

Technology Interface Club

Goal:

“Make students Technology aware and friendly”

We are living in the information era. The role of internet and communication technology is very vital for effective survival today. For knowledge updation, knowledge sharing, information gathering, contact maintenance and effective communication we need support from technology.

As the ‘National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology (NMEICT) has been envisaged as a centrally sponsored scheme to leverage the potential of ICT, in teaching and learning process for the benefit of all the learners in Higher Education Institutions in any time any where mode’, technology has to be made easy and friendly for the student community. The importance of technology awareness should be realised by the student community. Technology should reach students up to usage level. Theoretical knowledge need to be developed into hands on practice. The very idea is to minimize the digital divide.

The Context:

Technology should be used in right way.

Students at the time of entry to the college possess basic computer knowledge acquired at the school level. Majority of our students in our college are from rural background. When the students are confronted with the situation to use, they hesitate. In this world of technology it is a challenging issue to pull them towards learning and to travel along with it.

Students from different disciplines acquire knowledge of their specialised area. Irrespective of the discipline technology comes handy to develop knowledge in various forms. It is important to make students use ICT tools and techniques. To stand par with the national and international standards the use of information and communication technology is unavoidable. The gap between theoretical and experimental or practical knowledge is the area where focus is needed.

The computer and communication devices are playing a vital role in making information and knowledge globally available. Here online libraries,

online lectures, virtual laboratories and online discussions help to develop knowledge at various levels and forms.

The Practice:

Demonstration: The usage of internet is to be demonstrated to make students use the internet in right way. Browsers software like Internet Explorer, Mozilla Firefox, and Google chrome are introduced. To make browsing efficient topic/subject oriented links are introduced. Tips on cautions and warnings are explained so as to avoid virus threats. For the usage of correct combination of keywords for successful browsing relating to the search context suggestions are given.

The working of various communication devices like mobiles, laptops and PCs are demonstrated. This gives better understanding about the software that acts as platform for various devices. This enables efficient and confident usage of the device.

To enable students to prepare their documents and presentations office automation tools are demonstrated. Students are given projects to prepare presentations using MS- Office and DTP software. Students acquired necessary experience and practical knowledge to prepare e-materials on their own.

The introductory demonstrations are made about social networks. Social networks are the place where students can share their views and ideas with others. The idea of various technical forums is given so as to make use of the knowledge repository available through forums. Online lectures can be accessed at any time of comfort through you tube. Various demonstrations are made to develop multidimensional skills to use internet for the sake of knowledge development.

We conduct meetings to introduce and explain any one of the latest technology with demonstration. We enable students to use the skills developed through the Technology Interface Club in day to day life. This is achieved by encouraging them to communicate through E-Mail, to present seminars using power point presentation, refer the internet for submitting their assignments, help their neighbours to use the technology (Paying EB Bill, Telephone bill through online), apply jobs by uploading their resumes.

Tally: Students are familiar with accounting but they do it manually. As even small companies use Tally software to manage their accounts, students are taught to use Tally software for solving accounting problems and also to make pay bills. They are encouraged to solve the problems they learn in class using the software.

Tools: Advanced data analysis tools like SPSS, Weka were also introduced to the students to enable them undertake data analysis work for their research work. These tools will be extremely helpful to the students when they do research in future.

Evidence of Success:

The success is evident from the students performing the following activities.

1. They registered for TNPSC examination through online.
2. Online ticket booking
3. They service their mobiles on their own at elementary level.
4. They make online bank transactions.
5. They collect TANCET examination model questions through online.

Progress noticed: As students start to use internet frequently and in wider level for collecting information, to watch online lectures through YouTube, share their ideas over social networking, help others in E-Ticket booking, E-Bill payment etc., shows students have started to use technology for many of their purposes effectively.

The observation reveals that digital literacy is achieved to some extent.