

Awareness and use of e-resources with the perspective of the students of Karmaveer Bhaurao Patil College of Engineering, Satara: A survey

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ABSTRACT

Modern and smaller libraries started providing access to electronic resources because of rapid growth of technology, users' request and also because of numerous advantages of electronic resources. Though libraries started providing access to e-resources, it is need to check the awareness and utilisation of these e-resources frequently. This study is investigated to check the awareness and use pattern of the students of Karmaveer Bhaurao Patil College of Engineering, Satara. The study also focused the frequency and purpose of using e-resources and problems faced by the students while accessing electronic resources and the measures taken by the librarian to overcome the challenges. The collection of data was done through Google Forms from the students. Also, the researcher has gone through various literature related to the study. This study received one hundred forty-nine responses out of two hundred students; the response rate was 74.5%. The analysis of the data is done through Microsoft Excel, and the end results are presented using pie charts. The study observed that most of the students uses e-resources for the preparation of assignments and projects and found trained library staff is the major problem in accessing the e-resources. The researcher suggested to take more initiatives to use e-resources for research and also recruit trained library staff to guide the students.

Keywords: e-resources, DELNET, Knimbus, NPTEL, NDLI

1. INTRODUCTION

The major transformation has found in libraries from 1990 and the libraries adopted ICT applications. This results in increase in collection of e-resources. Also the various committees and commissions in India have suggested keeping e-collection in libraries to enhance the teaching and learning skills and also to improve the research culture among the faculty and students.

Numerous e-resources are available at open source platform e.g. National Digital Library of India, e-pgpathshala, Shodhganga, Shodhgangotri, Vidwan Database, SWAYAMPRAKASH, SWAYAM, NPTEL, DOAJ and DOAB. The libraries subscribe the commercial e-resources also and this leads in increasing vast e-collection in the library. It is the most important task in front of librarians to create awareness regarding these e-resources and encourage users to use these e-resources more effectively as a huge amount is invested for the same. This study was conducted to study awareness and use of electronic resources with the perspective of the students of Karmaveer Bhaurao Patil College of Engineering, Satara.

2. PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

The main purpose of this survey was to investigate whether the students are aware about e-resources and to check the reasons of using of e-resources by the students. The study is also carried to examine the challenges and problems faced by them and their level of satisfaction during the use of e-resources. The study also focuses on what measures library takes to create awareness among the library users.

3. REVIEW OF LITERATUR

(Sadu, 2021) studied user awareness and use of online databases. The study was focused to the research scholars of Sri Venkateswara University. He used survey method for the study and collected data through questionnaires. The response rate was 88% and the study revealed that majority of research scholars are aware about e-resources and are using online databases for research. It is also observed that Science Direct is widely used



by the scholars and satisfied with the available databases. (Kalama, 2020) assessed the accessibility and uses pattern of e-resources by the post graduate students of Dar es Sallam University, Tanzania. The researcher studied the various types of online databases available in the University library and descriptive survey was conducted. Random sampling method was used to collect the data. It is observed that the use of online databases in the university is low because of low bandwidth, outdated ICT facilities, disturbance in power supply. The study suggested to create awareness and promote use of e-resources by removing the above hurdles.

(Lakra, 2021) studied the awareness and utilization of library resources and found 70% users are aware about the e-resources and use these e-resources for research purpose. This study exposed that most of the users are satisfied with the available resources of library and mentioned some hurdles in accessing databases such as low internet speed and deficiency of self-computer literacy skills.

(Pratap, 2023) examined utilisation of CeRA consortium and awareness about it among the students of Uttar Banga Krishi Vishavidyalay of Pundibari in West Bengal. A questionnaire-based survey was conducted and received 85% response. The data was collected and analysed and found that nearly 50% students are aware about the consortium and 38% users are facing problems in accessing these consortiums such as low internet speed and 38% are satisfied with the available e-resources. The study suggested to arrange frequent trainings on awareness of e-resources to increase its use.

Scope of the study: -

The study was restricted to the undergraduate students of Karmaveer Bhaurao Patil College of Engineering, Satara. This paper focuses only on the awareness and usage of various e-resources by the library users.

Objectives: -

1. To study the awareness of e-journals among the students.
2. To know the purpose of using e-resources
3. To study the problems faced by the users in accessing e-resources
4. To find role of social media on marketing the e-resources availability
5. To know the satisfaction level of students with the available e-resources

4. METHODOLOGY

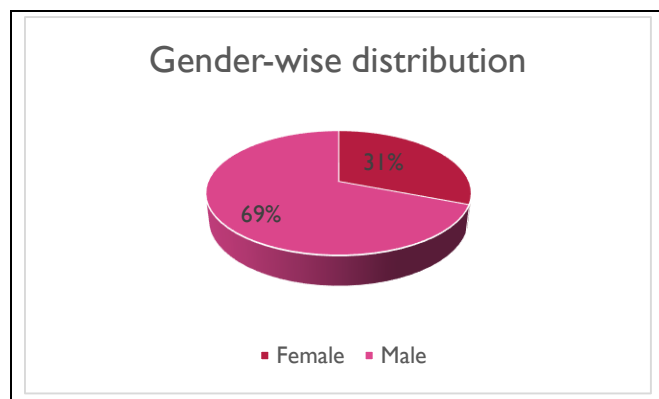
The researcher used survey method and used questionnaires to collect the data. A well-structured questionnaire was created through Google form and circulated among the students. The researcher used Microsoft tools to analysis the data.

The data was collected as per the table.

Table No.1: Data analysis & Interpretation

Sr.No.	Class	Questionnaires circulated	Responses Received
1	F.Y.B.Tech	50	42
2	S.Y.B.Tech	50	39
3	T.Y.B.Tech	50	37
4	B.Tech	50	31
	Total	200	149 (74.5%)

Que.1 Gender wise distribution of the students.

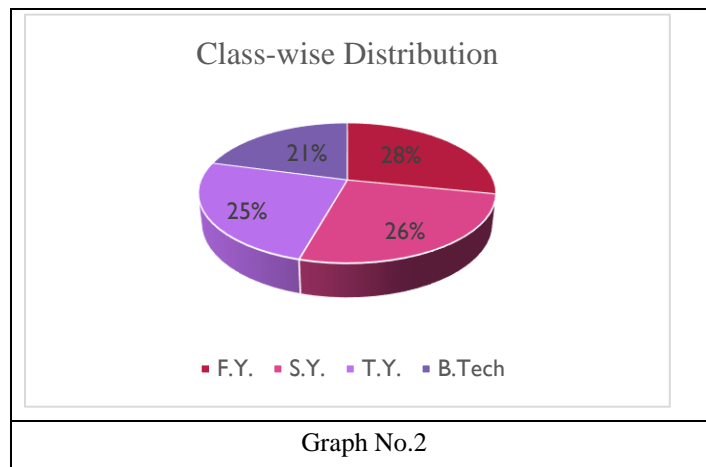




Graph No.1

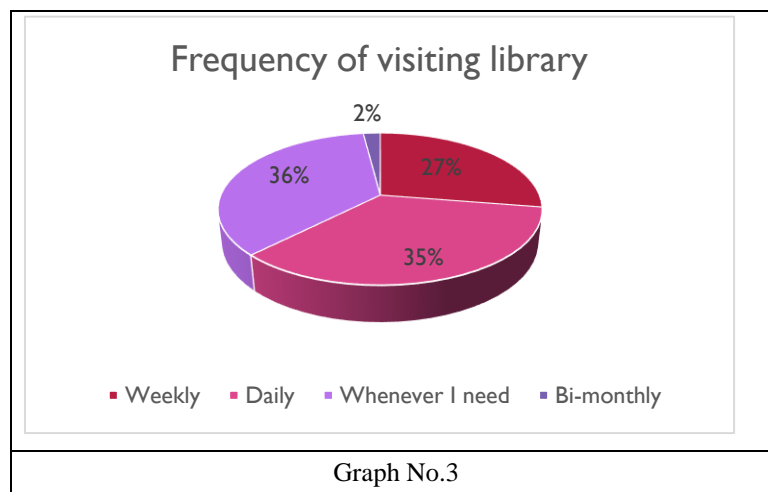
Graph No. 1 reveals the gender-wise distribution of the students and found 69% students are male and 31% female students.

Que.2 Class-wise distribution of the students.



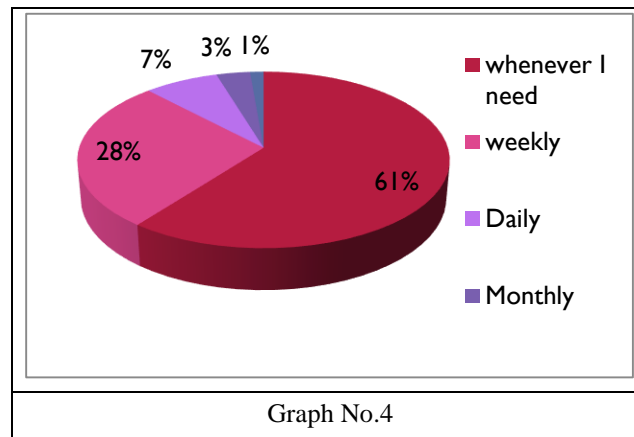
Graph No. 2 reveals the class-wise distribution of the students and it is found 28% students are from first year , 26% students from second year, 25% students from third year and 21% students from final year.

Que.3 How frequently do you visit library?



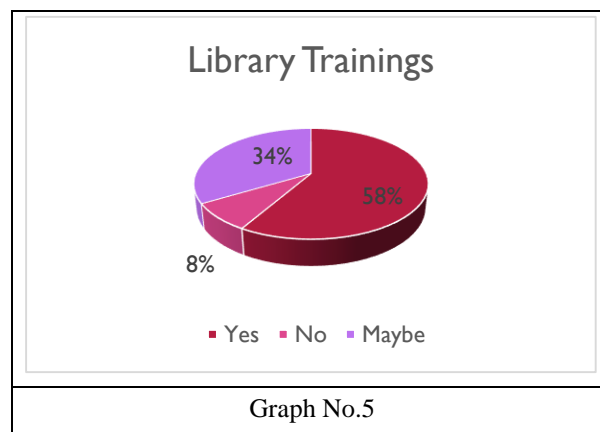
Graph No. 3 explains the frequency of the students visiting to the library. It is observed that 27% students visits library weekly, 35% students visits library daily , 36% students visits library whenever they need and only 2% students visits library bi-monthly.

Que.4 How frequently do you use e- resources?



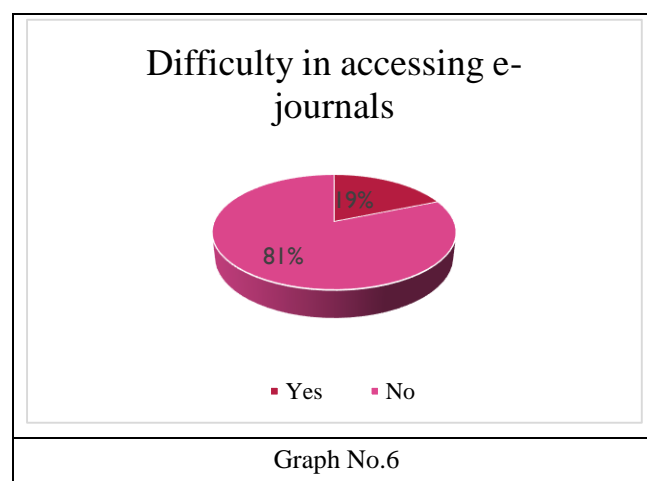
Graph No. 4 explains the frequency of using e-resources by the students. It is observed that 61% means majority of students uses e-resources whenever they need followed by 28% students uses e-resource weekly, 7% students uses e-resources daily, 3% students uses e-resources monthly and only 1% students uses e-resources bi-monthly.

Que.5 Do your library provide training to access e-resources?



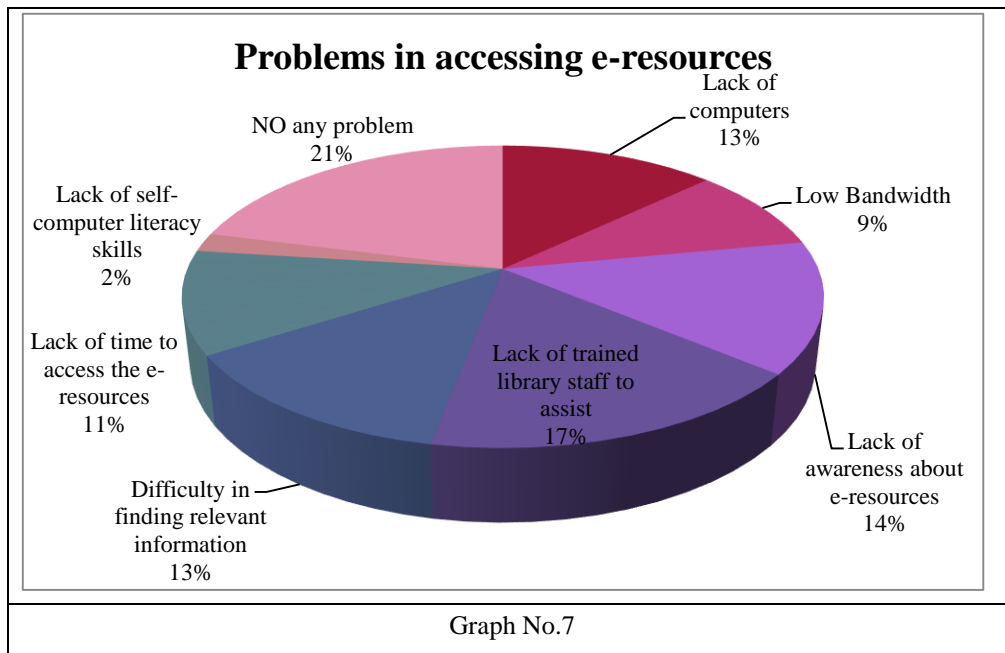
Graph No. 5 explains regarding training on how to access e-resources provided by library. It is observed that 58% means majority of students stated that library provides training and 34% students are not aware about the training while only 8% students stated that library do not provide any training.

Que.6 Do you find any difficulty in accessing e-resources?



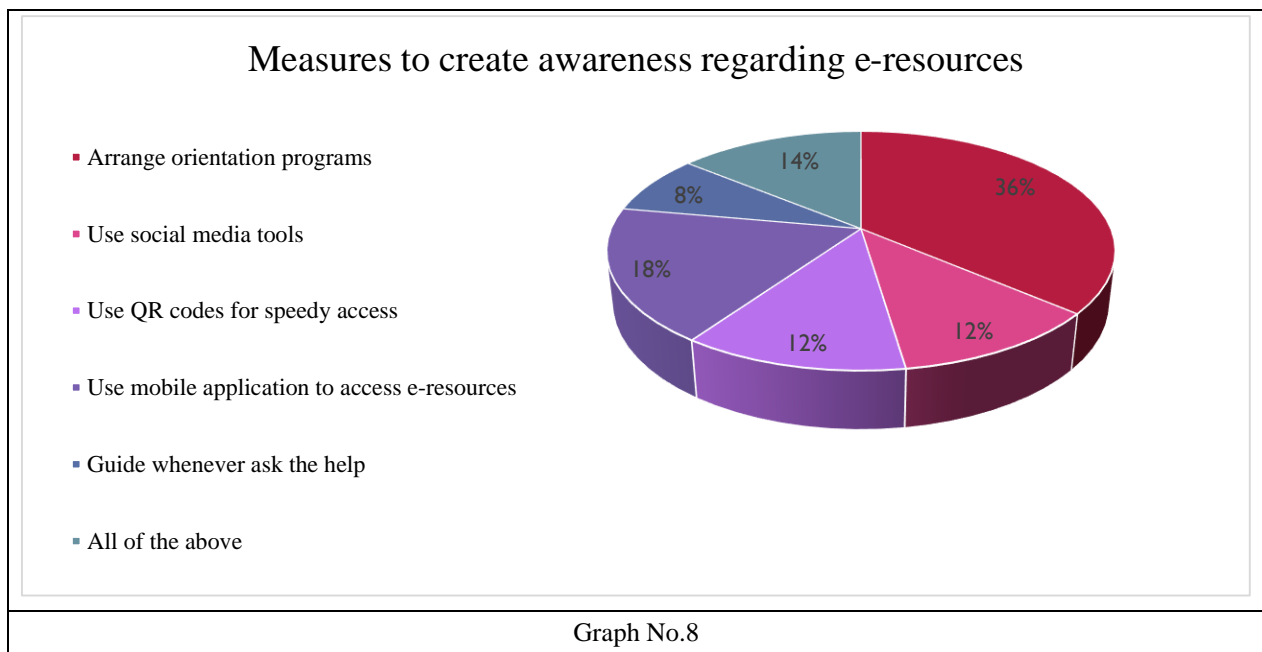
Graph No. 6 explains regarding whether they face difficulty in accessing e-resources. It is found that 81% means majority of students do not face any difficulty in accessing e-resources and only 19% students face difficulty in accessing e-resources.

Que.7 What problems do you face while accessing e-resources?



Graph No. 7 is regarding the various problems faced in accessing e-resources by the students. It is revealed that 17% means majority of students found lack of trained library staff to assist in library is main problem whereas 13% of students stated difficulty in finding relevant information is one of the difficulties. It is also found that 14% of students stated lack of awareness about e-resources is a problem in accessing e-resources, 13% of students mentioned lack of computers is problem and 11% students is having lack of time to access the e-resources, 9% said low bandwidth and 2% students confirmed lack of self-computer literacy skills are the problems in accessing e-resources. The study revealed that only 21% students do not face any problem in accessing e-resource.

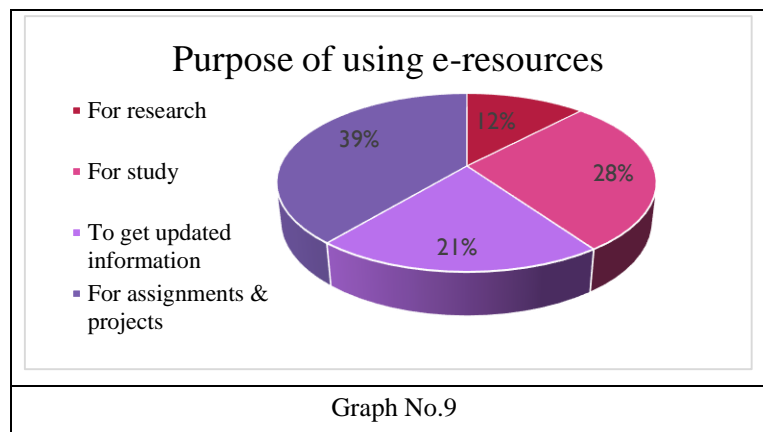
Que.8 What measures do your library takes to make you aware regarding e-resources?



Graph No. 8 is about the measures taken by library to create awareness regarding e-resources access. The study found that 36% students mentioned library arranges orientation programs, 18% students stated that library use mobile application to access e-resources, 12% students admitted library uses social media tools and uses QR codes for speedy access. It is also observed that 8% students told library guide whenever ask for the help and 14% students stated that library takes all of the above measures to create awareness among the library users regarding e-resources.

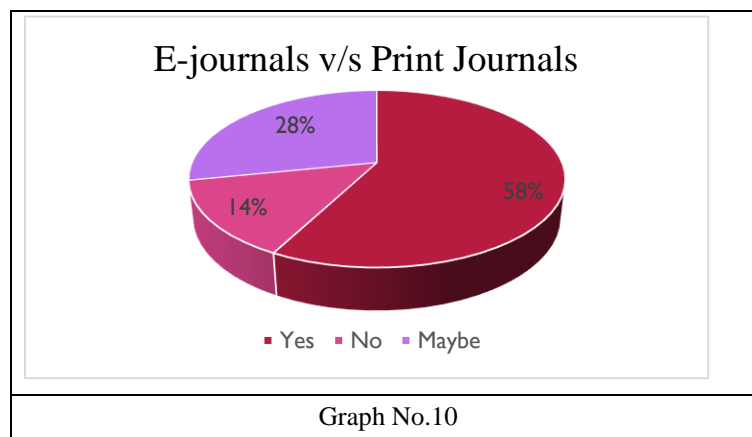


Que.9 Tick the purpose of using e- resources.



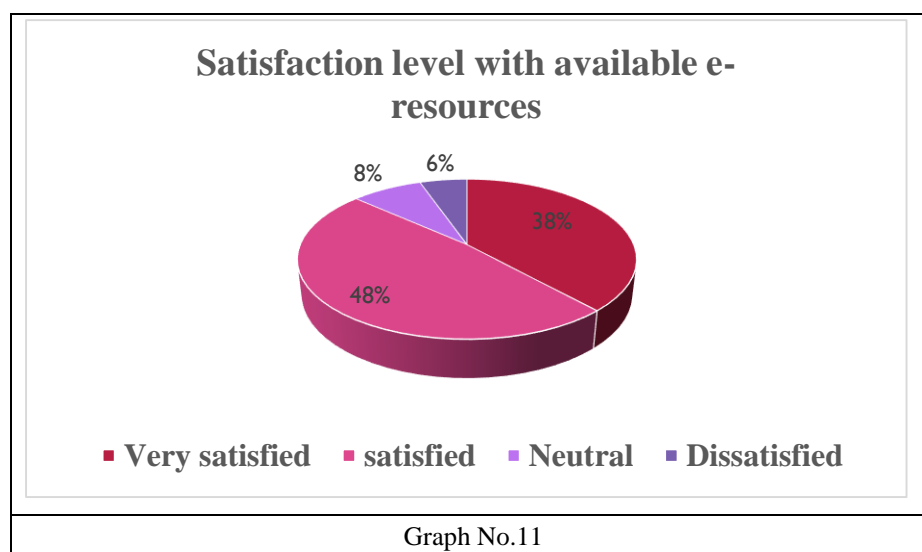
Graph No.9 is regarding the purpose of using e-resources. The study revealed that, 39% students use e-resources for the preparation of assignments and projects, 28% students use for study, 21% students use e-resources for getting updated information and only 12 % students' use e-resources for research.

Que.10 Do you find e-resources more beneficial than print materials?



Graph No. 10 reveals that 58% students found e-resources are more beneficial than print journals while 28% students found e-resources are not beneficial than print journals whereas 14% students are not sure about whether e-resources are beneficial or print journals are beneficial.

Que. 11 Tick your overall satisfaction level with the available e-resources?





Graph No. 11 is about the satisfaction level of students regarding the available e-resources in library and it is observed that 48% students are satisfied with the available e-resources whereas 38% students are very satisfied, 8% students are neutral and only 6% students are dissatisfied.

5. RESULT & DISCUSSION

The research was conducted to find the awareness and use of e-resources among the students of Karmaveer Bhaurao Patil College of engineering, Satara and observed the following things.

1. Majority of male students participated in the survey and most of the students were from First year and very less students from the final year.
2. It is observed that majority of the students visited library whenever they need and daily basis.
3. The study revealed that the majority of the students use e-resources whenever they need and weekly basis.
4. It is found that more than 50% students stated that library arrange training programs to create awareness about e-resources among the library users.
5. The research also observed that 81% students do not find any difficulty in accessing e-resources and only 19% students found difficulty in accessing e-resources.
6. It is observed that majority of students found trained library staff is main problem and very less students mentioned the self-computer literacy is the problem in accessing e-resources.
7. The study found that library takes orientation program, social media tools and mobile applications widely to create awareness among the students.
8. It is revealed that most of the students use e-resources for assignments and projects and found e-resources more beneficial than print journals.

6. CONCLUSION

As per the findings the researches recommended that library should take more efforts to create awareness among the students. It is also suggested to subscribe quality databases and appoint technically sound library staff in library to assist them in finding appropriate e-resources. It is observed that most of the students use e-resources for assignments and projects, library and faculty should take initiative to use these databases for research also.

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