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STUDY OF AVAILABILITY OF E-RESOURCES OF IIT'S, NIT'S & IIM'S LIBRARIES IN INDIA

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Abstract

With the rapid development of technology and emergence of Internet, electronic resources are gaining a tremendous impetus in the IITs, NITs and IIMs libraries. Information from librarians was collected through the structured questionnaires. The main objective is to determine the availability of different types of e-resources and rate of usage of e-resources in the library by the users

Keywords: *Electronic Resources, Research Scholar, Indian Institute of Technology, National Institute of Technology, Indian Institute of Management.*

Introduction:

An electronic resource is defined as a resource which requires computer access or any electronic product that delivers a collection of data, be it text referring to full text bases, electronic journals, image collections, other multimedia products and numerical, graphical or time based, as a commercially available title that has been published with an aim to being marketed. These may be delivered on CD Rom, on tape, via Internet and so on. The modern society is based on the information and its resources. The electronic information resources are playing vital role for providing easy, up-to-date, instant and wide-range of information at the door steps of users. It is, therefore, important that all efforts should be done by the library and information science professionals to provide quality information resources to users. Libraries are currently more than the shelves of books and providing an access to electronic resources, both those purchased or

licensed by it, as well as those that are freely available to the users. The technology offers increased access to information; especially electronic resources play a significant role in supporting scientific activity. The students become more dependent on e-resources for information that is relevant to their needs. The time has come to assess or evaluate the available collections as well as the infrastructure of electronic resources management.

Objective of the Study

The following are the important objectives of the study

1. To know the availability of different types of electronic resources in IIT's, NIT's and IIM's libraries in India.
2. To know the rate of usage of e-resources in the library by the users.

Methodology

The questionnaire has been used to collect the responses from respondent libraries of IIT's, NIT's and IIM's in India. The method of research utilized in descriptive research is survey method was followed to collect the data with respect to the objectives of the study. The study is confined to 12 IIT's, 22 NIT's and 11 IIM's libraries in India. The data was obtained from IIT's, NIT's and IIM's libraries through personal visits, through the e-mails, telephonic and also internet was surfed thoroughly for tracing the e-resources.

Data Analysis and Interpretation: The data collected through questionnaire was organized, tabulated and interpreted by using simple statistical methods.

Table 1: Response of Respondents for the study

Variables	Questionnaire Distributed	Questionnaire Received
IITs Library	16 (27%)	12 (20%)
NITs Library	30 (51%)	22 (37%)
IIMs Library	13 (22%)	11 (19%)
Total	**59 (100%)**	**45 (76%)**

The analysis of data in Table 1 shows that the respondents are mainly librarians of IITs, NITs, and IIMs libraries in India.

Table 2: Availability of e-resources in libraries of IITs, NITs and IIMs in India

Sr.No.	E-resources	No. of Responses	Percentage
1.	E- Book	36	82.22
2.	E- Journals	45	100
3.	INDEST-AICTE E-resources	39	86.66

4.	E-Dissertations/ E-Theses	18	40
5.	E -Magzines	12	26.66
6.	Journal Archive JSTOR	25	55.55
7.	E-Journals Backfile	22	48.88
8.	DELNET Database	7	15.55
9.	AV materials	36	80
10.	E-Newspapers	9	20
11.	Databases	39	86.66

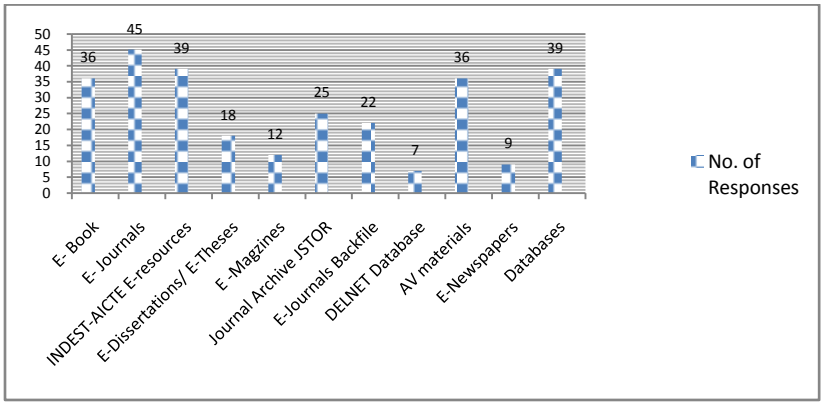

Fig: 1 Availability of E-resources

From the above table, it is observed that e-journals are available in all, i.e. 45 respondent libraries. INDEST-AICTE e-resources and databases are available in 39 libraries. E-books and AV materials are also available in good number of libraries i.e. 36 libraries, while 25 libraries have JSTOR. About half of libraries have e-journal back files. Comparatively less number of libraries i.e. only 18 libraries have e-Dissertations/ e-Theses with them. Only 9 out of 45 libraries have e-newspapers.

Table 3: E-resources available under INDEST consortium

Sr.No.	Parameter	No. of Responses	Percentage
1.	ABI/Inform Complete	14	31.11
2.	ACM Digital Library	33	73.33
3.	ASCE Journals	27	60
4.	ASME Journals	26	57.77
5.	Capitaline	14	31.11
6.	CRIS INFAC Ind. Information	9	20
7.	McGraw-Hill's Access Engineering (FKA DEL)	1	2.22
8.	EBSCO Databases	20	44.44
9.	Elsevier's Science Direct	34	75.55

10	Emerald Full-text	20	44.44
11.	Emerald Management Xtra	10	22.22
12.	Engineering Science Data Unit (ESDU)	0	
13	Euromonitor (GMID)	10	22.22
14.	IEEE/IEE Electronic Library Online (IEL)	31	68.88
15.	Indian Standards	6	13.33
16.	INSIGHT	13	28.88
17.	Nature	13	28.88
18.	ProQuest Science (formerly ASTP)	9	20
19.	Springer Link	28	62.22
20.	IET Digital Library	3	6.66
21.	Emerald E-books (Business Mgmt& Economics Collection)	4	8.88
22	INFORMS Pub Suite	8	17.77
23.	GALE GaleCengage Learning, (IEC,BCRC and GREENR)	0	
24.	ICE Publishing (Thomas Telford) Journals	4	8.88
25.	IEC Standards	7	15.55
26.	Optical Socity of America (Optics Infobase)	8	17.77
27.	Project Muse	9	20
28.	Any other	14	31.11

Table 3 shows that only Elsevier's Science Direct is available in 34 libraries. It was found that 33 libraries have ACM Digital Library, 31 libraries have IEEE/IEE Electronic Library Online (IEL) and Springer Link is available in twenty eight libraries. ASCE Journals are available in 27 libraries. ASME Journals is available in 26 libraries. McGraw-Hill's Access Engineering is available in only one library.

Table 4: E-resources available under INDEST consortium (Bibliographic Databases)

Sr.No	Parameter	No. of Responses	Percentage
1.	SCOPUS Database	15	33.33
2.	INSPEC on EI Village	7	15.55
3.	J-Gate Custom Content for Consortia (JCCC)	16	35.55
4.	MathSciNet	17	37.77
5.	SciFinder Scholar	10	22.22
6.	Web of Science	11	24.44
7.	Any other	0	

It is observed that only MathSciNet is available in 17 libraries. It was found that 16 libraries have J-Gate Custom Content for Consortia (JCCC) and SCOPUS Database have been available in 15 libraries. Web of Science has been available in 11 libraries. SciFinder Scholar is available in 10 libraries.

Table 4.5: Rate of usage of e-resources in the library by the users

Sr.No.	Parameter	Very High	High	Average	Low	Very Low
1.	UG Students	2	28	8	1	0
2.	PG Students	31	10	0	0	0
3.	Research Scholars	39	1	1	0	0
4.	Teachers	26	12	0	0	0
5.	Non-teaching staff	1	4	29	3	1
6.	Institutional members	0	3	9	0	0

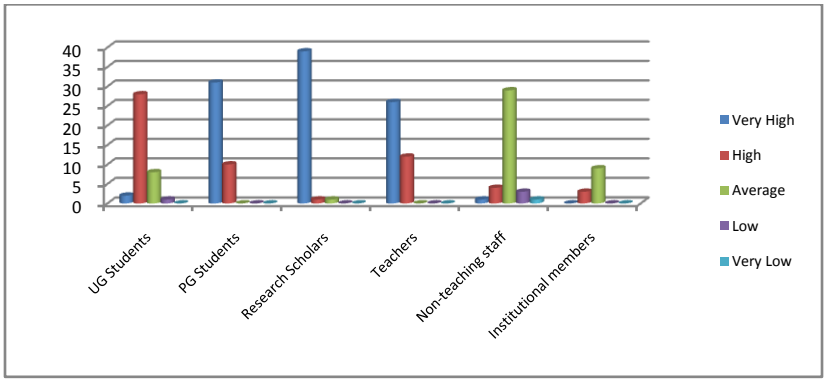

Fig: Rate of usage of e-resources in the library by the users

From the table 4.5, it is revealed that, PG students and research scholars are highest dominant users of e-resources in these libraries.

Findings

The following are the major findings of the present study.

- Table 1 indicates that 76% got response of respondents.
- From table 2, it is observed that all the libraries 100% e-journals.
- The finding regarding subscription of e-resources from INDEST consortium have observed that only Elsevier's Science Direct an available in 34(75.55%) libraries.
- It has been found from table 4 that only Math science Net is available in 17 (37.77%) libraries.
- The rate of usage of e-resources in the library by the PG students, Research scholars and teachers are very high.

Suggestions

1. The libraries of IITs, NITs and IIMs should organize orientation and training programs for creating awareness and better usage of available electronic resources and also to enhance the frequency of visits by the students to the library.
2. Libraries must make all efforts to increase the number of e-resources in their collection for catering to the needs of students in the changing context.
3. Each library should maintain e-resource webpage on library portals.

Conclusion

From all the e-resources, e-journals have been found to be available in all the libraries of IITs, NITs and IIMs. INDEST-AICTE e-resources and databases are the second highly available e-resources in these libraries. E-books are also catching up fast. All the e-resources found in the libraries of IITs, NITs and IIMs are provide under INDEST consortium and also through individual library subscription. All libraries get e-resources under INDEST consortium while more than 93% libraries are also subscribing to e-resources individually and a few other consortia in some libraries. Elsevier Science Direct is available in highest number of libraries i.e. < 75% while ACM Digital library is second highest available e-resource in these libraries with < 73%. IEEE/IEE stands third with 69% availability while Springer link is fourth with < 62% and ASCE journal are also close with 60%. Mc - Graw Hill's access engineering, IET Digital Library, ICE publishing journals and Emerald e-books are least available e-recourses under INDEST in these libraries. Regarding bibliographic databases made available under INDEST, it is found that their availability is not much highest available being with MathSciNet only in 37% libraries. JCCC and SCOPUS are second and third highest available with 35% and 33% libraries having them. Web of Science, Sci Finder and INSPEC rated still lower in that order in terms of their availability in these libraries.

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