Usage of Ict Among Faculty in Engineering Colleges of Tiruchirapalli District

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ABSTRACT *Information Communication Technology (ICT) is electronic communication technologies used for collecting storing, processing, and communicating information. There are three main categories these which information is (Data) communication is (transmission or disseminate information such as telecommunication system) technology is information (such as computer system). The revolutionary advancements in information and communication technologies (ICT) have substantially paced the growth of libraries all over the world. ICT particularly facilitates speedy library operations, services and enhances connectivity for access and delivery of information. The offer of new information and communication products and services by the libraries has provided an opportunity to the information seeker to have required and pinpointed information in no time via internet, databases, and powerful search engines through the applications if ICT even on their android based or smart phones these days. This paper presents the usage of ICT among faculty in selected engineering colleges of Tiruchirappalli district.*

ROLE OF ICT

1. ICT has revolutionized the modes and methods of information communication.

2. The advent of digital computers advances in telecommunication and audiovisual technologies.

3. Have opened up new possibilities in dealing with the problem of dissemination of vast amount of information.

4. They also help in dealing with the problems of collecting, organizing and dissemination of information.

5. Advances made in communication technologies have thrown infinite possibilities to increase speed efficiency and effectiveness of service in libraries and information centers.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

To find the Gender wise and discipline wise distribution of the respondents.

To know the purpose of using ICT tools.

To rank the search engines and browsers used by faculty.

To find out the learning ways of ICT

To know the ways of improvement of ICT

To know the difficulties faced while using ICT tools.

SCOPE OF THE STUDY

The study is confined to faculty members of selected Engineering colleges in Tiruchirappalli district, regarding the ICT facilities.

METHODOLOGY

A questionnaire based on survey method was adopted to gather the data on the Usage of ICT among faculty in Selected Engineering Colleges of Tiruchirapalli District. Questionnaires were distributed randomly to 25 faculty in each five colleges under survey. In all 125 questionnaires were personally distributed to the faculty members. A total of 100 filled in questionnaire were received with response rate. A questionnaire is a set of questions framed with a view to determine the user needs and user behaviors. Out of 125 questionnaires, only 100 questionnaires were complete and taken into account for analysis and interpreted for the outcomes.
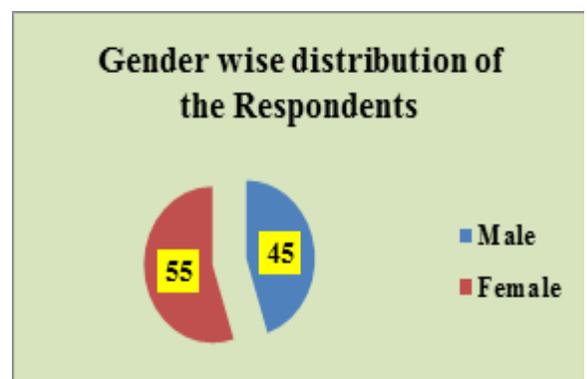
LIMITATIONS

The findings of this study are mainly applicable to faculty members in selected Engineering Colleges of Tiruchirappalli. Due to the time and cost constraint only 5 institutions have been selected for this study.

ANALYSIS OF DATA

The data collected from the faculty members through questionnaires and it was analyzed using simple percentage technique.

Fig 1 : GENDER WISE DISTRIBUTION OF THE RESPONDENTS

Gender wise distribution of the Respondents
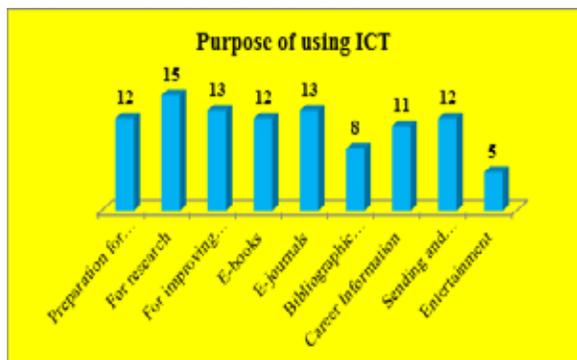
55 Female — 45 Male

The above figure shows that the distribution of respondents by Gender ratio, 55% of the staff are Female and remaining 45% are Male respondents. From the table, it is noted that Female is utilizing Information Techniques for their Learning, Studying and Research work than Male category.

TABLE 1 : DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS BY DISCIPLINE

S.No	Gender	Number of Respondents(N=100)	Percentage
1	BE	35	35
2	ME	43	43
3	SCIENCE AND HUMANITIES	12	12
4	PH.D	10	10
	Total	100	100

Table 1 shows that the subject wise distribution of the respondents from the table. It is noted that 43% of respondents are from the subject of ME, 35% of respondents belongs to BE. 12% of respondents belong to Science & Humanities. The least number of respondents 10% belongs to Ph.d. The study revealed that ICT is maximum utilized by ME faculty.

FIGURE 2 : PURPOSE OF USING ICT

The above figure indicates that the 15% of faculty are using the ICT for their research work,13 % using it for improving area of specialization and accessing E-Journals,12% of faculty accessing E-Books and preparation for class teaching , 11% using it for career information, only 5% of faculty using it for entertainment purpose.

TABLE 2 :SEARCH ENGINES

S.No	Search Engines	Number of Respondents(N=100)	Percentage
1	Google	53	53
2	Yahoo	12	12
3	You tube	10	10
4	MSN	8	8
5	Info – seek	9	9
6	Any other	8	8
		100	100

From the above table it is found that majority of respondents 53% prefer Google due to quick accessibility, followed by Yahoo 12%, and the other search engines got least response. It is seen that from the above discussion that a maximum number of respondents frequently use google search engine.

TABLE 3: INTERNET BROWSER

S.No	Browser	Number of Respondents(N=100)	Percentage
1	Internet explorer	65	65
2	Mozila firefox	25	25
3	Opera	10	10
	Total	100	100

The above table shows that the majority of respondents use Internet Explorer with 65% and remaining respondents use mozila firefox and opera with 25% and 10% respectively.

TABLE 4 : LEARNING WAYS OF ICT

S.no	Learning Methods	No of Respondents(N=100)	Percentage
1	Guidance from Library staff	21	21
2	Self Taught	18	18
3	Courses offered by University or college	17	17
4	External courses	16	16
5	Guidance from other colleagues	11	11
6	Trial and Error	10	10
7	Guidance from Technicians	7	7
	Total	100	100

Table 4 depicts the various methods of Learning ICT. The most popular method of obtaining skills to use ICT is through Guidance from Library staff is 21% and Self taught is 18%, 17% of respondents obtain the ICT skill through the method Courses offered by University or college. 11% of respondents received Guidance from the Staff. The study indicated that the popular method for learning to use the ICT was Guidance from library Staff and Self Study.

TABLE 5: DIFFICULTIES IN ICT

Problem	No of Respondents(N=100)	Percentage
Too much information is retrieve	33	33
Lack of IT knowledge and skills for effectively utilizing services	26	26
Limited access to computer	21	21
Time Consuming	10	10
Using e-resources often distracts from work	10	10
	100	100

The above table shows that the various problems faced by the faculty while using ICT. 33% of the respondents remarked that the too much information is appearing in the screen and they find very difficult to locate the required information,26% remarked that lack of IT knowledge and skills for effectively utilizing services,21% of respondents remarked limited access to computer ,10 % of respondents remarked time consuming and Using e-resources often distracts from work respectively.

Table 6: Ways of Improvement

S.no	Ways	No of Respondents(N=100)	Percentage
1	Access to Current up – to –date information	43	43
2	Easier access to information	28	28
3	Faster access to information	20	20
4	Access to a wider range of information	9	9
	Total	100	100

The above table indicates that the distribution of respondents by the ways of improvement 43% of respondents replied that they access the current information, 28% of respondents stated that easier access information is due to ICT, The remaining 20% replied that they access to information very faster. Similarly 9% stated that they access to wide range of information.

SUGGESTION :
The colleges must take steps to install more computers with latest specifications and multimedia kit in the library. So that the faculty can use internet telephony, video – conferencing, chatting and other useful services of the internet.

Qualified technical staff should be appointed for getting assistance while using ICT.

The problem of slow connectivity should be overcome by increasing the bandwidth.

The authority must take steps to rectify the difficulties faced by the faculty.

Sites providing only entertainment should be locked so that the faculty would not unnecessarily use computers.

The library staff must be educated with ICT usage.

Capacity of servers should be increased and firewalls should be installed for protection from viruses

CONCLUSION :
The fast growth of information and communication technologies and particularly and internet and electronic resources have changed the traditional method of research, storage, retrieval and communication of scholarly information. Now a day's internet has emerged as most powerful medium for storage and retrieval of information. In order to retrieve relevant information, users have to make use of different electronic and web resources. The academic institutions and libraries should also facilitate the maximum use of these resources.For making engineering faculty more accomplish and innovative in the work force information play vital role, for accessing information and keeping abreast with the new developments and technology.

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