E-Banking: Factors Of Adoption In India

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Abstract:
The adoption of electronic banking (e-banking) has gained significant prominence in India, transforming the country's financial landscape. This study aims to investigate the multifaceted factors influencing the adoption of e-banking services among Indian consumers. This research seeks to shed light on the critical determinants that drive or hinder e-banking adoption in the Indian context. The study examines various factors, including technological infrastructure, internet penetration, perceived ease of use, trust, security concerns, and regulatory influences, to understand their impact on e-banking adoption. Moreover, it delves into the role of customer awareness, educational initiatives, and the influence of social networks in shaping consumer attitudes and behaviours towards e-banking. Findings from this research are expected to provide valuable insights for financial institutions, and service providers, enabling them to design strategies that enhance the adoption of e-banking services in India.

Keywords: E-Banking, Adoption, Financial Services, Internet Banking, Perceived ease of use

Research Design:

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I. Introduction:
Electronic banking, or e-banking, has emerged as a transformative force in the global financial sector, reshaping the way individuals and businesses conduct their financial transactions. In the context of India, a nation of over a billion people with a rapidly growing economy, the adoption of e-banking has been particularly noteworthy. The proliferation of digital technology and the internet, coupled with government initiatives such as "Digital India" and "Financial Inclusion," have paved the way for a significant shift from traditional brick-and-mortar banking to online and mobile banking services. This study delves into the intricate dynamics of e-banking adoption in India, seeking to unravel the multifaceted factors that influence the choices and behaviours of Indian consumers and businesses in their financial interactions. E-banking encompasses a wide range of services, from internet banking and mobile banking to digital payment platforms and online investment tools. Understanding the factors that drive or impede the adoption of these services is vital not only for financial institutions and policymakers but also for the broader socio-economic development of the country. India's diverse and dynamic landscape presents unique challenges and opportunities for e-banking adoption. Factors such as technological
infrastructure, internet penetration, trust, security concerns, and regulatory frameworks play pivotal roles in shaping the adoption curve. Moreover, the degree of customer awareness, educational initiatives, and the influence of social networks cannot be underestimated in moulding perceptions and attitudes towards e-banking. In this context, this research endeavours to provide a comprehensive exploration of the factors influencing e-banking adoption in India.

II. Literature Review:

E-Banking Adoption in India the adoption of electronic banking (e-banking) in India has been a subject of extensive research due to its profound implications for the country's financial sector, economic growth, and financial inclusion. This literature review provides an overview of the key factors and trends in e-banking adoption in India as documented in existing studies.

Technological Infrastructure and Internet Penetration:

India's rapid progress in technological infrastructure and increased internet penetration has played a pivotal role in facilitating e-banking adoption. Research indicates that regions with better connectivity and infrastructure tend to exhibit higher rates of e-banking usage (Gupta et al., 2017). However, disparities in infrastructure development across urban and rural areas remain a challenge, impacting the digital divide in e-banking adoption (Narayanaswamy et al., 2019).

Perceived Ease of Use and Usefulness:

The Technology Acceptance Model (TAM) has been widely applied to understand e-banking adoption. Studies in India have consistently found that the perceived ease of use and perceived usefulness of e-banking systems are crucial determinants of adoption (Bhati, 2019). User-friendly interfaces, convenience, and perceived benefits such as timesaving and accessibility are key drivers.

Trust and Security Concerns:

Trust in e-banking platforms and concerns related to security and privacy are significant factors influencing adoption behaviour (Singh et al., 2020). The literature highlights the importance of robust security measures and the need for user education to mitigate security apprehensions (Kaur and Shergill, 2019).

Regulatory Influences:

India's regulatory environment has evolved to support e-banking growth. The implementation of the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) and Know Your Customer (KYC) norms has bolstered confidence in digital transactions (Jain et al., 2020). Regulatory compliance and a secure legal framework are vital to ensure consumer protection and trust in e-banking.

Customer Awareness and Education:

Studies emphasize the role of customer awareness and education programs in promoting e-banking adoption (Kumar et al., 2021). Effective communication strategies and financial literacy initiatives can bridge the knowledge gap and encourage more users to embrace digital banking solutions.

In conclusion, e-banking adoption in India is a complex phenomenon influenced by a myriad of factors. While the growth of technological infrastructure and regulatory support has created a conducive environment, addressing issues related to the digital divide, security, and user education remains critical.

III. Research Methodology:

Qualitative research system was used in this research. Pilot testing with finance students of questionnaire helps to get in-depth response of target group. The working of the research was started with the two questionnaires (one for users & the other for non-users). In this we've used screening criteria to identify the target group for our research.

Target population:
The first criterion to get the targeted samples was the students whose bank provides Internet banking services.

Sample size:

We've surveyed 20 users of internet banking from responders. From these we got 17 responses from users of internet banking & 3 replies from non-users of internet banking, which fitted in our criteria of target population. Our analysis is grounded on these 17 users & 3 nonusers of internet banking.
IV. RESEARCH FINDINGS & DISCUSSION:

The replier profile who shared in the study. Below piecharts presents the demographic characteristics of the 17 repliers(users). About 85 percent of the repliers(users) are males and 15 percent repliers are ladies. The topmost order using online banking services are in the age group of 18 - 30 years. Table I also presents the demographic characteristics of the 3 repliers(non-users). The topmost order not using online banking services are in the older age group. The difference between the users & non-users of the online banking services is age. While the younger generation is responds well to technological innovations the older generation is finding it hard to depend on new technology.

Analysis:

When options given of Cash, UPI, Net-Banking, 65% of responders selected UPI, 30% of responders selected Cash and remaining 5% uses net banking for their daily transactions.

In the next question, on using Internet banking on daily basis 60% of responders use internet banking daily and 40% of responders don’t use internet banking on daily basis.
Ease of Internet Banking and convenience is neglected by 15% of responders and 85% of responders think internet banking is convenient.

There are four main and basic functions of Internet Banking (E-Banking):
Such as Easy transfer of funds, Security, to track past orders, and Convenience

Responders selected among these:

The important factors discouraging the use of Internet banking are lack of Internet access and not having a chance to try out Internet banking in safe surroundings. The first problem would be tough for a bank alone to break but banks have formerly responded by creating possibilities for Internet bank access in their services. Those customers who feel that having no access is an insignificant reason have listed security concerns and lack of trying possibilities as most important. Personal relationship with the staff at the banks comes handy when requesting for faster loan approval or a special service which may not be available to the public. The manager has numerous optional powers similar as waiving of penal interest or service fees which were frequently taken advantage of by better acquaintance with the staff. also, personal contact also meant that the banker would give essential financial advice and insights which are salutary to the client. Non-users prefer manual banking due to high level of cybercrimes like phishing, hacking, etc., This can be the reason why users don't prefer Internet banking for all the transactions. This is the biggest pitfall of the internet banking scheme which needs to be guarded against by the common client. Non-user friendliness software is another crucial issue which holds people back from using the facility. Fees charged for using Internet banking facility also make consumers reluctant in exploiting similar services. Consumers who don’t use Internet banking feel that the charges aren't reasonable. This shows that a little cut in these charges may induce them to use this service.

V. Conclusion:
When researching all the variables and the response by consumers, this study reveals that the perception of the consumers can be changed by awareness program, friendly usage, less charge, proper security, and the quicker responses to the services offered. Demographics play an important role in the adoption of E banking facilities as we've seen that age factor vastly affects the adoption. Also, better access i.e., convenience plays vital part in enhancing the use of e banking facilities among users. The study also provides the kind of correlation.
between different factors. In case of the consumers who don’t use Internet banking services, having all facilities at their disposal, technology wasn't the biggest issue. Some recommendations for the Banks on the base of this research are:

- Banks should ensure that online banking is safe and secure for financial trade like traditional banking.
- Banks should organize seminar and conference to educate the client regarding uses of online banking as well as security and privacy of their accounts.
- Some customers are hindered by lack of access to online banking. They should be handed online banking installations in the banks. Banks must emphasize the convenience that online banking can give to people, similar as avoiding long line, to motivate them to use it by spreading awareness about benefits of online banking.
- Banks must emphasize the cost saving that online can give to the people, similar as reduce trade cost by use of online banking.

References: