

## Electronic information resources utilization by postgraduate students of Bangalore University Constituent colleges

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### ABSTRACT

*Describe Electronic information resources utilization by 47 students of the Bangalore university constituent colleges. Survey method was used for the purpose. It was found that 68.08% students visit the library for reading text books. 87.23% students were aware about the photocopy service, while 65.95% students use the internet for educational purpose. 51.06% students face the problem while using the library catalogue and 61.7% ask for help to the teacher in using the library. 25.53% students rated reading area as very good. Students need proper orientation in the use of library resources.*

**KEYWORDS:** Electronic Resources, Bangalore University, Library Utilization

### Introduction

Education aims to impart knowledge and makes good citizens. Libraries are the repositories of knowledge and form an integral part of education. Libraries are the Centre of learning and service oriented social institution and it is expected to perform certain functions. It should provide lifelong self-education preservation of literary heritage. A library is place where book and non-book materials are acquired. Processed, stored and disseminated to give right information to the right reader at a right time. Hence, it is store house of knowledge

The definitions of 'library' given by various library scientists and associations reflect this heritage. Throughout the world the Library is considered as part and parcel of the academic set-up. It is created and maintained to serve and support the educational activities. The recommendations of numerous commissions and committees established by the Government of India and various other states for the improvement of higher education can bring in desired results provided the college has the full complement of library resources, personnel, and necessary infrastructure.

### Review of Literature

Today, libraries are providing electronic access to a wide variety of resources, including indexes, full-text articles and complete journals. Electronic journals offer a solution to some of the problems facing the management of the academic journals, they are space saving, they enhance speed of communication, provide powerful searching tools, can provide immediate access to your desk and they can provide facilities such as integrated text, hypertext links and multi-media that the printed journal cannot offer (Sweeney, 1997)

Prabhakaran(1996)<sup>2</sup> studied the need of electronic publishing. The numbers of publishers providing online access to many of their journals are increased. The study was based on the electronic access and their problem in Tata Institute of Fundamental Research. Here the steps involved in the process of building up their structure for online journals are described. Tata Institute of Fundamental Research library is presently having online access to several journals in electronic format. While making this electronic journal available to its users, library has numerous experiences so that other libraries may benefit by them.

Kishor Kumar and LokeshNaik (2014) has conducted the study was related to “use pattern of information resources by the users of public library: A case study of district central library, Tumkur (Karnataka).” He knew the frequency of visits of the users to the library and among the time spent and how they get information for their study. He found out use and adequacy of the reading material such as text books and periodicals non book materials etc. He observed whether the arrangements of books and other materials are helpful to the users in the city central library. He adopted Interview Method for the collection of data. After analyzing the data it is found that less no of the users visit the library occasionally. Majority of the user’s spending the time more than two hours. Majority of the users read the newspapers. Majority of the users locate the reading materials directly from the racks. Majority of the users do not use the catalogue cards. Majority of the users refers the information sources like newspapers, books, periodicals etc. Majority of the users are more satisfied with the arrangements of books. Majority of the users are satisfied with the cooperation of the staff were found out.

### **Objectives of the study**

- To identify frequently used e-resources by the respondents
- To know the types of e-journals accessed by the respondents.
- To find out purpose of accessing the internet and e-resources by the respondents.
- To study the opinion of the respondents regarding the importance of the e-resources.
- To find out preferred format for downloading articles from the e-resources by the respondents.
- To assess level of satisfaction with e-resources by the respondents.

### **Scope**

Bangalore University is located at Jnanabharathi campus in Bangalore. Established in 1964, it aims to advance standards of teaching, research, publication and distribution of knowledge in all areas. The university has given affiliation to 497 colleges, 55 government institutions conducting post-graduation and under graduate courses and 52 Aided institutions offering post-graduation and under graduate courses 390 Private institutions running post-graduation and under graduate courses. Ph D programs are conducted in the areas of Arts, Science and commerce.

### **Methodology**

The present study is confined to the knowledge and usage of electronic information resources in order to fulfil the academic needs by the students of Department of Physical Education, University Law College, University Engineering College, Bangalore University, and Bangalore. Keeping in view the objectives in mind, a questionnaire was prepared to collect the data from the forty seven students.

**Data Analysis and Interpretation**

The empirical data was collected by mean of survey i.e. through the distribution of questionnaires among the students. The responses were coded and presented in tabulation with interpretation. To fulfill the major research objectives of the present study, the data were subjected to statistical technique i.e. Percentage test. The figures in the brackets show the percentage of users' responses.

**Table 1: Frequency of Visiting the Library**

Frequency of Visit	No. of Responses	Percentage
Daily	21	44.68%
Weekly	17	36.17%
Fortnightly	06	12.76%
Monthly	03	6.38%
Total	47	100.00%

Table-1 reveals that majority of students i.e. 21(44.68%) visit the library daily, 17(36.17%) visit weekly, 06(12.76%) visit fortnightly and 03(6.38%) visit monthly.

**Table 2: Purpose of Using Library**

Purpose	No. of Responses	Percentage
Reading Text Books	32	68.08%
Reading Newspaper	23	48.93%
Borrowing books to read at home	21	44.68%
Consulting Reference Books	19	40.42%
Consulting Periodicals	13	27.65%
Reading competitive materials	04	08.51%
Updating knowledge	24	51.06%

Table-2 shows that 32(68.08%) students visit the library for reading the text-books followed by 51.06%, 48.93% and 44.68% students for updating knowledge, reading newspaper and borrowing books to read at home. 40.42% students consult the reference books and 27.65% students visit library for the purpose of periodicals. Only 04(08.51%) students read the competitive materials.

**Table 3: Use of Printed and Non-Printed Resources**

Printed/Non Printed Resource	No. of Responses	Percentage
Text Books	40	85.10%
Reference Books	21	44.68%
General Books	10	21.27%
New Paper/ Magazines	21	44.68%
CD-ROMs	04	8.51%
E-Books	10	21.27%
E-Journals	21	44.68%

Table-3 that a majority of students i.e. 40(85.10%) used Text Books. Reference Books, News Paper/Magazines and E-Journals were used by 21 (44.68%) students. Only 04(8.51%) students used CD-ROMs

**Table 4: Purpose of Using Internet**

<b>Purpose</b>	<b>No. of Responds</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Educational	31	65.95%
Entertainment	14	29.78%
News	08	17.02%
E-Mail	15	31.91%
Research Articles	13	27.65%

Table-4 tells that 31(65.95%) students use the Internet for the educational purpose while 15(31.91%) students use for e-mail. 14 (29.78%) and 13(27.65%) students use Internet for the purpose of entertainment and research articles, respectively.

**Table 5. Respondents' level of satisfaction with e-resources**

<b>E-resource</b>	<b>Very much satisfied</b>	<b>Satisfied</b>
Online data base	41 (73.12)	10 (18.50)
E-journals	37 (72.96)	8(15.95)
CD-ROM	42(82.81)	7 (14.71)
E-newsletter	38 (70.64)	9 (17.18)
E-thesis and dissertation	33 (52.41)	11(20.34)
E-books	35 (69.86)	9 (17.18)
Full text database	44 (88.45)	9 (17.18)
E-newspaper	39 (69.64)	8(15.95)
Web resources	38 (70.04)	7 (14.71)
Open sources	44 (88.45)	9 (17.18)

Table-5 tells that 44(88.45%) students use full text database and open sources for their study, 70.64 percentage of students satisfaction e newsletter, 41 students are satisfaction with online database and CD Rom searching

**Table6: Opinion Regarding the Library**

<b>Opinion</b>	<b>No. of Responses</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Comfortable	40	85.10%
Quiet	29	61.70%
Welcoming	22	46.80%
Orderly	09	19.15%
Noisy	7	14.89%
Boring	03	06.38%
Safe	12	25.53%

Table-6 reveals that 85.10% students feel comfortable in the library, while 61.70% students stated that library is quiet. 46.80% and 25.53% students found that library is welcoming and safe. 14.89%, 08.51% and 06.38% students opined that it is noisy, exiting and boring.

## SUGGESTIONS

Some suggestions are given below:

Librarians should give proper orientation to the users to make aware of the different services provided by them.

- There should be proper shelving of the books in the library.
- Lockers should be provided for scholars.
- Staff should be helpful and cooperative.
- Library should be opened round the clock.
- Training programme should be provide on how to use OPAC and the library
- User education should be provided.
- Borrowing time should be increased from 15 days to one month.
- Collection should be adequate.

### CONCLUSION:

E-resources are an accepted means of information resources in the present information society; with the amount of new resources available, the need for adequate computer literacy and aptness in using the existing sources has become the need of the hour and the study reveals its impact in terms of awareness and effective use of the available.

Cost, the level of importance, and the use of e-resources have dramatically increased in the digital library environment; Web DB, e-book, e-journal, and other e-resources such as CD-ROM, DVD, and micro materials have become important sources in libraries.

College librarians should use new information technologies and new approaches to better serve their teachers in new ways of acquiring information. Libraries should organize their services so that they bring their information resources closer to the busy teachers. They should acquire new skills and learn how to organize information for presentation on the Internet portals or by handheld devices. Additional drive for college librarians in their efforts is the introduction of evidence-based practice. Librarians can teach teachers to search and critically evaluate information, thus helping in the process of their research. Librarians with experience in licensing and managing ERs are effective in rapidly diagnosing and remedying access problems.

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