



ORIGINAL RESEARCH PAPER

Commerce

A STUDY ON USAGE PATTERN OF INTERNET, AWARENESS ABOUT CYBER CRIME AMONG ARTS AND SCIENCE COLLEGE STUDENTS IN COIMBATORE CITY

KEY WORDS:

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ABSTRACT Internet plays a vital role in this modern world especially in today's education sector. Nowadays most of the college students are spending their valuable time with internet. At the same time, they are facing some problems related to cybercrime. So the main objective of this study is to know about the usage pattern and problems faced by the students while using internet and to decipher the awareness about various categories of cybercrime among college students in Coimbatore district. For this purpose, primary data were collected from 60 college students in Coimbatore district with the help of self-designed questionnaire. Collected data's were analyzed by using percentage analysis, Friedman ranking, weighted average analysis and Chi-square analysis.

INTRODUCTION

Internet creates platform for faster and efficient learning. Usage of internet is increasing day by day among college students. Now a day's internet access has become easier and more affordable than before. Internet has become very common and popular among the students, as they access at least 3-4 hours in a day in home, colleges and cyber cafe with the help of smart phones and computers. Students access internet for various purposes such as for academic, payment of college fee, downloading images, videos, online shopping, online banking, playing games and so on.

Most of the common problems faced by the college students in Coimbatore are internet addiction, cyber crime, virus attack and data stolen. They spend more time in online chatting and accessing social networking sites. They indulge in activities such as illegal downloading software, sharing unwanted contents, information, photographs, and emails and so on. They have to take utmost care while using sharing the sensitive and personal information.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Pradeep Loyed Martis P* and Arjun MSA (2018) observed the cybercrime awareness among youth in Udupi District. The aim of the study is to study profile of the respondents and level of awareness of cybercrime among youth in Udupi district. The research found that majority of the respondents are generally lack awareness towards cybercrime. The youths in Udupi district are not thoroughly aware of cybercrime and they have to prevent cybercrime through education and proper guidance. The respondents have not taken steps to protect their systems by providing passwords and other measures. Majority of the users are aware of hacking, Majority of but they are not aware of crimes like cyber stalking, mobile hacking, Deep web crimes, copyright violation, cyber bullying, phishing, child soliciting and abuse, sharing disturbing content of pornography, identity theft, cyber-squatting etc. It is the duty of users to learn about the different cyber crimes and how to overcome it.

Fayaz Ahamad Loan (2011)

researched a paper about internet use by the college students of different disciplines and the problems faced by them in using internet. The study found that among the different discipline of students, computer science students are having more knowledge about internet use, information and technology followed by business and commerce, general science, social sciences and humanities. Business and commerce students use internet for information, computer science students for communication purpose and social sciences and humanities students use it for educational purpose. But all the discipline students face problem of

searching the relevant information in using internet, but students of general science, social science and humanities are internet illiterates. Majority of the students stated that there is problem while using internet is slow speed. The study suggests the need to create awareness among students of all faculties about the information and communication technologies and to train them in using these technologies.

NEED FOR THE STUDY

This study is very important to know the usage pattern of internet, problems faced and to know the awareness about various categories of cybercrime. In the present scenario internet is used for gathering and sharing information. Various benefits are enjoyed by the students while using internet but on the other side it poses fear in the minds of users about the cyber crime. Many times students getting victimized because of the cybercrime even without their knowledge. Hence the study is undertaken among the arts and science college students in Coimbatore to identify usage pattern and problems.

OBJECTIVES OF STUDY

1. To study the usage pattern and problems faced by the respondents while using internet.
2. To decipher the awareness about various categories of cyber crime in cyber space among internet users.

Limitation of the research

This study is restricted to 60 students in Coimbatore city. Accordingly the results are revealed. The results are subject to change based on the opinions of the respondents.

RESEARCH DESIGN

Primary data collection was done through survey method using well-structured questionnaire. The sample size of 60 students were chosen from Coimbatore city through Quota sampling method.

Data collection

The data which is collected both from primary and secondary source. The primary data comprises of information on "Usage pattern of internet, awareness about cyber crime among arts and science college students in Coimbatore city". The data has been collected directly from respondents with the help of structured questionnaire and the secondary data collected from journals, articles and news papers.

ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

Table 1 - Demographic profile of the respondents

S. No	Demographic Profile	Group	Frequency	Percentage
a.	Gender	Male	29	48.3
a.		Female	31	51.7

b.	Age	18-19 years	26	43.33
a.		20-21 years	24	40
a.		22-23 years	6	10
a.		24-25 years	4	6.7
c.	Marital Status	Married	2	3.3
a.		Unmarried	58	96.7
d.	Area of Residence	Rural	17	28.3
a.		Urban	29	48.3
a.		semi-urban	14	23.3
e.	Education level	UG	38	63.3
a.		PG	16	26.7
a.		MPhil	6	10
a.		PhD	-	-
f.		Monthly income	Below 20000	10
a.	20001-30000		10	16.7
a.	30001-40000		7	11.7
a.	40001-50000		8	30.0
a.	Above 50000		15	25.0
g.	Type of internet connection	Wireless Connections(Wi-Fi)	7	11.7
a.		Cell phone networks	20	33.3
a.		Both Wireless and Cell phone network	33	55
h.	Internet browser	Internet Explorer	1	1.7
a.		Chrome	56	93.3
a.		Mozilla Firefox	1	1.7
a.		Opera	0	0
a.		Others	2	3.3
i.	Search engine	Google	56	93.3
		Yahoo	0	0
		Ask.com	0	0
		Bing	2	3.3
		Youtube	1	1.7
		Google Scholar	1	1.7
J	Time spending	Less than 2 hours	8	13.3
		2-3 hours	13	21.7
		3-4 hours	17	28.3
		4-5 hours	6	10
		5-6 hours	6	10
	More than 6 hours	10	16.7	
K	Period of usage	less than 2 years	26	43.3
		2-4 years	21	35
		4-6 years	10	16.7
		more than 6 years	3	5

The above table shows that the majority of the respondents are female (51.7%), in the age group of 18 - 19 years (43.33%), unmarried (96.7%), residing in urban area (48.3%), with the undergraduate level (63.3%) and earning a monthly income of Rs.40,001- Rs.50000 (30.0%). Majority of the respondents are using Both Wi- Fi and Cell phone networks for internet usage(55%), using google chrome for internet browsing (93.3%) and search engine(93.3%). Most of them are spending 3-4 hours (28.3%) in browsing internet and are using internet for the period of less than 2 years (43.3%).

Table No.2 Respondents source of awareness about cyber crime

S.No.	Source of awareness about cyber crime	Frequency	Percentage
a.	Friends & relative	25	41.7
b.	Awareness programs	9	15
c.	IT professionals	8	13.3
d.	Academic learning	6	10
e.	News papers	3	5
f.	Websites	4	6.7
g.	TV & radio	4	6.7

h.	Self	1	1.7
Total		60	100

It is inferred that the most (41.7%) of the respondents are aware about cyber crime through friends and relatives.

Table No 3 Respondents place for accessing the internet

S.No.	Place of internet accesses	Mean value	Rank
a.	Home	1.43	1
b.	College	2.53	2
c.	Common places	3.28	3
d.	Cyber café	4.80	6
e.	Library	4.72	5
f.	Friends home	4.23	4

The above table indicates that the lowest mean value is given by the respondents for assessing internet from home followed by college, common places, friend's home, library and cyber café

Table No. 4 Respondents problems towards internet access

S.No.	Problems	Values	Rank
a.	Viruses & malware	243	1
b.	Accounts Hacking	218	7
c.	Data stolen chances	225	4
d.	Frauds	222	5
e.	Dark web on internet	215	8
f.	Wrong news	233	3
g.	Far from family	221	6
h.	Wasting time	235	2
i.	Waste of money	208	9

The above table indicates that the lowest mean value is given by the respondents problems towards internet access most of the students are facing virus and malware problem followed by wasting time, wrong news, data stolen chances, frauds, far from family, accounts hacking, dark web on internet, and waste of money while using internet

Table No 5 Respondents awareness towards cyber crime

S.No.	Types of cyber crime	Values	Rank
a.	Hacking	176	4
b.	Cyber – stalking	162	8
c.	Virus dissemination	185	2
d.	Dissemination of obscene material/pornography	163	7
e.	Cyber terrorism	166	5
f.	Cyber defamation	160	9
g.	Online fraud and cheating	190	1
h.	Phishing	153	11
i.	E – mail spoofing	178	3
j.	Forgery	166	5
k.	E-mail bombing	159	10
l.	Data diddling	141	13
m.	Salami attacks	128	16
n.	Internet time thefts	140	14
o.	Logic bombs	134	15
p.	Trojan horse	153	11

It is concluded that majority of the respondents are extremely aware about online frauds and cheating followed by Virus dissemination, E – mail spoofing, Hacking, Cyber terrorism, Forgery, Dissemination of obscene material /pornography, Cyber – stalking, Cyber defamation, E-mail bombing ,Phishing, Trojan horse, Data diddling, Internet time thefts ,Logic bombs,Salami attacks.

Recommendations

Following recommendations are given to students.

- Educating the students in schools and colleges about the safer methods of using internet and sharing of personal information.

- Awareness programme can be organized by police department and the educational institutions about the cybercrime to help the students to acquire knowledge and take preventive measure.

CONCLUSION

It will be difficult to eliminate cybercrime from cyber space in the world. The possible way of preventing cyber crime is to educate the users about the ethics that has to be followed. Government should also try to implement stringent rules and regulations by making necessary changes in the cyber laws to avoid the crime.

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