

Use of INDEST - AICTE Consortium in the Mahatma Gandhi Central Library of Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee

Suman

M. Phil. Student, Dept. of Lib. & Inf. Sc.
Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra

Sanjeev Sharma

Assistant Professor, Dept. of Lib. & Inf. Sc.
Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra

ABSTRACT

The present study examines the use of INDEST-AICTE Consortium by the users of IIT, Roorkee. A total number of 300 questionnaires were distributed among the users. Out of 300 only 270 were chosen for analysis of data and 30 questionnaires were rejected because of incomplete response from the respondents. Most of the users access e-journals and databases through INDEST. The paper reveals that INDEST-AICTE Consortium is very much essential to help in fulfilling the ever increasing information needs of the users. There is also need to create awareness and train the users to access the INDEST-AICTE Consortium in a more effective and efficient manner.

Keywords: INDEST, Consortium, Mahatma Gandhi Central Library, India Institute of Technology-Roorkee

1. INTRODUCTION

We are living in an age where information is a valuable resource. It is a dynamic and unending resource that affects all disciplines and all walks of life (Amjad Ali, 2004). The recent trends and advancement in IT have also imposed certain responsibilities and challenges on library and information professionals. Now a days, the publishing industry is switching over from print-media to electronic access to a wide variety of resources, including indexes, full-text articles and complete journals (Ramesh, Mariraj & William, 2006). As a result of increase in journals costs, reducing library budgets and drastic cuts in journals subscription, there is a big challenge before the library professionals to cope with the journals crisis for which library professionals are coming together for active resource

sharing. With the changing dimensions of library resources the modes of resource sharing has been also changed (Chavan & Sathe, 2012). In India 21st century witnessed the role of technology as a driving force in the higher education system. As library is one of the vital components of higher education system, obviously libraries are using ICT effectively to satisfy their users need. In India INDEST-AICTE is the first operational consortia in the country under the ministry of Human Resource Development. The Consortium subscribes to over 12,000 electronic journals from a number of publishers and aggregators.

2. IIT ROORKEE

Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee (commonly known as IIT Roorkee or IITR), formerly the University of Roorkee (1948-2001) and the Thomason College of Civil Engineering (1853-1948), is a public University located in Roorkee, Uttarakhand, India. Established in 1847 in British India by the then Lieutenant Governor, Sir James Thomason, it was given university status in 1949 and covered Engineering, Applied Sciences, Humanities & Social Sciences and Management programs with a strong emphasis on scientific and technological education and research converted into an Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) in 2001, thus becoming the seventh IIT to be declared. The IIT Roorkee has a strong entrepreneurial culture, with many alumni who have moved on to found technological and social ventures in India and abroad, and have played an important role in the development of India (<http://www.iitr.ac.in/>)

Mahatma Gandhi Central Library finds a unique place in the academic spectrum of the Institute. Started in 1848 with a few hundred donated books, its collection has grown to more than 3,50,000 documents in all media. Providing information through e-resources is the main focus of the Library. It has around 90,000 sq ft of fully air-conditioned space. It can accommodate more than 500 readers at any point of time. The library building is Wi-Fi enabled and contains a total 75 user terminals for dedicated readers. It also contains an 80-seater open reading room.

3. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Parveen Kumar (2012) conducted a study on use of INDEST-AICTE Consortia by the users of Punjab University, Chandigarh, India. The study found that the 86.66% users were aware about the AICTE Consortium. 76.66% users prefer the university library to access the e-journals. 54% users accessed the e-journals 3-4 times in week. Vasanth and Anasuya

(2010) stated that majority of the engineering (23.1%) institutes are fully satisfied towards consortia to support academic activities. The findings reveal that most of the engineering colleges (80.8%) are well aware about the INDEST- AICTE Consortium and in the present scenario the research institutes are very much interested to subscribe for the consortia based subscription for the e-journals. Bajpai, Mal and Bajpai (2009) stated that the efforts of INDEST-AICTE and UGC-INFONET Consortium are appreciable and will definitely strengthen higher education system in India free and or highly subsidized access to scholarly e-resources will help educational institutions in fulfill their mission in to reality. Nisha Faizul, Naushad Ali P.M. and Tabassum Ara (2008) conducted a study on use of INDEST and UGC- INFONET E- Journal consortia: A Comparative analysis. The study revealed that majority of users are aware about INDEST and UGC- INFONET. Most of the users access INDEST and UGC- INFONET Consortia through database. Slow downloading; lack of maintenance, lack of training, lack of infrastructure and language etc. are the major problems that would discourage users for accessing resources on INDEST and UGC- INFONET.

4. OBJECTIVES

The following are the main objectives of the study:

1. To study the awareness of users for INDEST- AICTE Consortium.
2. To find out the use pattern of INDEST -AICTE Consortium.
3. To find out the purpose of using INDEST- AICTE Consortium.
4. To find out the frequency of access to the consortium.
5. To find out the problems faced by the users while accessing INDEST- AICTE Consortium.
6. To find out the satisfaction level of the users regarding coverage of journals in the INDEST- AICTE Consortium.
7. To suggest the ways and means for effective use of the INDEST- AICTE Consortium.

5. SCOPE OF THE STUDY

Geographically, this study is limited to Mahatma Gandhi Central Library of Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee. The scope of users includes: B. Tech., M. Tech. students and Research Scholars of IIT, Roorkee.

6. METHODOLOGY

The study has been carried out by using a questionnaire as a tool for collecting data. A well designed structured questionnaire covering the relevant aspects of the study was used to collect the data. Questionnaire method was chosen as it was appropriate for acquiring the necessary information. Randomly 300 questionnaire, were distributed to the respondents, out of which only 270 duly filled up questionnaires were received back. The responses rate was 90%. The findings of the present study were thus based purely on the responses made in the questionnaire returned by the respondents.

7. ANYLYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF DATA

Questionnaires received back from the respondents were critically scrutinized and evaluated. The responses of users about awareness about INDEST-AICTE Consortium, information retrieval skills, information access of the respondents were collected, categorized, codified in excel and recorded in SPSS package. Frequency distribution with percentage in cross tabulation was generated by using the SPSS. For drawing inferences, chi-square (χ^2) was used.

Table 1
Awareness about INDEST-AICTE Consortium

Awareness	Research Scholars	M. Tech	B. Tech	Total	χ^2	Df
Yes	67 (95.71%)	97 (97%)	0 (0.0%)	164 (60.74%)	2.458	2
No	3 (4.28%)	3 (3.0%)	100 (100%)	106 (39.25%)		

Source: Table compiled from the data collected from the questionnaire

Table 1 depicts that out of 270 respondents maximum number of respondents i.e 164 (60.74%) are aware of INDEST-AICTE Consortium and only 106(39.25%) respondents mainly B. Tech. students are not aware about INDEST-AICTE Consortium.

The table no. 1 shows that the Chi-Square test for independence is significant at .05 percent level of significance. The value of χ^2 is 2.458 and the degree of freedom (df) is 2. When this value was statistically tested, it was found significantly different. This implies that there is significant difference among the respondents as far as the awareness about consortium is concerned.

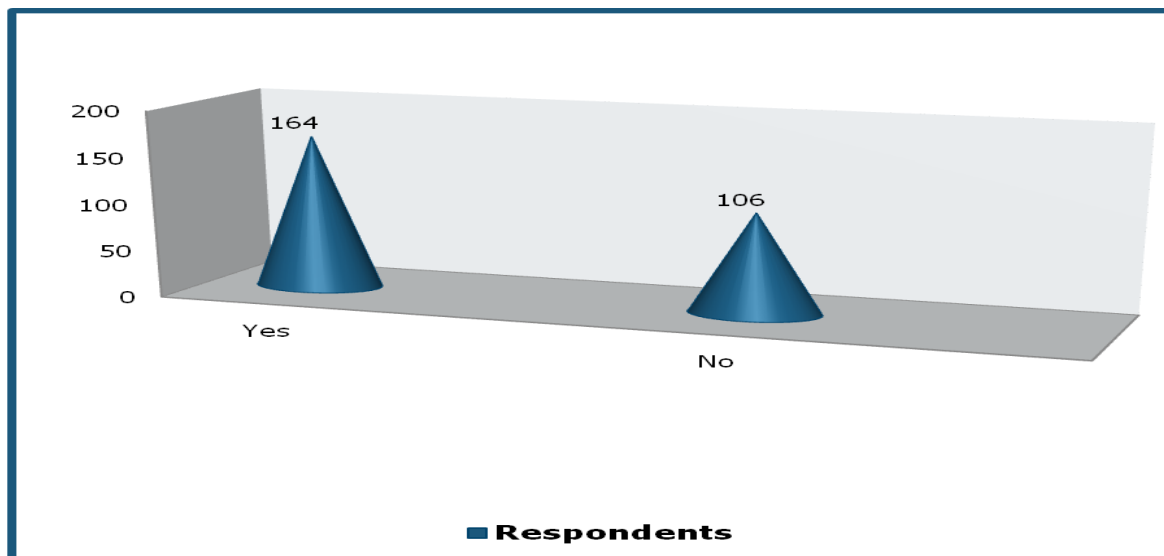


Fig. 1: Awareness about INDEST- AICTE Consortium

Table 2
 Frequency of Use of INDEST-AICTE Consortium

Frequency	Research Scholars	M. Tech.	B. Tech.	Total	χ^2	Df
Daily	7 (10%)	3 (3.0%)	0 (0.0%)	10 (3.70%)	3.083	6

2-3 times a week	22 (31.4%)	74 (74.0%)	0 (0.0%)	96 (35.55%)		
2-3 times a month	41 (58.6%)	24 (24.0%)	0 (0.0%)	65 (24.07%)		

Source: Table compiled from the data collected from the questionnaire

In order to access the frequency of using the INDEST-AICTE Consortium the time gap has been classified into four different categories. The table number 2 shows that 35.55% of the respondents use the INDEST-AICTE Consortium 2-3 times a week. More than 24% of the respondents use INDEST-AICTE Consortium 2-3 times a month whereas 3.70% of the respondents use the INDEST-AICTE Consortium daily. It is evident from the table that the majority of respondents use the INDEST-AICTE Consortium 2-3 times a week.

The table no.2 shows that the Chi-Square test for independence is significant at .05 percent level of significance. The value of χ^2 is 3.083 and the degree of freedom (df) is 6. When this value was statistically tested, it was not found significantly different. This implies that there is no significant difference among the respondents as far as the use of INDEST-AICTE Consortium is concerned.

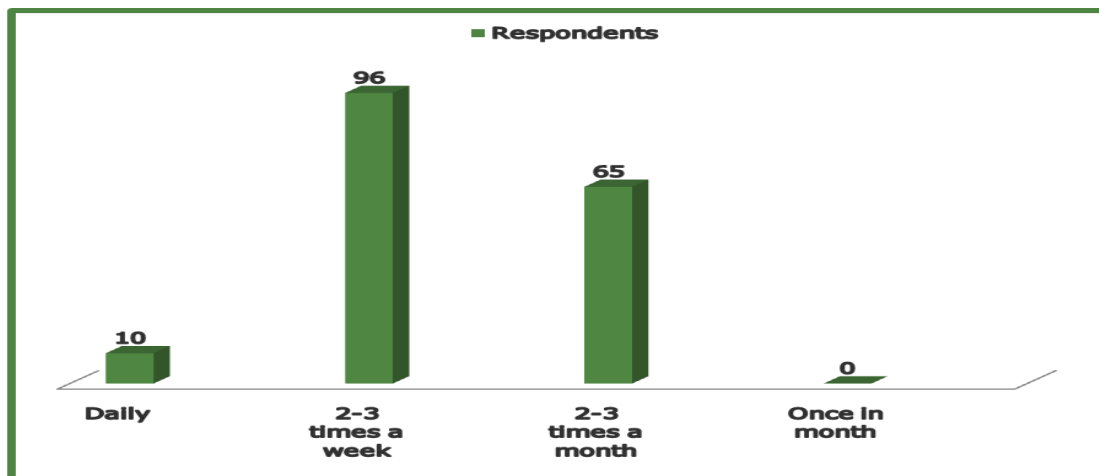


Fig. 2: Frequency of Use of INDEST-AICTE Consortium

Table 3
 Use of Search Strategy

Search strategy	Research Scholars	M.Tech.	B.Tech.	χ^2	Df
Boolean Operator	20 (28.57%)	47 (47%)	0 (0.0%)	3.529	26
Truncation	38 (54.28%)	42 (42%)	0 (0.0%)		
Phrase	7 (10%)	9 (9%)	0 (0.0%)		
Field Search	28 (40%)	52 (52%)	0 (0.0%)		
others	0 (0.0%)	1 (1%)	0 (0.0%)		

Source: Table compiled from the data collected from the questionnaire

From Table 3 it is clear that the search techniques used by the Research Scholars 38(54.28%) is truncation followed by 42% of the M.Tech Students. It is field search in the case of M.Tech. Students i.e. 52(52%) followed by 40% of the Research Scholars. 47 (47%) of the M.Tech. students use the Boolean operator technique followed by 28.57% of Research Scholars. Table 3 shows that the Chi-Square test for independence is significant at .05 percent level of significance. The value of χ^2 is 3.529. When this value was statistically tested, it was not found significantly different. This implies that there is no significant difference among the respondents as far as the search strategy use for INDEST-AICTE Consortium is concerned.

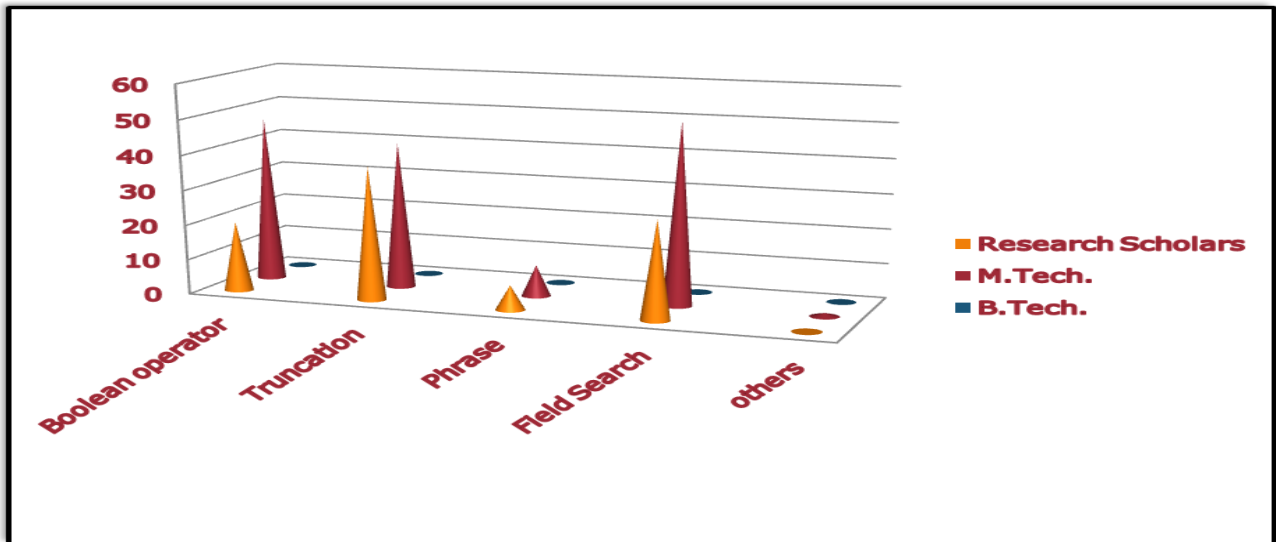


Fig. 3: Use of Search Strategy

Table 4
 Source of Awareness

Sources	Research Scholars	M. Tech.	B. Tech.	χ^2	Df
Training from University Library	57 (81.42%)	61 (61%)	0 (0.0%)	3.053	16
Guidance from Staff & Friends	42 (60%)	53 (53%)	0 (0.0%)		
Self Instruction	0 (0.0%)	24 (24%)	0 (0.0%)		
External Courses	20 (28.57%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)		

Source: Table compiled from the data collected from the questionnaire

The respondents were asked about what are the sources of your awareness of INDEST-AICTE Consortium. Table 4 shows that 57(81.42%) of the Research Scholar’s source of

awareness is the training from University library followed by 61(61%) of the M. Tech. students. 42(60%) of the Research Scholar’s source of awareness is guidance from staff and friends followed by 53(53%) of the M. Tech. students. 20(28.57%) of the Research Scholar’s source of awareness is external courses and self instruction by the M. Tech. students i.e. 24(24%). Table 4 shows that the Chi-Square test for independence is significant at .05 percent level of significance. The value of χ^2 is 3.053 and the degree of freedom (df) is 16. When this value was statistically tested, it was not found significantly different. This implies that there is no significant difference among the respondents as far as the sources of awareness are concerned.

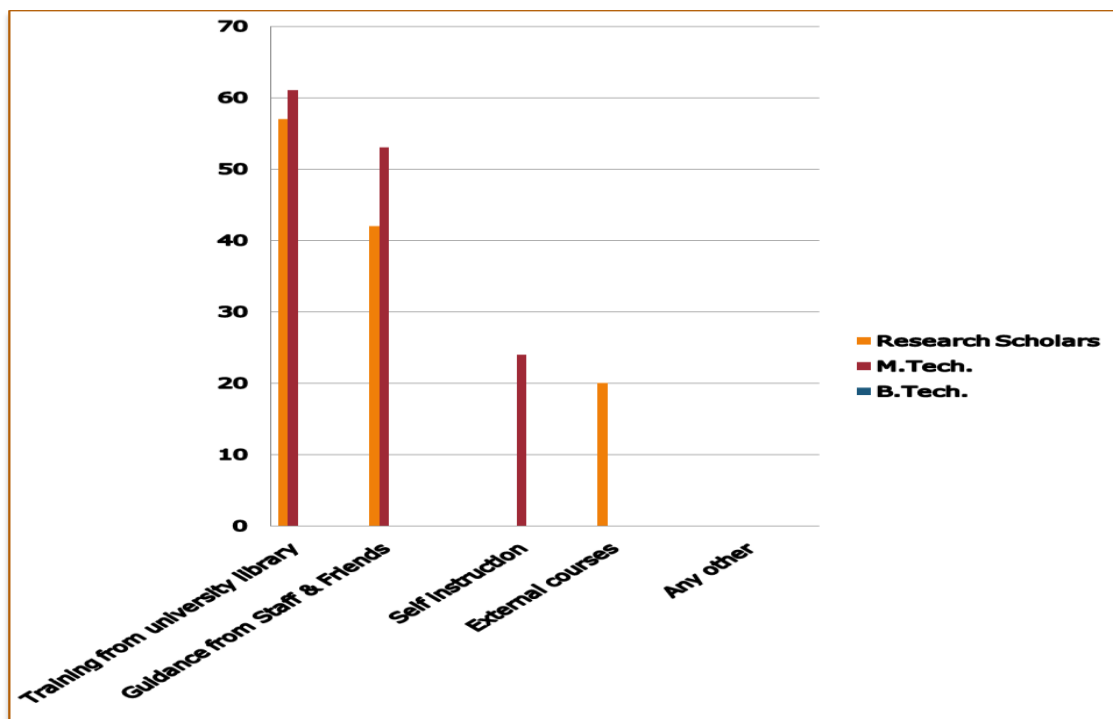


Fig. 4: Sources of Awareness

Table 5
 Purpose of Using INDEST- AICTE Consortium

Purpose	Research Scholars	M. Tech.	B. Tech.	χ^2	Df
For Research Purpose	62 (88.57%)	53 (53%)	0 (0.0%)	3.220	14
For Publishing Articles/ Books	3 (4.28%)	20 (20%)	0 (0.0%)		
For Keeping up to date Subject Information	12 (17.14%)	41 (41%)	0 (0.0%)		
For Finding Relevant Information	0 (0.0%)	1 (1%)	0 (0.0%)		
For UGC-NET Exam	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)		
For Completion of Assignments & Seminar	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)		

Source: Table compiled from the data collected from the questionnaire

One of the significant research questions was to explore the purpose for which they are using INDEST-AICTE Consortium. Table 5 shows that 62(88.57%) Research Scholars mostly access the INDEST-AICTE Consortium for research purpose followed by 53(53%) by the M. Tech. students. 41% of the M. Tech. students use it for keeping up to date in their subject area followed by 12(17.14%) by the Research Scholars. Whereas for publishing articles/books only 20% M. Tech. students use INDEST-AICTE Consortium followed by 3(4.28%) by the Research Scholars. Table 5 shows that the Chi-Square test for independence is significant at .05 percent level of significance. The value of χ^2 is 3.220 and the degree of freedom (df) is 14. When this value was statistically tested, it was not found significantly different. This implies that there is no significant difference among the respondents

as far as the purpose of using INDEST- AICTE Consortium is concerned.

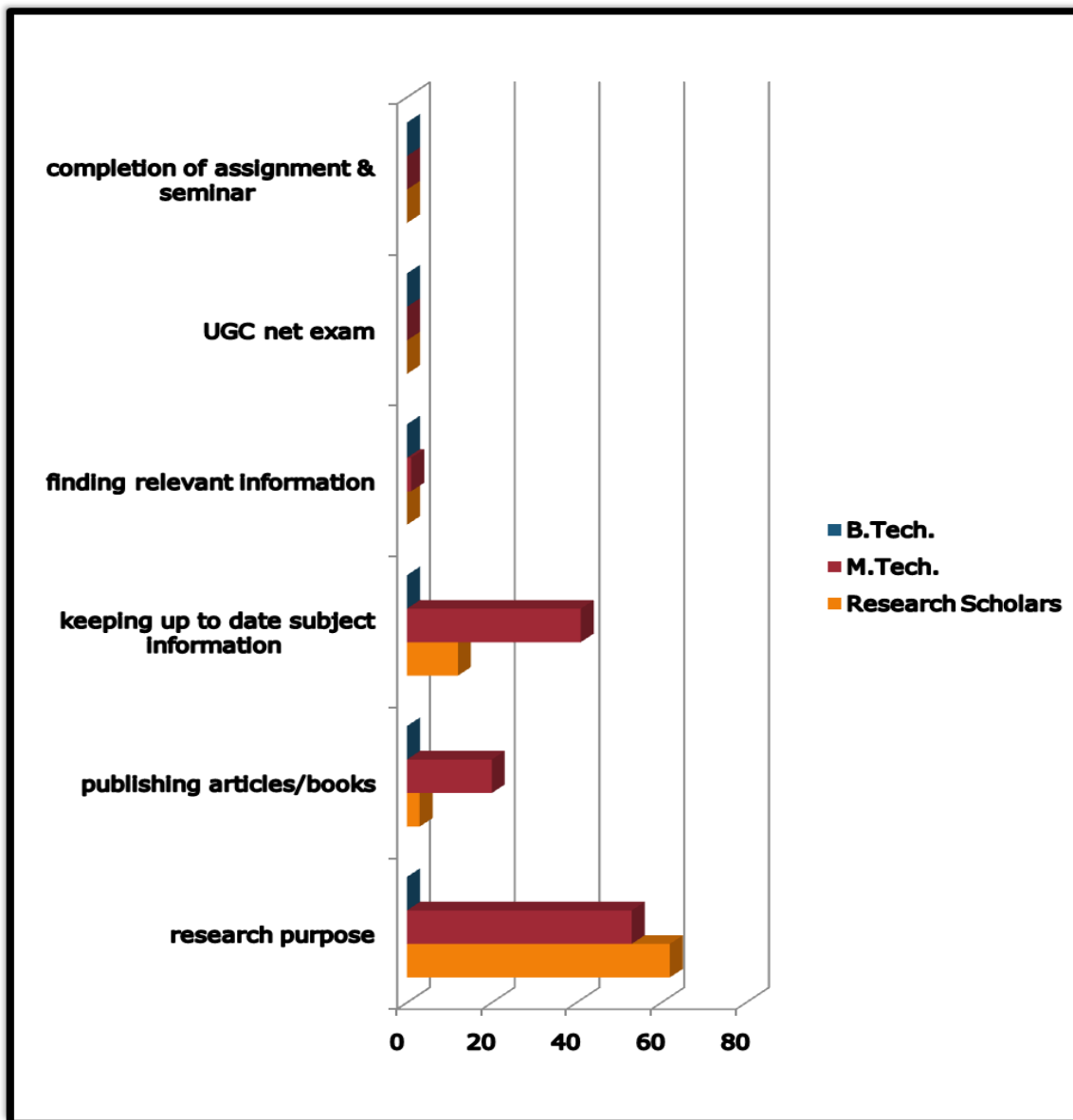


Fig. 5: Purpose of Using INDEST- AICTE Consortium

Table 6
Ways of Material Collection

Ways of Material Collection	Research Scholars	M. Tech.	B. Tech.	χ^2	Df
Pen Drive	69 (98.57%)	98 (98%)	0 (0.0%)	2.787	10
CD	3 (4.28%)	11 (11%)	0 (0.0%)		
E- Mail	3 (4.28%)	2 (2%)	0 (0.0%)		

Source: Table compiled from the data collected from the questionnaire

Table 6 shows that 98.57% of the Research Scholars and 98% of the M. Tech. students collect the material from INDEST-AICTE Consortium through pen drive whereas 11% of the M. tech. students and 4.28% of the Research Scholars collect the material through CD and E-Mail. Table 6 shows that the Chi-Square test for independence is significant at .05 percent level of significance. The value of χ^2 is 2.787 and the degree of freedom (df) is 10. When this value was statistically tested, it was found significantly different. This implies that there is significant difference among the respondents as far as the ways of material collection from INDEST- AICTE Consortium is concerned.

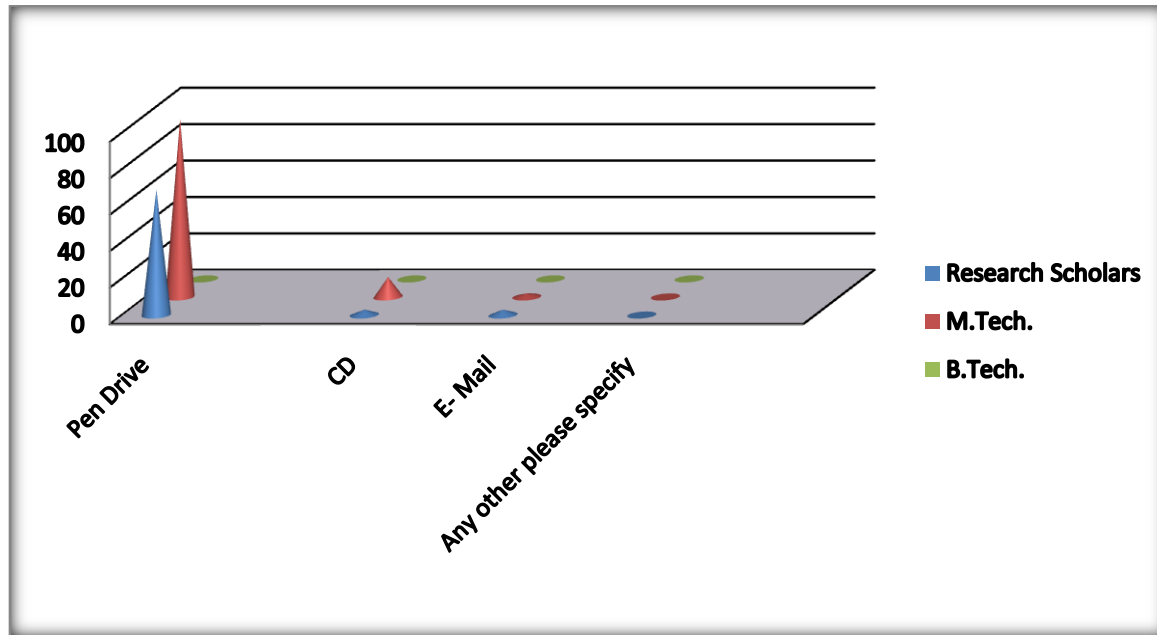


Fig. 6: Ways of Material Collection

Table7
 Problem Faced by Respondents

Problem	Research Scholars	M. Tech.	B. Tech.	χ^2	df
Slow Access Speed	17 (24.28%)	4 (4%)	0 (0.0%)	3.698	20
Difficulty in Finding Relevant Information	39 (55.71%)	14 (14%)	0 (0.0%)		
Lack of Knowledge to Use	70 (100%)	52 (52%)	0 (0.0%)		
Technical Problems (e.g. Server Down)	22 (31.42%)	47 (47%)	0 (0.0%)		

Source: Table compiled from the data collected from the questionnaire

Table 7 highlights that the most common problem faced by Research Scholars (100%) and M. Tech. students (52%) is lack of knowledge to use while accessing INDEST-AICTE Consortium. More than 55% Research Scholars find difficulty in finding relevant information followed by 14% of the M. Tech students whereas 47% of the M. Tech. students and 31.42% of the Research Scholars find technical problem.

Table 7 shows that the Chi-Square test for independence is significant at .05 percent level of significance. The value of χ^2 is 3.698 and the degree of freedom (df) is 20. When this value was statistically tested, it was not found significantly different. This implies that there is no significant difference among the respondents as far as the problem faced by respondents is concerned.

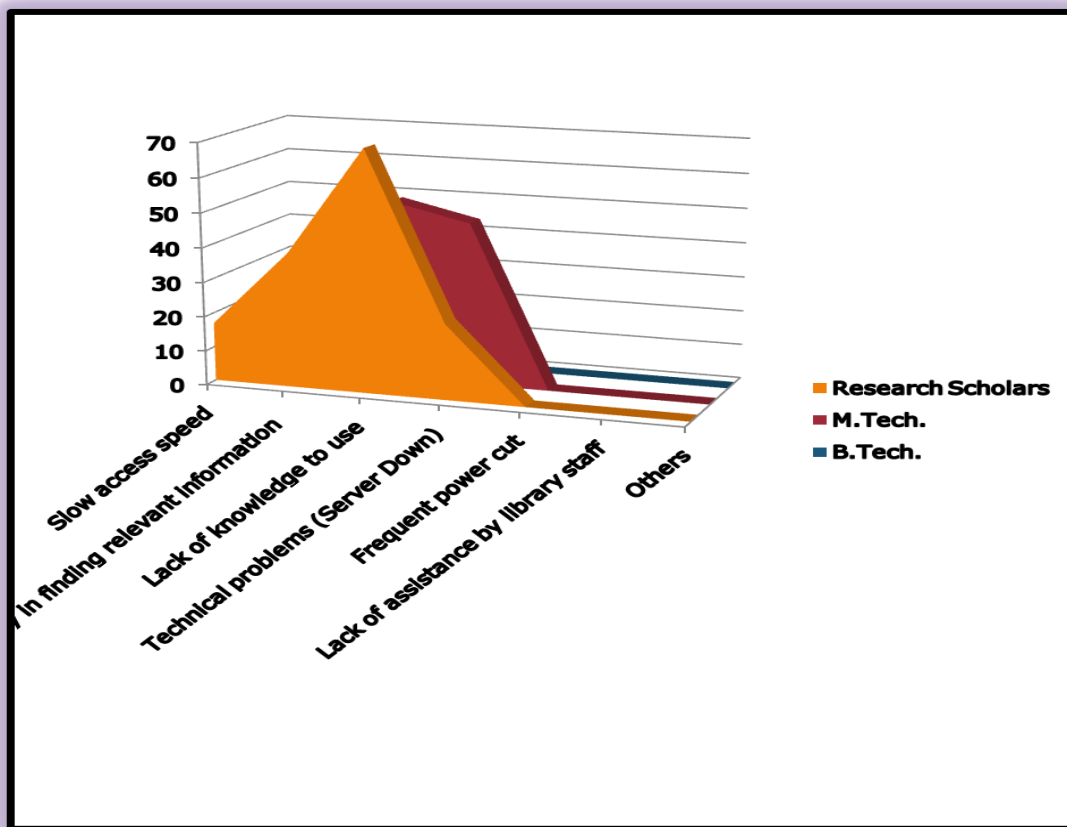


Fig. 7: Problem Faced by Respondents

Table 8
Satisfaction with INDEST- AICTE Consortium

Satisfaction	Research Scholars	M. Tech.	B. Tech.	Total	χ^2	Df
Fully Satisfied	16 (22.85%)	38 (38%)	0 (0.0%)	54 (20%)	2.719	6
Partially Satisfied	54 (77.14%)	60 (60%)	0 (0.0%)	114 (42.22%)		
Least Satisfied	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)		
Not Satisfied	0 (0.0%)	2 (2%)	0 (0.0%)	2 (0.74%)		

Source: Table compiled from the data collected from the questionnaire

Table 8 shows that 42.22% of the respondents feel partially satisfied with INDEST-AICTE Consortium. Whereas 20% of the respondents are fully satisfied and 0.74% of the respondents are not satisfied with INDEST-AICTE Consortium. It is evident from table that a majority of respondents partially satisfied with INDEST-AICTE Consortium.

Table 8 shows that the Chi-Square test for independence is significant at .05 percent level of significance. The value of χ^2 is 2.719 and the degree of freedom (df) is 6. When this value was statistically tested, it was not found significantly different. This implies that there is no significant difference among the respondents as far as the respondent's satisfaction with INDEST- AICTE Consortium is concerned.

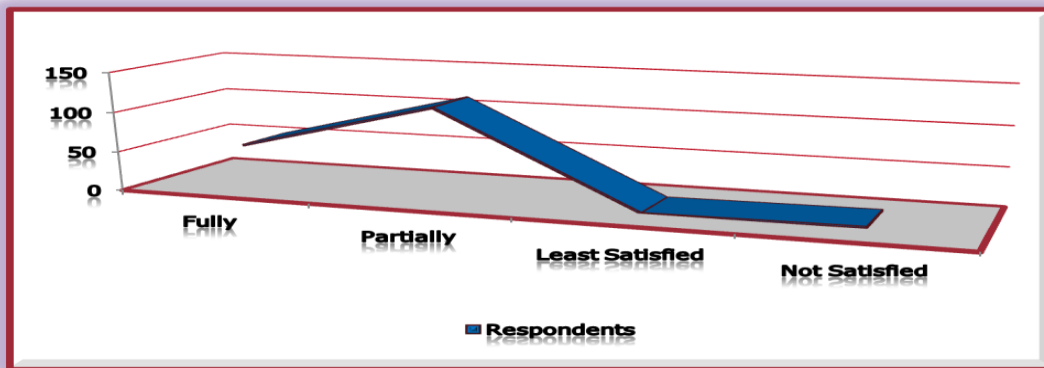


Fig. 8: Satisfaction with INDEST- AICTE Consortium

Table 9
 Influence of INDEST- AICTE Consortium on Research Efficiency

Influence	Research Scholars	M. Tech.	B. Tech.	χ^2	Df
Expedited the Research Process	49 (70%)	53 (53%)	0 (0.0%)	2.885	26
Improved Professional Competence	4 (5.71%)	12 (12%)	0 (0.0%)		
Access to Current/ Update Information	21 (30%)	39 (39%)	0 (0.0%)		
Easier Access to Information	14 (20%)	24 (24%)	0 (0.0%)		
Faster Access to Information	3 (4.28%)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0%)		

Source: Table compiled from the data collected from the questionnaire

Table 9 depicts the influence of INDEST-AICTE Consortium on research efficiency of the respondents. 70% of the Research Scholars feel that it expedited the research process followed by 53% of M. Tech. students. 39% of the M. Tech. students and 30% of the

Research Scholars feel that INDEST-AICTE Consortium provide current and update information access that further enhance their research efficiency. Whereas 24% of the M. Tech. students feel that INDEST-AICTE Consortium has provided easier access to information and enhance research efficiency followed by 20% of Research Scholars. Table 9 shows that the Chi-Square test for independence is significant at .05 percent level of significance. The value of χ^2 is 2.885 and the degree of freedom (df) is 26. When this value was statistically tested, it was found significantly different. This implies that there is significant difference among the respondents as far as the influence of INDEST- AICTE Consortium on research efficiency is concerned.

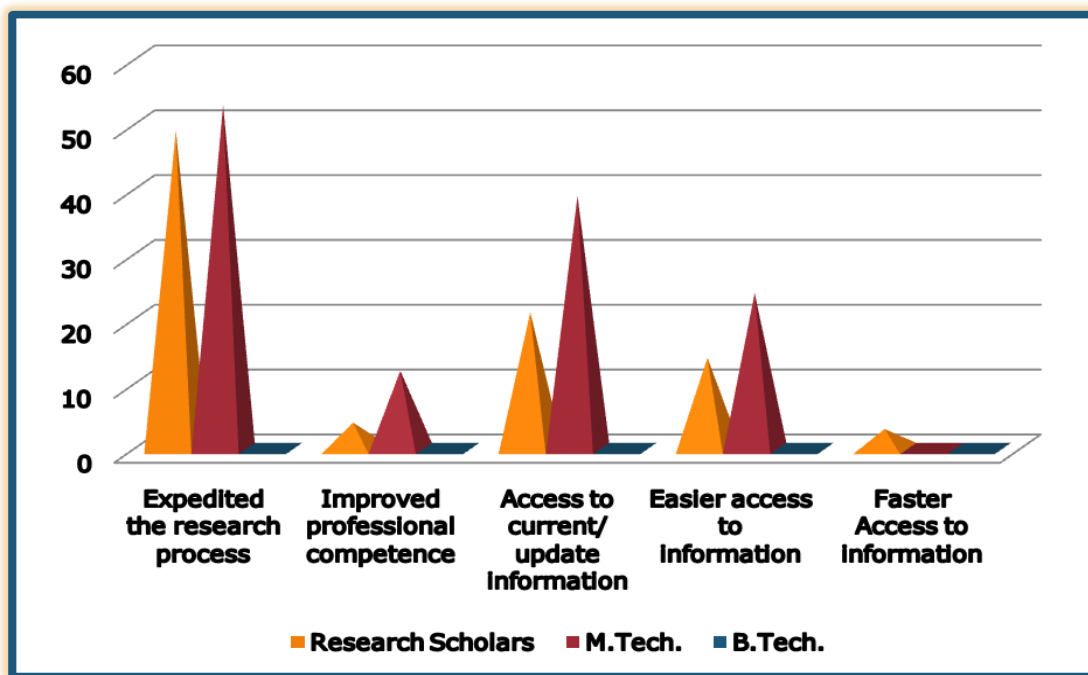


Fig. 9: Influence of INDEST- AICTE Consortium on Research Efficiency

Table 10
 Benefits of Using INDEST- AICTE Consortium

Benefits	Research Scholars	M. Tech.	B. Tech.	χ^2	Df
Time Saving	7 (10%)	52 (52%)	0 (0.0%)	2.933	14
Easy to Use	49 (70%)	75 (75%)	0 (0.0%)		
More Informative	35 (50%)	73 (73%)	0 (0.0%)		
More Preferred	1 (1.42%)	2 (2%)	0 (0.0%)		

Source: Table compiled from the data collected from the questionnaire

Table 10 shows that maximum number M. Tech. students i.e. 75% and 70% of Research Scholars find that INDEST-AICTE Consortium is easy to use. Whereas 73% of M. Tech. students say that it is more informative followed by 50% of Research Scholars. While 52% of the M. Tech. students say that it saves our time. The Table 10 shows that the Chi-Square test for independence is significant at .05 percent level of significance. The value of χ^2 is 2.933 and the degree of freedom (df) is 14. When this value was statistically tested, it was not found significantly different. This implies that there is no significant difference among the respondents as far as the benefits of using INDEST- AICTE Consortium is concerned.

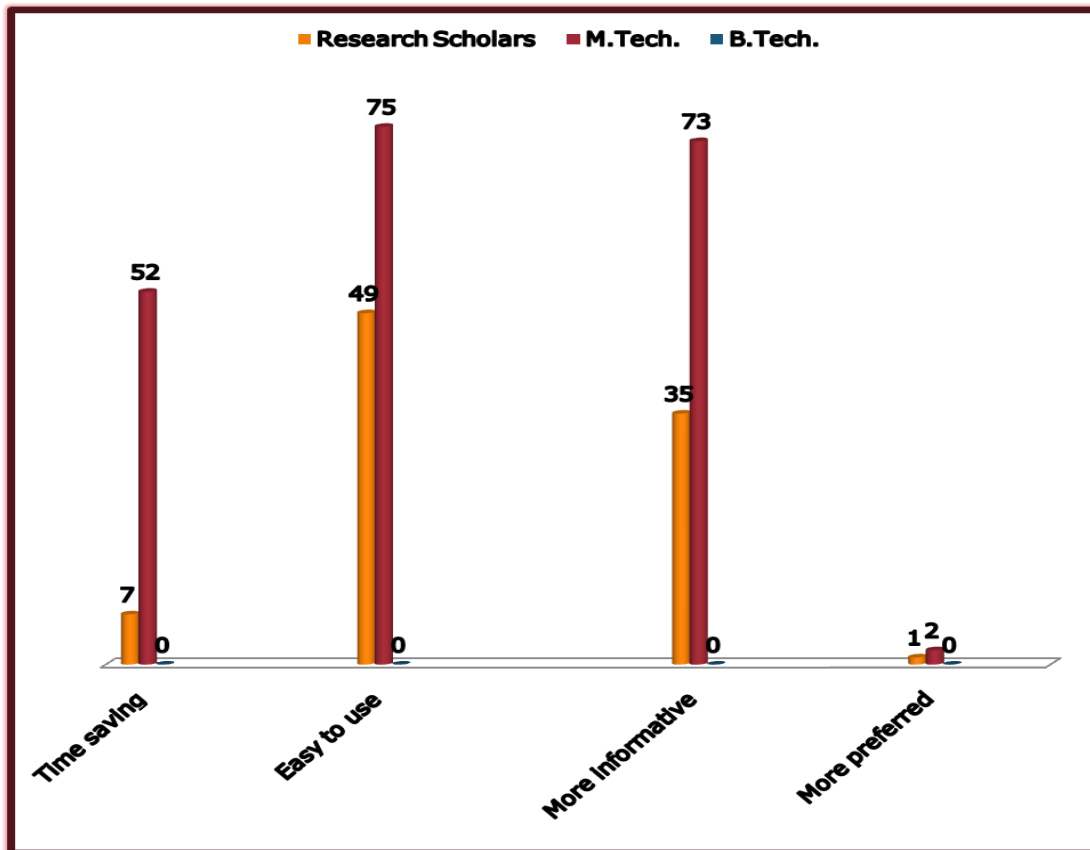


Fig. 10: Benefits of using INDEST- AICTE Consortium

8. FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

The following findings are results of data analysis regarding use of e-resources of INDEST-AICTE Consortium:

1. A majority of respondents i.e. 164 (60.74%) are aware of INDEST-AICTE Consortium.
2. 35.55% of the respondents use INDEST-AICTE Consortium 2-3 times a week.
3. The search techniques used by the majority of Research Scholars i.e. 54.28% is truncation and field search in case of M. Tech. Students i.e. 52% through INDEST-AICTE Consortium.
4. The study reveals that a majority of the Research Scholar’s (81.42%) source of

awareness of INDEST-AICTE Consortium is the training from University Library followed by 61% of the M. Tech. students.

5. 88.57% Research Scholars mostly access the INDEST-AICTE Consortium for research purpose followed by 53% of the M. Tech. students.
6. A majority of the Research Scholars i.e. (98.57%) and the M. Tech. students (98%) collect the material from INDEST-AICTE Consortium through pen drive.
7. The most common problem faced by Research Scholars (100%) and M. Tech. students (52%) is lack of knowledge to use while accessing INDEST-AICTE Consortium.
8. A majority of the respondents i.e. 42.22% feel partially satisfied with INDEST-AICTE Consortium.
9. The study reveals the influence of INDEST-AICTE Consortium on research efficiency of the respondents in which the maximum number of the Research Scholars i.e. 70% feels that it expedited the research process followed by 53% of M. Tech. students.
10. The maximum number M. Tech. students i.e. 75% find that INDEST-AICTE Consortium is easy to use followed by 70% of Research Scholars.

9. SUGGESTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The followings are few suggestions and recommendations for the awareness of access e-journals under INDEST-AICTE Consortium:

1. The Librarian and Staff members should conduct an orientation/ training programmes for users on how to search Information under INDEST-AICTE Consortium.
2. There is a need to evaluate the INDEST-AICTE Consortium periodically and include more number of journals in the consortium.
3. Library should organize workshop on regular basis to enhance usage of INDEST-AICTE Consortium among users.

4. Library staff who are not aware INDEST-AICTE Consortium should be given training from grass root level for proper service to the users.
5. The library should update the service frequently so as to provide access to most recent issued journals to the users.

10. CONCLUSION

It is observed from the study that e-resources are becoming more popular and considerable a better substitute of print journals. The prompt access to large array of e-resources available in specialized areas helps in the information, knowledge building and accelerating research activities. The study reveals that majority of Research Scholars and M. Tech. Students are aware about INDEST-AICTE Consortium but the B. Tech Students don't know about INDEST-AICTE Consortium. The study also reveals that B. Tech. students even don't know about e-journals. In order to make it successful and best use of consortium, the authority of institute library should conduct regular user education/awareness programmes to maximize the use of INDEST-AICTE Consortium more effectively and efficiently. It is concluded that there is a need to accept and adopt new technology and electronic information skills in order to effectively utilize the wide variety of electronic resources being made available to them.

REFERENCES

- Amjad Ali. (2004). *Information Technology and Libraries*. New Delhi: Ess Ess.
- Bajpai R P, Mal Bidyut K., & Bajpai Geetanjali (2009, 5-8th October). *Use of e-resources Through Consortia :A Boon to Users of Indian University Libraries*. Paper presented at International Conference on Academic Libraries: ICAL 2009, New Delhi, University of Delhi
- Chavan, S.P. & Sathe, V.S. (2012). E-consortia: A new dimension of resource sharing in digital era. *Golden Research Thoughts* 1(8).
- Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee. (n.d.). Retrieved from <http://www.iitr.ac.in/>
- Nisha Faizul, Naushad Ali P.M. & Tabassum Ara. (2008). *Use of INDEST and UGC-*

INFONET E- journal consortia: A comparative analysis. Paper presented at the 6th International CALIBER, February 28-29 & March 1, 2008, University of Allahabad, Allahabad. Retrieved from <http://ir.inflibnet.ac.in/bitstream/1944/1311/1/76.pdf>

Parveen Kumar. (2012). Use of INDEST-AICTE consortia by the users of Punjab University, Chandigarh, India. *International Journal of Digital Library Services* 2(4), 17-23.

Ramesh, R., Mariraj, M. & William, R. (2006). Electronic journals for library and information science professional. In C. Anandan & M. Gangatharan (Eds.), *Digital libraries: From technology to culture* (pp. 169). New Delhi: Kanishka.

Vasanth, N. & Anasuya, M.S. (2010). Consortia based e-resource subscription: Initiatives in Karnataka. *International Journal of Information Dissemination and Technology* 2(1), 18-23.