



USER PERCEPTIONS AND USAGE OF E-RESOURCES BY THE PG STUDENTS OF MADURAI KAMARAJ UNIVERSITY IN TAMILNADU

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Abstract

The intention of this study is to categorize the usage of e-resources by the PG students of Madurai Kamaraj University, Tamilnadu. It effectively examines the usage of user perceptions and e-resources by the PG students of four different disciplines like English, Economics, Education and Commerce and various questions were posed at the students viz., familiarity with computer, experience in using electronic resources, most preferred search engine and explains how the e-resources known by the user, awareness on e-resources, types of information required, frequency of using, convenient place to access, reason for using e-resources and finally user satisfaction.

Keywords: *E-Resources, User Perception, PG Students of Madurai Kamaraj University.*

Introduction

E-resources are nothing but various type of information which is accessible through computer, internet and networking is called e-resources. There are many types of e-resources is available, such as subject guides, electronic books, texts, journals thesis and dissertations etc. Now a day's e-resources have become very familiar among the people, in many ways it is used to the users, the students can get numerous sources for their project and seminar work, the faculty can get various sources for their teaching, the research scholars may get enormous resources for their research work, it saves the time of the users and also they need not worry about the borrowed books, via computer and network the number of users can read, download and print out the materials.

Literature Review

Anand Y. Kenchakkanavar Research Scholar, Department of Library and Information Science, Karnatak University, Dharwad, (2015). The paper focuses on the various aspects of E-Resources. Digital technology has made it more easy, speedy and comfortable to apply the stored intellect. This collected information through the ages has to be used for further research; betterment and overall development of the society.

A Study of Various Types of E-Resources Used by Research Scholars Dr. Pardeep Mittal Professor, Guru Kashi University, Talwandi Sabo, Punjab, Monu Bala M.Phil. Research Scholar, Guru Kashi University, Talwandi Sabo, Punjab,(2013) .The purpose of this research paper is to determine the extent to which research scholars of universities are aware about E-Resources and make use of them

Impact of Electronic Resources and Usage in Academic Libraries in Ghana: Evidence from Koforidua Polytechnic & All Nations University College, Ghana Maxwell Akussah Edward Asante Rosemary Adu-Sarkodee Department of Library, Koforidua Polytechnic Library, Ghana(2015). The study investigates the relationship between impact of electronic resources and its usage in academic libraries in Ghana: evidence from Koforidua Polytechnic & All Nations University College, Ghana. The study recommended among others that the institutions in question should adopt more dynamic marketing strategies in order to inform and create awareness of the existence of the electronic resources.

An investigation on e-resource utilisation among university students in a developing country: A case of Great Zimbabwe University Talent Mawere; Kundai O.S. Sai , Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, Great Zimbabwe University, Zimbabwe (2018). This study has provided some basic insights on e-resource utilisation in the context of a university in a developing country. There is also a need to study the feasibility of an Open Access Institutional Repository where researchers within and outside the institution can submit their research articles.

Awareness and Use of Electronic Resources in University Libraries: A Case Study of University for Development Studies Library Franklina Adjoa Yebowaah Ms University For Development Studies by Franklina Adjoa



Yebowaah, (2017) University for Development Studies, Ghana and Florence Dedzoe Dzokotoe Plockey University for Development Studies, Ghana. The findings of the study also imply that factors relating to purpose of Library visit and sources of awareness of e-resources of the Library significantly influence the likelihood of e-resource utilisation among lecturers. Besides, challenges associated with information technology infrastructure and human resources limit the extent and intensity of Library resources utilization.

Scope of the study: The study is limited to PG students of Madurai Kamaraj University, Tamilnadu (Departments of English, Economics, Education and Commerce).

Objective of the Study

1. To find out the expertise of computer among the students.
2. To find out the experience in using electronic resources.
3. To identify the awareness on E-Resources.
4. To identify the occurrence of using Electronic Resources.
5. To find out the rationale for using e-resources.
6. To find out the user fulfillment on e-resources.

Methodology

The investigation method was used to carry out this research and the target population was PG students of Madurai Kamaraj University, Tamil nadu which totaled 400. A Random sampling method was adopted for the research work. A total number of 150 were sampled from the total population. A well structured questionnaire was the instrument used to gather data for the study. A total of 150 questionnaires were distributed and 128 copies were returned and found valid for analysis. The data collected were analyzed using frequency counts and percentages.

Findings and Discussion

Table 1: Department Wise Distributions

SI No.	Departments	Questionnaire Distributed	Questionnaire Received	Percentage
1	English	50 (33%)	42	33%
2	Education	30 (20%)	24	19%
3	Economics	30 (20%)	29	23%
4	Commerce	40 (27%)	33	25%
	Total	150 (100%)	128	100%

Table 1 shows the Department wise distributed questionnaires and response received by the PG students of Madurai Kamaraj University, Tamilnadu. The questionnaire were distributed to the department of English is 50 (33%) and received 42 (33%), Education is 30(20%) distributed and received 24 (19%), distributed in Economics is 30(20%) , received 29(23%) and finally 40 questionnaires were distributed to the commerce department and received 33(25%).

Table 2: Gender wise Respondents

SI No.	Gender	Respondents	Percentage
1	Male	49	38%
2	Female	79	62%
	Total	128	100%

Table 2 is showing the gender wise respondents from the PG students of MK University, Tamilnadu, there are 49 (38%) male respondents and 79(62%) female respondents.



Table 3: Department Wise Familiarity in Computer

SI No.	Departments	Well Familiar	Somewhat Familiar	Not Familiar
1	English	30(32%)	12(42%)	-
2	Education	20(20%)	4(14%)	-
3	Economics	23(23%)	6(22%)	-
4	Commerce	24(25%)	6(22%)	-
	Total	94(100%)	28(100%)	-

Table 3 disclose the department wise familiarity in computer, there are two kinds of responses from the respondents, such as well familiar, somewhat familiar, in English 30 (32%) well familiar and 12(42%) somewhat familiar, Education 20(20%) familiar and 4(14%) somewhat familiar , Economics 23(23%) well familiar and 6(22%) somewhat familiar and in Commerce 24(25%) well familiar and 6(22%) somewhat familiar.

Table 4: Department wise Experience in using Electronic Resources

SI No.	Departments	Below 2 years	2-4 years Experience	4-6 years Experience	More than 6 years
1	English	15(17%)	15(38%)	10(26%)	2(8%)
2	Education	10(11%)	6(14%)	5(13%)	3(12%)
3	Economics	29(34%)	9(23%)	10(26%)	10(40%)
4	Commerce	33(38%)	10(25%)	13(35%)	10(40%)
	Total	87(100%)	40(100%)	38(100%)	25(100%)

Table 4 shows the department wise experience in using electronic resources, the experience is below 2 years, 2-4 years , 4-6 years and more than 6 years. From the four departments the majority answer is below 2 years i.e 87 respondents may have below 2 years experience and 25 respondents may have more than 6 years experience.

Table 5: Most Preferred Search Engine for Accessing E-Resources

	English	Education	Economics	Commerce	Total
Google	30(31%)	18(18%)	20(20%)	30(31%)	98(100%)
Yahoo	6(40%)	4(27%)	4(27%)	1(6%)	15(100%)
Bing	2(25%)	1(13%)	4(50%)	1(13%)	8(100%)
Ask	-	1(33%)	1(33%)	1(33%)	3(100%)
Others	-	-	-	-	-

Table 5 shows the most preferred search engine for accessing e-resources, the Google is first preferable by all these four departments, out of 128 respondents the Google got first place in English 30(31%), Education 18(18%) , Economics 20(20%), Commerce 30(31%), the Yahoo got second , Bing is third place , Ask is fourth place.

Table 6: Awareness on E-Resources

SI No.	Departments	Fully aware	Unaware	Somewhat aware
1	English	40(35%)	2(29%)	-
2	Education	18(16%)	1(13%)	5(63%)
3	Economics	25(22%)	2(29%)	2(25%)
4	Commerce	30(27%)	2(29%)	1(12%)
	Total	113(100%)	7(100%)	8(100%)

Table 6 reveals the awareness on E-resources in English department 40 (35%) respondents are fully aware, 2 (29%) were un aware, in Education department 18(16%) were fully aware, 1(13%) were un aware, 5(63%) somewhat aware, in Economics department 25(22%) fully aware, 2(29%) were unaware, 2(25%)somewhat aware, in Commerce department 30(27%) is fully aware, 2(29%) is unaware, 1(12%) is somewhat aware.



Table 7: Types of Information Required From the E-Resources

	English	Education	Economics	Commerce
Research Articles	5(12%)	4(17%)	5(17%)	3(9%)
E-Books	15(35%)	7(29%)	10(35%)	9(27%)
E-Thesis	5(12%)	2(8%)	5(17%)	6(19%)
Bibliographic Information	3(7%)	2(8%)	2(7%)	3(9%)
Conference Papers	4(10%)	4(17%)	4(14%)	9(27%)
Information on a specific topic	10(24%)	5(21%)	3(10%)	3(9%)
Total	42(100%)	24(100%)	29(100%)	33(100%)

Table 7 shows that the types of information required from the e-resources, by the PG students of English, Education, Economics and Commerce departments. In English department the most required resources is E-Books 15(35%) , in Education7(29%), Economics 10(35%), in Commerce 9(27%). The Information on a specific topic and Conference Papers is in second place and Research Articles, E-Thesis Bibliographic Information is comes in next required places.

Table 8: Frequency of using E. Resources

	English	Education	Economics	Commerce
Daily	42(100%)	20(83%)	25 (86%)	30 (91%)
Weekly	-	-	4(14%)	1 (3%)
Fortnightly	-	4(17%)	-	2(6%)
Monthly	-	-	-	-
Total	42(100%)	24(100%)	29(100%)	33(100%)

Table 8 shows the frequency of using e-resources, the PG students of English is using daily 42(100%), Education is using 20(83%) daily, fortnightly 4(17%), Economics is using daily 20(83%), weekly 4(14%), Commerce is using daily 30(91%), weekly 1(3%), fortnightly 2(6%).

Table 9: Convenient Place to Access E-Resources

	English	Education	Economics	Commerce
Library	10 (24%)	4(17%)	5(17%)	10(30%)
Internet Café	2(5%)	1(4%)	1(3%)	3(9%)
Home	15(35%)	15(63%)	18(63%)	10(30%)
Department	10(24%)	2(8%)	3(10%)	7(22%)
Others	5(12%)	2(8%)	2(7%)	3(9%)
Total	42(100%)	24(100%)	29(100%)	33(100%)

Table 9 shows the convenience place to access e-resources by the PG students. From the four departments most of the respondents replied that home is convenient place to access the e-resources. In English home 15(35%), in Education 15(63%), in Economics 18(63%) and in Commerce 10(30%) and few has replied that others is convenient , it is meant that hostel or rooms. Few of them has replied Internet café, Department, Library, because of the Wi-Fi connectivity they feel convenient to access e-resources.

Table 10: Satisfaction towards the use of Electronic Resources

	English	Education	Economics	Commerce
Fully Satisfied	30(71%)	15(63%)	20(69%)	24(72%)
Not Satisfied	12(29%)	9(37%)	9(31%)	9(28%)
Total	42(100%)	24(100)	29(100%)	33(100%)



Table 10 shows the satisfaction towards the use of E. Resources. There are two categories, such as fully satisfied and not satisfied .In English department 30 (71%) is fully satisfied and 12 (29%) is not satisfied, in Education 15(63%) is fully satisfied, 9(37%) was not satisfied, in Economics 20(72%) was fully satisfied and 9(31%) was not satisfied, in Commerce 24(72%) was fully satisfied, 9(28%) was not satisfied.

Discussion of Findings

1. The vast changes in technology may changing the life of the peoples, previously people may searched the books in library shelves, now the people are searching the books in Digital Library.
2. Formerly, reference paper, pen, pencil were used for taking notes from the books, now it has been changed as Computer, Internet, Pen Drive, CD, Printer etc.,
3. In previously the PG students critically prepared their projects & assignments, for the collection of secondary data, they have to visit libraries, have to search the books finally they found few materials, but it has become very easy, the students can get numerous resources from the e-resources.

Recommendations

1. Based on the findings of this study the following recommendations are made.
2. The students should get full aware about the computer as well as E-Resources.
3. There are many websites and apps for education, the students must utilize it.
4. The TPM Library, MKU, Tamilnadu is rendering various services such as E-Thesis, E-Journals, E-Magazines etc,

Conclusion

This study shows the awareness of computer, e-resources, interest, purpose of using e-resources, most preferred searching engine, user experience, required sources frequency of using e-resources convenient place to access, reason for using resources, satisfaction of the PG students of Madurai Kamaraj University, Tamilnadu. Out of 150 questionnaires 128 replies has received. From this 128 respondents 113 (88%) is aware in e-resources, 7(5%) is un aware and 8(6%) is somewhat aware, so the small quantity of students may not have aware in e-resources, this study is recommends from the findings of the students perception is use the wi-fi connectivity which is offered by the University to the students, must get good awareness in e-resources.

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