

Use of UGC INFONET E-Journals Consortium by the users of Gautam Buddha University: A Case Study

Abstract: UGC-INFONET E-journal consortium is a memorable project in the history of academic community and users in India. All academic institutions, which come under the preview of UGC, are members of this consortium. It is the largest academic consortium in India monitored by INFLIBNET. It is subscribing e-resources of high quality collection of e-journals, Indexing and Abstracting databases for the benefits of millions of users in India, from different publishers to the academic community. This research paper deals with the usage of UGC-Info net E-Journals Consortium by the users of Gautam Buddha University. The sample of 90 users has been taken for the study. The questionnaire developed by the researcher and used for data collection. The data were analysed by percentage method. The main findings of the study is that mostly users are satisfied and use e-journals for their study and research purpose.

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Introduction

E-journals are a very importance source fires the research and development. E-journals are becoming vital to carry any meaning full research. This resource is vilely used by research and (R&D) workers and other users of the libraries to carry out day to day qualitative research, Education and knowledge. E-journals are mushrooming with the appearance of internet. The quantity o E-journals is growing larger and has become a quite visible entity is serial publication. Today most of the e-journals appear as parallel version of its print counterparts and more and more publishers are making their journals available in electronic format. The science disciplines have already embraced the internet as main place for publishing journals and archiving papers. Massive data bases are available to scholars in the science containing both peer –reviewed and non-peer-reviewed articles. E-journals are cost effective, provide better access to information and allow far interactivity between reader and author. However, they rely on technology, which is often unreliable, and is still not accepted fully by the academic community.

The Consortium provides current as well as archival access to more than 7500+ core and peer-reviewed journals and 10 bibliographic databases from 26 publishers and aggregators in different disciplines. The programme has been implemented in phased manner. In the first phase that began in 2004, access to e-resources was provided to 50 universities who had Internet connectivity under the UGC-INFONET Connectivity programme of the UGC. In the second phase, 50 more universities were added to the programme in the year 2005. So far 209 Universities including 14 National Law schools and central universities that come under the purview of UGC, have been provided differential access to subscribed e-resources. These e-resources covers almost all subject disciplines including arts, humanities, social sciences, physical sciences, chemical Sciences, life sciences, computer sciences, mathematics and statistics, etc. The programme is wholly funded by the UGC and executed by the INFLIBNET (Information and Library Network) Centre, Gndhinagar.



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Review of literature

Mukherjee and Kumar (2010) conducted “Use of UGC Info-net e-journals by research scholars of the Banaras Hindu University: Varansi : A case study” a survey of the research scholars of Banaras Hindu University to know the use of online journals available through UGC info-net e-journal consortium. The findings of the survey revealed that the channels through which user’s access e-journals in order of preference were search engines (35.64%), open access scholarly publications (24.13%), library website (21.84%) and publisher’s website (18.39%). Majority of the respondents (61.90%) were satisfied with the existing model of UGC info-net consortium. The study concluded that comprehensive training on availability and usability would be of great help to the users to make better use of the consortium.

Sinha, Manoj, (2011) discussed that “Usage of Electronic Resources Available under UGC-INFONET Digital Library Consortium by Assam University Library Users” the traditional functions of libraries had undergone various changes in present century and e-Resources have great importance in libraries and amongst the library users. The study has been undertaken with an attempt to evaluate the usage pattern of electronic resources made available in the Assam University Library under the UGC- INFONET E-Journals/ Digital Library Consortium of UGC/INFLIBNET amongst the research scholars and teachers of North Eastern Region of India with special reference to Assam University, Silchar.

Ahmad, Naved (2012) found “Use of UGC Info-net consortia by the research scholars at university of Delhi: A survey” in his study that the majority of the Research scholars (93.68 %) are aware of the UGC-INFONET consortia. The study also indicates that (35.78 %) of Research scholars get information about UGC-INFONET e-journal consortium through university library, majority of Research Scholars in DU (81.05 %) use UGC-INFONET E-journals for their research works. Taylor & Francis most accessed journal as substantial number (38.94%) of Research scholars using it. Most of the research scholars (42.10%) use field search techniques to search in the database of the consortium. 85.27% of Research scholars feel the need of training on how to exploit these e-resources in efficient and effective way, majority (86.32%) of Research scholars prefer to take print format to E-journals. UGC-INFONET consortia have an influence on the study and Research of 62.10% of Research scholar by the way of expedition of Research process. A substantial number of research scholars are satisfied with the services provided by UGC-INFONET consortia.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

Following are the objectives of the study.

1. Awareness and use of UGC-info net e-journals consortium among the users of Gautam Buddha University.

3. To find out the purpose of utilization of UGC info-net by the users.
4. To assess the way of influence and the level of satisfaction of the users.
5. To find out the problems faced by the users while accessing e-journals.

Methodology: The survey method has been employed and questionnaire tool was used to collect data. Questionnaire method is quite useful in soliciting information from the users of Gautam Buddha University Noida. A total of 100 questionnaires were distributed. About 90 duly filled in questionnaires were received back.

Sample: 90 users which include 36 UG, 31 PG and 23 research scholars of Gautam Buddha University

Tools: a questionnaire was developed by researcher and used as a tool for data collection

Scope of the study: The scope of the study is limited to study the usage of UGC-INFONET E-Journals Consortium by the users of Gautam Buddha University Noida.

Analysis and Interpretation of data: The data collected from the users of Gautam Buddha University Noida and analyzed and presented in the form of tables.

Table 1 : Showed the preferred format for Reading

S. No	Options	UG N=36	PG N=31	Research Scholar N=23
A	Prints	06 (16.66%)	11 (35.48%)	03 (13.04%)
B	Electronic	04 (11.11%)	03 (9.67%)	01 (4.34%)
C	Both	26 (72.22%)	17 (54.83%)	19 (82.60%)

The above table show that 6(16.66%) of UG students , 11(35.48%) of PG students and 03 (13.04%) of research scholar are preferred print format for reading .04(11.11%) of UG students, 03(9.67%) of PG students and 01(4.34%) of research scholar are Electronic format for reading . 26(72.22%) of UG students , 17(54.83%) of PG students and 19(82.60%) of research scholar are Both format for reading.

Table 2: Purpose of using e-journals

S. No	Options	UG N=36	PG N=31	Research Scholar N=23
A	For research work	07 (19.44%)	16 (51.61%)	13 (86.52%)
B	For writing papers	02 (5.55%)	05 (16.12%)	0% (0%)
C	For update subject knowledge	22 (61.11%)	07 (22.58%)	08 (34.78%)
D	For studying course work	05 (13.88%)	03 (9.67%)	02 (8.69%)

Table show that (19.44%) of UG students, 16(51.61%) of PG students and 13(86.52%) of research scholar are purpose of using of e-journals for research work. 02(5.5%) of UG students, 05(16.12%) of PG students and no response of research scholar are for writing purpose. 22(61.11%) of UG students , 07(22.58%) of PG students and 08(34.78%) of research scholar for update subject knowledge. 05(13.88%) of UG students, 03(9.67%) of PG students and 02(8.69%) of research scholar for studying course work.

Table 3 : Frequency of using of e- journals

S. No	options	UG N=36	PG N=31	Research Scholar N=23
A	Daily	20 (55.56%)	10 (32.25%)	12 (52.17%)
B	Twice in a week	06 (16.66%)	10 (32.25%)	06 (26.08%)
C	Occasionally	10 (27.77%)	11 (35.48%)	05 (21.73%)

above table show that 20(55.56%) of UG students, 10(32.25%) of PG students and 12(52.17%) of research scholar are frequency of using e-journals of Daily. 06(16.66%) of UG students, 10(32.25%) of PG students and 06(26.08%) of research scholar are using of e-journals Twice in a week. 10(27.77%) of UG students, 11(35.48%) of PG students and 05(21.73%) of research scholar are using of e-journals Occasionally.

Table 4: Satisfaction for using e-journals

S. No	Options	UG N=36	PG N=31	Research Scholar N=23
A	Highly satisfaction	06 (16.66%)	10 (32.25%)	06 (26.08%)
B	Satisfaction	26 (72.22%)	17 (54.83%)	12 (52.17%)
C	Average	04 (11.11%)	04 (12.90%)	03 (13.04%)
D	Not satisfaction	0%	0%	0%

The above table show that 06(16.66%) of UG students, 10(32.25%) of PG students and 06(26.08%) of research scholar are the satisfaction for using e-journals is highly satisfaction. 26(72.22%) of UG of students , 17(54.83%) of PG students and 12 (52.17%) of research scholar are satisfaction. 04(11.11%) of UG students, 04(12.90%) of PG students and 03 (13.04%) of research scholar are Average. No response UG ,PG students and research scholar are not satisfaction.

FINDINGS

1. Majority of the users prefer to use journal in both and electronic format.
2. Most of the respondents UG (61.11%)students using e-Journals for update subject Knowledge and PG student(51.61%) and research scholar (86.52%) use e-journals for research work.
3. Most of the UG Student (55.5%) and RS 12(52.17%) are using of e-journals daily. While PG student (35.48%) is occasionally.
4. Majority of the users are satisfied for using e-journals.

SUGGESTIONS:

On the basis of analysis of the data and the opinion given by the respondents, some of the important suggestions have been made, which will help the effective use of the UGC INFONET consortium.

1. UGC-INFONET consortium should make arrangements for supplying CDs on all archival access electronic journals;
2. Authorities of the university should take keen interest in providing better infrastructure facilities for the improvement of internet speed, so that users can access/browse e-journals speedily at their desktops;

3. Majority of the respondents have suggested that UGC-INFONET should provide PDF files of most of the important journal publishers;
4. The library should start bulletin board services to inform the users about new additions of e-journals databases and consortium.
5. User training should be given for the proper exploration of e-journals.
6. Numbers of journals available through consortia should be increased to access more e-journals in their respective fields.

CONCLUSION: UGC- INFONET E-Journals consortium launched by UGC is one of the biggest and ambitious programs in the history of highest education in India. The ultimate goal of this programme is to work on the virtual philosophy of libraries, i.e. Right information to the right user at the right time with the help of the state-of-art technology. The present survey clearly indicates that electronics sources of information are highly useful for the research, teaching and learning processes. In order to make it successful and best use of the consortium, authorities of the university library should conduct regular user education /awareness programmes to maximize the use of electronic sources of information more effectively and efficiently.

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