

Use of Online Resources During Lockdown

Mrs. Urmila Rajendra Kadam

Librarian,

Kamala College, Kolhapur

Email- kamalacollegelibrary@gmail.com

Mobile-9975949644/9075097678

ABSTRACT

In recent days, electronic learning (e-learning) has become a requisite element for educational establishments, including schools, colleges, and universities, worldwide, owing to the unprecedented outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic. This perilous circumstance has disrupted the traditional method of in-person instruction. E-learning is an efficacious pedagogical approach that elicits optimal academic outcomes among students. The utilization of electronic resources on the internet is revolutionizing the functionality of libraries. The process has facilitated facile and expeditious acquisition of informational resources. The utilization of internet access presents a straightforward and effective approach for gaining entry to and maintaining current documentation and interfaces within the catalogues of all libraries.

INTRODUCTION

During the age of information proliferation, the sheer amount of data and knowledge pertaining to these domains is ample and prodigious. The provision of a qualitative collection is essential for libraries to satisfy the needs of their user population. An expanded plethora of digital resources is presently attainable in electronic format. Obtaining additional qualitative resources

has the potential to facilitate the enhancement of qualitative services without necessitating an increased allocation of financial resources. The procurement of electronic resources facilitates seamless connection and the formation of library networks, enabling resource sharing and the establishment of consortia among libraries. Electronic resources enable access to information that may be limited to users based on their geographic locations. The utilization of electronic resources has become a crucial component of scholarly inquiry and advanced academic pursuits, as underscored by the research conducted by Navalur, Balasubramani, and Kumar in 2012. Recognizing the significance of electronic resources, a majority of academic institutions endeavor to offer access to these resources in order to bolster scholarly pursuits. In the present context, it is crucial for librarians to appraise the perceptions of users regarding electronic resources and instigate measures to enhance their conscientious exploitation. The use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in the process of knowledge generation and communication has elicited profound transformations in modern library services. In contemporary times, E-learning has increasingly become an essential element of all educational establishments, encompassing schools, colleges, and universities worldwide. Notably, this paradigm shift is attributed to the global outbreak of COVID-19, which has necessitated innovative measures to ensure continuity in academic activities. The aforementioned perilous circumstance has led to a disruption in conventional in-person instructional methodologies. The utilization of e-learning presents an efficacious pedagogical approach that enhances the educational outcomes of students. The contemporary emergence of internet-based resources has significantly impacted the library system and transformed its traditional functions. The expedited procurement of informational resources has been simplified and made more efficient. Access to the internet presents a simple and efficient approach to accessing and updating the documentation and interface of catalogues featured in libraries.

KEYWORDS:

E-learning, Web-based Technology, E-Resources, Library Services, Users Satisfaction.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY :

This study will help to find out the students' attitudes towards use of e-resources during COVID – 19 Pandemic. This study was done for the students who are studying in various colleges and universities and even schools to gain additional information regarding the contribution of e-resources during this pandemic.

OBJECTIVES

1. To know the global trend of using E-learning resources among students.
2. To identify the interest and attitude of students towards using E-learning resources across the world.
3. To find out the awareness' of users about available E-resources.
4. To find out the frequency of using E-resources.
5. To study the purpose of using E-resources.
6. To find out problems faced by the users while accessing and using E-resources.
7. To study the level of satisfaction of users about availability and coverage of E- Resources.

METHODOLOGY :

In consideration of the research goals, a structured questionnaire was developed to gather information from a diverse group of students. An online questionnaire was devised utilizing the platform of Google Forms and subsequently disseminated across a diverse array of WhatsApp groups. The present study encompasses responses from undergraduate (UG), postgraduate (PG), and research students hailing from diverse geographic locations, forming the projected population for analysis. The present study gathered responses from a sample consisting of 275 students, and subsequently engaged in data analysis through the application of diverse graphical representations.

DATA ANALYSIS :

Information collected through the google forms and what up groups was analyzed using data analysis tools. Opinion of the students about various types of online resources and utilization of these resources was analyzed. it is an attempt being made to understand and evaluate the use of Libraries as an integral part of our education system

FINDINGS

- 1) Out of 272 responses major respondents are female i.e. 76.5% and remaining 23.2 % are male.
- 2) Out of 272 respondents 40.4% are below 20 age, 43% are below 25, 8.6% are below 30 and 1.2 % are 30 and above age groups.
- 3) Out of 272 respondents 32% are from Arts , 34.9% are from Commerce, 4.4 are from science and 28.7 are from other faculty
- 4) 92.6 respondents are aware about and 7.4% are not aware about e- resources
- 5) Number of types of E-resources like e news paper, books, journals, databases, internet etc are by the students is shown in above figure
- 6) Major respondents get information about e resources from social media i.e. 51.3 % and from teachers is 29%. Very few get information from friends i.e. 7.4%.
- 7) Maximum readers use e- resources to read textbook, reference books, comics, newspapers etc. These are 60.3 in number.
- 8) Maximum respondents consider e- resources to be useful as printed i.e. 59.9 % and very few respondents says they are not useful as printed material i.e. 10.7% out of the total population.
- 9) Various respondents says it is useful because these resources are easily available, read it at anytime, anywhere, easy to store, freely available, easily printed .
- 10) Maximum respondents say that internet connectivity is the most important problem in accessing the e- resources i.e.62.5%.

CONCLUSION

Libraries play a pivotal role in providing assistance to users in accessing e-resources and study materials that are relevant to their respective areas of expertise. This is decidedly significant in enabling individuals to engage in effective scholarly pursuits. The objective of our investigation is to discern which resources are utilized by individuals during the lockdown interval. The results of the research indicate that a majority of the study's population falls within the age range of above 20 and below 30. The majority of respondents identified as female,

as compared to their male counterparts. The findings indicate that electronic resources are highly accessible, readily available at all times, and easily downloadable and printable. The preponderance of data gathered indicates that readers rely on electronic resources to facilitate their studies, acquire understanding of diverse subjects, peruse newspapers, among other activities. The primary issue encountered with the utilization of electronic resources pertains to internet connectivity. According to the findings of the study, electronic resources have been demonstrated to possess a similar level of usefulness as print materials. However, it is important to note that despite this noteworthy characteristic, e-resources should not be regarded as a substitute for print-based materials.

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