

Introduction to Digital Resources in Libraries of India: A Case Study of Allam Iqbal Central Library of University of Kashmir in Jammu and Kashmir State

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***Abstract** - The digital resources are growing in the libraries of India continuously to preserve the collections for longer duration as well making connectivity throughout the education world globally. The digitization process is in a very progressive mode in all over Indian libraries. Indian government is also providing financial aids and support to many educational organizations and institutes in making the maximum use of digital resources. University of Kashmir is one of the Indian university with beautiful atmosphere and natural scenic beauty which has the capability of attracting national and international scholars throughout the world. University Library of University of Kashmir possess unique heritage collection with progressive development of world class amenities and infrastructure. The development of maximum use of digital resources is in a continuous progressive growth. The internet facilities and development of e-resources has made possible to connect the library to library users from all over the world in a fast and easiest manner with less duration of time.*

Keywords: Digital resources, E-resources, Internet, E-theses and dissertations, E-books, Online resources, Wi-Fi, RFID technology, Digital talking books, Bibliographical databases

Introduction:

The University of Jammu and Kashmir was founded in the year 1948. In 1969, it was divided into two full-fledged universities namely University of Kashmir at Srinagar and University of Jammu at Jammu. The University of Kashmir is situated at Hazratbal in Srinagar. It is well known by world famous Dal Lake on its eastern side and Nigeen Lake on the western side. The main campus is spreaded over 247 acres of land which is divided into three parts- Hazratbal Campus, Naseen Bagh Campus and Mirza Bagh Campus (serving residential purpose). The additional land has been acquired at Zakura near the main campus for further expansion of the university. The university has established satellite campuses at Kupwara, Kargil and Leh to make higher education more easy and accessible for the people living in remote areas of Kashmir valley. The university has also established sub-office at Jammu to cater the needs of the candidates enrolled with university from outside Kashmir. The university offers programmes in all major faculties which includes arts, business and management studies, sciences, physical and material sciences, social sciences, medicines, dentistry, engineering, oriental learning and music and fine arts. The university has been re-accredited as Grade-A university by NAAC of India in 2011. It is recognised and reflected as high standard of quality in teaching and research.

University Library

In 1969, when the two universities formed namely University of Kashmir and University of Jammu, the collection of library was also shared between them. In 1975, the central library of University of Kashmir was shifted to new building in 1984 which was multi-storied with good infrastructure by name IQBAL library and renamed as Allama Iqbal library in July, 2002. The library is presently the centre of university library system having 57 seminar libraries attached with different departments, centres and institutes of the university. It has the largest library system in state. The library has 16 divisions in well decorated and centrally heated hall (first floor) managed by all well qualified staff. It has collection of nearly 6,15078+ including specially developed collection for visually impaired students. The special braille collection includes braille books, dvd's/cd's, DAISY digital talking books, etc. The library also provides useful and research oriented services to reading community on calm, cozy and clean atmosphere. Various local national and international newspapers are available to users for keeping them up-to-date. Through e-shodhsindhu consortium, library is getting access to leading bibliographical database known as J-Gate plus o J-Gate custom content for consortium where unde content pages (JCCC) , abstract and full-text articles in science, social science and humanities are made available to the users on-line. JCCC provides aticle level access for all journals subscribed by e-shodhsindhu consortium as well as journals subscribed by 22 university libraries designated as inte-library loan centes of INFLIBNET centre. The articles from journal that are not accessible in a given university, the interface facilities semi-automatic generation of ILL request diectly from use to INFLIBNET centre or to one of the ILL centes as applicable. Photocopy at nominal rate is also provided to the readers in library. Internet access centre in the library comprising of three labs and e-resource centre with around 80 computers provides high speed internet connectivity to university faculty, researchers and students so that they can communicate conveniently and collaborate with academic counterparts locally and internationally. Besides, wireless network access (Wi-Fi) for those who would prefer to bring their own laptops or notebook are also available. Wi-Fi configuration of laptops and notebooks are also provided by browsing staff. The library distinguishes itself by providing remote access facility to all subscribed e-journals and journals accessible via e-shodhsindhu consortium. This facility helps the registered users to access all e-resources available at library from any part of the world through the internet. Photocopy, internet access, inter-library loans and e-resources provides high-speed connectivity to all library users. The entire collection of central library is bar coded and RFID tagged and therefore it is unique in successfully implementing RFID technology in state of Jammu and Kashmir. The library has 24*7 library facilities cente which remains open round the clock throughout the year and provides a wide area for eading and study. The “ Career Corner” at fist floor of the libray houses latest material for the students preparing for competitive tests and civil service examinations. The Career Corner has individual study carrels for students and research scholars.

Collection of the Library : The library has nearly 6,15078+ collection which includes varied collection as shown in table-1.

Table-1- Collection of Library

S.No.	Name of Collection	Quantity (in figures)
(1)	Books	6,36,000
(2)	Journals (Back Volumes)	56,513
(3)	Manuscripts	415
(4)	Rare Books	1442
(5)	Theses and Dissertations	1435

(6)	Microfilms	22
(7)	Digitized Books	17500
(8)	Microfiche	15
(9)	DVD/ CD-ROM's	545
(10)	DAISY (Digital Talking Books)	165
(11)	Braille/ Talking Book Collection	-

Different Sections of Library

(1) 24*7 Library Facilities Centre: It is located at the basement of the library providing 2*7 library facility round the clock throughout the year except on holidays providing a wide area of reading and study. Daily locals, national and some international newspapers are displayed. A special discussion room available for students/ scholars.

(2) Library Meeting Hall : It is also located at the basement of the library with well decorated meeting hall for conducting meetings with eminent people of the valley and abroad. A full catering service is also available at hall for refreshments, working lunches to formal conference, dinners, etc. The hall has following facilities:

- (a) A spacious main hall
- (b) An exhibition area
- (c) Separate ladies/ gents toilet
- (d) Free parking

(3) Ibn Khaldun Auditorium : The library has a state of the art and well furnished auditorium spread across a wide area. A number of functions and events are organized in the auditorium throughout the year.

(4) Bindery : It takes care of binding works of journals, books and newspapers.

(5) Outer Counter/ Property Counter : The facility of keeping belongings except money, jewellery and notebooks against proper token is also available by entering names on visitor's register.

(6) OPAC (Online Public Access Catalogue) : It allows users to search for all library collection along with their library account.

(7) Browsing and Internet Access Centre : It offers internet / browsing service to library users by providing access information on web wi-fi configuration of laptops.

(8) Reference Section: Encyclopedias, dictionaries, directories, handbooks and books on Kashmir are kept. Personal help to users in retrieving information from library sources.

(9) Circulation Counter : Issue of library member card and issue or return of books.

(10) Text-Book Section : Rich collection of core text books relevant to courses. Users can browse through book racks and can also take help from the section in charge in locating their relevant books.

(11) Lending Section: Rich collection of general books/ books relevant to courses are available.

(12) Urdu Section: Books on literature and study of Urdu language are available.

(13) Urdu Backfiles : It possesses books and journals on Urdu, Kashmir, Islamic studies, Arabic, Persian, etc. It also holds the special Usmania and Fyzee collection.

(14) International Student Centre (ISC) : Kashmir University has established an international student centre in the library in collaboration with the department of students welfare of the university. It aims to cater to the needs of foreign students. The students of the university who want to go abroad for their further studies are also assisted and provided information regarding international fellowships and scholarships at the international platform and research guidance. The ISC acts as a nodal agency that coordinates all support related to admission and welfare of students.

Quality services and programmes organized for students internationally to interact. It offers internet/ browsing service to students for web. It is a vibrant centre where activities like book reviews, video conferencing, film screening, face-to-face discussions with eminent personalities are conducted. The centre has single window, networking interfacing, wireless connectivity, interaction on arrival reception and orientation programme, books on international issues like conflicts, gender, international affairs, international law, global warming, etc.

(15) Mazzanine Floor : It includes card section, processing unit and book acquisition unit.

(16) Library Innovation and IT Support Centre : It is present in the third floor and hosts all the servers as follows:

- (a)** Library Management Software Server
- (b)** Library Biometric Attendance Server
- (c)** Library Radio Frequency Identification Server
- (d)** Library Remote Access Server
- (e)** Network attached Storage Server

The centre is also responsible for all IT related works of the library and maintains library IT setup. It offers counselling, consultancy, guidance and also assist users by organizing workshops and other library related programmes. Besides, internet facility to research scholars, it also holds bound volume of science backfiles comprising of wide range of subjects. The section also houses good collection of hindi and sanskrit language literature and it also maintains archives of newspapers both local and national from 1959.

Less used collection section

It houses books though less used but very useful and properly shelved, arranged and catalogued. It maintains theses and dissertations of various disciplines in systematic order. It also holds special collection of Tilok Chand mehroom collection donated by his son Prof. Jagan Nath Azad.

E- Resource Centre

It is located at second floor of library which is a vibrant and vital centre of library. It provides access to various online resources, journals and current periodicals including newspapers and magazines in print format relating to various fields are also available. The centre is fully air-conditioned and is equipped with 36 networked computer systems. Personal laptops and smartphones can also be connected via wi-fi internet connectivity in the centre. The department of library and information science was established in 1970 under school of social sciences. The department is committed to teaching, learning, research and community services by integrating technology. The major concern is to impart knowledge and skills for information professionals and being actively engaged in innovative projects, conduct of seminars, workshops and development of digital libraries. Research programmes (M.Phil, Ph.D) and publications in peer reviewed journals is regularly. A bi-annual research journal “Trends in Information Management” is published regularly and indexed globally since 2005. The department has its digital repository known as “KNOOR” harvests and uploads electronic theses and dissertation and research contributions has been inducted in UGC-DRS-1 under SAP (2011-16) for thrust areas of digital library research. The department has signed MOU with Iran Culture House to exchange scholars in library science and manuscriptology also. The department has international journals also to be webbed. It has planned to establish open source software lab with latest cameras, editing suits, studio, audio

and video tools for preserving and conserving documents and to create, organize and disseminate different knowledge packages. The department is also planning to start a course on “ICT Applications in library and information sectors”. An online alumni association is also on future plans.

The library is among 50 university libraries of India selected by UGC for free online access to peer reviewed scholarly journals through UGC-INFONET Digital Library Consortium published from all over the world. The library has been one of the active members of E-Shodhsindhu Consortium for higher education e-resources which is being executed by INFLIBNET centre and has been formed by MHRD, Govt. of India. The centre also houses important labs for students, scholars and faculty members.

- **Electronic Theses and Disertation (ETD) Lab** : The centre has well equipped and networked ETD lab which provides platform for registered research scholars of university to upload their electronic version of Ph.D Theses on Shodhganga repository hosted and maintained by INFLIBNET centre and make it available to entire scholar communities in an open access environment.
- **Lab for Visually Impaired Students:** A well equipped lab for visually impaired students of university equipped with softwares and gadgets.
- **JAWS (Job Access with Speech)** : A screen reading software for visually impaired students is available.
- **Kurzwell TTS Software** : Text to speech software to ease and enhance visually impaired students reading, writing and learning experiences.
- **Zoom Office Software** : An electronic scanner for zoom ex-portable scanner/ reader/ magnifier useful for utilizing digital library services for visually impaired.
- **Angel Pro Karishma DAISY Player** : Angel PRO is talking assistive technology device specially designed for visually challenged that could be utilized in digital library to issue and read e-books in various formats including DAISY.
- The provision for lift pannel/ rail and separate browsing facility with dedicated computers, magic keyboards and scanners for visually impaired. Wheel chair facility for differently abled person. Male and female rest rooms with standing wheel chair options for differently abled persons.

E- Resources Inside Campus

(1) Bibliographical Database

- Delnet
- ISID
- J-Gate@e-ShodhSindhu
- South Asia Archive
- Web of Science

(1) Consortium E-Resources (Full Text)

- American Chemical Society
- Economic and Political Weekly
- JSTOR
- Nature
- Springer Link
- Taylor and Francis
- IEEE/ IET Electronic Library (IEL) Online

(2) E-Books

- SAGE e-books
- Springer e-books
- Mc Graw Hill Education
- Videeya
- Wiley e-books
- Taylor and Francis

(3) Online Libraries

- Wiley Online Library
- World ebook library

(4) Subscribed Resources

- Adam Mathew Digital Collection
- Emerald Publishing
- Oxford University Press
- ProQuest- T01 Archive (1838-2008)
- SAGE Journals

(5) Trial Access Resources: Remote access to resources outside library is restricted to registered users which will be monitored regularly for not misusing with online registration form.

(6) KU Digital Repository (KNOOR)

(7) Manuscripts, download forms and applications

(8) Quick links through National Digital Library

(10) Web OPAC facility to users

(11) Free Guest Book Portal with online eminent visitor list: The users around the world connect and converse with library abiding library rules and regulations.

(12) Access to Public Library of India providing different informations about India with 397,796 collection, India Raj & Empire (AMD) collection

(13) Ask a Librarian and MAY I HELP YOU online services also offered.

Library Channels

The library channel can be seen on U-Tube for various informations on conferences/ workshops/ interviews. The different announcements and upcoming events featured channels are as follows which can be subscribed and videos sharing can also be done with public comments:

- Allama Iqbal
- Inlibnet
- E-gyankosh
- American Library Association
- Library of Congress
- The British Library
- British Council
- Khan Academy
- EMMRC Srinagar
- Cec Ugc
- nptelhrd
- Teachers

- KU Television

Interest towards E-resources: The users are keenly interested to use the electronic resources as compared to print resources which saves time of the user and easy to use for them providing large range of informations.

S.No.	Name of E-resources available	Used by Faculty (in percentage %)	Used by students/researchers (in percentage)
(1)	E- journals	70	80
(2)	E-data archives	60	55
(3)	E-manuscripts	70	85
(4)	E-maps	50	70
(5)	E-books	50	70
(6)	E-magazines	50	70
(7)	E-theses and dissertations	80	90
(8)	E- Newspapers	60	65
(9)	E-mail	75	80
(10)	E-research reports	70	60
(11)	E-bibliographic database	70	80
(12)	Internet Browsing	70	90
(13)	OPAC	75	95
(14)	Online reference services	60	70
(15)	Video library services	65	85
(16)	Institutional repository	80	90
(17)	Literature search services	70	70
(18)	Resource sharing through networks	65	75
(19)	Braille Softwares	90 (Specifically used)	90 (Specifically used)
(20)	Use of Computer LAN softwares	60	80
(21)	W—fi services	60	80

Table-2- Use of E-resources by Faculty, Reseachers/ Students

The data of e-resources used by faculty members are represented through graph also as follows in figure-1.

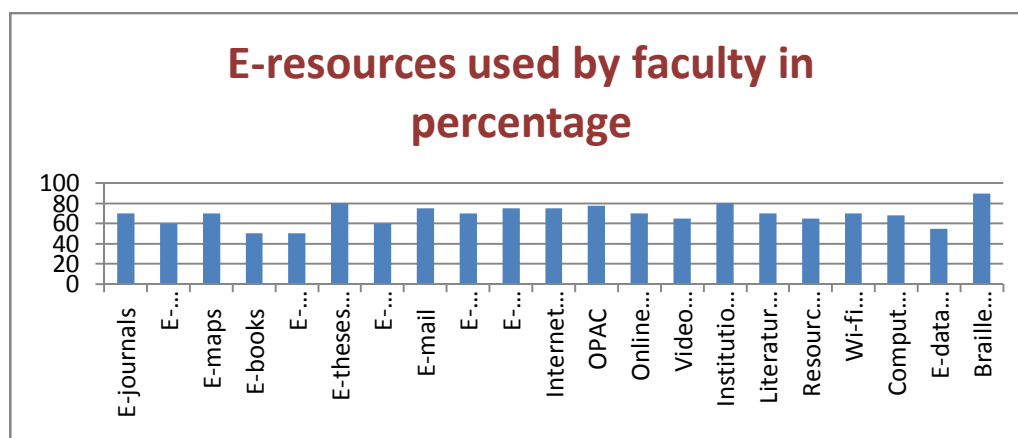


Figure-1- Use of E-resources by Faculty

The data of e-resources used by students/ researchers are represented through graph also as follows in figure-2.

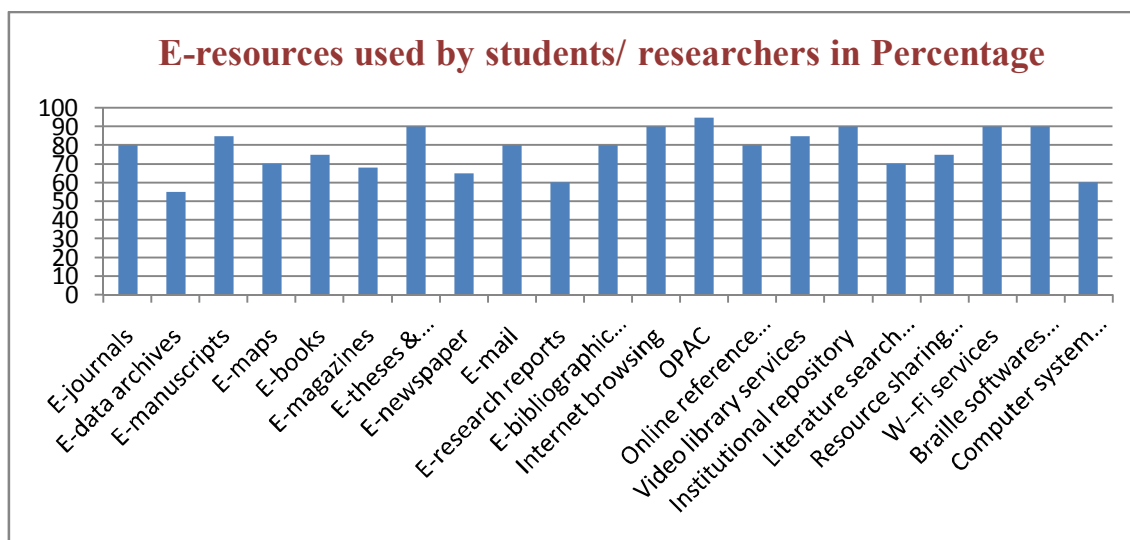


Figure-2- Use of E-resources by Researchers/students

Newspapers and Magazines Collection: There are different locals, nationals and international newspapers and magazines which are subscribed by the library which are as follows in table-3.

S.No.	Name of Newspaper	Local/ National/ International
(1)	Afaq	Local
(2)	Aftab	Local
(3)	Alsafa	Local
(4)	Amar Ujala	National
(5)	Asian Age	International
(6)	Asian Express	National
(7)	Dainik Jagran	National
(8)	Economic Times	National
(9)	Etalaat (Urdu)	Local
(10)	Excelsior	Local
(11)	Greater Kashmir	Local
(12)	Hindu	National
(13)	Hindustan Times	National
(14)	Indian Express	National
(15)	Kashmir Age	Local
(16)	Kashmir Convenier	Local
(17)	Kashmir Horizon	Local
(18)	Kashmir Images	Local
(19)	Kashmir Ink	Local
(20)	Kashmir Monitor	Local
(21)	Kashmir Observer	Local
(22)	Kashmir Rays	Local
(23)	Kashmir Reader	Local
(24)	Kashmir Times	Local

(25)	Kashmir Uzma	Local
(26)	Khadmat	Local
(27)	Mirror of Kashmir	Local
(28)	Mission Kashmir	Local
(29)	Nidai Mashriq	Local
(30)	Pioneer	National
(31)	Rahmat	Local
(32)	Rising Kashmir	Local
(33)	Roshani	Local
(34)	Sangermeal	Local
(35)	Srinagar Mail	Local
(36)	Srinagar News	Local
(37)	Srinagar Times	Local
(38)	Tamil-e- Irshad	Local
(39)	Times of India	National
(40)	Tribune	National
(41)	Uqab	Local
(42)	Wadi ki Awaz	Local
(43)	Zamindar	Local

List of magazines subscribed are as follows in table-4.

S.No.	Name of Magazines	Local/ National/ International
(1)	Chronicle	National
(2)	Civil Services Times	National
(3)	Competition Refresher	National
(4)	Competition Success Review	National
(5)	Competition Wizard	National
(6)	Current Affairs	National
(7)	Economist	International
(8)	Employment News	National
(9)	Environment and Forest Law Times	National
(10)	Femina	International
(11)	Front Line	National
(12)	Huda	International
(13)	India Today	National
(14)	Junior Science Refresher	National
(15)	Kashmir Life	Local
(16)	Kurukshetra	National
(17)	Mainstream	National
(18)	Outlook	National
(19)	Pakiza Anchal	National
(20)	Pratiyogita Darpan	National
(21)	Reader's Digest	International
(22)	Sarita	National
(23)	Science Reporter	National
(24)	Tehalka	National

(25)	Time	International
(26)	Week	National
(27)	Wisdom	International
(28)	Women's Era	National
(29)	Yogana	National

Except 24*7 library facility centre which remains open round the clock throughout the year except the days shown in university library calendar. During Ramzaan 24*7 library facility centre shall remain open from 6:30 A.M to 6:00 P.M and during Sundays/ holidays from 10:00 A.M- 4:00 P.M.

Conclusion:

Jammu and Kashmir is a state with natural god gifted sceneries with an environment of peace and beautiful heritage culture. Kashmir is considered to be heaven on earth but the problem of terrorism and national security is a major concern for all the persons and scholars visiting there from India and worldwide. University of Kashmir is in progress to grow all the world class amenities and infrastructure to provide best higher education for all the young aspirants nationally and internationally. The university library of kashmir university is one of the library possessing best collection in India having maximum ability to grow as world class facilities and amenities for the library users in an efficient continuous manner. It has good digital infrastructure to co-operate the educational world as well as scholars globally.

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