Original Article

E-Publishing and Collection Development: A Study of Current Practices and Status in Central Library, University of Delhi, New Delhi and Central Library, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

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Abstract

Central Library, University of Delhi, New Delhi (DUCL) and Central Library, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi (JNUCL) are among the leading libraries of India which are serving to a vast number of users concerned with numerous subjects and disciplines. The present article highlights facets of technologies and procedures being used by these libraries. The paper discusses about the collection development especially of the e-resources in the perspectives of electronic publishing. In this digital era it is imperative to analyze the impact of e-resources on the traditional print resources as well as to check the effectiveness of the collection and development process. With the easy access and retrieval of the information, the libraries are providing efficient services, the same has been tried to study in both of these libraries and a comparative study has been made.

Keyword: E-resources; Collection Development; Information Technology; Impact.

Introduction

Today is the age of computer technology. Through it comes many changes of life and method of knowledge. New storage media as well as mechanisms of access have brought up the changes in usual approaches to the library and its services. Uprising computer age has taken on the world of publishing also. Now paperless and electronic publishing are ahead distinction. In changing circumstances libraries and librarians will have to play a more important part and key of the managing print and electronic publishing. The core aim of electronic publishing is to provide simple, powerful and easy reach to the information content in the publication.

The computer age has fully changed customs of publishing company. The age of e-publishing has brought a very big change in publishing world. It is very difficult that the fast change and trend of internet and its use has greatly precious and style of use hugely effect print publishing a very large change. Internet and multimedia is the real challenge for publishing industry.

There are various factors which functions as benefits also when the electronic publishing is taken into account. These may not be limited to portability, fast renewals, enhancing the features and pleasures of reading. Librarians grow with these advanced technologies, they would be selection & decision with care for these types product e-publishing is base of books, journals and magazine by electronic rather than print.

Review of Literature

The published literature in any area of study reflects the developments and changes occurred. The literature on e-publishing and collection development in libraries does not leave behind any other narrower aspect of librarianship.

According to Singh, Kapila and Pateria (2007), the libraries are upgrading in response to the advancements of ICT. Most of the libraries are equipped with printed collection along with digital resources, not present physically but available for use. The technology has acted as catalyst for digital revolution of the libraries. In purview of this, libraries will need re-defining or re-engineering.

Okello-Obura and Magara (2008) investigated electronic information access and utilization at the

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East African School of library and Information Science, Maker ere University, Uganda and revealed that users derived a lot of benefits from electronic resources gaining access to a wider range of information and improved academic performance as a result of access to quality information. The usage patterns and library patron attitudes toward e-books is significant in developing a collection development policy. The purchasing and acquisition of electronic resources is subject to users' feedback also.

Shelburne, Wendy Allen (2009) evaluated the university communality's finding and knowledge of e-books, their likes and dislikes with respect to e-books available in digital form as against print, and their forecast of exploiting electronic and print books materials in the future. They found e-books have become a vital part of the libraries in the digital era. They studied in collaboration with Springer, segregated e-book awareness and attitudes into faculty, graduate student, and undergraduate student constituent groups. The users' response is related with their demands as well as utility of electronic resources on a broader level.

According to Sharma, Chetan (2009), the availability of e-resources in a university library is quite general. But their effective utilization is a matter of concern, with the knowledge of the preferences and importance of online-resources among the teachers and research scholars.

Adeniran, Pauline (2011) investigated the correlation between Service quality and users' satisfaction at Redeener's University and evaluated the importance of user surveys in a variety of previously published literatures.

Thanuskodi, S. (2012) focused his research on evaluating the use of e-resources by the post graduate students and research scholars of Faculty of Arts in the Annamalai and found out that maximum users were aware of the availability of e-resources. He analyzed that many of the respondents search e-resources through linking facility available on the library website.

Chauhan, Sharma & Tomar (2012) studied the extent of use of e-resources by post graduate students, research scholars and faculty members at Ratan Tata Library, University of Delhi, (DU) Delhi with the aim to identify the hurdles faced by the users and suggested solutions for their improvement. It was found that majority of subjects were acquainted with various types of e-resources, e-database, e-books and e-journals. Enhancement in the access facilities were recommended, with more computer terminals, high internet speed, including Wi-Fi connectivity and

subscription to more e-resources by the University of Delhi Library System (DULS). A change in the users' approach was noticed in using electronic resources over print, including internet, website or Rattan Tata Library (RTL) and Faculty Of Management Studies (FMS), Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC), etc. by the users of RTL and FMS. The usefulness of electronic resources over print resources was also discussed i.e., technical ability for a single copy to be made accessible by multiple users; their durability their use in preservation; the fact they don't go out or print; their ability to support distance learning; and their potential to provide users with access 24/7.

According to Lefevre and Huwe (2013), in the previous time when the internet was introduced, libraries focused on switching to the services online and collection development. The developments in the past few decades have witnessed the librarians acting as focal points in the world of digital publishing. Librarians join the ranks of many others who have discovered the barriers around digital publishing are lower than ever. Library-based digital publishing solutions have grown-up to the extent that digital publishing has the potential to be core competency for the library profession. The study revealed that librarians are equipped with the requisite skills to become digital publishers. Researchers opined that library-based Web publishing services can strengthen total growth of information management programs and also press forward the status of libraries within their respective host organization. The relative simplicity of digital publishing has paved the way for librarians to chase the user as they use the Web in creative ways.

Objectives of the Study

As the libraries have included the electronic resources in their collection due to the demands and impacts of electronic publishing, the library scenario with the users' demands in mind compels to study and analyze how these libraries are progressing towards e-resource collection development. The present research is an endeavor to answer the questions discussed here.

• To find out collection development policies in context of e-publishing in University of Delhi (DU) Library and Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) Library.

• To explore the current practices of selection and evaluation of e-collection development in University of Delhi (DU) Library and Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) Library.

- To study the emerging new information environment of impact of e-publishing in University of Delhi (DU) Library and Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) Library.

Research Methodology

In this study, questionnaire has been used for data collection. Data has been collected by the questionnaires designed for Librarians, from Central Library of University of Delhi and Jawaharlal Nehru University. A detailed as well as structured questionnaire was designed with the aim to study the current practices of collection development in the perspectives of electronic publishing. The questionnaire has been designed in such a way as it could find out the intricate methods of collection development in context with electronic publishing in these significant libraries.

Data Analysis and Discussion

Data analysis is comprised of the responses in the questionnaire reveals facts for comparisons between Central Libraries of DU and JNU. Data collected with the help of questionnaires is presented in the tables below.

Table 1: Year of Establishment

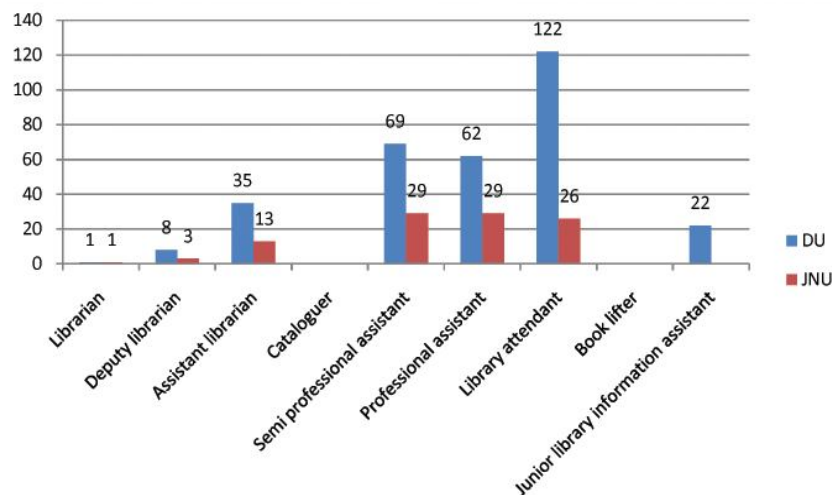| Sr. No.	Name of University	Year of Establishment
i.	DU	1922
ii.	JNU	1969

It is evident from the years of establishment mentioned in the table-1 that both the libraries are serving the academic communities since a long time. The libraries have gone through a long phase of development, alteration and adoption of technologies in their functions as well as services.

Table 2: Library Staff

Sr. No.		Posts	DU	JNU
i		Librarian	1	1
ii		Deputy librarian	8	3
iii		Assistant librarian	35	13
iv		Cataloguer	-	-
v		Semi professional assistant	69	29
vi		Professional assistant	62	29
vii		Library attendant	122	26
viii		Book lifter	-	-
ix		Any other (please specify)		
	a)	Junior library information assistant	22	-
	b)	Machine operator	1	-
	c)	Tech. assist.		1
x		Total staff	320	101

Fig. 1:

Data in the table-2 and figure-1 above reveal the number of Library Staff in DU and JNU. There are 1 Librarian, 8 Deputy Librarian, 35 Assistant Librarian, 69 Semi-professional assistant, 62 professional assistant, 122 Library attendants, and 22 Junior Library Information Assistant, and 1 Machine

operator in DU. The total number of Library staff of DU is 320.

JNU has 1 Librarian, 2 Deputy Librarian, 13 Assistant Librarian, 29 Semi-professional assistant, 29 professional assistant, 26 Library attendants and 1 Technical assistant. The total number of Library staff of JNU is 101.

Table 3: Total Collection of Print Material

Sr. No.	Types of Print Sources	DU	JNU
i.	Books (text books)	2,00,000	5,50,000 (including all)
ii.	Reference books	60,000	-
iii.	National journals	198	-
iv.	International journals	222	-
v.	Research report	-	-
vi.	Dissertation/thesis	17805	22000
vii.	Manuscripts	2100	-
viii.	Conference Proceedings	500	-
ix.	Research monograph	-	-
x.	Any other (please specify)	-	-

Figures in the Table-3 above; provide a comparative fact sheet about print material available in the libraries of DU and JNU. It is evident that both the libraries are equipped with text books. JNU has 550000 text books and 22,000 dissertations. DU has 200000 text books, 60,000 reference books, 198

National Journals, 222 International Journals, 8482 Dissertations, 17805 Thesis, 2100 Manuscripts and 500 Conference Proceedings. There has not been provided information regarding the research report and monographs in both libraries.

Table 4: Periodicals Subscribed

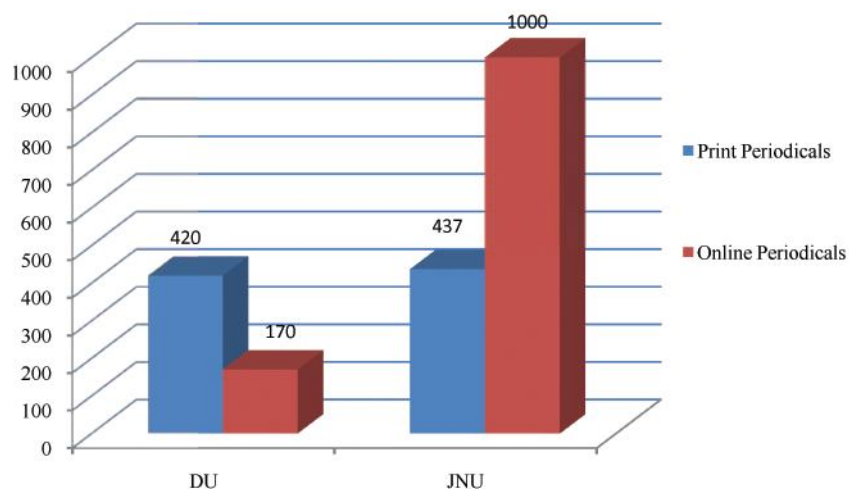| Sr. No.	Types of Periodicals	DU	JNU
i	Print Periodicals	420	437
ii	Online Periodicals	170	1000

Fig. 2:

Table-4 reveals about the number of Periodicals subscribed. On one hand, DU has 420 Print Periodicals and 170 Online Periodicals, on the other hand, JNU has 437 Print periodicals and about 75 databases (include approx. 1000 online periodicals). The figures of online periodicals reflect the subscribed as well as consortium based periodicals in these universities.

Table 5: E-Journals Subscribed Through Consortia

Sr. No.	Consortium	DU	JNU
i	INDEST	✓	-
ii	UGC Info net	✓	✓
iii	EBSCO	-	✓
iv	Total IT Solution	-	-
v	Other	-	-

While comparing the E-journals subscribed through consortia, the figures in the table-5 provide us the information that DU is equipped with e-journals through INDEST and UGC INFONET Consortium but JNU has subscribed from UGC Infonet, EBSCO. During discussion with the acquisition staff, it has been found that JNU library is providing ebooks/databases from ProQuest, Cambridge University Press, and Oxford University Press etc.

Table 6: Sources of Finance for the Library Collection

Sr. No.	Sources of finance	DU	JNU
i	UGC grant	✓	✓
ii	Special grant	✓	-
iii	Library fine	-	-
iv	Library fees	-	-
v	Any other	-	-

A careful analysis of the data in the Table-6 above gives the information about sources of finance of the library collection. DU is financially supported by UGC grant and Special grant. JNU Central Library is funded through UGC grant only. No other sources of finance are mentioned in both the libraries. But it may be assumed that the collection of library fines do exist due to rules and regulations.

Table 7: Initiation of E-resources & Electronic Services

Sr. No.	Universities	Year
i	DU	2006
ii	JNU	2000

Table-7 Conveys the years since when these libraries are providing the e-resources and Electronic Services. DU provides the e-resources and Electronic Services since the year 2006 and JNU provide e-resources and Electronic Service since the year 2000. Both the libraries are serving the users since a long time but these libraries have started providing e-resources only since last decade.

Table 8: Initiation of E-resources and Services

Sr. No.	Initiation of E-resources and Services	DU	JNU
i	To Modernization your library	-	✓
ii	Reservation	-	-
iii	Building space	-	-
iv	Easy access	✓	✓

Comparative analysis of the information in the table-8 above reveals that in DU Central Library, easy access was the cause for initiating and using e-resources. The analysis of response regarding JNU Central Library, there are two reasons mentioned above in the table. Modernizations of the library as well as easy access have been the factors to initiate the e-resources purchasing/subscribing. No responses were received in any other category in both of the libraries.

Table 9: Motivation for E-resources Collection

Sr. No.	Sources of motivation	DU	JNU
i	Vice chancellor	✓	-
ii	Library committee	✓	-
iii	Faculty members	✓	-
iv	Research scholars	✓	✓
v	Students	✓	✓

Data in table-9 reveals the motivators for e-resources Collection in the libraries of DU and JNU. It is evident from the information in the table that Vice chancellor, Library Committee, faculty members, research scholars and students motivate for e-resources Collection to DU. in JNU Central Library, the picture is slight different as research scholars and students motivate for e-resources collection to JNU library.

Table 10: Influential in e-resource Policy

Sr. No.	Influential in e-resource policy	DU	JNU
i	Vice chancellor	-	-
ii	Library committee	✓	-
iii	Faculty members	-	✓
iv	Research scholars	-	-
v	Students	-	✓

The above table reflects the motivating factors as well as influencing factors for the formulation of e-resource policy. Utilization of the e-resources in the library and the policy regarding it in both of the libraries is influenced by the top authorities starting from Vice Chancellor to the end user "the students". The analysis of the facts presented in the table-10 above states the influence on e-resources policy in both Universities. Library committee influences and plays a major role in framing and implementing e-resources policy of DU, while in JNU the faculties and students have a major role in influencing, framing and implementing the policy for e-resources.

Table 11: Efforts to promote the E-resources

Sr. No.	Efforts	DU	JNU
i	Creation of web portal	✓	✓
ii	Mouth to mouth publicity	✓	-
iii	Print pamphlets/ Notices to departments	✓	-
iv	Through E-mail	✓	✓
v	Through alerts	✓	✓
vi	Through Social Networking	✓	✓

Table-11 gives the information about various types of efforts to promote the e-resources. While in DU, this promotion is done by all the listed ways including creation of web portal, mouth to mouth

publicity, print pamphlets/ Notices to departments, through E-mail, through alerts and through Social Networking. But in JNU, e-resources are promoted only through creation of web portal, through E-mail, through alerts and through Social Networking. There is no data is available about e-resource promotion

through mouth to mouth publicity, print pamphlets/ Notices to departments in JNU. It seems that DU Central Library has incorporated both the ways to promote the e-resources i.e. conventional as well as IT based. JNU Central Library has reflected the use of IT based methods to promote the e-resources.

Table 12: Separate Section for E-resources

Sr. No.	Universities	YES	NO
i	DU	✓	-
ii	JNU	✓	-

It is evident from the table-12 that both of the universities are committed to devote their efforts for creating a separate section for e-resources. When this table is analyzed in connection with the table-11 above, it can be concluded that both libraries are

dedicatedly making efforts for promotion of e-resources also. The observation made during visit to JNU Central Library compelled to state here that separate reading halls are available to users to access the e-resources.

Table 13: Staff working in e-resource Section

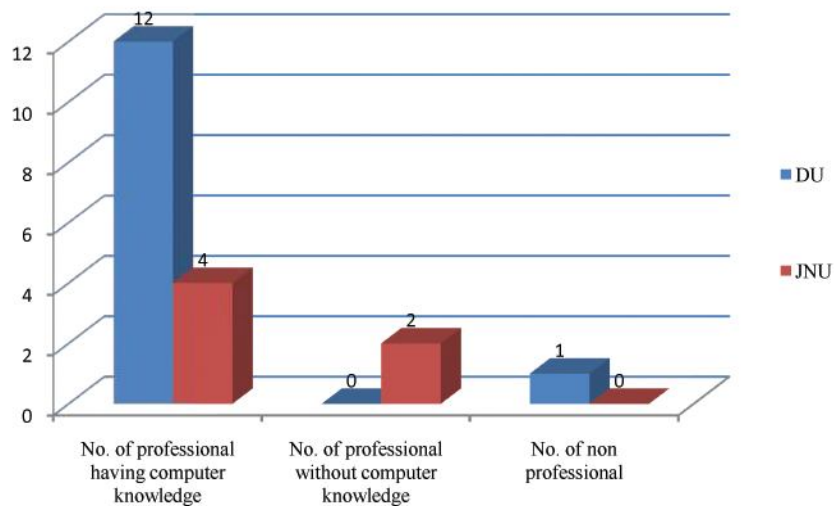| Sr. No.	Staff	DU	JNU
i	No. of professional having computer knowledge	12	04
ii	No. of professional without computer knowledge	0	02
iii	No. of non professional	1	0

Fig. 4:

Table -13 shows the capacity of staff which is working in e-resource section. The comparison reveals that DU library is more equipped with staff in the e-resources section than JNU library. There are 12 professionals in DUCL who are working for the e-resource section and have computer knowledge but number of professionals without

computer knowledge in this section is nil and there is 1 non-professional who works for e-resource section. While in JNU, there is less number of professionals who are working for this section and have computer knowledge (only 04) and two professionals working in this section do not have computer knowledge. Also there is no any non-

professional in this section at JNU. Observations made during the visit reflect the transition and development phase of this section in JNU Central Library.

Table 14: Software using for e-resource Section

Sr. No.	Software	DU	JNU
i	Soul	-	-
ii	Libsys	-	-
iii	koha	-	-
iv	Ebrary	-	-
v	Green stone	-	-
vi	Dspace	✓	✓
vii	Any other (please specify)	-	VIRTUA

Table -14 reveals the information about the software being used for e-resource section in both Universities. Among the various software available for utilizing e-resources DU library uses only one software which is D-space while in JNU library D-Space and VIRTUA software are used. The reason for not using other available software was out of the scope of the current study and can be explored in future researches. It is worth mentioning here that VIRTUA is library automation and management software which is being used for managing and facilitating access to e-resources.

Table 15: E-resource section policy

Sr. No.	Universities	YES	NO
i	DU	✓	-
ii	JNU	✓	-

This table shows that both Universities libraries (DU and JNU) have e-resource section policy. The presence of e-resource policy informs about the enthusiasm as well as gravity of these libraries towards collection building in the perspectives of electronic publication.

Table 16: Participants' in e-resource Selection Policy

Sr. No.	Participants	DU	JNU
i	Vice chancellor	-	-
ii	Library committee	✓	✓
iii	Faculty members	-	✓
iv	Research scholars	-	✓
v	Students	-	✓
vi	Any other	-	✓

Table-16 gives the information about Participants' in e-resource selection policy in DU and JNU. Only Library committee participation in e-resource selection policy at DU. There is Library committee, Faculty members, Research scholars, Students and any other which are not included in this table, Participants' in e-resource selection policy at JNU. The data reflects the inclusion as well as role of various kinds of users in these libraries. The e-resource selection process and policy at JNU Central Library gives opportunity to various kinds of users to participate in collection building.

Discussion on Findings

1. Collection and development of e-resources initiates with library staff and the study finds that both DUCL and JNUCL are equipped with sufficient number of library staff. Though the aspect of continuous development and change cannot be denied so both the libraries are moving further in the direction of having trained and efficient manpower to provide e-resource based services.

2. The study finds that both DUCL and JNUCL are well equipped with print and non-print materials, however more print material is available in DUCL as compared to JNUCL and more non-print material is available in JNUCL than DUCL. However, the inclination towards electronic resources is reflected and libraries are considering the options and direction due to electronic publishing.

3. The number of online periodicals is high in both the libraries. There may be the factors such as easy access as well maintenance facets towards subscription of online periodicals.

4. DUCL has subscribed e-journals through two consortia (INDEST and UGC INFONET) while JNUCL uses e-journals subscribed through (UGC INFONET and EBSCO). This side of consortium based service is because of types of users present in these libraries.

5. Utilization of the e-resources in the library and the policy regarding it in both of the libraries is influenced by the top authorities as well as inclusion of kinds of users in selection and policy framing process. It is found that the faculties and students have a major role in influencing, framing and implementing the policy for e-resources.

6. Various ways to promote the e-resources have been found in both of the libraries. It is evident that conventional as well as ICT based methods are being applied in order to inform and creating awareness among the users.

Conclusion

It can be concluded based on the findings that both JNUCL and DUCL are updated with the digital collection and are among the world class libraries regarding their collection. These libraries are continuously planning to provide the best available resources. The provisions and the status of the transition from print to digital collection, reflects the collection building in the perspective of electronic publishing. There are certain areas which clearly indicate the effect of electronic publishing. Since the huge cost and expenditure is involved in acquiring, subscribing and maintaining the electronic resources, so both the libraries are taking actions for promotion and awareness of e-resources and have dedicated policies for the same. Essential software required for making the e-collection usable is available in both libraries. The status of library staff i.e. trained and eager to serve the users is really as asset of these libraries. The present number of staff as competent with information literacy skills is pillar of these libraries. It can be concluded that collection development policies in these libraries are moving in right direction along with electronic publishing.

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Web Links

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