

AN OPINION ON E-RESOURCES AMONG THE WOMEN ACADEMICIAN: A STUDY

M. Selvi

(Research Scholar, Bharathiar University)

Assistant Technical Officer

University of Madras, Chennai

Email: selvinandu2909@gmail.com

Dr . S. Dhanavandan

Assistant librarian

Gandhigram Rural Institute-Deemed University

Gandhigram-624302, Dindigul dt.tn

E-mail: dhanavandan@gmail.com

Abstracts

This study is aimed to analyse the opinion on E-Resources among the Women. Questionnaire method was adopted to collect the data. Out of 400 questionnaires only 342 (85.5%) were received from respondents. Out of 400 questionnaire, 147(36.75%) were received from the age frequency of 31-45yrs. The highest number of respondents 92(26.9%) were accessed the e-resources more than once in a week. 117(34.21%) respondents were strongly agreed that All activities and programs in electronic information handling are to be based entirely on the needs of users. 124(36.25%) respondents strongly agreed that the students are leading users of –Resources and 106(30.99%) were also agreed that. 138(40.35%) respondents were strongly agreed that the Resources sharing provides greater access to Information Resources to a wide category of users.

Keywords: Opinion on E-Resources, Women,

INTRODUCTION

The credit for women education in modern times goes to missionaries, during colonial time reformers like Raja Rammohan Roy, Annie Besant, Sorojini Naidu and Iswar Chandra Vidyasagar made endless efforts to regain the status of women in the society Kaur, G.(2013)¹

Women's university in India was established in Mumbai in 1916, named S.N.D.T. Women's university. It was founded by Dr. D.K. Karve for the noble cause of education of women. Eleventh five year plan (2007-2012, 192)² Globalization has put a premium on skills and higher levels of education, which are often out of reach of women in the unorganized

sector.. Women need technology support, credit facilities, and marketing support to take up entrepreneurial activities in new and emerging trades.

University Grants Commission (2011)³ started with the part Time Research Associate ships for Women (now renamed as Post Doctoral Fellowships for Women) This scheme was started in the year 1998 with the intention to provide opportunities to unemployed women with Ph.D. degrees, and with an aptitude for research, but unable to pursue the research work on regular basis due to personal or domestic circumstances. Women with Ph.D. degrees and having talent and competence for independent research work, may be take up research in any field of Humanities and Social Sciences, including Languages and Engineering & Technology. The duration of the scheme is for 5 years.

REVIEW LITERATURE

Okello-Obura,C. (2010)⁴ found that the respondents have positive attitudes towards e-resources utilization and they indicated varied problems faced in e-resources utilization and proposed different strategies to improve on e-resources in the University. Among the problems identified are: slow Internet connectivity, inadequate networked computers, lack of access to low cost printers in the library, using advanced search strategies of most databases and lack of awareness of most of the e-resources. Agaba et al. (2004)⁵ examined the utilization of electronic information resources by the academic staff of Makerera University in Uganda and it was found that majority of the staff was aware about the availability of electronic information resources but did not utilize them. Govinda raju (2010)⁶ found by his survey that the use of electronic resources is found to be significant among the users of the Andhra University. This is quite natural and expected in the present day implementation environment. Some of the resources such as e-book, encyclopaedias, e-dictionaries are less used. He also felt that to further maximize use of the e-resources, wide publicity and imparting trainings were found to be necessary. Amjad, A.a , and others (2013)⁷ the results of the study showed that most of the researchers (61%) used electronic resources daily for many purposes and reasons. Most of them (57%) were "satisfied" with the usage of electronic resources. Learning, education, and research were the main purposes, and easy use and easy access to documents were the major reasons of using these resources. Lack of internet connection is the major problem faced by the respondents.

Kindilchie, A.I. , Samarraie, I.F.(2008)⁸ revealed that the databases and e-resources provided by the University were not well utilized by the entire faculty, although they are making a difference to the work of some of the University's faculty members. The University Library needs to undertake a review to identify other databases that may be needed, to promote the use of e- resources in teaching and learning, and to develop the search skills of faculty and students. Selvi and Dhanavandan (2012)⁹ attempted a study the respondents using it internet everyday them once in a week. and 82.22 percent of the respondents were use the Google, 70.22 percent of the respondents were use the yahoo search engine. Dhanavandan and Tamizhchelvan (2012)¹⁰ were identified the availability of E-resources facility and accessing mode in the engineering institutions in Tamilnadu. The users are acquiring knowledge from

E-Books, E-Journals, Online resources, CDROM, Internet with related Databases are the impact of E-Resources. Dhanavandan. (2014)¹¹, was assessed in his study the faculty members visited to the library for the purpose of collecting material for their subject and 55.43% stated that there is excellent collections in library. The respondents stated that the arrangement of reading material in the library is easy to access and 34.29% respondents are satisfied.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The present study aims to analysis the Opinion of Electronic resources among the women in Chennai.

OBJECTIVES

To evaluate the study, following objectives are framed in accordance with the scope of this investigation

1. To classify the respondents according to their age frequency
2. To know the time duration for accessing the e-resources by the respondents
3. To study the frequency of using e-resources respondents
4. To know the specific opinion of the respondents about the e-resources
5. To analyse the opinion about access to E-Journals than printed journals
6. To study the comparative degree of agreement about print journals and electronic journals

METHODOLOGY

This study examines the Opinion on Electronic resources among the women Academicians in Chennai. The data collected from women academicians from various higher educational institutions in Chennai. The data were collected, organized and tabulated according to the objectives of the study and analysed by using statistical tools, such as percentage and ranking analysis.

ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

An exactly 400 questionnaires were distributed to the Women academician in Chennai. Among 400, 342 (85.5%) Questionnaires were received and the data were analysed and the rest of the questionnaires were not replied.

Table 1: Age Wise Distribution of Women Academician

Sl. No	Age Frequency	Questionnaires Distributed	%	Questionnaires Received	%
1	Below 30yrs	125	31.25	105	26.25
2	31-45 Yrs	175	43.75	147	36.75
3	Above 45yrs	100	25	90	22.5
	Total	400	100	342	85.5

Table 1 shows the age frequency of the respondents. Among the 400, 125(31.25%) were issued to the respondents of below 30yrs, 175(43.75%) were issued to the frequency of 31-45yrs and 100(25%) were issued to above 45yrs. From the table it is observed that the Number of respondents were highest in the 31-45 yrs. age frequency and it is followed by the below 30yrs and above 45 yrs. Among the 400 questionnaire, 342 received after duly filled which includes 147(36.75%) were received from the age frequency of 31-45ys, 105(26.25%) were received from below 30yrs and 90(22.5%) were received from above 45yrs which also the least one among the category.

Table 2: Frequency of Accessing the E-Resources

S.No	Frequency	No.of Respondents	%
1	Daily	87	25.44
2	Once in a week	65	19.01
3	More than once in a week	92	26.90
4	Once in fortnight	49	14.33
5	Once in a Month	28	8.19
6	Occasionally	21	6.14
	Total	342	100.00

Table 2 identifies that the frequency of accessing the e-resources by the woman academicians in Chennai. Among the 342, 92(26.9%) were accessed the e-resources more than once in a week and it is followed by 87(25.43%) respondents were daily, 65(19%) were once in a week, 49(14.3%) were once in fortnight, 28(8.18%) were once in a month, 21(6.14%) occasionally. It is concluded that the maximum of the respondents were accessing the e-resources more than once in a week.

Table 3: Frequency of Time Spent to Access the E-Resources

Sl. No	Time Frequency	No.of Respondents	%
1	More than 8hrs per week	72	21.05
2	6-8hrs per week	96	28.07
3	4-6hrs per week	84	24.56
4	2-4hrs per week	58	16.96
5	Less than 2hrs per week	32	9.36
	Total	342	100.00

Table 3 reveals that the time frequency to access the e-resources by the women academicians in Chennai. The highest number of respondents 96(28.07) were spent 11-15hrs per week, 84(24.56%) were 7-10hrs per week, 72(21.05%) were more than 20hrs per week, 32(9.35%) were less than 4hrs per week and 58(16.95%) were spent 4-6hrs per week among the 342 respondents. It is pointed out that the maximum of the respondents were spent 6-8hrs per week to access the e-resources.

Table 4: Specific Opinion Information On E-Resources

Sl. No.	STATEMENTS	Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
1	Electronic Resources are likely to replace print resources.	94(27.5)	85(24.8)	47(13.7)	67(19.6)	49(14.32)
2	Bottle neck in the development of E-Resources is lack of awareness on the part of the academic community.	47(13.7)	52(15.2)	29(8.47)	109(31.84)	105(30.7)
3	Developments of E-Resources are hampered due to lack of demand from the users.	37(10.8)	78(22.8)	18(5.26)	112(32.74)	97(28.36)
4	Lack of access to the computers to make use of Electronic collections is the cause for non-development of E-Resources.	68(19.88)	72(21.05)	36(10.52)	117(34.24)	49(14.32)
5	Library E-Resources are not used because of lack of skills of users.	72(21.05)	87(25.43)	12(3.5)	112(32.74)	59(17.25)
6	Most of the Libraries have not particular process for evaluating the resources before purchase.	67(19.5)	124(36.25)	43(12.57)	98(28.6)	10(2.9)
7	Downloading is a major problem in the use of E-Resources.	132(38.59)	128(37.4)	29(8.40)	28(8.18)	25(7.3)
8	Poor collection of materials in the digital library is the reason for its non-development.	128(37.4)	97(28.3)	27(7.8)	69(20.17)	21(6.1)
9	Most of the faculty members of Engineering colleges are familiar with usage of digital Resources.	98(28.6)	85(24.8)	42(12.28)	67(19.59)	50(14.61)

10	The Faculty members are using digital resources for enhancing and upgrading communication skills.	62(18.1)	57(16.6)	72(21.05)	85(24.85)	66(19.29)
11	All activities and programs in electronic information handling are to be based entirely on the needs of users.	117(34.2)	124(36.25)	26(7.6)	52(15.2)	23(6.7)
12	Students are leading users of E-Resources.	124(36.25)	106(30.99)	23(6.7)	72(21.05)	17(4.9)
13	More computer should be exclusively provided in the Library for the benefit of the faculty members than the present.	53(15.49)	62(18.12)	42(12.28)	96(28.07)	89(26.02)
14	Most of the faculty members are mainly using search Engines compared to other Digital Resources.	63(18.42)	74(21.63)	56(16.37)	67(19.6)	82(23.9)
15	Faculty members' attitudes seem to be very positive towards E-Resources for their study and research.	57(16.6)	52(15.2)	19(5.5)	98(28.6)	116(33.9)
16	Library hours to use the E-Resources facility to be provided to students at least 3 periods per week.	97(28.36)	64(18.7)	27(7.89)	76(22.2)	78(22.8)
17	Separate computer facility should be provided to the students at least with a ratio of 1:30.	87(25.43)	74(21.63)	31(9.06)	78(22.8)	72(21.05)
18	Basic training has to be given to students to effectively use the E-Resources of the library.	126(36.8)	103(30.1)	17(4.9)	47(13.7)	49(14.32)
19	Resources sharing provides greater access to Information Resources to a wide category of users	138(4.35)	117(34.2)	26(7.6)	52(15.2)	23(6.72)
20	Resource sharing can be activated by strengthening the existing consortia.	94(27.5)	86(25.14)	34(9.94)	73(21.34)	55(16.08)
21	Starting new consortia in a way may be helpful to resource	63(18.42)	79(23.09)	42(12.28)	92(26.9)	66(19.29)

	sharing.					
22	Linking all the consortia may provide a better service.	78(22.8)	92(26.90)	42(12.28)	67(19.6)	63(18.42)
23	Management should provide necessary infrastructure for the success of E-Resources development.	128(37.42)	103(30.1)	27(7.89)	72(21.05)	12(3.5)

Table: 4 reveals that the specific opinion on E-Resources. 94(27.5%) respondents were strongly agreed that the electronic resources are likely to replace print resources, 67(19.6%) were disagreed. 132(38.59%) were strongly agreed that the Downloading is the major problem in the use of e-resources. 128(37.4%) were strongly agreed that the Poor collection of materials in the digital library is the reason for its non-development, 97(28.36%) were agreed. 98(28.6%) of the respondents were agreed that the Most of the faculty members of Engineering colleges are familiar with usage of digital Resources, 50(14.61) were strongly disagreed and 42(12.28) were no opinion. 62(18.1%) were strongly disagreed that the Faculty members are using digital resources for enhancing and upgrading communication skills and 66(19.29) were strongly disagreed.

The 117(34.21%) respondents were strongly agreed that All activities and programs in electronic information handling are to be based entirely on the needs of users, 124(36.25%) were agreed, 23(6.7%) were strongly disagreed. 57(16.6%) respondents were strongly agreed that the Faculty members' attitudes seem to be very positive towards E-Resources for their study and research and 116(33.9%) were strongly dissatisfied. 126(36.8%) were strongly agreed that the Basic training has to be given to students to effectively use the E-Resources of the library, 130(30.1%) were agreed and 49(14.32%) were strongly disagreed. 124(36.25%) respondents strongly agreed that the students are leading users of –Resources and 106(30.99%) were also agreed that. 74(21.63%) respondents were agreed that Most of the faculty members are mainly using search Engines compared to other Digital Resources. The 138(40.35%) respondents were strongly agreed that the Resources sharing provides greater access to Information Resources to a wide category of users, 117(34.2%) were agreed. 86(25.1%) were agreed that the Resource sharing can be activated by strengthening the existing consortia, 55(16.08) were strongly dissatisfied. 78(22.8%) respondents were strongly agreed that Linking all the consortia may provide a better service. 28(37.42%) respondents were strongly agreed that the Management should provide necessary infrastructure for the success of E-Resources development and 103(30.1%) were agreed.

Table 5: Opinion about Access to E-Journals than Printed Journals

S. No.	Opinion	Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
1	More User Friendly than Printed Journals	132(38.5)	117(34.2)	42(12.28)	37(10.8)	14(4)
2	More Frequently used	76(22.2)	124(36.25)	62(18.1)	45(13.15)	35(9.9)

3	Enhance access to Scientific/ Research Papers.	107(31.28)	113(33)	37(10.8)	42(12.28)	43(12.57)
4	Decrease the Quality of Research Literature	69 (20.17)	93(27.2)	72(21.05)	57(16.6)	51(14.9)
5	Increase Scholarly Productivity in terms of Publishing Papers.	98(28.65)	96(28.07)	44(12.28)	62(18.12)	42(12.28)
6	Keep Current about Global Research & Development.	127(37.13)	146(42.69)	27(7.8)	33(9.6)	9(2.6)
7	Distribution of Articles Easier and Less Costly.	42(12.28)	34(9.94)	72(21.05)	86(25.14)	108(31.57)
8	Features like Editorial News, links to Other Papers, Alerts etc. are Useful.	119(34.79)	97(28.36)	36(10.52)	48(14.03)	42(12.28)

Table 5 identifies that the opinion about access to E-journals than printed journals. The highest number of respondents 132(38.5%) were strongly agreed that the electronic journals were more user friendly than printed journals, 117(34.2%) were agreed, 14(4%) were disagreed. 124(36.25%) respondents were agreed that they used e-journals more frequently, 45(13.15%) were disagreed. 107(31.28%) were strongly agreed that the e-journals enhance access to Scientific/ Research Papers, 43(12.57%) were strongly disagreed. 51(14.19%) were disagreed that the e-journals decrease the quality of research literature. The 146(42.69%) were agreed that it Keep Current about Global Research & Development, 33(9.6%) were disagreed. 119(34.79%) respondents were strongly agreed that the Features like Editorial News, links to Other Papers, Alerts etc. are Useful, 42(12.28%) were strongly disagreed

Table 6: Comparative Degree of Agreement about Print Journals and Electronic Journals

S.No.	Opinion about Electronic Vs Print	Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
1	Research in my Field/Area/ Discipline is Dependent on the Library's Electronic Journals.	60 (17.54)	128 (37.42)	40 (11.69)	68 (19.8)	46 (13.45)
2	Research in my Field/ Area/ Discipline is Dependent on the Library's Print Journals	72 (21.05)	142 (41.5)	65 (19)	39 (11.4)	24 (7.01)
3	Electronic Journals are a Suitable Alternative To Print Journals	47 (13.7)	98 (28.6)	56 (16.37)	85 (24.8)	56 (16.37)
4	In my Field/Area/Discipline back Volumes of e-journals	57 (16.6)	69 (20.17)	72 (21.05)	108 (31.57)	36 (10.5)

	go far enough back to meet my Needs.					
5	In my Field/Area/Discipline back Volumes of Print Journals go far Enough back to meet my Needs	112 (32.7)	98 (28.6)	43 (12.57)	64 (18.7)	25 (7.3)
6	The Indexes and Databases, I use to Find Articles, Provide Good Coverage of Electronic Journal Articles.	124 (36.25)	118(34.5)	37(10.8)	45(13.1)	18(5.26)
7	Using the Online Library Catalogue makes it Easier to Locate Electronic Journals.	85 (24.8)	96 (28.07)	48 (14.03)	76 (22.2)	37 (10.8)

Table: 6 shows that the comparative degree of agreement about print journals and electronic journals. 98(28.6%) were agreed that the electronic journals are suitable alternative to print journals and 85(24.8%) were disagreed, 56(16.37) were strongly disagreed. 124(36.25%) were strongly agreed that they used to find the articles through the Indexes and Databases, which Provide Good Coverage of Electronic Journal Articles.118(34.5%) were agreed, 45(13.15%) were disagreed. 96(28.07%) were agreed that they used the Online Library Catalogue which makes it Easier to Locate Electronic Journals,76(22.2%) were disagreed, 48(14.03) were No opinion and 37(10.8%) were strongly disagreed. The 108(31.57) were disagreed that their Field/Area/Discipline back Volumes of e-journals go far enough back to meet their Need, 36(10.5) were strongly disagreed, 57(16.6%) were strongly agreed. 68(19.8%) were disagreed that their Research in their Field/Area/ Discipline is Dependent on the Library's Electronic Journals and 60(17.54%) were strongly agreed.

CONCLUSION

Most of the women academician are familiar access the e-resources in their academic and research activities. So library must enhance their services and motivate the users to spent their time in the library, to utilize e-resources collection for their information needs.

REFERENCES

1. Gurpreet Kaur (2013). Measures To Promote Women Education Before and After Independence, *Education Confab*, 2(11) ,pp.49-54, ISSN: 2320 009X
2. Planning Commission. (2008). Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007–2012): Social Sector Volume II. New Delhi: Oxford University Press, for Planning Commission (Government of India) 2008. 184
3. University Grants Commission. (2011). Higher education in India: Strategies and Schemes during Eleventh Plan Period(2007-2012) for Universities and Colleges. New Delhi: University Grants Commission. 83.

4. Okello-Obura, C. (2010) - “Assessment of the problems LIS postgraduate students face in accessing e-resources in Makerere University, Uganda”, *Collection Building*, 29(3) pp. 98-105, ISSN: 01604953, DOI: 10.1108/01604951011060385
5. Agaba, D.; Kigogo-Bukenya, I.M.N.; and Nyumba, J.B.- (2004), “Utilization of Electronic Information Resources by Academic Staff at Makerere University”, *University of Dar es Salaam Library Journal*, 6(1) PP. 18-28. Available from <http://www.ajol.info/viewarticle.php?jid=164&id=16357&layout>
6. Govindaraju, Nemani. (2010) Use and user awareness of E-resources in Andhra University library: A study. *PEARL: A journal of Library and Information Science*, 4(3), pp.183-188.
7. Amjad, A.a ,Ahmed, S.a, Naeem, S.B.b (2013) ‘Use of Electronic Information Resources Among Research Scholars in the Islamia University of Bahawalpur’, *Pakistan New Review of Academic Librarianship*,19(3), pp 316-328, ISSN: 13614533 DOI: 10.1080/13614533.2013.829505
8. Kindilchie, A.I. , Samarraie, I.F.(2008) “Interaction and impact of electronic information resources on Qatar university faculty”, *Libri* ,58(4), pp 281-293, ISSN: 00242667. DOI: 10.1515/libr.2008.028
9. Selvi, M. and Dhanavandan, S., (2012), A Study on Utilization of Internet Resources and Tools by Basic Medical Science Professionals”, *Journal of Emerging Trends in Computing and Information Sciences*, 3(12) :1634-1637.
10. Dhanavandan, S., Tamizhchelvan M., (2012). An Evaluation of E-Resources in Academic Libraries Tamil Nadu, *Journal of Emerging Trends in Computing and Information Sciences*, 3 (3):421-426.
11. Dhanavandan, S. (2014). Knowledge and utilization of e-resources and services in Annamalai University Library. *International Journal of Information Dissemination and Technology*, 4(1),: 95-100.