Opinion and Usage of E-Resources among the Women Faculty in Chennai: A Study

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Abstract

This study is aimed to analyses the opinion on E-Resources among the Women academicians in Chennai. Questionnaire method was adopted to collect the data. From the 250, 75 (30%) of the questionnaire were distributed to the Associate Professors and the remaining 175(70%) questionnaire were distributed to the Assistant Professors. The highest number of respondents 72(31.57%) were opinioned that electronic resources were very useful. 72(31.57%) respondents of were accessed the electronic resources daily. The highest number of respondents 102(44.7%) were strongly agreed that downloading is a major problem in the use of e-resources and 73(32%) were agreed the same

Keywords

Opinion on E-Resources; Women Academician; Arts and Science Colleges.

Electronic access

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INTRODUCTION

E-Resources are those electronic products that delivers a collection of data , be it text referring to full text basis , e-journals ,image collection , other multimedia products and numerical , graphical or time based ,as a commercially available till that has been published with an aim to being marketed . These may be delivered on CD-ROM, on tape via internet and so on. Articles and web sites many of the resources are freely available to anyone with internet access, but some are licensed resources

REVIEW LITERATURE

Adams, J.A. and Bonk, S.C. (1995)[1] revealed that there are inequities in access to electronic technologies among the disciplines; that the most common obstacle to use of electronic information for faculty is lack of knowledge about resources; and that there is strong interest in initiating various library transactions via e-mail or a campus wide information system (CWIS). The survey results present clear mandates related to information services, training, the allocation of funds for networking, and access to electronic information resources for libraries. G. Kiran Kumar and Mallinath Kumbar(2012)[2] studied that it was clear that all the engineering faculty members' access electronic information resources. The main purpose of using internet is for accessing e-teaching materials. The use of e-resources benefits the faculty to access up to date information. Internet explorer and Google are the most preferred web browser and search engine used by the faculty for accessing electronic resources. The faculty prefers both basic and advanced search options. There is a very good spread of use of field based search and advance search options among them S. Thanuskodi (2012)[3] studied that the User training is essential for the better use of electronic resources in the library since a good number of users are searching electronic literature on their own. Electronic resources users should be taught about advanced search strategies and the use of controlled vocabulary to make electronic search process much easier. Furthermore, since users are experiencing problems in gathering information, the most suitable measures should be taken to overcome this, such as increasing the number of terminals and printers. Haneefa K (2007)[4] presented the results of an investigation in the study "Use of ICT Based Resources and Services in Special Libraries in Kerala, India. The email service was used by the largest percentage of the users. WWW was being used by 60 per cent of the library users. A

good no. of users were not satisfied with the application of ICT in the libraries and indicated 'inadequate ICT infrastructure' as their reason for dissatisfaction. Users proposed a variety of measures of formal orientation and training in ICT based resources and services. Dhanavandan (2012)[5] describes the Use of Digital Library Resources by the engineering professionals in the engineering colleges at Cuddalore District, and investigates the current state-of-the art information through the digital library resources. The 33.7% of users feel that lack of information is the problems with access of digital library resources. The findings of this study would assist the internet browsers to improve their level.
K.Vijayakumar , Shuaib , (2014)[6] studied that the e-resources, (49%) of the respondents access them daily followed by once in a week (32%) and once in a moth (13%).The purpose of using e-resources is research (33.4%),lecture notes (20%),professional development (17%),for updating of knowledge (15%)and for entertainment purposes (13%).

NEED FOR THE STUDY

The present study aims to analysis the Opinion and Usage of Electronic Resources among the women Faculty in Arts and Science colleges in Chennai

OBJECTIVES

The framed objectives are:

1. To classify the respondents according to their category
2. To know the opinion of the respondents in using the e-resources
3. To study the frequency of time for using e-resources among the respondents
4. To know the specific opinion of the respondents about the e-resources
5. To analyses the opinion about access to E-Journals than printed journals
6. To study the comparative degree of agreement about print journals and electronic journals

METHODOLOGY

This study examines the opinion about the electronic resources among the women academician in Arts and Science Colleges of Chennai. This study is focused in Autonomous and Aided Government women's colleges only. The questionnaires were distributed personally and the data were collected, organized and tabulated according to the objectives of the study and analysed by using statistical tools, such as percentage and ranking analysis.

ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

250 questionnaires were distributed among the faculty members and 228(91.2) were received back. The received data were tabulated and analysed.

Table 1: Category wise Distribution of Respondents

Category wise	Issued		Returned	
	No of Respondents	%	No of Respondents	%
Associate Professors	75	30	67	26.8
Assistant Professors	175	70	161	64.4
Total	250	100	228	91.2

Table 1 shows that the category wise distribution of respondents among the 250, 75 (30%) of the questionnaires were distributed to the Associate Professors and the remaining 175(70%) questionnaire were distributed to the Assistant Professors. From the 75, 67(26.8%) were returned back from the Associate Professors and 161(64.4%) were returned back by the Assistant Professors instead of 175.

Table: 2 Opinion on using E-Resources

S.No	Opinion on using E-Resources	No of Respondents	%
1	Extremely Useful	63	27.63
2	Very Useful	72	31.58
3	Somewhat useful	37	16.23
4	Slightly useful	42	18.42
5	Not applicable	14	6.14
	Total	228	100

Table: 3 Frequency of time to access the e-resources

S.No	Frequency of time	No of Respondents	%
1	Daily	72	31.58
2	Weekly Twice	67	29.38
3	Weekly once	42	18.42
4	Monthly	32	14.04
5	Rarely	15	6.58
	Total	**228**	**100**

Table: 2 identifies that the Opinion on using E-Resources among the respondents. The highest

number of respondents 72(31.57%) were opined that were opined that extremely useful, 42(18.42%) were slightly useful, 14(6.14%) were not applicable and 37(16.22%) were somewhat useful.

Table 3 reveals that the frequency of time to access the electronic resources by the respondents. electronic resources were very useful, 63(27.63%) 42(18.42%) respondents were accessed the electronic resources weekly once. The highest number of respondents 72(31.57%) were accessed daily, 67(29.38%) were accessed weekly twice, 32(14.03%) were used monthly and 15(6.57%) were used rarely.

Table: 4 Specific opinions about the e-resources

S.No	Statement	Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
1	Electronic Resources are likely to replace print resources.	65(28.50)	52(22.8)	8(3.50)	47(20.6)	26(11.40)
2	Bottle neck in the development of E-Resources is lack of awareness on the part of the academic community.	47(20.6)	36(15.78)	4(1.75)	68(29.82)	73(32)
3	Developments of E-Resources are hampered due to lack of demand from the users.	52(22.8)	63(27.63)	5(2.19)	72(31.57)	36(15.78)
4	Lack of access to the computers to make use of Electronic collections is the cause for non-development of E-Resources.	27(11.84)	34(14.9)	7(3.07)	65(28.5)	95(41.66)
5	library E-Resources are not used because of lack of skills of users.	43(18.85)	32(16.22)	8(3.50)	72(31.57)	73(32)
6	Most of the Libraries have not particular process for evaluating the resources before purchase.	52(22.8)	63(27.63)	12(5.26)	57(25)	44(19.29)
7	Downloading is a major problem in the use of E-Resources.	102(44.7)	73(32)	4(1.75)	27(11.84)	22(9.64)
8	Poor collection of materials in the digital library is the reason for its non-development.	72(31.57)	57(25)	11(4.82)	36(15.78)	52(22.8)
9	Most of the faculty members of Engineering colleges are familiar with usage of digital Resources.	63(27.63)	59(25.87)	13(5.7)	47(20.6)	46(20.17)
10	The Faculty members are using digital resources for enhancing and upgrading communication skills.	23(10.08)	37(16.22)	12(5.26)	63(27.63)	93(40.78)
11	All activities and programs in electronic information handling are to be based entirely on the needs of users.	87(38.15)	63(27.63)	8(3.50)	42(18.42)	28(12.28)
12	Students are leading users of E-Resources.	87(38.18)	53(23.24)	11(4.82)	49(21.49)	28(12.28)

13	More computers should be exclusively provided in the Library for the benefit of the faculty members than the present.	37(16.22)	47(20.6)	9(3.94)	72(31.57)	63(27.63)
14	Most of the faculty members are mainly using search Engines compared to other Digital Resources.	72(31.57)	63(27.63)	8(3.50)	57(25)	28(12.28)
15	Faculty members' attitudes seem to be very positive towards E-Resources for their study and research.	69(30.26)	57(25)	12(5.26)	43(18.85)	47(20.6)
16	Library hours to use the E-Resources facility to be provided to students at least 3 periods per week.	82(35.96)	63(27.63)	5(2.19)	47(20.6)	31(13.59)
17	Separate computer facility should be provided to the students at least with a ratio of 1:30.	57(25)	49(21.49)	27(11.84)	52(22.8)	43(18.85
18	Basic training has to be given to students to effectively use the E-Resources of the library.	87(38.15)	72(31.57)	13(5.7)	47(20.6)	41(17.98)
19	Resources sharing provides greater access to Information Resources to a wide category of users	97(42.5)	83(36.4)	5(2.19)	24(10.52)	19(8.4)
20	Resource sharing can be activated by strengthening the existing consortia.	63(27.63)	62(27.19)	15(6.57)	47(20.6)	41(17.98)
21	Starting new consortia in a way may be helpful to resource sharing.	43(18.85)	48(21.05)	37(16.22)	42(18.42)	58(25.43)
22	Linking all the consortia may provide a better service.	73(32)	67(29.38)	32(14.03)	32(14.03)	24(10.52)
23	Management should provide necessary infrastructure for the success of E-Resources development.	92(40.35)	83(36.4)	13(5.7)	19(8.3)	21(9.21)

Table 4 reveals that the specific opinion information on e-resources among the respondents. The highest number of respondents 65(28.50%) were strongly agreed that the electronic resources are likely to replace print resources, 52(22.8%) were agreed, 47(20.6%) were disagreed and 26(11.40%0 were strongly disagreed. 63(27.63%) were agreed that the Developments of E-Resources are hampered due to lack of demand from the users, 72(31.57%) were disagreed. 95(41.66%) of the respondents were strongly disagreed Lack of access to the computers to make use of Electronic collections is the cause for non-development of E-Resources, 65(28.5%) were disagreed. 73(32%) of the respondents were opined that the library e-resources are not used because of lack of demand from the users

63(27.63%) of the respondents were agreed that Most of the Libraries have not particular process for evaluating the resources before purchase, 52(22.8%) were strongly agreed and 57(25%) were disagreed. The highest number of respondents 102(44.7%) were strongly agreed that downloading is a major problem in the use of e-resources and 73(32%) were agreed the same. 72(31.57%) were strongly agreed that the Poor collection of materials in the digital library is the reason for its non-development, 57(25%) were agreed, 52(22.8%) were strongly disagreed. 63(27.63%) of the respondents were strongly agreed Most of the faculty members of Engineering colleges are familiar with usage of digital Resources, 59(25.87%) were agreed, 47(20.6%) were disagreed and 46(20.17) were strongly disagreed. 93(40.78%) were strongly disagreed that the

Faculty members are using digital resources for enhancing and upgrading communication skills, 63(27.63) were disagreed. 87(38.15%) respondents were strongly agreed that students are leading users of E-resources and 49(21.49%) were disagreed. 92(40.35%) of the respondents were strongly agreed that the management should provide necessary infrastructure for the success of E-resources development, 83(36.4%) were agreed. 72(31.57%) were strongly agreed Most of the faculty members are mainly using search Engines compared to other Digital Resources and 57(25%) were disagreed that one. 87(38.15%) were strongly agreed that Basic training has to be given to students to effectively use the E-Resources of the library, 72(31.57%) were agreed and 13(5.7%) were no opinioned. 63(27.63%) were strongly agreed that the Resource sharing can be activated by strengthening the existing consortia and 62(27.19%) were agreed. 58(25.43%) were strongly disagreed that Starting new consortia in a way may be helpful to resource sharing and 42(18.42%) were disagreed. 73(32%) of the respondents were strongly agreed that Linking all the consortia may provide a better service and 67(29.38%) were agreed.

Table: 5 Opinion about access to E-Journals than printed journals

S.No	Opinion	Strongly Agree	Agree	No . Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
1	More User Friendly than Printed Journals	93(40.78)	74(32.45)	6(2.63)	23(10.08)	32(14.03)
2	More Frequently used	103(45.17)	83(36.4)	12(5.26)	17(7.4)	13(5.7)
3	Enhance access to Scientific/ Research Papers.	87(38.15)	82(35.96)	23(10.08)	14(6.14)	22(9.64)
4	Decrease the Quality of Research Literature	47(20.6)	36(15.78)	13(5.7)	63(27.63)	69(30.26)
5	Increase Scholarly Productivity in terms of Publishing Papers.	92(40.35)	78(34.2)	17(7.4)	32(14.03)	9(3.94)
6	Keep Current about Global Research & Development.	83(36.4)	67(29.38)	23(10.08)	32(14.03)	23(10.08)
7	Distribution of Articles Easier and Less Costly.	72(31.57)	82(35.96)	17(7.4)	29(12.71)	28(12.28)
8	Features like Editorial News, links to Other Papers, Alerts etc. are Useful.	92(40.35)	87(38.15)	13(5.7)	19(8.3)	17(7.4)

Table 5 revealed that the opinion about the access to electronic journals than printed journals. The highest number of respondent 103(45.17%) were strongly agreed that they used e-journals more frequently than printed journals, 83(36.4%) were agreed and 13(5.7%) only strongly disagreed. 83(36.4%) respondents were strongly agreed that it keep current about global research and development, 67(29.83%) were agreed, 23(10.08%) were no opinioned, 32(14.03%) were disagreed and 23(10.08%) were strongly disagreed. 92(40.35%) were strongly agreed that the features like editorial news, links to other papers, alerts etc. are useful, 17(7.4%) were strongly disagreed, 87(38.15%) were agreed and 19(8.3%) were disagreed. 93(40.78%) respondents were strongly agreed that electronic journals were more user friendly than printed journals and it is followed by 74(32.45%) respondents were agreed, 6(2.63%) were no opinioned, 23(10.08%) were disagreed and 32(14.03%) were strongly disagreed. 87(38.15%) were strongly agreed that it enhance access to scientific / research papers, 82(35.96%) were agreed, 23(10.08%) were no opinioned, 14(6.14%) were disagreed and 22(9.64%) were strongly disagreed. 69(30.26%) respondents were strongly disagreed it decrease the quality of research literature, 63(27.63%) were disagreed. 92(40.35%) respondents were strongly agreed that it increase scholarly productivity in terms of publishing papers. 72(31.57%) were strongly agreed that the distribution of articles easier and less costly.

Table 6:Comparative Degree Of Agreement About Print Journals And Electronic Journals

S.No	Opinion about Electronic Vs Print	Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
1	Research in my Field/Area/ Discipline is	42(18.42)	37(16.22)	17(7.4)	63(27.63)	69(30.26)

	Dependent on the Library's Electronic Journals.					
2	Research in my Field/ Area/ Discipline is Dependent on the Library's Print Journals	47(20.6)	52(22.8)	13(5.70	72(31.57)	44(19.2)
3	Electronic Journals are a Suitable Alternative To Print Journals	53(23.24)	57(25)	21(9.21)	67(29.38)	30(13.15)
4	In my Field/Area/Discipline back Volumes of e-journals go far enough back to meet my Needs.	63(27.63)	72(31.57)	11(4.82)	47(20.6)	35(15.35)
5	In my Field/Area/Discipline back Volumes of Print Journals go far Enough back to meet my Needs	47(20.6)	52(22.8)	19(8.3)	72(31.57)	38(16.66)
6	The Indexes and Databases, I use to Find Articles, Provide Good Coverage of Electronic Journal Articles.	73(32)	67(29.3)	23(10.08)	34(14.91)	31(13.59)
7	Using the Online Library Catalogue makes it Easier to Locate Electronic Journals.	62(27.19)	57(25)	17(7.4)	47(20.6)	45(19.73)

Table.6 shows that the comparative degree of agreement about print journals and electronic journals. Them highest number of respondents 73(32%) were agreed that the Indexes and Databases used to Find Articles, Provide Good Coverage of Electronic Journal Articles and which is also followed by the opinion 72(31.57%) of the Field/Area/Discipline back Volumes of e-journals go far enough back to meet my Needs and same number of respondents were disagreed that the research in my Field/ Area/ Discipline is Dependent on the Library's Print Journals. The highest number of respondents 69(30.26%) were strongly disagreed about the research in their Field/Area/ Discipline is Dependent on the Library's Electronic Journals. 62(27.19%) were strongly agreed that Using the Online Library Catalogue makes it Easier to Locate Electronic Journals, 57(25%) were agreed and 47(20.6%) were disagreed that one. 31(13.59%) were strongly disagreed that the Indexes and Databases, I use to Find Articles, Provide Good Coverage of Electronic Journal Articles

CONCLUSION

92(40.35%) of the respondents were strongly agreed that the management should provide necessary infrastructure for the success of E-resources development, 83(36.4%) were agreed. 87(38.15%) were strongly agreed that Basic training has to be given to students to effectively use the E-Resources of the library, 72(31.57%) were agreed and 13(5.7%) were no opinioned. 63(27.63%) were strongly agreed that the Resource sharing can be activated by strengthening the existing consortia and 62(27.19%) were agreed. 58(25.43%) were strongly disagreed that Starting new consortia in a way may be helpful to resource sharing and 42(18.42%) were disagreed.

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