

# **Online Electronic Information Resources on Business Management**

**T. B. Ghosh**

## **Abstract**

The paper discusses the Post Graduate Management Institutes in South Gujarat and the problems of their libraries. The author has described the freely available Internet resources on Business Management like E- journals, business databases, stock exchanges, management virtual libraries, etc. and has also started to compile the links of these free Internet resources at URL [http://www.geocities.com/ghosh\\_tbd](http://www.geocities.com/ghosh_tbd) to integrate the resources in a uniform location for the benefit of the Management faculties and students.

## **1 Introduction**

With the rapid development of technology and emergence of Internet, electronic publishing is getting a tremendous impetus from the publishing industry as well as libraries and information centres. E-books, E-journals, E-magazines, E-conferences, etc. are the leading digital resources and exerting a dominant pressure on the publishing world and paving the way to the transition from print to electronic media.

The rapid changes that are taking place in the information and communication technology have stretched too far into all walks of life. Library and information centres are no exception to this. There is a noticeable change in the management of libraries, which also bring the users to adopt new methods and techniques. All these compel to switch over to different modern techniques in the area of information storage retrieval and dissemination. At the turn of the century almost all disciplines have dramatically shifted away from the traditional mode to a new scenario, along with the users. This is noticeable very distinctly in the management faculties especially in the Post Graduate Management Institutions of South Gujarat.

## **2. Background of Post Graduate Institutes of South Gujarat**

The discipline of Business Management has grown enormously during the last quarter century and is a specialty by itself. Employment opportunities in this discipline are increasing at an exponential rate. Considering the increasing demand of the industries in the region South Gujarat University had introduced a Post Graduate Course in Business and Industrial Management since 1970 and at present it has the following three self-financed affiliated institutions:

- (1) S. R. Luthra Institute of Management
- (2) GIDC Rofel Institute of Management Studies (GRIMS), Vapi
- (3) Narmada College of Management, Zadeswar, Bharuch

## **3. Problems of Libraries**

All these institutions have a good library and information centre. It is observed that the allocation of Government Grants to the SGU has been reduced to a non-justifiable level for several years. As a result the university itself is totally handicapped to supply required information to its PG Students and Faculties, particularly Business and Industrial management. On the other hand, SGU affiliated self- financed institutions do not have sufficient funds to fulfil the information needs of their students and faculties.

## **4. Online Electronic Information Sources**

Due to emergence of web technology, individuals, organisations and institutions are publishing their scholarly papers and publications on the Internet. These vast resources are

available on the Internet which can be accessed by the library and information centre and can be provided to the users.

The place of exploitation of Internet by the library and information centre are unlimited and endless: Internet provides a wealth of information. It also provides free access to variety of information sources such as online E-books, E-journals, E-newsletter both full-text and abstract and contents depending on the publishers' policy.

## **5. Free Online Information Sources**

Online information sources are referred to be free when access to the sources are not dependent on a subscription or membership in an organisation or a publisher. Among the freely available online information sources which are identified by the author and compiled at URL: [http:// www.geocities.com/ghoshtbin](http://www.geocities.com/ghoshtbin) the following are the important ones:

- I. Online Journals
2. Online Databases
3. Indian Business Management Institutions
4. International Business Management Institutions
5. Libraries of the World
6. Corporate Bodies of the World
7. I.T. Companies of the World
8. Chambers of Commerce of the World
9. Banks of the World
10. Stock Exchange Agencies of the World
11. Taxation Agencies of the World

### **5.1 Online Electronic Free Journal (<http://www.geocities.com/ghoshtbin/jnl.html>)**

About 87 online electronic journals on Business Management, Human Resource Management, Financial Management, Marketing, CIS (Computer Information System) and Information Technology are identified and linked with the above mentioned URL. Out of 87 journals 70 per cent journals are available in full-text and the abstracts of the remaining journals are available free of charge. It is mentioned here that the compilation work is under process and hence the number is not exhaustive.

### **5.2 Online Databases ([http://www.geocities.com/ghoshtbin/ dbase.html](http://www.geocities.com/ghoshtbin/dbase.html))**

A limited number of databases on Business Management and interdisciplinary subjects are available free of charge. The following are the most useful for the students and faculties of Business Management.

#### **5.2.1 Database on Industrial Sectors.**

It is maintained by Indiainfoline. It provides comprehensive information on the different sectors like Cyber Valley , Pharma Line, Infrastructure, Steel Infoline, Autoline, Oil and Gas FMCG, etc. This sector analysis is based on original research encompassing not only study available secondary data but also collections of primary data by meeting companies, suppliers, trade consultants, etc.

#### **5.2.2 Commodity Database**

This is a comprehensive information-based database on Indian sectors with data on prices, production volumes, sales volumes, export/ import volumes, etc. of more than 300 products and commodities.

#### **5.2.3 Stock Market**

It provides information on National Stock Exchange, Market News, Online Prices, Market Commentary, Global Market, Investors information. It also provides information on

Statistics of GDR (Global Depository Receipts) and ADR (American Depository Receipts), Sectoral Returns, Book Closer, etc.

#### 5.2.4 Income Tax and Legal Affairs

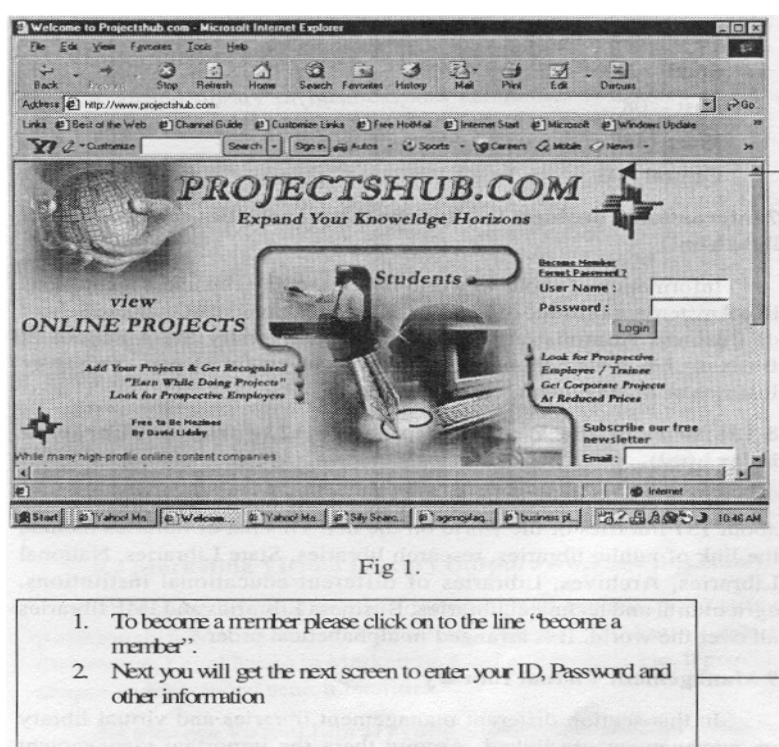
It provides information on Lawyer Services; Companies Act; Information Technology Act; Intellectual Property Laws; Insurance Laws; Income Tax, etc.

#### 5.2.5 Project Database (<http://www.projectshub.com>)

This site is hosted by Osmosis Info Pvt. Ltd. Project Reports and the following disciplines submitted by the students and researchers are accessible:

E-Commerce	Economics	Entrepreneurship	Finance
General Business	Human Resources	International Trade/	Information Technology
Market Research	Marketing	Mergers & Acquisitions	Sector Analysis
Strategy	Technical	Venture Capital	Summer Projects

Similarly students and researchers also can publish their reports, articles, paper through this site and can use their Bulletin board facilities. Before accessing their documents the users have to register themselves and create their own User ID and password which is free of charge. After getting registered and creating User ID and password the users can enter their database. For better understanding the first window of their site(Index page) is furnished below.



In addition to accessing their database, users can avail themselves of the information on training, corporate directory, online resources, etc.

## **6. Indian Business Management Institutions (<http://geocities.com/ghoshtbin/ibi.html>)**

A total number of 77 management institutions all over India available online are linked in this section. They are arranged zone wise as follows

North-35

South- 23

East- 08

West- 08

Central -03

## **7. International Business Institutions (<http://geocities.com/ghoshtbin/ibild.html>)**

Information of about 43 world famous reputed business institutions like Amsterdam Institute of Finance, Harvard University Graduate School of Business Administration, New York University Stern School of business, Graduate School of National Management, Japan, Singapore institute of Management, etc. are available.

## **8. Libraries or the World (<http://www.123world.com/libraries/index.html>)**

It provides ultimate sources of authentic and reliable information about 137 libraries of the world on the net. This list of libraries include the link of public libraries, research libraries, State Libraries, National libraries, Archives, Libraries of different educational institutions, agricultural and technical libraries, Business Libraries and IMF libraries all over the world. It is arranged in alphabetical order.

## **9. Management Virtual Library**

In this section different management libraries and virtual library on management are linked. Among them the important management virtual libraries are explained below.

### **9.1 Free Management Library (<http://www.managementhelp.org>)**

It is a highly integrated library for non-profits and for profits developed by Carter McNamara, Authenticity Consulting, LLC. It includes 72 popular categories like Business Planning, Communications, Crisis Management, Human Resource Management, Finance, Marketing, etc. and index of 675 topics.

### **9.2 Virtual Library: Business and Economics**

(<http://vlib.org/BusinessEconomics.html>)

A virtual library of business and economics is divided into the following sections:

- Arbitration
- Electronic Commerce
- Finance
- Labour and Business History
- Marketing
- Microcredit
- Economics
- Coal
- Transportation

Among the above mentioned virtual libraries the following are the most important ones.

### **9.3 Marketing Virtual Library (<http://www.knowthis.Com/>)**

It provides information on Advertising and Promotion, Customer Relationship Management, Education, Internet Marketing and E- Commerce, Legal Issues in Marketing, Market Research, etc. It provides simple and advanced search facilities.

### **9.4 Finance Virtual Library (<http://fisher.osu.edu/fin/cerns.htm>)**

The virtual library of finance is maintained by Ohio State's Department of Finance. It provides information on financial resources available on the Internet and provides other links of related subjects.

### **9.5 Virtual Library of Electronic Commerce (<http://www.elib.org/econ/html>)**

It provides information on E-commerce and provides links to other sites like Commerce Net, e-BUSINESS ADVISOR, Computer Magazine archives, Internet World, etc. It also provides free E-Business Alert Weekly News Services through E-mail.

### **9.6 Virtual Library of Economics (<http://hkkl.fi:EconVLib.html>)**

This virtual library is divided into the following two sections:

Resources for Economists on the Internet maintained by Bill Goffe, Department of Economics and International Business University of Southern, Mississippi, USA.

WWW Resources in Economics maintained by Lauri Saarinen, Electronic Commerce Institute, LTT Research Limited, Helsinki, School of Economics, Finland. It provides key word searching facility.

## **10 Corporate Bodies of the World (<http://www.123world.com/corporate/index.html>)**

Information of about 300 corporate bodies like industries, factories, financial institutions, laboratories, etc. all over the world are available in this section. It is arranged in alphabetical order.

## **11 Chambers of Commerce of the World (<http://www.123world.com/chambers/index.html>)**

It includes reliable and authentic information of about 300 chambers of commerce all over the world. It provides details of information regarding Financial and Economic Market Data, Trade Promotion and other Organisations, Merchants and Commercial Service Providers, and News and Research Tools, etc. of the chambers of different countries.

## **12 IT Companies of the World (<http://www.123world.com/itcompanies/index.html>)**

This site provides detailed information on products, services, etc. of about 315 companies all over the world engaged in information technology. It is arranged in alphabetical order.

## **13 Stock Exchange of the World (<http://www.123world.com/stockexchanges/index.html>)**

Authentic and reliable information about the Stock Exchanges of the world on the net are available on this site. The links in this directory will guide the users to the official sites of the Stock Exchanges.

## 14 Impact on Post Graduate Institutes of Management,

There is a drastic impact of freely available online electronic information resources on Post Graduate Management Institutes of South Gujarat.

- **Impact on Collection Development:** Freely available E-journals, Databases, Business Digests and others are the additional sources of collection development and it reduces the space requirement of the library.
- **Impact on Budget:** It reduces the financial crunch of the library and information centres as there is no such involvement to procure such freely available sources which resides in remote server, except the nominal cost of Internet connectivity and surfing.
- **Impact on Technical Processing and Dissemination:** Once the links are created and compiled in the web page of the institution or in any particular site, technical processing of such huge documents like E-books, E-journals, etc. is not necessary. The users can access their required document and can download the same whenever it is necessary.

## 15 Conclusion

Mutual exchange of information and resource sharing will be the objective of our professional ethics and it has to be nourished in future for growth and healthy development of our library and information centres. In this situation of limited factors like space, money, manpower and materials there is a need for inter library cooperation and resource sharing. It is the duty of the library and information professionals to find out which of the sources are useful to their users and to integrate their resources and to provide better services to the users. There is no doubt that this type of compilation of the website of freely available online information resources will be more relevant and effective to save the space, time, money and manpower of any library and information centre.

## References:

1. Arora Jagdish. Web-based digital resources and services: Trends and innovation. Paper presented at CALIBER-2001, held at University of Pune during March 15-16, 2001 pp.185-212.
2. Avasia, Maya. Electronic resources: Collection development. Paper presented at CALIBER-2001, held at University of Pune during March 15-16, 2001. pp.99-105.
3. Dalal, B.K. Libraries in the context of electronic era. Paper presented at 44th ILA Conference held at Hyderabad during February 25-28, 1999. pp. 138-143.
4. Ghosh, T.B. Electronic library: An initiative taken by Sardar Vallabhbhai Regional College of Engineering and Technology (SVRCET), Surat. Paper presented at NACLIN-2001 held at Central University of Hyderabad during November 6-9, 2001. pp.106-114.
5. Ghosh, T.B. Freely available online information sources and their impact on libraries information centres. Paper presented at CALIBER-2002, held at University of Rajasthan, Jaipur during February 14-16, 2001. pp.375-383.
6. Lakshmana Moorthy, A. and Karisidappa, C. R. Electronic publishing: Impact and implications on library and information centres. In Malwad N. M. ed. Digital Libraries.: New Delhi, 1996. New Age International Publishers. pp. 15-35.
7. Liew, Chern Li and Foo Schubert. Electronic documents: What lies ahead? Paper presented at the 4th International Conference of Asian Digital Libraries held at Bangalore during December 10-12, 2001. pp.88-105.

