Utilization of Online Information Resources and Services in Engineering College Students in Nellore District: A Study

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ABSTRACT: *This research has been undertaken to identify and document how the resources and services of libraries are being utilized by the students of Audhisankara engineering college library in Nellore. This study investigates the use of information resources and services available in the library by the Engineering students in Nellore. For the present study a well structured questionnaire has been formulated and distributed among the students in Nellore, Andhra Pradesh in order to ascertain the frequency of visit to the library, frequency of use of printed information resources, use of library services, frequency of use of electronic information resources, level of satisfaction towards utilization of library resources and role of library in promoting the use of information resources. The outcome and suggestions of the study would be beneficial to take appropriate measures to improve information resources and services.*

Keywords: Online Information resources, Online Information services, Engineering Colleges, Students.

Introduction

Now day's information resources are the important services of library and information center. Online Information Resources is one of the emerging trends in libraries and information systems. The competitive services, dissertations, databases and CD-ROMs, are likely to be the alternative to the print media. The familiarity and use of electronic information resources in the libraries are at rapid developing at e-resource environment in the libraries.

Online Information resources play a significant role in academic libraries as they are mostly tuned for the promotion of academic excellence and research. Therefore e-information is a key element for any research and development work. In recent years academic users have become more dependent to their research needs. Most of the Universities and colleges are providing pin pointed electronic information to their users. E-journals and online journals become mandatory in these institutions of digital resources.

METHODOLOGY

The study used random sampling technique to select 1000 students from Engineering colleges. The structured questionnaire is used for gathering information about some important factors associated with the utilization of library resources and services. The researchers personally went to distribute the copies of questionnaire to all the respondents in colleges under study. Two hundred copies of questionnaire were distributed to the students. The total of 400 copies was returned.

OBJECTIVES

The study based on the following objectives.
- To examine the purpose of use of library resources by the students.
- To identify various information sources and services available at the Engineering college library.
- To know the usefulness of information resources and services of the library.
- To know the level of satisfaction towards utilization of library resources by the students and research scholars.
- To find the use of various search engines.
- To identify the problems faced by the respondents while accessing the e-resources.

Analyses& Interpretation of data:

1. **Automated Services Provided by the Institute Library**

Table .1

Opinion	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Worst	17	4.3	4.3	4.3
Poor	64	16.0	16.0	20.3
Average	111	27.8	27.8	48.0
Good	157	39.3	39.3	87.3
Excellent	51	12.8	12.8	100.0
Total	**400**	**100.0**	**100.0**	

Data Sources: *Filed Survey*

From the above table 4.1 reveals that out of 400 sample respondents the majority 157(39.3%) of the respondents are feeling good followed by 111(27.8%) of respondents are feeling average about automated services provided by the institute library where as 64(16.0%) of the respondents are feeling poor followed by 51(12.8%) of the respondents are feeling excellent and 17(4.3%) of the respondents are feeling worst about automated services provided by the institute library.

Hence, it can be conclude that the majority 157(39.3%) of the respondents are feeling good about automated services provided by the institute library.

2. CDs/DVDs Collection Availability

Table .2

Opinion		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Worst	15	3.8	3.8	3.8
	Poor	71	17.8	17.8	21.5
	Average	117	29.3	29.3	50.8
	Good	144	36.0	36.0	86.8
	Excellent	53	13.3	13.3	100.0
	Total	400	100.0	100.0	

Data Sources: *Filed Survey*

From the above table 4.2 reveals that out of 400 sample respondents the majority 144(36.0%) of the respondents are feeling good followed by 117(29.3%) of respondents are feeling average about CDs/DVD Collections available in the institute library where as 71(17.8%) of the respondents are feeling poor followed by 53(13.3%) of the respondents are feeling excellent and 15(3.8%) of the respondents are feeling worst about CDs/DVDs collection available in the institute library. Hence, it can be conclude that the majority 144(36.0%) of the respondents are feeling good about CDs/DVDs collection available in the institute library.

3. E-Book facility

Table .3

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Worst	20	5.0	5.0	5.0
	Poor	78	19.5	19.5	24.5
	Average	117	29.3	29.3	53.8
	Good	132	33.0	33.0	86.8
	Excellent	53	13.3	13.3	100.0
	Total	400	100.0	100.0	

Data Sources: *Filed Survey*

From the above table 4.3 reveals that out of 400 sample respondents the majority 132(33.0%) of the respondents are feeling good followed by 117(29.3%) of respondents are feeling average about E-Book facilities available in the institute library where as 78(19.5%) of the respondents are feeling poor followed by 53(13.3%) of the respondents are feeling excellent and 20(5.0%) of the respondents are feeling worst about E-Book facilities available in the institute library. Hence, it can be conclude that the majority 132(33.0%) of the respondents are feeling good about   E-Book facilities available in the institute library.

4. E- journals facility

Table .4

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Worst	21	5.3	5.3	5.3
	Poor	79	19.8	19.8	25.0
	Average	119	29.8	29.8	54.8
	Good	131	32.8	32.8	87.5
	Excellent	50	12.5	12.5	100.0
	Total	400	100.0	100.0	

Data Sources: *Filed Survey*

From the above table 4.4 reveals that out of 400 sample respondents the majority 131(32.8%) of the respondents are feeling good followed by 119(29.8%) of respondents are feeling average about E-journals facilities provided by the institute library where as 79(19.8%) of the respondents are feeling poor followed by 50(12.5%) of the respondents are feeling excellent and 21(5.3%) of the respondents are feeling worst about E- journals facilities provided in the institute library. Hence, it can be conclude that the majority 131(32.8%) of the respondents are feeling good about E-journals facilities provided in the institute library.

5. E-Data base facility

Tables .5

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Worst	19	4.8	4.8	4.8
	Poor	74	18.5	18.5	23.3
	Average	118	29.5	29.5	52.8
	Good	140	35.0	35.0	87.8
	Excellent	49	12.3	12.3	100.0
	Total	400	100.0	100.0	

Data Sources: *Filed Survey*

From the above table 4.5 reveals that out of 400 sample respondents the majority 140(35.0%) of the respondents are feeling good followed by 118(29.5%) of respondents are feeling average about E-Data base facilities provided by the institute library where as 74(18.5%) of the respondents are feeling poor followed by 49(12.3%) of the respondents are feeling excellent and 19(4.8%) of the respondents are feeling worst about E-Data base facilities provided by the institute library. Hence, it can be conclude that the majority 140(35.0%) of the respondents are feeling good about E-Data base facilities provided by the institute library.

6. OPAC (online public Access Catalog)

Table .6

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Worst	20	5.0	5.0	5.0
	Poor	76	19.0	19.0	24.0
	Average	116	29.0	29.0	53.0
	Good	134	33.5	33.5	86.5
	Excellent	54	13.5	13.5	100.0
	Total	400	100.0	100.0	

Data Sources: *Filed Survey*

From the above table 4.6 reveals that out of 400 sample respondents the majority 134(33.5%) of the respondents are feeling good followed by 116(29.0%) of respondents are feeling average about OPAC (online public Access Catalog) provided by the institute library where as 76(19.0%) of the respondents are feeling poor followed by 54(13.5%) of the respondents are feeling excellent and 20(5.0%) of the respondents are feeling worst about OPAC (online public Access Catalog)provided by the institute library. Hence, it can be conclude that the majority 134(33.5%) of the respondents are feeling good about OPAC (online public Access Catalog) provided by the institute library.

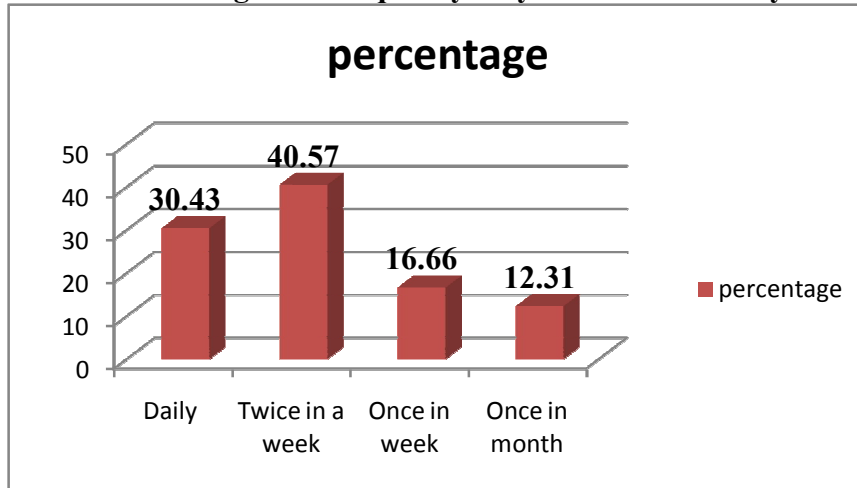**Figure-1 frequency do you visit the library**

Figure-1 shows that, majority of the student (40.57%), using e-resources at twice in a week, and (30.43%) respondents daily visiting the library. (16.66%) respondents once in a week, (12.31%) once in a month library visit. Hence, it can be conclude that majority number of the students visiting library twice in a week.

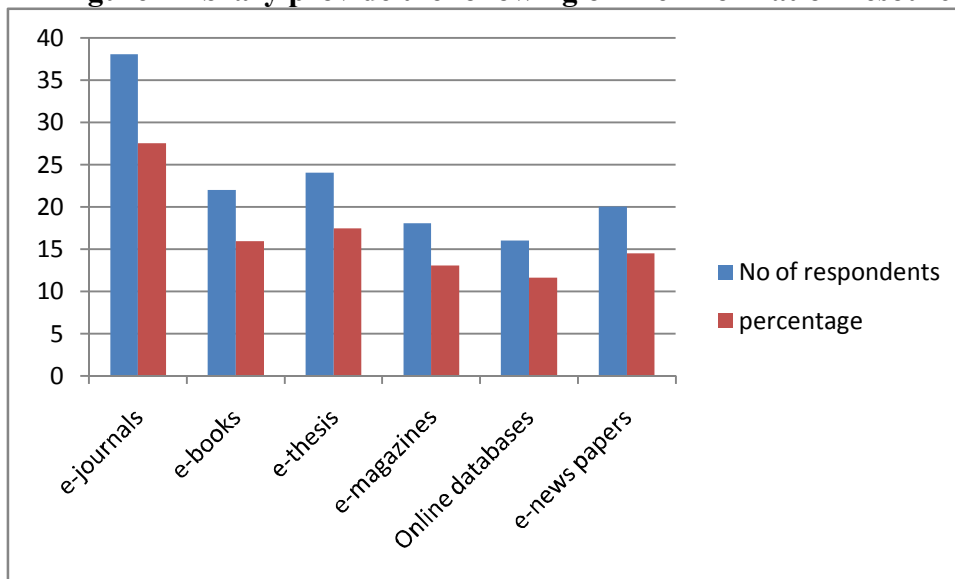**Figure-2 library provide the following online information resources**

Figure-2 show that the majority of 38 (27.53%) prefer to use e-journals. Second highest preferred is 24 (17.39%) e-thesis and use of e-books 22 (15.94%). 16 (11.59%) e-magazines are low of the available of e-resources. Hence it can be conducted that majority of the e-journals are available in the library e-resources.

FINDINGS: The findings of the study are summarized as follows.

- Majority 157(39.3%) of the respondents are feeling good about automated services provided by the institute library.
- the majority 144(36.0%) of the respondents are feeling good about CDs/DVDs collection available in the institute library

- The majority 132(33.0%) of the respondents are feeling good about E-Book facilities available in the institute library.
- The majority 131(32.8%) of the respondents are feeling good about E-journals facilities provided in the institute library.
- The majority 140(35.0%) of the respondents are feeling good about E-Data base facilities provided by the institute library.
- The majority 134(33.5%) of the respondents are feeling good about OPAC (online public Access Catalog) provided by the institute library.

SUGGESTIONS:

The usages of e-resources by the users, some suggestion have been made as follows.
- Development of infrastructure facility for accessing e-resources by the users.
- Adequate training programme of users for proper use of e-resources.
- Negotiation with the publishers regarding the speed of the host website.

CONCLUSION:

Electronic resources are popular and extensively used. Electronic resources represent a significant and growing part of an academic and research environment Libraries offer away to identify the acceptance of e-resources, usefulness, advantages and obstacles encountered while accessing e-resources. Electronic journals are real mechanisms for democratization of knowledge and information. They are more dynamic and interactive.

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