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# AWARENESS, ACCESS AND USAGE OF E-RESOURCES AMONG FACULTY MEMBERS IN ARTS AND SCIENCE COLLEGES

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## Abstract

This paper describes the awareness, access and usage of E-resources available in the Arts and Science Colleges Faculty Members in Erode District. Questionnaire method was used to examine and collect data from the Faculty Members of Arts and Science Colleges. A total of **300** Questionnaires were distributed to the Sample of Faculty Members of Arts and Science Colleges; **280** Valid Samples were collected. Hence, the total respondent for the study is **280 (93.33%)**. The collected data has been analyzed with the help of a tool called as Statistical Package for Social Science (**SPSS**). This paper findings shows that the majority of **Male** respondents using E-Journals (**20.83%**) tool frequency and E-Books are use **Female** respondents (**26.25%**) of E-resources by Faculty Members in Gender-wise. Majority of the **male** users (**86.59%**) and (**84.48%**) of the **female** users were aware about the availability of E-resources. The analysis reveals that most of the respondents (**31.43%**) use E-resources only for **Lecturer notes**. This is very important for Academic Libraries since most of them call for more and more research work.

**Keywords:** Faculty Members, Usage of E-Resources, E-Resources Tools, User Awareness, Access, User Studies.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Electronic Resources are materials in digital format accessible electronically. An E-resources is defined as a resource which require computer access or any electronic product that delivers a collection of data, be it text referring to full text bases, E-journals, images collections, other multimedia product and numerical, graphical or time based, as a commercially available title that has been published with an aim to being marketed. E-Resources usually consist of E-Journals, E-Books, E-Databases, E-Magazines, E-Thesis, E-News Papers, E-Dictionaries, E-Encyclopaedia, abstract, full-text documents and digital collections, online databases, web sites which are likely to be the alternative to the print media. This important fact is convincing many libraries to study show that using e-journals and e-books daily takes the first order reporting among the users of arts faculty members.

## 2. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

**Areghesola, A., and Oguntayo, S. (2014)<sup>1</sup>:** Conducted a research study the use of electronic resources by faculty members in Landmark University, Omu-Aran. The findings of the study revealed that faculty members use electronic resources for academic purposes. Having access to wide range of books and journals, increased access to current materials, and, to carryout research are the major motivations of electronic resources use by faculty members. The consequence of prolonged e-book reading and the need to be computer literate were identified as constraints of electronic resources use. The study recommends that user training should be frequently organized for better usage as well as stimulates the interest of users.

**Chandra, K., et.all., (2014)<sup>2</sup>:** presented the results of an investigation in the study on Use Pattern of E-Resources among Faculty Members in Arts and Science Colleges in Chennai concluded that most of the respondents were aware of e-resources available in their college library. They have accessed e-resources for their study and research purpose. Majority of the respondents opine that e-resources are useful.

**Kalbande Dattatraya, et al, (2013)<sup>3</sup>:** studied about the Use of E-resources by the Faculty Members: a Case Study and revealed that users were using e-resources; the awareness about e-resources encourages users to use such resources to the maximum; and the users are using Department and home more for accessing the information. The impact of e-

resources was visible from the decrease in number of printed documents in comparison to the increase in number of electronic resources. The use of e-resources has increased manifold. The printed material is being quickly replaced by the electronic resources.

**Krishna dass, N., and Jayaraman, S. (2014)<sup>4</sup>:** are discussing the utilization of E-Resources by Faculty Members and Research Scholars in Management Institutions affiliated to Bharathiar University, Coimbatore. The study showed that (46%) of the Faculty Members and Research Scholars are familiar with the use of e-resources, and majority of the members (42%) are using the e-resources for research work.

**Mahalakshmi, B. (2014)<sup>5</sup>:** made an analytical study about the use of electronic resources by faculty and students in higher education institutions in Chennai, surveyed 48 faculty and 57 students were conducted through a questionnaire method was used. From the study result revealed that (105%) of the respondents aware about the e-resources. Nearly (45.33%) of them use the e-resources for their subject purpose, (43%) of them use the e-resources for their education purpose, (15.42%) of them entertainment (33.18%) of them reference their subject work.

### **3. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY**

The study has been undertaken with the following objectives:

- ❖ To study the awareness, access and Usage of E-Resources among the Faculty Members of Arts and Science Colleges in Erode District.
- ❖ To study the respondents institution wise distribution of e-resources among the Faculty Members of Arts and Science Colleges in Erode District.
- ❖ To study the respondents gender wise distribution of using e-resources among the Faculty Members of Arts and Science Colleges in Erode District.
- ❖ To find out the awareness of the users about available e-resources.
- ❖ To study the purpose of utilization of e-resources.
- ❖ To Study the preferred format for using e-resources.

### **4. SCOPE AND LIMITATIONS**

The scope of the present study is limited to the all departments faculty members selected Arts and Science Colleges in Erode District. I have selected only Five Arts and Science Colleges and Eighty different types of e-resources tool in this study.

## 5. SAMPLING (METHODOLOGY)

The present study conducted among the {Arts and Science College Faculties: Professors, Associate Professors, and Assistant Professors} of Arts & Science Colleges in Erode District. The population of the study consists of the Arts and Science Faculty Members of these 5 Colleges. Data was collected using a questionnaire. For this purpose a total of 300 questionnaires were distributed among arts faculty members in and around Erode. A total of 300 questionnaires have been distributed to the faculty members and 280 have responded. Hence, the total respondent for the study is 93.33%. The collected data given by the Faculty Member is analyzed, tabulated, interpreted and presented in form of this paper.

### ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

**Table 1:** Distribution of Arts and Science College Wise Sample Respondents

ARTS & SCIENCE COLLEGES	NO. OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE
Vellalar College for Women (SFW) & (AIDED)	120	42.86
Kongu Arts and Science College (Autonomous)	61	21.79
Sri Vasavi Arts and Science College (Aided)	55	19.64
Nandha Arts and Science College	20	7.14
CSI Arts College for Women	24	8.57
Total =	280	100.00

**Table 1** shows that the highest respondents replied 120 (42.86%) are from Vellalar College for Women, 61 (21.79%) from Kongu Arts and Science College, 55(19.64%) from Sri Vasavi Arts and Science College, 24 (8.57%) from CSI Arts College for Women, 20 (7.14%) from Nandha Arts and Science College. It is concluded that maximum number of Arts and Science College Faculty Members are from Vellalar College for Women.

**Table 2:** Category Wise distribution of respondents

<b>ACADEMIC STATUS</b>	<b>NO. OF RESPONDENTS</b>	<b>PERCENTAGE</b>
Professors	52	18.57
Associate Professors	88	31.43
Assistant Professors	140	50.00
Total =	280	100.00

**Table 2** shows the category wise distribution of respondents. Out of 280 total respondents, the (50%) of them are Assistant Professors and (31.43%) of them are Associate Professors. In this study, (18.57%) of the respondents are Professors. It is concluded that more Assistant Professors followed by Associate Professors are the respondents in the study.

#### **ARTS FACULTY MEMBERS STUDY**

**Table 3.** Gender Wise distribution of respondents

<b>GENDER</b>	<b>ARTS STAFF</b>	<b>PERCENTAGE</b>
Male	120	42.86
Female	160	57.14
Total =	280	100.00

**Table 1** shows the gender wise distribution of respondents. The result reveals that out of a total of 280 respondents, the majority of the respondents females 160 (57.14%) was slightly more than males 120 (42.86%) are gender wise classification by the e-resources. This study reveals that the females' gender wise classification is higher than the males.

## ARTS FACULTY MEMBERS

The distribution of respondents according to the use of electronic resources of Arts Faculty Members (N = 280)

**Table 4.** Types of e-resources by Faculty Members in Gender Wise

S.NO	E – RESOURCES	GENDER – WISE		TOTAL
		MALE	FEMALE	
1.	E – Journals	25 (20.83%)	24 (15.00%)	49 (17.5%)
2.	E – Books	21 (17.5%)	42 (26.25%)	63 (22.5%)
3.	E – Databases	11 (9.17%)	23 (14.38%)	34 (12.14%)
4.	E – Magazines	13 (10.83%)	11 (6.88%)	24 (8.57%)
5.	E – Thesis	17 (14.17%)	18 (11.25%)	35 (12.5%)
6.	E – News Papers	15 (12.5%)	21 (13.12%)	36 (12.86%)
7.	E – Dictionaries	10 (8.33%)	12 (7.5%)	22 (7.86%)
8.	E – Encyclopaedia	8 (6.67%)	9 (5.62%)	17 (6.07%)
	<b>TOTAL =</b>	<b>120(42.86%)</b>	<b>160(57.14%)</b>	<b>280(100)</b>

**Table 4** describes that male and female differ in the usage of e-resources. Male used E-Journals 25 (20.83%) higher than female. So in the regard of female it is found out that E-Books 42 (26.25%) used by female more than the male.

**Table 5.** Preference level of using E-Resources

TYPES	NO. OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE
Electronic Version	150	53.57
Print Version	74	26.43
Both	56	20.00
Total =	280	100.00

**Table 5** The result reveals that 150 (53.57%) of respondents want to access only electronic version of e-resources whereas only 74 (26.43%) users want to read the printed journals but 56 (20%) respondents want to use both electronic and printed journals.

**Table 6.** Awareness about E-Resources

<b>GENDER</b>	<b>AWARE</b>	<b>NOT AWARE</b>
Male	142 (86.59%)	22 (13.41%)
Female	98 (84.48%)	18 (15.52%)
Total =	240 (85.71%)	40 (14.29%)

**Table 6** represent that 142 (86.59%) of male arts faculty members users were aware about the e-resources whereas only 98 (84.48%) of female education faculty members respondents were aware about the availability of e-resources. It can be seen that male respondents are more aware about e-resources than females.

**Table 7.** Purpose of Using E-Resources

<b>Academic Status</b>	<b>Research Articles</b>	<b>Lecturer Notes</b>	<b>Update Knowledge</b>	<b>Any Other Works</b>	<b>Total</b>
Professors	16 (5.71)	24 (8.57)	8 (2.86)	10 (3.57)	58 (20.71)
Associate Professors	18 (6.43)	28 (10.00)	12 (4.29)	12 (4.29)	70 (25.00)
Assistant Professors	42 (15.00)	36 (12.86)	44 (15.71)	30 (10.71)	152 (54.29)
Total =	76 (27.14)	88 (31.43)	64 (22.86)	52 (18.57)	280 (100)

**Table 7** shows that academic status wise respondents purpose of using e-resources. It could be noted that out of 280 respondents 88 (31.43%) of them are using e-resources for the purpose of giving lecture notes, 76 (27.14%) of them are using e-resources for research articles, 64 (22.86%) of them are using e-resources for update knowledge, and the least of the respondents 52 (18.57%) use e-resources for any other works.

## **FINDINGS FROM THE STUDY**

The following findings were found from the present study are:



- Out of **300** questionnaires were distributed and **280 (93.33%)** questionnaires were responded properly.
- Out of **280** respondents, **120** respondents (**42.86%**) are male whereas **160** respondents (**57.14%**) are female. This indicates that majority of the respondents are female.
- The overall **280** respondents, **52** respondents (**18.57%**) are Professors, **88** respondents (**31.43%**) are Associate Professors and remaining **140** respondents (**50%**) are Assistant Professors.
- Majority of the Arts Faculty Members (**20.83%**) are using E-Journals for their educational and research purpose, and (**15%**) E-Books for their Subject Information Knowledge.
- (**53.57%**) of the Arts Faculty Members want to access only electronic version of E-resources.
- Most of the Arts Faculty Members (**86.59%**) of the male users were aware about the E-resources whereas only (**84.48%**) of female respondents were aware about the availability of E-resources.
- (**31.43%**) of Arts Faculty Members are using E-resources for collecting the Lecturer Notes.

## CONCLUSION

The results of the present study investigated the awareness, access and usage of E-Resources among faculty members in Arts and Science Colleges at Erode. This study results show that the majority of the faculty members 88 (31.43%) are using the e-resources for the purpose of giving lecture notes. They have accessed e-resources for their study and research purpose.

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