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## Use Of Electronic Resources Among Library Science Students of Kashmir

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## Use Of Electronic Resources Among Library Science Students of Kashmir.

### ABSTRACT

. The electronic resources are also known as online information resources covering bibliographic databases, electronic reference books, search engines for full text books, and digital collections of data. At present, the libraries actively procure, organize, display and issue e-forms of books, journals, newspapers, theses and dissertations .In this study, the researcher analyzed the electronic resources usage among the Library science students of Kashmir. Further, the paper aims to highlight the problems faced by Library science students in accessing e-resources, their opinions on feature of e-resources, and their views on usefulness of e-resources compared to that of conventional sources. Because of Covid19 Web-based questionnaire was adopted Open ended and structured questionnaires were used together with an interview schedule and observation to collect data.. Total response collected for the study is 196.The results of the study show that the respondents have an average level of e-resources usage skills, particularly on awareness about many available e-resources. The study shows the awareness and usage of latest technology to access e-resources such as smart phone applications /mobile applications. The study reveal that most of the respondents prefer smart phones i.e. 152 (77.55 )

*Keywords ; Electronic resources, e-forms of books, e-journals , students of Kashmir, usage skills, Problems ,covid-19. Library science.*

## INTRODUCTION

The Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and the emergence of Internet have had substantial and rigorous impacts on the knowledge and information sector and build a new aspect in the platform of information retrieval. The convergence of ICT has given rise to the evolution of several new jargons like paperless society, electronic resources, portal/gateway and global digital library. Now-a-days, the academic libraries are not only providing printed resources to their users rather they provide printed as well as electronic resources like e-journals, e-books and databases for fulfilling the day-to-day academic and research requirements of the library users as a result of which the user satisfaction level has been increasing.

In 21st century, libraries are moving from print to e-resources either subscribing individually or through consortia. There has been paradigm shift in the collection development policies for acquiring printed as well as e-resources (both offline and on-line resources). So therefore, there is need for drafting the new collection development policies for accommodating electronic resources in the library collection. There should be balance between the printed and e-resources for acquiring in the libraries as per the demand of the end users.

Now due to changing trends of electronic publishing, many online and offline resources are being published as these resources have great demand from the libraries and users community. These revolutionary steps are providing scholarly resources including peer reviewed journals, databases, abstracts, proceedings etc. These efforts must be a boon to university library users which will definitely boost the level of higher education system in our country. In the fast-emerging and ever-growing information explosion it is very difficult to retrieve particular information without wasting time. Recent advances in the field of information technology contribute significantly to improve the services of libraries. Now-a-days libraries are not only seen with printed document and non-print document but also with computers. The impact of technologies such as CD-ROMs, multimedia, computer networks, Internet, etc. have lead to a paperless society. With the availability of computers, capable of computing at very high speed and having large disc storage space, it is possible to digitize and store information in the form of high quality graphics, color images, voice signal and video clips at a relatively affordable cost. There are several forms and types of electronic resources which are available on the internet, some of the popular ones that are gaining ground are the electronic journals, standards, technical specifications, reports, patents, full text articles, trade reports and hosts of other document sources. Also the printed editions of scholarly journals are available on the web. The publishers of journals are themselves providing services like contents, abstracts of articles, full text, before the actual printed edition is put on the stands. Majority of this kind of service providers are those publishers who have several journal publications to their credit, e.g., Elsevier, Academic press, Springer, Oxford University Press, Taylor and Franc's Blackwell Science and others. Their services are available to anyone having access to e-mail and importantly are free of cost. Some of the journals are only available on commercial basis for which library has to pay the required amount, and for these journals, users have to pay for the view and if need, per copy for the print also.

## Usage of E-Resources by Postgraduate Students

The usage of e-resources in higher learning institutions has become more popular in recent years due to their currency and rich content. Various studies have been conducted to realize whether the subscribed e-resources are effectively being utilized. Factors such as awareness, search skills, infrastructure, and lack of training have been pointed out as factors that influence usage of e resources. For example, Megameno (2010) investigated the usage of e-resources among nursing students at the University of Namibia. The findings from this study reveal that 86.4% of the students did not use the available e-resources because they were not aware of their availability. Similarly, the study conducted by Kwafoa, Osman and Afful-Arthur (2016) on the usage of e-resources at the University of Cape Coast in Ghana shows that 92% of the respondents were aware of the existence of e-resources at their institution. Interestingly, respondents had no idea that those e-resources were subscribed to by the university library. Moreover, the study by Chandra et al (2014) found that slow internet speed and frequent power outage are among the common problems that affect the effective usage of e-resources. In the same line, several studies have been conducted on students' access and usage of e-resources in higher learning institutions in Tanzania. For example, Mtega et al., (2014) investigated the usage of e-resources among agricultural researchers and extension staff. These researchers found that there was low usage of e-resources from popular agricultural databases. Factors such as poor ICT infrastructure, limited funds to subscribe to e-resources and low information literacy training contributed to low accessibility and usage of e-resources. On the other hand, Nkebukwa (2016) investigated the usage of electronic resources by students at the College of Business Education in Tanzania. The findings reveal that most of the students were not using e-resources due to lack of awareness of the e-resources being available at the institution. The researcher noted that lack of searching skills and connected computers affected the usage of e-resources. Similarly, Katabalwa (2016) investigated the use of e-resources by postgraduate students at the University of Dar es Salaam. Findings show that most of the students used e-journals for various purposes, including assignments, literature review, and research report writing, among others. The researcher mentioned issues such as frequent power outage, inadequate bandwidth, lack of training, lack of awareness, limited access to computers (Mollel & Mwantimwa, 2019) and difficulty in searching, among the challenges that affected the effective usage of e-resources. The findings described above corroborate with Manda's (2005) study which reported that PERI resources provided in academic and research institutions in Tanzania were underutilized because potential users were not aware of the resources due to lack of publicity and low bandwidth. On that basis, it is crucial for library users to possess necessary skills and competence in using technological tools for effective access to and usage of e-resources

## Use of e-Resources in Libraries

The Internet e-resources is transforming the library system and as well the way in which we view information sources. It has made simple and speedy purchase of information sources like books, journals and electronic publications. Many publishers catalogue tools like 'Books in Prints' as well as forms for ordering documents are available on the Internet. Librarians can search the current publication on the area of activity and the user can browse any topic of interest existing in any part of the world and get response within seconds. The librarians need quick access to books, journals and electronic publications. Internet access is the simple and efficient method for access and updating the documentation and interface of

catalogue of all libraries. The e-resource has made a tremendous impact on the researchers and the students. With the advent of e-resource a significant transmission can be seen in their approach and the way they seek information and the methods they employ for research and learning activities. This has become possible as electronic resource provides a wealth of new course material and acts as a powerful supplement to the transitional ways of study and learning e-resources has now facilitating electronic communication, exchanges of ideas and collaboration in search globally. e-resources can be accessed for the latest developments in one's area of research at an amazing speed. It also plays a significant role in distance education, conferencing and thus transforming the academicians as facilitators providing guidance, to students and steering observations. The internet therefore creates an excellent academic environment where the research community can perform their activities in a rejuvenated manner. Hence, it is essential apart from others the research students can have excellent opportunities to use Internet based e-resources for various purposes such as information access, communication, scientific correspondence, publication of research reports and interactive session with other researchers and students in the field. Thus it is essential to have access and good knowledge about Internet technology apart from other IT Competencies.

### **Allama Iqbal Library**

The history of Kashmir University Library dates back to 1948 with the inception of "University of Jammu and Kashmir". It was established to cater to the academic and research needs of the scholars, students and teachers of University of Kashmir. With the split of the erstwhile Jammu and Kashmir University in 1969, the collection of the library was shared by the libraries of two Universities Viz., University of Jammu and University of Kashmir. In 1975, the Central Library of the University of Kashmir was shifted to its present multistoried building. In 1984, it was renamed as IQBAL LIBRARY and as ALLAMA IQBAL LIBRARY in July 2002. The Library is presently the Centre of the University Library System, having fifty-seven(57) Seminar Libraries attached with different Departments, Centres, and the Institutes of the University. The Allama Iqbal Library along with its network of libraries is the largest library system in the state and caters to the academic needs of the large number of University community consisting of faculty members, research scholars, PG and diploma students in various disciplines.

The Allama Iqbal Library has 16 Divisions in well decorated and centrally heated halls (1st floor only) managed by well qualified professional staff. The library also provides useful and research oriented services to the reading community in calm, cozy and clean atmosphere. At present, it has a collection of above six lac books. Allama Iqbal Library has developed a special collection for visually impaired students. The collection includes Braille books, DVDs/CDs, DAISY-Digital Talking Books etc. Various local, National and International news papers are available to the users for keeping them up-to-date. Through e-Shodhsindhu consortium, Library is getting access to leading Bibliographic Database known as J-Gate plus or J-Gate Custom Content for Consortia (JCCC) where under the contents pages, abstract and full text articles (wherever available) in Science, Social Science and Humanities are made available to the users on-line. The JCCC provides article-level access for all the journals subscribed by the e-Shodhsindhu consortium as well as journals subscribed by 22 university libraries designated as Inter-Library Loan (ILL) Centres of the INFLIBNET Centre. For articles from journals that are not accessible in a given university, the interface facilitates semi-automatic generation of ILL request directly from user(s) to the INFLIBNET Centre or to one of the ILL Centres as the case may be. Photocopying facility at nominal rates is also provided to the readers in the Library. Internet Access centre in the library

comprising of three labs and E-Resources centre with around 80 computers provides high speed Internet connectivity to University faculty, research scholars and students so that they can communicate conveniently and collaborate with academic counterparts locally and Internationally. Besides, wireless network access (Wi-Fi) for those who would prefer to bring their own laptops or notebook are also available. Wi-Fi configuration of laptops and notebooks are also provided by browsing staff.

The Library distinguishes itself by providing Remote Access Facility (RAF) to all the subscribed electronic journals and journals accessible via e-Shodhsindhu consortium. This facility helps the registered users to access all the E-Resources available at Allama Iqbal Library from any part of the world through the Internet. The entire collection of Central Library is bar coded and RFID (Radio Frequency Identification System) tagged and therefore Allama Iqbal Library is unique in successfully implementing RFID technology in the State of Jammu and Kashmir. The Library has a 24x7 Library Facilities Centre which remains open round the clock throughout the year and provides a wide area for reading and study. Daily locals, national and some international newspapers are displayed here.

The 'Career Corner' at First floor of the library houses latest material for the students preparing for Competitive tests and Civil Service examinations. The Career corner has individual Study Carrels for students and Research Scholars. Electronic resources refer to those materials that require computer access, whether through a personal computer, mainframe, or handheld mobile device. Over the past few years, a numbers of techniques and related standards have been developed which allow documents to be created and distributed in electronic form. The library and information centers are increasingly being called upon to provide more relevant, up-to-date and timely information to a wide range of users. In order to satisfy Kumber (2004) libraries require availability and accessibility to a variety of information resources and formats (such as digital full-text, sound, graphics, images, multimedia and hypertext, as well as print documents). Electronic resources are invaluable research tools which complement print-based resources in any traditional library. Electronic resources provide access to information that might be restricted to the user because of geographical location or finances. Electronic resources proved to be more useful than print resources due to inherent capabilities for manipulation and searching. Users get increased access to databases of online refereed journal to the other resources which provides information that is up to date, international scope and sometimes not available elsewhere. Electronic resources have exploded in popularity and use. In addition (Bajpal et al., 2009) e-resources enable innovation in teaching and they increase discovery and creation of new fields of enquiry. The University of Jammu and Kashmir was founded in the year 1948. In the year 1969 it was bifurcated into two full-fledged Universities: University of Kashmir at Srinagar and University of Jammu at Jammu. The University of Kashmir is situated at Hazratbal in Srinagar. The University offers programmes in all the major faculties; Arts, Business & Management Studies, Education, Law, Applied Sciences & Technology, Biological Sciences, Physical & Material Sciences, Social Sciences, Medicine, Dentistry, Engineering, Oriental Learning and Music & Fine Arts. Allama Iqbal Library is the central library of University of Kashmir. The history of Kashmir University Library dates back to 1949 with the inception of "University of Jammu and Kashmir". It was established to cater to the academic and research needs of the scholars, students and teachers of Jammu and Kashmir. In 1984, it was renamed as IQBAL LIBRARY and as ALLAMA IQBAL LIBRARY in July 2002. This library (the largest in the state) is presently the Centre of the University Library System, having forty-three Seminar Libraries attached with different Departments, Centres, and the Institutes of the University. The Allama Iqbal Library along with its network of libraries is the largest library system in the state & caters to the academic needs of the large number of University

community consisting of faculty members, research scholars, and P.G and diploma students in various disciplines. The Allama Iqbal Library has 16 Divisions in well decorated and centrally heated halls managed by well qualified professional staff. The library also provides useful and research oriented services to the reading community in calm, cozy and clean atmosphere. At present, it has a collection of Books (6,15078+), Journals (56,275 approx), current Subscribed print journals (297), MANUSCRIPTS & RARE BOOKS (363), microfilms(22), microfiche (515), Thesis and dissertations, Audiocassettes and special collections include Iqbal collection, Usmania collection, Trilok chand Mehrooml Collections, Career Corner. Besides various local National and International news papers are available to the users on-line for keeping them update. The library is also subscribing one of the leading portal service of India known as J-Gate service where under the contents pages, abstract and full text articles (wherever available), appearing in more than eight thousand five hundred reputed scholarly Journals in sciences and social services are made available to the users on-line. The library provide Reference services, Reprographic Services Data Base Service through INFLIBNET , Bibliographic Service, Internet Service, Inter Library Loan Service/Resource sharing, Selective Dissemination of Information . Moreover Xeroxing facility is provided to the readers on the table. The V-SAT and Radio link connectivity installed in the Library provides much needed internet facility to the faculty members, research scholars and PG students. The users are availing this facility through 48 computers installed in its newly established Internet Access Centre.

## **Literature review**

**Bar-Ilan, Peritz, and Wolman (2003)** conducted a survey at Israeli Universities to examine the use of electronic databases and electronic journals accessed through the Web. The survey revealed that 76.6% make use of either electronic databases or e-journals. A very significant number of the respondents i.e. 85.2% feel that they master the use of electronic information services either completely or reasonably.

**Aderibigbe, & Adebimpe Ajiboye (2013)** affirmed that the user education program of Nimbe Adedipe Library is not adequate; the library provides more library orientation than bibliographic instruction and information literacy skills. The use of EIR has a great impact on the respondents' academic activities, as reflected in their responses, where the students agreed that their academic work would suffer without the use of EIR.

**Sampath Kumar & Kumar (2010)** mentioned that a majority of the academic community uses electronic information sources for their academic-related work, most of them prefer print to electronic information sources. The majority of respondents indicated they had problems with accessing suitable software i.e. 45 percent, lack of information about how to use electronic information resources 36 percent.

**Madhusudhan (2010)** stated that 90% of research scholars use e-journals, followed by web sites 48%, search engines 38%, and online databases 30%. The most common problem is that of slow access speed of 62%. 88% of the respondents feel that in comparison to conventional documents, e-resources are time-saving, 78% said that e-resources are easy to use, 66 percent of the respondents admit that these are more informative, 54% state that these are more useful, and 50% advocate that e-resources are more preferred. Borrego, Anglada, Barrios and Comellas conducted a survey to see the use and users of electronic journals in Catalan Universities. The result showed that 95% of users have awareness of the collection of electronic titles among teaching and research staff. Respondents who use electronic journals less show a lack of awareness of the collections rather than a resistance to change. By age groups, respondents under the age of forty use mainly electronic journals, whereas respondents over the age of fifty-one use exclusively or mainly printed journals.

**Egberongbe (2011)** found that most users accessed e-journals and search engines to get required information at Unilag library 5 39.6% lecturers and 47% research scholars preferred to use e-journals whereas 45% Lecturers and 33% scholars made use of search engines to get desired materials, online database were also very popular among research scholars as 14(20%) of them preferred to use them. E-books were used less by both lecturers and scholars in comparison to other online resources. Kayaoglu explored the reason to use of electronic journals by faculty at Istanbul University, Turkey and found that the responses given for the options for always 67.5% of the respondents used e-journals for research, 49.2% used them for keeping him/herself updated on the subject field, 28.5% for browsing core journals, and 16.9% for teaching. Kindilchie and Samarraie illustrated that e-resources have become a significant substitute for printed materials in meeting their personal information needs but this is not in the case of the College of Sharia. 69% of faculty members also indicated that they believed that the students have problems in using the Internet

**Adeleke and Emeahara (2016)** has studied on the relationship between information literacy and use of electronic information resources by post graduate students of the university of Ibadan, Nigeria. For this study, data were collected using questionnaire. The study found that low level of usage of e-resources, particularly full texts data bases is linked to lack of search techniques skills by most of the postgraduate

students. They concluded that ICT course should be part of the curriculum of every postgraduate programme, with emphasis on e-information literacy.

**Pushpalatha and Mallaiah (2009)** conducted a study on usage of information resources in chemistry among students and faculty members of Department of Chemistry at Mangalore University Library. The data was collected by distributing questionnaire among 138 respondents. The study revealed that majority of the users visited the library to borrow books, to consult periodicals and browse UGC Infonet journals. Online public access catalogue and the assistance of the library staff were the primary means to locate information. The study concluded to improve collections of periodicals and journals which were inadequate.

**Gupta and Sharma (2015)** described the study on use, awareness, frequency, importance, purpose, and satisfaction in the use of Digital Information Resources and services among the students of IIT Mumbai Central Library. The survey method was adopted to collect the data and questionnaires were distributed among the Research Scholars, Post Graduate and Under Graduate (UG) students at IIT Mumbai Central Library. About 375 questionnaires were distributed among the users and 334 (89.06%) users had responded to the questionnaire. The study had revealed that 59.7% respondents had their preference towards print as well as digital resources. The Central Library had been used by the majority of respondents (64.7%) to utilize digital information resources and services. Half of the respondents (51.5%) were satisfied with the available digital information resources and services. About 74.5% students had agreed that they need more training/ orientation programs for the ideal use of digital information resources and services.

**Satpathy and Satpathy (2013)** conducted the study on changing technology explosion of information and the transition of libraries from print to electronic resources. Most of the libraries especially academic libraries were continued to be hybrid (print and electronics) libraries. This study was about medical college libraries which demanded special attention in developing collection systems and services. The present study had done a survey for accessing the existing situation, perception and expectations of users in medical college of Odisha. All the medical libraries in Odisha were still operational as traditional libraries at the same time; the survey response showed that 91.1% of the respondents were visiting library for internet access. The libraries had to subscribe e-resources such as online medical databases, e-journals, and e-books to attract more users.

**Sugathi (2013)** surveyed E-Resources Have Become the Vital Part of the Every Kind Of Library. Print Format Of Documents Are Being Changed Into Electronic Form. E-Resources Have Become A Need Of The Library. E-Resources Have Several Advantages Over The Print Counterparts. The Enormous Developments In Information And Communication Technology (ICT) Have Changed The World Information Scene. It Has Brought Drastic Changes In The Way The Information Generated, Stored, Organized, Accessed, Retrieved And Consumed. In The Present Time Almost Information Sources Are Available In Electronic Form. They Take Less Time To Publish, Occupy Less Space And Can Access From Remote Location. The Present Study Was Conducted On The Use Of E-Resources Among Paramedical Professionals In Madurai Region

## **OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY**

The primary objectives of the study are framed as follows,

- To know the use of electronic information resources and Most satisfied e-resources for the LIS students.

- To know the purpose of using e-resources
- To analyze the level of problems facing by the Library science students while using electronic resources.
- To find the frequency of accessing e-resources by the Library science students
- To know the mode of accessing e-Journals by the Library science students.
- Publishers' E-journal/databases/search engines used by Library science students
- To know the Category of users

## **METHODOLOGY**

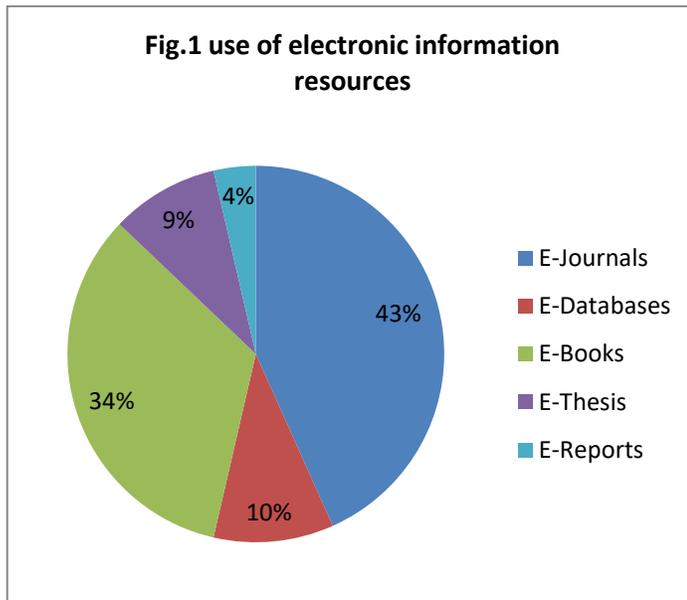
The recent pandemic disease, COVID-19, brought about a measure that involves every individual staying at home in kashmir. This had various effects on different activities and habits of an average kashmiri. This study examined the Use Of Electronic Resources Among Library Science Students of Kashmir. Because of Covid19 Web-based questionnaire was adopted with Open ended and structured questionnaires were used together with an interview schedule and observation to collect data. Total response collected for the study was 196. The data collected through questionnaires were analyzed electronically .

## DATA ANALYSES AND INTERPRETATIONS

**Table 1. Use of electronic information resources and Most satisfied e-resources for the Library science students**

Table 1 and Figure 1 reflect the use of Electronic Information resources among the LIS students. It may be noted that e-journals, the most frequently used e-resource, with a number and percentage value of 84 (43%) among the library science students. Then the most frequently used e-resources are e-books 65 (34%) succeeded by e-Thesis 18 (9%) and e-reports 7 (4%). It is identified that LIS students in Kashmir were most satisfied with e-Journals, followed by e-Books. The respondents belonging to the age group of 'below 25' years, the younger generation mostly prefer e-Books for their examination focused academic needs. It is also known that most of the respondents belonging to all designations were satisfied with e-Journals to update their professional skills

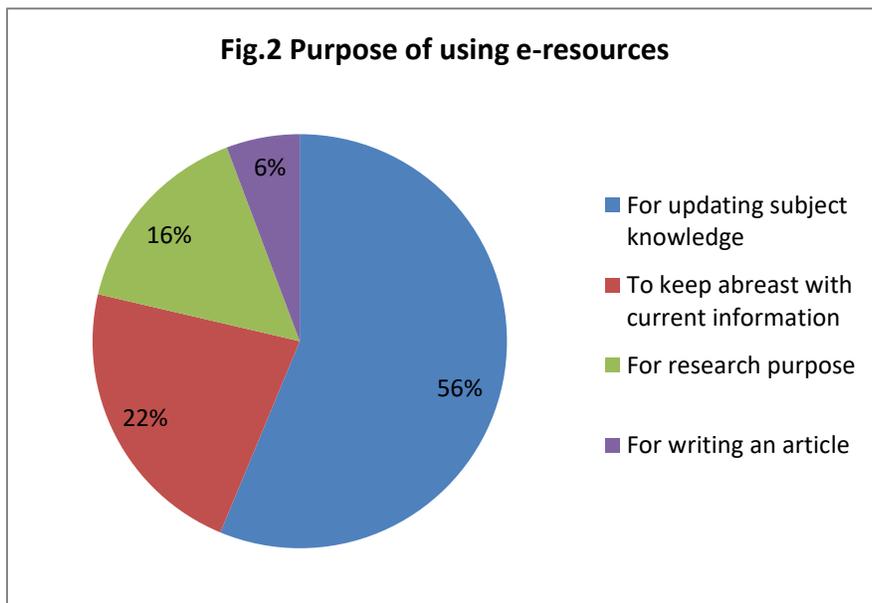
E-resources	Respondents
E- Journals	84(43%)
E-Books	65(34%)
E-Databases	20(10%)
E-Thesis	18(9% %)
E-Reports	7(4%)



**Table 2. Purpose of using e-resources**

The purpose of using e-resources varies from one user to another. The library science students were asked about the purpose of using e-resources. Although the purposes are numerous, the core ones and the replies of the respondents are presented in Table 2 and Figure 2. It presents that the main purpose of using e-resources For updating subject knowledge 110 (56.12%). To keep abreast with current information is the second highest purpose to use e-resources i.e. 43 (21.93%), followed by 30 (15.30%) for research purpose, 11 (5.61%) For writing an article It is fairly normal that users of the library give preferences to e-resources for keeping them up-to-date with subject knowledge and to keep abreast with current information for consulting documents. The cause may be that users can access significant and updated information quickly through the electronic format in comparison to any other source of information. One important point of preference of electronic format is that this available round the clock. As far as the purpose to find relevant information in the area of specialization and to consult reference documents are concerned the lowest purpose, this is owing to the fact that almost most of the information available in printed documents which are already in users' possession.

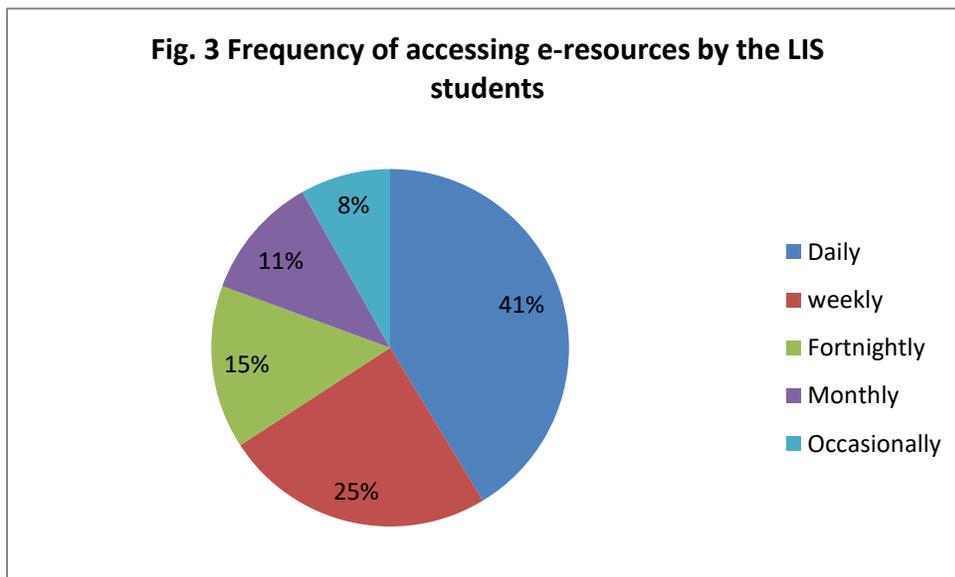
Purpose	Response rate
For updating subject knowledge	110(56.12%)
To keep abreast with current Information	43(21.93%)
For research purpose	30(15.30%)
For writing an article	11(5.61%)



**Table 3. Frequency of accessing e-resources by the Library science students.**

Table 3 and Figure 3 illustrated that Most of the respondents accessing e-resources ‘daily 81 (41.32%) belonging to the age group of 35 years and below, which reflects that the youngsters are accessing e-resources daily. however, 48(25%) respondents are accessing e-resources weekly, followed by 29(15%) fortnightly, 22(11%) monthly and 16 (8.16%) occasionally. A high percentage of users, as shown in Table 3 and Fig.4 consult the library resources either on a daily basis or weekly.

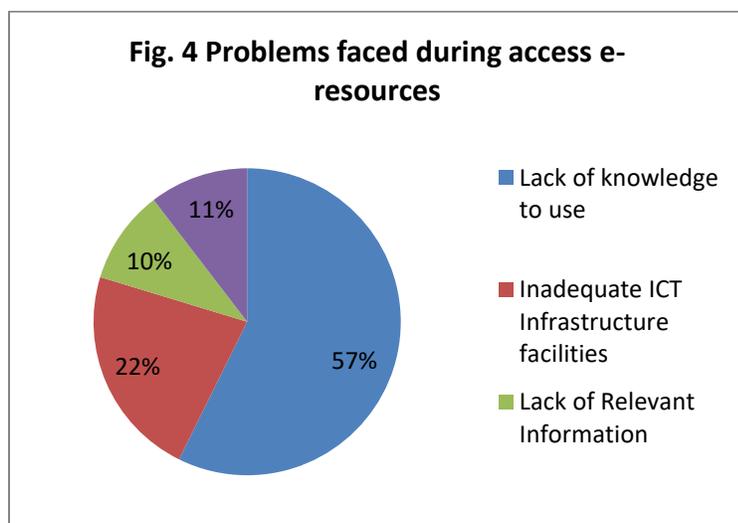
Frequency	LIS students
Daily	81 (41.32%)
Weekly	48 (24.48%)
Fortnightly	29 (14.79%)
Monthly	22 (11.22%)
Occasionally	16 (8.16%)



**Table 4. Problems faced during access e-resources**

The study helped us to discover the problems faced by the users. Table 4 FIG. 4 reveals the main problems faced by the LIS students in accessing the e-resources. As regards problems faced during access of e-resources it has been found that 57% of users are facing a lack of knowledge in using the e-resources as the analysis shows. 22% are facing Inadequate ICT infrastructure facilities, followed by limited access to information and Lack of Relevant Information i.e. 11% and 10% respectively. These results discuss above suggesting the limited skills of information literacy among the users. Insufficient information literacy skills can specially bound users to use electronic resources such as databases, journals, books, etc. Individual problems faced by the respondents during e-resources access may be the absence of users training, old staff, lack of suitable IT knowledge, lack of proficiency to use computer and paucity of search skills are the key problems while using e-resources. Another challenge highlighted was the method of access. In most cases, access is granted via IP addresses within an institution. However, this is not always the case and sometimes passwords were required. Password based access can prove problematic depending on how frequently they are changed and how they are given to users. Fig. 4 shows the most common challenges faced

Problems	LIS students
Lack of knowledge to use	114(58.16)
Inadequate ICT Infrastructure facilities	43(21.93%)
Lack of Relevant Information	19(9.69%)
Limited access	20(10.20%)



**Table 5. Mode of accessing e-Journals by the LIS students**

The findings of the Table 5 Figure 5 reveal that most of the respondents prefer smart phones i.e. 152 (77.55%) and tablets 26 (13.26%) followed by Desktop/laptop 18(9.18%) to access e-resources, It is clear that the usage of Smart phones among the LIS students is higher. As the smart phone applications also a tool to provide up-to-date information, the associations of LIS students or institute libraries should come forward to create and launch an exclusive smart phone application for library science students Providing Library science information and resources through those applications enhance their awareness, as well as accessibility

Gadgets	Respondents
Smart phones	152 (77.55%)
Tablets	26 (13.26%)
Desktop/laptop	18(9.18%)

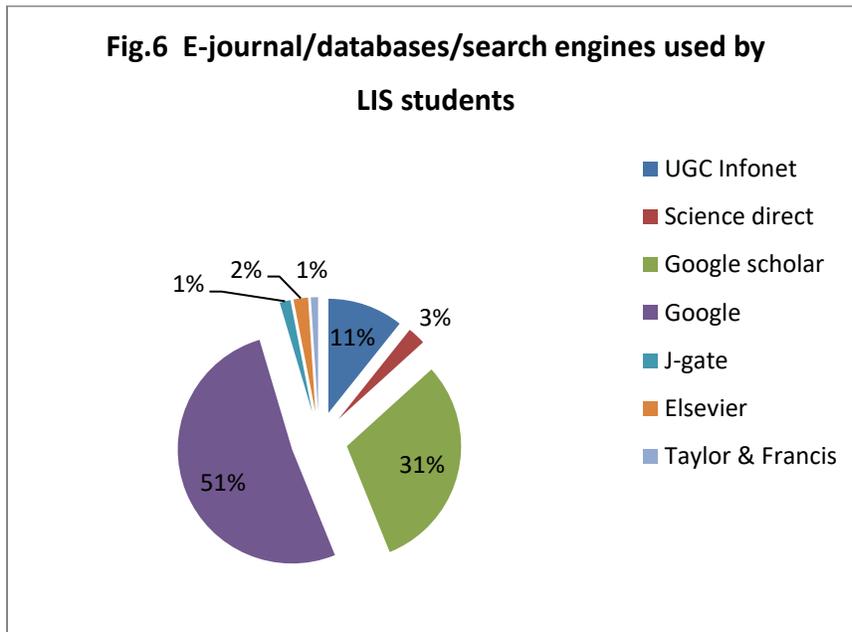
**Fig. 5 Mode of accessing e-Journals by the LIS students**



## 6. Publishers' E-journal/databases/search engines used by Library science students

Investigator asked the respondents to make clear which publishers' database, e-journal and search engines they use. It was observed from Table 6 and figure 6 that Google search engine had highest usage 101(51.53%) among all the other databases, e-journals and search engine. Followed by Google scholar 60(30.61%), UGC Infonet 21(10.71%), Science direct 5(2.55%). It is also evident that usage of some journals was very less, because they were used only by research scholar

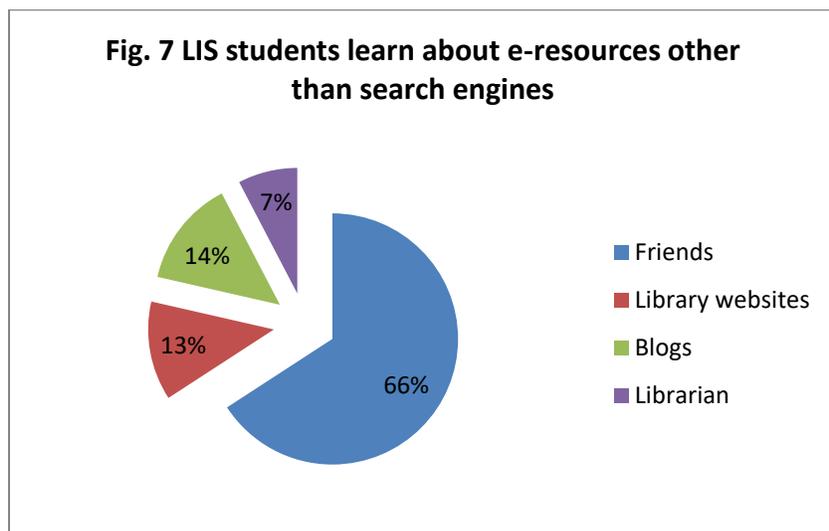
Publishers' E-journal/databases	Respondents
UGC Infonet	21(10.71%)
Science direct	5(2.55%)
Google scholar	60(30.61%)
Google	101(51.53%)
J-gate	3(1.53%)
Elsevier	4(2.04%)
Taylor & Francis	2(1.02%)



## 7. Library science students learn about e-resources other than search engines

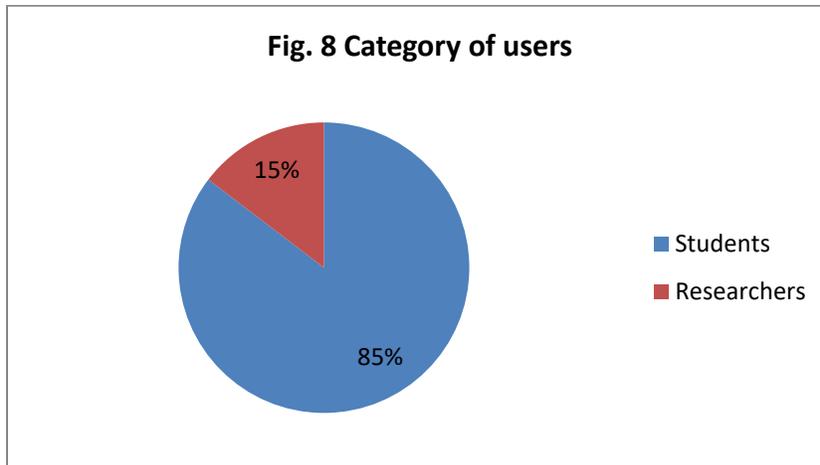
Table 7 Figure. 7 reveals when search engines are excluded as a referral tool, most of the respondents indicate they learn about new e-resources from friends 129 (65.81%) Followed by Blogs 27(13.77%), library websites 25 (12.75%) and Teacher 15 (7.65%).

Learn from...	Percentage of LIS students
Friends	129 (65.81%)
Library websites	25 (12.75%)
Blogs	27 (13.77)
Librarian	15 ( 7.65%)



## 8. Category of users

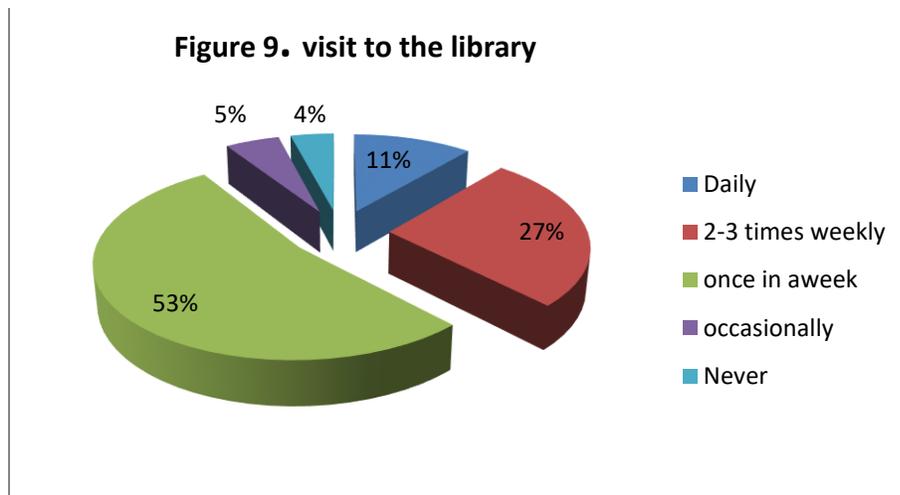
The findings of the Figure 8 reveal that most of the respondents were students i.e., 169(86.22%) followed by Research scholars 27(13.77%).



### 9. Frequency of visit to the library

The Table 9 Figure 9 indicates frequency of visit to the library by respondents. Eleven percent respondents were daily visitors of the library, 26.53% respondents 2-3 times weekly visit to the library and 53.06% respondents were visiting libraries at least once in a week. Four percent respondents never visited college library because enough books of their interest were available in the department and they were not interested in the e-resources

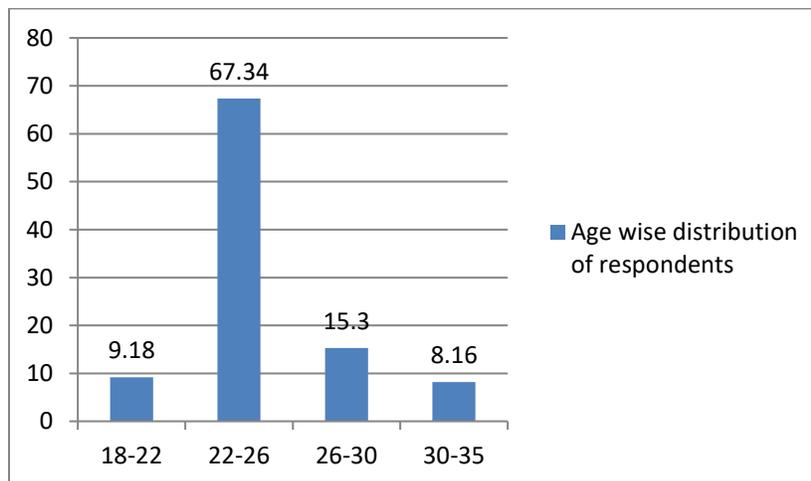
Frequency	Percentage
Daily	22 (11.22%)
2-3 times weekly	52 (26.53%)
Once in a week	104 (53.06%)
occasionally	10 (5.10%)
Never	8 (4.08)



## 10. Age wise distribution of respondents

Table 10 and graph 10 presents the age wise distribution of respondents. The data shows that majority of the 132 (67.34%) of respondents fall between the age group of 22-26, 30 respondents (i.e.15.30 %) fall between the age group of 26-30, 18 respondents (9.16%) of respondents fall between the age group of 18-22 whereas 16 (i.e. 18.06%) of respondents are the age group of 30-35.

Age	Respondents	Percentage
18-22	18	9.18
22-26	132	67.34
26-30	30	15.30
30-35	16	8.16



Data collected from Interviews

Questions	Respondent A	Respondent B
Which library resources do you use?	<i>Online journals, books, newspapers and internet</i>	<i>Books, internet &amp; Newspapers</i>
Have you had training on use of electronic resources?	<i>No - 5 Yes (During orientation) - 4</i>	<i>No training on use of e resources</i>
If trained how it has impacted on your learning and research activities?	<i>Complete assignments with ease Able to surf the internet Able to conduct online searches with minimum assistance Supplement lecture notes</i>	<i>Easily access information quickly, more varied information easier than before, searching quickly</i>
What are the major challenges you experience in accessing or using the Library's Electronic Resources?	<i>Lack enough ICT skills to access e-resources Lack adequate time to search through the databases Some e-resources are not user friendly- have complicated user interfaces Few computers connected to the internet Computers infected with viruses Low speed of the internet Not able to access the resources outside the university</i>	<i>Password problems, restricted access by publishers, inaccessible internet during weekends Suggestions: increase subscription, system worked well so that users don't get stuck</i>
If not using E Resources please state the reasons	<i>Not aware of their availability Not familiar Not interested Not sure how to access</i>	

Questions	Respondent A	Respondent B
Accessibility to library during pandemic	Library has been Physically closed we have to work from home, and library is proving online services	library is only open for staff and research scholars, staff rotation duties, books drop box at main gate of library
Which Resources & Services are available for you	Library Repositories, Open access apart from these library is providing access to Books Journal (Back volumes) Digitized books Rare books Thesis & Dissertations DVD & CDROM Manuscripts	Library is providing access to World eBook Library which is very rich source providing access to world class eBook collection. The availability of electronic theses and dissertations has surly helped us in eliminating the duplication of research . It also helped us to know what has been published till date on any topic in any subject. The world eBook Library has greatly helped to fulfill the quest of readers who want to learn and study via eBook collection.
Has university library presented their library resources to meet your information needs	"If we talk about actions taken by university administration in this pandemic, library have developed an online portal for our information literacy and online resources. Library introduced 'online journals at one place' this feature is used by the user frequently."	Library is frequently making announcements regarding availability of e resources .
Barriers in Physical to Digital Shift	copyright issues, technology barrier, staff competencies, trainings need	Budget available Finance meeting, Purchase policy change, digital purchasing, digital resources focus
Role of libraries during emergency crisis like covid-19	Librarians can play a major role during pandemic times. Words of sympathy and the adequate guidance can	Librarians can play their role very effectively. They can recommend books in any form as in audio or they can conduct online

	<p>make a difference in citizens' life. They can guide or discourage the use and spread of disinformation and misinformation in the society.</p> <p>" In this situation, it can be tackled in two ways e.g. individually and collectively. At individual level, professional librarians can create awareness through social media etc. On the other hand, at institutional level we can run program like book club.</p>	<p>sessions to promote reading etc. Through this, librarian can help to deal with stress due to this COVID-19.</p>
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### *Observations made after visiting Allama Iqbal Library university of kashmir.*

From the historical point of view Allama Iqbal Library System starts from 1948 with the establishment of "University of Jammu and Kashmir". Its foundation was laid to cater to the research and academic requirements of the students, scholars and teachers of the varsity. After the bifurcation of earlier established University of Jammu and Kashmir in the year 1969, the Library resources were shared among the Libraries of two Universities Viz., Jammu University and Kashmir University. In the year 1975, the Central Library of the Kashmir University was shifted to its presently located seven storied building. In the year 1984, it was renamed as Iqbal Library and later on as Allama Iqbal Library in the month of July 2002. The Library is presently the hub of University Academic System, with more than fifty seven (57) Departmental Libraries attached with different Departments, Centers, and the Institutes of research of the University. The Allama Iqbal Library is the largest library system in the of Jammu and Kashmir State and it fulfills the academic requirements of a huge number of University Community comprising of students, research scholars and faculty members across various disciplines. The Allama Iqbal Library is housed with 16 divisions in a well managed and systematically decorated with a meritorious and well qualified professional staff. The library offers useful academic and research oriented services to the user community in a clean, calm and tranquil atmosphere. Following are some observations made after visiting Allama Iqbal library.

- A very welcoming and well guided entrance
- Good working relationship between Library staff and users
- University library very clean and conducive environment for study
- Adequate security
- Printing services available
- Trunking well done throughout the information centre
- Adequate working and reading space
- Fast speed of accessing e-resources
- Have adequate printing and photocopying services for both staff and students
- A very good working relationship between staff and users- very interactive
- Very clean environment and modern furniture
- Friendly and helpful staff who seem to interact very well with users of the library
- Staff are very well informed and skilled on issues of electronic resources
- Promotion material on notice boards around the library

- Wifi connectivity round the clock
- 24x7 Library facility
- inter library loan
- Reprography
- Printing of all types of reading materials
- Remote access to e-resources
- Retro-Conversion
- Professional training to Library Staff of College and Departmental Libraries

The library performs the following activities for the promotion of library services

- Exhibition of Rare Books available in Allama Iqbal Library
- Photo Exhibition of World Renowned Libraries
- Prize and Certificate distribution to the most Frequent Users of Allama Iqbal Library
- Release of books published by Library famous authors, scientists, and scholars; .
- Organizing Question Answer quiz about Bestselling Books and famous Authors among the users and providing them on-the-spot Prizes for giving answers correctly;
- Conduct of seminars and workshops on the different themes related to Library operations and activities;
- Conduct of user's orientation and awareness programmes.
- The Library through its notice board and website keeps the users informed about the latest updates. In addition to this the modern social networking techniques are also used like twitter, YouTube, whatsapp etc to keep the users well informed about Library sources and services.

## **Findings and conclusion**

The result of the study throws light on e-resources usage skills among library science students of Kashmir and found that they have average level of usage skills. The study also brings the findings that library science students of Kashmir use e-journals, the most frequently used e-resource, with a number and percentage value of 84 (43%) The study also identified the awareness and usage of latest technology to access e-resources such as smart phone applications /mobile applications. The study reveal that most of the respondents prefer smart phones i.e. 152 (77.55%) and tablets 26 (13.26%) followed by Desktop/laptop 18(9.18%) to access e-resources, It is clear that the usage of Smart phones among the LIS students is higher .Google search engine had highest usage 101(51.53%) among all the other databases , e-journals and search engine. Followed by Google scholar 60(30.61%), UGC Infonet 21(10.71%) , Science direct 5(2.55%).Google search engine had highest usage 101(51.53%) among all the other databases , e-journals and search engine. Followed by Google scholar 60(30.61%), UGC Infonet 21(10.71%) , Science direct 5(2.55%). The result also shows that majority of the 132 (67.34%) of respondents fall between the age group of 22-26, 30 respondents (i.e.15.30 %) fall between the age group of 26-30, 18 respondents (9.16%) of respondents fall between the age group of 18-22 whereas 16 (i.e. 18.06%) of respondents are the age group of 30-35.

The libraries should be well-equipped to obtain the latest technology to support the students ever-increasing information needs in this digital era. The age has changed from ‘providing e-resources at the client’s desktop’ to ‘providing e-resources at the client’s hand palm’, as the smart phones and the devices like e-Book readers play an inevitable role in daily life. The importance of ICT skilled library professionals is noteworthy to enrich the e-resources usage among library science students. Awareness of library science students and researchers on availability of various kinds of e-resources should be increased, as they have average level of awareness during access of e-resources it has been found that 57% of users are facing a lack of knowledge in using the e-resources. Hence orientation and information literacy programmes regarding the availability, access and usage of e-resources in library science should be conducted by the concerned libraries and/ or information professionals.

They should be informed periodically about the availability of e-resources in the field of library science Proper users’ education programme should be organized to convey skills among students towards proficient utilization of e-resources and upgrade their awareness about the e-resources that are available in the library.

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