.
- It is also found that 73 (45.62%) respondents agree that internet is useful for self study. Students can use internet at any time for their academic learning with no cost. They can complete their assignments, prepare projects reports, prepare presentations online using internet.
- It is also found that 44 (27.50%) respondents believe that internet improves research skills. Through internet students can read projects, research papers, theses, attend conferences and seminar, webinar etc., can attend online lectures from expert etc. This will be helpful to improve the research skill in students and also make research work easier.
- It is also found that 30 (18.75%) respondents believe that internet is one of the tools of earning. Students can attend various online contests and can earn money by winning.

Saarth

E-Journal of Research

ISSN NO: 2395-339X

They can deliver lectures online by using their expertise. They can do job in companies which provides online job work (outsourcing) and can earn money. So it's very clear that internet is an online tool of earning too.

11. Satisfaction level with the use of internet:

Satisfaction level	No. of respondents	Percentage (%)
Very satisfied	62	38.75%
Satisfied	65	40.62%
Neutral	22	13.75%
Dissatisfied	06	03.75%
Very dissatisfied	05	03.12%

Table 9: Satisfaction level with the use of Internet

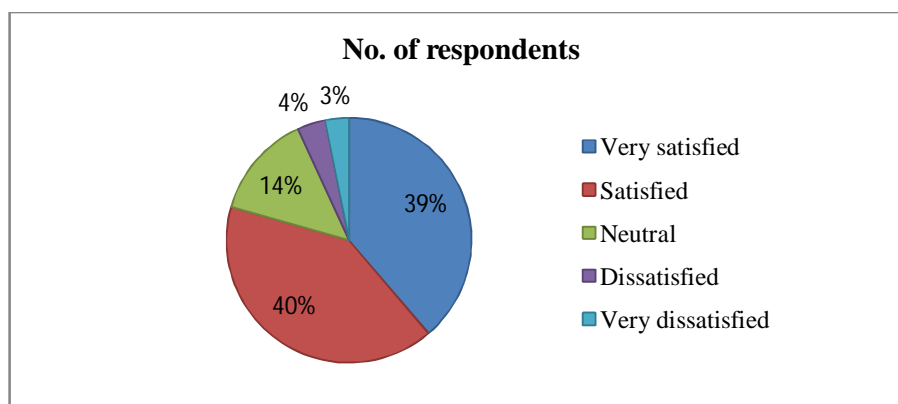


Chart 5: Satisfaction level with the use of Internet

Above chart indicates the satisfaction level of students from the use of internet for academic purpose. From the above chart, it is very clear that majority students are satisfied with the use of internet for their academic purpose. It is found that 62 (38.75%) respondents are very satisfied with the use of internet, 65 (40.62%) respondents are satisfied with the use of internet, 22 (13.75%) respondents are neutral with the use of internet, 6 (3.75%) respondents are dissatisfied with the use of internet and 5 (3.12%) respondents are very dissatisfied with the use of internet. The findings show that majority of students are satisfied with the use of internet for academic purpose.

4.3 Limitations of the study:

At the time of the study was conducted to meet the objectives of the study, there are some limitations that need to be faced and addressed by the researcher. The present study was conducted on the college students so result may differ for other students in academic field. It is also noted that the present study was conducted within the colleges of

Saarth

E-Journal of Research

ISSN NO: 2395-339X

Junagadh city, so result may differ for different place. Data was collected through online mode so result may be differ for offline mode respondents.

5.0 Findings and Conclusion:

The result shows internet plays a key role in the daily life of the people. From the data analysis carried out on the data collected, it is found that the younger generation has accepted the internet as a means of entertainment and learning. The use of internet is rapidly increasing among younger students. It is also found that use of the internet in academic field is also increasing. Students are now aware of the different use of internet for their learning. In the study majority respondents found satisfied with the use of internet. It is also found that majority students use their smart phone to access the internet. They also use internet for their academic work every day. From the result it is also found that there is a positive impact of internet on the student's academic performance. Student's attitude towards the use of the internet is also positive.

5.1 Suggestions:

Following are the recommendations from the result performance of the study:

- ✓ The cost of browsing should be reduced so that student's access to internet can increase.
- ✓ To solve the problem of slow functioning of internet connectivity, colleges should acquire high speed internet connection with maximum bandwidth.
- ✓ Training program should be organized so that maximum students can be aware about the use of internet for academic purpose.
- ✓ Colleges should organized seminars and workshops related to internet use for academic purpose to aware students latest academic online tools available and its use.

References:

1. Manhas, Rajeev & Kaur, Amritpal. (2005). Internet Use by Teachers and Students in Engineering Colleges of Punjab, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh: An Analysis. 7.
2. Biradar, B., Rajashekhar, G., & Sampath, K. (2006). A Study of Internet Usage by Students and faculties in Kuvempu University. Library Herald, 44 (4), 283-294.
3. Ani, O. (2010). Internet access and use. The Electronic Library, 28(4), 555-567. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1108/02640471011065373>
4. Sakina et al. (2011). Internet Use among University Students: A Survey in University of the Punjab, Lahore. Department of Library and Information Science, Islamia University of Bahawalpur
5. Türel, Y. K. and Muhammet Toraman, M. (2015). The Relationship between Internet Addiction and Academic Success of Secondary School Students. Anthropologist, 20(1, 2): 280-288

Saarth

E-Journal of Research

ISSN NO: 2395-339X

6. Torres-Díaz, J., Duarte, J. M., Gómez-Alvarado, H. F., Marín-Gutiérrez, I. and Segarra-Faggioni, V. (2016). Internet Use and Academic Success in University Students. *Media Education Research Journal* | pp. 61-70 ISSN: 1134-3478; e-ISSN: 1988-3293. www.comunicarjournal.com. DOI <http://dx.doi.org/10.3916/C48-2016-06>.
7. Bryman, A. *Research Methods and Organization Studies*, Unwin Hyman, London, 1989.
8. Miles, M.B. and Huberman, A.M. *Qualitative Data Analysis: A Sourcebook of New Methods*, Sage Publications, Newbury Park, CA, 1984.
9. https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc5Dv9KJNC4o6y1WJWGZZWp34BD2yWQ_vROnV85u3SZKfcuEg/viewform?usp=sf_link
10. www.google.com