

# **Blending of smart technologies and legal E-Resources judicial libraries: Improving access and learning experiences for legal professionals**

**Karna Singh<sup>1</sup>; Prof. Bulu Maharana<sup>2</sup>; Srinivas Puala<sup>3</sup>**

Research Scholar Sambalpur University<sup>1</sup>; HOD Library & Info. Sc, Sambalpur University<sup>2</sup>;  
Asst. Librarian, Sambalpur University<sup>3</sup>

*karan4u358@gmail.com, pualamlis2011@gmail.com*

## **ABSTRACT**

*This article examines the use of e-resources and smart technologies in court libraries. Today, technology has had an impact on every industry. No area of the world can function without technology since it reduces human effort and makes things flow more smoothly. Judicial libraries must adapt and exploit digital advances as they continue to disrupt many industries, including education. These developments enhance the learning experience for legal professionals. This research looks at the literature on the use and benefits of e-resources and smart technologies in judicial libraries, emphasising their potential to improve legal information access, assist research activities, and support effective teaching and learning practices. The essay also examines the problems and issues connected with deploying these technologies, as well as advice for judicial libraries looking to integrate e-resources and smart technologies into their services.*

**KEYWORDS:** Smart technology, Electronic Resources, Judicial Libraries, ICT, legal Professionals, digital.

## **INTRODUCTION**

The advent of information and communication technologies (ICTs) has undoubtedly accelerated human progress and, of course, altered teaching and learning techniques. E-resources are becoming increasingly popular because they are not only simple to use but also dependable. Finding relevant information in a timely manner is critical for both researchers and information professionals. Because of their ease of use and speed, e-resources are becoming increasingly popular. The new and current trend in library services is to access library collections electronically for economic and user-friendly reasons. Library workers believe that electronic information plays an important role in providing users with up-to-date information in a timely manner.

The concept of smart libraries involves developing, transforming, and repositioning libraries to innovate and strive for improvement. Smart libraries have a transformative impact on users by operating according to high professional standards, ethical principles, and values. The incorporation of smart technologies in judicial libraries has transformed how legal material is accessed and used. Artificial intelligence, machine learning, mobile applications, and other technologies are among them. By utilising these judicial libraries, we can use these tools to promote access to legal material, facilitate research activities, and support successful teaching and learning practices. As technologies make a lasting impact on all sectors, people today expect to be able to find and access information from wherever they are. This creates challenges for the libraries and deeply impacts their structure, both physically and conceptually.

### **Significance of technology in transforming legal research**

Technology has had a significant impact on the subject of legal study. It has brought novel tools and resources that have expedited the research process, enhanced access to legal material, and provided new capabilities to legal practitioners. The digitization of legal information, which has led to the development of online databases, digital libraries, and electronic resources, is one of the key achievements. These platforms offer accessible and immediate access to a vast range of legal resources, removing the limits of physical location and limited access to specialised legal collections in judicial libraries.

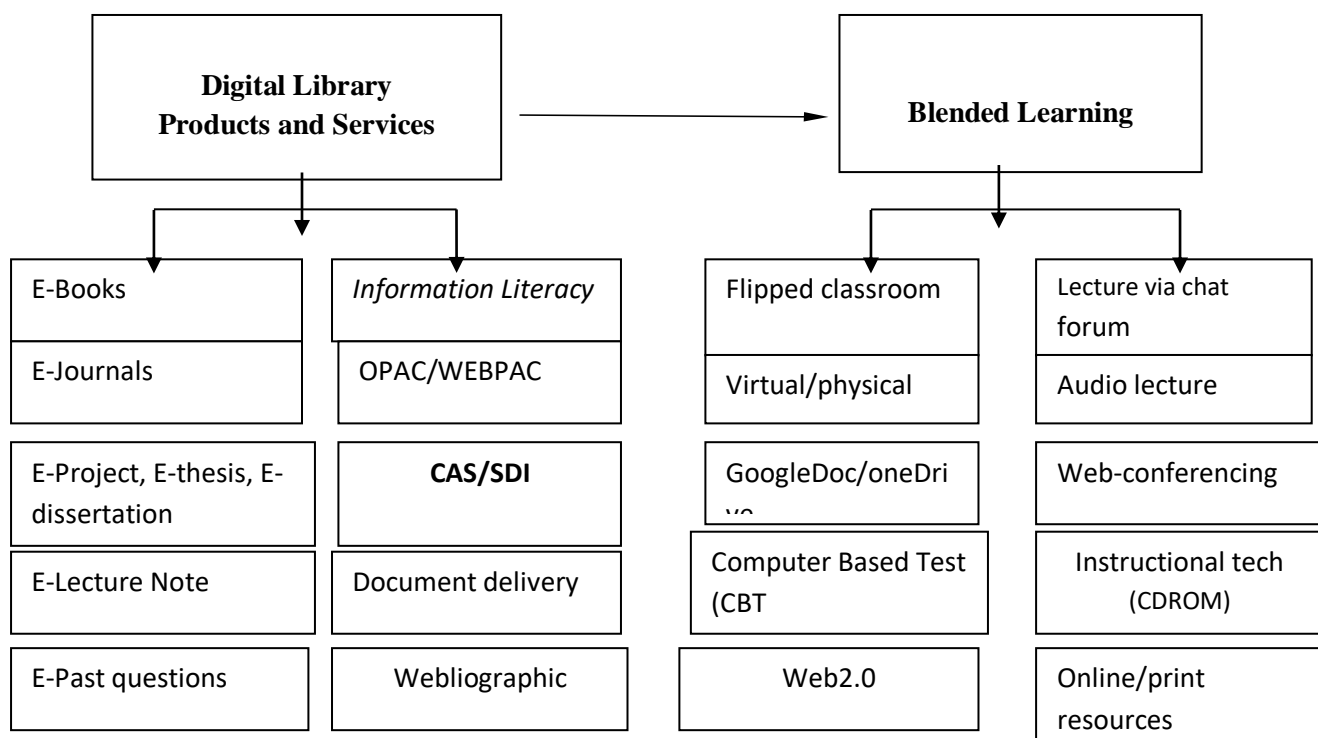
### **Reimagining the Role of Technology in learning and access legal resources**

Technology has the potential to transform learning. It has the potential to strengthen and improve connections between educators and students, to reimagine our approaches to learning and collaboration, to close long-standing equity and accessibility gaps, and to customize learning experiences to meet the needs of all learners.

Exploration and creativity should be fostered in our schools, community colleges, adult learning centres, and universities. Educators should be active learners, always seeking new knowledge and developing new abilities alongside their pupils. Education leaders should establish a vision for developing learning experiences that give all learners the necessary skills and support to flourish.

However, in order to fully appreciate the benefits of technology in our educational system and deliver authentic learning experiences, educators must properly employ technology in their practice. Furthermore, education stakeholders should commit to working together to use technology to improve American education. These stakeholders include leaders; teachers, faculty, and other educators; researchers; policymakers; funders; technology developers; community members and organizations; and learners and their families.

**Blending of smart technologies and legal E-Resources judicial libraries: Improving access and learning experiences for legal professionals**



**LITERATURE REVIEW**

Sotonye Orji and Isaac Echezonam Anyira (2021) What makes Smart Libraries "Smart"? This is a review study that investigates the components of smart libraries. The components of smart libraries, according to the study, are summarised in the acronym "S.M.A.R.T." for "Service, Methods, Automation, Resources, and Technologies." Being smart allows libraries to keep up with emerging trends and advances in education delivery in the digital era.

Deng (2010) used an online survey to investigate developing patterns and trends in the usage of electronic resources in an Australian higher education setting. Out of a total student population of around 57,000, they discovered 305 genuine responses. Calculating the response rate is difficult due to the survey's insufficient information on the size of the real population. The majority of responders thought electronic resources were beneficial

E-Resources and Their Uses in Libraries, by Baskar A. (2017), focuses on the numerous aspects. The use of stored cognition has become quicker, faster, and more pleasant thanks to advances in digital technology. With the advancement of technology, libraries can now add new items to their collections. Print sources are becoming more digitalized. E-resources and information sources are extremely valuable to the academic community.

Ali and Durga (2019) examined the usage of electronic resources by law students, putting light on the obstacles both libraries and students confront in realising the full potential of these tools.

Sunita D. Mane and A. Subaveerapandiyan, (2022) "Use of Electronic Resources by Law Academics in India." This study looked into e-resource consumption, storage, preferred reading format, and obstacles encountered when

accessing e-resources. Electronic resources are becoming increasingly important throughout the world, and their use is spreading across all age groups in the academic community.

Jayaprakash and Vijayakumar (2021) conducted a study on e-resource consumption in academic law libraries, underlining the importance of good infrastructure and user knowledge.

Overall, the analysis of the literature reveals a growing corpus of research on e-resources and smart technology in Law College and judicial libraries, underlining their potential to revolutionise library services, improve learning experiences, and increase access to legal information. However, key considerations such as infrastructure requirements, training needs, and user awareness must be addressed for successful deployment in law libraries.

## **SMART LIBRARY SERVICES**

The following best smart judicial library services can be applied in this context.

- Library Marketing & Promotion Service,
- Newsgroups/ Newsletter Services
- E-SDI, Bulletin Board, Discussion Forum, Start Page/Home Page
- Electronic Board Services, Atmospherics, Mash Ups, Linking different datasets
- Ask the librarian /Contac us / Feedback Process, Webliography
- Collaborative Digital Reference Services, Video Podcast
- E- Document Delivery Services, Institutionalisation/personalisation–portals
- RSS (Really Simple Syndication), Virtual Library Tours, Streaming Media
- Value added, aggregator services, Open access publishing, Metadata schemas

## **Artificial Intelligence and Digital Transformation**

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has enormous potential to be used for social good and achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Even as it is being used to help address many of humanity's most critical social issues, its use is also raising concerns about the infringement of human rights like the right to freedom of expression, right to privacy, data protection, and non-discrimination. AI-based technologies offer major opportunities if they are developed in respect of universal norms, ethics and standards, and if they are anchored in values based on human rights and sustainable development

## **Benefits legal electronic resources and smart Technology in judicial Libraries**

This section explores the advantages of electronic resources in law school libraries. It emphasises the accessibility, cost-effectiveness, and expanded research capabilities of electronic databases, online journals, and digital archives. Implementing Smart Technologies: Challenges and Limitations Despite the obvious benefits, smart technology application in law schools and judicial libraries poses hurdles. This section looks at the limitations and potential barriers to integrating various technologies, such as privacy issues, resource constraints, and the digital divide.

Electronic legal resources are sources that deliver real-time information in an electronic format that is accessible at any time to users. The technical ability to create a search utilising a massive amount of information enables

## ***Blending of smart technologies and legal E-Resources judicial libraries: Improving access and learning experiences for legal professionals***

electronic resources. Electronic resources include electronic journals, books, databases, CD-ROMs, DVDs, Internet resources, and so on. E-resource qualities include multi-access, speed, functionality, content reuse, management, storage timeliness, and so on. Access to information can be obtained without wasting time dealing with open-mouth issues such as space, budget, and so on in libraries and information centres. At the learning desk, desired knowledge can be obtained in a matter of minutes. A large amount of data can be stored in a tiny space. Sharing of resources as the desired level among libraries and information centres.

- Enhanced Accessibility
- Efficient Resource Management:
- Personalized Learning Experience
- Enhanced efficiency and time-saving capabilities:
- Access to extensive and diverse legal information sources:
- Facilitated collaboration and knowledge sharing among legal professionals:
- Improved search capabilities

### **Smart Technologies in judicial Libraries**

Now a day different types of Computer systems, computer accessories, cell phones or Smartphones, and other communication devices, such as video conferencing devices, projectors, scanners, printers, photocopying machines, digitising machines, Microsoft printers, radio-electronic copiers, and others are examples of smart technologies used in university and other judicial libraries. Some smart electronic devices, such as easy-to-read books, assistive listening systems, and others, that can help the deaf or physically challenged in the university libraries are decoder machines with built-in telephones that convert the electronic signals of a closed caption video system into words written on a screen alongside the video images for the hearing-impaired library, such as

RFID: RFID is one of the technologies being adopted by both the industry and judiciary world. Modern academic and judicial libraries a places where millions of books advanced; periodicals, CDs, DVDs and other electronic reading materials are contained. It is a challenge to manage for librarians, managing such type of huge collection

Mobile application: “Mobile technology is playing a very significant role in user’s information-seeking behaviour in such a way as teaching, learning and research works as per users' need. It is a model of nanotechnology”. (Singh, 2017)

Virtual Reality (VR) and Augmented Reality (AR): VR and AR technologies are finding their way into law college libraries, offering immersive and interactive experiences. Law students can engage in virtual courtrooms, participate in mock trials, and explore legal case studies in a simulated environment, enhancing their understanding and practical knowledge

### **Issue and challenge**

Despite the inherent potential of using smart technologies judicial libraries face some challenges in the use of these technologies. They include:

1. Paucity of Funds. Adequate fund is lacking both for the purchase and maintenance of the smart facilities and manpower
2. No Policy Guideline: Butcher (2011) noted that lack of strategic policy formulation and lack of clear government support to advance the availability and usage of ICT present serious challenges for the successful use of smart technology in university libraries.  
Inadequate advocacy: One of the best ways to promote the development and use of open access digital library services in developing countries like India is through advocacy  
Copyright issues: Copyright refers to the exclusive right granted an author and other creative artists to authorize the use of their works in any way
3. Unsteady Power Supply. Electricity supply from the national grid in Indian judicial Libraries is unpredictable. This oftentimes disrupts the use of smart technology in libraries.
4. Shortage of Technical Manpower. Most university libraries lack the technological expertise to use smart technology. It has contributed to low interest in the use of social media for library services among library staff.
5. Poor Internet Connectivity and Bandwidth: Nigeria's Internet connectivity and use is still a privilege. In Nigeria, not everybody can afford it.
6. Weak ICT Infrastructure and Culture.,
7. Inadequate Telecommunications Facilities
8. Poor Digital Literacy among library employees and users
9. Resistance to Change and inadequate library technical experts to deal with smart technology issue
10. Digital Divide: Access to smart technologies and high-speed internet may provide difficulties for pupils from economically disadvantaged households. These discrepancies in access to e-resources must be addressed by law school libraries.
11. Data Security and Privacy: To protect sensitive user data and ensure privacy compliance, law school libraries must install strong security measures. In the digital age, protecting against unauthorised access, data breaches, and intellectual property infringements is critical.
12. User Training and Assistance: As libraries implement new smart technology, users must receive proper training and assistance. Students and faculty should be given instructions on how to use e-resources successfully and navigate the library's digital platforms.

## **CONCLUSION**

A library, in basic terms, is a disciplined and linked depository of the universe of knowledge. The current trend of digital tools has enabled the visualisation of data and information. The study finishes by outlining the main findings and underlining the use of smart technologies and e-resources in law school libraries. It emphasises the importance of continual study and collaboration to ensure that new technologies are used optimally in legal education. The integration of online legal databases and platforms has offered legal practitioners unparalleled access to vast and diversified sources of information, allowing them to swiftly and accurately locate relevant legal resources.

## **REFERENCES**

***Blending of smart technologies and legal E-Resources judicial libraries: Improving access and learning experiences for legal professionals***

- [1] Sotonye Orji and Isaac Echezonam Anyira 2021 What is “Smart” About Smart Libraries, International Journal of Research in Library Science (IJRLS)7(4)265-271
- [2] Anjaneya Naik and Ramesh B Kuri 2023 Integration of E-Resources and Smart Technologies in Law College Libraries: Enhancing Access and Learning Experiences, international Peer Review Journal in Library and Information Science9 (4), 1-7
- [3] Deng, H. (2010). Emerging patterns and trends in utilizing electronic resources in a higher education environment: An empirical analysis. *New Library World*, 111(3/4), 87–103. <https://doi.org/10.1108/03074801011027600>
- [4] Ali, N. S., & Durga, S. (2019). Utilization of electronic resources by law students in academic libraries: A case study of Peshawar. *Global Knowledge, Memory and Communication*, 68(5/6), 285-297.
- [5] Jayaprakash, S., & Vijayakumar, M. (2021). Usage of e-resources in academic law libraries in the digital era: A study with special reference to South Indian States. *International Journal of Digital Library Services*, 11(2), 116-126
- [6] (Saware), Dr. Sunita D. Mane and A, Subaveerapandiyan, "Use of Electronic Resources by Law Academics in India" (2022). *Library Philosophy and Practice (e-journal)*. 7193. <https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/libphilprac/7193>
- [7] BASKAR A 2017 E-RESOURCES AND ITS USES IN LIBRARY, JOURNAL OF CRITICAL REVIEWS ISSN- 2394-5125 VOL 7, ISSUE 08, 3588-3592
- [8] K.Singh and P. Nikahndia (2017)*Role of Mobile Technology and their Application in Library Services in Digital era*. *International Research: Journal of Library & Information Science* | Vol.7 No.1, Mar.,157-166
-