

UTILIZATION OF ELECTRONIC RESOURCES BY FACULTIES AND RESEARCH SCHOLARS OF VASANTRAO NAIK MARATHWADA KRISHI VIDYAPEETH, PARBHANI

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Abstract: *Electronic resources are essential part of any academic library in the era of e-learning. This study examines the use of e-resources by faculty members and research scholars of Vasant Rao Naik Marathwada Krishi Vidyapeeth, Parbhani (VNMKV). The study also examines the frequency and place in using e-resources. It also examines use of different types of e-resources and purpose of using e-resources by faculties and research scholars of VNMKV. A questionnaire was distributed among the faculty members and research scholars to collect required data. A total of 100 questionnaires were distributed to the respondents; using random sampling method 70 (35 questionnaires of each category) valid samples were collected. The study found that all the faculties and research scholars were aware of e-resources. The analysis reveals that most of the respondents use e-resources daily and prefer morning time in using e-resources. It could be noted that most of the respondents were using e-journals and e-mails frequently. Majority of the respondents were using e-resources to update their knowledge.*

Keywords: e-resources, VNMKV, Utilization of e-resources

1. INTRODUCTION

The rapid advancement information and communication technology has brought a revolutionary change in the information scenario and gives rise to a number of options to handle varied information sources conveniently and effortlessly (Garg & Tamrakar, 2014). The growing creation of variety of electronic information resources (e-resources) and technologies over the last decade has revolutionizing influence on libraries and information centres (Aregbesola & Oguntayo, 2014). Electronic information has diversified the way of communication, storage and retrieval of information, demands of users and information management systems in libraries & information centres. The development of electronic communication devices, electronic databases and e-book technology has changed the entire scenario of informatics. These resources are slowly replacing the importance and usage of print media. It is imperative that one should be familiar with the use and exploitation of e-resources for their quick and effective usage for promotion of academic excellence and research.

2. Review of Literature

Various studies have been carried out on the use of electronic resources by, faculties, research scholars, and students of institutions of higher learning

Dhanavandan and Mohamad Esmail (2007) conducted a survey of 190 students and faculty members of computer science belonging to engineering colleges in Thiruvannamalai district to examine their information use pattern. The study reveals that Internet and computerized library services were highly used by the users. 43.7% users were used internet facility, 32.1% users were used e-mail services. Only 24.2% users were used online services. The study also reflects that no library provides current awareness services to the users. Users were using Internet services to the maximum level.

Swain and Panda (2009) in their paper examined the availability of e-resources and the problem faced by the informational professionals in accessing e-resources and delivering electronic information services.

Tekale (2016) conducted a survey on perception of usability of electronic resources among faculty members of senior colleges in Parbhani. The main objectives were to study the use of e-resources, frequency, Purpose and place where respondents using electronic resources for their information needs. The study also examines constrains in using e-resources. The result of the study shows that, Majority of respondents use e-resources daily. Maximum faculty members were using e-resources at their department, E-journals are more preferable types among the respondents, Whereas Slow Internet connectivity and Lack of information literacy skills are the major constrains during accessing electronic resources.

Subbulakshmi & Santhi (2016) examines in their study that, majority of the research scholars and faculty members were aware of e-resources available in N-LIST programme; a good number of the respondents use the e-resources daily. they rated the e-resources as 'Excellent'; A majority of respondents use the e-resources for updating their subject knowledge and for writing papers /

articles / books / projects; The respondents used e-resources are free e-journals and e-books and Google and Yahoo are the most favoured search engines frequently among the respondents.

Yebowaah & Plockey (2017) conducted a study on Awareness and use of electronic resources in university libraries. The study indicates that about 65% respondents were aware of the availability of e-resources in the Library. From the study it is observed that awareness is high but utilization is low. E-resource utilisation in the Library includes purpose of Library visit and sources of awareness of the e-resources in the Library. Inadequate Library infrastructure, low internet bandwidth, and inadequate trained library staff were the major challenges in use of e-resources of the Library. The study recommended that efforts to improve the use of e-resources in the Library should include ways of creating user awareness, training/workshops for users and staff, and responding to the challenges confronting utilisation.

Mintu (2017) in his paper examine the awareness, impact on the purpose of e-resources use and place where the users were accessing e-resources. The major findings of the study show that users were using e-resources; the awareness about e-resources encourages to respondents to maximum use of e-resources; they using e-resources at home and central library. Increase in number of electronic journals, the impact of e-resources was visible from the decrease in number of printed journals. The paper also describes that Post graduate students use electronic information resources for the purpose of research activity, paper writing for publication, and preparing for projects. The study suggests further for an improvement in the access facilities with high Internet speed and subscription to more e-resources by the University Library.

3. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The following are the specific objectives of the study

1. To study the level of awareness about e- resources among faculties and research scholars
2. To find out the frequency and place of using e-resources.
3. To study the different types of electronic resources used by respondents
4. To determine the purpose and use of e-resources by respondents

4. METHODOLOGY

Keeping in view of the above objectives in mind, a structured questionnaire was prepared to collect data from the users of e-resources among the faculty members and research scholars of Vasant Naik Marathwada Krishi Vidyapeeth, Parbhani. Questionnaire contains various questions pertaining to the awareness and use of e-resources. For this purpose a total of 100 questionnaires were distributed among respondents. Out of 100 questionnaires distributed, 70 valid questionnaires were collected. The collected data were analysed, tabulated, interpreted and presented in form of this paper.

5. Data Analysis

5.1 Level of awareness about e-resources

To know the level of awareness about electronic resources among the faculty members and research scholars of VNMKV, a question was asked. Data in table no.5.1 represents the level of awareness of respondents on the basis of their responses.

Table 5.1: Level of awareness about e-resources

Sr. no	Awareness Level	Faculties N=35	Researchers N=35	Total N=70
1	Excellent	3 (8.57%)	11 (31.42%)	14 (20%)
2	Good	19 (54.28%)	16 (45.71%)	35 (50%)
3	Fair	13 (37.14%)	8 (22.85%)	21 (30%)

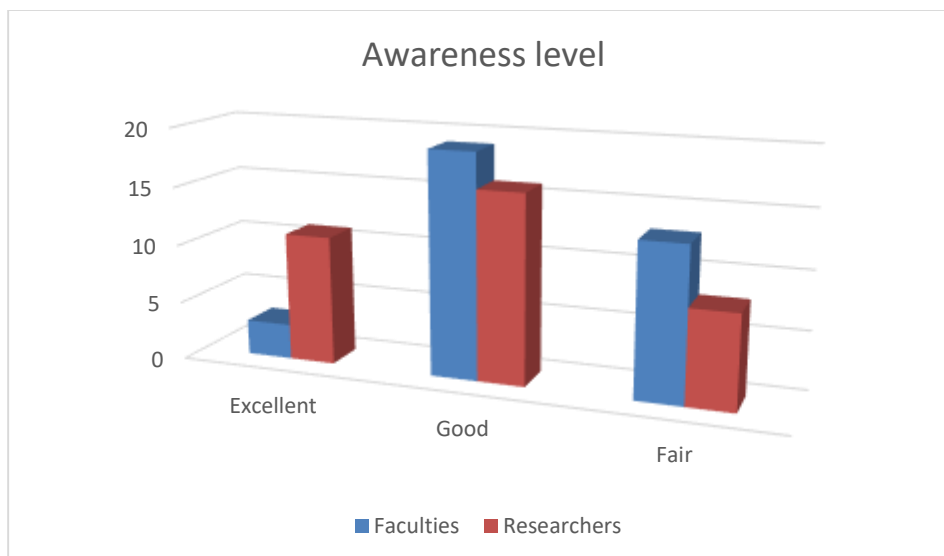


Figure 5.1 Level of awareness about e-resources

The data in table no.5.1 reflects that, 35(50%) respondents were having good knowledge about electronic resources, whereas 21(30%) respondents were having their level of awareness as Fair. 14 (20%) respondents' shows their excellent level of awareness of using electronic resources. It means that majority of respondents were their Good level awareness in using e-resources.

It also concluded from the table that both the faculties as well as researchers are aware about electronic resources. Comparatively the level of awareness about e-resources was more in researchers than the faculties.

5.2 Frequency of use of e-resources

A question was asked to mention the frequency of use of e-resources by the faculties and researchers. The responses are tabulated and analysed in table no.5.2.

Table 5.2: Frequency of use of e-resources

Sr. no	Frequency	Faculties N=35	Researchers N=35	Total N=70
1	Daily	27 (77.14%)	26 (74.28%)	53 (75.71%)
2	Weekly	7 (20%)	6 (17.14%)	13 (18.57%)
3	Forth nightly	1 (2.85%)	0 (00%)	1 (1.42%)
4	Monthly	0 (00%)	3 (8.57%)	3 (4.28%)

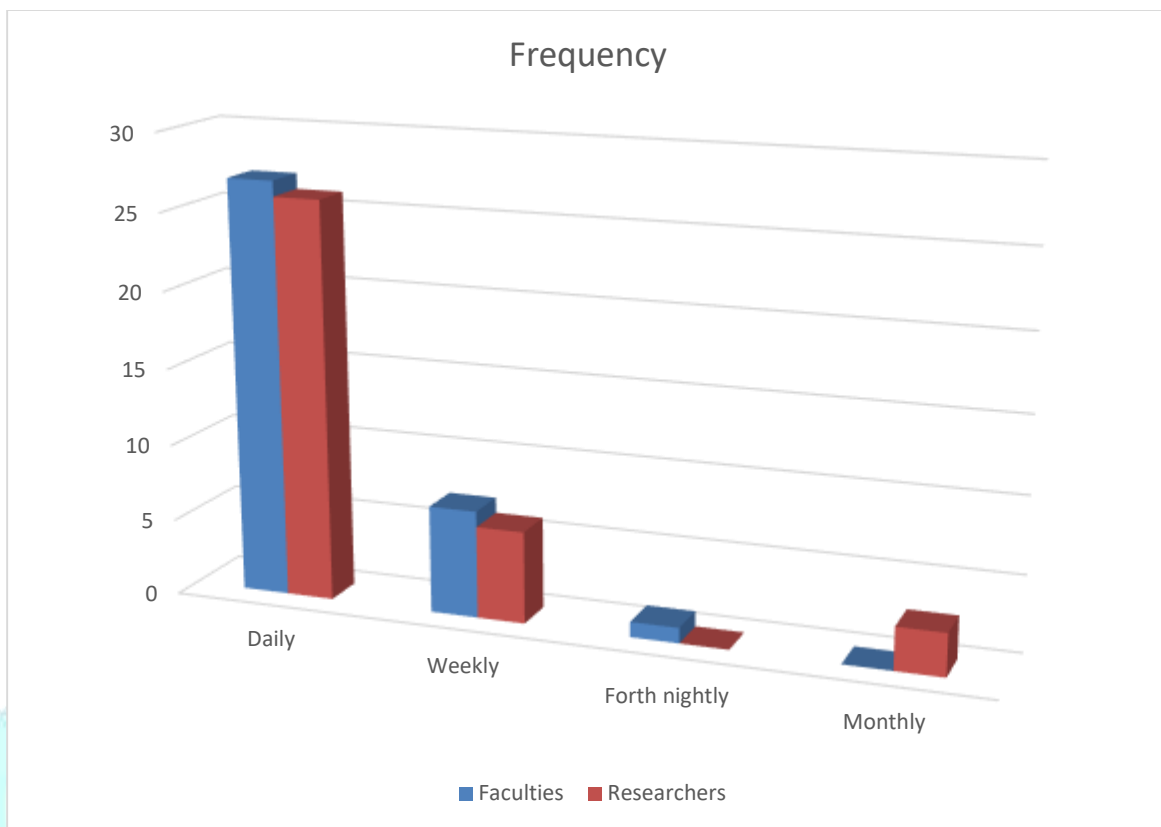


Figure 5.2 Frequency of use of e-resources

It is depicted from the table 5.2 that 53(75.71%) respondents were using electronic resources Daily, The users who were using e-resources as weekly are 13(18.57%). Very few respondents i.e. 3(1.42%) were using e-resources forth nightly, whereas 3(4.28%) respondents were using monthly.

It is concluded from the table that researchers were using e-resources frequently as compare to faculty members.

5.3 Time of day to access e-resources

In order to access the most preferable time of day to access e-resources among faculties and researchers, a question was asked to them to choose any from five time lags. Their responses are depicted in table 5.3. The respondents were allowed to choose more than one options.

Table 5.3: Time of day to access e-resources

Sr. no	Time of day	Faculties N=35	Researchers N=35	Total N=70
1	Morning	20 (57.14%)	17 (48.57%)	37 (52.85%)
2	Afternoon	18 (51.42%)	17 (48.57%)	35(50%)
3	Evening	16 (45.71%)	12 (34.28%)	28 (40%)
4	Night	9 (25.71%)	12 (34.28%)	21 (30%)
5	Late-night	1 (2.85%)	4 (11.42%)	5 (7.14%)

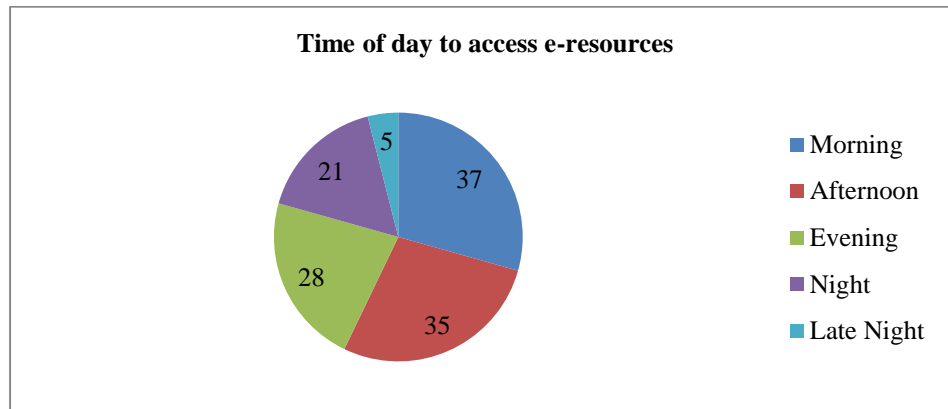


Figure 5.3 Time of day to access e-resources

It is observed from the table 5.3 that, most of the respondents using e-resources (i.e.52.85%) in morning, followed by 50% respondents were using at afternoon. 40% respondents were using e-resources at evening, whereas 30% respondents prefer to use e-resources in night. Very less number (i.e. 7.14%) respondents were using e-resources at late night.

5.4 Place of access e-resources

Users uses electronic resources at various locations, viz. at library, their respective departments, hostel, classroom, home, net café etc. To know the preferable place where they use e-resources, a question was asked to respondents, they were given multiple type choices and the responses are presented in table 4.

Table 5.4: Place of access e-resources

Sr. no	Place	Faculties N=35	Researchers N=35	Total N=70
1	Library	10 (28.57%)	23 (65.71%)	33 (47.14%)
2	Department	32 (91.42%)	21 (60%)	53(75.71%)
3	Hostel	0 (00%)	8 (22.85%)	8 (11.42%)
4	Classroom	7 (20%)	7 (20%)	14 (20%)
5	Home	22 (62.85%)	25 (71.42%)	47 (67.14%)
6	Net Café	3 (8.57%)	15 (42.85%)	18 (25.71%)

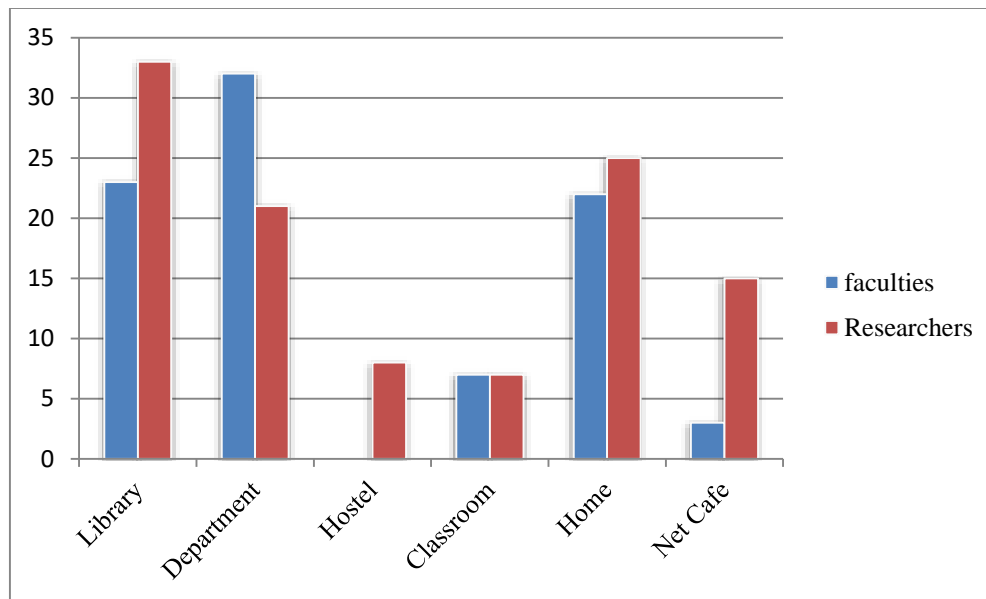


Figure 5.4 Place of Access e-resources

Table 5.4 clearly shows that 53 (75.71%) respondents' access electronic resources at their respective departments, followed by 47 (67.14%) respondents prefer home, 33 (47.14%) use e-resources at Library. The number of respondents who were use e-resources from net café are 18 (25.71%). Whereas very few respondents were using e-resources at classroom and hostel (i.e. 14(20%) & 8 (11.42%) respectively)

It is also noted that maximum number of faculties i.e. 32 (91.42%) use e-resources at department, whereas researchers prefer library as a location to use e-resources (i.e. 23 (65.71%).

5.5 Use of various e-resources

As per the objectives of the study a question was asked to respondents that, which e-resources they use frequently? They were allowed to choose multiple choices fixed in questionnaire. Responses are tabulated on the basis of their response in table 5.

Table 5.5: Use of various e-resources

Sr. no	e-resources	Faculties N=35	Researchers N=35	Total N=70
1	e-journals	32 (91.42%)	35 (100%)	67 (95.71%)
2	e-archives	4 (11.42%)	8 (22.85%)	12 (17.14%)
3	e-manuscripts	6 (17.14%)	13 (37.14%)	19 (27.14%)
4	e-books	23 (65.71%)	24 (68.71%)	47 (67.14%)
5	e-map	12 (34.28%)	18 (51.42%)	30 (42.85%)
6	e-magazines	13 (37.14%)	17 (48.57%)	30 (42.85%)
7	e-thesis	18 (51.42%)	23 (65.71%)	41 (58.57%)
8	e-newspapers	20 (57.14%)	26 (74.28%)	46 (65.71%)
9	e-mail	32 (91.42%)	33 (94.28%)	65 (92.85%)
10	e-research report	21 (60%)	20 (57.14%)	41 (58.57%)
11	e-bibliographic databases	7 (20%)	7 (20%)	14 (20%)
12	CD-ROM	14 (40%)	17 (48.57%)	31 (44.28%)
13	DVD-ROM	10 (28.57%)	13 (37.14%)	23 (32.85%)

14	Subject Gateways	4 (11.42%)	3 (8.57%)	7 (10%)
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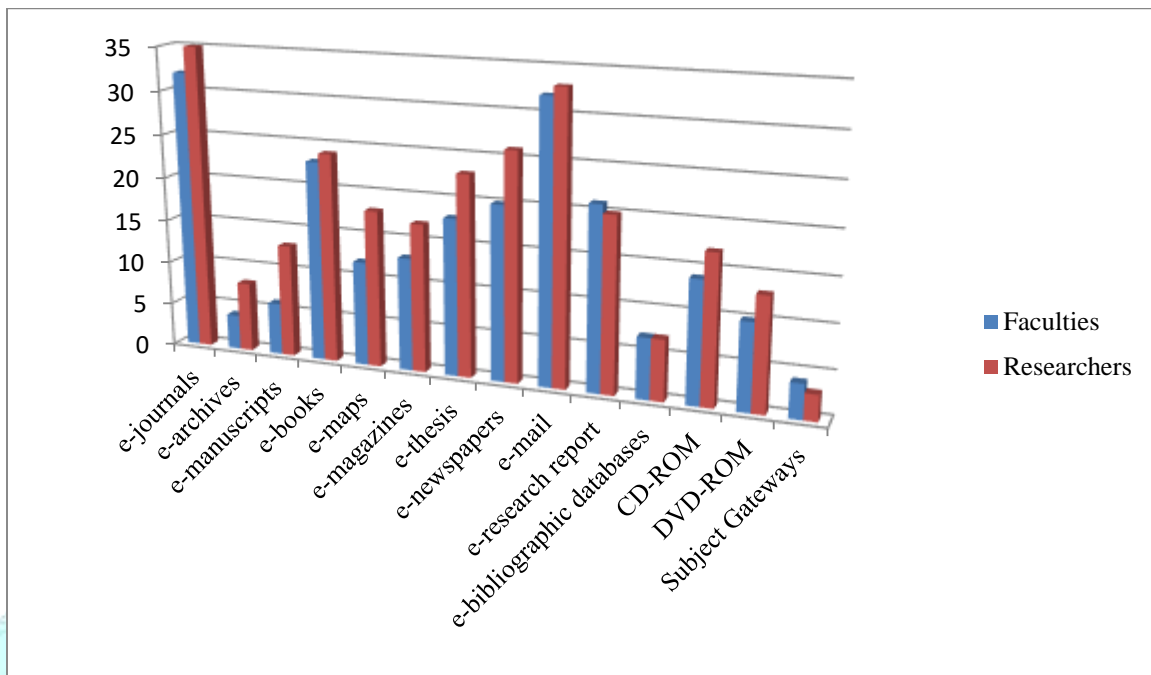


Figure 5.5 Use of various e-resources

From the table 5.5 it is clear that a majority of respondents (95.71%) of VNMKV were using e-journals, followed by 92.85% & 67.14% of respondents use e-mail and e-books respectively. About 65.71% respondents use e-newspapers and the same number of respondents i.e. 58.57% were using e-thesis and e-research report. 44.28% respondents using CD-ROM and equal number of respondents (i.e.42.85%) were using e-maps and e-magazines. Also 32.85% respondents were using DVD-ROM, while 27.14%, 20% & 17.14% of respondents were using e-manuscripts, e-bibliographic databases and e-archives respectively. Only 10% respondents use subject gateways for getting their information needs.

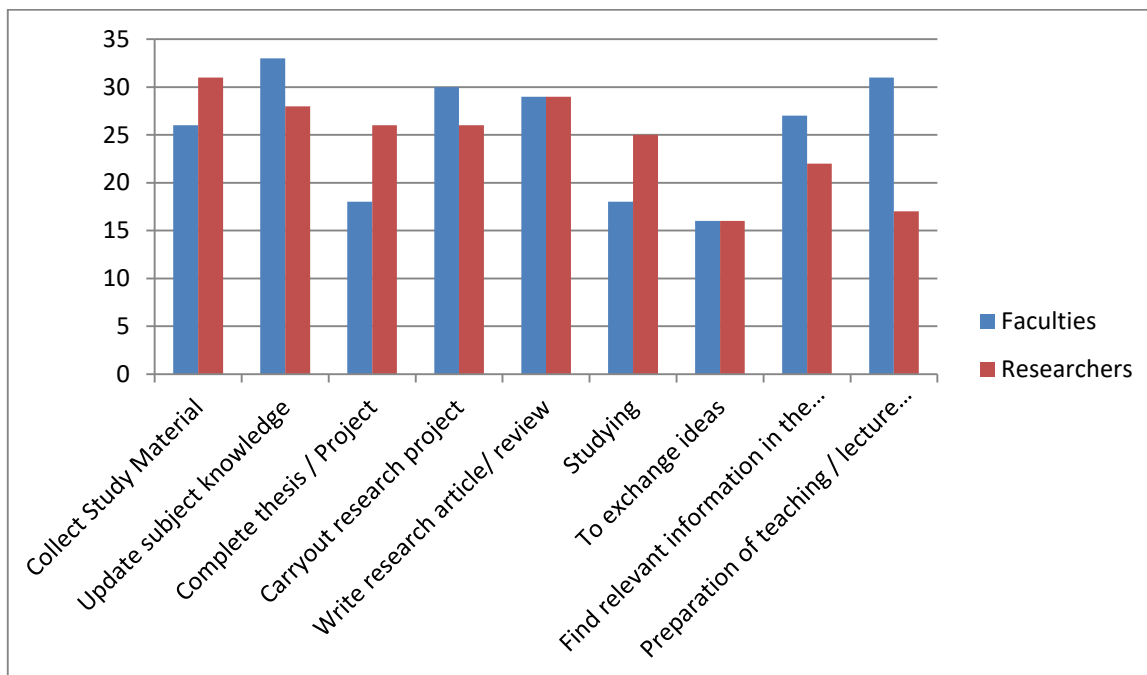
It is also noted that researchers were using more e-resources with the comparison of the faculties of VNMKV.

5.6 Purpose of using e-resources

Users access e-resources to various purposes. The study regarding purpose of use of e-resources is necessary to assess the use of e-resources by users. It helps to library to develop need based e-resources services. A multiple answer type of question was asked to the respondents about for which purpose they use e-resources. Results are summarized in table 6.

Table 5.6: Purpose of using e-resources

Sr. no	Purpose	Faculties N=35	Researchers N=35	Total N=70
1	Collect Study Material	26 (74.28%)	31 (88.57%)	57 (81.42%)
2	Update subject knowledge	33 (94.28%)	28 (80%)	61(87.14%)
3	Complete thesis / Project	18 (51.42%)	26 (74.28%)	44 (62.85%)
4	Carryout research project	30 (85.71%)	26 (74.28%)	56 (80%)
5	Write research article/ review	29 (82.85%)	29 (82.85%)	58 (82.85%)
6	Studying	18 (51.42%)	25 (71.42%)	43 (61.42%)
7	To exchange ideas	16 (45.71%)	16 (45.71%)	32 (45.71%)
8	Find relevant information in the area of specification	27 (77.14%)	22 (62.85%)	49 (70%)
9	Preparation of teaching / lecture notes	31 (88.57%)	17 (48.57%)	48 (68.57%)



It is found from the table 5.6 that majority of respondents i.e. 87.14% reported that they use electronic resources for update their subject knowledge. About 82.85% and 81.42% of the respondents use E-resources for the purpose of writing research article/ review and for collect the study material respectively. 80% respondents use e-resources to carry out research project and 70% respondents use for find relevant information in the area of specification. Around 68.57% and 62.85% respondents use e-resources for preparation of teaching / lecture notes and to complete thesis/ project respectively. The number of respondents who were using e-resources for studying was 61.42%. Whereas less no i.e. 45.71% of respondents were using e-resources for the purpose of to exchange ideas.

It also depicted from the table that the purpose of use of e-resources among faculties and researchers are somewhat differ according to their position, i.e. majority of faculties use e-resources for update their subject knowledge, whereas majority of researchers were use e-resources to collect study materials.

6. FINDINGS

The major findings of the study are-

1. Faculties as well as researchers of VNMKV are having good knowledge of IT and they are aware of electronic resources, whereas the level of awareness is high among researchers if compared with the faculties.
2. It is found from the study that majority of faculties and researchers of the study use electronic resources daily.
3. The respondents use e-resources from number of location but majority of respondents use e-resources at their department. It also noted that faculties use department whereas researchers use Library as a preferred location in using electronic resources.
4. E-journals, e-mails, and e-books are most preferred electronic resources than other form of e-resources.
5. Majority of respondents use e-resources to update their knowledge and to write research article/ review. Researchers use e-resources to collect study material.

7. CONCLUSION

In today's contemporary world electronic resources are important collection of the libraries. Users demand various types of e-sources due to the user friendly features of such resources. The uses of e-resources are increasing day by day. In a present society academic libraries play an important role in information acquisition to dissemination. Users of agriculture libraries are more specific. They know what exactly they require. So to fulfil their informational needs, librarians have to provide various information services in changing environment to maximise the use of e-resources.

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