



RESEARCH ARTICLE

Usage of Electronic – Resources by the Postgraduate Students, Research Scholars and Faculty Members of Engineering faculty of Annamalai University, Tamilnadu

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Abstract

This paper aims to evaluate the use of Electronic Research (E-Resources) by the library Users of Engineering faculty of Annamalai University, Tamil Nadu, India, with a view to examine the exposure of users to e-resources. Besides, it aims to high light the alert services offered by the library, most preferred of the journal awareness of e-resources, helpfulness of e-resources and efforts made by the library for better E-services to their users. This study is based on a structured questionnaire for the propose of this study, total 800 questionnaire more distributed among the post graduate students, research scholars, and faculty members of all department in engineering 600 questionnaires received back duly filled by the respondents. Various statistical methods have been used for analysis of data.

Keywords: *E-Resources, Significance, Users, E-Journals, E-books etc.*

Introduction

Information technology has changed the mode of publication of traditional sources of information. Development in electronic publishing can be used effectively to provide electronic publication and can be used effectively to provide information to users pin- pointedly, exhaustively and in time. Today, libraries are surrounded by networked data that is connected to vast ocean of internet- based services.

Moreover, electronic relevant to the profession are developing at an unprecedented pace. Academic libraries are considered to be the nerve centers of academic institutions, and must support teaching research, and other academic programmes. Due to the impact of information technology and also e-resources provided freely to the users by the university libraries especially under consortia like UGC-INFORNET, students and faculty's reliance on the resources both interests and alarms many libraries and faculty and have student. Reliance on online resources, citing the students inability to property evaluate what they find, their lack of understanding of how titled is actually available via the web, their

unawareness and optimization of web resources etc. the concern and interest in understanding the impact on electronic resources on libraries and its usage by user community is becoming an important factor in delivering the electronic resources.

Review of Literature

Dr. A. Vijayakumar and Jaison Thomas (2014) made a study which highlights the preferences and importance of online resources among teachers and research scholars. The Internet and the Web are constantly influencing the development of new modes of scholarly communication; their potential for delivering goods is quite vast, as they overcome successfully the geographical limitations associated with the print media. Further, the distribution time between product publication and its delivery has been drastically reduced. The Internet can be used for efficient retrieval and for meeting the information needs.

Meera Newmon and Vandana Sengar (2016) has studied on digital library and e-resources uses and problems in Engineering colleges of Rajasthan. This study aimed to

know the availability, awareness of e-resources for Engineering students and problems while using e-resources. They found through the study that available e-resources is almost sufficient, but the infrastructure to use these facilities is not adequate. The study also resulted that the practical use of e-resources is not up to the worth in comparison to the investments made.

Bhat, NA and Ganaie, SA (2016) has conducted a survey study on use of e-resources by the users of Dr. Y.S. Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry. For this study purpose questionnaire were distributed and data collected. The result found that the users are preferred both print and e-resources, in e-resources access they preferred online access only. They concluded the study that the library should procure reputed e-books and e-theses collections and launch an awareness campaign to promote their use.

Objectives of the study

The objectives of the study are

- To assess the contemporary use of electronic information resources by the users.
- To find out the main reasons behind the usage of E-resources by them.
- To examine the attitude of the users towards use of E-resources.
- To suggest measures for improving the existing library system and services of faculty of engineering library.
- To know the eminence of E-Services provided by the library.

Hypotheses

- There is a significant difference in contemporary use of electronic information resources by the users.
- There is a significant in resource behind the usage of E-resources by them.
- There is no significant attitude of the users towards of E-resources.
- There is no significant improving the existing library system and services of faculty of Engineering Library.
- There is a significant E-services provided by the library.

Methodology

This study is based on the survey (questionnaire) method. A structured questionnaire was designed to collect the data from the PG Students, research scholars and faculty members studying / working in the various Engineering department of Annamalai University. Tamil Nadu. Keeping in mind, the basic objectives of this study, the data were also personally collected from the aforesaid users, Beside, personal interviews were also conducted with library and information professionals to access the relevant information. The population (target group) is too large for the research to attempt all of its members. Hence based on information requirements the sample has been selected from ten following departments. Units in the Annamalai University, Tamil Nadu.

- Department of Civil Engineering
- Department of Mechanical Engineering
- Department of Civil and structural Engineering
- Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering
- Department of Chemical Engineering
- Department of Electrical Communication Engineering
- Department of Electrical and Instrumentation Engineering
- Department of Manufacturing Engineering
- Department of Computer science Engineering
- Department of Information Technology

For the purpose of the study, 800 questionnaire were distributed among the PG students, research scholars and Faculty members of all the distributed questionnaire, 600 questionnaire received back duly filled by the respondents in which 200 respondents were PG students, 150 from research scholars and 250 from faculty members. The data collected through the questionnaire was scrutinized, classified and tabulated for better understanding, and clarity. Certain factors like whether the collected data are correct or incorrect, statistically true etc., Judged using some statistical methods.

Data Analysis

Table 1: Most Preferred Source by the users in the Library

Response (%)						
User Category	Print journals	Back Volume of Periodicals	E-Journal	E-Journals Computerized data base	Any other	Total (%)
PG students	60 (34.28)	50 (40.0)	50 (27.77)	30 (33.33)	10(33.33)	200(100)
Research Scholars	65 (37.14)	45 (36.0)	30 (16.66)	8 (8.88)	2 (60.0)	150 (100)
Faculty members	50 (28.57)	30 (24.0)	100 (55.55)	52 (57.77)	18 (60.0)	250 (100)
Total	175 (29.16)	125 (20.83)	180 (30.0)	90 (15.0)	30 (5.0)	600 (100)

Table 1 Shows that the result about most preferred sources by the users in the library. The majority of the respondents 180 (30.0%) of the Professional use E-Journals for their academic purpose. Simultaneously, a good number of respondents that is, 175 (29.16) of the users are Preferred print journals, there are 125 (20.83%) of the respondents also consult the back volumes of periodicals.

On the other hand, the 90 (15.0%) respondents preferred computerized database to fulfill their information needs and 30 (5%) of the respondents like to prefer other information sources. It is noticed that E-journal is the first choice of the users followed by other resources.

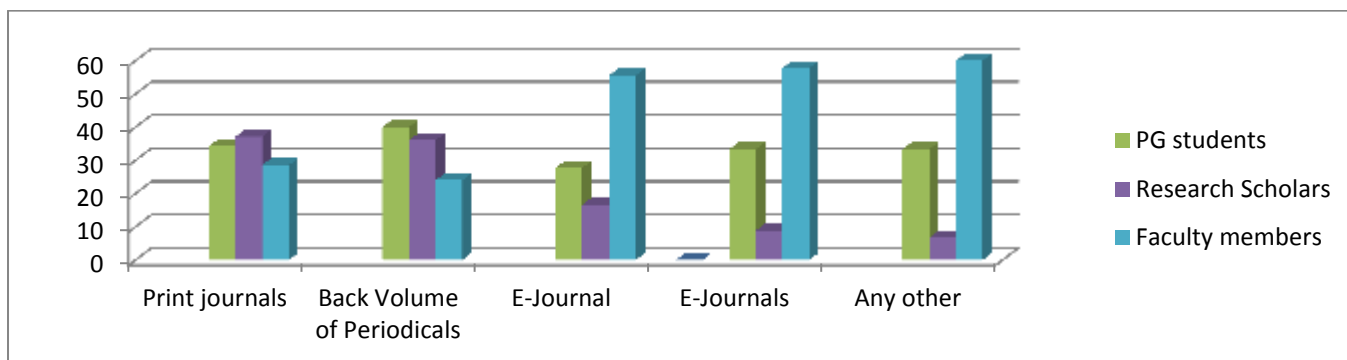


Fig 5.1: Most Preferred Source by the users in the Library

Table 2: Most preferred formate of the journals by the users

Users category	Response %			Total %
	Printed Formate	E-Formate	Both of them	
PG Students	85 (34%)	90 (33.96%)	25 (29.41%)	200 (100.0)
Research Scholars	50 (20%)	80 (30.18%)	20 (23.52%)	150 (100.0)
Faculty Members	115 (46%)	95 (35.84)	40 (47.05%)	250 (100.0)
Total	250 (41.66%)	265 (44.16%)	85 (14.16%)	600 (100.0)

Table 2 analyze the data of respondents regarding their preference. The higher proportion of respondents 265 (44.16%) indicated that they wish to get their desired information from the electronic version of the journals, similarly 250 (41.66%) of the respondents preferred the print version of the

journals and 85 (14.16%) of the respondents pointed out that they give the some preference to the both electronic as well as print version to get their desired information. It could be seen clearly from the above discussion more than 44%of the users are prefer E-Formate journals.

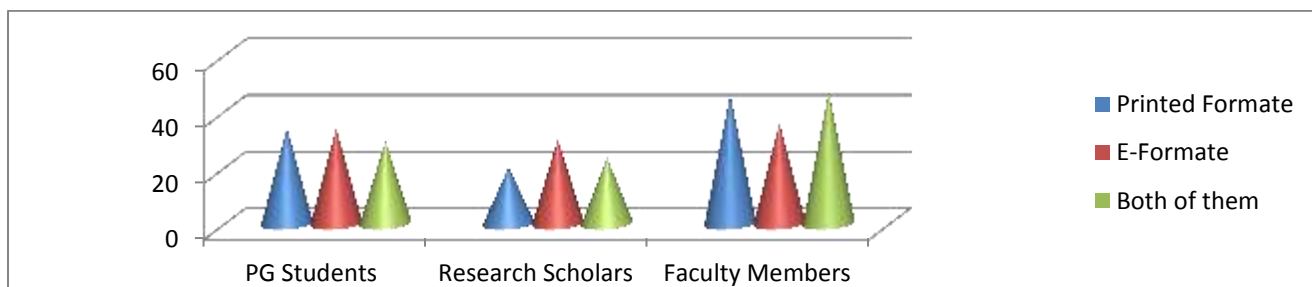


Fig. 5.2: Most preferred formate of the journals by the users

Table 3: Frequency of the use of E-resources by the users

Users category	Response %				Total %
	Daily	Several times need	Occasionally	Never	
PG Students	50 (50.0%)	60 (28.57%)	80 (32.0%)	10 (25%)	200 (100.0)
Research Scholars	20 (20%)	65 (30.95%)	60 (24%)	5 (12.5%)	150 (100.0)
Faculty Members	30 (30%)	85 (40.47)	110 (44%)	25 (62.5%)	250 (100.0)
Total	100 (16.66%)	210 (35.35%)	250 (41.66%)	40 (6.66%)	600 (100.0)

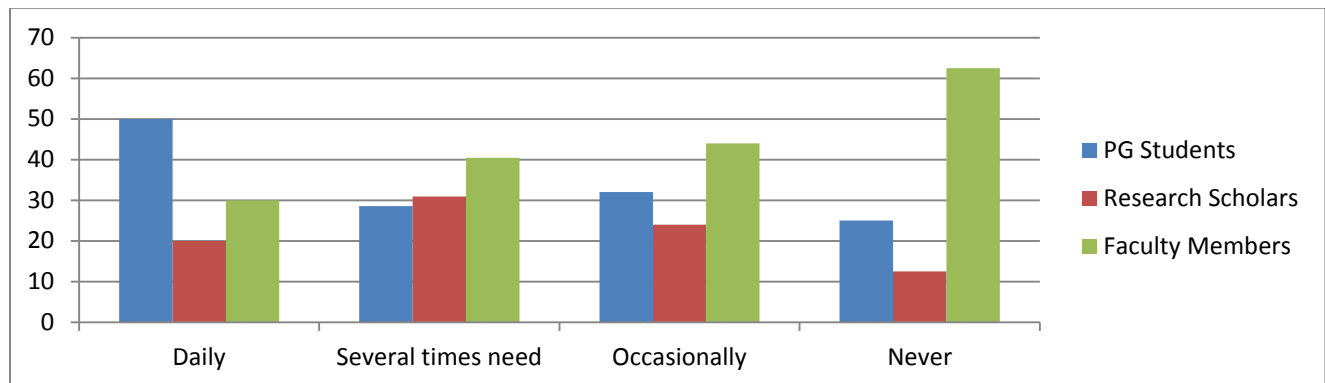
**Fig. 5.3: Frequency of the use of E-resources by the users**

Table 3 Shows that the response of users, about frequency of using E-resources in their relevant area. It is appeared from the analysis that 100 (16.66%) respondents used the E-resources daily. However, 210 (35%) respondents, have access to E-resources several times a week, Apart from that, 250 (41.66%) respondents may be occasional users of E-resources. On the other hand, 40

(6.66%) respondents hence never access the E-resources. It is noted that during the survey period and due discussion with the users, due to right academic / class schedule that don't have sufficient time to use the E-resources daily. In addition to aforesaid frequency of use, they also use the E-resources whenever need arises.

Table 4: Awareness about the total number of E-resources availability

Users Category	Response (%)		Total %
	Yes	No	
PG Students	154 (31.81%)	46 (39.65%)	200 (100)
Research Scholars	110 (27.72%)	40 (34.45%)	150 (100)
Faculty Members	220 (45.45%)	30 (25.86%)	250 (100)
Total	484 (80.66%)	116 (19.33%)	600 (100)

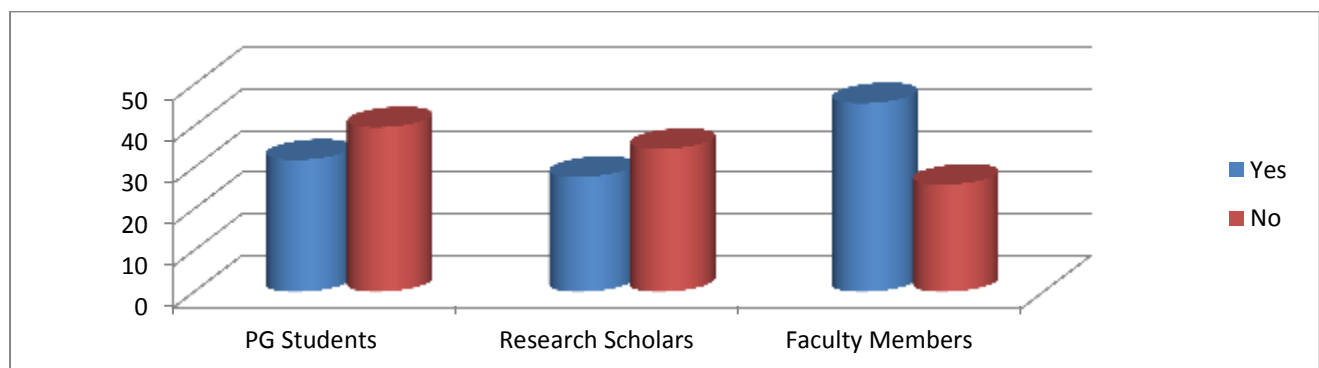
**Fig 5.4: Awareness about the total number of E-resources availability**

Table 4 The Information need of the user's while section and E-journal Data regarding user's awareness about the total number of E-resources in the library is presented in Table-4. It reveals that majority of the respondents 484 (80.66%) have stated that they knows very well about what number of E-journals / data base are available in the

library concerned to their subject/ discipline, whereas 116 (19.33%) respondents specified that they do not know exactly about what number of E-Journals / Database on available through the library. It could be seen clearly from the discussion majority of them awareness about e-resources.

Table 5: ASK about user's need before selection of E-Journals

Users Category	Response (%)			Total %
	Yes	No	I don't Know	
PG Students	175 (41.17%)	10 (15.38%)	15 (13.63%)	200 (100)
Research Scholars	100 (23.52%)	24 (36.92%)	26 (23.63%)	150 (100)
Faculty Members	150 (35.29%)	31 (47.69%)	69 (62.72%)	250 (100)
Total	425 (70.83%)	65 (10.83%)	110 (18.33%)	600 (100)

Table 5 indicates that the response regarding information needs of the users while selection of E-Journals. In this connection, 425 (70.83%) of the users responded that library mostly ask their information requirement related to different categories of subject/discipline before selection of E-Journal for the Library. Whereas 65 (10.83%) of the

respondents reported that library rarely or never ask about their information needs before selection of E-Journals. On the other hand a large numbers of users use 110 (18.33%) don't know about such this type of action happened or not in the library. It is found that majority of the users need before selection of E-journal.

Table 6: Alert services provided by the library

Users Category	Response (%)			Total %
	Yes	No	I don't Know	
PG Students	154 (36.32%)	16 (24.61%)	30 (27.02%)	200 (100%)
Research Scholars	90 (21.22%)	20 (30.76%)	40 (36.03%)	150 (100%)
Faculty Members	180 (42.45%)	29 (44.61%)	41 (36.93%)	250 (100%)
Total	424 (70.67%)	65 (10.83%)	111 (18.5%)	600 (100%)

Table-6 reveals the response of the response of the users regarding alert services about E-resource provided by the library. The highest proportion of respondents 424 (70.67%) are stated that they are getting & alert services continuously by the library. However, 65 (10.83%) of the respondents pointed out that they did not getting any alert service from the library about addition or deletion of E-Resources in library collection. On the other hand 111 (18.5%) respondents did not respondents in this regard.

Findings

- E-journal is the first choice of the users followed by others resources.
- More than 44%of the users are prefer E-Formate journals.
- It is found that the aforesaid frequency of use, they also use the E-resources whenever need arises.
- It could be seen clearly from the discussion majority of them awareness about e-resources.
- It is found that majority of the users need before selection of E-journal.

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Conclusion

The advantages of E-resources have drown after of the library users to a great extent. Users are heavily dependent E-resources for their required information and to keep themselves up-to-date in their subject area. Though since expects that the role of librarian as a gateway to the E-resources will have less importance in Future as users access more and more E-resources in their respective subjects, particularly in providing in training and guidance to use authentic and relevant information.

The libraries one and will develop necessary tools to provide such services to their users satisfactorily. The study reveals that the all the three categories of the users of Engineering faculty of Annamalai University Tamil Nadu are using the available E-resources satisfactorily. Simultaneously, the Faculty engineering main library of Annamalai University Tamil Nadu is playing on important role in promoting e-resources regularly [1-4].

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