



Online Data Bases: A Review Of Literature

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ABSTRACT

With the introduction of ICT the process of information generate and distribute has totally changed. All the activities has changed the way from traditional to digital. In this context e-resources became important for the students. A new way of searching information became exposure with the introduction of online databases. Various views has been given by authors regarding online database through different studies.

Keywords: Information Communication Technology, E-Resources, Online Database, Review Literature

INTRODUCTION

The developments in computer technology have drastically changed the way in which data is collected, retrieved and disseminated. As an impact of these technologies, manual information retrieval systems have been transformed into automated retrieval systems and have emerged as an excellent tool for information retrieval. It concerns all the activities related to the organization, processing, and accessing of information in all forms and formats. It is designed to enable searchers to find relevant information from an organized collection of information to satisfy their specific needs. Furthermore, the introduction of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) in information processing techniques has completely changed the concept of information retrieval from automated to online information retrieval systems. This transition from automation to online systems has greatly affected the use of library resources.

Furthermore, the developments in information and communication technologies have expanded the scope of information retrieval systems from automated retrieval systems to online retrieval systems. Online information retrieval systems had started to emerge with the initiation of computer applications in information handling and processing, and in the past few decades, these systems have undergone several changes in their searching and retrieval capabilities. The internet and World Wide Web have made it available online anywhere at any time. Thus, in recent years, the online information systems have become an important tool of information access and retrieval and are considered as a significant source of information in academics. Hence, the present study attempts to obtain the data regarding the use of online databases in select universities

to justify the expenditure on acquisition and maintenance of online data bases.

ONLINE DATABASE

The emergence of online databases has introduced a new era for information searching and retrieval from traditional retrieval systems to network based IR systems. Online database is a product of information retrieval services provided by producers or vendors of online databases in which searches are carried out by means of a local computer that interacts with far-off systems containing information contents. Today's online databases typically work on time-sharing and real-time modes to enable users to access information simultaneously by communicating host computer directly.

Online databases include information that is organized and represented in a logical manner. Structurally, online database made up of records, further divided into a number of fields (author, title, etc.) for categorizing, searching and retrieving information. Initially, online databases were used to provide bibliographic information, later they started to comprise full-text information to provide actual information, since then they were called as full-text online databases. These are the vast and continuously updated records of information in the form of abstract, full-text references or citations on general or specific field of knowledge. Thus, these are the online sources that provide information on different fields of study with greater ease, accuracy and speed. It is a vital source to locate different types of electronic documents, such as books, scholarly journals, theses, reviews, official documents and so on. These are the collection of logically arranged information sources that enable a user to search information on a particular topic, article, or book by using different descriptive elements, i.e., keyword, author, title, subject and date of publication etc. However, some of these databases contain full-text information, while others contain only abstracts and indexes; and citations of published literature. Online databases can be general, multidisciplinary or subject specific in scope. The availability of these databases enables users to search information in a variety of forms and formats, such as HTML, PDF, RTF, etc. In online databases, contents are arranged in such a way that it can be easily searched and retrieved without the help of any intermediaries. These are excellent tools for in-depth study, providing a range of consistent and scholarly literature from well-known online database producers or publishers. Online databases provide access to those digitalized resources that are not generally available on the World Wide Web. These databases make use of computers and communications to offer various types of information for serving the academic and research community globally. Furthermore, the information provided by online databases is scholarly in nature and users may possibly need to pay an amount of money to subscribe it. Each database varies from the other in terms of their features and functionality, types of documents (books, journal articles, theses, etc.) included, coverage of contents, language and date of contents, searching capabilities and interfaces. Some of the well-known online databases in the field of education and research are: JSTOR, Lexus-Nexus, Medline, Pro Quest, Science Direct, Compendex, ERIC, Cambridge University

Press, Project Muse, Project Euclid, SIAM, MLA (English), WorldCat and so forth. Thus, these are the excellent sources for those who are looking for authentic and credible sources of information.

LITERATURE REVIEW

The literature review for the present study has been organized into different facets to present an insight into various issues and aspects pertaining to the current research investigation.

Deepmala (2021), attempted an online survey to explore the usage of electronic resources when the pandemic created such an environment where nobody can visit libraries to consult the traditional sources. This study revealed that ICT expedites the use of e-resources widely. It also revealed that users are highly dependent on e-resources for every aspect like teaching, research etc.

Iroaganchi, Mercy A. and Izuagbe, Roland (2018) examined online databases for faculty research output. The data were collected through structured questionnaires. It revealed that JSTOR Proq Qest, EBSCO host are frequently used databases. Various hindrances faced by Faculty members such as study power supply, information literacy skills.

Upadhyay, Ashok Kumar and Deepmala (2018) revealed that the aim of the study is to explore the usage of online databases in University of Delhi as well as purpose on satisfaction level. It shows that respondents are using online databases. Taylor & Francis and Science Direct are the most accessible databases. It was suggested that user education and information literacy programs are very much needed for proper utilization of online databases.

Larson, Agatha Gifty (2017) explained that electronic databases worked as backbone for any library and libraries spent a large amount to purchase electronic databases. The result shows that the majority of the respondents were aware of the databases to access their information needs, there were few obstacles faced by them which affects the use of the databases. Few recommendations were suggested effective and efficient use of the databases.

Ugwu, Cyprian I. and Orsu, Emila Nkam (2017) discussed about challenges faced by the students while they used online information resources. The data were collected from 203 students through a questionnaire. It reveals from the study that cyber cafes were preferred by the students to access online resources. They faced various problems such as lack of browsing skills, low internet bandwidth and lack of motivation. Their opinions were different. The paper concludes with the implications of these challenges information services.

Upadhyay, Ashok Kumar and Deepmala (2016) attempted the general idea about the Online Databases, its types, characteristics and searching techniques to enhance the

utilization of online databases. Through the internet it can be searched beyond the geographical boundary. Online databases are an important element for the academic and research community.

Owolabi, Sola and et. al (2016) stated that undergraduates of Faculty of Education and Social Sciences in University of Ibadan are using electronic information resources. Descriptive survey is used over 1872 students. Through random sampling 200 respondents were selected to study. SPSS software was used to analyze the data. It revealed from that students often used information communication technologies. Few obstacles were faced by the students such as poor network connectivity, interrupted power supply, limited computer terminals.

Verama, Sapna (2016) described awareness level and usage of online databases by postgraduate students. Most of the respondents are using online databases provided by the Central Science Library and having awareness. Respondents basically use online databases to update their knowledge. It revealed from the study that Science Direct, Web of Science, Springer Link are most preferable databases. It is suggested that libraries should provide training sessions for proper utilization of online databases.

Deepmala and Upadhyay, Ashok Kumar (2015), discussed that the present study aims to evaluate the awareness level and usage of electronic resources. Survey method with a structured questionnaire is used. It revealed from the study that the majority of the users are aware of e-resources. A good number of users are satisfied with e-resources. Library staff help the users to find the relevant information. But lack of training is the biggest hurdle in the usage of e-resources.

Deepmala and Upadhyay, Ashok Kumar (2015) described that e- resources has its own importance in every field. This study aims to examine use of e - resources by the UG and PG students. Question naire based survey method is used to collect the data. From the structured questionnaire, various aspects covered such purpose, benefit, satisfaction level, problems.

Khan, Saima and Sudharma Haridasan (2015) revealed use of online databases by the users of faculty of Arts in Aligarh Muslim University and University of Delhi. Finding shows that users of University of Delhi are more aware and much use of online databases compared to users of AMU. The main purpose is teaching and research behind the use of online databases. It revealed from the study that the users are more reliable and department on print resources. Some databases are used widely such as JSTOR, annual Review Training of users and staff is much needed.

Musa, Hamza Ukastu and Others (2015) opined that electronic resources are in trend than authentic print resources. It revealed from the study that the most of the respondents use electronic databases for research activity and teaching various

obstacles encountered while accessing electronic resources such as slow internet connectivity and lack of skill.

Aina, Rachael Folashade (2014) described that use of electronic databases awareness and accessibility. 118 academic staff were selected to carry out the study. Questionnaire method was used for data collection. It reveals from the study that academic staff had inadequate awareness about electronic resources which directly affects the accessibility of electronic resources. It is also found that there is a need to aware the staff towards the available electronic resources. To perform this work proper learning is required of academic staff. The management should be involve to make the internet facilities available to the staff so that they can work properly and make the maximum utilization of the resources

Deepmala and Khan, M.T.M. (2014) stated that the study aims to find out the use of online journals as well as their purpose of accessing online journals. a survey method is selected to complete the study in which a well-structured questionnaire is circulated to collect the necessary data. It revealed from the study that among various e - journals, Emerald, J-STORE, were highly preferable. Users were gratified with the available online - journals. Good number of students are aware of the UGC - INT-ONET online journals consortium too. But students face lack of training and connectivity and down loading problems.

Rajput, P. S. and Gauta, J. N. (2014) discussed that the users attitude towards use of electronic resources and services by the users. Through the structured questionnaire data were collected to know the opinions of users. It revealed from the study that users visit the library. They know the advantages of electronic resources. Users have the awareness about the UGC-Infonet programme and e-resources available at university. The main aim of the study is to find out the awareness about IT based services, problems faced by the users, their satisfaction level about the various types of services provided by the library. Some suggestions were given by the users for improvement and better utilization of the library services.

Sivathasan, N., Murugashas, K. and Chandrasekar, K. (2014) described that purpose of the study is to final out mean differences towards attitude of using electronic information resources. Questionnaire method is used to collect the data. Random sampling is used and t - test and one - way ANOVA is applied for data analysis. It revealed from the study that users category showed significant mean differences towards the attitude of utilization of e - resources.

Tyagi, Sunil (2014) stated that this study was conducted to know the use of e-resources by the scientists at pharma copoeial libraries in India. The study examined the pattern of using e- resources as well as preferences given by scientists toward

printed books and journals, electronic databases. It is found that personal experience and perceptions of scientists is clearly seen in their practice and research with the use of electronic information resources. Around 78 % of respondents have the ability to handle the function of computers and retrieve their information. Respondents are using online databases to consult drug indexes and compendia, monograph, drug related e-journals, promotional literature, standards etc. This study reveals the use of electronic information resources in terms of awareness and effective use of available e- resources by the scientists of pharmacopoeia libraries.

Adeniran, Pauline (2013) described that the main purpose of the study is to examine the usage of electronic resources. Undergraduate students are the population that collect the data. Survey method was used to process the study and a simple percentage was used to analyze the data. In academic performances on the other hand there is a need for training of e - resources to acquire information efficiently.

Dahibhate, N. B., Khandare, Dhanishtha and Aigond, Mahantesh (2013) stated that for conducting research scholarly communication is very necessary. But there is a need for conducting quality literature search. Users depend on primary and secondary information sources for conducting research. They use databases for proper information as online databases are more dynamic than offline databases. Users always receive pinpointed information of their discipline which saves time, money, space and effort. Various online databases are available in the market for different subjects. They only need is that selection of online databases according to users and organization demand.

Das, Prangya and Maharana, Rabindra K. (2013) stated that this study aims to evaluate the issues of electronic information resources access, awareness and utilization. It also explores the problems faced by the users. Structured questionnaire was used to collect the data and complete the survey. It revealed from the study that users are aware of e-resources. Some suggestions are given to improve the facilities.

Dukic, Darko (2013) described that the main purpose of the study was to determine the Use of online bases by University teachers to what extent. We know that online databases work as research tools and how librarians are playing their important role for the promotion of online databases. It revealed from the study that online databases are considered as important documents, but they are unable to be used frequently in comparison to other Countries. They faced various problems while using the databases. On the other hand some solutions were also provided to fulfill the needs of users efficiently.

Kandpal, K. N., Rawat, S.S. and Vithal, K. S. R. (2013) elaborated that this study aims to find out the use of e - resources and evaluate the exposure of ICT. It reveals from the study that various obstacles encountered while accessing e - resources come as a result

of structured questionnaires. The result shows that users are aware of e - resources such as e - databases, e - journals etc.

Sahu, Gopabandhu, Patro, Bijay Kumar and Mahapatra, Rabindra K. (2013) stated that main aim of the study to explore the use of e- resources by the research scholars of Utkal University and Sambalpur University. Survey method was used to conduct the study. In light of the objective, a structured questionnaire was distributed to collect the necessary data. The findings show that the majority of the researchers are using e- resources weekly. Department labs are used to access e- resources. They searched the e- resources applying keyword searching technique. While accessing e- resources, they faced slow internet speed.

Navalur, Santosh A., Balasubramani, R. and Kumar, P. Ashok (2012) described that in higher education for any intellectual activity e- resources play an important role. In the context of the importance of e- resources, various other works have already been done to know the access of e- resources to support teaching, learning and research. This study shows that the University is providing various quality E - resources to the user community. This is conducted to know the awareness of the user community towards e- resources, what are their preferences, assess points and problems faced by them.

Habiba, Umme and Chowdhury, Salma (2012) described that Dhaka University Library (DUL) has various electronic resources and facilities and services provided to the users. This study aims to know the purpose of using e-resources, benefits user satisfaction and the hindrances faced by users while accessing e-resources. The study was conducted through survey and data were collected by structured questionnaire.

Nisha, Faizul and P.M., Naushad Ali (2012) stated that this study is conducted to examine the use of e- journals by the users. Survey method was selected to complete the study and the structured questionnaire was distributed among the users. It reveals from the study that users have that awareness of e - journals and they are using it to update their knowledge, collect relevant material for their study. Users consult journals for their assignments, Seminars, presentations, and publish papers. It also reveals that they faced various barriers such as slow speed internet, lack of training, limited access etc.

Okiki, Olatokunbo Christopher (2012) attempted to find out the awareness, utilization of electronic information resources. Random sampling technique was used to select the sample and data was collected through questionnaire. It revealed that the staff members are using electronic information resources. They faced low internet speed while accessing the e-resources.

Owolabi, Kehinde Abayomi and others (2012) stated that the study aims to investigate the use of electronic Information Sources by Faculty members. Survey method is used to conduct. The study through a questionnaire. It was revealed from the electronic resources. They search EIs from their offices. But some problems are also

encountered by them such as low bandwidth while accessing electronic information resources.

Singh, Krishna kumar (2012) discussed level of utilization of electronic information resources and services. Survey is used to conduct the study on the basis of a structured questionnaire. Target population contains the faculty members and students. A total of 200 questionnaires were distributed out of the above 170 selected for analysis and interpretation. It revealed from the result that the majority of academic community use Bibliographic databases and web based resources Emerald Management Xtra, EBSCO Business Source Complete, Science Direct are mostly preferred resources. It also resulted that users are satisfied with the use of electronic information resources.

Jaspal Kaur (2011) stated that electronic resources play an important role in providing information to the users in an easy and expedition manner. E - Resources are replacing the print resources in some context slowly and gradually. To conduct this study 770 samples were selected. The main objective of the study was to know the usage of e-resources and services, problems faced while accessing and using the e - resources. Some suggestions came with measures which should be implemented for proper utilization of e - resources

Islam, Md. Shiful, Alam, Md. Saiful and Sultana, Sajia (2011) discussed that the study aims to investigate the usage of scholarly electronic journals. Questionnaire method is used to collect the data. Two questionnaires were constructed with open and closed ended questions. First questionnaires were designed for the students to collect information regarding e - journals access and usage and second one for faculty members to explore opinions and value suggestions regarding e- journals. It also reveals from the study that faced various problems.

Kumar, K. Praveen (2011) stated that users are getting facility of electronic resources especially under UGC - Infonet consortia. Questionnaire method is used to collect the data from PG students and research scholars of different colleges, universities and deemed universities located in Mumbai city. It revealed from the study that ICT and E - resources are an accepted means of information sources. But some problems encountered by the respondents such as adequate computer literacy.

Sinha, Manoj Kumar, Singha, Gauri and Sinha, Bimal (2011) expanded the evaluation of the usage pattern of electronic resources. Survey method is used to complete the study with structured questionnaire, observation and interview techniques to collect data from the participants. The respondents are faculty members, research scholars and UG/PG students. Users are using the internet for accessing the e-resources available under the UGC-INFONET Digital Library Consortia of INFLIBNET/UGC. It revealed from the study that users are aware of electronic resources and they have a positive attitude towards the electronic resources.

Natarajan, K. and Others (2010) discussed that survey method is used to complete this study. 117 faculty members and research scholars are selected to procure the data through questionnaires. The aim of the study is to know the use and user perception of electronic resources. However the university has a wide range of e - resources but the frequency of its usage is very low. It revealed from the findings that lack of time, awareness, subject coverage and slow downloading are the reasons behind low usage.

Mukherjee, Bhaskar and Kumar, Prashant (2010) described that the study try to identify online journals requirements of the user as well as utilization of UGC - Infonet e- journals. 100 research scholar were selected to distribute questionnaire of different disciplines. It revealed from the study that they demanded more e - journals as well they were satisfied with the existing model of UGC- Infonet consortium.

Upadhyay, Navin and Chakraborti, Hiral Kanti (2008) described library statistics reveals that the majority of the patrons of the library use remote access to search online journals and databases as more. Resources are available online. Over the past decade use patterns have totally changed. The respondents use. UGC Infonet, INDEST and University Library for their databases. Majority of the respondents prefer to visit the library once a week.

SUMMARY OF REVIEW OF LITERATURE

In the literature review, several national and international studies related to the awareness and use of online databases has been examined from different perspectives. The literature survey of previous researches and studies provide understandable information on the use of online databases. The chapter covered different topics of online databases and its use, awareness, searching, problems and other relevant aspects. The gathering of usage data for online library resources has increased its importance, as libraries and its users heavily rely on such resources. It helps to justify and plan expenditures, and gauge the need for information literacy initiatives. The current work helped the researcher to draw findings or ideas that will create new perspectives for further study. It also facilitates the readers to know what has been done and what still needs to be accomplished on the topic of research. Thus, literature review creates a greater literary base to produce a better and more in-depth research on usability of online databases and adding knowledge to the field of inquiry.

CONCLUSION

The information and communication technology has empowered faculty members and research scholars to produce, understand and share the information explosion worldwide. The present study is sought to investigate the comparative views of use of online databases in select university libraries of Delhi especially in Science and Technology field. The investigator collected information from librarians and users of online databases. The findings show that faculty members and research scholars who responded in the survey were well aware of online databases. The majority of faculty

members and research scholars as per their need for information always prefer time and probability and ease of use to access online databases.

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