

Usage of ICT by Technical Teachers in West Bengal Colleges

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Abstract

Technical education in the developing countries like India is experiencing a major transformation in last two decades. And this transition is highly credited to the developments in information and communication technologies (ICTs) in the country. The importance of ICT in technical education will continue to grow as every sector is moving rapidly into digital age. In this paper we have tried to present findings of using computers in different technical colleges by the teachers. We describe our work based on different age group and their use of computers based on purpose like educational, social networking etc. We also surveyed based on average number of hours to access the computers and access to internet.

Key words : Information and communication technology, Social networking, e-mail, educational websites, technical college.

Use of ICT in Technical Colleges

Since beginning the courses are delivered through lectures, manuals and study material i.e. following the conventional techniques. But with the growing demand of ICTs, teachers are shifting from traditional to Information

Technology (IT) based teaching techniques. And for this purpose teachers have to spent time on computers, internet etc for teaching learning methodologies, research etc. We have made a study based on the usage of the IT based teaching techniques like using slide

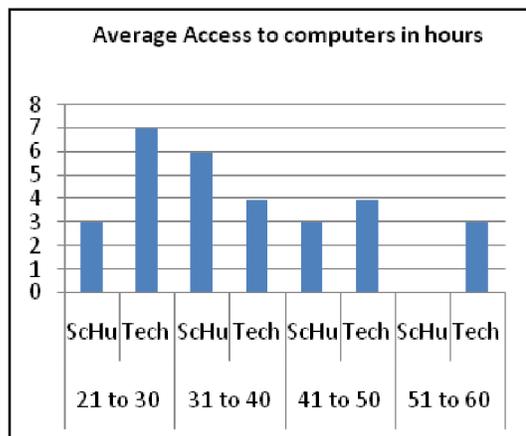
shows, hand outs for teaching by the faculties.

Our Work :

We have segregated our work based on age group, and the faculties of Technical departments and Science and Humanities department. We have made our survey in the state of West Bengal, India and in the Technical Colleges¹⁻⁶.

a. Access to Computers by Teachers :

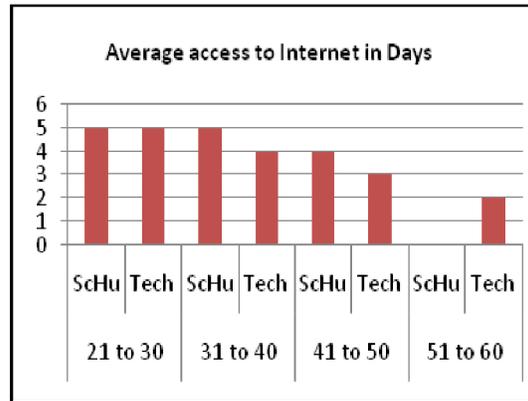
In the survey, we requested the teachers to state the number of hours they access computers daily. It is found that access to computers is more among younger age. As well as it is more among technical teachers except the older age group. Teachers are using the computers for different purposes starting from social networking to teaching materials preparation²⁻⁷.



b. Access to Internet by Teachers :

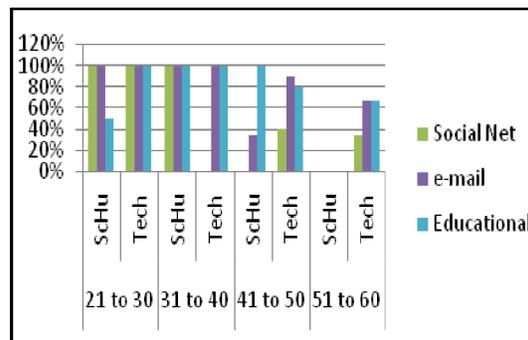
Regarding the internet access the trend is more like the previous section. Science and Humanities faculties are more prone to internet except the age group 51-60 years. From the survey it is found that internet is almost

an indispensable part of these people⁴⁻⁹.



c. Purpose of usage to Internet by Teachers

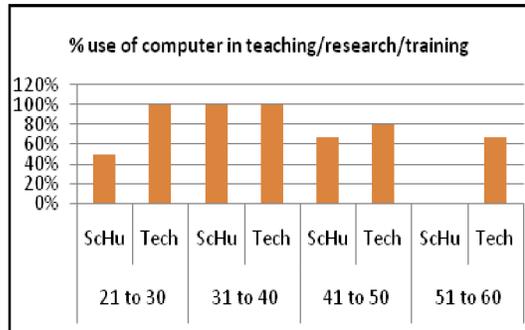
We have also asked for the purpose they are accessing the internet. We have broadly divided the category among three sections, namely, Social networking, e-mail and educational websites. From the survey it is found that almost all are using the internet for e-mail and educational websites. And the younger age groups are equally interested in social networking⁶⁻⁹.



d. Usage of Computers for Teaching/Research/ Training purpose:

We have also surveyed regarding the habit of doing research work, making teaching and training materials as well as gathering

information for the training and placement of the students. It is found that few age groups are fully utilizing computers and internet for Teaching/ Research/ Training purpose.



Teachers are more inclined towards use of Information and communication technology for preparing teaching resources, doing research work etc. in the current days. Majority of the faculties have access to computers and internet. Also teachers are using internet for different purposes like social networking, accessing e-mails as well as for educational reasons⁴⁻⁹.

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