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Abstract

The advent of electronic resources and their increased use have changed the library situation from physically to virtual. User preference is more on e-resources and virtual libraries with little attraction for physical libraries. In the current era of information technology, library and information centers are bound to provide access to electronic information resources also. One such Library of Central University of Tamil Nadu (CUTN) boasts the access to more than 6000 online electronic journals through UGC-INFONET, e-ShodhSindhu, J-Gate, SCIFINDER to name a few. The study investigates utilization of electronic resources and related issues among the students of CUTN. A descriptive method has been used in this study. A total of 130 questionnaires distributed but 123 were received duly filled in as a sample. A well structured questionnaire was designed for collecting data from the respondents. The study highlights different types of electronic resources used by students, the purpose & frequency of using electronic resources and the problems faced by the students while accessing electronics resources among the CUTN students.

Introduction

E-Resource is characterized as an asset which requires PC get to or any electronic item that conveys an accumulation of information, be it content alluding to full content based, electronic diaries, picture accumulations, other interactive media items and numerical, graphical or time based as a monetarily accessible title that has been distributed with a plan to be showcased. These might be conveyed on CD-ROM, on tape, by means of web, etc. In the course of recent years, quantities of strategies and related gauges have been created which enable the reports to be made and disseminated in electronic structure. Thus to adapt up to the current circumstance, libraries are moving towards new media, to be specific electronic assets for their accumulation advancements that the requests of clients are better satisfied. E-Resources on attractive and optical media vastly affect the accumulations of college libraries. These are increasingly valuable because of the intrinsic capacities for control and looking, giving data get to is less expensive their securing data assets, reserve funds away and upkeep and so on., and now and again the electronic structure is the main option.

About the Library

The Central library of Central University of Tamil Nadu (CUTN) has rich collection of books, journals and e-resources catering to students, research scholars and faculty members. Presently, over 28,500 books, 114 CDs/DVDs and 200 printed journals are possessed by the library. It boasts the access to more than 6000 online electronic journals through UGC-INFONET, e-ShodhSindhu, J-Gate, SCIFINDER to name a few. The IndiaStat.com database also subscribed towards the benefits of researchers and students for social science discipline. The library is completely automated having an online portal that can be easily accessed by the users. The library implemented KOHA an open source software package which is an integrated library management system that supports all housekeeping operations of the library. KOHA consists of modules on acquisition, cataloguing, circulation serials control and OPAC. Anyone can access these services within the campus only. Recently the RFID technology is being used for security purposes. There is a separate digital library centre having 30 computers running on high speed internet. Overall, it offers seating capacity to over 100 users. The library is open from Monday to Friday (8am-8pm) and on Saturday (10am-6pm). For convenience of the users, the reprographic

facility is also available inside the library. Other salient features include air conditioners, availability of portable water and property counter. Recently the MoU signed with INFLIBNET for Shodhganga project towards the sharing accessing of the Electronic Theses and Dissertations. And also the Urkund & iThendicate Anti-Plagiarism Software access are enabled by Central Library to check the theses and other publications for the benefits of user's community. The library system and staff is meticulously focused for providing comfortable, user friendly environment so as to enables learning and knowledge creation.

Review of Literature

Anantheeswary and Amudha (2017) the study suggests that access and use of electronic information resources is an vital component for the research studies of the users, the awareness and satisfaction of library e-resource and e-service facilities provide more satisfactory to the users and also suggests that authorities of the deemed university libraries should maintain and update regularly the facilities based on the need of users community.

Sohail and Shakil Ahmad (2017) the results showed a growing interest in e-resources among the users and also found that slow downloading and blockage of website is the hurdle in proper utilization of electronic resources. The survey further reveals that the majority of respondents are aware of the usage of e-resources and service

Liji (2018) the study revealed that compared to print journals, electronic journals by the students and faculty members of Government Medical College, Thiruvananthapuram. The study results showed that compared to print journals, electronic journals are used more. Main reasons for print journals use is it are easy to use format and those of e-journals its cost effectiveness. Purpose of using print journals is to keep abreast in the subject field and those of e-journals the purpose is to collect the study materials. The main problem in the use of print journals is its time delay in getting and in the case of e-journals lack of organization.

Mani, Shahul Hameed and Thirumagal (2019) The paper is to analysis the impact of ICT knowledge, Library Infrastructure facilities and Motivational factors on Students' usage of E-resources at Central University of Tamil Nadu. The major findings are ICT knowledge of student is the main source to increase the usage of e-resources and professors & Library staff members are the major motivator to boost the usage of e-resources of student. So, library

members and Professors may conduct various seminars and workshops in order to enhance the ICT knowledge of students.

Mani and Thirumagal, et al. (2019) The present study examined the usage of e-resources among the students of Manonmaniam Sundaranar University (MSU), Tirunelveli, Tamil Nadu. The result of the study reveals that 78.3% of the respondents are aware and used e-resources followed by 63% are using e-resources in the frequency of 2-3 times in a week, 53% are using e-resources for research purpose, 59% are access e-resources in the library, 17.3% are using e-resources to improve professional competence, 39% of the respondents felt that lack of training as a key constraint for the effective use of e-resources and 35% of the respondents are highly satisfied with the present e-collection of the library. This study concludes that Library plays important role in the usage of e-resources by its users. Library needs to facilitate e-resources and to give training for the effective usage of e-resources by the users.

Scope and Limitation:

The scope of the study gives overview of the usage of e resources at rural area of Tamil Nadu. The limitation of the study is usage of e-resources by students of Central University of Tamil Nadu only.

Objectives of the Study

1. To know the frequency of usage of e-resources.
2. To determine the purpose of using e-resources.
3. To identify the access point of e-resources.
4. To determine the factor influence the usage of e-resources.
5. To know the key constraints that prevents effective use of e-resources.
6. To find out the satisfaction of present e-collection of the library.

Methodology of the Study

The study intends to identify the usage of e-resources among the students of Central University of Tamil Nadu. Survey method was adopted for this study. The population of the study consists of Ph.D, M.Phil Scholars and PG Students of Central University of Tamil Nadu. The respondents are selected on the base of stratified random sampling techniques method. The primary data was collected through well structured questionnaire from the respondents. The questionnaires were distributed among 130 respondents. Out of 130 questionnaires 123 filled questionnaires were

received. The secondary data was collected through internet and other sources. MS Excel 2007 was used to calculate the total and percentage needed for various tables. The collected data were analyzed and interpreted by using MS Excel 2007 application.

Data analysis and Interpretation

Table.1

Gender Wise Classification

Gender	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Male	82	66.7
Female	41	33.3
Total	**123**	**100**

The above table 1 reveals that the gender wise classification of the respondents. In this study, 66.7 percentage of respondents are male respondents' and rest of them 33.3 percentage is female respondents.

Table.2

Category Wise Respondents

Category	No. of Respondents	Percentage
PG	88	71.5
M.Phil	24	19.5
Ph.D	11	8.9
Total	**123**	**100**

The above table 2 reveals that the educational status of the respondents. In this study, 71.5 percentages of respondents are PG students in this study, 19.5 percentages of respondents' are M.Phil Scholars and remaining 8.9% of respondents are Ph.D scholars

Table.3

Frequency of Using of E-Resources

Frequency	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Never	54	43.9
Once in a week	62	50.4
Occasionally	2	1.6
2-3times in a month	1	0.8
2-3 times in a week	4	3.3
Total	**123**	**100**

The above table 3 reveals that the frequency of using of E-resources. In this study, 3.3 percentages of respondents are using e resources 2-3 times in a week, 0.8% of respondents are using e-resources 2-3 times a month, 43.9 percentage are never using e-resources, 50.4 percentages are using e resources once a week and remaining 1.6 percentage of respondents are using e-resources occasionally.

Table.4

Purpose of Using Electronic Resources

Purposes	No. of Respondents	Percentage
For Routine study	24	19.5
To keep up-to-date on the subject	6	4.9
To find relevant information in the area of specialization	71	57.7
For Research Purpose	2	1.6
For completion of Assignments and Seminar Presentations	18	14.6
For Career Development	2	1.6
Total	**123**	**100**

The above table 4 reveals that Purpose of Using Electronic Resources. As per the given data, the

Purpose of Using Electronic Resources are For Routine Study is 19.5 percentage, to keep

yourself up-to-date on the subject is 4.9 percentage, to find relevant information in the area of your specialization is 57.7 percentage, for Research Purpose (Thesis/Dissertations/Project Works) is 1.6 percentage, for completion of Assignments and Seminar Presentations is 14.6 percentage & for the career development is 1.6 percentage. By the table we conclude majority of the respondents using the e resources for the purpose to find relevant information in the area of your specialization.

Table.5

Access Points of e-resources

Frequency	No. of Respondents (N=123)	Percentage
Computer Lab	69	56
Library	104	84
Departments	96	78
Cyber Café	80	65
At Home	75	60
University Hostels	87	70
Any other Places	5	4

Note: Respondents are permitted to tick more than one answer

The above table 5 reveals that the Access Points of E-resources. Respondents can select as many options they are using. As per the given data, 84 percentage of respondents are using e-resources in Library and 78 percentage of respondents are using e-resources in their departments. 56 percentage of respondents are using e resources is computer lab and 60 percentage are using e-resources at their home. 65 percentage are using e-resources at cyber café .70 percentage are using e-resources at university hostels and remaining 4 percentage are using in any other places.

Table.6

Types of e-resources most frequently used

Electronic Resources	No. of Respondents (N=123)	Percentage
E-Books	103	84
E-Research Report	62	50
E-Newspapers	65	53
E-Journal	84	68
E-Magazines	87	70
E-Maps	54	44
E-Thesis	58	47
Bibliographic Database	73	59
Internet	87	71
OPAC	63	51
CD-ROM	42	37

Note: Respondents are permitted to tick more than one answer

The above table 6 reveals that types of E-resources most frequently used. As per the given data, 84% of respondents using E-Books. 50% of respondents using E-Research Report. 53% of respondents using E-Newspapers. 68% of respondents using E-Journal. 70% of respondents using E-Magazines. 44% of respondents using E-Maps. 47 percentage of respondent's using E-Thesis. 59% of respondent's using Bibliographic Database.71 percentage of respondents using Internet. 51 percentage of respondent's using OPAC.37 percentage of respondent's using CD-ROM .By the table majority of the respondents are influencing to use the E-resources are E-Books.

Table.7

Factors Influencing Usage of Electronic Resources for Study & Research

Factors	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Expedited the research process	32	26
Easier access to information than printed equivalent	12	9.8
Provides instant access to current up-to-date information	77	62.6
Access to a wider range of information	2	1.6
Total	**123**	**100**

The above table 7 reveals that factors influence the usage of electronic resources for study & research. As per the given data, 1.6% of respondents are using e-resources for accessing wider range of information. 9.8% of respondents are using for easier access to information than printed equivalent. 26.0% of respondents are using e-resources for expedited the research process. 62.6% of respondents are using e-resources for accessing to current up-to-date information instantly. By the table majority of the respondents are influencing to use the e-resources for accessing up to date information.

Table.8

Preference format for Reading Full-Text Articles

Format	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Hard Copy	60	48.8
Web Browser	16	13
PDF	47	38.2
Total	**123**	**100**

The above table 8 reveals about the preference format for Reading Full-Text Articles. 48.8 percentage of respondents are using Hard Copy. 13.0 percentage of respondents are using web browser. 38.2 percentage of respondents are using PDF. By the table majority of the respondents are influencing for the most preferred format for reading full-text articles is hard copy.

Table.9

Key Constraints that Prevent Effective Use of e-resources

Key Constraints	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Lack of expertise help and support	5	4.1
Unawareness	98	79.7
Inadequate Infrastructure	5	4.1
Lack of training to users	5	4.1
Any other	10	8.1
Total	**123**	**100**

The above table 9 reveals about the key constraints that prevent effective use of e-resources. 79.7 percentage of respondents stated that unawareness is a main constraint. 8.1% of respondents have chosen any other is a constraint. And remaining respondents stated that lack of expertise help and support & inadequate infrastructure & lack of training to users 4.1% for each reason.

Table.10

Satisfaction with present E-Collection of the Library

Satisfaction Level	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Satisfied	83	67.5
Moderately Satisfied	29	23.6
Highly Dissatisfied	9	7.3
Dissatisfied	2	1.6
Total	**123**	**100**

The above table 10 reveals about satisfaction with present e-collection of the library. 67.5% and 23.6% of respondents are satisfied and moderately satisfied with the present e-collection of the library respectively and, 7.3 percentage of respondents are highly dissatisfied and remaining 1.6 percentage of respondents are dissatisfied with the present e-collection of the library in this study.

Findings

❖ Male student's respondents are more than female students.

❖ In this study, 71.5% of respondents are PG students and 19.5% of respondents are M.Phil Scholars and remaining 8.9 % of respondents are Ph.D scholars.

❖ 50.4 percentages of respondents use e resources once in a week. 43.9% of respondents never use e-resources.

❖ 57.7 percentages of students are using electronic resources for finding relevant information in their area of specialization.

❖ Majority of the respondents are using e-resources in the Library.

❖ 84% of respondents using E-Books most frequently.

❖ 62.2% of the respondents are influencing to use the e-resources for accessing instant current up to date information.

❖ 48.8% of respondents are using hard copy for reading full-text articles.

❖ 79.7% of respondents stated that unawareness is a main constraint preventing effective usage of internet.

❖ 67.5% of respondents are satisfied with present E-collection for the library.

Conclusion

Today with the information explosion and communication innovation, the learning condition has changed a great deal. E-resources have been broadly acknowledged in scholarly condition. Still lots of works need to be done to reach the every corner of the country especially rural area. Though the survey has been taken from PG students and scholars, 43.9% of respondents stated that they have never used internet for accessing e resources. 79.7 % of respondents stated that unawareness is the reason for not using e resources effectively. It is the right time to empower

every library user by throwing light on using internet for academic purpose. It could not be completed in a month or in a year. It is needed to be done continuously till the goal reached.

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