ICT USE AMONG THE STUDENTS OF ENGINEERING COLLEGES IN KERALA

[1]Ariya.A, [2]Dr. S.Pushpalatha

[1]Ph.D Research scholar, Reg No: 20113281012001, Department of Commerce & Research Centre, Scott Christian College(Autonomous), Nagercoil. Affiliation of Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Abishekapatti Tirunelveli-627012.

[2]Assistant Professor, Department of Commerce & Research Centre,Scott Christian College(Autonomous), Nagercoil. Affiliation of Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Abishekapatti Tirunelveli-627012.

ABSTRACT

The role of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) plays a wider role in teaching-learning activities like, content creation, administrative, formative-summative assessments, student's performance tracking, trainings, knowledge management and knowledge organization. ICT includes a wide variety of technologies, including computers and software learning tools, networking systems and protocols, hand-held digital devices, digital cameras and camcorders, and other technologies, including those not yet developed, for accessing, managing, creating, and communicating information. The focus of this research is to find out the uses of ICT among the students of engineering colleges in Kerala. Both primary and secondary data are extensively used in this study. Then, the primary data was collected through the questionnaire method from the employees. For this study 75 respondents were selected positively. For collecting necessary data, 75 respondents have been collected in Kerala by using convenience sampling method.

Key words: ICT, formative-summative assessments, hand-held digital devices and camcorders.

INTRODUCTION

The technological advancements in information transfer and communication processes have brought about a radical change in searching, utilizing, and maintaining information resources and services. In academic institutions, the main role of electronic forms Information and communication technologies (ICT) are significant. ICT comprises the internet, network services, libraries, automation, digital library, institutional repository, and security system. Each one of us requires information for our day-to-day activities. Information and communication technologies (ICT) also help to increase the usage of library resources and services. ICT is very important for technological improvement in the present and future. Information and communication technologies (ICT) are based on technology. It is available to a large number of

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users. It provides access to information through telecommunication. It is a composite of electronic devices, such as software applications for converting, creating, storing, analyzing, organizing, retrieving, protecting, processing, and transmitting with audio-video systems with the help of telecommunication and satellite.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Engineering students encounter several advantages and challenges when using ICT (Information and Communication Technology) tools. Online learning has become more prevalent, especially during the pandemic. However, some students remain skeptical. They worry that online learning like Lacks the engagement of in-person lectures, affecting motivation and lack of computer access and ICT text books, accessibility issues. Hence, the present study is an attempt to discuss and analyse the purpose of using ICT tools in engineering colleges and to know the difficulties faced by engineering students while using ICT tools in Kerala.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

✔ **Sourav Mahato (2022)** in his study entitled "Tracing the ICT in Teacher education in India". The central objective of the study is to explore how to trace ICT in Teacher Education effectively to strengthen the Discipline in India. The specific objectives are, (i) to elaborate the present status of ICT in education, (ii) to elaborate how is the place of ICT in Teacher Education in India, and then (iii) to suggest logically how to trace ICT in Teacher Education in India to strengthen the Discipline. The study's findings demonstrated that Different e-platforms available should be strengthened and utilized, few programmes on SWAYAM or on such advanced platform/s can be compulsory for the student-teachers as well as for the faculties, and the blended mode should be encouraged for the Teacher Education Programmes as well as for the Faculty Development Programmes.

✔ **Gisa George (2021)** in her study entitled "The Role of ICT in Teaching and Learning with Special Reference to Indian Education System: - A Narrative Review of the Literature". The study was focused on the narrative of the literature review on the use of ICT in teaching and learning. The review study covers articles coming from major journals including a taxonomy study and detailed investigation as to the methodologies, approaches, and findings of these works. The study's findings demonstrated that using ICT in teaching and learning has a favorable impact. Furthermore, when compared to the developed countries, the utilization of ICT in emerging countries such as India is very low. This study shall help the policymakers, management, teaching fraternity, and students choose the best tools and methodologies.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The objectives of the study are as follows

✔ To know the purpose of using ICT tools in engineering colleges.

✔ To know the difficulties faced by engineering students while using ICT tools.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Most of the study's data comes from primary and secondary sources. The sample respondents in the study region are where the primary data will be gathered. The secondary data will be gathered from a range of publications, including books, journals, periodicals, the internet, etc.

✔ **Target Respondents**

The target respondents for the study are students in engineering colleges.

✔ **Sample size**

The sample size for the study is 75.

✔ **Sampling Method & Type**

The sampling technique used in this study was Convenience sampling method.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION
PURPOSE OF USING ICT TOOLS

TABLE 1

S.No	PURPOSE OF USING ICT TOOLS	Mean Score	Rank
1	Content creation	54.3	V
2	Administrative	84.3	I
3	Formative -summative assessments	79.6	II
4	student's performance tracking	60.1	1V
5	Trainings	64.9	III

Source: Primary Data

The table 1 shows that purpose of using ICT tools. In that "Administrative" with the mean score of 84.3 contributed first rank, "Formative -summative assessments" with the mean score of 79.6 contributed second rank, "Trainings" with the mean score of 64.9 contributed third rank. Fourth rank is for "student's performance tracking" with a mean score of 60.1 and least rank is for "Content creation" with a mean score of 54.3 respectively.

DIFFICULTIES FACED BY ENGINEERING STUDENTS

TABLE 2

S.no	Difficulties faced by engineering students	Mean Score		t- Statistics	p- Value
		Male	Female		
1	Too much information is retrieve	4.22	4.12	1.927	.055*
2	Lack of IT knowledge and skills for effectively utilizing services	3.84	3.67	2.252	.025*
3	Limited access to computer	4.17	3.85	4.355	.000*
4	Time Consuming	3.97	3.29	3.857	.000*
5	Using e-resources often distracts from work	4.00	3.29	4.211	.000*

Source: Primary Data

Regarding the Difficulties faced by engineering students in relation to their gender, there is a significant difference have been identified in all the five variable's they are "Too much information is retrieve", "Lack of IT knowledge and skills for effectively utilizing services", "Limited access to computer", "Time Consuming", "Using e-resources often distracts from work". Since, the respective 't' statistics at five percent level. (i.e) p value is lesser than 0.05 percent.

FINDINGS

✔ It shows that purpose of using ICT tools. In that "Administrative" with the mean score of 84.3 contributed first rank and least rank is for "Content creation" with a mean score of 54.3 respectively.

✔ Regarding the Difficulties faced by engineering students in relation to their gender, there is a significant difference have been identified in all the five variable's they are "Too much information is retrieve", "Lack of IT knowledge and skills for effectively utilizing services", "Limited access to computer", "Time Consuming", "Using e-resources often distracts from work". Since, the respective 't' statistics at five percent level. (i.e) p value is lesser than 0.05 percent.

SUGGESTIONS

❖ Appointing qualified technical staff is necessary to receive support when utilizing ICT.
❖ Increasing the bandwidth should solve the issue of slow connectivity.
❖ Authorities need to act to tackle the challenges that the students is facing.
❖

CONCLUSION

The traditional approach to research has altered due to the rapid development of information and communication technologies, especially the internet and electronic resources. The academic information's communication, retrieval and storage. The most effective means of storing and retrieving information nowadays is the internet. Users need to use various technological and web resources to retrieve pertinent information. The best possible use of these resources should be made possible by academic institutions and libraries. Information is essential for gaining access to knowledge and staying current, which helps engineering professors become more skilled and creative in the workplace.

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