

Utilization of E-Resources in Academic Libraries

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Abstract

This paper discusses the need and importance of E-Resources in Libraries. Nowadays, the primary function of a library is to assist the users by adequate their information requests. Resources form the important section of library. Electronic resources have currently become an important part of the library properties today. Electronic resources have now become an important part of the library resources today. Information contents and services are changing with the way of time. Microfilms, microfiche, micro card etc. were popular library resources a few years ago. These microforms are now becoming replaced gradually by electronic media namely electronic books (E-books), E-journals, Electronic thesis, etc. The e-resources on magnetic and optical media have a vast impact on the collections of University libraries. These are more useful due to characteristic proficiencies for manipulation and searching, providing information access is cheaper to obtaining information resources, savings in storage and keep etc. and sometimes the electronic form is the only alternative. The E - resource is distribution of information in any electronic form such as CD- ROM, Floppy Disk or Magnetic tape or across a computer network like e-journals, E-Books, ETD etc.

Keywords: E-Resources, Digital Library, E-Journals.

1. Introduction

The need for e-learning and electronic information resource and various development of e-learning and electronic resource. Resources are getting approval due to its easy and fast accessibility. This paper focuses on various forms of electronic resource and also creating awareness regarding the usefulness of resource. The term digital library and virtual library have initiated to be used to refer to the vast collection of information to which people gain access over the Internet. Electronic Resources are enabled by applied capability to create, search and use huge amount of information. Electronic Resources are e-book, e-journals, e-newspaper, database, bibliographic database etc. Electronic resources on the Internet patent themselves in numerous flavors and categories, although most of them follow the traditional publishing while others are revolutionary in their design and approach. While the present



movement to imitate and emulate the traditional models of scholarly communication may continue for same time, eventually the capabilities added by the new media would be used in more pioneering ways. Some of the important types of e-resources are defined here.

2. E-Resources

2.1 Definition & Meaning: Gail Macmillan defines E-journals as "any serials formed, published and spread nationally and internationally via electronic networks such as Binet and Internet". According to Jones (W) "E-journals are available electronically via a computer or a computer network, that they may or may not be published in some other physical medium, but that are not CD-ROM's".

Bavekenty et.al (2003) is considering the concept viewed that e-resources are resources in which information is reserved electrically and are open through electronic systems and networks. 'E-Resource' is a board term that holds a variety of publishing models, including OPAC, online data base, e-journals, e-books, internet resources, print-on demand (POD),e-mail publishing, wireless issuing, electronic link and web publication etc. In this context, the term primarily denotes "any electronic product that distributes collection of data be it in text, numerical, graphical or time based as a commercially available resources".

2.2 E-Resources Concept

E-resources and regarded as the mines of data that are explored through modern ICT devices ,innovative and reformed and more often kept in the cyber universe in the most concrete and dense form and can be accessed instantaneously from infinite points by a great number of audience. The expression 'electronic resources', has broadly been defined as, "information accessed by a computer, may be useful as bibliographic guides to potential sources but, as of yet, they infrequently appear as cited reference in their own right".

The academic libraries spent an enormous amount of money, expertise and other valuable electronic resources to come up to a stage where they are at present in terms of service delivery. It is true that by using a variety of information Technology (IT) tools and techniques, library and information centers are now able to generate various to acting the routine tasks.



2.3 Types of E-Resources

The E-resources are basically:

- **E-journal (Full text & bibliographic)** - An e-journal is very important part of every library collection. E-Journals are one application of information technology.
- **E-books** - E-books is the many formats competing for prime time, as well as Adobe PDF, Microsoft Reader, eReader, Mobipocket Reader, EPUB, Kindle and iPad
- **E-Newspaper** - E- newspaper is also known as online newspaper or web newspaper that exists on the World Wide Web or internet.
- **E-Magazines** - E-Magazine is very important part of every library collection E-Magazines are one application of information Technology.
- **Online databases** - Today are either free or with charges. E-databases is an organized collection of information of a particular subject or multidisciplinary subject areas, information within e-databases can be searched and retrieved electronically. Reference database are many Dictionaries, Almanacs, and Encyclopedias, which are available on internet in electronic format. Statistical databases contain the numerical data useful for the mass unrestricted. Image collection due to adventure of e-images facility this type of databases is established.
- Image collection Due to adventure of e-images facility this type of databases is developed. Multimedia products etc.
- **E-Thesis** - These databases are controlled with Ph.D thesis and Dissertation published through e-format.
- **E-Clipping** - The main objective of e-clipping is retrospective search and comprehensive analysis of new items.
- **E-Patents** - E-patents is the exclusive right granted by the government to make use of an invention for a specific period of time.
- **E-Standards** - Written definition, limit rule, approved and monitored for complains by authoritative agency.
- **Individual Blogs/ Professional Discussion Forums:** These are the latest and new web options on the Internet to share one's views or opinions with other fellow professionals around the world. Day by day various forums, discussion groups and blogs are flourishing with explosive speed.



2.4. E-Resources in Libraries:

Libraries are the bright house for information in the field of education and research. The information is cumulative in volume every day at various levels and the various subjects. Hence IT is very much required in academic libraries exclusively for the following reasons.

- To provide efficient and accurate services
- To controller the rapid growth of information
- To help co-operation
- To be able to increased work load Information tools has provided new media, new modes of storing and communication of information. The requests of IT for methods and services in academic libraries have been increasing gradually. Information technology now used in academic libraries for housekeeping operations, collection growth, information processing, storage and retrieval of information, creation of data base, developing search patterns to retrieve information etc. Information technology brought in many services to libraries to speed up their activities. These include telecommunication technology, CDROM technology, online retrieval services, library networks and Internet etc.

3. Review of Literature

The review of relevant literature starts with a compilation of bibliography on the subject of study. According to Bruce, “The review forms an important chapter in a thesis where its purpose is to provide the background to and validation for the research undertaken”. The review of literature is a serious look at the existing research that has relevance and significance to the work that is being carried out. A literature review is an account of what has been published on a topic by recognized scholars and researchers. It also allows a researcher to refine the research question based on the experiences of others.

Reviews cover existing and current literature that includes a variety of sources like, Journal publications, Conference publications, other library sources, The Internet and Reports literature from tertiary institutions

1. **Rao and Mutshewa (2000)**, have involved that the issue of devoted partly to the theme in African and Russian libraries. Libraries are varying their modes of information delivery at a very fast rate. The electronic publishing in the chemistry



research detailed a promising alternative means for circulating scholarly research but also discovered a number of challenges that must have to be overcome before it offers a serious alternative to traditional print publishing. While many use electronic venues such as E-resources and Web sites to find scholarly research, few seek to publish their own work electronically.

2. **Arora (2001)**, has discussed that the proposal for strategic co-operation for consortia based access to electronic resources, which is called Indian National Digital Library in Engineering Science and Technology. The INDEST would function as a consortium of engineering and technological libraries for building up a core digital collection in engineering and technology. The INDEST is proposed by three major ministries i.e. HRD, IT and Dept. of Biotechnology to function as a consortium of engineering and technological libraries for nurturing core digital collection of engineering and technology.

4. Objectives of the Study

1. To promote the records of human knowledge and keep them upto date in accordance with the growing needs and requirements of today and tomorrow.
2. To remind faculty members of the various opportunities for using library resources in teaching.
3. To facilitate an individual and a group of readers in the use of library resources with practical demonstration on how to seek the information.
4. To provide necessary resources for staffs and students.
5. To assist teaching staff in organizing the synthetic methods of teachings.
6. To bring the documents to the notice of students and the academic together under environments which inspire reading for pleasure, self-realization, personal growth and development, and the cultivation of intellectual excellence for entertainment

5. Scope and Limitations of the Study

The following are some of the emerging scope of research resulting from the present research problem which can contribute to scientific and innovative study in the knowledge domain. Competency development among the library users and professionals on use of electronic resources. , Developing skills among the library professionals in organization of e-resources, Acquaintance with the functional elements of open source software in building digital



repositories in the library. , Marketing the information products and services through e-resources for societal development. , Sustainable quality services among the Central Libraries through E-Resources., Facilitating organizational knowledge work through web based information systems.

The purpose and motive for retrieving information from electronic resources, the most used electronic sources, the regularly used electronic sources, the 50 regularly used search engine, the extent of user-friendliness, opinion about the accessibility of electronic resources, extent of support of the library and information centers in academic activity etc.

In the present days, adoptions of information technology have compelled the library to be dependent upon digital materials which could be collected through Internet on a WWW platform. The significance of the study is that it happens to be one of the leading libraries to provide e-

Resources services to its clientele. In this fluid environment as well as their capabilities in developing a process to integrate the changes in to a standard library practices to meet the current and update demands of the users' communities. Further, the technology has changed the expectations of faculty members, their patience and their willingness to accept services that are available on demand. Electronic resources are making a significant growth as part of library collection. But without conducting a study, there is no way of knowing whether the e-resources are reliable or useful. Keeping these in view, the present study has been taken up to ascertain the current use of e-resources by the faculty members and its impact on the academic and research work and the problem encountered while accessing these e-resources.

6. Research Methodology

The research study had been carried out with the literature search followed by data collection and analysis. Various sources of information i.e. 79 LISA database, JGate discovery tool, Google Scholar, E-Shodh Sindhu consortium e-resources, Emerald, printed books and journals were consulted for the purpose of the literature search. Data collection was done through personal observation, interview as well as systematically structured questionnaires for users and librarians.

7. Findings

a) It reveals the need of the users and useful as such libraries are current and meet future need

Of the students and researcher.



- b) It measures the level of image of information provide.
- c) It avoids the reputation of information provide.
- d) It Include Scholarly Contents.
- e) Information is generally current.
- f) Frequency of updating information.
- g) Access is easy.
- h) Reprocesses of Maximum Information of Priority basis.

Library provides access and facilitate in many ways library maintain collection on the looks like with books cataloguing records and index system. But it becomes outdated for permanent collection as e-resources keep updated information. There are two aspect of information i.e usability and accessibility which depend a change in technology and continuity hardware and software was updated the malfunction of software operational error security heckle and malicious change are availed.

8. Conclusion

Today the World Wide Web has emerged as most potent medium for information publishing and access. A Plethora of information sources for education and research are available on the web, including intellectual journals, technical reports, views, courseware, concern pages, data sets, rights and discussion forms. Tools for searching web-based information include search engines, subject directories and Meta search tools.

Library professionals should embolden the faculty members about the glaring impact of e-resources and their importance to the teaching and research programmers so that it would create a solid ground for a digital knowledge environment and fulfill the main goal of the library to provide maximum facilities to the readers and serve the clientele with right information at right time in right way without wasting much of their time. To get maximum benefit of these materials, one has to make conscious effort to keep pace with the changes taking place in the information communication scenario. The academic institutions and libraries should also facilitate the maximum use of these e-resources, hence the significance of information literacy programed.



The influence of e-resources on teaching and research depends in large measure not on technology, but how users choose to use it. The availability and the ease of accessibility of information make the faculty members to use the e-resources more frequently. The future of research lies precisely here, at the nexus between the faculties and the optimum utilization of e-resources. This study also shows that sufficiency of increased availability of computer systems and speed of Internet may improve the use of e-resources more effectively and efficiently.

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