Use of E-resources for Higher Education in India

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Abstract

The paper is an endeavor to reveal the growth of electronic resources store houses of information and the need of electronic Information resources, using these electronic resources can give effective users services for the end users in higher education. It clearly shows that traditional systems and virtual learning systems. The electronic documents can be stored, accessed, and delivered as and when required; therefore the information services are not confirmed within the walls but are integrated into local, regional, national, international networks.

Key words *quality enhancement, environment, consciousness*

Introduction

Electronic resources store houses of Information The advent of Information and communication technologies (ICT), the internet and particularly the world wide web have revolutionized literally changes in the life of common people in the present digital environment. The library and its services are affected too, by ICT. The term library is understood to have been reaped from the latin word "liber" collecting books placed in an organized manner for the purpose of use. The term traces its lineage back to preservation of written records to preserve human communication. In present e-environment, the term" digital and electronic library is common word used by majority of the authors , and is defined as an organized collection of online fulltext digital information focused on one or more specific subject areas.

Concept of E-resources

E-resources originated from the concept of e-publishing. Since 1985 momentous developments have taken place in electronic publishing. The concept of document   on paper is being changed to electronic document   i.s. e-document   or electronic resources. Electronic resources can be defined as the document resources existing in an electronic form, stored electronically and to be accessed by computer, electronic system and networks. It solves   storage problems and controls the flood of information. Due to features of e-resources , now a days ,print sources are being digitized. The production and usage of e-documents has been taking place at a fast pace warrant serious consideration in present smart era.

E-Resources definitions

Electronic resources have been defined as those material that require computer access, whether through a personal computer, mainfraime,or handheld mobile device. They may either be accessed remotely via the internet or locally. Some of the most frequently encountered types are e-journals, e-books, full-text databases, indexing and abstracting databases, reference databases (biographies, dictionaries, directories, encyclopedias) Numeric and statistical databases, E-images, e-audio/visual resources.

Need of electronic Information Resources

We know how the information explosion and revolution have occurred in the last three decades. The world has become smaller and time has shortened with the rapid evolution of ICTs. These technologies have emerged as boons to us. A job that hitherto used to take hours, days and weeks, is now just a mouse click away. The publishers round the globe have reaped the advantage of these technologies to an increasingly appreciable extent and brought in a plethora of electronic resources in abundance. The main reasons for libraries to have electronic resources may be as followes.

Importance of IT in today's world

Access to information relevant to technical, reference and management functions(like acquisition, catalouging and reference)

Responsiveness to client's needs.

Costs.

Sources of Information

Transformational change in the information landscape

Leveraging digital collections

Repurposing library space

Redeploying library staff.

Effective User's Services

The emergence of electronic resources has opened new vistas for the academic world. Libraries are the direct incentives to the development of educational, social and cultural activities in a country. Academic libraries in india are facing the problem of shrinking static budgets and simultaneous exponential rise in journal prices. The need of the hour is to find a pragmatic solution to this problem. Something substantial has to be done in order to facilitate access to scholarly resources to users . The government has taken various steps to introduce E- resource facility in academic institutions for the benefit of users, especially research scholars. Due to emergence of many local, regional, national and international resource sharing knowledge network initiatives throughout the world in the universities and institutions of higher learning.Institutions have started optimally utilizing the resources amongst themselves via resource sharing over the network available under various consortia like UGC-INFONET, INDEST - AICTE, NKRC FORSA (Forum for resource sharing in astronomy and Astrophysics),IIM Libraries, TIFR and branch libraries, ISRO libraries, HELNET (health sciences library and information network),Inter university centres (IUC-DAEF consortia for atomic energy).CSIR e-journal consortium, ICMR and N-List programme of MHRD/UGC (INFLIBNET). These revolutionary steps are providing scholarly electronic information resources including peer review journals, databases, abstracts,

proceedind, etc.

The current trend (among the libraries) of digitizing(the libraries) reflects a fresh passion about the possibilities presented by electronic resources. Library users need most recent and up-to date information for their R&D projects.So,they really on different types of e-resources because they constitute the fastest media of knowledge generation and dissemination. However, traditional ducuments such as books and periodecals also generate knowledge and disseminate them, but in the smart e-environment ,researchers need nascent information on their finger tips. Due to features of e-information Encyclopaedia Britannica announced in the year 2012 that they would end the print edition of their flagship encyclopedia,and move completely to digital publishing. As per their view,other educational products need digital delivery and that's where we come in. We deliver a lot of those products to libraries in the US and around the world. And these products are available on mobile devices and on the cloud and it can be accessed from my ipad or my phone or my computer. Electronic information resources provide fast and easy access to the information contained in the publication with simple, powerful search and retrival capabilities to the researchers, fulfilling the fourth law of library science given by Dr. S. R.Rangnathan i.e " save the time of the users".

Advantages of e-resources

The Internet and the electronic information resources are consaantly influencing the development of new modes of scholarly communication ,their potential for delivering goods is quite vast,as they overcome successfully the geographical limitations associated with the print media. E-Resources are especially helpful to distant learners who have limited time to access the libraries from outside by dial up access to commonly available electronic resources.

Considerable time saving

Easy access to current /recent information

Ease of use, any time (24x7) and any where

Physical space saving in use and storing

Reading, forwarding, saving and downloading at a click

Font Size enlarged facility as per requirement

Background music/animation

Audible e-resources for hearing impaired

Unlimited concurrent use

More attractive

Easily merge with altering service

Supports searching capabilities

Save binding cost

Ease in portability and storage

Availability all over the world

Timeliness in simple words, in present smart web era , electronic information resources can

Play key role in formal learning settings

Enable remote access to rare and unique material

Offer more information (of which we are unaware) than the traditional resources

Be accessible in class room as well as at homes or in journey ar at a place, where ever required

Available online and on mobile devices, tablets etc

Enhanced search ability, including full text

Offer greater opportunities for users to deposite as well as use information, will support communities of interest and more specialized and more specialized sources to be offered.

Types of electronic resources

There are different types of electronic resources

Electronic Books (E-Books)

E-Manuals

Electronic Journals

Electronic Databases

E-Newspaper articles

E-Market research information

E-financial data

E-statistical information

E-research material and data

E-audio material

E-visual material

E-exibitions

E-magazines

E-share wares

E-preprints

E-white papers

E-manuscripts

E-maps

E-thesis

E-technical reports

E-computer programs

E-digital image

E-directories

E-Encyclopaedias

E-glossary

E-Biography

E-conference proceeding

E-numerical data

E-graphics

E-digitized sound

OPAC

E-Data archives

E-newswire

E-animation

E-mail

E-text

E-research reports

Internet sources

E-multimedia components

E-meta resources

E-Abstracts

E-archival Finding AID

E-bibliographical tools

E-library catalogue

E-index,etc

Suggestions for best use of e-resources

Adequate finance and other facilities towards electronic resources and services especially to academic institutions.(primary to higher)

Academic libraries/ institutions (Particularly of nation of importance) should take initiatives to develop more updating tools

and applications like SLA (Smart devices like tablets/smart phones which are user friendly, to access their e-collections, web and open web resources. This step/SLA will motivate to users (registered and non registered)

To use available open web resources, e-resources and e-services of respective libraries than common resources whose authenticity is not proved.

An IL (Information Literacy) system for users on how to make the best use of open web resources and electronic services, as well as OCB (ON-line chat box) and VHD (Virtual Help Desk) with 24 x 7 online support be generated/developed by respective libraries/authorities to enable users to contact information professionals to utilize best open e resources and services.

Initiatives should be taken to develop NEC (National E-Corner) for available e-resources and services in different libraries/institutions in the country to make best use of them which are just a click away on the nominal fee. It will help use open access resources. It these resources increases as they are used.

The facility of data services/web should be provided in the country at nominal charges to promote access to electronic resources and e-services to realize the india vision 2020.

Conclusion

To cope with the new challenges of information explosion through proper use of tools and techniques of the present day e-information management,the information professionals of the libraries and information centers have to change their style, attitude and skill towards information handling.

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