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Impact of internet: Coverage from Kashmir's Srinagar district

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Abstract
Computers and communications have been revolutionized by the Internet like never before. This unprecedented integration of capabilities was made possible by the invention of the telegraph, telephone, radio, and computer. As a world-wide broadcasting capability, a means for disseminating information, and a medium for collaboration and interaction between people and computers, the Internet serves three functions simultaneously. While analyzing this study, it was found that Srinagar district showed the most impact on people (89%) of Internet use in Kashmir Valley. Among different groups under study, students are showed highest percentage for all the responses recorded and instagram application among students showed the maximum percentage.

Keywords: Internet, Kashmir, telegraph, Srinagar

Introduction
In recent decades, human development has been accompanied by rapid technological advances and a proliferation of digital devices and services. Artificial intelligence, robotics, biotechnology, and nanotechnology may accelerate the pace of change in the near future. With the accelerated development of coronavirus vaccines in 2020, these technologies have already proven to bring tremendous benefits. Rapid technological advancements, however, can have serious downsides if societies are unable to keep up with them. Among these concerns are fears that jobs are disappearing as more jobs are automated, as well as that social media is causing more divisions, anxiety, and doubt. It is generally believed that frontier technologies will result in even more inequalities, or create new ones. Many developed country citizens have expressed these concerns. In developing countries, the consequences could be even worse if poor communities and countries are simply left behind. To achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, nations need to balance innovation and equity in pursuit of frontier technologies. Technology is advancing rapidly in the developed world, but the great rifts separating countries that we see today arose with the onset of the first industrial revolution. The gap between the per capita incomes of countries at that time was much smaller, as most people were equally poor. Eventually, technological advancements led to Western Europe and its offshoots, including Australia, Canada, New Zealand, and the United States, as well as Japan, gaining the upper hand.

Most other countries remained on the periphery. Every wave of progress was associated with sharper inequality between countries – with widening disparities in access to products, social services and public goods – from education to health, from ICT infrastructure to electrification. Nevertheless, a few countries, notably in East Asia, were subsequently able to catch up through technological learning, imitation and innovation. Internet is a global communication system that links together thousands of individual networks. It allows exchange of information between two or more computers on a network. Thus internet helps in transfer of messages through mail, chat, video & audio conference, etc. It has become mandatory for day-to-day activities: bills payment, online shopping and surfing, tutoring, working, communicating with peers, etc. Internet was evolved in 1969, under the project called ARPANET (Advanced Research Projects Agency Network) to connect computers at different universities and U.S. defence. Soon after the people from different backgrounds such as engineers, scientists, students and researchers started using the network for exchanging information and messages. In 1990s the internet working of ARPANET, NSFnet and other private networks resulted into Internet. Therefore, Internet is a global network of computer networks'.

It comprises of millions of computing devices that carry and transfer volumes of information from one device to the other. Desktop computers, mainframes, GPS units, cell phones, car alarms, video game consoles, are connected to the Net. The internet isn't just about finding information. It's also about connecting with friends, family, and people you've never met before. Today, there are many different ways to communicate online, including social networking, chat, VoIP, and blogging. Social Networking Social networking has become one of the main ways people keep in touch. Below are a few of the most popular social networking sites: Facebook is used by about one billion people. If you have family or friends that live far away, you can use Facebook to keep up with their lives. You can also share things you've found online that interest you. Twitter lets you share brief messages (or "tweets") with the entire world, or with just your circle of friends. By following people with similar interests, you can discover new things that you wouldn't have found otherwise. LinkedIn is a site that you can use for business networking. It allows you to connect with other people in your field and find out about new job opportunities.

The Internet represents one of the most successful examples of the benefits of sustained investment and commitment to research and development of information infrastructure. Beginning with the early research in packet switching, the government, industry and academia have been partners in evolving and deploying this exciting new technology. Today, terms like "bleiner@computer.org" and "http://www.acm.org" trip lightly off the tongue of the random person on the street2. This is intended to be a brief, necessarily cursory and incomplete history. Much material currently exists about the Internet, covering history, technology, and usage. A trip to almost any bookstore will find shelves of material written about the Internet3. This history revolves around four distinct aspects. There is the technological evolution that began with early research on packet switching and the ARPANET (and related technologies), and where current research continues to expand the horizons of the infrastructure along several dimensions, such as scale, performance, and higher level functionality. There is the operations and management aspect of a global and complex operational infrastructure. There is the social aspect, which resulted in a broad community of Internauts working together to create and evolve the technology. And there is the commercialization aspect, resulting in an extremely effective transition of research results into a broadly deployed and available information infrastructure. The Internet today is a widespread information infrastructure, the initial prototype of what is often called the National (or Global or Galactic) Information Infrastructure. Its history is complex and involves many aspects - technological, organizational, and community. And its influence reaches not only to the technical fields of computer communications but throughout society as we move toward increasing use of online tools to accomplish electronic commerce, information acquisition, and community operations.

The first recorded description of the social interactions that could be enabled through networking was a series of memos written by J.C.R. Licklider of MIT in August 1962 discussing his "Galactic Network" concept. He envisioned a globally interconnected set of computers through which everyone could quickly access data and programs from any site. In spirit, the concept was very much like the Internet of today. Licklider was the first head of the computer research program at DARPA5, starting in October 1962. While at DARPA he convinced his successors at DARPA, Ivan Sutherland, Bob Taylor, and MIT researcher Lawrence G. Roberts, of the importance of this networking concept.

The world cannot ignore India and China with almost 40% of the world's population, with growing middle classes (larger than most nations) that are important consumers in the global market as well as increasingly important global producers, and with aspirations to super-power status, these two nations are forces to be reckoned with. This is as true in information and communications technology (ICT) as it is in strategic or demographic terms. Although these two contiguous countries have very different political and economic systems, both have assigned high priority to information technology (IT) and the Internet. It is likely that these new technologies will come to play a pivotal role in their internal developments and their relations with the rest of the world. But the role each assigns to ICT development within their borders is distinctive. These differences can be considered as a huge cross national natural experiment, shedding light on Internet diffusion and development in general, and the relative strengths and weaknesses of each nation's approach. India was an early mover in software export (Press 1993), and the export of software and IT enabled services (which include low-skill work such as data entry) was $8.26 billion in 2001. The total software industry of $10.1 billion was about 2.2% of Indian GDP.24 Although off to a later start, China currently exports approximately $1 billion in software, offers lower prices than India (some Indian work is subcontracted to China), and has begun English-language training for programmers and engineers (Manu, 2001). China enjoys a clear lead in IT hardware manufacturing. Chinese companies produced $23.9 billion in computer products in 2001, an increase of 24% over 2000 (Mainland China 2002). Thirty nine percent of Chinese exports are high and medium tech products versus 16.6% in India, and as we have seen, the absolute numbers are much greater for China. It remains to be seen whether India's Action Plan for Hardware Development, Manufacture and Export will enable it to close this gap.

Technical Programme: A questionnaire was prepared on digital platform (Google forms) and was distributed to different categories and data was recorded and interpreted through various statistical tools (PAST, EXCEL).

Results and Discussion

Social media is comprised of 2 words 'social' and 'media'. Social part refers to interacting with the people in order to share and receive information from them. Hence being social means that information is flowing to and fro. Media part refers to platform on which the information is being shared by using any instrument of communication like internet. Social media thus can be defined as applications ,blogs, and websites the facilitates the users to interconnect all around the world through the internet in order to communicate ,share content and many other facilities that it provides to its users. Within this brief description of social media it includes websites like WhatsApp, Facebook, Snapchat, Tiktok, Instagram, Clubhouse, instant messaging applications, mobile gaming tools, YouTube etc. The study focuses on impact of social media on Kashmir's people of different age groups. As technology is rapidly growing and is considered to be very important for human life hence we must know how to handle it accordingly. It is very important to teach youth about the

use of social media to enhance and develop the carriers and self-improvement. Social media is like a coin having its positive and negative impact on people.

The data was collected from different areas of Srinagar district among various groups which include employee, students, business person and home stay individuals. Subjecting data to various statistical tools revealed that Srinagar district overall showed highest impact of internet wherein >20% students,5% employees, 2% business person and 3% home stay people areusing internet for time pass. The results for useful purpose showed maximum percentage of student (39%) using internet for a healthy and useful purpose with a minimum no. of home stay people (4%) using internet for useful work. Comparison of hourly usage of internet among the groups showed maximum no. of student using net for 0-4HRS (37%) with employee showing (15%) portion in this category; 4-8Hrs.category is also dominated by student group (15%) with business and home stay individuals showing (3%) in this category. Internet usage per day among groups showed students (25%) using internet sometimes/day with a close percentage of that students (20%) who are utilizing internet on daily basis. Popularity of application among various groups revealed highest percentage for Instagram application used among students (43%) with employees using Instagram and Facebook application (5%). The minimum response was recorded for the clubhouse application among all the groups under study (0%).

Table 1: Statistical mean values of different variables

	Usage		Time				Usage/ Day				Most Used Application				
District	Time pass	Useful	0-4 HR	4-8 HR	8-12 HR	12 HR above	Everyday	Frequently	Never	Sometimes	Face book	Instagram	LinkedIn	Twitter	Club House
Srinagar	7.25±5.02	15.25±8.16	13.5±8.14	6.5±2.87	1.75±1.75	0.75±0.47	8.25±4.38	2.75±1.54	3.75±2.09	7.75±5.21	5.5±2.02	13.25±9.62	1.75±1.03	2±1.08	0±0

	Comparison		Mentally affected		Preferences over sleep			Used while studying			Any scam faced	
District	Yes	No	yes	no	Sometimes	Never	always	Sometimes	Never	I often use	yes	N0
Srinagar	9.5±5.67	13±7.49	14.5±8.65	8±4.63	12.25±7.65	8.75±5.07	1.5±0.64	12.5±6.03	1.5±0.95	8.5±6.25	6±3.39	16.5±9.83

	Gap in relationships		Trust people			Harassed over social media		Used in classroom		Work effect		False info travels		
District	Yes	no	Sometimes	Never	always	Yes	no	yes	No	yes	no	Sometimes	Never	always
Srinagar	16.5±9.66	6±3.55	12.5±7.28	9.5±5.43	0.5±0.5	5±3.43	17.5±9.73	9.25±4.75	13.25±8.45	15.75±9.62	6.75±3.54	14.5±8.33	3.75±1.88	5.5±4.21

	Conversations over socialmedia			More likes for posts			Stalk random people			Anxiety from social media		
Districts	Sometimes	never	Most often	Sometimes	Never	always	Sometimes	never	always	Yes	no	May be
Srinagar	12.5±6.73	6±3.08	4±3.36	6±3.34	15.25±9.23	1.25±0.75	8±4.10	13.5±8.62	1±0.70	6±3.80	11±5.30	5.5±4.17

*Values are expressed as mean±se

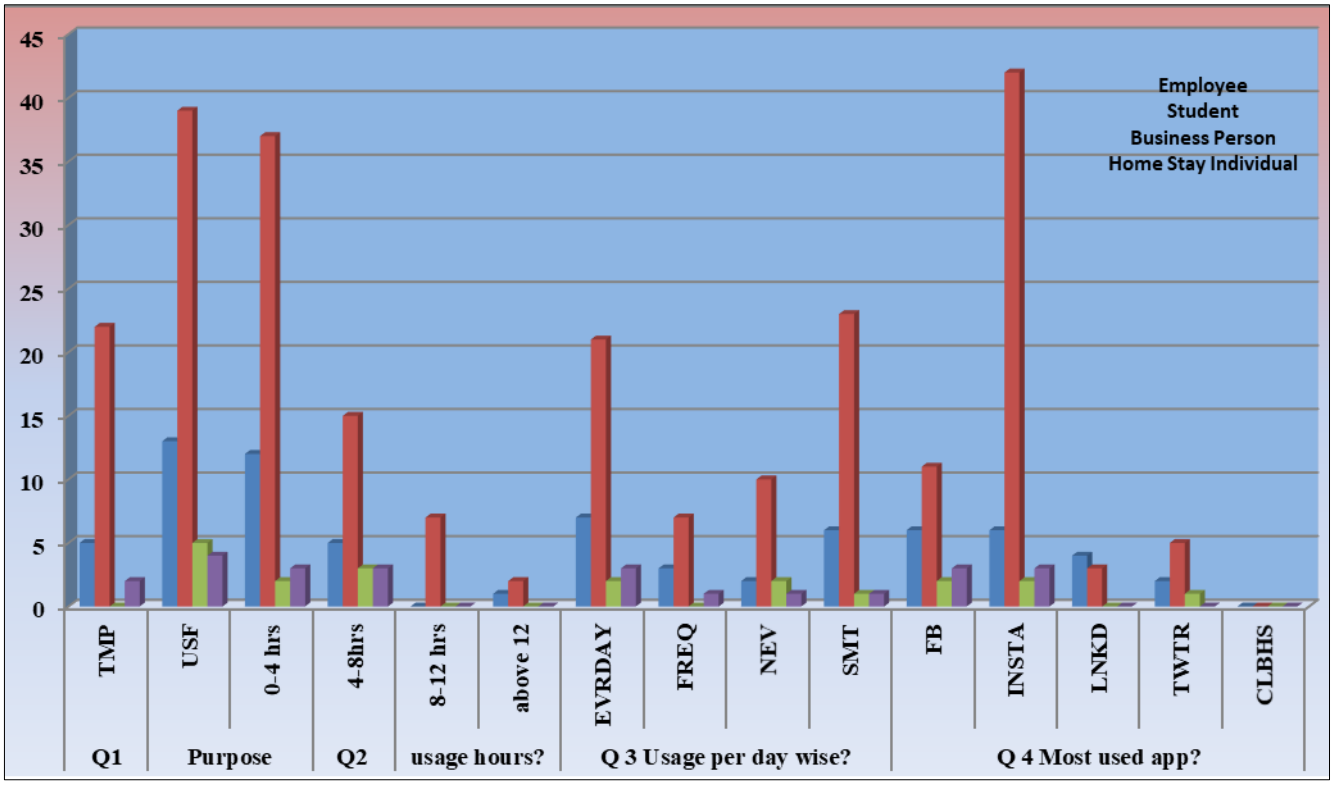

Fig 1: Mean values of different variables among different categories (Srinagar District)

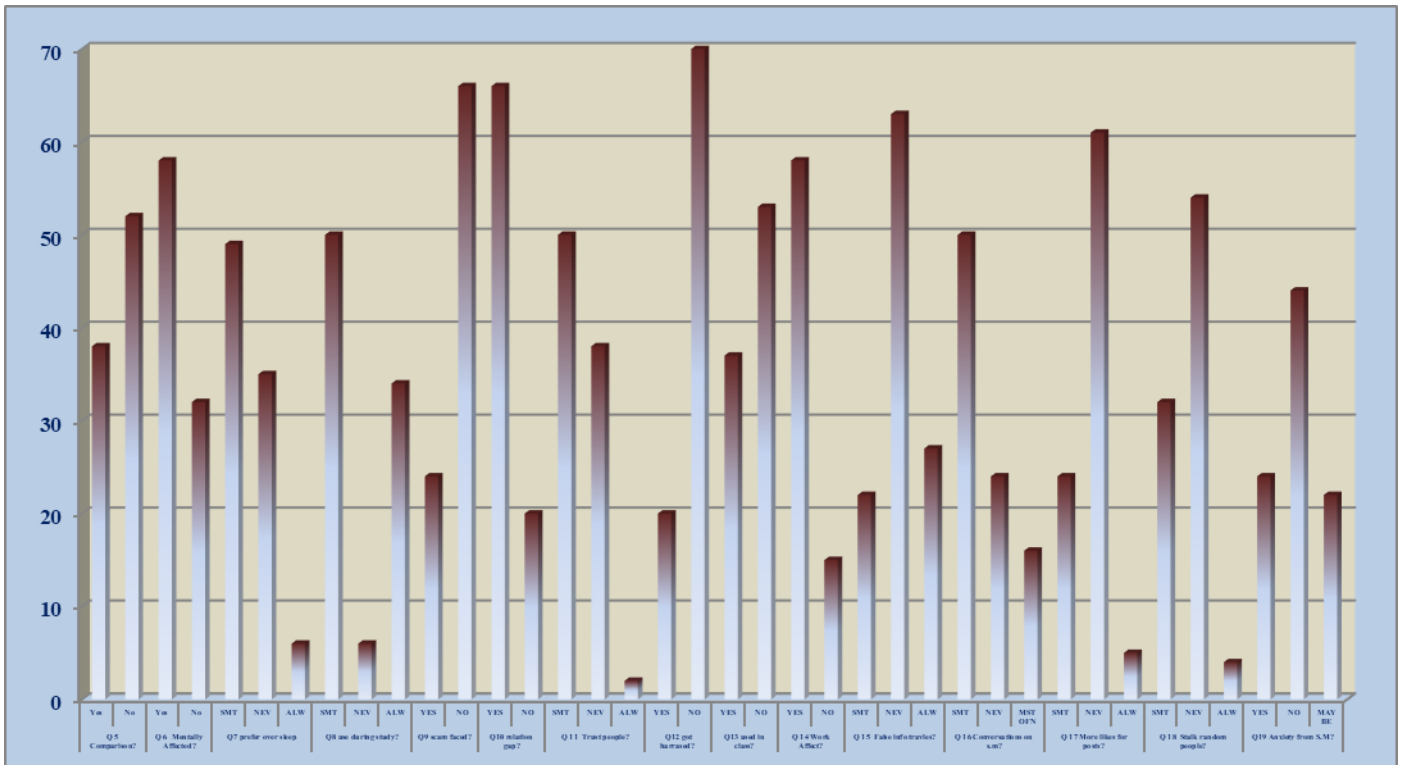

Fig 2: Mean values of different variables among different categories (Srinagar District)

Comparison among all the groups regarding internet showed (52%) people believing there is no comparison at all. Corresponding to mental impact on people showed (58%) affected by internet mentally. As internet is controlling the life style of people all over the world nowadays so a response recorded with respect to preference over sleep showed a good percentage of individuals preferring internet over sleep (48%) with an appreciable percentage of people (36%) showing preference to sleep over internet usage which means many people are aware about the healthy life style in this techno world. While recording the responses from the people of Srinagar district it was observed that (50%) of individuals are using internet sometimes during study but contrary to it a good number of people responded to using internet while study also (33%).

Internet has made life very easy from online banking to pizza home delivery, in terms of every aspect whether education, health sector, economic prosperity, awareness programs regarding environment, social upliftment, rural area development, women empowerment etc. But it has resulted the evil effect also with respect to scams or frauds mostly among common people. Talking to respondents of Srinagar it was recorded that (66%) people faced scams on internet. Not only scams but internet has impacted the emotional aspect of people in terms of relationships, many people agreed to relationship gaps among families, friends and relatives due to internet as people believe that messenger applications has ruined the connection of people with person's texting formality rather than visiting home of family members, relatives and friends. Even the grandparents are getting neglected day by day. In response to the relationship gaps by internet it was observed that (66%) persons believe in impact of internet on people's relation.

Positive impact of social media:

- **Education:** Social media provides online learning platforms for students to learn through educational videos on youtube, easy access to ebooks, online notes etc which in turn enhances their academic performances.
- **Politics:** Social media helps in increase in voter participation by posting on different social media sites. It provides rapid and convenient method for sharing the information and it enhances the way people are gathered on the same platform.
- **News/awareness:** social media helps in broadcasting of the information faster than any other means. It helped the people to use those resources that were not available in the traditional means.it enables peopleto stay up to date on the events that are happening all around the world.
- **Social Aspect:** social media helps the people to bridge the gap between them and it helped them to stay connected to those friends which are in the different parts of the world.
- **Employment opportunities:** social media provides platform for the people to find job and business opportunities, unemployed youth can find job opportunities fast.

Negative impact of social media

- **Academics:** Students tend to get their assignments online without actually working on assignments this in turn reduced their learning capabilities.
- **Security breach:** young people tend to share their personal information over the internet without reading the privacy policies.
- **Cyber bullying:** some negative minded people use social media for bullying others which create mental stress, traumas or suicidal thoughts for the others.
- **Addiction:** youth is addicted to social media as they over utilize social media sites for no reason.

Kyiaki *et al.* (2013) worked on the relationships between the social networking sites usage with the overall characteristics of a person/ personality and also the depressive symptoms of

a person in accordance to the usage of social networking sites. Malik (2018) [2] studied the impact of social media on college students in Kashmir by collecting data and information at Government Degree College Baramulla and presented the overview of social media and its impact on the academic performance of Kashmiri students showed benefits of social media for Kashmiri students and recorded a relationship between the use of social media and academic performance of students. Zargar (2018) [5] explained the impact of social media with positive and negative aspects on education with respect to the overall usage of social media sites by the student is examined. A case study of Bahawalpur city was done by Shabir *et al.* (2014) [1] in which author studied the overall impact social media sites with the average participants of female respondents than the male respondents with 66% of overall percentage. Siddique (2016) [4] examined the purpose of internet usage by the people the overall percentage of people over mail, surfing, chatting etc in his study where 26.8% of overall percentage used internet/social media for surfing and 18.7% people used social media for chatting and so on. The author also recorded the positive and negative impact of social media on education, business, society and youngsters examined in his study. Akram and Kumar (2017) [3] reviewed the positive and negative effects of social media on society, the social media and popular social networking sites like Facebook, WhatsApp, Google Plus, YouTube, Tumbler and many more are explained by the authors and showed impact of social media sites on health, education, business and overall society and teens. The authors also presented the main ways for handling the influence of social media on teenagers. Bhire *et al.* (2014) gave comparison between real life friendships that occurs in real time manner and those friendships that occurs in through social networking sites.

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