USE OF E-RESOURCES BY THE FACULTY MEMBERS OF GUJARAT UNIVERSITY AFFILIATED SCIENCE COLLEGES OF AHMEDABAD CITY

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Abstract

This research study attempted to determine the several aspects of use of E-Resources by the teaching faculties of the Gujarat University affiliated Science Colleges. For data collection structural questionnaire was prepared and distributed to the 70 faculty members. The objectives of the study were to know the awareness about N-List programme of INFLIBNET Centre, purpose of use of e-resources, Linking patterns of e- resources and problem encountering while using the e-resources.

Key words : *E-Resources, N-List Programme*

21st century is the century of Computer and Communication Technology. Computers have become integral part of our lives. The development of computer Technology has resulted in e-learning. In the modern information era many types of e-resources are available. Academicians are using the e-resources for their teaching and research work. E-Books, E-Journals, Databases etc. e-resources becoming more popular and widely used because of their special features. They are published before print resources so that latest information is reach to the end user very quick and fast. Facility of hypertext link, multiuser access, anywhere, anytime accessibility, user-friendly interface etc. advantages of e-resources make them very special and that's why more and more people wants to use it. INFLIBNET Centre has initiated a programmed called N-LIST programme to provide online access to electronic journals in all disciplines to the colleges so that the academicians get their needed information very fast and easy.

Literature Review

Within the period of one decade there is a drastically change in the use of e-resources. Previous study reveals that only 23.91% research scholar used the e-resources. Majority (76.91%) of the research scholars are more dependent on the print resources and also used it more for their information needs.(Chaukhande,2007). So many types of e-resources are available but E-Journals are more used by the Scientist and engineers.(Guruprasad, & Nikam, k., 2010). Students and the faculty members of the Universities of British Columbia prefer to use Full Text online database rather than bibliographic databases. The main problem they faced was how to used databases properly so that they get the relevant information very fast. (Kaur, A., & Randhawa, S. , 2010).

In the Medical colleges of Delhi, Haryana and chandighadh the student, teachers and researcher scholars are prefer most to use e- journals for their academic information needs.(Kumar, A., & Gupta, D. (2012). Faculty members and research scholars are used the e-resources for the purpose of research work, paper presentation in seminars and conferences and for the article publication. Majority of the user access the e-resources from their department or their personal computers. Very few are going to Library for accessing e-resources. Slow speed of internet, lake of knowledge of how to get the pinpointed information from the e-resources and improper infrastructure facilities are the major problems user faced while using the e-resources. (Nikam, K., & Kumar, D. , 2013).

Objective

The objective of the study is :
To know the awareness about e-resources.
To know the awareness about N-LIST Programme.
To ascertain if the faculty are use the e-resources.
To know the accessibility of users to the N-LIST Programme.
To determine the preferred e-resources of the faculty members.
To find out the problems being encountered by the faculty while using e-resources.

Scope

The scope of the study is limited to Gujarat University affiliated Science Colleges of Ahmedabad City. Faculty members of the Science Colleges.

Methodology

In order to collect comprehensive and relevant data for the study, the structural questionnaire was prepared. The questionnaire included 31 question separated in 3 section. Closed, open and multiple choice questions were designed to study the following groups of variables.

Frequency of visit to the Library , Internet facility and Awareness about N-LIST Programme. Use of e- resources and N-LIST Programme. Linking Pattern for searching e-resources and preferable format of e-resources. Problems facing for accessing e-resources. Opinion about e-resources.

The questionnaire were personally distributed and collected from 70 faculty members of the science colleges of Ahmedabad.

Analysis and Interpretation of Data

Frequency of Library Visit : It has been found from the data that most of the faculty members are visited the library twice a week. Very few are going to the library irregularly.

Internet Connectivity : Data reveal that 36% faculty has the internet connectivity in the department, 25.72% have this facility in their personal computer and 8.57% have the facility in Mobile phone also. Only 12.57% faculty members have the Internet facility in the Library.

Awareness and use of E-Resources : Respondents asked whether they know about the e-resources and used it or not? Data reveal that 100% respondent are very well aware about e-recourses and used it also.

Table - 1
Awareness and use of E-Resources

Sr. No.	Awareness and use of E-Resources	No. of Faculty Member	Percentage (%)
1.	yes	70	70
2.	No	00	00
	Total	**70**	**100**

Table (1) shows that all the faculty members are aware of e-resources and used it for fulfilling their information needs.

Awareness about N-List Programme : Respondents asked whether they know about the N-List Programme and used it or not?

Table – 2
Awareness about N-List Programme

Sr. No.	Awareness of N-LIST Peogramme	No. of Faculty Member	Percentage (%)
1.	yes	60	85.71
2.	No	10	14.29
	Total	70	100

From the Table(2) data reveal that 85.71% respondent are very well aware about N-List Programme and used it also.

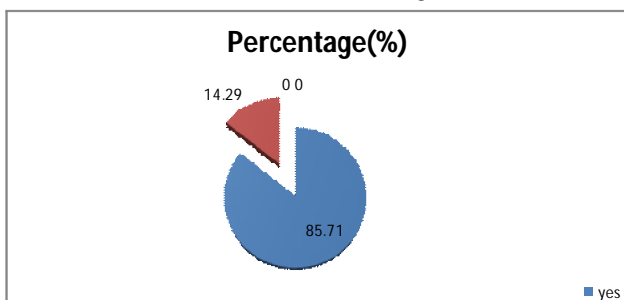**Figure 1**
Awareness about N-List Programme

Figure (1) shows that most of the faculty members(85.71%) are aware of INFLIBNET N-LIST Programme and also use the e-resources covers in this programme. N-LIST is very useful to them for their academic information needs. Faculty gets easily the comprehensive information very quick from it.

Purpose of Use of E-Resources : Present study attempt to know the purposes of the use of e-resources.

Table – 3
Purpose of Use of E-Resources

Sr. No.	Purpose of use of E-Resources	No. of Faculty Member	Percentage (%)
1.	Teaching	32	24.62
2.	Study	13	10.00
3.	Research	56	43.07
4.	Paper Presentation	29	22.31
	Total	130	100

Table (3) shows that faculty members are used the e-resources for seeking the information for their research work.
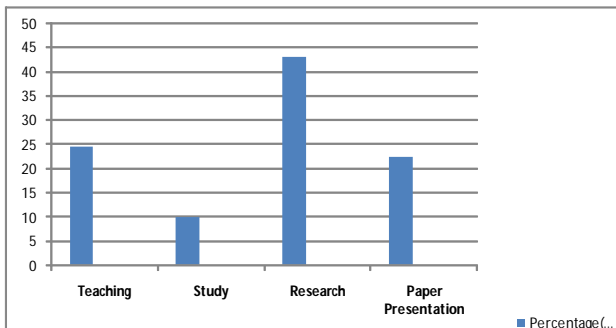
Figure 2
Purpose of Use of E-Resources

Figure (2) shows that 43.07% respondent use the e-resources for the research work, 24.62% respondent use it for teaching purpose and 22.31% are searching e-resources for paper presentation.

Linking Patterns for using e-resources : It has been found from data that 42.03% respondent search e-resources through online journals sites, 33.33% respondent search it through search engines and only 15.22% respondent search through publisher websites.

Advantages of E-Resources : Faculty members prefer to use e-resources because of some advantages like Fast, Easy, Multi User Access, Anywhere Anytime Accessibility, Hypertext Link facility, Available before print version, User friendly interface and Access of full content.

Problems facing while using E-Resources : The major problems faculty members facing are slow internet speed, lake of knowledge about how to get pin pointed information from e-resources, lake of training, lake of support from the Library staff and lake of proper infrastructure facility. Due to constantly seating over computer some respondent facing the problem of eye, back pain and other physical problem.

Opinion about the use of E-Resources : Respondents were asked to give their view on e-resources. Majority of them indicate that they can do better research because of the availability of e- resources. They also said that more comprehensive information is available in e-resources.

Preference of format : Most of the respondent prefer PDF format. Very few are prefer HTML format for using e-resources.

Satisfaction with Existing E-Resources : 82.12% respondent are satisfied with the existing collection of e-resources in the Library.

Suggestions

On the basis of data collection and findings some suggestions are made for the increase in the use of e-resources. Should increase the speed of Internet. Proper infrastructure facility should be given to the faculty members. Arrange some awareness and training programme related to the information retrieval skill. Library staff should give the guidance to the faculty about proper use of e-resources.

Conclusion

In this research study some major factors of e-resources is discuss and suggestion made for improving the use of e-resources.

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