

Use of internet in Karnataka State Universities

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ABSTRACT

An attempt has been made to understand & awareness about internet services and ugc infonet e-journals in karnataka state university by the faculty & research scholars of science discipline. In order to bring the authenticity a questionnaire & interview used to collect the relevant information. All the karnataka state university libraries provides internet facility to its users. Analysis showed that users of the karnataka state universities use the internet as a prime information sources for their research & development activities. Few users opinion that accessing e-journals slow access and few internet machines.

INTRODUCTION

Today people are living in the age of information explosion. A lager amount of information is being generated every movement. The ability to collect, store and disseminate this large amount of information needs application of new technologies. Thanks to the advance technology. Electronic information sources which could even rearrange select, marshal, and transform enormous qualities of information at phenomenal speed are at the human disposal.

The invention of internet the world wide web (www) has almost brought the world very closer and shorter. The recent development or an invention made in any part of the world is available to the user almost immediately. This has increased the responsibilities of the library to provide up-to-date and latest information to the users. Now the development of electronic information sources has changed the library from information consumers to owners of electronic information resources.

Dr. S.r. Ranganathan, father of indian library science, a man of great vision and inexhaustible

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energy is an international authority on library and information science movement. He defined the very purpose of technology and mapped out a philosophy and a practical science long back in the 1930s. In the 1950s, he had foreseen the likely impact of new technological tools to store and distribute information.

The internet is viewed as an extension of older technologies - its potential for libraries in using internet for traditional purpose in information seeking, organizing and knowing user behavior, should become clear. Internet has brought a new academic and research culture of understanding and co-operation providing a great boon to the library and information centers in meeting the timely information by click of a mouse.

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the present study are as under:

1. To understand the awareness about internet services & ugc infonet e-journals, particularly to teaching faculty and research scholars of karnataka state universities.
2. To know the use of internet service, ugc infonet e-journals, & e-databases.
3. To study the problems faced by teaching faculty and research scholars in using internet services & ugc infonet e-journals.

4. To provide the suggestions for optimizing the use of internet services & ugc infonet e-journals.

SCOPE OF THE STUDY

The present study intends to cover only teaching faculty and research scholars of science disciplines in karnataka state universities, particularly general universities. These are bangalore university, bangalore, gulbarga university, gulbarga, karnataka university, dharwad, kuvempu university, shankarghatta, mangalore university, mangalore and university of mysore, mysore and internet services & ugc infonet e-journals.

METHODOLOGY

Since the study is related to the users and their use of electronic resources. In order to bring the authenticity of the research a detailed questionnaire was developed which has four parts. The questions were framed in such a way that all the possible inquire can be asked in one goal. Beside questionnaire, the interview method with proper schedule was applied in the reader's case. Especially the research scholars were contacted and the interviews were conducted and counter question of the readers were solved, right at the time of interview. In all 2023 questionnaire were distributed & 1578 i.e. 78 % of the total were collected due to advantages awareness and free access to internet facility, all users are using internet. Hence the table 1 shows 100% response regarding use of internet facility by the users of karnataka state universities.

Table 1 use of internet facility (n=1578)

Respondents	Yes	No	Percentage
1578	1578	Nil	100%

Table 2: Location of accessing internet facility (n= 1578)

Location	Number	Percentage
Home	10	0.63%
Computer center	301	19.07%
Department	700	44.35%
Library	1060	67.17%
Private browsing center/internet café	367	23.25%

Table 2 summaries that most of the users (1060) i.e 67.17% use internet facility at library. Because, location of library is such that it is easily reachable to all users of all department as library is at the center of university. And library staff are co-operative in nature.

From the table 2 (700) 44.35% users access internet facility in their department because all universities of karnataka state university are not providing internet facility at their department. Some users (367) 23.25% are accessing internet facility at private browsing center / internet café, because for research purpose users are off campus, and internet facility is not available on holiday and odd time hence users browse the internet at private browsing center (301) 19.07% users access internet at computer centers. Due to personal interest and financial support, few users access the internet facility at their home i.e (10) 0.63%.

Table 3: Purpose of using internet. (n=1578)

Purpose	Number	Percentage
Research work	1578	100%
Teaching purpose	418	26.48%
Online journals	1326	84.03%
Online database	1578	100%
Communication	1413	89.54%
Chatting	778	49.30%
Entertainment	208	13.18%

Due to the new advancement in information technology, internet has become one of the main sources of information exchange, information collections and search. Due to its easy access and easy storage it has become one of the important tools for teaching faculty and research scholars. All

the karnataka state university provides internet facility to the teaching faculty and research scholars. Due to the advantages, awareness and free access of internet facility, all the users are accessing it. Hence table 3 indicates that in karnataka state universities (1578) 100% of teaching faculty and research scholars are using internet.

Internet is one of the important tool for research, hence all users of karnataka state universities were using internet for research work. (1578) 100%, of users use internet because it helps in searching latest information for research work such as review of literature, latest articles, specific and generic information related to research work, information regarding latest thesis, patents and reports. It is observed that internet is used for teaching purpose i.e., (418) 26.48%. The total teaching faculty is 421 among which 418 teaching faculty have responded that internet is used for teaching purpose i.e, the percentage of teaching faculty who are using internet for teaching purpose is 99.28%.

About (1326) 84.03% of users are using internet as it support for online journals, research work, writing articles, teaching related data and to update their knowledge. It is clear that all the respondents are using internet for online data base searching i.e., (1578) 100%. It is because internet access for database searching is very easy and users get their specific and exhaustive information concerned with topic, internet is used for communication by most of the users i.e., (1413) 89.54%. The reason for this is, university provides free internet service, direct online communication, mailing facility, communication with more than one person at a time, like group discussion, forwarding a message to many at a time. (778) 49.30% users use internet for chatting because through chatting users exchange their knowledge required for research purpose. Few users use internet for entertainment i.e, (208) 13.18 users. It is to refresh themselves from restless work.

Table 4: Use of internet based services (N=1578)

Service	Number	Percentage
E-mail	1578	100%
News group	150	9.50%
Discussion forums	35	2.21%
Ftp	1123	71.79%
Telnet	38	2.40%
Chatting	778	49.30%
Blogs	34	2.15%

It is clear from table 4 that all users (1578) 100% are frequently using internet for e-mail services, because users exchange their knowledge through e-mail. The next frequently used internet service is ftp (1123) 71.79% because it helps in downloading large data in less time.

While (778) i.e 49.30% users are using chatting services of internet. It is because through chatting they exchange their views which help them in improving their knowledge and be more interactive. (150) i.e 9.50% users use news group service. The university users get the latest update of new through news group, which helps them in their research work. Few users (38) i.e 2.40% are using telnet service for their research and teaching activities. Similarly (35) i.e 2.21% users use discussion forum on internet for exchanging their views and very few users (34) i.e 2.15% use internet for blogs creating.

Table 5: Use of search engines (N=1578)

Search engine	Number	Percentage
Google	1432	90.74
Yahoo	1002	63.49
Altavista	502	31.81
Rediff	602	38.14
Khoj	301	19.07
123 india	270	17.11
Lycos	100	6.33
Webcrawler	78	4.94

It is clear form table 5 that most of the users (1432) 90.74% are using google for searching the information because its broad coverage easy searching procedure similarly followed by other search engines yahoo (1002) 63.49% rediff (602) 38.14, altavista (502), 31.81%, khoj (301),

19.07%, 123 india (270) 17.11%, lycos (100) 6.33% and webcrawler (78) 4.94%.

Table 6: Use of ugc info net facility

Response	Number	Percentage
Yes	1578	100%
No	--	--
Total	1578	100%

Table 6 shows that all users are using ugc infonet facility. All the e-journal and data bases on internet are not available at free of cost, but ugc infonet provides many free international scientific e-journals and data bases to all users of karnataka state universities.

Table 7: Accessing important publisher sites (N=1578)

Web sites	Response	Percentage
Http://www.elsevier.nl.in	570	36.12
Http://www.aps.org	562	35.61
Http://www.journals.cambridge.org	432	27.37
Http://www.kluveronline.com	266	16.85
Http://www.springerlink.com	201	12.73
Http://www.emeraldinsight.com	170	10.77
Http://www.jstor.org	70	4.43

Among the various e-resources available under ugc infonet table 7 shows the popular web sites under ugc infonet accessed by faculty and research scholars in karnataka state university. The most popular publisher web site used by faculty and research scholar is <http://www.elsevier.nl.in> (570) 36.12% and followed by www.aps.org (562) 35.61% <http://www.journals.cambridge.org> (432) 27.37%, www.kluveronline.com (266) 16.85%, <http://www.springerlink.com> (201) 12.73%, <http://www.emeraldinsight.com> (170) 10.77%, <http://www.jstor.org> (70) 4.43%. It indicates that the ugc infonet e-resources are used by science discipline as most of the e-resources available under ugc infonet are science discipline followed by social science.

Table 8: Ranking of top three important publishers sites (N=1578)

Web site	Number	Percentage
www.elsevier.nl.in	512	32.44%
www.aps.org	502	31.81%
www.journals.cambridge.org	382	24.21%

It is clear from the table 8 among the various publisher's sites under ugc infonet, the widely ranked publisher site by the faculty and research scholars is www.elsevier.nl.in hence (512) 32.44% followed by www.aps.org (502) 31.81% and www.journals.cambridge.org (382) 24.21%.

The coverage of science journals by www.elsevier.nl.in is more in number, quality and coverage of subject is good. This is followed by the other publishers i.e. www.aps.org and www.journals.cambridge.org journals.

Table 9: Problems faced in accessing e-journals, (n=1578)

Problem	Number	Percentage
Only few machines are available	1003	63.56%
Slow access	1560	98.85%
Computer network is not established	112	7.09%

The problems faced by faculty and research scholar in accessing e-journals is shown in table 9. The major problems in accessing e-journals are slow access (1560) 98.85%, and only few machine (1003) 63.56%. It is also clear from table 4.38 that (112) i.e. 7.09% users don't access e-journals due to non availability of computer networks in their campus. The bandwidth of internet facility plays an important role in speedy access to e-resources. As most of the universities in karnataka have been provided with a width of 512 kbps, due to campus network of rear computers, it is slow access of internet. The computer systems with internet facility have to be increased for maximum use of e-journals under ugc infonet.

Thus there is a need for training and orientation at regular intervals to the users for optimized utilization of internet resources.

FINDING OF THE STUDY

An attempt has been made to give summary form of the study. The findings of the study and suggestions to improve the use of internet services & ugc infonet e-journals by the users of karnataka state universities.

1. All the users of karnataka state university (1578) 100% using internet facility.
2. Most of the respondents (1060) i.e 67.17% accessing internet facility at library, followed (700) i.e 44.35% at department, (367) i.e 23.25% at private browsing centre/ internet café
3. All the respondents using internet (1578) i.e 100% for research works and searching online database followed by (1413) i.e 89.54% communication, (1326) i.e 84.03% for online journals, (778) i.e 49.30% for chatting and very few users (208) i.e 13.18% using for entertainment.
4. All the respondents (1578) i.e 100% were frequently use e-mail www. Service followed ftp service (1123) i.e 71.79% on internet.
5. All the respondents (1578) i.e 100% use ugc infonet e-journal facility in karnataka state university.
6. Majority of respondents (1432) i.e 90.74% were using google search in engine for their work followed by (1002) i.e 63.49% yahoo, (602) i.e 38.14%, rediff (502) i.e 31.81% altavista.
7. Under ugc infonet popular web site used by respondents (570) i.e 36.12% was www.elsevier.nl.in, followed by (562) i.e 35.61% www.aps.org, (432) i.e 27.37% www.journals.cambridge.
8. Under the ugc infonet the widely ranked publishers site responded (512) i.e 32.44% was www.elsevier and followed by 502 i.e 31.81% www.aps.org (382) i.e 24.21% www.journals.cambridge.org.
9. Most of the respondent (1560) i.e 98.85% faced the problem in accessing e-journals due to slow access followed by (1003) i.e 63.56%

opined that only few internet machine were available.

SUGGESTIONS

An attempt has been made to address several sets of overall recommendations based on the findings and users suggestions of the study, that may help further to illuminate the better use of internet services & ugc infonet e-journals. The suggestions are given below,

1. Provision of separate section of internet facility at hostels, departments, computer center and library.
2. Provision of use of electronic information sources, particularly internet in curriculum at p.g level.
3. Training program for use of internet.
4. Appointment of computer science engineers for maintenance of internet service.
5. Awareness about internet services mainly ftp, telnet, discussion forums, news groups, online databases and chatting
6. Awareness about different web sites of internet.
7. Adoption of broad band technology to internet
8. Awareness about information search access from internet and storing in computer, cd and pen drive.

CONCLUSION

Internet is one of the important electronic information sources, which has been growing at an exponential rate. The fact that one can publish any thing on the net is its strength as well as its weakness. The number of hosts in the internet has reached more than 450 million. All though the internet has all information under the sun, for research and development activities internet provides many services like. Email, ftp, news group, telnet, chatting etc and these services play's an important role in research. All universities of karnataka state provide free internet services to its users, hence all users are using internet services.

All the karnataka state universities are members of ugc info net consortium and provide

access to e-journals to the user. All the respondents are using ugc info net service for their research work and almost all users are satisfied with this service, but for the maximum utilization of internet services & ugc infonet e-journals, provide latest technological terminals, equipments. Libraries will have to be flexible enough to continue changing, adopting to change, as they have done over past decades. The universities should provide proper training programmer to respondents regarding use of electronic information sources.

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