

Research Article

A Study of How Faculty Members Access Educational E-Resources in the Libraries at Selected Madhya Pradesh Universities

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A B S T R A C T

In libraries at universities, e-resources are now essential instruments for obtaining current and up-to-date information. Because e-resource offer a large variety of material in an easily accessible format, their use in academic and research contexts is on the rise. The usage of e-resources in academic libraries was investigated in this review of the literature on the subject. It emphasizes their significance in giving academicians and researchers quick access to a wide range of materials as well as their influence on academic institutions through changes to services and resources. This review study also highlights the need for additional research on the use of e-resources, especially in identifying barriers that library user's encounter and providing solutions. The assessment also requests additional in-depth research on the management and use of electronic resources in order to better understanding the evolving needs of library users and ensure that university libraries are successfully meeting those needs. It also assert that e-resources have had a significant impact on how material is accessed, saved, and preserved in academic libraries.

Keyword: E-Resource, Utilization of E-Resources, Universities E-Resources

Introduction

A library is a place where a collection of various types of books, magazines, newspapers, manuscripts, films, maps, prints, documents, etc. books, audio, books, databases, etc. is kept. The origin of the word library is from the Latin word 'liver' which means book. A library is a social public institution that is continuously engaged in social welfare and distributes knowledge to the knowledgeable and ignorant alike. It is a service-oriented organization and an efficient means of satisfying the intellectual hunger of the people. Library and society cannot be separated from each other, the library is the cornerstone of the development of

humanity. The culture and civilization of any country remain safe in its library. Library fulfills intellectual, cultural, mental, spiritual, and practical needs. The library is the main source of the cultural movement of any country. Therefore, the library has a special place in the life of every nation. The library is an active and important part of the education system. The knowledge created over the centuries gradually gets accumulated in the library, hence it would not be an exaggeration to call the library a storehouse of stored knowledge. A huge amount of society's money is spent on the construction and development of libraries and the knowledge resources and services of libraries are used by the members of the society itself.¹

Historical Background of Libraries

Indications of the existence of an ancient library in 260 BC have been found in the Sumer Museum, in which some indications of writing in cuneiform script have been found. There are also indications of the existence of some libraries in the 5th century BC which include archives on clay tablets. The tradition of collecting texts in India is very ancient. In ancient India, book creation and preservation work took place in Bodh Bihar. Many big libraries exist in the country. Ratnodadhi and Ratrananjan, the principals of Nalanda University, were as useful as their names suggest. There was also a department of copyists in these libraries. At present the largest museum is the "Oriental Library" in Chennai city run by the Government of Tamil Nadu. It contains approximately 23000 handwritten books. Most of which are written on birch bark. Apart from this, there is Bhandakar Oriental Research Institute in Pune which has about 20,000 handwritten texts. And 14000 handwritten books exist in the Asiatic Society Library of Calcutta. Many huge libraries were established in modern India too, of which the most important one is the Calcutta Public Library established on 30 January 1903 in the 19th century.

Objectives of Library

University library is considered an important part of the higher education sector of the country. There is no limit to knowledge at the level of higher education. Therefore, whatever knowledge is created and disseminated from any corner of the globe. It is the job of university libraries to connect the professors, researchers, and students of the university intimately. The objective of the university library is to become a partner in the fulfillment of the objectives of the university. In this scenario, it becomes necessary to briefly overview the objectives of the university.

Decentralize Knowledge

To provide necessary intellectual and other types of assistance in the proper use of collected and organized material so that the propagation and dissemination of knowledge continues.

To Help Keep the Flow of Current Knowledge Always Dynamic

Discovery of knowledge is a need of the hour and after discovery, its protection and decentralization are necessary for its development. Therefore, the library helps increase world knowledge by providing necessary resources for the social development of knowledge.

Enrich the Country Economically

By making the people working in various industries and systems aware of the latest thoughts, nature, and literature on related subjects from time to time, the library infuses creative power among the concerned employees.

Protect Research Power

Conservation, proper utilization, and prosperity of research power are necessary for public welfare.

National and International Cooperation and Unity

The spirit of cooperation and goodwill, national unity, international peace, and cooperation can be successfully and easily spread among its readers through libraries.

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru

He stated the objectives of the university in the convocation ceremony held at Allahabad University in 1947. The university exists for the sake of humanism, tolerance, wisdom, courage, and the search for truth. Its goal is to make mankind move towards even higher goals. It is the credit of the nation and the people that the university should fulfill its responsibilities properly.

University Education Commission (1948-49) has written in its report clarifying the objectives of the university. Today's boys and girls are tomorrow's citizens. The main duty of the university is to educate the youth and usher in new truth.²

Contribution of Libraries to Research and Development

Research is a social need today because the ever-increasing population and its high standard of living require more and more new materials, which can be fulfilled only through new inventions. Therefore, the progress of any country depends on research. For this reason, there is competition for research work in every developed and developing country. Today every country spends a large part of its economic resources on research work. It can be said that research is the lifeblood of modern society because our economic standard of living, our culture, and our progress are all based on research. Research is a powerful effort to discover, develop, and establish knowledge. It is an intellectual activity that begins by asking questions. Through research, new knowledge is acquired, and existing knowledge is re-examined and purified to make it suitable for new circumstances. Therefore, the use of scientific methods in the management of libraries has become increasingly necessary.³

Information Communication Technology and Library

Everyone is well aware of the importance of computers. Together with communication technology, it is more useful and effective in the field of library and information science as information communication technology. A wide impact of technology in information communication can be seen in the library and its services, which can range from library automation to library networks. It can also be understood in the form of electronic libraries to digital libraries.

Traditional Libraries towards Digital Libraries

Traditional libraries still store printed material to a large extent. In a traditional library environment consisting of physical collections, it is necessary for the user that the reader come to the library and do enough to use that document. Apart from this, a physical document can be used by only one user at a time, whereas even in a fully automated library, the primary purpose of the library OPAC is to indicate the physical location of a document. Digital library eliminates the physical barriers that exist in traditional libraries. Besides, it also provides electronic communication of lists of multi-methods and their collection. In the 21st century, there was an increase in the use of the Internet, which greatly affected libraries, that is why traditional libraries are gradually moving towards digital libraries.⁴

Digital Library

Kilford, Lynch 19945 It is a method of providing explicit access to a large and organized repository of digital information and knowledge to a community of users. A digital library is not a single unit but it is a collection of resources connecting technology. Digital library collection is not limited to recording bibliographic documents. They are developing actual digital objects such as images, texts, etc. Digital libraries have become the medium of information exchange for the world's libraries and information professionals. Digital libraries are quite different from traditional libraries because in digital libraries audio, video, and multi-media materials are delivered to the readers. There is no need for paper in the digital library. Digital libraries are an attempt to bring together different perspectives and aspects from many disciplines and experts with different backgrounds. It analyzes changes taking place in publishing and libraries. Digital libraries can easily meet the needs of users and enable advanced information sharing. William, Arms systematic collection of information including associated services, where information was stored in digital form and accessible over the network.

E-Resources

For the last few decades, information has been collected by computers. The Internet web is constantly influencing the development of means of communication. The Internet is being used for retrieval and knowledge. These are very important for research work in university libraries. The reason for this importance is that digital e-resources are less expensive to transfer and more useful. Information technology has changed this format today. Today's modern libraries are not only going through an important phase but their services and technology have also changed. The traditional installation of libraries within a global physical space gave way to integrated data centers. Through

networking, the library can be fully upgraded using data sources from around the world. Krishna Singh 20047 Libraries are becoming modern to streamline technology and information in libraries. Myth 20018 the purpose of the 21st century is to bring innovation with the electronic revolution. Information technology has gifted modern mechanized patrons. Advances in technology have increased knowledge of multiple layers when considering online services and networking of information systems.⁵

The Role of Institutions at the International Level

The development of e-resources in philology began in the 1980s. E-resources, online journals, volume and abstract services, reference systems and full text studies were no longer limited to libraries but became important needs in our collection development collaborations. went. The development strategy includes e-resources in science libraries, credit management and libraries, startup libraries, music libraries and engineering libraries in African libraries. The English majority consider e-resources to be particularly useful for research. Now it is necessary to make e-resources available in other countries also. E-resources are being published internationally.

Role of E-Resources in Higher Education in India

Conservation and transmission of knowledge is happening rapidly in India. At the time of independence, the number of colleges was 500, which crossed almost 35000 in the year 2012-2013. After 2010, the Internet and electronic publishing have changed the nature of Indian education. E-resources are proving to be important for users in all university libraries (table no. 1).

Table 1.Types of Electronic Resources

Serial No.	Types of Electronic Resources
1	E-books
2	E-journals
3	E-databases
4	E-conference proceedings
5	E- reports
6	Periodical indexes
7	E-maps
8	E-pictures/photographs
9	E-manuscripts
10	E-theses
11	E-newspaper
12	Subject gateways
13	Bibliographic Databases
14	E- Dissertation
15	E- Magazine

Objectives

Study the status of the use of educational e-resources available in the libraries of various universities of Madhya Pradesh by faculties.

Hypotheses

- No meaningful association is found in the perception of problems in the use of e-resources by researchers of different universities.
- No meaningful association is found in the perception of limitations in the use of e-resources by researchers of different universities.
- No meaningful association is found in the perception of the need for help in the use of e-resources by the researchers of different universities.
- No meaningful association is found in the perception of obstacles faced by researchers of different universities in the use of e-resources.
- No meaningful association is found in the perception of satisfaction of the needs of the researchers of different universities for obtaining information from e-resources.
- Studies conducted by researchers from various universities have not found any significant association in the perception of adverse effects on habits while using e-resources.
- No meaningful association is found in the perception of satisfaction with the e-resources available in the university library among the researchers of different universities.

Operational Definitions

In the presented research study, various universities mean the centrally-run, state-run, and private universities of Madhya Pradesh. Educational e-resources are in the presented research study, e-resources mean those resources through which information about any subject can be obtained in moments, which includes e-database, e-journals, e-books, e-thesis, and e-magazines.

Educational E-resources

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Design

Considering the nature of the research, the researcher has adopted a descriptive survey method for the research work. In the presented research work, the criteria have been selected using the objective method. The following 10 different types of universities have been included in this.

The researcher has used self-made tools like checklists, questionnaires, and interview schedules to obtain

information related to educational e-resources. Qualitative and quantitative analysis of the data has been done. In which percentage and square tests have been used.

Limitations

- Centrally Run University Sagar only has been taken.
- Only the state-run universities recognized by the University Grants Commission of Madhya Pradesh State have been taken.
- Private universities include those universities whose establishment period is more than 5 years.
- In this research work, only 5 resources have been taken from the available educational e-resources. E-database, e-journal, e-books, e-thesis and e-magazines.

Works Related to E-Resources

The study focused on the awareness and ease of use of e-resources among the scientific community of an agricultural university. The findings revealed that the availability of e-resources is satisfactory on the campus but there is a lack of physical resources which hinders the needs of the readers. Another study examined gender differences in the use of e-resources in engineering institutions of a district. The findings revealed that the majority of the students consider e-resources to be useful, with ICT resources and services considered essential. There were no significant differences in the use of e-resources based on gender.

A study on the use of e-databases by users of the library of an Indian Philosophy University found that access to e-resources leads to the academic advancement of users. Most users believe that access to e-resources is easy and provides modern information, while facing difficulties in accessing information through traditional means. The study suggested that training for librarians should be arranged to help users acquire more information.

Another study examined the use of e-resources by professors and researchers at a Faculty of Agriculture in a university. The findings revealed that most male readers visit the library daily, with 67% of them accessing online information. The availability of e-resources in the university library was considered satisfactory by the researchers.

The views of librarians regarding the use of e-resources in the libraries of professional schools in an Indian state were explored. The findings showed that Internet-based resources are used more frequently than CD-ROM databases.

A study on the use of e-resources by researchers and teachers at a university revealed that the library's e-resources were able to meet their information needs. It was also noted that both teachers and researchers should be trained in how to use these resources effectively.

Another study on the need and utility of e-resources in a specific library found that researchers and teachers

widely use e-resources for their research. Most teachers were in full agreement that users should be trained to use computers, and researchers were satisfied with the availability of e-resources in the library.^{8,9}

Sample

To find the specific value of a variable in a population, its units are selected. This process of selection is called sampling. The sample represents the entire population. To estimate the yield of crops, a part of the crop is cut and observed. This part is called a sample.

- The sampling process is to select a certain percentage from a group of units according to a predetermined plan. The more robust the sample, the more accurate and reliable the results of the research will be. W. Egards 10
- A sample, as the name suggests, is a small representative of a large group. Good and Hatt 11
- "In most research, the sample is studied, not the population." It is not possible to study the entire population.

P.V. Young¹² In the research used, the researcher has collected data through a stratified random sampling method. Under this method, the researcher divides the total population into groups based on some particular quality.

For research work, libraries of 10 universities, central university, state university, and private university from of Madhya Pradesh state have been selected based on a lottery. This represents 33 percent of the population (table no. 2).

Table 2. Selected Users from Various Universities of Madhya Pradesh

S.No.	Universities	Faculty
1	Dr. Hari Singh Gour Vishwavidhyalaya – Sagar	13
2	Jiwaji University – Gwalior	14
3	Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishwavidyalaya - Jabalpur	09
4	Awadhesh Pratap Singh University – Rewa	12
5	Dharmashastra National Law University – Jabalpur	07
6	Madhya Pradesh Ayurvigyan Vishwavidyalaya – Jabalpur	07
7	Rajiv Gandhi Proudhyogiki Vishwavidyalaya – Bhopal	11
8	Madhya Pradesh Bhoj Open University – Bhopal	10
9	Lakshmibai National Institute of Physical Education – Gwalior	14
10	AKS University - Satna	08
Total		105

Research Instruments

Every type of research requires certain instruments to collect new data. These instruments are called instruments. Reliable and valid instruments are used for the success of educational research. Just as each tool in a carpenter's toolbox has a different use, similarly in every research instrument has a specific use in a particular situation. John W. West

Types of Research Instruments: - Research instruments are divided into two parts.

- Standardized instruments:- Standardized instruments are the instruments made by psychologists. Which are reliable and valid. And their standards are shown.
- Self-made instruments:- Instruments which are made by the researcher methodically according to his problem.

First of all, the researcher tried to find various types of effective instruments to know the information related to the library. After looking at the list of various psychological instruments, the researcher found that there is a need to create self-made instruments to know the facts related to his research problem. Keeping in mind his research objectives, the researcher created the following instruments.

- Investigation list
- Questionnaire
- Interview schedule

Qualitative Analysis

Qualitative analysis has been done in the presented research work. In which the researcher has used percentages to analyze the facts or figures.

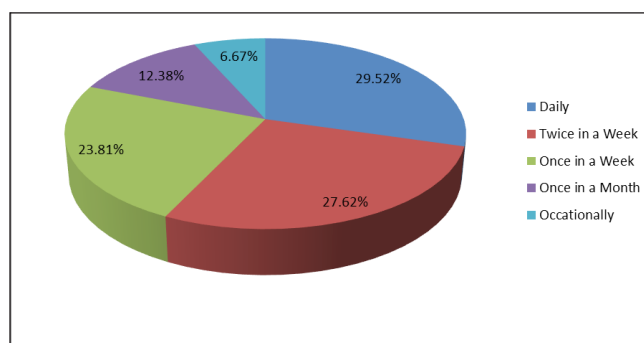


Figure 1. Frequency of Faculty Visits and Uses the Library

As shown in Figure 1, out of 105 faculties, 29.52 percent visit and use the library every day of the week. Among these 10 universities, 50 percent of the faculties of Jiwaji University and Lakshmibai National Institute of Physical Education visit the library every day of the week.

Out of 105 faculties, 27.62 percent visit and use the library twice a week. Among these 10 universities, the maximum

number of faculties of Dr. Hari Singh Gour University, Segar (46.15 percent) visit the library every week.

Out of 105 faculties, 23.81 percent visit and use the library once a week. Among these 10 universities, Awdesh Pratap Singh University has the highest number of faculties visiting the library once a week (58.33 percent), whereas the lowest number of faculties visits it (7.14 percent).

Out of 105 faculties, 12.38 percent visit and use the library once a month. Among these 10 universities, Awdesh Pratap Singh University has the highest number of 25 percent of faculties who visit the library once a month.

Out of 105 faculties, 6.67 percent visit and use the library occasionally. Among these 10 universities, the highest number (14.28 percent) of faculties from Dharmashastra National Law University and AKS University visit the library occasionally.

From the above description, it is clear that among the three groups of readers—students, researchers, and faculties—the majority of the library students (57.48 percent) visit the library daily. Among the readers, 43.24 percent of students visit the library twice a week. Among the readers who visit once a week, 33.33 percent of researchers visit the library the most. 29.52 percent of faculties visit the library most frequently every day.

It is evident from the above description that the percentage of students visiting the library is higher, likely because students visit the library daily to fulfill their study-related needs, which is praiseworthy. Researchers also visit the library in sufficient numbers, but faculties visit the library less frequently in both groups. The possible reason for this could be that they get information from other sources.

Faculty

Regarding the frequency of library visits by teachers, it was found that 12.38% of teachers use the library most frequently every day. Compared to all three groups, teachers were found to be the most aware of e-resources. They have been using them for the longest time and value their quality the most. They download more e-resources and spend more time studying e-journals. They were found to be more satisfied with the e-resources provided by the library. They are in favor of increasing e-resources through exhibitions and want to improve them.

Their use of resources for research work shows that they want to acquire the latest in-depth information about the subject matter of their field, and their use of e-journals is due to their awareness of research work done in various fields. Their satisfaction with e-resources shows that the desired subject matter is available in the library. Their desire to increase the e-resources of the library reflects their awareness of its importance. They believe

that through exhibitions, one can easily obtain in-depth information about the subject matter. Their desire to improve e-resources demonstrates their commitment to upgrading the library.

Conclusion

This research provides valuable insights into the frequency of library visits by faculty members across ten universities, highlighting significant trends among students, researchers, and faculty members. The data reveals that students are the most frequent library users, with over half of them visiting the library daily, which underscores the essential role of libraries in supporting their academic needs. On the other hand, while researchers also show regular library usage, faculty members visit the library less frequently, possibly due to their reliance on alternative sources of information.

Despite their less frequent visits, faculty members exhibit a high level of awareness regarding electronic resources. They tend to be more satisfied with the digital resources available at the library and advocate for the expansion and enhancement of these offerings. Faculty members, particularly, value e-journals as a critical tool for their research, highlighting their preference for the latest and comprehensive information. Their support for initiatives such as exhibitions to promote e-resources suggests a commitment to advancing the quality and accessibility of library resources.

In conclusion, this study emphasizes the need for libraries to strengthen their digital infrastructure and enhance access to e-resources, particularly for faculty members who rely on these for their research. While students continue to depend heavily on physical library resources for daily academic work, faculty members demonstrate a preference for utilizing digital tools to stay informed and updated in their respective fields.

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