E- RESOURCES OF UGC- INFONET ACCESS BY THE RESEARCH SCHOLARS OF BHARATHIDASAN UNIVERSITY, TIRUCHIRAPPALLI, INDIA.

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ABSTRCT

The aim of this paper is to bring that assess the use of electronic information resources among the research scholars at the Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirappalli. The study is based only on the research scholars of Arts, Science, Social Science, Management and Education faculties in Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirappalli. The survey should be replicated on a larger sample for generalization for observing the electronic resources its utilization trends among the research scholars to obtain the relevant their research information. Keeping in view the positive trend of electronic resources focus the modern technology, universities and libraries should give more funding to provide electronic resources and facilities and provide adequate training to the research scholars for accessing the electronic resources. , the study reveals that 230 (58.4%) of the research scholars covered under the study involve that internet provides required information which satisfactorily or fulfilling their research at Large Extent. Majority of the respondents access electronic resources through the Electronic mail 252 (63.95%).

Keywords: Electronic resources, Research Scholars, INFLIBNET, UGC-INFONET, Digital Library Consortia, Electronic Journals, E- database

INTRODUCTION

Libraries play a very important role in this fast changing e-environment of publishing. Presently E-journals have become the largest and fastest growing areas of the digital collections for most of our libraries. Their role includes identification of selection of information, its organization of management, storage retrieval and dissemination to right users at the right time at right place at right price and in right format. The library is usually mentioned as a scholar's laboratory. Libraries have been fulfilling the needs of humanists for centuries in a traditional way but the last three decades have brought a revolutionary change in library services. Modern information and communication technologies have had a profound impact on the ways in which information is stored and accessed. The technology revolution has given birth to the concept of global village and now distance is no longer a hurdle in accessing the desired information. People can interact with each other as if they are living in the same village and community. Similar to the other walks of life, digital technology has changed the academic environment. It has not only influenced the teaching

style and research methods of academics, but also affected the sources and means they use in teaching and research.

UGC –INFONET Digital Library consortium

UGC-INFLIBNET will be responsible for the execution and monitoring of the network as per joint technical and tariff committee (JTTC) guidelines and has independent electronic access to all the publications to help with the process. INFLIBNET (2007) has also been provided one free print copy of each journal from many publishers and is maintaining team as a national repository at Ahmadabad on the Gujarat University campus. A website has also been created to provide all needed information to consortium members about the status of the programme at http//202.141.130.70/index.php. The UGC-INFONET Digital Library consortium is providing 7500+ Journals, Bibliographic Databases and Open Access Journals. UGC-INFONET E-journal consortium is a memorable project in the history of academic community and users in India. All academic institutions, which come under the preview of UGC, are members of this consortium. It is the largest academic consortium in India monitored by INFLIBNET. It is subscribing e-resources of high quality collection of more than 4000 full text E-journals, Indexing and Abstracting databases for the benefits of millions of users in India, from 25 different publishers to the academic community, comprising of faculty, staff, researchers and students. The UGC-INFONET E-journal consortium is an ambitious program initiated by UGC to facilitate access to scholarly electronic journals and databases in view of limited resources subscribed by majority of universities. This project is our pride in the field of education and research which was formally launched the concluding day of UGC golden jubilee celebrations by his Excellency the president of India Dr.A.P.J.Abdul Kalam at Vigyan Bhavan on 28 December 2003 by dedicating a bouquet of e-journals to the nation. More than 4000 scholarly journals and databases from around 23 major publishers/vender's made available to around 100 Universities and the remaining universities will be provided access in stages, from the user's point of view it is great bonanza for them is the absence of such access.

BHARATHIDASAN UNIVERSITY

Bharathidasan University established in February 1982, and was named after the great revolutionary Tamil Poet, Bharathidasan (1891-1968). The motto of the University **"We will create a brave new world"** has been framed from Bharathidasan's poetic words. The University endeavors to be true to such a vision by creating in the region a brave new world of academic innovation for social change"(NAAC, - 2005, p.69). The year 2006-07 is the Silver Jubilee year for this great and vibrant University. The University has totally 4 Faculties, 16 Schools, 34 Departments and 11 Specialized Research Centres. There are 195 faculty members catering to 2372 students and scholars in the University. The University Departments/Schools are offering 177 programmes including 40 PG programmes in M.A., M.Sc. and M.Tech. The above programmes are conducted under the Choice Based Credit System (CBCS) in Semesters: 31 M.Phil., 33 Ph.D., 19 P.G. Diploma, 11 Diploma and 10 Certificates. The University's supporting staff strength is 521. In addition to the regular teaching programmes in the Departments and Schools, the University under its Distance Education mode is conducting 15 UG and 26 PG programmes. All the UG programmes are conducted under non-semester system and all the PG programmes are conducted under semester system along with the regular programmes. The MCA and MBA programmes conducted under this mode are very popular. Totally 15 UG programmes and 26 PG programmes are conducted under this mode.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The following objectives are,

1. To find out the faculty wise respondents of the study
2. To observe the research scholars for purpose to visit the Library
3. To know the reasons of e-resources provides information fulfilling of research
4. To observe the frequency of downloading of electronic journals from UGC-INFONET
5. To examine the Use of Electronic resources and ICT facilities in research
6. To find out the quality of research information obtains from the World Wide Web.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Baskaran and Kishore kumar have studied the faculty members also acquire the guidance and experience for accessing the scholarly journals from the library staff and from the senior faculty members. However found that lack of training for accessing is an obstacle in proper and full utilization of them. The survey on use and access to electronic resources through the search facilities provided by the publishes for full text articles. Muhammad Tahir (2010) survey based only on the humanities faculty in a large university of Pakistan. The survey should be replicated on a larger sample for generalization. Practical implications – Keeping in view the positive trend of humanists towards modern technology, universities and libraries should give more funding to provide electronic resources and facilities in the arts and humanities discipline. Special training programmes for humanists should be organized. This is the first study on this topic in Pakistan. The results can be useful to design services and facilities in humanities libraries and information centres in Pakistan and other developing countries. Massey-Burzio (1999) investigated to what extent the humanities faculty value information technology and view its relation to their research and teaching. She concluded that they "definitely feel the pressure to use and deal with technology." The humanities faculty appreciates the advantages of computer searches, but they feel it is uncomfortable and inconvenient to read off a computer screen for a long time. A citation analysis of US journals in history published between 1997 and 2000 showed that "although librarians and archivists continue to provide electronic access to scholarly online journals, primary sources, and rare secondary materials, these efforts do not play a significant role in the cited research of the history community. Only eight historians, in a pool of over 192, cited electronic resources" (Graham, 2000). A ten-year longitudinal study of a group of humanists, by Wiberley and Jones (2000), explained that the senior scholars adopted new technology at a slow pace. "They normally began with the OPAC in their home library; then adopted word processing; next, while on administrative assignment, became regular e-mail users; and finally, did their own searches on bibliographic databases." Rose (2002) studied the technology's impact on the art historians' information use pattern. It was found that print and electronic journals, when available, were a regularly used resource by the 40 per cent respondents. The computer was mostly used for e-mail, CD-ROM, drawing programs for making maps and plans, material analysis, and storing images. Respondents also mentioned online catalogs as a valuable source for locating information. Ileperuma (2002) has investigated the information-gathering behavior of 151 arts scholars in six Sri Lankan universities. The study revealed that arts scholars were gathering the information for three basic types of activities i.e. teaching, research and administration. Although the respondents were spending 45 to 55 per cent of their time in the library but the majority mentioned that they try to seek information for keeping them update with current IT resources. Tibbo (2003) studied 700 historians from 68

US universities to explore how they locate primary resource material in the digital age. She found that for many historians, the traditional methodologies for locating primary materials remained the most utilized. Of the historians, 98 per cent indicated that they found materials by following leads and citations in printed sources. On the other hand, 80 per cent of the history scholars used their own institution's OPAC; 67 per cent searched other institutions' OPACs via the internet; 58 per cent used bibliographic utilities such as RLIN and OCLC; 63 per cent said they looked for information directly on repository web sites; 44 per cent indicated that they searched the web for primary materials using a search engine. She concluded that there was a need for user education in regard to electronic search methodologies. In a study comparing scholars' use of e-journals and databases in different disciplines, Talja and Maula (2003) classified humanities scholars as "low level users." University of Pune library subscribes to a number of electronic journals to satisfy the information needs of its users. Sadanand and Bansode (2013) The present study is an attempt to find out whether the users of University of Pune prefers the new format of journals and whether the electronic journals are able to satisfy the information needs of the users. Samples were selected from each category of users comprising of faculties, research students and post-graduate students for the present study.

METHODOLOGY

A questionnaire survey of faculty from the research scholars at the Bhrathidasan University, Tiruchirappalli was conducted. In total, 394 research scholars were responded to this study. The study explores the descriptive method by using the structured questionnaire. The survey provide to needful of information regarding impact of the electronic journals, electronic database and other resources needful to their study. The questionnaire has been designed in covering of all the requirement and features of electronic resources access by the UGC-Infonet digital library consortia. On the basis of the results some major findings and Suggestion for improving of electronic resources access to enhance research competence of all major areas of research.

Table: 1 Name of the Research Programme

S.No.	Name of the Programme	No. of Respondent	Percent
1	Master of Philosophy	144	36.5
2	Doctor of Philosophy	240	60.9
3	Research Fellowship	10	2.5
	Total	394	100.0

Table 1 indicates that access of electronic resources by the respondents in Baharathidasan University. About 144 (36.5%) Master of Philosophy and Doctor of Philosophy Scholars access the electronic resources about 240 (60.9%) those were predominantly access the electronic resources and responded to this comparatively higher than 24.4% Master of Philosophy. Only 10 (2.05%) of Research Fellowship pursue the research undergone in the various projects responded to this study.

Table: 2 Faculty-wise Respondents

S.No.	Name of the Faculty	No. of Respondent	Percent	Cumulative Percent
1	Arts	66	16.8	16.8
2	Science	255	64.7	81.5
3	Social Science	21	5.3	86.8
4	Management	16	4.1	90.9
5	Education	14	3.6	94.4
6	Languages	13	3.3	97.7
7	Others	9	2.3	100.0
Total		**394**	**100.0**	

The respondents research scholars from different faculties of Bharathidasan Universities. It is shown the above table 2, that about 6 (16.8%) of respondents are belongs to Arts Faculty, about 255 (64.7%) of respondents from Science background; Social Science 21 (5.3%), Management 16 (4.1%), Education 14 (3.6%), Language 13 (3.3%) and other category of research scholars are only 9 (2.3%) responded to this study is shows in Fig-1.
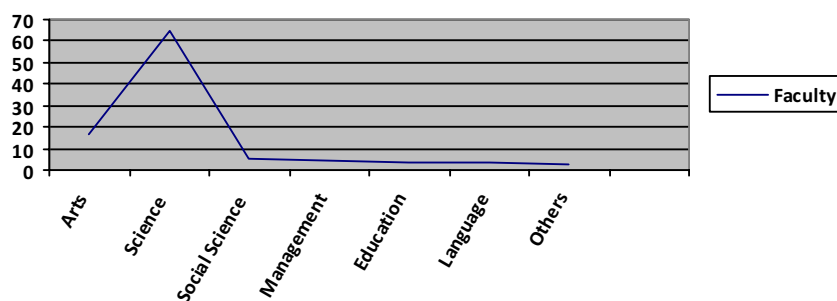

Fig-1 Faculty-wise Respondents

Table: 3 Number of Year Experience

S.No.	Experience	Total	Percentage
1	Less Than 1 Year	101	25.63
2	1 To 3 Years	250	63.45
3	4 To 6 Years	36	9.13
4	More Than 6 Years	7	1.77
Total		**394**	**99.98**

The study reveals from Table 3 shown research Experience of the scholars who responded 256 (63.45%) they are in the category of 1 to 3 years, they responded to know the electronic resources getting the information for their research. It followed by about 101 (25.63%) of respondents has one year experience in their research field. About together 10.9% of have the research experience 4 to 6 years and more than 6 years of experience in the respective research field who have accessed the electronic resources for the purpose of the study from UGC-INFONET.

Table: 4 Purpose of Using the Library

S.No.	Purpose of Using the Library	Total	Percentage
1	Borrowing Books	305	77.41
2	Referring Magazines / Journal	282	71.57
3	Making Photocopies of Document	134	34.01
4	Consulting other Resources	77	19.54
5	Entertainment	22	5.58

It shows the above table 4 that about 305 (77.41%) of research scholars to visit the Library for the purpose of Borrowing Books. It followed by the research scholars visit the Library for referring magazines/Journals less than 5084% of respondents who visit for borrowing books. The research scholars prefer to visit the library for purpose of taking photo copies about 134 (34.01%) among the research scholars who responded to the survey and about 77 (19.54%) of research scholars to visit the library for consulting other responder like, encyclopedia, handbook and non book materials. Fig-2 indicates about 22(5.58%) of research scholars who prefer to visit the library for entertainment.
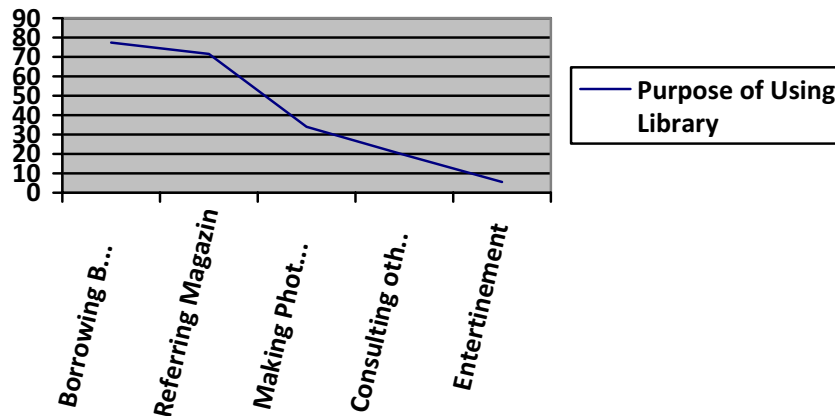

Fig-2   Purpose of Using the Library

Table: 5 E-resources provides the information is fulfilling your research

S.No.	Type of Extent	Frequency	Percent
1	Large extent	230	58.4
2	Some extent	148	37.6
3	less extent	12	3.0
4	Not at all	4	1.0
Total		**394**	**100.0**

It is found table 5 indicates that, 230 (58.4%) of the research scholars covered under the study involve that e-resources provides required information which satisfactorily or fulfilling their research as Large Extent. It followed by 148 (37.6%) rated, as some extent. It is relevant the information fulfill their research. About 12 (3%) of research scholars responded the internet provides the information as less extent. Finally, about 4 (1%) only the research scholars stated that Not at all above the category of usefulness of relevant information provides to the research.

6 - Aware of Your Library Electronic Resources

S.No.	Awareness	No. of Respondent	Percent
1	Yes	335	85.0
2	No	59	15.0
Total		**394**	**100.0**

Table 6 shows that majority of the research scholars 335 (85%) aware the electronic resources. The rest of them are not 59 (15%) aware of electronic resources access from the UGC-INFONET.

Table 7 Frequency of Downloading Electronic Journals

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Daily	79	20.1	20.1	20.1
2-3 times in week	96	24.4	24.4	44.4
Once in a week	91	23.1	23.1	67.5
Monthly	20	5.1	5.1	72.6
Occasionally	108	27.4	27.4	100.0
Total	394	100.0	100.0	

Table 7 Shows the respondents were access electronic resources occasionally 10 (27.4%) of research scholars were rarely access. The research scholars 96 (24.4%) were access the electronic resources 2 to 3 times in a week; 23.1% of respondents access once in a week, only 20% of research scholars accessing the electronic resources daily. It could be observed from the figure 3 very less number of respondents less than 10% accesses the electronic resources.
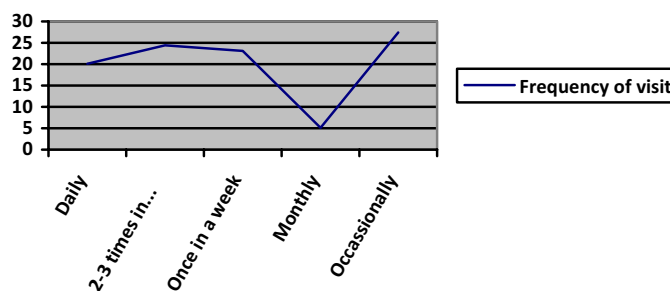

Fig-3 Frequency of Downloading Electronic Journals

Table: 8 Use of Electronic Resources & ICT Facilities in Research

S.No.	Use of Electronic Resources & ICT Facilities in Research	Total	Percentage
1	Search Engines and Portals	161	40.86
2	Web Pages	183	46.44
3	Electronic Journals	240	60.91
4	E-Mail	252	63.95
5	Audio-Visual and Multimedia Collections	30	7.61
6	Online Databases	77	19.54
7	CD-ROM Databases	23	5.83
8	Online Library Catalogues (OPAC)	27	6.85
9	Listserv or E-Mail Alert	4	1.01
10	Electronic Bulletin Board	2	0.50
11	File Transfer Protocols (FTP)	11	2.79

The study found that the majority of the respondents access electronic resources through the Electronic mail 252 (63.95%) as rank first in order. It followed by Electronic Journal 240 (60.91%), Web Pages 183 (46.44%), Search Engines and Portals 161 (40.86%) and Online Databases 77 (19.54%). It could be revealed from the table 8, below 10 Percentage of Research Scholars access the electronic resources like Audio Visual and Multimedia Collations, Online Library Catalogue (OPAC), CD-ROM Database, File Transfer Protocols (FTP), List serve or E-mail Alert and Electronic Bulletin Board.

Table: 9 Influence of UGC-INFONET E-Resources on Research Efficiency

S.No.	Influence of UGC-INFONET E-Resources on Research Efficiency	Total	Percentage
1	Expedited the Research Process	174	44.16
2	Improved Professional Competence	112	28.42
3	Access to Current / Up to date Information	181	45.93
4	Access to a wider range of Information	106	26.90
5	Easier Access to Information	111	28.17
6	Faster Access to Information	64	16.24

A large number 181 (45.93%) of the research scholars were access upon the research efficiency towards Current/Up to date information. The respondents 174 (14.16%) were access the electronic resources for expedited the research process. The research scholars 112 (28.42%) wanted to access for improved professional competence. The electronic resources accessed by the research scholars 106 (26.9%) stated to access for wider range of information. The research scholars justify that easier to access the information and faster access to information was 28.17% and 16.24% respectively.

Table: 10 Need for Other Electronic Services

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Current Article alert services	210	53.3	53.3	53.3
Electronic document supply	70	17.8	17.8	71.1
other services	114	28.9	28.9	100.0
Total	**394**	**100.0**	**100.0**	

It was collected the data from the research scholars of Bharathidasan University asked the information about need for other services require to the research activities to their field of interest. It is observed from the above the table that 20 (53.3%) of the research scholars responded there is need for current article alert service to obtain relevant information for acquiring their research information, Further, they wanted to search the other services need to the 112 (28.9%) of research scholars to seek the research information. It could be observed that remaining 70 (17.8%) of research scholars agreed that there is need of electronic document supply to received the particular research information on published which can be received E-mail itself.

Table: 11 Quality of Information Obtained from World Wide Web

Types Rate	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Excellent	112	28.4	28.4	28.4
Good	242	61.4	61.4	89.8
Average	38	9.6	9.6	99.5
Poor	2	.5	.5	100.0
Total	**394**	**100.0**	**100.0**	

the above table revealed that 242 (61.4%) of the research scholars examined that world wide web provide the information is good, followed by 112 (28.4%) research scholars rated that it is covered information as Excellent. About 38 (9.6%) and 2 (0.5%) of the research scholars expressed that provide the research information through the World Wide Web it is average and poor respectively.

MAJOR FINDINGS

1. 44 (36.5%) of Master of Philosophy and Doctor of Philosophy Scholars predominantly access the electronic resources about 240 (60.9%) comparatively higher than 24.4% Master of Philosophy research scholars.
2. 305 (77.41%) of research scholars to visit the Library for Borrowing Books.
3. 10 (27.4%) of research scholars were access electronic resources access rarely.
4. Majority of the respondents access electronic resources through the Electronic mail 252 (63.95%). In the first rank in order Electronic Journal 240 (60.91%), Web Pages 183 (46.44%), Search Engines and Portals 161 (40.86%) and Online Databases 77 (19.54%).
5. 112 (28.42%) of research scholars wanted to access for improved professional competence.
6. 70 (17.8%) of research scholars agreed that there is need of electronic document supply to received the particular research information on published which can be received E-mail itself.
7. 242 (61.4%) of research scholars examined that World Wide Web provide the information is good.

SUGGESTIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS:

The following suggestions are made from the study

1. Library professionals of the Bharathidasan University regularly given guidance/literacy to the research scholars about search the electronic resources.
2. The research scholars should refer more peer-reviewed e-journals provide by UGC-INFONET.
3. UGC-INFONET must provide to enhance for subscribing the more full text articles in all electronic journals from reputed publishers and subject databases.
4. More number of computer systems need to increase for given facility to access by the research scholars while provide campus wide network for accessing of electronic resources
5. Awareness program of accessing for electronic resources is to conduct periodically.
6. Subscribe/Procure more E-books and unavailable E-Journals from UGC-INFONET.

CONCLUSION

Emerging development of Information Communication technology in libraries which is needs to enhance the research information to the Research Scholars. The research scholars must understands the significant of electronic resource its necessities and applications, how which are require to research purpose in Bharathidasan University. It was undergone research survey through data collection under questionnaire among the research scholars. It could be observed from above study research scholars must get proper guidance and awareness for accessing the electronic resources provide from UGC-INFONET. It can also be observed more number of research scholars suggest internet provide the useful research information fulfill up the research and most of the research scholars are getting the electronic resources by E-Mail under document delivery services in the form of word and PDF. Majority of the respondents increase their research efficiency through expedited the research process in accessing of electronic resources provides from UGC-INFONET. The research scholars need to get more experience and training to get all types of research information in the form digital and web content for enhancement to utilize effectively.

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