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Electronic Resources of Libraries of First-Generation Indian Institute of Management (IIM): An Evaluative Analysis

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ABSTRACT

As an essential component and one of the quality assessment measures, the availability of electronic resources is gaining significance in libraries, hence increasingly becoming part of the acquisition and collection-building activities. Libraries and information centres play a pivotal role in selecting, acquiring and providing effective access to electronic resources to its users under various categories to meet their academic and scholarly requirements. This paper analyses the availability and distribution of electronic resources among the selected libraries of the Indian Institute of Management (IIMs) in India. Researchers have chosen six IIMs identified as first-generation libraries for analysing the holding of e-resources as part of its library services. The study compares various dimensions of electronic resources such as availability of different types of resources, its source of availability, mode of access and the customized services through specialized tools and collaborative networks. Researchers observed from the analysis that all the first-generation IIM libraries are part of IIM library consortia and are the major source of electronic resources rather than individual subscriptions and the majority of the libraries are providing customized services through specialized access tools. The findings and suggestions incorporated in this study may be useful for the library professionals and the administrators associated with the IIM libraries to further improve the management of their electronic resources.

Keywords: Indian Institute of Management, IIM, IIM libraries, Electronic resources, IIM consortium, Library networks, India.

1. INTRODUCTION

Electronic resources, generally known as e-resources, are resources available in an electronic format having scholarly contents. Electronic resources refer to those materials that require computer access, whether through a personal computer, mainframe, or handheld mobile device Johnson, S et al.¹, (2012). Adeleke & Nwalo² (2017) defined “electronic information resources as resources in which information is stored electronically and which are accessible through electronic systems and networks”. E-resources include e-books, e-journals, e-database (full text, indexing and abstracting, reference, factual, numerical and statistical), e-magazine, e-newspaper, e-thesis and dissertation, e-reference sources, e-images, e-audio visual resources, etc. Librarians play a pivotal role in identifying, selecting and procuring the e-resource so as to enhance the quality of the collection to satisfy its user’s need. Acquiring e-resources are invariably expensive and its continuity of access for a more extended period depends on many factors. In most of the higher education system and research institutions, as they are the primary stakeholders of such products, libraries have to pay more attention to purchasing/subscribing to electronic resources. Library professionals have to play a key role in effectively utilizing the fund allocated and need to act as an expert

in finding the best suitable resources for its user community. Users have to be provided with an uninterrupted access facility and the e-resources with advanced technologies and emerging Internet tools supported by an easy searching mechanism. E-resources can be easily accessed and downloaded over the Internet if one has permission to access its contents in different formats. However, processes involved in collection development, subscription, licensing and agreement formalities and the other access and renewal related issues are the challenges where the library professionals have to take utmost care of.

1.1 Indian Institutes of Management Libraries

Indian Institute of Management (IIMs) are being perceived as the most prestigious and elite B-schools in India. The establishment of IIMs was envisioned and initiated by the first Prime Minister of India, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru dreaming the excellence in management education and research and generating and imparting knowledge for the socio-economic development of the country. There are twenty autonomous Institutes of IIMs throughout the country established at different time periods. Presently, IIMs are grouped under three generations- first, second and third generations based on their period of establishment at different times. First-generation IIMs are recognized as IIM Calcutta, IIM Ahmedabad, IIM Bangalore, IIM Kozhikode, IIM Lucknow and IIM Indore. IIMs listed under the second-generation are located at Shillong, Rohtak, Ranchi, Raipur, Tiruchirappalli, Kashipur, and Udaipur and the third-generation IIMs are located at Nagpur, Amritsar, Bodh Gaya, Sirmaur, Visakhapatnam, Sambalpur and Jammu. These institutions are perceived as premier management institutions within the country to improve the management systems with regard to business, government, public services and the industry through pursuit of excellence in management education, research, consultancy and training.

Researchers have selected all the first-generation IIM libraries to analyse the distribution characteristics of e-resources owned by them. All the first-generation IIMs effectively and efficiently manage libraries and utilize information and communication technology tools for better services to fulfill their clients' diverse demands. Researchers noticed that different libraries are following different patterns and systems to manage their electronic resources. All first-generation IIM libraries have their own web portal exclusively to showcase their resources and services. However, unlike other IIMs, the library portal of IIM Lucknow has not listed the A-Z organization of their e-resources/databases.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

Different researchers in the related areas have performed similar studies on various aspects of electronic resources management in different IIMs, however, the count is less. Veena and Sapan³ (2015) in their study evaluated the availability of different types of e-resources in the libraries of IIMs and identified that most of the libraries hold e-resources of various categories. The authors emphasized the need for a single common platform for each library to share some common and special e-resource among them and also suggested some measures to strengthen the services related to e-resources. It is always advisable to have a separate webpage exclusively for the libraries to facilitate the details of electronic resource holdings in a systematic manner. Verma and Devi⁴ (2016) analysed the web content and design trends of IIMs Libraries websites and identified that out of 12 IIMs only 7 were having a separate webpage. Further, the authors provided detailed information about the e-resources available in each IIM library and suggested the need for having a separate web page for the library and providing detailed information about the e-resources. E-journal

consortium plays a significant role in facilitating enhanced access to maximum resources. Solanki⁵ (2019) conducted a survey to evaluate the status of the institute, staff, collection, budget, services, and technical services of selected IIM libraries and identified the need to increase the number of electronic resources and the supporting IT infrastructure to satisfy the information and knowledge needs of its users. In a study conducted by Kumar to evaluate the extent of use of library resources in IIM, Rohtak found that 32.39% of students were not satisfied with the existing library resources and suggested that the utilization of library can be enhanced by adopting modern formats like audio-visual materials and electronic resources (Kumar⁶, 2013). Swamy and Kishore⁷ (2017) explored the perception of patrons towards the use of electronic resources from selected IIMs from South India and suggested the need to have an established dynamic electronic management environment to utilize the electronic resources. A study conducted by Kumar and et al⁸ (2009) analysing the contents of IIM library websites indicated that all IIM's library websites provided information on non-book materials and e-resources. However, IIM Kozhikode has provided more information on non-book material and e-resources than others. Saigal and Sharma⁹ (2017) conducted a comparative study based on the selection criteria, evaluation and collection of e-resources in IIM Libraries and justified that the criteria used for the selection of e-resources and its evaluation procedures for the subscription are almost equal in all the aspects and there is no significant difference in the selection criteria too. Sonia and Kavitha¹⁰ (2019) in their study on the usage of e-resources by the students of Engineering and Technology Library (FEAT), Annamalai University found that e-resources are used very frequently by the users to gather subject data and made their research work easy and also playing a major role in influencing the standards of teaching and learning. The main requirement identified by the authors to enhance the usage Authors identified that e-resources are playing a major role in influencing the standard of teaching and learning hence suggested the need for having efficacious training for enhancing the usage. Abdulla and Devi¹¹ (2020) conducted a survey to study the management of electronic resources in the University libraries in Kerala and expressed the need for a user-friendly interface for accessing e-resources along with the continuing management of the resources and emphasised the difficulties faced by the librarians associated with collection development policies and archiving of e-resources. Merugu¹² (2014) examined the user behaviours towards accessing electronic resources among the Kakatiya University Library users and suggested that libraries ought to have highly designed frameworks with vital programming and hardware to showcase the e-resources available and to improve the recurrence of the utilization of the electronic resources. Dora & Kumar¹³ (2012) reviewed the IIM Consortium and found that the consortia is growing because more members are being added to the formation of new IIMs across the country and is acting as an effective facilitator to enhance library services. Authors argued that up to a large extent, the success of IIM library consortium depends on the role of the directors and library committee chairpersons of the IIMs. The authors suggested the need for taking up the consortia to the next level to optimize its potential with the larger objective of promoting research and enhancing the learning experience.

3. OBJECTIVES

Libraries offer services using their resources of information. These resources are procured by the libraries through the laid procedure of acquisition. A library could buy/subscribe resource(s) or service(s) on its own or collectively. Often collective

subscriptions lead to the formation of consortia. IIM libraries altogether having similar disciplinary scope formed a nationwide IIM Libraries Consortium. The resources more precisely electronic resource(s) or service(s) are subscribed collectively as well as at the individual level. The present study analyses and assesses the distribution of electronic resources available in the library portals of first-generation IIM libraries. The four objectives laid for the study encompass four major facets i.e. resources, procurement of resources, services offered and opportunities for further improvements. The specific objectives of the study are as follows.

- To analyse the distribution of electronic resources in the libraries of first-generation IIMs.
- To identify the various modes of acquiring e-resource by the libraries of first-generation IIMs.
- To identify the characteristics of user services provided by the libraries of the first-generation IIMs.
- To compare and propose some suggestive measures to enhance the visibility of access to electronic resources.

4. METHODOLOGY

In this study, the researchers selected all the first-generation IIM libraries in the country. Based on the year of establishments there are six IIMs that are identified and listed as first generations IIMs. The study was limited to surfing the website of all first-generation IIM libraries to have a thorough assessment of the availability of various electronic resources and their distribution. The information provided on the library web page of each IIM is the sole source of data extraction for the analysis. Details of consortia resources have been collected from the web page meant for IIM consortia. The study further analyse various dimensions of electronic resources such as availability of different types of resources, its source of availability, mode of access and the customized services through specialized tools and collaborative networks. Table 1 indicates the details of the first-generation IIM libraries selected for the study along with the year of establishments and the URL addresses. As a convenient measure, researchers further used the abbreviated form of all the IIMs throughout the paper such IIMC for IIM Calcutta; IIMA for IIM Ahmedabad; IIMB for IIM Bangalore; IIML for IIM Lucknow; IIMK for IIM Kozhikode and IIMI for IIM Indore.

5. DATA ANALYSIS

5.1 Libraries of First-Generation IIMs

Table 1 represents the essential data pertaining to the IIM libraries in India identified as first-generation IIMs. IIMC, and IIMA libraries were established in 1962. It is found that IIMB was established in 1973 and IIML was established in 1984. Both the IIMK and IIMI were established in 1996. While preparing the table, researchers assumed that the year of establishment of libraries is the same as the year of establishing the parent organization where a different year of library foundation is not given.

Table 1: Libraries of First-Generation IIMs in India

S. No.	Name of the IIMs	Located State	Name of the Library	Est. Year	URL of the Library
1	IIM Calcutta (IIMC)	West Bengal	B. C. Roy Memorial Library	1962	http://library.iimcal.ac.in/
2	IIM Ahmedabad (IIMA)	Gujarat	Vikram Sarabhai	1962	https://library.iima.ac.in/

			Library		
3	IIM Bangalore (IIMB)	Karnataka	IIM Bangalore Library	1973	https://library.iimb.ac.in/library
4	IIM Lucknow (IIML)	Uttar Pradesh	Gyanodaya Library - Learning Resource Centre.	1984	http://www.iiml.ac.in/facilities/library
5	IIM Kozhikode (IIMK)	Kerala	Library and Information Centre	1996	https://iimk.ac.in/libportal/
6	IIM Indore (IIMI)	Madhya Pradesh	Learning Centre	1996	https://www.iimdr.ac.in/facilities/library/

5.2 Distribution of Electronic Resources

The researchers have browsed websites of each IIM to reach the information pertaining to each library. Further, the webpage representing the availability of electronic resources has been assessed thoroughly. Details about the electronic resources available to each library have been represented in Table 2. The researchers observed from the data collected that all the first-generation IIM libraries hold collections under various categories such as e-books, e-journals, e-databases, e-thesis, e-dissertations, e-magazines, A-V materials, e-newspapers, e-maps and e-reference sources with the details of CDs/DVDs and the e-book reader details.

Table 2 Distribution of electronic resources

S. No.	E-resources	IIMC	IIMA	IIMB	IIML	IIMK	IIMI	Available	Percent
1	E-books	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	6	100.00
2	E-journals	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	6	100.00
3	E-dissertation	✓		✓		✓		3	50.00
4	E-theses	✓		✓				2	33.30
5	E-magazines					✓		1	16.70
6	E-databases	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	0	50.00
7	AV-materials	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		5	83.30
8	E-newspapers	✓	✓	✓		✓		4	66.70
9	E-maps							0	00.00
10	CDs/DVDs with books	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	6	100.00
11	Kindle e-book Reader		✓					1	16.70

It is observed from the analysis that libraries of all selected IIMs hold details of the collections under the category of e-books, e-journals, e-database and CDs/DVDs come along with books. However, IIMA, IIML and IIMI are not having the collection of e-thesis and dissertations. Further, it is observed that IIMK is the only library possess a separate collection for e-Magazines. Except IIMI and IIML all other libraries have a subscription of e-newspapers. No libraries found having a collection of e-maps and IIMA is the only library that has provided information about the e-book reader in their library. IIMB library possesses a collection of e-reference sources mentioned in their library webpage.

5.3 Access to E-Resource through Consortium

The researchers found that being a member of its own consortia, all the libraries are getting access to a vast collection of e-resources irrespective of its category of first, second or third generations. Further, it is identified that a major percentage of the e-resources are subscribed through IIM consortia. A total of 245 different types of e-resources are found to be subscribed by different libraries of different generation IIMs as per the details available in the web page meant for IIM consortia. However, while going through each resource listed in

the web page of consortia, researchers identified that only 244 titles are unique and the title indicated for World eBook Library (WEL) mentioned in repetition. Hence all the analysis performed here are based on the 244 resources. Figure 1 represents the total number of e-resources accessible to first generation IIM libraries in comparison with all the IIM libraries.

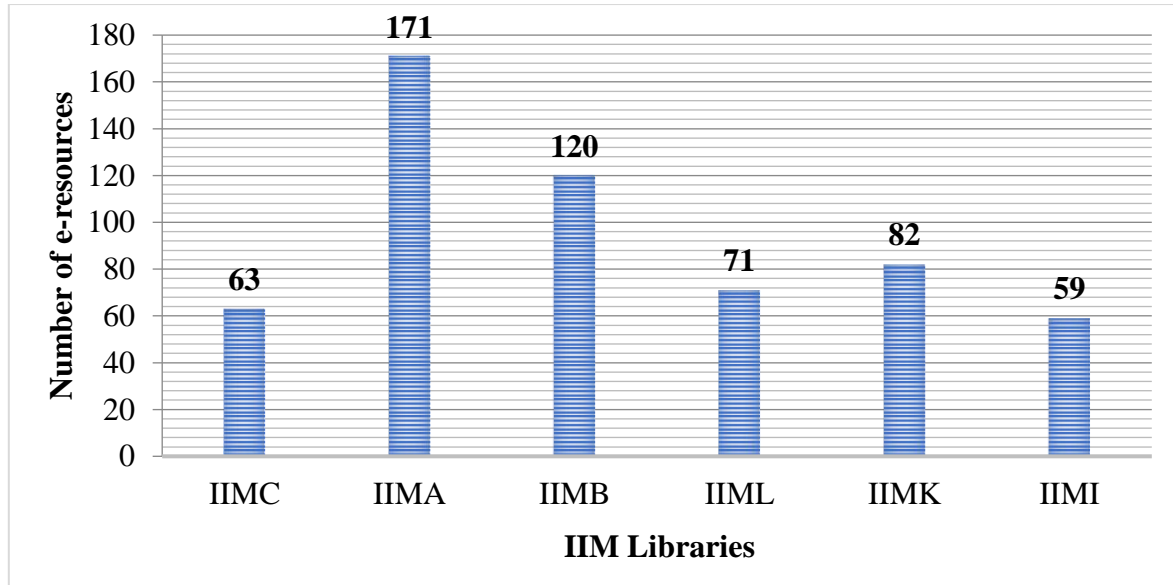


Figure 1. Number of e-resources accessible through IIM Consortium

It is identified from the analysis that IIMA is getting access to the highest number, 171 (70.08%) of e-resources through consortium followed by IIMB with 120 resources (49.18%), IIMK with a holding of 82 resources (33.60%), IIML with 71 resources (29.09%), IIMC with 63 resources (25.81%) and IIMI with a total of 59 resources (24.18%). Further, researchers tried to extract the resources available through consortium categorised under different types of e-resources packages provided by publishers and aggregators. Researchers found that out of 244 resources 29 resources are commonly available to all the IIM libraries. All the 29 resources are equally accessible to first-generation libraries which are represented in Table 3. Among the 29 common e-resources ACE Knowledge and Research Portal and Capitaline Plus are accessible online and standalone, whereas ACE Mutual Fund is accessible only on standalone. The resources which are available online only are ASI- Unit level data (1974-2016), CMIE packages (Economic Outlook, Industry Outlook, Prowess dx, ProwessIQ, States of India), EPW, EPWRF India, Time Series, Euromonitor Passport, FT.com, Grammarly, Indiastat.com, INFORMS Journals, JSTOR, MarketLine Advantage, NSS Data (Round No 51-73) (1994-2016), ProQuest ABI/INFORM and its Dissertations and Theses, ProQuest PsycARTICLES, SAGE Journals, Sage Research Methods Online, Science Direct (Elsevier), Springer, Taylor and Francis and Wiley online

Table 3. List of Common e-resources accessible through Consortium

S. No.	IIM Consortium e-resources	IIMC	IIMA	IIMB	IIML	IIMK	IIMI
1	ACE Knowledge and Research Portal (Online & Standalone)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
2	ACE Mutual Fund (Standalone)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
3	ASI- Unit level data (1974-2016)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
4	Capitaline Plus (Online & Standalone)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
5	CMIE - Economic Outlook	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
6	CMIE - Industry Outlook	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
7	CMIE - Prowess dx	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

8	CMIE - ProwessIQ	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
9	CMIE - States of India	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
10	Economic & Political Weekly (EPW)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
11	EPWRF India Time Series	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
12	Euromonitor Passport	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
13	FT.com	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
14	Grammarly	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
15	Indiastat.com	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
16	INFORMS Journals	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
17	JSTOR	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
18	MarketLine Advantage	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
19	NSS Data (Round No 51-73) (1994-2016)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
20	ProQuest ABI/INFORM	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
21	ProQuest Dissertations & Theses	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
22	ProQuest PsycARTICLES	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
23	SAGE Journals	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
24	Sage Research Methods Online	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
25	Science Direct (Elsevier)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
26	Springer	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
27	Taylor and Francis	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
28	Wiley online (Including HSS collection)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
29	World eBook Library	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Researchers further tried to identify the list of e-resources used by a minimum of 11 IIMs of all the generations and found that 32 different resources are being commonly used. Table 4 indicates the list of all the 32 e-resource packages subscribed by a minimum of 11 IIMs from the total IIMs in India.

Table 4. List of e-resources used by more than 10 IIMs through consortium

S. No.	IIM Consortium e-resources	IIMC	IIMA	IIMB	IIML	IIMK	IIMI	Total
1	ACE Knowledge and Research Portal (Online & Standalone)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	6
2	ACE Mutual Fund (Standalone)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	6
3	ASI- Unit level data (1974-2016)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	6
4	Bloomberg		✓	✓	✓	✓		4
5	Business Source Ultimate		✓		✓	✓		3
6	Capitaline Plus (Online & Standalone)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	6
7	CMIE - Industry Outlook	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	6
8	CMIE - Prowess dx	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	6
9	CMIE - ProwessIQ	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	6
10	CRISIL Research	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		5
11	ebookcentral (ebrary) Academic Complete		✓	✓	✓	✓		4
12	Economic & Political Weekly (EPW)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	6
13	Emerald Insight	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		5
14	EPWRF India Time Series	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	6
15	Euromonitor Passport	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	6
16	FT.com	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	6
17	Grammarly	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	6
18	Indiastat.com	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	6
19	INFORMS Journals	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	6
20	JSTOR	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	6
21	NSS Data (Round No 51-73) (1994-2016)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	6
22	Pressreader.com	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		5
23	ProQuest ABI/INFORM	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	6
24	ProQuest Dissertations & Theses	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	6
25	ProQuest PsycARTICLES	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	6
26	RemoteXS		✓	✓		✓		3
27	SAGE Journals	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	6
28	Science Direct (Elsevier)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	6
29	Springer	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	6
30	Taylor and Francis	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	6

31	Tracxn.com		✓	✓				2
32	Wiley online (Including HSS collection)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	6
Total Number of Resources Subscribed		27	32	31	30	31	24	

It is further identified that, out of total 32 resource package except Bloomberg, Business Source Ultimate, CRISIL Research, ebookcentral (ebrary) Academic Complete, Emerald Insight, Pressreader.com, RemoteXS and Tracxn.com resources all other resources are being commonly subscribed by all the first-generation libraries.

5.4 Membership in other Library Networks

The researchers tried to find out the other sources of access entitlement to the first-generation libraries other than its own consortia. It is found from the analysis that different libraries are part of different library networking systems. Figure 2 shows that all the first-generation libraries have membership in INFLIBNET. IIMC and IIMK have taken membership in Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) and National Association of Software and Service Companies (NASSCOM). Further, it is noticed that only three libraries viz. IIMC, IIMA and IIMK are part of NDL India. IIMK and IIMI are having membership in DELNET. The analysis also determined that only IIMB has taken membership in ERNET, IIMA in NICMAN and IIMK in Nation HRD Network as per the details available in the respective websites. Different libraries are getting benefitted in various means through such network collaborations.

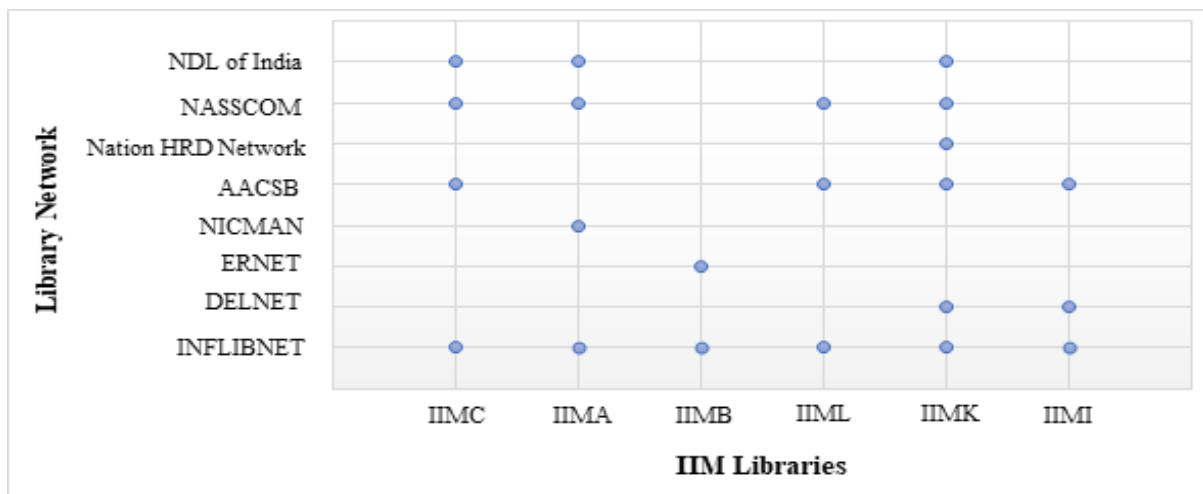


Figure 2. Representation of Membership in Library Network

5.5 Collaboration Service

The researchers have listed the details of other collaborative services availed by each IIMs in addition to their memberships in consortium and library networks. It is found that IIM libraries are collaborating with American Library Calcutta, British Council Library Calcutta and J-Gate Custom Content for Consortia (JCCC) services. IIMC is part of all three collaborations whereas IIMB and IIMK are using only JCCC facility for providing the scanned/photocopies materials as per the request received from other institutes. The rest of the first-generation libraries are not part of any of such collaborative services.

6. FINDINGS

- It is observed from the study that all the first-generation IIMs have a dedicated portal for their libraries to display the electronic resources they possess. However, researchers identified that IIML library is not maintaining a separate library portal to accommodate the details of e-resources accessible to them and provided information on the institute web page.
- It is analysed from the study that all first-generation IIM Libraries are part of IIM library consortia and facilitate a good number of e-resources to its clients.
- It is found from the study that a major part of the electronic resources is subscribed through IIM consortia rather than an individual subscription.
- It is identified from the analysis that IIMA is getting access to the highest number, 171 (70.08%) of e-resources through the consortium. IIMB has 120 resources (49.18%), whereas IIMK, IIML, IIMC and IIMI have below 100 resources.
- It was found that 32 different e-resources are commonly used by a minimum of 11 IIMs of all the generations.
- It is observed from the study that different libraries displayed their holding under different categories. As per the details available in each web portal meant for libraries, 50% of the first-generation IIM libraries are not given any details about their collection on e-thesis and dissertations.
- It is found from the library websites that only IIMK is having a separate collection for e-Magazines and except IIMI and IIML all other libraries have a subscription of e-newspapers. No libraries found having a collection of e-maps and IIMA. The only library that has provided information about the e-book reader in their library and IIMB library only possesses a collection of e-reference sources mentioned in their library webpage.
- It is analysed from the study that first-generation IIM libraries are having membership in the different library network systems and INFLIBNET is the top among them found to be chosen by all six libraries. AACSB, NASSCOM, NDL India, DELNET, ERNET, NICMAN and Nation HRD Network are the other such networks in which IIMs are having their memberships.
- It is clear from the study that out of Six IIM libraries five provide specialized tools such as EBSCO Discovery, Institutional repository and Remote login.
- It is recognised that there are a total of 245 different types of e-resources listed in the consortium website, but apparently, only 244 unique titles are available and out of them only 29 e-resources are commonly available to all the first-generation libraries.

7. SUGGESTIONS

The present study has attempted to look into the subscription of electronic resources of IIMs especially the first-generation establishments. The principal reason to conduct such a study is to guide the management and library professionals of new IIMs towards building the library facilities. Since IIM is a brand in the field of management and business, there should be a uniformity in the infrastructure and education. The researchers based on the observations, collected data and analysis have made the following suggestions,

- The consortium of IIMs should be made more powerful towards subscription of electronic resources, building infrastructure, maintaining the standards and recommending the improvements in library services. The researchers have strongly felt the consortium should be given an institutional status.
- A collaboration towards sharing the resources including, reading resources, manpower, physical infrastructure, etc. is to be explored and brought to the floor.

- Newly established IIMs must look into the services, collections of first-generation IIMs and learn the lessons towards to-dos and not to-dos.
- The first-generation IIMs should support the nearest establishing IIMs with respect to the resources. However, in return, the new IIMs must allow first-generation establishments the novelties they have.

8. CONCLUSION

The number of IIMs has increased from SIX to TWENTY. This is the need of time that access to institutions like IITs and IIMs must increase for the students to other parts of the country. However, with growing numbers of these premier institutions the standard of education and infrastructure should not be compromised to which they are known. Libraries are the heart of any educational body thus the premier institutions like IIMs must not settle for less. It is equally true that managing electronic resources in a library is a complex task and needs more attention in the scenario where the growth of publication is exponential and the formats of the resources are available in various media. Though there are alternative measures to check the availability of library resources, websites or portals play a significant role in arranging and showcasing the holdings of a particular library. The Web could be well utilized as a medium for accessing the resources to the users 24x7 giving higher visibility to the users. Resources under various categories are to be organized in easy approachable setup. Details of the resources may also be made available on the institutional intranet so that it can be utilized optimally. The newly established IIMs second and third generations should collaborate with the first-generation IIMs. The consortium of IIM libraries must come forward to lead from front.

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