



Use of Digital Library Resources by Post Graduate Students of Mysore University Library: A Study

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ABSTRACT

An attempt has been made to determine the present status use of digital library resources. It was observed that use of digital library resources is still inadequate among the Post Graduate Students of the University of Mysore in the developing. This paper presents the findings of a survey to about the knowledge and use of digital library resources by Post Graduate students through library website, e-databases, e-journals, e-books, e-theses, e-prints (Institutional Repository), OPAC searching etc available in the Mysore University Library. The subjects chosen for this study were Post Graduate students study questions and data collection, the questionnaire was distributed to a random sample of 180 Post Graduate Students

1. Introduction

Nowadays rapid changing world, information needs of learners and knowledge seekers are met through a plethora of sources. The digital resources available in a library play a prominent role in facilitating access to required information to the users in an easy and expeditious manner. Further, one need not go to the library to make use of print formats as the digital resource can be made use of by any user through online access via networks or authentication methods at any time by comfortably sitting at home or office. However, it is imperative that one should be familiar with the use and exploitation of digital library resources for their quicker and effective usage. Further, digital library resources can also be used for efficient retrieval. Thus, digital resources in a library play a significant role in academic library as they are mostly turned for purpose of the academic study and research. In view of all this, digital resources like library website, e-books, e-journals, e-theses, e-prints (Institutional Repository), etc are slowly replacing the importance and usage of print media.

2. Mysore University Library

Mysore University library is one of the oldest and largest University Library in the country and Mother of other University Libraries in Karnataka. The Library started functioning in the year 1918. It has a glorious record of 95 years of worthy service, with resource collection 6 Lakh volumes in its systems today. The Library has grown to become one of the leading university libraries in the country with a rich collection of books, journals, reports, rare materials and archives, with multiple locations and a collection of more than 1.2 million items. The goal of knowledge acquisition is Enlightenment. Mysore University Library provides access to more than 13000 e-journals, More than eighteen thousand E-books, and e-thesis through its e resources portal and e-prints, for the benefit of its patrons.

3. Review of Literature

Kona et al... (2017). The studied about the collection development, library membership, staff position, working hours, library automation, usage of library and information resources and services of selected deemed university libraries in Andhra Pradesh. The study found in this study the four selected deemed university libraries maintain good library information resources, services (electronic & print), and library expressed their opinion about library working hours, physical facility, library information resources and services excellent and good.

Sing and Kuri (2017). The present study is an investigation of user's satisfaction with library resources and services in IIT libraries in India. A survey research method was adopted to address the research questions. 800 questionnaires were distributed among final year graduate students, postgraduate students, research scholars and faculty members of 7 IIT libraries to collect relevant data regarding their satisfaction. 758 filled-in questionnaires were

received and analyzed. On the basis of finding, some suggestions have included in this study to increase user's satisfaction from libraries

Hadagali et al... (2012) the study investigated the use of e-resources by P.G. students of different universities of Karnataka state (India). The purpose of the study is to determine the knowledge and use of e-resources; users' skills in handling e-resources; to reveal the factors which influence the effective use of e-resources; problems faced by the respondents and to provide effective solutions to the problems encountered. The study found that the information content in e-resources is better than that of print versions; most of the users access e-resources to search bibliographical information. Lack of availability of personal computers and internet bandwidth are the two main problems faced by users. The study recommends forming a consortium at the state level to add substantial e-resources to the existing collections in the university libraries.

Kaur and Verma (2009) the study focused on the use of electronic information sources in Thapar University shows that maximum number of user accessing E-resources for their purpose. The studied impact of E-resources is visible from the decrease in number of printed journals in comparison to increase in number of electronic journals.

4. Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the present study are:

- To assess the amount of familiarity and frequency in the use of the different types of digital resources made by the P G Students
- To find out the purpose and utilization of the digital resources and services by the P G Students
- To find out the impediments encountered by the Post Graduate Students while accessing and using digital resources
- To suggest suitable suggestions and recommendations to improve the digital resources and services for the benefit of users.

5. Scope and limitation of the Study

The scope of the present study is to examine the use of digital library resources in the University of Mysore. The university library play a significant role in supplementing and complementing the resources facilities, dissemination of information from the point and electronics sources in various digital resources. Thus the present study confined to University of Mysore, as a case study in general subject fields of science and technology; social science; commerce and management.

6. Methodology

Post-Graduate students constitute target population for the study. The survey method has been questionnaire tool was used to collect data; Random sampling has been used as the students' population runs into four thousand nine hundred of the total students' population is used as the sample size. 200 questionnaires were distributed among the post graduate students of different departments by a simple random method out of which 180 filled questionnaires were received, showing 90 percent response rate. MS-Excel and simple frequency calculation has been used to analyze the data.

7. Data Analysis and Interpretation

The data collected by different methods were analyzed interpreted same has been Presented in the following tables

7.1 Post Graduate students familiarity with digital sources

The distribution of students according to their familiarity to use digital resources is shown in [Table 1](#).

Sl. No	Use	No of responses	Percentage
1	Familiar	98	54.44
2	Not familiar	82	45.56
Total		180	100.00

It is evident from Table 1 that 54.44 percent of the post Graduate students are familiar with digital resources, while 45.56 percent replied in the negative.

7.2 Frequency of using the computers

The distribution of post Graduate students according to their frequency of using the computers is shown in [Table 2](#).

Sl. No.	Frequency	No of responses	Percentage
1	Daily	50	27.8
2	2 or 3 times a week	48	26.7
3	Once a week	31	17.2
4	Once in a month	38	21.1
5	Rarely	13	7.2
Total		180	100.00

It is evident from Table 2 shows that 27.8 percent of the post Graduate students are using the computers daily, 26.7 percent two or three times a week, 21.1 percent once in a month, 17.2 percent once in a week, 7.2 percent of the post Graduate students are rarely using the computers.

7.3 Frequency of using the digital resources

The distribution of post Graduate students according to their frequency of using the digital resources is shown in Table 3.

Digital Resources	Frequency (%)					Total
	Daily	2 or 3 times in a week	Once in a week	Once in a month	Rarely	
E-Books	63 (35.00)	41 (22.78)	32 (17.78)	28 (15.56)	16 (8.89)	180
E-Journals	43 (23.89)	55 (30.56)	39 (21.67)	24 (13.33)	19 (10.56)	180
E-Theses & Dissertation	27 (15.00)	27 (15.00)	43 (23.89)	59 (32.78)	24 (13.33)	180
Online Databases	37 (20.56)	55 (30.56)	29 (16.11)	23 (12.78)	36 (20.00)	180
Institutional Repository	32 (17.78)	37 (20.56)	29 (16.11)	43 (23.89)	39 (21.67)	180
Search Engines	35 (19.44)	52 (28.89)	37 (20.56)	47 (26.11)	09 (5.00)	180
OPAC	63 (35.00)	33 (18.33)	27 (15.00)	25 (13.89)	32 (17.78)	180
Library Website	57 (31.67)	49 (27.22)	28 (15.56)	22 (12.22)	24 (13.33)	180

It is evident from Table 3 that 35 percent of the post Graduate students are using the **e-books** daily, 22.78 percent 2 or 3 times in a week, 17.88 percent once in a week, 15.56 percent once in a month, 8.89 percent rarely use the CD-ROM databases.

Majority of the post Graduate students using e-journals 30.56 percent of the respondents using the 2 or 3 times in a week, 23.89 percent say that the e-journals daily, 21.67 percent say that once in a week, 13.33 percent once in a month, 10.56 percent never use e-journals.

It may be seen from the 32.78 percent of the respondents say that the use e-theses and dissertations, followed by the 23.89 percent of the post Graduate students are using e-theses and dissertation, and 15 percent respondents of post graduate students using e-theses and dissertation daily 2 or 3 times in a week, 13.33 percent never use the e-theses and dissertation .

It is also evident from table majority of the post graduate students 30.56 percent of the respondents are using the online databases once in a month, followed by the 20.56 percent say that online databases using daily, 20 percent of the respondents never using the online databases, 16.11 percent of the respondents say that once in month using online databases, 12.78 percent never use the online databases.

In the case of the 23.89 percent of the respondents of the post graduate students are using the institutional repository once in a month, 21.68 percent never use institutional repository, and 20.56 percent respondents say that the 2 or 3 times in a week, followed by the 17.78 percent respondents say that using daily, finally 16.11 percent once in a week use the institutional repository.

It is also evident from table that 28.89 percent of the post Graduate students are using the search engines once in a month, followed by the 26.11 percent of the respondents say that the 2 or 3 times in a week, 20.56 percent of the respondents said that the once in a week, and 19.44 percent of the students in a use of search engine daily, just few respondents of the post graduate students only 5 percent never use the search engine.

Majority of the post Graduate students 35 percent are using the online public accesses catalogue once in a daily, followed by the 18.33 percent of the respondents accessing OPAC 2 OR 3 times in a week, and 17.78 percent say that the never use the OPAC, 15 percent once in a week, finally 13.89 percent respondent say that the using OPAC once in a month.

About 31.67 percent respondent of the post graduate students using library website daily, followed by the 27.22 percent of the post Graduate students are using the library website two or three times in a week, followed by the 15.56 percent says that once in a week, and 13.33 percent respondents of the post graduate students says that the never use the library website, finally 12.22 percent of the post Graduate student once in a month use the library website.

7.4 Table Purpose of using e-resources

Sl. No.	Purpose	No. of responses	Percentage
1	Study	87	48.33
2	Learning	69	38.33
3	Current information	61	33.89
4	Career development	55	30.56
5	Other purpose	43	23.89

From above table 4 shows that the e-resources are performing a good role in imparting reliable information to its users. This table show that majority of respondents 48.33 percent using the e-resources for study purpose, while 38.33 are using it for learning purpose, 33.89 percent respondents using the e-resources for current information, 30.56 percent of the respondent using the e-resources for career development and finally 23.89 percent of respondent using the e-resources for other purposes such as for sending or receiving e-mails, face book, YouTube, blogging & chatting etc.

7.5 Table 5: Most preferred point for reading full text

Sl. No	Preferred Point	No. of responses	Percentage
1	PDF	97	53.89
2	HTML	52	28.89
3	Hard copy	31	17.22
Total		180	100.00

The Table 5 shows that the most preferred point for reading the full text for fulfilling their requirement which show that 53.89 percent of respondent prefer the PDF files for reading the full text, whereas 28.89 percent respondent use the HTML files and lastly 17.22 percent of respondent demand the hardcopy of full text preferred to post graduate students.

7.6 Learned to use digital resources

The distribution of post Graduate students learned to use digital resources is shown in Table 6.

Sl. No	Learned to use digital resources	No of responses	Percentage
1	Self study (reading books/journals, tutorials)	89	49.44
2	Family, friend or Colleague	55	30.56
3	Guidance from the library staff	66	36.67
4	Guidance from the training centre	43	23.89
5	Formal courses	40	22.22

It is evident from Table 6 that 49.44 percent of the post Graduate students are learning the necessary skills to use digital resources through self study (reading books/journals, tutorials etc), 36.67 percent learned through the guidance from library staff, 30.56 percent through family, friend or colleague, 23.89 percent guidance from the

training centre, and 22.22 percent of the post Graduate students are learning to use digital resources through formal courses.

7.7 Table: Benefits of e-resources over conventional document

SI. No	Benefits	No.of responses	Percentage
1	Easy access to information	74	41.11
2	Quick retrievably	68	37.78
3	Up to date information	76	42.22
4	Free availability	61	33.89
5	Time saving	72	40.00
6	Useful	63	35.00

The table 7 indicates that majority of respondent 42.22 percent revealed that e-resources are up to date information than of a conventional document, 41.11 percent of respondent said that it provides easy and free access to required information. While 40 percent said that these are time saving and 37.78 percent of respondent said that it is quick retrievably and 35 percent other respondent said that e-resources are most useful and finally 33.89 percent preferred than of a free availability of conventional document.

7.8 Adequacy of information in digital resources

The distribution of post Graduate students according to the adequacy of information in digital resources is shown in Table 8.

SI. No.	Opinion	No of responses	Percentage
1	Always	86	47.78
2	Some time	69	38.33
3	Never	25	13.89
Total		180	100.00

It is evident from Table 8 that 47.78 percent of the post Graduate students indicate the information available in the digital resources always adequate, 38.33 percent indicate some time, and 13.89 percent indicate the information available in the digital resources is never adequate.

7.9 Prevents in accessing the digital resources

The distribution of post Graduate students according to prevents in accessing the digital resources is shown in Table 9.

SI. No.	Prevents	No of responses	Percentage
1	Lack of training	83	46.11
2	Lack of time	65	36.11
3	Too much information retrieved	20	11.11
4	Lack of IT knowledge	56	31.11
5	Limited accesses to computers	57	31.67

It is evident from the Table 9 shows the opinion of the post Graduate students regarding prevents in accessing the digital resources. Respondents that 46.11 percent of the post Graduate students stated that 'lack of training' is the main impediment to use digital resources, the followed by the respondents 36.11 percent said that 'lack of time', and 31.67 percent of the respondents say that 'limited access to computers', 31.11 percent of responds of the post graduate students 'limited to accesses to computers', and finally 23.75 percent said that 'too much information retrieved' is the main prevent to use digital resources.

8. Suggestions

- Based on the detailed study and its outcome, the following suggestions are recommended to improve the use of digital resources among the faculty members.
- With the increasing influx of electronic resources into libraries the user orientation programmes should be implemented in regard to digital resources.
- Awareness levels should be increased for maximizing the usage of online journals for procuring the current and required information.

- More computer terminals should be installed in libraries for facilitating easy and quicker access to digital resources.
- Budgetary resources should be increased gradually for strengthening digital resources in libraries.
- The library should conduct regular evaluations and assessments to determine the effectiveness of the digital resources in meeting information needs of the users.

9. Conclusions

This study was an initial exploration into the experiences of P G students with UOM and Mysore university library experiences. Continued study of young adults with UOM as presented in their own words, as guided by the social model of disability studies, is necessary and it is clear that there is much more to be learned within this realm. At the time of this writing, further digital resource library is being conducted to expand work in the area, including conducting interviews and administering surveys with University librarians and P G students with UOM, to build on the findings of this study and better understand needs and provide services for both populations.

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