

Usage of Web Resources by the Research Scholars of Madras University in Chennai: A study.

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Abstract - *The study was examined the usage of web resources by the research scholars in madras university. For this purpose 100 questionnaires distributed to the research scholars of Madras University. All the questionnaires are collected. Frequency count and simple percentage was used to analyze the data collection. The study found that Maximum of respondent uses the web resources for Academic purpose, Google is the most used search engine, majority of the respondents uses the Gmail account, scholars are access the web resources from library, the study further found that majority of the respondent prefer the advanced search option, and Key word/Subject search is most prefer search method. The study also revealed that most of the scholars face virus and frequent loss of signal problems.*

Key Words: Web resources, attitude of scholar, Usage of web resources.

Introduction

The internet influences our day-to-day lives in different ways. This technology has changed the way in which computers worked and the way people worked with computers. It has made a commendable impact in different areas especially in the areas of learning, working, living and communicating. It has reached to such a state that nobody can escape from the influence of this technology.

The impact of e-resources on libraries cannot be over emphasized because it has transformed the concept of the library in its totality. Now libraries not only have printed materials but also digital resources. University libraries have witnessed a great metamorphosis in recent years both in their collection development and in their service structures. University libraries are now using technology to improve the management of scholarly information to strengthen and speed access to scholarly information not held locally like the library consortium (Sharma, Singh, and Sharma, 2011)¹⁰.

Advances in hardware and software in digital environment of information have made online resources as well as electronic publishing a viable format for scholarly communication. The rapid success of these technologies leads to develop a variety of electronic resources. Electronic resources that are introduced in the libraries including online & offline databases, e-journals, e-books, e-newspapers, seminar papers, project reports, reading lists, examination question papers, lecture materials, theses, dissertation, reading materials, web pages, etc., available in digital format are very pertinently collected, processed and managed by the libraries and information centres with the help of modern technologies for providing various types of services to their users. In addition to these, different types of libraries are using many more other resources to fulfil the requirements of their users. (Gouri Sankar Karmakar 2013)³.

Review of Related Literature:

Amol Dewaji Khobragade and Shalini R. Lihitkar (2015)¹ The study highlight the virtual reference services of IIM in India. For this the researcher distributed 140 questionnaires to the institutional users. In that researcher found out that, most of the users access the internet for their Education, Communication and Research, 35% of the users are strongly agree that computer literacy is importance in the usage of electronic resources, study also depict that most of the users are aware about their institutions library websites, finally concluded that 37% of the users satisfied with Virtual Reference Service provided by the library.

Bijan Kumar Roy, Subal Chandra Biswas, and Parthasarathi Mukhopadhyay (2015)² The paper was in the title of Trends and developments of Open Access Repository Movement in Europe. The object of the study is a broad look at the current state of deployment of IRs in several Europe countries and to explore how national polices and strategies are shaping this deployment. The second object is to design a set of parameters for the evaluation of IRs taking into consideration global recommendations and best practice guidelines. Thirdly, a comparative study of selected IRs has been performed on the basis of framed criteria or parameters. For this researcher discussed the overview of institutional repositories in Europe, Countries and number of Institutional Repositories, Selection of top Institutional Repositories, analytical study of IRs, and finally gave the findings.

Ishappa Bandi and Ramakrishnegowda (2015)⁴ The object of the study was the information seeking behaviour of the social science faculty in Mumbai University. The researcher found that 98% of the respondents have the computer operating skills, access the web resources was 100% in their home and 98% is their respective Departments. 90% of the users are uses the web daily, 98% of the people using the web resources mainly for the purpose of academic. Google is most used search engine followed by yahoo. The major problem while accessing the internet is slow internet speed. The study also found out that among the internet sources and services usage, email 94%, e-journals 90%, e-books 87% and preference to the information sources is highest for both the print and online resources (94%). Finally concluded that browsing internet were the preferred sources for seeking their information.

Kalbande D.T and Chavan S P (2015)⁶ The Authors undertook a study in the title of Use of Digital Library Resources by the faculty members. The researcher investigated the use of internet, e mails, CD-ROMs etc. By the faculty members in the engineering colleges affiliated to University of Pune. For this the investigator undertook 12 engineering colleges. 655 questionnaires was distributed among us. In that 93.23% faculty members are familiar with digital resources, 60.48% of the respondents are access the digital resources in college library, 47.81% of respondent use the web resources for collect the subject information, 47.17% used for upgrade the knowledge, 41.92% used for research purpose, 19.86% for career development. 44.10% respondent told that the major problem of the web resources is limited access to internet. And lack of IT knowledge.

Shamama Firdaus and Sudharma Haridasan (2015)⁹ The researcher under took a study under the title of Awareness and Use of web resources among the post graduate students of ZHCET, Aligarh Muslim University. For that the researcher distributed the 75 questionnaire. The paper revealed that the awareness and use of web resources. The study highlights various other issues related to web resources usage such as the importance of various web resources in students' academic tasks, impact of web resources on their study and learning tasks, level of satisfaction with the academic use of the web resources etc. The study also depicted that positive impact of web resources on students academic work as a large number of total respondents acknowledged that the web resources have made it easier to find the needed material. Finally concluded that web resource give the high level satisfaction among the engineering students.

Javed Khan (2014)⁵ The study was in the title of Web based information retrieval patterns among under graduates, post graduates & faculty members in Delhi University. For this the researcher distributed 100 questionnaire among undergraduate, postgraduates and faculty members in Delhi University. The researcher collect the data under purpose of surfing on the web, places of accessing the web, source of learning using web, mostly used web-based communication sources. Form that the researcher found out that most of the users used web based information sources to fulfil their information needs. 53 percentages of UG students used the web resources for education, most of the users access the web resources from their home PC and most of the users accepted that they learned of web by self instruction through trial and error. They didn't take any professional training to learn the use of web.

Saiat Adetoro Salau (2014)⁷ The study was undertaken under the title of An evaluation of undergraduates use of e-books. For this 500 questionnaire was distributed among the Undergraduates of Federal University of Technology, Minna. In that study the researcher found out that most of the undergraduates of Federal University of Technology, are aware of E-books and preferred it than print books. The students also used E-books gotten through Google than the University Library E-books.

Senthur Velmurugan (2014)⁸ The study undertook under the title of Use of ICT based resources and services among the users of arts and science colleges in Virudhunagar District. For this 12 arts and science colleges in Virudhunagar district are selected by adopting simple random sampling method. From each college 100 user respondent are selected totally 1200 user

respondents are selected from the 12 colleges. The finding of the study was 58.59% of the respondents use the web resources on a daily basis. 37.58% of users use the web resources for research purposes, 35% of users get the web resources from their department, 49.58% of users use the Google search engine, followed by 35% who use Yahoo. The study also found out that 31% of users get their IT skills through guidance from faculty, and the major problem while accessing web resources is an overload of information and a lack of time.

Tamilzhchelvan M and Dhanavandan S (2014)¹¹ The study undertaken in the title of 'A study on open access journals from South Asian Countries registered in DOAJ'. The study depicted that there are 124 countries registered in DOAJ. The data has been collected from DOAJ and represented in the frequency of registration, subject, language and licensing categories of journals in this paper. Finally, the study found out that the South Asian countries India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Bhutan and Sri Lanka have registered open access journals with DOAJ. There are 838 open access journals registered as on 5th Oct. 2013. Out of 838, 652 are from India. More than 985 of the open access journals are published in English language. Nearly fifty percent of the open access journals are collecting processing fees.

Object of the study:

- To study the frequency of using web resources
- To know the purpose and use of web resources
- To know the preferred search engine by the scholar
- To know the preferred Email service used
- To know the access place of web resources
- To find out the most preferred search method.
- To know the preferred search options.
- To know respondent's opinion regarding content of the web resources.
- To find the problems faced by scholars while accessing web resources.
- To know the training program needs of the respondents

Methodology:

Survey method has been used for the study. The researcher selects a group using the survey method. The sample for the present study consisted of 100 web users studying in different disciplines of Madras University. The sample included both male and female research scholars. By filling out the questionnaire about their access to the internet, purpose and use of web resources, web content storage devices, problem facing, and satisfaction of the web content etc., the data are collected through direct visit of the Madras University by the researcher, and meet the respondent directly for distributed the questionnaire, give the detailed explanation about the object of the study to the respondent and then collect the data. Thus collected data are scored and subjected to statistical procedures using SPSS package.

Statement of the problem:

The problem of the present study is as below.

“USAGE OF WEB RESOURCES BY THE RESEARCH SCHOLARS OF MADRAS UNIVERSITY IN CHENNAI”

DELIMITATION OF THE STUDY:

The study is delimited to the scholar’s attitudes of web resources in Madras University.

DATA ANALYSIS:

Table No. 1 Gender wise distribution

S.No	Gender	No. of respondents	Percentage (%)
1	Male	52	52
2	Female	48	48
	Total	100	100

Table 1 shows that gender wise break up of respondent. It clearly shows that out of 100 respondents 52% are male respondents and 48% are female respondents. So that male respondents are more than the female respondent in this study.

Table No. 2 Purpose of use of web resources

S.No.	Purpose	No. of Respondents	Percentage(%)
1	Academic purpose	92	92
2	Entertainment	86	86
3	Communication	79	79
4	Keep Up to date the Knowledge	72	72
5	Sports	42	42
6	News	54	54

Table 2 clearly explain that 92% of the respondents use the web resources for Academic purpose. 86% for Entertainment, 79% for Communication, 72% for keep the knowledge for up-to-date, 42% for sports, 54% of respondents uses the web resources for news. Majority of the scholars uses the web for the purpose of Academic.

Table No. 3 Search engine Used

S.No	Search engine	No. of Respondents	Percentage (%)
1	Google	100	100
2	Yahoo	89	89
3	Alta Vista	63	63
4	Bing	56	56
5	MSN	73	73

Table 3 clearly shows that 100% of the respondent use Google search engine for their information retrieval, 89% of the respondents uses the Yahoo, 63% of the respondent uses the AltaVista, 56% of the respondent uses Bing, and 73% uses MSN as their search engine. The table finally found Google is the most preferred search engine among the scholars.

Table No. 4 Email services used

S.No	Name of Email	No. of Respondents	Percentage (%)
1	Gmail	96	96
2	Yahoo mail	87	87
3	Hotmail	52	52
4	Sify	56	56
5	Rediff mail	61	61

Table 4 shows that 96% of the respondents uses Gmail, 87% uses Yahoo mail, 52% uses Hot mail, 56% respondent uses Sify, and 61% of the respondents uses Rediff mail. Thus it shows that majority of the respondents uses Gmail and followed by Yahoo mail.

Table No.5 Access points of Web resources

S.No	Places	No. of Respondents	Percentage (%)
1	Library	72	72
2	Department	31	46
3	Hostel	15	15
4	Home	49	49
5	Internet Cafe	4	4

Table 5 explain that 72% of the respondent access the web resources from Library, 31% from Department, 15% from Hostel, 49% from Home and 4% from the Internet Cafe. It clearly depict that majority of the respondent access the web resources from Library.

Table No. 6 Preferred Search option

S.No.	Search option	No. of Respondents	Percentage (%)
1	Simple Search	22	22
2	Advanced Search	76	76
3	Both	2	2

Table 6 represents 22% of the respondents follow the simple search method, 76% follow the Advanced search method, and 2% follow the both search option depending upon their need. It shows that majority of the respondents uses the Advanced search method.

Table No. 7 Preferred Search method

S.No	Search method	No. of Respondents	Percentage (%)
1	Key word/Subject search	88	88
2	Author search	72	72
3	Title search	55	55
4	Publisher search	21	21
5	Year of publication search	9	9

Table 7 shows that 88% of the respondents follow the Key word / subject search, 72% follow Author search, 55% follow the Title search, 21% follow the publishers search, 9% follow the year of publication search. Majority of the respondent follow the keyword search method.

Table No. 8 Content of the web resources

S.No	Content of the web resources	No. of Respondents	Percentage (%)
1	Very Useful	68	68
2	Useful	25	25
3	Less Useful	5	5
4	Not Useful	2	2

Table 8 shows that 68% of the respondent said content of the web is very useful, 25% of said content from web is Useful, 5% said it is Less Useful, and 2% of the respondent said content of the web resources is not useful. Hence majority of the respondent said content of the web resources is very useful.

Table No. 9 hindrances while using web resources

S.No	Hindrances	No. of Respondents	Percentage (%)
1	Internet Illiteracy	26	26
2	Slow access	29	29
3	Infrastructure issues	11	11
4	Unable to download	14	14
5	Virus	86	86
6	Frequent loss of signal	59	59
7	Limited internet access point	60	60

Table 9 explained that 86% of respondent faced the virus problems. 60% of the respondents face limited internet access point problems. 59% respondents are faces frequent loss of signal, 29% faces slow access problems, 26% faces internet illiteracy, 14%, 11% are Unable to down load and infrastructure issues problems respectually. So it is clearly understand that majority of the respondent's faces virus problem and followed by frequent signal loss problems.

Table No. 10 Need for the training program

S.No	Need for the training program	No. of Respondents	Percentage (%)
1	Yes	91	91
2	No	9	9

Table 10 shows that 91% of the respondent needs a training programme for use of web resources. 9% of the respondent said no to the training programs.

Findings of the Study

- Out of 100 respondent 52% are male and 48% are female. Male respondent are more than female respondent.
- Majority of the respondents 92% uses the web resources for Academic purpose. Next for the purpose of Entertainment 86%.
- Google (100%) is the most used search engine. Next yahoo is used by the respondents.
- Majority of the respondent (96%) have the Gmail account.
- 72% of the respondents access the web resources from the library.
- 76% of the respondents are uses the advanced search method to access the needed information from the web.
- 88% of the respondent search the keyword/subject search method.
- 68% of the users said content of the web resources is very useful.
- Most of the respondent faces the Virus on access point problems.
- Most of the respondents (91%) needed training on web resources.

Conclusion

University libraries are playing a important role in the growth and development of the Education in the nation. Web resources are most important in the current education trend. Most of the scholars are not fully aware about these web resources. For enhance the use of web resources the university must give the effective user education, regular user training/orientation programmes. The training is given to the students especially in area of the consortium and open access resources. University provide the more number of computer system with high rate of internet speed. Library should also conduct feedback/users survey to know the need of users time to time. And frequently information literacy programmes must be conducted for creating awareness and effective use of the web resources.

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