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Founder
S. S. Shashi

Chief Editor
Dharam Vir

Volume 29, Number 1 (January-March), 2020



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(Autonomous, Regd. Recognized Charitable Organization of
Social Scientists, Authors, Journalists & Social Activists)

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Journal of National Development

Aims and Scope

The Journal of National Development (JND) is an interdisciplinary bi-annual peer reviewed & refereed international journal committed to the ideals of a 'world community' and 'universal brotherhood'. The Journal is a joint effort of like-minded scholars in the field of social research. Its specific aims are to identify, to understand and to help the process of nation-building within the framework of a 'world community' and enhance research across the social sciences (Sociology, Anthropology, Political Science, Psychology, History, Geography, Education, Economics, Law, Communication, Linguistics) and related disciplines like all streams of Home Science, Management, Computer Science, Commerce as well as others like Food Technology, Agricultural Technology, Information Technology, Environmental Science, Dairy Science etc. having social focus/implications. It focuses on issues that are global and on local problems and policies that have international implications. By providing a forum for discussion on important issues with a global perspective, the *JND* is a part of unfolding world wide struggle for establishing a just and peaceful world order. Thus, the *JND* becomes a point of confluence for the rivulets from various disciplines to form a mighty mainstream gushing towards the formulation and propagation of a humanistic world- view.

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Use of E-Resources by the Faculty of Engineering Colleges of Sangrur District

*Amritpal Kaur**

The use of electronic resources by the faculty members of the engineering colleges of District Sangrur, Punjab is presented in this Paper. Knowledge and awareness of those faculty members about different types of e-resources, their purpose of using those e-resources, the hurdles and limitations in the use and access of these resources faced by those faculty members and their satisfaction with these resources is dealt with in this paper. The data was collected, tabulated and analyzed after conducting a survey of all the faculty members available in all the six engineering colleges of District Sangrur. The data was collected through structured questionnaires served to the users regarding e-resources, their use and impact. It also reveals about the satisfaction of faculty members with the facilities available for accessing e-resources and its user-friendliness.

[**Keywords :** Faculty member, Engineering, E-Resources, E-Journals, E-Books, Awareness, User satisfaction]

1. Introduction

Electronic Resources are the materials available in digital format, which are accessible electronically. E-resources can be

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defined as the resources which require computer or any other electronic device. They deliver knowledge which may be in text format, full data bases, e-journals, images collections and multimedia products. It may be numerical, graphical or time based, as a commercially available title that can be published with an aim to be marketed. E-Resources generally comprise of journals, books, databases, magazines, thesis, news papers, dictionaries, encyclopedia, abstract, full-text documents and digital collections all in electronic form. Also online databases, internet sites are the choice to the medium.

In the present scenario, „the library and information centre? has become integral part of all those establishments which are the centers of teaching and learning activities, where students, teachers and researchers get their required information according to their need. In the age of information and communication technology, house-keeping activities of the libraries are now automated in most of the academic libraries and e-resources and database facilities are made available to all the users of these libraries.

With the onset of the digital era the library and data centre has transformed and today traditional libraries have changed their roles. Now-a-days these libraries are serving as “Knowledge Centers” with priority to value-added electronic information services. Academic and research institutions are now getting specialization in how best they can facilitate research with specific information as cutting-edge technology.

Dawn of globalization in the field of education, there has been an information explosion. Almost all the Science and Technology and academic institutions and organizations have changed their contemporary outlooks to automated environments most rapidly.

2. Objectives

Specifically the main objectives of this study are :

- To know the provision and usage of those e-resources by the faculty members in engineering education system.
- To review the use and purpose of using e-resources.
- To spot the electronic gadgets used for accessing e-resources.
- To find out the difficulties faced by the users while accessing e-resources.
- To review the extent of satisfaction of users of e-resources.

3. Literature Review

A very little number of studies are made on e-resources. Chauhan, Chand and Kaur (2011) have conducted a study and evaluated the limitations and problems about lower usage of these e-resources at the Himachal Pradesh University and have offered a few suggestions in order to boost the usage of E-resources. Nallathamb and Kanakaraj (2012) noticed that a lot of users in the engineering colleges use electronic resources daily. Adebayo (2013) evaluated the challenges in cataloguing electronic resources in six randomly selected university libraries in Southwest Nigeria and then he pointed out some challenges in the field of cataloguing electronic resources. The lack of adequate physical description of a few electronic resources; incomplete and insufficient workflow in cataloguing sections; some copyright issues among others were the pointed out challenges by this researcher. Kalbande, Shinde, and Ingle (2013) made a survey of 108 faculty members at the Mahatma Phule Agricultural University in India and observed that the influence of e-resources was visible as the number of printed documents decreased and there was a rise in number of electronic resources. Elavazhagan and Udayakumar (2013) examined the exposure and measured the use of e-resources by the school members and research scholars of BITS, Pilani - Hyderabad Campus and reported that the e-resources are proved to be time saving, easy to use and handle, more informative, effective and flexible.

But we can't take these studies as final conclusion as although these studies summarize certain conclusions about how people use Electronic resources, there are library-specific differences available, that proves it to be more beneficial for some individual libraries to make their own conclusions.

4. Scope of the Study

The study is restricted in to the faculty members of six engineering colleges in Sangrur District. This paper only highlights the awareness,, purpose of using E-resources and problems faced while accessing these, availability and use of e-resources by the faculty members; level of satisfaction of the users and suitable recommendations to boost these facilities and services in the form of E-resources in these libraries.

5. Methodology

The faculty members of six engineering colleges are the targeted population of the study. To complete the objectives of the study, a detailed and well-structured questionnaire was prepared and distributed to all the available faculty members of six Engineering Colleges in Sangrur District. Total 240 questionnaires distributed and 40 questionnaires were distributed in every college, out of these, 160 comprehensively filled-in questionnaires were collected. The information given by the Faculty Members was then tabulated, analyzed, interpreted and presented by simple percentage technique usage.

6. Data Analysis and Discussions

The Information collected through the questionnaires distributed to all available faculty members of the six assorted engineering colleges in Sangrur District of Punjab, analyzed and interpreted is given below :

Table-1 : College Wise Distribution of Respondents

Name Of The College	No. of Respondents	Percentage (%)
Sant Longowal Institute of Engineering and Technology, Longowal	40	25.00
Baba Hira Singh Bhattal Institute of Engineering of Technology, Sangrur	38	23.75
Bhai Gurdas Institute of Engineering & Technology, Sangrur	36	22.5
KCT College of Engineering and Technology, Sangrur	18	11.25
Bhai Gurdas Polytechnic College, Sangrur	15	09.37
Asra College of Engineering and Technology, Sangrur	13	08.12
Total	160	100.00

As we can see in Figure-1, Table-1 shows that the best respondent's replies 40 (25.00%) are from Sant Longowal Institute of Engineering and Technology, where as Baba Hira Singh Bhattal Institute of Engineering of Technology respondents are following

with 38 (23.75%) ,from Bhai Gurdas Institute of Engineering & Technology 36 (22.5%) responses received, from KCT College Of Engineering And Technology 18 (11.25%), 15 (09.37%) respondents are from Bhai Gurdas Polytechnic College and least no. of respondents 13 (08.12%) are from Asra College of Engineering and Technology.

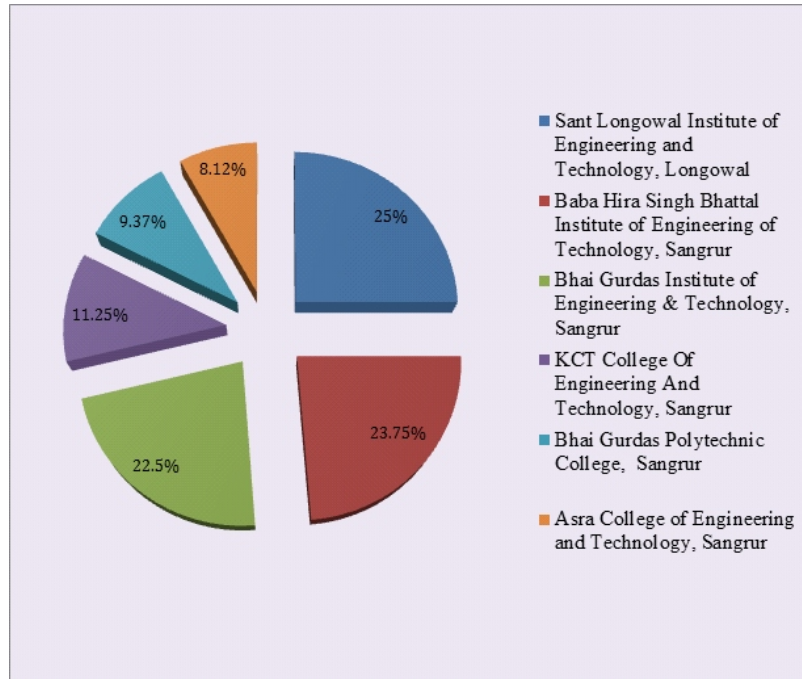


Figure-1 : College Wise Distribution of Respondents

Table-2 : Category Wise distribution of respondents

Category (Academic Status)	No. of Respondents	Percentage (%)
Professors	22	13.75
Associate Professors	36	22.5
Assistant Professors	102	63.75
Total	160	100.00

Table-2 and Figure-2 show the category wise distribution of respondents. Out of 240 total respondents, the 102(63.75%) of them are Assistant Professors and 36 (22.5%) of them are Associate Professors. In this study, 22 (13.75%) of the respondents are Professors. it's concluded that more Assistant Professors followed by Associate Professors are the respondents within the study.

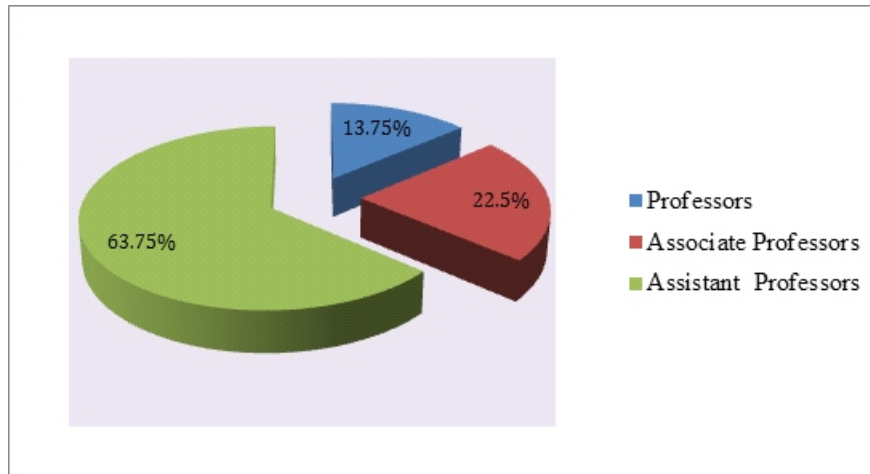


Figure-2 : Category Wise distribution of respondents

Table-3 : Gender Wise Distribution of Respondents

Gender	No. of Respondents	Percentage (%)
Male	86	53.75
Female	74	46.25
Total	160	100.00

Table-3 and Figure-3 reveal that out of a total of 160 respondents, the bulk of the males respondents 86 (53.75%) was slightly more than females 74 (46.25%) is gender wise classification by the e-resources. This shows that the males gender wise classification is over the females.

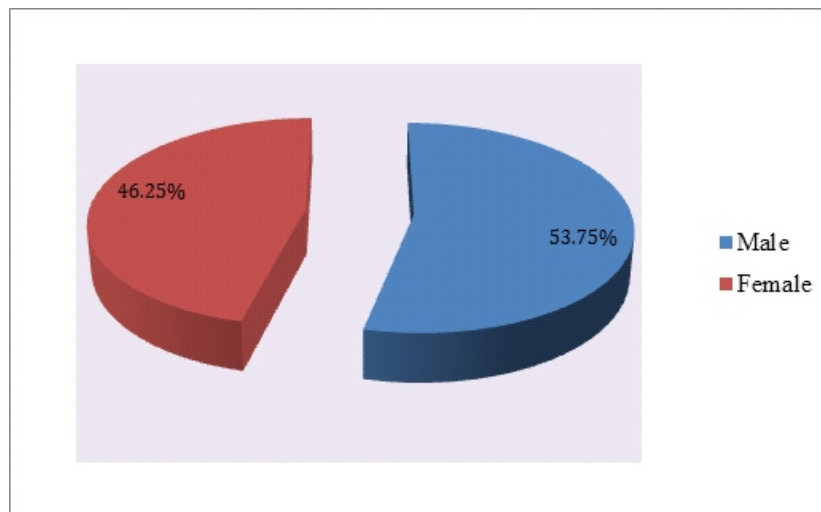


Figure-3 : Gender wise Distribution of Respondents

Table-4 : Faculty Member's Awareness of E-Resources

Gender	Aware	Not Aware
Male	74	12
Female	64	10
Total	138 (86.25%)	22 (13.75%)

Table-4 reveals that 138 (86.25%) faculty members were aware of different types of e-resources whereas 22 (13.75%) of faculty members were not aware of the e-resources in their respective subject field.

Table-5 : Preference of Using Information Resources

Information Resources	No. of Respondents	Percentage (%)
Electronic Version	79	49.37
Print Version	33	20.62
Both	48	30.00
Total	160	100.00

Table-5 results show that preference was given to electronic version of resources by 79 (49.37%) respondents whereas 33 (20.62%) of faculty members want to read the printed resources but 48 (30.00%) respondents prefer to use both electronic and printed version of resources.

Table-6 : Types of E-resources Accessed

E-Resources	No. of Respondents	Percentage (%)
E-Journals	31	19.37
Full Text Databases	45	28.12
E-Books	34	21.25
E- Audio- Visual Resources	15	09.37
E-Thesis	35	21.87
Total	160	100.00

Table-6 and Figure-4 show that most of the respondents 45 (28.12%) make use of full text databases following E-Thesis 35 (21.87%), E-Books are used by 34 (21.25%), respondents who make use of E- Journals were 31 (19.37%) and 15 (09.37%) respondents were those who make use of E-audio-visual resources.

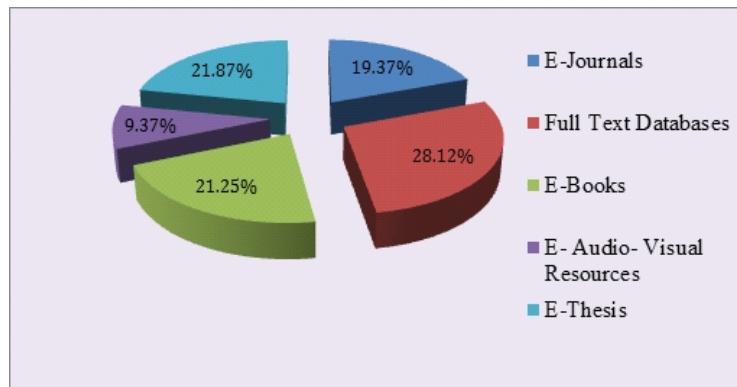


Figure-4 : Types of E-resources Accessed

Table-7 : Purpose of Using E-Resources

Academic Status	Research Articles	Lecture Notes	Update Knowledge	Any Other Purpose	Total (%)
Professors	8	12	4	5	29 (18.13)
Associate Professors	16	18	8	9	51 (31.87)
Assistant Professors	20	26	16	18	80 (50.0)
Total	44 (27.5%)	56 (35%)	28 (17.5%)	32 (20%)	160 (100%)

Table-7 shows that purpose of 56 (35%) of the respondents using e-resources was preparing lecture notes, 44 (27.5%) of them were using e-resources for research articles, 28 (17.5%) of them were using e-resources for update knowledge, and rest of the respondents 32 (20%) used e-resources for some other purpose.

Table-8 : Satisfaction with present collection of E-resources

Respondent's status	Responses			Total
	Yes	No	Can't Say	
Professor	14	4	4	22
Associate Professor	22	8	6	36
Assistant Professor	80	13	9	102
Total	116 (72.5%)	25 (15.62%)	19 (11.87%)	160 (100%)

Table-8 reveals that 14 of Professors, 22 of Associate Professors and 80 of Assistant Professors, total 116 (72.5%) of the faculty members were satisfied, while 4 of Professors, 8 of Associate Professors and 13 of Assistant Professors total 25 (15.62%) were not satisfied with the collection of E-resources where as 4 of Professors, 6 of Associate Professors and 9 of Assistant Professors, total 19 (11.87%) faculty members could not decide their point of view about E-resources.

Table-9 : Problems in Accessing E-Resources

Problems	Agree (%)	Disagree (%)
Difficulty in searching applicable information	73 (45.62%)	87 (54.37%)
Library does not subscribe the desired titles	69(43.12%)	91 (56.87%)
Limited access to computers	71 (44.37%)	89 (55.62%)
Lack of time	78 (48.75%)	82 (51.25%)
Poor bandwidth	72 (45%)	88 (55%)

According to Table-9 faculty members faced some problem during accessing E-resources. 73 (45.62%) of the users found difficulty in searching applicable information, 69 (43.12%) faculty members felt that library does not subscribe the desired titles, while 71 (44.37%) faced problem of Limited access to computers, where as 78 (48.75%) users were facing lack of time problem and 72 (45%) of the faculty members found poor bandwidth problem.

7. Major Findings

- » It is evident that males respondents 86 (53.75%) were slightly more than females 74 (46.25%)
- » 138 (86.25%) faculty members were aware of different types of e-resources whereas 22 (13.75%) of faculty members were not aware of the e-resources in their respective subject field.
- » Reference was given to electronic version of resources by 79 (49.37%) respondents but 48 (30.00%) respondents prefer to use both electronic and printed version of resources.

- » Most of the respondents 45 (28.12%) make use of full text databases following by E-Thesis 35 (21.87%) where as 31 (19.37%) respondents make use of E- Journals.
- » Most of the respondents 56 (35%) were using e-resources for preparing lecture notes following for research articles 44 (27.5%).
- » 116 (72.5%) of the faculty members were satisfied with the collection of E-resources.
- » Faculty members faced some problem during accessing E-resources. Maximum number 73(45.62%) of the users found difficulty in searching applicable information and 72(45%) of the faculty members found poor bandwidth problem.

8. Recommendations

The subsequent recommendations are made, which are based on the findings of the study :

- » The training programs must be conducted for the faculty members at some regular intervals about the effective use of the electronic resources.
- » The content page of the e-journals must be displayed on library website home page for attracting faculty members and thereby increasing its usage by them.
- » Digital library management software is to be made essential to manage the digital documents which will help the users to access the e-resources even from outside the campus and should be secured with the password of accessing different e-resources.
- » Their suggestions about their needs and capabilities must be taken before purchasing the e-resources. It will help to provide relevant e-resources and increase the satisfaction level of users.
- » Latest configuration PCs should be made available in the libraries and also in the departments for quick access to e-resources by the faculty members.
- » Fast internet connections, latest anti-virus packages are also need of the hour run the scenario smoothly and to shield the systems from malicious attacks.

9. Conclusion

The attention and utilization of electronic resources and related matters among the faculty members of Engineering Colleges in Sangrur District is explored in this study. The development in the knowledge and communication technologies, particularly internet and electronic resources has facilitated the convergence of present time electronic devices and formats. It has given a revolutionary change in the standard methods of storage, search, retrieval and communication of information. Latest Information has been embedded in various varieties of electronic devices. Nowadays Faculty members are strongly hooked in to e-resources for their information requirements and to keep themselves up-to-date in the field. Therefore, the importance of libraries during this age of e-resources has been increased tremendously. It is particularly useful in providing training and guidance to use authentic and relevant information to the users. For this purpose all the libraries should keep updated with new and necessary tools to produce better services.

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