



Electronic Information Resources Awareness and Usage by Post-Graduate Students of Government Colleges in Bangalore: A Study

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Abstract: Academic Library is a heart of the institution it provides a place for students and faculty to learn and enhance their knowledge. E-learning and e-Resources are part and parcel of modern library systems. Libraries and librarians like commercial publishers were soon to feel the virtues of Web and started using it as a carrier for disseminating information resources. What distinguishes current networked resource discovery from the traditional library model is the limited, if almost non-existent, role of surrogates in the process. This study was undertaken to determine the awareness and usage pattern of the library electronic resources among Government Colleges. tried to know the level of awareness & use of e-resources among Post-Graduate students in various Government First Grade Colleges in Bangalore. Closed ended questionnaire was used to collect the data from respondents a total of 186 samples out 200 students.

Keywords: E-Resources, Awareness, N-LIST, Information Products

I.INTRODUCTION

The application of computers for information work progressed in two ways, to refine the techniques in generating printed information products and to arrive at electronic only information products. The benefits of computer application both at the pre and post-production stages for printed information resources had been manifold. This significantly reduced the time lag in production and remarkably improved the format and presentation of information in these sources. However, the vital step in the application of computer and allied technology in the information dissemination chain is the arrival of viable non-print delivery means such as online, floppy and CD-ROM databases of electronic information. Initially started for bibliographic information only, slowly with significant advances in computer and memory technology, these started to amass numeric, full text/image, and other types of information. The Internet and its dominant protocol Web demonstrated, outside the library networking and formal resource sharing channels, that large amount of electronic information can be hosted in a decentralized fashion, across the globe in a cost-effective manner. Since 1990s the Internet has changed the dissemination of information such as electronic copies of traditional paper-based journals and conference proceedings accessible through subscription or pay per view, free electronic-only referred journals, haphazard copies of all kinds of material on the home pages and a handful of electronic pre-prints archives.

2. SCOPE OF THE STUDY

To provide better services, quality information and improve collection development practices, it is essential to find out the usage and awareness of e-resources by the students. There was no such study made previously on utilization of library e-resources and awareness of available resources by the PG students of Government First Grade Colleges in Bangalore. This study is intended to understand the pattern of Awareness and Usage of Electronic Information Resources by Post-Graduate Students.

3. OBJECTIVES

The main Objectives of the studies are given below,

- To identify the Awareness levels of Electronic-resources
- To know the usage of INFLIBNET N-List Resources
- To know the different types of e-resources commonly used by respondents
- Identify the problems faced by respondents in using the electronic -resources
- To find the frequency and Places of access

4.METHODOLOGY

The Survey research pattern has been employed to collect the information directly from the students of Post-Graduate students in Government Colleges in Bangalore City. The questionnaire contained various questions pertaining to the awareness and use of electronic- resources. For this purpose of a total 200 questionnaires were distributed, among PG students. out of the 200 questionnaires distributed, 186 valid questionnaires were collected, the response rate is 93%. Based on the collected data some statistical like simple percentage and WAM were used.

5. ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF DATA

1. Table :1 Total Strength

Discipline	Total No. of Students	No. of Questionnaire distributed	Response rate (%)
Post-Graduate students	200	200	186 (93%)

This attempt is to find out the awareness and usage of Electronic Information Resources, the study population consist Students of Post-Graduate students in Government Colleges in Bangalore City. Students are chosen as survey population. The total strength of the students is 200 covering Post-Graduate students.

Table 2: Distribution of Questionnaire with Gender

Gender	Frequency (N)	Percentage
Male	102	51%
Female	98	49%
Total	200	100%

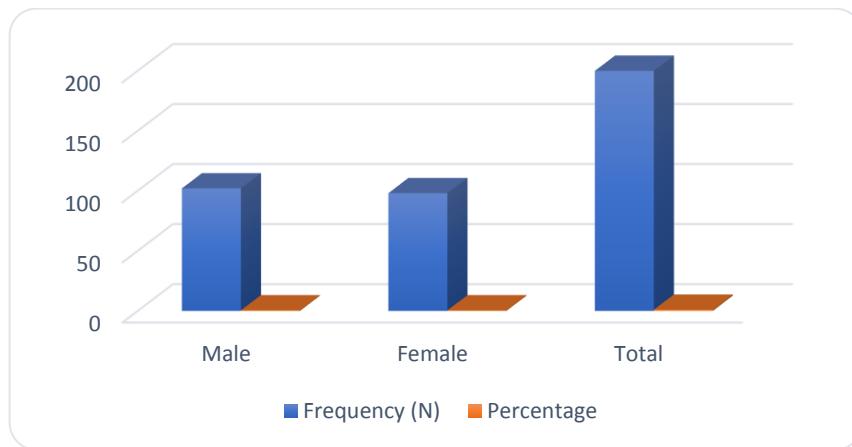


Fig.1

The study population comprises of students studying in Post-Graduation students in Government degree colleges at Bangalore. The analysis of data by gender indicates that fifty-one (51%; N=102) are male and forty nine percent (49%; N=98) are female (Vide Table 2 & Fig.1)

Table 3: Place to Access Electronic Resources

Particulars	Yes	Percentage	No	Percentage
At home	42	21%	158	79%
At college library	181	90.5%	19	9.5%
At department	92	46%	108	54%
At cyber cafe	27	13.5%	173	86.5%
Through Smart Phone	136	68%	64	32%

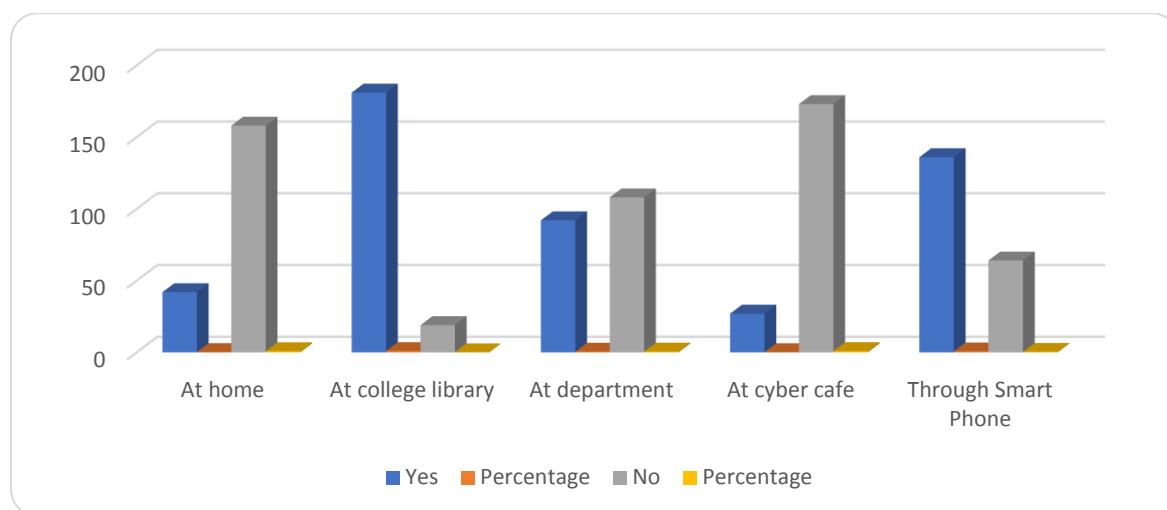

Fig.2

Table 3 & Fig 2 reveals that majority of Students expressed they do not access e-resources at home & Cybercafé but they do access e-resources through college library 181 (90.5%) followed by Smart Phones 136 (68%) and Department 92 (46%).

Table 4: Place to access UGC-INFLIBNET N-LIST Consortium

Particulars	Yes	Percentage	No	Percentage
At home	07	3.5%	193	96.5%
At college library	195	97.5%	5	2.5%
At department	27	13.5%	173	86.5%
At cyber cafe	00	0%	200	200%
Through Smart Phone	157	78.5%	43	21.5%

The above table shows that none of the students do not access UGC-INFLIBNET N-LIST consortium at cyber cafes. Majority of students expressed they do access e-resources at college library 195 (97.5%) followed by Smart Phones 157 (78.5%) and at department 27 (13.5%) respectively.

Table 5: Place to access to Internet:

Particulars	Yes	Percentage	No	Percentage
At home	122	61%	78	39%
At college library	141	70.5%	59	29.5%
At department	29	14.5%	171	85.5%
At cyber cafe	37	18.5%	163	81.5%
Through Smart Phone	188	94%	12	06%

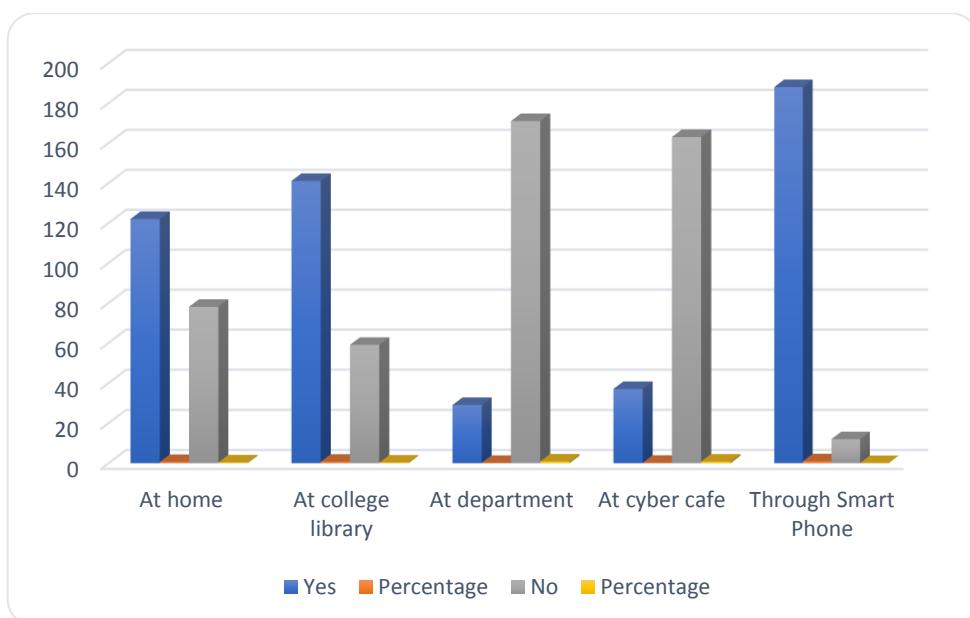

Fig.3

Table 5 and Fig.3 shows that three fourth of the study population do not access Internet at cyber cafes. The above numbers show that a large majority of students have access to Internet through Smart phones 188 (94%) followed by at the college library 141 (70.5%), at home 122 (61%) and department 29 (14.5).

Table 6: Level of awareness of E-Resources

Sl.No	Resources	Levels				
		1	2	3	4	5
a)	Electronic Resources (in General)	-	-	125 (62.5%)	28 (14%)	47 (23.5%)
b)	E-Journals	86 (43%)	27 (13.5%)	08 (04%)	23 (11.5%)	56 (28%)
c)	E-Books	63 (31.5%)	31 (15.5%)	27 (13.5%)	29 (14.5%)	50 (25%)
d)	UGC-INFIBNET N-LIST Consortium	-	-	156 (78%)	44 (22%)	-
e)	Internet	-	-	-	12 (06%)	188 (94%)
f)	E-Mail	-	-	189 (94.5%)	11 (5.5%)	-

Where '1' indicates No awareness and '5' indicates high awareness.

Table 6 indicates that the level of use of e-resources has been tabulated against (i) level 1 (ii) level 2 (iii) level 3 (iv) level 4 and (v) level 5. Where level 1 indicates no awareness and level 5 indicates high awareness. From table (5) we can conclude that, students are more aware on Internet (94%) at level 5, e-mail (94.5%) at level 3, rather than e-books (28%) at level 5, e-journals (25%) at level 5 or NLIST (78%) at level 3.

Table 7: Frequency of Use of E-Resources

Resources	Every day	Twice or more times in a week	Once in a week	Once in a month	Rarely
Electronic Resources (in general)	02 (01%)	27 (13.5%)	14 (07%)	152 (76%)	05 (2.5%)
E-Journals	03 (1.5%)	06 (03%)	23 (11.5%)	146 (73%)	22 (11%)
E-Books	-	07 (3.5%)	54 (27%)	133 (66.5%)	06 (03%)

UGC-INFLIBNET N-LIST Consortium	-	-	41 (20.5%)	139 (69.5%)	20 (10%)
Internet	164 (82%)	13 (6.5%)	09 (4.5%)	14 (07%)	-
E-Mail	32 (16%)	83 (41.5%)	58 (29%)	26 (13%)	01 (0.5%)

Table 7 reveals that the frequency of use of e-resources has been tabulated against (i) everyday (ii) twice or more time in a week (iii) once in a week (iv) once in a month (v) rarely. The frequency has been calculated for each type of e-resources like e-journals, e-books, UGC-INFLIBNET N-LIST consortium, etc. Majority of the students access electronic-resources are used by once in a month e-journals, e-books, UGC-INFLIBNET N-LIST Consortium are used by once in a month by 73%, 66.5%, 69.5%, 93.5% respectively, Internet is used by everyday by 82%; E-mail is used by Twice or more times in a week by 41.5% and discussion forum / mailing list is used by once in a month by 94.5%.

Table-8 Frequency of Library Staff Support

Sl.No	Resources	Not at all	To a little extent	To some extent	To a greater extent	To full extent
a)	Assist and help in locating information on the Internet	02 (01%)	53 (26.5%)	49 (24.5%)	96 (48%)	-
b)	Train us using computers and Internet	28 (14%)	23 (11.5%)	51 (25.5%)	98 (49%)	-
c)	Made us aware about e-resources available on UGC-INFLIBNET NLIST Consortium	05 (2.5%)	38 (19%)	97 (48.5%)	36 (18%)	24 (12%)
d)	They are well trained in using electronic environment	02 (01%)	17 (8.5%)	137 (68.5%)	37 (18.5%)	07 (3.5%)
e)	They are co-operative and supportive nature	25 (12.5%)	54 (27%)	73 (36.5%)	40 (20%)	08 (04%)

Table 8 clearly indicates the level of frequency of library staff support has been tabulated against (i) not at all (ii) to a little extent (iii) to some extent (iv) to a greater extent (v) to full extent where level not at all indicate no support from library staff and to full extent support from library support. Here, in this section the support of library staff is almost too some extent (on an average is 50%) and to a greater extent (on an average is 40%).

6.CONCLUSION

Like building collection, and providing services, improving access to information should be the guiding criteria for libraries in the electronic era. We have to design new set of parameters to judge up on operational efficiency and performance effectiveness of libraries. The traditional libraries boasted that they attracted a lot of users to stay inside their premises for comparatively longer times whereas a modern librarian will be concerned more about carrying information to users' desktops. No library how rich its budget allocation and collection may be is in a position to satisfy all users demands. As a person well versed in the intricacies of the merging information market, he is frank enough to admit that information needs of all users are not to be met by the library alone. Collaboration with other libraries through consortia or networks increases the quantum of resources available for users, and will be regarded as indications of mature thinking than as weakness. Most of our libraries spent a lot of public money for information needs of a small percentage of the population and optimizing that spending for the benefit of a large number of users is the need of the hour. Efforts are been made by library professionals to educate and provide on sight training for optimum utilization e-resources to the users on government degree colleges in Bangalore city. Effort be made by librarian and educate and provide on hand training for optimum use of e-resource to the study of government degree colleges in Bangalore. Whether users have lost interest in our services or are they bypassing us are crucial questions to be studied from library and user perspectives and to be deliberated in professional forms and user-library meets. Maybe we are going through a passing phase and this is the right time to have a close introspection and critical look at our collections and services in the light of complex user needs, hazy use patterns, and ever-increasing spread of internet and electronic information.

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AUTHOR PROFILE

Dr. Jayamma K V, received the Master's in Library and Information Science degree in Bangalore University in 1996 and 1997, respectively, she was trained from Indian Institute of Management (IIMB), Bangalore as an Apprentice, started her carrier as a Chief Librarian in the Acharya Group of Institutions, Bangalore from 1998-2008 at present she is a Librarian Nrupathunga University (Government Science College) Bangalore. Awarded doctoral degree from Bharathier University in 2018 she has more than 24 years of professional experience and research interest is in the area of Library Automation. She has Published 25 papers in National and International Journals and also presented some papers in National and International conferences she is a life member of many professional associations including ILA., KALA., IALA., KGCLA., KGCTA etc.



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Dr. Shilpa S. Uplaoonkar, presently she is working in University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad as Assistant Librarian (Sr. Scale). She completed her Master of Library and Information Science (MLISc.) from Gulbarga University, Gulbarga and also has awarded with PhD. from Gulbarga University, Gulbarga. She has ten years' experience in the field of Library and Information Science. Earlier she was working at University of Horticultural Sciences, Bagalkot. She has published number of articles in National and International Journal and presented number of papers at National and International conferences.