

# The Evolving Role of Academic Libraries in Promoting Open Access: Insights from Mandsaur University, Madhya Pradesh

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## ABSTRACT

The research study explores the evolving role of academic libraries in promoting Open Access (OA) resources at Mandsaur University. It primarily aims to evaluate the awareness, usage, perceptions, and challenges faced by students and faculty regarding OA resources. Data was collected from 50 respondents through a structured questionnaire, revealing an impressive 80% awareness level concerning OA resources and frequent usage, particularly of journals. The findings indicate that respondents recognize several benefits of OA, including enhanced access to current research and reduced financial burdens. However, significant challenges persist, such as technological limitations, financial constraints, and a lack of user awareness, which hinder effective promotion. The study concludes that while the library is perceived as effective in promoting OA, improvements are necessary, particularly in training and accessibility. Recommendations for the library include increasing awareness campaigns, providing more technical support, and collaborating closely with faculty to enhance engagement with OA resources, emphasizing the critical role of academic libraries in facilitating knowledge access.

**KEYWORDS:** Open Access (OA), Academic Libraries, Mandsaur University, Challenges, Research Accessibility, User Engagement, Knowledge Sharing

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