



Comparative Study of e -Resources

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Abstract

Use of e -resources has been very popular with university students in these days of digital revolution because youth are attracted towards this because of the features of easy convenience compounded with swift accessibility. But the advantages attached with e -resources usage has been linked with disadvantages. The traditional system of visiting library, writing down notes, researching with authenticity has been lost. Users are becoming addicted to computer screens with greater strains to their eyes. The art of writing has been almost lost. All users especially the youth are struck to their laptops / mobile screens without even knowing the bad effects of viewing computers for longer hours.

Key words: libraries, e –resources, challenges to traditional reference methods, impact on youth, health issues

Introduction- Electronic resource is any information source that the library provides access to in an electronic format. The library has purchased subscriptions to many electronic information resources in order to provide you with access to them free of charge

Advantages of e-resources – there are several advantages from e -resources

1. **Greater Accessibility-** e resources are considered by everyone because of its accessibility. It can be accessed from any computer on campus and usually any computer off campus, any time of the day or night, books / journals / any other study sources can be utilized through electronic media . Hence visits to library naturally are less.
2. **Effortless search ability** - E -resources are considered by everyone because they are easily



searchable. Any user can search anything related to his studies / habits / interests / each journal can be searched quickly and easily Users can often go through the complete / full text of articles and via online index & get the information right in his priority. This helps the students & researchers to complete their dissertations, project reports, assignments etc. (Dr. Chetan Sharma-Use and Impact of E-Resources A Case Study Vol 10 No 1 , Indraprastha University, Delhi, India , 2009).

3. **Rapidity** - E -resources are considered by everyone because they can be rapidly reached. Today's youth are fast paced in all their activities whether it is information collection or pursuing their career. Youth demand swift reaching towards e resources. Hence they prefer e -resources instead of manual searching in books. (Patil Yalagouda . M - Consortium approach to resource sharing in an e-environment. Jodhpur, India: Scientific Publishers, 2014. xxiv).

4. Even if they go to library there is no guarantee that they might get the required information, This is because the book / journal they are searching might have been borrowed by some other individual or the pages of the book might have torn or book is not in a good condition. These days Articles / issues appear online before printed version is available. Hence anybody can reach the information needed without waste of time or spending hours in library. (Dr. Chetan Sharma-Use and Impact of E-Resources A Case Study Vol 10 No 1 , Indraprastha University, Delhi, India , 2009).

5. **Interactive** - E -resources are considered by everyone because they are interactive .Rapid turnaround time means articles can be read, commented by the readers, amended quickly and greater feedback through the web internet service. The critical analysis of each article / issues is readily available hence it becomes more genuine. Hypertext format helps them to link to related



articles, information on other web sites, stable URLs for individual articles and email alerts when latest issue loaded.

6. **Added Value** - E-resources are considered by everyone because they are value added resources as well. Information taken on the web can be used to add value by using animation, virtual reality and interactive mathematical charts. (Patil Yalagouda . M - Consortium approach to resource sharing in an e-environment. Jodhpur, India: Scientific Publishers, 2014. xxiv).

7. **Economical & cost effective** - E-resources are considered by everyone because they are economical. Savings can be made without purchasing the book / without visiting libraries far & near. Collected information can be stored hence students & researchers are benefitted through printing costs, distribution costs and extra costs by new features. (Dr. Chetan Sharma-Use and Impact of E-Resources A Case Study Vol 10 No

1, Indraprastha University, Delhi, India, 2009).

8. **Plasticity** - E-resources are considered by everyone because they are easily searchable. E-journals are evolved quickly. They are not tied to a format, printer, and distribution network (Cain, Mark. "Managing Technology: Being a Library of Record in a Digital Age", Journal of Academic Librarianship 29:6 (2003).

Disadvantages of e-resources

1. **Difficulty reading computer screens:** Students & researchers of e-resources complain that there is difficulty in reading computer screens. This is causing problems with visions. Students are made to see computer screens day in & day out.
2. **Restrictions of computer monitor-** Students & researchers of e-resources often complain that there is difficulty reaching out to computer monitor. All computers & all mobile screens are not alike.



3. **Reading information on the screen-** Students & researchers of e- resources complain that there is difficulty in finding right network at right time & right place. Reading information on the screen is also very difficult

4. **Ignoring user friendly resources mobilization-** Students & researchers of e- resources complain that there is difficulty in finding required files in PDF format The Search engines ignores PDF files -Students & researchers of e- resources complain that there is difficulty .(Patil Yalagouda . M - Consortium approach to resource sharing in an e-environment. Jodhpur, India: Scientific Publishers, 2014. xxiv).

5. Ignoring user friendly resource mobilization is one of the greatest difficulty in e resource usage. Users need information in one format while resources they find in internet might not be the right formatted documents even though they get information they find difficulty in using it in their projects. (Cain, Mark. "Managing Technology:

Being a Library of Record in a Digital Age", Journal of Academic Librarianship 29:6 (2003).

Challenges of e resources

1. incurs heavy expenditure in the initial stage
2. problems with copy right
3. difficult to browse
4. paper journal are more easier to read
5. needs special equipment support
6. requires trained profession library personnel
7. lack of compatibility among differ publishers
8. licensing agreement & legislation are not supportive
9. The availability of such E journals in consortia as at present is very less or few & in certain disciplines they are quite negligible.

Challenges:

1. there are challenges to Supporting acquisition and management of licensed e-resources



2. e resources are delicately supported as May be integrated into other library system modules or may be a standalone system
 3. May have a public interface, either separate or integrated into the OPAC
 4. Providing descriptions of resources at the package (database) level and relate package contents (e.g. e-journals) to the package record
 5. Encoding and perhaps publicly displaying licensed rights such as e-reserves, course packs, and interlibrary loan
 6. Tracking electronic resources from point of order through licensing and final access
 7. Providing information about the data providers, consortia arrangements, access platform
 8. Providing contact information for all content providers
 9. Logging problems with resources and providers
 10. Providing customizable e-mail alerting systems (e.g. notices to managers when actions are expected or required)
 11. Linking license documents to resource records (Dr. Chetan Sharma-Use and Impact of E-Resources A Case Study Vol 10 No 1 , Indraprastha University, Delhi, India , 2009).
- It provides a conducive environment for intellectual enquiry by providing user-focused services to obtain and evaluate scholarly information and knowledge. Since the library specializes in the field of applied social sciences, it has become most sought after library for the social scientists in India. It is a unique Knowledge Centre, which offers essential and specialized information resources and services to meet the growing information needs by;
- Conclusion-** Thus developing user-based resources , organizing information resources, providing human and technologically moderated access to information & facilitating users to identify,



locate, obtain and evaluate information needs a more careful attention . Ignoring user friendly resource mobilization is one of the greatest difficulty in e - resource usage which has to be attended immediately . Users need information in one format while resources they find in internet might not be the right formatted documents even though they get information they find difficulty in using it.

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