

Why Should Higher Education Institutions Use the N-List?

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Abstract - *If you want to research the present era, you have to deal with big books. You have to buy these books either in the shop or searching in different libraries. This leads to feeling of frustration in the minds of researchers, and it wastes a lot of time, money and energy. The reason for this situation is the use of widely E-Sources information tools. These tools provide the information you need, at a low cost, low time, and low energy. Also, Research work helps to simplify. The concept of N-List has been developed to accelerate the research work. Research articles, journals, books, etc. are available electronically through the N-LIST. You can also read and store electronic information in the N-List. This article aims to create awareness among researchers, students & also higher education institutes about why should use the N-LIST. We have to conclude by collecting and evaluating online information.*

Keyword: N-List, Inflibnet, E-Resources, Research, Education, Institute/College, Libraries, etc.

1. Introduction:

Continuously life is changing drastically, every day human beings are constantly searching for something new to prove themselves. E.g. human beings are planning to revolutionize the field of sciences, robotics, electronics, computing, IT, banking. For any field of research to be undertaken, it is necessary to have either foreknowledge or to have sufficient knowledge of the area in which you wish to conduct your research. Information for research is not readily available, for which various books, manuscripts, printed /non printed material, etc., you have to scroll through various libraries or bookstores to find useful information by scrutinizing such sources. This research work wastes a lot of time, money, and manpower, and does not always guarantee success this may cause the research work to fail.

A new online database has been created with the aim of helping the research work in India. That is called the N-List. The N-list is a part of the online database, run by INFLIBNET. It contains electronic information resources such as Research Articles, E-Journals, E-Books, Literature, etc., of experts from various fields.

Arora, J., Rai, A. K., Pradhan, D. R. & Trivedi, K. J. (2010). The full name of the N-list is "National Library and Information Services Infrastructure for Scholarly Content". N-List

being jointly executed by the UGC-INFONET Digital Library Consortium, INFLIBNET Centre and the INDEST-AICTE Consortium, which was established on 4 May 2010 in New Delhi in India. IIT Delhi provides for i) cross-subscription to e-resources subscribed by the two Consortia, i.e. subscription to INDEST-AICTE resources for universities and UGCINFONET resources for technical institutions; and ii) access to selected e-resources to colleges. The N-LIST project provides access to e-resources to students, researchers and faculty from colleges and other beneficiary institutions through server(s) installed at the INFLIBNET Centre. The authorized users from colleges can now access e-resources and download articles required by them directly from the publisher's website once they are duly authenticated as authorized users through servers deployed at the INFLIBNET Centre. The project has four distinct components, i.e. i) to subscribe and provide access to selected UGC-INFONET e-resources to technical institutions (IITs, IISc, IISERs and NITs) and monitor its usage; ii) to subscribe and provide access to selected INDEST e-resources to selected universities and monitor its usage; iii) to subscribe and provide access to selected e-resources to 6,000 Govt./ Govt.-aided colleges and monitor its usage; and iv) to act as a Monitoring Agency for colleges and evaluate, promote, impart training and monitor all activities involved in the process of providing effective and efficient access to e-resources to colleges.

The INDEST and UGC-INFONET are jointly responsible for activity listed at i) and ii) above. The INFLIBNET Centre, Ahmadabad is responsible for activities listed at iii) and iv) above. The INFLIBNET Centre is also responsible for developing and deploying appropriate software tools and techniques for authenticating authorized users.

2. Objectives:

1. To study the current status of N-List.
2. To study what is the function of the N-List and how to use it.
3. Find out which E-Sources are available in the N-list.
4. Find out what is the advantages and disadvantages of N-List.
5. Find out the reasons why to use the N-list.

3. Purpose of Research:

The purpose of the Research article presented is to ensure that readers are not deprived of any information in the information era and to raise awareness among the readers about what sources are available. Also to convince the readers of the importance of e-sources of information.

4. Methodology:

Methodology: This study is designed to create awareness about the use of N-List. Information is collected and evaluated online from articles, journals, websites, etc.

5. Status of -List:

There are currently 6019 colleges registered in the N-list. It also includes Government /Government Aided colleges that are under the UGC's 12B/2F act. Out of the registered colleges, 3326 Government / Government Aided / Non-Aided colleges have taken ID and password to use N-List. (<http://nlist.inflibnet.ac.in/register.php>).

The following table shows the number of state-wise registered colleges.

Table No. 1
Number of registered institute/Colleges in the N-list (State wise).

Sr. No	State	Registered	Access Enabled
1	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	4	1
2	Andhra Pradesh	278	173
3	Arunachal Pradesh	8	5
4	Assam	202	155
5	Bihar	135	55
6	Chandigarh	16	14
7	Chhattisgarh	127	50
8	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	3	2
9	Daman and Diu	1	0
10	Delhi	71	44
11	Goa	32	27
12	Gujarat	577	212
13	Haryana	109	63
14	Himachal Pradesh	77	24
15	Jammu and Kashmir	69	37
16	Jharkhand	43	19
17	Karnataka	751	354
18	Kerala	349	179
19	Madhya Pradesh	220	105
20	Maharashtra	1221	794
21	Manipur	39	11
22	Meghalaya	33	20
23	Mizoram	21	12
24	Nagaland	27	20
25	New Delhi	1	1
26	Orissa	96	38
27	Pondicherry	62	7
28	Punjab	177	98
29	Rajasthan	239	23
30	Sikkim	4	2
31	Tamil Nadu	421	271
32	Telangana	129	65
33	Tripura	28	9
34	Uttar Pradesh	244	113
35	Uttarakhand	35	15
36	West Bengal	370	307
Total		6219	3325

Source <<http://nlist.inflibnet.ac.in/statelist.php>>

6. E-Sources Collection in N-List:**6. 1. E-Journals:****Table No. 2 E-Journals Databases**

Sr. No	E-Journals (Full text)	Publication Country	No. of Collection
1	American Institute of Physics	USA	18
2	Annual Reviews	USA	33
3	Economic and Political Weekly (EPW)	INDIA	1
4	Indian Journals	INDIA	180+
5	Institute of Physics	UK	46
6	JSTOR	USA	2500+
7	Oxford University Press	UK	206
8	Royal Society of Chemistry	UK	29
9	H. W. Wilson	USA	3000+
10	Cambridge University Press. [2010-2016]	UK	224+
	Total Collection of E-Journals	Total	6237+

Source: <http://nlist.inflibnet.ac.in/eresource.php>

6. 2. E-Books:**Table No. 3 E-Books Sources**

Sr. No	E-Books	No. of Collection
1	Cambridge Books Online	1800
2	E-brary	125000+
3	EBSCoHost-Net Library	936
4	Hindustan Book Agency	65+
5	Institute of South East Asian Studies(ISEAS) Books	382+
6	Oxford Scholarship	1402+
7	Springer eBooks	2300
8	Sage Publication eBooks	1000
9	Taylor Francis eBooks	1800
10	My library-McGraw Hill	1124
11	World -EBooks Library	3000000
	Total Collection of E-Books	3135809+

Source: <http://nlist.inflibnet.ac.in/eresource.php>

6. 3. Bibliographic Database:

The N-List includes the database MathSciNet. Electronic version of Mathematical Reviews is the most important component of MathSciNet. Mathematical Reviews is a reviewing journal of international mathematics literature. The MathSciNet contains signed reviews and bibliographic data from the first issue in January 1940 to the present. Journals, conference proceedings and books of mathematical research are also covered. Items listed in the annual indexes of Mathematical Reviews, but not given an individual review, are also included. MathSciNet contains over 2 million items and over 700,000 direct links to original articles. Over 80,000 new items are added each year, most of them classified according to the

Mathematics Subject Classification. Reference lists are collected and matched internally from over 300 journals, and citation data for journals, authors, articles and reviews is provided. (<http://www.ams.org/mathscinet/>)*

7. Functions of N-List:

The functions of N-list are as follows.

1. The basic function of N-List provides information to the students, researchers & professors through E-Resources at low cost, low labor and less time. So that the research work will be more effective.
2. N-List works to provide users with electronic information and also a downloading facility of online articles, E-Books, E-Journals etc. in the direct publisher sites.
3. Full text of the article in the E-Sources is available along with the bibliographic details, so that information is transferred faster.
4. N-List bibliographies refer to articles published in database journals, conference proceedings, or book chapters. Most bibliographic databases also have article summaries of their full-text links. It also gives the information briefly.
5. N-List provides college students, researchers, professors & staff the opportunity to deepen their knowledge using the e-resources through the server.
6. All Govt aided colleges covered under Section 12B/2F of UGC Act are eligible to access e-resources through the N-LIST programme. The N-list is designed to make the educational material available to the students and researchers of higher education at the government level. As well as Non-Aided colleges (except Agriculture, Engineering, Management, Medical, Pharmacy, Dentistry and Nursing) can get benefit from the N-LIST Programme by joining the programme. (<http://nlist.inflibnet.ac.in/members.php>).

8. How to Use of N-list:

Arora, J., Rai, A. K., Pradhan, D. R & Trivedi, K. J. (2010). Faculty, staff, students and researchers from colleges covered under the 12B/2F Act of the UGC are eligible to access e-resources through the N-LIST programme. Follow the steps given below in order to access e-resources through N-LIST programme:

1. Register with N-LIST: Colleges, desirous of accessing e-resources, are required to register themselves with the N-LIST Programme. Visit the N-LIST Website, register online or download Registration Form to register offline. Send list of authorized users including faculty, staff, researchers and students along with associated data in prescribed format. Please enclose a copy of 12B / 2F certificate issued by the UGC. Colleges, not covered under the 12B Act of the UGC, can join N-LIST Programme as its Associate.
2. Obtain Log-in ID and Passwords: Once registered, obtain Log-in ID and passwords for all authorized users as per the list submitted by you.
3. Visit N-LIST Web Site: Log on to <http://nlist.inflibnet.ac.in>. Enter Your Username and Password in text entry box to Login. If you do not have username and password, contact your college authorities to register with N-LIST and obtain username and password.
4. Access E-resources: Once logged-in successfully, list of e-resources subscribed under NLIST Programme is displayed. Click on the desired e-resource to access its full-text

on publisher's website. For further help in search, browse or navigate articles / book chapters through publisher's website, Click on "User Guide / Help" from navigation bar and download user manual and tutorials.

9. Advantages of N-List:

The importance of anything is understood by its advantages and disadvantages. Accordingly, we will see the benefits of N-list:

- Remote access to e-resources with User Id and password.
- Ambitious programme extending e-resources to colleges at affordable cost
- Provides multiple access of 24 hours a day and 7 days a week
- With facility for advance online publication, research papers are available online two months ahead of the print version.

(George, A., Pillai, M. G & Aparna P. R. 2014).

10. Disadvantages of N-List:

Some of the important disadvantages of the N-List are as following below:

- Absence of a printed copy of Journals
- Require training of staffs in handling electronic documents etc.
- Consortia require high initial investments in licensees and information and communication technology.
- Copyright problems
- Unreliable telecommunication links and insufficient bandwidth
- Lack of archiving and back files availability
- Internet Access ID necessary
- Users are not accepting e-journals as per with the printed Journals
- The N-list lacks known sources of knowledge in agriculture, engineering, management, medicine, pharmacy, dentistry and nursing.

(Barui, T. & Barui, S. N. 2015).

11. Why should higher education institutions use the N-List?

1. There are a large number of libraries in India, and numerous types of books, manuscripts, maps, magazines, government publications, research articles, etc. are widely available in printed form. It is difficult for readers to find all of this material in the libraries, and it takes a long time. The main reason for this is the lack of automation of libraries. Such a situation N-LIST is a boon for libraries. All of these materials are available electronically through N-LIST and they are easy to find and handle.
2. Researchers, students & professors need to be digitally literate to survive in the information era. To become digital literate you need to know about digital tools. Every nation globally is striving for this. N-List is also a part of digital India and this initiative is implemented by the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India. The N-List is designed for students, researchers, professors to discover new technologies using digital information tools and contribute to the development of you and your country.
3. Due to a lack of space in some higher education institutes libraries, it is difficult to keep printed information materials. So researchers and students are deprived of sufficient knowledge. The same material is available in the form of E-Resources through N-List and also E-Sources are cheaper than printed materials. Since the N-List

does not have space constraints, it has emerged as an effective way of getting information.

4. The N-List includes publications not only in India but also from different countries so that the world-class information will be available to the readers. These e-sources include research articles from world-renowned researchers, students, professors, as well as e-books, e-journals, bibliographic databases, etc. Including information content. Studying e-sources in the n-list reveals what the trends in the world are.
5. The N-list server works to connect many students, researchers, professors, and also no restrictions on getting information. E-Sources easy and secure to handle and users do not need special training. So N-List has become an effective information technology.
6. N-list is an ongoing process and information updated every day, so there is no limit for information. Readers can get updated information through the n-list. Higher education institutions also do not have to pay a separate fee for that.
7. E-resources are affordable for publishers and libraries. It costs more to produce printed materials so the selling price of printed material increases, for that libraries have limitations in purchasing expensive printed materials. Through e-resources, publishers can save their production costs by publishing their content in e-format and these e-resources are affordable to the libraries. N-list is a great example of e-resources.

12. Conclusion:

The research presented can conclude that E-Resources are important as well as Printed Materials. Some printed materials are more expensive than e-resources, so they are not afforded to buy and such printed materials are not available in the libraries. In this case, higher education institutions need to use the N-list. Because of the high-quality research material of National-International publications in the N-List, books, journals, databases, etc. are available in the form of e-resources. Professors, students, researchers can conduct high-quality research using the e-resources in the N-list, so higher education institutions need to use the N-List. The N-List facility is provided to higher education institutes by paying regular fees.

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