Usage of E- Resources by Faculty Members in Nandha College of Technology: A Study

T. Prakash
Ph.D Research Scholar, DLIS
Periyar University, Salem-11

M. Jayaprakash
Assistant Professor, DLIS
Periyar University, Salem-11
Email:nctprakash@gmail.com

Abstract

To study and investigate the awareness and utilization of library electronic resources and related issues among students and faculty members in Nandha College of Technology located at Perundurai Road, Erode District. A descriptive method has been used in research. Among faculty members 320 questionnaires were distributed but 280 were returned duly filled in as a sample. The internet has emerged as the most powerful medium for storage and retrieval of information since past few years' free online information sources for e-books and e-journals, e-magazines, e-databases have increased considerably. The study aimed at identifying that needs and the level of awareness of students and faculty member's community such as internet and e-resources and the like

Keywords

E-Resources, Internet, Communication, Technology, Information, Sources.

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Introduction

The internet facility in India has grown tremendously over the years. The use of internet is rapidly increasing owing to its efficiency and capability in providing right information to the right person at the right time. It works around the clock and connects every come of the world. Internet has become an unavoidable necessity for every institution of higher education learning. The engineering education is important for the development of any country. For making engineering faculty more accomplish and innovative in the work force information play vital role, for accessing information and keeping abreast with the new developments. Internet is becoming an essential human need with all its facets. The internet provides access to unlimited sources of information and search engines are continuously being advanced to provide efficiently ways to help users to find what they want. The internet provides access to a large amount of data, saves time and money.

Nandha College of Technology

Sri Nandha Educational Trust was established in the year 1992.The trust has Established many institutions in a short period. The Nandha College of Technology was established in the year 2008. The Nandha College of Technology has 6 UG courses of Engineering departments EEE, ECE, CSE, Mechanical, Civil and Information Technology and 3 PG Courses M.E. (CSE), M.E. (Communication system) and Master of Business Management. The college is affiliated to Anna University Chennai, Approved by AICTE New Delhi, Accredited by NAAC with A Grade.

Review of Literature

Adika.G (2003) analysed Internet use among faculty members of universities in Ghana. Research results showed that in spite of the benefits of the Internet, its use among faculty is still very low. The main reasons for this are lack of access to the Internet and the need for training. It suggested that university authorities must take immediate steps to provide general access points for faculty through computer laboratories. Here librarians, information professionals and computer scientists have vital role to play for organising training and refresher sessions for faculty to get up to date information via Internet for teaching and research. Kumar.R and Kaur.A (2005) under title "Internet and its Use in the Engineering Colleges of Punjab, India: A Case Study". It aimed to examine

the pattern of use of the Internet by the teachers and students of engineering colleges of Punjab. Authors examined the users' experience and frequency of the Internet use, time spent, location of use, purpose, resources and services being used, problems faced by users, benefits of the Internet over conventional documents and its impact on the academic efficiency of respondents, etc. Slow access speed of the Internet, difficulty in finding relevant information and privacy were the main problems faced by the users.

Al-Ansari conducted a study on Internet use by the faculty members of Kuwait University. This study was designed to investigate the patterns of Internet use by the faculty including purpose of use, its impact on teaching and research, Internet resources used, and the problems faced while using the Internet. A structured questionnaire was used to collect data from the faculty coming from four colleges of Kuwait University, i.e. Arts, Social Sciences, Sciences, and Engineering. The study revealed that the Internet is mostly used for communication, research, and publication by saving time, find up to date information and cooperate with their colleagues. Slow speed, lack of time, and lack of access from home are the major problems.

Objectives of the study

- The study was an attempt to find out the awareness of e-resources by Nandha College of Technology of faculty members.
- Designed and conducted during the academic year 2015-2016 to achieve the following objectives
- To observe the type of e-resources by faculty members.
- To find out the frequency of access to internet.
- To explore the impact of E-resources.
- To find the problems faced by faculty members.
- To suggest improvement measures based on the inferences drawn from the study.

Scope and Limitations

The study was limited to faculty members Nandha College of Technology from engineering departments' staffs to know the information resources in the digital environment.

Methodology

This study used questionnaire based structured questionnaire method in order to achieve the above objectives, descriptive type wise used to perform the research. A detailed and well structured questionnaire was designed and distributed to faculty members 320 from all department of this college. Out of 320 respondents questionnaire used and 280 questionnaires were returned dully filled in by the user's community with over all response rate 87.5%. The questionnaire contained both open ended and close ended questions. The collected data were classified, analysed and tabulated by using statistical methods.

Data Analysis and Discussion

Analysis of data is the ultimate step in research process. It is the link between raw data and significant results leading to conclusions. This process of analysis has to be result oriented.

Table 1: Gender wise Distribution of Respondents

Gender	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Male	170	60.71
Female	110	39.29
Total	**280**	**100**

Table 1 shows the sex wise break up of respondents. It is clear from Table-1 that 110 (39.29%) respondents were female where as 170 (60.71%) respondents were male. Table-1 reveals that female respondents are dominating over male respondents.

Table 2: Age Wise Distribution

Age	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Less than 30	162	57.86
30-40	78	27.86
41-50	22	7.86
51-60	18	6.43
Total	**280**	**100**

Table 2shows that age wise distribution that 162 (57.86%) respondents were less than 30 years where as 78 (27.86%) respondents are 30-40 years age. And 41-50 years age wise distribution 22 (7.86%), where as 51-60 years 18(6.43%) respondents.

Table 3: Usage of Internet

Usage of Internet	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Yes	280	100
No	-	-
Total	**280**	**100**

Respondents were asked about certain questions to ascertain the awareness and usage of purpose of internet access. Table-3 indicates that all respondents are using the internet regularly.

Table-4: Frequency of Visit to Library access to E-Resources

S.No	Frequency	No. of Respondents	%
1	Daily	210	75
2	Weekly Once	30	10.71
3	Weekly Twice	25	8.93
4	Monthly	-	-
5	Fortnightly	15	5.36
	Total	**280**	**100**

The above table 4 shows that the majority of respondents are daily 210 (75%) access to e-resources and second place of respondents are Weekly twice 25 (8.93%) they used access to e-resources and last place of respondents are fortnightly used the access to e-resources 15 (5.36%) of them fall under almost weekly once 76 (16.89%) respondents are used to access the internet and e-resources.

Table 5: Based on Level of Satisfaction of E-Resources

S.No	Response	No.of Respondents	%
1	Highly Satisfied	182	65
2	Satisfied	68	24.29
3	Dissatisfied	22	7.86
4	Moderately Satisfied	8	2.86
	Total	**280**	**100**

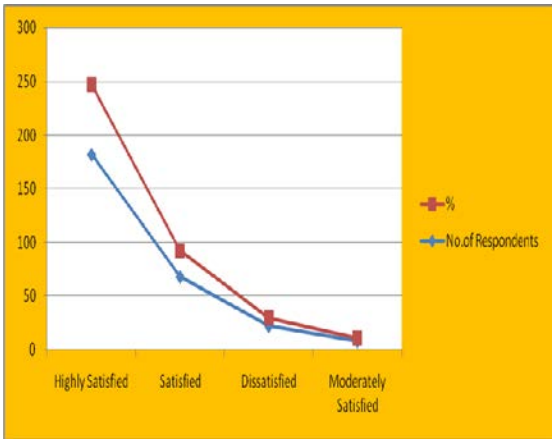


Table 5 shows that the results most of respondents are highly satisfied 182 (65%) are level of satisfaction of e-resources and 68 (24.29%) respondents are satisfied of e-resources. Furthermore 8 (2.86%) indicated they moderately satisfied while 22 (7.86%) respondents are dissatisfied of e-resources.

Table-6: Problems faced by the Users of E-Resources

S.No	Response	No. of Respondents	%
1	Power Problem	72	25.71
2	Slow Accessibility	88	31.43
3	Lack of ICT Knowledge	14	5
4	Limited access to computer	66	23.57
5	Lack of time	32	11.43
6	Poor Personal assistances	8	2.86
	Total	**280**	**100**

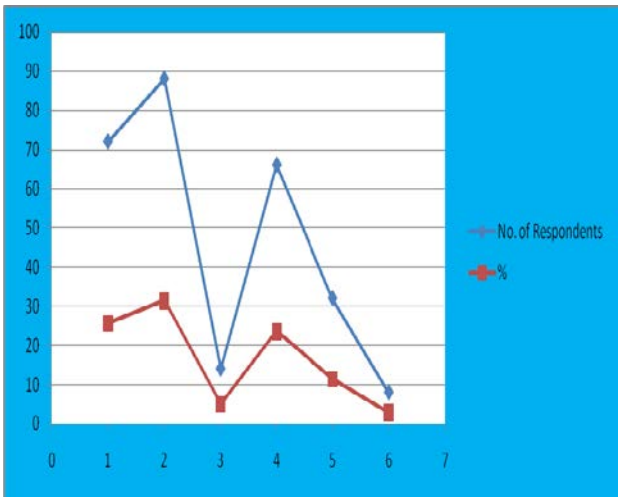


Table 6 shows that the results most of respondents to say slow accessibility 88 (31.43%) problems to e-resources using and 72 (25.71%) respondents are faced power problem to e-resources and 66 (23.57%) respondents are saying limited access to computed using, and 32 (11.43%) respondents are says that lack of time to e-resources. 14 (5%) respondents are say that lack of ICT knowledge of e-resources using, 8 (2.86%) respondents are say that poor personal assistances of e-resources.

Table 7: Use of Internet Services

Response	No. of Respondents	%
WWW	112	40
E-Mail	78	27.86
File Transfer Protocol	42	15
Archive	18	6.43
Discussion Forum	10	3.57
Bulletin Board Service	20	7.14
Total	**280**	**100**

Table 7 shows that the result of use of internet services in order of preference in WWW 112 (40%) respondents using, were internet services for E-mail followed by 78 (27.86%) who used internet services for file transfer protocol 42 (15%). 18 (6.43%) was used to Archive and 10 (3.57%) respondents for using discussion forum, Bulletin Board Service 20 (7.14%) respondents are using internet.

Table 8 : Respondents with Satisfaction with Search Engines

Name of the Search Engines	Views Record to No of Respondents	Percentage
Yahoo	52	18.57
Google	148	52.86
Rediff	22	7.86
Alta Vista	30	10.71
Lycos	18	6.43
Bing	10	3.57
Total	**280**	**100**

A study of data in table-8 indicates the respondent satisfaction with search engines. It was assessed with the help of 6 search engines. The respondent's satisfaction towards utilization of 6 search engines can be observed from the following discussion. 142 (52.86%) respondents are used Google search engine followed by 52 (18.57%) who used yahoo, 22 (7.86%) respondents are used Alta Vista search engine followed by 18 (6.43%) respondents are Lycos used, followed by Bing 10 (3.57%) respondents are used. It could be seen clearly from the above discussion that respondents make more use of search engines such as Google and Yahoo.

Suggestions

Based on the findings of the study, the following suggestions are made to improve the use of the Internet by the faculty members

- Orientation programmes for the faculty members should be conducted at regular intervals regarding the effective use of Internet.
- Trained staff having Internet knowledge should be appointed to assist the faculty members and an Internet monitoring board should be constituted.
- A separate browsing centre equipped with advanced facilities should be built up to make better and effective use of Internet services.
- To facilitate the Internet use, the directory of websites should be prepared and updated frequently.

Findings and conclusion

The e-resources are the best means of getting current and up-to-date information. The student is interested to make use of ICT facilities in all level of educational fields. The students and staffs interest and attitude is geared sound towards ICT course. The problems can be solved if the management of the Nandha College of Technology are ready to increase the budget to buy and maintain the ICT facilities of e-resources for regular availability. The study shows that e-resources have radical impact on the changing higher education environment. It is interesting that e-resources usage among faculty members of Nandha College of Technology is much more than expected. It is broadly used for teaching and research purpose.

The use of information and communication technologies no doubt is gaining momentum in Indian higher education institutions. The Internet is used by faculty and students in searching information. Information and communication technologies assist libraries in providing efficient and current information services. Once the staff and students are able to use these technologies effectively, the teaching, learning and research

activities in the college will be made easier for the college community. ICT usage will facilitate development since there will be free flow of information. The present study indicated that the concerned arts and science college authorities should make attempts to provide the necessary infrastructure facilities such as high speed network connections to access the electronic information resources and to conduct training programmes for the library professionals and user orientation programmes for the effective use of Internet facilities.

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