

# Use and Search Patterns of Electronics Resources among the Faculty Members of Autonomous Engineering Colleges in Chittoor District, A.P: A Survey

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## ABSTRACT

*This paper emphasizes on evaluation of the use of e-resources and services among the faculty in autonomous Engineering Colleges in Chittoor District. A total of 225 structured questionnaires were distributed among 175 respondents. The collected data was analyzed for various factors like institution wise distribution of respondents using e-resources, gender wise distribution, frequency of access, and access of search engines. The study is limited to the members of the faculty of autonomous Engineering Colleges in Chittoor District affiliated to JNTU Anantapur of Andhra Pradesh*

**Keywords:** E-Resources, Autonomous Engineering Colleges, Search pattern, Search Engines, library services.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Engineering institutions are facing increasing competition from a global digital environment and ongoing change in user needs and expectations of information services. Traditionally, the quality of libraries in engineering institutions has been described in terms of its collection and measured by the size of the library's holding and various counts of its use (Nitecki, 1996). Today the quality is measured in terms of digital collections, e-resources, networking component, ICT tools etc. Engineering institutions have a particular contribution to accomplish the goals of the institution. It serves more than repositories for materials and knowledge; which are an access point to acquiring knowledge and skills. Technology provides better access to these information, and plays vital role in supporting the academic activities. In recent years, academic users have become more dependent to obtain information pertinent to their research needs. In Indian Higher education has tremendous growth in providing 2 quality educations for past two decades, Most of the universities and colleges are providing pin pointed electronic information to their users. Subscription to E-journals and online

journals becomes mandatory in these institutions and huge amount are invested by these institutions for digital resources. Hence there is a need to evaluate and assess the availability of electronic collections in Academic libraries

Today information technology plays a predominant role for tremendous changes in library. As the society is moving in different directions, huge numbers of people are passionate to access information from varied resources. Advanced information technology urge users to browse and retrieve the information and wherever necessary. E-Resources include e-journals, e-books, e-reports that can be accessed via internet in digital library environment. Those resources serve as a life-blood for the academic, research and extension activities for any type of institutions and organizations.

## **Review Literature**

Various studies were carried out to assess the use of electronic resources and search patterns by Faculty members of Institutions of higher learning across the countries. **Natarajan, Suresh, Sivaraman, and Sevukan** (2010) have carried out a survey of faculty and research scholars about use and perception of e-resources in Annamalai University, Chidambaram. Due to the non-availability of wide range of e-resources, the frequency of their use is rated low. The reasons identified are paucity of time, lack of awareness, understanding of subject coverage and slow downloading. Dhanvandan describes use of digital library resources for engineering college professionals in the Engineering College libraries at Chittoor district, and investigates the current state-of-the-art information through the digital library resources. The 33.7% of users feel that lack of information and access of digital library resource is the crux of the problem. The findings of this study would assist the internet browsers to improve their levels of knowledge in their domain.

Dinesh K. Gupta (2011)<sup>1</sup> analyzed the use of electronic journals from the INFONET consortium by faculty and research scholars of physics and chemistry at Kurukshetra University, India. . From the results of the questionnaire it was found that the respondents are more attracted towards e-journals than print journals. However, they depend more on open-source materials than those available via INFONET. Respondents also identified the need for training in using e-resources and retrieving information from them from time-to-time. Studies such as this one are required to understand the problems faced by the users and to increase the use of e-resources.

## **Objectives**

The objectives of the study are as follows:-

- To study the respondents institution-wise distribution of e-resources among the faculty members of autonomous Engineering Colleges in Chittoor District.
- To find out the frequency of using among faculty members of Autonomous Engineering Colleges in Chittoor District.
- To study the respondents gender wise distribution of using e-resources among the Faculty members of Autonomous Engineering College in Chittoor district.
- To identify the search engines among the Faculty members of Autonomous Engineering College in Chittoor district.
- To examine the satisfactoriness and use of electronic information by Students/Research Scholars/Faculty 83 members of Engineering College Libraries of Andhra

## **Scope**

The Study is limited to the laid down objectives among the faculty in autonomous Engineering Colleges in Chittoor District affiliated to JNTU Anantapur of Andhra Pradesh. The institutions are Sree Vidyanikethan Engineering College, Madanapalle Institute of Technology and Science, Sri Venkateswara University College of

Engineering, S.V.Univeristy, Sreenivasa Institute of Technology and Management Studies (SITAMS) and Sri Venkateswara College of Engineering & Technology.

## Methodology

The structured questionnaires have been distributed to Faculty members of Autonomous Engineering Colleges in Chittoor district. This study is primarily an exploratory method of analyzing e-resources among the faculty members of Autonomous Engineering Colleges in Chittoor district.

## Analysis and Discussion

**Table 1:** Distribution of institutions wise sample respondents.

Sl.No	Institution	Respondents	%
1	Sree Vidyanikethan Engineering college	63	36.00
2	SVU College of Engineering, S V University	35	20.00
3	Madanapalle Institute of Technology and Science	39	22.28
4	Sreenivasa Institute of Technology and Management Studies.	18	10.29
5	SV College of Engineering	20	11.43
<b>Total</b>		<b>175</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Table 1 shows that the highest respondents replied i.e. 63 (36%) are from Sree Vidyanikethan Engineering college, 39 (22.28%) from Madanapalle Institute of Technology and Science, 35 (20%) from SVU College of Engineering, 20 (11.43%) from Sree Venkateswara College of Engineering and least respondents are 18 (10.29%) from Sreenivasa Institute of Technology and Management Studies. It is Concluded that maximum number of faculty members are from Sree Vidyanikethan Engineering College.

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

Institution	Male	Female	%
Sree Vidyanikethan Engineering college	42 (66.67)	21 (33.33)	63 (36.00)
SVU College of Engineering	18 (51.43)	17 (48.57)	35 (20.00)
Madanapalle Institute of Technology and Science	22 (56.41)	17 (43.58)	39 (22.28)
Sreenivasa Institute of Technology and Management Studies.	12 (66.67)	6 (33.33)	18 (10.29)
SV College of Engineering	11 (55.00)	9 (45.00)	20 (11.43)
<b>Total</b>	<b>105 (60.00)</b>	<b>70 (40.00)</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Table 2 shows that gender wise distribution of respondents using e-resources among 175 respondents, 105 (60%) respondents are male and 70(40%) of respondents are female. It is concluded that the majority respondents are male.

**Table 3: Institution wise respondents purpose of using e-resources**

Institution	Research Articles	Lecturer Notes	Career Development	Current Information	Basic Scientific and Technical Information	Update Knowledge	Total
Sree Vidyanikethan Engineering college	9(5.14)	11(6.28)	14(7.99)	12(6.85)	10(5.71)	7(3.99)	<b>63(36.00)</b>
SVU College of Engineering	12(6.86)	6(3.43)	5(2.86)	7(4.00)	2(1.14)	3(1.71)	<b>35(20.00)</b>
Madanapalle Institute of Technology and Science	8(4.58)	10(5.73)	6(3.43)	7(3.42)	5(2.86)	3(1.72)	<b>39(22.28)</b>
Sreenivasa Institute of Technology and Management Studies.	1(0.57)	7(4.00)	4(2.29)	2(1.14)	3(1.71)	1(0.58)	<b>18(10.29)</b>
SV College of Engineering	2(1.14)	8(4.58)	4(2.29)	3(1.71)	2(1.14)	1(0.57)	<b>20(11.43)</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>32(18.28)</b>	<b>42(24.00)</b>	<b>33(18.86)</b>	<b>31(17.72)</b>	<b>22(12.57)</b>	<b>15(8.57)</b>	<b>175(100)</b>

Table 3 shows that institution wise respondents purpose of using e-resources. It could be noted that out of 175 respondents 42 (24%) of them are using e-resource for the purpose of giving lecture and preparing Notes, 33(18.86%) of them are using e-resources for Career development (ie. Attending conferences, Seminar, and Workshop), 32(18.28%) of them are using e-resources for publishing Research articles, 31(17.72%) of them are using e-resources for knowing the current information(i.e. general awareness) , and the least of the respondents 15(8.57%) use e-resources for updating knowledge

Table 4: Institution wise respondents access search engines.

<b>Institution</b>	<b>Google</b>	<b>Yahoo</b>	<b>Alta Vista</b>	<b>MSN</b>	<b>Hot Bot</b>	<b>Lycos</b>	<b>Bing</b>	<b>Total</b>
Sree Vidyanikethan Engineering college	44(25.14)	10(5.71)	3(1.71)	4(6.34)	-	-	2(3.17)	63(36.00)
SVU College of Engineering	25(14.28)	4(2.28)	2(1.14)	3(1.72)	1(0.57)	-	-	35(20.00)
Madanapalle Institute of Technology and Science	19(10.90)	10(5.72)	3(1.72)	5(2.85)	-	-	2(1.14)	39(22.28)
Sreenivasa Institute of Technology and Management Studies.	10(5.71)	5(2.85)	1(0.57)	1(0.57)	-	1(0.57)	-	18(10.29)
SV College of Engineering	9(5.14)	6(3.40)	2(1.14)	2(1.14)	-	-	1(0.57)	20(11.43)
<b>Total</b>	<b>107(61.14)</b>	<b>35(20.00)</b>	<b>11(6.28)</b>	<b>15(8.57)</b>	<b>1(0.57)</b>	<b>1(0.57)</b>	<b>5(2.85)</b>	<b>175(100.00)</b>

Table 4 shows that institution wise respondents access search engines. It could be noted that out of 175 respondents, 107(61.14%) respondents are using google, 35(20.00%) respondents are using yahoo, 15(8.57%) respondents are using MSN, 11(6.28%) respondents are using Alta Vista, 5(2.85%) respondents are using Bing, in the remaining HotBot and Lycos search engines, respondents are using below 1(0.57%).

Table 5: Purpose of Using / Browsing Internet Websites

Institution	Teaching	e-mail	Finding Relevant Information	Career Development	Entertainment	Research	Any other	Total
Sree Vidyanikethan Engineering college	19(30.20)	11(17.66)	5(7.96)	12(19.04)	5(7.96)	8(12.30)	3(4.76)	<b>63 (36)</b>
SVU College of Engineering	9(25.72)	6(17.14)	5(14.28)	7(20)	3(8.57)	4(11.42)	1(2.86)	<b>35 (20)</b>
Madanapalle Institute of Technology and Science	12(30.77)	5(12.82)	7(17.95)	8(20.51)	2(5.12)	5(12.82)	--	<b>39 (22.30)</b>
Sreenivasa Institute of Technology and Management Studies.	8(44.45)	4(22.23)	3(16.66)	2(11.11)	1(5.56)	--	--	<b>18 (10.28)</b>
SV College of Engineering	9(45)	4(20)	3(15)	2(10)	--	2(10)	--	<b>20 (11.43)</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>57(32.58)</b>	<b>30(17.15)</b>	<b>23(13.15)</b>	<b>31(17.73)</b>	<b>11(6.30)</b>	<b>19(10.81)</b>	<b>4(2.28)</b>	<b>100(100)</b>

**Table 5** : Reveals that the information with regard to purpose of using/ browsing internet websites of five autonomous Engineering Colleges of Chittoor district. The Faculty's priority is as follows in descending order: Teaching purpose 57(32.58%), career development 31(17.73%), e-mail30( 17.15%),Finding Relevant Information 23(13.15%),19(10.81%) and least priority is given to any other ie. 2(2.28%). It was found from the data analysis that almost of all institution Faculty top priority is given to teaching purpose and followed by career development.

Table 6: Institution wise respondents preferable format for getting information

<b>Institution</b>	<b>Print</b>	<b>Electronic</b>	<b>Both</b>	<b>Total</b>
Sree Vidyanikethan Engineering college	9(5.14)	22(12.57)	32(18.29)	<b>63(36.00)</b>
SVU College of Engineering	6(3.43)	14(8.00)	15(8.57)	<b>35(20.00)</b>
Madanapalle Institute of Technology and Science	8(4.58)	21(12.00)	10(5.71)	<b>39(22.28)</b>
Sreenivasa Institute of Technology and Management Studies.	4(2.29)	8(4.57)	6(3.43)	<b>18(10.29)</b>
SV College of Engineering	2(1.14)	4(2.29)	14(8.00)	<b>20(11.43)</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>29(16.57)</b>	<b>69(39.42)</b>	<b>77(44.00)</b>	<b>175(100)</b>

Table 6 shows that institution wise respondent's preferable format for getting information. It could be noted that out of 175 respondents, 77(44.00%) of them prefer getting information in both the format (i.e. Electronic and Print), 69(39.42%) of them prefer getting information from Electronic format, 29(16.57%) of them prefer getting information in print format.

## **Conclusion**

E-resources directly impact the nature and quality of learning-teaching and research across the globe. The emergence of internet and information technology in the arena education research is being distributed and accessed more in digital format. The dependency on internet based services is increasing everyday and users of engineering colleges too are depending much more on information resources available through internet for various educational purposes. At the same time they are facing numerous problems such as insufficient terminals, inadequate electrical supply, and lack of information retrieval skills for exploiting electronic resources thus making the level of usage of resources by the users very less. It is the responsibility of the library to provide facilities to the users. So the users are dependent to some extent on libraries with new technologies such as e-resources for the best use of research work. Google is the most commonly used search engine among the users. Both formats are most preferable for getting information. This study also suggests that some measures are to be achieved to make the efficient use of e-resources by the faculty members of autonomous engineering colleges in Chittoor district.

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