A Study of Relationship between Internet Usage and Emotional Maturity of Higher Secondary Students

Mr. T. KondalaRao, AlankritaSaxena

Faculty of Education Dayalbagh Educational Institute
(Deemed University) Dayalbagh Agra- 282005

ABSTRACT: Internet has been emerged as a powerful tool for communication and exchange of information all over the world. Internet usage is prominent in all the fields of society in the present scenario even in the field of education. Now days, the dependence of the students on internet has increased to such an extent that the risk of internet addiction and its effect over emotional maturity of students can be seen clearly. The objectives of this study was to investigate the effect of internet usage on emotional maturity of students at higher secondary level and to find out that is there any gender difference in terms of internet usage and emotional maturity. This Descriptive study was conducted on the sample of 200 students (100 boys and 100 girls) from rural and urban schools of Agra district. In accomplishing the study successfully the researcher has used standardized tools of emotional maturity (Y.Singh and Bhargava 2012) and Internet Usage (Shaloo Saini and Parminder Kaur 2017). Data was analysed by using t-test and product moment correlation to identify the relationship between internet usage and emotional maturity of students at higher secondary level. The findings of the study reveal that students belong to urban areas having better emotional maturity than students belong to rural areas. In the study it is also found that there is a positive relationship between emotional maturity and internet usage as correlation between the two variables was 0.48. These findings have vital implication to build an insight among teachers to solve emotional needs of students and help them to involve in more outdoor activities.

I.   INTRODUCTION:

The Internet is the global system of interconnected computer networks that use the Internet protocol suite (TCP/IP) to link devices worldwide. It is a network of networks that consists of private, public, academic, business, and government networks of local to global scope, linked by a broad array of electronic, wireless, and optical networking technologies. The Internet carries a vast range of information resources and services, such as the inter-linked hypertext documents and applications of the World Wide Web (WWW), electronic mail, telephony, and file sharing. The origins of the Internet date back to research commissioned by the federal government of the United States in the 1960s to build robust, fault-tolerant communication with computer networks. The primary precursor network, the ARPANET, initially served as a backbone for interconnection of regional academic and military networks in the 1980s. The funding of the National Science Foundation Network as a new backbone in the 1980s, as well as private funding for other commercial extensions, led to worldwide participation in the development of new networking technologies, and the merger of many networks. The linking of commercial networks and enterprises by the early 1990s marked the beginning of the transition to the modern Internet, and generated a sustained exponential growth as generations of institutional, personal, and mobile computers were connected to the network. Although the Internet was widely used by academia since the 1980s, commercialization incorporated its services and technologies into virtually every aspect of modern life. Most traditional communications media, including telephony, radio, television, paper mail and newspapers are reshaped, redefined, or even bypassed by the Internet, giving birth to new services such as email, Internet telephony, Internet television, online music, digital newspapers, and video streaming websites. Newspaper, book, and other print publishing are adapting to website technology, or are reshaped into blogging, web feeds and online news aggregators. The Internet has enabled and accelerated new forms of personal interactions through instant messaging, Internet forums, and social networking. Online shopping has grown exponentially both for major retailers and small businesses and entrepreneurs, as it enables firms to

extend their "brick and mortar" presence to serve a larger market or even sell goods and services entirely   online. Business-to-business and financial services on the Internet affect supply chains across entire industries. Commercial packet networks were introduced in the 1970s, but these were designed principally to provide efficient access to remote computers by dedicated terminals. Briefly, they replaced long-distance modem connections by less-expensive "virtual" circuits over packet networks. In the United States, Telenet and Tymnet were two such packet networks. Neither supported host-to-host communications; in the 1970s this was still the province of the research networks, and it would remain so for many years.

DARPA (Defence Advanced Research Projects Agency; formerly ARPA) supported initiatives for ground-based and satellite-based packet networks. The ground-based packet radio system provided mobile access to computing resources, while the packet satellite network connected the United States with several European countries and enabled connections with widely dispersed and remote regions. With the introduction of packet radio, connecting a mobile terminal to a computer network became feasible. However, time-sharing systems were then still too large, unwieldy, and costly to be mobile or even to exist outside a climate-controlled computing environment. A strong motivation thus existed to connect the packet radio network to ARPANET in order to allow mobile users with simple terminals to access the time-sharing systems for which they had authorization. Similarly, the packet satellite network was used by DARPA to link the United States with satellite terminals serving the United Kingdom, Norway, Germany, and Italy. These terminals, however, had to be connected to other networks in European countries in order to reach the end users. Thus arose the need to connect the packet satellite net, as well as the packet radio net, with other networks.

Emotional Maturity: Emotions play a vital role in human life. These are present in every activity of human beings. They are the prime mature or motivating forces of thought and conduct. Emotions give zest and spice to life and add important qualities to personality. No individual can personally and socially well adjusted without being emotionally mature. Emotional maturity is an essential ingredient of an educated, cultured and successful person. Emotional maturity is not only the effective determinant of personality pattern but it also helps to control the growth of adolescent's development. There are many situations when we fail in our attempts and get frustrated. Our failures and frustrations may bring injury to our ego and thus give birth to feeling of inferiority and anxiety. The entire path for going ahead seems to be blocked. Most of us do not ready to face the reality by accepting our failures but tend to resort to certain mechanisms for defending our inadequacies or anxieties (Dr. Bhupendra Singh Bagh) Emotional maturity is (a) the ability to differentiate and properly identify one's emotions while (b) granting you the freedom to experience whatever emotion is appropriate to a given situation. Emotional maturity is an internal development of balancing the mind and intellect with the external reality. If a person is truly emotionally mature, he or she has and acts with integrity. If a person has integrity, his or her attitudes and behaviors are emotionally mature. Emotional maturity is the ability to understand reality and facts and the quality of response to a situation by detaching from the pulls and pushes of pleasant and unpleasant feelings.

Research Questions:
1. How far does internet available for students at higher secondary level?
2. What is the relationship between internet usage and emotional maturity?
3. What are the differences between genders with respect to internet usage and emotional maturity?
4. Does emotional maturity differ in rural and urban students belonging to higher secondary level?

Statement of the Problem: A study of relationship between internet usage and emotional maturity of higher secondary students.

Objectives of the Study
1. To study the availability of internet in rural and urban areas for students at higher secondary level.
2. To study the differences between boys and girls in internet usage.
3. To study the gender differences in internet usage and emotional maturity.
4. To compare the emotional maturity of internet users between rural and urban students at higher secondary level.
5. To study the relationship between internet usage and emotional maturity.

Hypotheses of the Study
1. There is no significant relationship between urban and rural areas regarding the internet usage.
2. There is no significant difference between boys and girls regarding internet usage.
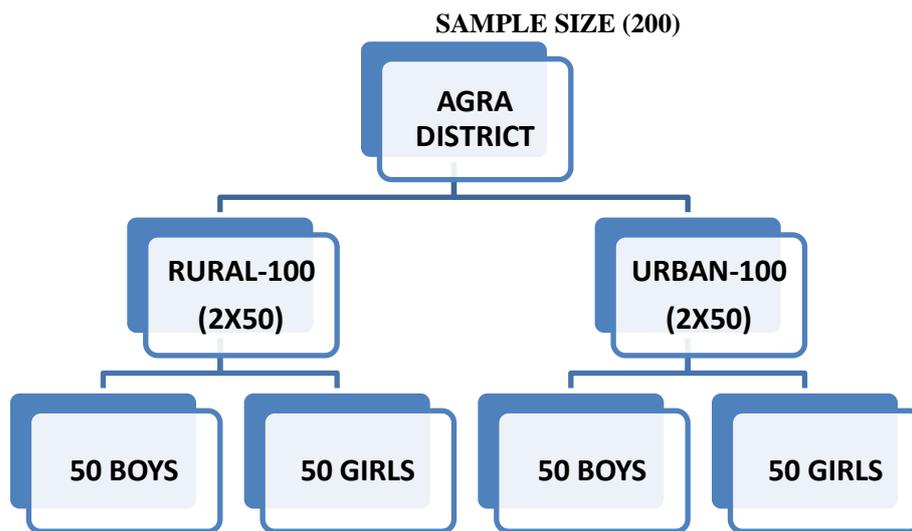
3. There is no significant difference between boys and girls regarding emotional maturity.

4. There is no significant difference in emotional maturity between rural and urban students at higher secondary level.

5. There is no significant relationship between internet usage and emotional maturity of students at higher secondary level.

Method of the Study: The present study is carried out by descriptive survey method. In this, questionnaires were given to collect information about behaviour, beliefs, and attitude of particular groups of people. The purpose is to secure information about the usage and availability of internet at higher secondary students in both rural and urban areas and how emotional maturity gets affected by the internet usage.

Sample Size: The Schools were selected on the basis of Purposive sampling whereas simple random sampling would be adapted for selecting the students.

SAMPLE SIZE (200)

AGRA DISTRICT

RURAL-100 (2X50)   URBAN-100 (2X50)

50 BOYS   50 GIRLS   50 BOYS   50 GIRLS

Tools

1. Emotional Maturity Scale by Y. Singh and Bhargava (2012). The purpose of this tool is to measure the emotional maturity of students.

2. Internet Usage Scale by Shaloo Saini and Parminder Kaur (2017). The purpose of this tool is to measure the level of internet usage in Higher Secondary students.

Statistical Techniques

MEAN

STANDARD DEVIATION

T- TEST

PRODUCT MOMENT CORRELATION
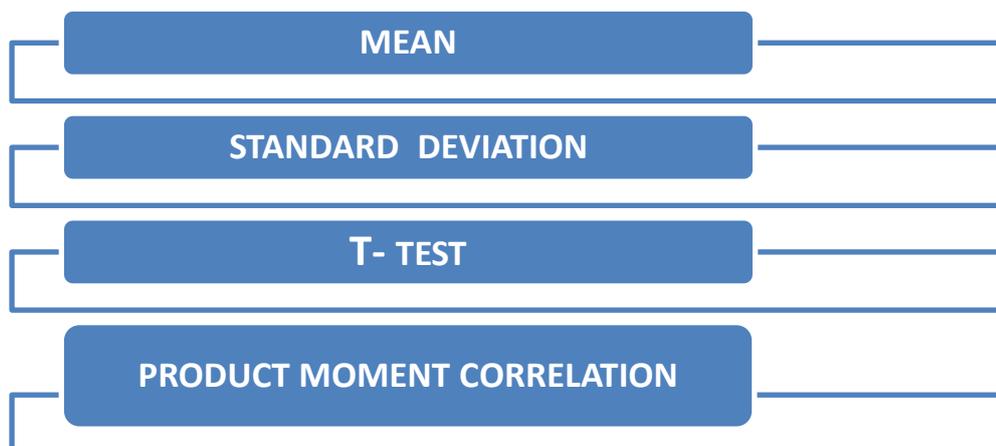
Analysis and Interpretation of the Data

1) To compare the availability of internet in rural and urban areas for students at higher secondary level.

INTERNET	N	MEAN	S.D.	T-VALUE	LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANE
RURAL	100	44.70	13.38		
URBAN	100	48.10	13.66	35.38	0.05

The analysis of the data shows the availability of internet for students in rural and urban areas. The data reveals that the mean score of rural schools is less than the mean score of urban schools. The calculated t value is 35.38 which is more than the level of significance i.e. 0.05 (1.96) "There is no significant difference regarding availability of internet between rural and urban students of higher secondary level." is rejected.
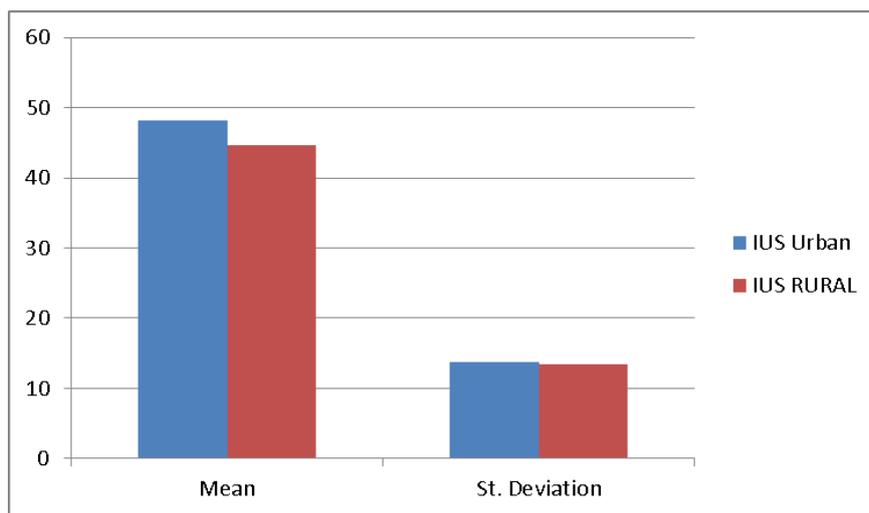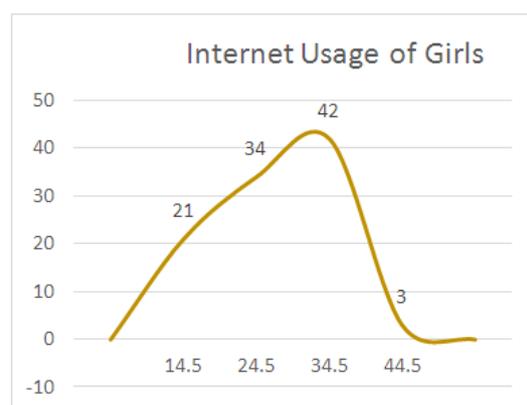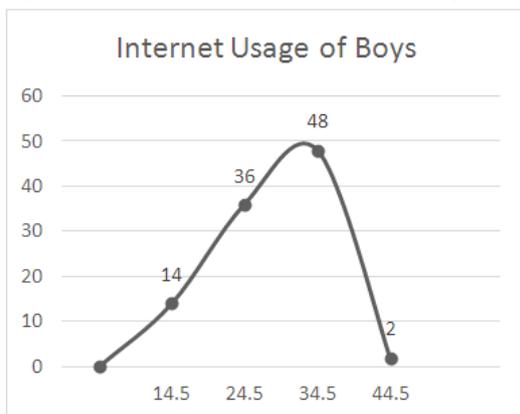

2) To study the differences between boys and girls in internet usage.

IUS	N	MEAN	S.D.	T-VALUE	LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE
BOYS	100	47.41	12.32		
GIRLS	100	45.39	14.75	1.051	0.05

In the analysis of the data it is found that the t value is being 1.051 which is less than the tabulated value of significance level i.e. 1.96. Hence the hypothesis "There is no significant difference between boys and girls regarding emotional maturity" is accepted.

3) To study the difference between boys and girls in emotional maturity.

EMS	N	MEAN	S.D.	T-VALUE	LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE
BOYS	100	163.48	22.29		
GIRLS	100	162.08	22.31	0.444	0.05

In the analysis of the data it is found that the t value is being 0.444 which is less than the tabulated value of significance level i.e. 1.96. Hence the hypothesis "There is no significant difference between boys and girls regarding internet usage" is accepted.
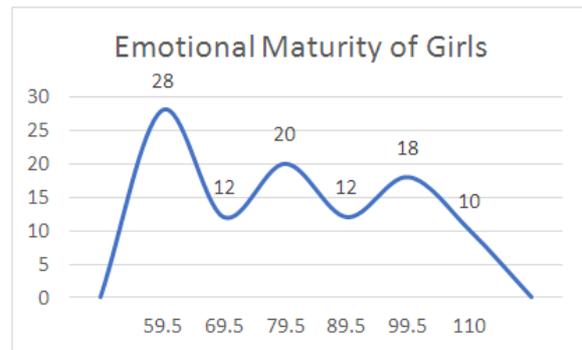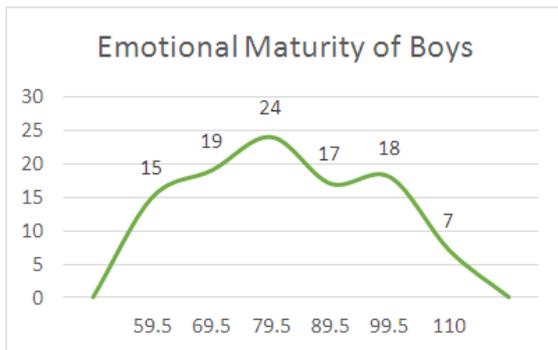

4) To compare the emotional maturity of internet users between rural and urban students at higher secondary level.

EMS	N	MEAN	S.D.	T-VALUE	LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE
RURAL	100	161.17	25.11		
URBAN	100	164.39	18.98	1.023	0.05

In the analysis of the data it is found that the t value is being 1.023 which is less than the tabulated value of significance level i.e. 1.96. Hence the hypothesis "There is no significant difference in emotional maturity between rural and urban students at higher secondary level" is accepted.
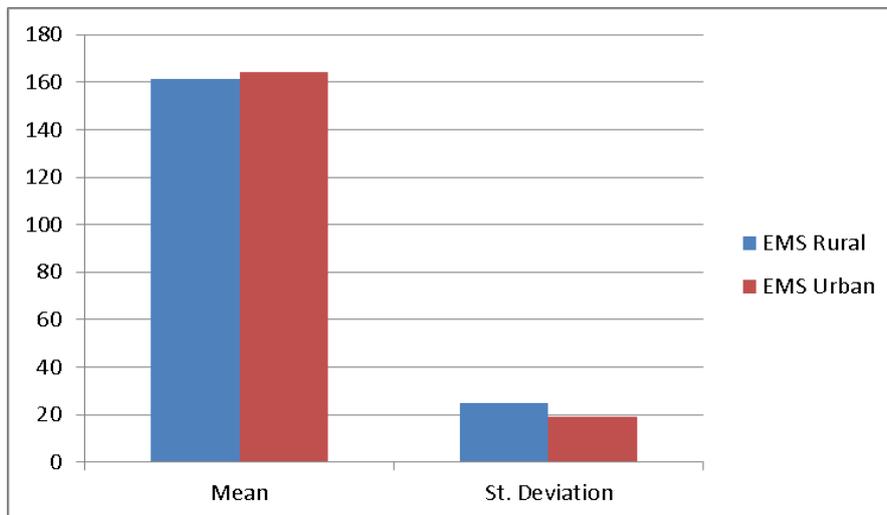

5) To study the relationship between internet usage and emotional maturity.

VARIABLES	N	MEAN	S.D.	PRODUCT CORRELATION	LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE	DF
IUS	200	46.40	13.59			
EMS	200	162.78	22.26	0.48	0.05	199

The correlation between the two variables is 0.48 that shows positive relationship in emotional maturity and internet usage. The tabulated value of significance level is 0.138098 which is lesser than the calculated value thus, Hypothesis "There is no significant relationship between internet usage and emotional maturity of students at higher secondary level" is rejected.
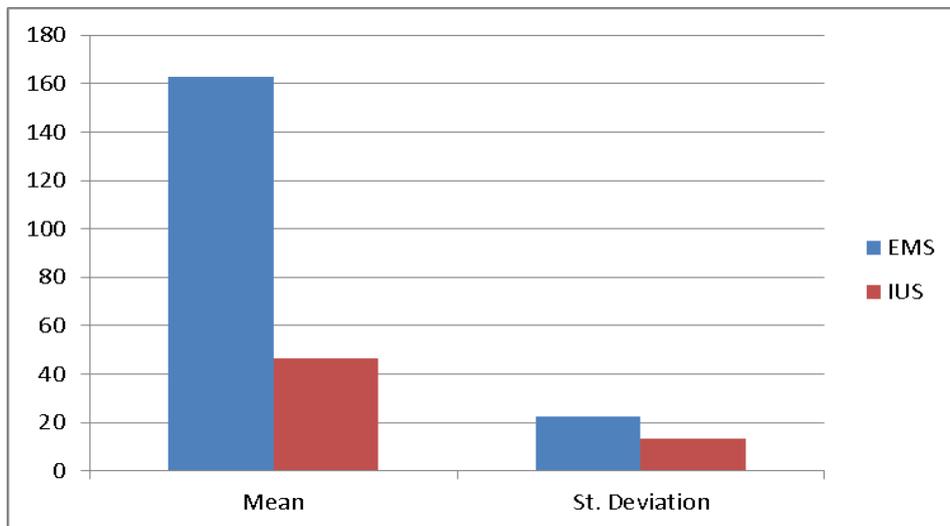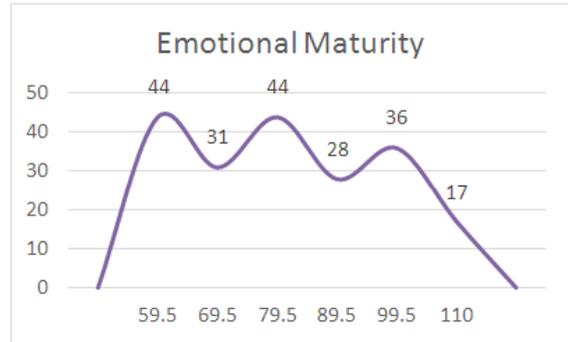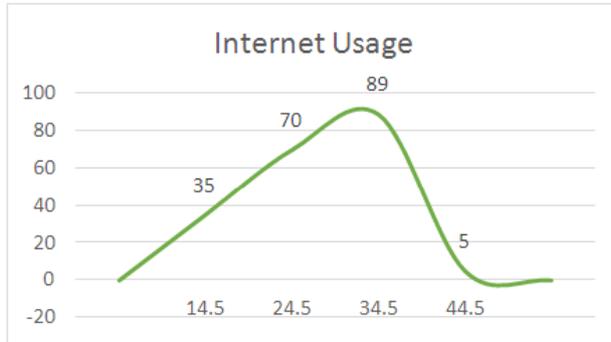
II.   FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION OF THE STUDY

1. To study the availability of internet in rural and urban areas for students at higher secondary level.
- Students belong to urban area use slightly more internet than students of rural areas.
- Mean score of urban area in terms of internet usage is 48.10 and the mean score of rural area is 44.70(moderate level of usage)
- The calculated t value is 35.38 which is more than the level of significance i.e. 0.05 (1.96). Thus it shows there is a relationship.

2. To study the differences between boys and girls in internet usage.
- In the study it is found that girls and boys having difference in terms of using internet usage.
- The mean score of boys and girls was 47.41 and the mean score of girls was 45.39 (moderate level of usage). Although the usage of internet in both the genders is moderate still it is found that boys are frequent users of internet.
- T value is being 1.051 that shows no difference between genders.

3. To study the difference between boys and girls in emotional maturity.
- In the study it is found that the emotional maturity is almost of same level in both the genders.
- The mean score of boys in terms of emotional maturity is 163.48 and the mean score of girls in terms of emotional maturity is 162.08 (average level).
- The t value is being 0.444 shows no difference.

4. To compare the emotional maturity of internet users between rural and urban students at higher secondary level.

- In the study it is found that the students belong to urban areas having better emotional maturity with the mean score of 164.39 whereas students belong to rural areas having slightly less maturity. However both the scores indicate above average level of emotional maturity.
- The t value is being 1.023 that shows no difference between the genders.

5. To study the relationship between internet usage and emotional maturity.

- In the study it has been observed that there is a relationship between emotional maturity and internet usage.
- The correlation between the two variables is 0.48 that shows positive relationship in emotional maturity and internet usage.

Conclusion

The present study was conducted to study the level of emotional maturity and internet usage among students of higher secondary level and also to study the relationship between them. The study was conducted in rural and urban schools in Agra district in which the researcher found that students of urban schools having better emotional maturity than students of rural schools. It is also found that there is a positive correlation between internet usage and emotional maturity. The study also reveals that girls use less internet than boys and thus having better emotional maturity than boys.

Suggestions for further Researches: The similar study may be done on large sample.

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