Usage Pattern of Electronic Resources among Undergraduate Students of Selected Constituent Colleges of Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, Raipur: A Case Study

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Abstract

The present study is based on the selected colleges of Indira Gandhi Agricultural University, Raipur. To examine the use pattern of electronic resources among undergraduate students as provided by the library of all selected colleges of the University using survey method. The present study demonstrates the various aspects of the Usage of electronic resources, identifies the frequency of using electronic resources, awareness of electronic resources, preferable usage of e-resources, reason of preferring, problem faced while using e-resources and know to satisfaction level of the students.

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1. Introduction

The fast growth of ICT has revised the scenarios of information and offers a range of choices for managing a range of information sources in a simple and easy manner. These make e-resources the most popular contemporary libraries in terms of satisfying with little effort and time the varied requirements of students, instructors and researchers. IT has altered the world and has been transformed into a major instrument for obtaining information from the library's electronic information resources. The value and usage throughout the course of time of the information resources, particularly electronic resources persist itself.

About Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwavidyalya, Raipur

Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, Raipur, has a long historical background. In the British regime agricultural research station at "Labhandi farm" was established in 1903 which has grown today as Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwavidyalaya. The College of Agriculture Raipur was established in 1961. After that this Centre was recognized and established as Rice Research Station and was converted to Madhya Pradesh Rice Research Institute during 1974. In 1979 the center was upgraded as Zonal Agricultural Research Station. Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwavidyalaya established in 1987 after came in to existence by bifurcation from Jawahar Lal Nehru Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, Jabalpur. Before that it was College of Agriculture, Raipur.

Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwavidyalaya is an autonomous, non-profit, research and educational organization working for the up-liftmen of farmer's livelihood of Chhattisgarh. The Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwavidyalaya has government and private affiliated colleges providing UG, PG and PhD in various disciplines related to agriculture, horticulture and Agriculture Engineering disciplines. The Education, Research and Extension are the major activities coordinated through agriculture, veterinary, dairy and agricultural engineering faculties and students.

The Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwavidyalaya library is one of the rich resources libraries in India in the discipline of Agricultural, Horticultural and allied sciences, which provides access to large number of print and electronic information resources to cater the needs of students, researchers and faculty members. The Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwavidyalaya library is an important educational center of the university and working as Central Library of Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwavidyalaya. Nehru Library is functioning as Central University Library for constituent and affiliated colleges of Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwavidyalaya viz. 25 constituent Colleges and 15 private colleges, Research Stations and Krishi Vigyan Kendra's (KVKs). It has been recognized as 'Regional Library of Central India' by the Indian Council of agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi in 2005.

2. Literature Review

Singh, P.K. and Singh, Meenu (2021) stated that e-resources mainly open access resources were the only source for gather information during the Covid-19 pandemic lockdown period in the years 2020 and 2021. The study is based on the Ph.D. student of the G.B. Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar. The study noted that majority 87.22% students were aware about the availability of e-resources and they used for various purposes. The study reveals that use of institutional repositories, consortium based e-resources and open access resources grow day by day.

Singh, Tarseem and Gupta, Sangita (2020) reported that the general objective of this research is to assess the impact of e-resources on use of print resources by university teachers. A questionnaire based survey was conducted among teachers of universities selected for the study. The study found that majority of the teachers are aware about the e-resources subscribed by their libraries and some are totally ignorant about it. E-resources are used extensively by faculty and research scholars. Majority of teachers and students accessed e-resources from their work stations through Google and other similar web browsers. Though every university library under study is subscribing to one or more e-resource database, more than 15% of the users are not aware about it.

Sharanabasappa and Rai, Anitha S. (2018) concluded that the trend in using electronic information resources have become the essential part of the all kind of libraries. The survival of an academic institution largely depends upon the utility of its electronic information resources and services in relation to community it serves. The study will be beneficial for the libraries to know the needs of users for better use of electronic information. The present paper looks at the electronic information resources by the Faculty and Post Graduate Students of selected government medical colleges in Karnataka. Majority 93.5% of the respondents were used the Internet for data communication etc., followed by search for academic medical information 88.5%, for accessing e-Resources 67% and for using online data bases e.g. PubMed 66%.

Kavitha ES (2018) noted that e-resources are increasingly important to all aspects of education – from teaching and learning, through to the collection of student data, administration and marketing activities the institutions engage in. On the basis of analysis, it was found that the satisfaction levels on various e-resources were highly satisfactory but the practical uses of e-resources were not up-to the worth in comparison to investments made in acquiring these resources.

Vijayalakshmi, R. Swaroop Rani, B.S. and Ally Sornam, S. (2017) reported that most of the users are accessing electronic resources from the college libraries, majority of the users are accessing the electronic resource from the mobile phone, and rest of the users are accessing electronic resources from home and other users them accessing e-resources through their internet café. There is an urgent need for effective user education, orientation programme, workshops, seminars etc. most of the users are the respondents who use the Internet and electronic resources for finding health/dental sciences information. The majority of students and faculties library notice board and E-mail and used to access medical related information.

Deepak Kumar (2016) reported that most of the research scholars used e-resources daily and e-journals were most used sources. Google was the most used web browser while the main problem was slow access speed to the e- resources. Nehru Central Library of CCSHAU plays a significant role in the research and development activities of the university. Research scholars are more keep to access and retrieve the information from e-resources.

Hadagali, Gururaj S. and Kumbar, B.D. (2011) conducted a study on use of electronic resources by faculty members and research scholars of universities of Karnataka State. The study deals with the different aspects such as, the future of the library and information services in academic libraries, availability of e-resources, availability of adequate manpower, which provision for continuous updating of IT skills. They noted that the growing use of consortium based resources among the user of the Karnataka state universities.

3. Objectives of the study

Objectives of the study area are as follows:
 a) To find out the frequency of usage of electronic resources.
 b) To find out how to aware of electronic resources.
 c) To find out what types of electronic resources mostly used.
 d) To find out the problem faced by the students while using electronic resources.
 e) To find out the satisfaction level of users of accessing electronic resources.

4. Methodology and Limitations

The survey method has been applied to the present study. In this study a sample of 132 UG Students of B.Sc. (Agriculture) first year students among selected constituent colleges of Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, Raipur (C.G.) has been selected by random sampling method. The required data has been collected through the well-structured questionnaire (Google forms) as a tool for data collection. The survey method is proven to be an effective technique to gather the necessary information.

Limitations of the study: The population of this study was limited to Undergraduate Students of B.Sc. (Agriculture) first year student's academic session 2019-20 among selected constituent colleges of Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, Raipur (C.G.).

5. Data Analysis and Interpretation

5.1 Gender wise responses

Table - 1: Gender wise responses

Gender	No. of Response	Percentage
Male	77	58.33
Female	55	41.66
Total	**132**	**100%**

Table 1 shows that 58.33% respondents were male students and 41.66% respondents were female students included for the present study on the basis of responses received during the given period for fill up the questionnaire.

5.2 Frequency of use of electronic resources

Table - 2: Frequency of use of electronic resources

Frequency of use	No. of Response	Percentage
Daily	88	66.67
2-3 times in a week	18	13.63
Once in a week	9	6.82
Once in a month	13	9.85
2-3 times in a month	4	3.03
Total	**132**	**100.0**

Table 2 reveals that an attempt was made to know the frequency of use of electronic resources, in which it was found that on Daily basis 88 (66.67%) students are using electronic resources, same on them side 18 (13.63%) students are using electronic resources 2-3 times in a week, 13 (9.85%) students are using electronic resources once in a month, 9 (6.82%) students are using electronic resources once a week and 4 (3.03%) students are responses they use electronic resources in a 2-3 times in a month.

5.3 Awareness of electronic resources among the students

Table - 3: Awareness of electronic resources

Medium of awareness of electronic resources	No. of Response	Percentage
Referred to me by the librarian	31	23.48
By serendipity, by browsing or looking for materials	25	18.94
By personal communication with friends, subject experts and resource persons	58	43.94
E-mail alerts form publishers/distributors etc.	7	5.30
Announcements in Journals	4	3.03
Bibliographical Database Searching (Indexing and Abstracting Databases)	2	1.52
Cited in report/ journals/conference papers	5	3.79
Total	**132**	**100.0**

Table 3 explains that the students were asked from where they get information about electronic resources. 58 (43.94%) students said that by personal communication with friends, subject experts and resource persons, 31 (23.48%) students referred to me by librarian, 25 (18.94%) students by serendipity, browsing or by looking for content, 7 (5.30%) students emails alerts to publishers/distributors etc. 5 (3.79%) students cited in reports/ journals/conference papers, 4 (3.03%) students in journals and announcements and 2 (1.52%) students bibliography database searches (indexing and abstracting databases) to obtain information about electronic resources.

5.4 Preferred usage of electronic resources by the students

Table - 4: Preferred usage of electronic resources

Preferred usage of Electronic Resources	No. of Response	Percentage
e-books (Kopykitab, ASAP Globe, ASTRAL, PEARSON, INFORMATICS etc.)	96	72.72
e-journals (Consortium for e-Resources in Agriculture - CeRA)	22	16.67
eKrishi pathshala, krishi shiksha and e-Tutorials	132	100
Audio-Visual resources	74	56.06
Full text databases	24	18.18
Others	19	14.39

Table 4 shows that the students were preferred usage of Electronic Resources. In this regards 132 (100%) 1st year students are very much preferred to use eKrishiPathsala, Krishishiksha and e-tutorials are used for their study purpose, 96 (72.72%) students are preferred ebooks from difference sources, 74 (56.06%) students are using audio-visual resource for their purposes, 22 (16.67%) students are preferred e-journals/magazines and 19 (14.39%) students are preferred some other sources like, NDL, Science direct, DELNET, DOAB, DOAJ, Krishi Gyan Portal, Crop Doctor etc.

5.5 Reason for preferring electronic resources

Table - 5: Reason for preferring electronic resources

Reason for preferring electronic resources	No. of Response (Multiple response)	Percentage
Time Saving	94	71.21
Better source of Information	93	70.45
To receive information in different formats as per the requirement	59	44.69
Easily portability of e-resources	51	38.63
24/7 access to electronic resources	51	38.63
Access to up-to-date information	50	37.87

Table 5 deals to identify the reason for preferring electronic resources by the students. It was noted that 94 (71.21%) students prefer electronic resources because the major reason is time-saving, 93(70.45%) students believe due to better source of information, 59 (44.69%) students believe it is easy to information received in different formats as per the requirement, 51 (38.63%) students think it is easy portability and 24X7 accessible resources, 50 (37.87%) students are getting up-to-date information in the right time.

5.6 Problem faced while using electronic resources

Table - 6: Problem faced while using electronic resources

Problem faced while using electronic resources	No. of Response	Percentage
Yes	80	60.61
No	52	39.39
Total	**132**	**100.0**

Table 6 shows that 80 (60.61%) 1st year students are facing problem while using electronic resources and 52 (39.39%) students are know the use of electronic resources for their various purposes. In this connection we can say that 60.61% students are facing problem for using e-resources and need to be aware about it.

5.7 Types of Problem faced while using electronic resources

Table - 7: Types of Problem faced while using electronic resources

What types of problem faced during using electronic resources	No. of Response (Multiple response)	Percentage
Poor Connectivity (Low Bandwidth)	69	52.27
Retrieval of irrelevant/junk information	12	9.09
Unfamiliar file formats	14	10.60
Unorganized information content	25	18.93
Lack of assistance from library staff	16	12.12
Lack of IT knowledge to effectively utilize the service/e-resources	79	59.84

The purpose of this question was to identify their problems while accessing the electronic resources. Analysis of table 7 shows that 79 (59.84%) 1st year students are facing problem of Lack of IT knowledge to effectively utilize the service/e-resources, 69 (52.27%) students are facing Poor Connectivity (Low Bandwidth) problem, 25 (18.93%) students are facing problem of Unorganized information content, 16 (12.12%) students are facing Lack of assistance from library staff problem, 14 (10.60%) students are facing documents. Resources file formats and 12 (9.09%) students are having retrieval of irrelevant/junk information problem so that 1st year students are not aware how to use electronic resources effectively.

5.8 Satisfaction level of users of accessing electronic resources

Table - 8: Levels of satisfaction

Satisfaction	No. of Response	Percentage
Very highly satisfied	22	16.67
Highly satisfied	67	50.76
Average satisfied	28	21.21
Not satisfied	15	11.36
Total	**132**	**100.0**

Table 8 reports that the 67 (50.76%) students are highly satisfied of using available electronic resources, followed by 28 (21.21%) students are average satisfied, 22 (16.67%) students are Very highly satisfied and 15 (11.36%) student are not satisfied of using electronic resources.

6. Finding and Suggestions

On the basis of data analysis and interpretation the major findings of the study can be summarized as below:

- The frequencies of 88 (66.67%) students are daily using electronic resources.
- Most of the students 58 (43.94%) are aware about electronic resources through by personal communication with friends, subject experts and resource persons.
- 132 (100%) 1st year students are very much preferred to use e-krishi pathsala, Krishishiksha and e-tutorials are used for their study purpose.
- Most of the students are preferring electronic resource the reason behind that time saving, better source of information, 24x7 access to electronic resources, To receive information in different formats as per the requirement etc.
- Most of the students 79 (59.84%) are problem facing due to Lack of IT knowledge to effectively utilize the service/e-resources.
- More than 50% students are highly satisfied of using available electronic resources and rest of the student are also satisfied of accessing e-resources.

However, some of suggestions which have been received from the B.Sc. (Agriculture) 1st year students are given here under with development remedial steps are as:

- ➢ Create awareness among the 1st year students regarding the types of resources, their importance and usefulness of getting the information.
- ➢ Introducing library orientation programs, library literacy programs to build effectively and easily handle electronic resources.
- ➢ To increase Internet speed.
- ➢ Library staff to help the students for searching library electronic resources.

7. Conclusion

The study concludes that these resources are used by the students for their studies, the resources are used by the students at their convenience, and the students get information about these resources through their friends, teachers and resource persons. In general, agricultural education, agricultural school and other audio video resources are used more and more. Its usability increases due to time saving, 24X7 accesses to information. Students are not able to make maximum use of electronic resources, in the absence of complete information. Students are very much satisfied with using available electronic resources.

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