

USE OF UGC-INFONET E-JOURNAL ACCESS BY THE RESEARCH SCHOLARS: A SURVEY STUDY OF ANNAMALAI UNIVERSITY

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Abstracts

This inspection focuses on how researchers make use of the UGC-INFONET E-journals and online databases available through the university information centre. An effort has been made to comprehend research experts' perspectives. It was conducted using the structured questionnaire survey approach. From the faculty of arts and sciences 400 researchers opinion were taken for the study using a descriptive research approach. The chi-square and ANOVA test was administered in this investigation, along with frequency and percentage analyses. The finding emphasizes the need for research scholars to get information literacy training about E-resources and their use in research through a variety of orientation programmed provided by institutions and libraries.

Keywords: E-journals, online database, Information retrieval.

INTRODUCTION

Academician needs to be equipped with high levels of knowledge with readily available resources, affordable technologies, and innovative methods to imbibe the competencies to compete with others globally in the knowledge economy are the target audience for globalization in the academic sphere and e-resources in society. In digital learning communities, web resources are the main area of focus, particularly in universities, which are higher learning institutions. Web resources are web-based that can quickly connect students to information from any location. Due to the growth of information, the availability of literature, and their affordability, web resources are becoming more and more popular in at present days and among researcher. Since the UGC-INFONET Digital Library Consortium was established in 2004, it has significantly altered the Indian educational system by giving access to connection in educational institutes. The consortium's goal is to make it easier for the nation's academic community to access numerous electronic resources for research, teaching, and learning. The term "electronic resources" also refers to digital data collections, full-text search engines, electronic reference books, and bibliographic databases that are available online. They both include "born digital" content that was created exclusively online.

KNOWLEDGE ABOUT UGC-INFONET CONSORTIUM

One of the most important initiatives made by UGC, India for the open exchange of scholarly knowledge across Indian Universities is the UGC-INFONET E-journals Consortium. The distribution of peer-reviewed literature from around the world to the pedagogical and research

community is another aspect of the change taking place in the nation's higher education system. Scholarly journals are increasingly being made available online. The enormous growth of literature on the one hand and the budgetary constraints on the other, the steadily rising cost of print material, and the delay put the academic and community on their backs. The library consortium is one of the growing toolkits for libraries to address these issues. The academic and community are put at a disadvantage by the time lag and steadily rising expense of print material. A new toolkit for libraries to help in the current situation is the library consortium. The UGC INFONET periodicals consortia were gradually launched by 157 of the 171 universities selected for it. In the first phase, 50 universities were identified in 2004, in the second phase, 50 more institutions were recognized by INFLIBNET for the consortia in 2005, and in the third phase, another 57 universities were identified by INFLIBNET in 2006.

ANNAMALIA UNIVERSITY CENTRAL LIBRARY

The Dr. C.P. Ramaswami Aiyar-Annamalia University Central Library, which has a built-in space of around 36,000 square feet, was founded in 1959. The university's core resource, the library supports teaching, research, and service activities. Through the development of collections and the facilitation of access to information resources, the library fosters intellectual development and creativity. Since its inception, the university library has provided academic and learning assistance for all university-related activities. A library has always welcomed new materials and tailored its services to the demands of its user base in the university. Recognizing its importance with regard to electronic resources, the library has made and is continuing to make efforts for users, to all types of digital information. Annamalai University offers user access to E-journals and is a part of the UGC-INFONET consortium under Phase II. The purpose of the current study was to determine how Annamalai University researchers used UGC- INFONET's resources.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Thirumagal, A. et al.(2021) The following are examined in the study: Awareness of electronic resources; Awareness of e-resources and services; Preference Level and E-Resource Usage; Duration of Utilization; Aim; Accessible to Location; Utilization File Types; Using of Storing; Level of E-Resources and E-Resources-based Library Services Satisfaction. Conclusion: The study found that 67.82% of respondents indicated they were extremely satisfied with electronic resources, 81% of respondents were aware of them, and 72.64% of respondents identified as "Male."

Khan S.I. (2019) examined how students and researchers used electronic journals. The greater number of researchers and postgraduate were familiar of electronic journals, according to the faculty of botany at A.M.U. In addition to using e-journals for research output and obtaining pertinent knowledge in areas of specialty, using them for seminars was acknowledged as a key reason for doing so by both Researcher and M.Sc. students. The maximum number of M.Sc. students researchers use electronic journals every day, while the majority of B.Sc. students use electronic journals twice a week on average. As search engines are user-friendly, a large number of research scholars and students conduct article searches. Internet was discovered to be the

primary source of knowledge regarding e-journals in the search results for journal articles. In addition, the survey shows that institutional online subscriptions are the main way to access library science publications in addition to printed versions. Unorganized, require of professionals guidance, the inability to study from a screen, and the absence of full text availability was identified to be the main issues that students faced, while publication speed and timeless availability of hyperlinks were also significant issues.

Lucky O. Akpojotor (2016) study of Southern Nigerian postgraduate library and information science majors use of digital resources. For this investigation, a qualitative approach based on census sample was adopted. Thus, the sample for this study consisted of all 375 Southern Nigerian PG library and information science majors. The results showed that PG in library and information science are very skilled and heavily rely on digital sources of knowledge. According to the report, postgraduate LIS students are adept users of online information resources. The analysis revealed that for Southern Nigeria's postgraduate students, digital information sources are crucial.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The respondents were chosen using the disproportionate random sampling technique from the entire population. As representative samples of the universe, the questionnaire was distributed to each department's academics at the faculty of arts and sciences. The sample size is 550 since it was drawn from the many departments of the faculty of arts and sciences and includes Ph.D. researcher. A totality of 418 questionnaires was received back, although 400 samples were taken into account for the investigation.

OBJECTIVES

1. To know the frequency of access to the consortium.
2. To identify the researcher's most popular e- journals.
3. To evaluate the users' and academics' access to the e-consortium.
4. To determine the E-Journals and online database in the library's collection are used by researchers.
5. To obtain level of satisfaction from the library's current E-collection.

HYPOTHESIS

1. The utilization of the E-Journals and online databases offered in library differs significantly between research scholars in the arts and sciences.
2. There is a remarkable variance in Age groups wise among research scholars and their utilization with library's available E-Journals and online database utilized.
3. The degree of satisfaction with library's present E-resources varies significantly between researchers in the arts and sciences.
4. The age distribution of research scholars and their levels of satisfaction with the library's existing electronic collection varied significantly.

DATA

Description		No. of respondents	Percentage
Gender	Male	197	49.3
	Female	203	50.8
Age	23-26	166	41.5
	27-30	190	47.5
	31-34	26	6.5
	35 and above	18	4.5
Faculty	Arts	201	50.3
	Science	199	49.8

ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

Table 1: Demographic description

The distribution of respondents by gender is seen in table no.1 (found above). A total of 400 persons responded to the survey, with 203 research academics being female (50.7%) and the remaining 197 being male (49.3%). The table makes it abundantly evident that comments are predominantly provided by female. The Age wise distribution is of four age groups. Where 23-26 age groups consist of 166(41.5%) respondents, follow by 27-30 age groups having 190(47.5%), 31-34 age groups respondents are 26(6.5%) and 35 and above having 18(4.5%) responses. Where in faculty wise distribution, 201 research scholars are from the Arts (50.3%) and Sciences having the majority respondents of 199 (49.8%) research scholars.

Table 2: Frequency of visit to UGC-INFONET

	Frequency	Percentage
Occasionally	167	41.8
once in a week	87	21.8
Twice in a week	32	8.0
Once in two days	88	22.0
Daily	26	6.5
Total	400	100.0

Table no.2 justify that the frequency use of E-journals and online databases available in the University Library. In this study 41.8% of research scholar's use E-journals and online databases occasionally, follow by 22% use once in two days, 21.8% utilize once in a week and 8% usage twice in a week, only 6.5% researcher utilize E-journals and online databases on regular.

Table 3: Time spent on UGC-INFONET

	Frequency	Percentage
1 hour	82	20.5
more than 1 hour	96	24.0
more than 2 hour	47	11.8
more than 3 hour	72	18.0
more than 4 hour	103	25.8
Total	400	100.0

Table no.3 indicate that 25.8% of researcher time spend more than 4 hours in the UGC-INFONET, more than 1 hour is spend by 24.0% of research scholars, 20.5% spend of 1 hour, more than 3 hours were spend by 18% and 11.8% researcher spend more than 2 hours in UGC-INFONET.

Table 4: E-journals and Bibliography

Publisher	Respondents	Percentage
American chemical	195	48.7%
American institute of physics	197	49.2%
American Physical Society	205	51.2%
Annual Reviews	250	62.5%
Cambridge University Press	197	49.2%
Economic & Political Weekly	170	42.5%
Emerald	344	86%
Institute of Physics	170	42.5%
JSTOR	272	68%
Nature	315	78.7%
Oxford University Press	333	83.2%
Project Muse	280	70%
Royal Society of Chemistry	194	48.5%
Springer	380	95%
Taylor & Francis	290	72.5%
Wiley- Blackwell	241	60.2%
Institute for studies in Industrial Development (ISID)	225	56.2%
J-Gate	368	92%

Web of Science	222	55.5%
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Table no. 4 represent the UGC-INFONET subscribes publisher of e-resources available in the University central library. Respondents were asked to give their preference from the table. It is noted from the above table no. 4 that ‘Springer’ is the leading publisher as 95% researcher responded most prefer in the study said that they search E-resources published by Springer, follow by J-Gate 92%, Oxford University Press 83.2% and 78.7% Nature publisher are the four most utilized E-resources.

Table 5: Perception about the availability of E-journals in university library

Perception	Frequency	Percent
Unsatisfied	15	3.8
Neutral	116	29.0
Satisfied	186	46.5
Highly satisfied	83	20.8
Total	400	100.0

Table no. 5 is the observation about the perception about the available E-journals, in which 46.5% of the scholars were in the satisfied categories, 29.0% of them are neutral about the availability of E-journals, and 20.8% were highly satisfied whereas only 3.8% are unsatisfied with the available E-journals.

Hypothesis 1: The utilization of the E-Journals and online databases offered in library differs significantly between research scholars in the arts and sciences.

Table 6: Chi-Square Tests

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	97.422 ^a	4	.000
Likelihood Ratio	105.750	4	.000
Linear-by-Linear Association	28.524	1	.000
N of Valid Cases	400		

The Chi-Square test revealed such estimated measures of Chi-Square, at 4 degrees of freedom, was 97.422, as opposed to the table value of 9.488. Due to the fact that the calculated Chi-Square number is higher than the figure that was found in the table. It is reasonable to conclude that there is a considerable difference between research academics in the arts and sciences in terms of the number of E-journals used. When it comes to the frequency of E-journal usage, there is a

significant disparity between research researchers in the arts and sciences. We therefore deduce that the null hypothesis.

Hypothesis 2: There is a remarkable variance in Age groups wise among research scholars and their utilization of the library's available E-Journals and database use.

Table 7: ANOVA test

	Sum of Squares	Degree of freedom	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	48.730	3	16.243	9.178	.000
Within Groups	700.867	396	1.770		
Total	749.598	399			

Table 7 presents the ANOVA's findings. The variance's significance level is 0.000. The variance between several experimental settings is significant since the value of 0.000 is less than 0.05 ($p < 0.05$). As a result, it was determined that, in conformity with the opinions of the respondents, age groups wise among research scholars and their utilization of the library's available E-Journals and database use exist significantly. Therefore hypothesis is rejected.

Hypothesis 3: The degree of satisfaction with library's present E-resources varies significantly between researchers in the arts and sciences.

Table 8: Chi-Square Tests

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	59.561 ^a	3	.000
Likelihood Ratio	63.892	3	.000
Linear-by-Linear Association	20.368	1	.000
N of Valid Cases	400		

The calculated result revealed that the Chi-Square at 3 degrees of freedom was 59.561 as compared to the table value of 7.815. Because the value discovered in the table is lower than the Chi-Square number that was calculated. It is reasonable to conclude that there is a notable distinction between research scholars of Arts and Sciences in terms of how satisfied they are with the library's present electronic collection. When it comes to how satisfied they are with the library's present E-collection, research academics in the arts and sciences have quite different opinions. Therefore, we can say that the null hypothesis is disproved.

Hypothesis 4: The age distribution of research scholars and their levels of satisfaction with the library's existing electronic collection varied significantly.

Table 9: ANOVA test

	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	6.163	3	2.054	3.349	.019
Within Groups	242.915	396	.613		
Total	249.078	399			

Table 9 provides the ANOVA results. Variance has a significance of 0.019. The significance value of 0.019 is less than 0.05 levels, indicating that there exists a difference between various age groups. Therefore, it was determined that, in accordance with the opinions of the respondents, there is a strong association between one's age groups of research scholars and level of satisfaction by using library's existing electronic collection. Hence, the hypothesis is rejected.

FINDINGS

The findings of the study defines that majority of the researchers time spend in UGC-INFONET 25.8%. The most search E-journals publisher is Springer with 95% respondents follow by J-Gate 92%, Oxford University Press 82%. The greater numbers of the researcher were satisfied with 46.5% with the available E-journals in the library. And the null hypothesis testing found that utilization of E-journals differs in terms of faculty. Age wise utilization of E-journals also justifies significant difference. When it comes to the degree of satisfaction about the available E-collection also varied significantly. The fourth hypothesis of Age wise distribution of researchers and the degree of satisfaction has strong association among researchers and their satisfaction of using library E-collections.

CONCLUSION

Research may be made much simpler and faster if researchers organize their resources and work methodically. It's critical to understand that not all research methods are suitable for all problems. Even while each research tool has sufficient content covering a range of subjects, some subjects lend themselves more favorably to particular research tools than others. The expansion of the internet has transformed how information is accessed and shared. Electronic journals and databases in particular are significant sources of information. This study sheds light on how research scholars belonging to Annamalai University use E-journals and databases. A well-designed questionnaire was used to get the detailed information. Researchers use E-journals and databases on average. The results of this survey have been used as a standard for research scholar utilization of online databases and E-journals. It is intended that the findings of this investigation would help the university libraries analyze and effectively realign services and resources to fulfill user

requirement. With the aid of librarians, library users may make the most of databases and electronic journals.

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