

SUGGESTIONS, RECOMMENDATIONS & CONCLUSION

7.1 Suggestions and Recommendations

From the above discussions, now it is almost clear that the respondents are not getting full satisfaction while accessing e-resources under the consortia services. They are facing lots of problems while accessing information from consortia. The general findings of the study and the problems they encountered and their willingness towards improvement of the existing system leads to provide suggestions. These suggestions have revealed the need for making recommendations to concern authorities for implementation.

Thus to solve those problems faced by the respondents, there is a need to design and re-think about the effective consortia services in this regards; which would guide the respondents to follow the path for getting their required e-resources. The following suggestions and recommendations, thus, can be made as an outcome of the study.

E-Resource Consortia Collection Development and Policy

- It is clear from the study that consortia have a great impact on library users for providing information resources, research publications, etc. Therefore, library should continue the consortia services with more valuable e-resources;
- Library should also provide adequate electronic collections as per the needs of the respondents;

- Library should also build own Institutional Repository for collection development;
- Library electronic collection needs to be enriched. There should be proper guideline how to build library e-collections;
- while developing electronic collection development policy, various other aspects such as perpetual access, orders and payment should be framed to address the need for inclusion of e-resources, making online orders etc.;
- Use of offline e-resource such as CD/ DVD-ROMs for bibliographical searches should be encouraged and improved;
- Proper e-journals subscription should be made in each relevant field by the library;
- Further, proper e-journals subscription should be made available for HL&SS streams; and
- New consortia can be built especially for Northeast India keeping in view the needs of library users.

Users Awareness/ Orientation Programme

- Awareness among the respondents regarding the types of e-resources, their importance and usefulness for getting the information should be created;
- The users should be educated with the new information technology followed by the libraries;
- The authority should conduct training program or orientation or educational program for them at a very close interval to make aware about library consortia services; and
- The authority should also conduct orientation program for access of e-resources which are provided by the consortia to the university libraries of Assam.

Evaluation of Library Network

- Library should evaluate the usability of information networks / consortia Services;
- To make widely usage able of network/ consortia facility, proper steps should be made by creating awareness among library users; and
- Proper mechanism should be developed to attract library users towards accession of library e-consortia facility.

Library / Internet Service from Library

- Since most of the library users access e-resources, LIS professional can take help of mobile technology to provide alert to all users;
- CAS (Current Awareness Service) and SDI (Selective Dissemination of Information) services should be introduced effectively in the library services;
- There is a need to improve the library consortia services as per the need of the users;
- More computers/ terminals with latest configurations should be made available in the library so that the users can use Internet, e-resources and e-journals and other useful services of the Internet effectively;
- To make the best use of e-journals available under Consortium, 24x7x365 days accession should be made available in the university libraries of Assam ; and
- As the user communities have expressed their dissatisfaction towards the speed of Internet connectivity due to low bandwidth, it is recommended to establish wide range internet facilities with high speed for speedy access to e-resources.

Others Needful Development

- More fund should be given to acquire electronic resources/ documents;
- Adequate ICT infrastructural facilities should be developed in the various academic departments, library, hostels for the effective utilization of Internet and e-resources;
- E-mail/ mobile alerts should be introduced in the library services to provide current awareness service about new arrival to the library users;
- It further reveals from the study that though all the university libraries started providing services to the users through automated library management system, but it is very essential to add new technology to provide effective library services to the library users to build institutional repository service.
- The existing library system need to be reorganized by various aspect such as:
 - by converting retrospective documents into digital resources;
 - by increasing internet connection terminals for making accessible to web-based resources.
 - Un-interrupted power line should be made available for optimum utilization of the e-resources which are available under university libraries;
 - Printing facilities should be made available to library users.
- New consortia might be developed for North-East India keeping in view the needs of library users especially as per the needs of university library users of Assam.

7.2 Conclusion

In the changing scenario, libraries and librarians will have to play a crucial role in handling conventional and electronic resources. E- Resources are the most supporting tool in academic purpose for the research scholars as well as for the faculty members of both “Linguistics, Humanity & Social Sciences” (LH&SS) and “Science, Technology and Management” (STM) group. Presently, UGC-Infonet Digital Library Consortium is quite popular among all the consortia available in the university libraries of Assam.

The ultimate goal of e-resources is to provide fast & easy access to the information contained in the objective publications with simple, powerful search and retrieval capabilities. Thus, electronic resources can be used effectively in the context of Dr. S.R. Ranganathan Fourth Law of Library Science, "*Save the time of the user*" for many purposes. In the present era, information and communication technology (ICT) is growing in such way that it is not possible for traditional library system to provide information at a speed comparable to e-resources.

However, in order to meet the ever increasing demand of the research scholars as well faculty members of the university libraries of Assam, in a digital environment, libraries have to develop the ways to manage e-resources by facilitating the users to access resources from any place beyond the campus LAN and confirm 24x7 access which will enable them to access the e- resources to the maximum extent.

The electronic resources can be access over Internet, which may be on the basis of ownership or access right for the journals subscribed. On-line access is available along with subscription with printed volumes. Electronic resources include e-journals, e-books, CD-ROM/ DVD Databases, On-Line Databases etc. The consortia approach for

subscribing to e-journals and databases has been gaining momentum in Assam, India also and different models are being coming up and some are running successfully.

Therefore, the finding of the study shows a clear picture of e-resource usage pattern by library users belong to Universities of Assam along with the preference of e-resources or e-journals and usefulness, role and preference of e-consortia services. Thus, it would be the great contribution towards the national development in general and Assam, North-East India in particularly to build a new network in future and to improve e-consortia services as per the needs of library users.

7.3 Suggestions for the Further Research

Though many studies were conducted earlier on the usage pattern of e-resources of different universities, but majority of the studies were conducted in small scale or for a particular community. From the study, it is very clear that e-consortia are playing a very important role in the university libraries of Assam and its demand is increasing day-by-day. So, on very recently initiative by the MHRD has formed “*e-Shodh Sindhu*” by merging three well-known consortia services, namely UGC-INFONET Digital Library Consortium, NLIST and INDEST-AICTE Consortium. The **E-Shodh Sindhu** will continue to provide current as well as archival access to more than 15,000 core and peer-reviewed journals and a number of bibliographic, citation and factual databases in different disciplines from a large number of publishers and aggregators to its member institutions including centrally-funded technical institutions, universities and colleges that are covered under 12(B) and 2(f) Sections of the UGC Act.

Thus, keeping in view the limitation of the present study and latest development undertaken by Government of India, the scope of future research on related topics can be under taken as follows:

- A comparative study of Research Productivity of University Library Users;
- A comparative study of library users at higher educational system of Private and Government Universities of Assam;
- To examine the prospect of newly develop e-Shodh Sindhu project for consortia services; and
- To examine the needs for designing a new library consortia for North-East India.