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USER PERCEPTION AND USAGE OF PRINT AND ELECTRONIC RESOURCES IN THE MADURAI DIRAVIYAM THAYUMANAVAR HINDU COLLEGE TIRUNELVELI, TAMIL NADU - A CASE STUDY

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Abstract

Libraries have supported multiple formats for decades, from paper and microforms to audiovisual tapes and CDs. However, the newest medium, digital transmission has presented a wider scope of challenges and caused library patrons to question the established and recognized multiform in a library. Within the many questions posed, two distinct factors echo repeatedly. The first one is about the need of print medium in an increasingly digital world, and the second one focuses on the dangers of relying on a still-developing technology. This paper discusses Usage of Print and Electronic Resources in Madurai Diraviyam Thayumanavar (M.D.T) Hindu College Tirunelveli, Tamil Nadu.

Keywords: Print sources, E-resources, Internet Resources, Electronic Information.

Introduction

The arrival and proliferation of electronic resources and digital libraries have already influenced and changed the way students and scholars use print resources and traditional libraries. It has also sparked a new wave of literature on the perceptions and preferences of print and electronic resources. Those patrons who view computerized resources very positively may pose the

opposite problems in terms of their preset opinions and impact on reference assistance. In many cases, patrons have found computerized resources so much easier and faster to use that they may reject the use of print means of access. The reference librarian may find that such patrons will refuse to use a print sources perfectly tailored to their need in defense to a much less adequate computerized sources because of their opinion that the automated source is always "better"(translation usually meaning faster). With increased teaching and other loads in recent years, not all faculties may have the time themselves it fully experiment with computerized resources and may therefore pass on impressions rather than direct knowledge of capabilities of particular computerized products, which may or may not be totally accurate.

About the College

The Madurai Diraviyam Thayumanavar Hindu College, Tirunelveli, founded in 1878 has been a feather added to the cap of Tirunelveli city. It functions in a total area of 83 acres. The college is located 8km. from Tirunelveli Junction railway station, 8km. from Tirunelveli Junction bus stand and 13km. from Tirunelveli new bus stand. It has been a centre of learning catering for the needs of young men and women of all creeds. The University of Madras was bifurcated in 1966. The colleges in South Tamilnadu came under the control of Madurai University, which was later renamed as Madurai Kamaraj University. Again, when Madurai Kamaraj University was bifurcated the college was got affiliated to Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Tirunelveli. The college holds the high honour of having had "Manonmaniam Sundaranar" as its first Principal. The College has attained a "2(f) and 12(B)" status according to UGC Regulation Act. Presently the college functions with 9 UG programmes, 5 PG programmes and 5 Research Departments in the aided stream and 6 UG programmes and one PG programme in the Self-Financed stream.. The college celebrated its centenary year in 1979. The celebration was graced by the presence of the Honourable Prime Minister Shri.Moraji Desai, His Excellency Shri.Prabhu Dass Patwari, Governer of Tamilnadu and the Honourable Chief Minister Shri.M.G.Ramachandran. In 2004 the college celebrated its 125th year Post Centenary Silver Jubilee. The Honourable Finance Minister of India Shri.P.Chidambaram, the Honourable Home Minister(State) of India Shri.S.Ragupathy, Honourable Shri.S.Rathnavel Pandian, Former Justice Supreme Court of India, the Honourable Shri. P.H.Pandian, Former Speaker of Tamilnadu Legislative Assembly were some of the men of high reputation who took part in the celebrations.

The management feels proud almost serving the poor and the downtrodden. It receives capitation neither for admission nor for appointments.

About the Library

Library is the index of this traditional and prestigious institution. It functions in a spacious and well equipped building. The library is facilitated with 16 computers 3 printers and a Xerox machine. The life of the individual is decided by what he reads. To promote the reading habit, the library is stacked with a voluminous number of 64,259 Books, 80409 e-books, 28 Journals, 3828 e.Journals, 23Magazines, 29 Thesis and 275 Back volumes, 149 CDs and MathSciNet Database. Apart from the main library, thousands of books are collected and maintained by the various departments of the college.

Review of Literature

Abdullah Almobarraz (2009) examined the characteristics of internet that affect its adoption by faculty members of Imam Muhammad Bin Saud University (IMSU) in Saudi Arabia. The framework of the study was the attributes of innovations offered by Rogers. The result revealed that the majority of IMSU faculty members used the Internet for research and academic activities twice a month or less, indicating a low Internet adoption rate. Multiple regression analysis showed that all attributes of innovation individually predicted Internet adoption. The combination of all attributes indicated the model could predict Internet adoption among faculty.

Bavakutty and Salih (2009) conducted a study at Calicut University, which showed that students, research scholars, and teachers used the Internet for the purpose of study, research and teaching respectively. The purposes of Internet use were: sending and receiving e-mails in connection with academic requirements, making a search on library catalogues, downloading images and communication with the peer.

M.Mani and Thirumagal (2016) based on the findings of the study the following suggestions are made to improve the use of e-resources among the students. A significant number of students are not at all using e-magazines (23.3%), E-databases (20%), E-reports (16.7%) and OPAC

(35%). This may be due to their unawareness of these resources and lack of skills in using them. Higher speeds Wi-Fi campus needs to be developed by library, so that users can use online e-resources and internet within the4 campus according to their convenience. The speed of internet needs to be increased for quick access to the available of e-resources. Basic training in hardware and software such as MS Office, internet searching and use of e-resources should be included in the curriculum of each department.

Objective of the study

The following are the main objectives of the study:

❖ Determine the frequency of the use of print sources and electronic resources.

❖ To study respondents preference of using various types of print and E-resources for information access.

❖ To study level of satisfaction for seeking information from print and E-resources.

❖ To study the search options in accessing electronic resources and

❖ To study the level of satisfaction of information obtained from library using electronic sources.

Methodology

The present study is a descriptive method. The questionnaire method has been adopted to collect the primary data. There are 150 Questionnaires were randomly distributed to the students of college, The Madurai Diraviyam Thayumanavar(M.D.T.) Hindu College Tirunelveli and 127 filled questionnaires were received back by the researchers. Hence 127 questionnaires were used for data analysis and interpretation.

Period of the Study

Data have been collected from July 2018 to December 2018.

Data Analysis and Interpretation

Table 1: Gender and Marital Status-Distribution of Respondents

Particulars		No. of Respondents	Percentage (%)
Gender	Male	72	56.7
	Female	55	43.3
Total		**127**	**100**
Marital Status	Married	41	32.3
	Unmarried	86	67.7
Total		**127**	**100**
Residing Sector	Rural	52	40.9
	Urban	75	59.1
Total		**127**	**100**
Programmes	B.A	44	34.6
	B.sc	31	24.4
	B.com	52	40.9
Total		**127**	**100**

Sources: Primary Data

Table 1 reveals the gender and marital status-wise distribution of respondents. In this study, 72(56.7%) respondents belong to male category while 55(43.3%) respondents female category. Among the overall 127 respondents, 41(32.3%) respondents come under married category whereas 86(67.7%) respondents unmarried category. The above table also reveals that 52(40.9%) respondents belong to rural category whereas 75(59.1%) respondents urban category. The above table also shows that 44(34.6%) respondents come under B.A programme, 31(24.4%) respondent B.Sc and 52(40.9%) respondents B.Com.

Table 2: Types of Print Resources for Information Access

SL.No.	Types of Resources	No of frequency	% of Valid respondent (N=127)	Percentage (%)	Rank
1.	Text books	42	33.1	24.3	1
2.	Newspapers	34	26.8	19.7	2
3.	Journals/Periodicals	28	22	16.2	4
4.	Thesis/Dissertation	17	13.4	9.8	5
5.	Competitive Examination Books	31	24.4	17.9	3
6.	Reference Books	12	9.4	6.9	6
7.	Others	9	7.1	5.2	7
	Total	**173**	**136.2**	**100**	

Source: Primary Data

Table 2 shows the preference of using types print resources for information access. Of the 127 respondents, 33.1% respondents are using the text books for accessing information from print resource and is has got first rank, 26.8% respondents are using the newspaper and it has got second rank, 22% respondents are using the journals/periodicals and it has got fourth rank, 13.4% respondents are using the thesis/dissertation and it has got fifth rank, 24.4% respondents are using the competitive examination books and it has got third rank and 9.4% respondents are using the reference books and it has got sixth rank. Besides cited above, there are some other print resources also (7.1%) and the usage is seventh rank in the order. Hence more than one third of the respondents are using the text books for accessing information from print resources.

Table 3: Use of Reference Sources for Seeking Information

SL.No.	Reference Sources	No. of frequency	Percentage of valid respondents (N=127)	Percentage of overall responses N=158	Rank
1.	Encyclopedia	31	24.4	19.6	2
2.	Dictionary	37	29.1	23.4	1
3.	Bibliography	28	22	17.7	3
4.	Biography	25	19.7	15.8	4
5.	Directory	17	13.4	10.8	5
6.	Year Book	13	10.2	8.2	6
7.	Others	7	5.5	4.4	7
	Total	**158**	**124.3**	**100**	

Source: Primary data

 Table 3 shows the use of reference sources for seeking information. It is inferred from the above study, 24.4% respondents are using the encyclopedia for seeking information from print resources and is has got second rank, 29.1% respondents are using the dictionary and it has got first rank , 22% respondents are using the bibliography and it has got third rank, 19.7% respondents are using the biography and it has got fourth rank, 13.4% respondents using the directory and it has got fifth rank and 10.2% respondents are using the year book and it has got sixth rank. Besides cited above, there are some other reference sources also (5.5%) and the usage is seventh rank in the order. Hence a majority of the respondents are using the dictionary for seeking information from print resources.

Table 4: Level of Satisfaction for Seeking Information from Print Resources by Gender-Wise Respondents.

SL. No	Gender	Opinion (%)				Total
		Highly satisfied	Satisfied	No comments	Dissatisfied	N
1.	Male	23 (31.9)	31(43.1)	10(13.9)	8(11.1)	72
2.	Female	18(32.7)	17(30.9)	15(27.3)	5(9.1)	55
Total		**41**	**48**	**25**	**13**	**127**

Source: Primary Data

Table 4 reveals the level of satisfaction for seeking information from print resources by gender-wise respondents. Among the respondents of male category, 23(31.9%) respondents are highly satisfied with seeking information from print resources, 31(43.1%) respondents are satisfied, 10(13.9%) respondents have not expressed any comments and 8(11.1%) respondents are dissatisfied. Of the respondents of female category, 18(32.7%) respondents are highly satisfied with seeking information from print resources, 17(30.9%) respondents are satisfied, 15(27.3%) respondents have not expressed any comments and 5(9.1%) respondents are dissatisfied. Hence most of the respondent is satisfied with seeking information from print Resources.

Table 5: Preference of Using Electronic Resources for Information Access.

SL.No	Opinions	No of respondents	% of valid respondents (N=127)	% of overall responses (N=143)	Rank
1.	E-books	33	26	23.3	2
2.	E-magazines	21	16.5	14.7	4
3.	Internet Journals	31	24.4	21.7	3
4.	E-journals	42	33.1	29.4	1
5.	Others	16	12.6	11.2	5
Total		**143**	**112.6**	**100**	

Sources: Primary data

Table 5 shows the preference of using electronic resources for information access. It is inferred from the above study, 26% respondents are using the e-books for access information from electronic resources and is has got second rank. 16.5% respondents are using e-magazines and it has got fourth rank, 24.4% respondents are using the internet sources and it has got third rank and 33.1% respondents are using the e-journals and it has got first rank. Besides cited above, there are some other electronic resources also (12.6%) and the usage is fifth rank in the order. Hence most of the respondents are using the e-journals for access the information from electronic resources.

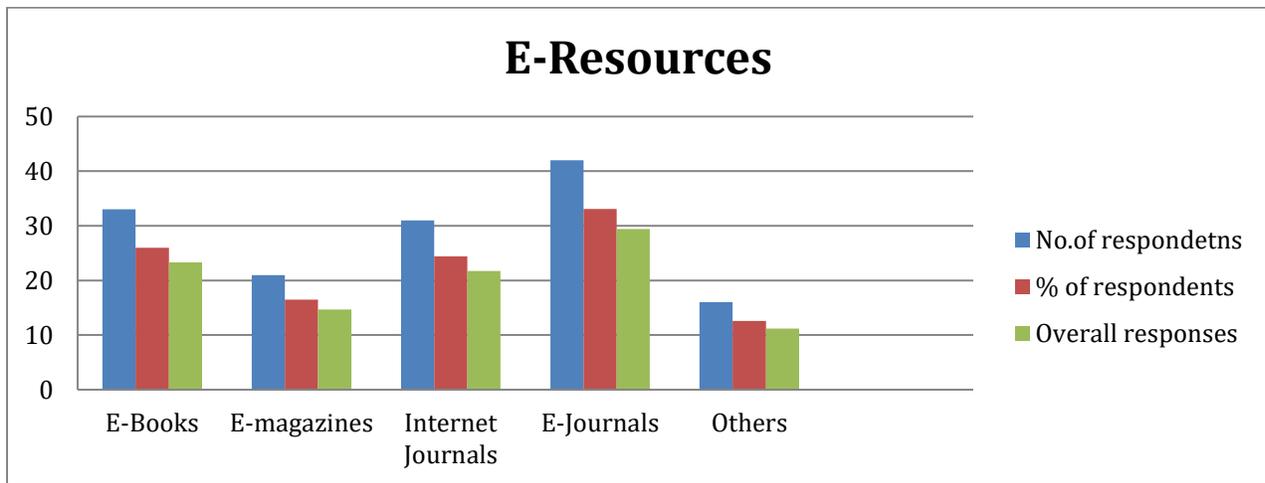**Figure-1 Preference of Using Electronic Resources for Information Access**

Table 6: Search Options in Accessing Electronic Resources

SL.No	Search of options	No of frequency	% of valid respondents (N=127)	% of overall responses (N=159)	Rank
1.	Title of Article	43	33.9	27	1
2.	Subject	31	24.4	19.5	2
3.	Author	21	16.5	13.2	5
4.	Key word	23	18.1	14.5	4
5.	Publisher	13	10.2	8.2	6
6.	Journal title	28	22	17.6	3
Total		**159**	**125.1**	**100**	

Sources: primary data

Table 6 describes the search options in accessing the Electronic resources. It is inferred from the above study, of the overall 127 respondents, 33.9% of the respondents have searched the Electronic resources through title of article and it has got first rank while 24.4% by subject and it has got second rank. Of the 127 respondents, 16.5% have searched the Electronic resources by author and it has got fifth rank whereas 18.1% by key word and it has got fourth rank. Of the 127 respondents, 10.2% have searched the Electronic sources by publishers and it has got sixth rank whereas 22% by journal title and it has got third rank. Hence a majority of the respondents have searched the Electronic resources through title of article.

Testing of Hypothesis

H₀: Null Hypothesis

There is no association between the marital status of the respondents and their opinion on level of satisfaction of using electronic sources.

Chi-square Summary Result

Chi-square Calculated Value	Degrees of Freedom	Chi-square Table Value 5%	Inference
0.49	3	7.815	Not significant/Null hypothesis accepted

Source: computed data

The table value of X^2 for 3 degrees of freedom at 5% level of significance is 7.815. The calculated value of X^2 is lower than this table value and hence the Null hypothesis is accepted. It is concluded that there is no association between the marital status of the respondents and their opinions on level of satisfaction of using electronic sources.

Findings and Suggestions:

The various findings of the study are given in the following

- ❖ More than half of the respondents belong to the category of male.

- ❖ More than two third of the respondents belongs to unmarried category.

- ❖ 59.1% of the respondents belong to urban category.

- ❖ 40.9% of the respondents are B.com students.

- ❖ More than one third of the respondents are using the text books for accessing information from print resources.

- ❖ It is found that 29.1% of the respondents are using the dictionary for seeking information from print resources.

- ❖ Among the respondents of male category, 43.1% respondents are satisfied with seeking information from print resources. Of the respondents of female category, respondents are highly satisfied with seeking information from print resources.

- ❖ It is found more than one third of the respondents are using the e-journals for access information from electronic resources.

- ❖ It is inferred from the study, more than one third of the respondents have searched the Electronic resources through title of article and,

- ❖ Among the respondents of married category, 41.5% respondents are satisfied with information obtained from library using Electronic resources. Of the respondent of unmarried category, 36% respondents are satisfied with information obtained from library using Electronic sources.

Conclusion

Users desire a hybrid information environment in which online information does not replace information in print but adds new access opportunities for users to choose. Digital libraries and traditional libraries have their unique advantages and limitations; they satisfy the information needs of users in different circumstances. Each plays a different role and each serves the needs of users in different ways. Digital libraries offer a wide range of new access opportunities that are absent in the traditional environment, including remote access, 24-hours success, and multiple users for single sources. Print and e-formats each have exclusive values, and until those values can be replicated in other media, both formats must be collected, maintained, and supported by libraries.

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