Comprehending Familiarity and Usage Level of INDEST – AICTE E-Resources Consortium

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Abstract - *The purpose of the present study aims to comprehend the familiarity and use of e-resources through INDEST-AICTE consortium by PG students of PSG College of Technology in Coimbatore. A descriptive research design was employed using a structured questionnaire. The data was collected from the entire population i.e. 250 postgraduate students from which 220 responses were scrutinized for the study. The data collected were analyzed statistically. The study revealed that all the respondents were aware of INDEST – AICTE consortium and the major purpose of using the consortium is to keep them up to date with the developments. The respondents also mentioned that a limited access terminal was the most common problem encountered while using the INDEST – AICTE consortium. The study recommends that efforts should be geared to subscribe e-resources based on the priorities and preference of usage, more computers with the latest configuration have to be installed and computer terminal had to be extended to wide areas and have to be implemented in a library, department, and hostel.*

Keywords: Consortium, e-resources, Internet, Databases, User Study and e-books.

Introduction

The digital revolution driven by information and communication technologies has transformed the academic libraries. It has an impact on every sphere of academic activity in the libraries e.g., the form of the library, collection development strategies, library building, and consortiums. Computer and networked electronic resources have become an integral part of the academic libraries during the past decade. This has been underscored by the phenomenon of knowledge of information which is common in academic libraries. The advantages in computer applications during the past few decades have brought radical changes in the way information is gathered, stored, organized, retrieved and consumed. The application of computers in information processing has brought several products and services to the scene. Information is the basic input for the knowledge society but without proper information and knowledge infrastructure. Technical education system can't achieve their goals and objectives. Libraries play a vital role to provide information in educating the society at different levels in the modern technological environment as users are determining varieties and quality of information services. The role of the library is to identify and select the required information on one hand end and storage, retrieves, and disseminate to the user at the other end.

Now day's libraries are shifting from traditional methods to advanced methods by using information and communication technology in delivering information in the electronic formats. We use electronic resources like e-journals, e-books, e-magazines, CD's DVDs etc.., in engineering and technology institutions to fulfill the library objectives in a meeting of the library demands of the users in the new set up.

E-Resources

Today the advent of information technology has resulted in reducing the size of libraries. In fact, these smaller modern libraries are having the rich potential for information which has been possible because of the digitalization of information. The digital and electronic information is based on digital data/information, has gradually replaced paper-based records as the visual information system in comparison to text-based information system is getting more and more popular of these days, the traditional libraries are becoming hybrid libraries as they are in the process of doing digitalization of their documents and moving becoming digital libraries. There is a number of terms which are used by authors to represent the concept of digital libraries some of them. Are polyglot library, electronic library, desktop library, online library, mobile library, and library without walls. E-Resources are the ones in which information is stored electronically and accessible through electronic systems and networks. E-resources is a very broad term that includes a variety of different publishing methods and models, it's including

E-Journals	E-Books
E-Thesis and Dissertation	Online Databases
E-Magazines	E-Newspapers

The term electronic resource was introduced by William Dijkhuis in 1977. The first electronic publication came in 1980 in the form of plain text emails, they were sent to the subscriber via a mailing list 1985 - 1995 referred to as a period of digital revolution i.e.., a shift from an analog to the digital treatment of information. In 1985 CD - ROMs, CD - PDF journals was the first journal named "Electronic Letters Online" published by IEEE (1994 - 1995) distributed via OCLC.

Review of Literature

Satpathy and Satpathy (2013) described the study was changing technology explosion of information and the transition of libraries from print to electronic have influenced the user behavior. Most of the libraries especially academic libraries are continued to be hybrid (print and electronics) libraries. Compare to other academic libraries. This study was about medical college libraries, need special attention in developing collection systems and services.

Nikam and Kumar (2013) examined the use of e-libraries, e-journals, and e-databases. The study aimed to examine the user behavior of 66 out of 100 research scholars and faculty members of select departments at the University of Mysore like environmental sciences, sericulture science, zoology and genetics from the sample. Structure questionnaire with 5 point scale was used and the Mean and Standard Deviation (SD) values were calculated using SPSS. The main purpose for which the respondents seek information is mostly to do research work and write articles (Mean 3.67) and the least purpose being to submit funded project (Mean 1.97) users use both print source and e-source of information highly used print source are journals and in case of electronic source e-journals are used most.

Madhuri (2012) described in the study that the internet has emerged as the most powerful medium for storage and retrieval of information. This paper deals with the use of the internet by the students of the engineering college in and around Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh, India. This paper examines the frequency of internet use, the purpose of using the internet, use of different internet services and Impact of internet on engineering education. Questionnaire method was used for the collection of data from the engineering students. The main findings of the study are 81.42% of the colleges are providing sufficient computer systems in their labs, 78.28% were browsing the internet for the purpose of e-mail, 31.42% were browsing internet through Mozilla firebox, 82.14% were using Google search engine and 65% of them are using Gmail services for mailing purpose and the main problem faced by the students as accessing internet is low speed of internet.

Millawithananchichi (2012) described in the study that e-resources have exploded in popularity and usage by helping users in retrieving accurate, relevant and timely information as and when required for their learning and research needs. This case study was carried out in the University of Colombo to investigate the Critical Success Factors (CSFs) on e-resources the usage of e-resources among postgraduates. A questionnaire-based survey was carried out using 302 postgraduates belonging to seven faculties, among the nine factors, the respondents identified "Technology" as the most critical factor in using e-resources library support, information literacy, computer competency usefulness, and user attitudes are identified as other CSFs for using e-resources for their learning activities. It is using multiple regression analysis ANOVA and simple percentage tool for the study. Is it is indicated that priority should be given to developing IT infrastructure to improve IT and computer skills among students and to update the library staff with technology advancements?

Egberongbe (2011)studied is to investigate the impact of the use of electronic resources on the academic productivity of lectures and research scholars. Research scholars in this study refer to students and research assistants in the this University of Lagos. An electronic document delivery should also be introduced into the earlier opportunity. Electronic resources information at the University of Lagos and other academic institutions would improve substantially.

Thanuskodi and Ravi (2011) studied has sources of information available via the internet are increasing exponentially, leading to a steady increase in the use of the internet for education and research. Since the past few years, free online information sources like e-journals, e-books, e-databases have increased considerably. The present study was about the use of digital resources by faculty members and research scholars of Manonmaniyum University Tirunelveli. The studies also revealed that a majority of the faculty members are learning the required skills for the usage of digital resources through self-study. The study recommended some suggestion to improve the use of digital resources among the users are there is a needed to develop knowledge about the use of digital resources and more computer terminals should be installed in the library for easy access to faculty, research scholars and students.

Kapoor (2010) described quantity the use of electronic journals in comparison with the print collections in the Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha university library. A detailed analysis was made of the use of lending services, the Xerox facility and usage of electronic journals such as science Direct, emerald management extra, ACM, IEL Library, subscribed to by the library. Although the majority of the users at the university are accessing e-journals, it is not affecting the use of the print collection. The numbers of transactions and photocopy requests

of print articles are continuously on the rise. More research can be done by carrying out a deep log analysis of usage statistics of e-journals. Usage statistics of some of the resources could not be accessed.

Thanuskodi and Ravi (2011) discussed the academic libraries and information centers have radically changed the information environment in higher education institution with the introduction of electronic resources. This paper examines the use of the Internet by the members of Social Science Faculty of Annamalai University. The results indicate that the use of Internet services by the faculty members is associated with an increase in the number of research papers and with improvement in the quality of research and teaching.

Objectives of the Study

- To find out the usage of E-Resources among the respondents ;
- To identify the frequency of use of e-resources;
- To find out the awareness of INDEST-AICTE Consortium;
- To know the level of satisfaction while using the Institute's Library Services;
- To know the search techniques among the respondents;
- To know the purpose of using INDEST-AICTE Consortium;

Methodology

The survey method was considered is the most appropriate for this study because it can measure the student's background, experience and their perception about electronic information, and it was well suited to the research questions taken which had been for this study. The data has been obtained by using questionnaires; then the collected data was standardized for comparison. The questionnaire was designed, keeping in view the objectives of the study for collecting usage data from different users. The questionnaire was distributed to the Post Graduate Engineering students of Automobile, Biotechnology, Structural, infrastructure, CSE, IT, Software, Applied electronics, Embedded and real-time, power electronics and drives, communication systems, VLSI Design, control systems, CIM, Engineering design, industrial engineering, lean manufacturing, industrial Metallurgy, production engineering, production design and commerce, energy engineering, textile technology departments at PSG College of Technology. The questionnaire was administered in the central library, departments, hostels, and other campus locations.

Research Sample
A survey was carried out in order to gather necessary information regarding the Awareness and use of INDEST – AICTE Consortium by the postgraduate students in Alagappa University; A study. A sample population of 250 postgraduate students was targeted for the study and out of 250 students only 220 students filled in the questionnaire (i.e.) 88%. The total sample population included both male and female respondent s.

Results and Discussion

Table 1: **Gender wise Respondents**

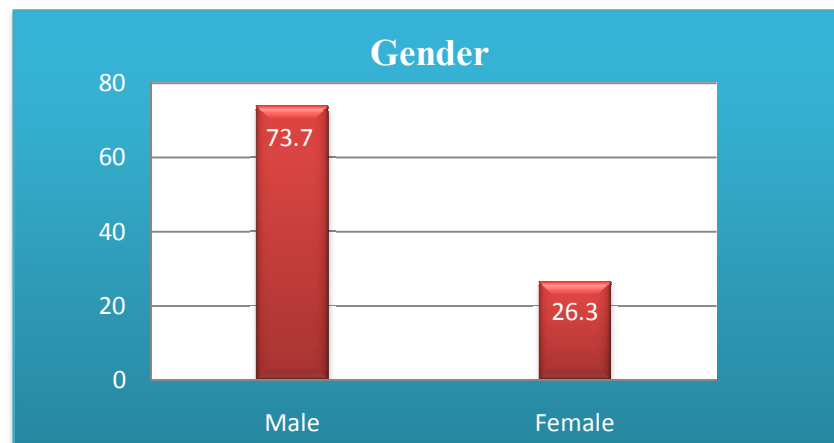| S. No	Gender	Number of Respondents	Percentage
1	Male	163	73.7
2	Female	57	26.3
Total		**220**	**100**

Figure - 1 Gender Wise Respondents

Table and Figure 1 show the gender-wise respondents among the students of postgraduate departments in P.S.G. College of Technology. Out of 250 students, only 220 students were responded. Among them 73.7 (163) percent of respondents were males and 26.3 (57) percent were female.

Table 2: **Respondents' frequency of visit to the library**

S.No	Visit the Library	Number of Respondents	Percentage
1	Daily	122	55.5
2	Weekly Once	47	21.4
3	Monthly Once	30	13.6
4	Occasionally	21	9.5
	Total	**220**	**100**

Table 2 presents the frequency of users visiting the library. A total of 55.5 (122) percent of the respondents visit the library daily while only 21.4 (47) percent of the respondents visit the library once in a week, sp13.6 (30) percent visited the library once in a month and 9.5 (21) percent of respondents visit the library occasionally. The respondents who visit the library daily contribute the maximum percentage of 55.5%.

Table 3: Respondent's level of satisfaction

S.No	Library Services	Number of Respondents	Percentage
1	Fully Satisfied	88	40
2	Satisfied	84	38.2
3	Neutral	36	16.4
4	Less Satisfied	12	5.5
	Total	220	100

Table 3 presents the level of satisfaction of the respondents with the services offered by the library. A total of 40 (88) percent of the respondents responded that they are fully satisfied with the library services whereas 38.2 (84) percent of respondents responded that they are satisfied. 16.4 (36) percent of respondents responded that library services are neutral and 5.5 (12) percent of respondents responded that they are less satisfied. It is obvious from the table that majority of the respondents (40%) are fully satisfied with the library services.

Table 4: Types of E-Resources Used

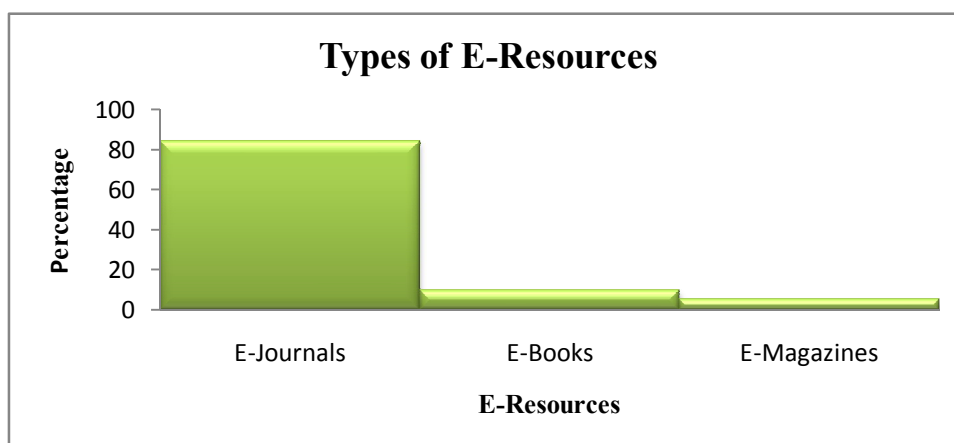| S.No	E-Resources	Number of Respondents	Percentage
1	E-Journals	186	84.5
2	E-Books	22	10.0
3	E-Magazines	12	5.5
	Total	220	100

Figure 4: Type of E-Resources Used

Table and Figure 4 depict the various types of E-Resources used by the respondents. It shows that 84.5 percent of the respondents use E-Journals (186), 10 percent use E-books (22) and 5.5 percent use E-Magazines (12). So the majority of the respondents use E-Journals for their reference.

Table 5: Awareness of INDEST- AICTE Consortium

S.No	Knowledge About INDEST- AICTE	Number Of Respondents	Percentage
1	Yes	220	100
2	No	0	0
	Total	**220**	**100**

Table 5 depicts the awareness of the respondents to INDEST- AICTE Consortium. It is known from the table that all the respondents are aware of INDEST- AICTE Consortium and also they have some knowledge about that.

Table 6: Sources of Awareness of INDEST-AICTE Consortium

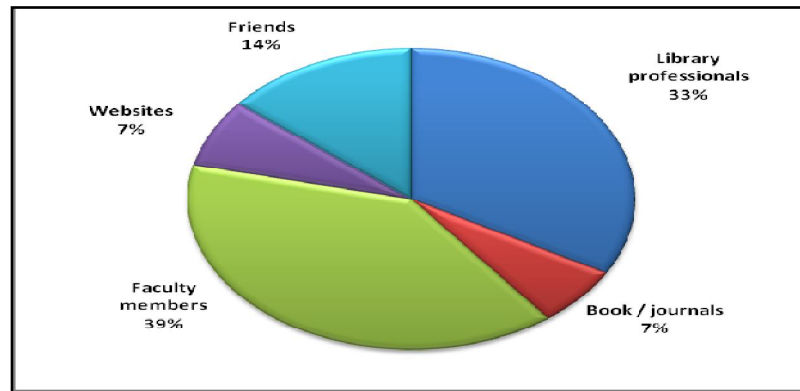| S.No	Sources of Awareness	Number of Respondents	Percentage
1	Library Professionals	73	33.2
2	Book / Journals	14	6.4
3	Faculty Members	86	39.1
4	Websites	16	7.3
5	Friends	31	14.1
	Total	**220**	**100**

Figure 6: Resources of Awareness on INDEST-AICTE Consortium.

Table and Figure 6.6 illustrate the various sources from which the respondents get awareness of INDEST – AICTE Consortium. It is obvious that 39.1% of the respondents (86) get awareness through the faculty members and 33.2% of the respondents through library professionals get 14.1% of the respondent's awareness is from their friends, while 7.3% and 6.4% of the respondents get awareness through websites and book/journals respectively.

Table 7: Purpose of using INDEST – AICTE Consortium E-Resources

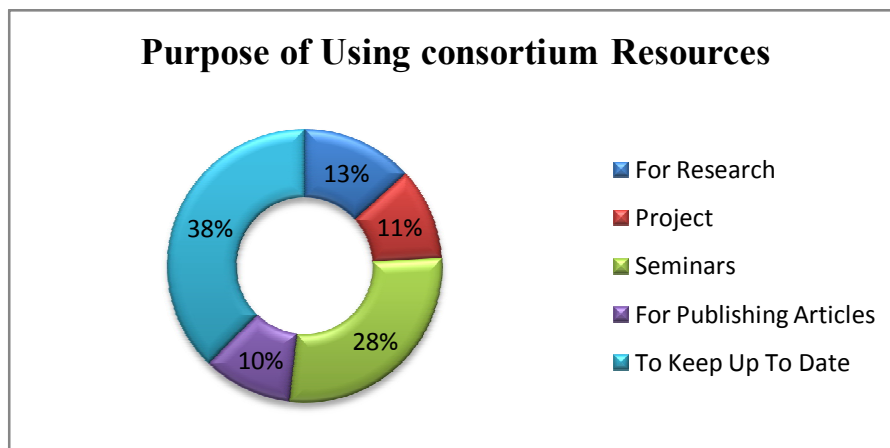| S.No	Purpose	Number of Respondents	Percentage
1	For Research	29	13.2
2	Project	24	10.9
3	Seminars	61	27.7
4	For Publishing Articles	23	10.5
5	To Keep Up To Date	83	37.7
	Total	**220**	**100**

Figure 7: Purpose of using Consortium Resources

Table and Figure 7 depict the purpose of using respondents in INDEST – AICTE Consortium resources. It is obvious from the table that 37.7% of the respondents use the consortium to keep, themselves up to date and 27.7% of the respondents use it for the purpose of preparing for seminars. It is also clear that 13.2% of the respondents respond are that they use the consortium for their research purpose, While 10.9% and 10.5% of the respondents use the same for their project and for publishing articles respectively.

Table 8: Preferred Search Engines to search E-Resources

S.No	Search Engines	Number of respondents	Percentage
1	Alta Vista	20	9.1
2	Google	121	55.0
3	Msn	19	8.6
4	Yahoo	46	20.9
5	Others	14	6.4
	Total	220	100

Table that present the various search engines preferred by the respondents to search e-resources. It is shown clearly from the table that 55% of the respondents use Google to search e-resources, 20.9% use yahoo, 9.1% use AltaVista, 8.6% use MSN, and 6.4% use some other search engines to search the e-resources.

Table 9: Preferred File Format of E-Resource Availability

S.No	File format	Number of respondents	Percentage
1	PDF	173	78.6
2	HTML	30	13.6
3	Word document	17	7.7
	Total	**220**	**100**

Table depict the respondents' preferred file format of e-resources. It is shown in the table that majority of the respondents 78.6% prefer PDF file format followed by HTML 13.6% and word document format 7.7% to use consortia e-resources.

Table 6.10: preference of Engineering Database

S.No	Engineering Database	Number of Respondents	Percentage
1	Compendex	88	40.0
2	CRCnetBASE	20	9.1
3	INSPEC	31	14.1
4	MathsciNet	29	13.2
5	SciFinder	24	10.9
6	SCOPUS	10	4.5
7	Web of Science	18	8.2
	Total	**220**	**100.0**

Table 10 depicts the list of engineering database prepared by the respondents. Majority of the respondents (40%) prefer Compendex database followed by INSPEC, MathSciNet, SciFinder, CRCnetBASE, Web of Science and SCOPUS, with 13.2%, 10.9%, 9.1%, 8.2%, and 4.5% respectively.

Table 11: Barriers in Using INDEST – AICTE Consortium

S.No	Barriers	Number of Respondents	Percentage
1	Low bandwidth	47	21.4
2	Limited access terminals	105	47.7
3	Lack of timing	22	10.0
4	Lack of hardware/software	30	13.6
5	Not comfortable on the computer reading	16	7.3
	Total	**220**	**100.0**

Table illustrate the common barriers faced by the respondents while using INDEST – AICTE Consortium. It is obvious from the table that limited access terminals are the most common problem faced by the majority of the respondents (47.7%) and (21.4%) of the respondents faced the problem of low bandwidth.

Table 12: **Benefits of using INDEST – AICTE Consortium**

S.No	Benefits of using INDEST – AICTE Consortium	Number of Respondents	Percentage
1	Time-saving	66	30.0
2	Easy to use	97	44.1
3	More informative	20	9.1
4	Most preferred	37	16.8
Total		**220**	**100.0**

Table shows that the Benefits of using INDEST – AICTE Consortium a total of the 44.1 (97) percent of respondents respond find that is easy to use the consortium electronic resource like e-journals, e-books, etc, followed by 30 (66) percent of respondents are responsible. That the e-resources save their time, while 16.8 (37) percent of respondents use Most preferred of the e-resources and the last one is 9.1 (20) percent of respondents prefer More informative to e-resources. Majority of the respondents are (44.1%) 97 respond that use for the consortium is easy to use.

Suggestions

   The Following suggestions/recommendation are pointed out from the study for other technical institutions
   • The library may subscribe e-resources based on the priorities and preference of users.
   • Announcements may be given by the library about the availability of new e-resources or additions of new databases for the user of the library.
   • More computers with the latest specifications and multimedia kit can be installed. So that the users can use internet telephony, video conferencing, chatting, Social Networking, and other useful services of the internet
   • Computer terminals can be extended to the wide campus and implemented in all the departments, hostels and library
   • Higher speeds Wi-Fi campus needs to be developed by the central library so that users can use online e-resources and internet within the campus according to their convenience.
   • To identifying e-journal candidates for purchase, evaluating potential purchaser, helping students use the e-journals effectively, incorporating information about their required documents.

Conclusion

The study identified reliable factors which influenced e-resources usage of postgraduate students in PSGCT. The electronic resources are the best means of getting current and up-to-date information. The library environment has currently undergone drastic changes in terms of collections and services. The proliferation of e-resources has had a significant impact on the way the academic community uses stores and preserves information. The advantages of e-resources have drawn the attention of the library users to a great extent. Accordingly, these

resources have occupied a significant place in the collection and budget of almost all libraries.

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