

Information Seeking Behavior of Students Community with e-Resources: A Case Study of Engineering Colleges, Kanchipuram District, Tamilnadu

Muruganandham. G.

Research scholar
Bharathidasan University, Trichy.
email: murugatheni1972@gmail.com
muruga_theni@yahoo.co.in

Dr. N. Murugesapandian

Librarian & Head
Department of Library & Information Science
Ganesar College of Arts & Science
Melasivapuri, Ponnamaravathy, (Tamilnadu)
email:mpandi2004@yahoo.com

Dr. R. Selvaraju

Chief Librarian
Central Library,SRM University
Ramapuram Campus, Chennai (Tamilnadu)
email:selvarajuvrs@yahoo.com

ABSTRACT

The Paper seeks to review and assess the exposure of Information and Communication Technology and the access of e-resources by the student's community an Engineering Colleges in Kanchipuram district, Tamil Nadu. Besides it aims to highlight the problems encountered by the students and researcher has suggested some remedial measures for its improvement. The authors investigated the use of e-resources through a survey based on a structured questionnaire. The survey based methodology was used. Sample size was 115 (B.E /B.Tech Students – 71, M.E/ M.Tech students – 32 & Researcher – 12) The study confirmed that students and researcher of Engineering colleges in Kanchipuram district area, are aware of E-resources, and use various types of e-resources, e-databases and e-journals. It suggests for the improvement in the access facilities with procure of more e-resources with multi user level, to develop infrastructural facilities and to be provided more no. of systems, and also suggested to make a training program for library staff from time to time.

Keywords: Information seeking behavior, E-resources, Library services, usage, user opinion, Access

1. INTRODUCTION

The explosion of E-databases and other online resources has created many challenges for libraries. Use of general search engines is increasing, and the relevance of the library to users is being questioned. Social Media Link is playing a vital role in society. Libraries are not going away from the Social Media link. Thus, now a-days libraries do need to focus on emerging trends, tech or otherwise, to be nimble and viable. Libraries need better marketing strategies for making the user crazy to use the resources available in the library and to reinvigorate the brand. Librarians can be guides, counselors, and teachers. Roughly few thousand papers have been published in last three decades. Swain & Panda, 2009⁽¹⁾ in their study 'Use of e-services by faculty members of business schools in a state of India: A study' observed that faculty members prefer using e-articles, e-thesis and dissertation over to their

printed counterparts. Satapathy, Sunil kumar & Rout Biswanath, 2010⁽²⁾, 'Use of e-resources by the faculty members with special reference to CVRCE, Bhunaveswar, the usage and usability of e-journals are studied that faculty members are aware of the e-resources. Khaiser Nikam and Dhruva Kumar, 2013⁽³⁾, 'Evaluating the Effective Use of Electronic Journals by the Academia: A Study, the articles reveals that to use of e-journals effectively from 'friends/colleagues. K.N Kandpal, S.S Rawat and K.S.R Vithal, 2013⁽⁴⁾, 'Use of E-resources by Undergraduate students of NTR College of Veterinary Science, Andra Pradesh, are studied to access and evaluate the exposure of ICT and the use of e-resources by the students fo veterinary sciences. It is said that "To promote E-resources, librarians must inform and educate users through electronic resource promotion. Promoting electronic resources is now a necessary task for librarians and libraries. To be successful in promoting Online Databases / E-resources, librarians should properly and systematically study their available Online Databases / E-resources. Dhanavandan, S., Tamizhchelvan M., (2012). Use Pattern of Digital Resources Among Engineering Colleges in Tamil Nadu, India", studied access and use of library e-resources through the consortium of Engineering Students and researchers. This may include conducting user studies, working creatively and collaboratively, and using many modes of communication to disseminate the information to the users.

The rapid advancements in Information and Communication Technology (ICT) has brought a revolutionary change in the information scenario giving rise to a number of options to handle varied information sources conveniently and effortlessly. As a result, e-resources have become the most sought after modern libraries resources in satisfying varied needs of students, teachers and researchers with minimum effort and time. The e-information resources occupied a major portion of Library collections. The value and use of information resources, particularly e-resources have increased with the time. Therefore, there was necessity to conduct study on the different aspects of e-resources and the issues relating to the use of e-resources by students community of Engineering Colleges in Kanchipuram district.

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The objectives of the study are to:

- To find out the kinds of information sources used by students both of the groups; B.E / B.TECH, M.E / M.TECH & Researcher)
- To learn the frequency of using e-resources;
- To find out effectual use of e-resources;
- To find out the preferred place for accessing e-resources;
- To determine the problems faced in accessing and using e-resources;
- To suggest measures for the improvement in existing library e-resources.

3. METHODOLOGY AND DATA COLLECTION

The study is based on survey method and questionnaire tool. A structured questionnaire was designed and 115 questionnaires were distributed, 97 questionnaires were collected among the under graduate students, post graduate students and research scholars of the Engineering colleges in metropolitan area of Chennai. To Keeping mind the basic objectives of the study. The data was collected from the visiting students during the library hours and evening hours during the period 2014 – 2015.

3 1 SAMPLE OF DISTRIBUTED QUESTIONNAIRES

Table No.1

S.No	Courses	No. of Questionnaire Issued	No. of Questionnaire Received	Total Percentage %
1	B.E / B.TECH	71	59	83%
2.	M.E/ M.TECH	32	29	90.6%
3.	RESEARCHER	12	9	75%

4. DATA ANALYSIS AND FINDINGS.

97 (84.35%) questionnaires out of 115 students visited the library in the various Engineering colleges in Kanchipuram district area, were received back. The data collected through the questionnaires was scrutinized, classified, and tabulated for better understanding and clarity. The data was analyzed and tabulated by using simple statistical methods and their interpretations have been given in the following successive charts.

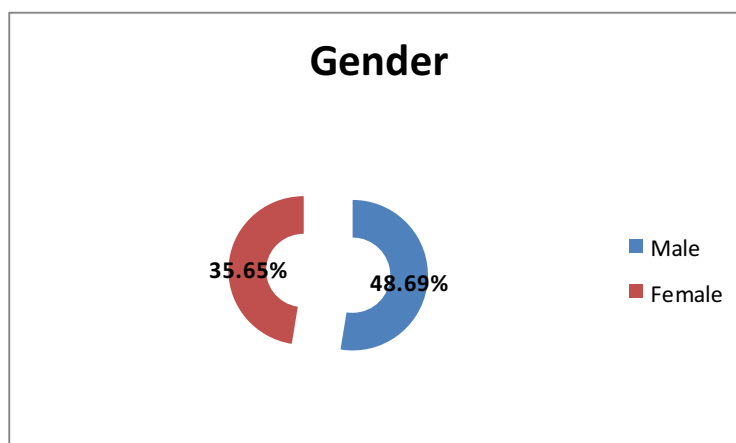


CHART 1: GENDER WISE DISTRIBUTED POPULATION

Figure1 provides gender wise description of the population that shows 51 nos i.e 44.35% male and 46 nos female i.e 40. %. Who have used e- resources.

4.1. USAGE OF INTERNET

At present, Internet has become an important tool in the area of Teaching – Learning process of in any academic institutions in the world. The information related to all the fields are available on internet, which is very useful for users to enrich their knowledge. This present study makes an effort to ascertain the use of internet, frequency, purpose and place of internet users. Figure 2 indicates that frequency of internet use by the students. Majority of the students, i.e., 70 (72.16%) use internet Daily, 8.25% of students use internet weekly, 2.06% of students use internet on fortnightly basis, no students use internet once in month, while remaining 23.71% students use internet as when required.

Table No. 2 USAGE OF INTERNET

COURSES	DAILY	WEEKLY	FORNIIGHTLY	MONTHLY	WHEN REQUIRED
B.E /B.TECH	41	4	2	0	10
M.E / M.TECH	21	3	0	0	9
RESEARCHER	8	1	0	0	4

4.2 PURPOSE OF USING INTERNET

It shows that one third of students i.e. 35(36%) used internet for e-mail and about 41(42.26%) used for 'Downloading' a (9.27%) students used for "E Books" and research purpose.

Table No. 3

PURPOSES	NO.OF RESPONEDENTS	PERCENTAGE
ARTICLES DOWNLOADIG	41	42.26%
RESEARCH/ PROJECT WORK	12	31.57%
E-BOOKS	9	9.27%
E-MAIL	35	36.08%

4.3, PLACE FOR INTERNET USE

It shows that; majority 55.67.% of students use internet in their library hours, 11.34%) use internet at Internet centers 23.71% use in their departments and 9.27% response use for internet other place.

Table No. 4

PLACE FOR USE OF INTERNET	NO.OF RESPONEDENTS	PERCENTAGE
LIBRARY	54	55.67%
DEPARTMENT	23	23.71%
INTERNET CENTER	11	11.34%
OTHER PLACES	9	9.27%

4.4. AWARENESS OF E-RESOURCES

Table 5 shows the level of awareness of e- resources amongst the students. More than two third i.e 65.97% of students were aware about E-Journals , the students who were aware of E-Books 38.14% for their study were NPTEL course materials 12.37% 9.27% students have awareness of Course era.

Table No. 5

E-RESOURCES	NO.OF RESPONEDENTS	PERCENTAGE
E-JOURNALS	64	65.97%
E-BOOKS	37	38.14%
NPTEL MATERIALS	12	12.37%
COURSE ERA	9	9.27%

4.5. AWARENESS OF E- JOURNALS AMONG USERS

Table 6 shows the use of e-journals amongst the students. IEEE journal package 65.97% of students were accessed, 23.71% of students were accessed Science direct, 11.34% of the students were used ACM Digital library, 12.37% were students used ASME journals, and 26.80% of students were accessed Springer Link journals are presented below the table no. 6

Table No.6:

E-RESOURCES	NO.OF RESPONEDENTS	PERCENTAGE
IEEE	47	65.97%
SCIENCE DIRECT	23	23.71%
EBSCO	16	16.49%
ACM DIGITAL LIBRARY	11	11.34%
ASME	12	12.37%
ASCE	16	16.49%
SPRINGER LINK	26	26.80%

4.6. ACCESS OF VARIOUS E- RESOURCES

It shows that the students of Chennai in –and around area of Engineering colleges used all the e – resources for their education and research purpose. It shows that 48.45% respondents were using e- journals, 28.86% respondents using e – databases, 11.34% respondents equally using e-article and e- book. 7.21% of the students were using e-thesis and other e-resources.

Table No. 7

E-RESOURCES	NO. OF RESPONEDENTS	PERCENTAGE
E-DATABASES	28	28.86%
E-JOURNALS	47	48.45%
E-BOOKS	11	11.34%
E-THESIS	7	7.21%
OTHER E-RESOURCES	7	7.21%

4.7. PURPOSE OF USING E- RESOURCES

Analysis of e-resources data utilized by the students of Engineering colleges shows that 68.04% of respondents accessed for study purpose. More than one third of students i.e. 47.41% used or e- resources to their research and seminar / workshop purpose equally while 23.% of respondents for teaching (Table 8)

Table No. 8.

PURPOSES	NO.OF RESPONEDENTS	PERCENTAGE
STUDY PUROSE	66	68.04%
PAPER PUBLICATION	33	34.02%
RESEARCH WORK	17	17.52%
SEMINAR / WORKSHOP	29	29.89%

4.8. CRITERIA FOR SELECTION AND USE OF E-RESOURCES

Table 9 reveals the criteria for selection and use of e-resources. The majority 71.13% of the respondents know the 'Usability' of e-resources and 27.83% of the respondents feels that e-resources are 'Reliability'. Further 14.43% respondents opt for 'Authenticity' and none of those given the option for 'Objectivity' and any 'Other criteria'.

Table No. 9.

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF E-RESOURCES	NO.OF RESPONEDENTS	PERCENTAGE
USABILITY	69	71.13%
RELIABILITY	27	27.83%
AUTHENTICITY	14	14.43%
OBJECTIVITY	0	0%
OTHER CRITERIA	0	0%

4.9. REASONS FOR DISSATISFACTION AN AVAILABLE E-RESOURCES

The reason for dissatisfaction on available e-resources at Chennai based Engineering colleges was also investigated and presented in Chart 10. The study shows that the main reason of dissatisfaction on the available of systems, IEEE based e- journals available in single and multi user level, many colleges are subscribed single user level. The users are not possible to access in time. This aspects many users were replied.

Table No. 10

REASONS	NO.OF RESPONEDENTS	PERCENTAGE
INFRASTRUCTURES WAS NOT GOOK	14	14.43%
E-RESOURCES WERE NOT AS PER NEED	26	26.8%
LIBRARY TIME NOT SUITABLE	2	2.06%
LIBRARY STAFF WERE NOT CO-OPERATE	0	0%
OTHER REASONS	6	6.18%

4.10. SEARCH STRATEGY OF E-RESOURCES

The opinion of 64 (65.97%) responses was for easy accessibility of e-resources. Opinion of 56 (57.7%) responses was for easily downloadable facility for e-resources, 11 (11.34%) responses was for archival facility for e-resources and 9 (9.27%) response was for simultaneous usage for both.

Table No.11

SEARCH STRATEGY	NO.OF RESPONEDENTS	PERCENTAGE
EASY ACCESSIBILITY	64	65.97%
DOWNLOADING FACILITY	56	57.73%
ARCHIVAL FACILITY	11	11.34%
SIMULANEOUS USAGE	9	9.27%

4.11. USER SATISFACTION WITH E-RESOURCES

The user satisfaction with e-resources was also studied. The study shows that 47 (48.45.4%) students were partially satisfied with the service, further 36 (37.11) were fully satisfied, 7 (7.21%) students were less satisfied and none so student opted for 'not satisfied' for the e-services. (Table 12)

Table No.12

USER SATISFACTION FACTORS	NO.OF RESPONEDENTS	PERCENTAGE
FULLY SATISFIED	36	37.11%
DOWNLOADING FACILITY	47	48.45%
ARCHIVAL FACILITY	7	7.21%
SIMULANEOUS USAGE	0	0%

4.12. USERS VISIT TO THE LIBRARY

The frequency of students visiting library of its services was also measured. We can see here that 63 (64.94%) students visited library daily. This is a good sign for the library services. Further the 33 (34%) students used library services on weekly basis and 2 (2.061%) students visited the library on fortnightly basis (Table 13)

Table No.13

USER VISITS TO THE LIBRARY	NO.OF RESPONEDENTS	PERCENTAGE
DAILY	63	64.94%
WEEKLY	33	34%
FORTNIGHTLY	2	2.061%
MONTHLY	1	1.03%

CONCLUSION

It is clear from the finding that the students of Engineering colleges in Kanchipuram district, appreciate the services provided by the library but at the same time they expect more that that. Most of the students visited the library daily. Which is a positive sign but some of the student visited and used the service on weekly and fortnightly basis because of their busy schedule or other related works. Most of the users feels that e-resources provided by the library to the great extent fulfill their requirements. The Online resources are the need of the library to meet out the requirement of target groups. There is a need to train the staffs of library. In this connection the authority has to make a systematic training program for library staff from time to time. The student orientation programme's are also to be incorporated in the regular activity of the library. The attitude of the students seems very positive towards e-resources for their education and research. Libraries have to play a role as gateway of e-resources and to provide assistance in accessing these resources.

More numbers of computers should be increases in the library for accessing e-resources and using other e-services. The study reveals that the students of Engineering Colleges in Chennai Metropolitan area are using the available e-resources satisfactorily. Still there is enough

scope for the library to develop its infrastructural facilities for providing the services and procurement of more e-resources.

REFERENCES:

1. Swain, D.K & Panda, K.C. Use of e-services by faculty members of business schools in a state of India: A study. *Collection Building*, 2009 28(3), 108-16. <http://www.emeraldinsight.com/>(accessed
2. Satapathy, Sunil Kumar & Rout Biswanath. Use of e-resources by the faculty members with special reference to CVRCE, Bhubaneswar, *DESIDOC J.Lib*,v2010, 30(4) 11-16.
3. Khaiser Nikam and Dhruva Kumar, 'Evaluating the Effective Use of Electronic Journals by the Academia: A Study, Mysore, *DESIDOC JI.of Lib & Inf.Tech.* Vol.33, No.2 March 2013,PP.125-130
4. K.N.Kandapal, S.S Rawat and K.S.R Vithal, Use of E-resources by Undergraduate Students of NTR College of Veterinary Science, Andhra Pradesh, *DESIDOC J.Lib*, Vol.33, No.5,September 2013,pp.394-398.
5. Dhanavandan, S., Tamizhchelvan M., (2012). Use Pattern of Digital Resources Among Engineering Colleges in Tamil Nadu, India", *International Journal of Library Science*, 5 (1) 2012. P.30-40.ISSN-0975-7546

