

University of Nebraska - Lincoln

DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln

Library Philosophy and Practice (e-journal)

Libraries at University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Winter 12-25-2021

Online Databases Backbone for Teaching and Research: Case Study of Rajarambapu Institute of Technology, affiliated to Shivaji University, Kolhapur, Maharashtra (India)

Vishwas L. Hase

Rajarambapu Institute of Technology

Mahesh N. Gaikwad

Sadguru Gadage Maharaj College, Karad, India

Yuvraj G. Jadhav Assistant Professor , Dept. of Library and Information Science

Shivaji University, Kolhapur, Maharashtra, India, ygj.lib@unishivaji.ac.in

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/libphilprac>



Part of the [Collection Development and Management Commons](#), and the [Scholarly Communication Commons](#)

Hase, Vishwas L.; Gaikwad, Mahesh N.; and Jadhav, Yuvraj G. Assistant Professor , Dept. of Library and Information Science, "Online Databases Backbone for Teaching and Research: Case Study of Rajarambapu Institute of Technology, affiliated to Shivaji University, Kolhapur, Maharashtra (India)" (2021). *Library Philosophy and Practice (e-journal)*. 6873. <https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/libphilprac/6873>

**Online Databases Backbone for Teaching and Research: Case Study of
Rajarambapu Institute of Technology, affiliated to Shivaji University,
Kolhapur, Maharashtra (India)**

Primary Author

Vishwas Lahanu Hase

Librarian

Rajarambapu Institute of Technology, Islampur,

Dist- Sangli, (Maharashtra), India

e-mail-vishwas.hase@ritindia.edu

Secondary Author

Mahesh Nandkumar Gaikwad

Librarian

Sadguru Gadage Maharaj College, Karad

Dist-Satara, (Maharashtra), India

e-mail-maheshgaikwad786@sgm.edu.in

Secondary Author

Yuvraj Govind Jadhav

Assistant Professor

DLISC

Shivaji University, Kolhapur, (Maharashtra), India

e-mail-ygj.lib@unishivaji.ac.in

Abstract:

The library facilities and services have changed during the pandemic from both the librarians' and library users' points of view. Research and academic communication disseminated via emerging online databases and resulted in creating awareness and utilization of electronic resources remotely. The present study investigate the availability, awareness, and use of online databases subscribed from direct publishers and also accessed from Shivaji University, Kolhapur, India, under the INFEED project by Rajarambapu Institute of Technology (RIT) staff members and students. A mixed research approach (i.e. quantitative and qualitative) has been applied by using an online questionnaire as a data collection tool. Total 128 filled questionnaires were received and it is found to be valid for analysis. More than 90 percent of the respondents were aware of the Online Databases. Science Direct is a highly used database by the users, majority i. e. 75% of the respondents using E-books as a source of information from an online database. The study also found that network problems, technical problems, lack of guidance etc. are the major hardens faced by the online databases users. Finally, the study made it very clear that most of the users are satisfied with the Online Databases provided by the institutional library.

Online Databases Backbone for Teaching and Research: Case Study of Rajarambapu Institute of Technology, affiliated to Shivaji University, Kolhapur, Maharashtra (India)

Abstract

The library facilities and services have changed during the pandemic from both the librarians' and library users' points of view. Research and academic communication disseminated via emerging online databases and resulted in creating awareness and utilization of electronic resources remotely. The present study investigate the availability, awareness, and use of online databases subscribed from direct publishers and also accessed from Shivaji University, Kolhapur, India, under the INFEED project by Rajarambapu Institute of Technology (RIT) staff members and students during the lockdown period. A mixed research approach (i.e. quantitative and qualitative) has been applied by using an online questionnaire as a data collection tool. Total 128 filled questionnaires were received with at 85.3 percent response rate, and it is found to be valid for analysis. More than 90 percent of the respondents were aware of the Online Databases. Science Direct is a highly used database by 50 percent of the users, majority i. e. 75 percent of the respondents using E-books as a source of information from an online database. The study also found some problems faced by the respondents, such as network problems, technical problems, lack of guidance, etc. Finally, the study made it very clear that most of the users are satisfied with the Online Databases provided by the institutional library.

Keywords: - Online Databases, Use pattern, E-Resources, Awareness of Databases, Special library

Introduction

ICT plays a prominent role in the education sector, during this COVID-19 pandemic situation to survive by providing a variety of platforms like virtual learning, by the availability of digital information resources for teaching, learning, and research. Teachers and learners adopt this new method. During this scenario, the traditional methods of teaching and learning have transformed into web-based teaching and learning. Libraries are also closed during this pandemic, so physical resources could not be possible to access. Online resources are the only medium for the learners to meet their academic and research needs. Resources accessed through Online Databases are to be the best source of information to the academic users at this crucial phase. They can access a variety of e-resources on diversified subjects to select from by various Indian and foreign publishers. To have access to E-Resources from Online Databases are the back boon for the academicians. A number of studies have been conducted on the utilization and importance of e-resources, but very few have tried to determine the awareness and utilization level of online databases.

Online Databases

A database is a computerised collection of logically related set of data or records about something that are stored and organised in the computer.

According to the **Glossary of Library and Information Science** “An Electronic Database of either full text documents or Citations and abstracts which can be searched by telephone or Internet”.

According to the **Macmillan Dictionary of Information Technology** “A Collection of Interrelated Data Stored so that it may be accessed by authorised users with simple user friendly dialogues”.

An online database is a database accessible from a network, including from the internet. It differs from a local database, held in an individual computer or its attached storage, such as a CD. Currently, there are several database products designed specifically as hosted databases, delivered as software as a service, products. Some of the differences are:

- The online databases are delivered primarily via a web browser
- They are often purchased by a Yearly/monthly subscription
- They embed common collaboration features such as sharing, e-mail notifications, etc.

Some examples of online databases are: (a) Web of Science (WOS); (b) EBSCO; (c) ELSEVIER Science Direct; (d) Springer Link; (e) ABI/INFORM; and (f) Scopus. (g) LISA; etc.

Rajarambapu Institute of Technology: A Brief Sketch

Rajarambapu Institute of Technology (RIT), (officially referred to as the College of Engineering) was established in 1983, having a beautiful Greenfield campus of 42 acres and buildings on it measuring 53,029 square meters. This has emerged as a leading technological institute in Western Maharashtra (India) through its dedicated and disciplined approach to provide quality technical education over a period of about thirty-five years. It offers 07 UG programmes, 12 PG programmes and 04 Diploma (2nd Shift) programmes with an annual intake of 4500 students every year. This is one of the private engineering institutes in Maharashtra state who received TEQIP (Technical Education Quality Improvement Programme) funds, and it also identified as a Regional Centre of Indo-Universal Collaboration for Engineering Education (IUCEE) program. University Grant Commission of India (UGC) and Shivaji University, Kolhapur granted the autonomy status to the institute. The institute is accredited by National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), Bangalore and Institution of Engineers, Kolkata, (India) with ‘A’ grade. Another side the Central Library is a unique knowledge centre that offers essential and specialized information resources and personalized information services to the faculty members and undergraduate and post graduate students. It has centrally air-conditioned with approximate 1,08,431+ books in technology and related fields and regular subscription of 175 Print national and international journals & magazines of engineering, management, social science and general. RIT’s library hosts an impressive collection of E-Resources and Online Databases like IEEE, ASME, ASCE, TAYLOR & FRANCIS, SCIENCE DIRECT, IET, SAE International, EBESCO, Pearson etc. A wide range of e-journals 48586+ and 6851 + e-books are the back bone of the institute. Separate Digital Library section having 51 computers and NPTEL video lecture facility is available in library. Library providing IP based access of e-resources on campus

24X7 hour's basis. Turnitin international plagiarism detection software and Typeset research writing software provided by library to the researchers. Library is fully computerised with barcode technology having web-OPAC facility.

Literature Review

Review of literature is undertaken to some of the relevant study to understand the findings and method used for the particular type of the research. Hence some of the important and relevant studies have been reviewed which are as follows:

- **Bilawar (2020)** in his article described the Coronavirus lockdown period and how the online resources have come to the rescue of students across the globe. The result of the study highlighted that during the lockdown period, 377 webinars, followed by 36 FDP, 26 workshops, 19 quizzes 7 training programs etc., were conducted on different subjects by various institutions. The current situation directs for 'digital citizenship' amongst the academicians and the students.
- **Dhade (2020)** in his article describes that the ICT has created something new and a unique environment where libraries can strengthen the research activity, Education, and learning, even during these challenging situations. The article describes that providing remote access of the number of e-resources to the information seekers in a user-friendly way during a pandemic is exemplary.
- **Matonkar (2021)** in his research study, library professionals should give serious consideration to providing free, open e-resources available online. To facilitate teaching, and research some online databases have made their resources freely available, the academic community should be aware about it. It is found that 60.4% of the respondents were not aware about the OARs. Most of the users prefer Google's simple search facility rather than online databases provided by institutes that are providing authentic information sources. The survey suggested that librarians should raise awareness of online databases and ease of remote access during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **Khan and Haridasan (2015)** conducted a study on using online databases in the faculty of arts at Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) and the University of Delhi (DU). The study revealed that 100% of faculty members and research scholars of AMU were using online databases for teaching and research work, respectively, while 93.18% of the PG students use it for preparing notes and assignments. At Delhi University, a majority (94.44%) of the faculty members uses online databases for teaching purposes, 100% of the researcher scholars depend entirely on online databases for their research work, and 89.18% of the PG students prefer it for preparing notes and assignments.

From the above review of literature, researcher noticed that number of studies has been carried out on database but no study illustrate use pattern and attitude towards technological Databases. Hence keeping these views, a study was planned to know the awareness and usage of the online databases by the UG and PG students and faculty members of RIT, Islampur, (Maharashtra) India.

Objectives

- To know the awareness and usage pattern of various Online Databases during the Covid-19 pandemic era.
- To find out the purpose of using online Databases accessed/Subscribed by the library.
- To find out the search strategy used by the users while searching E-Resources from Online Databases.
- To understand the users' viewpoint towards the importance of the usefulness of Online Databases during the pandemic phase.
- To know the impact of Online Databases on academic and research work of the library users.

Scope and limitation of the Study

The scope of the current study is limited to evaluate the awareness and utilization of subscribed and accessed Online Databases by the technological students and faculty members (Including Professor, Associate Professor and Assistant Professor) of Rajarambapu Institute of Technology, Islampur, (Maharashtra) affiliated with Shivaji University, Kolhapur, Maharashtra (India). Furthermore, the study also explores various issues and problems faced by the Technological students, which hinders the use of Online Databases.

Research Methodology

This study adopts the survey method. For data collection, designed well-structured questionnaire developed in Google form. In this data collection tool, both open-ended and closed-ended questions were included. Questionnaires were sent through email and WhatsApp to the students and faculty members in the month of April, 2021. A total of 150 questionnaires were sent, out of which 128 were received back with an overall response rate of 85.33 percent. The collected data were analysed and presented with the help of MS excel application to fulfil the given objectives.

Data Analysis and Interpretation

The data collected from the library users were arranged and interpreted in the following tables:

Table No 1: Type of Respondents

Type of Respondents	Number of Respondents	Percentage
Faculty	57	45%
Research Scholars	2	2%
PG Students	41	32%
UG Student	28	22%
Total	128	100%

(Source: Primary Data)

Table 1 reveals the type of respondents responded for the study. Out of 150 distributed questionnaires maximum of 45 percent are the Faculty members followed by PG Students 32 percent, UG Student 22 percent, and Research Scholars are 2 percent.

Table No.2: Awareness of Online Databases

Awareness	Respondents	Percentage
Yes	115	90%
No	13	10%

(Source: Primary Data)

The data given in the above Table 2, which reveals that 90 percent of the respondents were aware of the Online Databases and 10 percent respondents were not aware about the Online Databases provided by the library. It means majority of the library users of RIT Central library are aware of Online Databases.

Table No.3: Information about the Online Databases

Sources of Awareness	Respondents	Percentage
Librarian	53	41%
Friends	24	19%
Library Website	30	23%
Self-Search/Self-instruction	14	11%
Trial and error	7	6%
Total	N=128	100%

(Source: Primary Data)

The data presented in the above Table 3 represent that 41 percent (that is the highest number) of the respondents learned about Online Databases from Librarian, whereas, 23 percent of respondents were

acquainted with instructions about the Online Databases on library website. 19 percent of the respondents came to know from friends, followed by Self-Search/Self-instruction 11 percent and Trial and error 6 percent respectively. It means Librarian played major role in creating awareness of the online databases among the users.

Table No.4: Awareness about online databases

Sr. No.	Databases	Extremely Aware	Neutral	Slightly Aware	Not Aware
1	American Society for Mechanical Engineering (ASME)	17 (13.28%)	29 (22.65%)	30 (23.43%)	24 (18.75%)
2	American Society for Civil Engineering (ASCE)	32 (25%)	40 (31.25%)	32 (25%)	26 (20.31%)
3	Science Direct	64 (50%)	32 (25%)	17 (13.28%)	15 (11.71%)
4	The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineering (IEEE)	56 (43.75%)	30 (23.43%)	26 (20.31%)	16 (12.5%)
5	Taylor and Francis	49 (38.28%)	40 (31.25%)	17 (13.28%)	22 (17.19%)
6	The Institute of Engineering and Technology (IET)	36 (28.13%)	41 (32.03%)	28(21.88%)	23 (17.97%)
7	Springer Link	57 (44.53%)	32 (25%)	20(15.63%)	19 (14.84%)
8	Cambridge University Press	33 (25.78%)	46 (35.93%)	24 (18.75%)	25 (19.53%)
9	JSTOR	27 (21.09%)	48 (37.50%)	26 (20.31%)	27 (21.09%)
10	SAGE journals	39 (30.47%)	48 (37.50%)	17 (13.28%)	24 (18.75%)
11	Institute of Physics	30 (23.43%)	41 (32.03%)	30 (23.43%)	27 (21.09%)

(Source: Primary Data)

Awareness of online databases has direct impact on its usage, as higher the awareness among the users, the higher will be the usage of online databases. In this context, the data obtained in table 4 reveals that highest numbers i.e. 64 (50%) of the respondents were Extremely Aware about the Science Direct database followed by 57 (44.53) of Springer Link, 56 (43.75%) of IEEE, and 49 (38.28%) of the users are also extremely aware about Taylor and Francis. 48 (37.50%) users were Neutral about JSTOR and SAGE journals respectively followed by 46 (35.93%) of Cambridge University Press, 41 (32.03%) were natural of Institute of Physics and IET respectively, whereas 40 (31.25%) were as natural about ASCE online database. Highest number i.e. 30 (23.43%) respondents were Slightly Aware about ASME database. It means that, all the online databases provided by the RIT central library are useful and relevant for the students and staff members.

Table No. 5: E-resources search in databases during Lock down period. (Multiple answers were permitted)

Sources	Numbers	Rank
E-Books	96	1
E- Journal	85	2
E- Theses/Dissertations	16	5
E- Reference Work (Encyclopaedias etc.)	40	3
Miscellaneous (Reports, Editorials, etc.)	27	4
Other	5	6

(Source: Primary Data)

There are different types of information resources accessed through online databases, such as e-journals, e-books and e-theses. The study attempts to depict the most popular resource among users of all the select institute and these resources are categorized in table 5. The analysed data reflects that 75 percent are the largest number of the faculty members preferred e-books. Followed by 66 percent are E-Journals. Whereas 31 percent are using online databases for searching E- Reference Works. However 21 percent of the respondents were used Miscellaneous (Reports, Editorials, etc.), and remaining 4 percent are using Online databases for other purpose. In a nutshell, E-Books and E-Journals are the highly sources of the information during lock down period.

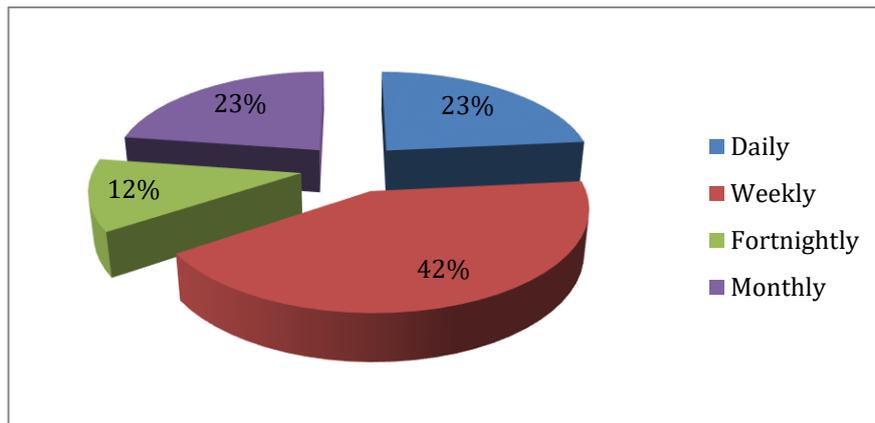
Table No. 6: Purpose of using Online Databases during Covid 19 Pandemic (Multiple answers are permitted)

Purpose	Respondents	Percentage
Research	62	48%
Project /Assignments/Preparing Study Notes etc	71	55%
Writing papers	49	38%
Teaching	55	43%
To update knowledge	69	54%

(Source: Primary Data)

Table 6 shows the various purposes of using online databases among the respondents. A majority of the respondents, *i.e.*, 55 percent use online databases for Project /Assignments and for Preparing Study Notes, whereas, 54 percent of the respondents use it to update their subject knowledge. However 48 percent of the respondents use online databases for the research work. On the other hand, 43 percent of the faculty members use online databases for their teaching, and 38 percent use it for writing research papers. It means most of the respondents were using online databases for Project /Assignments/Preparing Study Notes and updating subject knowledge, which includes research work and paper publishing as well.

Graph 1: Frequency of accessing Online Databases during Covid-19 pandemic era



(Source: Primary Data)

Above graph no. 1 the frequency of accessing Online Databases prior to Covid-19 pandemic. Most 42 percent of the users accessed Online Databases weekly, whereas it was found that least number of users 12 percent accessed fortnightly. 23 percent of the respondents were using online databases daily. It means RIT library users were frequently using Online Databases during Covid-19 pandemic.

Table No. 7: More accessible and important Online Databases during Covid 19 pandemic

Databases	Very Important	Moderately Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important	No Opinion
American Society for Mechanical Engineering ASME	43 (33.59%)	33 (25.78%)	28 (21.88%)	2 (1.56%)	22 (17.19%)
American Society for Civil Engineering (ASCE)	47 (36.72%)	37 (28.91%)	24 (18.75%)	3 (2.34%)	17 (13.28%)
Science Direct	54 (42.19%)	42 (32.81%)	17 (13.28%)	2 (1.56%)	13 (10.16%)
The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineering (IEEE)	68 (53.13%)	32 (25%)	14 (10.94%)	1 (0.78%)	13 (10.16%)
Taylor and Francis	54 (42.19%)	37 (28.91%)	21 (16.41%)	2 (1.56%)	14 (10.94%)
The Institute of Engineering and Technology (IET)	68 (53.13%)	32 (25%)	14 (10.94%)	1 (0.78%)	13 (10.16%)
Springer Link	36 (28.13%)	45 (35.16%)	25 (19.53%)	2 (1.56%)	20 (15.63%)
Cambridge University Press	33 (25.78%)	38 (29.69%)	30 (23.44%)	2 (1.56%)	25 (19.53%)
JSTOR	39 (30.47%)	44 (34.38%)	22 (17.19%)	6 (4.69%)	17 (13.28%)
SAGE journals	34 (26.56%)	41 (32.03%)	22 (17.19%)	8 (6.25%)	23 (17.97%)

Institute of Physics	47 (36.72%)	42 (32.81%)	19 (14.84%)	2 (1.56%)	18 (14.06%)
American Society for Mechanical Engineering ASME	38 (29.69%)	42 (32.81%)	21 (16.41%)	6 (4.69%)	21 (16.41%)

(Source: Primary Data)

The respondents were asked to indicate their importance towards the usefulness of Online Databases for academic as well as research work. The presented data in Table no.7 shows that majority i.e. 43(33.59%) respondents responded that ASME database is very important for them followed by ASCE i.e. 47(36.72%)respondents, Science Direct is for54 (42.19%) respondents, IEEE is for 68 (53.13%) respondents,Taylor and Francis and IET databases are also very important for 54 (42.19%) and 68 (53.13%) users respectively. Springer Link is Moderately Important for highest i.e. 45 (35.16%) respondents, JSTOR and SAGE journals are also Moderately Important for 44 (34.38%) and 41 (32.03%) respectively followed by Cambridge University Press 38 (29.69%). Institute of Physics is very important for 47 (36.72%) users and ASME is Moderately Important for most 42 (32.81%) of the databases users. It means majority of the online databases provided by the library are very important on Users viewpoint.

Table No. 8: Favourite feature of Online Databases (Multiple answers are permitted)

Features	Number	Rank
Providing Current Information	82	1
Multimedia	39	7
Easy to find information	78	2
User friendly	63	3
Free information	60	4
Comfortable to handle	55	5
Resource sharing	49	6

(Source: Primary Data)

Online Databases have many distinguished features. From the above Table 8, the feature of providing current information is the most liked feature of Online Databases by 64 percent of the users, followed by 61 percent for easy to find information while user-friendliness feature is liked by 49 percent of the users.Distinguished features are the reasons behind the maximum usage of online databases during pandemic.

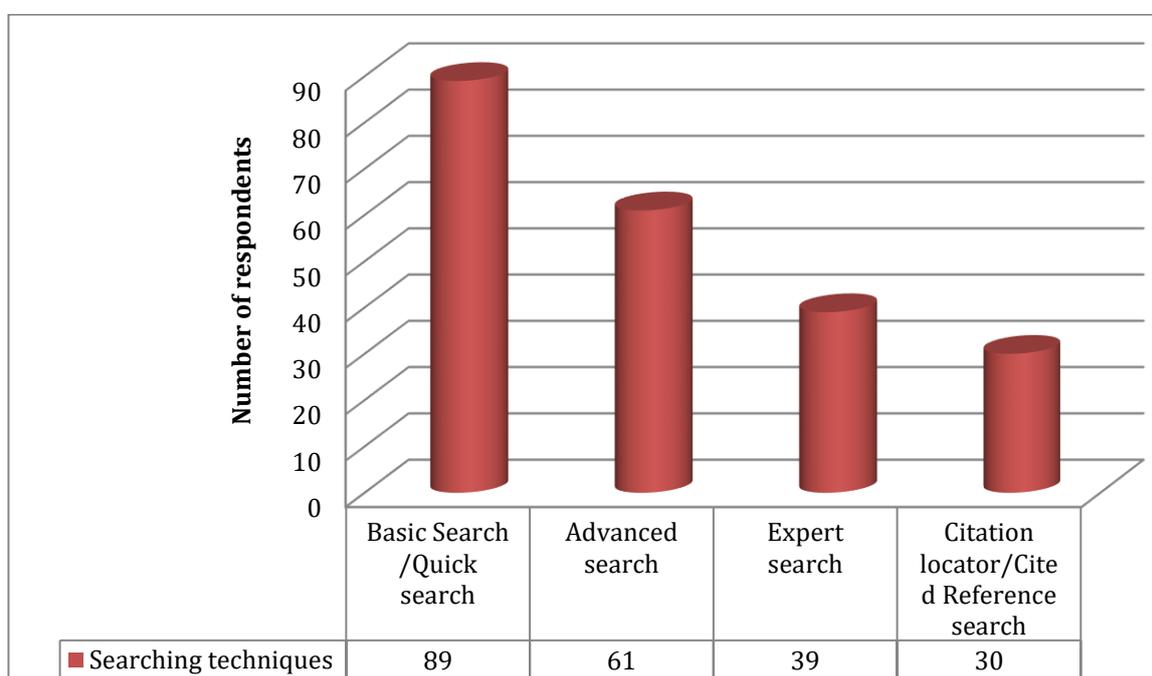
Table No. 9: Opinion about online databases, that is substitute to conventional/printed resources covid19 pandemic

Classification	Respondents	Percentage
Yes	95	74%
No	11	9%
Maybe	22	17%

(Source: Primary Data)

The above table 9 clearly indicates that most of i.e. 74 percent of the RIT library users gave a positive response saying that they feel E-resources accessed from Online Databases are the best substitute to the conventional/printed resources during the Covid-19 pandemic era. Whereas 17 percent of the users responded that it may be the best substitute's forconventional/printed resources.

Graph No. 2: Use of Searching techniques for accessing e-resources from Online Databases. (Multiple answers are permitted)



(Source: Primary Data)

Search methods/techniques plays significant role in searching online information resources. The presented data in graph shows that the searching methods used while accessing information resources from online databases. Basic Search /Quick search method used by highest 70 percent number of users followed by advanced search techniques 48 percent, while Citation locator/Cited Reference search is preferred by the least 23 percent number of the respondents. It means basic/quick and advanced search methods were preferred by the online databases users.

Table No. 10 Impact of online databases on study/work (Multiple answers were permitted)

Classification	Respondents	Percentage
Expedite the research process	52	40%
Improve professional/academic productivity	83	65%
Acquire more authentic and reliable information	55	43%
Access to a current and up-to-date information	63	49%
Access to wider range of information	51	40%
Easier and faster access to information of interest	49	38%

(Source: Primary Data)

Table No. 10 depict the major impact of Online Databases on users study and research work. It clearly indicates that highest 65 percent of the user's responded that an online database improves professional/academic productivity. 49 percent of the respondents responded that through online databases provides current and up-to-date information. Whereas 40 percent of the users felt it Expedite the research process and provides wider range of information.

In a nutshell, usage of online databases is positively affected on research productivity of the users.

Table No. 11 Problems faced while using online databases.

Classification	Respondents	Percentage
Retrieval problems (Irrelevant retrieval)	14	11%
Poor Internet connectivity	14	11%
Technical problems	16	12%
Networking Problems (Connectivity)	25	19%
Varied search pattern	16	12%
Lack of guidance	32	25%
Other	11	10%

(Source: Primary Data)

The data given in Table 11 highlights the main problems faced by the respondents while using Online Databases. The Lack of guidance 25 percent and Networking Problems 19 percent are the two main problems faced by the users while accessing Online Databases. Poor internet connectivity is also problem faced by users while using online databases. It means Lack of guidance, network problems are the major problems faced by the faculty members and students of the RIT.

Table No.12: Fulfilment of information needs by using online databases in Covid 19 pandemic

Classification	Respondents	Percentage
Yes	74	58%
No	15	12%
Maybe	39	30%

(Source: Primary Data)

The above table 12 clearly indicates that majority i.e. 58 percent of the library users gave a positive response saying that online databases are sufficient enough in catering their information needs. It Means that Online Databases provided by the RIT central library were Relevant and need-based for the faculty members and students.

Table No. 13: User Satisfaction about use of Online Databases

Classification	Respondents	Percentage
Fully satisfied	60	47%
Satisfied	68	53%

(Source: Primary Data)

The presented data in Table 13 shows the satisfaction level of respondents towards the use of Online Databases. The options such as fully satisfied and satisfied were given. It was found from the study that highest number i.e. 68 (53%) of the respondents were satisfied with the use of Online Databases, whereas, 60 (47%) respondents were marked as fully satisfied.

It means majority of the users are satisfied with the online databases provided by the RIT central library.

Major Findings

Major findings of the study are as follows:

- Majority (90%) of the respondents were aware of the online databases provided by the central library.
- Librarian and Library website are the major sources to create the awareness about the Online Databases.
- It is found that maximum number of the respondents have extremely aware of various types of online databases i. e. Science Direct (50%), Springer Link (44.53), IEEE (43.75%), Taylor and Francis (38.28%) provided by Library.
- E-Books (75%) and E-Journals (66%) are the important sources of information during lock down period.
- Majority (i.e. ASME, ASCE, Science Direct, IEEE, Taylor and Francis, IET) of the online databases provided by the library are very important on user's viewpoint during pandemic.
- It is examined that various features of the Online Databases are the reasons behind the maximum utilization during pandemic.
- Maximum (74%) numbers of the respondents are felt that Online Databases are the best substitute to conventional/printed resources during pandemic situation by providing a vast collection of E-resources on varied subjects.

- It is observed that basic/quick and advanced search methods are preferred by the online databases users.
- It is examined that an online database provides current and up-to-date information and usage of online databases is positively affected on research productivity of the users.
- It is found that online databases are relevant and need-based for the faculty members and students.
- Lack of guidance, network problems are the major problems faced by the faculty members and students.
- The analysis shows that a majority 47% of the respondents were fully satisfied with the use of Online Databases followed by 53% respondents were marked as satisfied to collect the required information for their academic and research related work.

Conclusion

The present study conducted with the objective to know the awareness, use and impact of Online Databases on academic and research activity of the students and faculty member of the Rajarambapu Institute of Technology, Islampur (Maharashtra) India. The outbreak of the COVID-19 has imposed sudden and drastic changes in the education system. With the help of ICT, information resources were successful in reaching users, e-resources through Online Databases are easily accessible from anywhere and at any time, this was the major advantage to the users during the pandemic and lockdown period. Respondents involved in this study are aware of the online databases provided by the RIT central library. Plenty of online databases like ASME, ASCE, Science Direct, IEEE, Taylor and Francis, IET, SAGE, Cambridge University Press, and JSTOR are available remotely to library users and used mainly by them. Basic and advanced search techniques used by respondents for accessing E-Books and E-Journals majorly. It is clear from the analysis of the present study that most technological users use online databases to support their academic and research work. It was positively affected on their research productivity. Distinguishing features are the reasons behind the maximum usage of online databases during a pandemic. Some of the respondents face problems like lack of guidance, network problems, Poor Internet connectivity, etc. So, separate training and orientation programs for faculty members and students should be conducted by the library at the beginning of every academic year to get updated about the online database searching. It should also be necessary to enhance the Internet connection bandwidth for seamless access to global knowledge. Therefore, the study concluded that this type of trend or surveys must be conducted by the central library on a regular basis so that lacunas could be finding and utmost users' satisfaction could be achieved.

- **References**

1. Ali, M. Y., & Gatiti, P. (2020). The COVID-19 (Coronavirus) pandemic: Reflections on the roles of librarians and information professionals. *Health Information & Libraries Journal*, 37(2), 158–162. Retrieved June 11, 2021 from <https://doi.org/10.1111/hir.12307>.
2. Anaman, A. A. and Agyei, F.(2021). "Perception of and Attitudes towards Plagiarism among Graduate Students in Ghana", *Library Philosophy and Practice (e-journal)*. 5201. Retrieved June 07, 2021 from <https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/libphilprac/5201>.
3. Bala, Balasubramanian, P. and Shahnaz, P, (2021) "Access Level and Utilization of E-Resources in the University Libraries of Tamil Nadu" *Library Philosophy and Practice (e-journal)*. 5076. Retrieved June 05, 2021 from <https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/libphilprac/5076>.
4. Bilawar, P. B. (2020). Lockdown Period and Information Sources. *International Journal of Engineering Research and Management*, 7 (6), 2349-2058.
5. Dadhe, P. P. and Dubey, M. N. (2020). *Library Services Provided During COVID-19 Pandemic: Content Analysis of Websites of Premier Technological Institutions of India**Library Philosophy and Practice (e-journal)*. 4445. Retrieved June 04, 2021 from <https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/libphilprac/4445>.
6. Dhuri, K. R. . and L., Jovita Ms, "N-LIST E-Resources: A Major Boon to The User Community During Covid-19 Pandemic Era: A Study" (2021). *Library Philosophy and Practice (e-journal)*. 4912. Retrieved June 04, 2021 from <https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/libphilprac/4912>.
7. Hornb, A.S. (Ed). (2000). *Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary of Current English*.New York: Oxford University Press.
8. Jewell, T. (2020). Everything you should know about the 2019 coronavirus and COVID-19. Retrieved June 02, 2021 from <https://healthline.com/health>.
9. Kent, A. Lanceur, H. and Daicy, J. E. (1968). *Encyclopedia of Library and Information Science*, Marcel Dekker. New York.
10. Khan, S. &Haridasan, S. (2015). Use of online databases in the faculty of arts at Aligarh Muslim University and University of Delhi. *International Research Journal of Library and Information Science*, 5 (1), 1-16.
11. Matonkar, P., &Dhuri, K. (2021). Open Access and Free Resources On The Internet: Awareness And Use During Covid-19 Pandemic.*Library Philosophy and Practice (e-journal)*. 5153. Retrieved June 10, 2021 from<https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/libphilprac/5153>.
12. Obande, B. O., Osakwe, J., Ujakpa, M. M., Iyawa, G., Ikechukwu, A. O., &Amunkete, K. (2020). Awareness, Accessibility and Usability of E-resources: University Students Perspective. *IST-Africa 2020 Conference Proceedings Miriam Cunningham and Paul Cunningham*, 9.
13. Otulugbu, D. (2017). Awareness and Use of Online Information Sources among University of Ibadan Students. *International Journal of Library Science*, 6(2), 5.Retrieved June 15, 2021 from <https://doi.org/10.5923/j.library.20170602.02>.

14. Partap, B. and Ranga, Manju. (2021), "Awareness and Use of e-Resources at Chandigarh College of Architecture, Chandigarh, India: A Study. *Library Philosophy and Practice (e-journal)*. 5564. Retrieved June 14, 2021 from <https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/libphilprac/5564>.
15. Zabed A. & S. M. (2013). A survey of students' use of and satisfaction with university subscribed online resources in two specialized universities in a developing country. *Library Hi Tech News*, 30(3), 6–8. Retrieved June 16, 2021 from <https://doi.org/10.1108/LHTN-02-2013-0010>.
16. Singh. D. (2016). Online Databases: A Tool for Scholarly communication. *Conference: 2nd National Conference Library Information Science & Information Technology for Education (NCITE'2016)*.: New Delhi.