

Use and Awareness of Electronic Information Resources among UG & PG Students of T John College, Bangalore: A Study

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Abstract

The present research article emphasis the use and awareness of Electronic Information Resources among UG & PG students of T John College. The study identifies the awareness of e-information resources among students i.e. 81% opined that they are aware of Electronic Information Resources and 19% opined that they are not aware of Electronic information Resources. The study also aimed to understand the purpose of use of Electronic information resources by Students, the results revealed that student use E-resources for Project Work i.e.74.07%, followed by preparing class notes 64.19%. The students use EIR for Social Networking i.e. 56.79%, followed by 55.55% for preparing assignments and 43.02% for entertainment purpose. Students were further asked to reveal the issues or difficulties faced during accessing e-resources for which students opined that the major issue is technical problem i.e. 53.08% which indicates that though students are well versed technological devices they still lack Information Literacy Skills for using Electronic information resources effectively. To understand the impact of Electronic information resources students were asked for usefulness of electronic information resources for academic activities, to which 69.13% students opined that Electronic information resources are very useful for academic activities.

Keywords: Electronic Information Resources, User Study, Students, T John College, ICT.

1. Introduction

Information technology has brought massive change in information storage, retrieval and access. The academic libraries i.e. college libraries tend to accumulate more print information resources compared to e-resources due to the ambiguous natures of Electronic information resources. The role of librarian in academic libraries is changing with changing scenario of e-resources, which has created a challenge in providing information services to clientele.

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The digital generation students are well versed with technological aspects of 21st century, but the vast information on the web and dynamic nature of the technology throws new challenges in understanding the form of information and utilizing it in effective way. The LIS professionals in academic libraries should be aware of the level of Electronic Information Resources among respective college students, by which the Librarians can create an encouraging atmosphere to students in accessing E-resources and utilizing in efficient way.

2. Review of literature

Innumerable of user studies have been carried out by researchers to understand the awareness and use of e-resources by users, very few have been recorded here which are most relevant to the present area of research in order to get insights of previous studies.

Kaur and Verma (2009) conducted a study on use Electronic Information Resources by faculty, students and research scholars in Thapar University, Punjab. The study revealed that around 36.29 are not aware of Electronic Information Resources and usage of e-journals is very few and also very few number of users accessing e-resources database subscribed by Thapar University.

Tyagi (2011) conducted a study on Use and Awareness of Electronic Information Sources at IIT Roorkee. The findings showed that 100% of faculty members and research scholars were aware about the library's E-resources/services. In case of post graduates and under graduate students 97.18% and 36.61% were aware, whereas 63.39% population of undergraduate students were not aware E-resources.

Adeniran (2013) conducted study on Usage of electronic resources by undergraduates at the Redeemer's University, Nigeria which showed 21.0% out of the 100% of the respondents, agreed that they used the electronic resources for research purpose. 12.8% indicated that they used them for current awareness purpose. 20.3% agreed they used them to acquire information, 21.8% indicated that they used electronic resources for assignment. 11.8% agreed that they used them for e-mail purpose while 12.2% of them indicated that they used electronic resources for news acquisition. From the table, it is revealed that majority of the respondents used the electronic resources for research, current awareness,

Priyadharshini, Janakiraman, Subramanian (2015) carried a study on awareness of usage of Electronic Information Resources in Agricultural College and Research Institute, Madurai, the study revealed that use of E-resources freely available through

internet search engines like Google, Yahoo etc, and they used frequently E-journals 70%; followed by e-books 65% and online databases 50%, while the least preference given to the use of e-achievers and CD ROM databases 5% which was quiet surprise for researchers.

Bankole, Ajiboye, O Otunla (2015) found the purpose Use of Electronic Information Resources by Undergraduates of Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta, Ogun State, Nigeria the highest number of respondents 72.4% were using Electronic Information Resources to complete class assignments, followed by 60.6% that were using it to obtain course related information/study materials. 43.5% respondents to update knowledge/keep abreast of latest development while 38.4% were using e resources for research purposes. Those using electronic resources for entertainment 8.8% and leisure 15.3% were the least.

3. Objectives of the study

The following are the objectives guiding the study:

- To know the awareness of Electronic Information Resources among UG & PG students
- To know the frequency of use Electronic Information Resources among UG & PG students.
- To assess the purpose of using Electronic Information Resources among UG & PG students
- To understand the issues faced by UG & PG students using Electronic Information Resources
- To understand the impact Electronic Information Resources for academic performance.

4. Methodology

The present study was carried out by Questionnaire–Survey method for data collection. A structured questionnaire was prepared in view of objectives and 120 questionnaires were distributed among UG & PG students of T John College 100 i.e. 83.33% filled in questionnaire were received in response.

5. Data analysis and interpretation

The collected data from questionnaires were analyzed pertaining to objectives. A total of 120 questionnaires were distributed among UG students of T John College with 100 (83.33%) responses from students. The data is further analyzed to understand the use and awareness of Electronic Resources by students.

Table -1
Demographic details

Sl. no.			Total (n=100)	Percentage
1	Age	18-21	75	75%
		22-24	23	23%
		Above -24	2	2%
2	Gender	Male	74	74%
		Female	26	26%
3	Course	UG	73	73%
		PG	27	27%

Table-1 shows the demographic details of the respondents. In total 100 response 75(75%) students are in the age group 18-21, 23(23%) are in 22-24 age group and least i.e. 2(2%) are above 24. In gender-wise distribution out of 100 74(74%) are Male and 26(26%) are female. Course-wise distribution shows that 73(73%) are UG students and 27(27%) are PG students.

Table-2
Awareness of Electronic Information Resources

Response	Total	Percentage
Yes	81	81%
No	19	19%

Table-2 depicts awareness of Electronic Information Resources among UG and PG students of T John College. Out of 100 respondents 81(81%) opined that they are aware of Electronic Information Resources and 19 (19%) opined that they are not aware of Electronic information Resources.

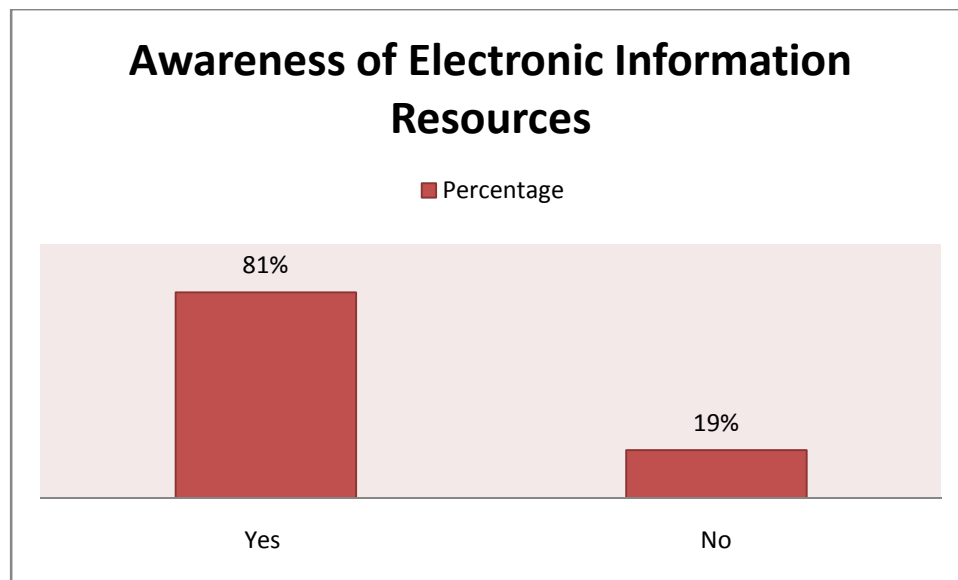


Figure-1 Awareness of electronic information resources

**Table-3
Frequency of Using Electronic Information Resources**

Frequency	Total	Percentage
Regularly	35	43.20%
Occasionally	29	35.80%
Rarely	17	20.98%
Total	81	100%

Table-3 shows the frequency of use of Electronic Information Resources by students. Among 81 students 35 (43.20%) students use Electronic Information Resources on regular basis, followed by 29 (35.80%) students use Electronic Information Resources occasionally and 17 (20.98%) students use Electronic Information Resources rarely.

**Table-4
Purpose of using Electronic Information Resources**

Purpose	Total	Percentage
Preparing class notes	52	64.19%
Seminars	48	59.25%
Project work	60	74.07%
Current awareness	47	58.02%
Assignment	45	55.55%
Social networking	46	56.79%
Entertainment	35	43.20%
Others	6	7.40%

Table-4 depicts the purpose of using Electronic Information Resources by students. The major purpose for using Electronic Information Resources by students is Project Work i.e. 74.07%, followed by preparing class notes 64.19%, followed by seminar purpose i.e. 59.2%, followed by current awareness purpose i.e. 58.02%. The students use

EIR for Social Networking i.e. 56.79%, followed by 55.55% for preparing assignments and 43.02% for entrainment purpose, and followed by 7.40% for other purposes.

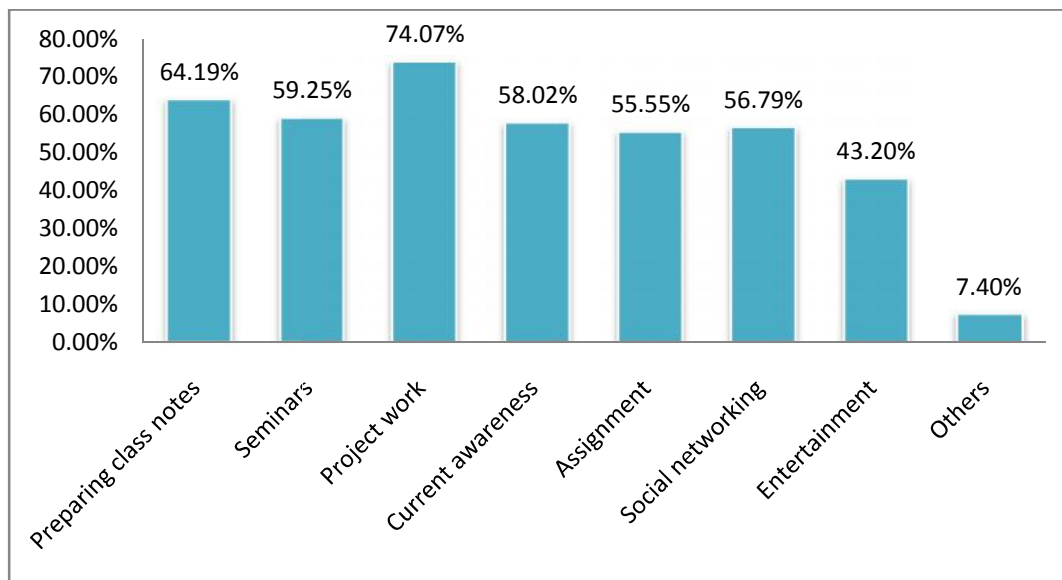


Figure-2 Purpose of using Electronic Information Resources

**Table-5
Issues in using Electronic Information Resources**

Issues	Total	Percentage
Not familiar with E-resources	18	22.22%
Not able to use E-resources	17	20.98%
Materials required are not available or not in use	24	29.62%
Technical problems	43	53.08%
Difficulty in e-reading	17	20.98%
Less availability of course wise information resources	24	29.62%

Table-5 shows issues faced by students in using Electronic Information Resources, the major issue faced by students in accessing Electronic Information Resources is Technical problem i.e. 53.08%, followed by non-availability of Electronic Information Resources and course-wise Electronic Information Resources i.e. 29.62% and 22.22% students opined that they are not much familiar with Electronic Information Resources and 20.98% students opined that there is difficulty in E-reading and not able use Electronic Information Resources properly.

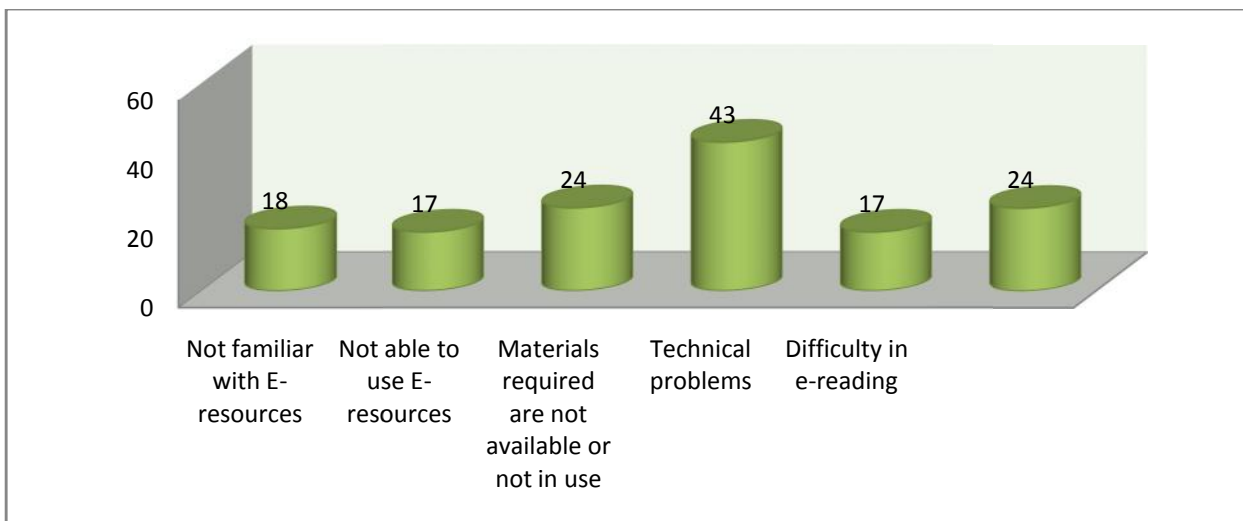


Figure-3 Issues in accessing Electronic Information Resources

**Table-6
Impact of Electronic Information Resources on Academia**

Impact	Total	Percentage
Very useful	56	69.13
Don't know	25	30.86%
Not useful	4	4.93%

Table-6 Depicts the impact of Electronic Information Resources on academic activities according to students, around 69.13% students opined that Electronic Information Resources are very useful for academic activities and 4.93% opined Electronic Information Resources are not useful for academic activities. 30.86% students opined that they are not aware about Impact of Electronic Information Resources for academic activities.

6. Findings of the study

Based on the data analysis and interpretation following findings is drawn:

- 120 questionnaires were distributed among UG & PG students of T John College 100 i.e. 83.33% filled in questionnaire were received in response.
- Out of 100 respondents 81% opined that they are aware of Electronic Information Resources and 19% opined that they are not aware of Electronic information Resources.
- The major purpose for using Electronic Information Resources by students is Project Work i.e.74.07%, followed by preparing class notes 64.19%. The students use EIR for Social Networking i.e. 56.79%, followed by 55.55% for preparing assignments and 43.02% for entertainment purpose.

- The major issue faced by students in accessing Electronic Information Resources is Technical problem i.e. 53.08%.
- 69.13% students opined that Electronic Information Resources are very useful for academic activities and 4.93% opined Electronic Information Resources are not useful for academic activities.

7. Conclusion

The present study indicates that the Digital Generation Students are well versed with technical devices but students are not well versed with using E-resources i.e. 53.08% opined that have technical issue in accessing electronic information resources, though students are using ICT for communication and entertainment purpose. The reason for lack of ICT skills pertaining to use of E-resources has to be identified in detail so that students can be trained to access the Electronic information Resources. The study also revealed that students are using electronic information resources for Project work i.e. 74.07% the result is different from previous study of reviewed, this difference in results is might be because of courses i.e. the present study aimed at T John college students were majority of students belong to Management studies.

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