_____

Use of ICT and E-resources in the College Libraries under Vidyasagar University

Sukanta Jana [1]*

[1]* Department of Library and Information Science, Vidyasagar University, West Bengal, India,
    e-mail: sukantajana14@gmail.com

_____

Abstract

The purpose of this study is to assess the present information and communication technology and the contemporary use of electronic information resources in college libraries under Vidyasagar University. The survey technique has been used using structured questionnaire and with the help of Librarian to obtain the required data. From the analyzed data, it is found that a majority of colleges located in rural areas, some colleges have good number of students, all the colleges have librarians, most of the colleges are shifting from manual to automation process, and maximum of them are using Koha software. N-List is the only subscribed source of e-books and e-journals in maximum colleges. There are many problems like lack of professionally skilled library staff, low budget for e-resource subscription, poor network connectivity, and space problem for making e-zone for the users etc. The study will be helpful to evaluate the present situation of the ICT and use of electronic resources such as e-journals, e-books etc. by the users of the college libraries in Vidyasagr University.

KEYWORDS: E-resources, ICT, Library software, Academic libraries, College libraries

INTRODUCTION

Today libraries are shifting their role from the traditional information resources to the provider of service-oriented digital information resources. A Digital Libraries is a library preview collection of digital purpose that can added manuscript, news paper, images, audio-visual materials, stored as electronic forms. A digital collection, also known as a digital library, is any collection of materials that has been digitally preserved and is accessible on the internet or through any software. Computers and internet use for retrieval and dissemination of information. With use in ICT, and electronic resources such as E-books, E-journals, CD-ROM databases, OPAC, Online databases and the Internet have launched the world into an information age. No institution or organization can still rely on only traditional printed information resource to perform effectively and efficiently. As librarians, ICT is a significant development that provides tools for managing the advance of information generated by modern society. The modernization of libraries and information centers enabled information transfer and access, there by establishes a network of libraries and information centers. This

_____

initiative helped in resource development, resource sharing and their utilization at various levels. Information professionals subscribe to e-journals, CD-ROM databases, online databases, web-based resources, and a variety of other electronic resources.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

A. Knowledge of computer and retrieval technique is needed to search information
B. Facilitate sharing of ICT resources through users.
C. Skilled manpower deployed for managing E-resources.
D. Need proper ICT infrastructure for accessing of e-resources.

LITERATURE REVIEW

From the literature review it is found that use ICT and E-resource in the academic libraries of different states of our country is still at different stages of development. Sharma and Sharma (2018) in their study highlighted that availability of e-resources in general college libraries is very common. But their proper and maximum use is also a matter of concern and exploration. The analysis of the preliminary study reveals that there is not sufficient number of e-resources that could justify the needs of the users. Bhatnagar (2013) in a study presented the application of information and communication technologies (ICT) in ITM Group of Institutions, Gwalior. The analyses that though the libraries had hardware, software and communication facilities to some extent, ICT- based resources and services were not reaching the users to the expected extent. Lack of budget, lack of manpower, lack of skilled staff and lack of training are the main constraints for not automating library activities.

Borrego, et al. (2007) observes that there have been many studies of users of electronic resources in the professional literature in the last few years. In a recent exhaustive review of the literature on the subject. Tenopir (2003) analyzed the results of over 200 studies of the use of electronic resources in libraries published between 1995 and 2003. The main conclusion of this review is that electronic resources have been rapidly adopted in academic spheres, though the behavior varies according to the discipline.

OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

1. Assess the present automation software use for Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in college libraries under Vidyasagr University.
2. Find out the time spent by the faulty member and Students in a Library
3. Find out the frequency of use E-resources among the faculty members and student.
4. Find out the type of electronic resource available in college Library
5. Find out the promotional activities use in a library.

_____

_____

LIMITATION IN THIS SCOPE

This study is limited to the college libraries under Vidyasagar University. Only the Government aided general degree colleges are included and private college are excluded in this study. All data are collected up to date to academic year 2022.

HYPOTHESIS

1. Majority of the college libraries have implemented ICT in library.
2. The e-resources are used by the teacher and students of the college libraries.

METHODOLOGY

The study is focused on the top 12 colleges under Vidyasagar University. The ICT and E-resources of college library in Vidyasagar University were identified from the internet and Universities Website. After the collection of data, it was subjected to analysis by using Ms-office and data interpreted in the form of numbers and percentages in tabular form.

DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS

For this study, top most 12 colleges are under Vidyasagar university were surveyed, with the help of librarian and colleges web site. The collected information on the use of ICT and E- resources in the college are presented here through tabular and graphical form. I have chosen top 12 colleges namely Belda College, K D College of Commerce, Kharagpur College, Mahisadal Raj College, Midnapore College, Mugberia Gangadhar Mahavidyalaya, Panskura Banamali College, Prabhat Kumar College, Raja N.L.Khan Mahavidyalaya, Ramnagar College, Tamralipta Mahavidyalaya and Yogada Satsang Palpara Mahavidyalaya.

USE OF AUTOMATION SOFTWARE IN THE LIBRARIES

Table1: Software in the libraries

Software	No of Libraries	Percentage
KOHA	7	58%
SOUL	4	33%
LIBSYS	0	0
DSPACE	3	25%
No Software	1	1%

The table shows that , 58% of college libraries are using KOHA out of 11 colleges and 33% of college libraries are using SOUL, 25% are using D-space as institutional repository software.

_____

_____

Table 2: Mode of Circulation

Mode of Circulation	No of Libraries	Percentage
Manual	2	16%
Automated	4	33%
Both	6	50%
Total	12	100%

The table shows 16% of college libraries are still using manual process of circulation, 33% started automated circulation system through automation software and 50% of libraries are maintaining both manual and automated system side by side.

Table 3: Tools used for ICT based services

Name of the tools	No of Libraries	Percentage
Printer	11	100%
Scanner	11	100%
Barcode reader	9	81%
Photocopier	8	73%
Projector	2	18%
Internet cum Wi-Fi	6	55%

The above table shows that 100% of colleges have printer, 100% have scanner, 81% have barcode reader, 73% have photocopy machines, 18% have projector and 55% have internet cum Wi-Fi tools in use to ICT based services.

Table 4: Promotional activities

Promotional activities	No of Libraries	Percentage
SMS alert	8	73%
E-mail	7	64%
Newsletter	10	91%
Notice board	11	100%
Library website	2	18%
WhatsApp group	0	0%
Social networking sites	1	1%

The promotional activities of library like current awareness services, bibliographic services have become easier to render through the SMS, e-mail, social networking sites, library websites and in many other ways. From the above table is found that 73% of libraries are using SMS alert, 64% are using e-mail, 91% are using Newsletter, 100% are using Notice board, 18% are using library websites. 9.75% are using other social networking sites for promotional activities of library collections and services.

_____

_____

Table 5: Types of e-resources subscribed by College for library

E-resource	No of Libraries	Percentage
NDL	5	42%
N-List	8	67%
E-pathShala, Vidyamitra	4	33%
NPTEL	3	25%
SWAYAM	3	25%
Other(DOAJ,E-Gayankosh)	3	25%

Table 5, shows that 42% of college libraries have taken membership in the National Digital Library of India to avail of e- resources freely and 67 % college libraries have N-List programme as e- resource for their users.

FINDINGS

Majority of the colleges are shifting their services from manual to partially automated, and 55 % college library are using Soul as automation Software. But, 18% of college libraries are still using manual process of circulation. Digital library software Dspace is used for Institutional Repository in 3 colleges only.

Among the 11 colleges, presently 7 college libraries are subscribing the N-List programme and only 8 colleges are using NDL in India use for their users.

CONCLUSION

It is very important to measure the growth of academic libraries in terms of services through ICT. It will have a great impact on the upcoming library activities and services. The study has chosen college libraries as it is the stepping stone of the higher education for the students. The study will be helpful to evaluate the present situation of ICT through E-Resources Services such as e-journals, e- books etc. by the users of the college libraries in Vidyasagar University.

REFERENCES:
1. Bhatnagar, J. (2013). Use of ICT applications by students, faculty members and academic staff in ITMGroup of Institutions' Gwalior, India: a statistical survey. International Journal ofComputing, Communications and Networking, 2(4),117-121.
2. Biswas, A. (2019). Branding and promoting college libraries under West Bengal State University through websites: a study. College Libraries, 34(2), 15-27.
3. Chitra K.S., & Kumbar, M. (2020). ICT infrastructure and automation in first grade college libraries affiliated to University of Mysore: a study. International Journal of Library and Information Studies, 10(2), 156-166.
4. Das, S. (2015). Collection development of e- resources in university libraries of West Bengal: a comparative study. International Journal for Research in Emerging Science and Technology, 2(7), 78-86.
5. http://www.vidyasagar.ac.in/Academics/AffiliatedColleges.aspx.

_____