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E-RESOURCES: PERCEPTION AND UTILISATION BY AYURVEDIC MEDICAL COLLEGE LIBRARIANS OF NORTH KARNATAKA

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ABSTRACT

E-resources are increasingly important to all aspects of teaching and learning. This present study provides an overview of the perception of e-resources by the librarians of 23 Ayurvedic Medical Colleges of North Karnataka. A well-structured questionnaire was administered to the Librarians of 23 Ayurvedic Medical Colleges of North Karnataka to get required data. 23 questionnaires were distributed, out of which 23 questionnaires were returned with 100% response. This study investigates awareness regarding perception and use of e-resource in the library; their usage; satisfaction with the availability of e-resources & infrastructure facility provided in using e-resources; and need of training to increase the utilization of e-resources. Gives suggestions and recommendations for the improvement in the usage of e-resources. Concludes that the librarians are not much aware about the availability of the e-resources related to medical field and they feel the need of training in using these e-resources.

KEYWORDS: E-Resources, Ayurvedic Medical College Librarians, E-resources awareness, Usage of e-resources, Satisfaction level in using e-resources

1. INTRODUCTION

Libraries are treated as the heart of an educational set up and system, and play a vital and important role in the development of a country. The libraries of today are not only the store house of the books but also are the analysis centres of information, hence their responsibilities towards the users increase from the points of view of the usage and application of the information. Today, in the libraries, various functions related with information providing for the users, are executed, for which libraries need an experienced, skilful, and technically expert person, called as the librarian.

2. E-RESOURCES

Today's we are living in an electronic era. Each and every organization is using the applications of Information and Communication Technology in their work such as banks, health organizations, and even libraries are not exception to this. Nowadays the concept of e-resources is very popular because it helps the researchers to get information easily by removing the barriers in the way of research. Electronic publishing has led to new era of communications and information sharing. Electronic resources or e-resources make an increasingly important part of the collection building activities of libraries. "E-resources"

refer to those - that require a computer for access. They may either be accessed remotely via the Internet or locally.

3. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

“E-resources: perception and use by Ayurvedic medical college librarians of north Karnataka.”

4. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The main objectives of the study are to know the perception and use of e-resources among the librarians of 23 Ayurvedic Medical College libraries of North Karnataka under Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences (RGUHS). The study leads to the following objectives:

- i) To know about different types of e-resources and services available in Ayurvedic Medical College Libraries of North Karnataka;
- ii) To know the awareness regarding use of different types of electronic resources by the librarians;
- iii) To know the purpose of using electronic resources and services;
- iv) To know the awareness among librarians regarding E-resources in Ayurvedic College Libraries of North Karnataka under RGUHS, Karnataka;
- v) To know the hindrances and problems faced by the librarians while accessing and using e-resources;
- vi) To suggest the solution to come over the problems faced by the librarians of Ayurvedic Medical College Libraries of Karnataka in accessing e-resources.

5. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Keeping in view the above objectives a structured questionnaire was prepared to collect relevant data from the users regarding the use of E- resources in various disciplines of Ayurvedic Medical Colleges of Karnataka under Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences (RGUHS). This was supplemented by personal interview of the users as well as library professionals. Different micro and macro literature as well as websites will also be consulted for collecting data.

1. STUDY POPULATION AND SAMPLE SIZE:

The study populations implies that the collections of units about which the information is desired. For the present study the librarians of 23 Ayurvedic Medical colleges of North Karnataka affiliated to Rajiv Gandhi university of Health Sciences, Karnataka Bangalore constitutes the population. 23 questionnaires were distributed to each of the librarians in 23 Ayurvedic Medical colleges of North Karnataka.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

Melvin (2018) sets out to investigate the use of e-Resources by students and research scholars at central library in Alagappa University, Karaikudi. The purpose of the study is to determine the knowledge and use of e-Resources; users' skills in handling e- Resources; to reveal the factors which influence the effective use of e-Resources; problems faced by the respondents and their level of satisfaction regarding the use of e-Resources of central library in Alagappa University.

Chhatwal (2018) describe that a bibliometric study is generally used to measure the literature output on any given subject. Bibliometric analysis use data on numbers and authors of scientific publications and on articles and the citations therein (and in patents) to measure the "output" of individuals/research teams, institutions, and countries, to identify national and international networks, and to map the development of new (multidisciplinary) fields. Similar approach has been adopted in this paper to identify the global literature output on e-resources. The research data used for the study has been retrieved from 'Scopus' database source. The study in hand attempts to identify the bibliometric characteristics of the research publications from Scopus database during the study period 2006-2016 (11 years).

Soni, Gupta and Shrivastava (2018) attempt to determine and find the present status of awareness, accessibility and use of electronic resources among library and information science research scholars of Jiwaji University Gwalior, like; CD-ROM databases, online databases, online journals, OPAC etc. The study was done to find out the challenges, benefits, and progress gained by research scholars while accessing the e-resources.

Senthil and Madhusudhan (2018) discuss that Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) E-Journal Consortium is one of the important consortiums among other consortia existing in India. It covers multi-disciplinary subject areas to fulfil the information needs of DRDO scientific community. This paper tries to evaluate the implementation of DRDO e-journals, coverage of publishers and titles, subject-wise distribution of titles among DRDO laboratories, need of e-journal consortium among the labs, and expenditure details along with yearly growth. This is one of the unique consortiums implemented that is based on subscription model. The study also highlights the usage of e- journals publisher-wise in the consortium and would be helpful in efficient collection development policy of e-journals.

Patel and Darbar (2017) focus on availability and use of e-resources by users of C. K. Shah Vijapurwala Institute of Management (CKSVIM) Library, Vadodara. The main objective of this study is to identify the awareness of e-resources, know the users internet skills, purpose of

use, identify satisfaction level of availability of e-resources, use of different e-resources, satisfactory level of using e-resources, factors influenced, impact of e-resources, different problem faced in the access of e-resource, preferred file format for e-resources and users suggestions to improve usages of e-resources.

Gopinath (2017) focuses that technology has penetrated all areas of life and the use of information technology (IT) has promoted incredible work procedures and approaches. Information Technology is vastly used in academic environment especially in higher education sector. E-resources are the major aspects in providing the multi-user, multi-accessibility to the users inside the campus and outside the world with no cost and no time round the clock as well.

Mahapatra (2017) designed to reflect the use of electronic information among the social scientists in the city of Bhubaneswar. The investigator has attempted to collect information related to the preferences on electronic information resources, types of e-resources used, the use of statistical information in e-format, online databases in social science and satisfaction on the use of e-resources. The information has been analyzed in the light of data collected from 90 social scientists from research institutes and universities in the city of Bhubaneswar.

Bhat (2017) discusses regarding the present status of knowledge and use of electronic information resources. It was observed that use of electronic resources is still inadequate among the Bed (bachelor of education) students of the Govt. College of Education, Srinagar. This paper presents the findings of a survey to about the familiarity and use of digital and electronic resources by BEd students through CD-ROM databases, online databases, online journals and OPAC etc. available in the college of education library, Srinagar. The subjects chosen for this study were BEd students of Govt. College of education Srinagar, Jammu And Kashmir, India. For evaluating study questions and data collection, the questionnaire was distributed to a random sample of 160 BEd students. The result of this survey are presented and discussed in this paper.

Nayak (2017) discusses that the Higher Education system of India has tremendously transformed into a high quality affordable educational system over the past two decades. It ensures universal access to low-cost high-quality university education for students of all levels. The present study concerns about how the major consortia activities in India with special reference to UGC INFONET, INDEST and NLIST consortia and how they have been merged to form a single entity named e-ShodhSindhu, Consortia for Higher Education e resources which is appreciable and will definitely strengthen higher education system in India

with free and or highly subsidized access to scholarly E-resources to help educational institutions in fulfill their mission in to reality.

Patra (2017) describes regarding various components of Electronic Resource Management (ERM) such as selection, evaluation, acquisition etc. of management school libraries in India. It was observed that libraries are lacking in the process of following all the processes of ERM. For better management of the libraries it is essential.

Singh (2016) describes that in the present era, libraries are more concerned with electronic resources as these provide accurate information with the latest data. The faculty members consult the electronic resources for their teaching, research, and consultancy objectives. This article focuses on various aspects of electronic resources and their subscription and usage by the faculty and other users.

Kumar (2016) discusses regarding usage and experience of e-resources among medical students at Maharishi Markandeshwar University, Ambala Haryana. In this study it is tried to verify and evaluate the purpose, frequency, reasons of using and place of student's access to e-resources. A well structured questionnaire was administered to the 100 medical students. The response rate was 78% (45 from Postgraduates and 33 from Undergraduates students). The result of study reveals that most of P.G. and U.G. students state that e-resources are informative as well as update the medical knowledge. Search engine and medical research reports are used highly among the students.

Patel and Modi (2016) focus on different aspects of electronic resources and its services used by mechanical engineering students of SAL engineering and technical institute, Ahmedabad. Paper cover frequency of library visit, places of accessing e-resources, purpose of using r-resources, sources through which students can know about e-resources, search strategies adopted by students for information search, and the problems faced by the students while accessing and using e-resources.

Bansal (2015) discusses regarding how the electronic information environment has transformed the way scientists and researchers access and use information. The present study aims at knowing the awareness and use of e-resources by agricultural scientists working in various ICAR research institutes in Himalayan region of India. The structured interview of 112 scientists revealed that Internet is highly used information resource by them. Most of the information sources are preferred in e-format. E-journals and online databases are frequently used e-resources by the agricultural scientists. Awareness and use of e-resources is more in young scientists than their senior colleagues.

Kalbande, Shinde and Ingle (2015) attempt to study the issues like use of electronic information resources, its impact on the collection of print and electronic sources its awareness among the users, and the places where the users are accessing these resources. A survey was conducted in the academic year 2010-11 at the Mahatma Phule Agricultural University, Rahuri (M.S). A total number of 108 faculty members were selected and their response was obtained with the help of questionnaire. The findings show 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.

Prakashe and Tayade (2015) focus on the study of e-resources in the libraries of institutes of management in India. The main objective is to determine the availability of different types of e-resources, viz., subscribed e-resources through consortium, memberships of library networks and collaboration with libraries. Based upon the findings, some suggestions for strengthening the services pertaining to e-resources have been given. A resource sharing model has been proposed which promises the maximum availability of e-resources and also increases their reach and access.

3. HYPOTHESES OF THE STUDY:

To check the validity of data and to understand the effective usage of e-resources among the respondents the following hypotheses are framed. They are:

1. Though there are large number of e-resources available on the net on Ayurveda, librarians are not aware about these sources.
2. Libraries are not well equipped for extending online services to meet the readers' query regarding online reference sources.

9. SCOPE AND LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY:

The present study covers the librarians of 23 Ayurvedic medical Colleges of North Karnataka affiliated to the Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences, Bangalore.

10. NEED FOR THE STUDY

With the advent of Information Communication Technology (ICT), the possibility of production of information sources in different non print forms such as CD-ROM's, consortiums, databases, institutional repositories and portals over computer networks and internet has increased. Today Electronic Information Resources have become an integral part of Health Science libraries. To cope up with the increasing demand from the users, librarians should be fully qualified with modern technology. Now-a-days librarian's job is more challenging as technology has advanced in a rapid pace.

11. DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATIONS

Table 1 Type of Colleges

Sl. No.	Pattern of Colleges	Frequency
1	Aided	2
2	Private	21
3	Total	23

From table 1 it is clear that out of 23 Ayurvedic Medical colleges of North Karnataka, 21 are private colleges and 2 are aided colleges.

Table 2 Frequency of total no. of library users

No. of users	No. of colleges	Percent
0-100	3	13.0
101-200	5	21.7
201-300	11	47.8
Above 300	4	17.4
Total	23	100.0

Table 6 shows the total no. of users in the library. It shows that maximum 11 colleges are having users between 201-300, 05 colleges are having between 101-200, and 04 colleges are having above 300 while 03 colleges are having between 0-100.

Table 3 Total experience of the Librarian

Experience	No. of colleges	Percent
0-5 yrs	6	26.1
6-10 yrs	7	30.4
11-15 yrs	4	17.4
Above 15 yrs	6	26.1
Total	23	100.0

From table 3 it can be traced that among the 23 Ayurvedic Medical College librarians maximum 07 librarians are having 6-10 yrs of experience, 06 librarians are having above 15 yrs of experience, another 06 are having 0-5 yrs experience and minimum 04 librarians are having 11-15 yrs of experience.

Table 4 Statistics of Infrastructure in the Library

		Area	Computers	Seating capacity	Book racks	Xerox machine
N	Valid	23	23	23	23	23
	Missing	0	0	0	0	0
Mean		2.4783	1.6087	2.1304	2.3043	41.70
Std. Deviation		.99405	.78272	1.01374	.82212	22.650

Table 4 reveals regarding the various infrastructure available in the library like total area of the library in sqft, total no. of computers, seating capacity, total no. of book racks and total no. of Xerox machine available in the library.

Table 5 Statistics of Library Resources

		Books	Journals	Journal Back volume	Audio Visual materials	Dissertations	Online Data bases	CD-ROM Databases	Electronic Journals
N	valid	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23
	Missing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mean		1.9565	2.5217	2.7826	1.7826	1.6957	1.6522	2.0870	1.4348
Std. Deviation		.36659	.84582	1.62247	1.12640	1.01957	.93462	1.41142	.72777

Table 5 gives a vivid description regarding various resources available in the library, e.g. books, journals, back volume of journals, audio-visual materials, dissertations, online data bases, CD-ROM databases, electronic journals and other materials.

Table 6 Total No. of Library Staff

Frequency	No. of Colleges	Percent
2	4	17.4
3	10	43.5
4	7	30.4
5	2	8.7
Total	23	100.0

Table 7 Sources of Finance for Library

Sl. No.	Source / Grant	No. of Colleges
1.	State Govt.	3(87%)
2.	Trust/Management Grants	22(95.7%)
3.	Donations/ Endowments	5(21%)

Table 7 shows the different sources of finance for the libraries. Among the 23 colleges maximum 22 colleges receive grants from management or trust, while 05 colleges receive donations and 03 colleges get grants from state govt.

Table 8 Frequency regarding Library Automation

Library is Automated	Frequency	Percent
Yes	9	39.1
No	14	60.9
Total	23	100.0

Table 8 depicts the picture regarding automation of the libraries. Among the 23 colleges 09 libraries are automated while 14 libraries are still not automated.

Table 9 Frequency regarding whether the library is a member of any Library Network

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	7	30.4
No	16	69.6
Total	23	100.0

Table 9 shows whether the library is a member of any library network. It shows that 07 libraries are member of other library network and 16 libraries are not associated with any other library network.

Table 10 Frequency Regarding Access to Electronic Journals

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	10	43.5
No	13	56.5
Total	23	100.0

Table 10 shows frequency regarding access to electronic journals. Out of 23 college libraries 10 access electronic journals while 13 are not accessing electronic journals.

Table 11 No. of Electronic Journals accessed by the Library

Frequency	No. of Colleges	Percent
0-10	18	78.3
11-20	5	21.7
Total	23	100.0

Table 11 reveals regarding the total number of electronic journals accessed by the libraries. It reveals that maximum 18 colleges access 0-10 electronic journals while 05 libraries access 11-20 electronic journals.

Table 12 No. of Users utilizing Electronic Resources per day

Frequency	No. of Colleges	Percent
0-20	17	73.9
21-40	4	17.4
41-60	2	8.7
Total	23	100.0

From table 12 it can be accessed regarding how many users are using electronic resources per day. It reveals that 0-20 users are using the electronic resources daily in maximum 17 colleges, followed by 21-40 users in 04 colleges and 41-60 users are using daily in 02 colleges.

Table 13 Frequency of Awareness regarding Medical Databases

Sr. No	Databases	Yes	No
1.	Helinet	22(95.7)	1(4.3)
2.	Medline Plus	6(26.1)	17(73.9)
3.	Pub Med	10(43.5)	13(56.5)
4.	Indian Medlars Centre	4(17.4)	19(82.6)
5.	NLM	3(13)	20(87)
6.	Extra med	3(13)	20(87)
7.	WHO Library databases	5(21.7)	18(78.3)
8.	Molecular Biology databases	3(13)	20(87)
9.	Media Bank	3(13)	20(87)
10.	Medline	4(17.4)	19(82.6)
11.	Ovid SP	4(17.4)	19(82.6)
12.	Biomed Central	6(26.1)	17(73.9)

Table 13 gives the clear picture regarding librarian's awareness about various medical databases available. Among the 12 medical databases Helinet is the most familiar among the librarians with maximum no. of 22 (95.7%) librarians are aware about Helinet. Pub Med is in 2nd position with 10(43.5%) response. The least familiar databases are NLM, Extra Med, Molecular Biology Databases and Media Bank with 03(13%) response.

Table 14 Frequency of Awareness regarding E-Newsletters

Sr. No.	News Letters	Yes	No
1.	Health Link Bulletin	9(39.1)	14(60.9)
2.	Health and Family Planning Publications	6(26.1)	17(73.9)
3.	World Health News	10(43.5)	13(56.5)
4.	Product News by Shamson	4(17.4)	19(82.6)

5.	BBC Health News	6(26.1)	17(73..9)
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From table 14 it can be assessed regarding awareness about various medical E-Newsletters available on internet among the librarians. Among the five E- Newsletters, World Health News is the most familiar with 10 (43.5%) response, followed by Health Link Bulletin 09 (39.1%) response. Product News by Shamson is the least familiar among all with 04 (17.4%) response.

Table 15 Frequency Regarding Access to Union Catalogue of Indian Biomedical Journals

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	6	26.1
No	17	73.9
Total	23	100.0

Table 15 shows regarding access to Union Catalogue of Indian Biomedical journals. It shows that among the 23 libraries only 06 are accessing Union Catalogue of Indian Biomedical journals and the rest of the 17 libraries are not accessing it.

Table 16 Awareness regarding free Online Journals/ Newsletters related to Medical Science

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	12	52.2
No	5	21.7
Not sure	6	26.1
Total	23	100.0

Table 16 shows the awareness of the librarians regarding various free journals or newsletters related to medical science. Among the 23 librarians 12 (52.2%) are aware about it, whether 05 (21.7%) are not aware about it and 06 (26.1%) are not sure about it.

Table 17 Frequency regarding provision of User Education on use of E-resources

Frequency	No. of colleges	Percent
Frequently	12	52.2
Some times	7	30.4
Never	4	17.4
Total	23	100.0

**Table 18 Frequency regarding formation of Library Consortia/Association/
Network**

Sr. No.	Statement	1 SA	2 A	3 U	4 D	5 SD
1.	By forming a network of Health Science libraries in Karnataka. We will be able to achieve better resource sharing	7 (30.4)	15 (65.2)	1 (4.3)	0	0
2.	Union catalogue of Journals / Books available at all health science libraries in Karnataka will help to meet the users requirements to a larger extent	3 (13)	19 (82.6)	1 (4.3)	0	0
3.	Consortia /Network of Health science libraries will reduce the cost spent on e- Journals by individual libraries	6 (26.1)	16 (69.6)	1 (4.3)	0	0
4.	With consortia approach , each library will get online access to more number of journals for lesser amount of money	6 (26.1)	16 (69.6)	1 (4.3)	0	0
5.	I am in favour of development of a Karnataka Health Science Libraries Network/Consortia	6 (26.1)	16 (69.6)	1 (4.3)	0	0

From table 18 it is clear that out of 23 Ayurvedic Medical College librarians 15 (65.2%) agree to form a network of Health Science Libraries in Karnataka, followed by 07 (30.4%) strongly agree and 01 (4.3%) is uncertain. The second point that is Union catalogue of journals/ books is helpful for the users is agreed by 19 (82.6%) librarians followed by 03(13%) strongly agreed and 01(4.3%) is uncertain about it. The third point that is Consortia/ Network of Health Science libraries will be cost effective for the libraries is agreed by 16(69.6%) librarians , whereas 06(26.1%) strongly agree it and 01(4.3%) is uncertain regarding this. The fourth point that is Consortia approach will be beneficial for the libraries to access more number of books in lesser amount of money is agreed by 16(69.6%) librarians, whereas 06(26.1%) strongly agreed it and 01(4.3%) is uncertain regarding this.

12. FINDINGS AND SUGGESTIONS:

1. It is found that out of 23 Ayurvedic Medical colleges of North Karnataka, 21 colleges are private whereas 02 are aided colleges.
2. Maximum numbers of 11 colleges are having library users between 201-300, 05 colleges are having users between 101-200, 04 colleges are having above 300 and 03 colleges are having between 0-100.
3. 07 college librarians are having between 6-10 years of experience, 06 college librarians are having 0-5 yrs of experience, another 06 college librarians are having experience of above 15 yrs, 04 college librarians are having 11-15 yrs of experience.

4. It is found from the study that all the 23 college libraries are having good quality infrastructure, big library hall, sufficient seating capacity, and sufficient no. of book racks, computers and Xerox machine.
5. All the libraries are having good stock of books, journals, back volume of journals, audio-visual materials, dissertations, online databases, CD-ROM databases, electronic journals and other materials.
6. Maximum no. of 10 colleges are having 03 library staff members, 07 colleges are having 04 members, 04 colleges are having 02 members and 02 colleges are having 05 staff members.
7. Maximum no. of 22 colleges are getting their financial support from the parent organisation or management grants, whereas 03 colleges are getting State govt. Grants, 05 colleges get as donations or endowments.
8. Out of 23 Ayurvedic Medical College libraries, 09 libraries are automated whereas 14 libraries are not automated.
9. Out of the 23 libraries, 07 libraries are having membership with other libraries networks whereas 16 libraries are not having membership with other libraries.
10. Out of 23 colleges 10 colleges are accessing e-journals, whereas 13 colleges are not accessing e-journals
11. Librarians of 22(95.7%) colleges are aware about HELINET network, whereas 01(4.3%) librarian is not aware about it.
12. 12 colleges are aware about free online journals/ newsletters related to Medical science, 5 are not aware about it whereas 6 are not sure regarding this.
13. 12 colleges arrange User education program on use of e-resources frequently, 7 colleges organise sometimes, 4 colleges never arrange such programs.
14. 15(62.2%) libraries agree to form a network of Health Science Libraries in Karnataka, followed by 07(30.4%) strongly agree and 01(4.3%) is uncertain about it.
15. Union catalogue of journals/ books is helpful for the users is agreed by 19 (82.6%) librarians followed by 03(13%) strongly agreed and 01(4.3%) is uncertain about it
16. Consortia/ Network of Health Science libraries will be cost effective for the libraries is agreed by 16(69.6%) librarians, whereas 06(26.1%) strongly agree it and 01(4.3%) is uncertain regarding this.
17. To develop Health Science Libraries Network/ Consortia is agreed by 16(69.6%), followed by 06(26.1%) strongly agreed it and 01(4.3%) is uncertain regarding this.

13. SUGGESTIONS:

1. Libraries should arrange awareness program regarding e-resources so that users are aware about various e-resources.

2. More no. of computers should be provided in the library so that users can access their required topics without facing any difficulty.
3. Printing facility should be provided so that the users can able to take out printed copy of their required portions.
4. Library staff should be fully qualified with having knowledge regarding maintain a fully automated library.
5. The management or governing authority should give due weight age to fulfil all the necessary requirements for a well equipped modern automated library.
6. Library staff should be increased to cope up with the increasing demand of users.

14. CONCLUSION

In today's era the librarian plays a significant role in information handling and information transfer. He is rightly known as the information officer or information scientist, and is supposed to provide an active service for maximum use of information with minimum cost and time. The modern librarian has to play a very important role in the process of communication in the contemporary time, for which he must be well educated, highly qualified and professionally competent. To become an excellent librarian in the modern times, one should be full qualified, trained in latest technology, should have the leadership qualities and knowledge of every minute work of the library.

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