

Understanding the e-resources by Library Users of Technical Education in Moodbidri Region: User Study

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***Abstract** - The main objective of this study is to examine the awareness of users on e- resources subscribing by technical institutions at Moodbidri region. In an academic library set-up each and every user may have facility to use e- resources in deferent way. Users at technical colleges are effectively utilized the e-resources which are subscribing through VTU consortium.72 % of respondents are got help by the remote access e-resources facilities. It is also important to libraries to know the behavior of the information needy. Trend in e-resources usage must be studied. Based on, it will help to study on user community of respective institution.*

Keywords: VTU Consortium, E-resources, Remote access, Internet, ICT, Library users.

Introduction

Today advances in Information communication technology prepared the libraries to make new innovation to its resource. The most significant of them is electronic resources. The cost of the e-resources are made difficult to individual library to access. To overcome by this problem and make available all resources to its users, the concept of library consortium established. Library consortium is not a new concept to the library community. It is a new terminology used for library co-operation, resource sharing etc. The internet and the web based technology paly major role in the retrieval of information system. The study of e- resource usage by the users makes librarians to realize the necessity of e- resources of information. Periodic studies in this field are necessary to satisfy the user community and make changes if any by this study.

Objectives

The core objectives of this study are as follows:

- To identify the awareness about e-resources.
- To examine the use pattern by students.
- To evaluate frequency of use of e- resources.
- To identify the purpose of the e- resources felt by the users.
- To study the approach towards the e-sources among users.
- To study the user satisfaction level.

Methodology

This study has adopted the questionnaire method and personal interview. A systematic questionnaire was developed to collect information from the students and faculties of engineering colleges of Moodbidri region. With respect to objectives of the study, the data were collected from the users and tabulated.

Data Analysis and interpretation

Total 300 questionnaires were distributed to the Engineering students and the faculties of three reputed engineering colleges of Moodbidri region such as Alvas Institute of Engineering and Technology(AIET), Mangalore Institute of Technology and Engineering (MITE) and Yenepoya Institute of Technology(YIT). Out of 300 questionnaires 152 valid responses were collected and systematically examined, tabulated, interpreted in this paper. A questionnaire was distributed among the population by stratified sampling technique to elicit research data required for the study. The data, thus collected have been further analyzed in the demographic details of respondents are shown as.

Distribution of questionnaire

Table-01: Distribution of questionnaire

Users	Distributed questionnaire	Number of Valid Responded	Percentage
Students	180	49	27 %
Faculties	120	103	86 %
Total	300	152	51%

Purpose of use internet in campus

Table 02: Purpose of use internet in campus

Purpose	Respondents	Percentage
Prepare seminar/Conference	76	50%
Assignment	93	61%
Write article	27	18%
Update knowledge	22	14%
Project work	46	30%
E-mail/Chatting	41	27%
Read e-books/e-Journals	39	26%
Social network	17	11%
Entertainment	9	6%

Data respondent in table 02 indicate the purpose of use of internet in campus by the library users. The majority of users were responded that they use internet for assignment 93 (61%), prepare seminar or conference 76 (50%), Project work 46 (30%), E-mail or chatting 41 (27%), Read e-books/e-Journals 39(26%), Write article 27 (18%), Update knowledge 22(14%), Social network 17(11%) and Entertainment 9(6%).

Frequency of use Internet for academic purpose

Table 03: Frequency of use Internet for academic purpose

Frequency	Total	Percentage
Daily	11	7%
Once in two days	20	13%
Once in a week	45	30%
Twice in a week	67	44%
Monthly	6	4%
Rarely	3	2%
Not at all	----	----
Total	152	100%

Data presented in table 03 indicates the user's response on frequency of access of internet for academic purpose. The above table shows that the majority of the respondents were twice in a week 67 (44%) once in a week 45(30%), daily 11 (7%), once in two days 20 (13%), monthly 6 (4%) and rarely 3(2%)

Awareness about subscription of e-resources

Table 04 Awareness about subscription of e-resources

Category	Yes	No
Students	49	0
Faculties	103	0
Total	152	0
Percentage	100%	0%

Table 04 indicates awareness about subscription of e-resources, Respondents 152(100%) fully aware about subscription of e-resources by the institution.

Awareness about VTU consortium

Table 05: Awareness of e resources

Category	Yes	No
Students	42	7
Faculties	102	1
Total	144	8
Percentage	95%	5%

Data respondent in table 05 indicate that 144 (95%) users are aware about VTU consortium and its subscription by their respective institution and 08 (5%) users are not aware about VTU consortium.

Frequently used e-resources

Table 06 Frequently used e-resources

E-Resource	Respondent	Percentage
E-Books	68	45%
E-Journals	112	74%
E-Thesis/Dissertation	61	40%
Videos	107	70%
PPT	31	20%
E-News /Magazines	63	41%

The frequently used e-resources by the engineering college library users. 112 (74%) of respondents are using e-journals for their academic purpose, 107 (70%) of respondents are use videos, 68 (45%) respondents use e-books, 63 (41%) respondents are use e-resource for read e-news and e-magazines, 61(40%) respondents are use e-thesis and dissertation and 31 (20%) are use PPT for their academic purpose.

Purpose of use e-resources

Table 07: Purpose of use of e-resources

Purpose	Respondent	Percentage
Available up to date information	93	61%
For research work	62	41%
Easy to access wide range of information at one place	144	95%
For writing articles/reports/proposals	88	58%
For increasing subject knowledge	47	31%
Any other	2	1%

The table 07 indicate that 144(95%) of respondents are believes that e-resources are easy to access wide range of information at one place, Followed by,93(61%) respondents are believe that available up to date information, 88 (58%) of respondents use for writing articles/reports/proposals, 62(41%) For research work,47 (31%) for increasing subject knowledge and Two users informed that they can easily store the information and no time bond in softcopy compared to hard copy.

Methods to use search e-resources

Table 08: Methods to access e-resources

Methods	Responded	Percentage
Search engine	43	28%
Publisher's website	93	61%
Institute/library website	61	40%
Access through Knimbus digital library	101	66%

The table 08 indicate that majority of respondents are search the subscribed e-resources through Knimbus platform 101 (66%), through Publisher’s website 93(61%), Institute/library website 61 (40%), Search engine 43(28%).

Awareness of remote access

Table 09 Awareness of remote access

Awareness of Remote access	Respondent	Percentage
Yes	109	72%
No	43	28%

Table 09 indicates that 109(72%) of the respondents are aware about the remote access, and 43(28%) of respondent do not have awareness of remote access of e-resource

Problems faced while accessing the e-resource

Table 10 Problems faced while accessing the e-resource

Drawbacks	Respondents	Percentage
Lack of user education	76	50%
Lack of computers in library	54	35.50%
Speed of Internet	43	28%
Staffs are not supportive	35	23%
Time restriction	67	44%

With regards to the problems faced while using the e-resource, 76 (50%) of respondents have lack of user education on available e-resource, 67 (44%) responded they faced time restriction, 54 (35.5%) lack of computers in library, 43(28%) speed of internet, 35(23%) are responded that staffs are not supportive.

Advantages of e-resources

Table 11: Advantages of e-resources

Advantages	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
Up-dated information	0	6(4%)	69(45%)	77(51%)
Easy to search and share	0	1 (1%)	142 (93%)	9 (6%)
Easy to download	1 (1%)	5 (3%)	83 (55%)	63 (41%)
Provides multi user access	0	20(13%)	99 (66%)	31 (21%)
Provides remote access	0	0	123 (81%)	29(19%)
Provides 24x7 access	0	1 (1%)	28 (18%)	123(81%)
User-friendly	4 (3%)	11(7%)	132 (87%)	5 (3%)

Table 11 indicate the advantages of e-resources, this table indicates that 77(51%) of users strongly agree that e-resource are have up-dated information, 142 (93%) agree for e-resources are easy to search and share, 83 (55%) agree for easy to download, 99 (66%) agree that e-resources provides multi user access,123(81%) are agree e-resource provides remote access 123(81%) strongly agree e-resources provides 24x7 access and 132 (87%) respondents mentioned e-resources are user-friendly.

User satisfaction among the subscribed e-resources

Table 12: User satisfaction among the e-resources

Satisfaction level	Respondent	Percentage
Fully satisfied	23	15%
Satisfied	100	66%
Moderate	28	19%
Not-satisfied	1	1%
Total	152	100

Data presented in table 12 user satisfactions among the e-resources. 100(66%) of users responded they satisfied with the available e-resource, 28 (19%) moderate, 23(15%) users feel fully satisfied and 1(1%) responded they are not satisfied with the subscribed e-resources.

Need for user training

Table 13: E-resources are accomplish the user need in academic activities

Category	Yes	No
Students	45	4
Faculties	98	5
Total	143	9
Percentage	94%	6%

Table 13 majority of users 143 (94%) are required user training for improve their academic activities, and 9(6%) and not required any training.

Rank of preferred subscribed e-resource

Table 14 Rank of preferred subscribed e-resource

Publisher/Database	Rank						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
IEEE	12 (8%)	43 (28%)	93 (61%)	4 (3%)			
Elsevier Science Direct	32 (21%)	17 (11%)	12 (8%)	83 (55%)	5 (3%)	3 (2%)	
Springer Link	15 (10%)	110 (72%)	8 (5%)	8 (5%)	9 (6%)	2 (1%)	
Taylor & Francis	2 (1%)	14 (9%)	18 (12%)	39 (26%)	75 (49%)	3 (2%)	1 (1%)
ASCE (e-Journals)		1 (1%)	3 (2%)	1 (1%)	34 (22%)	28 (18%)	85 (56%)
Pro-quest Engg + Management				2 (1%)	4 (3%)	146 (96%)	
Knimbus Remote Access	143 (94%)	5 (3%)	4 (3%)				

In Table 14 the data reveals most preferred VTU consortium e-resource by the respondents by assigning rank 1 to 7, 143(94%) of respondents are preferred Knimbus Remote Access as rank 1, 110 (72%) respondents preferred Springer Link as rank 2, IEEE 93 (61%) in rank 3, Elsevier Science Direct 83 (55%) in rank 4, Taylor & Francis 75 (49%) in rank 5, Pro-quest Engg + Management 146 (96%) in rank 6 and ASCE (e-Journals) 85 (56%) in rank 7 possession.

Findings:

The major findings of the present study are.

- In the study Moodbidri region engineering collage library users are 100% aware about e-resources subscribed by their institution.
- Institutions need to improve the promotion about VTU consortium and its services. This study found that 95% of users have awareness about VTU consortium and 5% of respondents are not aware VTU consortium.
- 61% of respondents are use internet in campus for prepare assignment.
- It is found that 74% of respondents are used e-books frequently and 70% of respondents used Videos for their academic and research activities.
- The majority of the respondents 66% are prefer to search the e-resource through Knimbus platform tool and 28% are responded they do not aware about the remote access facility.
- 66% responded they are satisfied with subscribed e-resource.
- Majority of the respondents are demanded for user training about the available e-resource.
- Knimbus, Springer link and IEEE service providers are respectively get top three ranks from the respondents its shows the importance of the e-resources.
- This study also found that the respondent demands more e-resources related to their syllabus.

Conclusion:

The study carried out at engineering colleges of Moodbidri region, reveals that e-resources have become the major resource of information disseminating process. Since e-resource is the main source for academic and research area the institutions need to provide more orientation or training programmes on VTU e-resource. This is very important for every library professional to know the satisfaction level and information use pattern by their user. Based on this study the changes could be done as per user need. The library should acquire more computers with internet connection and need to provide more timing to utilise the e-resource. This study clears that the present user community has addicted the digital reading culture and use of e-resources is going to be the present and next generation for its various advantages.

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