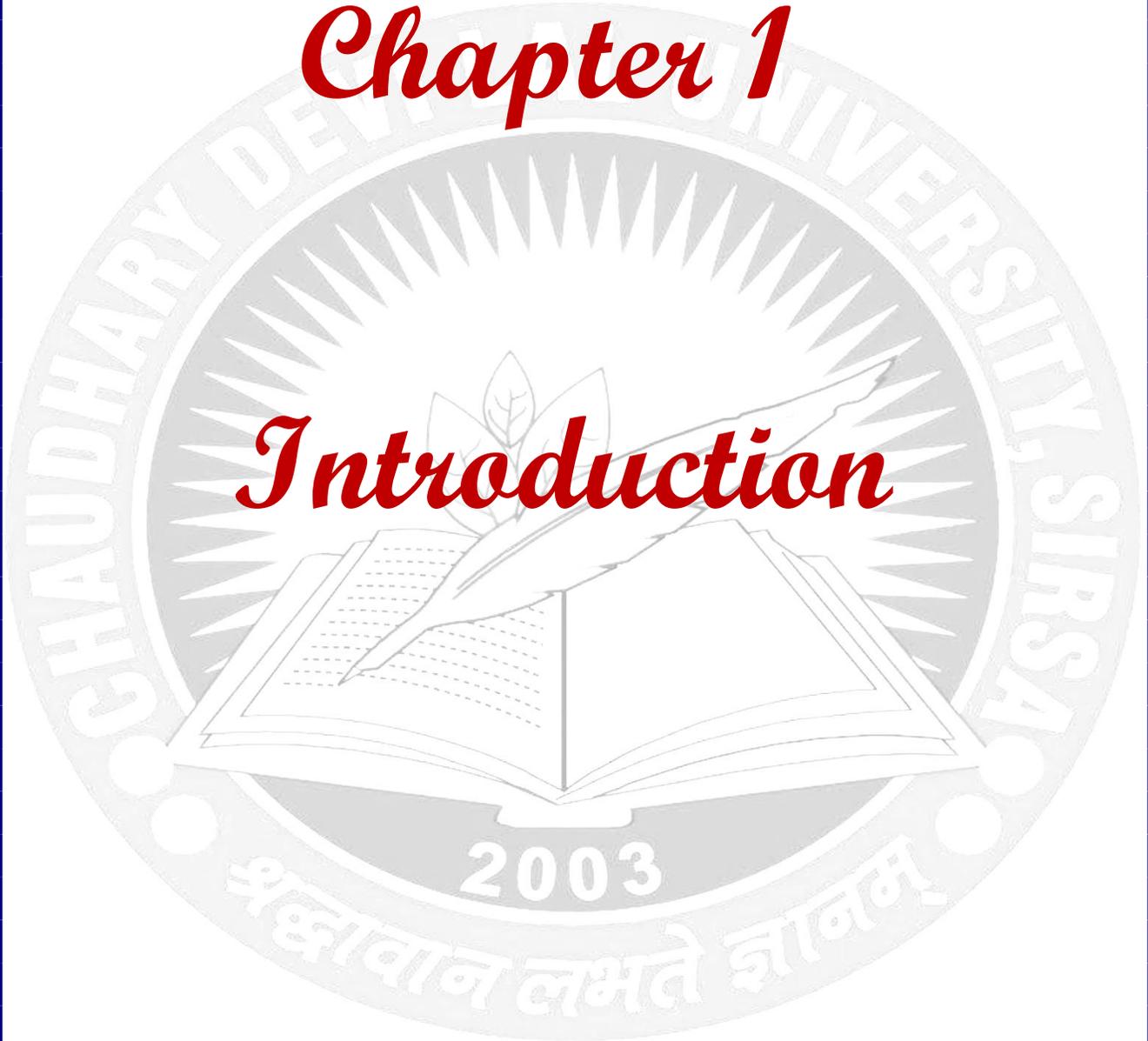# Chapter 1

Introduction

1.0   Introduction

Internet access and usage in the world has been proliferating year by year. In 2000, only 361 million internet users were there in the world. And now on the basis of data till December, 2017, internet users has increased to 4156 million (Internet World Stats July, 2018). Thus, tenfold internet users has been increased from the year 2000 to December 2017. In 2005, the first billion of internet users was achieved. In 2010, the second billion was completed and the third billion was achieved in 2014 (Internet Live Stats). Today more than one out of two people (54.4 %) in the world are using the internet (Internet World Stats, 2018). In Asia, 48.7% internet users are there and 51.3% internet users are from rest of the world.

In India, there are 462,124,989 internet users which are 34.1 % of the whole population of India and 22.8% of Asia's internet users. India surpassed the USA to become the world's second largest internet market just in two years after launching the 'Digital India' campaign by hon'ble PM Narendra Modi to improve online infrastructure and better internet connectivity, especially in rural areas (Hemanth Kumar C R March 2017). In India internet users are growing rapidly, especially after launching the Reliance Jio in September 2016. It will not be an exaggeration if we call jio a revolution in the world of internet. Today, India is the no. 1 country in the world for mobile data usage. The consumption of mobile data by Jio internet users is almost equal to the usage by all internet users of USA and also 50% more mobile data than the all internet users of China (Muntazir Abbas, Feb. 2017).

All this indicates an upward trend in the number of digitally literate people. Such a rapid growth has been interacted with people's needs and motivation. Information, communication, and entertainment have been prominent motives behind the internet use (Suzan Lema Gencer and Mustafa Koc 2012). The internet is increasingly playing a vital role in all our lives. It has changed our way of thinking and living. It has revolutionized people's way to communicate with others and the way of obtaining information. It has also created an unimaginable variety of commercial and leisure activities (Christopher S. Yoo 2010). If you want to get the latest information about any field, the internet is the best tool that will take you beyond telephones, faxes, news etc. If we are going to plan a vacation, communicate with family and friends to know the latest trends of clothing, to know about any disease, to get the information about any household, to know the climatic conditions

of any place and so on, need not to ask anyone, just browse the internet and the information is in front of your eyes. Not only this, people feel it proud when they have internet recharge in their mobile phone and feel down if they have not. Thus, using internet has also become the status symbol in the society.

Today we are at a defining moment in the evolution and growth of the internet. We are intensively aware about the impacts of internet on the world and the ability to transform the world. It has also the ability to expedite human progress, bridge the digital divide and build societies that drive innovation, entrepreneurship and progress (Global Internet Report 2016). The advantages of the internet are undeniable and well evidenced in the literature. Nevertheless, excessive or unregulated usage of internet has been associated with adverse effects also (Suzan Lema Gencer and Mustafa Koc 2012). Recent researches show that the proper use of internet benefits students academic achievement. Students score high with the help of using internet. Internet is the best source to supplement the lectures, to collect information, to increase the knowledge of any topic. Internet provides the information which is not found in the books. Use of information technologies makes students not just to consume technology but also lead them to produce it. Shortly, spending long hours during online might be helpful for young to make some contributions to their knowledge about information technologies and unlike some people's prejudices, surfing internet is not totally waste of time for students but more or less a productive facility. On the other hand, some researchers also stand with the view that use of excessive internet lags student behind. It distracts his/her mind from studies. If a student adopts unregulated habits for using internet, he cannot concentrate on his studies. And he/she alienates from the studies, society, family, friends etc. So, the study of the patterns of using internet of students is necessary.

1.1   Conceptual Clarification of the Words Used in the Study

1.1.1   Internet

Internet is a vast and global collection of computer networks that are connected by devices called routers. It uses a common set of protocols to transmit data which is known as TCP/IP (transmission control protocol/ Internet protocol). It is a network that provides a variety of information and communication facilities to the extent that today world has shrunk to a unit. Internet makes it possible for a computer

which is connected to it to send and receive information globally from any other computer which is also connected to it.

The history about the origin of internet is attached to the US Department of Defense. In the late 1960s, US Department of Defense created ARPANET (Advanced Research Projects Agency Network) which is known for the existence of the Internet. It had the objective of connecting multiple computers on a single network in the country with one another so that if a computer was destroyed by nuclear explosion, then the other computers would continue to function. Prof. Leonard Klienrock sent the first message through ARPANET from his computer laboratory at the University of California, Los Angeles and this message was received by the other network node at the Stanford Research Institute. With the passage of time, universities, government offices and departments, businesses, organizations, teachers, professors, technicians, scientists came to know the benefits of this network that sharing information and communication is very fast and easy with it. And people and firms started accepting it. Soon it attracted the attention of other countries of the world also. It helped in the faster growth of this network. When it spread internationally, it was named internet. Today the internet is in its full bloom condition in our hands which has been using by 3835 million people.

Sharing information feasibly is the main objective of the internet. To achieve this objective, internet has a number of tools. World Wide Web is well known tool for accessing the information and to organize the information on the internet. It is a stack of e-documents (electronic documents). These e-documents are usually known as web pages. These web pages contain a lot of material like; text documents, videos on different or every topic, sounds, graphic material and built-in connections. A website is a collection of related web pages. To view these websites or web pages, we need a web browser. Internet Explorer, Firefox, Opera, Google Chrome etc. are web browsers that are used and accepted widely. Through these browsers, we can visit numberless websites. WWW has an eminent feature i.e. Hypertext which is a novel way of storing information and then retrieving that information. These hypertext documents are very well composed. They help the internet users in searching desired information rapidly. These documents also use a series of links. These links can be in the form of a video, a text material or an image. Almost all the websites have some words or phrases with a different colour and these words or phrases are underlined

also. When someone takes pointer to that link it converts into a small hand. And when the individual click that link it takes to another web page or website and gives explanation of that text (words or phrases).

1.1.1.1 Advantages of the Internet

Unlimited and Speedy Communication: The supreme objective of Internet has always been fast and speedy communication and it has fastened the ways of searching about any document, book, places, things and even everything. New innovations are only going to make it faster and more reliable. Now you can communicate within a second with the person who is residing in the different corner of the world through internet, even without leaving your room or place where you are. There are so many ways to communicate through internet like e-mail, messages or chatting through email id, whatsapp, facebook, hike etc , video chat or conferencing. If a person wants to talk to someone who is living in another part of the globe, he can just fire up any communication app like skype, whatsapp, viber, imo, hike etc. and hold a video chat.

Next e-mail is a boon for everyone. Persons having businesses small or large, universities, colleges, schools, and hospitals everyone use e-mail for communication with others. It saves time and has lessen the work load of the company. Almost every communication of a company is taken place through e-mailing. E-mail has expanded the businesses worldwide. Message, whether it is short or long, can be sent through e-mail just in a few seconds to any part of the world. Thus, we can say that internet has opened the unlimited doors of communication.

Abundant Information and Resources: The internet is inundated with information about anything and everything. No field is untouched by internet. Internet provides us any kind of information on any topic. Numerous search engines like Yahoo, Bing, Google, Ask.com etc. are there to help the internet users. They have made it easier for internet users to find information. The internet is a huge cache of information. It provides information on almost every subject which is known to man i.e. current affairs, trade fairs, market information, government law and services, visiting places, conferences, countries and cities, weather conditions, politics, entertainment, fashion, education, science, history, celebrities, personalities, new ideas and technical support………. the list is simply boundless.

Internet forums on a number of sites give people chance for discussion and sharing of their thoughts and information with other people who are sit at different places all over the globe through. With this reservoir of information people can not only increases their knowledge bank but they can also be able to save their plenty of time from being wasted through traditional means such as visits of libraries, hunting the magazines, newspapers and conducting exhaustive research.

Internet is a means of free advice for people on all sorts of issues. Sometimes whatever problem we are experiencing, someone somewhere has experienced the same and probably solved it. The internet is basically a globally accessible storehouse of knowledge, and the best part is everyone gets solution of his problem from it.

Useful for students: Internet provides very useful information to students related to their subject. Sometimes students face problems regarding their studies and their daily life, all their problems can be solved through internet by giving lots of solutions and suggestions. They can take benefit from journals, scholarly articles and other professional articles for their studies which could help them a lot. Students are assigned projects, assignments and other work by their teachers and lecturers. These could be completed effectively with the help of internet. Students can take help of internet to complete their homework; they can watch lectures of professionals on You Tube related to their subjects and can get any information about any topic related to their study.

Online education has also proliferated since internet allow the development and use of innovative tools in the field of education. Besides this almost every university is offering distance courses to make education more convenient and accessible. The persons who cannot afford the high fees of foreign countries' different courses but wants to learn, Internet has become a gateway for them.

Entertainment: Entertainment is another popular advantage of internet. People uses internet to visit celebrities websites, online TV, watching and download games, movies, videos, songs especially You Tube are becoming a great source of entertainment on the internet. There are uncountable games of every age simulation games, adventure games, real-time strategy games, puzzles, action games, stealth games, combat games, sports games, educational games etc. But it is necessary to play games for fun and safely. Game lovers play those games and satisfy their mental needs and feel enjoyed. Children also keep them busy for hours while playing games

on internet. Games make the kids' mind sharp and keep them mentally active. Through these games kids learn time management because mostly games have various levels and missions to complete in limited time. And kids learn to coordinate his/her mind with the actions of his hands.

Visiting shopping websites is another popular and fun thing to do on the internet. If you are getting bored just visit shopping websites, you will not know where your couple of hours has gone. Online TV and live videos are also a great source of entertainment. If you are away from home you can watch your favorite show online through internet. You can get latest news about your favorite celebrity by visiting websites.

Shopping: Online shopping is another popular advantage of internet. Now there is no need to visit shop to shop for shopping and waste couple of hours. Each and everything is available on shopping websites whether it is of kitchen, home furnishing, clothing, electronics, books, educational equipments, toys and much more. There are so many shopping websites like EBay, Amazon, Flipkart, Shopclues, Alibaba and numberless sites for clothing and toys. All these websites sell goods globally. The prices of products can be compared before making decisions to purchase. One just needs to select a desired product and the entire financial transaction can be conducted online.

Source of income: One of the most important benefits of internet which is trending today is that it has become a source of income for students, housewives and job holders. Today money is very demanding and necessary thing in this world. We cannot purchase happiness with money but it is also true without the money, we cannot live happily. Anybody can earn money by doing computer-based jobs through internet at home. There are so many different skills like writing, singing, blogging, data-entry, music, photography etc. which can be used for earning money through internet and sell your services or products to earn money online without making much investments.

Social connectivity and Easy Sharing: Social networking sites like Facebook, Twitter, Instagram etc. are a blessing for today's generation. These sites have worldwide connectivity. These are the fastest and the most convenient ways to be connected to our loved ones and with millions of people with similar interests no matter how far they are from us. Apart from finding long-lost friends, these

connections can help one with a variety of things like seeking for a new job, business opportunities, locating assistance, making or receiving advice etc.

Sharing information through internet is very fast and seamless. One can share document files, videos, audios, pictures and any other files with family and friends just in a few seconds. For instance if a person wants to tell his 40 friends about his latest promotion, he can do so in a few seconds through different social networking sites. They all will get the information at the same time.

Online Services: The Internet has made human life very easy and convenient. There are numberless online services through which you can perform all your transactions online. These services can be used to book tickets for a movie, transfer money, pay bills, taxes, recharging prepaid mobile phones, shopping, hotel reservation, airline and railway tickets etc., and right from your home or office. Money can be transferred with just a click to any account and to any place you wish.

1.1.1.2 Disadvantages of Internet

Spam Mail: Spam email is also known as junk email. It is also a type of electronic spam where unwanted and useless messages are sent by email. Many spam emails which are presented as commercial emails but they have disguised links which lead to phishing websites or sites that are host of viruses and malware. These types of emails are illegal and can cause frustration as they can make it hard for people to access their email account.

Viruses & Other Malwares: These are malicious types of files that plague the Internet time and again. They attack a computer with the sole intention to causing serious computer invasion and damage. They can steal passwords, important data, deleting files and make your computer infected. You can easily fall victim to malicious software by clicking on a link on the Internet that promises to speed up your internet connection or assist with downloads. We can protect our computer from viruses and other malwares by installing a reliable company's anti-virus program before accessing the Internet.

Leakage of Private Information: There is rise in increase of leakage of private information through viruses as today people prefer to shop online and conducting transactions online. Virus hacks computer and steals personal information of a person like credit/debit card details. Great businesses are also a victim of these frauds.

Businesses rely upon emails and these viruses enter the system through spam emails and steals private information of the firm to hack its account.

Addiction to Internet: As people become addict of drugs or alcohol, some people gets addicted to internet. They spend excess time online and neglect basic drives. They ignore everything around. They may sit with the family members but there is no communication among them. They show feelings of anger, tension, social isolation, depression, intolerance, fatigue, lying and poor achievement. Thus, they become academic, social and occupational impaired.

Loss in family and social relations: In olden days, people sit together for hours and talk to each other. Talking, laughing and shouting were very common activities in the house. There was no need of means of entertainment. But today the situation is opposite. People neglect their family members and try to increase their friend list on Facebook and also keep them busy in searching different ways of entertainment on internet.

Internet Theft: Internet theft is another uglier side of the internet. Researchers and professionals work hard and post their original works on internet so that students, teachers or other researchers can be benefitted in many ways. But some lazy persons copy that work and pass it off as their own.

Wastage of time: There is wastage of time spent on internet. When a person starts to search something on internet. It shows very less study material on that topic. The reason behind is that anyone can post anything on internet. And most of the study material is not good or we can say it garbage.

Students spend/waste a lot of time on internet: No doubt internet is a boon for students but some students spend/waste a lot of time on internet. They even neglect their studies while surfing internet, to chat with their friends or to watch any new movie online. They cannot concentrate on their studies. Even elderly people sometime neglect their important task to watch videos or movies online.

Pornography-a danger for children: The bitter truth on the part of internet is that it has not only good information and good content but it is also stuffed with bad content also which has direct negative influence on children's mental life. There is a wide range of adult-only content which is easily accessible. It affects the thinking of little children so negatively at the stage of his life when his mind should be clean and he should be taught only constructive things to do.

 Conclusion: There are endless advantages of internet in human life as well as it has negative side also. But negative points can be overcome by the parents and teachers watch on children. They can teach students to use internet wisely. And at home internet connection or computer facility should be in living room instead of children's bedroom where parents can watch out their child. Parents should give time to their children and talk to them otherwise he/she will turn to his friends and internet to get his answers which may not provide authentic and good information.

1.2   Alienation

Alienation is a term used to describe the state of estrangement of a person from his surroundings in which he should participate. These surroundings may be social, personal, educational, cultural and whatever is belonged to a person. Mann (2001) defined alienation term as ***the state or experience of an individual who has isolated himself from a group or an activity to which he should be involved"***. It is a state of mind in which person withdraws himself from the persons or things of formerly loved or liked. For instance, a person who loves to live in his friend's group, suddenly he cuts off himself from that group and does not like the company of those friends. We can say that he withdraws himself from their company for some reasons and live alone. This is an example of social alienation but there are also other things which can be associated with alienation. It can be any environment or any situation like any learning situation (related to classroom environment, library environment), playing any game, friend circle or friend's group, family members or relatives, working place environment, company of colleagues, employers etc. Many psychologists reported that alienation grows in a person as soon as the feeling of inferiority comes to his mind. When a person starts thinking that he or his actions are insignificant or worthless in comparison to others. There are some inequalities which alienate a person and these inequalities may be social inequalities, power inequalities, educational inequalities, economic inequalities and cultural inequalities.

1.2.1   Karl Marx's Theory of Alienation

Karl Marx's theory of alienation is focused on industrial capitalism. He wrote about the alienation of workers which grows out of the production system. Employers purchase the labour of workers for production and it alienates the class of workers. ***Workers are alienated from the product*** they produce because there is no role of them in the designing of the product. The whole direction is given to them by their

employers. And the profit goes to employers and not the employees. The workers only get the wages which the employers have purchased from them according to the wage-labour agreement. Secondly *they are alienated from the production work* because it is directed by employers. Employers' direction is highly specific in nature. There is no reward in return for the workers who shows extraordinary skills in the production. But even then the workers do job because they are in need of wages to survive in the world. *Workers are also alienated from their inner self and desires* because employers do not treat them as human beings but as replaceable elements which can be replaced any time for the betterment of their system of production. Next, *they are alienated from other workers* because the production system has put them against each other in a competition of selling their labour up to lowest rates as in businesses competition, it brings down the prices of the things. Here only the capitalists profit from the competition and the workers disengage themselves from each other.

1.2.2 Dimensions of Alienation

Melvin Seeman (1959) has given five types of alienation on the basis of social conditions and mental state of the individual. These are:

- Powerlessness
- Meaninglessness
- Normlessness
- Isolation
- Self-estrangement

Powerlessness: Powerlessness is the perception that an individual thinks himself powerless. Whatever is happening in his life is out of his control and he is powerless to give shape to his life course. He has the belief that spending time on any activity is just wastage of time. He can do nothing. He has no ability to influence others with his actions. He believes that his actions are useless and have no effect on any outcome. The powerlessness dimension of alienation can be defined as the expectancies held by an individual that his own behavior is not able to determine the occurrence of the outcomes, or reinforcements, he seeks (Seeman 1959).

Meaninglessness: Meaninglessness refers to the lack of understanding the things or events in which an individual is involved. He is unable to derive the meaning of the

things or actions from the engaged activities. He does not show clarity in his decision making or we can say that he cannot take decisions intelligently. He is unable to predict the future outcomes of any action confidently. We may speak of high alienation, in the meaninglessness dimension of alienation, when the individual is unable to clear to what he should believe. Here the individual's minimal standards for clarity in decision-making are not met (Seeman 1959).

Normlessness: Normlessness is a mental state of a person in which the individual ignores or breaks the norms. The individual is not ready to follow the rules. He does not care about the social norms or rules, values and standards and engaging in deviant behavior. The individual behaves against the expected socially approved behavior. The situation in which there is a high expectancy that socially unapproved behaviour is required to achieve given goals (Seeman 1959).

Isolation: Isolation is different in meaning from the above said three dimensions of the alienation. It is detachment of an intellectual from the popular values, beliefs and practices of his society or culture. Seeman (1959) defined isolation in terms of reward values: The alienated in the isolation sense are those who, like the intellectual, does not give importance to the goals or beliefs which are given much importance in the given society.

Self-Estrangement: Self-estrangement is a state in which a person is alienated from himself. He may ignore his own desires and interests to satisfy the demands of others. He is not able to form his own identity.

1.3   Academic Achievement

Academic achievement is one of the most important goals of education. In the process of educating the child, the emphasis is given to the measurement and evaluation of the child's achievements in school and college. It is considered as a key criterion to judge one's total potentialities and capabilities. It is also the criterion for the selection, promotion, recognition and salary fixation in various walks of life. Thus the importance of academic achievement cannot be ignored.

Today parents are fully aware about this high profile competitive world in which their child has to compete in future. Academic achievement has also become an index of child's academic life. So, the parents cannot ignore its importance and emphasize on the high academic achievement of their child. Teachers, parents and child himself come to know about child's abilities, talents, capabilities, interests,

aptitudes, competencies through academic achievement and all these traits are the pillars of child's future life because on the basis of these traits career aspirations can be developed in the child. Academic achievement is a procedure through which students learn about their talents, abilities and competencies which are very important part of developing career aspirations.

Academic achievement refers to the degree or the level of successful accomplishment in the school or college subjects or tasks or in which the students have received instructions in class as well as outside the class. Academic achievement can be defined as excellence of an individual in his all academic disciplines, in class as well as co-curricular activities. Academic achievement means the attainment of knowledge and skills developed in the concerned school subjects. Trow (1956) defined academic achievement as " knowledge attaining ability or degree of competence in school tasks usually measured by standardized tests and expressed in a grade or units based on pupils' performance." It includes excellence in sports, behavior, confidence, communication skills, punctuality, arts, culture etc. It is usually measured through examinations or continuous assessment of the child and summarized in various types of grades, marks, scores or descriptive commentary by the teacher or examiner. Academic achievement refers to the activities or skills the student has learned and it is usually measured through assessments like standardized tests, performance tests and portfolio assessments, Santrock (2006).

Good academic achievement depends on the students' alertness of mind. Students who keep alert in the class or while instruction are high mentally alert students. They are regular in studies and home work. They are the students who always keep themselves busy in their study even in the absence of their teacher and attend each period regularly. Thus, they score good marks or grades and satisfy their teachers and parents. On the other hand, less mentally alert students are not regular in their study and home work. They do not care about the rules and regulations of their school or college and they disobey their teachers, lecturers, parents and elders. Thus, they score less and fail in the attainment of knowledge and skills and cannot satisfy their teachers and parents with their academic achievement. Academic achievement, according to Sinha (1970) " students who perform superior academically than other students and scored high percentage of marks are taken as successful candidates. On the other hand, students who fail in the previous examination, and obtain low division

in their examination are considered as individuals who have failed in their attainment".

1.4   Statement of the Problem

"**Effect of Usage Patterns of Internet on Alienation and Academic Achievement of University Students**"

1.5   Operational Definitions of the Terms Used

Concept of Usage Patterns of Internet

In this study, Usage patterns of internet means the ways in which internet is used by the students of universities. And for how much time students use the internet? At what place or places they use internet, at home or university or at cafes? What are the purposes of using internet?

Concept of Alienation

In this study, alienation means the estrangement of students from education, family, society, self etc. Alienation of university students is observed under the five dimensions of the alienation; powerlessness, meaninglessness, normlessness, isolation and self estrangement.

Concept of Academic Achievement

Academic achievement, in this study, is defined as the level of individuals' education and/or educational outcomes accomplished successfully as a result of learning at school or college. It is usually determined by comparing his/her score on a school/ college test and/or a standardized test with the average score of other students of the same age.

1.6   Justification of the Study

Internet is playing and has been playing a vital role in our day to day life. It has revolutionized our way of communicating and thinking. Not only internet is applicable in our day-to-day life but also embraced with special and unique features that have doubled its attraction. This study focused on usage patterns of internet and its effects on alienation and academic achievement of university students. It will benefit the society to use the internet wisely for its positive implications and to overcome its negative impacts on academic achievement and alienation. It will be significant for students, educators, parents and future research scholars. They will have enough knowledge about the internet's effect on alienation and their academic achievement. Students will come to know about the proper use of internet so that it

can improve their grades in their academic achievement. And they can also prevent themselves from the bad use of internet which can alienates them from their surroundings and affect their academic achievements negatively. The study will also assist the teachers and educators to know about the judicious use of internet for them and for their students which can affect their teaching learning process and their personal life. The study will also help parents to have enough knowledge about the impacts of internet usage and they can, then, manage their child's online activities and time spent online so that the use of internet benefits his academic achievement. This will also help them to give a good shape to their child's behavior by monitoring his online activities.

Different studies have been conducted on usage patterns on internet. But none of the investigator has attempted to find out the effect of usage patterns of internet on the alienation and academic achievement of the university students. All these things created interest in the investigator to make an attempt to study the present problem.

1.7   Objectives of the Study

1.   To study the usage patterns of internet of university students.

2.   To study the level of alienation among university students.

3.   To study the relationship between usage patterns of internet and alienation of university students.

4.   To study the relationship between usage patterns of internet and academic achievement of university students.

5.   To study the relationship between alienation and academic achievement of university students.

6.   To study the relationship among usage patterns of internet, alienation and academic achievement of university students.

7.   To compare the alienation of high internet users and low internet users with respect to gender.

8.   To compare the alienation of high internet users and low internet users with respect to locality.

9.   To compare the alienation of high internet users and low internet users with respect to academic stream.

10.   To compare the academic achievement of high internet users and low internet users with respect to gender.

11. To compare the academic achievement of high internet users and low internet users with respect to locality.

12. To compare the academic achievement of high internet users and low internet users with respect to academic stream.

1.8   Hypotheses of the Study

1. There exists no significant relationship between usage patterns of internet and alienation of university students.

2. There exists no significant relationship between usage patterns of internet and academic achievement of university students.

3. There exists no significant relationship between alienation and academic achievement of university students.

4. There exists no significant relationship among usage patterns of internet, alienation and academic achievement of university students.

5. There exists no significant difference between alienation of high internet users and low internet users with respect to gender.

6. There exists no significant difference between alienation of high internet users and low internet users with respect to locality.

7. There exists no significant difference between alienation of high internet users and low internet users with respect to academic stream.

8. There exists no significant difference between academic achievement of high internet users and low internet users with respect to gender.

9. There exists no significant difference between academic achievement of high internet users and low internet users with respect to locality.

10. There exists no significant difference between academic achievement of high internet users and low internet users with respect to academic stream.

1.9   Delimitations of the Study

1. The present study is limited to universities of Haryana state only.

2. Only four universities were chosen by random sampling technique to represent the all universities of Haryana state.

3. Only students of universities were taken as the sample of the study.

4. The researcher limited this study to 400 students only.

5. Only 100 students from each university were taken as the sample of the study.

6. The sample of the present study was equally balanced between male and female university students.

7. The sample of the study was equally balanced between urban and rural university students.

8. The sample of the study was equally balanced between arts and science university students.

9. Departments of English and Hindi were taken as sample of arts students.

10. Departments of Mathematics and Physics were taken as sample of sciences students.

11. The study was confined to one independent variable – usage patterns of internet and two dependent variables – alienation and academic achievement.

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