

## Use and Impact of E-Journals in Libraries With Reference to Pondicherry University Library

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### ABSTRACT

E-Journals are online Journals and explains its characteristics, its History, various types of E-journals and detailed steps involved E-journals on the web and Benefits of E-journals and finally various online subscribed by pond cherry library and the benefits gained to the user community and also user statistics reveals the increase the usage of E\_Journals and created new awareness for the usage of E-Journals in the minds of the user communities.

### INTRODUCTION

Knowledge is expanding at lightening speed. Students need to learn more, better and faster. Teachers should use innovative methods for teaching. Technology plays a crucial role in all the sphere of library activities today. The challenges posed by the advances in the field of information and communication technology, with the exponential growth in the size of storage, a phenomenal increase in the processing speed, decreasing cost of hardware and user friendly software, the technology provides ample of scope for new services and products. Thus E-Journals play a vital role in the changing scenario of libraries and information others. In 2004, Librarian Alireza Noruzi recommended applying Ranganathan's Five Laws to the Web in his paper "Application of Ranganathan's Laws to the Web"

1. Web resources are for use.
2. Every User his or her web resources.

3. Every web resource its user.
4. Save the time of the User.
5. The web is a growing organism.

#### *What is E-Journals?*

Electronic Journals may be defined broadly as any serial publications viz Journal, magazine, newsletter in digital format and made available on CD-ROM, Online systems and in the Internet has become primary medium for e-journals today. Based on the level of content, e-journal can be classified as scholarly research Popular (general public) and Industry or trade Journals.

#### *Characteristics of E-Journals*

- i) Issue include graphics, multimedia or links to other internet resources.
- ii) File Structure is hierarchical and uniform.
- iii) E-Journals include personalized service such as e-mail alerts.
- iv) E-Journals is accessible on web & online archives
- v) E-Journals issues and articles can be used by the user online and Print copies.

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### *History of E-Journals*

E-Publishing is two decades old. The American Chemical Society was the first professional body to publish their journals in electronic form in 1983. The American Chemical Society, the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers and the Institute of Engineers offer their prestigious journals in electronic form. The Online Computer Library Centre provides their Journals only through electronic form. The Electronic Journals Online service provides peer reviewed journals online, free of cost. Viz World Scientific, Singapore.

Individuals, Universities and research centers can access e-journals through net on the basis of payment and on agreement regarding the copyright. Viz [www.sciencedirect.com](http://www.sciencedirect.com)

### *Types of E-Journals*

#### i) Free Journals

Access to the Journal is not dependant on a subscription membership in an organization. Viz. [www.Dlib.org](http://www.Dlib.org)

#### ii) Subscription based Journals : Require Payment

##### a) Free online against Print Journals

Viz. American Journal of Physiology. [www.ajpcon.physiology.org](http://www.ajpcon.physiology.org)

Current year access only. Current twelve rolling period. Achieve access.

##### b) Online only Journals

It indicates online Journals only and there no print counterparts.

Viz. [www.jop.org/Journals/it](http://www.jop.org/Journals/it) JTI

##### c) Pay-Peer-view journals

Any single article can be viewed / downloaded by paying additional amount.

Viz [www.ddj.com/store/](http://www.ddj.com/store/)

##### d) Virtual journals

Journals dealing on specific topics are grouped and access to them is provided.

Viz. [www.press.unich.edu/jep/](http://www.press.unich.edu/jep/)

### *Steps involved in Accessing E-Journals on the Web*

- Connect the Journal website using its site address (URL).
- Select an issue, browse the table of contents.
- Authentication (user id,password/validation).
- Online registration for initiating online access by providing the customer\_id
- Range of IP numbers need to be mentioned in the online incense agreement form.
- Selection of an article for viewing abstract /full text. They may be an text or have format. PDF
- Search Title of Content /Bibliographic record and link to full text article Viz. ISI's Web of Science.
- Many free journals also require registration for online access.

Access requirements: Good ban width, laser printing for taking print copies of select articles in pdf or html formats, access points depend on the size of the organization and the number of users.

### *Major publishers of scholarly E-Journals*

Many of the major scholarly societies/publishers have made their journals available online.

- American Physical Society: [www.aos.org](http://www.aos.org)
- American Chemical Society: [www.acs.org](http://www.acs.org)
- American Medical Association: [www.amaassn.org](http://www.amaassn.org)
- Elsevier Science: [www.elsevier.com](http://www.elsevier.com)
- Cambridge University Press: [www.cup.org](http://www.cup.org)

### *Benefits of E-Journals*

1. The Subscription allows remote access.
2. More than one user at a time can use E-journals simultaneously.

3. Multidimensional features of E-journals encourage the users to use them round the clock.
4. E-journals are flexible and do not require physical processing, storage space and even environmental valuable.
5. Access to archival issues is available.
6. Dual Publishing is another added advantage.

#### *E-Journals Boon for Pondicherry University Library*

Pondicherry University is a Central University established by an Act of Parliament by the GOVERNMENT of India in October 1985 and recognized by the UGC under Section 2(i) and 12(b) of the UGC Act, 1956. It is affiliating University with a jurisdiction spread over the Union Territories of Pondicherry, Lakshwadeep and Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Moreover. The University has seven schools, a Directorate of Distance Education, a Community College, a Center for Adult and Continuing and an Academic Staff College.

#### *University central library*

The University Library was established on 11<sup>th</sup> September on 1986. It moved to an independent building in June 1990 with a carpet area of 31,204 sq.metres. At present, the Library has in its stock about 1,19,035 Books, 7697 Back Volume apart from UN depositories, Theses etc. covering a wide variety of subjects to facilitate current reading..It has access to around 6935 journals in full text and 13181 journals content pages with abstract wherever available. The Library is fully automated. and d with the introduction LIBSYS Software Package in the year 1997. and NAAC team have appreciated much on the progress shown by the Library.

#### *UGC Infonet E-journals*

The University Grants Commission has initiated a programme to provide electronic

access over the internet to scholarly in all areas of learning to the University sectors in India. The Programme is wholly funded by the UGC and administered and monitored by INFLIBNET. All Universities which come under UGC's purview will be members of the programme and it will be gradually be extend to college as well.

Out of 305 Universities 50 Universities including Pondicherry University have been included in the first phase of the UGC Infonet E-Journals programme.

Pondicherry University has been selected as one among twenty universities whose contents would be included in the JCCC (J-Gate Custom Content for Consortia) for Data interchange/resource sharing. through INFLIBNET.

#### **CD ROM Journals Database Service**

The University Library is having CD-ROM Network server with 7 CD-ROM drives which is used for browsing the abstracts and bibliographical information about the articles. To view the full text, 4 nos of stand-alone PC's with 24X CD-ROM drives are used. Laser print out facilities for retrieved full text articles and dot matrix print facility for print out of abstracts from CD-ROM databases are available for the users.

#### **ELSEVIER science direct online journals**

Thanks to our Ex Vice chancellor Dr. A.K. Bhatnager initiative on the introduction of the science direct in the year 2004, Seven major disciplines have been subscribed. online journals including Back files of the same disciplines. namely Computer Science, Mathematics, Physics and Astronomy, Materials Science, Biochemistry, Genetics and Molecular Biology, chemistry and Earth Sciences to 763 current and 623 archival journals provided by Elsevier Science Direct and can be accessed via intranet.

### *EBSCO Publishing E-journals*

EBSCO Publishing Ltd.,- an online publishing company of U.S.A. provides access to the electronic journals databases viz. "Business Sources Premiere" and "Academic Search Premier" and the total number of 6800 full text and 8250 abstracts supplied by the EBSCO. It is exclusively belongs to Humanities and Social Sciences.

### *User education on E-journals*

Pondicherry Library has been subscribing E-Journals namely Science Direct (online) Journals including Subject Backfiles and EBSCO E-Journals (online) for Humanities on Payment Basis and UGC Infonet:E-Journals on free of cost from 2004 onwards. The cost of two payment online subscription has crossed more than 75 lakhs. These E-Journals can be seen not only from University Library but also to all the Schools/Depts/Centre through campus Intranet . But however we have received poor response from the user Statistics provided by M/s Elsevier India(P) Ltd., New Delhi.

### *Analysis*

As per the Dr. S.R. Raganathan Five Laws of Library Science, user orientation has been taken as a measure for awareness of the orientation programme. and we have organized orientation programme from 03.09.2007 to 11.09.2007. Consequently, more number of student from all the department were present and enriched the E-journal techniques taught by all the Library Professionals. Our resource persons are one Deputy Librarian, Seven Assistant Librarians and one Information Scientist have explained in detail on how to access the E-Resources on the computer and nicely demonstrated each and every branch of E-Journals and the

feedback received from them was highly outstanding and excellent. In this connection, The User Statistics after Orientation Programme were tremendous which are given namely Number of user prior to orientation Programme were 4699 and after the conduct of the orientation Programme were 9311 which clearly shows their lot of interest for E-Resources because of the awareness of E-Journals created by our University Library only

Moreover Our NAAC team has recently appreciated much about the collections of E-Resources available in the Library.

## CONCLUSION

Increasing access to information has led to a shift in the traditional role of both the library and librarian. For effective dissemination of information online journals make their appearance on the net much before the print copies reach the subscribers. Therefore E-Journals is such a source, which reaches the user in right time at any place with all information.

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