



Coverage Report

'After Access dissemination event in New Delhi'

Media	Total Edition – Covered / Total Reach
Print	52
Online	79
TOTAL	131

S.No	Publication	Headline	Edition	National Coverage count	Date
1.	The Economic Times	Urban-Rural Mobile Ownership Gap: India Below Pak, B'desh	National	12	08 th August 2018
2.	The Indian Express	Internet in India: Gaping gender gap	National	10	08 th August 2018
3.	The Indian Express	Indians online: 1 in 5 harassed, here is how, why	National	10	09 th August 2018
4.	The Indian Express	The gap	National	10	10 th August 2018
5.	The Telegraph	Cut off	National	08	14 th August 2018
6.	The Indian Express	Telecom department to officers: Attend seminar on gender gap	New Delhi & Mumbai	02	16 th August 2018

S.No.	Publication	Headline	Edition	Date
1.	The Economic Times	Urban-rural mobile ownership gap: India below Pak, B'desh	Online	07 th August 2018
2.	Business Standard	Only 19% use Internet in India, says study	Online	07 th August 2018
3.	First Post	REPORT INDICATES THAT ONLY 19 PERCENT OF THE 15-65 AGE GROUP IN INDIA USE INTERNET	Online	08 th August 2018
4.	NDTV	Only 19 Per Cent People Use Internet In India, Says Study	Online	08 th August 2018
5.	The Indian Express	Internet in India: Gaping gender gap	Online	08 th August 2018
6.	Devdiscourse	Only 19 percent people of 15-65 age group use Internet in India: Report	Online	07 th August 2018
7.	News Heads	Only 19% use Internet in India, says study	Online	07 th August 2018
8.	UC News	Internet in India: Gaping gender gap	Online	07 th August 2018
9.	Krishka	Urban-rural mobile ownership gap: India below Pak, B'desh	Online	07 th August 2018
10.	Aaj Ki Khabar	Only 19% use Internet in India, says study	Online	08 th August 2018
11.	The Quint	Only 19% use Internet in India, says study	Online	07 th August 2018
12.	Ommcom News	Only 19% use Internet in India, says study	Online	07 th August 2018

13.	Finance Yahoo	Only 19% use Internet in India, says study	Online	07 th August 2018
14.	Web India 123	Only 19% use Internet in India, says study	Online	08 th August 2018
15.	15 Min News	Only 19% use Internet in India, says study	Online	07 th August 2018
16.	Nerve	Only 19% use Internet in India, says study	Online	07 th August 2018
17.	Can India	Only 19% use Internet in India, says study	Online	07 th August 2018
18.	Window to News	Only 19% use Internet in India, says study	Online	07 th August 2018
19.	Social News	Only 19% use Internet in India, says study	Online	07 th August 2018
20.	India Forums	Only 19% use Internet in India, says study	Online	07 th August 2018
21.	Kentucky Indian	Only 19% use Internet in India, says study	Online	07 th August 2018
22.	India Finance News	Urban-rural mobile ownership gap: India below Pak, B'desh	Online	07 th August 2018
23.	Darpan Magazine	Only 19% Use Internet In India, Says Study	Online	07 th August 2018
24.	Harmukh News	Only 19% use Internet in India, says study	Online	07 th August 2018
25.	The Indian Express	Indians online: One in five harassed, here is how, why	Online	09 th August 2018
26.	Sify	Only 19% use Internet in India, says study	Online	08 th August 2018
27.	Gadgets 360	Only 19 Percent in 15-65 Years Age Group Use Internet in India: Study	Online	08 th August 2018

28.	Money Control	Only 43% women in India have cellphones, country tops gender gap in ownership	Online	08 th August 2018
29.	Indian Today	India's rural-urban mobile ownership gap is worse than Pakistan and Bangladesh	Online	08 th August 2018
30.	Odisha TV	Only 19% Use Internet In India, Says Study	Online	08 th August 2018
31.	India Times	Out Of Total 132.42 Crore Indians Only 19 Per Cent Use Internet	Online	08 th August 2018
32.	BGR	The urban-rural mobile ownership gap in India is worse than Pakistan, Bangladesh and Kenya	Online	08 th August 2018
33.	Euro Asian Times	India Lagging Behind Bangladesh, Pakistan in Mobile Ownership	Online	08 th August 2018
34.	Social Post	Among 132.42 Crore Indian Only 19% Use Internet	Online	08 th August 2018
35.	Tele.net	India's urban-rural mobile ownership gap largest in Asia, says LIRNEasia	Online	08 th August 2018
36.	Daily Tech News	Only 19 Percent in 15-65 Years Age Group Use Internet in India: Study	Online	08 th August 2018
37.	Current Affairs	India has highest gender gap in mobile phone ownership amongst: Study	Online	08 th August 2018

38.	Aspirants Zone	Only 19% use Internet in India, says study	Online	08 th August 2018
39.	News Hub	Out Of Total 132.42 Crore Indians Only 19 Per Cent Use Internet	Online	08 th August 2018
40.	The Republic Roar	Internet in India: Gaping gender gap	Online	08 th August 2018
41.	India News Today	Only 19 Percent in 15-65 Years Age Group Use Internet in India: Study	Online	08 th August 2018
42.	News Room Post	Only 19% in 15-65 years age group use Internet in India, says study	Online	08 th August 2018
43.	News 18	Only 19 Percent Use Internet in India, Says study	Online	08 th August 2018
44.	The Indian Express	Mind the gap	Online	09 th August 2018
45.	The Quint	India Ranks Among Lowest in Women's Access to Mobiles, Internet	Online	09 th August 2018
46.	Examlover	The gender gap in the case of ownership of mobile phones in India is highest: LIRNEAsia	Online	09 th August 2018
47.	UC News	Mind the gap	Online	10 th August 2018
48.	IM4 Change	Indians online: One in five harassed, here is how, why -Karishma Mehrotra	Online	09 th August 2018
49.	The Republic Roar	One in five harassed, here is how, why	Online	09 th August 2018
50.	GK Today Hindi	India has highest gender gap in mobile phone	Online	08 th August 2018

		ownership amongst: Study		
51.	Indian Express Bangla	Indians online: One in five harassed, here is how, why	Online	08 th August 2018
52.	Mathru Bhumi	Only 19% use Internet in India, says study	Online	08 th August 2018
53.	Sakshi	Only 19% use Internet in India, says study	Online	08 th August 2018
54.	Business Insider	India has a huge gender gap in terms of access to the internet and mobile ownership	Online	08 th August 2018
55.	Tech Gig	Why Internet penetration hasn't helped the gender gap in India	Online	09 th August 2018
56.	Ibps Guide	Only 19 Percent Use Internet in India, Says study	Online	09 th August 2018
57.	Great Andhra	Only 19% use Internet in India, says study	Online	07 th August 2018
58.	Andhravilas	Only 19% use Internet in India, says study	Online	07 th August 2018
59.	India News Stream	Only 19% use Internet in India, says study	Online	07 th August 2018
60.	News Yahoo	Only 19% use Internet in India, says study	Online	07 th August 2018
61.	The English Post	Only 19% use Internet in India, says study	Online	07 th August 2018
62.	The Freedom Press	Only 19% use Internet in India, says study	Online	07 th August 2018
63.	TNBC Live	ONLY 19% INDIAN ARE AWARE OF THE USAGE	Online	07 th August 2018

		OF INTERNET, SAYS STUDY		
64.	Orlando Indian	Only 19% use Internet in India, says study	Online	07 th August 2018
65.	Weekly Voice	Only 19% use Internet in India, says study	Online	07 th August 2018
66.	Learn Guru	Only 19% use Internet in India, says study	Online	07 th August 2018
67.	The People TV	Study: Indian Has Highest Gender Gap In Mobile Phone Ownership	Online	11 th August 2018
68.	Development News	India Ranks Among Lowest in Women's Access to Mobiles, Internet	Online	11 th August 2018
69.	Sakshi	Where is digital revolution?	Online	11 th August 2018
70.	The Telegraph	Cut Off	Online	14 th August 2018
71.	IM4 Change	Roughly one-third of offenders who committed online harassment were unknown to their victims, shows recent LIRNEAsia report	Online	14 th August 2018
72.	Big News Live	Only 19 % Of Indian Population Is Accessing Internet	Online	13 th August 2018
73.	The Indian Express	Telecom department to officers: Attend seminar on gender gap	Online	16 th August 2018
74.	Communications Today	Telecom department to officers: Attend seminar on gender gap	Online	16 th August 2018

75.	Small News	Telecom department to officers: Attend seminar on gender gap	Online	16 th August 2018
76.	Khabar Indians	Telecom department to officers: Attend seminar on gender gap	Online	16 th August 2018
77.	Web Josh	Telecom department to officers: Attend seminar on gender gap	Online	16 th August 2018
78.	Daily Crypto Currency News	Telecom department to officers: Attend seminar on gender gap	Online	16 th August 2018
79.	News Boss	Telecom department to officers: Attend seminar on gender gap	Online	16 th August 2018

PRINT COVERAGE

Urban-Rural Mobile Ownership Gap: India Below Pak, B'desh

Our Bureau

New Delhi: India may well be the fastest-growing mobile phone market, but there is a 22% gap between its urban and rural populations in mobile ownership and it trails behind less-developing countries such as Pakistan, Bangladesh and Kenya, a new study says.

Kenya has 9% urban-rural handset ownership divide, Bangladesh 7%, and Pakistan has mere 5% disparity, according to a study by Sri Lanka-based pro-poor think tank LIRNEasia. India's urban-rural mobile ownership divide is the largest among Asian countries covered in the study, LIRNEasia said in a statement on Tuesday.

The statistics presents a worrying state of affairs in the information communication technology (ICT) domain at a time when Prime Minister Narendra Modi's prestigious Digital India programme is entering the fifth year with an initial target to achieve 100% tele-density by 2018-19, a timeline which has now been revised to 2022.

The LIRNEasia said 55% mobile users in the country use basic phones that have no Internet access. Then, around 16% handsets are feature phones and 28% smart phones.

The study also claimed 65% Indians between the 15 and 65 years of age group don't even know about Internet, and a whopping 81% said they never used it.

"A small part of the universal service obligation (USO) fund should be allocated to conduct ICT-related studies so that data can be collected on a regular basis," LIRNEasia chi-

ef executive Helani Galpaya said.

Its findings are based on a survey of 38,005 households and individuals across 18 developing countries through a 90-minute long engagement.

Rajan S Mathews, director general at industry body Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI), said, "While the study highlights the challenges, it also provides the right path ahead for introducing changes."

According to telecom department's website, the NDA government has placed considerable emphasis on growth of internet and broadband in the country as part its Digital India campaign, and indicated India's inter-



net connections stood at 431.21 million as of June, 2017 that includes 293.82 million in urban areas and 137.39 million in rural areas.

"While we say India has lowest Internet penetration, but the country has highest data usage," DoT special secretary N Sivasailam said.

A Kantar IMRB study early this year said internet penetration in India's urban areas was 64.84% as of December 2017, up from 60.6% a year earlier. Rural internet penetration grew to 20.26% from 18% during the same period, it said.

"Given that total urban population is much lower than total rural population, the urban-rural digital divide is actually more acute than what the penetration numbers portray," Mumbai-based Kantar IMRB said.

Internet in India: Gaping gender gap

KARISHMA MEHROTRA
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 7

INDIA HAS the highest gender gap in mobile phone ownership amongst 18 comparable countries and ranks among the lowest in women's access to the Internet, a new study released Tuesday has found. According to the study, women, rural citizens, and those with lower education or income significantly lag behind in Internet and social media usage.

The study was released by IIRNEAsia, an information and communications technology (ICT) policy think tank that is involved in "pro-poor, pro-market" research in Asia-Pacific since 2005, in Delhi in the presence of Department of Telecommunications special secretary N Sivasailam and representatives of the Cellular

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Gaping gender gap

Operators Association of India (COAI).

According to the study, only 43 per cent of women in India own mobile phones compared to almost 80 per cent of Indian males — mostly because of a lack of awareness. This difference of almost half surpasses all other countries in the survey, including Pakistan, Bangladesh and Rwanda.

The gender gap is accentuated in rural regions — a 52 per cent gap — compared to 34 per cent in urban areas. The study also found that India's 57 per cent gender gap in Internet usage was surpassed only by Bangladesh and Rwanda and that the gender gap social media usage was even higher with wider divides only in Bangladesh.

At the event releasing the report, DoT special secretary Shri Sivasailam said that the research points were very actionable. "It is possible to act on this data and develop policies. I am pleased that we have a baseline for the first time ever," he said.

According to the study, India also has a high distrust of news shared on social media

— 29 per cent trust social media news while more than half did not. India also saw higher online harassment than Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Cambodia at 19 per cent of users. Much of this was offensive name-calling and in 20 per cent of such cases, it led to reduced use of the particular website.

According to IIRNEAsia, the 18-country study included comparative research done by ICT Africa in Africa and DIRSI in Latin America.

The study also found a substantial urban-rural divide in mobile phone ownership with 71 per cent urban penetration and 55 per cent rural. The urban-rural gap is comparable to that in Nigeria.

"India should be doing better than this because it is performing like the poorest countries in the sample," said Helani Galpaya, CEO of IIRNEAsia. The report was funded by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) and Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDRC).

Key findings in the study:

■ 64 % said they did not know about the

Internet — a higher percentage than the other countries except Pakistan and Bangladesh. 68 % of this group was female and 68 % were from rural areas.

■ At 19 %, Internet use in India is lower than that of Nigeria, Ghana, Kenya and Cambodia.

■ Awareness of platforms for e-commerce was higher in India than countries like Pakistan and Bangladesh.

■ 27 % mainly use social media, 16 % use the Internet for entertainment and 15 % use it for news.

■ A higher percentage of women used social media for marketing and educational content, while men used social media to chat — significantly more than women.

■ Social media users in India share their political views at some of the highest rates. More than half shared their religion, 26 % share their sexual orientation, and more than 70 % per cent shared their mobile number or email address.

■ Women shared information less than men in almost all categories except for political and sexual orientation.

Indians online: 1 in 5 harassed, here is how, why

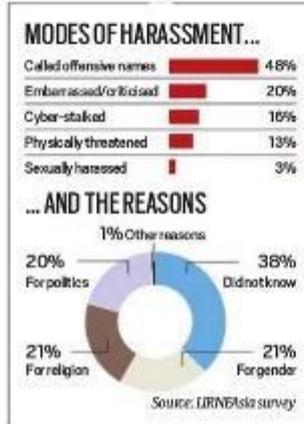
KARISHMA MEHROTRA
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 8

ONE IN every five Internet users surveyed in India have reported having faced online harassment. This is one of the findings of surveys by the policy think-tank IIRNEAsia on the Global South and information technology; other findings were reported in *The Indian Express* Wednesday.

Out of 919 Internet users in India in the age group 15-65, 175 (19%) reported that they had online harassment. This was more than in Pakistan or Bangladesh (12% each). Rural users in India (20%) experienced more online harassment than urban ones (17%) while males (20%) faced more harassment more than females (17%).

Almost half of those who had experienced online harassment in India were called offensive names, while one-fifth were "purposefully embarrassed or criticised in another way" and one-sixth were cyber-stalked, or repeatedly approached by unwanted contacts.

Again, 38% of those who faced online ha-



arrassment did not know the motivation for the harassment, while roughly 20% each believed the motivation to be gender, religion or race, or politics. Most experienced the ha-

arrassment on social media, while 29% faced it on chat applications, 16% on website comment sections and 7% in online gaming.

The source of the harassment was split into thirds (33% each) among someone the user had met offline earlier, an online contact never encountered offline, or someone unknown online and offline.

For almost half (48%) of those who experienced harassment, the incident(s) had no effect. Some reduced their time on the particular website (28%) while 15% deleted the app altogether. Only 5% unfriended or blocked the contact, or left the group or forum.

E-commerce

Mobile money use in India was just 6% of phone owners. On the other hand, awareness and use of e-commerce platforms was higher in India than in Pakistan and Bangladesh for most sectors. That said, e-commerce participants were often not heavy users, and only completed the search or search-and-order process.

Of those who did purchase online, 27% used debit cards, 22% used cash on delivery, and 18% used mobile banking or internet

banking. Of those who didn't participate in e-commerce, 31% said they could already buy what they needed offline, 24% were not comfortable sharing personal details and 23% were not certain of the product's quality.

Non-users

The 919 Internet users represented 19% of a pool of 5,000 Indians surveyed. Among the non-Internet users, 64% said they did not know what the Internet is. This proportion was third-highest among all 16 countries surveyed, below only that in Pakistan (69%) and Bangladesh (67%). Also, 9% of non-users, while aware of the Internet, did not know how to use it.

The non-users included 68% female respondents and 68% from rural areas. Three-fourths had either no education or only studied up to primary level. Even among smartphone users, 35% were unaware what the Internet is.

At 19%, Internet use in India is lower than that in Nigeria, Ghana, Kenya and Cambodia. Most other surveyed African and Asian countries, however, had lower overall penetration than India.

MIND THE GAP

As was feared, the digital revolution, while bringing prosperity to millions, may be perpetuating inequalities of the past

THE DIGITAL DIVIDE, deemed to be one of the biggest challenges facing developing knowledge economies in the last decade, was conveniently forgotten in recent years as India celebrated the mobile internet boom and an ever-widening broadband network. It was assumed that if every panchayat was connected, and if calling and connectivity costs remain low, the force of rapid growth alone would sweep over inequalities. But a report released by a policy think tank which researches information and communications technology in India, among other markets, comes as a wake-up call: The digital divide is still here, and inequality is deeper than was anticipated.

A study released by LIRNEasia reveals that ironically, the divide is deepest precisely where the internet was supposed to bridge it. Internet access was expected to be a great equaliser between the sexes, giving women access to knowledge and connections that they could not get offline. But it appears that India has the fewest number of women online, and the highest gender gap in mobile phone ownership among 18 similar countries. The gap is 34 per cent in urban areas and rises to 52 per cent in rural areas. Other groups who have been left behind on the information superhighway include rural populations and the economically or educationally weaker sections. Like women, these were expected to be significant beneficiaries of the digital revolution.

The revolution is real enough, improving the lot of huge populations, but it has not been a great equaliser. Partly, inequality must owe to legacy attitudes — if a family owns only one phone, it is likely to be in the hands of a man. But clearly, anticipated components of the divide, like illiteracy, have not been adequately addressed. The methods and concepts of Sugata Mitra's "hole in the wall computer", which facilitated self-organised learning, never made it to the smartphone. A staggering 64 per cent of people canvassed did not even know about the internet and, despite the push to roll out broadband to panchayats, about two out of three of these people were rural. And though we perceive ourselves to be living in an internet and mobile boom, internet usage in India remains lower than in Ghana and Cambodia. If the only positive finding is that more than half of Indians mistrust social media news, millions of citizens, especially women, still need a helping hand to join the revolution.

CUT OFF

The clarion call of 'development' in the digital age has little meaning in a nation where a significant section of the population is excluded from its ambit. This is what seems to have happened in India, as a study conducted by an information and communications technology policy think tank, LIRNEAsia, has found. According to the report, the gender gap in India with regard to mobile phone ownership surpasses all other countries in the survey. A mere 43 per cent of Indian women own cellular phones, as opposed to almost 80 per cent of men. Worse, access to the internet — declared a basic human right by the United Nations — for Indian women is among the lowest in the nations surveyed. The causes and implications of these serious lags are multifarious. Also of concern is the fact that these findings are not new; a Unicef report published last year had raised similar concerns. This highlights not only the skewed gender dynamics that render mobile phone ownership a distant dream for most Indian women — in rural areas, especially, women are prevented by the men in their families and even by 'kangaroo courts' from possessing cell phones or using those belonging to male relatives — but also the unwillingness of the Bharatiya Janata Party-led government at the Centre to use available data to formulate policies geared towards correcting the imbalance.

Given that this is the same government that aggressively pushes the 'Digital India' campaign, is it unreasonable to assume that such a massive technological gender divide is, to a large extent, deliberately allowed to persist? Giving women access to mobile phones and the internet enables them to search for jobs and educational opportunities and even avail themselves of banking and health services: all of which allow them greater control over their own lives. More important, it gives them access to information about their rights, of which they are often robbed. (Significantly, the study showed that a lack of awareness is the primary cause for women not having cell phones.) Awareness among citizens, especially women, is anathema for any government peddling an oppressive agenda, more so at a time when social media have enabled the organization of protests and movements. Studies in the past showing how the technological empowerment of women is critical to economic growth have largely been ignored at the policy level, highlighting the hollowness of the 'development' agenda. It will be unsurprising if the data in the recent survey meet the same fate.

Telecom department to officers: Attend seminar on gender gap

PRANAV MUKUL
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 15

TAKING COGNISANCE of a “significant gender gap” associated with access to, and the use of internet and mobile services in the country, the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has urged its officers to attend a seminar on the topic “Women and Mobile: Bridging the Gender Gap”, which it is organising on Thursday in collaboration with GSM Association, according to an internal circular seen by *The Indian Express*.

“The gender gap can be attributed to a number of factors including the cost of devices and services, network coverage, concerns around security and harassment as well as lack of technical literacy among women. This course explains the background to the issues and focuses on strategies that can be used to help close the gender gap,” the DoT’s training cell noted. Last week, a study published by LIRNEAsia – an informa-

THE STUDY

LAST WEEK, a study published by LIRNEAsia – an ICT policy think tank – noted that India had the highest gender gap in mobile phone ownership amongst 16 countries

tion and communications technology (ICT) policy think tank – noted that India had the highest gender gap in mobile phone ownership amongst 16 comparable countries – including ones such as Pakistan, Bangladesh, Kenya, Rwanda, Cambodia, Guatemala – and ranked among the lowest in women’s access to the Internet. The study said that women in India were 46 per cent less likely to own a mobile than men. Notably, at 24 per cent, the gender gap among smartphone users was lesser than the total difference in mobile phone ownership.

Notwithstanding the nar-

rower gap in smartphone ownership, the gender divide in internet use was even higher than mobile ownership, the study pointed out. In India, there was a 57 per cent gap between men and women using online facilities such as e-mail, Google, Facebook, etc. The country was only behind Rwanda and Bangladesh – both having 62 per cent gap in internet use. Among the uses of internet, a significant divide was also present in the use of social media, where the gap between men and women in India was 60 per cent, only behind Bangladesh at 66 per cent.

The study also found that a higher percentage of women used social media for marketing and educational content, while men used social media to chat – significantly more than women. Further, contrary to the findings in other nations, India was the only country in those studied by the think-tank where higher percentage of women said they were confronted by unwanted offensive or inappropriate material while using social media.

ONLINE COVERAGE

THE ECONOMIC TIMES

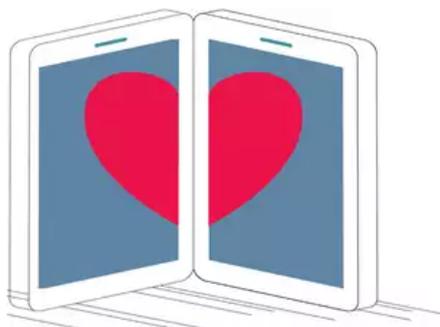
Urban-rural mobile ownership gap: India below Pak, B'desh

ET Bureau | Aug 07, 2018, 11:27 PM IST

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Comments

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the study, LIRNEasia said in a statement on Tuesday.

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The LIRNEasia said 55% mobile users in the country use basic phones that have no [Internet](#) access. Then, around 16% handsets are feature phones and 28% smart phones. The study also claimed 65% Indians between the 15 and 65 years of age group don't even know about Internet, and a whopping 81% said they never used it.

"A small part of the universal service obligation (USO) fund should be allocated to conduct ICT-related studies so that data can be collected on a regular basis," LIRNEasia chief executive Helani Galpaya said. Its findings are based on a survey of 38,005 households and individuals across 18 developing countries through a 90-minute long engagement.

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"Given that total urban population is much lower than total rural population, the urbanrural [digital divide](#) is actually more acute portray," Mumbai-based Kantar IMRB said.

Publication: Business Standard **Edition:** Online **Date:** August 07, 2018

Business Standard

Only 19% use Internet in India, says study

IANIS | New Delhi

Last Updated at August 7, 2018 22:10 IST

A mere 19 per cent of people in the 15-65 age group use Internet in India, a report said here on Tuesday.

About 35 per cent of those in the age group are aware of Internet, said the report named "AfterAccess: ICT access and use in India and the Global South". It was published by Lirneasia, a policy and regulation think tank in collaboration with the Cellular Operators Association of India.

"The lack of Internet awareness is a considerable problem in India, with just 35 per cent of the 15-65 (years) population aware of what the Internet is. The level of use is thus even lower at 19 per cent," said the report.

On the findings of the report Chief Executive Officer of Lirneasia Helani Galpaya said: "India has only connected around 20 per cent of the adult people who you would expect to be on line. So that's pathetic... and the contradiction is, this (India) is one of the most affordable markets in the world."

The report further showed that out of the total Internet users in the age group of 15-65 years, around 27 per cent mostly spend time on social media.

--IANIS

rrb/qd/sed

(This story has not been edited by Business Standard staff and is auto-generated from a syndicated feed.)

First Published: Tue, August 07 2018. 22:04 IST

Publication: First Post **Edition:** Online **Date:** August 08, 2018

FIRSTPOST.

REPORT INDICATES THAT ONLY 19 PERCENT OF THE 15-65 AGE GROUP IN INDIA USE INTERNET



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Representational image. Image: Reuters

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On the findings of the report, the Chief Executive Officer of Limeasia Helani Galpaya said: "India has only connected around 20 percent of the adult people who you would expect to be on the line. So that's pathetic... and the contradiction is, this (India) is one of the most affordable markets in the world."

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Publication: NDTV **Edition:** Online **Date:** August 08, 2018



Only 19 Per Cent People Use Internet In India, Says Study

The report further showed that out of the total Internet users in the age group of 15-65 years, around 27 per cent mostly spend time on social media.

All India | Indo-Asian News Service | Updated: August 08, 2018 02:58 IST



IMAGE CREDIT: istockphoto.com/shironosov

About 35 per cent of those in the age group of 15-65 age group are aware of Internet. (File)

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COMMENT

Publication: The Indian Express **Edition:** Online **Date:** August 08, 2018

The Indian EXPRESS

Internet in India: Gaping gender gap

According to the study, women, rural citizens, and those with lower education or income significantly lag behind in Internet and social media usage.

Written by **Karishma Mehrotra** | New Delhi | Updated: August 8, 2018 11:11:12 am



According to the study, only 43 per cent of women in India own mobile phones compared to almost 80 per cent of Indian males — mostly because of a lack of awareness.

India has the highest gender gap in mobile phone ownership amongst 18 comparable countries and ranks among the lowest in women's access to the Internet, a new study released Tuesday has found. According to the study, women, rural citizens, and those with lower education or income significantly lag behind in Internet and social media usage.

The study was released by LIRNEAsia, an information and communications technology (ICT) policy think tank that is involved in “pro-poor, pro-market” research in Asia-Pacific since 2005, in Delhi in the presence of Department of Telecommunications special secretary N Sivasailam and representatives of the Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI).

According to the study, only 43 per cent of women in India own mobile phones compared to almost 80 per cent of Indian males — mostly because of a lack of awareness. This difference of almost half surpasses all other countries in the survey, including Pakistan, Bangladesh and Rwanda.

The gender gap is accentuated in rural regions — a 52 per cent gap — compared to 34 per cent in urban areas. The study also found that India's 57 per cent gender gap in Internet usage was surpassed only by Bangladesh and Rwanda and that the gender gap social media usage was even higher with wider divides only in Bangladesh.

At the event releasing the report, DoT special secretary Shri Sivasailam said that the research points were very actionable. “It is possible to act on this data and develop policies. I am pleased that we have a baseline for the first time ever,” he said.

According to the study, India also has a high distrust of news shared on social media — 29 per cent trust social media news while more than half did not. India also saw higher online harassment than Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Cambodia at 19 per cent of users. Much of this was offensive name-calling and in 20 per cent of such cases, it led to reduced use of the particular website.

According to LIRNEAsia, the 18-country study included comparative research done by ICT Africa in Africa and DIRSI in Latin America.

The study also found a substantial urban-rural divide in mobile phone ownership with 71 per cent urban penetration and 55 per cent rural. The urban-rural gap is comparable to that in Nigeria.

“India should be doing better than this because it is performing like the poorest countries in the sample,” said Helani Galpaya, CEO of LIRNEAsia. The report was funded by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) and Canada’s International Development Research Centre (IDRC).

Key findings in the study:

* 64 per cent said they did not know about the Internet – a higher percentage than the other countries except Pakistan and Bangladesh. 68 per cent of this group was female and 68 % were from rural areas.

* At 19 per cent, Internet use in India is lower than that of Nigeria, Ghana, Kenya and Cambodia.

* Awareness of platforms for e-commerce was higher in India than countries like Pakistan and Bangladesh.

* 27 per cent mainly use social media, 16 % use the Internet for entertainment and 15 per cent use it for news.

* A higher percentage of women used social media for marketing and educational content, while men used social media to chat – significantly more than women.

* Social media users in India share their political views at some of the highest rates. More than half shared their religion, 26 per cent share their sexual orientation, and more than 70 per cent shared their mobile number or email address.

* Women shared information less than men in almost all categories except for political and sexual orientation.

Publication: Devdiscourse**Edition:** Online**Date:** August 07, 2018



Only 19 percent people of 15-65 age group use Internet in India: Report

Gender Divide, mobile phone ownership, and poor infrastructure are the leading factors contributing to the downfall, particularly in rural areas.

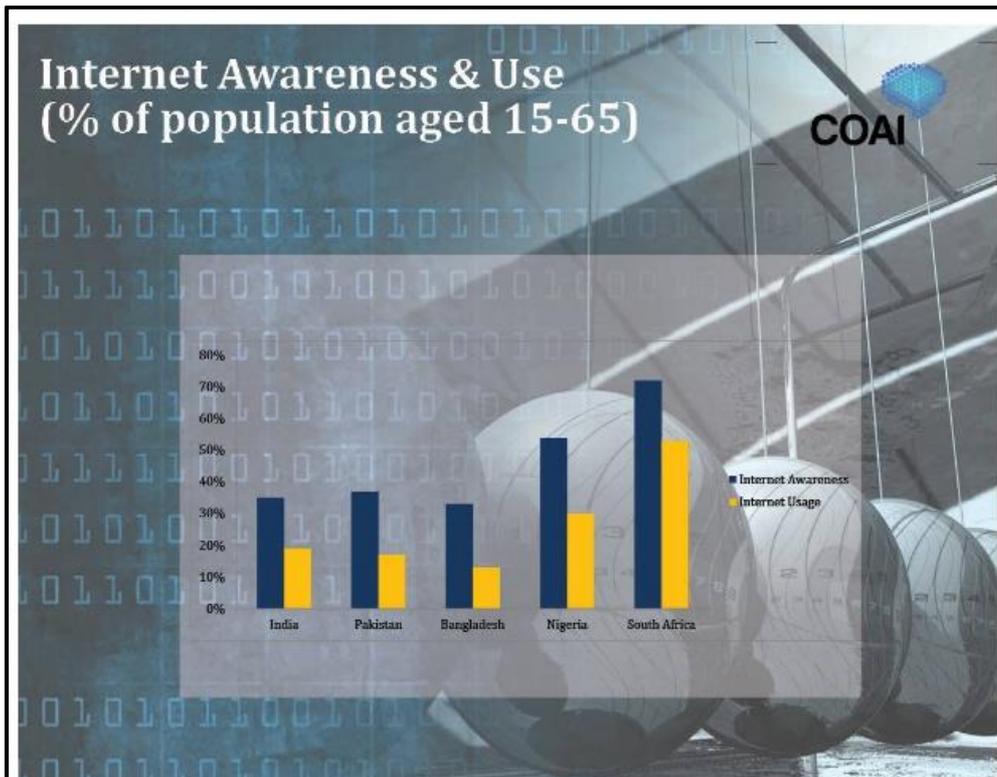
Devdiscourse News Desk | 07 Aug 2018, 11:28 PM | India



LIRNEasia and COAI launched today After Access : ICT Access and use in India and the global south report detailing the Internet awareness and its use in various countries in the age group of 15-65. (Image Credit: Facebook/COAI)

LIRNEasia, an information, and communication technology (ICT) policy and regulation think-tank active in the Asia Pacific region and the Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI) unveiled today **After Access : ICT Access and use in India and the global south** report detailing the Internet awareness and its use in various countries in the age group of 15-65.

According to the report findings, only 19 percent of the population between the 15-65 age group use Internet in India. Despite massive efforts such as the Digital India campaign, the country is still lagging behind in terms of internet usage. Gender Divide, mobile phone ownership, and poor infrastructure are the leading factors contributing to the downfall, particularly in rural areas.



(Image Credit: Twitter/COAI)

"The lack of internet awareness is a considerable problem in India, with just 35 percent of the 15-65 age population aware of what the internet is. Lack of need and the affordability are the two key barriers to smartphone adoption. In India, half of the zero income earners own a mobile phone but they are basic mobile phones," commented Helani Galpaya, Chief Executive Officer, LIRNEasia, while speaking at the launch.



 **COAI**
@ConnectCOAI



A discussion on the findings of the [#LIRNEAsiaReport](#) [#AfterAccess](#) : ICT Access and use in India and the global south report by [@LIRNEasia](#) & [@ConnectCOAI](#) with Shri [@nsivasailam](#), Additional Secretary, [@DoT_India](#) & Mr. Rajat Kathuria, Director, [@ICRIER](#)

3:50 PM - Aug 7, 2018

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"Mobile phone [connectivity](#) with quality access will provide means of income as locally relevant content will provide an opportunity for rural India," stated Mr. Rajat Kathuria, Director, ICRIER.

Shri N. Sivasailam, Additional Secretary, Department of Telecommunications (DoT), Government of India said, "Fibre [connectivity](#) is essential for uninterrupted, quality internet access. Cutting cables for the beautification of a city will gravely impact connectivity. Fibre cables enable us to connect to others and create beautiful memories."

Tags : [LIRNEasia](#) [COAI](#) [After Access](#) [Report](#) [India](#) [Global South](#)
[Internet](#) [smartphones](#) [Gender divide](#) [Digital India](#) [infrastructure](#)
[connectivity](#) [DoT](#)

Country : [India](#)

Publication: News Heads**Edition:** Online**Date:** August 07, 2018

NEWSHEADS

Latest News

Only 19% use Internet in India, says study

By: IANS / Tuesday, 07 August 2018 10:30:13 PM



NEW DELHI : A mere 19 per cent of people in the 15-65 age group use Internet in India, a report said here on Tuesday.

About 35 per cent of those in the age group are aware of Internet, said the report named "AfterAccess: ICT access and use in India and the Global South". It was published by Lirneasia, a policy and regulation think tank in collaboration with the Cellular Operators Association of India.

"The lack of Internet awareness is a considerable problem in India, with just 35 per cent of the 15-65 (years) population aware of what the Internet is. The level of use is thus even lower at 19 per cent," said the report.

On the findings of the report Chief Executive Officer of Lirneasia Helani Galpaya said: "India has only connected around 20 per cent of the adult people who you would expect to be on line. So that's pathetic... and the contradiction is, this (India) is one of the most affordable markets in the world."

The report further showed that out of the total Internet users in the age group of 15-65 years, around 27 per cent mostly spend time on social media.

Publication: UC News **Edition:** Online **Date:** August 08, 2018



Internet in India: Gaping gender gap

Indian Express 2018-08-08 13:41:12

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The study also found a substantial urban-rural divide in mobile phone ownership with 71 per cent urban penetration and 55 per cent rural. The urban-rural gap is comparable to that in Nigeria.

"India should be doing better than this because it is performing like the poorest countries in the sample," said Helani Galpaya, CEO of LIRNEAsia. The report was funded by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) and Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDRC).

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- * Awareness of platforms for e-commerce was higher in India than countries like Pakistan and Bangladesh.
- * 27 per cent mainly use social media, 16 % use the Internet for entertainment and 15 per cent use it for news.
- * A higher percentage of women used social media for marketing and educational content, while men used social media to chat — significantly more than women.
- * Social media users in India share their political views at some of the highest rates. More than half shared their religion, 26 per cent share their sexual orientation, and more than 70 per cent shared their mobile number or email address.
- * Women shared information less than men in almost all categories except for political and sexual orientation.

Publication: Krishka **Edition:** Online **Date:** August 07, 2018



Hardware

Urban-rural mobile ownership gap: India below Pak, B'desh

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India may well be the fastest-growing mobile phone market, but there is a 22% gap between its urban and rural populations in mobile ownership and it trails behind less-developing countries such as Pakistan, Bangladesh and Kenya, a new study says.

Kenya has 9% urban-rural handset ownership divide, Bangladesh 7%, and Pakistan has mere 5% disparity, according to a study by Sri Lanka-based pro-poor think tank LIRNEasia. India's urban-rural mobile ownership divide is the largest among Asian countries covered in the study, LIRNEasia said in a statement on Tuesday.

The statistics presents a worrying state of affairs in the information communication technology (ICT) domain at a time when Prime Minister Narendra Modi's prestigious Digital India programme is entering the fifth year with an initial target to achieve 100% tele-density by 2018-19, a timeline which has now been revised to 2022.

The LIRNEasia said 55% mobile users in the country use basic phones that have no Internet access. Then, around 16% handsets are feature phones and 28% smart phones. The study also claimed 65% Indians between the 15 and 65 years of age group don't even know about Internet, and a whopping 81% said they never used it.

"A small part of the universal service obligation (USO) fund should be allocated to conduct ICT-related studies so that data can be collected on a regular basis," LIRNEasia chief executive Helani Galpaya said. Its findings are based on a survey of 38,005 households and individuals across 18 developing countries through a 90-minute long engagement.

Rajan S Mathews, director general at industry body Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI), said, "While the study highlights the challenges, it also provides the right path ahead for introducing changes." According to telecom department's website, the NDA government has placed considerable emphasis on growth of Internet and broadband in the country as part its Digital India campaign, and indicated India's internet connections stood at 431.21 million as of June, 2017 that includes 293.82 million in urban areas and 137.39 million in rural areas.

"While we say India has lowest Internet penetration, but the country has highest data usage," DoT special secretary N Sivasailam said. A Kantar IMRB study early this year said internet penetration in India's urban areas was 64.84% as of December 2017, up from 60.6% a year earlier. Rural internet penetration grew to 20.26% from 18% during the same period, it said.

"Given that total urban population is much lower than total rural population, the urban-rural digital divide is actually more acute portrayal," Mumbai-based Kantar IMRB said.

Publication: Aaj Ki Khabar **Edition:** Online **Date:** August 08, 2018



IANS NEWS

Only 19% use Internet in India, says study



Published 2 days ago on August 8, 2018

By IANS English [Twitter](#)



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The report further showed that out of the total Internet users in the age group of 15-65 years, around 27 per cent mostly spend time on social media.

-IANS

Publication: The Quint **Edition:** Online **Date:** August 07, 2018



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IANS | 2 DAYS AGO

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-- IANS

Publication: Ommcom News **Edition:** Online **Date:** August 07, 2018



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92 Views

07 August 2018

OMMCOM NEWS

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(IANS)

Publication: Finance YahooEdition: OnlineDate: August 07, 2018



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IANS Indo Asian News Service

IANS India Private Limited 7 August 2018

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--IANS

Publication: Web India 123**Edition:** Online**Date:** August 08, 2018

webindia123

Only 19% use Internet in India, says study

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New Delhi | Tuesday, 2018 10:45:04 PM IST

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--IANS rrb/qd/sed

Publication: Nerve**Edition:** Online**Date:** August 07, 2018

Only 19% use Internet in India, says study

Tuesday - August 7, 2018 10:04 pm , Category : BUSINESS



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--IANS rrb/qd/sed

Publication: Can India **Edition:** Online **Date:** August 07, 2018



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August 7, 2018

Author: CanIndia New Wire Service



Views: 6

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-IANS

Publication: Window to News**Edition:** Online**Date:** August 07, 2018

Window To News

STAY UPDATED TO THE CHANGING WORLD

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Tuesday - August 7, 2018 10:04 pm , Category : BUSINESS



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--IANS rrb/qd/sed

Publication: Social News **Edition:** Online **Date:** August 07, 2018

SOCIALNEWS.XYZ
The Millennial Media

Only 19% use Internet in India, says study

POSTED BY: GOPI AUGUST 7, 2018

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Publication: India Forums**Edition:** Online**Date:** August 07, 2018



Only 19% use Internet in India, says study

By Indo Asian News Service | Tuesday, August 07, 2018 | 10:04:05 PM IST (+05:30 GMT) [0 Comment](#)

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--IANS

Publication: Kentucky Indian **Edition:** Online **Date:** August 07, 2018



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Delhi, Business/Economy, Technology

Author : Indo Asian News Service

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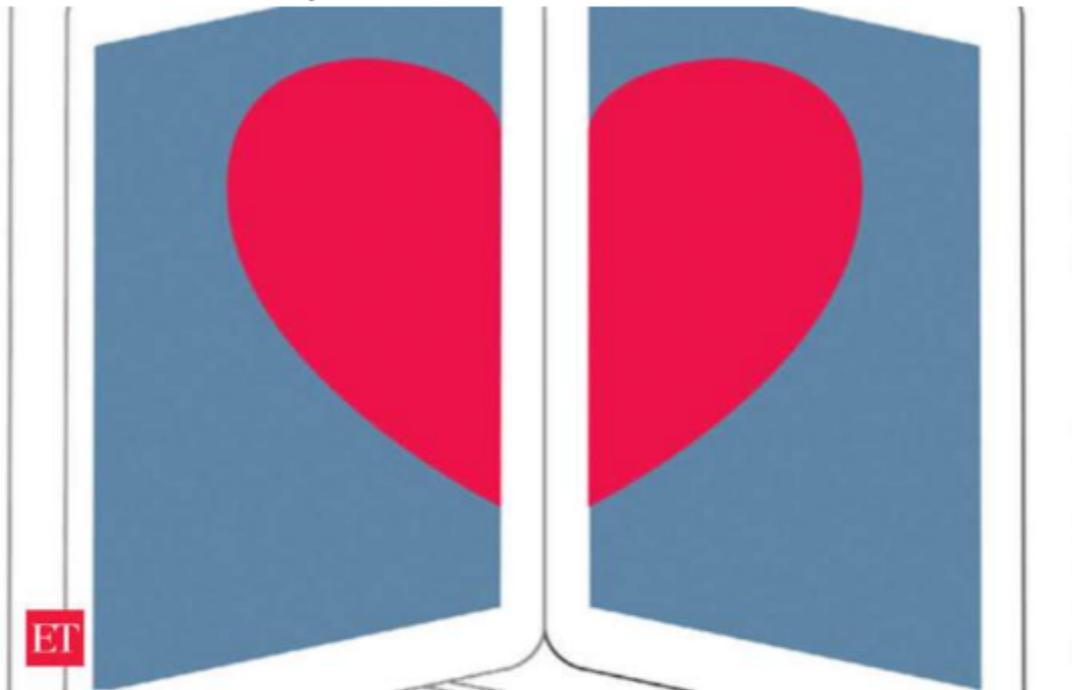
Publication: India Finance News **Edition:** Online **Date:** August 07, 2018

India Finance News

Business, Markets, Money & Technology

Technology

Urban-rural mobile ownership gap: India below Pak, B'desh



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Source: Economic Times

Publication: Darpan Magazine **Edition:** Online **Date:** August 07, 2018

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Reflecting South Asian Lifestyle

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IANIS, 07 Aug, 2018



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Publication: Harmukh News **Edition:** Online **Date:** August 07, 2018



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Services August 7, 2018 India, Lifestyle



NEW DELHI

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About 35 per cent of those in the age group are aware of Internet, said the report named "AfterAccess: ICT access and use in India and the Global South". It was published by Lirneasia, a policy and regulation think tank in collaboration with the Cellular Operators Association of India.

"The lack of Internet awareness is a considerable problem in India, with just 35 per cent of the 15-65 (years) population aware of what the Internet is. The level of use is thus even lower at 19 per cent," said the report.

On the findings of the report Chief Executive Officer of Lirneasia Helani Galpaya said: "India has only connected around 20 per cent of the adult people who you would expect to be on line. So that's pathetic... and the contradiction is, this (India) is one of the most affordable markets in the world."

The report further showed that out of the total Internet users in the age group of 15-65 years, around 27 per cent mostly spend time on social media.

Publication: The Indian Express **Edition:** Online **Date:** August 09, 2018

The Indian EXPRESS

Indians online: One in five harassed, here is how, why

Out of 919 Internet users in India in the age group 15-65, 175 (19%) reported that they had online harassment.

Written by **Karishma Mehrotra** | New Delhi | Updated: August 9, 2018 3:42:26 am



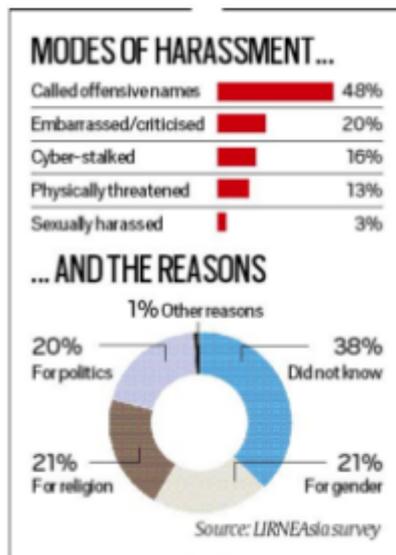
Rural users in India (20%) experienced more online harassment than urban ones (17%) while males (20%) faced more harassment more than females (17%). (Reuters Photo)

ONE IN every five Internet users surveyed in India have reported having faced online harassment. This is one of the findings of surveys by the policy think-tank LIRNEAsia on the Global South and information technology; other findings were reported in The Indian Express Wednesday.

Out of 919 Internet users in India in the age group 15-65, 175 (19%) reported that they had online harassment. This was more than in Pakistan or Bangladesh (12% each). Rural users in India (20%) experienced more online harassment than urban ones (17%) while males (20%) faced more harassment more than females (17%).

Almost half of those who had experienced online harassment in India were called offensive names, while one-fifth were “purposefully embarrassed or criticised in another way” and one-sixth were cyber-stalked, or repeatedly approached by unwanted contacts.

Again, 38% of those who faced online harassment did not know the motivation for the harassment, while roughly 20% each believed the motivation to be gender, religion or race, or politics. Most experienced the harassment on social media, while 29% faced it on chat applications, 16% on website comment sections and 7% in online gaming.



The source of the harassment was split into thirds (33% each) among someone the user had met offline earlier, an online contact never encountered offline, or someone unknown online and offline.

For almost half (48%) of those who experienced harassment, the incident(s) had no effect. Some reduced their time on the particular website (28%) while 15% deleted the app altogether. Only 5% unfriended or blocked the contact, or left the group or forum.

E-commerce

Mobile money use in India was just 6% of phone owners. On the other hand, awareness and use of e-commerce platforms was higher in India than in Pakistan and Bangladesh for most sectors. That said, e-commerce participants were often not heavy users, and only completed the search or search-and-order process.

Of those who did purchase online, 27% used debit cards, 22% used cash on delivery, and 18% used mobile banking or internet banking. Of those who didn't participate in e-commerce, 31% said they could already buy what they needed offline, 24% were not comfortable sharing personal details and 23% were not certain of the product's quality.

Publication: Sify **Edition:** Online **Date:** August 08, 2018

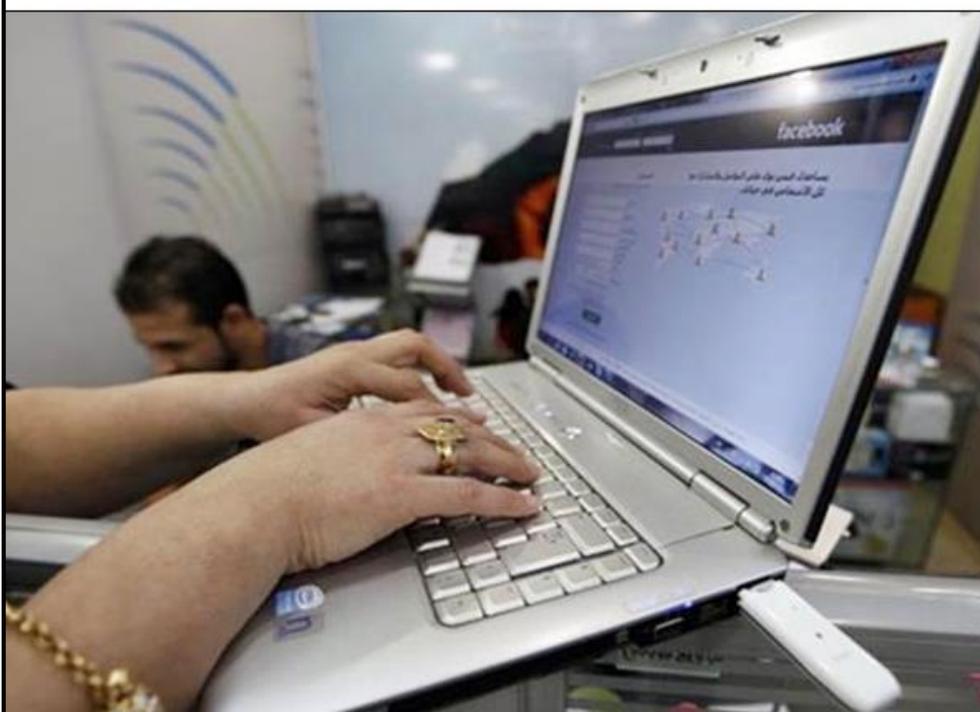
sify finance

Only 19% use Internet in India, says study

Source : IANS

Last Updated: Wed, Aug 08, 2018 13:27 hrs

A⁺ A⁻



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The report further showed that out of the total Internet users in the age group of 15-65 years, around 27 per cent mostly spend time on social media.

Publication: Gadgets 360**Edition:** Online**Date:** August 08, 2018



Only 19 Percent in 15-65 Years Age Group Use Internet in India: Study

Indo-Asian News Service, 08 August 2018

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HIGHLIGHTS

- This percentage is from the 15-65 age group in India, a report said
- About 35 percent of those in the age group are aware of Internet
- Around 27 percent of the total Internet mostly spend time on social media

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Publication: Money Control **Edition:** Online **Date:** August 08, 2018



Last Updated : Aug 08, 2018 10:06 PM IST | Source: Moneycontrol.com

Only 43% women in India have cellphones, country tops gender gap in ownership

This difference is substantially more than all other countries in the survey, including Pakistan, Bangladesh and Rwanda

Moneycontrol News
@moneycontrolcom



India may be the world's second-biggest smartphone market, but in terms of mobile phone ownership, it witnesses the largest gender gap among 18 comparable countries. It ranks among the lowest in women's access to the internet.



LIRNEAsia, an information and communications technology policy think tank, released a

study regarding internet usage in India. Department of Telecommunications (DoT) special secretary N Sivasailam was also present at the launch of the study, with members of Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI). [Indian Express](#) reported.

Only 43 percent of Indian women own cellphones compared to 80 percent of Indian men, and the report attributed this gap to lack of awareness. This difference is substantially more than all other countries in the survey, including Pakistan, Bangladesh and Rwanda.

Rural regions have seen the most gender gap, a whopping 52 percent, compared to a 34 percent gap in urban areas.

India sees a significant gender gap in internet usage as well, surpassed only by Bangladesh and Rwanda. The gap in social media usage was even wider.

One of the key findings of the study suggested that women shared less information on the internet than men in almost all categories, except political and sexual orientation.

Only 29 percent Indians using the internet trust news they come across on social media, while more than half do not. At least 19 percent of Indian users on the web have faced harassment, a number which is higher than Pakistan,

Bangladesh and Cambodia. This majorly includes offensive name-calling and in 20 percent of such cases, it has led to reduced use of the websites.

Meanwhile, awareness about e-commerce and its websites was much higher in India than countries like Pakistan and Bangladesh. Mobile phone ownership in urban areas was 71 percent while in rural areas it was 55 percent.

Sivasailam said it is possible to act on this data and develop policies for the better. He said there is a baseline to work with for the first time.

First Published on Aug 8, 2018 10:06 pm

Publication: India Today **Edition:** Online **Date:** August 08, 2018

INDIA TODAY

India's rural-urban mobile ownership gap is worse than Pakistan and Bangladesh



Shweta Ganjoo

New Delhi

August 8, 2018

UPDATED: August 9,
2018 08:20 IST

Follow @shweta_ganjoo

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India has nearly one billion phone users and yet there is a wide gap between the ownership of mobiles in the country. According to a report by a Sri Lanka-based think tank LIRNEasia, the gap between rural and urban mobile ownership in India is as high as 22 percent.

This parity between the mobile ownership in India is more than the divide existing in the neighbouring developing nations including Pakistan and Bangladesh. While the parity in mobile ownership in Pakistan stands at mere five per cent, the gap in Bangladesh stands a little higher at seven per cent.

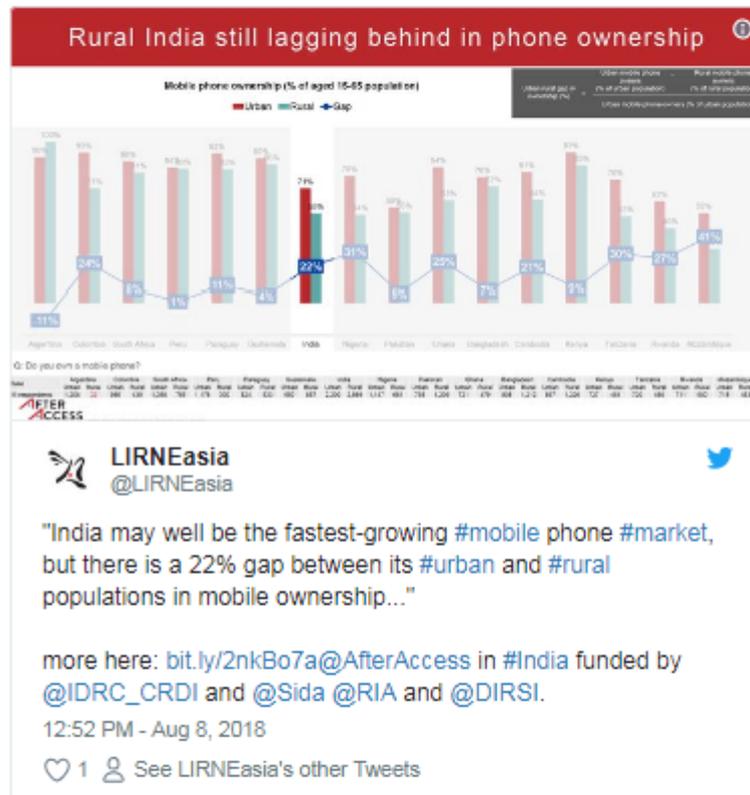
The study pointed out that the 55 per cent basic phone owners in the country have no Internet connectivity. In addition to this, out of the total number of people surveyed, there were about 28 per cent smartphones and 16 per cent feature phone users in the country.

Besides this, the study also revealed that while 65 per cent Indians in the age group of 15 to 65 years were not aware about the Internet, nearly 81 per cent people claim that they have never used it.

"Given that total urban population is much lower than total rural population, the urban-rural digital divide is actually more acute than what the penetration numbers portray," the report said according to the [Economic Times Telecom](#).

Other countries where mobile ownership divide between the rural and urban population is lower than that in India include Kenya where the gap is just nine per cent, Peru where the parity is just one per cent and Paraguay and Guatemala where the divide stands at 11 per cent and four per cent respectively.

The think tank's report was based on a survey conducted in 38,005 households and individuals across 18 developing nations.



ALSO READ: 4G Speed: India ranks behind Pakistan, stands at 109th place out of 124 countries

Notably, this is not the first survey which has pointed out such a ghastly trend. According to a report titled Internet in India 2017 by the Internet and Mobile Association of India, while the internet penetration in rural India has grown from 60.6 per cent in December 2016 to 64.84 per cent in December 2017, the growth in connectivity in the rural parts of the country has been from 18 per cent in 2016 to 20.26 per cent in December 2017. And despite the government's Digital India scheme, the divide in internet penetration between the urban and rural regions in India stands at a whopping 44.58 per cent.

Publication: Odisha TV **Edition:** Online **Date:** August 08, 2018



Only 19% Use Internet In India, Says Study

Edited By IANS | Published By IANS On Aug 8, 2018 - 11:41:55

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Pic Credit: harmukhnews.in

New Delhi: A mere 19 per cent of people in the 15-65 age group use Internet in India, a report said here on Tuesday.

About 35 per cent of those in the age group are aware of Internet, said the report named "AfterAccess: ICT access and use in India and the Global South". It was published by Lirneasia, a policy and regulation think tank in collaboration with the Cellular Operators Association of India.

"The lack of Internet awareness is a considerable problem in India, with just 35 per cent of the 15-65 (years) population aware of what the Internet is. The level of use is thus even lower at 19 per cent," said the report.

On the findings of the report Chief Executive Officer of Lirneasia Helani Galpaya said: "India has only connected around 20 per cent of the adult people who you would expect to be on line. So that's pathetic... and the contradiction is, this (India) is one of the most affordable markets in the world."

The report further showed that out of the total Internet users in the age group of 15-65 years, around 27 per cent mostly spend time on social media.

Publication: India Times **Edition:** Online **Date:** August 08, 2018



Out Of Total 132.42 Crore Indians Only 19 Per Cent Use Internet



Priyanka Bhatt | Updated: August 08, 2018

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While India remains one of the most populous countries in the world, a recent study shows that the consumption of internet in the country is surprisingly low.

A mere 19 per cent of people in the age group of 15-65 use internet in India. A recent report released on Tuesday revealed that about 35 per cent of those in the age group are aware of internet. The report is named "AfterAccess: ICT access and use in India and the Global South" and was published by Lirnessia, a policy and regulation think tank in collaboration with the Cellular Operators Association of India.



"The lack of internet awareness is a considerable problem in India, with just 35 per cent of the 15-65 (years) population aware of what the internet is. The level of use is thus even lower at 19 per cent," said the report.



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With inputs from IANS

Publication: BGR **Edition:** Online **Date:** August 08, 2018

BGR

The urban-rural mobile ownership gap in India is worse than Pakistan, Bangladesh and Kenya

NEWS

While urban India is getting connected at a rapid pace, rural India still lags behind.

Staff | Published: August 8, 2018 11:19 AM IST

1
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India has well over one billion telephone connections, but unfortunately, the gap between the urban and rural citizen remains large when it comes to mobile telephony and access to telecom services. A new study by a think tank in Sri Lanka suggests that India still has a long way to go when it comes to getting its rural citizens connected to the internet and telecom network in general.

The study by LIRNEasia concludes that India has a mobile ownership gap of 22 percent, which means that in urban areas, far more people own mobile phones than in rural areas. This suggests one big problem that needs to be addressed for India's teledensity to improve: rural areas are still not as well served in terms of mobile phone infrastructure, meaning that even if rural users could afford mobile phones, they see no point in owning a device that can barely be used.

What makes this ownership gap even more shocking is that India lags far behind countries that are lower in terms of economic development. The [mobile](#) ownership gap in countries such as Pakistan, Bangladesh and Kenya are significantly lower at 5 percent, 7 percent and 9 percent respectively.

Part of this can be put down to a larger percentage of rural population in these countries, as well as poorer infrastructure and a lack of economic prosperity in cities, but it still highlights that India is not paying enough attention to the development of mobile infrastructure in its rural areas.

WATCH: Honor Play First Look



The LIRNEasia study makes more observations about mobile ownership and usage in India, including that a staggering 55 percent of mobile users do not have [internet](#) access on their basic mobile phones. Furthermore, 65 percent of Indians between the ages of 15-65 don't know about the internet, and 81 percent claim to have never used it. While the study likely uses a small sample set and the real numbers may be quite different, it nonetheless suggests that we have a long way to go before we can truly consider ourselves telecom-developed.

Publication: Euro Asian Times**Edition:** Online**Date:** August 08, 2018



India Lagging Behind Bangladesh, Pakistan in Mobile Ownership

By EurAsian Times - August 8, 2018



Why is India lagging behind smaller nations like Bangladesh and Pakistan in mobile ownership? India has a gap of 22% between urban and rural mobile phone ownership and even falls behind much smaller economies like Pakistan, Bangladesh and Kenya, a new research revealed.

According to research, Kenya has 9% urban-rural handset ownership divide, Bangladesh 7%, and Pakistan has a mere 5% disparity. These statistics display a disturbing state of affairs in the Information Communication Technology (ICT) domain especially at a time when Indian PM Narendra Modi's ambitious Digital India program is entering into fifth-year. With an initial aim to achieve 100% teledensity by 2018-19, the timeline has now been changed to 2022.

"There is a 22% gap between urban and rural populations in mobile ownership, which is the largest gap among the Asian nations studied," according to LIRNEasia.

The research noted that 55% are elementary phones that have no internet connection, in addition to 16% feature phones and 28% smartphones that are being used in India at present. The research also disclosed that 65% Indians between the 15 and 65 years of age group don't even know about the Internet and 81% claim that they never used it before.

The NDA-led government, according to the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) website, has given significant weight on growth of internet and broadband in the nation as part its Digital India campaign, and revealed that India's internet connections stood at 431.21 million as of June 2017 that comprises 293.82 million in metropolitan areas and 137.39 million in rural areas.

"Given that total urban population is much lower than total rural population, the urban-rural digital divide is actually more severe than what the penetration figures describe. The think tank's conclusions were based on a survey of 38,005 families and people across 18 developing countries through a 90-minute long engagement.

Publication: Social Post **Edition:** Online **Date:** August 08, 2018



HOME / NATIONAL

Among 132.42 Crore Indian Only 19% Use Internet

IANS - August 8, 2018



A mere 19 percent of people in the 15-65 age group use the Internet in India, a report said here on Tuesday published by LIRNEasia.

About 35 percent of those in the age group are aware of the Internet, said the report named "AfterAccess: ICT access and use in India and the Global South". It was published by LIRNEasia, a policy and regulation think tank in collaboration with the Cellular Operators Association of India.

"The lack of Internet awareness is a considerable problem in India, with just 35 percent of the 15-65 (years) population aware of what the Internet is. The level of use is thus even lower at 19 percent," said the report.

On the findings of the report, the Chief Executive Officer of LIRNEasia Helani Galpaya said: "India has only connected around 20 percent of the adult people who you would expect to be online. So that's pathetic... and the contradiction is, this (India) is one of the most affordable markets in the world."

The report further showed that out of the total Internet users in the age group of 15-65 years, around 27 percent mostly spend time on social media.

Publication: Tele.net**Edition:** Online**Date:** August 08, 2018



India's urban-rural mobile ownership gap largest in Asia, says LIRNEasia

Wednesday, 08 August 2018

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According to a study by Sri Lanka based LIRNEasia, India's urban-rural mobile ownership divide is the largest among Asian countries covered in the study.

India trails behind Pakistan, Bangladesh and Kenya in terms of urban-rural mobile ownership gap. As per the study, India has a 22 per cent gap whereas Pakistan, Bangladesh and Kenya have a gap of 5 per cent, 7 per cent and 9 per cent respectively.

The study also stated that 55 per cent of mobile users in the country use basic phones that have no internet access. Further as per the study, 65 per cent Indians between the age group 15 and 65 years are not aware about the internet, and about 81 per cent of them have never used it.

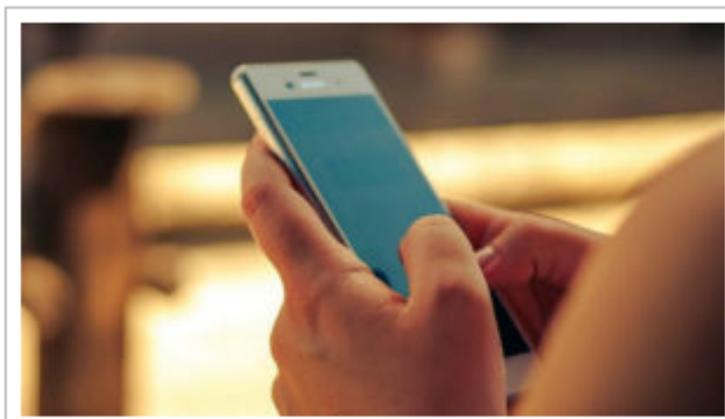
According to LIRNEasia, the government should allocate a small part of the universal service obligation (USO) fund to conduct ICT-related studies in order to collect data regularly. The findings are based on a survey of 38,005 households and individuals across 18 developing countries through a 90 minute engagement.

Publication: Daily Tech News**Edition:** Online**Date:** August 08, 2018

DAILY Tech News

Only 19 Percent in 15-65 Years Age Group Use Internet in India: Study

August 8, 2018 : [Internet](#) : [No comments](#)



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"The lack of Internet awareness is a considerable problem in India, with just 35 per cent of the 15-65 (years) population aware of what the Internet is. The level of use is thus even lower at 19 per cent," said the report.

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The report further showed that out of the total Internet users in the age group of 15-65 years, around 27 per cent mostly spend time on social media.

Publication: Current Affairs **Edition:** Online **Date:** August 08, 2018



India has highest gender gap in mobile phone ownership amongst: Study

August 8, 2018 No comments

6
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According to recent study released by LIRNEAsia, India has highest gender gap in mobile phone ownership amongst 18 comparable countries and ranks among the lowest in women's access to Internet. LIRNEAsia is an information and communications technology (ICT) policy think

tank that is involved in pro-poor, pro-market research in Asia-Pacific since 2005. The study also included comparative research done by ICT Africa in Africa and DIRSI in Latin America.

Key Highlights of Study

Ownership of mobile phones: Only 43% of women in India own mobile phones compared to almost 80% of Indian males mostly because of lack of awareness. This difference is almost half of all other countries in study including Pakistan, Bangladesh and Rwanda. There is substantial urban-rural divide in mobile phone ownership with 71% urban penetration and 55% in rural. India's urban-rural gap is comparable to that in Nigeria.

Internet and social media usage: Women, rural citizens, and those with lower education or income significantly lag behind in internet and social media usage. The gender gap in internet usage is accentuated in rural regions at 52% as compared to 34% in urban areas. India's 57% gender gap in Internet usage was surpassed only by Bangladesh and Rwanda. Its gender gap in social media usage was even higher with wider divides only in Bangladesh.

Information about internet: In India, 64% do not know about internet which is higher percentage than other countries except Pakistan and Bangladesh. 68% of this group was female and 68 % were from rural areas. India's internet use was at 19% which is lower than that of Nigeria, Ghana, Kenya and Cambodia.

E-commerce: Awareness of platforms for e-commerce was higher in India compared to Pakistan and Bangladesh. In India, 27% mainly use social media, 16 % for entertainment and 15% for news. Higher percentage of women used social media for marketing and educational content, while men used social media to chat which is significantly more than women.

Political views on social media: Indian social media users share their political views at some of highest rates. More than half shared their religion, 26% share their sexual orientation, and 70% shared their mobile number or email address. Women shared information less than men in almost all categories except for political and sexual orientation.

Distrust of news: India also has high distrust of news shared on social media and only 29% trust social media news while more than half did not. India also saw higher online harassment than Pakistan, Bangladesh and Cambodia at 19% of users. Much of this was offensive name-calling and in 20% of such cases, it led to reduced use of particular website.

Publication: Aspirants Zone **Edition:** Online **Date:** August 08, 2018

AspirantsZone

Only 19% use Internet in India, says study

A mere **19 per cent of people in the 15-65 age group use Internet in India**, according to a report named "**AfterAccess: ICT access and use in India and the Global South**". It was published by Linneasia, a policy and regulation think tank in collaboration with the Cellular Operators Association of India.

- Also, about 35 per cent of those in the age group are aware of Internet.

Publication: News Hub **Edition:** Online **Date:** August 08, 2018

NewsHub.in

Out Of Total 132.42 Crore Indians Only 19 Per Cent Use Internet

By Suresh — On Aug 8, 2018

EDUCATION

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0

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Publication: The Republic Roar **Edition:** Online **Date:** August 08, 2018

THE REPUBLIC ROAR

Internet in India: Gaping gender gap

India has the highest gender gap in mobile phone ownership amongst 18 comparable countries and ranks among the lowest in women's access to the Internet, a new study released Tuesday has found. According to the study, women, rural citizens, and those with lower education or income significantly lag behind in Internet and social media usage. The study was released by LIRNEAsia, an information and communications technology (ICT) policy think tank that is involved in "pro-poor, pro-market" research in Asia-Pacific since 2005.

According to the study, only 43 per cent of women in India own mobile phones compared to almost 80 per cent of Indian males — mostly because of a lack of awareness. This difference of almost half surpasses all other countries in the survey, including Pakistan, Bangladesh and Rwanda.

The gender gap is accentuated in rural regions — a 52 per cent gap — compared to 34 per cent in urban areas. The study also found that India's 57 per cent gender gap in Internet usage was surpassed only by Bangladesh and Rwanda and that the gender gap social media usage was even higher with wider divides only in Bangladesh.

According to the study, India also has a high distrust of news shared on social media — 29 per cent trust social media news while more than half did not. India also saw higher online harassment than Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Cambodia at 19 per cent of users. Much of this was offensive name-calling and in 20 per cent of such cases, it led to reduced use of the particular website.

The study also found a substantial urban-rural divide in mobile phone ownership with 71 per cent urban penetration and 55 per cent rural. The urban-rural gap is comparable to that in Nigeria.

Key findings in the study:

- * 64 per cent said they did not know about the Internet – a higher percentage than the other countries except Pakistan and Bangladesh. 68 per cent of this group was female and 68 % were from rural areas.
- * At 19 per cent, Internet use in India is lower than that of Nigeria, Ghana, Kenya and Cambodia.
- * Awareness of platforms for e-commerce was higher in India than countries like Pakistan and Bangladesh.
- * 27 per cent mainly use social media, 16 % use the Internet for entertainment and 15 per cent use it for news.
- * A higher percentage of women used social media for marketing and educational content, while men used social media to chat – significantly more than women.
- * Social media users in India share their political views at some of the highest rates. More than half shared their religion, 26 per cent share their sexual orientation, and more than 70 per cent shared their mobile number or email address.
- * Women shared information less than men in almost all categories except for political and sexual orientation.

Publication: India News Today Edition: Online Date: August 08, 2018



Only 19 Percent in 15-65 Years Age Group Use Internet in India: Study

Published By: NDTV.com Tech - 2 days ago



The study was published by Linneasia, a policy and regulation think tank in collaboration with the Cellular Operators Association of India....

[Read Full Story ...](#)

Publication: News Room Post**Edition:** Online**Date:** August 08, 2018



Only 19% in 15-65 years age group use Internet in India, says study

By Newsroom Staff - August 8, 2018

New Delhi: In a startling finding, it has come to light that a meagre of 19 percent of people in the 15-65 age group are internet-savvy in the country.

About 35 per cent of those in the age group are aware of Internet, said a report named "AfterAccess: ICT access and use in India and the Global South".

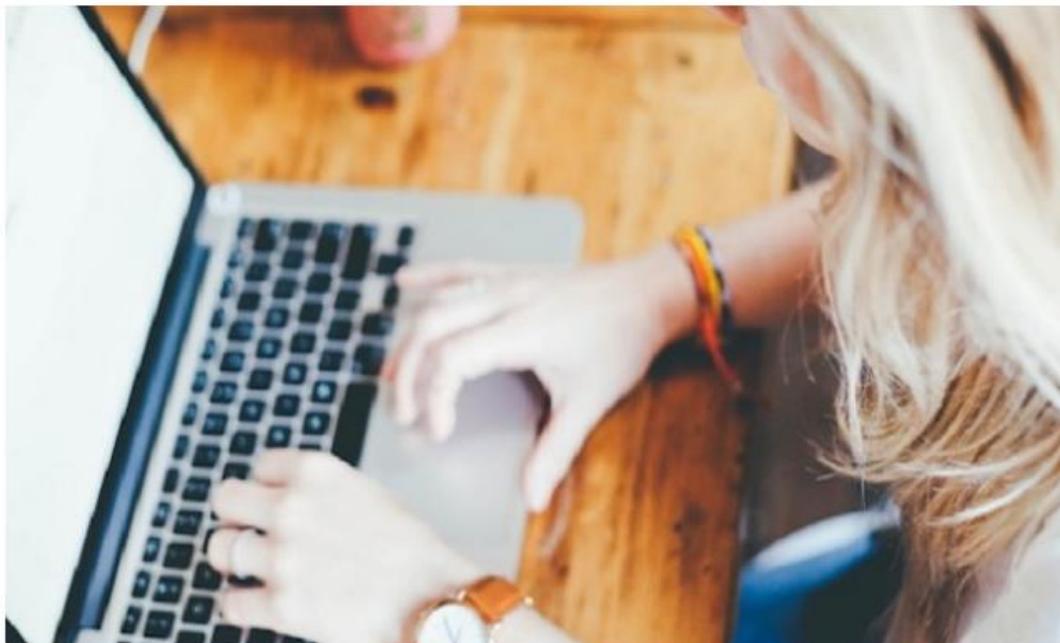


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“India has only connected around 20 per cent of the adult people who you would expect to be on line. So that’s pathetic... and the contradiction is, this (India) is one of the most affordable markets in the world”, Lirneasias Helani Galpaya, Chief Executive Officer said.



The report further said that out of total internet usage, about 27 per cent mostly spend time on social media.

Publication: News 18 **Edition:** Online **Date:** August 08, 2018



Only 19 Percent Use Internet in India, Says study

About 35 per cent of those in the age group are aware of Internet, said the report named "AfterAccess: ICT access and use in India and the Global South".

IANS | Updated: August 8, 2018, 12:40 PM IST



Only 19 Percent Use Internet in India, Says study (image: Reuters Pictures).

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Publication: The Indian Express **Edition:** Online **Date:** August 10, 2018

The Indian EXPRESS

Mind the gap

As was feared, the digital revolution, while bringing prosperity to millions, may be perpetuating inequalities of the past.

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By: Editorial | Updated: August 10, 2018 12:30+44 am



Report released by a policy think tank which researches information and communications technology in India, among other markets, comes as a wake-up call: The digital divide is still here, and inequality is deeper than was anticipated.

The digital divide, deemed to be one of the biggest challenges facing developing knowledge economies in the last decade, was conveniently forgotten in recent years as India celebrated the mobile internet boom and an ever-widening broadband network. It was assumed that if every panchayat was connected, and if calling and connectivity costs remain low, the force of rapid growth alone would sweep over inequalities. But a report released by a policy think tank which researches information and communications technology in India, among other markets, comes as a wake-up call: The digital divide is still here, and inequality is deeper than was anticipated.

A study released by LIRNEasia reveals that ironically, the divide is deepest precisely where the internet was supposed to bridge it. Internet access was expected to be a great equaliser between the sexes, giving women access to knowledge and connections that they could not get offline. But it appears that India has the fewest number of women online, and the highest gender gap in mobile phone ownership among 18 similar countries. The gap is 34 per cent in urban areas and rises to 52 per cent in rural areas. Other groups who have been left behind on the information superhighway include rural populations and the economically or educationally weaker sections. Like women, these were expected to be significant beneficiaries of the digital revolution.

The revolution is real enough, improving the lot of huge populations, but it has not been a great equaliser. Partly, inequality must owe to legacy attitudes — if a family owns only one phone, it is likely to be in the hands of a man. But clearly, anticipated components of the divide, like illiteracy, have not been adequately addressed. The methods and concepts of Sugata Mitra's "hole in the wall computer", which facilitated self-organised learning, never made it to the smartphone. A staggering 64 per cent of people canvassed did not even know about the internet and, despite the push to roll out broadband to panchayats, about two out of three of these people were rural. And though we perceive ourselves to be living in an internet and mobile boom, internet usage in India remains lower than in Ghana and Cambodia. If the only positive finding is that more than half of Indians mistrust social media news, millions of citizens, especially women, still need a helping hand to join the revolution.

Publication: The Quint **Edition:** Online **Date:** August 09, 2018



Image used for representation purpose. (Photo: iStock)

India Ranks Among Lowest in Women's Access to Mobiles, Internet

THE QUINT | UPDATED: 19H 15M AGO

INDIA 3 min read

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A study by LIRNEAsia -- an information and communications technology policy think tank -- has revealed that India has the highest gender gap in mobile phone ownership. According to an [The Indian Express](#) report, the study shows that India ranks among the lowest in women's access to the Internet.

The study was released by the think tank in the presence of N Sivasailam, special secretary of the Department of Telecommunications, and representatives from Cellular Operators Association on India (COAI). The study states that women, rural citizens, and those belonging to lower income or education groups, have less access to Internet and social media.



The LIRNEAsia studied 18 countries, including Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nigeria, Rwanda and India for this survey.

While 80% of men in India use mobile phones, only 43% of women have a similar access. The reason for this, as reported by Indian Express, is largely the lack of awareness.



While 80% of men in India use mobile phones, only 43% of women have access to mobiles.
(Photo Courtesy: Harsh Sahani/The Quint)

This gender gap in usage of mobile phone surpasses all other countries in the survey and is largely because of the lack of awareness. The gender gap is more intense in rural areas than in urban areas.

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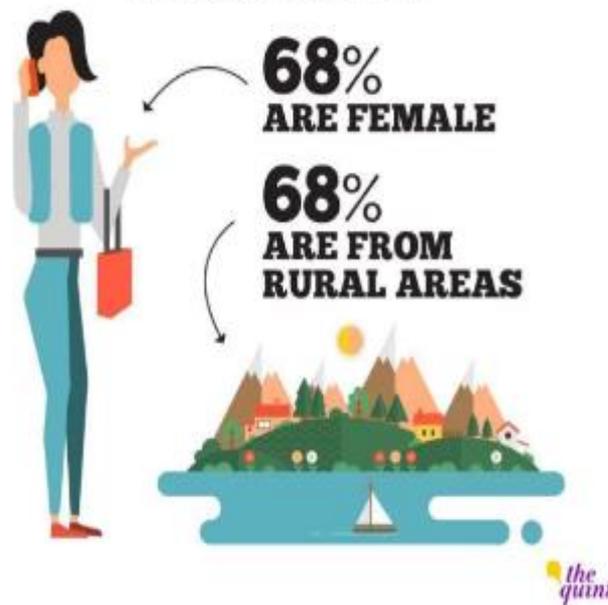
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The gender gap in Internet usage, according to survey, is 57%, falling only behind Bangladesh and Rwanda. The gender gap in social media usage was even higher, with only Bangladesh topping India.

64% OF INDIANS SAY THEY DON'T KNOW ABOUT THE INTERNET

...AMONG THESE

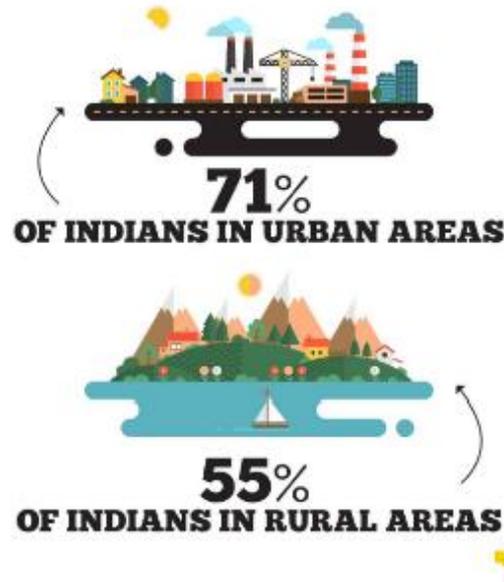


64% of Indians don't know about the internet.
(Photo Courtesy: Harsh Sahani/The Quint)

The study shows that only 29% Indians trust social media for news. Internet users in India face more online harassment than those in Pakistan, Bangladesh and Cambodia.

The gap between urban-rural mobile phone usage is also intense in India, with 71% urban population using mobile phones and only 55% in rural areas. A mere 19% of the total population has access to India.

URBAN-RURAL DIVIDE AMONG MOBILE PHONE USAGE



Urban-rural divide in mobile phone usage.
(Photo Courtesy: Harsh Sahani/The Quint)

According to *Indian Express*, CEO of LIRNEAsia Helani Galpaya said:

India should be doing better than this because it is performing like the poorest countries in the sample.

On the brighter side, the awareness of e-commerce platforms was higher in India than in Pakistan and Bangladesh.

Interestingly, a higher percentage of women use social media for marketing and educational content. On the other hand, men chat significantly more on social media than women do, reported *The Indian Express*.

(With inputs from *The Indian Express*.)

Publication: Examlover **Edition:** Online **Date:** August 09, 2018



The gender gap in the case of ownership of mobile phones in India is highest: LIRNEAsia

09-08-2018

Other



Recently, according to a study released by LIRNEAsia, gender gap in the case of mobile phone ownership in India is highest. The comparative study conducted among 18 countries found that women in India have very little access to the Internet. LIRNEAsia is the information and technology related think tank.

According to this study, 43% of the women in India have a mobile phone whereas 80% of the men in the country have mobile phones. This gap is half of Pakistan, Bangladesh and Rwanda. 55% in rural India and 71% in urban areas have mobile phones.

In India, access to women, rural people and less educated people is very low. This difference in rural areas is 52% whereas in urban areas the difference is 34%. In India, more people know about e-commerce than Pakistan and Bangladesh. Internet usage in India is only 19%, it is less than Nigeria, Ghana, Kenya and Cambodia.

The rate of Fake News in India is also very high, only 29% see the news [shown](#) on social media as trustworthy. The rate of online exploitation in India is also very high.

Q.1 According to a study, 80% of the men in the country have mobile phones. What percentage of women have mobile phones?

- A. 55%
- B. 35%
- C. 43%
- D. 78%

Answer...

Q.2 What percentage of Internet usage is there in India?

- A. 19%
- B. 25%
- C. 65%
- D. 35%

Publication: UC News **Edition:** Online **Date:** August 10, 2018



Mind the gap

Indian Express 2018-08-10 03:00:44

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Indians online: One in five harassed, here is how, why -Karishma Mehrotra



-The Indian Express

Out of 919 Internet users in India in the age group 15-65, 175 (19%) reported that they had online harassment.

New Delhi: ONE IN every five Internet users surveyed in India have reported having faced online harassment. This is one of the findings of surveys by the policy think-tank LIRNEAsia on the Global South and information technology; other findings were reported in The Indian Express Wednesday.

Out of 919 Internet users in India in the age group 15-65, 175 (19%) reported that they had online harassment. This was more than in Pakistan or Bangladesh (12% each). Rural users in India (20%) experienced more online harassment than urban ones (17%) while males (20%) faced more harassment more than females (17%).

Almost half of those who had experienced online harassment in India were called offensive names, while one-fifth were "purposefully embarrassed or criticised in another way" and one-sixth were cyber-stalked, or repeatedly approached by unwanted contacts.

Again, 38% of those who faced online harassment did not know the motivation for the harassment, while roughly 20% each believed the motivation to be gender, religion or race, or politics. Most experienced the harassment on social media, while 29% faced it on chat applications, 16% on website comment sections and 7% in online gaming.

Please [click here](#) to read more.

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THE REPUBLIC ROAR

One in five harassed, here is how, why

ONE IN every five Internet users surveyed in India have reported having faced online harassment. This is one of the findings of surveys by the policy think-tank LIRNEAsia on the Global South and information technology.

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The source of the harassment was split into thirds (33% each) among someone the user had met offline earlier, an online contact never encountered offline, or someone unknown online and offline.

For almost half (48%) of those who experienced harassment, the incident(s) had no effect. Some reduced their time on the particular website (28%) while 15% deleted the app altogether. Only 5% unfriended or blocked the contact, or left the group or forum.

Publication: GK Today Hindi **Edition:** Online **Date:** August 08, 2018



भारत में मोबाइल फ़ोन के स्वामित्व के मामले में लिंग अंतराल सबसे अधिक : अध्ययन

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हाल ही में LIRNEAsia द्वारा जारी किये गए अध्ययन के अनुसार भारत में मोबाइल फ़ोन स्वामित्व के मामले में लिंग अंतराल सबसे ज्यादा है। 18 देशों के बीच किये गए तुलनात्मक अध्ययन में पाया गया कि भारत में महिलाओं की इन्टरनेट तक पहुँच भी बहुत कम है। LIRNEAsia सूचना एवं प्रौद्योगिकी सम्बन्धी थिंक टैंक है।

मुख्य बिंदु

इस अध्ययन के अनुसार भारत में कुल 43% महिलाओं के पास मोबाइल फ़ोन है जबकि देश में 80% पुरुषों का पास मोबाइल फ़ोन है। यह अंतर पाकिस्तान, बांग्लादेश और रवांडा का आधा है। भारत के ग्रामीण क्षेत्र में 55% जबकि शहरी क्षेत्र में 71% लोगों के पास मोबाइल फ़ोन है।

भारत में इन्टरनेट तक महिलाओं, ग्रामीण व्यक्तियों व कम शिक्षित लोगों की पहुँच बहुत कम है। ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में यह अंतर 52% जबकि शहरी क्षेत्रों में यह अंतर 34% है। भारत में पाकिस्तान व बांग्लादेश के मुकाबले ज्यादा लोग ई-कॉमर्स के बारे में जानते हैं। भारत में इन्टरनेट उपयोग केवल 19% है, यह नाइजीरिया, घाना, केन्या और कंबोडिया से भी कम है।

भारत में फेक न्यूज़ की दर भी काफी ऊँची है, केवल 29% लोग ही सोशल मीडिया पर दिखाई जाने वाली खबर को विश्वसनीय मानते हैं। भारत में ऑनलाइन शोषण की दर भी काफी ऊँची है।

Tags: [LIRNEAsia](#) , [फेक न्यूज़](#) , [भारत में इन्टरनेट उपयोग](#) , [सोशल मीडिया](#)

Publication: Indian Express Bangla **Edition:** Online **Date:** August 08, 2018

iebangla
The Indian EXPRESS

ভারতে ইন্টারনেট ব্যবহার করতে ভয় পান মহিলারা?

মূলত গ্রামীণ এলাকায় মহিলারা যথেষ্ট আয় ও শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা না থাকায় ব্যবহার করেন না স্মার্টফোন। যে কারণে পর্যাপ্ত জ্ঞান না থাকায় সোশ্যাল নেটওয়ার্কিং ব্যবস্থা থেকেও পিছিয়ে রয়েছেন তাঁরা।

By: **IE Bangla Tech Desk**
Kolkata Aug 8, 2018, 15:06:21 PM

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ভারতে প্রায় ৪৩ শতাংশ মহিলাসহ কাছের রয়েছে নিম্নস্ব ভোক্তা।

ইন্টারনেট ব্যবহারে জীত ভারতের মহিলারা। কিন্তু কেন? গত মঙ্গলবারের এক সমীক্ষায় জানা গেছে, ভারতে মহিলারা কম ব্যবহার করেন ইন্টারনেট পরিষেবা। মূলত গ্রামীণ এলাকায় মহিলারা যথেষ্ট আয় ও শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা না থাকায় ব্যবহার করেন না স্মার্টফোন। যে কারণে পর্যাপ্ত জ্ঞান না থাকায় সোশ্যাল নেটওয়ার্কিং ব্যবস্থা থেকেও পিছিয়ে রয়েছেন তাঁরা। ভারতে মাত্র ৪৩ শতাংশ মহিলাসহ কাছের রয়েছে নিম্নস্ব ভোক্তা, যেখানে ভারতের প্রায় ৮০ শতাংশ পুরুষ ব্যবহার করেন স্মার্টফোন। বস্তুত মহিলারা অনেক কম ব্যবহার করেন যে কোনো ইলেক্ট্রনিক ডিভাইস। পাকিস্তান বাংলাদেশের ক্ষেত্রেও এই একই ছবি দেখা গিয়েছে।

লিঙ্গ ভেদে ইন্টারনেট ব্যবহারেও যে বৈষম্য রয়েছে, তার মতোও ৩৪ শতাংশ শতরে এবং ৫২ শতাংশ পার্থক্য রয়েছে গ্রামীণ এলাকার মহিলা ও পুরুষের মাঝে। তবে সমীক্ষায় দেখা গিয়েছে, মূলত বাংলাদেশে বেশি পরিমাণে লিঙ্গ ভেদে ইন্টারনেট ব্যবহারের মধ্যে ফারাক রয়েছে।

সমীক্ষার ফলাফল প্রকাশের পর বিশেষ সচিব শ্রী দিতাসাইলাম বলেন, "এই তথ্যের ওপর ভিত্তি করে ভবিষ্যতে বিকাশ ঘটানো সম্ভব হবে। তবে ভালো খবর, আমরা বেসলাইনে পৌঁছাতে পেরেছি।"

গবেষণায় দেখা গেছে, সোশ্যাল মিডিয়ায় বিতর্কের কারণে প্রায় ২৯ শতাংশ মানুষ বিশ্বাস হারিয়েছেন সোশ্যাল মিডিয়ায় ওপর। ভারত, পাকিস্তান, বাংলাদেশ এবং কম্বোডিয়ায় ব্যবহারকারীদের মধ্যে প্রায় ১৯ শতাংশ সোশ্যাল নেটওয়ার্কিং সাইটে হয়রানির শিকার হয়েছেন। ফলত সম্প্রতি কমে গেছে ইন্টারনেট ব্যবহারের মাত্রা।

LIRNEAsia-র সিইও হেলানি গালপায়া বলেন, “দরিদ্রতম দেশগুলির চেয়ে ভারত এগিয়ে রয়েছে। রিপোর্টটির নেপথ্যে ছিল সুইডিশ ইন্টারন্যাশনাল ডেভেলপমেন্ট কো-অপারেশন এজেন্সি এবং কানাডার আন্তর্জাতিক উন্নয়ন গবেষণা কেন্দ্র।

সমীক্ষায় পাওয়া গেছে:

- ১) ৬৪ শতাংশ মানুষ স্বীকার করেছেন তাঁরা ইন্টারনেট সম্পর্কে জানেন না – পাকিস্তান ও বাংলাদেশ ব্যতীত অন্য দেশের তুলনায় ভারত গড় হিসেবে এগিয়ে। এই সম্প্রদায়ের মধ্যে ৬৮ শতাংশ মহিলা গ্রামাঞ্চলের।
- ২) ভারতে ইন্টারনেটের ব্যবহার নাইজেরিয়া, ঘানা, কেনিয়া এবং কম্বোডিয়ায় তুলনায় ১৯ শতাংশ কম।
- ৩) তবে অনলাইন কেনাবেচায় পাকিস্তান, বাংলাদেশের থেকে এগিয়ে ভারত।
- ৪) ২৭ শতাংশ মূলত সোশ্যাল মিডিয়ায় ব্যবহার করলে তার মধ্যে ১৬ শতাংশ বিনোদন এবং ১১ শতাংশ খবর দেখার জন্য ব্যবহার করেন।
- ৫) সমীক্ষায় দেখা গেছে, কিছু মহিলা পড়াশোনা ও কেনাবেচার ক্ষেত্রে সোশ্যাল মিডিয়া ব্যবহার করে থাকেন। এবং অন্য একদল পুরুষ শুধুমাত্র যোগাযোগের মাধ্যম হিসেবে তা ব্যবহার করেন।
- ৬) রাজনৈতিক হোক বা সেক্সুয়াল ওরিয়েন্টেশন, উচ্চ শ্রেণীরে পিছিয়ে রয়েছেন মহিলারা।

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Only 19% use Internet in India, says study

Published: Aug 8, 2018, 12:17 PM IST



FACEBOOK

New Delhi: A mere 19 per cent of people in the 15-65 age group use Internet in India, a report said here on Tuesday.



TWITTER

About 35 per cent of those in the age group are aware of Internet, said the report named "AfterAccess: ICT access and use in India and the Global South". It was published by Limeasia, a policy and regulation think tank in collaboration with the Cellular Operators Association of India.



PINTEREST



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"The lack of Internet awareness is a considerable problem in India, with just 35 per cent of the 15-65 (years) population aware of what the Internet is. The level of use is thus even lower at 19 per cent," said the report.

PRINT

On the findings of the report Chief Executive Officer of Limeasia Helani Galpaya said:

EMAIL

"India has only connected around 20 per cent of the adult people who you would expect to be on line. So that's pathetic... and the contradiction is, this (India) is one of the most affordable markets in the world."

COMMENT

The report further showed that out of the total Internet users in the age group of 15-65 years, around 27 per cent mostly spend time on social media.

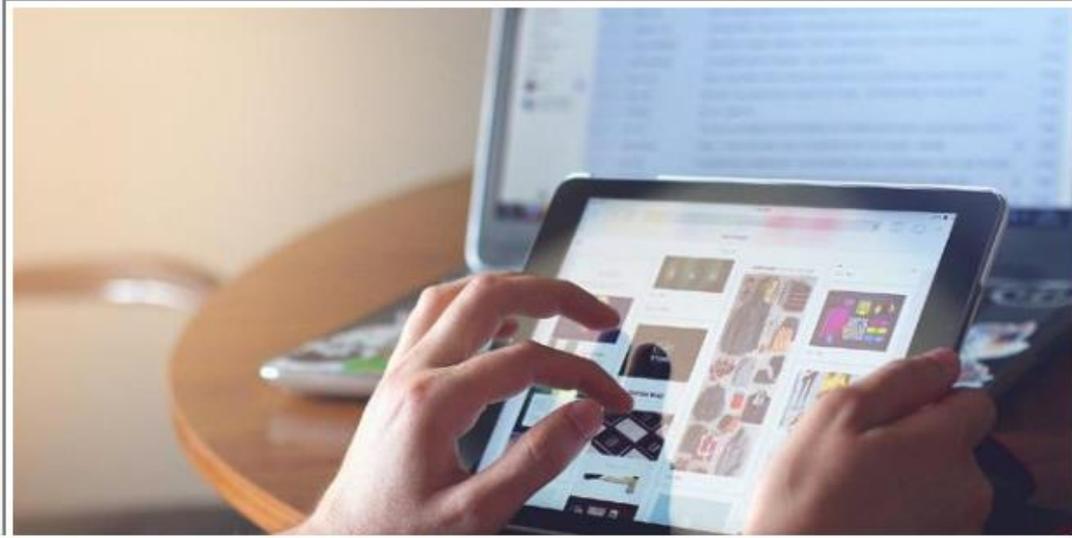
IANAS

Publication: SakshiEdition: OnlineDate: August 08, 2018

సాక్షి

ఇంటర్నెట్ వాడేది కేవలం 19 శాతమేనా?

Aug 08, 2018, 14:16 IST



ఇంటర్నెట్ గణనీయంగా వ్యాప్తి చెందుతున్న రోజులివి. కానీ భారత్ లో ఇంటర్నెట్ వాడకంపై మాత్రం సంచలన విషయాలే వెలుగులోకి వచ్చాయి. భారత్ లో 15 ఏళ్ల నుంచి 65 ఏళ్ల మధ్యలో వయసున్న వారిలో కేవలం 19 శాతం మంది మాత్రమే ఇంటర్నెట్ వాడుతున్నారు. ఈ వయసున్న వారిలో 35 శాతం మందే ఇంటర్నెట్ తెలిసిన వారు ఉంటున్నారని తాజా రిపోర్టు నివేదించింది. 'ఆప్టర్ యాక్సెస్ : ఐసీటీ యాక్సెస్ అండ్ యూజ్ ఇన్ ఇండియా అండ్ ది గ్లోబల్ సౌత్' పేరుతో లెన్వో ఆసియా, సెల్యులార్ ఆపరేటర్స్ అసోసియేషన్ ఆఫ్ ఇండియాతో కలిసి ఈ రిపోర్టును ప్రచురించింది. భారత్ లో ఇంటర్నెట్ వాడకం ఎంత తక్కువగా ఉందో తెలుపుతూ ఈ రిపోర్టును నివేదించింది.

భారత్ లో ఇంటర్నెట్ గురించి అవగాహన లేకపోవడమే అతిపెద్ద సమస్య అని ఈ రిపోర్టు పేర్కొంది. 15 ఏళ్ల నుంచి 65 ఏళ్ల మధ్య వయసున్న వారిలో కేవలం 35 శాతం మందికే ఇంటర్నెట్ ఏమిటన్నది అవగాహన ఉందని, అత్యంత తక్కువగా 19 శాతం మంది మాత్రమే దీన్ని వాడుతున్నారని రిపోర్టు నివేదించింది. ప్రపంచంలో అత్యంత అఫార్డుబుల్ మార్కెట్లలో భారత్ కూడా ఒకటని లెన్వో ఆసియా చీఫ్ ఎగ్జిక్యూటివ్ ఆఫీసర్ లెన్వో ఆసియా హిలాని గల్పాయా చెప్పారు. కానీ ఇంటర్నెట్ వాడకం ఇంకా తక్కువగానే ఉందన్నారు. 15 ఏళ్ల నుంచి 65 ఏళ్ల మధ్యనున్న మొత్తం ఇంటర్నెట్ యూజర్లలో 27 శాతం మంది మాత్రమే ఎక్కువగా సోషల్ మీడియాను వాడుతున్నారని పేర్కొన్నారు.

Publication: Business Insider **Edition:** Online **Date:** August 08, 2018

BUSINESS INSIDER INDIA

Home > Techinsider > India Has A Huge Gender Gap In Terms Of Access To The Internet And Mobile Ownership

India has a huge gender gap in terms of access to the internet and mobile ownership

■ DILSHER DHILLON | AUG 8, 2018, 03.07 PM

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- A recent study by LINREasia, a Colombo-based think tank, says that there is a 57% gap in terms of internet usage between males and females in India.
- Additionally, only 43% of Indian women have a mobile phone compared to 80% of Indian men.
- The study also highlighted that only 19% of India's population actually uses the internet.

The fast rate of Internet penetration and mobile phone usage has been one of the more prominent success stories in India over the last decade. Everyone one from CEOs to market analysts to government officials tout feel-good statements about India being the world's largest smartphone market and also having the second-largest internet-using population.

However, a recent study by LINREasia, an internet and communications tech-focused think tank based in Sri Lanka, highlights the unequal nature of this penetration, which is due in part to cultural barriers. According to the study, which was released in the presence of officials from India's telecoms ministry as well as the Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI), there is a 57% gap in terms of internet usage between males and females. Additionally, only 43% of Indian women have a mobile phone compared to 80% of Indian men.

The study wasn't limited to India. Around 38,000 households across 18 countries in Asia, Latin America and Africa were assessed. While India ranked third-lowest in terms of the gender gap with respect to internet access (after Bangladesh and Rwanda), it had the highest gap in terms of phone ownership.

Another troubling statistic shed light on just how far India has to go in terms of internet penetration. The study showed that only 19% of the population actually uses the internet. The level of penetration is much lower than a number of India's counterparts in the developing world, including Nigeria, Kenya and Cambodia.

Rural-urban divide

The gender gap is accentuated in rural areas, where women routinely are denied equal opportunities for education and work. There is a 52% gender gap in mobile ownership in rural areas compared with 34% in urban areas. This of course, is correlated with the gap in total mobile ownership between rural areas, where 55% of people own phones and urban areas, where 71% do.

The lack of access to the internet and mobile phones could both be a consequence of and factor dictating the low level of participation of women in the economy. Only 18% of India's GDP is accounted for by women, while the share of females in the country's labour force is 25%. This also translates into a low level of financial inclusion and access to banking services.

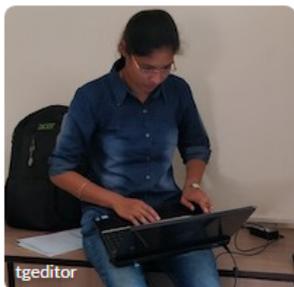
The Department of Telecommunications should closely analyse the study's findings and develop policies to reduce this gender gap, such as computer skilling programmes for women. An increase in access to the internet means an increase in access to educational resources and information. With data prices hitting rock-bottom, cost should no longer be an impediment to internet access. Besides, as the UN said in 2016, access to the internet is a basic human right.

Publication: Techbig**Edition:** Online**Date:** August 09, 2018

TECHGIG

Why Internet penetration hasn't helped the gender gap in India

Posted By : TechGig Editor | 3 days ago | 72 Views



India faces a big gender gap across many areas. The gender gap is not just limited to the country's workforce but also literacy and in the use of digital technologies. While the fast penetration of the internet and mobile phones are connecting the rural areas of India, it has not helped in bridging the gender divide.

A global study by LINREasia highlights the unequal nature of India's internet and mobile penetration. The study suggests that only 43% of women in India own a mobile phone, the low penetration of mobile is mostly because of lack of awareness. On the other hand, almost 80% of Indian males own a mobile device. The study was released in presence of India's telecom ministry officials as well as

the Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI).

Rural-urban divide

The study highlights that India has a 57% gap in terms of internet usage between males and females. The gap accentuates in rural areas due to lack of awareness. Women in rural areas are usually denied equal opportunities for education and work. The gender gap in mobile ownership in rural areas is 52%, while the same in urban areas of India is 34%.

Similarly, the gap in total mobile ownership in rural areas is much higher. Only 55% of people living in rural areas own a mobile phone. On the other hand, over 71% of people from urban India own a mobile device. The lack of access to these technologies acts as a major consequence in the country's development.

Global situation

The study has covered over 38,000 households across 18 countries in Asia, Latin American and Africa. India is ranked third lowest for the gender gap in terms of internet access. The only countries that surpassed India are Bangladesh and Rwanda. India has the highest gap in terms of mobile phone ownership.

India's level of internet penetration is much lower than in other developing countries like Nigeria, Kenya, and Cambodia. Only 19% of the Indian population uses the internet. Even the social media usage is quite poor in India as compared to other developing nations.

Government efforts

The Department of Telecommunication (DoT) is analyzing these findings to develop new policies. The government wants to work towards reducing this gender gap. With the availability of affordable fast mobile internet services, the cost is no longer an impediment to internet access. Programs like Internet Saathi has already helped 15M Indian women. The country needs joint efforts from the government and private sector to fight this challenge.



Only 19% use Internet in India, says study



- A mere 19 per cent of people in the 15-65 age group use Internet in India, according to a report named "AfterAccess: ICT access and use in India and the Global South". It was published by Lirneasia, a policy and regulation think tank in collaboration with the Cellular Operators Association of India.

Publication: Great Andhra **Edition:** Online **Date:** August 07, 2018

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Only 19% use Internet in India, says study

Published Date : 07-Aug-2018 11:04:54 IST

A mere 19 per cent of people in the 15-65 age group use Internet in India, a report said here on Tuesday. About 35 per cent of those in the age group are aware of Internet, said the report named "AfterAccess: ICT access and use in India and the Global South". "The lack of Internet awareness is a considerable problem in India, with just 35 per cent of the 15-65 (years) population aware of what the Internet is. The level of use is thus even lower at 19 per cent," said the report.

Publication: Andhravilas**Edition:** Online**Date:** August 07, 2018

Andhravilas

Only 19% use Internet in India, says study

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"The lack of Internet awareness is a considerable problem in India, with just 35 per cent of the 15-65 (years) population aware of what the Internet is. The level of use is thus even lower at 19 per cent," said the report.

On the findings of the report Chief Executive Officer of Lirneasia Helani Galpaya said: "India has only connected around 20 per cent of the adult people who you would expect to be on line. So that's pathetic... and the contradiction is, this (India) is one of the most affordable markets in the world."

The report further showed that out of the total Internet users in the age group of 15-65 years, around 27 per cent mostly spend time on social media.

-IANS

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(IANS)



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Only 19% use Internet in India, says study



August 8, 2018

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(IANS)



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Indo Asian News Service

IANS India Private Limited 7 August 2018



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--IANS

THE ENGLISH POST



Representative Image



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Published on: Aug 7, 2018 at 22:13 IST

IANS



Business/Economy

Delhi

Technology

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📅 August 7, 2018 🗣️ TFP 0 Comments

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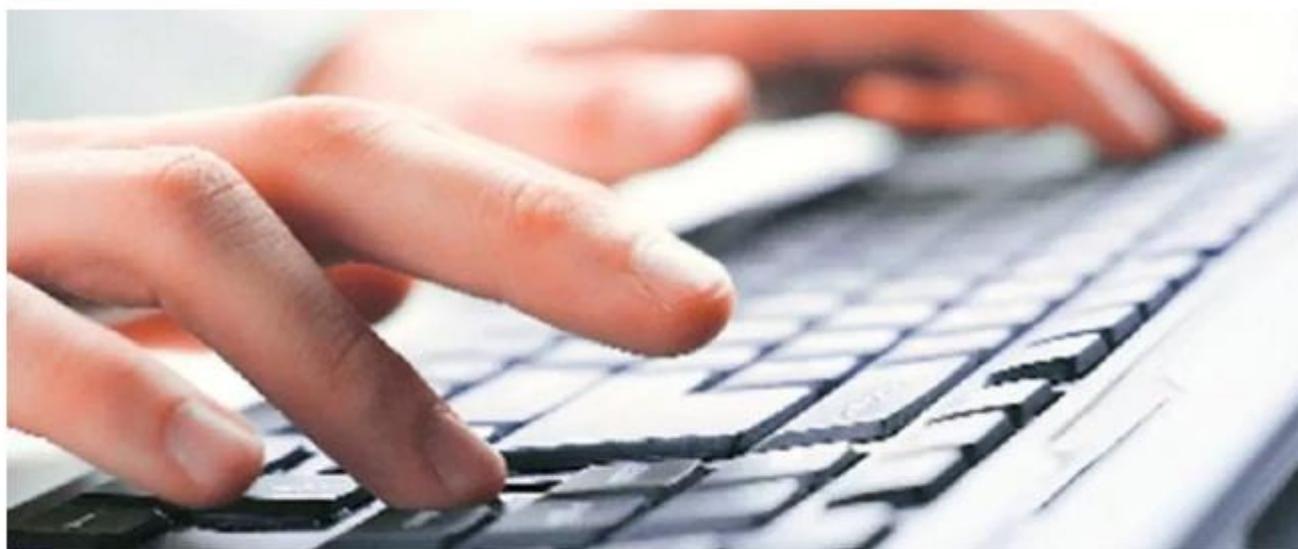
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-IANS



ONLY 19% INDIAN ARE AWARE OF THE USAGE OF INTERNET, SAYS STUDY



A mere percentage of 19, in the age group of 15-65 only use the Internet in India, on Tuesday says a research report in Delhi.

Only 35% of Indians belong to the same age group are aware of the Internet usage, reads the Study named, "After Access: ICT access and use in India and the Global South." The study report was published by Linneasia, regulations, and policy thought to be in collaboration with India's Cellular Operators Association.

The report further reads, "The lack of Internet awareness is a considerable problem in India, with just 35 percent of the 15-64 (years) population aware of what the Internet is. The level of use is thus even lower at 19 percent."

Hefani Galpaya, Linneasia's Chief Executive Officer on the findings of the study report says, "India has only connected around 20 percent of the adult people who you would expect to be online. So that's pathetic... and the contradiction is, this (India) is one of the most affordable markets in the world."

The report further projected that out of the total population in India, Internet users among the age group of 15-65 years are near 27%, who spend most of the time on social media only.

by Chandrani Sarkar on August 8, 2018

Publication: Orlando Indian **Edition:** Online **Date:** August 07, 2018



Only 19% use Internet in India, says study

Delhi, Business/Economy, Technology

Author : Indo Asian News Service

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--IANS

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Only 19% use Internet in India, says study

AUGUST 7, 2018

0



People watching video on cell phone. (File Photo: IANS)

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Publication: Learnerguru**Edition: Online****Date: August 07, 2018**

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- Also, about 35 per cent of those in the age group are aware of Internet.



Study: Indian Has Highest Gender Gap In Mobile Phone Ownership

AUGUST 11, 2018 | BY MEGHA THADANI

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LIRNEAsia, an information and communications technology (ICT) policy think tank revealed in a [study](#) that India has the highest gender gap in mobile phone ownership. According to an [Indian Express](#) report, the study also shows that India ranks among the lowest in women's access to the Internet. The report was funded by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) and Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDRC).

LIRNEAsia released the findings in the presence of N Sivasailam, Special Secretary of the Department of Telecommunications, and representatives from Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI). The survey took into account 18 comparable countries to draw the conclusions. The survey collected information in countries like Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nigeria, Rwanda and India.

It highlights that merely 43 per cent of women in India own mobile phones as compared to almost 80 per cent of Indian males. Essentially, lack of awareness was cited as the reason behind this huge gap.

The gender divide in terms of the use of mobile phones exceeds all the other countries in the survey. Additionally, the study points out that gender gap is more prevalent in rural areas than in urban areas.

CEO of LIRNEAsia Helani Galpaya said to the Indian Express, "India should be doing better than this because it is performing like the poorest countries in the sample."

The DoT Special Secretary N Sivasailam remarked that the research points were very actionable. He mentioned, "It is possible to act on this data and develop policies. I am pleased that we have a baseline for the first time ever."

The study reveals that 64 per cent said they did not know about the Internet. Surprisingly, 68 per cent of this group was female.

The Indian Express reports that a higher percentage of women use social media for marketing and educational content. While men chat significantly more on social media than women do.

Furthermore, women shared information less than men in almost all categories except for political and sexual orientation. The study reveals that 64 per cent said they did not know about the Internet. Surprisingly, 68 per cent of this group was female.

India Ranks Among Lowest in Women's Access to Mobiles, Internet

August 11, 2018 0



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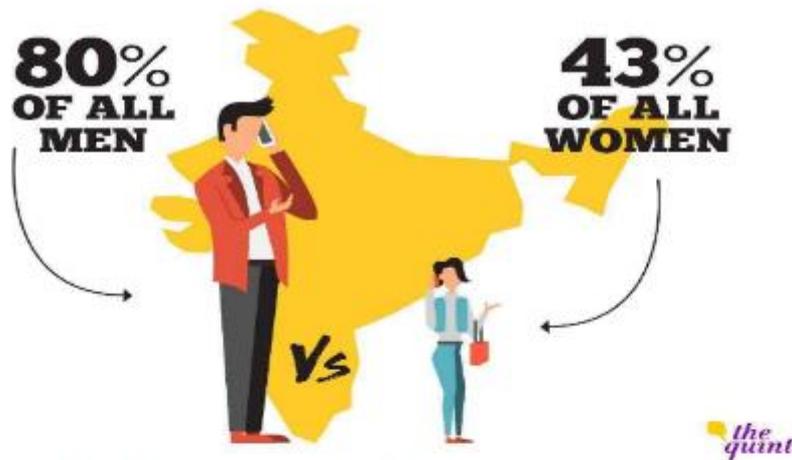
A study by LIRNEAsia — an information and communications technology policy think tank — has revealed that India has the highest gender gap in mobile phone ownership. According to an *The Indian Express* report, the study shows that India ranks among the lowest in women's access to the Internet.

The study was released by the think tank in the presence of N Sivasailam, special secretary of the Department of Telecommunications, and representatives from Cellular Operators Association on India (COAI). The study states that women, rural citizens, and those belonging to lower income or education groups, have less access to Internet and social media.

The LIRNEAsia studied 18 countries, including Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nigeria, Rwanda and India for this survey.

While 80% of men in India use mobile phones, only 43% of women have a similar access. The reason for this, as reported by Indian Express, is largely the lack of awareness.

MOBILE PHONE USERS IN INDIA



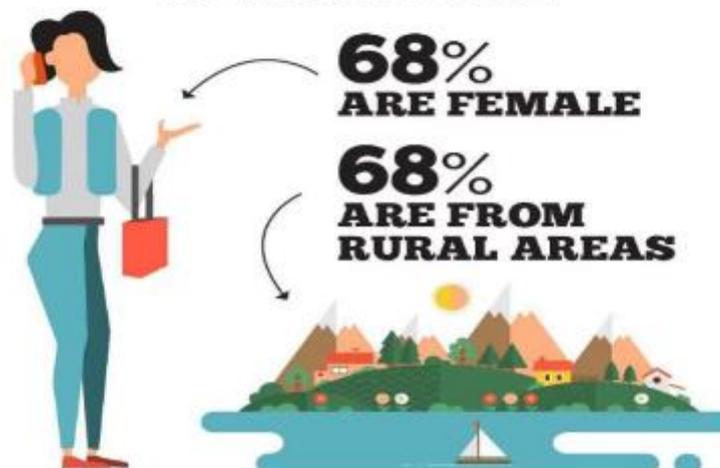
While 80% of men in India use mobile phones, only 43% of women have access to mobiles.
(Photo Courtesy: Harsh Sahani/The Quint)

This gender gap in usage of mobile phone surpasses all other countries in the survey and is largely because of the lack of awareness. The gender gap is more intense in rural areas than in urban areas.

The gender gap in internet usage, according to survey, is 57%, falling only behind Bangladesh and Rwanda. The gender gap in social media usage was even higher, with only Bangladesh topping India.

64% OF INDIANS SAY THEY DON'T KNOW ABOUT THE INTERNET

...AMONG THESE





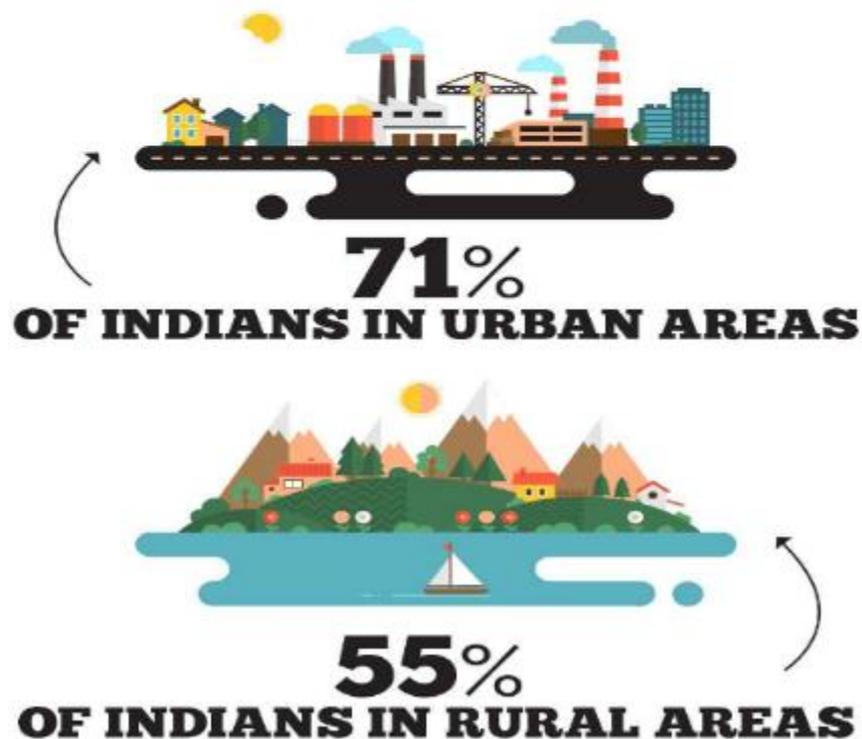
64% of Indians don't know about the internet.

(Photo Courtesy: Harsh Sahani/The Quint)

The study shows that only 29% Indians trust social media for news. Internet users in India face more online harassment than those in Pakistan, Bangladesh and Cambodia.

The gap between urban-rural mobile phone usage is also intense in India, with 71% urban population using mobile phones and only 55% in rural areas. A mere 19% of the total population has access to India.

URBAN-RURAL DIVIDE AMONG MOBILE PHONE USAGE





Urban-rural divide in mobile phone usage.

(Photo Courtesy: Harsh Sahani/The Quint)

According to *Indian Express*, CEO of LIRNEAsia Helani Galpaya said:

India should be doing better than this because it is performing like the poorest countries in the sample.

On the brighter side, the awareness of e-commerce platforms was higher in India than in Pakistan and Bangladesh.

Interestingly, a higher percentage of women use social media for marketing and educational content. On the other hand, men chat significantly more on social media than women do, reported *The Indian Express*.

(With inputs from The Indian Express.)



డిజిటల్ విప్లవమెక్కడ?!

Aug 11, 2018, 23:15 IST



• ఇంటర్నెట్ వాడకందార్లు 19% మాత్రమే

మన దేశంలో మొబైల్ ఫోన్లు వాడుతున్న స్త్రీల శాతం తక్కువే. 43% మంది స్త్రీలకు మాత్రమే ఇక్కడ మొబైల్ ఫోన్లు వున్నాయి. ఫోన్లు ఉపయోగిస్తున్న పురుషుల సంఖ్య దాదాపు ఇందుకు రెట్టింపు సంఖ్యలో (80%) వుంది. భారత్, పాకిస్తాన్, బంగ్లాదేశ్, నైజీరియా, ర్వాండా సహా 18 దేశాలపై 'లిర్వెఆసియా' (లెర్నింగ్ ఇనిషియేటివ్స్ ఆన్ రిఫార్మ్స్ ఫర్ నెట్వర్క్ ఎకానమీస్ ఆసియా) జరిపిన అధ్యయనం ఈ విషయాలను వెల్లడించింది. దీని ప్రకారం - ఫోన్ల వాడకంలో మిగిలిన దేశాలతో పోల్చుకుంటే మన దేశ మహిళలు బాగా వెనకబడ్డారు. గ్రామీణ ప్రాంత మహిళలు ఇంకా వెనకన్నారు. ఇంటర్నెట్ వాడకంలో స్త్రీ పురుషుల మధ్య వ్యత్యాసం (57%) మరింత ఎక్కువగా వుంది. అవగాహన లేకపోవడమే ఇందుకు ప్రధాన కారణమంటున్నారు సర్వే విశ్లేషకులు. గ్రామీణులు (55%) కంటే పట్టణవాసులే (71%) ఎక్కువగా ఫోన్లు వాడుతున్నారని సర్వే వెల్లడించింది. మన దేశంలో మొత్తం 5000 మందిని 'లిర్వెఆసియా' ఇంటర్వ్యూ చేసింది. వీరిలో ఇంటర్నెట్ వాడకందార్లు 919 మంది మాత్రమే. సర్వే వెల్లడించిన ఆసక్తికర విషయాలు కొన్ని :

సోషల్ మీడియా వార్తలపై అవసరమృకం

- దేశంలో నెట్ వాడకందార్లు 19% మాత్రమే. ఈ విషయంలో నైజీరియా, ఘనా, కెన్యా, కంబోడియా కంటే మనం వెనకబడ్డం.
- 64% మందికి ఇంటర్నెట్ అంటే ఏమిటో తెలియదు. ఈ విషయంలో పాకిస్తాన్ (69%) బంగ్లాదేశ్ (67%) కంటే మనం వెనకబడ్డం.

(67%)లు మన ఆర్వోఆస్థానాల్ల ఉన్నాయి.

- నెట్ గురించి తెలియని వారిలో స్త్రీలు (68%) గ్రామీణులే (68%) ఎక్కువ. స్టాబ్ల్ ఫోస్ వాడకందార్లలో 35% మందికి ఇంటర్నెట్ గురించి తెలియదు.
- సోషల్ మీడియా (27%) కోసం ఎక్కువ మంది నెట్ వాడుతున్నారు. వినోదం (16%) వార్తల (15%) కోసం నెట్తో అనుసంధానమవుతున్న వారు ఆ తర్వాతి స్థానంలో ఉన్నారు.
- మార్కెటింగ్, విద్యా సంబంధిత సమాచారం కోసం సోషల్ మీడియాలో వున్న స్త్రీల శాతం మన దగ్గర ఎక్కువే. పురుషులు మాత్రం ప్రధానం చాటింగ్ కోసమే సోషల్ మీడియాను వాడుకుంటున్నారు.
- దేశంలో అత్యధికులు సోషల్ మీడియాలో వస్తున్న వార్తలను విశ్వసించడం లేదు. ఆ వార్తల్ని నమ్మేవారు 29% మంది మాత్రమే.
- పాకిస్తాన్, బంగ్లాదేశ్తో పోల్చుకుంటే మనవాళ్లకి ఈ - కామర్స్ గురించిన అవగాహన ఎక్కువే. అయితే, మొబైల్తో నగదు లావాదేవీలు జరుపుతున్నవారు 6% మంది మాత్రమే.

ఆన్లైన్ వేధింపులు..

దేశంలోని ప్రతి ఐదుగురిలో ఒకరు ఆన్లైన్ వేధింపు బాధితులే. 15 – 65 వయస్సుల్లో.. పాకిస్తాన్, బంగ్లాదేశ్ (12%) కంటే భారత్లోనే ఎక్కువమంది (19%) వేధింపులు ఎదుర్కొంటున్నారు. ఈ తరహా చేదు అనుభవాలు మూట గట్టుకుంటున్న వారిలో పట్టణవాసులతో (17%)తో పోల్చుకుంటే గ్రామీణులే (20%) ఎక్కువ. స్త్రీల (17%) కంటే పురుషులు (20%) మరింతగా వేధింపుల బారిన పడుతున్నారు. 38% మందికి వేధింపుల వెనుక కారణాలేమిటో తెలియదు. జండర్ / మతం / రాజకీయాలు వేధింపులకు కారణమని 20% మంది భావిస్తున్నారు. 7% మంది ఆన్లైన్ గేమింగ్ / 29% మంది చాటింగ్ సందర్భంలో వేధింపుల బారిన పడుతున్నారు. వెబ్సైట్లో చేసిన కామెంట్లు 16% మందిని చికాకుపరిచాయట!

వేధింపులకు గురైన వారిలో దాదాపు సగం మంది (48%) వాటిని అంతగా పట్టించుకోలేదని చెప్పారు. 28% మంది మాత్రం సంబంధిత వెబ్సైట్కు కేటాయించే సమయాన్ని తగ్గించేశారట. కొందరయితే (15%) సంబంధిత యాప్‌నే తొలగించేశారట. 5% మంది వేధించే వాళ్లతో సంబంధాలను కత్తిరించేసుకోవడం / ఔ కాంటాక్ట్ను బ్లాక్ చేసేయడం / సంబంధిత గ్రూప్ లేదా ఫోరమ్ నుంచి బయటకొచ్చేయడం ద్వారా తలనొప్పులు తగ్గించుకున్నారు.

The Telegraph

Cut Off

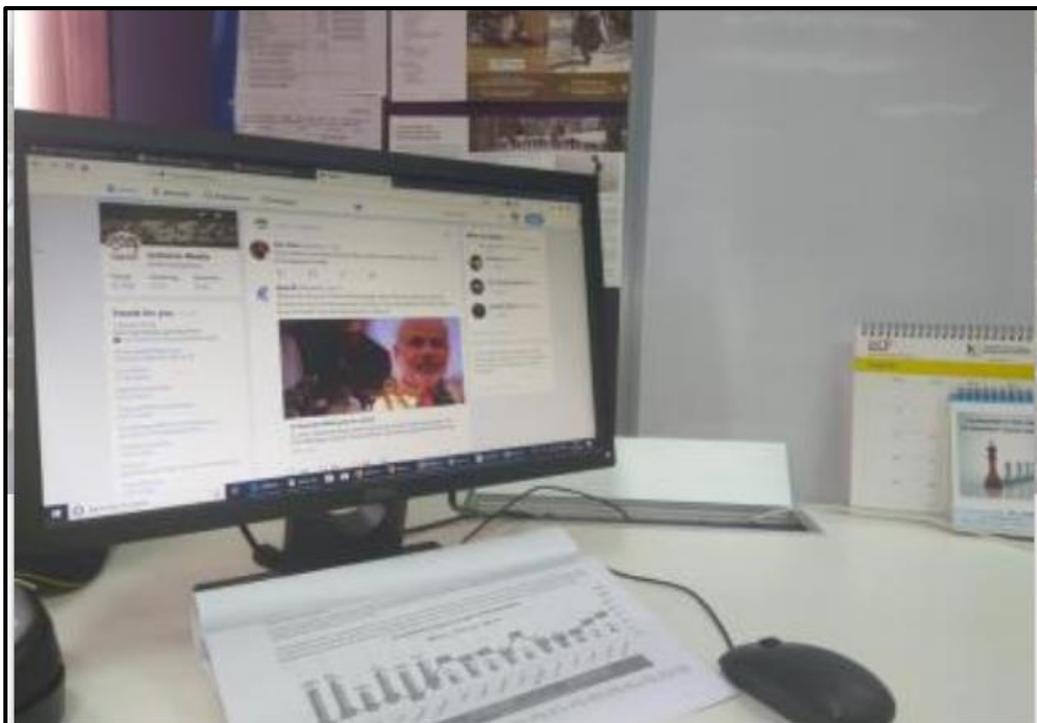
Aug 14, 2018 00:00 IST



The clarion call of 'development' in the digital age has little meaning in a nation where a significant section of the population is excluded from its ambit. This is what seems to have happened in India, as a study conducted by an information and communications technology policy think tank, LIRNEAsia, has found. According to the report, the gender gap in India with regard to mobile phone ownership surpasses all other countries in the survey. A mere 43 per cent of Indian women own cellular phones, as opposed to almost 80 per cent of men. Worse, access to the internet - declared a basic human right by the United Nations - for Indian women is among the lowest in the nations surveyed. The causes and implications of these serious lags are multifarious. Also of concern is the fact that these findings are not new; a Unicef report published last year had raised similar concerns. This highlights not only the skewed gender dynamics that render mobile phone ownership a distant dream for most Indian women - in rural areas, especially, women are prevented by the men in their families and even by 'kangaroo courts' from possessing cell phones or using those belonging to male relatives - but also the unwillingness of the Bharatiya Janata Party-led government at the Centre to use available data to formulate policies geared towards correcting the imbalance.

Given that this is the same government that aggressively pushes the 'Digital India' campaign, is it unreasonable to assume that such a massive technological gender divide is, to a large extent, deliberately allowed to persist? Giving women access to mobile phones and the internet enables them to search for jobs and educational opportunities and even avail themselves of banking and health services: all of which allow them greater control over their own lives. More important, it gives them access to information about their rights, of which they are often robbed. (Significantly, the study showed that a lack of awareness is the primary cause for women not having cell phones.) Awareness among citizens, especially women, is anathema for any government peddling an oppressive agenda, more so at a time when social media have enabled the organization of protests and movements. Studies in the past showing how the technological empowerment of women is critical to economic growth have largely been ignored at the policy level, highlighting the hollowness of the 'development' agenda. It will be unsurprising if the data in the recent survey meet the same fate.

Publication: Im4 Change **Edition:** Online **Date:** August 14, 2018



Roughly one-third of offenders who committed online harassment were unknown to their victims, shows recent LIRNEAsia report

Good news about digital inclusion often leaves little room for reporting on bad experiences, which netizens encounter in the digital world. A recent [report by LIRNEAsia](#) – an ICT [information and communication technology] policy and regulation think tank working in the Asia-Pacific – says that almost one among five Indian netizens in the age-group 15-65 years had faced online harassment in 2017. In contrast, roughly twelve out of hundred internet users had witnessed online harassment in Pakistan and Bangladesh each.

Entitled *AfterAccess: ICT Access and Use in India and the Global South*, the study reveals that 28 percent of Indian netizens (sample size: 919) who experienced online harassment (178 out of 919) had reduced their use of the particular website. However, 48 percent of the netizens who faced online harassment said that it had no effect. Out of those who faced online harassment, roughly 15 percent had deleted the app or their profile; 5 percent had unfriended/ blocked contacts or left that group/ forum; and 4 percent had limited the use of internet as a whole.

Mostly online harassment was experienced on social media – a prominent attribute of Indian social media that was pointed out earlier by the 2018 [World Press Freedom Index](#) of Reporters without Border.

Out of those who faced online harassment, 39 percent experienced it on social media like Facebook; 29 percent on chat applications like WhatsApp; 16 percent on comments section of a website; 7 percent during online gaming; and 3 percent by emails.

As compared to urban internet users (17 percent), a higher proportion of rural netizens (20 percent) had faced online harassment. A higher proportion of male internet users (20 percent) in comparison to female netizens (17 percent) had witnessed online harassment.

Out of those who faced online harassment, nearly half were called offensive names; roughly one-fifth were purposefully embarrassed or criticized in another way (apart from being called offensive names); 13 percent were physically threatened; 3 percent were sexually harassed; and 16 percent were approached repeatedly by unwanted contacts (cyber-stalked).

According to the surveyed Indian netizens who faced online harassment, the motivations for harassment were gender (21 percent), religion or race (21 percent) and politics (20 percent).

According to the surveyed Indian netizens who faced online harassment, the motivations for harassment were gender (21 percent), religion or race (21 percent) and politics (20 percent).

Out of those who encountered online harassment, one-third said that the offender was someone whom s/he met before offline; one-third said the offender was an online contact/ friend whom s/he had never met before offline; and 33 percent said that the offender was someone whom s/he don't know at all (online or offline).

Use of Social Media

The LIRNEAsia report throws light on the use of social media in the country. It indicates that a higher proportion of males (22 percent) used the social media as compared to females (9 percent) in the age-group 15-65 years. Among sixteen countries, the gender gap in social media usage is the highest in Bangladesh, followed by India, according to the report.

A higher proportion of urban Indians (24 percent) used the social media in comparison to their rural counterpart (11 percent).

In India, 3 percent accessed social media through basic phones, 6 percent through feature phones and 72 percent through smartphones.

Social media was accessed by users (sample size: 754) for various purposes in the country, which is as follows:

- Chatting (text): 86 percent
- To stay in contact with friends and family: 91 percent
- Making calls: 83 percent
- To share videos/ pictures/ music: 74 percent
- To make new friends: 68 percent
- Reading news: 77 percent
- To play games: 66 percent
- To look for educational content: 71 percent
- To get opinions/ share your experience: 63 percent
- To make professional and business contacts: 57 percent
- To play games: 66 percent
- To look for educational content: 71 percent
- To get opinions/ share your experience: 63 percent
- To make professional and business contacts: 57 percent
- To follow government social media pages (look for jobs or updates on policies): 58 percent
- To follow local politicians: 47 percent
- To share my produced content: 55 percent
- To market your products/ services: 45 percent

Fifty-eight percent of Indian social media users do not trust the news that they read on social media, brings out the LIRNEAsia report. Out of those who use social media in the country, 4 percent 'strongly' trusts news read on social media and 25 percent trusts news read on social media.

About AfterAccess

For the *AfterAccess* report, 5,069 households and individuals were surveyed from 250 wards and villages in 19 states and 108 districts (*all randomly selected*) of the country. Face-to-face household and individual interviews lasting 90-minutes were undertaken by LIRNEAsia. The fieldwork was conducted in October-November 2017.

The sampling methodology was designed to ensure representation of the target group (*population aged 15-65 years*) at the national level with 95 percent confidence interval and a +/- 3.5 percent margin of error. The sample size allows for disaggregation of data by urban-rural, gender and socio-economic classification at the national level, says the report.

Publication: Big News Live **Edition:** Online **Date:** August 13, 2018



Only 19 % Of Indian Population Is Accessing Internet

Athira August 13, 2018



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New Delhi: According to the report titled "After Access: ICT access and use in India and the Global South", a mere 19 per cent of Indian population is viable to access the provision of internet. 19 per cent of people ranging within the age group of 15-65 years are the only ones who are able to connect with the world via internet as per the study published by Lirneasia, a policy and regulation in association with the Cellular Operators Association of India.

Around 35 per cent of those in the age group are aware of internet apparently. Report says, "the lack of internet awareness is a considerable problem in India, with just 35 per cent of the 15-65 years old being aware of what internet is indicate that the level of usage is even lower than 19 per cent.

"India has managed to connect around 20 per cent of the adult people whom you would expect to be online. And the contradiction is that, India is one of the most affordable markets across the globe", says Helani Galpaya, Chief Executive Officer of Lirneasia.

Apart from this, 27 per cent of the total internet users within the age group of 15-65 years spend their time mostly on social media.

Publication: The Indian Express **Edition:** Online **Date:** August 16, 2018

The Indian EXPRESS

Telecom department to officers: Attend seminar on gender gap

Last week, a study published by LIRNEAsia — an ICT policy think tank — noted that India had the highest gender gap in mobile phone ownership amongst 16 countries.

Written by **Pranav Mukul** | New Delhi | Published: August 16, 2018 12:34:11 am



The study said that women in India were 46 per cent less likely to own a mobile than men.

Taking cognisance of a “significant gender gap” associated with access to, and the use of internet and mobile services in the country, the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has urged its officers to attend a seminar on the topic “Women and Mobile: Bridging the Gender Gap”, which it is organising on Thursday in collaboration with GSM Association, according to an internal circular seen by The Indian Express.

“The gender gap can be attributed to a number of factors including the cost of devices and services, network coverage, concerns around security and harassment as well as lack of technical literacy among women. This course explains the background to the issues and focuses on strategies that can be used to help close the gender gap,” the DoT’s training cell noted. Last week, a study published by LIRNEAsia — an information and communications technology (ICT) policy think tank — noted that India had the highest gender gap in mobile phone ownership amongst 16 comparable countries — including ones such as Pakistan, Bangladesh,

Kenya, Rwanda, Cambodia, Guatemala – and ranked among the lowest in women's access to the Internet. The study said that women in India were 46 per cent less likely to own a mobile than men. Notably, at 24 per cent, the gender gap among smartphone users was lesser than the total difference in mobile phone ownership.

Notwithstanding the narrower gap in smartphone ownership, the gender divide in internet use was even higher than mobile ownership, the study pointed out. In India, there was a 57 per cent gap between men and women using online facilities such as e-mail, [Google](#), [Facebook](#), etc. The country was only behind Rwanda and Bangladesh – both having 62 per cent gap in internet use. Among the uses of internet, a significant divide was also present in the use of social media, where the gap between men and women in India was 60 per cent, only behind Bangladesh at 66 per cent.

The study also found that a higher percentage of women used social media for marketing and educational content, while men used social media to chat – significantly more than women. Further, contrary to the findings in other nations, India was the only country in those studied by the think-tank where higher percentage of women said they were confronted by unwanted offensive or inappropriate material while using social media.

Publication: Communications Today**Edition:** Online**Date:** August 16, 2018



Telecom Department To Officers: Attend Seminar On Gender Gap

August 16, 2018

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Publication: Small News **Edition:** Online **Date:** August 15, 2018

SmallNews.in
Telecom

TELECOM DEPARTMENT TO OFFICERS: ATTEND SEMINAR ON GENDER GAP

Aug 15, 2018 | Telecom Industry | ★★★★★



Written by Pranav Mukul
| New Delhi |

Published: August 16, 2018 12:34:11...

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Publication: Khabar Indians**Edition:** Online**Date:** August 16, 2018



Telecom department to officers: Attend seminar on gender gap

By admin



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Publication: Web Josh **Edition:** Online **Date:** August 16, 2018

WEBJOSH

Telecom department to officers: Attend seminar on gender gap



Indian Express

Thursday 16 August 2018, 2:40 am



Taking cognisance of a “significant gender gap” associated with access to, and the use of internet and mobile services in the country, the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has urged its officers to attend a seminar on the topic “Women and Mobile: Bridging the Gender Gap”, which it is organising on Thursday in collaboration with GSM Association, according to an internal circular seen by The Indian Express. “The gender gap can be attributed to a number of factors including the cost of devices and services, network coverage, concerns around security and harassment as well as lack of technical literacy among women. This course explains the background ...

Publication: Daily Crypto Currency News **Edition:** Online **Date:** August 16, 2018

Daily Cryptocurrency News

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TELECOM DEPARTMENT TO OFFICERS: ATTEND SEMINAR ON GENDER GAP

 mujtaba  8 hours ago  Technology and Science  Leave a comment  5 Views

Written through Pranav Mukul

| New Delhi |

Published: August 16, 2018 12:34:11 am

The learn about stated that girls in India have been 46 in line with cent much less most probably to personal a cell than males.

Taking cognisance of a “significant gender gap” related to get entry to to, and using web and cell services and products within the nation, the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has advised its officials to attend a seminar on the subject “Women and Mobile: Bridging the Gender Gap”, which it’s setting up on Thursday in collaboration with GSM Association, in accordance to an inside round noticed through The Indian Express.

“The gender gap can be attributed to a number of factors including the cost of devices and services, network coverage, concerns around security and harassment as well as lack of technical literacy among women. This course explains the background to the issues and focuses on strategies that can be used to help close the gender gap,” the DoT’s coaching mobile famous. Last week, a learn about revealed through LIRNEAsia – a knowledge and communications generation (ICT) coverage assume tank – famous that India had the absolute best gender gap in cell phone possession among 16 related nations – together with ones equivalent to Pakistan, Bangladesh, Kenya, Rwanda, Cambodia, Guatemala – and ranked a few of the lowest in girls’s get entry to to the Internet. The learn about stated that girls in India have been 46 in line with cent much less most probably to personal a cell than males. Notably, at 24 in line with cent, the gender gap amongst smartphone customers used to be lesser than the overall distinction in cell phone possession.

Notwithstanding the narrower gap in smartphone possession, the gender divide in web use used to be even upper than cell possession, the learn about identified. In India, there used to be a 57 in line with cent gap between women and men the use of on-line amenities equivalent to email, Google, Facebook, and so forth. The nation used to be best in the back of Rwanda and Bangladesh – each having 62 in line with cent gap in web use. Among the makes use of of web, a vital divide used to be additionally found in using social media, the place the gap between women and men in India used to be 60 in line with cent, best in the back of Bangladesh at 66 in line with cent.

The learn about additionally discovered upper share of ladies used social media for advertising and academic content material, whilst males used social media to chat – considerably greater than girls. Further, opposite to the findings in different international locations, India used to be the one nation in the ones studied through the think-tank the place upper share of ladies stated they have been faced through undesirable offensive or irrelevant subject material whilst the use of social media.

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Telecom department to officers: Attend seminar on gender gap



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