The Use of Electronic Resources in Libraries

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ABSTRACT

Electronic resources highlight the different facets. Applying stored intelligence is now easier, faster, and more comfortable thanks to digital technologies. The introduction of new technology has forced libraries to expand their holdings. More print sources are available online. The academic community places great importance on e-resources as information sources. An overview of these resources, along with a few pros and cons and the addresses of a few websites, are included in the paper. The information gathered over the years must be used for additional study, as well as for the advancement and general growth of society. Remote locations have easy access to electronic resources. Electronic resources manage the deluge of information and provide solutions to storage issues.

Keyword: Electronic resources, ICT, e-books, e-journal, electronic databases, E-reports, etc.

INTRODUCTION

The knowledge and information sector has been significantly and thoroughly impacted by information and communication technology (ICT) and the Internet's advent, which has also created a new dimension in the information retrieval platform. A number of new terms, including "paperless society," "electronic resources," "portal/gateway," and "global digital library," have emerged as a result of the convergence of ICT. The modern academic library serves its patrons not only with printed materials but also with electronic resources such as databases, e-books, and e-journals. This helps library users meet their daily needs for academic and research materials, and it has increased user satisfaction.

Libraries are converting from print to electronic resources in the twenty-first century, either by joining consortia or subscribing individually. The rules for collecting and developing printed and electronic resources—both offline and online—have undergone a paradigm shift. In order to include electronic resources in the library collection, new collection development policies must be drafted. The quantity of electronic and printed materials that can be checked out from libraries should be balanced to accommodate the needs of users.

These days, a lot of online and offline resources are released because of the shifting trends in electronic publishing, and this is because libraries and the user community have a high need for these resources. Scholarly materials such as peer-reviewed journals, databases, abstracts, proceedings, etc. are now available thanks to these ground-breaking actions. These initiatives must benefit university library patrons, since they will undoubtedly raise the caliber of our nation's higher education system. It is exceedingly difficult to acquire specific information without losing time in the rapidly expanding and ever-emerging information explosion. Recent developments in information technology have a major positive impact on library services.

Libraries now days are equipped with computers in addition to printed and non-printed materials. A paperless society has resulted from the impact of technology like CD-ROMs, multimedia, computer networks, the Internet, etc.

Users' lives and educational experiences are evolving as a result of online resources and tool usage. While user-generated content and sharing applications were the main emphasis of Web 2.0 development and the spread of open sources and shared usage concepts, the World Wide Web was first primarily utilized for push type applications to supply users with resources and information. Electronic resources have become increasingly popular and have developed quickly as a result. The literature from throughout the world is increasingly filled with references to electronic resources.

What Is Electronic Resources?

An electronic resource is any content that needs to be accessed and utilized through computer mediation. Resources classified as e-resources include both online and offline materials like CD-ROMs.Any product that a library offers over a computer network is referred to as an electronic resource. The electronic resources, which include full text search engines, electronic reference books, bibliographic databases, and digital data collections, are also referred to as online

information resources. Both "born digital" and directly produced internet content is included. For instance, digitized and scanned print resources, databases, and journals. The libraries do not "own" the electronic resources, e-journals, or online databases in the same way that they own the print materials. Electronic resource providers are the rightful owners of these resources. Through the Internet, access to the electronic resources can be obtained for free or for a price. Periodicals, encyclopedias, newspapers, journals, and articles published in them are a few types of electronic resources. Computers, tablets, smartphones, and other Internet-connected devices can access these.

LITERATURE REVIEW

KebedeGessesse (2000),every library collection needs to have a clear objective. It's possible that the collection was assembled mainly for use in academic libraries for research and teaching reasons. The conventional forms of information, including books and microfilm, have been increasingly augmented in recent years by information that is available electronically thanks to computer technology. This suggests that the existing collection development policy of an academic library should incorporate selection criteria and collection parameters that cover these new media forms.

The research concentrated on the forms that end users favored; it was found that people favored PDFs over HTML formats.A review of the use of ICTs in 10 African public library services was published by Chisenga (2004). Despite the fact that the majority of libraries had internet access, the research revealed that only few of them offered their patrons web-based information services. However, the study finds four obstacles to the helpfulness of those libraries' electronic resources: inadequate planning; insufficient or unreliable financial support; insufficient use of the Internet to provide users with information services; and insufficient ongoing training for users of new ICT services.

KumbarMallinath and Lohar's (2005) study concentrated on how students responded about using digital services and resources. It was found that most pupils use digital resources on a regular basis.

Guruprasad and other (2016), discussed about how researchers use electronic resources. In order to determine the number of users utilizing electronic resources, the study issued 153 questionnaires and gathered 128 completed ones. According to the survey, the majority of library patrons use electronic databases, books, and periodicals. It was discovered that the majority of users knew about electronic resources and increasingly used virtual resources to support their research endeavors.

Need of Electronic Resources
The user community can receive better service from the librarian helped by electronic resources.

The following are a few significant points:

(a) For several users to gain access to a source of information.

(b) E-resources can be swiftly searched

(c) Easily located by the user.

(d) A vast amount of resources can be stored.

(e) The length of time spent using electronic resources.

(f) Examines the respondent's motivation for using electronic resources.

(g) Recognize the many e-resource kinds that respondents frequently utilize

(h) To gather, store, and arrange digital information.

(i) To encourage the effective and affordable distribution of information to all consumers.

(k) To promote collaborative efforts to share and save funds allocated to computing, communication networks, and research resources.

Categories of Electronic resources
There are different types of e-resources as mentioned below:
➢ E-journals
➢ E-Books

➢ Electronic databases
➢ E-reports
➢ E-Theses and dissertations
➢ Institutional repositories

E- Journals

A periodical publication that is published electronically, typically online, is referred to as an e-journal. A publication is considered periodical if it publishes on a regular basis; for example, it could do so weekly, fortnightly, monthly, quarterly, or annually. The following things have been referred to be "electronic journals":

• The electronic edition of a reputable print journal such as Scientific American, New Scientist, Cell, etc
• A digital-only publication such as Ariadne, D-Lib magazine, etc..
• The established journal might switch to an online-only model and discontinue its print edition.
• An electronic journal can be free or fee based through annual subscription, licensing or pay per us

E- Books

An e- book, also known as electronic or digital book is a text and image based publication in digital form. It is created or released with computers and other digital devices in mind. The digital version of traditional printed books is called e-books. There are many different formats available for e-books. Some may be downloaded in full to be read offline, whereas others may only be read online while connected to the Internet

Electronic Databases

The term "database" is used to refer to a collection of records which may have numeric, textual or image based data. It is referred to as an online database if it can be accessed via the WWW. These online databases were accessible as CD-ROM databases prior to the development of the Internet. A journal database is an indexable collection of journal articles organized into searchable individual records. Full text databases and bibliographic databases are both possible.

E- Reports

A study is a documentation that is created as needed and can be narrative, graphic, or tabular in nature. Reports can be created as needed, periodically, or on an as-needed basis. A report may discuss a particular time period, occasion, or topic. It can be disseminated to the general audience verbally or via writing. A report that is downloadable electronically is referred to as an e-report. Universities, for instance, release yearly reports detailing their finances, spending, accomplishments, and activities. Additionally, these reports are available online.

E-Theses and Dissertations

A document submitted in support of a candidate's candidacy for an academic degree or professional certification is called a thesis or dissertation. It presents student-conducted work or research together with its conclusions. The users mail their theses and dissertations in print form to universities and other entities. E-theses and dissertations are theses and dissertations that are available in digital format. Digital or soft copies of theses and dissertations are necessary for research scholars pursuing M.Phil. And PhD degrees at Indian universities. The libraries are at present digitizing the theses and dissertations held by them and making them accessible on Internet. The collection of digital theses and dissertations is also known as digital repository.

Institutional Repositories

An institutional repository is a platform that offers digital collections of theses, dissertations, e-prints, and other materials from a specific university for online reading. It offers related metadata about the document, such as the student's name, the name of the university, the graduation year, the title of the paper, an abstract, keywords, and so on. Digital repositories are another name for institutional repositories. These repositories were established by universities and research centres with the aim of gathering, classifying, and exhibiting the scholarly output of their professors and scientists. These institutional repositories could also give users access to former question papers, yearly reports, and preprints of publications written by the universities and institute's scientists and instructors.

Electronic Resources is Library and Information Services

Electronic resources it has facilitated quick and easy acquisition of information sources. Quick access to books, journals, and electronic publications is essential for librarians. The most straightforward and effective way to access and update the catalogue interface and documentation for all libraries is through internet access.Interlibrary Loan (ILL) requests can be sent by email, and once the materials have been scanned, photocopies can be provided by email, post fax, or both. In order to manage these electronic resources, libraries must give their patrons easy access points and give staff members the means to monitor them. These days, the majority of the library's materials are offered in electronic formats, including databases, e-books, and e-journals. Because e-resources have advantages over print resources,

libraries are switching from print to them, either by subscribing individually or through consortiums.Libraries have found it difficult to maintain control over this material in paper files, integrated library systems, or independent databases kept on local computers or networks since the cost of licensing electronic resources has skyrocketed in recent years.

CONCLUSION

Electronic resources are useful for ensuring accurate and comprehensive information. Users and library managers can choose from a variety of search possibilities offered by the e-resources. By using e-resources, the library may save both space and patron time. Libraries can benefit from e-resources, as can all members of society who are eager to access a wide range of knowledge available worldwide.The current state of information and communication technology services has brought about tremendous improvements to the way libraries operate. Technocrats can benefit from it since using electronic products increases user expertise. Emails and RSS alerts provide information that makes the user aware of the individual. It is possible to prepare improvements in infrastructure, such as a high-speed network, campus wi-fi, LAN portals at several points of access on campus, and departments, to enhance the practice efficiently.

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