



E-resources and their use in Private Engineering College Libraries

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Abstract

Now a days availability of e-resources in engineering college libraries is very common. But their proper and maximum use is also a matter of concern and exploration. This paper gives an overview of the major of e-resources viz. CD Rom databases, Online databases, and E-journals. brief idea regarding this. Purpose of this paper is to highlight the use of e-resources in select engineering college libraries of UP State. An attempt is made to find out the status of e-resources in engineering college libraries. The analysis of the preliminary study reveals that there are not sufficient number of e-resources that could justify the needs of the users.

Keywords: E-resources, Engineering Colleges, Libraries, E-journals

1. Introduction

There has been large proliferation of electronic resources created and developed with many advantages over traditional resources, These are increasingly acquired in libraries, particularly available in web enabled medium, The development of e-resources can be traced in 1960 with the inception machine readable files such as ERIC, OCLC was the developed in 1970 and Third party is database vendor, such as DIALOG, BRS and ORBIT which were known as standard sources. In 1980 personal computers came in practice which helped in developing OPAC (Online Public Access Catalogue) and replaced the card catalogue. CD storage from databases came in practice on standalone workstations. In 1990 Local Area Network was created which replaced standalone workstation and in mid of 1990 the internet and windows were introduced to access e-resources. There was one more important development; CD-ROM databases, which were available in web-based system. Many services are also available via remote access to users outside the library campus. The trend of the modern library has been turned into electronic environment. As users are increasing, there is more pressure on electronic resources compared to



print resources. E-Resources are becoming very important these days as it is more up-to-date and can be accessed anywhere, crossing all geographical boundaries. Such resources add value in conducting R & D activities. Therefore the problem for the present study was selected to study the various e- resources including their utility and effectiveness.

2. Review of Literature

Montgomery and King (2002) described the library services and the cost effectiveness. They studied the impact of a library preference to e-Journals on staff as well as cost. They made comparative analysis of the library (Drexel Library) and developed a model for use. They suggested that e-journals are very costly on use basis. But these are widely accepted and accessed and hence cost has not countered much. Inamdar (2004) discussed the conventional form of libraries and their changing face modern digital environment. He described new technologies enabled libraries to gather late stand up-to-date information handling. He gave emphasis for training to library professional on library automation and information handling. He suggested that library should evaluate their services and information competence to fulfil needs of the users. The author also suggested model of skills for readers, information competence programs, utilizing software and development of library services to excusers and make user friendly. Kaur and Verma (2006) made a survey of a library of Punjab to study the library services and awareness among the users about e-resources. They also examined the user's attitude towards internet in using library resources and the internet particularly the internet of the users about to use of INFONET, CD-ROM databases available in libraries. They report that users have little use of e-resources because of unawareness and suggested organizing awareness and user orientation program for the use of e-resources.

Nikam and Pramodini (2007) discussed the usefulness of electronic journals in research and academic work. The author discussed UGC-Info net consortium which is very important for teaching and research. The author examines and evaluated the utility of e-journals and satisfaction level of users with respect to e-resources. Kothayari (2008) stated the roll of library services in electronic environment. He further discussed various efforts of improving library services qualitative and quantitatively. There have been some factors which helped in accepting the challenge of library activities in a society. There have been new technologies emerged in digital environment. Information communication technology has played an important role in streaming the modern libraries to provide quick and up-to-date information to users.

Sharma (2008) discussed various aspects of automation and its application in libraries. He further discussed the importance of e-resources and their access by users through internet. Internet has been a boon to libraries and networks providing library service without any restrictions of location, the author discussed academic libraries and their contribution in academic society. E-resources are necessity for students and faculty for their study and learning. He emphasizes the provision of web based services to the modern libraries. Natarajan (2010) distributed the concept of modern libraries and growth in electronic resources which have given a challenge to libraries to acquire, storage and dissemination of electronic resources in the digitalized environment. The author also discussed the long term preservation and access to information. The modern libraries



are giving preference to electronic resources than print resources, Libraries and scientists have developed many new systems and technologies to acquire and preserve e-resources and Electronic resources are born digital and a primary version of digital forum. Sarkar and Amit Kishore (2011) have discussed e-resources and found out how e-resources have replaced print resources including print books. They further assessed the various factors influencing usages of e-resources. There has been rapid change in traditional publishing and taking shape of electronic publishing due to many reasons. The author concluded with the question mark, whether print version resources will survive in Google generation or totally replaced by e-resources? This question is not complete itself as print version will/or may continue for years to come.

Jaiswal (2011) described electronic resources and stated these are very important resources of information for modern community in the world because e-resources have become more preferred source of information among researchers in modern time. Modern library preferred e-resources for access them globally. Author further discussed library service in contact of e-resources, where there has-been rapid change in their development, types, need, evolution systems, and organization and many other challenges having faced. Sharma and Gupta (2013) described about library resources, their storage and retrieval system. They defined the aims and objectives, policies. They explained new concept of management, scientific management and various functions of library. The authors further defined various methods applied for automation, information communication software programs, Consortia, Data Storage, CD-ROM databases, e-management databases and other online information and networking. Nishi and Naushad Ali (2013) described the use of e-journals by the library of IIT Delhi and Delhi University library system. Author made a survey of both the libraries on the use of electronic journals. On the basis of sampling survey of 300 users, it was found that 66.66% users are aware of e-journals and are using them for up to date knowledge and collecting relevant materials for their study and research. He highlighted some problem like slow downloading, Staff training and limited terminals availability for the students/user. The author further suggested increasing the facilities to users for e-journal services to the satisfaction of the faculty and the students.

3. Objectives

- 1 To study status of the e-services.
- 2 To evaluate the present position of following e-resources in engineering college libraries.
- 3 To study the impact of e-resources on libraries.

4. Scope of the study:

The following engineering colleges have been included for study: The study is limited to 5 engineering colleges as

1. Anand Engg. College Agra (ANECA)
2. DEI Engg. College Agra (DEICA)



3. SD Singh Institute of Technology Aligarh (SDITA)
4. SD Institute of Engg. & Technology Mujzaffarnagar (SDIEM)
5. IEC Institute of Technology, Greater Noida (IECGN)

5. Methodology

A questionnaire was prepared to collect the data. For this purpose, five private engineering colleges as mentioned in the scope of the study above were visited personally by the authors. These colleges were selected on the basis of convenience sampling since all these are situated near Mewar University region falling in Uttar Pradesh. The questionnaire were distributed to the respective librarians of the colleges. On the basis of questionnaire the data has been collected, analysed and interpreted by using statistical method and presented in the form of tables and diagrams.

Table 1
E-resources in engineering colleges

CD-ROM Databases	Online Databases	E-journals	Microfilms
1. ANECA	75	5200	NIL
2. DEICA	45	4200	NIL
3. SDITA	124	6000	NIL
4. SDIEM	14	2100	NIL
5. IECGN	32	3500	NIL

The above table shows the position of e-resources in five engineering college libraries. Majority of engineering college libraries have insufficient number of CD-ROM i.e. 60% libraries below 50, 20% libraries have 51-100 and only 20% libraries have more than 100 databases. It reveals that libraries have insufficient e-resources.

Table2
CD-ROM

CD-ROM databases	Libraries N=5	% of Libraries
1. Below 50	3	60%
2. 51-100	1	20%
3. 101-200	1	20%
	5	100%

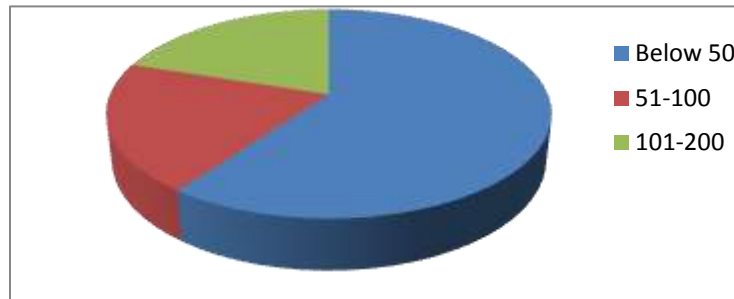


Figure1: CD-ROM

Table3
Online databases

Online Databases	Libraries N=5	% of Libraries
1. Below 25	1	20%
2. 26-50	2	40%
3. Above 51	2	40%
	5	100%

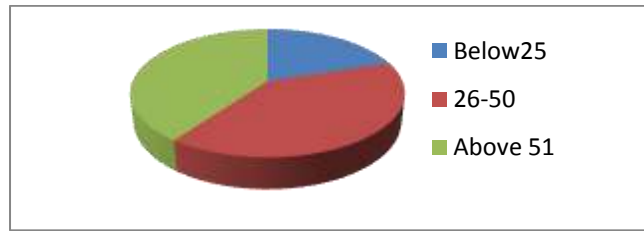


Figure 2: Online databases

 Table 4
 E-journals subscribed under consortia

E-journals	Libraries N=5	% of Libraries
1. Below 2000	NIL	NIL
2. 2001-3000	1	20%
3. 3001-4000	1	20%
4. 4001-5000	1	20%
5. 5001 and above	2	40%
	5	100%

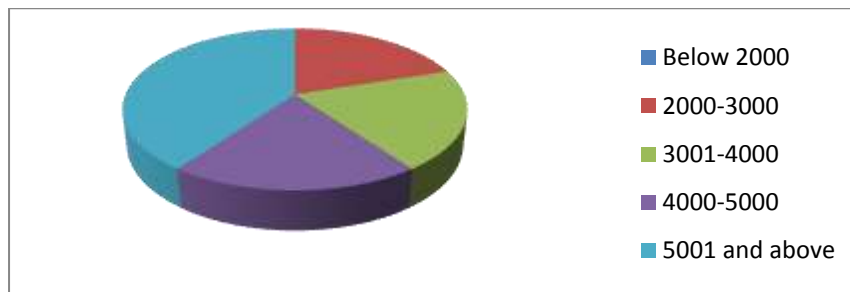


Figure 3: E-journals subscribed

7 Major Findings

1. There are many tools or resources accessible on internet like CD-ROM, online databases and e-journals, which are not, used sufficiently in Engineering College libraries. Such as 60% colleges have below 50 CD-ROM, 40% colleges have above 51 online databases and 40% colleges have above 5001 e-journals. But other resources are not much accessed for use, which needs attention of the library professionals.
2. Majority of Engineering colleges subscribed consortium for e-journals etc. There are very less number of CD-ROM and online databases, which are the need of the day in technical libraries.

8 Recommendations

On the basis of findings, the following suggestions are made to improve the services of engineering college libraries:

1. E-resources like CD-ROM Databases and e-journals are necessities of users for their research and studies, but qualitatively speaking, such resources are not available in good number, for example 60% colleges have below 50 CD-ROM, 40% college have above 51 online databases and 40% colleges have above 5001 which should be subscribed more as per needs of the users.
2. Majority of the Engineering college libraries subscribed to consortium of e-journals, but these are not regular in some colleges. Colleges should take care in this direction.
3. More and significant steps should be taken to increase awareness programs regarding use of e-resources in the libraries.
4. It is necessary to conduct orientation programme regularly to update the knowledge of the users about the e-resources.

9 Conclusion

In view of the above, it is concluded that engineering college libraries need to increase accessibility of e-resources, since these play a significant role in satisfying the research and academic needs of information efficiently. Users can thus access information according to their needs through these e-resources by using their computers, laptops and mobile at their homes,



laboratories and offices etc. It is suggested that such studies with large sample by taking more private colleges be undertaken to authenticate the findings of this preliminary study. This approach will justify quantitative analysis also besides qualitative analysis as is reflected in the present study.

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