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chinnasamy muthurasu muthurasu
muthurasu1973@gmail.com

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**INFORMATION ACCESS PATTERN THROUGH UGC-INFONET DIGITAL LIBRARY
CONSORTIUM BY THE USERS OF CENTRAL LIBRARY, ALAGAPPA UNIVERSITY,
KARAIKUDI: A STUDY**

Dr.M.Suganthi

Assistant Professor
Alagappa University College of Education
Alagappa University
Karaikudi – 630 003.
E-mail:sugu.rasu.2005@gmail.com

Dr.C.Muthurasu

Teaching Assistant
Dept. of Library and Information Science
Alagappa University
Karaikudi – 630 003.
E-mail:muthurasu1973@gmail.com.

Abstract

This paper describes briefly a survey conducted at Alagappa University, Central Library, Karaikudi to find out the information access pattern of the users through UGC-Infonet digital library consortium's journals. A sample size of sixty five Alagappa University Central Library users was selected by random sampling method. The data required for the study was collected through a questionnaire. The findings of the study:58 (89.23%) are aware about the UGC-Infonet journals. 24(36.92%) of the respondents are aware the infonet journals through the library professionals. More than two fifths of the users access the infonet journals daily. 45(69.23%) respondents are satisfied for use of infonet journals. Majority of the respondents are satisfied with use of infonet journals rendered by the Central Library.

Keywords: *User survey, UGC-Infonet consortium, Information Communication Technology,*

Introduction

The University Grants Commission in India launched an ambitious programme to bring about a qualitative change in the academic infrastructure, especially for higher education and to make use of the benefits of ICT to all the universities and colleges across the country. Under this initiative, UGC is modernizing the university campuses with the state-of-campus wide networks and has set up its own nationwide communication network named UGC-Infonet.

The UGC-Infonet is supporting the higher education in several ways:

- It has full capability to support distance learning
- It constitutes mixed heterogeneous network environment to distribute the education materials and e-journals to the remotest place.
- Researcher and scholars can use this network to search and retrieve the up-to-date information from the internet.
- It can be used as medium for collaboration among teachers and students, not only within the country but also all over the world.

- The universities can also use the network to establish a channel for globalisation of education and marketing their services and developments.

Objectives of the study

- To study the availability and accessibility of the UGC-Infonet journals by the users of Alagappa University Central library
- To study the behaviour access pattern of the users regarding the use of UGC-Infonet journals

Research Methodology

The present study is a survey method using a questionnaire. For collecting primary data, a questionnaire was distributed among the users of Alagappa University Central Library directly following random sampling. The Size of the sample chosen is sixty five.

Analysis and interpretation of data

Table: 1Aware of UGC-Infonet E-Journals

S.No.	Option	No. of respondents	Percentage
1	Yes	58	89.23
2	No	07	10.76
Total		65	100

The above table -1 shows that 58 (89.23%) are aware about the UGC-Infonet journals whereas 7 (10.76%) respondents are not aware about the infonet journals. Hence majority of the respondents are aware to utilise the infonet journals.

Table:2Sources of awareness to reach the UGG-Infonet journals

S.No.	Sources	No. of respondents	Percentage
1	Library Professionals	24	36.92
2	Colleagues and Friends	10	15.38
3	Research guide	14	21.53
4	Advertisements	05	7.69
5	WWW	08	12.30
6	Others	04	6.15
Total		65	100

The above table-2 it is understood that the investigator has selected 36.92%, 15.38%, 21.53%, 7.69%, 12.30%, 6.15% of the respondents are aware of the infonet journals

through the library professionals, Colleagues and Friends, Research guide, Advertisements, WWW, others respectively for his investigation. Hence most of the respondents are aware about the infonet journals through library professionals.

Table: 3 Frequency of accessing UGC-Infonet journals

S.No.	Frequency	No. of respondents	Percentage
1	Daily	25	38.46
2	2-3 times in a week	14	21.53
3	Once in a week	10	15.38
4	2-3 times a month	07	10.76
5	Once in a month	05	7.69
6	Occasionally	04	6.15
Total		65	100

Table- 3 elicits the frequency of accessing infonet journals. In this study 25(38.46%) respondents access the infonet journals daily whereas 14(21.53%) respondents access the 2-3 times in a week. 10 (15.38%) respondents access one in a week, 4(6.15%) of respondents access infonet journals occasionally. Hence most of the respondents access the infonet journals daily. It also suggests that library professionals and faculty members make the respondents to use of infonet journals cent percent.

Table:4 Purpose of using UGC- infonet journals

S.No.	Purposes	No. of respondents	Percentage
1	Research/Project work	20	30.76
2	Teaching	12	18.46
3	Publishing article and Books	06	9.23
4	Getting Current information of recent research	08	12.30
5	Updating Subject Area	08	12.30
6	Lecture Presentation	06	9.23
7	Others	05	7.69
Total		65	100

Table - 4 Shows the purpose of using infonet journals. In this study, 20(30.76%) of the respondents access the infonet journals for research and project work, 12(18.46%) for teaching, 6(9.23%) for publishing articles, 8(12.30%) for getting current information of recent research, 8(12.30%) for updating subject area. In this study 6(9.23%) of the respondents use the infonet

journals for lecture presentation. Beside cited above, all there are some other purposed also. Hence majority of the respondents use the infonet journals for their research and project work.

Table: 5 Problems faced while accessing UGC-Infonet Journals

S.No.	Problems	No. of respondents	Percentage
1	Limited access terminals	12	18.46
2	Lack of training programme	11	16.92
3	Slow internet speed	10	15.38
4	Interested journals are not available	09	13.86
5	Difficulties in accessioning Full-text articles	08	12.30
6	Difficult to read from computer	07	10.76
7	Others	08	12.30
Total		65	100

Table - 5 Shows the problems faced while accessing infonet journals. 12 respondents (18.46%) report that limited access terminals are main problem for accessing infonet journals. 11 respondents report that lack of training programme, 10(15.38%) of respondents report that slow internet speed. 9(13.86%) respondents report that interested journals are not available. 8(12.30%) respondent report that difficulty in accessing full-text articles, 7(10.76%) respondents report that difficulty to read form computer. Besides cited above all, there are some other problems 08(12.30%) also. Hence one fourth of the respondent report that interested journals are not available is main problem for accession infonet journals.

Table: 6 Level of satisfaction of UGC-Infonet journals

S.No.	Option	No. of respondents	Percentage
1	Highly Satisfied	15	23.07
2	Satisfied	45	69.23
3	Dissatisfied	02	3.07
4	No comments	03	4.61
Total		65	100

Table - 6 shows the level of satisfaction of infonet journals. In this study, 15(23.07%) respondents are highly satisfied and 45(69.23%) respondents are satisfied for use of infonetjournals. 2(3.07%) of the respondents are not satisfied. Hence majority of the respondents are satisfied for use of infonet journals.

Findings

Following findings are derived from users of Alagappa University central Library in Karaikudi regarding usage of UGC-Infonet journals.

- 58(89.23%) of respondents are aware to utilise the infonet journals.
- 24(36.92%) of the respondents are aware the infonet journals through the library professionals.
- 25(38.46%) respondents access the infonet journals daily.
- 20(30.76%) of the respondents access the infonet journals for research and project work.
- 12 respondents (18.46%) report that limited access terminals are main problem for accessing infonet journals.
- 45(69.23%) respondents are satisfied for use of infonet journals.
- More than three fourth of the respondents are satisfied with use of infonet journals in Central library, Alagappa University, Karaikudi.

Conclusion

The present study has highlighted the existing situation of usage of infonet journals provided by Alagappa University Central Library. Most of the users access the UGC-Infonet journals for their academic development. Majority of the users are satisfied with the UGC-Infonet journal facilities. The study shows that the access pattern of the information is changed, the users are giving more important to use of Electronic Journals.

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