

## USE OF E-RESOURCE BY HIGHER EDUCATION STUDENTS AND FACULTY MEMBERS IN CHIKKAMAGALUR DISTRICT: A SURVEY

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### Introduction

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) is the biggest achievement in the evolution of mankind ICT is any system designed to gather, process, or distribute information or it is the science and skill of all aspects of computing, data storage, and communication. ICT may be any combination of tools and procedures that facilitate the generation, acquisition, storage, organization, retrieval, searching, viewing, updating and transmission of information using electronic means. The tools used in ICT include purpose-built computer programs, databases, communication networks, analysis and design methods, programming languages, artificial intelligence, robotics, knowledge bases, etc. ICT has long standing influence in almost all areas of human activity. It acts as a catalyst in all spheres of science and technology. Haneefa, M.K. &Shukkoor, C.K. (2010)

Electronic resources represent an increasingly important component of the collection building activities of libraries. "Electronic resources" refer to those materials that require computer access, whether through a personal computer, mainframe, or handheld mobile device. Tablet, laptop, Book kindle, etc they may either be accessed remotely via the Internet or locally. With advancement of technology the libraries are moving towards digital resources, which are found to be less expensive and more helpful for easy access. These are helpful especially to distant learners who have limited time to access the libraries from out side by dial up access by the commonly available electronic resources mainly CD-ROMs, OPACs, and Internet etc., which are replacing the print media

Government First Grade College Narasimharajapura, Koppaand Sringeri of Chikkamagaluru ditrict affiliated to Kuvempu University. These tallukas mentioned as Compleate TamilNadu regions (Rainfall is very high). These Colleges having Faculty strength of 200 and more than 2000 Students are studying in different discipline and most of the students of coming from rural areas. The Colleges have good infrastructure with library and Information Centers. The libraries have good Collection in printed and electronic form, most of the student use library sources up to

maximum extent. All the libraries have good Internet facility with subscription of e-resources and N-List Program and user can also search information through many free databases.

## Review of Literature

The review of relevant literature is nearly always a standard chapter of a thesis or dissertation. Review of literature provides the background to and justification for the research. Literature reviews help us to see the full picture and uncovering new evidence on this topic. It encourages objective thinking, and systematic approach to the research.

**Sridhar, M S (2002)** discussed the case study of sharing of on-line resources among the ISRO libraries where the effort has been made by using the consortia approach. Efforts were also put in to implement uniform library management software to enable remote networked access of holdings of about a dozen libraries within the organization. The online resources such as Ulrich+, Aerospace, Compendex and BIP databases are shared. Additional shared resources through the consortia were the 22 on-line journals related to aerospace, IEEE journals.

**Bhatt and Madhusudhan (2004)** have illustrated the advantages of e-journals and benefits of consortia e-resources. Libraries function as an essential integral component in higher education system. Without a proper information and knowledge infrastructure, no education system can sustain and achieve its goals and objectives. But in the past one decade, due to paucity of funds, libraries are passing through a phase of deterioration, particularly in terms of its collection and services. Lots of efforts have been taken in the past to overcome the problem of financial crunch such as resource sharing and library networking. Advent of information and communication technologies and their capabilities such as high resolution capture devices, dramatic increase of digital storage media, explosive growth of internet and world wide web, sophisticated search engines, fast-processing power and reducing cost of computers, high bandwidth networks and an increasing number of electronic publications have made possible to switch over to technological solutions to the problems of present day university libraries which cannot be won otherwise by the traditional system of librarianship. Thus many research scholars and faculty members are benefited through this consortium

**Korobili, stella, Tilikidou, Irene and Delistavrou, Antonia (2006)** examine the use of library resources, focusing on e-resources by the members of faculty of higher educational institute in Thissaloniki, Greece. The study conducted a census survey using a structured questionnaire. The frequency of use of resources mainly e-resources, examine the impact of demographic or situational characteristics are examined. The researcher found that the majority of faculty members use printed resources, but they also use e-resources frequently. They found that use of e-resources is higher in the school of Business Administration and Economics, among those who hold PhD degree and younger faculty members. Further they added that the use of e-resources is positively indicated by the researchers as convenience of access. The study also examined the computer anxiety rating scale which indicated that the less anxious the faculty feels about PC's, the frequent users they become

**MohdShariful Islam and MohdNazmul Islam (Bangladesh) 2006**, The study attempts to explore the gradual advancement of modern technologies in libraries. The study identifies various components of ICT which are used or being used in libraries and information system. The study identifies reason to use computer and related technologies in libraries. It also stated the functions, Impact and Challenges of ICT based Library System

**Parameshwar and Patil (2008)** have done research on the usage of e-resources among the Faculty Members and Research Scholars in Gulbarga University. The paper revealed that the electronic resources available in Gulbarga University Library are helpful in satisfying the information needs of the scholar, related to their research. All the faculty members and research scholars use the books as a major source of information and majority of the faculty members and research scholars search printed journals and e-resources

**Aher, D W, Matsagar, M B and Wagh V G (2009)** studied the impact of electronic resources on the libraries and their users in Nashik City. The study has targeted total 480 sample population using stratified random sampling method using questionnaire technique for data collection. The respondents included were teachers, librarians and students from various colleges in Nasik city. The study found that percentage of students visiting the library for electronic resources such as CDs, e-books and e-journals is  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the population who visit for reading books and journals. Further the researchers mentioned that the overall opinion of the user population is that the electronic medias helps them in understanding their subjects gathering relevant information with a faster access as compared to the information in print form.

**Upadhyay, Archana (2009)** Impact of INFLIBNET Programme On IT Oriented Services In Uttar Pradesh State Universities An Evaluative Study Researcher stated in their work that the librarians show that lack of budget, lack of manpower, lack of skilled staff and lack of training are the main constraints for not automating library activities. Even though library professionals have shown a positive attitude towards the use of ICT applications and library automation, majority expressed the need for appropriate training to make use of ICT tools.

## Scope of the Study

The study is confined to faculty members and students of Government First Grade Colleges of Narasimharajapura, Koppa and Sringeri regarding the usability of electronic resources.

## Need for the Study

The study reveals the drawbacks of the information access through print media. It elucidates the wide growing gap in volume of consumption between print media and electronic media. The study is confined to the impact of E-resource on Higher Education Students and Faculty me

## Objectives of the Study

- To know the IT Knowledge of the User
- To study the use of different types of electronic resources by faculty members and students;
- To study the purpose of use of electronic resources by users;
- To know the problem faced by faculty members while accessing and using electronic resources;
- To observe the impact of electronic resources on Higher education
- To suggest recommendations to improve the electronic resources and services for users.

## Research Methodology

The term ‘methodology’ means, “The techniques and frames of reference by which researchers approach and carry out an enquiry”.(Busha& Harter, 1980). Research methodology means “research methods or techniques refer to the methods, the researchers use in performing research operations”.(Kothari, 2004). As a part of the study, a questionnaire was designed to elicit the data from users to know the impact of e-resource in degree colleges of N. R pura, Koppa and Sringeri. For the purpose of the study 270 samples were selected which included 80 students and 10 faculty members from each College respectively. The questionnaire was randomly distributed to respondents and filled questionnaires were collected from users.

## Data Analysis

### Knowledge of Information Technology

In response to this question 40.00% of the user indicates that they have good knowledge of ICT, while 23.00% of user has very good knowledge and remaining 37.00% of the respondents have average knowledge.

Table 1. Knowledge of Information Technology

Status	Response received	Percentage
Very good	62	23.00
Good	108	40.00
Average	100	37.00

### Knowledge of E resource

From table 2, It seen that majority of the user, i.e, 162 (60.00%) had knowledge of e-resource, while remaining 108 (40.00%) don't know about E-resource.

Table 2. Knowledge of E-resource

Knowledge of E resource	Response received	Percentage
Yes	222	82.22
No	48	17.77

## Types of e-resource Accessed

Table 3 shows the e-resource accessed by the users to seek information E-journals preferred by 222 (89.18%) users, followed by CD-ROM databases accessed by 06(02.70%) users, and other e-resources accessed by 18 (08.10%) users respectively

Table 3.Types of e-resource

Types of E resource	Response received	Percentage
E-journals	198	89.18
CD-ROM	06	02.70
Other E-resources	18	08.10

## Purpose of using electronic resources

The purpose for which the E-resource were used by the users, as shown in the table 4, indicates that the majority of them 210 users for Academic assignment, and 08 users for Competitive Examination while only 04 users for themselves update on their subject

Table 4.Purpose of using electronic resources

Purpose	Response received	Percentage
Assignment	210	94.59
Competitive Exams	08	03.60
Subject of Interest	04	01.80

## Problems in Accessing E-resource

The table shows majority of the users, 48 agreed that lack of knowledge and skill to make use of E-resource, followed by 172 users felt that limited number of computers in libraries was the major problem for not able to use e-resource, while 50 users agree that too much of information is retrieved.

Table 5.Problems in Accessing E-resource

Problems in Accessing e-resource	Response received	Percentage
Lack of E-resource knowledge and skills	48	17.77
Limited Access to Computers	172	63.70
Too much of information is retrieved	50	18.58

## User education program on Information Technology

The majority of the user, 210 felt that they need training to learn more about internet and search engines in order to access the e-resource, followed by 150 users, need training on information retrieval skills, while 80 users, wanted overall development of ICT knowledge

Table 6. User education program on Information Technology

User education program on Information Technology	Response received	Percentage
Internet use and Search Engines	110	40.74
Information retrieval skills	80	29.62
Overall development of ICT Knowledge	80	29.62

## Summary and Conclusion

The majority of the user had knowledge of using IT, users use e-resource for assignment purpose and competitive exam purpose. Major respondents don't have good knowledge about e-resource in these colleges, but they indicate their willingness to get trained to learn more about using the internet and e-resource. And many of the user found that limited number of computers is major issue to not use e-resources.

The College Librarians should play the major role in the use of library resources and services, many of the students and staff don't have good knowledge of computer and e-resource, for these users the College Library should organize workshop, seminars and training programs to create a awareness and educate the user to make use of Computer, internet and e-resources. And Library should facilitate its user with computers and internet connection.

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