Use and Awareness of E-Information Resources by Pure Science PG Students and Scholars of V S K University, Bellary: A Study

Pradeep Kumar D[1]; Prof. Maranna O[2]

Research Scholar, DLIS, Rani Channamma University, Belagavi & Librarian, Sharnbasveshwar College of Science, Kalaburagi, Karnataka[1]; Professor, Department of Library and Information Science, Rani Channamma University, Belagavi, Karnataka, India[2]

Pradeep.mlisc09@gmail.com, Omaranna@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

This paper is an attempt to study the "awareness and use of electronic information resources by Pure Science postgraduate students and research scholars of VSKUB", its aims to highlight the problems encountered by the users and suggested some remedial measures for its improvements. A structured questionnaire was shared among 150 Pure Science postgraduate students and research scholars of VSKUB, out of which 125(83.33%) are received. The study confirmed that pure science postgraduate students & research scholars are aware of electronic information resources and electronic resources portals.

INTRODUCTION

Due to the development of ICT (Information Communication Technology) presently Electronic information resources are the most essential sources for higher education purposes electronic resources are freely available on the internet the students and research scholars can access the resources when they need whenever they are required and where ever they want they can access them through the internet. Today the library and information centers are providing electronic information resources access to broad diversity including indexes, full-text articles and e-journals, and internet web/resources,

Electronic information resources are the collection of information as full-text databases-journals, multimedia, image collection in the form of CD-ROMs, Tape, and web technology, etc. electronic information resources include e-journals, e-journals, e-discussion, e-news, e-magazines, data archives, e-mails, online chatting, discussion, e-books, and e-report.

Electronic Information Resources: The electronics information resources means "an electronic product that delivers a collection of data, be it text. Numerical, graphical, or time based is a commercially available resource that has been published with the sole aim to be marketed and for information dissemination electronic information resources refer to those materials that require computer access or any other electronic devices.

Pure science: Pure Science is a category of science that deals with research and theories. It is also known as natural, basic, or fundamental science.

Postgraduate students: A postgraduate is a student who has completed an undergraduate degree-level course at a college or university and is undertaking further study at a more advanced level.

Research Scholars: A research scholar is a college student or graduate who works on projects in a specific field for a university or organization. As a research scholar, you work with professors and other professionals in your field of study and focus on uncovering new information that can be published in academia.

REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE

(Halder, 2017) The paper is an attempt to study the issues of awareness and use of electronic information resources and their impact on the purpose of electronic information resources. The findings of this paper are the students were using electronic information resources and encourage of use of electronic information resources to the maximum, the impact of e-journals visible. **(Nyamboga et al., 2014)** The study investigated whether information science students of specified universities were available electronic information resources. The study covered Undergraduate and postgraduate students also in that 83.7% are postgraduates and 96.6% are Undergraduate students based on the study fact is students should be trained on how to access electronic information resources from everywhere unlike the university library. They should be given success credentials to log in to the e-resources databases at home and the workplace.

(Muniya, 2021) This paper studies the use of electronic information resources by research scholars in the University of Hyderabad library a total of 180 research scholars from different disciplines of subjects were selected. The finding shows that users from all categories were using electronic information resources the use and awareness of electronic information resources to the maximum. This study is an attempt to investigate the use and preview of online information resources by postgraduate students of public and private sector universities. The findings that postgraduate & research students prefer to use electronic information resources in that mainly social site networking (SNS) with good frequency and also prefer to use e-journals and magazines to fulfill their information and knowledge needs. **(Ravichandran, n.d.)** The study was carried out among the research scholars who are pursuing research in pure science, social science, and engineering at various colleges and universities of Tamil Nadu the findings of the paper are the majority of the research scholars are preferred to access the full-text articles.

(**Kavitha, 1999**) The study shows the use of e-resources is very common among the SC/ST PG students and research scholars of Periyar University and majority of the SC/ST PG students and research scholars are dependent on e-resources to get the desired and relevant information. But practical use of e-resources is not up-to the worth in comparison to investments made in acquiring these resources. The study also indicated the infrastructure and training programs should also be revised as per requirements. It is observed that the availability of e-resources on the campus was almost enough for all the existing disciplines but the infrastructure must also be adequately provided and consistently updated. **(Akpojotor, 2016)** The aim of this study is to critically examine the awareness and usage of electronic information resources among postgraduate students of library and information science in Southern

Nigeria. The sample size for this study was drawn from eight (8) universities in Southern Nigeria. The results obtained revealed that postgraduate students of library and information science are quite aware and highly use electronic information resources. The study also reported that postgraduate LIS students are skilled in the use of electronic information resources. Based on the findings the study concluded that electronic information resources are essential tools for empowering postgraduate students of library and information science in Southern Nigeria. **(Naqvi, 2012)** This paper is to examine the impact and use of e-databases at GBPUAT library because a huge amount is invested for the subscription, growth, and management of e-databases. The main aim is to determine the purpose of use of e-databases; and to find out their level of use, level of satisfaction, problems, and instructions/help in accessing of e-databases. **(Hadagali et al., 2012)** 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 to form a consortium at the state level to add substantial e-resources to the existing collections in the university libraries. **(Shahapurmath et al., 2015)** This study shows that IT based library services are being less utilized by the users. However, a good percentage of respondents from Karnataka Science College are satisfied with e resources. Based on the findings of the study following recommendations were made by the users. Speed of Internet connection to be increased for easy access to available e-resources, to create more awareness on e-resources and high speed Wi-Fi needs to be established, so that users can use of online e-resources within the campus. **(Sharma et al., 2019)** The main aim of this study is to know the utilization of e-resources and satisfaction level of faculty members, Research Scholars and PG Students who have been working in private institutions affiliated to RGPV, Bhopal, in Madhya Pradesh. The overall analysis suggests that the usage of online resources and services has been increasing day to day and general awareness is visible among library users.

OBJECTIVES

- ✓ To know the use and awareness of Electronic information resources among Pure Science PG Students and Scholars of VSK University.
- ✓ To know the frequency of using electronic information resources by pure science PG Students and Scholars of VSK University.
- ✓ To know the purpose and types of Electronic information resources are using by pure science PG Students and Scholars of VSK University.
- ✓ To find out the preferred reading materials used by pure science PG Students and Scholars of VSK University.
- ✓ To find out the various barriers faced by pure science PG Students and Scholars of VSK University for accessing electronic information resources.

METHODOLOGY

The study confined to the only PG Students and Scholars of VSK University, Bellary. The survey method has been adopted to accomplish the primary and secondary information collected through the structured questionnaire were shared with 150 pure science PG students and scholars, out of that 125 (83.33%) students and scholars responded the same data has received. The primary data collected and it has been scrutinized, Tabulated, and analyzed with MS Excel.

DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

Table and Graph 1 : Awareness of Electronic Information Resources

Sl.No.	Awareness of Electronic Information Resources	Response	Percentage
1	Yes	115	92%
2	No	10	8%
	Total	125	100%

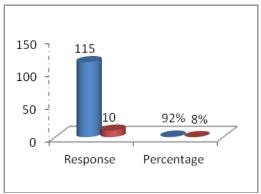<div align="center">

Table No. 1

</div>

Graph No.1

Table and graph no.1 show that awareness of electronic information resources of Research scholars and students of VSKUB is 92 %(115) respondents of Pure Science postgraduate students and research scholars of VSKUB are aware of EIR only 8 %(10) respondents are not aware of electronic information resources.

Table and Graph 2: Preference to use of Electronic Information resources

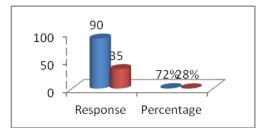| Sl.No.	Preference to use of Electronic Information resources	Response	Percentage
1	Electronic Resources	90	72%
2	Printed Resources	35	28%
	Total	125	100%

Table No. 2

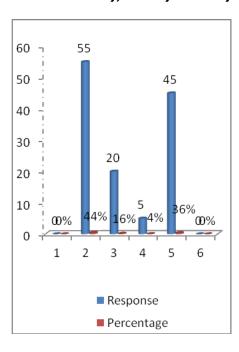<div align="center">

Graph No. 2

</div>

Table and graph no. 2 indicate that preference use of electronic information resources in addition to printed documents 72 %(90) respondents of Pure Science postgraduate students and research scholars of VSKUB preferred electronic resources 28 %(35) respondents preferred printed resources.

Table & Graph 3: Purpose of Accessing Electronic Information Resources

Sl No.	Purpose of Accessing Electronic Information Resources	Response	Percentage
1	For completion of the assignment	0	0%
2	To keep ourselves up to date on the subject	55	44%
3	To find out relevant information in the area of your specialization	20	16%
4	For Research purposes (Thesis/Dissertation/project work)	5	4%
5	For Career Development	45	36%
6	Any other	0	0%
	Total	125	100%

<div align="center">

Table No. 3

</div>

Graph No. 3

The table and graph no. 3 shows that purpose of accessing electronic information resources for 44% (55) respondents of Pure Science postgraduate students and research scholars of VSKUB is to keep their self-update on the subjects 36%(45) respondents the purpose for career development, 16%(20) respondents are purpose to find out relevant information in the area of their specialization, 4%(5) respondents purpose for research purpose.

Table & Graph 4 : Access Points of Electronic Information Resources

Sl.No.	Access points of Electronic Information Resources	Response	Percentage
1	Computer Lab	20	16%
2	Mobile	50	40%
3	Library and Information Centre	55	44%
4	At Hostel	0	0%
5	At Home	0	0%
	Total	125	100%

Table No.4   **Graph No.4**
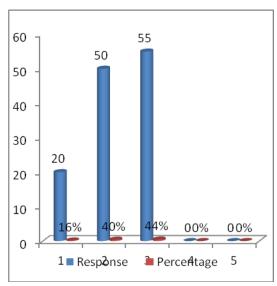
The table and graph no.4 show access points for electronic information resources. 44 %(55) respondents of Pure Science postgraduate students and research scholars of VSKUB access the e-resources in the library and information center, 40 %(50) respondents are accessing the e-resources through mobile, and 16 %(20) respondents are accessing the computer lab.

Table and Graph 5: Types of Electronic Information resources most frequently used

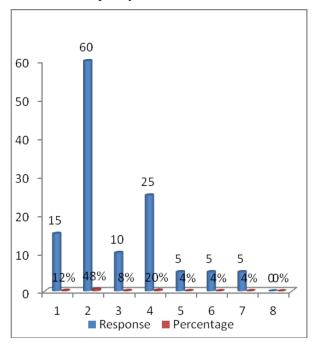| Sl.No.	Types of Electronic Information resources most frequently used	Response	Percentage
1	E-Journals	15	12%
2	E-Books	60	48%
3	E-Magazines	10	8%
4	E- Newspapers	25	20%
5	E- Thesis	5	4%
6	E-research reports	5	4%
7	Bibliographic databases	5	4%
8	Any other	0	0%
	Total	125	100%

Table No. 5   **Graph No. 5**

The table and graph no 5 show that the types of electronic information resources most frequently used are 48% (60) respondents of Pure Science postgraduate students and research scholars of VSKUB use E-Books, 20%(25) respondents E-newspapers, 12% (15) respondents are used e-journals 8%(10) respondents are used e- magazines remaining 4%(5) respondents are used e-thesis respectively e- research reports and bibliographic databases.

Table 6: Awareness of usage of Electronic Information Resources portals

Sl.No.	Awareness of usage of Electronic Information resources portals	Response	Percentage
1	SWAYAM: Massive Open Online Courses	30	24%
2	SWAYAMPRABHA: View Digital Courses on TV	5	4%
3	e-Acharya (INFLIBNET Gandhinagar)	5	4%
4	e-PG Pathshala (INFLIBNET Gandhinagar)	10	8%
5	e-ShodhSindhu (e-SS)	5	4%
6	Virtual Labs: Web-enabled experiments designed for remote operation	30	24%
7	National Digital Library of India (NDLI)	55	44%
8	Shodhganga: A Reservoir of Indian Theses	5	4%
9	IRINS: Research Information Management System	5	4%
10	NPTEL Video Lectures	40	32%
11	Any other	0	0%
	Total	190	152%

The table no. 6 indicate that Awareness of usage of Electronic Information resources portals in those 44 % (55) respondents of Pure Science postgraduate students and research scholars of VSKUB are aware of NDLI(National digital library initiatives) 32%(40) respondents are aware of NPTEL Video Lectures, 24%(30) respondents are aware of SWAYAM: Massive Open Online Courses, 8%(10) respondents are aware of e-PG Pathshala (INFLIBNET Gandhinagar, respectively 4%(5) respondents are aware of SWAYAMPRABHA: View Digital Courses on TV, e-Acharya (INFLIBNET Gandhinagar),e-ShodhSindhu (e-SS), Shodhganga: A reservoir of Indian Theses, IRINS: Research Information Management System same for this research question the respondents give the multiple options of aware of electronic information portal.

Table 7: Factors influence the usage of Electronic Information resources

Sl.No.	Factors influence the usage of Electronic Information	Response	Percentage
1	Easy to access the information	45	36%
2	To improve professional competence	10	8%
3	Access to a wider range of information	30	24%
4	Provides instant access to current updated information	40	32%
5	Any Other	0	0%
	Total	125	100%

Table No.7

Table no.7 show that factors influence the usage of electronic information resources for their stud and research for those 36 % (45) respondents of Pure Science postgraduate students and research scholars of VSKUB are influenced for easy to access the information, 32%(40) respondents are influenced for provides instant access to current updated information, 24(30) respondents are influenced to access to a wider range of information, 8%(10) respondents are influenced to improve professional competence.

Table & Graph 8: Frequency of Use of Electronic Information Resources

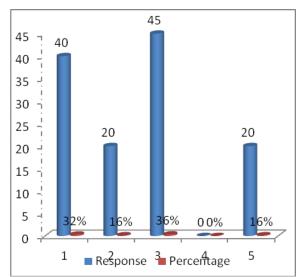| Sl.No.	Frequency of use of Electronic Information Resources	Response	Percentage
1	Daily	40	32%
2	Weekly once	20	16%
3	Monthly once	45	36%
4	On required basis	0	0%
5	Occasionally	20	16%
	Total	125	100%

Table No. 8

Graph No. 8

The table and graph no.8 shows the frequency of use of electronic information resources, 36 %(45) respondents of Pure Science postgraduate students and research scholars of VSKUB are using monthly once, 32% (40) respondents use electronic resources daily, 16% (20) respondents are use weekly once respectively occasionally also same.

Table 9: most preferred format for reading full-text articles

Sl. No.	The most preferred articles	Response	Percentage
1	PDF	125	100%
2	HTML	0	0%
Total		125	100%

Table no.5.9 indicate that preferred formats for reading full-text articles 100 %(125) respondents of Pure Science postgraduate students and research scholars of VSKUB preferred the full-text articles in PDF format.

Table 10: Problem faced while accessing Electronic Information resources

Sl.No.	Problem Faced while accessing Electronic Information resources	Response	Percentage
1	Lack of knowledge about information technology	60	48%
2	Limited Access to Computer	15	12%
3	Inadequate infrastructure facilities for e-resources	20	16%
4	Poor network connection for e-resources	15	12%
5	Limited computer terminals in the library	10	8%
6	Access to e-resources is time-consuming	0	0%
7	Lack of publicity on the contents of the available e-resources by the university	5	4%
8	Lack of training for e-resources	0	0%
9	information Overload	0	0%
Total		125	100%

The table no.10 shows that Problem Faced while accessing Electronic Information resources, 48% (60) respondents of Pure Science postgraduate students and research scholars of VSKUB faced the problem of Lack of knowledge about information technology, 16% (20) respondents faced the Inadequate infrastructure facilities of e-resources 12% (15) respondents are faced Limited Access to Computer respectively the same are faced Poor network connection for e-resources, 8%(10) respondents have faced the Limited computer terminals in the library, 4%(5) respondents are faced Lack of publicity on the contents of the available e-resources by the university.

FINDING AND ANALYSIS OF STUDY

1. The study highlighted that 92 %(115) of pure science postgraduate students and research scholars of Vijayanagara Sri Krishnadevaraya University, Bellary are aware of electronic information resources, and only 8 %(10) respondents are not aware.

2. The study shows that 72 %(90) respondents of Pure Science postgraduate students and research scholars of VSKUB preferred electronic information resources, and 28 %(35) respondents preferred printed resources.

3. The study indicates that 44 %(55) respondents of Pure Science postgraduate students and research scholars of VSKUB are accessing electronic information resources to keep their self-update on the specific subject, and 36 %(45) respondents are accessing career development.

4. The study shows that 44 %(55) respondents of Pure Science postgraduate students and research scholars of VSKUB are access points to electronic information resources in the library and information center, and 40 %(50) respondents are accessing through their mobile.

5. The study clearly shows that 48 %(60) respondents of Pure Science postgraduate students and research scholars of VSKUB use electronic books (e-Books), and 20 %(25) respondents use electronic newspapers (e-newspaper).

6. The study indicates that 44%(55) respondents of Pure Science postgraduate students and research scholars of VSKUB are aware electronic resources portal NDLI(National Digital Library Initiative), 32%(40) respondents are aware of NPTEL(National Programme on Technology Enhanced Learning), 24%(30) respondents are aware of SWAYAM(Study Webs of Active-Learning for Young Aspiring Minds)

7. The study clearly shows that 100 %(125) respondents of Pure Science postgraduate students and research scholars of VSKUB preferred to use pdf format only.

8. The study shows that 48 %(60) respondents of Pure Science postgraduate students and research scholars of VSKUB are faced with the problem of Lack of knowledge about electronic information resources, and 16 %(20) respondents are Inadequate infrastructure facilities for e-resources.

CONCLUSION

The radical changes in the present information explore. The present study indicates that electronic information resources are highly useful for higher studies and research purposes; electronic information resources are the best for getting current and updated information. The advantages of electronic information resources are so faster access, anytime, anywhere, and easy to access. The study also investigated that 92% of pure science postgraduate students and research scholars of VSKUB are aware and 72% are most preferable resources are electronic information resources. To make it successful and the best use of the available electronic information resources the authorities of the institution's library and information center should conduct more orientation/ training programs to use the electronic information resources more effectively and efficiently.

REFERENCE

[1] Akpojotor, L. O. (2016). Awareness and usage of electronic information resources among postgraduate students of library and information science in Southern Nigeria.

[2] Hadagali, G. S., Kumbar, B. D., Nelogal, S. B., & Bachalapur, M. M. (2012). Use of electronic resources by post-graduate students in different universities of Karnataka State. International Journal of Information Dissemination and Technology, 2(3), 189–195.

[3] Halder, M. (2017). Awareness and Use of Electronic Resources by the Post Graduate Students of West Bengal State University, West Bengal: A Study. Library Progress (International), 37(1), 94–101.

[4] Kavitha, E. S. (1999). A Study on Knowledge and Usage of Electronic Resources by the SC/ST Research Scholars and PG Students among Periyar University Affiliated Colleges. Library Philosophy and Practice (e-Journal), 1–17.

[5] Muniya, M. (2021). Use of Electronic Resources by the Research Scholars in University of Hyderabad: A study. Journal of Advances in Library and Information Science, 10(1), 66–71.

[6] Naqvi, T. H. (2012). Use of electronic databases by postgraduate students and research scholars at GBPUAT Library, India. Library Philosophy and Practice, 1, 1–10.

[7] Ravichandran, M. (n.d.). online information resources access by research scholars of social sciences, pure sciences and engineering in tamil nadu: a study.

[8] Shahapurmath, Is. D., Medar, S., & Kenchakkanavar, Y. (2015). Use of electronic resources by the PG students of Karnatak College, Dharwad: A study. Development, 2, 9–09.

[9] Sharma, P. K., Gautam, J. N., & Shrivastava, J. (2019). Use of E-resources and Satisfaction Level of Faculty Members, Research Scholars and PG Students in Engineering Institutions affiliated to Rajiv Gandhi Technological University, Bhopal.

[10] Adeleke, D. S., & Nwalo, K. I. N. (2017). Availability, use and constraints to use of electronic information resources by postgraduates students at the University of Ibadan. International Journal of Knowledge Content Development & Technology, 7(4), 51–69.

[11] Ahmed, A., & Al-Reyaee, S. (2017). Knowledge and Use of Electronic Information Resources by Medical Students at Al-Jouf University in Saudi Arabia. Library Philosophy & Practice.

[12] Gaikwad, M. N. (2017). Awareness and use of electronic information resources at arts and commerce college Madha: A Study. Journal of Advances in Library and Information Science, 6(4), 329–333.

[13] Khaisar, M. K., & Raju, C. (n.d.). Use Of Information Resources Of Pure Science Research Scholar In University Of Mysore: A Study.

[14] Osinulu, L. F. (2020). Awareness and use of electronic information resources by students of college of health sciences in Olabisi Onabanjo University, Nigeria. Information Impact: Journal of Information and Knowledge Management, 11(3), 1–11.

———————————