

Use of Electronic Resources of Sree Vidyanikethan Engineering College, A. Rangampeta, Tirupathi: A Survey

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ABSTRACT

The rapid growth of information and communication technology has given rise to the evolution of several new jargons like paperless society, electronic resources, portal/gateways and global digital library. The main objective of this survey to analyze dependency of the teachers, students and research scholars on e-resources, the perceived impact of the e-resources on their academic efficiency and problems faced by them while accessing the resources.

Keywords: User studies, Electronic Resources, Sree Vidyanikethan Engineering College, E-resources.

1. Introduction:

In modern library the electronic resources are becoming more and more important. The printed resources are now being digitalized which has given rise in increase of the availability of books and journals in the electronic format. In the day context, all types of academic and research libraries are not only providing printed resources to their library users rather they provide printed, electronic and as well as other internet resources to their library users. The traditional functions of libraries and librarians have changed radically in the present day context. Now libraries and information centers have incorporated/adopted various e-resources for its collection developments to fulfill the requirements of different category of library users in better way.

1.1.Importance of Electronic Resources:

E-resources³ are those which includes documents in electronic or e-format, and online or offline that can be accessed through internet in digital environment. E-Resources are electronic product that provides a collection of data; it can be in text format, image collection, other multimedia format like numerical, PDF format, and graphical mode for library and information centers. These may be provided on CD-ROM/DVD, over the Internet.

Providing access to E-resources is a service to help library users to find E-database, E-Journals, E-magazines, E-Books/E-Audio/E-Images, Data/GIS, Digital Library Projects, E-subject Guide, E-Newspapers, E-Conferences proceedings and web search tools on a range of topic. Now a days electronic resources are freely available to everyone over internet access but some are commercial resources. Information and Communication Technology is one of the buzzwords of today's world. It has changed the society in to information society and its way of life. A Survey has been conducted to know the usage of e-resources in Sree Vidyanikethan Engineering College Library.

2. Scope of the Study:

The data required for their study has been collected in the month of September, 2017 which is delivered to an exploratory study pertaining to the awareness. Usage and modes of access to online/offline E-Resources by Sree Vidyanikethan Engineering College, Central Library Users only. Its aim is to fulfill the academic requirements of library users mainly online E-Resources like online databases.

3. Objectives of the Study:

The following are the objectives of the present study:

- To examine the awareness of Library users on E-Resources.
- To know the frequency, time spent, purpose of utilization of E-Resources by the library users;
- To identify the availability of different types of electronic resources in Sree Vidyanikethan Engineering College Library;
- To know problems faced by students in using e-resources;
- To make suggestions to improve e-resources for providing better services to the users of Sree Vidyanikethan Engineering college library.

4. Review of Literature:

Tenopir¹ (2003) carried out a study on the “Use and Users of Electronic Library Resources: An Overview and Analysis of Recent Research Studies”. This Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR) report summarizes and analyzes more than 200 recent research publications that focus on the use of electronic library resources (digital libraries and digital resources) and were published between 1995 and 2003.

Srinivasa Roa and Choudhury² (2009) in their study “Availability of Electronic Resources at NIT Libraries in India: A Study”. This study reveals the zone-wise performance among NIT libraries in India with respect to electronic resources availability. The South zone (75%) libraries have better-off in comparing to the other zones libraries.

Sinha and others³ (2011) conducted a evaluated study on “Usage of Electronic Resources Available Under UGC-INFONET Digital Library Consortium by Assam University Library Users”. The study evaluates the usage of electronic resources made available in the Assam University Library under the UGC-INFONET E-Journals/Digital Library Consortium of UGC/INFLIBNET amongst the research scholars.

Sahu and Dillip⁴ (2012) carried out a study on “Use of Web Resources at P.G. Departments of Business Administration, North Orissa University Odisha, India: A Study”. This study focuses on the use of web resources by the students of P.G. Department of Business Administration and discusses the need of the study, scope and limitations.

Kaur and Sarita⁵ (2012) have conducted a study on the “Use of UGC Infonet E-Journals by Research Scholars if Guru Nanak Dev University: A Survey”. This study examines the use of e-journals, problems faced by the users while accessing, satisfaction level of researchers with availability of e-journals in the library at Guru Nanak Dev University.

5. Methodology:

Questionnaire method was used for collecting data from the respondents. 120 questionnaires are distributed to the respondents at simple random to those who users of Sree Vidyanikethan Engineering College Library. 112 questionnaires were returned out of 120. The data collected for the present study has been presented in the following paragraphs.

6. Data Analysis and Interpretations:

6.1. Category wise Distribution

Table-6.1: Category wise Distribution

Category	No.	Response	Percentage
Post Graduate Students	66	63	56.25
Under Graduate Student	48	45	40.17
Teaching Staff	6	4	3.57
Total	120	112	100

Table 6.1 shows that out of 112 respondents, 63 (56.25%) belongs to undergraduate students, 45 (40.17%) belongs to Post Graduate Students and 4 (3.57%) belongs to Teaching Staff. A survey findings reveal that maximum of about 56.25% belongs to Under Graduate students followed by P.G. Students (40.17%), teaching staff members (3.57%).

6.2. Distribution of E-Resources Users

Table 6.2 presents the Gender wise distribution of 112 respondents, which reveals that out of 112 respondents, 73 respondents (65.17%) are male and 39 respondents (34.82%) are female. This is a unique example of male and female imbalance in the case of E-Resources and Internet users.

Table-6.2: Gender-Wise Distribution of E-Resources Users

Gender	Number	Percentage
Male	73	65.17
Female	39	34.82
Total	112	100

The survey finding shows that the inclinations of male library users are more towards the usage of e-resources and internet access.

6.3. Familiarity in Using Computers

Computers are playing an important role in the present society without computers we can not imagine the present society. The respondents were asked to know their computer knowledge. The replies given by them are shown in Table-6.3.

Table-6.3 : Familiarity in using Computers

Reply	Number	Percentage
Yes	112	100
No	-	--
Total	112	100

It is clear from the Table 6.3 that all the respondents have knowledge in Computers operations.

6.4. Experience in Using Computers

Again they were asked a question to know their experience in computer operations, the replies given by them are shown in Table-6.4.

Table-6.4: Experience in Using Computers

Years	Number	Percentage
One Years	8	7.14
Two Years	6	5.35
Three Years	18	16.07
More than Four Years	80	71.42
Total	112	100

It is evident from Table 6.4 that majority of the respondents (71.42%) have experience in using computers more than four years followed by three years (16.07%), one years (7.13%) and two year experience (5.35%). It can be concluded that majority of the respondents have experience in using computers more than 4 years.

6.5. Internet Access

A Question has been asked the respondents to know their familiarity to access the internet. The replies given by them are shown in Table-6.5

Table-6.5 : Internet Access (N=112)

Reply	Number	Percentage
Yes	112	100
No	-	-
Total	112	100

Survey result as shown in the table 6.5 it is very clear that all the respondents are accessing the Internet.

6.6. Place for Accessing Internet

The respondents were asked a question to know the place where they could access internet. The replies given by them are shown in Table-6.6.

Table-6.6: Place for Accessing Internet

Place	Number	Percentage
At Library	72	64.28
At Home	62	55.35
Cyber Café	20	17.85
At Work	4	3.57
Other Places	Nil	Nil

(Respondents were permitted to tick more than one answer)

It is evident from Table 6.6 that majority of the respondent (64.28%) are accessing internet at their Library followed by at Home (55.35%), at browsing centre (17.85%), at work (3.57%). It can be concluded that majority of the respondents are accessing internet at their Library. It is also noticed that 3.57% of the respondents are accessing internet at their work place.

6.7. Awareness of Access Electronic Resources Available at Library

The respondents were asked a question to know their awareness of access Electronic Resources at their Library. The replies given by them are shown in Table-6.7.

Table-6.7: Awareness on Availability of E-Resources

Awareness	Number	Percentage
Yes	108	96.42
No	4	3.57
Total	112	100

It is clear from the above table that all the respondents are aware about e-resources available in their library and majority of the respondents (96.42%) are aware of e-resources available at their library and 3.57% of the respondents replied negatively in this regard.

6.8. E-Resources:

A question has been posed to the respondents to know the e-resources, from which they could retrieve information. The replies given by them are shown in Table-6.8.

Table-6.8 : Types of E-Resources

E-Resources	Number	Percentage
E-Journals	31	28.70
E-Books	46	42.59
E-Databases	14	12.96
E-Portals	17	15.74
E-Consortium	-	-
Total	108	100

It is evident from Table 6.8 that majority of the respondents (42.59%) getting information from E-Books followed by E-Journals (28.70%), E-Portals (15.74%), and E-Databases (12.96%). That means e-books are mostly used e-resources of Sree Vidyanikethan Engineering College Library users.

6.9. Frequency of using E-Resources

The respondents were asked a question to know their frequency of use e-resources. The replies given by them are shown in Table-6.9.

Table-6.9: Frequency of using E-Resources

Frequency	Number	Percentage
Daily	26	24.07
Frequently	64	59.25
Rarely	18	16.66
Total	108	100

It is evident from Table 6.9 that majority of the respondents (59.25%) use E-Resources frequently followed by Daily (24.07%), rarely (16.66).

6.10. Sources to know about E-resources

The respondents were asked a question about the sources from which they came to know about e-resources. The replies given by them are shown in Table-6.10.

Table-6.10: Sources to know about E-Resources

Reply	Number	Percentage
Library Orientation Programme	27	24.10
Library Web Pages	30	26.78
From the library staff	21	18.75
From Friends	48	42.85
From Colleagues	4	3.57
From Lecturers	44	39.28
Other	-	-

(Respondents were permitted to tick more than one answer)

It is evident from Table 6.10 that majority of the respondents (42.85%) were getting awareness of e-resources from Friends followed by from Lecturers (39.28%), Library Web Pages (26.78%), Library Orientation Programme (24.10%), from the Library Staff (18.75%), and From Colleagues (3.57%). Friends are the main sources to know about the e-resources available in their library. It can be concluded the majority of the respondents are getting e-resources information from their Lecturers.

6.11 Reasons for using E-Resources

The respondents were asked a question to know the reasons from which they use e-resources, the replies given by them are shown in Table-6.11.

Table-6.11: Reasons for Using E-Resources

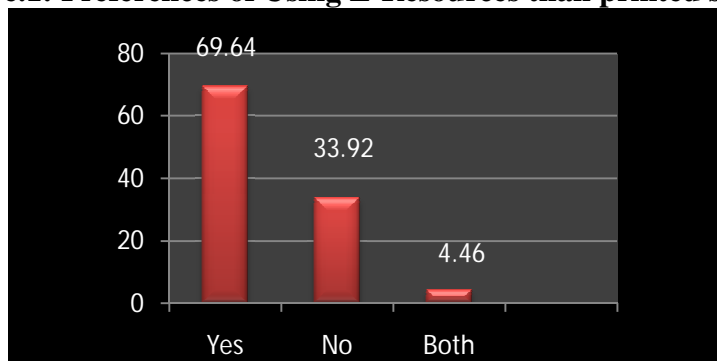
Reasons	Number	Percentage
Quick Retrievable	19	17.59
Up-to-date-quick publishing of data, research result	13	12.03
Availability of Information free of charge	21	19.44
Full-text Searching	14	12.96
Links to others resources	14	12.96
Environmental Friendliness (Saving Paper)	16	14.81
Multimedia	11	10.18
others	-	-
Total	108	100

It is evident from Table 6.11 that majority of the respondents (19.44%) are using e-resources for free of charges followed by quick retrievable (17.59%), Environmental Friendliness (14.81%), Full Text Searching (12.96%), Links to others resources (12.96%), Up-to-date-quick publishing of data research result (12.03%), and Multimedia (10.18%).

6.12 Preference of using E-Resources than printed sources

The respondents were asked a question to know which form of information sources they prefer to use. The replies given by them are shown in Figure.1.

Figure.1: Preferences of Using E-Resources than printed sources



It is evident from Figure.1 that majority of the respondents 69.64% are using E-Resources than Printed sources, 33.92% preferred to printed sources than E-Resources, and 4.46% preferred both forms.

6.13 Reasons for preferring E-Resources than Print sources

The respondents were asked a question to know the reasons for which they prefer to use E-Resources than printed sources. The replies given by them are shown in Table-6.13.

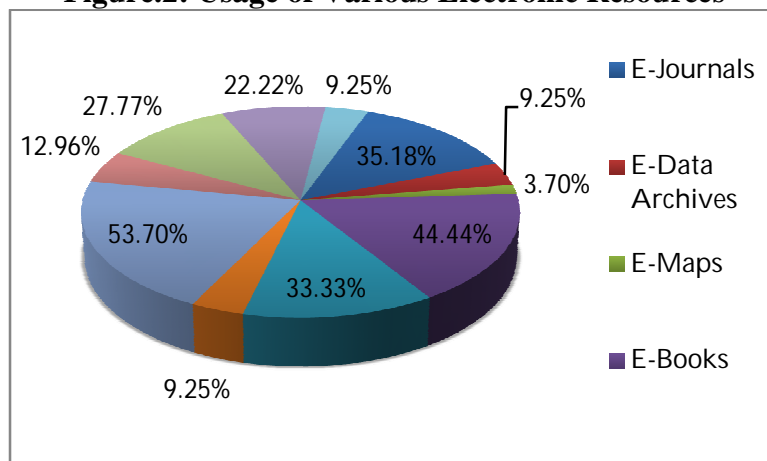
Table-6.13: Reasons for preferring E-Resources than printed one

Reasons	Number	Percentage
Save the time	16	21.62
Easy to use	19	25.67
To get more Information	20	27.02
Less Expensive	10	13.51
More useful	9	12.16
Total	74	100

It is evident from Table 6.13 that majority of the respondents (27.02%) prefer E-Resources to get more Information followed by Easy to use (25.67%), to save the time (21.62%), Less Expensive (13.51%), and More Useful (12.16%). It can be concluded that e-resources are providing more information than print sources. **Usage of Various Electronic Resources**

The respondents were asked a question to know which E-Resource they use mostly. The replies given by them are shown in Figure.2.

Figure.2: Usage of Various Electronic Resources



(Respondents were permitted to tick more than one answer)

It is evident from Figure.2 that majority of the respondents (53.70%) were mostly access WWW followed by E-Books (44.44%), E-Journals (35.18%), E-Magazines (33.33%), E-Mail (27.77%), E-Research (22.22%), E-News (12.96%), E-Data Archives (9.25%), Thesis (9.25%), E-Bibliography (9.25%), E-Maps (3.70%). Majority of the respondents are access World Wide Web.

6.14 Frequency of using different e-databases

The respondents were asked a question to know which e-database they use frequently. The replies given by them are shown in Table-6.15.

It is evident from Table 6.15 that majority of the respondents (59.25%) are using **IEEE** database very often followed by use Rarely (31.48%), Never Use (9.25%). Majority of the respondents (44.44%) are using **Nature** Often followed by use Rarely (42.59%), unfamiliar (7.40%), and (5.55%). The majority of respondents (38.88%) are using **Emerald** database rarely followed by unfamiliar (32.40%), never use (23.14%), and use often (5.55%).

Table-6.15: Frequency of using different Databases

Databases	Often		Rarely		Never		Unfamiliar		Total (%)	
	R	%	R	%	R	%	R	%	R	(%)
IEEE	64	(59.25)	34	(31.48)	10	(9.25)	-	-	108	(100)
Nature	48	(44.44)	46	(42.59)	6	(5.55)	8	(7.40)	108	(100)
Emerald	6	(5.55)	42	(38.88)	25	(23.1)	35	(32.40)	108	(100)
Web of Science	44	(40.74)	52	(48.14)	9	(8.33)	3	(2.77)	108	(100)
Science Dictionary	52	(48.14)	43	(39.81)	6	(5.55)	7	(6.48)	108	(100)
AMC	25	(23.14)	52	(48.14)	15	(13.88)	16	(14.81)	108	(100)
NPTEL	41	(37.96)	27	(25)	25	(23.14)	15	(13.88)	108	(100)
Informatics	21	(19.44)	50	(46.29)	21	(19.44)	16	(14.18)	108	(100)
UGC Info Net	21	(19.44)	35	(32.40)	27	(25)	25	(23.14)	108	(100)
Springer Links	19	(17.59)	18	(16.66)	51	(47.22)	20	(18.51)	108	(100)
American Institute of Physics	9	(8.33)	16	(14.81)	52	(48.14)	31	(28.70)	108	(100)
CARL Corporation	3	(2.77)	16	(14.81)	56	(51.85)	33	(30.55)	108	(100)
Elsevier Science	9	(8.33)	33	(30.55)	41	(37.96)	25	(23.14)	108	(100)

The majority of the respondents (48.14%), are Using **Web of science** database for rarely followed by Use often (40.74%), Never Use (8.33%), and (2.77%). Majority of the respondents (48.14%) are using **Science Dictionary** database very often followed by Use Sometimes (39.81%), Unfamiliar (6.48%), and (5.55%). Majority of the respondents (48.14%) are using **AMC** for rarely followed by very Often (23.14%), Unfamiliar (14.81%), and Never Use (12.88%). Majority of the respondents (37.96%) are using **NPTEL** database very often followed by use rarely (25%), Never use (23.14%), and (13.88%). Majority of the respondents (46.29%) are using **Informatics** database rarely followed by Use often (19.44%), Never Use (19.44%), unfamiliar (14.18%). Majority of the respondents (32.40%) are using **UGC info Net** for Sometime followed by Never used (25%), Unfamiliar (23.14%), and use often ((19.44%). Majority of respondents (47.22%) are Never Use **Springer links** database followed by Unfamiliar (18.51%), Use often (17.59%), and use rarely (16.66%). Majority of the respondent (48.14%) are never used **American Institute of Physics** database followed by Unfamiliar (28.70%), Use rarely (14.81%), and Use often (8.33%). Majority of the respondents (51.85%) are never used **CARL Corporation** database followed by unfamiliar (30.55%), Use rarely (14.81%), and use often (2.77%). Majority of the respondents (37.96%) are never used **Elsevier Science** database followed by use rarely (30.55%), unfamiliar (23.14%), and often (8.33%).

6.16. Problems facing while accessing E-Resources

The respondents were asked a question to know the problems which they face while using. The replies given by them are shown in Table-6.16.

Table-6.16: Problems facing while accessing E-Resources

Problems	Response	Percentage
The Material are not in use or not available.	22	20.37
Slow access	52	48.14
It is difficult to read from the Screen	8	7.40
Lack of online subscription	26	24.07
I am not Familiar with electronic resources	4	3.70
Total	112	100

It is evident from Table 6.16 that majority of the respondents (48.14%) are facing slow access while using E-Resources followed by Lack of online subscription (24.07%), the Material are not in use or not available (20.37%), it is difficult to read from the screen, and (7.40%) are not Familiar with E-Resources.

7. Findings and Suggestions:

- Majority of the respondents are not aware on e-resources, and some of the respondents are not aware on the e-resources available in their libraries. Hence, all the students should be informed by the library staff about the availability of e-resources available in the library.
- Only 24% of the students using e-resources daily in their library. Hence, all the students should be instructed to visit library daily and to use library resources.
- Majority of the students (42.85%) got awareness on e-resources through friends and only 18.75% of the students came to know about the e-resources through the library staff. Hence, the library staff should take steps to create awareness on e-resources among the students periodically.
- Majority of the respondents (27.02%) prefer e-resources then print sources because e-resources are easy to use and save their time.
- Majority of the respondents (48.14%) are facing the problem of slow access of Internet connectivity. The speed of the internet should be enhanced for speedy access of internet and to save the time of the users.
- College authorities should take necessary steps for providing user education programme and increasing of library hours in using library resources effectively.
- It is also recommended to conduct user training programme in the beginning of the 1st semester of the every academic year in using library resources.
- Internet facilities should be given to the staff to access e-resources at their departments in the college.

8. Conclusion:

The survey showed that the usage of the Electronic Resources have created a great impact upon the users of Sree Vidyanikethan Engineering College Central Library in their Studies and research work. The rapid growths in information communication technology have facilitated the convergence of new electronic devices and formats. Information has been embedded in a variety of ways and forms in various kinds of electronic resources. It is clear from the survey that the younger generations are familiar with using e-resources, but the

volumes of frequent usage of e-resources among the users have been found to be optimum level.

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