IMPORTANCE OF E-RESOURCES IN COMMERCE AND MANAGEMENT: A CASE STUDY

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Abstract :

E-learning environment has influenced every facet of library and information services in academic libraries. The use of information technologies by academic libraries to provide access to resources and services in support for learning, teaching and research has benefited both on campus as well as distance learners. This paper focus on the E-Learning environment in G.S. College library. This paper examines the different e-resources uses by students.

Key words : E-learning environment, E- resources.

Introduction :

Most of the modern academic libraries are digital and e-learning can effectively take place in a digital environment. Academic library applies proper communications technologies in support of e- learning. And e-research by providing seamless access to electronic resources and services. Libraries have also been adopted of new information systems and services. Academic libraries served as repository for published information as well as the intermediary for acquiring material from the outside world. With e-resources and e-services, libraries have started offer a virtual entrance to the users through the libraries.

Objective of the study :

- To study digital information literacy among P. G. Students.
- To know awareness among P. G. Students about E-learning Resources.
- To study students opinion about importance of E-resources.

Scope of study :

Scope of the study is limited to the G.S. College of Commerce and Economics, Nagpur. Target group restricted to Post Graduate Students only i.e. M.Com. (English Marathi and Hindi medium) only.

E-Resources Available In The Library :

The various Open access e-resources are available in the Library such as E-Repository, NDLI, Free E-BOOKS, Google books, E-balbharati, E-pathashala, E-Shakespeare collection, Directory of Open Access Books (DOAB) , Project Gutenberg, Various Indian language literature available in the form of e-books like Hindi, Mararthi, Gujarati, Urdu, ,Bangla, Panjabi etc. publishers open E-resources like. Springer publisher, Oxford press, E-Journals, J-stor: Econbiz, E-Thesis and Dissertations in Shodhganga

E-resources :

Electronic information resources refer to any form of digital content that is used for reference, research or education. These resources can include online databases, e-books digital journals and other electronic materials that provide information to users. They are often accessed through the internet or other digital networks and can be used for a wide range of purposes, academic research, professional development and personal learning. Electronic information resources are valuable tools for accessing up to date reliable information on a wild range of topics and are an essential part of modern information access and knowledge dissemination.

- Information explosion.
- Diversity of user needs.
- Financial Crunch.
- Impossibility of self Sufficiency

Examples of electronic information resources :

Electronic information resources encompass a wide range of materials and platforms; here are a few examples of these resources.

1) Online Database
2) Digital Libraries
3) Online Journals
4) E-Books
5) Online Archives
6) Websites
7) Online learning Platforms
8) Multimedia Platforms
9) Social Media

About the g. S. College of commerce & economics nagpure :

G. S. College of Commerce and Economics, Nagpur city's first commerce college and through seven decades of academic excellence it has carved a niche for itself as a premier Commerce college in the region run by ShikshaMandalWardha. It is known for its high academic standards Qualitative growth and ethical practices. It is reaccredited by NAAC and

RUSA beneficiary institution. It also stands tall as the first Autonomous Commerce college in the RTM Nagpur University. The college successfully adopted NEP 2020 during the session 2023-2024.

About G.S. College Library :

With approximately 70,000 printed volumes and a variety of digital and e-resources, the library of G. S. College of Commerce and Economics in Nagpur is a reputable hybrid library. The library is located in a unique section of the campus. It is centrally located with an area size of 839.61 Sq. Mts. The entire ground floor covers the stalk area, reading room with e-library capabilities, processing area, reference area, librarian room, and issue counters. It makes use of LIBMAN, a multiuser integrated library management system. Wi-Fi connectivity is available, and CCTV cameras are monitoring it. The library includes a wealth of collections in the areas of management and commerce. Additionally, it created a unique collection of competitive exams and books on different industrialists and entrepreneurs in the form of autobiographies and biographies. They subscribe to essential and up-to-date newspapers, publications, and journals. Additionally, it offers a wide range of general and reference books to help staff and students with their academic needs. In addition to its own collection, the library provides complete online access to thousands of e-books and e-journals via NLIST and J-GATE. Its clients can access the DELNET database services. Additionally, the library belongs to the NDLI club. Additionally, the library enters into agreements with some of the city's top academic institutions to use the Interlibrary Loan service. It also has a special ABRAR (Audio Book Reader & Recorder) facility for ‘Divyangajan’.

Importance of e-resources in commerce education :

E-resources play a crucial role in commerce education by enhancing learning, accessibility, and research. Here are some key reasons why they are important:

1. Easy Access to Information :

- E-resources provide instant access to a vast range of materials, including e-books, journals, articles, case studies, and reports.
- Students and educators can access information anytime and from anywhere, making learning more flexible.

2. Cost-Effective Learning :

- Many e-resources are available for free or at a lower cost compared to physical textbooks and printed materials.
- Institutions can save costs on physical library infrastructure.

3. Updated and Relevant Content :

- Unlike printed books, digital resources are frequently updated to reflect the latest trends, policies, and market changes in commerce.

- Real-time data and reports help students stay informed about current business scenarios.

4. Interactive and Engaging Learning :

- E-resources such as online simulations, video lectures, and virtual case studies make learning more interactive.
- Tools like business analytics software, stock market simulators, and e-learning platforms improve practical knowledge.

5. Supports Research and Innovation :

- E-journals and databases like Google Scholar, ResearchGate, and JSTOR provide access to high-quality research papers and business insights.
- Students can conduct in-depth research and develop innovative business solutions.

6. Enhances Digital Literacy :

- Commerce students must be proficient in using digital tools, as businesses increasingly rely on technology.
- Using e-resources helps students develop IT and analytical skills essential for modern business environments.

7. Encourages Self-Learning and Skill Development :

- Online courses, webinars, and certification programs help students gain additional skills beyond traditional curriculums.
- Platforms like Coursera, Udemy, and LinkedIn Learning offer business-related courses that enhance employability.

8. Sustainability and Eco-Friendliness :

- Reducing the use of paper and printed materials supports environmental sustainability.
- Digital resources minimize the need for physical storage and printing.

9. Global Learning Opportunities :

- E-resources connect students with international business trends and global markets.
- Collaboration with global institutions and access to international business case studies enrich commerce education.

10. Efficient Exam Preparation and Assessments :

- Online mock tests, quizzes, and AI-driven assessments help students evaluate their

performance.

- Digital tools provide personalized feedback and improvement suggestions. E-resources are transforming commerce education by making learning more accessible, efficient, and dynamic. As technology continues to advance, their role will only become more significant in shaping future business professionals.

Data collectin and analysis :

In the present study, researchers used questionnaire-based survey methods in order to achieve the set objectives. For this purpose, a well-structured questionnaire is designed to collect the data.100 questionnaires were distributed in Postgraduate students of G. S. College of commerce and economics, Nagpur out of which 68 duly filled questionnaires are received and evaluated.

Results and discussion :

A total of **68** responses were received from the sample population of **100** postgraduate students who completed the questionnaire. Statistical techniques were used to categorize, examine, and tabulate the gathered data.

Table 1: Gender Wise Distribution of Respondents

Gender	Respondents	Percentage
Male	49	27.9%
Female	19	72.1%

Fig No.1 Gender Wise Distribution of Respondents

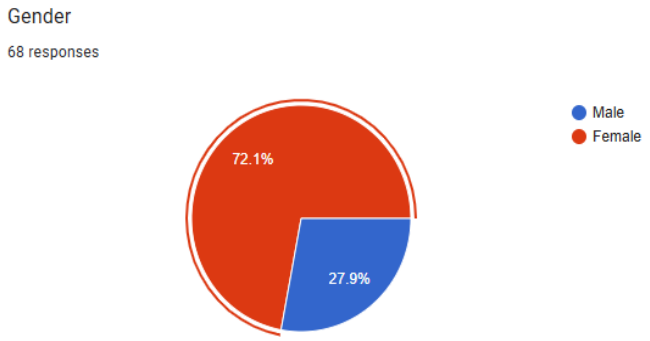


Table 1 and figure 1 shows the Gender wise distribution of respondents, out of 68 respondents, (73.7 %) of the respondents are female and (26.3%) of the respondents are male. The study observes that female students are more compared to male respondents.

Table 2: Websites visited by students for educational purposes

Sr No.	E-Resources	Respondents	Percentage
1	Swayam	48	70.6%

2	e-shodhsindhu	12	17.6%
3	Shodh ganga	13	19.1%
4	DOAJ	1	1.5%
5	Epg –Pathashala	4	5.9%
6	Other	18	26.5%ss

Fig. 2: Websites visited by students for educational purposes

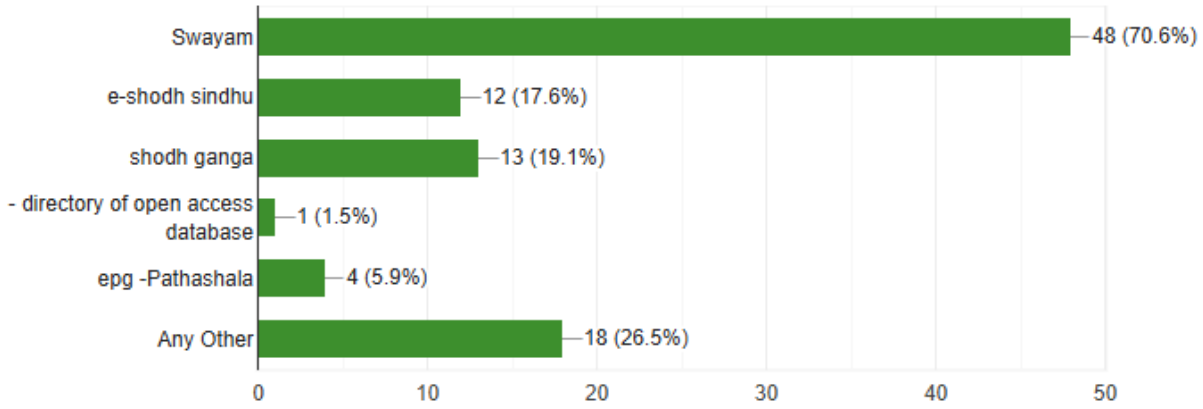


Table No.: 3 students regularly used E-resources Format

Sr. No.	Type of E-Resources	Responses	Percentage
1	**E-Books**	**51**	**75%**
2	**E-Journals**	**27**	**39.7%**
3	**E-Lectures**	**20**	**29.4%**
4	**Others**	**12**	**17.6%**

Fig No. 3 students regularly used E-resources Format

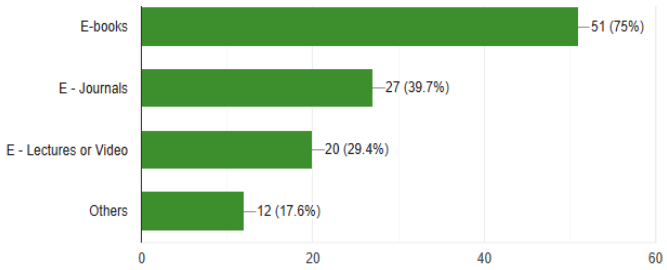


Table no.3and Fig No3 indicate that most of the students 51(75%) read electronic books and 27(39.7%) read E-Journals rather than 20(29.4%) students watched video lectures for their educational purpose .and only 12(17.6%) students read any other electronic format. This study indicates that most of the students read E-books and watched video lectures to

fulfil their educational needs.

Table No. 4 E-resources are useful in the study

Sr No.	Responses	Respondents	Percentage
1	Yes	58	85.3%
2	No	03	4.4%
3	May be	10	10.3%

Fig No. 4 E- resources are useful in the study

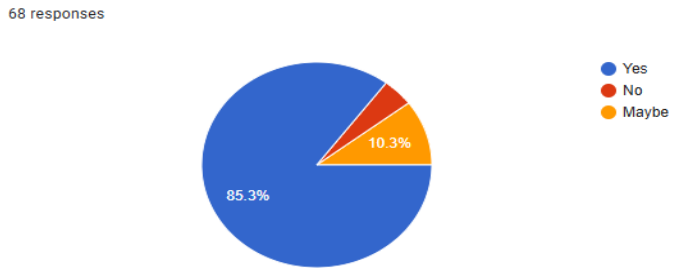


Table No.4 and Fig No.4 show that maximum students answer that 58(86.8%) e-resources are useful in their study only 8 (10.3%) students said may be E-resources useful none of the students response in favour of not useful The result of study indicate that E-resources are most useful and essential in students education.

Findings of the study :

- This study indicates that most of the students read E-books and watched video lectures to fulfil their educational needs
- The results of the study indicate that E-resources are most useful essential and important in students' education

Conclusion and recommendations :

The importance of electronic information sources to the academic community is growing. These sources provide timely and up-to-date information. Nowadays, more people use electronic resources than print ones. The result of the study shows that majority of students are aware of e-resources. The students can give more practical training or hands on experience or sensitization program so that they can become experts and use e-resource to achieve their academic excellence.

Recommendations are :

G.S. College, Nagpur Library should conduct more and more practice-based training programs to educate its users to access and use electronic resources effectively. Attending different user awareness/orientation and training programs, webinars, etc., allows students to access e-resources for learning and help them reach their educational objectives.

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