

## CONSEQUENCE OF RESEARCH SCHOLAR'S ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE USE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

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### ABSTRACT

Information Technology holds out the opportunity to revolutionize pedagogical methods, expand access to quality education and improve the management of whole agricultural education, research and extension system. Understanding the importance of this modern technology, it was realized to know its value by systematic scientific study about significant feelings of research scholars towards the application of Information technologies for their empowerment. Hence, study was undertaken to know consequence of researcher's attitude towards the use of Information Technology on a random sample of total 150 postgraduate students in Anand Agricultural University, Anand of Gujarat state. Attitude of post graduates towards the use of Information Technology was significantly related with education, academic performance, knowledge of different languages, size of family, wish to migrate abroad, exposure in student's curricular activity, computer training, basic knowledge of internet, scientific orientation, innovation proneness, computer anxiety and level of internet exposure.

### INTRODUCTION

To stay alive with present age of science, technology, information and knowledge, India has also understood the importance of education to develop brilliant human resources in various fields of development. The fabulous system of Internet provides a tremendous wealth of information. Any electronic technology which is useful to present, store, reuse, convert, organize or restructure any kind of data may be in form of number, alphabets, pictures, figures, sound for people to receive and use is known as information technology. So now we are beginning to see increasing attention to the content and services that IT can deliver - digital communication (email), portals for health and development and services identified as e-Commerce, e-Govenance, e-Banking, e-Agriculture, e-Health, e-Learning and other e-Somethings.

Anonymous (2002) reported that Information Technology has been one of the most aspired fields in today's world. Integrating IT with agriculture will help any country to regulate its overall economy and trade. The impact of Information Technology has been felt on higher education in India. SAUs have now started use of Internet facility to provide direct contact to their research scholars with

researchers, academicians and libraries at global level. The understanding of various factors effecting to the attitude of research scholars towards use of information Technology can help academic institutions to motivate their young and energetic research scholars to obtain utmost benefits. Looking to this fact, present study to know significance of postgraduate's attitude towards the use of Information Technology was undertaken with objective to find out relationship between attitude of the research scholars towards use of Information Technology with their selected characteristics.

### RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The data were collected from randomly selected sample of total 150 postgraduate students studying and doing research work either in the final year of Masters or in any year of Ph.D. in Agriculture, Dairy Science and Veterinary faculties of Anand Agriculture University, Anand. To measure the attitude of research scholars towards use of Information Technology, reliable and valid scale developed and standardized with 10 statements by Patel Meena et al. (2008) was used. The responses of 10 statements were collected in five continuum viz, strongly agree, agree, undecided, disagree and strongly disagree and scores of 5, 4, 3, 2 and 1 was

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assigned for positive statements, respectively. The reverse scoring was given for negative statements. To know level of attitude of research scholars towards use of Information Technology, score of each statement was summed up. To analyze the data, statistical measures, such as percentage, mean score, standard deviation and coefficient of correlation were used.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

**Table 1. Relationship between attitude of the Research Scholars towards Information Technology and their selected characteristics**

n =150		
S. No.	Independent variable	"r" value
1	Age	.01916 NS
2	Education	.21538 **
3	Academic performance	.27540 **
4	Knowledge of different languages	.18560 *
5	Type of family	.04211 NS
6	Size of family	-.28638 **
7	Wish to migrate abroad	.26018 **
8	Exposure to student's curricular activity	.33682 **
9	Library exposure	-.0833 NS
10	Computer training	.18561 *
11	Wish to get higher academic degree	.15676 NS
12	Basic knowledge of Internet	.21558 **
13	Competition orientation	.15346 NS
14	Achievement motivation	.1524 NS
15	Scientific orientation	.31440 **
16	Innovation proneness	.29459 **
17	Computer anxiety	.48916 **
18	Internet exposure	.33743 **

The result in Table 1 furnished that attitude of the research scholars towards Information Technology was observed significantly higher among those research scholars, who had connection with Ph.D. level of education, high academic performance, knowledge of additional languages, elevated involvement in extra curricular activities, exposure of computer training, interest to depart abroad, improved basic knowledge of Internet, advanced scientific orientation, higher innovative

proneness, low degree of computer anxiety and higher level of Internet exposure, while attitude of the research scholars towards Information Technology was negatively significant with their size of family. The positive attitude towards the use of any expertise appears in individual, when he/she understands all the uniqueness of it. Positive feeling is motivating factor to make person active to execute any technology in his daily life.

Goh (1997) identified several factors that influenced the use of Internet namely education, affordability, need for infotainment and a positive attitude toward IT were necessary prerequisites for IT acculturation.

## CONCLUSION

The conclusion of this study exposed that attitude towards Information Technology of those agricultural research scholars was observed significantly higher, who had higher education, high academic performance, knowledge of additional languages, elevated involvement in extra curricular activities, exposure of computer training, interest to depart abroad, improved basic knowledge of Internet, advanced scientific orientation, higher innovative proneness, low degree of computer anxiety and higher level of Internet exposure. Thus it can be suggested that to make agricultural research scholars active to make best use of this facility, their knowledge about this system should be improved. This will make them more concerned, expert and optimistic towards this stylish method of communication.

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