

USE OF UGC-INFONET E-JOURNALS BY FACULTY MEMBERS AND RESEARCH SCHOLARS OF KAKATIYA UNIVERSITY : A CASE STUDY

M. Kishore Kumar

Research Scholar in Library & Information Science
JNTUK, Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh.
E-mail: kishore313@gmail.com

Dr. M. Anjaiah

Assistant Professor, Dept of LIS,
Dravidian University, Kuppam,, Andhra Pradesh.
E-mail: anjaiahlib@gmail.com

Abstract

The present study reports on a survey of faculty members and research scholars who use UGC-Infonet Digital Library Consortium for accessing the e-journals. This article has stated the problem faced by respondents in using UGC-Infonet e-journals and the purpose of using it. It also shows how this consortium influence the respondents in research way. It is survey based research article, well-structured questionnaire was designed and is distributed among 160 faculty members and research scholars. Analysis is prepared on the bases of collected data. This research focuses on faculty members and research scholars of Kakatiya University only.

Key words: e- resources, e-journals, UGC-Infonet, Digital Library Consortium, Kakatiya University library.

Introduction:

Library Consortia is a group of Libraries or Publishers they work together in order to fulfill the goals and to achieve mutual objectives and get benefits. The term consortium is not a new concept but it is sharing resources weather it is local, National or International. It will give more and quantitative information in less time at least cost. In India, many consortia came in to market like CSIR, INDEST-AICTE, FORSA, HELINET, UGC-Infonet Digital Library Consortium. These Consortiums provide thousands of e-journals helpful for research and academicians on their fingertips. The Consortiums are much useful for University Libraries because there are more and different types of users exist.

About UGC-INFONET Consortium:

The UGC-Infonet Digital Library Consortium was formally launched on 28th December 2003 by Honorable President Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam. The Consortium provides current as well as archival access to more than 7500 core and peer-reviewed electronic journals and 10 bibliographic databases from 26 publishers and aggregators in different disciplines. INFLIBNET center is the coordinating agency and the project funded by UGC.

Recently an expert committee recommended to MHRD is merge three consortia's are UGC-INFONET Digital Library Consortium, NLIST and INDEST – AICTE Consortium and named as e-Shodh Sindhu. It will continue to provide current as well as archival access to more than 15,000 core and peer-reviewed journals and a number of bibliographic, citation and factual databases in different disciplines from a large number of publishers and aggregators to its member institutions including centrally-funded technical institutions, universities and colleges that are covered under 12(B) and 2(f) Sections of the UGC Act.

About Kakatiya University Library:

Kakatiya University, Warangal was established in 1976. It is at Warangal District, State of Telangana. The development of the University over the years has been gradual but impressive. The University was initially accredited with B+ grade by the NAAC in 2002 and reaccredited with A grade in 2008. The University situated in a sprawling area of about 650 acres, has now 24 departments in four colleges on the campus with a network of eleven constituent colleges and 471 affiliated colleges. The University is now offering programmes in Engineering, Pharmacy, Law, Computer Science, Business Management, Education, Science, Arts, Commerce, Oriental courses in the University, constituent and affiliated colleges.

The motto of the university is “**Marching towards Academic Excellence**”.

University Library having Total Books: 1,50,813

Number of Print Journals: 151

National Print Journals: 125; International Print Journals: 26.

E-Resources and E-Databases Subscribed by Kakatiya University Central Library from

UGC-Infonet Digital Library Consortium

E-RESOURCES	
1	American Chemical Society
2	American Institute of Physics
3	American Physical Society
4	Annual Reviews
5	Cambridge University Press
6	Economic & Political Weekly

7	Institute of Physics
8	JSTOR
9	Oxford University Press
10	Royal Society of Chemistry
11	Springer Link
12	Taylor & Francis
13	Wiley-Blackwell
E-DATA BASES	
1	ISID
2	Web of Science
3	JCCC

Objectives:

1. To know the extent of awareness and use of the UGC-Infonet e-journals by faculty members and research scholars.
2. To measure the frequency of access to the e-journals.
3. To identify the usage pattern of UGC-Infonet e-journals.
4. To know the purpose of using UGC-Infonet e-journals.
5. To know the satisfaction levels of respondents.
6. To find the problems of the research scholars and faculty members which accessing the UGC-Infonet e-journals.
7. To know the suggestions and opinions from the users to words use of UGC-Infonete-journals.

Methodology:

Survey method is adopted and questionnaire has been used for data collection. This questionnaire is designed keeping in the view of the objective of the study. The questionnaire was distributed among 160 faculty members and research scholars, but only 121 members out of them respond and shared the information helpful for analysis.

Scope of the Study:

- Kakatiya University
- UGC-Infonet Digital Library Consortium
- Faculty Members and Research Scholars

Review of Literature:

There are large numbers of studies made on usage of UGC-Infonet e-resources.

1. Ahmed, Naveed; Basha, Imtiaz; Fatima, Nishanth(2012) here they expressed most of the research scholars are aware about the UGC-Infonet Consortium. Research scholars use the UGC-Infonet Consortium to keep their subject knowledge update. Research scholars need orientation/training programmes to use UGC-Infonet

- Consortium. Majority of research scholars in Delhi University use UGC-Infonet e-journals for their research work.
2. Anjaiah.M(2014) article reveals that majority of faculty members and research scholars have been using internet to obtain the e-information for teaching and research. Most of the respondents are fully satisfied with usage of UGC-Infonet Digital Library Consortium. He has given ranks to the publishers which are in UGC-Infonet Digital Library Consortium.
 3. Nagesh Laxman Londhe and Neela J. Deshpande(2013) The paper focuses on the study of usage of e-resources available through UGC-INFONET Digital Library Consortium by University of Pune users. The objective is to find trends in usage of e-resources and which e-resources are used to the maximum. More users are getting awareness of e-resources and using e-databases. Some databases contain very less titles, but the usage of these databases is very high. Subject specific databases are highly used than multi-subject databases.
 4. Ravindra K Maharana; Ashok Kumar Das; SubratPat(2013) here explains the usage of UGC-Infonet among the academic community of odissa state. Most of the respondents have knowledge about ICT. Faculty members are like to use UGC-Infonet Digital Library Services in their department. UGC-Infonet Consortium is very useful for publishing the paper,importing education & teaching and for seminar and conference.
 5. S Thanuskodi(2012)made a study a on faculty members of Social and Social science Departments, Science faculty members are more aware of UGC-Infonet Digital Library Consortium. In his study, he stated that most respondents use the UGC-Infonet resources for the purpose of research work.
 6. SohailMd, Imran Ahmed Md(2011) in their study majority of the respondents need regular training programme to effective usage of UGC-Infonet Consortium. Most of the respondents recommended print journals in addition to e-journals, also UGC-Infonet Digital Library Consortium need to add more e-journals.
 7. Somashekara.Y.L(2014) in his research paper he stated the importance of UGC-Infonet Digital Library Consortium and usage statistics of universities in Karnataka. He found the draw backs like request article did not work properly and some university library did not respond properly. Humanities and Arts journals were very less.

Data Analysis and Interpretation:

Data analysis is the most important step in research process. It shows the relation between collected data and particular results. The questionnaires distributed and collected from the respondents which is presented in table -1

Table-1 Distribution of Questionnaires

S. No	Status of the Respondent	No. of questionnaires distributed	No. of questionnaires received
1	Faculty Members	50(31.25)	38(31.40)
2	Research Scholars	110(66.75)	83(68.59)
		160(100)	121(72.89)

Table- 1 indicates that, a total of 160members were distributed questionnaires among faculty members and research scholars, but the respondents are 121(72.89). 110 questionnaires were distributed to research scholars and received 83, followed by 50 questionnaires distributed among faculty members and received 38, 39 members are not.

Table-2 Gender wise – Distribution

S. No	Status of the Respondent	Female	Male	Total
1	Faculty Members	18(14.87)	20(16.52)	38(31.40)
2	Research Scholars	31(25.61)	52(42.97)	83(68.58)
		49(40.48)	72(59.49)	121(100)

Table-2 indicates that gender wise distribution questionnaires, Out of 121 respondents 72(59.49) are the male, followed by 49(40.48) respondents are female. The ratio between male and female is almost same in faculty members but in research scholars it is little high.

Table-3 Number of Respondents Course Wise

S. No	Course	Faculty Members	Research Scholars	Total
1	Social	17(14.04)	37(30.57)	54(44.61)
2	Science	12(9.91)	26(21.48)	38(31.40)
4	Engineering & Technology	9(7.43)	20(16.52)	29(23.96)
		38(31.40)	83(68.60)	121(100)

Table-3 explains most of the respondents 54(44.61) belong to Social group, followed by 38(31.40) respondents from Science group. 29(23.96) respondents are from Engineering and Technology.

Table-4 How Long Using e-resources

S. No.	Status of Respondents	0-1 year	1-2 year	2-3 year	3-4 year	4-5 year	5-6 year	6-7 year	7-8 year	8-9 year	9-10 year	Above 10 years	Total
1	Faculty Members	4	3	3	5	4	-	-	4	5	7	3	38
2	Research Scholars	9	11	12	20	31	-	-	-	-	-	-	83
		13	14	15	25	35			4	5	7	3	121

Table – 4 Reveals most of the respondents 35(28.92) are using e-resources between the 4-5 years, and 67(55.37) respondents are using e-resources from last 0- 4 years, followed by 19 (15.70) faculty members are using e- resources 7 years and above.

Table-5 Awareness of UGC- Infonet Consortium

S. No	Status of Respondent	Yes	No	Total
1	Faculty Members	38(31.40)	0	38(31.4)
2	Research Scholars	83(68.59)	0	83(68.59)
		121	0	121(100)

Table-5 explains that out of 121 every respondent are aware of UGC-Infonet Consortium. Because in the beginning of every academic year university library will conduct an orientation programme for a week by this every respondent is aware about this consortium.

Table-6 Frequency of Use of the UGC- Infonet e-journals

S. No.	Frequency	Faculty Members	Research Scholars	Total
1	Every Day	7(5.78)	13(10.74)	20(16.52)
2	Once in Two Days	11(9.09)	29(23.96)	40(33.05)
3	Once in a Week	14(11.57)	16(13.22)	30(24.79)
4	Every 15 Days	2(1.65)	15(12.39)	17(14.04)
5	Once in a month	4(3.30)	10(8.26)	14(11.56)
		38(31.40)	83(68.57)	121(100)

Table-6 states that majority of the respondents 40(33.05) use UGC-Infonet e-journals once in two days in this research scholars 29(23.96). Out of 38 most of the faculty members 14(11.57) use UGC-Infonet e-journals once in a week. It is very good to know that faculty members and research scholars are willing to use UGC-Infonet journals regularly.

Table-7 Purpose of Using UGC-Infonet e-journals

S. No.	Purpose	Faculty Members	Research Scholars	Total
1	For Research and guidance	11(9.09)	41(33.88)	52(42.97)
2	For Teaching	9(7.43)	-	9(7.43)
3	Professional Development	7(5.78)	10(8.26)	17(14.04)
4	Publishing Articles	5(4.13)	13(10.74)	18(14.87)
5	To update the subject knowledge	6(4.95)	19(15.70)	25(20.65)
		38(31.38)	83(68.58)	121(100)

From the above Table-7 most of the respondents 52(42.97) use UGC-Infonet for research purpose, followed by 25(20.65) respondents use to be updated their subject,18(14.87) respondents using UGC-Infonet e-journals for prepare and publish the articles. This table simply saying that UGC-Infonet e-journals are essential in academic scenario.

Table-8 which key word you use to Search e-journals in UGC-Infonet

S. No.	Key Word	Faculty Members	Research Scholars	Total
1	By Journal Name	14(11.57)	31(25.61)	45(37.39)
2	By Publisher	6(4.95)	12(9.91)	18(14.87)
3	By Author	2(1.65)	8(6.61)	10(8.26)
4	By Subject	13(10.74)	25(20.66)	38(31.40)
5	By ISSN Number	3(2.47)	7(5.7)	10(8.26)
		38(31.40)	83(68.59)	121(100)

Table-8 Indicates that the majority of the respondents 45(37.19) use the journal name as the key word to search e-journals in UGC-Infonet, followed by 38(31.40) respondents use the subjects name as key word to search e-journals in UGC-Infonet.

Table-9 Which place you wish to have access to the UGC-Infonet e-journals

S. No.	Place	Faculty Members	Research Scholars	Total
1	University Library	5(4.13)	37(30.57)	42(34.7)
2	Department	16(13.22)	20(16.52)	36(29.75)
3	Computer Centre	3(2.47)	9(7.43)	12(9.90)
4	Residence(On Campus)	4(3.30)	13(10.74)	17(14.04)
5	At your Desk	10(8.26)	4(3.30)	14(11.57)
		38(31.38)	83(68.56)	121(100)

Table-9 Depicts that the majority 42(34.71) respondents wish to use UGC-Infonet e-journals at University Library. In this, research scholars are 37(30.57), followed by 36(29.75) respondents wish to use UGC-Infonet e-journals at their own Department in this faculty members are 16(13.22).

Table-10 Problems in Accessing the UGC-Infonet e-journals

S. No.	Problems	Faculty Members	Research Scholars	Total
1	Slow Access	31(25.61)	77(63.63)	108(89.24)
2	Software Problems	15(12.39)	47(38.84)	62(51.23)
3	Insufficient Terminals	24(19.83)	70(57.85)	94(77.68)
4	Inconvenient Timings	25(20.66)	61(50.41)	86(71.07)
5	UGC-Infonet Site Failure	18(14.87)	39(32.23)	57(47.1)
6	Internet Connectivity Failure	20(16.52)	53(43.80)	73(60.32)

The above Table-10 stated that the majority of the respondents are facing problems while accessing the UGC-Infonet e-journals. Out of 121 respondents 108(89.24) facing the slow access problem, followed by 94(77.68) of respondents are facing problem of insufficient Terminals. UGC-Infonet e-journals are not very much utilized by the respondents.

Table-11 Need more e-journals in UGC-Infonet Consortium

S. No.	Status of the Respondent	Yes	No	Total
1	Faculty Members	25(20.66)	13(10.74)	38(31.40)
2	Research Scholars	69(57.02)	14(11.57)	83(68.60)
		94(77.68)	27(22.31)	121(100)

The above Table 11 stated that the majority 94(77.68) of the respondent need to add more journals to this consortium, followed by 27(22.31) respondents are replied that there is no need to add.

Table-12 Need of Training Programmes

S. No.	Status of Respondent	Yes	No	Total
1	Faculty Members	27(22.31)	11(9.09)	38(31.40)
2	Research Scholars	70(57.85)	13(10.74)	83(68.59)
		97(80.16)	24(19.83)	121(100)

Above Table-12 states that the majority of Respondents 97(80.16) need the Training programmes, followed by 24 (19.83) respondents donot needany training programmes.

Table-13 User Satisfaction Levels of UGC-Infonet e-journals

S. No.	Satisfaction Levels	Faculty Members	Research Scholars	Total
1	Fully Satisfied	8(6.61)	28(23.14)	36(29.75)
2	Partially Satisfied	17(14.04)	35(28.9)	52(42.94)
3	Not Satisfied	13(10.74)	20(16.52)	33(27.26)
		38(31.39)	83(68.56)	121(100)

Table-13 state the details about user satisfaction on UGC-Infonet e- journals. Out of 121 respondents 88(72.69) are satisfied, followed by 33(27.36) respondents are not satisfied with this UGC-Infonet e-journals. Some respondents want more journals and more publishers add to UGC-Infonet e-journals. It is very useful for further growth.

Table-14 Impact of UGC-Infonet e-journals

S. No.	Status of the Respondent	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor	Total
1	Faculty Members	19(15.70)	12(9.91)	2(1.65)	5(4.13)	38(31.40)
2	Research Scholars	25(20.66)	31(25.61)	18(14.87)	9(7.43)	83(68.59)
		44(36.36)	43(35.32)	20(16.52)	14(11.56)	121(100)

Above Table-14 explains that 44(36.36) respondents rated UGC-Infonet Service is excellent, followed by 43(35.32) rated as good, 20(16.52) respondents rated as Average, Only 14(11.56) respondents rated it as poor.

Findings of the Study:

The Following findings were found in my present study are

1. A majority of respondents 72(59.49) are male, followed by female 49(40.48).
2. Most of respondent 80(66.11) are aware about UGC-Infonet e-journals, followed by 41(33.68) are do not have awareness.
3. Majority of respondents 102(82.89) are using e-resources from 0-5 years, 19 faculty members are using e-resources from 7 and above years.
4. Out of 121 respondents 40(33.05) are use UGC-Infonet e-journals once in Two days, most of the faculty members are 14(11.57) use UGC-Infonet e-journals once in a week.
5. Most of respondents 52(42.97) are use this UGC-Infonet e-journals for research purpose, followed by 25(20.65) respondents use it to keep them current in subject.
6. A majority of respondents 42(34.75) wish to use UGC-Infonet e-journals service in University Library, followed by 36(29.75) respondents are interested to use this service at departments.
7. A majority of respondents 45(37.19) are use the journal name as key word to search UGC-Infonet e-journals, followed by 35(31.40) respondents use the subject name as key word.
8. The major problem in using UGC-Infonet service is slow access and inconvenient timing.
9. A majority 88(72.69) respondents are satisfied with UGC-Infonet service, followed by 33 (27.26) are not satisfied with this service they need more e-resources are add to this consortium.

Conclusion & Suggestions:

Now a day's libraries are subscribing more number of e-resources and spending more funds. The present study reveals that most of the respondents accepted UGC-Infonet Service is very useful for University academicians. Library professionals has to conduct user education programmes, awareness programmes, Training programmes, workshops, etc., Take further actions to reach the expectations of the respondents. There are more number of journals needed to add in UGC-Infonet Consortium. University Digital Library should get connected with high speed internet, need to purchase new version of computer systems and increase their number. Library should create digital database and keep a list of all subscribed e-resources on user desk top, give link to digital library software through which user can search all e-resources easily.

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