Use of ICT on Resources and Services by the Faculty Members of Sri Vidyanekethan Engineering College Chittoor District, Andhra Pradesh: A Study

Lakshmipathi Lokachari
Research Scholar
Annamalai University
Tamil Nadu.
e-mail: lakshmipathi.svu@gmail.com

Prof. R. Ponnudurai
Research Supervisor
Annamalai University
Tamil Nadu.

ABSTRACT

This paper aims at analyzing use of ICT based resources and services by the faculty members and PG students of Arts and Science colleges. From the study the investigator is able to find out that most of the faculty members and PG students prepare E-Journals as the first source of information for keeping up to date information and study purpose. This study reveals that the majority of the faculty members and PG students are using ICT based resources more than 1 hour.

Key words: ICT based resources and services, faculty Members, Sri Vidyanekethan Engineering College.

Introduction

Academic system largely relies on teaching, learning and research. Eternally, education depends on ICT based resources and services. These resources are the driving forces for making an educated society. The educated society can exist only when information is stored, shared and utilized properly. In an academic arrangement, both 'education' and 'library' are inseparable – indivisible concepts, working for the promotion and evolution of teaching, learning and research for greater use of academia.

The academic library environment is in a state of transition in terms of resources and users; many information sources, once available only in print, are now available in print, CD-ROM, online and other sources; other sources may only be available in electronic form (Abels et al., 1996). The observed transition is apparently necessitated by the emergence of the modern information and communication technology (ICT) and its unprecedented impacts on the provision of library services.

Therefore, the use of information technology (computers, telecommunication, reprography, etc.) has a special role in the modernization of library practices. Hence, with ICT, such things as electronic cataloguing, electronic online public access catalogues (OPACs), electronic acquisition and serials control, electronic circulation functions, electronic distribution of

commercial publications, electronic availability of raw data, multimedia information delivery systems, digitized collections and online textbooks are all now practicable with a higher degree of user satisfaction (Ajayi, 2002; Abels et al., 1996). The importance of CD-ROM as a medium of providing information to researchers and scholars is obvious. One advantage of CD-ROMs is that most of them have search software with networking capabilities that can allow access to more than one library users. Similarly, the availability of e-mail and internet facilities in academic libraries offers a wide range of access to information globally without geographical barrier and timely too. The panacea to this problem lies in effective adoption of ICT in academic libraries.

Information and Communication Technology

The technophiles' view is that the Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) herald the arrival of a new information era and it is the key factor for social change. The technophobes view the advances in ICT as new and sophisticated tools that would further the industrial imperialism. In spite of these opposing views, it is a fact that ICT have been contributing to a significant part of the economy of many developing nations. This is substantiated by the actions of almost every Third World country in treating ICT as a high priority sector in their economic planning. ICT is seen to play an important role in political, socio-economic, and cultural globalization process.

Review of Related Literature

Review of related literature is conducted to enable the researcher to get a clear understanding about the specific field of study. It also helps the researcher to have an insight into the tested methods, procedures and interpretations of similar studies conducted elsewhere. Considerable amount of literature is available regarding application of Information Communication Technology (ICT) in libraries, professional development and continuing education needs of library professionals. But studies are relatively few regarding the impact of ICT on professional development and educational needs of library professionals. There are many studies on the impact of ICT. This review presents some of studies on ICT in libraries.

Singh, Krishna and Jaiswal (2014) examined the use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) based resources and services and its impact on users. The study was performed via a questionnaire survey of the library users. They also determined the satisfaction level of users regarding online services, favorite search engine and problems faced by the users in using the ICT in libraries. Users proposed a variety of measures of formal orientation and training in ICT based resources and services to become more effective users.

Mohamed Haneefa and Shukoor (2010) report the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) literacy among the library professionals of Calicut University. The study includes only the library professionals in the central library and departmental libraries of Calicut University. A structured questionnaire was used to collect data. The study reveals that the Professional Assistants are more ICT proficient in ICT skills than the Junior Librarians and Assistant Librarians. The use of ICT-based resources and services, library automation software, and general purpose application software is high among the junior professionals than the senior library staff. The use of digital library and institutional repository software is very low among the library professionals. Majority of the professionals had confidence in routine ICT and Internet tasks, and need training or orientation in library automation, digital library and institutional repository software.

Objectives of the study

The following are the important objectives of the present study.
1. To find out respondents' frequency, purpose of visiting library and purpose of seeking information.
2. To analyze the awareness of ICT based resources and services among the Faculty members
3. To study the times spend by the faculty members and PG students of Arts and Science colleges for accessing ICT based resources and services.
4. To study the purpose of using ICT based resources and services.
5. To analyze the usefulness of ICT based resources and services.
6. To study respondents' opinion on frequency, type of equipment and facilities of ICT available among the libraries.

Methodology

The pertinent data has been collected from the Faculty members by the questionnaire method. The respondents were encouraged to give free and frank information. The respondents extended their full cooperation in the data collection. The investigator could collect questionnaire from only 237 out of 300 respondents among whom the questionnaire were distributed. This constitutes 79% (237/300) of the total response. The data were analyzed and inferences were made based on standard statistical methods.

Analysis and Interpretation

The collected data is analyzed and interpreted under various headings.

Table-I Distribution of respondents on the basis of Gender

S.No.	Gender wise	Respondents	Percentage
1.	Male	142	59.92
2.	Female	95	40.08
	Total	237	100

Analysis of respondents shows that (59.92%) of them are male students and (40.08%) of them are female students out of 237 respondents.

Table –II Respondents Awareness of ICT Based Resources and Services

S.No.	Place	Respondents	Percentage
1.	E-journals	196	82.70
2.	E-books	172	72.57
3.	CD-ROM Databases	153	64.55
4.	E-reference sources	184	77.63
5.	Online databases	166	70.04
6.	OPAC	148	62.44
Multiple response			

Table II reveals the awareness of ICT based resources and services among the users of faculty. There were nine kinds of ICT based resources were specified in the questionnaire. The analysis shows that the majority of ICT based resources, of which faculty members were aware, were e-journals (82.70%), e-reference sources (77.63%), e-books (72.57%), online databases (70.04%) and OPAC (62.44%).

Table-III Frequency of using ICT based resources and services.

S.No.	Frequency	Respondents	Percentage
1.	Daily	51	21.51
2.	Once in a week	95	40.08
3.	Twice in a week	43	18.14
4.	Once in a fortnight	48	20.25
	Total	237	100

It is evident from the table-III that a high percentage of faculty (40.08%) using e-resources once in week. followed by daily(21.51%), once in a fortnight (20.25%) and the remaining twice in a week (18.14%). Hence it can be conclude that a high percentage of the respondents using e-resources once in a week.

Table-IV Time spent in accessing ICTbased resources and services.

S.No.	Time spend	Respondents	Percentage
1.	Less than one hour	48	20.25
2.	One hour	82	34.59
3.	More than one hour	73	30.80
4.	More than Two hours	34	14.34
	Total	237	100

A study in Table VI indicates distribution of respondents time spend in accessing ICT based resources and services. It could be noted that out of 237 respondents, 20.25 % of them spend less than one hour per day, 34.59 % of them spend one hour per day, 30.80 % of them spend more than one hour per day, and 14.34 % of them spend more than two hours per day.

Table-Vpurpose of using ICT based resources and services

S. No.	Purpose	Respondents	Percentage
1.	Study	56	23.62
2.	Research	32	13.50
3.	Publishing Articles and books	30	12.65
4.	Update information	42	17.72
5.	Professional development	46	19.41
6.	Entertainment	17	7.17
7.	Chatting	14	5.90
	Total	237	100

Table V depicts respondents purpose of using ICT based resources and services. Out of the total number of 237 respondents, 56 (23.62%) respondents are using ICT based resources for their study purpose, 32(13.50%) respondents are using ICT based resources for their research work,30(12.65%) respondents are using ICT based resources for writing articles and books, 42(17.72%) respondents are using ICT based resources for keeping up-to-date information, 46(19.41%) respondents are using ICT based resources for finding relevant information and

professional development, 17(7.17%) respondents are using ICT based resources for their entertainment, 14(5.90%) respondents are using ICT based resources for chatting.

Table-VI Frequently used   ICT based resources and services

S. No.	ICT Resources	Respondents	Percentage
1.	E-Books	23	9.70
2.	E-journals	47	19.83
3.	E-Reference Sources	42	17.72
4.	Online Databases	44	18.56
5.	CD-ROM databases	26	10.97
6.	E-mail	34	14.34
7.	Any others	21	8.86
	Total	237	100

Table VI shows the category wise distribution of respondents frequently used ICT based sources and services. Out of 237 respondents from, 23 (9.70%) respondents use e-book, 47(19.83%) respondents use e-journals, 42 (17.72%) respondents use e-reference sources, 44(18.56%) respondents use online databases, 26 (10.97%) respondents use CD-ROM databases, 34(14.34%) respondents use-mail, and 21 (8.86%) use any other sources.

Figure-1 Level of Satisfaction ICT based resources and services
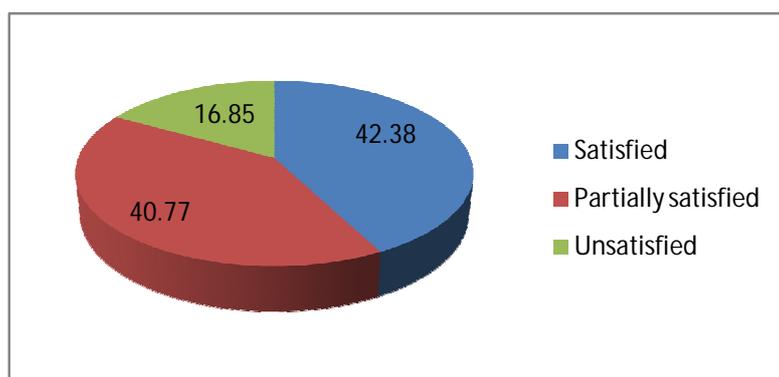

Figure- shows a high percentage of the respondents (42.38%) are satisfied with e-resources. It is evident from the figure that (40.77%) of them are partially satisfied with e-resources and (16.85%) of them are dissatisfied.

Table-VII problems faced using ICT based resources and services

S. No.	Problems	respondents	Percentage
1.	Speed of internet	82	34.59
2.	Download/saving	45	18.98
3.	Network problem	52	21.94
4.	uncomfortable furniture	22	9.28
5.	Limited access permissions	36	15.19
	Total	237	100

Table-VII shows that a high percentage of respondents 82(34.59%) are facing problem of speed of internet, 52(21.94%)of them network problems, 45(18.98%) download/saving, 36(15.19%) limited access permissions and the remaining 22(9.28%) uncomfortable furniture.

Suggestions

- The library should take some steps for enhancing the speed of internet and More ICT services should be provided.
- The faculty members should refer to more electronic journals for getting the latest information
- The faculty members and the students try to avoid printed version of books because these may be out –dated.
- Lastly, adequate fund should be provide from the concerned authorities to improve ICT services.
- For smooth management of libraries proper rules and regulations should be formulated as soon as possible and standards should be maintained.
- Provide electronic resources like e-journals, bibliographic databases, full-text databases, CD-ROM databases, multimedia databases, and access to web-based resources, etc.
- An arrangement should be made for regular ICT awareness program to all the departments/institutions so that every user will be able to take the advantages of ICT services.
- More e-journals should be provided and the full text of the documents should be made available to the users.

Conclusion

From the above study, it is revealed that all the faculty member use of ICT based resources and service among the user of Sri Vidyanekethan engineering College in Chittoor District. ICT can be useful for learners of all kinds, because of the resources available on the internet, applications that make it possible to explore subjects and the possibilities of networking among learners and teachers. Training in ICT needs to be imported to both students and the faculty members of Sri Vidyanekethan engineering College. The ICT based resources and services are now considered as most vital part of the library resources. The library professional should be always up to date to copy up with the study increase in information resources and services. From this study it is formed that, majority of the respondents have excellent awareness of the ICT based resources. Among the 237 total respondents of them accessing ICT based resources by daily. Respondents have used ICT based resources for their research purpose. Respondents spend less than one hour per day. The results of the study indicate that the ICT facilities in the library are being well used by the students and faculty members.

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