

Innovative Services and Scope of University Libraries in Telangana During Covid-19 Pandemic Period

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Abstract

The present “Innovative services and scope of University Libraries in Telangana during Covid-19 pandemic period” deals with how teaching fraternity is accessing the resources, what are digital platforms they are using, whether open Educational resources are browsing from national or international digital platforms, what purpose they using also explained. And also searching skills of teaching fraternity also explained”.

Key Words: OER’S; Digital Platforms; E-Resources & University Libraries.

Introduction

The whole world is suffering with COVID-19 pandemic crisis, every institution, industry and public domain has been affected by the Coronavirus. In this pandemic situation, library and information Centres have been the gateways of information dissemination centres and also knowledge for conducting research and development on the various disciplines. The Library and Information services started to gain importance by providing researchers & faculty opportunity to their daily academic or research work. Universities librarians play vital and varied roles in the life of the university, guiding students and faculty at the reference desk, instructing library research sessions, and developing library collections. It is a truism to say that librarians in all sectors of an academic library wear many different hats and provide numerous services to patrons.

In epidemics and during the COVID-19 pandemic situation, when information outbreak is enormous, it is the time to remind the society of the importance of LIC and the role of LIS Professionals in acquiring, organising and disseminating the

accurate information to the needy people/cliental in the chaotic situation. In Higher Education sectors especially University libraries were physically closed for users in this pandemic but engaged with the users. Libraries revamped their web pages, reassigned resources, and planned robust online offerings vast information. The university portals, websites and other social media tools were less used communication tools during the pandemic time. LIS Professionals worked from home and there was a sense of over burden because of 24/7 connectivity and without any formal working policy addressing the new working routines by the fingertips they provided information.

University librarians felt that digital divide, lack of digital literacy skills, and slow internet speed were the major barriers in their transition from physical to online mode and less use of library's online resources and web portals. LIC (Library & Information Centres) see their individual and collective roles of societal and educational dimensions during this Pandemic time. This particular paper also made recommendations for the betterment of libraries' role in such situations.



Review of Literature

1. *Sadia Ishtiaq (2020) on his survey on "Information Dissemination during Covid-19 and Lockdown: The Role of University libraries of Sindh, Pakistan"* focuses on The main objective of this study to find out those services, skills, instructional, and training programs being carried out during this period of the pandemic. Secondly, another aim of this study is to highlight how university libraries are contributing to their members for disseminating and mobilizing information during this emergency. In this study online survey research design used and covers 29 libraries from private sector universities of Sindh Province, Pakistan.
2. *Muhammad Rafiq (2021) in his work "University libraries response to COVID-19 pandemic: A developing country perspective"* expressed his views to explore the university libraries' response during the COVID-19 pandemic and determine their working practices, services patterns, strategies applied, and role played. This study is a qualitative exploration by collecting data through in-depth interviews of purposely selected Heads of seven university libraries.
3. *Deelip D. Mestri (2020) in his research work on " Reopening libraries in COVID 19 pandemic: challenges and recommendations"* expressed his view on We have a huge responsibility to protect the clientele, staff and the library resources in such a pandemic situation. While reopening the library after the lock down we need to take precautionary measures to slow down and prevent the COVID 19. Also expressed the challenges and suggested recommendations of the libraries during post lock down period.
4. *Misa Mi (2020) in her article "Four health science librarians' experiences: How they responded to the COVID-19 pandemic crisis"* stressed on four health sciences librarians from four academic libraries across the country will share their personal or library experiences in reaching out to faculty and students to meet their needs through their initiatives and continuous efforts using various technologies and tools (see table on next page) in the pandemic period.

Scope of the study

The technological advancements and innovations

have transformed the traditional libraries to the present smart Libraries. Today's Libraries offer wide range of innovative services to the users for their information need in the pandemic situation. There has been a paradigm shift of libraries in twenty first century. The major role of libraries in selective dissemination of Information and knowledge among its users predefine the scope of libraries. Libraries are the store houses of knowledge recorded in physical/digital medium. Libraries are growing organism.

The present Study "Innovative services and scope of University Libraries in Telangana during Covid-19 pandemic selected Ten Universities i.e., Osmania University, Kakatitya University, Shatavahana University, Telangana University, Palamuru University, Telugu University, JNTU(Hyderabad), JNFAU, Hyderabad, Prof. Jayashanker Agriculture University, Hyderabad and Mahatama Gandhi Universities only. Two universities were established 10 decades old remaining Eight universities were established two decades before based on that researcher selected for the study. And also the study period confined to Sept (2020) -March (2021) only.

Objectives of the Study

The present Study "Innovative services and scope of University Libraries in Telangana during Covid-19 pandemic period" following objectives are

1. To find out purpose of visiting the University library websites
2. To know the innovative ways to reach out to University library users in pandemic period in Telangana
3. To explore Innovative services to navigate the information by various sources in pandemic period in Telangana
4. To enhance learning and professional skills among the University Library users in Telangana.

Methodology

Researcher collected the data through the open Ended Questionnaire to faculty members (Asst Professors, Associate Professors & Professors) and also the data collected the Google form also stipulated period only.

Result and Discussion

The population of present study was faculty member's scholars and students working in

Table: 1 Various Online Educational Resources Platforms.

S. No	Name of the Source	Description	Web Address/URL
1.	E-Pgpathshala	High Quality of Curriculum based Educational materials	https://epgp.inflibnet.ac.in/
2.	NDLI	Educational materials available for all subject areas like Technology, Social Science, Literature, Law, Medical, etc	https://ndl.iitkgp.ac.in/
3.	Internet Archive	Internet Archive: is a non-profit library of millions of free books, movies, software, music, websites, and more.	https://Archives.org
4.	Hathi Trust	HathiTrust is a partnership of academic and research institutions, offering a collection of millions of titles digitized from libraries around the world.	https://www.hathitrust.org/
5.	World Digital Library	The World Digital Library provides free access to manuscripts, rare books, maps, photographs, and other important cultural documents from all countries.	https://www.wdl.org/en/
6.	Khan Academy	Khan Academy non-profit educational organization. It provides short lessons in the form of videos.	https://www.khanacademy.org
7.	Open Library	Open Library is an open source towards a web page for every book ever published.	https://openlibrary.org/
8.	Project Gutenberg	Project Gutenberg is a volunteer effort to digitize and archive cultural works.	https://www.gutenberg.org/
9.	Z Library		https://z-lib.org/
10.	Pdf Drive		https://www.pdfdrive.com/

University Libraries in Telangana. A total 900 questionnaire were distributed to the faculty members of TEN Universities in Telangana. 692 responses (76.8%) were received throughout Telangana.

The collected data was exported to an excel sheet for the analysis & Tables, charts and graphs were prepared by using excel sheet.

Table 2: Faculty members Response University Wise.

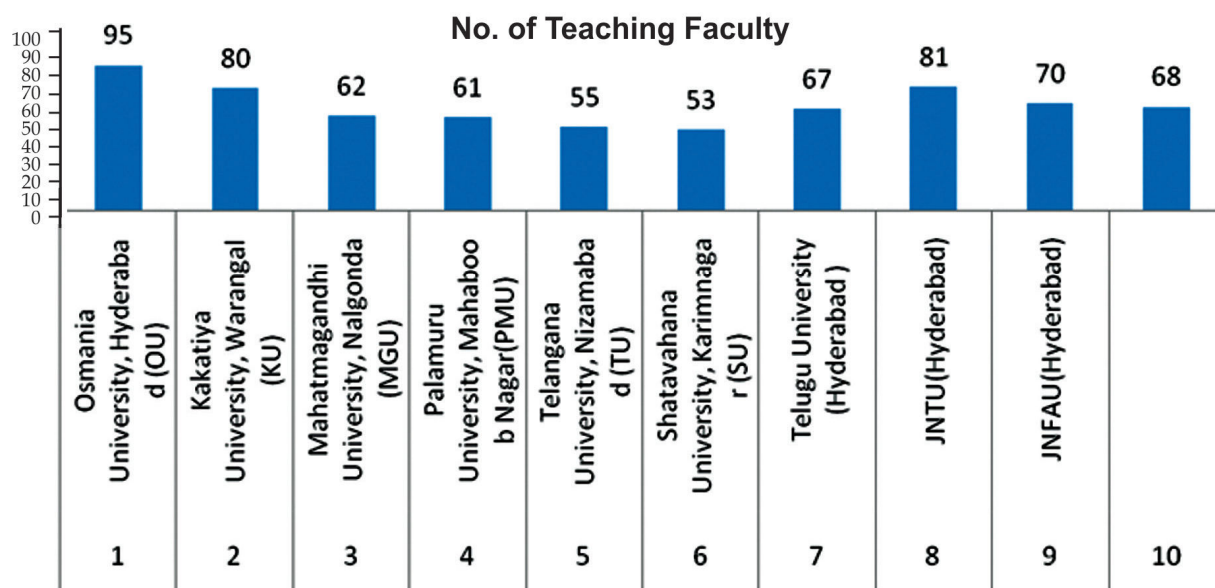
Sl. No	Name of the University	No of Teaching Faculty
1.	Osmania University, Hyderabad (OU)	95
2.	Kakatiya University, Warangal (KU)	80
3.	Mahatmagandhi University, Nalgonda (MGU)	62
4.	Palamuru University, Mahaboob Nagar(PMU)	61
5.	Telangana University, Nizamabad (TU)	55
6.	Shatavahana University, Karimnagar (SU)	53
7.	Telugu University (Hyderabad)	67
8.	JNTU(Hyderabad)	81
9.	JNFAU(Hyderabad)	70
10.	Prof. Jayashanker Agriculture University, Hyderabad	68

The above table & bar diagram shows that the respondents of faculty members of universities in Telangana. Out of ten selected universities highest i.e. 95 faculty member from Osmania University, second highest i.e. 81 faculty members from JNTU(Hyderabad) and least number i.e., 50 faculty members from Shatavahana University.

The above table & bar diagram shows that the faculty members visiting library websites for the various academic purpose. Out of ten selected Universities faculty members are visiting the library websites.

Highest number i.e 25 faculty members from Osmania University and least number 12 faculty members from kakatiya & Shatavahan University for To update their knowledge. Highest number i.e. 28 faculty members from Kakatiya University and least number i.e. 07 faculty members from Telugu University to visit the library websites for To Access the academic e-books & e-Journals.

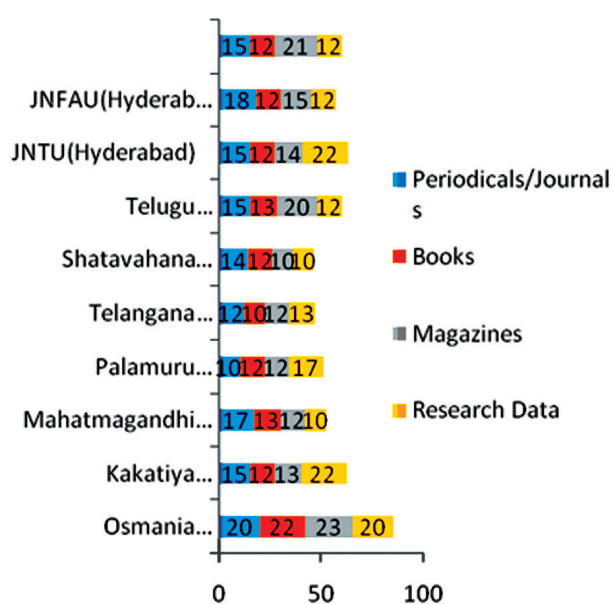
Highest number i.e. 23 Osmania University and least number i.e. 10 from Shatavahana University to visit the library websites for writing articles/books. Highest number i.e. 25 from Osmina University add least number i.e. 13 Telangana University faculty members to visit the library websites for the project and Research work.



The above table & bar diagram shows that the respondents of faculty members of universities in Telangana. Out of ten selected universities highest i.e. 95 faculty member from Osmania University, second highest i.e. 81 faculty members from JNTU(Hyderabad) and least number i.e., 50 faculty members from Shatavahana University.

Table 3: Purpose of Faculty members visiting the Library websites in pandemic period.

Respondents	Purpose				Total
	To Update Knowledge	To Access the academic e-books & e-Journals	For writing articles /books	For the project and Research work	
Osmania University, Hyderabad (OU)	25 (26.31%)	22 (23.15%)	23 (24.21%)	25 (26.31%)	95 (100%)
Kakatiya University, Warangal (KU)	12 (15%)	28 (35%)	22 (27.5%)	18 (22.5%)	80 (100%)
Mahatmagandhi University, Nalgonda (MGU)	17 (27.41%)	13 (20.96%)	12 (19.35%)	20 (32.25%)	62 (100%)
Palamuru University, Mahaboo b Nagar (PMU)	16 (26.22%)	14 (22.95%)	15 (24.59%)	16 (26.22%)	61 (100%)
Telangana University, Nizamabad (TU)	15 (27.27%)	15 (27.27%)	12 (21.81%)	13 (23.63%)	55 (100%)
Shatavahana University, Karimnagar (SU)	12 (22.64%)	14 (26.41%)	10 (18.86%)	19 (35.84%)	53 (100%)
Telugu University (Hyderabad)	20 (29.85%)	07 (10.44%)	18 (26.86%)	22 (32.83%)	67 (100%)
JNTU(Hyderabad)	15 (18.51%)	20 (24.69%)	25 (30.86%)	21 (25.92%)	81 (100%)
JNFAU(Hyderabad)	20 (28.57%)	12 (17.14%)	18 (25.71%)	20 (28.57%)	70 (100%)
Prof. Jayashanker Agriculture University, Hyderabad	15 (22.05%)	25 (36.76%)	12 (17.64%)	16 (23.52%)	68 (100%)



Bar diagram shows that the respondents of faculty members of universities in Telangana.

By their accessing Open Education Resources from various websites.

The above table & bar diagram shows that the faculty members accessing of resources from university library websites (Indian initiatives). Out of ten selected Universities faculty members are accessing resources from National Digital Library (NDLI) highest percentage 27.41% i.e. Mahatma Gandhi University and least percentage 18.51% i.e., JNTU (Hyderabad). By E-PG PATASHALA highest percentage 23.15% i.e Osmania University and least percentage 10.4% i.e. Telugu university. By SWAYAM PRABHA highest percentage 21.84% i.e., Telangana University and least percentage 11.74% i.e. Prof. Jayashanker Agriculture University. VIDYAMITRA highest percentage 21.05% i.e. Osmania University and least percentage 14.54% i.e. Telangana University. By NLIST/SHODH GANGA/INFLIBNET (RESOURCES) highest percentage 30.88% i.e. Prof. Jayashanker University and least percentage 10.52% i.e. Osmania University.

Table 4: Faculty Members Accessing of Resources from University Library Websites (Indian Initiatives).

Respondents	Indian Initiatives					Total
	NDLI	E-PG Patashala	Swayam Prabha	Vidyamitra	NLIST/Shodh Ganga/Inflibnet (Resources)	
Osmania University, Hyderabad (OU)	23 (24.21%)	22 (23.15%)	20 (21.05%)	20 (21.05%)	10 (10.52%)	95 (100%)
KakatiyaUnivesity, Warangal (KU)	15 (18.75%)	12 (15%)	13 (16.25%)	15 (18.75%)	22 (27.5%)	80 (100%)
Mahatmagandhi University, Nalgonda (MGU)	17 (27.41%)	10 (16.12%)	12 (19.35%)	10 (16.12%)	13 (20.96%)	62 (100%)
Palamuru University, Mahaboob Nagar (PMU)	12 (19.67%)	12 (19.67%)	10 (16.39%)	10 (16.39%)	17 (27.86%)	61 (100%)
Telangana University, Nizamabad (TU)	13 (23.63%)	10 (18.18%)	12 (21.81%)	8 (14.54%)	12 (21.81%)	55 (100%)
Shatavahana University, Karimnagar (SU)	14 (26.41%)	7 (13.20%)	10 (18.86%)	10 (18.86%)	12 (22.64%)	53 (100%)
Telugu University (Hyderabad)	15 (22.38%)	7 (10.44%)	20 (29.85%)	12 (17.91%)	13 (19.40%)	67 (100%)
JNTU(Hyderabad)	15 (18.51%)	12 (14.81%)	14 (17.28%)	15 (18.51%)	22 (27.16%)	81 (100%)
JNFAU(Hyderabad)	18 (25.71%)	12 (17.14%)	13 (18.57%)	12 (17.14%)	15 (21.42%)	70 (100%)
Prof. Jayashanker Agriculture University, Hyderabad	15 (22.05%)	12 (17.64%)	8 (11.76%)	12 (17.64%)	21 (30.88%)	68 (100%)

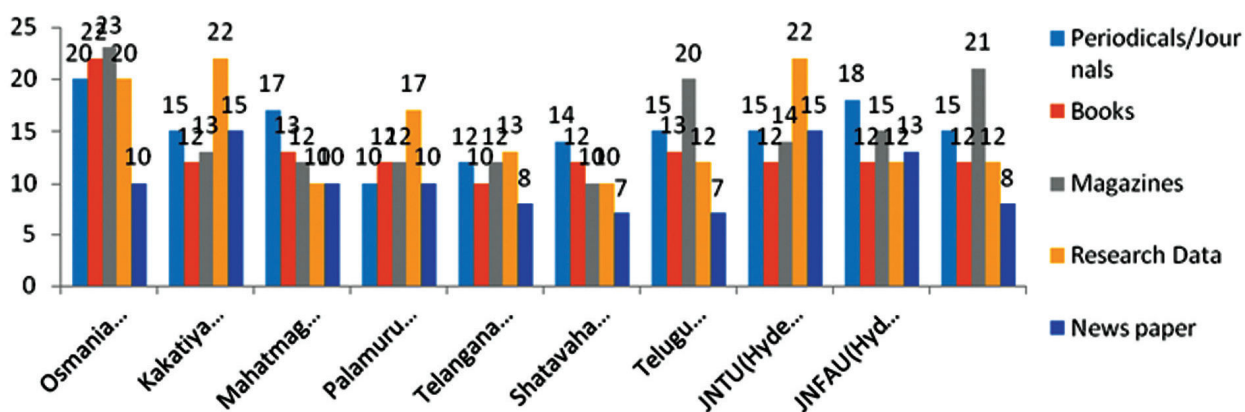
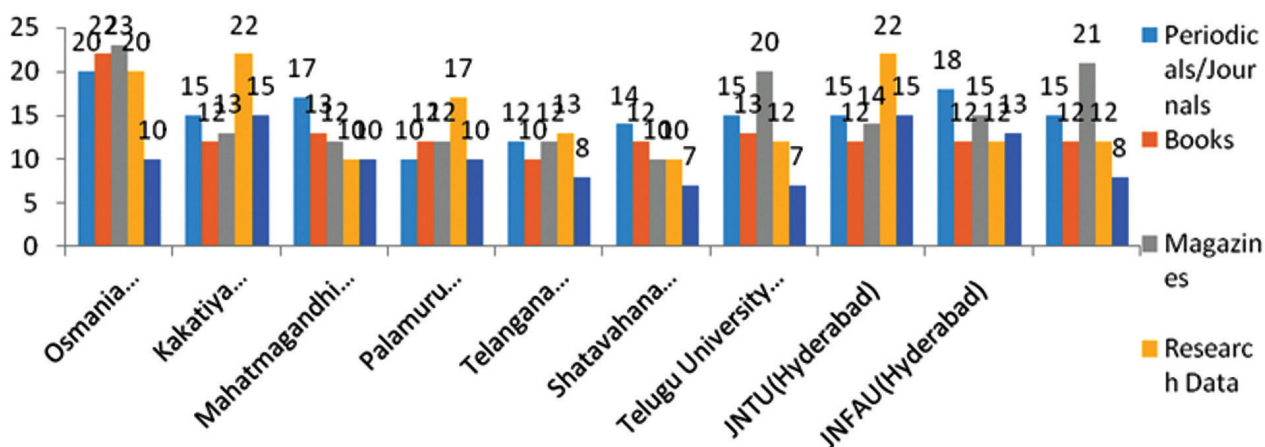


Table 5: Faculty Members Accessing of Resources from University Library Websites (Global Initiatives).

Respondents	Global Initiatives					Total
	World Digital Library	Khan Academy	Open Library	PDF Drive&Z Library	Hathi Trust	
Osmania University, Hyderabad (OU)	20 (21.05%)	10 (10.52%)	23 (24.21%)	20 (21.05%)	22 (23.15%)	95 (100%)
KakatiyaUnivesity, Warangal (KU)	12 (15%)	15 (18.75%)	13 (16.25%)	22 (27.5%)	15 (18.75%)	80 (100%)
Mahatmagandhi University, Nalgonda (MGU)	10 (16.12%)	13 (20.96%)	12 (19.35%)	10 (16.12%)	17 (27.41%)	62 (100%)
Palamuru University, Mahaboob Nagar (PMU)	12 (19.67%)	12 (19.67%)	10 (16.39%)	10 (16.39%)	17 (27.86%)	61 (100%)
Telangana University, Nizamabad (TU)	12 (21.81%)	10 (18.18%)	8 (14.54%)	12 (21.81%)	13 (23.63%)	55 (100%)
Shatavahana University, Karimnagar (SU)	14 (26.41%)	7 (13.20%)	10 (18.86%)	10 (18.86%)	12 (22.64%)	53 (100%)
Telugu University (Hyderabad)	7 (10.44%)	13 (19.40%)	12 (17.91%)	20 (29.85%)	15 (22.38%)	67 (100%)
JNTU(Hyderabad)	12 (14.81%)	15 (18.51%)	14 (17.28%)	22 (27.16%)	15 (18.51%)	81 (100%)
JNFAU(Hyderabad)	13 (18.57%)	12 (17.14%)	12 (17.14%)	15 (21.42%)	18 (25.71%)	70 (100%)
Prof. Jayashanker Agriculture University, Hyderabad	15 (22.05%)	12 (17.64%)	8 (11.76%)	12 (17.64%)	21 (30.88%)	68 (100%)



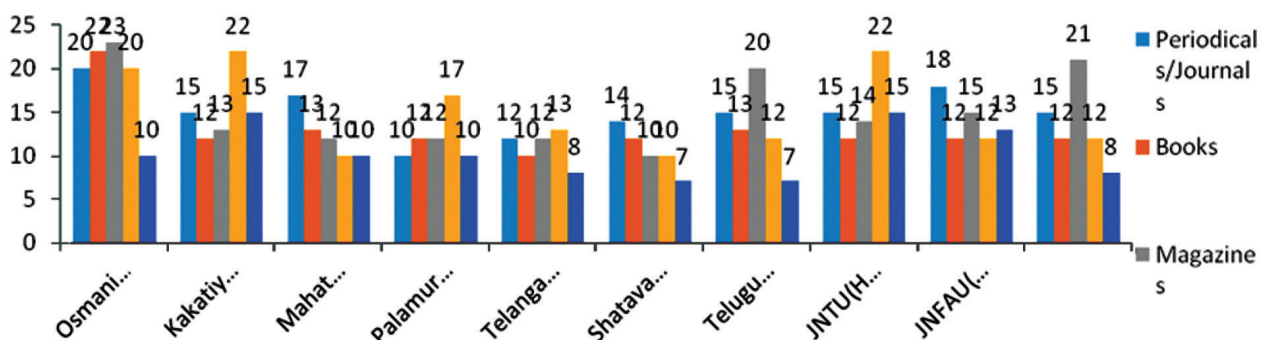
The above table & bar diagram shows that the faculty members accessing of resources from university library websites (Global initiatives). Faculty members are accessing the resources World Digital Library highest percentage 26.41% i.e., Shatavahana University and least percentage 10.44% i.e., Telugu University. By Khan Academy highest percentage 19.63% i.e. Palamuru University and least percentage 10.52% i.e. Osmania university. By Open Library highest percentage 24.21% i.e., Osmania University and least percentage 11.76% i.e. Prof. Jayashanker Agriculture University. By PDF Drive & Z Library highest percentage 29.85% i.e. Telugu University and least percentage 16.12% i.e. Mahathma Gandhi University. By Hathi Trust percentage 30.88 % i.e. Prof. Jayashanker Agriculture University and least percentage 18.51% i.e. JNTU Hyderabad .

Faculty members are accessing the resources from various World Initiative websites for their academic work.

The above table & bar chart shows that the type of resources accessing from university library (open education resources) websites. Faculty members are accessing the Periodicals/Journals from the Library websites highest percentage 27.41% i.e., Mahathma Gandhi University and least percentage 16.39% i.e., Palamuru University. Books highest percentage 23.15% i.e Osmania University and least percentage 14.81% i.e. JNTUH (Hyderabad). By Magazines highest percentage 30.88% i.e., Prof. Jayashanker Agriculture University and least percentage 16.25% i.e. Kakatiya University. By Research Data highest percentage 27.86% i.e. Palamuru University and least percentage 16.12% i.e. Mahathma Gandhi University. By News paper

Table 6: Type of Resources Accessing from University Library (Open Education Resources)Websites.

Respondents	Resources					Total
	Periodicals/ Journals	Books	Magazines	Research Data	News paper	
Osmania University, Hyderabad (OU)	20 (21.05%)	22 (23.15%)	23 (24.21%)	20 (21.05%)	10 (10.52%)	95 (100%)
Kakatiya University, Warangal (KU)	15 (18.75%)	12 (15%)	13 (16.25%)	22 (27.5%)	15 (18.75%)	80 (100%)
Mahatmagandhi University, Nalgonda (MGU)	17 (27.41%)	13 (20.96%)	12 (19.35%)	10 (16.12%)	10 (16.12%)	62 (100%)
Palamuru University, Mahaboob Nagar (PMU)	10 (16.39%)	12 (19.67%)	12 (19.67%)	17 (27.86%)	10 (16.39%)	61 (100%)
Telangana University, Nizamabad (TU)	12 (21.81%)	10 (18.18%)	12 (21.81%)	13 (23.63%)	8 (14.54%)	55 (100%)
Shatavahana University, Karimnagar (SU)	14 (26.41%)	12 (22.64%)	10 (18.86%)	10 (18.86%)	7 (13.20%)	53 (100%)
Telugu University (Hyderabad)	15 (22.38%)	13 (19.40%)	20 (29.85%)	12 (17.91%)	7 (10.44%)	67 (100%)
JNTU(Hyderabad)	15 (18.51%)	12 (14.81%)	14 (17.28%)	22 (27.16%)	15 (18.51%)	81 (100%)
JNFAU(Hyderabad)	18 (25.71%)	12 (17.14%)	15 (21.42%)	12 (17.14%)	13 (18.57%)	70 (100%)
Prof. Jayashanker Agriculture University, Hyderabad	15 (22.05%)	12 (17.64%)	21 (30.88%)	12 (17.64%)	8 (11.76%)	68 (100%)



percentage 18.75 % i.e. Kakatiya University and least percentage 10.44% i.e. Osmania University .

And also LIS professionals are organising various Webinars to know the sources of various Open Education Resources to the teaching fraternity. And also provide optimum utilisation online resources.

Conclusion

In the pandemic period uncertainty in all sectors but in higher education it is overcome by the various digital tools/platforms . Users are accessing the resources for their academic work especially in university education system. Teaching fraternity are well aware about availability & accessibility the open Education Resources by the various open digital national & international platforms.

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