

USE OF N-LIST E- RESOURCES BY THE USERS OF GOVT. AIDED COLLEGE LIBRARY OF PHAGWARA. A STUDY

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Received: July 21, 2018

Accepted: October 02, 2018

ABSTRACT

In the modern era, electronic information resources are seen as the most recent and most powerful development of information technology. Now academic libraries have started using EIRs (electronic information resources to substitute print collections for optimum use. To overcome the problems of tremendous growth of e-resources and shrinking budgets of libraries, lots of effort has been taken by universities and college libraries. N-LIST program initiated by INFLIBNET is one of the best way out to deal with this problem for the today's libraries. Findings of the study reveal that almost one thirds of the faculty used N_LIST e resources for their research and paper publications.

Keywords: N-LIST, electronic resources, Phagwara, Govt. aided college, Kamla Nehru College for Women.

BACKGROUND

Academic libraries are considered to be the important and prestigious part of any academic institutions. Academic library provide access to information to support teaching, learning, research and other important activities. But rapid growth of information (both in print and non print) , development of scholarly publishing, increasing cost of resources and shrinking budget of libraries posed many challenges for library to acquire every types of resources in library. To tackle these problems in libraries, lots of efforts have been taken in past many years by resource sharing and networking through consortia.

A consortia is an association of libraries or organizations who come together with the combined objective of sharing their resources for achieving a common goal. According to Webster dictionary consortia is define as an agreement, combination, or group(as of companies) formed to undertake an enterprise beyond the resources of any one member. According to Arora (2005), a consortium is a resource sharing organization which is jointly formed by libraries usually for the purpose of improving services through resource sharing its members. It is also referred as cooperative network alliance partnership as well as federation.

N LIST:

National Library and Information Services Infrastructure for Scholarly Content project (N-LIST project)" is jointly executed by the UGC-INFONET Digital Library Consortium, INFLIBNET Centre and the INDEST-AICTE Consortium, IIT Delhi. N-LIST provides limitless access to electronic resources to its user's colleges and other institutions through its server which is installed at the INFLIBNET center. Registered users can access electronic resources directly from the publisher's website.

COMPONENTS OF N-LIST

N-LIST has four distinct components and the objectives of these components are:

- ❖ To provide access to selected UGC-INFNET e-resources to technical institutions
- ❖ To provide access to selected INDEST e-resources to selected universities and 6000 govt. aided colleges.
- ❖ To act an monitoring agency for colleges, impart training programs and monitoring all activities involved in the process of providing effective access to e- resources to colleges.

KNC PHAGWARA

Kamla Nehru college for women is a renowned, multi departmental institutions affiliated to GNDU, Amritsar which is work tirelessly towards women empowerment through education. It was started in 1965 with a meager strength of 70 has made remarkable progress since its inception and today around 3000 students are enrolled in college. The Library also came into existence with the inception of college In 1965. earlier, the stock was limited and the number of books was quite small to cater to the needs of the meager strength of 70 girls. But over the years the extension of library in the form of building, area and the gradually increasing number of books , journal ,furniture and other equipments to meet the demands of constantly rising strength is worth to be mentioned. At present Library is an "Open Shelf Library and it has

in its possession a stock of nearly 30,000 books which prove to be very advantageous source of information for the benefit of the students. With the passage of time the library has changed into “HYBRID LIBRARY” Under the CPE Hybrid Library scheme , the college library has subscribed to e-resources Consortium called NLIST by INFLIBNET, Delhi from last 8 years through which students can have access to 6,000 e-journals and 30,00000 e-books online.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Ravi and somasekar (2011) gave step by step details of N-LIST, college covered under N-LIST etc. they concluded that e resources available under N-LIST consortium are not subscribed by all the colleges. Govt. should make it mandatory by all the college. Rani and Sharma (2012) focused on the component of N-LIST, beneficiary institutes, e resources under N-LIST etc. they observed that N-LIST is very beneficial for govt. aided colleges and especially for those which are located in remote area. They also observed that it is the best effort of govt. to provide world class library to remote area students. Boraiah (2014) investigated that more than three/ fourths percent of the faculty members and 73.61% of the students are aware about the resources through N-LIST. All most all the faculty members and more than 97 percent of the students use e journals through N-LIST. Only 36.46 percent of the users use Indian journals. Suseela (2014) surveyed that 92 percent of the users use UGC-INFONET consortia for e resources. Ram and Karan (2014) carried a study of UGC INFONET consortia in universities of eastern India. Singh and Bhoi(2015) conducted a study on the usage of N-LIST in college libraries. they found that nearly 50 to 70 percent of the students and 20 percent of the staffs of Sambalpur college, 50 percent of the students and 15 percent of the staffs from Sohela college use e resources through N-LIST. Pillai and aparana (2016) investigated in their study that 86 percent of the respondents were quite aware about N-LIST. Majority 48 of the respondents were informed of the N-LIST by college librarians. Majority of the users prefer J-STOR publisher’s e- resources. Nagesh and Naveen (2016) conducted study on the problems and status of N-LIST consortia in twenty govt. aided colleges of Hassan District, Karnataka. They investigated that only 8 colleges subscribed N-LIST consortium. 7 colleges subscribe consortia from their reading room. 3 colleges subscribe consortia for the purpose of NAAC accreditation. The major findings of the study showed that majority of the colleges are facing problems of insufficient fund to subscribe N-LIST consortia.

OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

- To acquire knowledge about the purpose of N-List.
- To know how frequently user uses N-List e-resources.
- To find out the place to access N-List.
- To discover the problems while using of N-List

METHODOLOGY

To examine the purpose and usage of N-LIST by faculty members and PG students of Kamla Nehru College for Women, a survey was conducted through questionnaires. Fifty questionnaires were distributed among each category of respondents. Calculations have been made manually for analyzing the responses.

	Distributed questionnaire	Received questionnaire	Result
PG	50	50	100%
Faculty	50	50	100%

DATA ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

1. Purpose of using N-LIST

Purpose	Faculties		PG students	
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage
Research	23	46%	0	0
Teaching	5	10%	0	0
Research paper	19	38%	0	0
Assignments	0	0	37	78%
Project/practical	3	6%	7	14%
study	0	0	4	8%

Table 1 shows that the purpose of using N-LIST from one user to another. It indicates most of the faculties using N-LIST for research purpose and for research papers. On the contrary, 78 percent of the PG students using N-LIST for preparing assignments.

2. Place to access N-LIST

Place	Faculties		PG students	
Library	26	52%	37	74%
Departments	9	18%	0	0
Computer science lab.	15	30%	13	26%

Table shows that around half of the faculties and one/thirds of the students using N-LIST from college library, followed by 30 percent of the faculties and 26 percent of the students using N-LIST from computer science lab. Only 18 percent of the faculty using N-LIST from their respective departments.

3. Frequency to use N-List

Frequency	Faculties		PG students	
Daily	10	20%	3	6%
Weekly	10	20%	0	0%
Fortnightly	24	48%	17	34%
Occasionally	6	12%	23	46%

The frequency of using N-LIST by respondents is tabulated in table 3. It is evident that around half of the faculties using N-LIST fortnightly whereas 46 percent of the pg students use N-LIST occasionally. The usage of N-LIST on daily and weekly basis is not up to mark and it may be due to the lack of self efficacy or motivation.

4. Problems faced while accessing N-List

Problems	Faculties		PG students	
Varied search pattern	12	24%	14	28%
Lack of time	19	38%	0	0%
Lack of knowledge of information resources	0	0%	17	34%
Difficult to use	17	34%	19	38%
Not any problem	2	4%	0	0%

From the table 4, one may conclude that lack of time and difficult to use N-LIST are the major problems faced by faculty. But in the cases of students, 38 percents opined that using N-LIST is very difficult for them, whereas 34 percent opined that lack of proper knowledge of using e resources through N-LIST is their biggest problems.

5. Training program for using N-LIST

	Faculties		PG students	
Strongly agree	31	62%	42	84%
Agree	17	34%	8	16%
Disagree	2	4%	0	0%

When respondents from the both categories are asked about their opinion regarding training program or orientation to use N-LIST, then almost all the respondents from both categories are agree and strongly agree about conducting training program. Very meager respondent from faculties are disagree from the need of training program.

CONCLUSION

N list database, which is provided by INFLIBNET is very useful for academic community. It provide access to qualitative e- resources including full text databases to academic community at a minimal rate of subscription. Lower rate of subscription help to overcoming the problems of growing price of international journals. INFLIBNET should add more Indian journals in N-LIST consortium. Books of Indian authors in English and others languages should also add in this consortium. The college authority should encourage the students and faculty to develop their reading habits with the use of N-LIST consortium, and they have to organize training programs for users on how to use N-LIST e-resources. Then only we will be successful to fill the gap between information and proper dissemination of information.

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