Use of Electronic Resources by the Faculty Members of Government Medical College Libraries in Karnataka

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*Abstract -*Medical college libraries are aiming to provide efficient information services using both electronic and printed scholarly information resources to the medical professionals This paper study on the use of E-resources (e-books, e-journals, e-databases) subscribed by Health Science Library and Information Network, HELINET Consortium. The study sample is the faculty members of Government Medical Colleges. The study found that use of E Resources and use of Database by faculty members is not up to expectation of the provider and the investment.
Keywords: E Resources, Data Base, HELINET

I. INTRODUCTION

There have been tremendous changes in library services due to the advancement in technology and the changing needs of the users. The users are expectation also is increasing, after use of information technology, both in terms of speed of service and relevance. The tolerance level of users also is decreasing in electronic environment. The Medical libraries and information Centers, predominantly are part of educational institution, are cater to the needs of teaching, learning, research and clinical activities of students, teacher, researchers and practitioners. In the traditional libraries, users used to spend more time for searching a small piece of information and they depended mainly on the library and library staff. But in the ICT (Information Communication Technology) environment, users are happy that it saves their time. Even for the library professionals, ICT is helping to save time and avoid duplication of collection, work and service thereby smooth and effective (Sinha, 1990).India has largest number of Medical colleges in the world and therefore information service has to planned properly, specifically to exploit digitized information environment.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

There have been a number of studies that discussed the impact of e-resources use in the universities worldwide. Luckyojiakpojotorcln (2017) have undertaken a study on the awareness and usage of electronic information resources, among postgraduate students of library and information science, in southern Nigeria. The study was a descriptive design. The entire population, three hundred and seventy five (375) postgraduate students of library and information science in Southern Nigeria, were used as the sample for this study. The questionnaire was used as an instrument, tagged awareness and usage of Electronic Information

Resources, for Post graduate Students in Library and Information Science. The simple percent statistical tool was used to answer the research questions and Person Product Moment Correlation Coefficient (PPMCC) for testing the hypotheses. The results obtained in the study revealed that postgraduate students of library and information science are quite aware and have high usage of information resources. The study also reported that postgraduate LIS students are skilled in the use of electronic information resources. The study concluded that electronic information resources are essential tools for empowering postgraduate students of library and information science in Southern Nigeria.

Almarabeh T *et al.,* (2016) has studied on awareness and usage of computer and internet among medical faculties and students at the University of Jordan. The study found that most medical students have average and advance knowledge on the basic use of computer and internet. Also it was found that ICT can be a useful tool in medical education, however the lack of time, internet connectivity and resources is still a serious constraint. Shuling (2007) analyzed the use of electronic resources in Shaanxi University of Science and Technology, with a sample of 909 respondents including all types of library users, found that nearly 80 percent of respondents knew little about electronic resources. Nearly half the respondents use both printed and electronic resources. The above studies shows that under-developing countries have many constraints, though ICT and Internet based resources are very useful in medical education and point of care.

III. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. The study has been designed with a view to achieving the following objectives:
2. To assess the current scenario of the use of E Resources in the medical college Libraries.
3. To identify the utilization of IT services in the library.
4. To identify the types of E Resources for information retrieval in medical college Libraries.
5. To find out the present status of e-resources facilities and services provided by the Medical College libraries;
6. To study the purpose and frequency of using the electronic resources available in the library
7. To evaluate the infrastructure facilities for E Resources in medical college Libraries.

8. To study the impact of electronic resources and services on the academic work of the users.

A. Hypotheses

1. There is a significant difference in Designation wise distribution of respondent's frequency of E Resources of medical college libraries.
2. There is a significant difference in designation wise distribution of respondent's frequency of E Resources for information retrieval in medical college libraries.
3. There is a significant difference in using the purpose of visit to the library.
4. There is a significant difference in frequency Use of electronic Resources.

IV. METHODOLOGY

The study, as a descriptive in nature, questionnaire was used for collecting data. The researcher has distributed 150 questionnaires to the faculty members of the Govt. medical colleges of Karnataka. The response received by the investigator was only from 100 faculty members.

V. ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF THE PRESENT STUDY

TABLE I PERSONAL INFORMATION OF THE SAMPLE

Designation	Professor	13	13%
	Associate Professor	30	30%
	Assistant Professor	57	57%
Age	Below 40	57	57%
	40 To 50	33	33%
	50 And Above	10	10%
Gender	Male	64	64%
	Female	36	36%

This study adopted simple percentage method. As per the Table I, distribution of respondents with your designation, 57% of the respondents are Assistant Professor and are below 40 ages. 64% of respondents are male category.

Automation status of Library: Is your library is automated?

TABLE II AUTOMATION STATUS OF LIBRARY

Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
No	15	15.0	15.0%	15.0
Yes	85	85.0	85.0%	100.0
Total	100	100.0	100.0	

As per the table II, shown below, 85% of the libraries are automated.

TABLE III ACCESS INFRASTRUCTURE TO E-RESOURCES AND MEMBERSHIP TO HELINET

Details		Response	Percentage %
Do you have enough access infrastructures to access E-Resources?	No	15	15.0%
	Yes	85	85.0%
	Total	100	100.0%
Do You Search	Card	57	57.0%
	OPAC	43	43.0%
	Total	100	100.0%
Is your library a member to any e-resources consortia?	No	18	18.0%
	Yes	82	82.0%
	Total	100	100.0%

85% have enough access infrastructures. 57% of respondent still retain catalogue search and 43% of respondents have OPAC and 82% of medical colleges are members of HELINET Consortia.

TABLE IV KIND OF E-RESOURCES NORMALLY USED IN THE LIBRARY

	No		Yes		Total	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
E – books	21	21.0%	79	79.0%	100	100.0%
Electronic journals – Full texts	28	28.0%	72	72.0%	100	100.0%
Electronic journals – Abstracting / Indexing	53	53.0%	47	47.0%	100	100.0%
HELINET Consortia resources	20	20.0%	80	80.0%	100	100.0%
MEDLINE database	24	24.0%	76	76.0%	100	100.0%
CD – ROMs containing electronic databases	19	19.0%	81	81.0%	100	100.0%
Thesis and dissertations	27	27.0%	73	73.0%	100	100.0%
Institutional Repositories (IRs)	24	24.0%	76	76.0%	100	100.0%
Free Open Source Software (FOSS)	11	11.0%	89	89.0%	100	100.0%
E – conference proceedings	57	57.0%	43	43.0%	100	100.0%
Online databases	57	57.0%	43	43.0%	100	100.0%
Reference Sources	57	57.0%	43	43.0%	100	100.0%
Open archives / Self archiving	89	89.0%	11	11.0%	100	100.0%
Library web – portal	89	89.0%	11	11.0%	100	100.0%

Table IV show that 89% of the responded are normally using Free Open Source Software (FOSS) resources, CD – ROMs (81.0%) containing electronic databases, HELINET Consortia (80%) resources, E – books (79%) access library web(portal) 57% of the respondents are using online databases, reference sources, and e-conference proceeding, 53% A&I electronic databases.

TABLE V ACCESS SPEED AND E-RESOURCES

			Professor	Associate Professor	Assistant Professor
Are you happy speed of internet access	No	Count	4	7	10
		%	19.0%	33.3%	47.6%
	Yes	Count	9	23	47
		%	11.4%	29.1%	59.5%
	Total	Count	13	30	57
		%	13.0%	30.0%	57.0%
Do you access e-resources through a Web Portal?	No	Count	5	9	8
		%	22.7%	40.9%	36.4%
	Yes	Count	8	21	49
		%	10.3%	26.9%	62.8%
	Total	Count	13	30	57
		%	13.0%	30.0%	57.0%

The Table V above, shows that Assistant Professor are more happy than associate, associate are happier than professor, which in turn points towards that as the people go to higher post and highest post, access internet for search e-resources comes down.

TABLE VI PROVISION OF ACCESS TO E - RESOURCES FOR USERS

	No		Yes		Total	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Access only on campus network	17	17.0%	83	83.0%	100	100.0%
Access from anywhere	11	11.0%	89	89.0%	100	100.0%

The Table VI, above shows that 83% of access E Resources only on Campus Network. 89% access to E Resources from anywhere.

Table VII Shows that 80% are using HELINET Consortia, 79% of the Faculty Members are using E books. 76% are using MEDLINE database. 72% are accessing full text from e-journals, 47% are using Abstracting and Indexing bibliographic materials. 45% are used CD – ROM containing Electronic databases. 43% are using thesis and dissertations, E-proceedings of conference. Online databases and Reference Sources.41% are using Institutional Repositories (IRS) and 11% are using Open Archives and Self Archiving and Library Web – Portal.

TABLE VII KIND OF E- RESOURCES NORMALLY USED FROM THE LIBRARY

	No		Yes		Total	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
E – books	21	21.0%	79	79.0%	100	100.0%
Electronic journals – Full texts	28	28.0%	72	72.0%	100	100.0%
Electronic journals – Abstracting / Indexing	53	53.0%	47	47.0%	100	100.0%
HELINET Consortia resources	20	20.0%	80	80.0%	100	100.0%
MEDLINE database	24	24.0%	76	76.0%	100	100.0%
CD – ROMs containing electronic databases	55	55.0%	45	45.0%	100	100.0%
Thesis and dissertations	57	57.0%	43	43.0%	100	100.0%
Institutional Repositories (IRs)	59	59.0%	41	41.0%	100	100.0%
E – conference proceedings	57	57.0%	43	43.0%	100	100.0%
Online databases	57	57.0%	43	43.0%	100	100.0%
Reference Sources	57	57.0%	43	43.0%	100	100.0%
Open archives / Self archiving	89	89.0%	11	11.0%	100	100.0%
Library web – portal	89	89.0%	11	11.0%	100	100.0%

The tables VIII above shows many problems i.e. Lack of availability of computers systems(80%)Lack of Internet connectivity (82%), Inconvenient working hours of the library (82%), Lack of time (80%), Lack of self-help guides (79%), Lack of support from the library staff, Lack of training, these are problems faced by you while accessing and using E - resources and services.

TABLE VIII TYPES OF PROBLEMS FACED WHILE ACCESSING AND USING E - RESOURCES AND SERVICES

	No		Yes		Total	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Lack of availability of computers systems	14	14.0%	86	86.0%	100	100.0%
Lack of knowledge & expertise	32	32.0%	68	68.0%	100	100.0%
Lack of knowledge in searching	25	25.0%	75	75.0%	100	100.0%
Lack of information about how to use e – resources	26	26.0%	74	74.0%	100	100.0%
Lack of self-help guides	21	21.0%	79	79.0%	100	100.0%
Lack of support from the library staff	21	21.0%	79	79.0%	100	100.0%
Non – availability of connectivity	73	73.0%	27	27.0%	100	100.0%
Lack of Internet connectivity	18	18.0%	82	82.0%	100	100.0%
Lack of training	21	21.0%	79	79.0%	100	100.0%
Lack of time	20	20.0%	80	80.0%	100	100.0%
Computer speed is very low	87	87.0%	13	13.0%	100	100.0%
Resources are not adequate	85	85.0%	15	15.0%	100	100.0%
Lack of maintenance	24	24.0%	76	76.0%	100	100.0%
Slow downloading	72	72.0%	28	28.0%	100	100.0%
Lack of knowledge to use e – resource among library users	24	24.0%	76	76.0%	100	100.0%
Frequent power disturbances	33	33.0%	67	67.0%	100	100.0%
Cost of digital sources is high, & users make less use of them	84	84.0%	16	16.0%	100	100.0%
Inconvenient working hours of the library	18	18.0%	82	82.0%	100	100.0%

VI. RESULT

The present study covered many factors i.e. assessment of the current scenario, utilization of IT services, and types of E- Resources used, status of e-resources facilities and services, purpose and frequency of using the electronic resources, infrastructure facilities for accessing E-Resources and the impact of electronic resources and services. The responses of the table VIII contradict many of the earlier comment like internet connectivity and e-resources including access to HELINET resources, Access from anywhere (89%). Contradictions are more than proper consensus. Hence it requires having location specific study.

VII. CONCLUSION

E- Resources have become indispensable part of academic, research and practice, specifically in healthcare environment. Facilitating access the relevant e-resources and appropriate infrastructure is the responsibility of the respective institutions. The consortium support is going to supplement or strengthen the hands of librarians in extending better service with more e-resources and technology infrastructure. In consortium is strength for collective bargain and sharing to achieve better service.

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