

Opinion About E-Resources by the Faculty Members in Arts and Science Colleges: A Study

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Abstract - *This paper discussed about the use of e-resources by Faculty members of Arts and Sciences Colleges in Dindigul Dt. Due to the development of ICT different services are provided by libraries to meet their users need and demands. This study evaluates the users' attitudes, awareness and satisfaction of the e-resources in library. Based on that 300 questionnaires were distributed to the faculty members and 293 were replied. Out of 293, 143 (48.81%) respondent gave the preference to the Google search engines and next place comes on yahoo with 87 (29.69%) respondents. The Alta Vista replied by 28 (9.56%) respondents and Bing, Ask.com, Alexa, Freebooksearch.net, AskMeNow these were indicated by the minimum respondents. But the people not interested to use because the Rediff was the oldest one in India.*

Key words: user satisfaction, e-resources, user study

1. INTRODUCTION

In today's world, with the availability of large volumes of data, it is impossible for human beings to interpret it and find useful information. The advent of computers ever increasing and new dimensions in communications are causing dynamic changes in the information scenario, recent years, with the introduction of information technology, communication technology and communication technologies in library and information centres, the developed and developing countries are extensively depending on the use of Internet for the provision of information services for using to electronic sources and databases, Online Public Access Catalogues (OPACs) and other activities associated with the collection building and collection management.

2. INFORMATION SEEKING BEHAVIOUR

Information search behavior is a theme investigated extensively in information retrieval. How the information need is triggered and how people behave to fulfill it, are fundamental questions in the investigation of information search behavior. Information seeking behaviour involves personal reasons for seeking information, the kinds of information which are being sought, and the ways and sources with which needed information is being sought. Information seeking behavior is expressed in various forms, from reading printed material to research and experimentation. Scholars, students and faculties actively seek current information from the various media available in libraries, e.g. encyclopedias, journals and, more currently, electronic media

3. E-RESOURCES

The knowledge of the technologies of information and communication is especially important because it refers to an area of the knowledge generated by men and that has been produced to make viable exchange forms and relations; they are fundamental support of the process of the current globalization that leads to the knowledge society. The electronic media has provided many possibilities and opportunities for providing faster and quicker access to information at the global level. The technology for electronic publishing, electronic storage, processing and delivery of information including text and images. Electro environment facilitate enhancement in the speed of service, number of users served, the quantum and exhaustiveness of information provided.

Electronic information otherwise called as digital information, in the new era is changing the duties and services in all fields from traditional to digital form. The information is a dynamic and unending resource that affects all disciplines and all walks of life. It supports education, research and development. Electronic information otherwise called as digital information, in the new era is changing the duties and services in all fields from traditional to digital form. The information is a dynamic and unending resource that affects all disciplines and all walks of life. It supports education, research and development.

Innovative scientific developments in the situation of computer, telecommunication, electronics, reprography and micrograph have been suitable in libraries and all these have brought innovative concepts to library systems. It could be achievable on account of libraries being accessible to new technological developments. They have included all new techniques, which are suitable and useful for them in developing and making library services effective to the users. Electronic resources are the electronic representation of information. These are available in various forms like e-books, digital libraries, on line journal magazine, e-learning tutors and on line test.

4. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Haneefa K(2007)¹found that a good number of the users were not satisfied with the present application of ICT in their libraries and indicated that 'inadequate ICT infrastructure' as their reason for dissatisfaction. Large majority of the users agreed that there was a need for

workshops/orientation programs on the use of ICT based resources and services. Sharma et. al. (2009)²described that ICT in research libraries of Haryana all the libraries are well strengthen in ICT and are able to meet the requirements faced. NITK library expensed more on various resources rather than NDRI and NBAGR. The study showed that the trends of libraries have been diversified: these are giving more significance to various aspect of ICT such as internet, e-mail, online databases, online journals, e-books, e-thesis, online FAQ etc. In the ICT race coming time will not give a pause and it is an unavoidable tool in all kind of libraries to survive in the future. Dhanavandan (2008)³indicates that all respondents use some kind of ICT tools, particularly the Internet and mobile phones. The use of ICT by the female respondents is somewhat higher than that of male respondents. There is no significant relationship between the use of e-mail and Internet and gender nor between age (below or above 40) and the use of ICT, although there is some variation. Respondents strongly believe that ICT tools play a significant role in supporting and enhancing their professional and research activities. Their comments also suggest that they see the use of ICT as potentially going well beyond the use of the Internet to search for resources and the use of e-mail to stay in touch with friends, colleagues, and experts

Helaluddin (2010)⁴described in his study the current position of libraries in ICT environment in Faridabad district of Haryana state. Various services provided by libraries with support of information & communication technologies to their users have been observed and discussed with the library professionals and their users.54% users are satisfied with ICT based library services, 45% users are not satisfied due to single computer at issue counter. They demanded more terminals at lending counter. 55%users are not satisfied with the number of terminals in the library. They need more terminals with high speed connectivity. Dhanavandan (2011)⁵found that the role of engineering colleges in the technical manpower development is quite significant. They need rapid Information Communication Technology infrastructure and in this context, there is a need for adequate development of electronic resources. The lack of adequate finance is the main reason for not developing information communication technology infrastructure especially in the case of libraries, those that do not receive financial aid from UGC of India or others like AICTE. The problem can be solved only through the aid from the state government or AICTE. The establishment of information communication technology infrastructure facilities in the self-financing college libraries in Tamil Nadu can improve the efficiency of information support, the information retrieval and quality of education as a whole.

5. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- To know what the ICT are services provided by the college libraries.
- To assess the purpose of using e-resources by the faculty members
- To obtain opinion on using e-resources by the faculty members.

6. METHODOLOGY

The main aim of this study is to find out the satisfaction of the resources and services among the faculty members working in the Arts and Science Colleges in Dindigul Dt. The authors constructed well structure questionnaires to the collect the relevant data. Totally 300 numbers of questionnaires were distributed to the faculty members and 293 were replied after duly filled.

Based on the collected data the statistical inferences were applied like simple percentage, WAM and Chi-square test to find out the user satisfaction.

7. DATA ANALYSIS

The data collected were analyzed and inferences derived, based on standard statistical techniques. The gender wise distribution of the questionnaire are shown in table1.

Table 1: Gender Wise distribution of Questionnaire

| Sl.No | Gender | Distributed | % | Received | % |
|-------|--------------|-------------|------------|------------|--------------|
| 1. | Male | 180 | 60 | 176 | 58.66 |
| 2. | Female | 120 | 40 | 117 | 39 |
| | Total | 300 | 100 | 293 | 97.66 |

Table 1 shows gender wise distribution of questionnaire distributed and received from the faculty members working in the Arts Science Colleges in Dindigul Dt. Total distributed questionnaire 300 among that 293 (97.66%) were received back. Among 293, 1876 (58.66%0 of them male and 117(39.44%0 of them female. It is revealed from the table male faculty higher than the female faculty members.

Table 2: Frequency of using Electronic Resources

| Sl.No | Particulars | Total | % |
|-------|---------------------|------------|------------|
| 1. | Every day | 176 | 60.07 |
| 2. | 2-3 times in a week | 69 | 23.55 |
| 3. | Once in a week | 34 | 11.60 |
| 4. | Once in a month | 12 | 4.10 |
| 5. | Never | 2 | 0.68 |
| | Total | 293 | 100 |

Table 2 shows the frequency wise distribution of using the e-resources by the faculty members. In digital environment without e-resources we cannot involved any academic work. So the opinion of the respondent 176 (60.07%) of them accessed in every day and 69 (23.55%) respondent were accessed 2-3 times in a week. The 34 (11.60%) of the respondents were used in once in a week and 12 (4.10%) of the respondent used in once in a month.

Table 3: Purpose of using E-Resources

| Sl.No | Purpose | Total | % |
|-------|--------------------------------|------------|---------------|
| 1 | To Update new knowledge | 147 | 50.17 |
| 2 | To Improving subject knowledge | 63 | 21.50 |
| 3 | For Research work | 46 | 15.70 |
| 4 | For own Publication | 37 | 12.63 |
| | Total | 293 | 100.00 |

Table 3 indicates the purpose of using e-journals by the faculty members. Among the 293, 147 (50.17%) of the respondent mentioned update new knowledge because the technology

development was very fast they update knowledge very quickly so they use the e-resources. And 63 (21.50%) of the respondents are to improving subject knowledge. Present environment any of the educators they have well knowledge in their subject so they could sign in own field. The 46 (15.70%) of them use the e-resource for their research work and 37 (12.63%) of them use the e-resources for their own publication. It is concluded from the table; more than fifty percent of the faculty members are replied to update new knowledge is the main purpose using the e-resources.

Table 4: Journal choice of Respondents

| Sl.No | Journal | Total | % |
|--------------|------------------------|------------|---------------|
| 1. | Hard copy of resources | 55 | 18.77 |
| 2. | E-resources | 46 | 15.70 |
| 3. | Both | 192 | 65.53 |
| Total | | 293 | 100.00 |

Table4 indicates the journal choices by the respondents. Here an attempt to know the type of journals preference like print or electronic or both. Most of them were mentioned i.e192 (65.53%) of them chosen both type print and electronic journals.

Table 5: Awareness of Electronic Resources

| Sl.No | Awareness | Total | % |
|--------------|-------------------------------|------------|------------|
| 1. | Self-educated | 49 | 16.72 |
| 2. | External course | 30 | 10.24 |
| 3. | Guidance from library staff | 69 | 23.55 |
| 4. | Course offered by institution | 51 | 17.41 |
| 5. | Guidance from collegian | 27 | 9.22 |
| 6. | Trail and error | 21 | 7.17 |
| 7. | Guidance from others | 46 | 15.70 |
| Total | | 293 | 100 |

Table 5 show the awareness of how to use the electronic resources by the faculty members. How they got awareness about the electronic resources. Most of them guidance from library staff and every library give the awareness programme related to the e-resources. In that table 69(23.55%) respondent guidance from library staff and 51 (17.41%) respondents were mentioned course offered by institution. Finally 49 (16.72%) of the respondents were got the awareness by self-educated.

Table 6: Distribution of Search Engines Used by the Respondents

| Sl.No | Search Engines | Total | % |
|-------|----------------|-------|-------|
| 1. | Google | 143 | 48.81 |
| 2. | Yahoo | 87 | 29.69 |
| 3. | AltaVista | 28 | 9.56 |
| 4. | MSN | 17 | 5.80 |
| 5. | Bing | 5 | 1.71 |
| 6. | Rediff | 1 | 0.34 |
| 7. | Ask.com | 3 | 1.02 |
| 8. | Alexa | 2 | 0.68 |

| | | | |
|-------|--------------------|------------|---------------|
| 9. | FreeBookSearch.net | 4 | 1.37 |
| 10. | AskMeNow | 3 | 1.02 |
| Total | | 293 | 100.00 |

Table 7 indicates list search engines by the faculty members while accessing e-resources. Out of 293, 143 (48.81%) respondent gave the preference to the Google search engines and next place comes on yahoo with 87 (29.69%) respondents. The Alta Vista replied by 28 (9.56%) respondents and Bing, Ask.com, Alexa, Freebooksearch.net, AskMeNow these were indicated by the minimum respondents. But the people not interested to use because the Rediff was the oldest one in India.

Table 8. Frequently Used E-Resources by the Respondents

| Sl.No | Particulars | Total | % |
|-------|----------------------|-------|-------|
| | E-journals | 103 | 35.15 |
| | E-books | 61 | 20.82 |
| | Online lecture notes | 52 | 17.75 |
| | E-encyclopedia | 18 | 6.14 |
| | E-Thesis | 32 | 10.92 |
| | Full text database | 27 | 9.22 |

Table 8 shows the respondents were frequently used type of e-resources. All the e-resources got the same position because the in the ICT world most of the user use all the e-resources. Among the 293, 103(35.15%) of the respondents were used the e-journals and 61 (20.82%) of them used the e-books. But 52 (17.75%) of the respondents were used the online lecture notes and 18 (6.14%) of them used the e-encyclopedia. E-thesis 32 (10.92%) of them used. It is hot topic of work in the academic world.

Table 9: Opinion of the Respondent about the E-Resources

| Sl. No | Particulars | SA (%) | A (%) | NO (%) | DA (%) | SDA (%) | Total |
|--------|---|----------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------|
| 1. | Library provides its information service at the right time in the right form | 96 (32.76) | 162 (55.29) | 15 (5.12) | 12 (4.10) | 8 (2.73) | 293 |
| 2. | When the library user has a problem, library shows a sincere interest in solving it | 197 (67.24) | 69 (23.55) | 9 (3.07) | 7 (2.39) | 11 (3.75) | 293 |
| 3. | Provides a platform for discussing the Professional issues | 208 (70.99) | 59 (20.14) | 11 (3.75) | 9 (3.07) | 6 (2.05) | 293 |
| 4. | Help to improve the professional developments | 95 (32.42) | 166 (56.66) | 9 (3.07) | 11 (3.75) | 12 (4.10) | 293 |
| 5. | Help to update the knowledge | 212 (72.35) | 61 (20.82) | 5 (1.71) | 6 (2.05) | 9 (3.07) | 293 |
| 6. | It is an opportunity to | 237 | 33 | 6 | 9 | 8 | 293 |

| | | | | | | | |
|-----|---|----------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-----|
| | interact with friends and experts | (80.89) | (11.26) | (2.05) | (3.07) | (2.73) | |
| 7. | Facilitates to make important decision | 128 (43.69) | 139 (47.44) | 8 (2.73) | 6 (2.05) | 12 (4.10) | 293 |
| 8. | Exchange of confidential or sensitive information | 231 (78.84) | 52 (17.75) | 5 (1.71) | 2 (0.68) | 3 (1.02) | 293 |
| 9. | To keep in touch with professional friends | 251 (85.67) | 24 (8.19) | 6 (2.05) | 7 (2.39) | 5 (1.71) | 293 |
| 10. | Less Time Consuming | 264 (90.10) | 19 (6.48) | 5 (1.71) | 3 (1.02) | 2 (0.68) | 293 |
| 11. | Computer and seating arrangement of the library | 159 (54.27) | 56 (19.11) | 25 (8.53) | 26 (8.87) | 27 (9.22) | 293 |

(SA-Strongly Agree, A-Agree, NO-No Opinion, DA-Disagree, SDA-Strongly Disagree)

Table 9 states the user’s opinion about the e-resources by the faculty members of arts and Science Colleges in Dindigul Dt. Among the 293, 264(90.10%) were matronly agreed and 19 (6.48%) of them agreed the e-resources will reduces time consuming. But most of the respondents were I e., 237(80.89%) were strongly agreed the e-resources will create the opportunity interact with friends and experts and 231(78.84%) were strongly agreed it Exchange of confidential or sensitive information. So, it is revealed from t he the most of the respondent were agreed the e-resources helps to teaching, learning and professional’s development.

| Chi-Square Tests | | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------|----|-----------------------|
| | Value | df | Asymp. Sig. (2-sided) |
| Pearson Chi-Square | 704.098 ^a | 40 | .000 |
| Likelihood Ratio | 680.590 | 40 | .000 |
| Linear-by-Linear Association | 17.093 | 1 | .000 |
| N of Valid Cases | 3223 | | |

a. 0 cells (.0%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is 8.91.

The Chi-square test is applied for the opinion about the e-resources by the faculty members in Arts and Science Colleges in Dindigul Dt. The computed Chi-square value is 704.098 and the degrees of freedom value is 40 which is higher than its tabulated value at 5 percent level of significance. Hence the difference among the opinion about the -resources is statistically identified as highly significant.

Table 10: Hindrance Facing While Accessing E-Resources

| Sl.No | Hindrance | Total | % |
|-------|-----------------------------------|------------|---------------|
| 1. | Time Consuming | 87 | 29.69 |
| 2. | Trouble in use of infrastructure | 96 | 32.76 |
| 3. | Lack of Training | 34 | 11.60 |
| 4. | Not have co-ordination | 28 | 9.56 |
| 5. | Preference given to the hard copy | 48 | 16.38 |
| | Total | 293 | 100.00 |

Table 10 shows the hindrance facing while using e-resources by the faculty members. Among the 293, 96 (32.76%) of the respondents gave the opinion to trouble in use of infrastructure because sometime net connection problem, computer is not properly working. The 87 (29.69%) of the respondent time consuming and 34 (11.60%) of the respondent need the training were replied by the faculty members. Most of them felt that they have some training to using the e-resources. The 28 (9.56%) of the respondent not have co-ordination from responsible persons and 48(16.38%) of the respondent preference given to the hard copy because they felt easily read and have some confident compare with e-resources.

8. FINDINGS

- The 176 (60.07%) respondent opinion about e-resources they have accessed in every day
- 147 (50.17%) of the respondent mentioned update new knowledge because the technology development was very fast they update knowledge very quickly so they replied use the e-resources
- Based on the search engine 143 (48.81%) respondent gave the preference to the Google search engines.
- About the e-resources material 103(35.15%) of the respondents were used the e-journals
- 264(90.10%) were matronly agreed and 19 (6.48%) of them agreed the e-resources will reduces time consuming

9. CONCLUSION

The results of the study indicate that all respondents were used some kind of ICT tools. It reveals that internet resources are the most used e-resources by the respondents. The use of e-resource improve and update their knowledge and also well in our subject. Academic Library make the necessary initiatives to improve the use of e-resource. Then only the user must be get more awareness in e-resource, how to access the e-resources. Many libraries give the orientation to user for the access of e-resource. The user may utilize these are the facilities. In this circumstances, the e-Resources have changed the traditional method of research, storage, retrieval and communication of scholarly information.

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