

USE OF E-RESOURCES IN LIBRARIES OF PRIVATE COLLEGES OF SONEPAT DISTRICT: AN EVALUATIVE STUDY

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Abstract: The present study deal with the use of electronic resources in private college affiliated to Deenbandhu Chhotu Ram University of Science and Technology, Murthal, Sonapat, Haryana is limited to fourteen selected Private College of Sonapat District affiliated to DCRUST, Murthal, Sonapat, Haryana. For the purpose samples of 300 users of library have been taken by the researcher for the study and 292 questionnaires were found complete in all respect. Researcher also visited for observation the present situation in these libraries. Use of e-resources in these private college libraries are not satisfactory due to lack of relevant resources. At the last in study some suggestions and recommendations have been given for the development of libraries.

Keywords: Electronic Resources, DCRUST, ICT Application

1.0 Introduction:

In the old era, the Libraries were opened for the rich people and for the king only. These were not opened for all groups of common society. But now libraries open its doors to everyone and libraries are reaching to every person and even to disabled persons. Libraries are reaching to every person of the society by their websites and home pages. Now the traditional resources of libraries are conversing into e-resources like e-Book, e-thesis, e-Journals and e-databases. Day by day the demands of users are increasing toward these resources due to importance of these e-resources. Government and private institution are making more expenditure on these digital resources to facilitate their community of the students through concerned libraries and e-learning resource centre.

“An electronic resource is any information source that the library provides access to in an electronic format. The library has purchased subscriptions to many electronic information resources in order to provide you with access to them free of charge. Our E-Resources’ include lots of things: full-text Journals, newspapers, company information, e-books, dictionaries, encyclopedias, economic data, digital images, industry profiles, market research, career information, etc.” Patel et. al. (2012)² investigated the use of resources and services based on ICT in the engineering college libraries of Chhattisgarh. The study was based on a questionnaire survey of the engineering college users. The study also considered the regions including library professional’s help in the use of ICT based resources.

The real process for the growth of university libraries in India can be said to have been set in action with the induction of the University Education Commission presided over by Dr. S. Radhakrishnan (1948-49) and its recommendations, such as, annual grants, open access system, working hours, institution of the library, staff, steps to make students book aware and the need to give funding to teachers to buy books. Higher education in Uttar Pradesh enriched to its maturity stage after independence. The development of libraries also taken place with the development of universities. Deenbandhu Chhotu Ram University of Science and Technology, Murthal, Sonapat, Haryana was established in 2006³ and now many college are affiliated to this university and a large number of user community are educationally benefitted from this University. In the present study only selected fourteen private colleges have been taken for the purpose.

2.0 Objective of the Study

The following are the main objectives of the study:

- To obtain the use of electronic resources in the library of private college
- To study the awareness of user regarding e-resources
- To discover the type of e-resources which are used most often among users
- To find out the problem of user in using of e-resources
- To discover the regularity of use of e-resources
- To explore the purpose for using electronic resources of users

3.0 Research Methodology

The questionnaire was designed with multiple choices questions to collect the primary data including observation and informal interview with users of selected colleges. The relevant data was collected from the affiliated institutions to DCRUST, Murthal, Sonapat, Haryana and analyzed in the tables, figures and using with percentage method.

4.0 Data Analysis

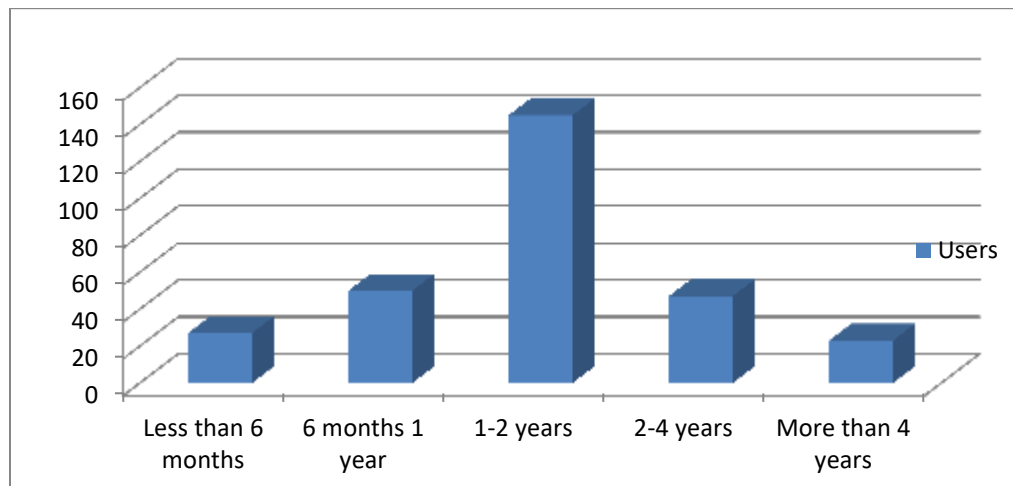
The study is limited to fourteen selected Private College sited at Sonapat District affiliated to DCRUST, Murthal, Sonapat, Haryana. As these colleges have good libraries with ICT application and cater to the need of a large number of students. Samples of 300 users of library have been taken by the researcher for the study and 292 questionnaires were found complete in all respect. To know the use of e-resources and their effect the total 292 (98.66%) responses analyzed which is a quite enough response for the study. Many types of questions were framed in questionnaire to know the users' view and problems in accessing these e-resources. The data analysis in figure or tabular form is as given below:

4.1. Use of E-Resources

Table 4.1 Experience of using the e-Resource

	Less than 6 months	6 months 1 year	1-2 years	2-4 years	More than 4 years
Users	27	50	145	47	23
%	9.24	17.12	49.65	16.09	7.87

Figure 1 Experience of using the e-Resource

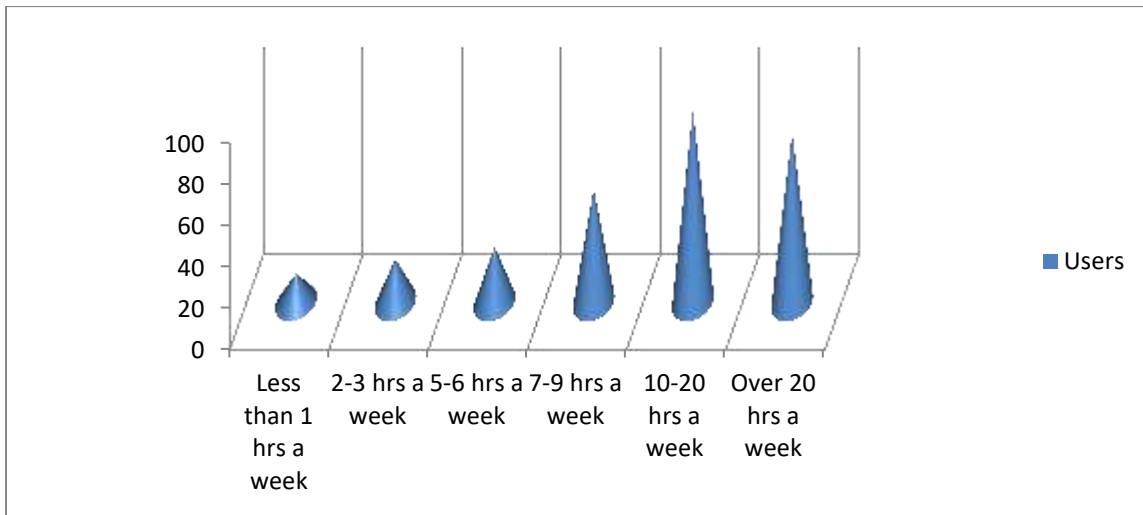


The table no 4.1 shows that 49.65% users have the 1-2 years experience of using the e-resources; than 17.12% users are those who are using e-recourse less than 6 months to 1 year, 16.09% users are those who have the experience of 2-4 years than 9.24% users have experience of using the e-resources less than 6 months and 7.87% users have the experience of using the e-resources of more than 4 years.

Table 4.2. Time spent on e-Resource

Time	Less than 1 hrs. a week	2-3 hrs. a week	5-6 hrs. a week	7-9 hrs. a week	10-20 hrs. a week	Over 20 hrs a week
user	14	21	27	55	93	82
%	4.79	7.91	9.24	18.83	31.84	28.08

Figure 2 Time spent on the e-Resource



The table no 4.2 reveals that the time spent on e-resources by the users. As per this table 31.84% users spent 10-20 hrs per week on e-resources, 28.08% users spent more than 20 hrs per week on these resources than 18.83% spent 7-9 hrs per week than 9.24% spent 5-6 hrs per week than 7.91% spent 2-3 hrs. per week and 4.79 users spent only less than one hrs. per week on e-resources.

Table 4.3 Use of various e-resources in libraries.

E-resources	Use				
	100%	75%	50%	25%	Not at all
E-Journals	48	56	152	36	0
Online Database	33	48	53	74	84
E-Maps	-	-	16	38	238
E-Books	36	49	57	61	89
E-Magazines	21	28	29	122	92
Websites	57	197	34	04	0
E-Newspaper	143	78	40	31	0
E-Mail	154	61	43	34	0
E-Research Reports	34	46	53	88	71
CD/DVD	81	127	58	26	0

The table no 4.3 reveals use of various e-resources in the concerned libraries.

- 152 (52.05%) access the e-journals in their concerned library up to 50%.
- 84 (28.76%) are not accessing online database in their concerned library.
- 238 (81.50%) are not accessing e-maps in their concerned library.
- 89 (30.47%) are not accessing e-books in their concerned library.
- 122 (41.78%) are using the e-magazines in their concerned library up to 25%.
- 197 (67.46%) are using the websites in their concerned library up to 75%.
- 143 (48.97%) are accessing the e-newspapers in their concerned library up to 100%.
- 154 (52.73%) are using e-mail services in their concerned library up to 100%.
- 88 (30.13%) are accessing e-research reports in their concerned library up to 25%.
- 127 (43.49%) are using CD/DVD in their concerned library up to 75%.

As per table 4.3 the most usable e-resources are: websites, e-mail, e-newspapers, e-Journals and e-magazines and unusable e-resources are e-maps, e-manuscripts, e-bibliographies and online databases.

Table no. 4.4. User's awareness to various E-Resources

E-resources	Awareness				
	100%	75%	50%	25%	Not at all
E-Journals	47	66	161	14	4
Online Database	2	12	42	150	86
E-Books	42	58	114	52	26
E-Magazines	52	54	96	58	32
Websites	28	172	43	35	14
E-Newspaper	234	36	19	3	0
E-Mail	212	52	16	6	6
E-Research Reports	23	42	69	74	84
CD/DVD	45	109	72	42	24

The table no 4.4 explains the user's awareness towards various e-resources in the concerned libraries.

- 161 (55.47%) users are aware about e-journals up to 50% only.
- 150 (51.36%) users are aware about online database up to 25% only.
- 114 (39.04%) users are aware about e-book up to 50% only.
- 96 (32.87%) users are aware about e-magazines up to 50% only.
- 172 (58.90%) users are aware about websites up to 75% only.
- 234 (80.13%) users are aware about e-newspapers up to 100% only.
- 212 (72.60%) users are aware about e-mails up to 100% only.
- 84 (28.76%) users are not aware about e-research reports.
- 109 (37.32%) users are aware about CD/DVD up to 75% only.

Table 4.5. Satisfaction level in % with e-Resource Facilities

E-Resources facilities	Satisfaction level				
	100%	75%	50%	25%	Not at all
E-Resources Access	28	69	77	104	14
Technical Portion	41	52	62	95	42
Computer System	34	67	70	89	32
Training	49	51	111	62	19
Network Speed	41	52	65	120	14
Concerned Staff attitude	18	30	46	102	96
Library home page	62	52	93	53	32

The table no 4.5 shows the satisfaction level of users of the libraries in accessing or using the facilities of e-resources.

- 104 (35.61%) say that they are satisfied with available e-resources up to 25% only.
- 95 (32.53%) say that they are satisfied with technical portion up to 25% only.
- 89 (30.47%) say that they are satisfied with available computer systems up to 25% only.
- 111 (38.01%) say that they are satisfied with available training systems up to 50% only.
- 120 (41.09) say that they are satisfied with available network speed up to 25% only.
- 102 (38.93%) say that they are satisfied with attitude of working staff up to 25% only.
- 93 (31.54%) say that they are satisfied with library home page up to 50% only.

Table 4.6. Problems faced by user in using the E-Resources

Problems	Response				
	100%	75%	50%	25%	Not at all
E-Resources are limited	105	82	72	29	4
Technical problem in Access	65	106	47	35	39
Old Computer System	102	76	64	25	25
Required training	62	127	51	49	03
No of PCs are less	67	122	52	41	10
Library home page are not user friendly	91	53	74	46	28

The table 4.6 shows the problem faced by the users of the libraries in using the e-resources.

- 105 (35.95%) say that available e-resources are limited in library up to 100%
- 106 (36.30%) say that they feel technical problem in access (net breaking etc.) up to 75%
- 102 (34.93%) say that available pc's configuration are old up to 100%
- 127 (43.49%) say that they required training in use of e-resources up to 75%
- 122 (41.78%) say the numbers of PCs are very less to access the e-resources up to 75%
- 91 (31.16%) say that library home pages are not user friendly up to 100%

5.0 Findings and Recommendations:

Table 4.2 presents that 32% user spend 10-20 hrs. in a week on e-resources in their library. The time spend on e-resources are not so satisfactory. As per table no 4.4 most of the users use only e-mails, e-newspaper and websites in their libraries. The uses of Academic e-resources are very fewer in the concerned libraries. Researcher found reasons behind non-use of e-resources as they are limited, users unawareness and computers system are old, slow speed of network, library home page is not user friendly, number of PCs are not enough and staff attitude are not so satisfactory. Here following recommendation are made on the basis of these findings in the study:

- I. Libraries should train their library staff in using ICT in this digital age.
- II. Libraries should purchase new computer system.
- III. Library should train their users in accessing e-resources.
- IV. Library should organize user awareness program regarding use of e-resources
- V. Libraries should purchase more e-resources and databases to facilitate their users.
- VI. Network speed should be increased to higher Mbps in concerned libraries
- VII. Libraries should re-design their home page as user friendly to facilitate them.
- VIII. Library should arrange power backup system, easy seating chairs and air conditioner environment to facilitate their users.

6.0 Conclusion:

In the modern age, in all libraries the physical form of resources changed into electronic resources and traditional collection of libraries are converting into modern e-collection as per user's needs. In this ICT environment the user's expectations have been increased from library and library should keep this concept in mind. This study shows that availability of concerned e-resources in libraries is very less and ICT infrastructure are also not upgraded. Library authorities should allocate more funds and should appoint more staff having sound knowledge of IT in their libraries. Existing library staff members should be sent for training for their awareness and professional development. Libraries should purchase new higher configuration computer system and should acquire higher net speed connection.

7.0 References:

1. <http://libanswers.utep.edu/a.php?qid=57186>
2. <http://www.dcrustm.org/>
3. Patel, Girja S., Sengupta, S. and Patel, Omprakash (2012). "Use of ICT in the college libraries of Chattisgarh: a study of resources and services". *Future of libraries in digital age* edited. 432-438.