

Asian Resonance

Internet Use among Adolescents of Senior Secondary Schools in Chandigarh



Vandana Mehra

Professor,
Deptt. of Education,
Panjab University,
Chandigarh, India

Sukhbir Kaur

Research Scholar,
Deptt. of Education,
Panjab University,
Chandigarh, India

Abstract

The study was conducted to find out internet use among adolescents of Senior Secondary schools in Chandigarh. Sample comprised of 400 adolescents of IXth class (i.e. 200 males and 200 females) of Government Senior Secondary Schools of Chandigarh. Descriptive method was used. Results revealed that male adolescents exhibited better internet use in making new friends/relationships compared to female adolescents. It was also found that male adolescents use Internet more to when compared with their female counterparts. Overall percentages of adolescents who use Internet for making friends and new relationships on Internet were found to be higher among males when compared with female adolescents.

Keywords: Academic Achievement, Internet Efficacy.

Introduction

Internet is a multipurpose tool with numerous potentials. It enables students to communicate with different students all over the world and thus share each other's ideas, knowledge, experiences, and cultures. It enhances skills and capabilities of students, which assists them in their studies and in professional life. The academic landscape in education sector has been comprehensively transformed by the recent advances in Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs). Consequently, the teaching and learning processes along with educational programs and pedagogy of instruction are being restructured, reformed to meet the expectations of a whole new breed of students entering the Universities. ICT applications in education sector can greatly enhance the quality of education. The learners, through multifaceted ICT applications, can control the content, time and pace of learning. It is also one of the greatest recent advancement in the world of information technology and has become a useful instrument that has fostered the process of making the world a global village. (Devi and Roy 2012).

In the 20th century, Internet has swiftly entered the life of the humankind. It took less than ten years in spreading it all over the world. It has not only become the source of the vast information but the most easiest and rapid source of communication. With the help of Internet one can explore the world while sitting in the comfort of their own home. Since its inception in the last quarter of the 20th century, Internet has been very important and powerful feature in the information. The use of internet has expanded with the passage of time and included many areas such as research, government, education, entertainment, industry and business etc. in it. Internet is also known as information superhighway as it opened the floodgates of information to the common man. The whole process of information handling has been changed in recent years with the help of computers and internet. Internet connects different sources of information irrespective of their locations. It has also taken the responsibility of organizing, storing, retrieval and dissemination of information. Assessing the valuable information scattered in different parts of the world is possible with the help of internet. There is wide variety of services available on the Internet i.e. electronic mail, shopping opportunities, online libraries and journals, social networking sites, multimedia display, interactive collaboration breaking news etc. Invention, use and proliferation of internet has been one of the major shift that the world has witnessed in the last two decades (Mulla and Chandrashekhra, 2006).

Review of Literature

Kittinger, Correia, and Irons (2012) assessed a range of variables related to Facebook use, and sought to determine how the use of

E: ISSN No. 2349-9443

Facebook relates to problematic Internet use. Undergraduate participants of North America (N=281, 72 percent women) completed a battery of self-report measures, including the Internet Addiction Test, via an online interface. The result of the current study suggested that a sizable minority of students experience problems related to Internet use and that the use of Facebook may contribute to the severity of symptoms associated with Internet addiction.

Subash, Kadian, Prasad and Asif (2012) conducted a study on the students of the National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal, Haryana to explore the students' perceived importance and effect of internet use on their overall performance (i.e., both academic as well as non-academic activities in their college environment). The study revealed that, regarding the effect of internet use on academic performance, a majority of the respondents strongly agreed with the statement that the internet facilitates to retrieve latest information and facilitates improved systems of communication, whereas a majority of them agree with the statement that the internet facilitates saving of time and energy and cost-effective as well, and that it had a positive impact on academic experience. And, in case of their non-academic performance, a majority of the respondents agreed with the statement that the Internet facilitates to maintain a wide circle of friends.

Singh (2014) reviewed more than fifty online studies to identify the psychological, educational and social effect of internet use on students in India. It was found that for the last few years, the use and access of Internet among students had been increasing with a pathetic pace but now have become an important daily activity in India. According to the Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI), almost 213 million people use internet in India in which students account maximum and their number are increasing swiftly every hour. The review of various studies revealed that students use internet for various objectives. Most of the undergraduate students use the internet for entertainment, social and education objectives. They use it minimum for their academics and knowledge. Only M.Phil and Ph.D research students, if they were guided properly by their supervisors, utilize it for their research topics and other education and career information. The study also concluded that internet users still face many problems while surfing internet in which low speed, downloading problems, availability of reliable information, location and other handling problems are primary. It was also found that both faculty members and students are not updated about their internet knowledge.

Sampasa and Lewis (2015) investigated the association between time spent on SNSs and unmet need for mental health support, poor self-rated mental health, and reports of psychological distress and suicidal ideation in a representative sample of middle and high school children in Ottawa, Canada. Data for this study were based on 753 students (55% female; $M_{age} = 14.1$ years) in grades 7–12 derived from the 2013 Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey.

Asian Resonance

Multinomial logistic regression was used to examine the associations between mental health variables and time spent using SNSs. Overall, 25.2% of students reported using SNSs for more than 2 hours every day, 54.3% reported using SNSs for 2 hours or less every day, and 20.5% reported infrequent or no use of SNSs. Students who reported unmet need for mental health support were more likely to report using SNSs for more than 2 hours every day than those with no identified unmet need for mental health support. Daily SNS use of more than 2 hours was also independently associated with poor self-rating of mental health and experiences of high levels of psychological distress and suicidal ideation. The findings suggested that students with poor mental health might be greater users of SNSs.

Ganapathi (2015) determined the prevalence of Internet Addiction pattern and to analyze the associated factors among the college students from various education fields from South India. Cross-sectional study was conducted on 596 college students studying in Arts, Engineering and Medicine were assessed using a self-administered questionnaire. Information regarding demographic factors was collected and Internet Addiction pattern determined by Young's Internet Addiction test scale. Results revealed that out of 596 students, 246(41.3%) were mild addicts, 91(15.2%) were moderate addicts and 259(43.5%) were not addicted to Internet use. There was no pattern of severe Internet addiction among the study group. Males, students of Arts and Engineering stream, those staying at home, no extracurricular activity involvement, time spent on internet per day, mode of accessing internet are some of the factors significantly associated with internet addiction pattern. It was also found that the prevalence of Internet Addiction is high among more than half of the study group.

Montalvo, Velez and Irazabal (2015) analyzed the characteristics and habits of Internet use in a sample of pre-adolescents between 10 and 13 years of age, enrolled in the 6th grade of primary school in Navarra (Spain). Likewise, the existence of differential patterns in Internet use by sex was analyzed, and risk behaviors were detected. The sample was composed of 364 students (206 boys and 158 girls) who were evaluated at their schools. Information about socio-demographic characteristics, Internet use habits, and online behaviors was collected using a data-gathering tool specifically designed for the study. The results demonstrated high Internet use by the adolescents studied. Girls used the Internet more for social relationships, whereas boys tended to use it differently, including accessing online games. Moreover, some risky behaviors were found, including interactions with strangers, giving out personal information, and sending photos and videos. Likewise, behaviors associated with cyber-bullying were detected. These results indicated the necessity of establishing prevention programs for safe and responsible Internet use.

Statement of the Problem

Internet Use among Adolescents Of Senior Secondary Schools In Chandigarh.

E: ISSN No. 2349-9443

Objectives

The objectives of this study were:

1. To compare the Internet use by male and female adolescents.
2. To know the frequency of using internet among male and female adolescents.
3. To know the purpose of using Internet by male and female adolescents. .

Design of the Study

1. Descriptive method was used.

Sample

Stratified Random Sampling Technique was used for the selection of the sample in the present

Table 1: Percentage of Frequency of using Internet among Male and Female Adolescents

SEX		Rarely	Once a month	Once a fortnight	Once a week	Daily	Total
Male	Number	10	7	4	65	114	200
	%	5%	3.5%	2%	32.5%	57%	100%
Female	Number	47	27	6	37	83	200
	%	23.5%	13.5%	3%	18.5%	41.5%	100%
Total	Number	57	34	10	102	197	400
	%	14.2%	8.5%	2.5%	25.5%	49.3%	100%

To determine the level of frequency of using Internet among adolescents their scores were analyzed and it was found that 57% of male and 41.5% of female adolescents use Internet daily, which means male adolescents use Internet more frequently when compared with their female counterparts Overall only 2.5% of adolescents use Internet once a fortnight. 3.5% of male adolescents and 13.5% of

study. 400 students (i.e 200 males and females) of Government Senior Secondary schools of Chandigarh were the sample

Tools

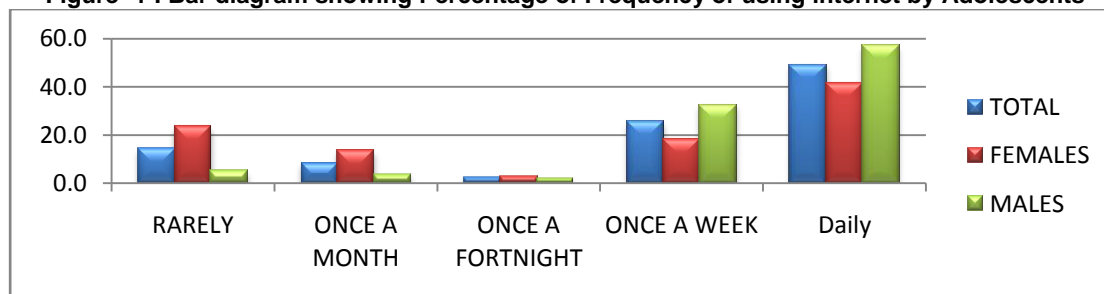
The following tools were used in the present study:

1. Internet use scale developed and validated by the researcher.

Delimitations of the Study

The study was delimited to class IX th students of Senior secondary schools of Chandigarh.

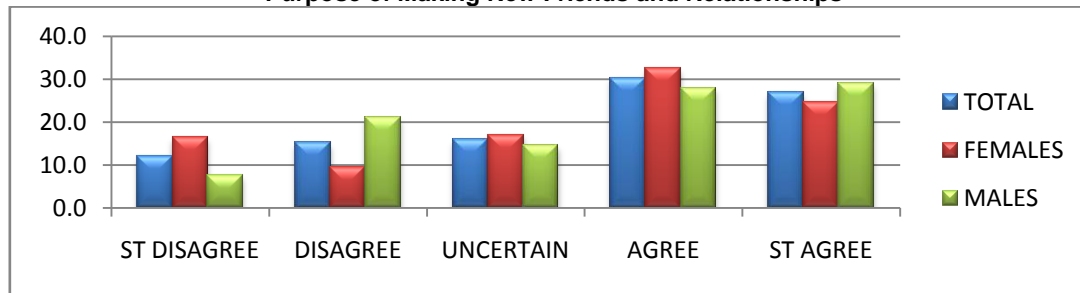
female adolescents use Internet once a month. Overall percentage of using Internet once a month was found to be 8.5%. 5% of male and 23.5% of female adolescents use Internet rarely, which clearly shows that percentage of using Internet was found high among male adolescents. Overall 14.2% of adolescents use Internet rarely. Figure 1 confirms these results.

Figure- 1 : Bar diagram showing Percentage of Frequency of using internet by Adolescents**Table 2: Percentage of Male and Female Adolescents using internet for Making New Friends/Relations'**

Sex		Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Uncertain	Agree	Strongly Agree	Total
Male	Number	15	42	29	56	58	200
	%	7.5%	21%	14.5%	28%	29%	100%
Female	Number	33	19	34	65	49	200
	%	16.5%	9.5%	17%	32.5%	24.5%	100%
Total	Number	48	61	63	121	107	400
	%	12%	15.1%	15.8%	30.3%	26.8%	100%

29% of male and 24.5 % of female adolescents strongly agreed that they use Internet for making friends and new relationships. 28% of male and 32.5% of female adolescents agreed. 14.5% of male and 17% of female adolescents were uncertain. 21% of male and 9.5% of female adolescents disagreed. 7.5% of male adolescents and 16.5% of female adolescents strongly disagreed that they use

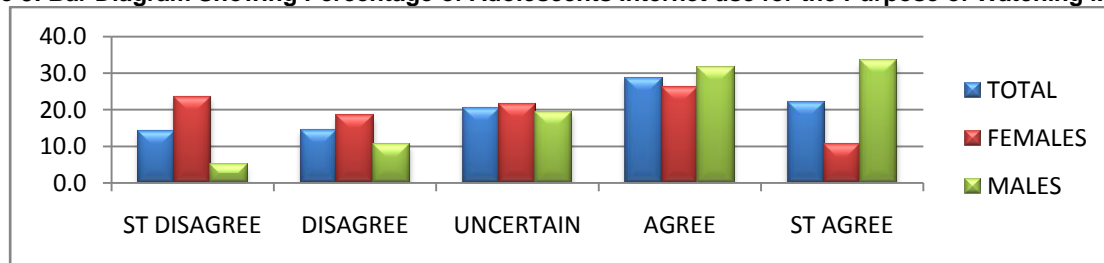
Internet for making new friends and relationships. Overall percentages of adolescents who use Internet for making friends and new relationships on Internet were found to be higher among males when compared with females. Figure 2 confirms these results.

Figure 2: Bar Diagram Showing Percentage of Adolescents Internet Use For the Purpose of Making New Friends and Relationships**Table 3: Percentage of Male and Female Adolescents Using Internet for Watching Movies**

Sex		Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Uncertain	Agree	Strongly Agree	Total
Male	Number	10	21	39	63	67	200
	%	5%	10.5%	19.5%	31.5%	33.5%	100%
Female	Number	47	37	43	52	21	200
	%	23.5%	18.5%	21.5%	26%	10.5%	100%
Total	Number	57	58	82	115	88	400
	%	14.2%	14.5%	20.5%	28.8%	22%	100%

33.5% of male and 10.5% of female adolescents strongly agreed that they use Internet for watching movies. 31.5% of male and 26% of female adolescents agreed. 19.5% of male and 21.5% of female adolescents were uncertain about their Internet use for the purpose of watching movies. 10.5% of male and 18.5% of female adolescents disagreed, and 5% of male and 23.5% of female

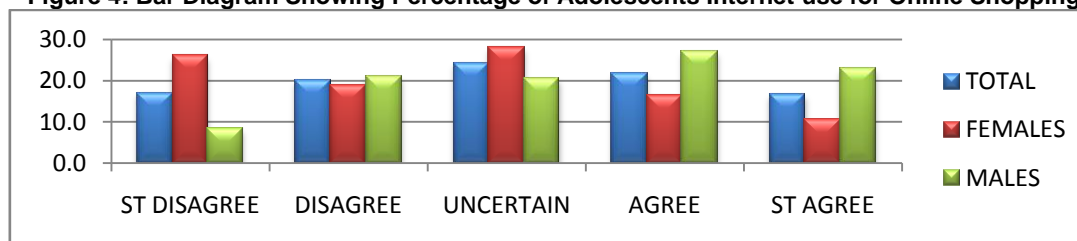
adolescents strongly disagreed that they use Internet for watching movies. Overall percentage of adolescents who use internet for watching movies was found to be higher among males when compared with their females counterparts. Figure 3 confirms these results

Figure 3: Bar Diagram Showing Percentage of Adolescents Internet use for the Purpose of Watching Movies**Table 4: Percentage of Male and Female Adolescents using Internet to Find Online Shopping**

Sex		Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Uncertain	Agree	Strongly Agree	Total
Male	Number	17	42	41	54	46	200
	%	8.5%	21%	20.5%	27%	23%	100%
Female	Number	52	38	56	33	21	200
	%	26%	19%	28%	16.5%	10.5%	100%
Total	Number	69	80	97	87	67	400
	%	17.1%	20%	24.3%	21.8%	16.8%	100%

23% of male and 10.5% of female adolescents strongly agreed that they use Internet for online shopping. 27% of male and 16.5% of female adolescents agreed, 20.5% of male and 28% of female adolescents were uncertain, 21% of male and 19% of female adolescents disagreed and 8.5% of

male and 26% of female adolescents strongly disagreed that they use internet or online shopping. Overall percentages of adolescents who use Internet for online shopping were found to be higher among males as compared with their female counterparts. Figure 4 confirms these results.

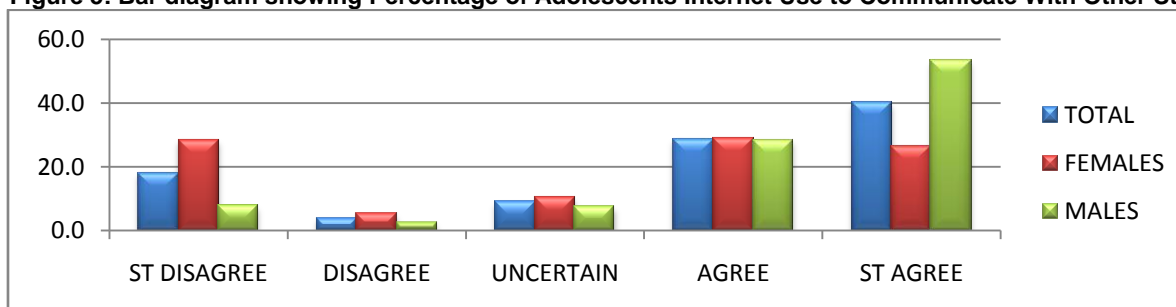
Figure 4: Bar Diagram Showing Percentage of Adolescents Internet use for Online Shopping**Table 5: Percentage of Male and female Adolescents Using Internet to Communicate with Other Students**

Sex		Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Uncertain	Agree	Strongly Agree	Total
Male	Number	16	5	15	57	107	200
	%	8%	2.5%	7.5%	28.5%	53.5%	100%
Female	Number	57	11	21	58	53	200
	%	28.5%	5.5%	10.5%	29%	26.5%	100%
Total	Number	73	16	36	115	160	400
	%	18.2%	4%	9%	28.8%	40%	100%

53.5% of males and 26.5% of female adolescents strongly agreed, 28.5% of male and 29% of female adolescents agreed, 7.5% of male and 10.5% of female adolescents were uncertain, 2.5% of male and 5.5% of female adolescents disagreed and only 8% of male and 28.5% of female adolescents

strongly disagreed that they use internet to communicate with other students.

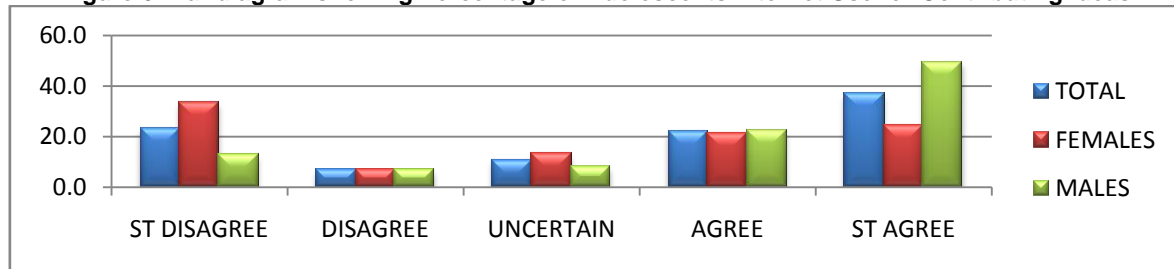
Overall percentages of adolescents who use Internet to communicate with other students was found to be higher among males as compared with female adolescents. Figure 5 confirms these results.

Figure 5: Bar diagram showing Percentage of Adolescents Internet Use to Communicate With Other Students**Table 6: Percentage of Male and Female Adolescents Using Internet for Contributing Their Ideas**

Sex		Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Uncertain	Agree	Strongly Agree	Total
Male	Number	26	14	16	45	99	200
	%	13%	7%	8%	22.5%	49.5%	100%
Female	Number	67	14	27	43	49	200
	%	33.5%	7%	13.5%	21.5%	24.5%	100%
Total	Number	93	28	43	88	148	400
	%	23.2%	7%	10.8%	22%	37%	100%

Data was analyzed to determine the percentage of adolescents who use internet to contribute their ideas on various topics and it was found that 49.5% of male adolescents and 24.5% of female adolescents strongly agreed, 22.5% male and 21.5% of female adolescents agreed, 8% of male and 13.5% of female adolescents were uncertain, 7% of male and equal percentage of female adolescents

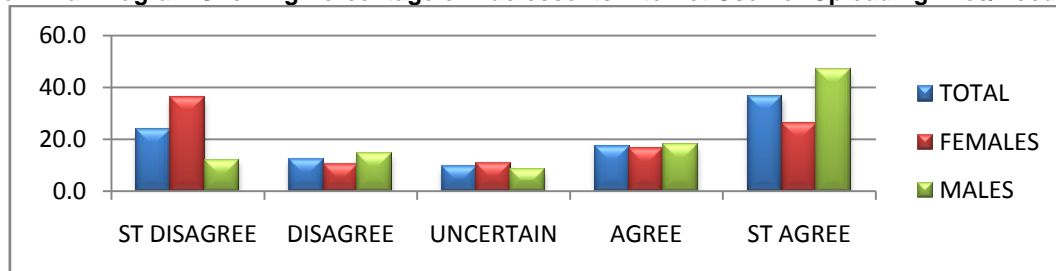
disagreed and 13% of male and 33.5% of female adolescents strongly agreed that they use internet to give their opinions and contribute their ideas on different topics. It was also found that percentages of male adolescents who use Internet to contribute their ideas was found to be higher among males as compared to females. Figure 6 confirms these results.

Figure 6: Bar diagram showing Percentage of Adolescents Internet Use for Contributing Ideas**Table7: Percentage of male and female Adolescents Using Internet For Uploading Files and Documents**

Sex		Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Uncertain	Agree	Strongly Agree	Total
Male	Number	24	29	17	36	94	200
	%	12%	14.5%	8.5%	18%	47%	100%
Female	Number	72	21	22	33	52	200
	%	36%	10.5%	11%	16.5%	26%	100%
Total	Number	96	50	39	69	146	400
	%	24%	12.5%	9.7%	17.3%	36.5%	100%

47% of male and 26% of female adolescents strongly agreed that they use internet to upload files and documents. 18% of male and 16.5% of female adolescents agreed, 8.5% of male and 11% of female adolescents were uncertain, 14.5% of male and 10.5% of female adolescents disagreed, 12% of male

and 36% of female adolescents strongly disagreed that they use internet to upload files and documents. Overall percentage of adolescents who use Internet to upload files and documents was found to be higher among males as compared to female adolescents. Figure 7 confirms these results.

Figure 7: Bar Diagram Showing Percentage of Adolescents Internet Use For Uploading Files/Documents.**Table 8 Percentage of Male and Female Adolescents Using Internet for Acquiring New Knowledge**

Sex		Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Uncertain	Agree	Strongly Agree	Total
Male	Number	30	11	14	44	101	200
	%	15%	5.5%	7%	22%	50.5%	100%
Female	Number	69	24	18	34	55	200
	%	34.5%	12%	9%	17%	27.5%	100%
Total	Number	99	35	32	78	156	400
	%	24.7%	8.8%	8%	19.5%	39%	100%

Data was analyzed in order to find out the percentage of adolescents who use internet to acquire new knowledge and it was found that 50.5% of male and 27.5% of female adolescents strongly agreed, 22% of male and 17% of female adolescents agreed, 7% of male and 9% of female adolescents were uncertain, 5.5% of male and 12% of female adolescents disagreed and 15% of male and 34.5% of

female adolescents strongly disagreed that they use internet to acquire new knowledge. Overall percentage of adolescents who use internet to acquire new knowledge was found to be higher among males as compared with females. Figure 8 confirms these results.

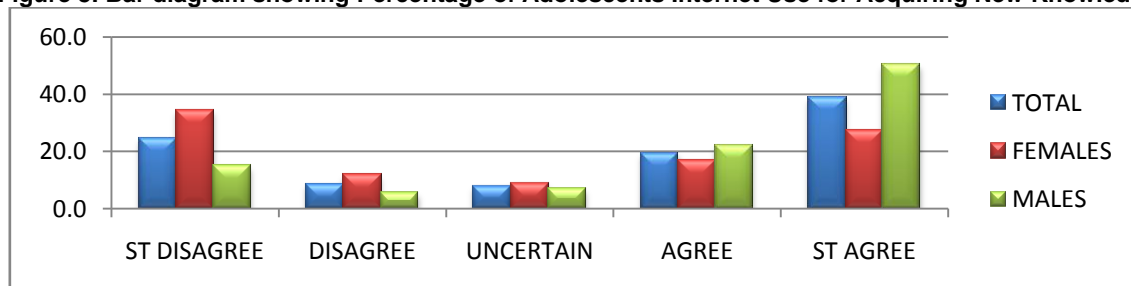
Figure 8: Bar diagram showing Percentage of Adolescents Internet Use for Acquiring New Knowledge

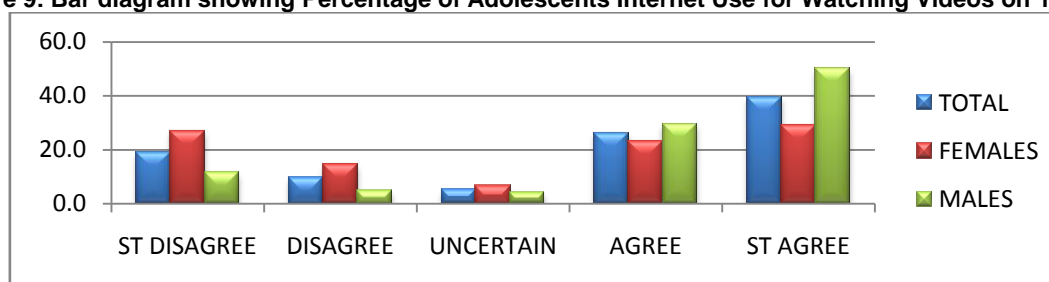
Table 9: Percentage of Male and Female Adolescents Using Internet for Watching Other Videos on Youtube

Sex		Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Uncertain	Agree	Strongly Agree	Total
Male	Number	23	10	8	59	100	200
	%	11.5%	5%	4%	29.5%	50%	100%
Female	Number	54	29	13	46	58	200
	%	27%	14.5%	6.5%	23%	29%	100%
Total	Number	77	39	21	105	158	400
	%	19.1%	9.8%	5.3%	26.3%	39.5%	100%

50% of male and 29% of female adolescents strongly agreed, 29.5% of male and 23% of female adolescents agreed, 4% of male and 6.5% of female adolescents were uncertain, 5% of male and 14.5% of female adolescents disagreed, 11.5% of male and 27% of female adolescents strongly disagreed that

they use internet for watching other videos on Youtube.

It was also found that overall percentages of adolescents who use Internet for watching other videos on You Tube were found to be higher among male adolescents as compared to female adolescents. Figure 9 confirms these results.

Figure 9: Bar diagram showing Percentage of Adolescents Internet Use for Watching Videos on Youtube

Conclusion

From the results, it can be concluded that frequency of using internet, using internet for making new friends/relationships, for watching movies, online shopping and for contributing new ideas was found higher among male adolescent as compared with their female counterparts.

References

- Devi C., & Roy N. (2012). *Internet use among University students: A Case Study of Assam University Silchar*. *Pratidhwani – A Journal of Humanities and Social Science*. 1 (2), 83-201.
- Ganapathi, A. V. P. R. C. (2015). *Internet Addiction And Associated Factors: A Study Among College Students In South India*. *Innovative Journal of Medical and Health Science*, 5 (3), 121-125. . Retrieved on 27 May, 2016 from <http://www.innovativejournal.in/ijmhs/index.php/ijmhs/article/view/72>
- Kittinger, R., Correia, C., & Irons, J. (2012). *Relationship between facebook use and problematic internet use among college students*. *CyberPsychology Behavior and Social Networking*, 15 (6), 324-327. Retrieved on 1 March, 2013 from <http://online.liebertpub.com/doi/abs/10.1089/cyber.2010.0410?journalCode=cyber>.
- Montalvo, J., Velez, M. A., & Irazabal, I. (2015). *Internet Use Habits and Risk Behaviours in Preadolescence*. *Comunicar*, 22 (44), 113-121. doi:10.3916/c44-2015-12
- Sampasa H., & Lewis, R. F. (2015). *Frequent use of social networking sites is associated with poor psychological functioning among children and adolescents*. *Cyberpsychology, Behavior, and*

- Social Networking*, 18 (7), 380-385. . Retrieved on 27 May, 2016 from <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/26167836>
- Singh, D. (2014). *A Systematic Review of Literature on effect of Internet Use on Students in India*. *Online International Interdisciplinary Research Journal*, 4 . Retrieved on 27 May, 2016 from <http://www.oijrj.org/oijrj/nov2014-special-issue/29.pdf>
- Subash, S., Kadian, S., Prasad, B., & Asif, M. (2012). *Perceived effect of internet use on students overall performance*. *Journal of Global Communication*, 5 (1), 29-32. Retrieved on 1 March, 2013 from <http://www.indianjournals.com/ijor.aspx?target=ijor:jgc&volume=5&issue=1&article>