

**ATTITUDE OF PG STUDENTS' TOWARDS USING E-RESOURCES IN LEARNING****Sushma N Jogan¹ & Hoovinbhavi B.L², Ph. D.**¹JRF scholar, DOS in Education, Gulbarga University, Kalaburagi-585106²Professor & Dean, DOS in Education Gulbarga University, Kalaburagi-585106**Abstract**

E-resource is short term for electronic resources or electronic information resources. These are collections of information in electronic or digital format that are accessed on an electronic device such as mobile phone, laptop, computers etc. Today availability of e-resources in a university library is becoming an imperative role. The present paper examines the attitude of PG students' towards using e-resources in their learning. It is useful for finding information not yet available in books, or obtaining up-to-date information on current events or issues. It also provides with authoritative, accurate, current, objective reference material not readily available through a search engine like Google. 200 PG students were chosen by random sampling technique from various departments of Gulbarga University. Standardized tool was used developed by Dr. S Rajasekar (Attitude towards using e-resources). The results indicated that post graduate students have favorable attitude towards using e-resources in and off the campus. It is also found that there is a significant difference based on gender and management. Necessary suggestions were given by the students for the development of e-resources with reference to the browsing period.

Key words: E-resources, educational blogs, Post graduate students, attitude, and e-journals

Introduction:

E-resources are those resources which include documents in electronic or e-format that can be accessed via Internet in digital library environment. E-resources are that electronic product that delivers a collection of data, be it text, image collection, other multimedia products like numerical, graphical mode for commercially available for library and information centre's. These may be delivered on CD-ROM / DVD, over the Internet and so on. Providing access to e-Resources is a service to help academic library users to find E – databases, E- journals, E- Magazines, E-Books, E-Audio, E-Images, Data, GIS, Digital Library Projects, Electronic Exhibitions, E-Subject Guide, E-newsletters, E-White papers, E-conferences proceedings and Web search tools on a range of topic. Many of the electronic resources are freely available to anyone over Internet access but some are commercial resources.

Commenting on the advantages of electronic resources, Dadzie (2007) writes that electronic resources are invaluable research tools that complement the print – based resources in a traditional library setting. Their advantages, according to her include: access to

information that might be restricted to the user due to geographical location or finances, access to more current information, and provision of extensive links to additional resources related contents. This rapid emergence and development of electronic information technologies therefore makes it possible to envision radically different ways of organizing the collections and services the library has traditionally provided. While libraries approach a crisis point in financing collection development, these new technologies offer possible ways to mitigate costs and revolutionize ways to access information.

Need of the study:

Information technology has made a profound impact on availability and accessibility of e-resources. Most of us are very much dependent on internet. It is the contribution of information and communication technology and impact of internet that information processing, storing, searching and use have become expeditious, easy and user-friendly. Today digital technology is available at our doorstep, capable of effectively creating and capturing information in various formats, making these available to others. So, the researcher felt the need to study the post graduate students' attitude in using available e-resources in their learning.

Operational terms defined:

1. **E-resources:** E-resources is short term for Electronic Resources or electronic information resources. These are collections of information in electronic or digital format that are accessed on an electronic device, such as a mobile phone, computer, etc.
2. **Educational blogs:** An education blog is a blog created for educational purposes. Edublogs archive and support student and teacher learning by facilitating reflection, questioning by self and others, collaboration and by providing contexts for engaging in higher-order thinking.
3. **Post graduate students:** Involved in or undertaking study at an advanced level after having graduated from a college or university.
4. **Attitude:** the way a person views something or tends to behave towards it, often in an evaluative way
5. **E-journals:** Electronic journals, also known as ejournals, e-journals, and electronic serials, are scholarly journals or intellectual magazines that can be accessed via electronic transmission. In practice, this means that they are usually published on the Web.

Review of literature:

1. Marcum(2000) has underlined the following changes due to introduction of electronic resources in libraries. Some of the noteworthy changes are change in the form of

acquisition, organization and retrieval of information from the library, change in the relationship between an institution's library and its information technology division, change in the way collections are acquired, stored, organized and delivered. Finally changes have taken place in the design of library buildings and facilities provided.

2. Level & Myers (2003) opined that collection development activities are an important and ongoing component in every library. Digitization of paper driven environment is on the rise. The introduction of the web and the internet into the collection development has increased the level of efficiency and accessibility manifold by integrating procedures, forms, policies and library organization web sites.
3. Pragyam Das et al (2007) stated that "collection management can also be defined as the organization and maintenance of library resources, starting from collection development principle".
4. Linda M.Teel (2008) described an inventory project conducted in the East Carolina University Teaching Resource Center, North Carolina, USA to review the relevancy, accuracy, reliability and circulation of curriculum collection. This case study discussed significant outcomes that were accomplished and implemented for long range strategic planning
5. Rubinandhini (2012) has conducted a survey on collection development in Periyar University Library, Tamil Nadu. Her findings have revealed that their university library provides many printed and e-resource facilities to its users. The university library is playing a vital role in innovations of exploring new concepts to help the society at large.

Objectives of the study:

1. To measure the different levels of using e resources among post graduate student.
2. To study the significant difference between male and female students attitude towards using e resources.
3. To find out the significant difference between science and arts students attitude towards using e resources.
4. To identify the significant difference between language and commerce students attitude towards using e resources.

Hypotheses of the study:

1. There is a significant difference between male and female students attitude towards using e resources.
2. There is a significant difference between science and arts students attitude towards using e resources.

3. There is a significant difference between language and commerce students attitude towards using e resources.
4. There is a significant difference among post graduate students towards with respect to their locality.

Sampling technique: For the present study researcher has used random sampling technique.

Size of the sample: A sample of 100 post graduate students selected from different disciplines of Gulbarga University, Kalaburagi.

Methodology & Tool: The study is based on Survey method. Research tool was developed by Dr. S Rajasekar.

Statistical technique: Mean, SD and t test was used.

Analysis & Interpretation of data: The collected information from the data was analyzed statistically by using SPSS version 20. Following are the inferences ascertained.

Table 1:

Students	N	Mean	SD	t	Sig
PG	100	2.54	1.123	823.369	0.000*

*significant at 0.05 level

The above table reveals that attitude towards use of e resources in Post graduate students (N=100), Mean 2.54, Standard Deviation 1.123 and calculated t-value 823.369 and obtained significant value is 0.000 which is significant at 0.05 level.

Table 2:

Students	N	Mean	SD	t	Sig
Science	24	1.58	0.776	0.775	0.442
Commerce	26	1.77	0.908	0.780	0.439

The above table shows that post graduate students of Science (N=24), Mean 1.58, Standard Deviation 0.776 and calculated t-value 0.775 and obtained significant value is 0.442, Commerce (N=26) Mean 1.77, Standard Deviation 0.908 and calculated t-value 0.780 and obtained significant value is 0.439 which is not significant at 0.05 level. Therefore above stated hypothesis is rejected.

Table 3:

Students	N	Mean	SD	t	Sig
Language	24	1.54	0.779	2.131	0.038
Social Science	26	2.08	0.977	2.150	0.037

The above table shows that post graduate students of Language (N=24), Mean 1.54, Standard Deviation 0.779 and calculated t-value 2.131 and obtained significant value is 0.038, Social Science (N=26) Mean 1.77, Standard Deviation 0.908 and calculated t-value 2.150 and

obtained significant value is 0.037 which is significant at 0.05 level. Therefore above stated hypothesis is accepted.

Table 4:

Students	N	Mean	SD	t	Sig
Girls	50	1.58	0.776	0.775	0.442
Boys	50	1.77	0.908	0.780	0.439

The above table shows that post graduate students of Girls (N=50), Mean 1.58, Standard Deviation 0.776 and calculated t-value 0.775 and obtained significant value is 0.442, Boys (N=50) Mean 1.77, Standard Deviation 0.908 and calculated t-value 0.780 and obtained significant value is 0.439 which is not significant at 0.05 level. Therefore above stated hypothesis is rejected.

Table 5:

Students	N	Mean	SD	t	Sig
Rural	55	1.71	0.875	0.512	0.610
Urban	45	1.80	0.894	0.511	0.611

The above table shows that post graduate students of Rural (N=55), Mean 1.71, Standard Deviation 0.875 and calculated t-value 0.512 and obtained significant value is 0.610, Urban (N=45) Mean 1.80, Standard Deviation 0.894 and calculated t-value 0.511 and obtained significant value is 0.611 which is not significant at 0.05 level. Therefore above stated hypothesis is rejected.

Conclusion:

The study reveals that most of the post graduate students has neutral attitude towards using e resources in their learning. It is necessary that to develop the available facilities being provided to the students in the university like browsing period etc. On the other hand, it also revealed that practical uses of e-resources are not up to the worth in comparison to investments made in acquiring these resources. Moreover, infrastructure and training, programmes are essential for better use of e-resources campus-wide.

Suggestions:

1. User training is essential for the better use of e-resources in the library since a good number of users are searching electronic literature on their own.
2. The library of the university should identify the below average users and convert them into potential users of the resources.
3. The university management should provide funds for subscription to more electronic sources.
4. Further users are coming across with problems in gathering information, the most suitable measures should be taken to overcome this.

5. Finally, there is a need for the institutional governing body to integrate adequate information regarding usage of e-resources for both student and teachers in the university.

References:

- Ani, Okon E. and Ahiauzu, B. (2008). *Towards effective development of electronic information resources in Nigerian University Libraries*. *Library Management* 29(6/7): 504 – 514.
- Ajuwon G. A (2003). *Computer and Internet Use by First Year Clinical and Nursing students in a Nigerian Teaching Hospital*. *BMC Medical Informatics and Decision Making*, Vol.3 no. 10 September, Available at Biomed central, 1472-6947/3/10 (accessed: 8th May, 2008).
- Ali, Naushad (2005). *The use of electronic resources at IIT Delhi Library; a study of search behaviours*. *The Electronic Library* Vol.23 no. 6: 691 – 700
- Kebede, G. (2002). *The changing information needs of users in electronic environments*. *The Electronic Library*, Vol. 20. No. 1: 19 – 21.
- Madhusudhan, M. (2008). *Use of UGC infonet – journals by the Research Scholars of University of Delhi*”, *Library Hi Tech*, Vol. 26. No. 3. pp. 369 – 386.
- Milne, Patricia (1998). *Electronic access to information and its impact on scholarly communication*.
- Naidu, GHS, Rajput, Prabhat and Motiyani, Kavita (2007). *Use of Electronic Resources and services in University Libraries: A study of DAVV Central Library, Indore*, In: NACL.