

technology. Modules on basic and advanced searching techniques should be included in the curricula of all departments. Teachers and staff can encourage internet usage among students. The trainers need special attention of the university authorities. Specialized training program should be planned for them. Academic cooperation should also be promoted through the sharing of educational resources among colleges.

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Awareness And Use Of Electronic Resources Among Social Science Students In Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai

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ABSTRACT

Today availability of electronic resources in university students is very common. Adequate electronic resource facilities empower and enrich the higher education system in meeting the best academic needs. The present paper examines the existence of various electronic resources in Madurai Kamaraj University Social Science students. The study also highlights the preferences and importance of Awareness and Use of electronic resources among social science students. Internet gate way for libraries and information centers to enter the Electronic Information Era and is providing the information generated by different organization. Today information is available through libraries, community resources, special interest organization, media and above all the internet and www and increasingly the information comes to individuals in unfiltered formats, raising questions about its authenticity, validity, and reliability. This is very important for university departments since most of them call for more and more research work. The result indicated majority of student purpose of visit of University library (94.94%). The study found that most of the respondents (62.62%) use for visit the university Library.

Key words: Electronic Resources, Internet, computer literacy, University Library.

1. INTRODUCTION

Electronic resources are like other library materials in many ways. The electronic resources have become an essential part of collection building process in the libraries in the increase information available on the web has affected information seeking behavior of social science students. It is imperative that one should be familiar with the use and exploitation of electronic resources for their effective use for promotion of academic excellence and research. Electronic resources in collaboration with internet have become a sign of modern age being an invaluable tool for teaching, learning, and research. The library and information landscape has transformed with the onset of the digital era and today traditional libraries have changed their roles to serve as 'Knowledge Centers' with priority on value added electronic information services. The electronic resources can be stored, accessed and delivered as and when required, therefore the services of the libraries are not confined in to local, regional national and international networks. Electronic information has gradually become a major resource in ever update library. Electronic

information resources can be relied upon for timely information which upholds the quote: right information to right user at right time.

2. REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

Thanuskodi (2009) has revealed in his study declining budgets and higher subscription Costs, it is becoming difficult to meet the demands of library users. The age of library consortia bring cooperation locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally. It is a toolkit to help libraries survive and provide the best information to their users.

Bayugo and Agbeko (2007) reported on a survey of convenient access to, and use of, electronic databases (CD-ROM and online) with full-text journals and their effect on information seeking behavior of health sciences faculty at the College of Health Sciences of the University of Ghana. The survey documented faculty's preferences of print and electronic resource, and the specific databases and full-text journals. The results showed that faculty member were unaware of the two full-text journal databases (HINARI and PERI) available at the library. Hence they resorted to PUBMED as their source of access to full-text articles. They concluded that most faculties now prefer using electronic access to information (CD-ROM/online) to traditional print indexes and abstracts.

Linda Ashcroft and Chris Watts (2004) stated that there are similar issues in the take-up of e-books to those of other electronic resources, such as e-journals. These include changes in professional and management skills, such as collection development, marketing and evaluation, user education, technological skills and communication skills.

Numerous studies have been undertaken to explore the electronic information sources. Lee (2002) published a handbook on building electronic resource collections, beginning with a

definition of electronic databases and the general principles of collection development and then proceeding to discuss the purchase and use of e-books and e-journals as well as methods of user access. The author highlights the collection development activities of assessing, acquiring, and delivering electronic databases from initial appraisal through acquisition, budgeting, installation, marketing, and evaluation.

Dugdale (2001) emphasized the contradiction facing those who are attempting to create equality of access to information while new aspects of inequality may be created. This may occur even where all members theoretically possess equal access to the same material.

3. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The main objectives of the present study are as follows:

- To study about the use of Electronic resources among social science students.
- To find out the visit university library.
- To find out the purpose of visit university library.
- To find frequently to use internet.
- To study on computer literacy for use of electronic resources.

- To find out how long using the electronic resources.
- To find how often do you use of electronic resources section.

4. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The study used a questionnaire, with 15 questions spread over the following areas general profile of the respondent, the visit university library, to find out the purpose of visit university Library, and frequently use of Internet, and then how long using the electronic resources, and find out how often do you Study of electronic resources section. A random sample of 120 social Science Students in Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai was selected and questionnaires were distributed them. Of those, 99 questionnaires were returned completed.

5. DATA ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

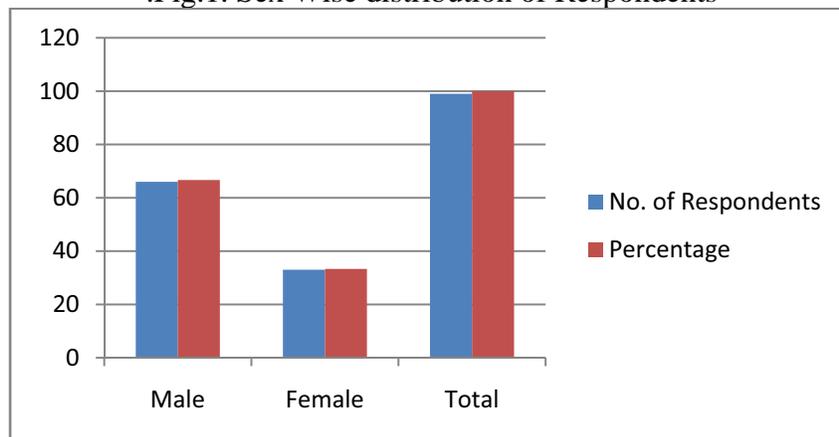
Analysis of data is the ultimate step in research process. It is the link between raw data and significant results leading to conclusions. This process of analysis has to be result oriented.

5.1. Population Study

Table 1. Sex wise distribution of Respondents

Gender	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Male	66	66.66
Female	33	33.33
Total	99	100.00

.Fig.1. Sex Wise distribution of Respondents



Personal detail section of the questionnaire provides information regarding the sex and different qualifications as can be seen from Table 1. It is shown in table-1, 66.66% of populations studied were males and only 33.33% of total were females, who can use internet and electronic resources for different purposes.

5.2. Use of Library

Table 2. Frequency of Users' Visit University Library

Frequency	Respondents	Percentage
Daily	62	62.62
Once in a Week	14	14.14
Twice a Week	10	10.10
Thrice a week	07	7.07
Once in a fortnight	05	5.05
As and when required	01	1.01
Total	99	100.00

Table 2. Presents users' frequency of visiting library. Majority of Social Science students visited library daily (62.62%) and Once a Week (14.14%) and Twice a Week used (10.10%). Only few students once in a fortnight (5.05%) and as and when required used for (1.01%).

Table 3. Purpose of visit in University Library

Purpose of visit	Respondents	Percentage
Updating subject knowledge	94	94.94
For lending books	73	73.73
For reading Newspaper	62	62.62
For Research	56	56.56
To complete Assignments	38	38.38
To prepare Seminar/Conference	35	35.35
For Taking Notes	31	31.31
For Recreation	16	16.16

Table 3. Highlights the purpose do you visit of university library are mostly accessed by Madurai Kamaraj University social science students. A majority of the respondents.(94.94%) access the updating subject knowledge. Another respondent to used (73.73%) for lending books. For reading newspaper to read for social science students in (62.62%). Next one is purpose to visit use for research (56.56%). and to complete Assignments purpose (38.38%). Only low students to visit purpose for recreation (16.16%).

5.3. Awareness and Use of Electronic Resources

Table 4. Frequently use Internet

Hours	Respondents	Percentage
Less than 2 hours	47	47.47
2-3 hours	31	31.31
3-4 hours	08	8.08
4-5 hours	01	1.01
Above 5 hours	12	12.12
Total	99	100.00

From the table 4. It is clear that most of the respondents 47.47% use of less than 2 hours. 31.31% of respondents to use for 2-3 hours. 12.12% of respondents to use of internet above 5 hours. 8.08% of respondents to use 3-4 hours. 1.01% of respondents to use 4-5 hours.

5.4 Satisfaction level of respondents

Table 5. Satisfaction level of respondents to computer literacy for use of e-resources

Satisfaction level	Respondents	Percentage
Strongly Agree	60	60.60
Agree	31	31.31
Neutral	08	8.08
Strongly Disagree	-	-
Disagree	-	-
Total	99	100.00

Table 5. show the level of satisfaction of agreeing to computer / internet literacy as a necessity for use of electronic resources. Only 60.60% of respondents strongly agree to use of computer literacy necessity for use of electronic resources. 31.31% of respondents agree to use of computer literacy necessity for use of electronic resources. Next one is 8.08% of respondents Neutral to use of computer literacy necessity for use of electronic resources. Last fourth and fifth respondents strongly disagree and disagree not in use.

5.5. How long using the electronic resources section

Table 6. How long using electronic resources section

Duration	Respondents	Percentage
Less than one year	28	28.28
1-2 years	37	37.37
3-5 years	25	25.25
More than 5 years	09	9.09
Total	99	100.00

Table 6. Highlights how long use the electronic resources section to use mostly to access by 37.37% of respondents. 28.28% of respondents to use of electronic resources section. Another one is 25.25% of respondents to use of electronic resources section. And the last one is 9.09% of respondents to access to use of electronic resources section.

5.6. How often do you use of electronic resources section

Table 7. How often do you use of electronic resources

Duration	Respondents	Percentage
Daily	49	49.49
Thrice a week	15	15.15
Twice a week	17	17.17
Once in a week	13	13.13
Once in a fortnight	05	5.05
Total	99	100.00

Table 7. Show that the table to how often do you use of electronic resources section to access in the use. The respondent have responded in different ways (table.7) Majority of respondents to used for electronic resources section daily (49.49%). and 15.15% of respondents to use of Thrice a week in use of electronic resources section. 17.17% of respondents to use of Twice a Week in the electronic resources section. Another one is 13.13% of respondents to use of once in a Week into the access of electronic resources section. 05.05% of respondents to use once in a fortnight to access of electronic resources section.

6. Suggestions

Based on the findings of the study, the following suggestions are made to improve the Awareness and Use of Electronic resources among social science students in Madurai kamaraj University, Madurai.

- There is a need for extensive training programme on regular basis at the beginning of each semester.
- This is required for all the categories of library users so that they can use Internet based resources optimally for their studies and research.
- In future, the internet facility should be extended to the boys and girls hostels.
- Entertainment websites should be blocked so that students should not unnecessarily sit and block the computer from use by other serious users.

6. Conclusion

Electronic resources opened up many exciting opportunities and potentials for academic libraries. The web based electronic resources can provide learners with access to information any time anywhere and any place in any format. Now a days electronic resources need is rapidly growth in higher education because growth of literature and information explosion and the lack of money. It durability is high and user friendly. Main use of electronic resources is many user access at a time. It is experienced that majority user were used in electronic resources for all purpose to use of social science students in Madurai kamaraj university. It is reported that majority of students were suggesting user guide available in library and on notice board to information need. It is also noted choice of using electronic resources of social science students were preferred daily to use of library to updating subject knowledge.

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