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AWARENESS AND USE OF E-RESOURCES IN COLLEGE LIBRARIES: A SURVEY

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***Abstract:** Present study is a base on the use of electronic resources by the teachers of various college libraries in Marathwada. This survey was particularly conducted to know the awareness and use of e-resources like E-Journals, E-Books, CD/DVDs, OPAC, E-Databases and Internet etc. in various college libraries of Marathwada. Primary data were collected from 210 respondents with the help of survey. The data were collected with the aid of a questionnaire and analyzed through the use of SSPS and Microsoft Excel. The results indicate that maximum 102 (48.57%) of respondents visited to the library in daily. It was also noticed that maximum 189 (24.60%) of respondents were using E-Journals. Maximum 145 (69.04%) of respondents had excellent knowledge of using e-resources. Majority of 198 (46.47%) respondents were using e-resources for research purpose. Majority 155 (47.11%) of respondents feels that low internet speed is the main problem to access the e-resources.*

***Key Words:** E-resources, E-journals, CD-ROMs, OPAC, E-Databases*

1. Introduction

In the age of information technology, there is a remarkable change in the form of library resources, library infrastructure, collection development and library services. E-resource represents of increasingly important component of the collection building activities of libraries. Electronic resources can support enormous saving in time and efforts. E-resources allows remote and timely access simultaneously by more than one person, save the physical storage space, reduce certain work in libraries such as circulation, filling, solves the problem of missing issues supporting for searching information. The e-resources of a library basically include e-journals, e-books, e-thesis,

e-dissertation, databases which should be acquired by library as per needs, infrastructure facilities, financial provision etc.

2. Statement of the Research Problem

The problem under investigation is “Awareness and use of electronic resources in college libraries: A Survey”. The study will evaluate the use and impact of e-resources of the academic colleges in Maharashtra.

3. Electronic Resources

E-resources are basically distribution of information in any electronic form such as CD- ROM, floppy disk or magnetic tape or across a computer network like E-journals, E-Books, etc. “Electronic resources consist of data (information representing numbers, text, graphics, images, maps, moving images, music, sounds, etc.), programs (instructions, etc., that process the data for use), or combinations of data and programs.”

4. Objectives of the Study

The main objective of this paper is to study the use of different types of e-resources of the arts, commerce and science colleges in Marathwada. The study focuses on the following objectives.

- Awareness about use of e-resources.
- To study the use of different types of electronic resources.
- To know the gender wise used of e-resources.
- To know the purpose of using e-resources.
- To know the difficulties faced while access e-resources.

5. Research Methodology

Present study has done with the help of survey method. Survey research is distinguished by its reliance upon the selection of person from large and small population and the making of observation. So that inference can be applied to present population.

6. Data Analysis and Interpretation

For the present study, a questionnaire is prepared and survey has taken academic colleges in Maharashtra and there are about 210 responses were received. The collected data have been analyzed with using following parameters. Gender wise respondents, designation wise respondents, use of e-resources in the library, knowledge of using e-resources, purpose of using e-resources, impact that the e-resources make on your working environment, difficulties faced while access e-resources etc.

6.1 Gender Wise Responses

It can be observed from table no. 1 shows that gender wise distribution of the respondents highest numbers of 121 (57.61%) were male and 89 (42.38%) were female. This means male were the highest respondents used. It is conclude that majority of the respondents participated for the study are male.

Table No. 1 Gender Wise Responses

Sr. No	Gender	No. of Respondents	%
1	Male	121	57.61%
2	Female	89	42.38%
Totals		210	100%

6.2. Designation Wise Responses

Table no. 2 shows that designation wise distribution of the respondents. It can be shows that 103 (49.04%) were Assistant Professors while remaining 71 (33.80%) were Associate Professors, 24 (11.42%) were Professors and 12 (5.71%) were others. It is conclude that majority of the respondents were Assistant Professors.

Table No. 2 Designation Wise Responses

Sr. No.	Designation	No. of Respondents	%
1	Assistant Professor	103	49.04%
2	Associate Professor	71	33.80%
3	Professor	24	11.42%
4	Other	12	5.71%
Totals		210	100%

6.3. Visit to Library

The table no. 3 shows that the majority of 102 (48.57%) of the respondents were visit to library every day following by 68 (32.38%) were visit to library Once in 2 Days; 29 (13.80%) were Once in 3 Days and 11 (5.23%) of the respondents were visit to library Once in 4 Days respectively.

Table No. 3 Visit to Library

Sr. No.	Visit to Library	No. of Respondents	%
1	Every Day	102	48.57%
2	Once in 2 Days	68	32.38%
3	Once in 3 Days	29	13.80%
4	Once in 4 Days	11	5.23%
Totals		210	100%

6.4 Use of E-Resources in the Library

Table no. 4 shows that use of e-resources in the library. Majority of 189 (24.60%) respondents were used E-Journals followed by E-Books 165 (21.48%), E-Databases 155 (20.18%), Internet 90 (11.71%), OPAC 89 (11.58%), CD/DVDs 55 (7.16%) and others E-Resources 25 (3.25%).

Table No. 4 Use of E-Resources in the Library

Sr. No.	Use of E-Resources in the Library	No. of Respondents	Percentages %
1	E-Journals	189	24.60%
2	E-Books	165	21.48%
3	CD/DVDs	55	7.16%
4	Internet	90	11.71%
5	OPAC	89	11.58%
6	E-Databases	155	20.18%
7	Other	25	3.25%
Totals		768	100%

6.5 Knowledge of Using E-Resources

It can be noted from table no. 5 shows knowledge of using e-resources. Majority of 145 (69.04%) of respondents have excellent knowledge of using e-resources and 65 (30.95%) of respondents have good knowledge of using e-resources.

Table No. 5 Knowledge of Using E-Resources

Sr. No.	Knowledge of Using E-Resources	No. of Respondents	Percentages %
1	Excellent	145	69.04%
2	Good	65	30.95%
3	Average	0	0%
4	Poor	0	0%
Totals		210	100%

6.6 Purpose of Using E-Resources

It can be noted from the table no. 6 that a purpose of using e-resources. Majority of 198 (46.47%) respondents using e-resources for research followed by For Publication 155 (36.38%), Teaching purpose 69 (16.19%), Entertainment 3 (00.73%) and others 1 (00.23%).

Table No. 6 Purpose of Using E-Resources

Sr. No.	Purpose of Using E-Resources	No. of Respondents	Percentages %
1	Research	198	46.47%
2	For Publication	155	36.38%
3	Teaching purpose	69	16.19%
4	Entertainment	3	00.73%
5	Other	1	00.23%
Totals		426	100%

6.7 E-Resources That Keeps Up-To-Date

It can be noted from the table no. 7 opinion on e-resources which keeping them up-to-date. It shows that the majority of the users 165 (25.07%) were feels e-journals are keeping them up-to date, followed by 149 (22.64%) were feels E-Books, E-Database 135 (20.51%) were feels E-Database, 130 (19.75%) Internet, 65 (9.91%) OPAC, 11 (1.67%) CD/DVDs and 3 (00.45%) other.

Table No. 7 E-Resources That Keeps Up-to-date

Sr. No.	E-Resources That Keeps Up-to-date	No. of Respondents	Percentages %
1	E-Journals	165	25.07%
2	E-Books	149	22.64%
3	CD/DVDs	11	1.67%
4	E-Database	135	20.51%
5	Internet	130	19.75%
6	OPAC	65	9.91%
7	Other	3	00.45%
Totals		658	100%

6.8 Impact That the E-Resources Make on Your Working Environment

It can be noted from the table no.8 shows opinion about impact that the e-resources make on your working environment. It shows that the majority of 164 (78.09%)

were using e-resources help them very favorable and 46 (21.90%) of the users feels it's favorable.

Table No. 8 Impact That the E-Resources Make On Your Working Environment

Sr. No.	Impact that the E-Resources make on your working environment	No. of Respondents	Percentages %
1	Very Favorable	164	78.09%
2	Favorable	46	21.90%
3	No Impact	0	0.00%
4	Un-Favorable	0	0.00%
Totals		210	100%

6.9 Difficulties Faced While Access E-Resources

The table no. 9 shows that Difficulties Faced While Access to E-Resources. Majority of 155 (47.11%) respondents feels that low internet speed is the main problem to access the e-resources followed by 136 (41.33%) feels that downloading problem is the barrier, 22 (6.68%) feel Providing less time to access, 12 (3.64%) feel providing Lack of infrastructure and 4 (1.21%) feel other problem to access the resources respectively.

Table No. 9 Difficulties Faced While Access E-Resources

Sr. No.	Difficulties Faced While Access E-Resources	No. of Respondents	Percentages %
1	Low Internet speed	155	47.11%
2	Downloading problem	136	41.33%
3	Providing less time to access	22	6.68%
4	Lack of infrastructure	12	3.64%
5	Other	4	1.21%
Totals		329	100%

7. Conclusion

A library plays a significant role in spreading knowledge in all the fields of technical education because it is fundamentally linked up with the e-resources of its users. The study investigated use of electronic resources by the teachers of various college libraries. Majority of the respondents were visit to the library every day. It can be also shows that majority of respondents used e-journals to get desired and relevant information for their research as well as for teaching purpose. While doing this study it has been observed that most users have a good knowledge of using e-resources.

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