CHAPTER-2

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE
A literature review may constitute an essential chapter of a thesis or dissertation, may be a self-contained review of writing on a subject.

The review literature should provide the reader with an explanation of the theoretical rationale of the problem being studied as well as what research has already been done and how the finding related to the problem at hand.

In brief this chapter presents an overall review of studies conducted abroad as well as India in a chronological order regarding the topic “IT awareness among female faculty members and Research Scholars of faculty of Science and Social Science of A.M.U.

Investigator reviewed only those studied, which are similar to the present study or indirectly related to the present study.

In their study Sornam and Nithikalyani (2004) tried to analysis the Internet use pattern of women in the Tricky city. Main objectives of the study were to identify the women Internet users based on age, status and academic background, rank Internet services provides based on usage, to rank the reasons for using Internet, to find out the amount of money spend on Internet also find out the search engines highly used and to access the knowledge about special websites for women.

The paper of Onyejekue (2004) describes how ICTs facilitate empowerment mainly through the opportunities with emphasis on economic empowerment. This paper raises awareness about gender
related barriers to women’s full realization of the benefit associated with the empowering nature of ICT. These barriers include poverty, a lack of education and information, the problem of the digital divide etc. Innovative ways of dealing with these barriers have been explored in this paper.

In a case study conducted by Gurumurthy (2004) the women’s fulfillment of need and want by using ICTs have been discussed. The author provides examples of areas where ICTs are being used to promote women’s right including political organizing and networking, domestic violence post conflict situations, agriculture and health. The author also identifies the usefulness of new technologies of the Internet and E-mail, others ‘old’ technologies such as radio, television, video and photography and some combine both old and new in the day to day life of women.

In the article Gurumurthy (2004) describes the tools that deal with general issue relating to improving access to ICTs including the use of open source software (OSS), as well as guides on dealing specifically with the barriers that exist to women’s access to ICTs. This article gives the information to improve the ICT skills through various resources like web radio, Linux chix security lessons, multimedia etc. she also describe the open source software (OSS) and the benefits of using OSS for non-profit organization. In this article the emphasis has been given to the description of overcoming women’s barriers to use of ICTs.

Umarani and Ghadially (2003) in their study entitled “Empowering women through IT Education facilitating computer adoption” highlight that ICTs provide knowledge and resources that
hold potential for women’s empowerment. The study also examined the adoption of computer technology by novice urban women. It explored the contribution of psychological variable such as perceived usefulness, perceived ease of use, subjective norm and computer self-efficacy to behavioral intention to adopt computer. The result of the study indicated that women adopt computer technology if it is evaluated to be useful to them and their family.

P M, Naushad Ali (2003) conducted a study under the title “Use of web by Women: a study at A.M.U.” The specific objectives of the study were (a) to know the purpose of using internet by women at A.M.U. (b) to find out difficulties facing by women users (c) to understand searching skills and awareness of women on IT (d) To identify the popular search engines among web users, etc. The major findings are (1) 47.37% of women uses Internet once in a week and 21.05% of women uses daily (2) most of the respondents are using internet for study / research purpose (64.84%) and for entertainment (31.58%) (3) A good number of users have not visited any women websites due to lack of awareness (4) Majority of the women (86.84%) are facing difficulty in using internet.

Stella (2003) presents findings of a research study which looked into Chinese women’s attitude and expectation in relation to the Internet, and examine their degree of innovative behavior, use of IT, and level of psychological empowerment. Data from 357 Chinese working women, suggest that positive attitudes towards the Internet and extensive E-mail and mobile phone use are significant predictor for women psychological empowerment and sense of meaningfulness of work.
This study of Sze (2003) traces the relationship of women weaving, computer and technology from the point of constructing a ‘her story of technology’. This study discusses the importance of cyber feminism in exploring the role of women in the technological age, the relationship of women and technology and how women can make use of technology to fight against the patriarchal society.

The study made by Navarro (2003) explains that how the use of Information communication technology (ICT) tools in the Philippines has increased significantly over the last five years. This Paper attempts to use the Forum’s four tracks as a framework to discuss and analyses ways to bridge the digital divine in order to promote women’s social and economic empowerment in the Philippines & to enable them to take part in an inclusive information society. It also recognizes strategies and other mechanism that have already been started to promote the productive use of ICT in the country.

This article of Trauth (2002) included in a special issue devoted to the theme: Gender and information system, develops a theoretical perspective on gender and IT by examining socio cultural influence on women who are members of the IT profession in Australia and New Zealand. This paper present a theoretical perspective of individual differences which is presented to characterize the way individual women respond in a range of specific ways to the inter play between individual characteristics and environmental contributes to a better understanding of women’s involvement in the IT sector and suggests areas for proactive policy response.

The article of Woodfield (2002) describes the relationship of gender and information system. It discusses the commonsense
discourses deployed to represent male and female works social and technical skills. This paper concludes that the process where by both types of skills are recognized are highly complex and that such process often privilege male workers and their competences, so that women should remain skeptical of any over optimistic predictions that a shift in the quantities of women undertaking IS work will automatically lead to a shift in the qualitative nature of such system and the contexts within which they are produced.

Ahuja (2002) points out the gender differences in IT careers appears to be affecting the competitiveness of companies global. The study presents a model of barriers faced by women in the field of IT and analysis three distinct career stages of career choices, persistence and advancement. At each stage, identifies and discuses the efforts of social and structural factors which may act as barriers. The author suggests that these social and structural factors as well as their interactions will result in turnover of women in IT.

This article made by Vikasnath (2002) suggests an overview of the benefits of ICT and various advantages offered by the technology and the products and processes, which emerge from their use. The paper explores the avenue created by ICT enabled networking processes for women in the areas of empowerment and governance the hindrances faced in engendering to these processes and goes on to suggest ways to ensure that greater benefits accrue to women in a distributed manners.

Gurumurthy (2002) provides a broad sweep of the ICT area introducing gender issues. The paper covers four broad areas: some basic information on gender and technology; the meaning of ICTs; the ICT arena –its key players and key political; and an analysis of how
gender has featured in the information society debate. The study discusses inequities in the ICT arena, and the gender dimensions of these inequities. The potential for ICTs to promote women’s rights and empowerment is also discussed. The discussion also includes some theories examining women’s unequal access to technology and makes a case for considering the content of the relationship between gender and technology.

This paper of Gurumurthy (2002)\textsuperscript{15} outlines how the promise of new ICTs may be potentially realizable. It also focuses on new ICTs evaluating the opportunities and the risk presented by new technologies. This paper examines, that New ICTs can play in supporting women’s right to development. It covers some key development priorities like livelihood health and education and looks at how new ICTs can be used towards these.

Gurumurthy (2002)\textsuperscript{16} in her study opined that ICT arena needs to be engendered through gender sensitive ICT policy and program which are designed and implemented creatively for optimum affectivities. The author explains that women have used ICTs for their own purposes; they report increased knowledge and self-esteem.

Gillian (2002)\textsuperscript{17} in his article highlights the major challenges of the new virtual era that is to understand exactly what the transformative meaning of processes involving the Internet may be in order to ensure that approaches are both politically engaged and sociologically rich. The author Emphasizes on the meaning practice relationship as both control to this challenge and a definitive site for fatalistic thinking about women’s politics in global contexts.

Radloff\textsuperscript{18} and Primo (2002) focus on African women’s
initiatives and organizations using new communication technologies for development gender justice and social change. Based on research commissioned by the Association for Progressive Communication (APC) African women and the African women’s development and communication network (EFMNET) and undertaken by gender links Associates they look at issues faced by women using ICTs how these are being addressed and what creative projects are being undertaken through the strategic employment of ICTs.

Monica Raina (2002) explains the role of self employed women’s Association (SEWA) in the empowerment of women with the aims to achieve full employment and self relation for women worker and the programmers which develop women’s abilities in the use of computers, radio, television, video, the telephone, fax-machines, mobile phones and satellite communication. SEWA’s schemes of trainings to women’s to also have been discussed, which will help them to learn and understand the complexities and possibilities for ICT, use.

Duggali (2000) discuses that the women in the community are often socially and economically excluded and their access to information is often poor. It describes the women’s resource center (WRC). At present it has 130 members. This paper describes, its networking and other activities, sources of funding and information sources and services.

This study of Rathapo (2000) addresses the status of gender information. It assess the status of women and reveals that a lot still has to be done in improving the lives of women. The paper concludes that the gender information networking is seen as the answer to most of the problem of women’s in toady’s world.
Lee (1999) relates in his paper the considerations of feminist international politics to the new spatiality of cyberspace and considered how notions of boundaries are being reconfigured in this context. He explores the extent to which we can consider cyberspace as a realm of discovery particularly through its virtual political, including in relation to reflective developments in feminist theorizing.

The study made by Lee (1999) emphasizes on those issues and strategies, which are necessary for women’s movement in a new dimensions. In it he describe about the cyberspace. The author describes the changing direction of women’s movement in the 21st century with some examples like pluralization of standards for women’s movement, solidarity of women’s movement by region and by issues and international solidarity as a whole.

This paper of Lee (1999) in his study predicted the development of women’s movement in Korea in relation to the internalization into three stages from the turn of the century to 1970s, 1980, and 1990s. The study describes the role of Korean organizations such as Korean women’s Association United and Korean women’s Hot line in the development of women’s movement and also describe the role of ICT mainly computer communication and internet in their development.

Huyer (1997) defines the use of information and communication technologies (ICTs) by African women’s this include issues of access, the benefits African women experience and can expect to experience from ICTs and the role they can and do play in the production and dissemination of information. It also includes their situation of African women, barriers to women’s full use of ICT and strategies for overcoming those barriers.
It can be concluded from the above literature that the use of Information Technology by women makes them more aware about their rights and surrounding environment and hence helps them make easy the hindrances coming in their way. The ICTs are being used to promote women’s right including political organization and networking, domestic violence, agriculture and health. The environment created by ICT provides more and more opportunities to women to make their contribution in the present society.
REFERENCES


9. Navarro, Gloria Elena. Bridging the digital divine to promote


