

Users perception towards usage of electronic resources in S.V.K.T College, Deolali Camp, Nashik.: A Survey

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Abstract: *The research aims to investigate the perception of college students and faculties towards the use of e-resources in their academic pursuits. In today's digital age, electronic resources play a crucial role in supporting learning and research. This study explores the factors influencing students' attitudes, preferences and challenges associated with the adoption of e-resources. The research delves into the perception of users regarding comparison between e-resources and traditional print resources in educational environments. With the increasing prevalence of digital content, understanding how users evaluate and choose between electronic and print resources is essential. The study explores factors influencing this comparison, benefits and challenges associated with both formats. It also investigates how users comprehend the advantages of electronic resources and the problems they encounter when accessing these digital materials in educational settings. By understanding the user perspective, the study aims to reveal insights on the factors that contribute to the positive reception of e-resources and the barriers that hinder effective access.*

Keywords: E-resources, Information technology, e-journals, Users perception

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I. INTRODUCTION

In the age of Information Technology, digital resources assume a crucial role. Today most of the resources are available in electronic format. E-Resources are part of 'Invisible web'. The growth in information and communication technologies has led to the drastic changes in the information sources format. At present information sources are available in various formats like; E-books, E-journals, E-databases, E-newspaper, E-magazine. E-Resources that strengthen the quality of services of libraries across the globe.

Today's era is digital era. These days the concept of electronic resources is very popular because it helps the researchers to access information easily, 24x7 and without any physical or geographical barrier. Communications and information sharing has become easier due to electronic publishing. Electronic resources are now part and parcel of any library collection, general and special libraries in particular. Today Electronic Information Resources have become an essential part of academic libraries. Therefore, the current study endeavours to investigate the utilization of e-resources and users perceptions of S.V.K.T College, Deolali Camp, Nashik. The study covers the library users i.e. students (undergraduate and post-graduate) and faculty members of College.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

Doraswamy (2005), conducted a survey to know the familiarity and use of the available e-resources available at V.R. Siddhartha Engineering College Library, Vijayawada. It was found that 61.25% respondents were familiar with the e-resources, while 27.50% respondents use computers daily while 5.63% of respondents never used it. Most of the respondents

make use of CD-ROM's, Internet, Email, Search engines, and the college website daily in addition to online databases. It was found that many of the respondents use search engines in comparison to online journals and other electronic information resources. Majority of respondents 46.25% and 38.12% express lack of training and lack of time are the major reasons while using electronic information resources.

Madhusudhan (2010), carried out a survey at Kurukshetra University to investigate the use of e-resources and various skills in handling the e-resources. In their paper they also discussed the problems faced by research scholars in accessing e-resources, their opinion about usefulness of e-resources compared to print resources. The study revealed electronic resources has become the indispensable part of the information needs of research scholars. Kumar (2010), conducted a survey to examine the perception and use of e-resources and Internet by the engineering, medical and management academics in Bangalore City, India. The major objectives of the study was to find out how academics use the e-resources, how they perceive the advantages of e-resources, and does they face any problem while accessing the e-resources. Data were collected from 300 students and faculty members. The study results shows that users were aware about e-resources and the Internet. Majority of academic community use electronic information sources for their academic learning and come to know about the e-resources either by trial and error or through advice of friends. Hussain, A(2013). Conducted a study to examine the use of electronic information resources and services among the faculty members and students of Sir Chottu Ram Institute of Engineering and Technology, Meerut (UP), India. The major findings of this study are: majority of

faculty members and students have been aware about electronic information resources and services. It was found that , 50 % of the teachers and students were using electronic information sources for study while rest were using e-journals available in the library. It is also found that users were satisfied with the library collection and services.

Bhat and Mudhol (2014), carried a survey on “Use of e-resources by faculty members and students of Sher-E-Kashmir Institute of Medical Science (SKIMS)”. It was noticed that faculty members and students has strong inclination towards the use of e-resources for their study and research. They optimally depend on the use of e-resources for their information needs and keep themselves updated in their subject area. Majority of them were using e-journals.

According to Bajpai and Sharma (2017) that the advent of Information and Communication Technology has shown a great impact on the library services. The emergence of e-resources has transformed the role of libraries in recent decades. It has opened numerous avenues, offering faster and more efficient access to information. The research paper aimed to investigate the awareness and utilization of electronic resources among users in selected special libraries of Delhi NCR. Soni et.al. (2018) in their article examined and explained the present status of awareness, accessibility and use of electronic resources among library and information science research scholars of Jiwaji University Gwalior, like; CDROM databases, online databases, online journals, OPAC etc. The study was carried out to find out the challenges, benefits, and progress gained by research scholars while accessing the e-resources.

III. OBJECTIVES

Sai The major objective of the study is to explore the awareness and use of e-resources among the library users of S.V.K.T. College, Deolali Camp, Nashik. The study has the following objectives:

1. To identify the different types of e-resources and services available within the college
2. To investigate the awareness about e-resources among the user's fraternity.
3. To find out the purposes of using electronic resources and services by the users.
4. To identify the problems faced by the users while retrieving the e-resources
5. To find the satisfaction level of users regarding e-resources provided by the library.

IV. METHODOLOGY

To achieve the objectives of the study a structured questionnaire was designed. The questionnaire was distributed among the users. The data has been collected from the users regarding the use of E-resources in the college. The data collected from the respondents has been analysed to achieve the stated objectives of the study. The data collected from the respondents, was analysed using various statistical

analysis tools and techniques such as frequency distribution, percentage analysis. A total of 245 college library users comprising of UG, PG students and faculty members were taken for the study as sample. Out of 300 questionnaires distributed, a total of 245 properly filled in questionnaires have been received with 81.66 % response rate.

4.1 Data Analysis and Interpretation

Table 1: shows the sample size selected for the study. Out of 300 questionnaires distributed 245 students and faculty members responded.

Respondents	Number of Questionnaire Distributed	No of Respondents	Percentage
Faculty (F)	100	76	31.02 %
Students (S)	200	169	68.98 %
Total	300	245	100 %

A. Frequency of visit to Library

In order to assess the frequency of faculty members and students visit to the library,

It is found that 58 (48.3%) users visit the library daily, 20% visits 2-3 times in a week, 17.5% users visit weekly and 14% users visits the library once in a month. It shows maximum users visits the library daily.

Table 2: Frequency of visit to the library

Frequency	F	% visit	S	% visit	Total	% visit
Daily	29	38.15	89	52.66	118	48.16
2-3 times in a week	21	27.63	38	22.48	59	24.08
Weekly	17	22.36	29	17.15	46	18.77
Monthly	09	11.84	13	7.69	22	8.97

B. Purpose of visit to the library

Table 3. shows the purpose of users for visiting the library. It is found that maximum users (29.16%) visit the library for borrowing books. Around 24.16 % users purpose is to study in the library, followed by referring to journals and e-resources.

Table 3. Purpose of visiting the library

Purpose	F	% visit	S	% visit	Total	% visit
To Study	11	14.4	45	26.6	56	22.8
To Borrow Books	10	13.1	50	29.5	60	24.4
To refer journal/magazines	25	32.8	19	9.46	41	16.7
To complete assignments	00	00	28	16.5	28	11.4
To use e-resources	30	39.4	30	17.7	60	24.4

C. Awareness about electronic resources by the respondent

Table 4. depicts that among the 245 respondents 88.97% respondents are aware

about the e-books, 71.02 % knows about e-journals, 63.67% are aware of online databases 43.26%, 44.89% and 40% are aware about E-thesis, Open access Resources, and Web OPAC followed by 31.02% and

20.40% are about CD ROM databases and institutional repositories.

Table 4. Awareness about electronic resources

Awareness about e-resources	F	% visit	S	% visit	Total	% visit
E-books	70	92.10	148	87.57	218	88.97
E-journals	76	100.00	98	57.98	174	71.02
Online Databases	72	94.73	84	49.70	156	63.67
E-Thesis/ Dissertation	70	92.10	36	21.30	106	43.26
Open Access Resources	68	89.47	42	24.85	110	44.89
CD-ROM Databases	50	65.78	26	15.38	76	31.02
Institutional Repositories	30	39.47	20	11.83	50	20.40
Web OPAC	58	76.31	40	23.66	98	40

D. Awareness about INFLIBNET NLIST, E-PG Pathshala, E-Shodhganga and other Online databases

Table 5. Shows that most of the students and almost all the faculty members are aware about INFLIBNET NLIST, E-PG Pathshala,, E-Shodhganga and other.

Online databases. 83% are aware about the INFLIBNET and only 16,73% are unaware about it.

Table 5: Awareness about INFLIBNET NLIST

Awareness about INFLIBNET NLIST, E-PG Pathshala	F	% Visit	S	% visit	Total	% visit
Yes	76	100	128	52.24	204	
No	00	00	41	16.73		83.27

E. Purpose of Using E-resources

The table reveals that 84.08% users are using e-resources to get subject oriented knowledge, 77.95% are using it to prepare for seminar and conferences 71.42 % users purpose is to search bibliographical information, 68.57% purpose is to access full text articles.

Table 6: Purpose of using E-Resources

Purpose of using E-resources	F	%	S	%	Total	%
To search Bibliographical Information	65	85.52	110	65.08	175	71.42
To browse table of contents	68	89.47	80	47.33	148	60.40
To get subject oriented knowledge	76	100	130	76.92	206	84.08
To prepare for seminar/ conference,	49	64.47	142	84.02	191	77.95
Access full text articles	70	28.57	98	57.98	168	68.57

F. Problems faced by users in accessing E-resources

This question was asked to find the various problems faced by users while searching the information. It was found that lack of time is major barrier among users for searching the information, 80% said they don't get the information because it is scattered in too many sources,74% said they lacks in the knowledge of using information sources, followed by lack of printing facility, speed of Internet, lack of support from the staff and lack of ICT Infrastructure.

Table 6: Problems faced by users in accessing e-resources.

Barriers	F	%	S	%	Total	%
Inconsistent Power Supply	36	47.36	79	46.74	115	46.93
Lack of knowledge in using the library resources	37	48.68	145	85.79	182	74.28
Lack of time for searching	47	61.84	153	90.53	200	81.63
Information scattered in too many sources	66	86.84	130	76.92	196	80.00
Lack of support from library staff	24	31.57	103	60.94	127	51.83
Lack of printing facility	28	36.84	121	71.59	149	60.81
Speed of Internet	21	27.63	124	73.37	145	59.18
Lack of ICT Infrastructure	18	23.68	101	59.76	119	48.57

*multiple options were allowed to select

G. Satisfaction with E-resources and overall function of the library

This question was asked to find the satisfaction level of users regarding library facilities and services. It was found that more than 58.36 % users responded excellent services , 31.42% % users said good thus it shows users are satisfied with the overall functioning of the library.

Table 7: Satisfaction level of users regarding E-resources

Satisfaction	F	% age	S	% age	Total	%age
Excellent	46	60.52	97	57.39	143	58.36
Good	21	27.63	56	33.13	77	31.42
Fair	09	11.84	41	24.26	50	20.40
Poor	00	00	15	8.87	15	8.87

Findings

- It is found that majority of faculty members and students visits the library daily.
- The purpose of visiting the library is to borrow the books.
- Majority of users are aware about e-resources.
- Almost all the faculty members are aware about INFLIBNET NLIST, E-PG Pathshala in comparison to student users.
- They are aware of Open access resources.

- The major problem of users is lack of time for searching and they think information is scattered in too many sources
- Maximum users that is faculty members and students are satisfied with the E-resources and Library services.

CONCLUSION

The study revealed that faculty members and students of the college use IT -based library services and facilities more frequently along with the print sources. On the other hand faculty members are aware about the different information sources both print and non-print and use them frequently for their research studies and teaching. The faculty members and students are satisfied with the library services. It is required that library must promote the use of E-resources among the students while orientating them with the various search strategies to find the desired information.

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