

## Use of Electronic Resources by the Users of Karnatak Science College, Dharwad: A Study



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### ABSTRACT

### Research Paper- Library Science

*This paper shows how many users use e-resources for their study. To the study a sample selected was 100 which included students and teachers from this college. The objectives of this study are to know the usage of e-resources and services by the users from Karnatak Science College to find out the impediments encountered by the users while accessing and using the e-resources. The data collected and analysed using simple percentage technique.*

### Introduction

An e-resource is an electronic information resource that you can access through the internet. You can get the information you want, when you need it. E-resources include electronic journals, online databases and electronic books. There are many thousands of journals and books available and the numbers keep growing as new resources are added to our collections.

Electronic resources are materials in digital format accessible electronically. Examples of e-resources are electronic journals, electronic books, and online databases in varied digital formats, Adobe Acrobat documents, WebPages and more.

### About College

Karnatak Science College, Dharwad, is a prestigious Institute in the North Karnataka. The Karnatak Science College is the Constituent Science College of Karnatak University Dharwad and offers basic and applied courses in science. The Karnatak Science College, Dharwad, was originally part of the Karnatak College Dharwad (KCD), which was established in 1917, by the then-Government of Bombay.

The college has a huge campus, sprawling over 55 acres of land. It is centrally located and well connected by roads to the major parts of Dharwad City.

The college has a library called "Dr. V.K.Gokak Library" and is well stocked with books exceeding one Lakh, including the latest editions. About 2000 titles are added every year and about 60 periodicals are subscribed too. It has seating facility for 250 students who intend to refer the books in the library. The library is normally kept open from 8 am to 8 pm on all working days. In addition to the Central Library the individual departments have their own library.

### Objectives of the Study

- To Know the frequency and purpose of use of e resources.
- To find out the user awareness about the e resources.
- To point out the e-resources mostly consulted by the users.
- To identify the difficulties in obtaining the required information by the users.
- To investigate user's satisfaction with the facilities.
- To know necessary suggestions for further development of the e resources, facilities and services.

### Methodology

The study was limited to the users from Karnatak science college, Dharwad. A questionnaire survey was conducted to collect the information concerning the use of e-resources, frequency of use of e-resources, purpose of using e-resources etc. A total of 100 questionnaires were distributed to collect the primary data out of which 88 questionnaires are returned by the users. Questionnaires were distributed randomly to the users.

### Types of e-Resources

#### Ejournals

Electronic journals, also known as e journals, e-journals, and electronic serials, are scholarly journals or intellectual magazines that can be accessed via electronic transmission. In practice, this means that they are usually published on the Web. They are a specialized form of electronic document: they have the purpose of providing material for academic research and study, and they are formatted approximately like journal articles in traditional printed journals. Some electronic journals are online-only journals; some are online versions of printed journals, and some consist of the online equivalent of a printed journal, but with additional online-only material.

#### Ebooks.

An electronic book is a book-length publication in digital form, consisting of text, images, or both, readable on computers or other electronic devices. Although sometimes defined as "an electronic version of a printed book", many e-books exist without any printed equivalent. Commercially produced and sold e-books are usually intended

to be read on dedicated e-book readers, however, almost any sophisticated electronic device that features a controllable viewing screen, including computers, tablet computers, and smart phones can also be used to read e-books.

**Databases**

A database is an organized collection of data. The data are typically organized to model aspects of reality in a way that supports processes requiring this information. Databases are designed to offer an organized mechanism for storing, managing and retrieving information. They do so through the use of tables. If you're familiar with spreadsheets like Microsoft Excel, you're probably already accustomed to storing data in tabular form. It's not much of a stretch to make the leap from spreadsheets to databases. Let's take a look.

**CDROMs**

CD-ROM Database - A computer technology which allows information to be stored on a compact disc and accessed through a microcomputer. NOTE: CD-ROM databases at NSU include those which provide access to periodical article citations, full text, and statistical data. The library has some CD-ROM databases such as PEP Archive, FC Search, etc. These can be accessed only from within the Alvin Sherman Library.

**Data Analysis**

**Table: 1 Gender wise distribution of Respondents**

Gender	No. of Respondents	Percentage (%)
Male	62	70.45
Female	26	29.54
<b>Total</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>100.00</b>

This section of the questionnaire provides information regarding the gender as can be seen from Table-1. It is shown in table-1, 70.45% of population studied were males and only 29.54% of total were females.

**Table: 2 Age wise distribution of respondents**

Age	Respondents	Percentage (%)
18-25	34	38.63
26-35	27	30.68
36-45	16	18.18
45 and above	11	12.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>100</b>

Age wise distribution of respondents the table 2 indicated that almost 65% of the respondents were between 18-35 years. This means that most of the users are in the age group who are eager to search the new innovative ideas

**Table: 3 Awareness and use of E-Resources**

Level of Awareness	Respondents	Percentage (%)
Aware	14	15.90
Somewhat Aware	22	25.00
Unaware	52	59.09
<b>Total</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 3 shows that almost 59.09% respondents are unaware of E-Resources, 25.00% Respondents are somewhat aware and 15.90% respondents are aware in use of E-Resources.

**Table : 4 Use of Various E-Resources**

Various e-Resources	Respondents	Percentage (%)
E Journals	11	12.05
E-Books	13	14.77
E-Newspapers	42	47.72
World Wide Web	22	25.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>100</b>

Table- 4 shows that the majority of the users 47.72% prefer to use e-news papers. Second highest preference is worldwide web 25.00%. This table highlights that only the well-known e-resources are preferably used by the users and rest of the e-resources i.e. e-journals, e-books are comparatively less used.

**Table: 5 Frequency of Using E-Resources**

Frequency	Respondents	Percentage (%)
Two or three times in a week	04	4.54
When necessary	41	46.59
Occasionally	20	22.72
Never	23	26.13
<b>Total</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>100</b>

Table-5 reveals that 46.59% respondents use different e-resources when necessary, 22.72% respondents uses occasionally, 4.54% respondents uses Two or three times in a week and rest of them i.e. 26.13% never uses e-resources.

**Table: 6 Purpose of using E-Resources**

Purpose	Respondents	Percentage (%)
For study	14	15.90
Teaching	22	25.00
Update current Information	35	39.77
Projects and Others	17	19.31
<b>Total</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 6 clearly indicates that all the respondents showed their importance in update current information and teaching. 39.77% were used e-resources to update current information, 25.00% were teaching, 19.31% were for projects and 15.90% were purpose of using E-Recourses for study.

**Table 7. Frequently used location to access e-resources**

Frequently used location	Respondents	Percentage (%)
Library	56	63.63
Computer Lab	24	27.27
Others	08	09.09
<b>Total</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>100</b>

This table indicates distribution of users according to frequently used location to access e-resources. Out of all total respondents 63.63 % used Library to access e-resources followed by Computer Lab 27.27 %, others 09.09 % respectively.

**Table-: 8 Problems faced by the users in accessing electronic resources**

Problems	Respondents	Percentage (%)
Slow server	52	59.09
Problems of power supply	19	21.59
Break down of the system	11	12.5
Others	6	6.81
<b>Total</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 8 shows that accessing electronic resources is not free from problems. The problems encountered while using the e-resources mainly come from four factors: break down of the system, Problems of power supply, slow server. 59.09% of the respondents stated the problem of slow server to access e-resources, whereas 21.59% reported that they faced the problems of power supply and 12.5% of the respondents found Problems of Breakdown of the system

**Table-: 9 Satisfaction Levels of Users**

Satisfaction Level	Respondents	Percentage (%)
Satisfied	58	65.90
Dissatisfied	23	26.13
Average	07	07.95
<b>Total</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>100</b>

This table highlights that the satisfaction level of the users are 65.90% and dissatisfaction level is low (26.13%). It shows that most of the users are satisfied with e-resources.

**Findings**

- Based on the findings of the study, the following recommendations are made:
- Most of the users are in the age 18-25 years (38.63%)
- More users are not aware about e-Resources
- The study shows that the majority of the users 47.72% to use e-news papers
- The study reveals that a highest number of respondents 46.59% use e-resources when necessary.
- The highest percentage (39.77%) of users prefers to use e-resources for update knowledge.

**Recommendations**

- Based on the findings of the study the following recommendations were made by the users
- Speed of Internet connection to be increased for Easy access to available E-Resources.
- To create more awareness on e-Resources.
- High speed Wi-Fi needs to be established, so that users can use of online e-Resources within the campus

### Conclusion:

The study indicates the awareness and utilization of E-Resources and its services among users of this college. Majority of users prefer e-resource for update current information. At the same time e-newspapers also used. This study shows that IT based library services are being less utilized by the users. However, a good percentage of respondents from karnatak Science College are satisfied with e resources.

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### **R E F E R E N C E**

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