

Use of E-Resources by the Different Users of Jorhat Medical College Library, Assam.

Mrs. Rumi Das

Librarian,
Tyagbir Hem Baruah College
Jamugurihat, Sonitpur
Assam, India, 784180
e-mail- rumi.d8@gmail.com

Dr. Sanjay Kumar Singh

Associate Professor
HOD, Department of Library & Information Science
Gauhati University, Guwahati-14
e-mail- sksgul@gmail.com

***Abstract** - The present study aimed at finding the use of e-resources by the users of Jorhat Medical College Library. A structured questionnaire was distributed among the users to collect data. A total of 50 no's questionnaires were distributed among the users and 42 no's valid samples were collected. The study tries to identify the use & awareness of e-resources, the purpose and frequency of using digital resources, problems faced by the users while using e-resources and satisfaction level of users.*

Keywords: E-resources, Jorhat Medical College Library, ICTs

Introduction

Libraries of all sizes and types are accepting the digital collections, although most libraries will continue to offer both print and digital collections. Libraries and library professionals choose digital collections for many reasons, including, but not limited to, the following: digital journals can be linked from and to indexing and abstracting databases; access can be from the user's home, office, or dormitory whether or not the physical library (Tenopir,2003)

The development of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) and impact of information explosion have brought many changes in diverse field of knowledge. ICTs have changed the whole concept of libraries. Due to technology and use of computers in the libraries users have more chances to have access online database at anytime and anywhere. The libraries with their traditional holdings in print format are now being added with electronic information resources in various formats like CD-ROM and DVD-ROM databases, On-line databases, e-journals and internet or web resources. E-resources in the library play an important role in facilitating access to the required information to the user.

Jorhat Medical College & Hospitals (JMCH) was established in the year 2009 situated Jorhat, Assam. The college has developed a computerized library within a very short time. JMCH has a

well designed library which was established in the year 2010. The central library has a rich collection of more than 7000 books with 78 Indian and 65 foreign journals. Currently, the library is equipped with 50 numbers of computers with round the clock internet connectivity and collection of more than 6000 books, 65 international journals and 78 national journals. The current study emphasize to find out information seeking behaviour of the users of Jorhat Medical College Library, Assam, to find out the awareness and use of library resources by the users and to know the main purpose of their information requirement.

Objectives of the study

- To study the uses of e-resources by the users
- To know the purpose of using the e-resources by the users
- To know the satisfaction level of the respondents
- To identify the problem faced by the users of the medical college library
- To provide suggestion & conclusion based on the study.

Methodology

The method adopted for the present study was survey method. A structured questionnaire was distributed among the users of the Jorhat Medical College library. A total numbers of 50 questionnaires were distributed among the users. Out of 50 questionnaires got the respond from the 42 respondents. The analysis is based on the response received by the users.

Scope of The Study

The scope of the study is restricted only on the use of e-resources by the users and to find out the information requirement of the users of Jorhat Medical College library, Jorhat, Assam.

Data analysis:

The main purpose of the study was to make an analytical study of use pattern of the users of Jorhat Medical College Library, Jorhat.

Table 1: Frequency of visiting library

Frequency of visiting the library	Number of respondent	Percentage
Daily	17	40.47%
Once a week	9	21.42%
Twice a week	10	23.80%
Occasionally	6	14.28%

As in Table 1, the majority of users (40.47%) visit the library daily, 23.80% of users have stated that they visit the library once in a week and 21.42% of the users visit to the library twice in a week and 14.28 % visit the library occasionally.

Table 2 Frequency of Internet use

Frequency	No. of respondents	Percentage
Daily	20	47.61%
Weekly	10	23.80%
Monthly	7	16.66%
As when required	5	11.90%

To find information on the use of internet use by the respondents, table 2 clearly reveals that 47.61% of users were using internet on daily. Further 23.80 percent respondents were using it on weekly, 16.66 percent were using it on monthly and 11.09 percent use the internet as when they require it.

Table3: Access point of e-resources

Access Point	Respondents	Percentage
Library	8	19.04
Residence	7	16.66
Hostel	5	11.90
Department	12	28.57
Campus Browsing centre	10	23.80

Table 3 clearly point out that users are accessing the e-resources from different access locations. Majority (28%) of the respondents access e-resources from the department itself. Besides that 24% respondents access the resources from campus browsing centre, followed by 19%, 17% and 12% respondents' access the resources from library, residence and hostel.

Table 4: User satisfaction with the services and e-resources

Variables	No of respondents	Percentage
Completely Satisfied	9	21.42%
Mostly satisfied	12	28.57%
Partially satisfied	19	45.23%
Not at all	2	4.76%

Table 4 shows that majority of users (45.23%) expressed that there were partially satisfied with e-resources followed by 28.57% are mostly satisfied and 21.42 % are completely satisfied. Rest of them are not satisfied at all.

Table 5: Purpose of accessing e-resources

Purpose of accessing	Number of respondent	Percentage
To keep yourself up-to-date on the subject	10	23.80%
For completion of Assignments and Seminar presentations	8	19.04%
For Research purpose (Thesis/Dissertations/Project works)	5	11.90%
To find relevant information in the area of your specialization	13	30.95%
For Career Development	0	0
For Routine study	2	4.76%
Ease at access	4	9.52%

Table 5 point out that 30.95% respondents use e-resources with the aim to find relevant information in the area of specialization followed by 23.80%, 19.04% and 11.90% respondents need to access e-resources for the purpose of to keep yourself up-to-date on the subject , for completion of assignments and seminar presentations and for research purpose (Thesis/Dissertations/Project works). On the other hand 9.52%, 4.76% and 0% of the respondents access e-resources primarily for easy access, for routine study, and for career development.

Table 6: Preferred type of e-resources

Types of e –resources	No of Respondent	Percentage
E-journal	17	40.47
E-books	10	23.80
E-thesis	5	11.90
E-lecture	2	4.76
CD-ROM databases	5	11.90
E-articles	3	7.14

The most preferred and highly used e-resource varieties as presents in the table 6 shown that, ‘e-journals’ and ‘e-books’ are more popular among the users with 40.47% and 23.80% respondents which rank ‘first’ and ‘second’ in order respectively.

Table 7: Frequency of using electronic resources and services:

Resources	Everyday%	Two times in a week%	Once in a week%	Rarely%	Never%
E-journal	16(38.09%)	9(21.42%)	7(16.66%)	4(9.52%)	6(11.90%)
E-books	12(28.57%)	10(23.80%)	12(28.57%)	6(14.28%)	2(4.76%)
CD-ROM	5(11.90%)	13(30.95%)	9(21.42%)	12(28.57%)	3(7.14%)
E-Thesis	10(23.80%)	8(19.04%)	12(28.57%)	5(11.90%)	7(16.66%)
E-lecture	3(7.14%)	15(35.71%)	10(23.80%)	8(19.04%)	6(11.90%)
E-mail	25(59.52%)	10(23.80%)	4(9.52%)	3(7.14%)	0(0%)
Online databases	18(42.85%)	11(26.19%)	7(16.66%)	4(9.52%)	2(4.76%)

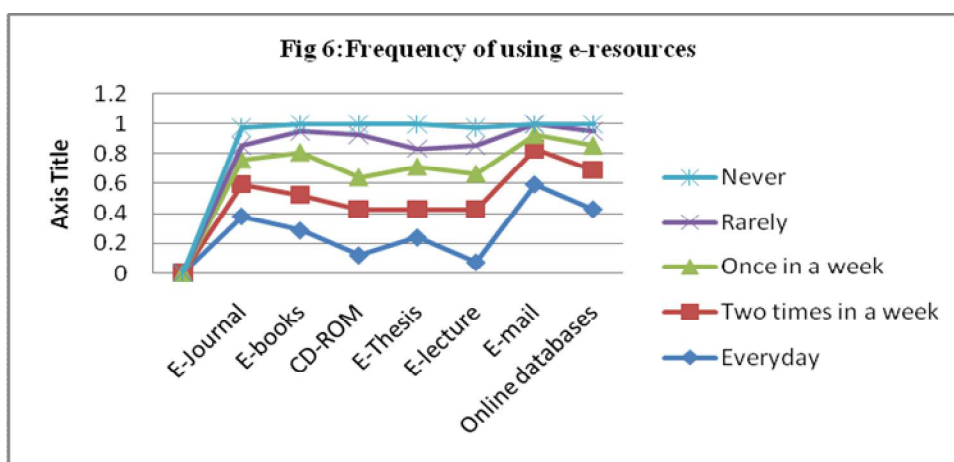
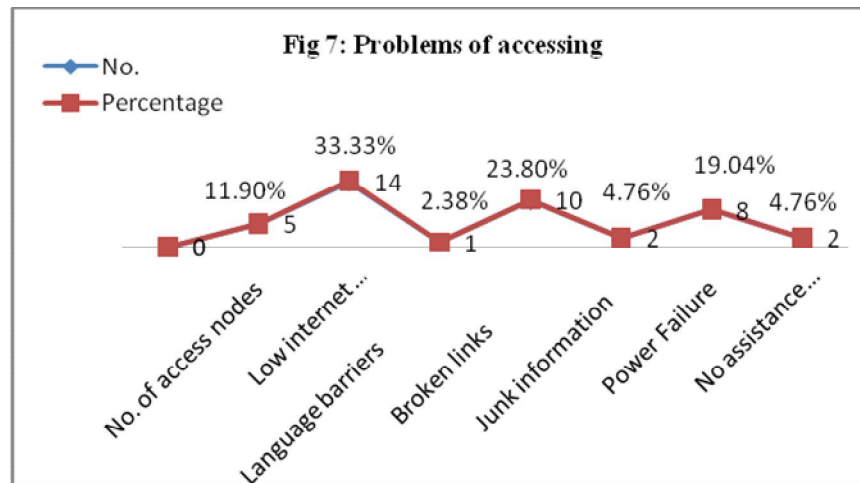


Table 7 shown that the highest majority of respondents, 25 (59.52%) use e-mail daily, 10(23.80%) use “two times in a week”, 4(9.52%) use “once in a week” and only 3(7.14%) use “rarely”. In case of e-journals 16(38.09%) of respondents use “daily”, 9 (21.42%) use “two times in a week”, while 7(16.66%) use “once in a week” and 4(9.52%) use rarely and 6(11.90%) of respondents never use the e-resources. Whereas the majority 12(28.57%) of respondents use e-books everyday and once in a week. Only 2(4.76%) never use the e-resource. Online database used by maximum 18(42.85%) of respondents every day. E-theses are used by 12(28.57%) once in a week and 13(30.95%) respondents use the CD ROM e-resources two times in a week

Table 8: Problems to accessing e-resources:

Problems	No. of respondents	Percentage
No. of access nodes	5	11.90%
Low internet connectivity	14	33.33%
Language barriers	1	2.38 %
Broken links	10	23.80%
Junk information	2	4.76%
Power Failure	8	19.04%
No assistance feasibility	2	4.76%



It is clear from the table 8 that the large number (33.33%) of respondents face problems when accessing e-resources due to low internet connectivity, 23.80% users said that due to broken links, 19% face problems due to power failure and 11.90% due to number of access nodes.

Table9: Need of user education program

Need of training	No of respondents	Percentage
Need	33	78.57%
Don't Need	9	21.42%

Table 9 describes that the most of the respondents (79%) clearly stated to have proper user education program to know about the sources and services available

Findings and Suggestions

- Majority (28.57%) of the users prefer department for accessing e-resources
- E-mail has been chosen as the most popular Internet service.
- Online databases and e-journals as the most popular electronic resource 43 % and 38% responses respectively.
- A majority of the respondents (71.3%) feel fully satisfied with Internet services and electronic resources.
- 30.95% of respondents access the e-resources to find relevant information in the area of their specialization.
- User education and training are required for the users to know different searching techniques & development for accessing e- resources on their own.
- There is a need to subscribe very high bandwidth and internet connectivity for quick access to the available e- resources.
- The library should subscribe more e- journals and e- databases.
- Authority or administration should develop the necessary infrastructure for the development of e-resources.

Conclusion:

Internet has emerged as most powerful medium for storage and retrieval of information and the development of e-resources have had an important impact on the way the academic community uses stores and preserves information. From the study it is clear that electronic resources are useful to medical professionals. Medical professional libraries give more importance to providing access to electronic resources. Therefore, library authority or administration may take initiatives to improve the information searching on the electronic resources among the users. Library professionals should also take necessary steps to improve their awareness and utilization of the available e-resources. It is very interesting that majority (79%) of the respondents mentioned training programme or user education is necessary to improve the search skill and search result of e-resources.

Reference:

1. Tenopir, Carol. Use and Users of Electronic Library Resources: An Overview and Analysis of Recent Research Studies. Washington, D.C. : Council on Library and Information Resources, 2003.
2. Malkeet, Singh Gill. "Use of E-Journals by Medical Professionals: A Study of Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) Libraries in Delhi." *Library Herald* 50.4 (2012): 348-52.
3. Bhat, Iqbal and Mudhol, Mahesh V. "Use of E-resources by Faculty Members and Students of Sher-E-Kashmir Institute of Medical Science (SKIMS)." *DESIDOC Journal of Library & Information Technology* 34.1(2014):28-34.
4. Thanuskodi, S. "Use of Internet and Electronic Resources for Medical Science Information: A Case Study." *J Communication* 1.1 (2010): 37-44.
5. Velmurugan, V. Senthur and Amudha G. "Use of Electronic Resources by the Faculty Members with Special Reference to Kamarajar College of Engineering and Technology, Tamilnadu." *ARNP Journal of Science and Technology* 2.9 (2012): 856-60.
6. Kumar, Shailendra & Singh, Manisha. "Access and use of electronic information resources by scientists of National Physical Laboratory in India: A case study." *Singapore Journal of Library & Information Management* 40 (2011):33-49.

