Use and Impact of E-Resources by the Users of Private Universities & Institutions

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Abstract

The study investigates the use of electronic resources by the users of Amity University Lucknow, BBDNITM Lucknow and Kanpur Institute of Technology, Kanpur. It surveyed the user's awareness about available e-resources in these libraries, purpose and frequency of using e-resources by the users, the factor affecting resource utilization, impact of e-resources and services on the academic work of the users. Suggest the ways and means for the effective use of e-resources and services available in these organizations, etc.

Keywords: e-resource, Internet, Information Technology

Introduction

The ongoing development in Information technology bring considerable changes in Information communication. Information Communication technology developments opened up new directions to e-resources publications. e-resources means the use and dissemination of information in any electronic format of storage media such as Pen Drive, CD- ROM, Floppy Disk or Magnetic tape or on computer network with or without internet, like e-journals, e-books, ETD etc. e-resources can be accessed simultaneously from unlimited points by a great number of users. The phrase 'electronic resources' has broadly been defined as, information accessed by a computer, may be useful as bibliographic guides to potential sources.

The modernization of libraries and information centers enabled information transfer and access, there by establishes a network of libraries and information centers. This initiative helped in resource development, resource sharing and their utilization at various levels. Information professionals subscribe e-journals, CD-ROM databases, online databases, web-based resources,

and a variety of other electronic resources. They participate in library consortia and build digital libraries. However, these libraries have been hampered by many constraints to embark on successful application of information and communication technology (ICT) for their operations, resources, and services.

Objectives of the study

1.   To trace out the existing e-resources available in libraries of private universities & institutions.

2.   To know the awareness and use of various types of e-resources among the users of these Libraries.

3.   To find out the impact of e-resources on the academic work of users.

4.   To find out the satisfaction of users about the e-resources of these organizations.

Review of Literature

Borrego, et al. (2007) observe that there have been many studies of users of electronic resources in the professional literature in the last few years. In a recent exhaustive review of the literature on the subject, Tenopir (2003) analyzed the results of over 200 studies of the use of electronic resources in libraries published between 1995 and 2003. The main conclusion of this review is that electronic resources have been rapidly adopted in academic spheres, though the behavior varies according to the discipline. A number of relevant studies has been carried out on the use of e-resources by teachers, students and research scholars of universities and research organizations. 78% of the respondents feel that the use of the UGC-INFONET e-journals has created high dependency value on their research work and they needed current article alert services and electronic document supply services (Madhusudhan 2008).

67.64% of research scholars of Faculty of Science and 69.23% of research scholars of Engineering, use e-journals for research work whereas 35.29% of Faculty of Sciences use e-journals to update knowledge and 23.70% of Engineering users use these for study. Speed of availability and the ease of accessibility of information causes the users to use electronic resources more frequently. 49% of respondents are marginally satisfied with online services

provided by the library. The survey indicates that the use of e-resources in Jamia Milia Islamia is not satisfactory and needs constant guidance / orientation to enhance their usage.

Kaur reports e-resources can be good substitutes for conventional resources if the access speed is fast, access to all the important e-journals is provided and more computer terminals are installed to provide access to e-resources. Renwick recommends, there be greater promotion of the library's e-resources. Kaur and Verma find that users use all the sources available to them regularly, like CD ROMs, online databases, Web resources and audio/video tapes.

Dastforoush and Venkatesha conducted a study to determine use of electronic and print journals by users (research scholars and faculty) in Iran. Maximum findings or result of the study are as mentioned here : (i) 43.9% of the users of all categories did not find e-journals equally important as print journals (ii) 57.9% of the users preferred electronic versions over printed ones.

Hypothesis

- Good e-resources are available in private universities and institutions in the city of Lucknow and Kanpur.
- There is no financial problem in the procurement of e-resources and infrastructure in private universities and institutions in the city of Lucknow and Kanpur.

Scope / Limitations of the study: This study focuses on the internal users of Amity University Lucknow Campus, BBDNITM Lucknow & Kanpur Institute of Technology, Kanpur Library. Internal members includes faculty, research scholars and students of these organizations. This research is limited to cover the e-resources and users of these organizations only.

Research Methodology: The data is collected by distributing Questionnaires to the respondents of these Organization. Total 200 Questionnaires were distributed to the users i. e. Faculty, Research Scholars and P.G./U.G. Students. This methodology is followed by personal visit of these organization to see availability of e-resources in Library. 134 questionnaires were received from the respondents. The questionnaires were distributed randomly to know the real status of the e resources.

1. Amity University Lucknow Campus: Amity University Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh formally came into existence with Amity University Uttar Pradesh Ordinance 2005 promulgated by the UP Govt. on 12 January 2005. It started functioning in 2004, recognized by University Grants Commission (UGC) for award of all degrees.

Central Library : Various e resources are available in University library for the users. Cambridge University Press, Springer, Institute of Physics, Nature Journal, Oxford University Press, Portland Press, Oxford University Press, American Institute of Physics, Royal Society of Chemistry, Taylor and Francis, IEEE / IEE Electronic Library, Ebsco, Host, Delnet, ACM Digital Library, Manupatra, IS1 , J-Gate (Engineering and Technology), Pro Quest (Management).

2. Babu Banarasi Das National Institute of Technology and Management Lucknow : Babu Banarasi Das National Institute of Technology and Management, Lucknow (BBDNITM) Babu Banarasi Das National Institute of Technology and Management, Lucknow (BBDNITM) is one of the efforts to cherish the memory of the great & noble soul Babu Banarasi Das Ji, Ex. Chief Minister, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh.

E RESOURCES: 1. VIRTUAL LABS : An Initiative of Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD)Under the National Mission on Education through ICT. Knimbus (K=Knowledge + nimbus=cloud) is a collaborative knowledge platform for researchers to discover and share knowledge with peers that provides single point search across the publications and sources. Knimbus OPEN helps researchers to find and access millions of journal articles, patents and e-books. Knimbus-Open is a FREE product and the largest platform for Open Access content. Knimbus-Open offers its users full text access to more than 13,000 peer reviewed journals, over 3,000 ebooks and lakhs of thesis documents. www.knimbus.com, DELNET.

3. Kanpur Institute of Technology Kanpur : Kanpur Institute of Technology is an ISO 9001:2008 certified engineering institute situated in UPSIDC Industrial Area, Rooma, Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh, India.The institute is approved by All India Council with wi-fi facilty library and a student activity centre for co-curricular and extracurricular activities.

Central Library : There is a DELNET facility which has about a million catalogues with records of books, Periodicals, articles, etc. The library has INDEST IEL (IEEE) (CONSORTIUM) facility which provides articles, e-books, e-journals etc, available in machine-readable form.

Data Analysis and Interpretation

Table 1. Distribution of Respondents

S. No.	Respondents	Distributed	Received
1.	Faculty	24 (100%)	15 (62%)
2.	Research Scholar	25 (100%)	20 (80%)
3.	P.G. Students	60 (100%)	40 (67%)
4.	U. G. Students	91 (100%)	59 (65%)
	Total %	200 (100%)	134 (67%)

Table 2. Availability of Various E-Resources

e- resources	Amity University, Lucknow			BBDNITM Lucknow		Kanpur Institute of Technology, Kanpur	
	Respondents						
	F.	R. S.	S.	F.	S.	F.	S.
e-journals	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
e-books	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
e-databases	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
e-thesis and dissertations	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No
e-manuscripts	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
e-magazines	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
e-news paper	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Table 2 shows that in Amity University Lucknow Campus E Resources are available for all Faculty, Research Scholar and Students but some students are not aware of few E Resources.

While in BBDNITM, Lucknow some students responding negative for e resources of their area of interest. Kanpur Institute of Technology is having only DELNET and INDEST IEL as an e resources, which is sufficient for all users so that most of the users responded positive except few students.

Table 3. Awareness of E Resources

Respondents	Amity University Lucknow		BBDNITM Lucknow		Kanpur Institute of Technology, Kanpur	
	Users	Non Users	Users	Non Users	Users	Non Users
Faculty	72%	28%	60%	40%	55%	45%
Students	60%	40%	45%	55%	40%	60%
Research Scholar	80%	20%	-	-	-	-

Table 3 shows that in Amity University Lucknow campus majority of the faculty i.e. 72% and 80% Research Scholars are aware for the available E Resources of their area of interest while 60% students are aware about use of E Resources. 28% faculty, 20% research scholars and 40% students are not aware of E Resources. In BBDNITM Lucknow 60% Faculty and 45% students are aware of available E Resources while 40% Faculty and 55% students are not accessing e resources. While KIT only 55% faculty and 40% students are aware and 45% Faculty, 60% students are not aware about the available E Resources of their area of interest.

Table 4 . Use of Various E-Resources

E Resources	Amity University, Lucknow			BBDNITM Lucknow		Kanpur Institute of Technology, Kanpur	
	Respondents						
	F.	R. S.	S.	F.	S.	F.	S.

	F.	R.S.	S.	F.	R.S.	S.	
e-journals	70%	85%	50%	70%	60%	20%	15%
e-books	65%	82%	70%	75%	82%	20%	10%
e-databases	55%	75%	70%	70%	65%	30%	02%
e-thesis and dissertations	70%	80%	50%	55%	20%	45%	28%
e-manuscripts	60%	80%	10%	20%	02%	15%	10%
e-magazines	65%	80%	60%	70%	75%	40%	10%
e-news paper	60%	80%	50%	65%	82%	50%	12%

F. = Faculty,   R.S. = Research Scholars,   S.= Students

Table 4 shows that in Amity University majority of faculty i.e. 70% is using e-journals and e-thesis and dissertations. Second highest preference is given to e-books and e-magazines, i.e. 65%. While e news papers and e-manuscripts are less used. 85% research scholars are using e-journals followed by 82% e-books and 80% EDT, e-manuscripts, e-magazines, e-news papers. In Amity University, majority of students 70% are using e-books & e-database followed by e-magazines 60%, e-journals & e-news papers 50% minimum.

As per the Table 4. In BBDNITM Lucknow majority of the faculty 75% are using e-books and e-magazines followed by 70% using e-journals, e-databases. ETD are used by 55%, minimum access is for e-manuscripts by 20% faculty. Students are using 88% e-news papers and 82% e-books followed by 75% e-magazines, 65% e-database. The table shows the minimum utility is of e-manuscripts by 10% faculty only.

In the same table it is clear that in Kanpur Institute of Technology faculty is accessing e news paper 50% followed 40% e magazines, 30% e-databases. In Kanpur Institute of Technology, e-newspapers and e-magazines are highly used 50% & 40% respectively by the students, while only available database and EDT are used by 02% by the students.

Table 5. Impact of Using E-Resources

S. No.	Academic Work Impact	Amity University, Lucknow			BBDNITM Lucknow		Kanpur Institute of Technology, Kanpur	
		F.	R. S.	S.	F.	S.	F.	S.
1	Expedite the Research/Project	80%	85%	50%	82%	60%	20%	-
2	Improve professional competence	75%	85%	55%	85%	65%	25%	02%
3	Expedite the teaching process	85%	60%	55%	68%	40%	22%	-
4	Access to wider range of information	72%	85%	60%	75%	70%	20%	-
5	Easy and fast access to information	72%	86%	70%	70%	72%	20%	05%

Table 5 elaborates that in Amity University majority of the faculty prefer to use e-resources in comparison to traditional resources because 85% of them feel that e-resources are to expedite the teaching process followed by expedite the research / project, i.e. 80%, further followed by access to wider range of information/ easy and fast access to information i.e. 72%. Majority of research scholars 86% accepts that main impact of e-resources is, easy and fast access of information followed by 85% expedite the research project, improve professional competency and 60% research scholars consider that this impacts to the wider range of information. From the students points of view majority of students 70% accepts, it impacts easy and fast access to information followed by 60% access to wider range of information, 55% improve professional competence and expedite the teaching process, 50% students responded that it is useful to expedite the research projects.

This table shows that In BBDNITM Lucknow, that majority of Faculty 85% use e resource for improving professional competence, 82% to expedite the research / projects and 75% access to

wider range of information. The students of BBDNITM 72% accepts that e-resources are useful for easy and fast access to information followed by 70% access to wider range of information. 65% students access the e resources to improve professional competence and 60% expedite the research / projects and finally 40% accepts that the use e resources are useful to expedite the teaching process.

This table shows that due to unawareness of e-resources in KIT only 25% faculty responded to use e-resources to improve professional competence followed by 22% to expedite the teaching process. This table reveals that e-resources are much preferred by respondents due to the nature of Expedite the Research/ Project, Access to wider range of information & Easy and fast access to information. Table 4 again reveals that the students of KIT are having no idea about the impact of e-resources due to unawareness of available e resources only 02% responded to Improve professional competence and 05% Easy and fast access to information.

Table 6. Satisfaction of Various E-Resources

E R	Amity University, Lucknow			BBDNITM Lucknow		Kanpur Institute of Technology, Kanpur	
	Respondents						
	F	R. S.	S	F	S	F	S
e-journals	70%	80%	50%	55%	52%	15%	10%
e-books	65%	85%	80%	60%	62%	15%	12%
e-databases	72%	80%	75%	60%	50%	10%	05%
e-thesis and dissertations	42%	80%	30%	52%	30%	02%	01%
e-manuscripts	65%	85%	56%	60%	65%	20%	02%
e-magazines	42%	75%	70%	58%	70%	30%	10%

Table 6 shows that in the Amity University the majority of the faculty 72% is satisfied by the use of e-databases followed by 70% for e-journals, 65% for e-books and e-magazines. 42% faculty is

satisfied for the use of EDT & e newspapers. This table reveals that 86% Research scholars are satisfied by 85% e-books, e-magazines, 80% satisfied by e-thesis and dissertations, e-databases. 75% satisfied by e-news paper. From the students point of view 80% students are satisfied by the use of e books followed by 75% e-databases, 70% e-newspapers, 50% e-journals, 30% e-thesis and dissertations. Table 6 reveals that in BBDNITM, 60% faculty is satisfied with use of e-books, Databases and e-magazines followed by 58% e newspapers, 55% for e journals, 52% for ETD.

In KIT only 30% Faculty & 10% students are satisfied by the use of e-newspapers followed by 20% faculty, 02% students are satisfied by the e-magazine, 10% Faculty & 05% Students are satisfied by the e-databases.

Hypothesis testing: Hypothesis is proved in Amity University Lucknow Campus and BBDNITM Lucknow but partially approved in Kanpur Institute of Technology as per availability and use of e-resources

Findings:

1.   As per this research Amity University, Lucknow and BBDNITM Lucknow, are having the required e resources but Kanpur Institute of Technology is not having the required e-resources for their user   community.

2.   This research also reveals that Amity University, Lucknow and BBDNITM, Lucknow is having the   infrastructure for the utility of available e-resource while the Kanpur Institute of Technology is not having   the required infrastructure for the use of e-resource.

Suggestions:

1.   Universities and Institutions of Kanpur City are ignored and these are required to pay proper attention   related to library issues.

2.   All organizations of Lucknow and Kanpur are required to conduct regular orientation and training programmes to make aware of the users for the maximum utility of available e-resources.

Conclusion

Modern libraries has shifted their role from the custodian of information resources to the service provider of digital information resources. Dependency on use of computers, increased reliance on computer networks, rapid growth of the internet and explosion of information has compelled libraries to adopt new methods for the storage, retrieval and dissemination of information.

This research reveals that the use of e-resources is very common among the user community i.e. faculty, research scholars and students of private universities and institutions and majority of these users are dependent on e-resources to get the required and relevant information. Only few universities and institution are having the required e-resources as per the running courses, but practical use of available e-resources is not up-to the worth in comparison to investments made in acquiring these resources by the authorities of these universities and institutions. Except this, infrastructure for the proper access of these resources is also not provided to these libraries. Library staff should conduct orientation and training programs as per requirements of the user community and make maximum utility of the available e resources in these libraries.

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