A study on awareness and utilization of online and e-resources among students in the universities

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Abstract

An Internet work is a series of individual networks that are linked together by intermediate networking devices to form one large network. Because of electronic resources, things became much simpler for everyone. With the assistance of the internet, it is also one of the most essential tools for the flow of information from one person to another. These days, students rely on electronic resources as one of the most significant sources available to them. Using the internet, students are able to obtain the content they are looking for in a short amount of time. The business, products, and procedures that address the task of developing and administering internet work are referred to as internetworking. Time-sharing networks of mainframes and connected terminals were the first networks. Both IBM's Systems Network Architecture (SNA) and Digital's network architecture were used to create such environments. In the higher education system, libraries are an important part. Academic libraries in India are facing numerous challenges as a result of a stagnant budget and an exponential increase in the cost of library collections. The library ecosystem is undergoing a rapid and complex transformation, resulting in a new generation of libraries focused on electronic resources. Many attempts have been made in recent years to solve the problem of financial constraints by sharing resources through university library consortia. Two main projects for university library users are the UGC-INFONET and the INDEST-AICTE consortium. These groundbreaking steps have resulted in the availability of scientific tools such as peer-reviewed journals, databases, abstracts, and proceedings. These efforts would be a blessing to university library users, and they will undoubtedly improve the quality of our country's higher education system the library A consortium is a network of two or more libraries that have agreed to work together to meet some common needs, most commonly resource sharing. It usually refers to information sharing between and among libraries through cooperation, coordination, and collaboration. Consortia are essentially emerging forms of collaboration among libraries that come together to share electronic resources. Even in developing countries like India, it has gained traction.

Keywords: Library, e-resources, internet and world wide web

Introduction

Information and Communication Technology has changed the way information resources are created, organized, saved, and delivered to end users in today's information society ⎟ Since the emergence of multimedia, e-publishing, and the internet, there has been a significant increase in the volume of printed and electronic resources ⎟

Academic and technical institutions' library policies have changed as a result of the emergence of the Internet, which has led to the creation of electronic versions of printed literature, such as books, journals, reports, and monographs ⎟ The internet allows access to electronic resources, which may be based on ownership or access right for journals and e-book subscribers ⎟

Electronic resources are defined as the mines of information that are explored through modern ICT devices, refined and redesigned, and more often stored in the most concrete and compact form in the cyber space, where a great number of people can access them at the same time from infinite locations ⎟ According to Graham (2003, pp. 18-24), the term "electronic resources" can be broadly defined as information accessed by a computer, which may be useful as bibliographic guides to possible sources. However, they seldom appear as cited references in their own right ⎟ Furthermore, e-resources are those digital documents that are made available to library users via a computer-based information retrieval system.

E-resources

The Internet and the World Wide Web (WWW) are the most comprehensive sources of information, with the broadest reach and quickest access. It is the most effective

method for global communication and knowledge exchange. The amount of publicly accessible information on the internet continues to grow at an incredible pace. It has changed the way people access information and created new opportunities in fields like digital libraries, information dissemination and retrieval, education, commerce, entertainment, government, and health care. The World Wide Web can be a great place to conduct research on a variety of subjects, but finding high-quality web materials can be difficult.

An e-resource is a web-based, on-campus or off-campus electronic information resource. Material encoded for manipulation by a computerised interface (data and/or program(s)). This material can necessitate the use of a peripheral that is directly connected to a computerised system (e.g., a CD-ROM drive) or a computer network link (e.g. Internet).

A commercially available title that has been published with the intention of being sold is described as an electronic resource that requires computer access or any electronic product that delivers a set of data, be it text referring to full text bases, electronic journals, image collections, other multimedia items, and numerical, graphical, or time dependent. These can be distributed via CD-ROM, tape, the internet, and other methods. Over the past few years, a numbers of techniques and related standards have been developed which allow documents to be created and distributed in electronic form. As a result, in order to cope with the current situation, libraries are turning to digital media, specifically electronic services, for their collection growth so that user demands can be better met. E-resources on magnetic and optical media have a major influence on university library collections. These are more useful due to inherent manipulation and searching capabilities, providing information access is less expensive than purchasing information services, savings in storage and maintenance, and often the electronic type is the only option.

Electronic tools are likely to be used more often by users. Studies were conducted to determine the level of use of this type of resource, how users feel about various issues surrounding electronic resources, and whether attitudes change depending on subject studied to determine the level of use of various electronic information resources, ways in which they felt electronic resources had hindered or improved their academic career, and whether they perceived if they perceived if they perceived if they perceived if they perceived if they perceived if they perceived if they perceived if they perceived if they perceived if they perceived if they perceived if

Scholars face new problems as a result of the Internet and electronic content that does not have a print counterpart. As more material is released in electronic formats, concerns about how to cite these sources in scholarly articles are becoming more common at library service desks.

Types of E-resources
The e-resources are basically divided in two major types:
Online e-resources, which may include
- e-journal (Full Text & Bibliographic Databases)
- e-books
- on-line Databases
- web sites

Other Electronic resource may include
- CD ROM
- Diskettes
- Other portable computer databases

These components are explained in the following sections.

Electronic Journals (e-journals)
The library receives electronic issues of journals and papers from periodicals to which it subscribes. There are Full-text and Bibliographic Databases in this collection. Full-text databases include all of an article's material, including citation information, text, images, diagrams, and tables. Only the citation information of an article, such as the author's name, journal title, publication date, and page numbers, is stored in bibliographic databases. An electronic database is a compilation of information that has been structured. It allows for versatile and detailed searching of various fields, such as journal title, article title, author, abstract, year, and so on. In the Library Catalogue, we can only look up the title of a publication, not the title or author of individual papers. As a result, an electronic archive is particularly useful for finding articles on specific subjects, such as peer review in the classroom. E-databases can be used to retrieve specific journal papers that may not be found in the Library Catalogue.

Electronic books (e-books)
An e-book is a digital edition of a printed book that includes all of its contents (text, tables, diagrams, illustrations, etc.). An e-book collection is typically stored in an e-database, which allows for full-text browsing inside and across titles, as well as advanced search and bookmarking. Online users can read the full text of e-books in HTML or PDF format. An e-book is a text that is similar to a book but is in digital form and can be viewed on a computer screen. E-books can be read on a computer screen or with a dedicated e-Book reader such as GemStar eBook, much like a printed book. There are also several newer technology in development, such as electronic paper, which is similar to paper but allows the text to be edited, and MP3-format talking books. The benefits of an e-book include portability, 24-hour access, text search, annotation, linking, multimedia, and self-publishing options. E-book development is still in its early stages, and problems such as compatibility, e-book scanners, affordability, and intellectual property rights must all be resolved before it can be widely adopted.

On-line Databases: On-line databases are a list of data organised into categories. In most cases, databases can be searched using keywords or topics. An e-database is a categorised set of information about a specific topic or a group of related topics. An e- database's information can be checked and retrieved electronically. Journal papers, newspaper articles, book reviews, and conference proceedings, among other things, are included in the material. With formal cross-document search and retrieval, relational data structures, and powerful query mechanisms, information is organised and stored in a database.

Websites
A library web page, also known as a URL, provides single-

window access to a variety of web-based library resources. A URL could be as simple as a library web page listing services with links to the catalogue and external free and paid resources, or it could include advanced features such as interactive help and value added services like subject gateways, self-help tools, and frequently asked questions, as well as information about the library such as hours, calendar, and rules. Apart from traditional ICT-enabled facilities, libraries are using the internet and computing resources to provide modern and creative services. Its aim is to assist users in gaining a better understanding of consciousness. The ability to access the most recent content from hundreds of websites from a single programme not only keeps you informed about what's going on in the world, but it's also quick and simple to use.

Web pages are a collection of information that can be viewed in a variety of media depending on the material. Web pages can be static or dynamic, which means that the content is either the same every time anyone visits the website or is pulled from a database that is modified with new information. If a website, say the homepage, had a "news" section detailing current news in relation to a business or event, for example, when a new news article appeared or expired, the new news item would appear and the old news item would vanish from the homepage's news section.

Advantages of e-resources
The reasons for actually embarking on the purchasing of electronic resources are generally accepted because of the ease of usability, readability, affordability and accessibility. The following are the advantages of e-resources over the print media:

Multi-access: A networked product can provide multiple points of access at multiple points round the clock and to multiple simultaneous users.

Speed: An electronic resource is lot quicker to browse or search, to extract information from, and to integrate that information into other material and to cross-search or reference between different publications.

Functionality: E-resource will allow the user to approach the publications to analyze its content in new ways by click of the mouse on search mode.

Content: The e-resources can contain a vase amount of information, but more importantly the material can consist of mixed media i.e. images, video, audio animation which could not be replaced in print. Mobility, Saving Physical Space, Convenience, Saving time & money are some other advantages.

Disadvantages of e-resources
People increasingly prefer e-resources to conventional ones because they save time and money. With the influx of various e-resources, more and more people are becoming aware of the drawbacks of e-resources.

The fact that e-resources necessitate the use of special equipment or computers can be seen as a drawback. Many e-resources are designed to be compliant with specific software that isn't always readily accessible. Since e-resources are reliant on other devices, they can be harmed by hardware or software malfunction. Electronic documents are useless unless the hardware, Internet access, and battery power provided by an e-resource reader are readily accessible. Furthermore, e-resources are more susceptible to harm than printed books due to their reliance on hardware and software. E-resource reading devices are unquestionably more costly than printed books. Power is needed by all e-resources devices. There is increasing concern that current e-resources may be inaccessible or incompatible with future e-resources applications or devices.

Research Methodology
In the present study, the Survey method of research has been adopted sings tructured Questionnaire as a tool for collection of data. The questionnaire was designed keeping in view of the stated objectives and the structured questionnaire comprises mainly of closed ended-questions. The preceding chapter addressed the theoretical and empirical studies related to the Impact of Information Technology – A User Survey. The study of literature aids in the development of a research plan.

Research Design
The structure or strategy for a study that directs the collection and analysis of data is known as research design. The research design specifies the research methods, such as the method of data collection and sampling.

Data Collection
The primary data was gathered through a direct structured interview with a questionnaire. The same questions were posed to all of the respondents in the same way, and they were told of the study's intent.

Results and Discussion
Distribution of Questionnaire to Respondent and Responses Received
To know the response rate altogether 80 questionnaire were distributed among the undergraduate students out of which, 69 (86.25%) respondents have responded. Thus the response rate is 86.25%.

Table 1: Responses Received from the Respondents (N=80)

Questionnaire	Nos.	Percentage (%)
Received	69	86.25
Not received	11	13.75
Total	80	100.00

Gender wise distribution of Respondents
Table 2 shows the gender wise distribution of respondents which indicate that no of female respondents is high in comparison to male respondents that is 57.97% respondents are female and 42.02% respondents are male.

Table 2: Gender wise distribution of Respondents

Gender	Nos.	Percentage (%)
Male	29	42.02
Female	40	57.97
Total	69	100.00

Aware of E-Resource

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Table 3 described that 85.50% respondents were aware of E-Resources information where 14.48% respondents were not aware of using E-Resources.

Table 3: Aware of E-Resources

Aware of E-Resources	Nos.	Percentage (%)
Strongly Agree	12	17.39
Agree	47	68.11
Disagree	7	10.14
Strongly Disagree	3	4.34
Total	69	100

Usage of E-Resources
Table 4 Shows that 52(75.36%) respondents used E-Resources information regularly where 17(24.63%) respondents did not used E-Resources Information.

Table 4: Usage of E-Resources

Usage of E-Resources	Nos.	Percentage (%)
Yes	52	75.36
No	17	24.63
Total	69	100

Purpose of Using E-Resources
Table 5 shows that purpose of using E-Resources which indicate that 57.97% respondents used E-Resources to know latest information, 42.02% respondents used for preparing their class 17.39% respondents used for reading newspaper where 50.72% used for self improvement.

Table 5: Purpose of Using E-Resources

Purpose	Nos.	Percentage (%)
To know latest information	40	57.97
To Prepare for class work	29	42.02
Reading Newspaper	12	17.39
For Self Improvement	35	50.72

Use of Information through Mobile Phone
Table 6 shows 44(63.76%) respondents' used E-Resources information through mobile phone where 25(36.23%) respondents did not use through mobile phone

Table 6: Use of Information Through Mobile Phone

Use of Information Through Mobile Phone	Nos.	Percentage (%)
Yes	44	63.76
No	25	36.23
Total	69	100

Sharing Information Resources through Mobile Phones
Table 7 indicate that out of 69 respondents, 50(72.45%) used mobile phones to shares information and 19(27.53%) did not use mobile phones for sharing information.

Table 7: Sharing Information Resources through Mobile Phones

Sharing Information	Nos.	Percentage (%)
Strongly Agree	21	30.43
Agree	29	42.02
Disagree	12	17.39
Strongly Disagree	7	10.14
Total	69	100

Conclusions
According to the findings of the study, students frequently make use of electronic resources, and the Internet takes on a significant role in the lives of students. This is due to the fact that students frequently seek assistance from the resources that are accessible via the Internet. Considering that there are a great number of open-source electronic resources that can be found on the internet, it is important to note that students also profit from these electronic resources. When it comes to creating their notes, assignments, and project tasks, students are able to obtain the needed and pertinent knowledge with the assistance of electronic resources. Using their mobile phones, students also exchange electronic resources by using social networking sites like Facebook and WhatsApp.

The study's main goal is to learn how people use e-resources to achieve specific goals. The aim of this study was to determine the level of knowledge and use of online and e-resources among faculty and research scholars at universities. It has a significant impact on users, especially in libraries. Technological advancements are occurring at a rapid pace. Information is updated on a regular basis. Having knowledge from e-resources is simple and efficient for researchers and students. They keep their information current. The use of a computer in the library, also known as a digital library, is important for all educational institutions. As a result, both institutions strive to incorporate new technologies into their libraries to provide convenient access to researchers, faculty, and students. Users would be empowered to use the knowledge efficiently as a result of this. More time and library resources factor to build incentive among users to use libraries for longer periods of time. As a result of their findings, the researchers advised all institutions to try to incorporate new technologies in their libraries.

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