Internet Awareness Among B.Ed. Trainees

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Abstract:
Internet is a very effective and popular tool used by the students for education as well as variety of other purposes including entertainment. It delivers information in the form of text, images, graphics animations, etc. Internet is a very versatile medium to meet the information needs of students. Present study was carried out to know the opinions of B.Ed. teacher trainees towards use of Internet. In the study, different criteria such as access to internet, interest in using internet, purpose of use of internet and difficulty faced in using internet are checked. Total 100 teacher trainees were selected as sample for the study. Self-made opinionnaire was prepared to know the opinions of teacher trainees towards internet. On the basis of the scores obtained percentage analysis was carried out. Findings show that majority of teacher trainees have the knowledge of internet and they have access to internet. Also majority of the trainees have interest in using the internet for educational purposes, while others use it for various purposes like e-mail, surfing, chatting, for entertainment and playing games. By using internet in educational matters like assignments, projects, lesson planning, practical work, etc. the quality of education can be increased. It is very useful in order to keep our future generations updated and proactive.

1. Introduction
Education today is more than teaching and learning with an emphasis on technology. With the emergence of the World Wide Web (WWW) in 1969, the world of teaching and learning has adopted it as one of its main innovations. Internet is a very effective and popular tool used by the teacher as well as students for educational purposes, entertainment and various other purposes. Such technology might help improve the quality of learning, rather than simply making it faster and cheaper.

The aim of teacher education is to develop skills and appropriate knowledge among teacher trainees for using and integrating right technology in an appropriate manner. It is important to develop teacher competencies in use of web-technologies, especially use of internet is considered as empowering tool for teachers. Internet, also known as network of networks is a very effective and popular tool used by the students for education as well as variety of other purposes including entertainment. It delivers information in the form of text, images, graphics animations, etc. Internet is a very versatile medium to meet the information needs of students. As a result, it has become very popular among the student community. Today we cannot do without Google and Wikipedia. Keeping in mind all these points, the researcher has decided to study internet awareness among B.Ed. trainees.

2. Objectives of the study
The present study was undertaken with the following objectives :
1. To construct an opinionnaire to know the opinions of B.Ed. trainees towards use of internet.
2. To find out the accessibility of internet to trainees.
3. To study the opinions of teacher trainees towards use of internet.
4. To study the purpose of internet use.
5. To study the opinions regarding difficulties faced by the trainees during internet use.

3. Delimitations of the study

1. Present study is carried out only for the teacher trainees of B.J.Patel College of Education, Bardoli.
2. For the present study, only the self-made opinionnaire was used as a tool for collecting the data.

4. Research Methodology

A survey method was adopted for the present research.

4.1 Sampling

For the present study, the researcher has adopted purposive sampling technique for the collection of the data. The teacher trainees of B.J.Patel College of Education, Bardoli of Surat District were selected as sample for the study.

4.2 Tools for the study

The title of the present research is "Internet Awareness among B.Ed. trainees". Keeping in mind the topic, the researcher decided to use self developed opinionnaire specifically developed for the study. The opinionnaire consisted of 30 statements and it consisted of four sections as under :

Sr. No.	Section
1.	Access to Internet
2.	Interest in using Internet
3.	Purpose of Internet use
4.	Difficulty faced in using Internet

4.3 Data Collection

Data were collected with the help of opinionnaire. There was no time limit given. The teacher trainees completed the opinionnaire in average 15-20 minutes.

4.5 Analysis and Interpretation of the data

The present study consisted of study of opinion of 100 teacher trainees and employed percentage analysis. The analysis of the data was done by finding frequency of every statement on the basis of information obtained. The interpretation of the statement was done by finding out the percentage.

4.6 Findings

From the analysis and interpretation of data of the present study, the researcher draws the following conclusion :

1. Access to Internet

- Accessibility to internet is the deciding factor for the use of internet. From the analysis of the data it is observed that 85% trainees have access to internet while 15% trainees said that they have no access to internet.
- 94% trainees have knowledge of internet, while only 6% trainees does not have much knowledge about internet. From this, it can be said that majority of trainees have the knowledge of internet but they do not have their own computer and their financial condition is not so good that they can afford to use it.
- As regards to place of internet use, some trainees used internet facilities available at college, some go to cyber café, some use it on mobile, etc. Only 35% trainees used internet services available on mobile while others do not use it.
- The trainees were also asked about the time they spend while using internet. Majority of the students reported that they use internet as and when required.

2. Interest in using Internet

- Regarding interest in using the internet, 90% trainees showed interest while only 10% trainees were not interested. Majority of the trainees have interest in using the internet for various purposes. The students who gave negative response also cleared that even though they have interest they cannot use it for one or another reasons.
- 82% trainees agreed that they can use internet easily while 18% trainees even though interested cannot use it for one or another reasons.

3. Purpose of Internet use

- Regarding purpose of internet use different trainees use it for different purposes like they use it for e-mail, surfing, chatting, searching for various purposes, etc. Majority of the trainees use it for educational purposes. Some trainees used it for entertainment and playing games.

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- 65% of trainees use internet for educational purposes while 35% trainees use it for other miscellaneous purposes.
- 40% of trainees used internet for getting information about job.
- 44% trainees used it for entertainment.
- 33% trainees used internet for communicating with friends and relatives.
- 93% trainees said that they can get desired information from any corner of the world through internet.
- Only 15% of trainees use internet for payment of bills.
- 70% of trainees use it for filling forms online.
- Only 21% trainees use it for online booking of bus, train tickets.
- Only 3% trainees use internet for online shopping.
- 61% trainees have obtained information regarding different universities through internet.

From this it can be said that different trainees use internet for different purposes.

4. Difficulty faced in using Internet

- The study of difficulties faced while using the internet, there may be many reasons either teacher do not encourage them properly or lack of required infrastructure.
- Only 30% trainees have required infrastructure at home while 70% trainees does not have required infrastructure facilities at home for internet use.
- There are facilities available in the college but they do not get sufficient time to use it as they are engaged in lesson planning, attending lectures and various other activities. They want to use it home but they do not have required infrastructure facilities at home.

5. Conclusion

The present study was a humble attempt to check the internet awareness among B.Ed. trainees. However, there is not quite satisfaction. There may be several reasons for this. The trainees should be motivated properly to make use of internet for educational purposes. The teacher educator should also be trained in the use of internet effectively. The researcher has selected the problem in a spirit of inquiry and in conclusion the researcher is fully satisfied that it has been a good learning experience. By using internet in educational matters e.g. assignments, projects, lesson planning, practical work, etc. the quality of education can be increased. It is very useful in order to keep our future generations updated and proactive.

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