

Role of E-Journals in Research Work: A Study of Central Library of Chaudhary Charan Singh University, Meerut (UP), India

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ABSTRACT

Earlier Journals were published in print format but now due to the development of digital media several journals are published exclusively in digital form /electronic format. Thus, the e- journals to become very popular and integrated information system, which are being indexed by major services and also cited by researchers. In this paper efforts are being made to understand the current place of the e-journals within the information system and used in academic work.

KEYWORDS: e- journal, Indexing, digital resources, information communication, Internet, World Wide Web, Search engines.

1. INTRODUCTION

During several centuries the printed journals were used for research /academic purpose. Rowland (1997) described the four major functions of a scholarly journal as:

- Dissemination of information
- Quality control
- Canonical archives, and
- Recognition of authors.

During last few years, the vast use of computers in Information communication handling, the Electronic journals were developed and used, resulting revolutionizing the use of these research journals. Electronic journals are easy to print in digital format, distribution and use is more economical as compared to print journals.

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The main objectives of the present study are:

- To mention a definition of 'e' Journal.
- To identify current available 'e' journals.
- To study factors about to 'e' journals.
- To study the effective use of 'e' journals

3. HYPOTHESIS

The present study hypothesized that for

- Electronic-journals are the part of the traditional academic and scholarly system.
- Electronic journals are included with other journals, in the major academic indexed, included in library catalogs, and cited by authors.

4. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

For academic and research work, we use Libraries for searching the related literature in journals. There the Libraries must have the facilities for providing access to e-journals. For providing good search, e-journals must undergo the essential selection process, as we follow to print journals". We suggest some important factors as under:

- Journals should be included in standard lists of the concerned subject.
- Subject matter of the journals should be related with the educational goal of the Institution.
- Journal should be included in reputed indexing and abstracting services
- Journals should be recommended by the team of subject experts.
- The publisher of the journal should have good reputation and standing.
- The price should be reasonable to the institution.
- The e-journal should be available in Library on due available date.

An e-journal (electronic journal) is a digital journal, published on the Internet or WWW. An e-journal is similar to print journal in the fundamental editorial process.

Jones and Cook (2000) mentioned that "e-journal" are a new method of delivery of knowledge and building scholarship. They report that E-journals offer several advantages that cannot be translated to a printed version such as increased speed of production through electronic interaction between authors, editors and readers; availability through computer network; and use of multimedia.

Quinn (1999) stated the current state of "electronic journal" indexed in the social science; rather than looking at specific journals, he investigated and documented vendor-indexing policies for electronic journals. He further mentioned that, "Indexing will play a crucial role in helping electronic journals gain acceptance into the mainstream of academic research. Indexing service providers seem to be waiting for cues from scholars, publishers and librarians before taking significant steps in this direction. He found there were a number of issues related to the use or the lack of use of electronic journals by librarians, faculty members and students.

Dr. Anupam Saigal, Dr. A.K. Sharma, (2019). Both the development of their collections and their service structures have undergone significant changes in libraries in recent years. It is becoming increasingly

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clear that printed materials are being replaced by electronic ones. Libraries are information repositories that contain knowledge and information in various formats, including full-text articles, technical reports, audio, video, film, slide microfilm/microfiche and printed. This study examines the use of electronic resources at Subharti Institute of Technology and Engineering. To collect feedback from users of electronic resources, a questionnaire was created. The 150 users whose responses were collected included 100 professors and 50 engineering college graduates. The results of the survey provide information about the different types of e-resources in use, their intended uses, user challenges, the advantages of e-resources over traditional resources, the success rate in finding the information needed, and the capacity of the e-resources, how effective e-resources are as teaching tools and opinions on their functions. Based on the survey results, recommendations were made for the best use and utilization of e-resources.

Moruwawon, (2020, March). Libraries of today cannot grow without the proper use of e-resources (electronic resources) and ICT facilities for their services. The emergence of new technologies has drastically changed the way information professionals provide services to their clients. Digital libraries are the new developments in the ever-increasing technology age. E-resources are easily accessible outside the four walls of the library. This paper focuses on the ways in which e-resources can be used as strategies to improve effective library services. It also considers the benefits and challenges of applying electronic resources to library services. The study used the literature search method, which randomly reviewed articles that were related to the study. The study showed that the use of electronic resources for library services is of utmost importance and therefore any barrier to effective use should be taken into account.

Dhiman, (2021). The rapid growth of ICT, especially the Internet and electronic resources, has changed the traditional research communication methods of scientific information. In the present scenario, Internet has emerged as the more powerful medium for storing and retrieving information. The survey on these e-resources had a significant impact on the research and development of KUK University users. The study shows that the youth have accepted the e-resources, but the level of frequent use of the e-resources among readers is at the optimal level. Many of the participants are unaware of this and have not used online dissertations, online databases, abstracts/indices or OPAC relevant to research. Therefore, the library can take initiatives to organize orientation programs and awareness programs for users in this area.

Sandeep Kumar, Gireesh Kumar, & Aditya, (2021). As an integral component and central quality assessment criterion, the accessibility of e-resources in libraries is becoming increasingly important and is increasingly becoming a component of acquisition and collection building activities. Libraries and information centers play a crucial role in selecting, acquiring and providing effective accessibility to e-resources to their users in various categories to meet their academic and research needs. This article examines the availability and distribution of e-resources among selected IIMs in India. Researchers selected six IIMs identified as first-generation libraries to analyze the holdings of e-resources as part of their library facilities. The study compares various aspects of e-resources, such as: B. the availability of different types of resources, their sources of availability, types of access and tailored services through specialized tools and collaborative networks. The researchers found from the analysis that all first-generation IIM libraries are part of IIM library consortia and are the main source of e-resources rather than individual subscriptions, and that many of the libraries offer tailored services through dedicated access tools. The results and suggestions for study may be useful for library professionals and administrators of IIM libraries to further improve the management of their electronic resources.

5. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A study on the use of e-journal (OPAC) online public access catalogue was carried out in the CCS University library of Meerut by the research scholars. On random sampling method, 150 research scholars were selected as respondents and a structured questionnaire was distributed to them. Out of 150 questionnaires only 120 were received back from respondent. The questionnaire sought information of the state of automation, use of the OPAC, problems identified by users in using the OPAC and suggestions for improving the use of OPAC as an information retrieval tool.

Table 1: Age wise Distribution of Respondents

Age in years	No of research scholars	Percentage
23-25	40	33.34
26-28	70	58.32
Above 28	10	08.34
Total	120	100

Table 1 exhibits that the respondents belong to the age group of 23-25 form 33.34% followed by 58.32 % in the age group of 26-28. Only 8.34% of the respondents are in the age group of above 28 years. Majority of the researchers are young scholars.

Table 2: Using of OPAC

Using the OPAC	No of scholars	Percentage
yes	90	75
No	30	25
Total	120	100

The study also revealed that about 90 respondents, covering 75%, use the OPAC. Table 2 gives the details. A question was asked to know the frequency of use of OPAC. The results are tabulated in the table.

Table 3: Frequency of use of OPAC

S. No.	Frequency of using	No of respondents	Percentage
1	Daily	12	10
2	Once in two days	15	12.5
3	Once in a week	20	16.67
4	Twice in a week	10	08.33
5	Once in two weeks	08	06.67
6	Once in way	35	29.13
7	Not answered	20	16.67
	Total	120	100

Table 3 shows that about 29.13 % of the scholars occasionally use OPAC 16.67% use it once in a week. Only about 10% use it daily.

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Table 4: How satisfied are you with the variety of e-Journals available at the CCS University Meerut

S. No	Satisfaction Level of e Journals	No of respondents	Percentage
1	Very satisfied	60	50
2	Somewhat satisfied	12	10
3	Neutral	10	8.33
4	Somewhat dissatisfied	20	16.66
5	Very dissatisfied	18	15
	Total	120	100

Table 4 shows that about 50 % of the scholars are satisfied with the e Journals available with CCS University Meerut.

Table 5: How satisfied are you with the support and assistance provided by the CCS University Resources Centers in utilizing electronic Journals

S. No	Support and assistance provided	No of respondents	Percentage
1	Very satisfied	42	35
2	Somewhat satisfied	15	12.5
3	Neutral	26	21.6
4	Somewhat dissatisfied	23	19.1
5	Very dissatisfied	14	11.6
	Total	120	100

Table 5 shows that about 35 % of the scholars are satisfied with assistance provided by the staff of CCS University Meerut at the time of using e Journals which are available at the library.

6. CONCLUSION

There are a vast growing number of e-journals being published and our investigation also indicates a growing acceptance of this digital format. Research scholars are using of these new digital publications and citing them in his/her research work. Libraries are playing good role in the research process by accessing these journals through their online catalogs. Still there are several seemingly viable titles that have not been selected for indexing for one reason or another.

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