

University of Nebraska - Lincoln

DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln

---

Library Philosophy and Practice (e-journal)

Libraries at University of Nebraska-Lincoln

---

January 2021

## Use of Electronic Resources by Research Scholars and PG Students of SRMIST-Chennai

GANESH P

*SRM Institute of Science and Technology*

Rajendran p

*SRM Institute of Science and Technology, librarian@srmist.edu.in*

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/libphilprac>



Part of the [Library and Information Science Commons](#)

---

P, GANESH and p, Rajendran, "Use of Electronic Resources by Research Scholars and PG Students of SRMIST-Chennai" (2021). *Library Philosophy and Practice (e-journal)*. 4814.

<https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/libphilprac/4814>

# **Use of Electronic Resources by Research Scholars and PG Students of SRMIST-Chennai**

**P.Ganesh**

*Ph.D. Research Scholar, Department of Library & Information Science  
SRMIST, Chennai*

**Dr.P.Rajendran**

*Head of the Department, Department of Library & Information Science  
SRMIST, Chennai*

## **ABSTRACT**

*This paper seeks to investigate topics such as the usage of electronic resources, their awareness among users, and the places where users access these e-resources and issues while using them. In the 2019-20 academic year at SRMIST, Chennai, a survey was conducted. A total of 150 users were chosen from research scholars and PG students, and their responses were collected using a questionnaire. The findings show that users were aware of the available e-resource, and the awareness about e-resources encourages users to use such resources to the maximum. The users are using e-resources at Library, department, Lab, and hostels to access the information. They were satisfied with the e-resources available at SRMIST.*

## **INTRODUCTION**

It is tough to obtain certain information without wasting time in the fast-emerging and ever-growing information explosion. Recent developments in the area of information technology have contributed significantly to developing library facilities. "Now-a-day libraries are used not only with printed and non-print papers but also with robots. A paperless society has resulted from innovations such as CD-ROMs, multimedia, computer networks, the Internet, etc. In recent years, advances in technology have changed how information is accessed, stored, and disseminated dramatically. Whereas the provision of information in academic libraries was traditionally focused on the selection of materials from physical libraries, academic libraries are now gradually moving into the virtual arena. With developments in technology and access to information through e-publishing on a local, regional, national, and international basis, it has become possible to overcome the conventional barriers of time and space. Electronic services

are systems in which information is processed electronically and made available via computer networks and electronic systems". OPAC, CD-ROMs, online databases, e-journals, e-books, Internet resources, etc., are among these resources. Some of the features of e-resources are multiple access speeds, rich in content, reuse, timeliness, access anywhere.

### **ABOUT SRMIST**

"SRM Institute of Science and Technology (formerly known as SRM University) has an excellent library for the benefit of students, faculties, and researchers. As one of the best-established libraries according to International Standards, the University Library has an extensive collection of books covering various branches of Engineering and Technology, Medical and Health Sciences and Science and Humanities and its related fields. The library is nearly three decades old. It is fully Air Conditioned and automated with RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) technology. The library well protected with fire alarms and Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV) Security systems."

### **LITERATURE REVIEW**

Sethuramasamy and Sivakami (2018) examined the present status knowledge about the available electronic resources and use of digital resources at engineering colleges of Tirunelveli and Tuticorin districts. It was observed that usage level is still inadequate among the U.G. students and lack of funds and I.C.T. infrastructure are the barriers found.

Fasa Rachael Aladeniyi (2017) stated that e-journals play a critical role in research activities, which endanger an ever-increasing demand for new titles and back runs and further states they are well aware of the e-journals available.

Ram Gopal Garg and Amit Kumar Tamrakar (2014) examined the use of electronic resources at I.I.T., Kharagpur, India. This study explores users' exposure to electronic resources and alert services offered by the library for awareness and helpfulness. Based on the

questionnaire method, the result found that most of the respondents have stated that they are reasonably aware of the e-resources available in the library concerned with their subject. They most preferably use e-journals than print journals.

Sohail and Andleeb Alvi (2014 ) conducted a web resources study at Aligarh Muslim University , Aligarh, India. Data obtained by the questionnaire method. The findings show that 100 % of the students were aware of web resources and mostly used them. Most medical students use web resources to develop knowledge and collect information. Students consider web resources to be accurate. It was reported that the medical students of about 63.04 percent take assistance from friends for accessing electronic resources.

Khayyum Baba et al. (2014) analyzed the use of e-resources at Maulana Azad National Urdu University, India. The findings show that significant numbers of respondents are using electronic resources for research. The majority of the respondents use e-journals, and few users aware of Techfoucuz CD/DVD services. They suggest that Techfocuz CD/DVD mirror server must be initiated and given assistance to the users. It was also recommended that the library provide orientation workshops and ongoing seminars for staff and students to train them in using electronic resources to obtain value from these resources.

### **SCOPE, LIMITATIONS AND METHODOLOGY OF THE STUDY**

The study's scope is restricted only to the Research Scholars and PG students of SRM Institute of Science & Technology, Katankulathur Campus only. In this study, the standard questioner method was used to collect the necessary data. A total number of 150 questioners were randomly distributed among the research scholars and PG students, and out of that 120 filled questioners were received back as 80% responses.

## OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- ❖ To find out the use and awareness of e-resources among the research scholars and PG students
- ❖ To find out the satisfaction level of e-resources provided by the University library
- ❖ To find out a suitable place for access to e-resources
- ❖ To find out the problems while accessing the use of e-resources.
- ❖ To know the purpose of using the e-resources

## DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

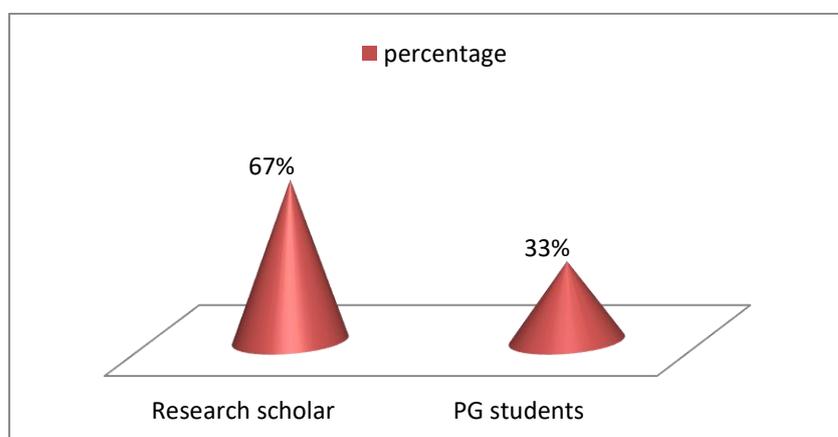
The data collected was analyzed, interpreted, and the same is presented in the following tables.

**TABLE 1 RESPONSE RATE**

Sl.No	Respondents	Response rate	Percentage
1	Research scholar	80	67%
2	PG students	40	33%

Table 1 shows the response rate of research scholars and PG students. In total, 150 questioner distributions, the respondents of Research scholars and PG students filled in and received consists of research scholar 80(67%) and PG Students 40(33%).

**FIGURE-1 RESPONDENT RESPONSE RATE**



**TABLE 2- PLACE OF ACCESSING ELECTRONIC RESOURCES**

<b>Sl.No</b>	<b>Place</b>	<b>Research scholar</b>	<b>PG Students</b>	<b>Percentage N=120</b>
1	Library	25(31)	15(37.5)	40(33)
2	Department	10(13)	5(12.5)	15(13)
3	Hostel	20(25)	10(25)	30(25)
4	Lab	25(31)	10(25)	35(29)

Table 2 indicates the accessing place of electronic resources by the research scholars and PG students. The library was a significant place for accessing e-resources when compared to other areas. 33% of the research scholar and PG Students scholar of the respondents use electronic resources at the library, and 29% of them use at Lab the least is the Department with 13% and Hostel with 25% of them use the electronic resources.

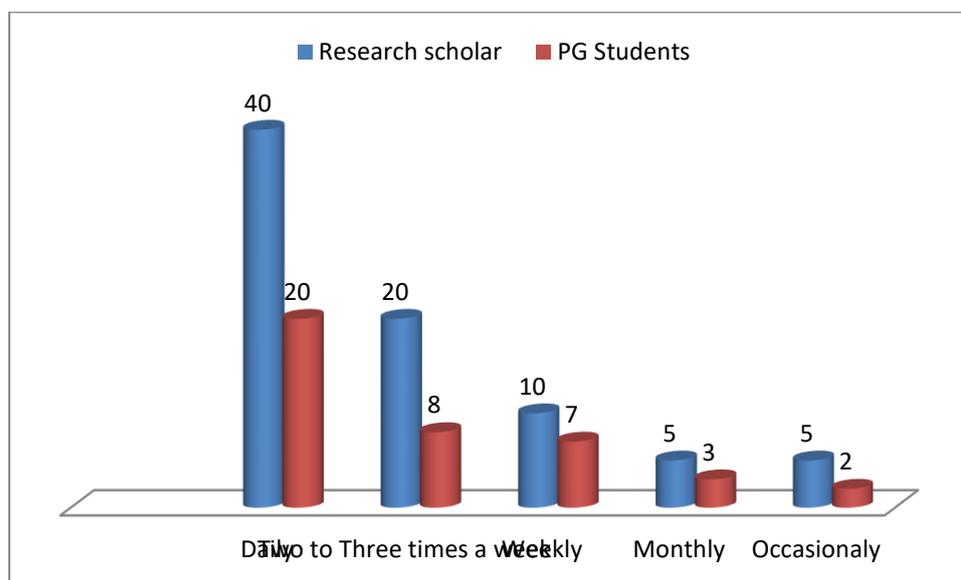
**TABLE 3. FREQUENCY OF USE OF E-RESOURCES**

<b>Sl.No</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Research scholar</b>	<b>PG Students</b>	<b>Percentage N=120</b>
1	Daily	40(50)	20(50)	60(50)
2	Two to Three times a week	20(25)	8(20)	28(23)
3	Weekly	10(12.5)	7(17.5)	17(14)
4	Monthly	5(6.25)	3(7.5)	8(7)
5	Occasionally	5(6.25)	2(5)	7(6)
<b>Total</b>		<b>80</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>120</b>

Table 3 indicates that most of the respondents (50%), both Research scholar and PG Students scholar, use the e-resources daily, and 25% of the Research scholars use two to three times and PG Students 20%. 12.5% of the Research scholar use it weekly, but PG

Students respond high as 17.5% use it. Monthly, 6.25% of the Research scholar and 7.5% of PG Students use e-resources. Research scholars occasionally use it as 6.25% and PG Students scholar as 5%.

**FIGURE 3 FREQUENCY OF USE OF E-RESOURCES**



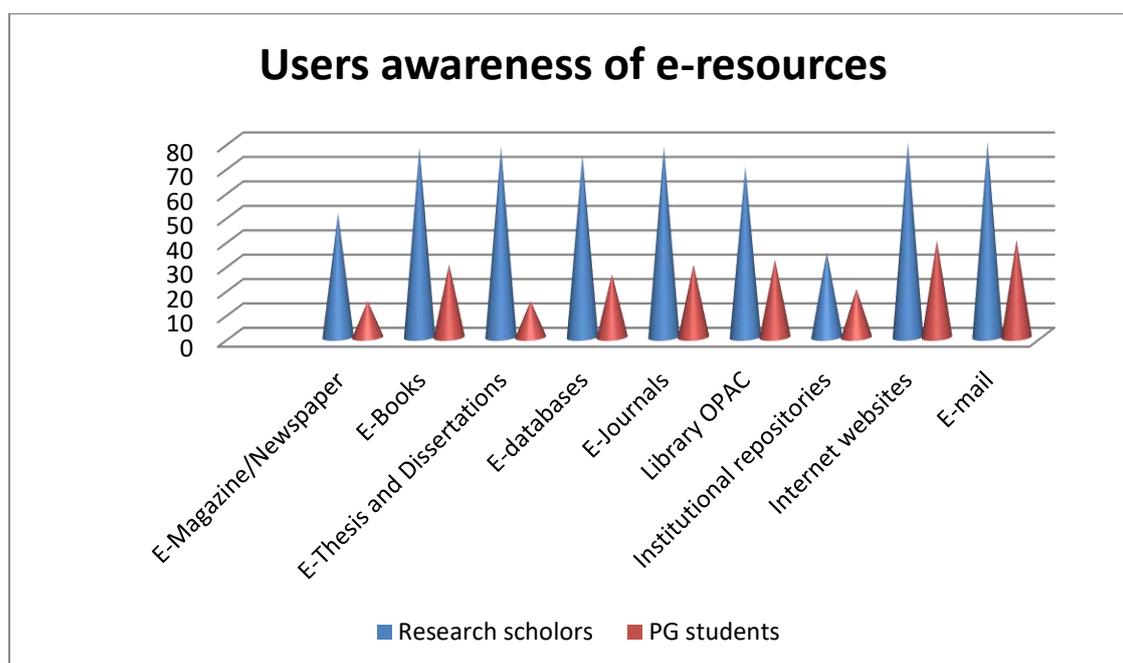
**TABLE 4-USERS AWARENESS OF E-RESOURCES**

Sl. No.	Electronic Information resources	Research scholar	PG Students	Total percentage (N=120)
1	E-Magazine/Newspaper	51(63.75%)	15(37.5%)	66(55%)
2	E-Books	78(97.5%)	30(75%)	108(90%)
3	E-Thesis and Dissertations	78(97.5%)	15(37.5%)	93(77.5%)
4	E-databases	75(93.75%)	26(65%)	101(84.1%)
5	E-Journals	78(97.5%)	30(75%)	108(90%)
6	Library OPAC	70(87.5%)	32(80%)	92(77%)
7	Institutional repositories	35(43.75%)	20(50%)	55(46%)
8	Internet websites	80(100%)	40(100%)	120(100%)

9	E-mail	80(100%)	40(100%)	120(100%)
---	--------	----------	----------	-----------

Table -4 reveals the awareness of e-resources among research scholars and PG students. The analysis shows that both the respondents are all aware of e-mail and internet websites. 78(97.5%) research scholar respondents are aware of e-journals, e-Thesis, and e-Books. While the other e-resources such as e-databases 93.75%, Library OPAC as 87.5% and the least awareness as e-magazines 63.75%. The PG students respondents are all aware of internet websites, e-mail, and other e-resources such as library OPAC 80%, followed by e-journals and e-books 75%, e-magazine least familiar from the PG students also.

**FIGURE 4- USERS AWARENESS OF E-RESOURCES**



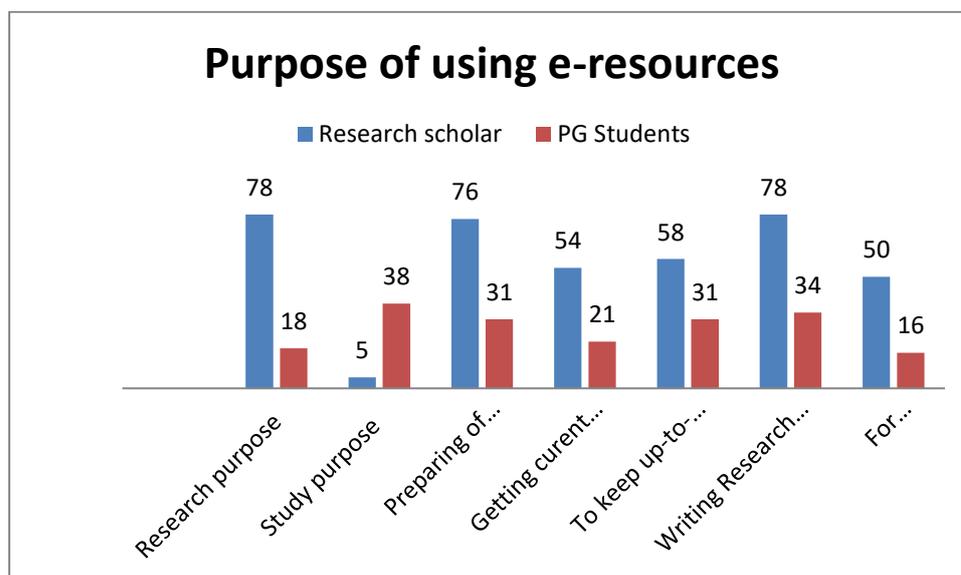
**TABLE 6- PURPOSE OF USING E-RESOURCES**

Sl.No	Purpose	Research scholar	PG Students	Total ( N=120)
1	Research purpose	78(97.5%)	18(45%)	96(80)
2	Study purpose	5(6.25%)	38(95%)	43(36)

3	Preparing of articles for Publications	76(95%)	31(77.5%)	107(89.2)
4	Getting curent Information	54(67.5%)	21(52.5%)	75(62.5)
5	To keep up-to- date on subjects of interest	58(72.5%)	31(77.5%)	89(74)
6	Writing Research Proposal	78(97.5%)	34(85%)	112(93.3)
7	For seminar/conference	50(62.5%)	16(40%)	66(55)

Table 6 indicates that the purpose of using e-resources shows that 97.5% of a research scholar and 45% of PG students use it for research purposes. Whereas 6.25% of research scholars and 95% of PG students use it for study purposes, .95% of research scholars and 77.5% of PG students use it for Preparing articles for publications. Getting current Information 67.5% of research scholars and 52.5% of PG Students use them.72.5% of research scholars and 77.5% of the PG students use for To keep up-to-date on subjects of interest. 97.5% of research scholars and 85% of PG students use it mostly for Writing a research proposal. For seminar/conference/workshop, 62.5% of research scholars and 40% of PG students make use of e-resources.

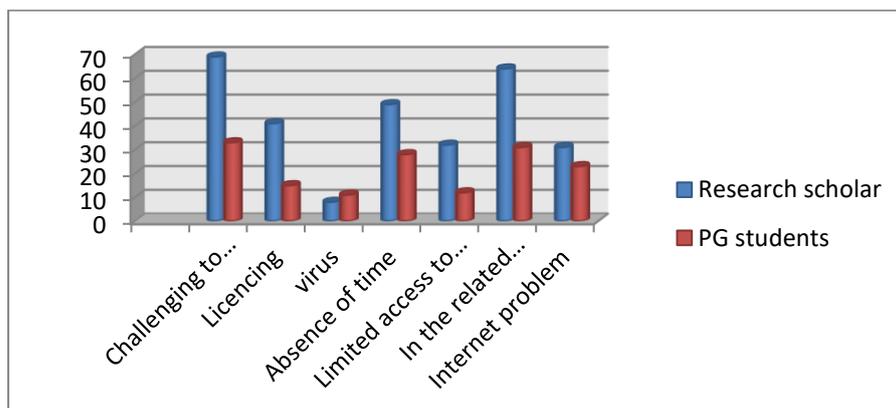
**FIGURE 6- PURPOSE OF USING E-RESOURCES**



**TABLE 7-PROBLEMS FACED WHILE ACCESSING ELECTRONIC RESOURCES**

Sl.No	Problems faced	Research scholar	PG Students	Total ( N=120)
1	Challenging to find appropriate details	69(86.25%)	33(82.5%)	102(85)
2	Licensing	41(51.25%)	15(37.5%)	56(46.6)
3	virus	8(10%)	11(27.5%)	19(15.83)
4	Absence of time	49(61.25%)	28(70%)	77(64.16)
5	Limited access to computers	32(40%)	12(30%)	44(36.6)
6	In the related sector, coverage of e-resources is not sufficient.	64(80%)	31(77.5%)	95(79.16)
7	Internet problem	31(38.75%)	23(57.5%)	54(45)

The respondents were asked to furnish the problems faced while accessing the electronic resources, and their answers are provided in table 7 . The result shows that 85% of the respondents stated that finding relevant details and coverage on e-resources is not suited in the related area (79.16%) are the major problems faced while accessing the electronic resources. Followed by the absence of time (64.16%)and Licence problem( 46.6%) limited access to computers (36.6%). The last issue as a virus (15.8% )is the research scholars' and the PG student's problem at SRMIST.

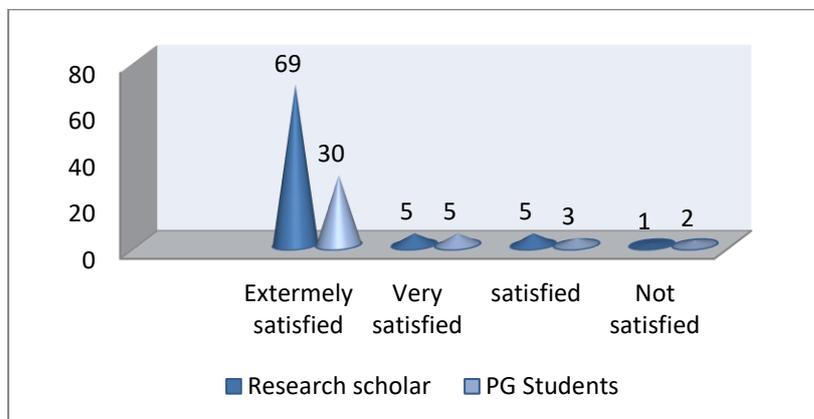
**FIGURE 7-PROBLEMS FACED WHILE ACCESSING ELECTRONIC RESOURCES**

**TABLE 8- LEVEL OF SATISFACTION**

Rating	Research scholar	PG Students	Total ( N=120)
Extremely satisfied	69(86.25%)	30(75%)	99(82.5%)
Very satisfied	5(6.25%)	5(12.5%)	10(8.3%)
satisfied	5(6.25%)	3(7.5%)	8(6.6%)
Not satisfied	1(1.25%)	2(5%)	3(2.5)

Table 8 gives the overall satisfaction of the respondents. Research scholars and PG students are well satisfied with the electronic resources available at SRMIST, with 82.5% as extremely satisfied. And very satisfied with 8.3% and satisfied at 6.6 %. Only 2.5% of the respondents are not satisfied with the available electronic resources and services at SRMIST. Overall the respondents both are well satisfied with the available electronic resources at SRMIST central library.

**FIGURE 8- LEVEL OF SATISFACTION**



### **Result and Discussion**

In the current period, e-resources and services seem to be regarded as quite important. Library services and e-resources play a significant role in the operation of every academic institution and federal buildings. It is essential to leverage and adequately use these e-resources and services. An educational organization's sustainability depends primarily on the usefulness of its e-resources and services concerning the society it represents. This

study's results indicate most of the objectives of a relatively small sample and expertise of its researchers have been achieved, and some significant conclusions can be drawn. This research also shows its impact on library users in understanding and using the services available with a few constraints. The organization spends a considerable amount of money on subscribing to e-resources, and users should be aware of the e-resources available and be familiar with the new search methodology for effective usage of the electronic information resources available.

## REFERENCES

1. Sethuramasamy, M and Sivakami,K “ Use of Electronic Resources Among Students of Selected Engineering Colleges in Tirunelveli and Tuticorin Districts: A Study” International Journal of Research in Library Science Vol. 4( 2), PP.12-22, 2018.
2. Fasa Rachael Aladeniyi “The use of e-journals by academic staff of Rufus Giwa Polytechnic, Owo, Ondo State, Nigeria” International Journal of Library and Information Science Vol. 9(5), pp. 37-43,
3. Ram Gopal Garg Amit Kumar Tamrakar “Utilization of Electronic-resources by the postgraduate students, research scholars and faculty members of Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur” J Scientometric Res. Vol 3 ( 2) pp76-81.
4. Sohail.MD and Andleeb Alvi “ Use of Web Resources by Medical Science Students of Aligarh Muslim University” DESIDOC Journal of Library & Information Technology, Vol. 34( 2), pp. 125-130, 2014.
5. Khayyum Baba, M.A, Lingaiah V, and Mohd. Abdul Raheem, “Use of Electronic Resources by Research Scholars and Faculty Members in Maulana Azad National Urdu University (Manuu): A Survey” Vol. 6 (1-2) , pp11-16
6. SRM University Internet Source.
7. Ganesh, P and Rajendran,P "Use of E-Resources by the Faculty Members and Research Scholars of SRM Institute of Science &Technology – Kattankalathur Campus" (2019). *Library Philosophy and Practice (e-journal)*. 3020.<https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/libphilprac/3020>
8. Naushad Ali, P.M and Hasan E. (2003). *The use of electronic services at IIT Library, Delhi: A study of Users' Opinion*, IASLIC Bulletin,48(2),71-82.