

MANAGEMENT OF E-RESOURCES AND ITS UTILITIES IN ACADEMIC LIBRARY

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Abstract: - *The paper focuses on the various aspects of E-Resources. Digital technology has made it more easy, speedy and comfortable to apply the stored intellect. This collected information through the ages has to be used for further research; betterment and overall development of the society. Electronic resources are easily accessible in remote areas. Electronic resources solve storage problems and control the flood of information. Print sources are being digitized. Electronic information sources are becoming more and more important for the academic community. The advent of technology has made the libraries to add new things to its collection. The more prominent among them is the e-resources. This paper presents an overview of these resources, describes a few advantages and disadvantages, and gives addresses of few web sites.*

Keywords: E-Resources, E-Books, E-Journals E-Newspaper And E-Thesis.

Introduction :-

The digitization of information in print media has brought a new concept altogether in all the. An electronic resource is defined as a resource which requires computer access or any electronic product that delivers a collection of data, be it referring to full text bases, electronic journals, image collections, other multimedia products and numerical, graphical or time based, as a commercially available title that has been published with an aim to being marketed. These may be delivered on CD ROM, on tape, via Internet and so on. These are more useful due to

inherent capabilities for manipulation and searching, providing information access is cheaper to acquiring information resources, savings in storage and maintenance etc. and sometimes the electronic form is the only alternative. The developments in scientific publishing and the pricing policies of publishers posed new challenges and opportunities for academic libraries in purchasing and managing the serials within their restricted budget.

The library and information services of the 21st century are fast changing. With the rapid development of electronic publishing, libraries are

not only acquiring reading materials such as printed books and journals but also arranging for providing access to various learning resources in electronic form. The web resources and the use of web as a tool is changing the way users live and learn. While in the early phase, the World Wide Web was mainly used for International Journal of Information Sources and Services push type applications to provide information and resources to users, the development of Web 2.0 and the spread of open sources and shared use concept have focused on user generated content and applications for sharing. This has led to the rapid development and popularity of electronic resources. E-Resources are occupying a significant portion of the global literature. They refer to information sources in electronic form. The different types of e-resources are, E-books, E-journals, Databases, CDs/DVDs, E-conference proceedings, E-Reports, E-Maps, E-Pictures/Photographs, E-Manuscripts, E-Theses, E-Newspaper, Internet/Websites - Listservs, Newsgroups, Subject Gateways, USENET, FAQs etc. These may be delivered on CD-ROM / DVD, over the Internet and so on. Providing access to e-resources is a service to help library users to find e-Databases, e-Journals, e-Magazines, e-Books/ e-Audio/ e-Images, Data/ GIS, Digital Library Projects, Electronic Exhibitions, e-Subject Guide, e-newsletters, E-conferences proceedings and Web search tools on a range of topic. The electronic books are helpful because of their easy portability and its feature of incorporating more than one book in a single hand held device. The

published materials are also available on open access platform. This helps the poorer also to get the information required free of cost and bridge the digital divide. They need not worry for licensing and usage of the information. According to Dr. S. R. Ranganathan, in his fifth law Library is a growing organism. Library is not a store house of books, it is a knowledge centre. Every reader visits the library with the intention to get the solution for his problem. Library should fulfill the needs of user community.

Definition :-

According to AACR2, 2005 Update, an electronic resource is: "Material (data and/or program(s)) encoded for manipulation by a computerized device. This material may require the use of a peripheral directly connected to a computerized device (e.g., CD-ROM drive) or a connection to a computer network (e.g., the Internet)." This definition does not include electronic resources that do not require the use of a computer, for example, music compact discs and videodiscs. According to Library and Information Technology Glossary "Term used to describe all of the information products that a library provides through a computer network....."

According to Wikipedia, Electronic Resources means "Information (usually a file) which can be stored in the form of electrical signals, usually on a computer; Information available on the Internet".

According to Gradman glossary, "A publication in digital format which must be stored and read on a

computer device. There are two types: Direct access: these are physical objects such as CD-ROMs, diskettes, computer tapes, and computer cards, containing text, images, 3. Need of E-Resources

E-Resources enable the librarian to provide better service to the user community. The few considerable points are mentioned bellow:

- i. To get access to an information source by the more than one users.
- ii. E-Resources can be searched quickly.
- iii. These can be found easily by the user.
- iv. These resources can be stored in huge amount.
- v. Amount of time spent on the E-Resources use.
- vi. Analyses the purpose of using e-resources by respondent
- vii. Know different types of e-resources commonly used by respondents
- viii. To collect, store, organize information in digital form.

Types of E-Resources :-

1. E-Book E-books is the many formats competing for prime time, including Adobe PDF, Microsoft Reader, eReader, Mobipocket Reader, EPUB, Kindle and iPad
2. E-Journal An e-journal is very important part of every library collection. E-journals are one application of information technology.
3. E-Newspaper An E- newspaper **is** also known **as** online newspaper **or web** newspaper that exists on the World Wide Web or internet.

4. E-Magazines An E-Magazine **is very** important part of every library collection. E-Magazines are one application of information technology.

5. Indexing and Abstracting Databases These are the reference sources which provide bibliographic information about journal including abstracts of the articles.

6. Full text database Today are either free or with charges. E-databases is an organized collection of information of a particular subject or multidisciplinary subject areas, information within e-databases can be searched and retrieved electronically.

7. Reference database, These are many Dictionaries, Almanacs, and Encyclopedias, which are available on internet in electronic format.

8. Statistical database. These databases contain the numerical data useful for the mass community.

9. Image collection. Due to adventure of e-images facility this type of databases is developed.

10. Multimedia products etc.

11. E-Thesis These databases are contained with PhD thesis and Dissertation published through e-format.

Utilities of E-Resources :-

Now a days the reading materials and information sources are changing from print to electronic. Some of such E-Information services are detailed and briefly discussed here:

SI NO E-Information services Abbreviations

1. Current Awareness Service CAS
2. Selective dissemination of Information SDI
3. E-Document Delivery Services EDDS
4. Online Public Access Catalogue OPAC
5. Current Awareness Service CAS
6. Mobile Libraries M-Libraries

Selections of E-Resources

The selection of E-Resources should be done according to the need and demand of users. As a librarian one should consider the following steps at the time of selection.

- a. To know the needs of users.
- b. To know content and scope of e-resources.
- c. To examine quality of the e-resources and search facility among them.
- d. To maintain cost effectiveness.
- e. To check either subscription based or web based at the time of purchasing.
- f. To check the license copy.

Conclusion :-

The implementation of e—resources is helpful to ensure exhaustive and pinpointed information. The e-resources provide themselves various search options to the user and library manages. Using of e-resources enable the library to save space of library and time of the users. . E-resources are useful for libraries as well as each and every users of the society who are starving to get a variety of information through the globe. The Developments in the information and

Communication Technology services are available in the present made wonderful changes in the library operations. Its advantages are for technocrats, usage of the electronic products improve the knowledge of user. E-mails and RSS alerts cany the information for the individual to become aware of the user. Enhancement in Infrastructure like high speed network, wi-fi in the campus, LAN portals at various rights to use points in the campus and also in departments can be prepared to improve the practice effectively.

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