

Chapter 6

SOCIAL FUNCTIONS OF THE MOBILE COMMUNICATION

This chapter deals with the social functions of mobile phone for rural youth. As a medium of communication mobile phone plays a vital role for society. Youths use it in different ways and for different purposes like communication, education, business, banking, navigation, entertainment etc. on the one hand it is useful device but, on the other hand, it may be harmful. On the basis of use patterns one can justify the positive and negative role played by it on the youth. Some youths talk on mobile constantly and more than necessity. Due to unnecessary talk one has to lose his/ her time and money. Some youths are benefitted by it and some of them lose their valuable time, health and money. So, in this chapter an attempt has been made to understand how youths are positively or negatively affected by mobile phone.

Positive Functions of Mobile Phone

As a new media mobile phone has brought a tremendous change in different aspects of society; viz., education, business, communication, banking, navigation, environment, entertainment and many other aspects of society. Educators and technologists are keenly interested alike in how wireless and mobile technology can enhance the way of learning and interaction with one another. It is obvious that m-learning technologies can potentially provide significant opportunities for learning and collaborative interaction. Most mobile devices are useful in education both as administration, organization and teaching aids for practitioners, and also as learning support tools for students (Thiyago & Amrithagowri 2009). It is true to say that these mobile-learning (m-learning) technologies can potentially provide significant opportunities for learning and collaborative interaction (Loomba & Loomba 2009). Another new device which one can learn quickly and with accurate knowledge in an easy process and less time is mobile internet. Mobile internet gives the facilities of searching and downloading reading materials. Some topics are not found easily in books or journals. So, in this situation one can search Internet and may collect materials they want in a very short period of time. Different topics or information are found available on Internet. The people who use mobile Internet rarely face any problem in case of learning. A student or research scholar can contact directly through mobile with their teachers and can discuss anything. Similarly, a student or research scholar can send or receive e-mails through this technology. This is how mobile phone has brought changes in teaching- learning process.

Mobile phone has also brought wide changes in business activities. It has given the facilities of regular contact with one businessman to another businessman and with one business enterprise to another. It provides information about market price that provides link between micro and small entrepreneurs and reaches to the farmers of a remote area. It can help in smooth running of business and money transfer by mobile internet from one business partner to another.

Mobile phone greatly helps in social relationship and social interaction with different persons. With the help of mobile phone one can contact with their parents, friends, relatives, lovers, colleagues and also with some unfamiliar persons. Mobile phone gives the facility of anytime and anywhere connectivity. So, there is no matter of time and place in case of using mobile. For such facility given by the device, one can contact with another according to one's choice. In fact, a person can give a call to another one at any time in the morning, afternoon, evening and even in mid-night also.

Mobile phone plays different functions for women. First of all, it gives security to women. In any dangerous situation, a woman can call for help from any place. Secondly, mobile phone mitigates women's fear, isolation, loneliness and boredom. It also helps in maintaining women's privacy, women's mobility and increases economic independence.

Mobile phone plays positive role in navigation and entertainment. In case of navigation, mobile phone provides road map and latitude and longitude. It also helps by giving the location of the earth. Similarly, in case of entertainment it provides opportunity to gossip with others, to listen audio, to watch video and to play games. It also provides internet, from which one can download different audios and videos.

Negative Functions of Mobile Phone

Owning a mobile phone itself is not negative at all. The problem with it is that many young people do not make proper use of the device which often affects their social lives negatively. The use of this device has an indirect linkage and can contribute negatively to better social attitudes with reference to attitude or behaviour and communications. Several youths are overusing, misusing or even abusing their use of mobile phones. Such youths tend to ignore those around them; they become emotionally attached to their phones. They even sleep with the phone. It is this emotional attachment which often becomes visible when the phone gets missing. For example, when a young person who owns a mobile phone and loses it, at that situation the/she thinks as if a baby has been lost. The phone becomes the foremost thing for youths as they wake up by touching it and end the day with it. Moreover, the economic argument from local sellers is that the phone is damaging their socio-economic growth in business. According to these, now, young people are no longer buying watches at local shops because the mobile phone makes it convenient for one to access to time, hence, for someone who owns the device; it becomes useless by owning a watch. Many young people who own handset do not make effective use of their mobile phones; thus for them the handset is underutilized. And many spend lot of money to acquire expensive handsets which have multi-functional services. Yet after purchasing the mobile phone device, they do not make proper use of it. Therefore, the mobile phone device is being underutilized. If a young person wants to purchase a mobile phone device, he/she should purchase what is within his /her standard. Overusing the mobile phone can cause hazards particularly if youths spend so much money in topping up credits to make a call. Furthermore, continuous use of this device may mean spending too much time over it which could have been used for

some more productive work. A young person may tend to ignore major tasks or responsibilities that need to be carried out while overusing the phone. The device can be dangerous to our health too. Many scientists believe that the radiation from the mobile phones may cause the users to have different symptoms such as headache, earaches, blurring of vision and even causing cancer. Since mobile phones operate using magnetic fields, studies indicate that in some circumstances, the magnetic fields can affect the living cells. Those who spend much of time by talking over phone can be fatigued or develop headaches. On the other hand, when a surgeon performs a major surgery at Operation Theater, the device can even disturb him at that point of time. Patients and visitors who carry their cells to prohibited areas inside hospitals like ICU can harm. The radiation emitted from the mobile phones can usually harm or kill the patient in some situations. Nevertheless, the mobile phone is known to be one of the causes of road accidents. Some drivers pick up their phones while driving, putting their own lives and that of the passengers in danger. While driving, people usually make unusual calls which are prohibited by law. Though law and order has taken some preventive action, due to this act fatal accidents have occurred leading to death. So, as a result many of them have to lose their lives or become handicapped by losing their legs, hands, etc. Another important issue in this respect is the cyber crime. Cyber crime is one of the negative consequences of mobile phone. Excessive and inappropriate use of internet and face book in mobile may lead to cyber crime of youths. Now, a number of youths has been increasing than before who use internet and face book. Different researches have reported that in the present time majority of the youths are infected by internet and face book mania. They are seen to spend maximum time of a day on internet and face book.

Types of Social Functions of Mobile Communication

Mobile phone is a media of communication. It provides different opportunities to communicate with different people. The following table presents the social functions of mobile communication.

Table 6.1
Types of Social Functions of Mobile Communication by Village & Caste
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Type of Social Functions of Mobile Communication	No. of Youths				Total N=251
	Komar Khatowal (General Caste dominated Village) N=58	Charigaon (OBC dominated village) N=76	Gorowal Chungi (SC Village)N= 69	Rampur Gaon (ST Village) N=48	
Strengthens social bond among people	58 (100)	76 (100)	69 (100)	48 (100)	251 (100)
Increases interaction among people	27 (46.55)	44 (57.89)	35 (50.72)	26 (54.16)	132 (52.58)
Brings new relationship among people	30 (51.72)	37 (48.68)	28 (40.57)	17 (34.41)	112 (44.62)
Reduces face to face relationship among people	47 (81.03)	62 (81.57)	58 (84.05)	38 (79.16)	205 (81.67)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb-22nd May 2014

The table shows that all the respondents across the villages think that mobile communication strengthens social bond among people.

Among the four villages, the largest number of respondents (84.05%) in the village Gorowal Chungi (SC village) thinks that mobile communication reduces face-to-face relationship among people. Majority of the respondents (51.72%) Komar Khatowal (General Caste dominated village) than other three villages think that mobile communication brings new relationship among people while more respondents of Charigaon (OBC dominated village) in comparison of other three villages; viz., Komar Khatowal, Gorowal Chungi and Rampur Gaon think that mobile communication increases interaction among people.

Thus, most of the respondents of the villages think that mobile communication reduces face-to-face relationship while the lowest percentage of them thinks that it brings new relationship among people. The functions of mobile communication are discussed in terms of social variables.

Age, Gender and Social Functions of Mobile Communication

Respondents' opinion may be different on social functions of mobile communication according to their age and gender. Their distribution by age and gender is shown in the following table:

Table 6.2
Age, Gender and Social Functions of Mobile Communication
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Type of Social Functions of Mobile Communication	Age Groups						Grand Total		
	18-26 (Early Youth Age)			27-35 (Late Youth Age)					
	M N=74	F N=56	Total N=130	M N=55	F N=66	Total N=121	M N=129	F N=122	Total N=251
Strengthen social bond among people	74 (100)	56 (100)	130 (100)	55 (100)	66 (100)	121 (100)	129 (100)	122 (100)	251 (100)
Increases interaction among people	38 (51.35)	24 (42.85)	62 (47.69)	39 (70.90)	31 (46.96)	70 (57.85)	77 (59.68)	55 (45.08)	132 (52.58)
Brings new relationship among people	35 (47.29)	28 (50.00)	63 (48.46)	24 (43.63)	25 (37.87)	49 (40.49)	59 (45.73)	53 (43.44)	112 (44.62)
Reduces face to face relationship among people	59 (79.72)	52 (92.85)	111 (85.38)	46 (83.63)	48 (72.72)	94 (77.68)	105 (81.39)	100 (81.96)	205 (81.67)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

Data illustrate that all the respondents from both the genders think that mobile communication strengthens social bond among people.

Most of the respondents from both the genders think that mobile communication reduces face to face relationship among people. More males than females think that mobile communication increases interaction and brings new relationship among people.

More respondents from the early youth age (18-26) than the late youth age (27-35) think that it reduces face- to- face relationship. Similarly, more respondents of the early youth age than the late youth ages think that it brings new relationship among people. Over half of the respondents (53.85%) of the late youth age and less than half of the respondents (47.69%) of the early youth age think that mobile communication increases interaction among people.

More females in the early youth age and more males in the late youth ages feel that mobile communication reduces face to face relationship among people. Again, more females in the early youth age and more males in the late youth age think that it brings new relationship among people. More males than the females of both the age groups think that mobile communication increases interaction among people.

Thus, all the respondents in both the age groups feel that mobile communication strengthens social bond among people. Most of the respondents in both the age groups feel that it reduces face to face relationship among people. Over two fifths of the respondents in both the age groups think that it brings new relationship among people. Over two fifths of the respondents in the early youth age and over half of the respondents in the late youth age feel that it increases interaction among people.

Religion, Caste and Social Function of Mobile Communication

People of different castes and religions may vary by their opinion on social functions of mobile communication. The following table presents respondents' opinion on social functions of mobile communication according to their religion and caste.

Table 6.3
Religion, Caste and Social Functions of Mobile Communication
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Type of Social Function of Mobile Communication	Hinduism					Christianity	Grand Total				
	GCs N=58	OBCs N=76	SCs N=69	STs N=46	Total N=298	STs N=2	GCs N=58	OBCs N=76	SCs N=69	STs N=48	Total N=251
Strengthen social bond among people	58 (100)	76 (100)	69 (100)	46 (100)	249 (100)	2 (100)	58 (100)	76 (100)	69 (100)	48 (100)	251 (100)
Increases interaction among people	27 (46.55)	44 (57.89)	35 (50.72)	25 (54.34)	131 (52.61)	1 (50.00)	27 (46.55)	44 (57.89)	35 (50.72)	26 (54.16)	132 (52.58)
Brings new relationship among people	30 (51.72)	37 (48.68)	28 (40.57)	17 (36.95)	111 (44.57)	1 (50.00)	30 (51.72)	37 (48.68)	28 (40.57)	18 (37.5)	112 (44.62)
Reduces face to face relationship among people	47 (81.03)	62 (81.57)	58 (84.05)	36 (78.26)	203 (68.12)	2 (100)	47 (81.03)	62 (81.57)	58 (84.05)	38 (79.16)	205 (81.67)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

The table shows that all the respondents from four the categories of caste think that mobile communication strengthens social bond among people.

The largest number of SC respondents (84.05%) than General caste, OBC, and ST respondents think that mobile communication reduces face- to- face relationship among people. More of General caste respondents than the OBC, SC and ST respondents think that it brings new relationship among people while more OBC respondents than the General caste, SC and ST respondents think that mobile communication increases interaction among people.

All the Christian and the Hindu respondents think that mobile communication strengthens social bond and reduces face- to- face relationships among people. Over two fifths of the Hindu respondents and half of the Christian respondents think that it brings new relationships among people while half of the Christian and over half of the Hindu respondents think that it increases interaction among people.

The largest numbers of Hindu respondents from SC than other categories of castes think that mobile communication reduces face to face relationship among people. More Hindu respondents from General castes than the OBC & SC & STs think that it brings new relationship among people while more OBC respondents than General caste, SC and ST respondents think that mobile communication increases interaction among people.

Thus, all the Hindu and Christian respondents think that mobile communication strengthens social bond among people. The largest numbers of SC respondents think that it reduces face to face relationships among people while more General caste respondents than other categories of caste think that it brings new relationships among people. More OBC respondents than other categories of caste think that it increases interaction among people.

Occupation, Annual Income and Social Function of Mobile Communication

People of different occupations and income groups vary by their opinion on social functions of mobile communication. The following table presents respondents' opinion on social functions of mobile communication according to their occupation and income.

Table 6.4
Occupation, Annual Income and Social Functions of Mobile Communication among BPL Respondents
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Type of Social Function of Mobile Communication	Occupation and Income																				Grand Total									
	Agriculture					Service					Business					Labour					Non-employed					0-2828 N=31	2829-5657 N=47	5658-8486 N=39	8487-11315 N=39	Total N=156
	0-2828 N=5	2829-5657 N=10	5658-8486 N=8	8487-11315 N=6	Total N=29	0-2828 N=3	2829-5657 N=5	5658-8486 N=7	8487-11315 N=8	Total N=23	0-2828 N=5	2829-5657 N=9	5658-8486 N=11	8487-11315 N=12	Total N=37	0-2828 N=6	2829-5657 N=9	5658-8486 N=5	8487-11315 N=7	Total N=27	0-2828 N=12	2829-5657 N=14	5658-8486 N=8	8487-11315 N=6	Total N=40					
Strengthens social bond among people	5 (100)	10 (100)	8 (100)	6 (100)	29 (100)	3 (100)	5 (100)	7 (100)	8 (100)	23 (100)	5 (100)	9 (100)	11 (100)	12 (100)	37 (100)	6 (100)	9 (100)	5 (100)	7 (100)	27 (100)	12 (100)	14 (100)	8 (100)	6 (100)	40 (100)	31 (100)	47 (100)	39 (100)	39 (100)	156 (100)
Increases interaction among people	4 (80.00)	3 (30.00)	4 (50.00)	2 (33.33)	13 (44.82)	2 (66.66)	1 (20.00)	3 (42.85)	4 (50.00)	10 (43.47)	4 (80.00)	5 (55.55)	3 (27.27)	4 (33.33)	16 (43.24)	4 (66.66)	7 (77.77)	4 (80.00)	3 (42.85)	18 (66.66)	8 (66.66)	6 (42.85)	4 (50.00)	2 (33.33)	20 (50.00)	22 (70.96)	22 (46.80)	18 (46.15)	15 (38.46)	77 (49.35)
Brings new relationship among people	3 (60.00)	4 (40.00)	2 (25.00)	2 (33.33)	11 (37.93)	1 (33.33)	2 (40.00)	4 (57.14)	2 (25.00)	9 (39.13)	3 (60.00)	4 (44.44)	4 (36.36)	3 (25.00)	14 (37.83)	5 (83.33)	4 (44.44)	3 (60.00)	3 (42.85)	15 (55.55)	6 (50.00)	7 (50.00)	3 (37.5)	3 (50.00)	19 (47.5)	18 (58.0)	21 (44.68)	16 (41.02)	13 (33.33)	68 (43.58)
Reduces face to face relationship among people	2 (40.00)	8 (80.00)	5 (62.5)	4 (66.66)	19 (65.51)	2 (66.66)	5 (100)	2 (28.57)	4 (50.00)	14 (60.86)	4 (80.00)	5 (55.55)	8 (72.72)	11 (91.66)	28 (75.67)	5 (83.33)	9 (100)	5 (100)	7 (100)	26 (96.29)	11 (91.66)	10 (71.42)	7 (87.5)	5 ()	33 (82.5)	24 (77.41)	39 (82.97)	26 (66.66)	31 (79.48)	120 (76.92)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

The table shows that all the respondents from BPL income groups think that mobile communication strengthens social bond among people.

Among the four BPL income groups the largest (82.97%) number of the respondents in the income group Rs 2829-5657 think that mobile communication reduces face- to- face relationships among people while more respondents in the income group Rs 0-2828-5657 than other three BPL income groups think that it brings new relationships among people. Similarly, among the four BPL income groups the largest number of respondents in the income group Rs 0-2828 think that it increases interaction among people.

Most of the agriculturalists (65.51%) think that mobile communication reduces face to face relationships people followed by over two fifths of the respondents who think that it increases interaction among people. Less than two fifths (37.93%) of the respondents think that it brings new relationship among people.

More businessmen than the service holders feel that mobile communication reduces face- to- face relationship while more service holders than the businessmen feel that it brings new relationship among people. Almost equal number of service holders and businessmen think that it increases interaction among people.

More labourers than the non-employed respondents feel that mobile communication increases interaction, brings new relationship and reduces face- to- face relationship among people.

Thus, all the BPL respondents from all income groups and occupations think that mobile communication strengthens social bond among people. Most of the respondents of all income groups and occupations think that it reduces face- to- face relationship and the lowest of them think that it brings new relationship among people.

Now one may look at the functions of mobile communication by occupation and income of APL respondents in the following table:

Table 6.5
Occupation, Annual Income and Social Functions of Mobile Communication among APL Respondents
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Type of Social Function of Mobile Communication	Occupation and Income																												Grand Total							
	Agriculture						Service					Business					Labour					Non-employed					11316-14144 N=14	14145-16973 N=16	16974-19802 N=24	19803-22631 N=23	22632< N=18	Total N=95				
	11316-14144 N=2	14145-16973 N=3	16974-19802 N=5	19803-22631 N=3	22632< N=4	Total N=17	11316-14144 N=1	14145-16973 N=2	16974-19802 N=4	19803-22631 N=3	22632< N=3	Total N=13	11316-14144 N=2	14145-16973 N=3	16974-19802 N=5	19803-22631 N=6	22632< N=5	Total N=21	11316-14144 N=3	14145-16973 N=3	16974-19802 N=6	19803-22631 N=5	22632< N=3	Total N=20	11316-14144 N=6	14145-16973 N=5							16974-19802 N=4	19803-22631 N=6	22632< N=3	Total N=24
Strengthens & social bond among people	2 (100)	3 (100)	5 (100)	3 (100)	4 (100)	17 (100)	1 (100)	2 (100)	4 (100)	3 (100)	3 (100)	13 (100)	2 (100)	3 (100)	5 (100)	6 (100)	5 (100)	21 (100)	3 (100)	3 (100)	6 (100)	5 (100)	3 (100)	20 (100)	6 (100)	5 (100)	4 (100)	6 (100)	3 (100)	24 (100)	14 (100)	16 (100)	24 (100)	23 (100)	18 (100)	95 (100)
Increases interaction among people	1 (50.00)	1 (33.33)	3 (60.00)	2 (66.66)	3 (75.00)	10 (58.82)	-	-	3 (75)	2 (66.66)	2 (66.66)	7 (53.84)	1 (50.00)	2 (66.66)	3 (60.00)	3 (50)	3 (60)	12 (57.14)	1 (33.33)	1 (33.33)	4 (66.66)	3 (60)	2 (66.66)	11 (55.55)	4 (66.66)	4 (80.00)	3 (75.00)	2 (33.33)	2 (66.66)	15 (62.5)	7 (50)	8 (50)	16 (66.66)	12 (52.17)	12 (66.66)	55 (57.89)
Brings new relationship among people	-	1 (33.33)	1 (20.00)	2 (66.66)	3 (75.00)	7 (41.17)	-	1 (50)	2 (50)	2 (66.66)	1 (33.33)	6 (46.15)	-	1 (33.33)	4 (80.00)	2 (33.33)	3 (60)	10 (47.61)	-	2 (66.66)	4 (66.66)	4 (80)	2 (66.66)	12 (60.00)	3 (50.00)	2 (40.00)	2 (50.00)	2 (33.33)	-	9 (37.5)	3 (21.42)	7 (43.75)	13 (54.16)	12 (52.17)	9 (50)	44 (46.31)
Reduces face to face relationship among people	1 (50.00)	3 (100)	4 (80.00)	3 (100)	4 (100)	16 (94.11)	1 (100)	2 (100)	3 (75)	3 (100)	3 (100)	12 (92.30)	2 (100)	2 (66.66)	4 (80.00)	6 (100)	5 (100)	19 (90.47)	3 (100)	3 (100)	5 (83.33)	4 (80)	3 (100)	18 (90.00)	5 (83.33)	4 (80.00)	3 (75.00)	5 (83.33)	3 (100)	20 (83.33)	12 (85.71)	14 (87.5)	19 (79.16)	22 (95.65)	18 (100)	85 (89.47)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

Data illustrate that all the respondents from five APL income groups feel that mobile communication strengthens social bond among people.

Among the five APL income groups, the highest (965.65%) number of the respondents in the income group Rs 19803-22631 thinks that it reduces face- to- face relationships among people. More respondents (54.16%) in the income group Rs 16974-19802 than other four APL income groups think that mobile communication brings new relationship among people. Equal number of respondents in the income group Rs 16974-19802 and Rs above 22632 thinks that it increases interaction among people.

Most of the APL agriculturalists (94.11%) think that mobile communication reduces face- to- face relationship among people followed by over half (58.82) of the respondents who think that it increases interaction among people. Two fifths (41.17%) of the agriculturalists think that it brings new relationships among people.

More APL service holders than the businessmen think that mobile communication reduces face- to- face relationship among people while more businessmen than the service holders think that it brings new relationship among people. Again, more businessmen than the service holders think that it increases interaction among people.

More APL labourers than the non-employed respondents think that mobile communication bring new relationship and reduces face- to- face relationship while more non-employed respondents than the labourers think that it increases interaction among people.

Thus, all the APL respondents from all income groups and occupations think that mobile communication strengthens social bond among people. Most of the respondents of all income groups and occupations think that it reduces face- to- face relationships and the lowest of them think that it brings new relationship among people.

Education, Gender and Social Functions of Mobile Communication

People of different educational qualifications and genders may vary by their opinion on social functions of mobile communication. Their distribution by social functions of mobile communication is shown in the following table:

Table 6.6
Education, Gender and Social Functions of Mobile Communication
 (Percentage in Parentheses)

Type of Social Function of Mobile Communication	Educational Qualifications																										
	Illiterate			Primary			Middle School			High School			Higher Secondary			Graduation			Post Graduate			M.Phil/Ph.D			Grand Total		
	M N=9	F N=5	Total N=14	M N=21	F N=27	Total N=48	M N=22	F N=23	Total N=45	M N=24	F N=20	Total N=44	M N=26	F N=26	Total N=52	M N=18	F N=17	Total N=35	M N=8	F N=5	Total N=13	M N=1	F N=1	Total N=2	M N=129	F N=122	Total N=251
Strengthen social bond among people	9 (100)	5 (100)	14 (100)	21 (100)	27 (100)	48 (100)	22 (100)	23 (100)	45 (100)	24 (100)	20 (100)	44 (100)	26 (100)	26 (100)	52 (100)	18 (100)	17 (100)	35 (100)	8 (100)	5 (100)	13 (100)	1 (100)	1 (100)	2 (100)	129 (100)	122 (100)	251 (100)
Increases interaction among people	4 (44.44)	3 (60.00)	7 (50.00)	14 (66.66)	11 (40.74)	25 (52.08)	10 (45.45)	14 (60.86)	24 (53.33)	17 (70.83)	8 (40.00)	25 (56.81)	19 (73.07)	12 (46.15)	31 (59.61)	8 (44.44)	6 (35.29)	14 (40.00)	4 (50.00)	1 (20.00)	5 (38.46)	1 (100)	-	1 (50.00)	77 (59.68)	55 (45.08)	132 (52.58)
Brings new relationship among people	2 (22.22)	4 (80.00)	6 (42.85)	12 (57.14)	9 (33.33)	21 (43.75)	15 (68.18)	5 (21.73)	20 (44.44)	16 (66.66)	6 (30.00)	22 (50.00)	11 (42.30)	15 (57.69)	26 (50.00)	4 (22.22)	9 (52.94)	13 (37.14)	1 (12.5)	2 (40.00)	3 (23.07)	-	1 (100)	1 (50.00)	59 (45.73)	53 (43.44)	112 (44.62)
Reduces face to face relationship among people	8 (88.88)	5 (100)	13 (92.85)	20 (95.23)	20 (74.04)	40 (83.33)	20 (90.90)	15 (65.21)	35 (77.77)	17 (70.83)	17 (85.00)	34 (77.27)	20 (76.92)	24 (92.30)	44 (84.61)	15 (83.33)	13 (76.47)	28 (80.00)	7 (87.5)	4 (80.00)	11 (84.61)	-	1 (100)	1 (50.00)	105 (81.39)	100 (81.96)	205 (81.67)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

The table shows that all the males and females of different educational qualifications feel that mobile communication strengthens social bond among people.

Almost equal number of males and females feel that mobile communication reduces face- to- face relationship among people. More males than the females feel that mobile communication increases interaction and brings change among people.

Most of the illiterates (92.85%) feel that mobile communication reduces face-to- face relationship among people followed by half (50%) of the respondents who feel that it increases interaction among people. Over two fifths (42.85%) of the respondents feel that it brings new relationship among people.

More respondents with primary education than middle school education feel that mobile communication reduces face- to- face relationship and brings new relationship among people while more respondents with middle school education feel that it increases interaction among people.

More respondents with higher secondary education than the high school education feel that mobile communication reduces face- to- face relationship among people while equal number of respondents from high school and higher secondary school level feel that it brings new relationship among people. More respondents with higher secondary education than high school education feel that it increases interaction among people.

More post graduate respondents think that mobile communication reduces face-to- face relationships among people while more graduate respondents than the post graduate think that it brings new relationship and increases interaction among people.

Half of each M.Phil/Ph.D respondents think that mobile communication increases interaction, brings new relationship and reduces face- to- face relationship among people.

Thus, (i) all the males and females of different educational qualifications feel that mobile communication strengthens social bond among people; (ii) most of the respondents with different qualifications think that mobile communication reduces face to face relationships among people; (iii) over half of the respondents think that it increases interaction among people; (iv) over two fifths of the respondents think that it brings new relationship among people.

Age, Gender and Health related Functions of Mobile Communication

Respondents' opinion on health related functions of mobile communication may differ in accordance with their age and gender. Hence, the following table describes the respondents' opinion on health related functions of mobile communication:

Table 6.7
Age, Gender and Health related Functions of Mobile Communication
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Health related Function of Mobile Communication	Age Groups						Grand Total		
	18-26 (Early Youth Age)			27-35 (Late Youth Age)					
	M N=76	F N=59	Total N=135	M N=58	F N=68	Total N=126	M N=134	F N=127	Total N=261
It causes brain cancer	76 (100)	59 (100)	135 (100)	58 (100)	68 (100)	126 (100)	134 (100)	127 (100)	261 (100)
It causes salivary gland tumor	43 (56.57)	32 (54.23)	75 (55.55)	39 (67.24)	28 (41.17)	67 (53.17)	82 (61.19)	60 (47.24)	142 (54.40)
It causes vision problem	38 (50.00)	30 (50.84)	68 (50.37)	26 (44.82)	28 (41.17)	54 (42.85)	64 (47.76)	58 (45.66)	122 (46.74)
Easy contact with doctors	61 (80.26)	55 (93.22)	116 (85.92)	49 (84.48)	50 (73.52)	99 (78.57)	110 (82.08)	105 (82.67)	215 (82.37)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

The table shows that all the respondents from both the genders think that mobile communication causes brain cancer. Almost equal number of the respondents from both the genders thinks that mobile communication makes easy contact with doctors. More males than the females think that it causes salivary gland tumour and vision problem.

More respondents in the early youth age (18-26) than the late youth age (27-35) think that mobile communication causes brain cancer and salivary gland tumour, and makes easy contact with doctors.

More females in the early youth age and more males in the late youth age think that it helps in easy contact with doctors. Again, more females in the early youth age and more males in the late youth age think that mobile communication causes vision problem. More males than the females in both the age groups think that it causes salivary gland tumour.

Thus, (i) all the respondents in both the age groups think that mobile communication causes brain cancer; (ii) most of the respondents in both the age groups feel that it helps in easy contact with doctors; (iii) over two fifths of the respondents in both the age groups feel that it causes vision problem; (iv) over half of the respondents in both the age groups feel that it causes salivary gland tumour.

Religion, Caste and Health related Functions of Mobile Communication

People of various caste and religion differ in term of the mobile communication effects on human health. The following table shows respondents' opinion of various castes and religions on the health related functions of mobile communication:

Table 6.8
Religion, Caste and Health related Functions of Mobile Communication
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Health related Function of Mobile Communication	Hinduism					Christianity	Grand Total				
	GCs N=61	OBCs N=79	SCs N=72	STs N=47	Total N=259	STs N=2	GCs N=61	OBCs N=79	SCs N=72	STs N=49	Total N=261
It causes brain cancer	61 (100)	79 (100)	72 (100)	47 (100)	259 (100)	2 (100)	61 (100)	79 (100)	72 (100)	49 (100)	261 (100)
It causes salivary gland tumor	33 (54.09)	47 (59.49)	38 (52.77)	23 (48.93)	141 (54.44)	1 (50.00)	33 (54.09)	47 (59.49)	38 (52.77)	24 (48.97)	142 (54.40)
It causes vision problem	30 (49.18)	40 (50.63)	31 (43.05)	20 (42.55)	121 (46.71)	1 (50.00)	30 (49.18)	40 (50.63)	31 (43.05)	21 (42.85)	122 (46.74)
Easy contact with doctors	50 (81.96)	65 (82.27)	61 (84.72)	37 (78.72)	213 (82.23)	2 (100)	50 (81.96)	65 (82.27)	61 (84.72)	39 (79.59)	215 (82.37)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

Data illustrate that all the respondents from four categories of caste think that mobile communication causes brain cancer.

The largest number of SC respondents (84.72%) than General caste, OBC and ST respondents think that mobile communication helps in easy contact with doctors. More OBC respondents than the General caste, SC and ST respondents think that it causes vision problem and salivary gland tumour.

All the Hindu and Christian respondents think that mobile communication causes brain cancer and helps in easy contact with doctors. Over half of the Hindu respondents (54.44%) and half of the Christian respondents (50%) think that it causes salivary gland tumour while half of the Christian respondents (50%) and over two fifths of the Hindu respondents (46.71%) think that it causes vision problem.

The largest number of Hindu respondents from SC than other categories of caste feel that mobile communication helps in easy contact with doctors. More Hindu respondents from OBC category than other categories of caste feel that mobile communication causes salivary gland tumour and vision problem.

Thus, all the Hindu and Christian respondents think that mobile communication causes brain cancer and helps in easy contact with doctors. More SC respondents than other categories of castes think that mobile communication helps in easy contact with doctors while more OBC respondents in comparison of other categories of castes think that it causes salivary gland tumour and vision problem.

Occupation, Annual Income and Health related Functions of Mobile Communication

People in society are found with different incomes and occupations which bring variation in opinion on health related functions of mobile communication. The following table presents health related functions of mobile communication:

Table 6.9
Occupation, Annual Income and Health related Functions of Mobile Communication among BPL Respondents
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Health related Function of Mobile Communication	Occupation and Income														Grand Total															
	Agriculture				Service				Business				Labour				Non-employed													
	0-2828 N=6	2829-5657 N=10	5658-8486 N=8	8487-11315 N=6	Total N=30	0-2828 N=3	2829-5657 N=6	5658-8486 N=7	8487-11315 N=8	Total N=24	0-2828 N=5	2829-5657 N=9	5658-8486 N=12	8487-11315 N=12	Total N=38	0-2828 N=6	2829-5657 N=9	5658-8486 N=5	8487-11315 N=8	Total N=28	0-2828 N=12	2829-5657 N=14	5658-8486 N=8	8487-11315 N=6	Total N=41	0-2828 N=32	2829-5657 N=48	5658-8486 N=40	8487-11315 N=41	Total N=161
It causes brain cancer	6 (100)	10 (100)	8 (100)	6 (100)	30 (100)	3 (100)	6 (100)	7 (100)	8 (100)	24 (100)	5 (100)	9 (100)	12 (100)	12 (100)	38 (100)	6 (100)	9 (100)	5 (100)	8 (100)	28 (100)	12 (100)	14 (100)	8 (100)	6 (100)	41 (100)	32 (100)	48 (100)	40 (100)	41 (100)	161 (100)
It causes salivary gland tumor	5 (83.33)	3 (30.00)	4 (50.00)	2 (33.33)	14 (46.66)	2 (66.66)	2 (33.33)	3 (42.85)	4 (50.00)	11 (45.83)	4 (80.00)	5 (55.55)	4 (33.33)	4 (33.33)	17 (44.73)	4 (66.66)	7 (77.77)	4 (80.00)	4 (50.00)	19 (67.85)	8 (66.66)	6 (42.85)	4 (50.00)	2 (33.33)	23 (56.09)	23 (71.87)	23 (47.91)	19 (47.5)	17 (41.46)	82 (50.93)
It causes vision problem	4 (66.66)	4 (40.00)	2 (25.00)	2 (33.33)	12 (40.00)	1 (33.33)	3 (50.00)	4 (57.14)	2 (25.00)	10 (41.66)	3 (60.00)	4 (44.44)	5 (41.66)	3 (25.00)	15 (39.47)	5 (83.33)	4 (44.44)	3 (60.00)	4 (50.00)	16 (57.14)	6 (50.00)	7 (50.00)	3 (37.5)	3 (50.00)	22 (53.65)	19 (59.37)	22 (45.83)	17 (42.5)	15 (36.58)	73 (45.34)
Easy contact with doctor	3 (50.00)	8 (80.00)	5 (62.5)	4 (66.66)	19 (63.33)	2 (66.66)	6 (100)	2 (28.57)	4 (50.00)	14 (58.33)	5 (100)	5 (55.55)	9 (75.00)	11 (91.66)	29 (76.31)	5 (83.33)	9 (100)	5 (100)	7 (87.5)	26 (92.85)	11 (91.66)	10 (71.42)	7 (87.5)	6 (100)	33 (80.48)	25 (78.12)	40 (83.33)	27 (67.5)	33 (80.48)	125 (77.63)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

The table shows that all the respondents from BPL income groups feel that mobile communication causes brain cancer.

Among the four BPL income groups, the largest number of respondents the income group Rs 2829-5657 think that mobile communication helps in easy contact with doctors while the largest number of the respondents in the income group Rs 0-2828 think that it causes brain cancer and salivary gland tumour.

Over three fifths (63.23%) of the BPL agriculturalists think that mobile communication helps in easy contact with doctors followed by over two fifths of the respondents who think that it causes salivary gland tumour. Two fifths (40%) of the agriculturalists think that it causes vision problem.

More businessmen than the service holders feel that mobile communication helps in easy contact with doctors while more service holders than the businessmen think that mobile communication causes salivary gland tumour and vision problem.

More labourers than the non-employed respondents think that mobile communication causes salivary gland tumour and vision problem and it helps in easy contact with doctors.

Thus, all the BPL respondents from all income groups and occupations think that mobile communication causes brain cancer. Most of the respondents of all income groups and occupations think that it helps in easy contact with doctors and the least of them think that it causes vision problem.

Now, one may see the health functions of mobile communication among APL respondents presented in the following table:

Table 6.10
Occupation, Annual Income and Health related Functions of Mobile Communication among APL Respondents
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Health related Functions of Mobile Communication	Income and Occupation																				Grand Total															
	Agriculture					Service					Business					Labour					Non-employed					11316-14144 N=15	14145-16973 N=17	16974-19802 N=25	19803-22631 N=24	22632< N=19	Total N=100					
	11316-14144 N=3	14145-16973 N=3	16974-19802 N=5	19803-22631 N=3	22632< N=4	Total N=18	11316-14144 N=1	14145-16973 N=3	16974-19802 N=4	19803-22631 N=3	22632< N=3	Total N=14	11316-14144 N=2	14145-16973 N=3	16974-19802 N=6	19803-22631 N=6	22632< N=5	Total N=22	11316-14144 N=3	14145-16973 N=3	16974-19802 N=6	19803-22631 N=6	22632< N=3	Total N=21	11316-14144 N=6							14145-16973 N=5	16974-19802 N=4	19803-22631 N=6	22632< N=4	Total N=25
It causes brain cancer	3 (100)	3 (100)	5 (100)	3 (100)	4 (100)	18 (100)	1 (100)	3 (100)	4 (100)	3 (100)	3 (100)	14 (100)	2 (100)	3 (100)	6 (100)	6 (100)	5 (100)	22 (100)	3 (100)	3 (100)	6 (100)	6 (100)	3 (100)	21 (100)	6 (100)	5 (100)	4 (100)	6 (100)	4 (100)	25 (100)	15 (100)	17 (100)	25 (100)	24 (100)	19 (100)	100 (100)
It causes salivary gland tumor	2 (66.66)	1 (66.66)	3 (60)	2 (66.66)	3 (75.00)	11 (61.11)	-	1 (33.33)	3 (75)	2 (66.66)	2 (66.66)	8 (57.14)	1 (50)	2 (66.66)	4 (66.66)	3 (50)	3 (60)	13 (59.09)	1 (33.33)	1 (33.33)	4 (66.66)	4 (66.66)	2 (66.66)	12 (57.14)	4 (66.66)	4 (80)	3 (75)	3 (75)	16 (64)	8 (53.33)	9 (52.94)	17 (68)	13 (54.16)	13 (68.42)	60 (60.00)	
It causes vision problem	1 (33.33)	1 (33.33)	1 (20)	2 (66.66)	3 (75.00)	8 (44.44)	-	2 (66.66)	2 (50)	2 (66.66)	1 (33.33)	7 (50.00)	-	1 (33.33)	5 (83.33)	2 (33.33)	3 (60)	11 (50.00)	-	2 (66.66)	4 (66.66)	5 (83.33)	3 (100)	13 (61.90)	3 (50)	2 (40)	2 (50)	2 (33.33)	-	10 (40)	4 (26.66)	8 (47.05)	14 (56)	13 (54.16)	10 (52.63)	49 (49.00)
Easy contact with doctor	2 (66.66)	3 (100)	4 (80)	3 (100)	4 (100)	17 (94.44)	1 (100)	3 (100)	3 (75)	3 (100)	13 (92.85)	2 (100)	2 (66.66)	5 (83.33)	6 (100)	5 (100)	20 (90.90)	3 (100)	3 (100)	5 (83.33)	3 (100)	19 (90.47)	5 (83.33)	4 (80)	3 (75)	5 (83.33)	3 (75)	21 (84)	13 (86.66)	15 (88.23)	20 (80)	23 (95.83)	19 (100)	90 (90.00)		

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

The table shows that all the respondents from APL income groups think that mobile communication causes brain cancer.

All the respondents in the income group of above Rs 22632 think that mobile communication helps in easy contact with doctors.

More respondents in the income group Rs 16974-19802 than other four APL income groups think that mobile communication causes vision problem while almost equal number of respondents in the income groups Rs 16974-19802 and Rs above 22632 think that it causes salivary gland tumour.

Most of the agriculturists (94.44%) think that mobile communication helps in easy contact with doctors followed by three fifths (61.11%) who think that it causes salivary gland tumour. Over two fifths of the agriculturists think that mobile communication causes vision problem.

More service holders than the businessmen think that mobile communication helps in easy contact with doctors. Equal numbers of service holders and businessmen think that mobile communication causes vision problem. More businessmen than the service holders think that mobile communication causes salivary gland tumour.

More labourers than the non-employed respondents think that mobile communication causes vision problem and it helps in easy contact with doctors while more non-employed respondents than the labourers think that mobile communication causes salivary gland tumour.

Thus, all the APL respondents from all income groups and occupations think that mobile communication causes brain cancer. Most of the APL respondents of all income groups and occupations think that it helps in easy contact with doctors and the least of them think that it causes vision problem.

Education, Gender and Health related Functions of Mobile Phone

Educational qualifications and genders also cause variation in opinion of respondents on health related functions of mobile communication. The following table shows the health related functions of mobile phone among the respondents by educational qualification:

Table 6.11
Education, Gender and Health related Functions of Mobile Communication
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Health related Function of Mobile Communication	Educational Qualifications																										
	Illiterate			Primary			Middle School			High School			Higher Secondary			Graduation			Post Graduate			M.Phil/Ph.D			Grand Total		
	M N=10	F N=6	Total N=16	M N=22	F N=27	Total N=49	M N=23	F N=24	Total N=47	M N=25	F N=21	Total N=46	M N=27	F N=26	Total N=53	M N=18	F N=18	Total N=36	M N=8	F N=5	Total N=13	M N=1	F N=1	Total N=2	M N=134	F N=127	Total N=261
It causes brain cancer	10 (100)	6 (100)	16 (100)	22 (100)	27 (100)	49 (100)	23 (100)	24 (100)	47 (100)	25 (100)	21 (100)	46 (100)	27 (100)	26 (100)	53 (100)	18 (100)	18 (100)	36 (100)	8 (100)	5 (100)	13 (100)	1 (100)	1 (100)	2 (100)	134 (100)	127 (100)	261 (100)
It causes salivary gland tumor	5 (50.00)	4 (66.66)	9 (56.25)	15 (68.18)	12 (44.44)	27 (55.10)	11 (47.82)	15 (62.5)	26 (55.31)	18 (72.00)	9 (42.85)	27 (58.69)	20 (74.07)	12 (46.15)	32 (60.3)	8 (44.44)	7 (38.88)	15 (41.66)	4 (50.00)	1 (20.00)	5 (38.46)	1 (100)	-	1 (50.00)	82 (61.19)	60 (47.24)	142 (54.40)
It causes vision problem	3 (30.00)	5 (83.33)	8 (50.00)	13 (59.09)	10 (37.03)	23 (46.93)	16 (69.56)	6 (25.00)	22 (46.80)	17 (68.00)	7 (33.33)	24 (52.17)	12 (44.44)	15 (57.69)	27 (50.94)	5 (27.77)	9 (50.00)	14 (38.88)	1 (12.5)	2 (40.00)	3 (23.07)	-	1 (100)	1 (50.00)	64 (47.76)	58 (45.66)	122 (46.74)
Easy contact with doctor	9 (90.00)	6 (100)	15 (93.75)	21 (95.45)	21 (77.77)	42 (85.71)	21 (91.30)	16 (66.66)	37 (78.72)	18 (72.00)	18 (85.71)	36 (78.26)	21 (77.77)	24 (92.30)	45 (84.90)	15 (83.33)	14 (77.77)	29 (80.55)	7 (87.5)	4 (80.00)	11 (84.61)	-	1 (100)	1 (50.00)	110 (82.08)	105 (82.67)	215 (82.37)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

The table shows that all the males and females of different educational qualifications feel that mobile communication causes brain cancer.

Almost equal numbers of respondents from both the genders feel that mobile communication helps in easy contact with doctors while more males than the females think that it causes salivary gland tumour and vision problem.

Most of the illiterates (93.75%) think that mobile communication helps in easy contact with doctors followed by over half (56.25%) of the respondents who think that it causes salivary gland tumour. Half (50%) of the illiterates think that it causes vision problem.

More respondents (85.71%) with primary education than middle school education think that mobile communication helps in easy contact with doctors. Equal number of respondents with primary and middle school education think that mobile communication causes vision problem. More respondents with primary education than middle school education think that it causes salivary gland tumour.

More respondents with higher secondary education think that mobile communication helps in easy contact with doctors. Almost equal number of respondents with high school and higher secondary school education think that it causes vision problem while more respondents with higher secondary school education than with high school education think that it causes salivary gland tumour.

More post graduate respondents than the graduate respondents feel that it helps in easy contact with doctors while more graduate respondents than the post graduate respondents think that it causes vision problem and salivary gland tumour. Half of M.Phil/Ph.D respondents each feel that mobile communication causes salivary gland tumour, vision problem and helps in easy contact with doctors.

Thus, all the males and females with different educational qualifications think that mobile communication causes brain cancer. Most of the respondents with different educational qualifications think that it helps in easy contact with doctors while the lowest of them think that it causes vision problem.

Age, Gender and Type of Entertainment Functions of Mobile Communication

Respondents opinion about entertainment functions of mobile communication may be different according to their age and gender. The following table shows the respondents' opinion on entertainment functions of mobile communication:

Table 6.12
Age, Gender and Entertainment Functions of Mobile Communication
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Type of Entertainment Function of Mobile Communication	Age Groups						Grand Total		
	18-26 (Early Youth Age)			27-35 (Late Youth Age)					
	M N=89	F N=67	Total N=156	M N=49	F N=64	Total N=113	M N=138	F N=131	Total N=269
Encourages gossiping habit among people	89 (100)	67 (100)	156 (100)	49 (100)	64 (100)	113 (100)	138 (100)	131 (100)	269 (100)
Encourages fun-making habit among people	74 (83.14)	59 (88.05)	133 (85.25)	46 (93.87)	55 (85.93)	101 (89.38)	120 (86.95)	114 (87.02)	234 (86.98)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

Data illustrate that all the respondents from both the genders think that mobile communication encourages gossiping habit among people.

Almost equal number of males and females think that mobile communication encourages fun-making habit among people.

More respondents from late youth age than the early youth age think that mobile communication encourages fun-making habit among people. More females of the early youth age and more males of the late youth age think that it encourages fun-making habit among people.

Thus, all the males and females from both the age groups think that mobile communication encourages gossiping habit among people. More respondents of the late youth age than the early youth age think that it encourages fun-making habit among people.

Religion, Caste and Entertainment Functions of Mobile Communication

Different persons of different religions and castes differ about the entertainment functions of mobile communication. So, respondents' opinion on entertainment functions of mobile communication is shown according to their religion and caste in the following table:

Table 6.13
Religion, Caste and Entertainment Functions of Mobile Communication
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Type of Entertainment Function of Mobile Communication	Hinduism					Christianity	Grand Total				
	GCs N=60	OBCs N=81	SCs N=71	STs N=55	Total N=267	STs N=2	GCs N=60	OBCs N=81	SCs N=71	STs N=57	Total N=269
Encourages gossiping habit among people	60 (100)	81 (100)	71 (100)	55 (100)	267 (100)	2 (100)	60 (100)	81 (100)	71 (100)	57 (100)	269 (100)
Encourages fun-making habit among people	53 (88.33)	71 (87.65)	64 (90.14)	45 (81.81)	233 (87.26)	1 (50.00)	53 (88.33)	71 (87.65)	64 (90.14)	46 (80.70)	234 (86.98)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

The table shows that all the respondents from four categories of castes feel that mobile communication encourages gossiping habit among people.

The highest (90.14%) numbers of SC respondents than the General caste, OBC and ST respondents feel that mobile communication encourages fun-making habit among people.

All the Hindu and Christian respondents feel that mobile communication encourages gossiping habit among people while more Hindu respondents (87.26%) than the Christian (50%) respondents feel that it encourages fun-making habit among people.

More Hindu respondents (90.14%) from SC category than the respondents of other three caste categories think that mobile communication encourages fun-making habit among people.

Thus, all the respondents from four categories of caste think that mobile communication encourages gossiping habit among people while the highest number of the SC respondents than General caste, OBC and ST think that mobile communication encourages fun-making habit among people.

Occupation, Annual Income and Entertainment Functions of Mobile Communication

In society people are found with different occupations and incomes. Their attitudes may be different according to their occupation and income. The following table shows the respondents' opinion by occupation and income in case of entertainment functions of mobile communication:

Table 6.14
Occupation, Annual Income and Entertainment Functions of Mobile Communication among BPL Respondents
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Type of Entertainment Function of Mobile Communication	Occupation and Income														Grand Total															
	Agriculture				Service				Business				Labour				Non-employed													
	0-2828 N=12	2829-5657 N=10	5658-8486 N=6	8487-11315 N=7	Total N=35	0-2828 N=3	2829-5657 N=4	5658-8486 N=4	8487-11315 N=3	Total N=14	0-2828 N=8	2829-5657 N=12	5658-8486 N=14	8487-11315 N=9	Total N=43	0-2828 N=10	2829-5657 N=12	5658-8486 N=6	8487-11315 N=4	Total N=32	0-2828 N=16	2829-5657 N=12	5658-8486 N=8	8487-11315 N=7	Total N=43	0-2828 N=49	2829-5657 N=50	5658-8486 N=38	8487-11315 N=30	Total N=167
Encourages gossiping habit among people	12 (100)	10 (100)	6 (100)	7 (100)	35 (100)	3 (100)	4 (100)	4 (100)	3 (100)	14 (100)	8 (100)	12 (100)	14 (100)	9 (100)	43 (100)	10 (100)	12 (100)	6 (100)	4 (100)	32 (100)	16 (100)	12 (100)	8 (100)	7 (100)	43 (100)	49 (100)	50 (100)	38 (100)	30 (100)	167 (100)
Encourages fun-making habit among people	11 (91.66)	9 (90.00)	6 (100)	7 (100)	33 (94.28)	2 (66.66)	2 (50)	3 (75.00)	3 (100)	10 (71.42)	7 (87.5)	11 (91.66)	12 (85.71)	8 (88.88)	38 (88.37)	9 (90.00)	11 (91.66)	5 (83.33)	4 (100)	29 (90.62)	15 (93.75)	11 (91.66)	7 (87.5)	7 (100)	40 (93.02)	44 (89.79)	44 (88.00)	33 (86.84)	29 (96.66)	150 (89.82)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

The table shows that all the respondents from BPL income groups think that mobile communication encourages gossiping habit among people.

Among four BPL income groups the highest numbers (96.66%) of respondents in the income group Rs 8487-11315 than other income groups think that mobile communication encourages fun-making habit among people.

The highest (94.28%) numbers of agriculturalists in comparison of service holders, businessmen, labourers and non-employed respondents think that mobile communication encourages fun-making habit among people.

Thus, all the BPL respondents from all income groups and occupations think that mobile communication encourages gossiping habit among people. The highest numbers of agriculturalists than the service holders, businessmen, labourers and non-employed respondents think that it encourages fun-making habit among people.

Now, one may see the entertainment functions of mobile communication among APL respondents in the following table:

Table 6.15
Occupation, Annual Income and Entertainment Functions of Mobile Communication among APL Respondents
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Type of Entertainment Function of Mobile Communication	Occupation and Income																								Grand Total											
	Agriculture						Service					Business					Labour				Non-employed															
	11316-14144 N=2	14145-16973 N=3	16974-19802 N=6	19803-22631 N=6	22632< N=5	Total N=22	11316-14144 N=1	14145-16973 N=2	16974-19802 N=3	19803-22631 N=2	22632< N=3	Total N=11	11316-14144 N=4	14145-16973 N=8	16974-19802 N=7	19803-22631 N=5	22632< N=6	Total N=30	11316-14144 N=5	14145-16973 N=5	16974-19802 N=2	19803-22631 N=4	22632< N=2	Total N=18	11316-14144 N=5	14145-16973 N=6	16974-19802 N=5	19803-22631 N=3	22632< N=2	Total N=21	11316-14144 N=17	14145-16973 N=24	16974-19802 N=23	19803-22631 N=20	22632< N=18	Total N=102
Encourages gossiping habit among people	2 (100)	3 (100)	6 (100)	6 (100)	5 (100)	22 (100)	1 (100)	2 (100)	3 (100)	2 (100)	3 (100)	11 (100)	4 (100)	8 (100)	7 (100)	5 (100)	6 (100)	30 (100)	5 (100)	5 (100)	2 (100)	4 (100)	2 (100)	18 (100)	5 (100)	6 (100)	5 (100)	3 (100)	2 (100)	21 (100)	17 (100)	24 (100)	23 (100)	20 (100)	18 (100)	102 (100)
Encourages fun-making habit among people	1 (50.00)	3 (100)	5 (83.33)	5 (83.33)	5 (100)	19 (86.36)	-	2 (100)	2 (66.66)	-	2 (66.66)	6 (54.54)	3 (75)	7 (87.5)	6 (85.71)	4 (80)	5 (83.33)	25 (83.33)	4 (80)	4 (80)	2 (100)	3 (75)	2 (100)	15 (83.33)	4 (80)	6 (100)	5 (100)	2 (66.66)	2 (100)	19 (90.47)	12 (70.58)	22 (91.66)	20 (86.95)	14 (70.00)	16 (88.88)	84 (82.35)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

The table shows that all the respondents from APL income groups feel that mobile communication encourages gossiping habit among people.

Among the four APL income groups the highest number (91.66%) of the respondents in the income group Rs 14145-16973 than other income groups think that mobile communication encourages fun-making habit among people.

The highest number (90.47%) of non-employed respondents in comparison of agriculturalists, service holders, businessmen and labourers think that mobile communication encourages fun-making habit among people.

Thus, all the APL respondents from all income groups and occupations think that mobile communication encourages gossiping habit among people. The highest numbers of non-employed respondents and the least of service holders think that mobile communication encourages fun-making habit among people.

Education, Gender and Entertainment Functions of Mobile Communication

People of different educational qualifications and genders have difference of opinion on entertainment functions of mobile communication. The following table presents how the education and genders make variations in entertainment functions of mobile-communication:

Table 6.16
Education, Gender and Entertainment Functions of Mobile Communication
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Type of Entertainment Function of Mobile Communication	Educational Qualifications																										
	Illiterate			Primary			Middle School			High School			Higher Secondary			Graduation			Post Graduate			M.Phil/Ph.D			Grand Total		
	M N=7	F N=5	Total N=12	M N=26	F N=28	Total N=54	M N=23	F N=27	Total N=50	M N=22	F N=23	Total N=45	M N=28	F N=29	Total N=57	M N=20	F N=17	Total N=37	M N=7	F N=5	Total N=12	M N=1	F N=1	Total N=2	M N=138	F N=131	Total N=269
Encourages gossiping habit among people	7 (100)	5 (100)	12 (100)	26 (100)	28 (100)	54 (100)	23 (100)	27 (100)	50 (100)	22 (100)	23 (100)	45 (100)	28 (100)	29 (100)	57 (100)	20 (100)	17 (100)	37 (100)	7 (100)	5 (100)	12 (100)	1 (100)	1 (100)	2 (100)	138 (100)	131 (100)	269 (100)
Encourages fun-making habit among people	5 (71.42)	4 (80.00)	9 (75.00)	24 (92.30)	24 (85.71)	48 (88.88)	23 (100)	21 (77.77)	44 (88.88)	19 (86.36)	21 (91.30)	40 (88.88)	27 (96.42)	24 (82.75)	51 (89.47)	17 (85.00)	15 (88.23)	32 (86.48)	5 (71.42)	4 (80.00)	9 (75.00)	-	1 (100)	1 (50.00)	120 (86.95)	114 (87.02)	234 (86.98)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

Data illustrate that all the respondents from both the genders think that mobile communication encourages gossiping habit among people.

More females than the males think that mobile communication encourages fun-making habit among people.

The highest number of the respondents (89.47%) with higher secondary school education than illiterates and those with primary education, middle school, high school, graduation, post graduation and M.Phil/Ph.D level education think that mobile communication encourages fun-making habit among people.

Thus, all the males and the females with different educational qualifications think that mobile communication encourages gossiping habit among people. The highest numbers of the respondents with higher secondary education than the illiterates and those with primary education, middle school, high school, graduation, post graduation and M.Phil/Ph.D level education think that mobile communication encourages fun-making habit among people.

Age, Gender and Attitude related Functions of Mobile Communication

Respondents' opinion on the functions of mobile communication in changing attitude of youths may be different in accordance with their age and gender. Hence, the following table describes the respondents' opinion how the mobile communication affects the attitudes of the youth:

Table 6.17
Age, Gender and Attitude related Functions of Mobile Communication
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Function of Mobile Communication in attitudes of the Youth	Age Groups						Grand Total		
	18-26 (Early Youth Age)			27-35 (Late Youth Age)					
	M N=91	F N=59	Total N=150	M N=72	F N=53	Total N=125	M N=163	F N=112	Total N=275
It encourages the habit of mobile talk and decreases the habit of face to face talk	91 (100)	59 (100)	150 (100)	72 (100)	53 (100)	125 (100)	163 (100)	112 (100)	275 (100)
It decreases reading habit	8 (8.79)	5 (8.47)	13 (8.66)	7 (9.72)	5 (9.43)	12 (9.6)	15 (9.20)	10 (8.92)	25 (9.09)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

The table shows that all the respondents of both the genders and age groups think that mobile communication encourages the habit of mobile talk and decreases the habit of face to face talk while a few respondents of both the genders and age group think that it decreases reading habit.

Religion, Caste and Attitude related Functions of Mobile Communication

Youth of various castes and religions have different opinion about how the mobile communication affects their attitudes. The following table presents the attitude related functions of mobile communication:

Table 6.18
 Religion, Caste and Attitude related Functions of Mobile Communication
 (Percentage in Parentheses)

Function of Mobile communication in attitudes of the Youth	Hinduism					Christianity	Grand Total				
	GCs N=64	OBCs N=82	SCs N=74	STs N=53	Total N=273	STs N=2	GCs N=64	OBCs N=82	SCs N=74	STs N=55	Total N=275
It encourages the habit of mobile talk and decreases the habit of face to face talk	64 (100)	82 (100)	74 (100)	53 (100)	273 (100)	2 (100)	64 (100)	82 (100)	74 (100)	55 (100)	275 (100)
It decreases reading habit	4 (6.25)	6 (7.31)	9 (12.16)	6 (11.32)	25 (9.15)	-	4 (6.25)	6 (7.31)	9 (12.16)	6 (10.90)	25 (9.09)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

Data illustrate that all the Hindu respondents belonging to General Castes, OBCs, SCs and STs and all the Christian respondents belonging to STs think that mobile communication encourages the habit of mobile talk and decreases the habit of face- to- face talk while a few Hindu respondents belonging to General Castes, OBCs, SCs and STs think that it decreases reading habit. No Christian respondent thinks that mobile phone decreases reading habit.

Thus, all the respondents from four categories of castes think that mobile communication encourages the habit of mobile talk and decreases the habit of face- to- face talk and the least of them think that it decreases reading habit.

Occupation, Annual Income and Attitude related Functions of Mobile Communication

Youth of different occupations and incomes differ in attitude towards mobile phone. The following table presents respondents opinion about how mobile phone affects their attitudes:

Table 6.19
Occupation, Annual Income and Attitude related Functions of Mobile Communication among BPL Respondents
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Functions of Mobile related to attitudes	Occupation and Income																				Grand Total									
	Agriculture					Service					Business					Labour					Non-employed					0-2828 N=50	2829-5657 N=66	5658-8486 N=44	8487-11315 N=23	Total N=183
	0-2828 N=11	2829-5657 N=9	5658-8486 N=5	8487-11315 N=3	Total N=28	0-2828 N=1	2829-5657 N=4	5658-8486 N=4	8487-11315 N=3	Total N=12	0-2828 N=7	2829-5657 N=13	5658-8486 N=14	8487-11315 N=7	Total N=41	0-2828 N=8	2829-5657 N=10	5658-8486 N=8	8487-11315 N=3	Total N=29	0-2828 N=23	2829-5657 N=30	5658-8486 N=13	8487-11315 N=7	Total N=73					
It encourages the habit of mobile talk and decreases the habit of face to face talk	11 (100)	9 (100)	5 (100)	3 (100)	28 (100)	1 (100)	4 (100)	4 (100)	3 (100)	12 (100)	7 (100)	13 (100)	14 (100)	7 (100)	41 (100)	8 (100)	10 (100)	8 (100)	3 (100)	29 (100)	23 (100)	30 (100)	13 (100)	7 (100)	73 (100)	50 (100)	66 (100)	44 (100)	23 (100)	183 (100)
It decreases reading habit	1 (9.09)	-	2 (40.00)	1 (33.33)	4 (14.28)	-	-	1 (25.00)	-	1 (8.33)	-	-	1 (7.14)	2 (28.57)	3 (7.31)	-	-	-	2 (66.66)	2 (6.89)	3 (13.04)	2 (6.66)	-	1 (14.28)	6 (8.21)	4 (8.00)	2 (3.03)	4 (9.09)	6 (26.08)	16 (8.74)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

The table shows that all the respondents from four BPL income groups think that mobile communication encourages the habit of mobile talk and decreases the habit of face- to- face talk. A few of them think that mobile communication decreases reading habit.

All the BPL agriculturalists, service holders, businessmen, labourers and non-employed respondents think that mobile communication encourages the habit of mobile talk and decreases the habit of face- to- face talk. A few of them think that it decreases reading habit.

Thus, all the BPL respondents from different income groups and occupations think that mobile communication encourages the habit of mobile talk and decreases the habit of face- to- face talk while a few of them think that it decreases reading habit.

The table shows that all the respondents from five APL income groups feel that mobile communication encourages the habit of mobile talk and decreases the habit of face- to- face talk. A few of them feel that mobile communication decreases reading habit.

All the APL agriculturalists, service holders, businessmen, labourers and non-employed respondents feel that mobile communication encourages the habit of mobile talk and decreases the habit of face- to- face talk. A few of them feel that it decreases reading habit.

Thus, all the APL respondents from different income groups and occupations feel that mobile communication encourages the habit of mobile talk and decreases the habit of face- to- face talk while a few of them feel that it decreases reading habit.

Education, Gender and Attitude related Functions of Mobile Communication

Mobile communication play vital role in changing attitudes of the youth. People of different education and genders may have difference of the change in this matter. The following table shows the attitude related functions of mobile communication:

Table 6.21
Education, Gender and Attitude related Functions of Mobile Communication
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Functions of Mobile Communication related to attitudes	Educational Qualifications																										
	Illiterate			Primary			Middle School			High School			Higher Secondary			Graduation			Post Graduate			M.Phil/Ph.D			Grand Total		
	M N=6	F N=6	Total N=12	M N=31	F N=23	Total N=54	M N=31	F N= 17	Total N=48	M N=28	F N=19	Total N=47	M N=42	F N=21	Total N=63	M N=20	F N=17	Total N=37	M N=5	F N=7	Total N=12	M N=1	F N=1	Total N=2	M N=16 4	F N=11 1	Total N=27 5
It encourages the habit of mobile talk and decreases the habit of face to face talk	6 (100)	6 (100)	12 (100)	31 (100)	23 (100)	54 (100)	31 (100)	17 (100)	48 (100)	28 (100)	19 (100)	47 (100)	42 (100)	21 (100)	63 (100)	20 (100)	17 (100)	37 (100)	5 (100)	7 (100)	12 (100)	1 (100)	1 (100)	2 (100)	164 (100)	111 (100)	275 (100)
It decreases reading habit	1 (16.66)	2 (33.33)	3 (25.00)	2 (6.45)	2 (8.69)	4 (7.40)	3 (9.67)	2 (11.76)	5 (10.41)	2 (7.14)	1 (5.26)	3 (6.38)	3 (7.14)	2 (9.52)	5 (7.93)	2 (10.00)	1 (5.88)	3 (8.10)	1 (20.00)	1 (14.28)	2 (16.66)	-	-	-	14 (8.53)	11 (9.90)	25 (9.09)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

Data illustrate that all the males and females with different educational qualifications think that mobile communication encourages the habit of mobile talk and decreases the habit of face- to- face talk. A few respondents in both the genders think that it decreases reading habit.

The respondents of all educational qualifications think that mobile phone encourages the habit of mobile talk and decreases the habit of face- to- face talk while a few of them think that it decreases reading habit.

Thus, all the respondents with different educational qualifications feel that mobile communication encourages the habit of mobile talk and decreases the habit of face to face talk. A few of them think that it decreases reading habit.

Age, Gender and Learning related Functions of Mobile Communication

Respondents' experience may be different on learning related functions of mobile communication according to their age and gender. The following table shows the learning related functions of mobile communication among the respondents:

Table 6.22
Age, Gender and Learning related Functions of Mobile Communication
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Learning related Function of Mobile Communication	Age Groups						Grand Total		
	18-26 (Early Youth Age)			27-35 (Late Youth Age)					
	M N=81	F N=62	Total N=143	M N=63	F N=71	Total N=134	M N=144	F N=133	Total N=277
Teacher-student easy contact	81 (100)	62 (100)	143 (100)	63 (100)	71 (100)	134 (100)	144 (100)	133 (100)	277 (100)
Online discussion	61 (75.30)	55 (88.70)	116 (81.11)	49 (77.77)	50 (70.42)	99 (73.88)	110 (76.38)	105 (78.94)	215 (77.61)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

The table shows that all the respondents from both the genders feel that mobile communication helps easy contact of teacher and student.

More females (78.94%) than the males (76.38%) feel that it helps in online discussion.

More respondents (81.11%) in the early youth age than the late youth age (73.88%) feel that mobile communication helps in online discussion.

More females (88.70%) from the early youth age and more males of (77.77%) of the late youth age feel that mobile communication helps in online discussion.

Thus, all the males and females from both the age groups feel that mobile communication helps in easier teacher-students contact. More respondents of the early youth age than the late youth age feel that mobile communication helps in online discussion.

Religion, Caste and Learning related Functions of Mobile Communication

Youth of different caste and religion differ in learning related functions of communication. The following table presents respondents' opinion on learning related functions of mobile communication according to their religion and caste:

Table 6.23
Religion, Caste and Learning related Function of Mobile Communication
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Learning related Function of Mobile Communication	Hinduism					Christianity	Grand Total				
	GCs N=64	OBCs N=81	SCs N=76	STs N=54	Total N=275	STs N=2	GCs N=64	OBCs N=81	SCs N=76	STs N=56	Total N=277
Teacher-student easy contact	64 (100)	81 (100)	76 (100)	54 (100)	275 (100)	2 (100)	64 (100)	81 (100)	76 (100)	56 (100)	277 (100)
Online discussion	50 (78.12)	65 (80.24)	61 (80.26)	37 (68.51)	213 (77.45)	2 (100)	50 (78.12)	65 (80.24)	61 (80.26)	39 (69.64)	215 (77.61)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

Data illustrate that all the respondents from four categories of castes think that mobile communication helps in easier teacher-student contact.

Almost equal and the highest numbers of OBC and SC respondents think that mobile communication helps in online discussion.

All the Hindu and Christian respondents think that mobile communication helps in easier teacher-student contact while over three fourths (77.45%) of the Hindu respondents think that it helps in online discussion.

Almost equal and the highest numbers of Hindu respondents from OBC and SC category than the General caste and ST category think that mobile communication helps in online discussion.

Thus, all the respondents from four categories of castes think that mobile communication helps in easier teacher-student contact. More OBC and SC respondents than the General caste and ST respondents think that mobile communication helps in online discussion.

Occupation, Annual Income and Learning related Functions of Mobile Communication among BPL Respondents

Youths of different occupations and incomes differ on learning related functions of mobile communication. The following table presents respondents' opinion on learning related functions of mobile communication according to their occupations and incomes:

Table 6.24
Occupation, Annual Income and Learning related Function of Mobile Communication among BPL Respondents
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Learning related Function of Mobile Communication	Occupation and Income																			Grand Total										
	Agriculture					Service					Business					Labour				Non-employed					0-2828 N=31	2829-5657 N=44	5658-8486 N=35	8487-11315 N=36	Total N=146	
	0-2828 N=4	2829-5657 N=9	5658-8486 N=6	8487-11315 N=5	Total N=24	0-2828 N=3	2829-5657 N=7	5658-8486 N=4	8487-11315 N=5	Total N=19	0-2828 N=6	2829-5657 N=7	5658-8486 N=10	8487-11315 N=12	Total N=35	0-2828 N=6	2829-5657 N=10	5658-8486 N=7	8487-11315 N=8	Total N=31	0-2828 N=12	2829-5657 N=11	5658-8486 N=8	8487-11315 N=6						Total N=37
Teacher-student easy contact	4 (100)	9 (100)	6 (100)	5 (100)	24 (100)	3 (100)	7 (100)	4 (100)	5 (100)	19 (100)	6 (100)	7 (100)	10 (100)	12 (100)	35 (100)	6 (100)	10 (100)	7 (100)	8 (100)	31 (100)	12 (100)	11 (100)	8 (100)	6 (100)	37 (100)	31 (100)	44 (100)	35 (100)	36 (100)	146 (100)
Online discussion	3 (75.00)	8 (88.88)	5 (83.33)	4 (80.00)	19 (79.16)	2 (66.66)	6 (85.71)	2 (50.00)	4 (80.00)	14 (73.68)	5 (83.33)	5 (71.42)	9 (90.00)	11 (91.66)	29 (82.85)	5 (83.33)	9 (90.00)	5 (71.42)	7 (87.5)	26 (83.87)	11 (91.66)	10 (90.90)	7 (87.5)	6 (100)	33 (89.18)	25 (80.64)	40 (90.90)	27 (77.14)	33 (91.66)	125 (85.61)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

The table shows that all the respondents from BPL income groups feel that mobile communication helps in easier teacher-student contact.

Among the four BPL income groups the highest (96.66%) numbers of respondents in the income group Rs 8487-11315 in comparison of other three income groups feel that mobile communication helps in online discussion.

All the non-employed respondents and most of the agriculturalists, service holders, businessmen and the labourers think that mobile communication helps in online discussion.

Thus, all the BPL respondents from all income and occupations think that mobile communication helps in teacher-student easy contact. All the non-employed respondents and most of the agriculturalists, service holders, businessmen and the labourers think that it helps in online discussion.

Now, the learning related functions of mobile communication among APL respondents are displayed in the following table:

Table 6.25
Occupation, Annual Income and Learning related Functions of Mobile Communication among APL Respondents
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Learning related Functions of Mobile Communication	Occupation and Income																								Grand Total											
	Agriculture						Service						Business						Labour						Non-employed											
	11316-14144 N=3	14145-16973 N=4	16974-19802 N=5	19803-22631 N=5	22632< N=6	Total N=23	11316-14144 N=3	14145-16973 N=4	16974-19802 N=3	19803-22631 N=4	22632< N=4	Total N=18	11316-14144 N=3	14145-16973 N=4	16974-19802 N=7	19803-22631 N=8	22632< N=6	Total N=28	11316-14144 N=7	14145-16973 N=6	16974-19802 N=7	19803-22631 N=6	22632< N=4	Total N=30	11316-14144 N=9	14145-16973 N=8	16974-19802 N=5	19803-22631 N=6	22632< N=4	Total N=32	11316-14144 N=25	14145-16973 N=26	16974-19802 N=27	19803-22631 N=29	22632< N=24	Total N=131
Teacher-student easy contact	3 (100)	4 (100)	5 (100)	5 (100)	6 (100)	23 (100)	3 (100)	4 (100)	3 (100)	4 (100)	4 (100)	18 (100)	3 (100)	4 (100)	7 (100)	8 (100)	6 (100)	28 (100)	7 (100)	6 (100)	7 (100)	6 (100)	4 (100)	30 (100)	9 (100)	8 (100)	5 (100)	6 (100)	4 (100)	32 (100)	25 (100)	26 (100)	27 (100)	29 (100)	24 (100)	131 (100)
Online discussion	2 (66.66)	3 (75.00)	4 (80.00)	4 (80.00)	4 (66.66)	17 (73.91)	1 (33.33)	3 (75)	3 (100)	3 (75)	3 (75)	13 (72.22)	2 (66.66)	2 (50.00)	5 (71.42)	6 (75)	5 (83.33)	20 (71.42)	3 (42.85)	3 (50.00)	5 (71.42)	5 (83.33)	3 (75)	19 (63.33)	5 (55.55)	4 (50.00)	3 (60.00)	5 (83.33)	3 (75)	21 (65.62)	13 (52)	15 (57.69)	20 (74.07)	23 (79.31)	19 (79.16)	90 (68.70)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

The table shows that all the respondents from APL income groups think that mobile communication helps in easier teacher-student contact.

Among the five APL income groups, almost equal and the highest numbers of respondents in the income group Rs 19803-22631 and Rs above 22632 in comparison of other income groups think that it helps in online discussion.

Over three fifths of the agriculturalists, labourers and non-employed respondents and about three fourths of the service holders and businessmen think that mobile communication helps in online discussion.

Thus, all APL respondents from all income groups and occupations think that mobile communication helps in easier teacher-student contact. More service holders and businessmen than the agriculturalists, labourers and non-employed respondents think that mobile communication helps in online discussion.

Education, Gender and Learning related Functions of Mobile Communication

Youth of different educational qualifications and genders differ on learning related functions of mobile communication. The following table shows the learning related function of mobile communication by education among the respondents:

Table 6.26
Education, Gender and Learning related Functions of Mobile Communication
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Learning related Functions of Mobile Communication	Educational Qualifications																										
	Illiterate			Primary			Middle School			High School			Higher Secondary			Graduation			Post Graduate			M.Phil/Ph.D			Grand Total		
	M	N	Total	M	N	Total	M	N	Total	M	N	Total	M	N	Total	M	N	Total	M	N	Total	M	N	Total			
Teacher-student easy contact	12	7	19	20	29	49	29	18	47	20	25	45	31	32	63	22	16	38	9	5	14	1	1	2	144	133	277
Online discussion	9	6	15	20	22	42	21	16	37	18	18	36	21	24	45	15	14	29	7	4	11	-	1	1	110	105	215
	(75.00)	(85.71)	(78.94)	(100)	(75.86)	(85.71)	(72.41)	(88.88)	(78.72)	(90.00)	(72.00)	(80.00)	(67.74)	(75.00)	(71.42)	(68.18)	(87.5)	(76.31)	(77.77)	(80.00)	(78.57)		(100)	(50.00)	(76.38)	(78.94)	(77.61)

Source: Field Study Conducted during 25th Feb -22nd May 2014

The table shows that all the respondents from both the genders feel that mobile communication helps in easier teacher-student contact.

More females (78.94%) than the males (76.38%) think that it helps in online discussion.

Over three fourths (78.94%) of illiterates, over four fifths (85.75%) of the respondents with primary education, over three fourths (78.72%) of the respondents with middle school education, four fifths (80%) of the respondents with high school education, nearly three fourths (71.42%) of the respondents with higher secondary education, over three fourths (78.57%) of the post graduate and half (50%) of M.Phil/Ph.D degree holders think that mobile communication helps in online discussion.

Thus, all the males and females from different educational qualifications think that mobile communication helps in teacher-student easy contact. The highest number of the respondents with high school education than the illiterates and those with primary, middle school, higher secondary, graduation, post graduation and M.Phil/Ph.D level education think that mobile communication helps in online discussion.

Now, the foregoing analyses are summarized here. These are as follows:

(1) All the respondents across the villages think that mobile communication strengthens social bond among people.

Among the four villages, the largest numbers of respondents (84.05%) in Gorowal Chungi (SC village) think that mobile communication reduces face- to- face relationship among people. More respondents (51.72%) of Komar Khatowal (General Caste dominated village) than other three villages think that mobile communication brings new relationship among people while more respondents of Charigaon (OBC dominated village) in comparison of other three villages; viz., Komar Khatowal, Gorowal Chungi and Rampur Gaon think that mobile communication increases interaction among people.

(2) All the respondents from both the genders think that mobile communication strengthens social bond among people.

Most of the respondents from both the genders think that mobile communication reduces face- to- face relationship among people. More males than the females think that mobile communication increases interaction and brings new relationship among people.

More respondents from the early youth age (18-26) than the late youth age (27-35) think that it reduces face- to- face relationship. More respondents of early youth age than the late youth age think that it brings new relationship among people. Over half of the respondents (53.85%) of the late youth age and below half of the respondents (47.69%) of the early youth age think that mobile communication increases interaction among people.

More females in the early youth age and more males in the late youth age feel that mobile communication reduces face- to- face relationship among people. Again, more females in the early youth age and more males in late youth age think that it brings new relationship among people. More males than the females of both the age groups think that mobile communication increases interaction among people.

(3) All the respondents from four categories of castes think that mobile communication strengthens social bond among people.

The largest number of SC respondents (84.05%) than General caste, OBC, and ST respondents think that mobile communication reduces face- to- face relationship among people. More general caste respondents than the OBC, SC and ST respondents think that it brings new relationship among people while more OBC respondents than the General caste, SC and ST respondents think that mobile communication increases interaction among people.

All the Christian and the Hindu respondents think that mobile communication strengthens social bond and reduces face to face relationships among people. Over two fifths of the Hindu respondents and half of the Christian respondents think that it brings new relationship among people while half of the Christian and over half of the Hindu respondents think that it increases interaction among people.

The largest number of Hindu respondents from SCs than other categories of caste think that mobile communication reduces face- to- face relationship among people. More Hindu respondents from general caste than the OBCs, SCs and STs think that it brings new relationship among people while more OBC respondents than General caste, SC and ST respondents think that mobile communication increases interaction among people.

(4) All the respondents from BPL income groups think that mobile communication strengthens social bond among people.

Among the four BPL income groups the largest (82.97%) numbers of the respondents in the income group Rs 2829-5657 think that mobile communication reduces face- to- face relationship among people while more respondents in the income group Rs 0-2828-5657 than other three BPL income groups think that it brings new relationship among people. Among the four BPL income groups, the largest number of respondents in the income group Rs 0-2828 think that it increases interaction among people.

Most of the agriculturalists (65.51%) think that mobile communication reduces face- to- face relationships among people. Over two fifths of the respondents who think that it increases interaction among people. Below two fifths (37.93%) of the respondents think that it bring new relationship among people.

More businessmen than the service holders feel that mobile communication reduces face- to- face relationship while more service holders than the businessmen feel that it brings new relationship among people. Almost equal number of service holders and businessmen think that it increases interaction among people.

More labourers than the non-employed respondents feel that mobile communication increases interaction, brings new relationship and reduces face- to- face relationship among people.

(5) All the respondents from the five APL income groups feel that mobile communication strengthens social bond among people.

Among the five APL income groups, the highest (965.65%) number of the respondents in the income group Rs 19803-22631 think that it reduces face- to- face relationship among people. More respondents (54.16%) in the income group Rs 16974-19802 than other four APL income groups think that mobile communication brings new relationship among people. Equal number of respondents in the income group Rs 16974-19802 and above Rs 22632 think that it increases interaction among people.

Most of the APL agriculturalists (94.11%) think that mobile communication reduces face- to- face relationship among people. Over half (58.82) of the respondents who think that it increases interaction among people. Two fifths (41.17%) of the agriculturalists think that it brings new relationship among people.

More APL service holders than the businessmen think that mobile communication reduces face- to- face relationship among people while more businessmen than the service holders think that it brings new relationships among people. Again, more businessmen than the service holders think that it increases interaction among people.

More APL labourers than the non-employed respondents think that mobile communication brings new relationship and reduces face- to- face relationships while more non-employed respondents than the labourers think that it increases interaction among people.

(6) All the males and females of different educational qualifications feel that mobile communication strengthens social bond among people.

Almost equal numbers of males and females feel that mobile communication reduces face- to- face relationship among people. More males than the females feel that mobile communication increases interaction and brings changes among people.

Most of the illiterates (92.85%) feel that mobile communication reduces face- to- face relationship among people. Half (50%) of the respondents who feel that it increases interaction among people. Over two fifths (42.85%) of the respondents feel that it brings new relationship among people.

More respondents with primary education than middle school education feel that mobile communication reduces face- to- face relationship and brings new relationship among people while more respondents with middle school education feel that it increases interaction among people.

More respondents with higher secondary education than the high school education feel that mobile communication reduces face- to- face relationship among people while equal number of respondents from high school and higher secondary level feel that it brings new relationships among people. More respondents with

higher secondary education than high school education feel that it increases interaction among people.

More post graduate respondents think that mobile communication reduces face-to-face relationship among people while more graduate respondents than the post graduate think that it brings new relationship and increases interaction among people.

Half of each M.Phil/Ph.D respondents think that mobile communication increases interaction, brings new relationship and reduces face-to-face relationships among people.

(7) All the respondents from both the genders think that mobile communication causes brain cancer. Almost equal number of the respondents from both the genders think that mobile communication makes easy contact with doctors. More males than the females think that it causes salivary gland tumour and vision problem.

More respondents in the early youth age (18-26) than the late youth age (27-35) think that mobile communication causes brain cancer, salivary gland tumour and makes easy contact with doctors.

More females in the early youth age and more males in the late youth age think that it helps in easy contact with doctors. Again, more females in early youth age and more males in late youth age think that mobile communication causes vision problem. More males than the females in both the age groups think that it causes salivary gland tumour.

(8) All the respondents from four categories of castes think that mobile communication causes brain cancer.

The largest numbers of SC respondents (84.72%) than General caste, OBC and ST respondents think that mobile communication helps in easy contact with doctors. More OBC respondents than the General caste, SC and ST respondents think that it causes vision problem and salivary gland tumour.

All the Hindu and Christian respondents think that mobile communication causes brain cancer and helps in easy contact with doctors. Over half of the Hindu respondents (54.44%) and half of the Christian respondents (50%) think that it causes salivary gland tumour while half of the Christian respondents (50%) and over two fifths of the Hindu respondents (46.71%) think that it causes vision problem.

The largest number of Hindu respondents from the SCs than other categories of caste feel that mobile communication helps in easy contact with doctors. More Hindu respondents from OBC category than other categories of caste feel that mobile communication causes salivary gland tumour and vision problem.

(9) All the respondents from BPL income groups feel that mobile communication causes brain cancer.

Among the four BPL income groups, the largest number of respondents in the income group of Rs 2829-5657 think that mobile communication helps in easy contact with doctors while the largest number of the respondents in the income group of Rs 0-2828 think that it causes brain cancer and salivary gland tumour.

Over three fifths (63.23%) of the BPL agriculturalists think that mobile communication helps in easy contact with doctors. Over two fifths of the respondents think that it causes salivary gland tumour. Two fifths (40%) of the agriculturalists think that it causes vision problem.

More businessmen than the service holders feel that mobile communication helps in easy contact with doctors while more service holders than the businessmen think that mobile communication causes salivary gland tumour and vision problem. More labourers than the non-employed respondents think that mobile communication causes salivary gland tumour, vision problem and helps in easy contact with doctors.

(10) All the respondents from APL income groups think that mobile communication causes brain cancer.

All the respondents in the income group of Rs above 22632 think that mobile communication helps in easy contact with doctors.

More respondents in the income group of Rs 16974-19802 than other four APL income groups think that mobile communication causes vision problem while almost equal numbers of respondents in the income group of Rs 16974-19802 and above Rs 22632 think that it causes salivary gland tumour.

Most of the agriculturalists (94.44%) think that mobile communication helps in easy contact with doctors, followed by three fifths (61.11%) who think that it causes salivary gland tumour. Over two fifths of the agriculturalists think that mobile communication causes vision problem.

More service holders than the businessmen think that mobile communication helps in easy contact with doctors. Equal number of service holders and businessmen think that mobile communication causes vision problem. More businessmen than the service holders think that mobile communication causes salivary gland tumour.

(11) All the males and females of different educational qualifications feel that mobile communication causes brain cancer.

Almost equal numbers of respondents from both the genders feel that mobile communication helps in easy contact with doctors while more males than the females think that it causes salivary gland tumour and vision problem.

Most of the illiterates (93.75%) think that mobile communication helps in easy contact with doctors. Over half (56.25%) of the respondents who think that it causes salivary gland tumour. Half (50%) of the illiterates think that it causes vision problem. More respondents (85.71%) with primary education than middle school education think that mobile communication helps in easy contact with doctors. Equal numbers of respondents with primary and middle school education think that mobile communication causes vision problem. More respondents with primary education than middle school education think that it causes salivary gland tumour.

More respondents with higher secondary education think that mobile communication helps in easy contact with doctors. Almost equal number of respondents with high school and higher secondary education think that it causes

vision problem while more respondents with higher secondary education than with high school education think that it causes salivary gland tumour.

More post -graduate respondents than the graduate respondents feel that it helps in easy contact with doctors while more graduate respondents than the post graduate respondents think that it causes vision problem and salivary gland tumour. Half of each M.Phil/Ph.D respondents feel that mobile communication causes salivary gland tumour, vision problem and helps in easy contact with doctors.

More labourers than the non-employed respondents think that mobile communication causes vision problem and helps in easy contact with doctors while more non-employed respondents than the labourers think that mobile communication causes salivary gland tumour.

(12) All the respondents from both the genders think that mobile communication encourages gossiping habit among people.

Almost equal number of males and females think that mobile communication encourages fun-making habit among people.

More respondents from late youth age than the early youth age think that mobile communication encourages fun-making habit among people. More females of early youth age and more males of late youth age think that it encourages fun-making habit among people.

(13) All the respondents from four categories of castes feel that mobile communication encourages gossiping habit among people.

The highest (90.14%) number of SC respondents than the General caste, OBC and ST respondents feel that mobile communication encourages fun-making habit among people.

All the Hindu and Christian respondents feel that mobile communication encourages gossiping habit among people while more Hindu respondents (87.26%) than the Christian (50%) feel that it encourages fun-making habit among people.

More Hindu respondents (90.14%) from SC category than other three categories of castes think that mobile communication encourages fun-making habit among people.

(14) All the respondents from BPL income groups think that mobile communication encourages gossiping habit among people.

Among four BPL income groups the highest numbers (96.66%) of respondents in the income group of Rs 8487-11315 than other three income groups think that mobile communication encourages fun-making habit among people.

The highest (94.28%) number of agriculturalists in comparison of service holders, businessmen, labourers and non-employed respondents think that mobile communication encourages fun-making habit among people.

(15) All the respondents from APL income groups feel that mobile communication encourages gossiping habit among people.

Among the four APL income groups the highest number (91.66%) of the respondents in the income group of Rs 14145-16973 than other four income groups think that mobile communication encourages fun-making habit among people.

The highest number (90.47%) of non-employed respondents in comparison of agriculturalists, service holders, businessmen and labourers think that mobile communication encourages fun-making habit among people.

(16) All the respondents from both the genders think that mobile communication encourages gossiping habit among people.

More females than the males think that mobile communication encourages fun-making habit among people.

The highest numbers of the respondents (89.47%) with higher secondary education than the illiterates and those with primary, middle school, high school, graduation, post graduation and M.Phil/Ph.D level education think that mobile communication encourages fun-making habit among people.

(17) All the respondents of both the genders think that mobile communication encourages the habit of mobile talk and decreases the habit of face to face talk. Less than one tenth of the respondents of both the genders think that it decreases reading habit.

All the respondents of both the age group think that mobile communication encourages the habit of mobile talk and decreases the habit of face to face talk. Less than one tenth of the respondents of both the age groups think that it decreases reading habit.

(18) All the Hindu respondents belonging to General Castes, OBCs, SCs and STs and all the Christian respondents belonging to STs think that mobile communication encourages the habit of mobile talk and decreases the habit of face- to- face talk while a few Hindu respondents belong to General Castes, OBCs, SCs and STs think that it decreases reading habit. No Christian respondent think that mobile phone decreases reading habit.

(19) All the respondents from four BPL income groups think that mobile communication encourages the habit of mobile talk and decreases the habit of face-to- face talk. A few of them think that mobile communication decreases reading habit.

All the BPL agriculturalists, service holders, businessmen, labourers and non-employed respondents think that mobile communication encourages the habit of mobile talk and decreases the habit of face- to- face talk. A few of them think that it decreases reading habit.

(20) All the respondents from five APL income groups feel that mobile communication encourages the habit of mobile talk and decreases the habit of face to face talk. A few of them feel that mobile communication decreases reading habit.

All the APL agriculturalists, service holders, businessmen, labourers and non-employed respondents feel that mobile communication encourages the habit of mobile

talk and decreases the habit of face to face talk. A few of them feel that it decreases reading habit.

(21) All the males and females with different educational qualifications think that mobile communication encourages the habit of mobile talk and decreases the habit of face- to- face talk. A few respondents in both the genders think that it decreases reading habit.

All the illiterate respondents and the respondents from primary school, middle school, high school, higher secondary, graduate, post graduate and M.Phil/Ph.D think that mobile phone encourages the habit of mobile talk and decreases the habit of face-to- face talk while a few of them think that it decreases reading habit.

(22) All the respondents from both the genders feel that mobile communication help in easier teacher-student contact.

More females (78.94%) than the males (76.38%) feel that it helps in online discussion.

More respondents (81.11%) in the early youth age than the respondents of late youth age (73.88%) feel that mobile communication helps in online discussion.

More females (88.70%) from the early youth age and more males of (77.77%) of the late youth age feel that mobile communication helps in online discussion.

(23) All the respondents from four categories of castes think that mobile communication helps in teacher-student easy contact.

Almost equal and the highest number of OBC and SC respondents think that mobile communication helps in online discussion.

All the Hindu and Christian respondents think that mobile communication helps in easier teacher-student contact while over three fourths (77.45%) of the Hindu respondents think that it helps in online discussion.

Almost equal and the highest number of Hindu respondents from OBC and SC category than the General caste and ST category think that mobile communication helps in online discussion.

(24) All the respondents from BPL income groups feel that mobile communication helps in easier teacher-student contact.

Among the four BPL income groups the highest (96.66%) number of respondents in the income group of Rs 8487-11315 in comparison of other three income groups feel that mobile communication helps in online discussion.

All the non-employed respondents and most of the agriculturalists, service holders, businessmen and the labourers think that mobile communication helps in online discussion.

(25) All the respondents from APL income groups think that mobile communication helps in easier teacher-student contact.

Among the five APL income groups, almost equal and the highest number of respondents in the income group of Rs 19803-22631 and above Rs 22632 in comparison of other income groups think that it helps in online discussion.

Over three fifths of the agriculturalists, labourers and non-employed respondents and about three fourths of the service holders and businessmen think that mobile communication helps in online discussion.

(26) All the respondents from both the genders feel that mobile communication helps in easier teacher-student contact.

More females (78.94%) than the males (76.38%) think that it helps in online discussion.

Over three fourths (78.94%) of illiterates, over four fifths (85.75%) of the respondents with primary education, over three fourths (78.72%) of the respondents with middle school education, four fifths (80%) of the respondents with high school education, about three fourths (71.42%) of the respondents with higher secondary education, over three fourths (78.57%) of the post graduation and half of (50%) of M.Phil/Ph.D degree holders think that mobile communication helps in online discussion.

Conclusion

Mobile communication has some consequences for the society. It has brought some changes in the fields of communication, social functions, health, entertainment, education and attitudes of youths. It has brought some new relationships among the people of society.
