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Internet and E-Resources Facility In Engineering Education: A Study of Raghu Engineering College Library, Visakhapatnam Andhra Pradesh

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Abstract

Development of information and communication Technology changed the image of Librarian and Libraries. Engineering college libraries provide the resources and services to the users as per their need. The information technology has changed the mode of publication of traditional sources of Information. Today, libraries are surrounded by networked data that is connected to vast ocean of internet based services; moreover, electronic resources relevant to the profession are developing at an unprecedented pace. Informing the information is more powerful. Informing the information at right time, to the right people in the right way is the most powerful. This age called the age of the internet. The impact of Internet and related web technologies on the delivery of library services was evident in the first decade of this century. The growing network technologies have been changing the society by providing easy access to information to the people. Use of Internet availability and benefit of e-resources is increasing day by day as it is time saving, more informative and less expensive. This paper presents the outcome of a sample survey to understand the use of Internet facility in support of engineering education and its impact on the student members of Raghu Engineering college Visakhapatnam (RAGHU). Andhra Pradesh. A questionnaire was used as the data collection tool. The users' replies on responsiveness and satisfaction level on various library resources were gathered and results of the study are presented. Analysis shows that respondents do experience inadequacy of information resources in college library. There is need to assess the library Internet facilities and services regularly to meet the changing needs of the users. The results of the survey have also provided information about the benefits of the Internet and e-resources over traditional documents.

Keywords: Internet facility, e- resources, E-services, economic development, technology

Introduction

An engineering educational Institution provides technical education, and its significance is well recognized, particularly in the development of the country. The main aim of the engineering education is to provide quality multidisciplinary education in engineering studies, keeping in view the demands of the global economy and the needs of the domestic society and to promote interdisciplinary study of engineering in relation to management technology, education, international cooperation and development of India.

Engineering education aims for national development and strengthening the industry, economy, with ultimate goal to develop the quality of life of the people. It has made important contributions to India's economic development. Engineering education aims at imparting knowledge of engineering as a learned profession with growing importance for quality engineering education. The principal objective of engineering college libraries is to meet the information needs of their clients. It is enough to observe that in this information age, students are reluctant to visit the library, preferring instead to engage with information technology in order to satisfy their information wants and needs (Malik & Singh, 2025).

An engineering college provides technical education and its important role is expected in growth and development of the country. So the library of an engineering college must have good collection of books, periodicals and information resources. The main role of an engineering college library is to satisfy the needs of its user community. In the present information era, students are not interested in frequently visiting the library physically; they are more comfortable in retrieving information electronically.

Internet is the most common medium for communication as well as providing information. Internet facilities are beneficial to improve the educational, cultural, and socio political development. The Internet as an aggregating research tool is advantageous for the most primary engineering materials, which can be located freely to supplement fee-based services and library collections. The development of e-resources has changed the traditional concept of a library. The modern academic library has therefore developed into

hybrid electronic and digital information environment combining print collection with extensive electronic resources and technology enabled services. (Ray,K and Da.J (1998)

The use of Internet and resources is rapidly increasing in the world. It has efficiency and capability in providing right information to the right person at the right time. It works round the clock and connects every corner of the world. Internet has become an unavoidable and yet necessary for every institution of higher learning. As the engineering and technical education being important for the development of the country engineering colleges are very much needed for the scientific advancement of the country, (khan and Dominic 2009). Raghu Engineering college Visakhapatnam (RAGHU, Autonomous)) was established in 2001 at Visakhapatnam, Visakhapatnam. The college is affiliated to JNTU Gurajada, Vizianagaram. RAGHU Engineering College emphasizes on ethical values along with innovative teaching through an interactive, activity based pedagogy; develops the best of infrastructural facilities, inculcates engineering temper amongst the students through the use of the latest Information and Communication Technologies and aims at an efficient, responsive and transparent administration in all areas. The main objective of the college is to provide quality multidisciplinary education in engineering studies, keeping in view the demands of the global economy and the needs of the domestic society and to promote interdiscipline study of engineering in relation to management, technology, education, international cooperation and development. The library attached to the engineering college is intended to serve the academic staff, post-graduate students and students at the graduate level and plays a vital role in teaching and career development of the students. The primary goal is to support the curriculum and research needs of faculty and students. Use and the user survey were conducted to find out the existing Internet facilities and services in RAGHU College Library.

Review of Literature

Review of related studies helps to bring clarity and broaden the knowledge base in the subject area. The review of related research brings clarity and expands the knowledge base in the topic. The review shows that many studies were conducted in India and abroad to examine the different aspects of engineering college libraries. The review of these studies was made under different headings such as engineering college services, special services, use and user studies, and role of engineering college libraries. The following reviews comprise major Indian studies on the topic of present investigation.

Naveen and Naresh (2016) in his paper discussed the growth and development of information and communication technology which is playing vital role in the field of library and information science and library automation in particular. This paper showed the status and problems of library automation in government first grade colleges in Hassan District. The study clearly presents that only 23% of libraries are automated and main problems for library automation are inadequate staff, lack of infrastructure, insufficient funds and lack of training to library staff. This study also gives a status view of the software packages used by libraries and modules of library automation. It is evident from the study out of 17 libraries 14 (82.35) libraries are using e-granthalaya; of this some of libraries have partially completed and some were in initial stage. Furthermore about 17.65% colleges are using Easy- lib Software.

Kumar (2015) presents information of various ICT facilities and services provided in engineering institutions at Rayalaseema region of Andhra Pradesh. It addresses current situations of institutions in providing library services such as traditional electronic and document delivery services and facilities like hardware, software and communication resources. 81 about completed responses were collected with a total response rate of 88.04%. ANOVA test was conducted to find out the significance of the variables consulting hardware, software facilities, and communication services versus institutions, respectively. DELNET seems to be the most preferred information network service and VSAT is found to be mostly used for communication service; about 60% libraries are partially automated and barcode technique is most frequently opted for circulation. It is concluded from that automation is still an ongoing process in libraries of Rayalaseema region (Naveen and Naresh 2016).

Balu and Pulla Reddy (2014) in their research paper stated that the data collected from 29 librarians of engineering college libraries in S.V University, Andhra Pradesh, India indicate that all the engineering college libraries work from 9AM to 11PM during working days. Most of the librarians (75.9%) possess M.L.I.Sc and well versed with digital libraries, virtual libraries, scientific information retrieval and dissemination. They observed that not only the world is becoming interconnected, but also the use of Internet and web has changed the fundamental roles, paradigm, and organizational culture of libraries and librarians as well. The article describes the limitless scope of Internet and web, the existence of the librarian in the changing environment, parallelism between information science and information technology. The role of librarian in Internet and web environment especially as intermediary, facilitator, end user trainer, web site builder, researcher, interface designer, knowledge manager and sifter of information resources were also described (Balu and Pulla Reddy 2014).

Saini. (2014) observed that only 19% students depend on the library for use of Internet facility and the others use this facility at home, cyber café or from mobile/laptops. Most of the students (95%) visit library for issuing books (Saini 2014).

Need of the Study

Libraries play a crucial role in the academic environment. Particularly in engineering colleges where access to diverse and up-to-date information sources is vital for both students and faculty. Present-day rapid developments in engineering college libraries in the field of resources provision to the engineering students are noteworthy. Internet has become a vital source of information in the contemporary environment. In order to provide access to current information, libraries need to exploit the Internet resources. The Internet is an inseparable part of today's engineering educational system. Engineering colleges invest a good deal of amount on providing this facility to the students. It is, therefore, important to find out up to what extents the students are utilising Internet facility. The present survey is, therefore, an attempt to assess the effectiveness and facilitate Internet and e-resources for the benefit users. Internet as an education tool, and e-resources play a vital role in the educational system present era with special reference to the RAGHU Engineering College Library Visakhapatnam, in the state of Andhra Pradesh. RAGHU Engineering college library provides Internet facility to the students and expects them to utilize it for engineering education purposes. It is intended to conduct a study to determine whether Internet is used for academic activities and that it has influenced the academic competence of student's user groups. The study also explores the satisfaction level of the users with the Internet facility provided by the RAGHU Engineering college. The study has primarily been undertaken to evaluate the advantages of e-resources over the traditional information and the benefits of Internet and e-resources over conventional documents.

Objectives

The major objectives of the study are:

1. To study the use of the Internet and availability of E-resources by the students in RAGHU Engineering college library under study.
2. To study various Internet, and e-resources used by the respondents.
3. To examine the preferred format of while using the Internet and e-resources.

Hypothesis

This work is being carried out to verify that students are fully satisfied with the Internet facilities provided by RAGHU Engineering College Library. College library providing Internet facility and e-resources and Students have awareness about the e-resources information in the Internet for their study.

Methodology

Students registered in the Bachelor of Technology in various departments at the engineering college represented the target population for this study. Internet services as an important tool in the world of information. The study was undertaken during August 2026 is designed to focus this situation of the RAGHU Engineering Library Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.

A questionnaire was prepared and distributed among the five engineering departments viz. Mechanical, Civil, Electrical and Electronics, Electronics and Computer Science. The data for this study have been collected from the user group of students. About 50 respondents were selected randomly from each branch under the study. Accordingly, 250 questionnaires were distributed among the students of the above mentioned five branches. The collected data were analyzed using Microsoft MS-Excel for appropriate statistical inferences and description. The responses received are given the following tables. The present research focusses on the behaviors of users of Raghu engineering college library with respect to their use of Internet and e-resources.

Scope and Limitation of the Study

The main aim is to present an insight into the functioning and problems of the Internet facility in Library operating in RAGHU Engineering Library and to suggest certain steps for improving Internet facility and e-resources availability in the college library, their current situation to provide qualitative Internet facilities and e-services to users. This study covers only RAGHU Engineering College library, Visakhapatnam Andhra Pradesh. Case study method and sample survey are adopted. Random sample is pursued to complete the study as the present study is based on survey method. Questionnaires were used as the major tool for the collection of data for the study.

Analysis and Interpretation of Data

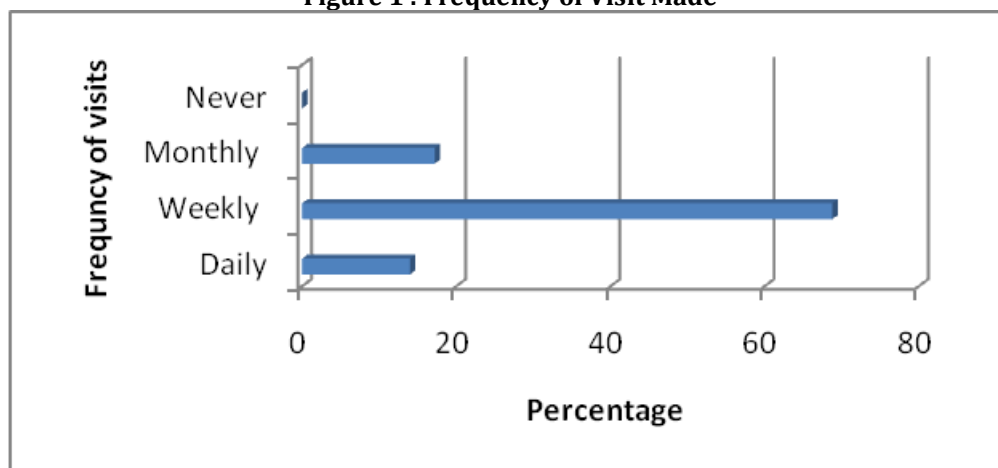
The present study encompasses the utilization of e-resources and internet facility and online digital resources by the student's user community in the Raghu Engineering College library, Visakhapatnam. The results of the survey conducted on B.Tech. Students of RAGHU Engineering College in the light of the objectives of the study showed that there were significant differences in the satisfaction levels of Internet information facility resources among the respondents of various categories. The data has been presented, compared and analysed by using tables. Table 1 shows the frequency of visits to the library by the students.

Table 1: Frequency of Visits

S No.	Frequency of Visit	No. of students (%) (N=250)
1	Daily	35 (14.00)
2	Weekly	172 (68.80)
3	Monthly	43 (17.20)
4	All most never	0 (0.00)
	Total	250 (100.00)

Analysis of data in Table 1 shows that significant variations exist among students in terms of their visits to the library. Visiting the library weekly is found to be common with highest percent (68.8%) of students. Nearly 17.2% of students are found to be visiting the library monthly. Daily visits are found to be common among 14 % of the students.

Figure 1 : Frequency of Visit Made



Internet and E-resources Facility in Engineering college library

E-resources are part of the Invisible web which is essential information accessible through the internet but normally can't be found on google. The Internet has now a days become an important component in academic institutions as it plays pivotal role in meeting the information and communication need of institutions. The impact of Internet and related web technologies on the delivery of library services is evident in the first decade of this century. The modern academic community constitutes students and teachers are more oriented towards web generated or online information resources. Table 2 shows satisfaction of the facility of Internet in RAGHU.

Table 2: Satisfied with Internet facility in Library

S No.	Usefulness of Internet	No. of Students (%) (N=250)
1	Yes	230 (92)
2	No	20 (8)
	Total	250 (100)

Analysis of data shows that almost all students (92%) considered Internet facility satisfactory; only a few (8%) are not satisfied with Internet facility in college library.

Opinion of Usefulness of Internet

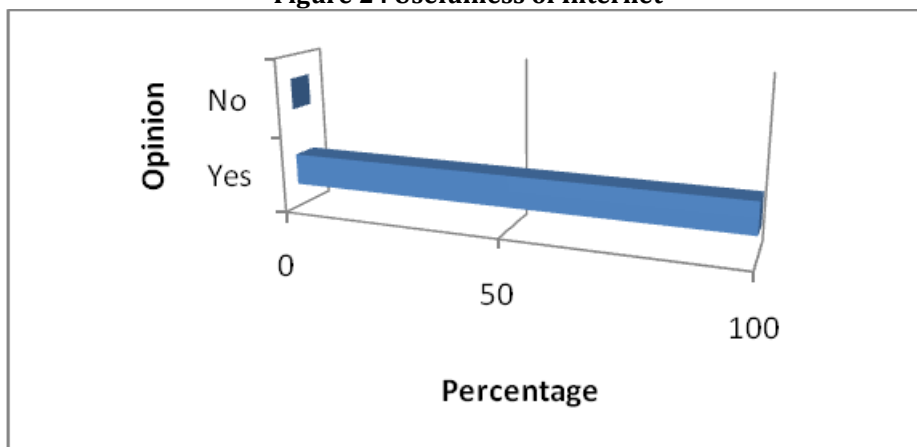
In the contemporary information society Internet plays a very important role as a source of engineering information. It opens doors to global information available in covering wide areas of universe of knowledge. The students were asked to express their opinions on the usefulness of Internet as a source of engineering information. Table 3 shows the responses against the usefulness of Internet.

Table: 3 Usefulness of Internet

S No.	opinion	No. of students (%) (N=250)
1	Yes	250 (100)
2	No	00 (0)
	Total	250 (100)

The above table analysis of data shows that almost all students (100%) considered Internet as a useful source of information. The usefulness of Internet in pursuit of engineering information interested to them.

Figure 2 : Usefulness of Internet



Purpose of the Using the Internet and E-resources

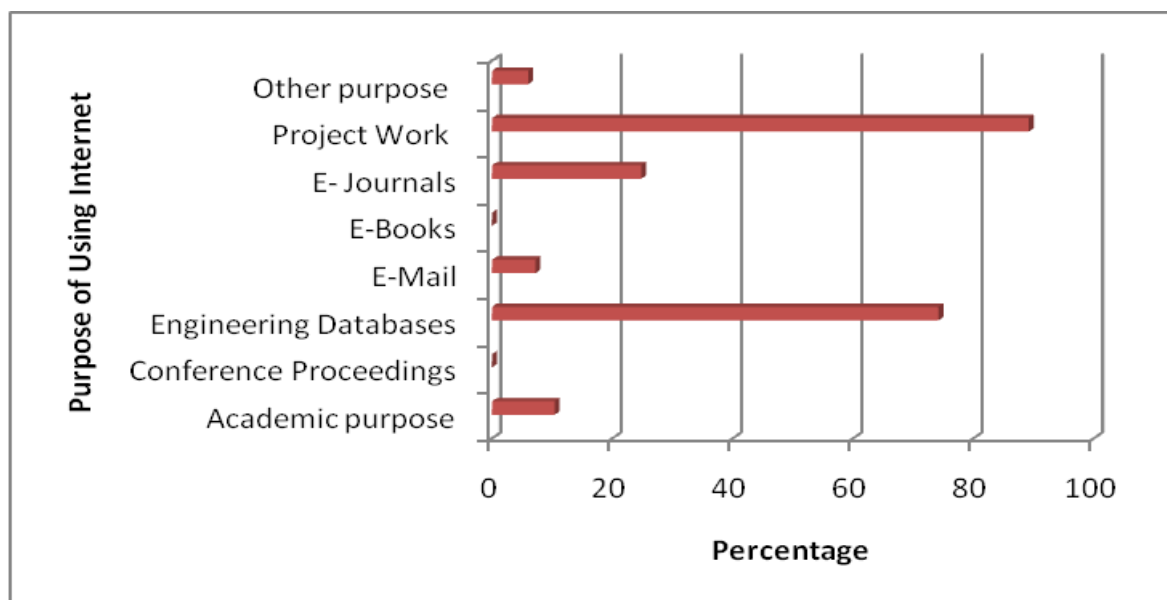
The libraries attached to engineering colleges are playing key role in acquiring and disseminating information to right user in right time. The e-resources are basically online e-resources which includes e-journal, e-books, online databases and websites. The use of internet and the power of search engines have changed the role of libraries and its services radically. Internet is an important source of worldwide information. It not only stores lot of information but also provides wide access to many online databases and services. Table 4 represents the main reasons for using Internet by the students of RAGHU library.

Table: - 4: Reasons for Using Internet Facility (More than one)

S. No.	Reasons	Yes (%)	No (%)	Total (%) (N=250)
1	Academic purpose	26 (10.4)	224 (89.6)	250 (100)
2	Conference Proceedings	0 (0.00)	250 (100.0)	250 (100)
3	Preparation of assignment	18 (7.2)	232 (92.8)	250 (100)
4	E- Books	0 (0.00)	250 (100.0)	250 (100)
5	E- Journals	62 (24.8)	188 (75.2)	250 (100)
6	Preparation of Project Work	223 (89.2)	27 (10.8)	250 (100)
7	Other purpose	15 (6.00)	245 (94)	250 (100)

The analysis of response from student's shows that majority of the students (89.2%) are accessing Internet for Preparation Project Work purpose followed by those using Internet for E-Journals (24.8%). although about (10.4%) of students are using for academic purpose, only (7.2%) using Internet and e-resources for Preparation of assignment purpose. Majority (94%) stated they are not browsing Internet for other purposes respectively.

Figure 3 : Reasons for Using Internet facility



Benefit of the Internet and e-resources over Print Documents: -

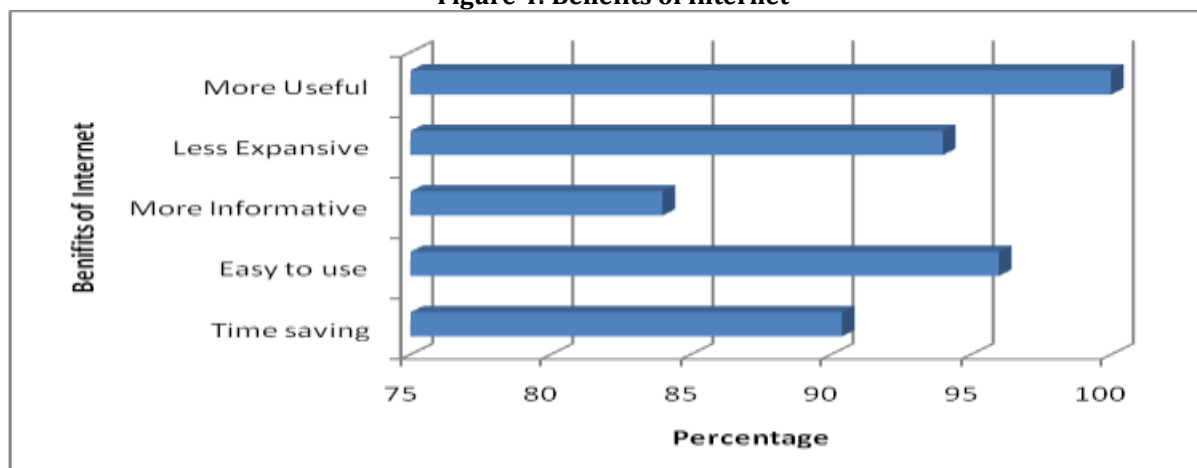
The advantages of electronic information resources are mainly in respect of density of store, speed of access searchability, integration of text images pictures and single medium and rapid and reliable transmission over long distance. Internet becomes a crucial source of information in the contemporary environment. In order to provide access to current information, libraries need to exploit the Internet sources. This study has attempted to find out the opinion on benefit of Internet to users on this issue and the responses are given in Table 5.

Table 5: Benefits of Internet (More than One)

S. No.	opinion	Yes (%)	No (%)	No. of Students (N=250) (%)
1	Time saving	226 (90.4)	24 (9.6)	250 (100)
2	Easy to use	240 (96.00)	10 (4.00)	250 (100)
3	More informative	210 (84.00)	40 (16.00)	250 (100)
4	Less expensive	235 (94.00)	15 (6.00)	250 (100)
5	More useful	250 (100.00)	0 (0.0)	250 (100)

From above table 5 it is evident that all the students (100%) say that Internet is the most useful to the study with ease of use of Internet being the second highest (96%) of them shows that. Besides 94% and 90.4 % of the students, respectively state that the Internet is less expensive, and more time saving. About 84% of students show the Internet is more informative for development of the study.

Figure 4: Benefits of Internet



Awareness about the Indian Online Engineering Databases

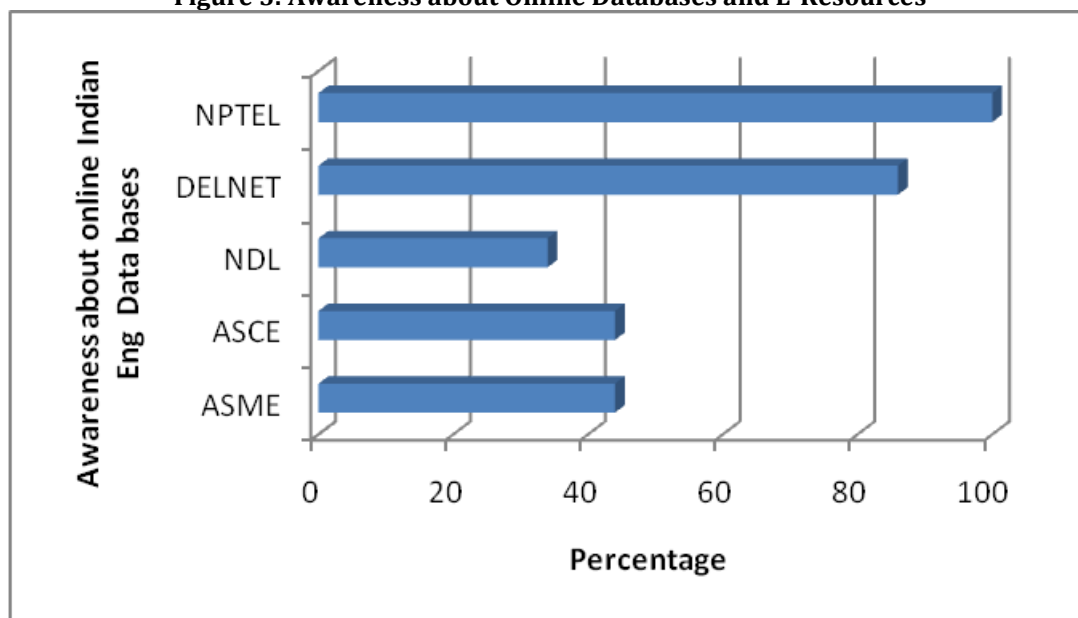
There are a number of online databases covering engineering information made available to users. Among them the most popular databases are identified and the degree of awareness about them among the students has been verified. This study has also attempted to find out whether the students are aware of databases accessible online. Table 6 presents the details of awareness of e-resources/databases.

Table 6: Awareness about Online Databases and E-Resources (More than One)

S No.	Online information Sources	Awareness		Students (%) (N=250)
		Yes (%)	No (%)	
1	ASME	110 (44)	140 (66)	250 (100)
2	ASCE	110 (44)	140 (66)	250 (100)
3	NDL	85 (34)	165 (66)	250 (100)
4	DELNET	215 (86)	35 (14)	250 (100)
5	NPTEL	250 (100)	0 (0.0)	250 (100)

The data analysis of responses shows that the highest percent (100%) of students are aware of NPTEL followed by DELNET (86%). About 44% of them also are aware of ASME, ASCE and only 34 % are aware of NDL respectively. The overall response rate shows-that 86- 100% of the students respectively know about at least two databases listed in table 6. However, in general, the percentage of students not aware of Indian online engineering databases is more compared to those who knew about them. Table 6 reveals that 56% of students are not aware of ASME or ASCE databases.

Figure 5: Awareness about Online Databases and E-Resources



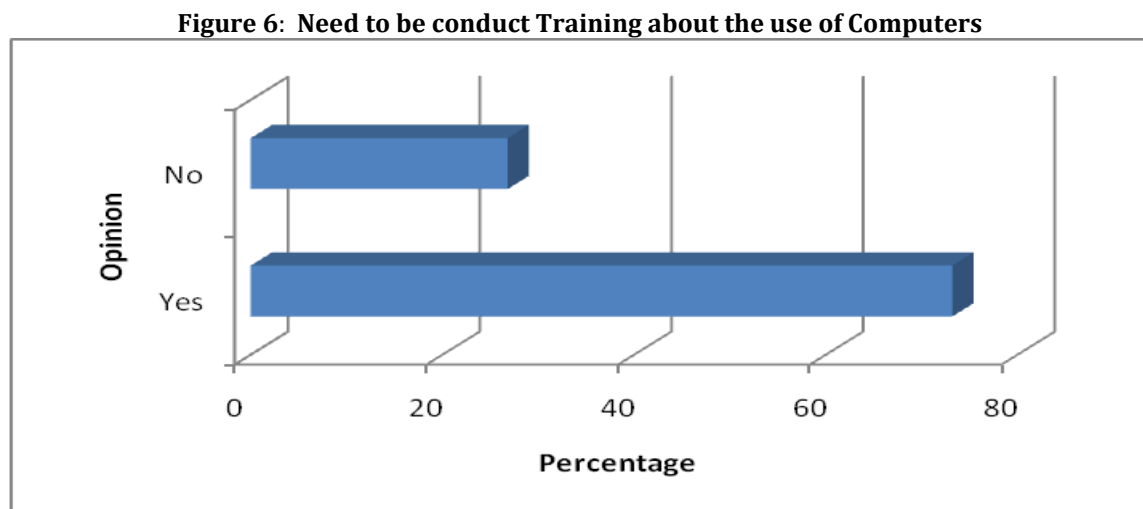
Need for Training about the use of Computers and Internet for Users by the Library

In order to fully use the advantages of automated services and facilities, users and staff require at least a minimum knowledge and skills in the use of computers and Internet. As part of their regular user training programmes, libraries can organize courses to impart training in the use of computers, Internet and online Databases and newly introduced services. Opinions of students gathered on the need for organizing training programmes on the Use of computer.

Table 7: Need to be conduct Training about the use of computers

S. No.	Opinion	No of Students (%) (N=250)
1	Yes	183 (73.2)
2	No	67 (26.8)
	Total	250 (100)

It may be observed from table 7 that majority of the students (73.2 %) felt the need to organise exclusive training programmes for them in the use of computers and Internet by the library. They also expressed their willingness to participate in such kind of programmes.



Opinion on Library Internet Facility

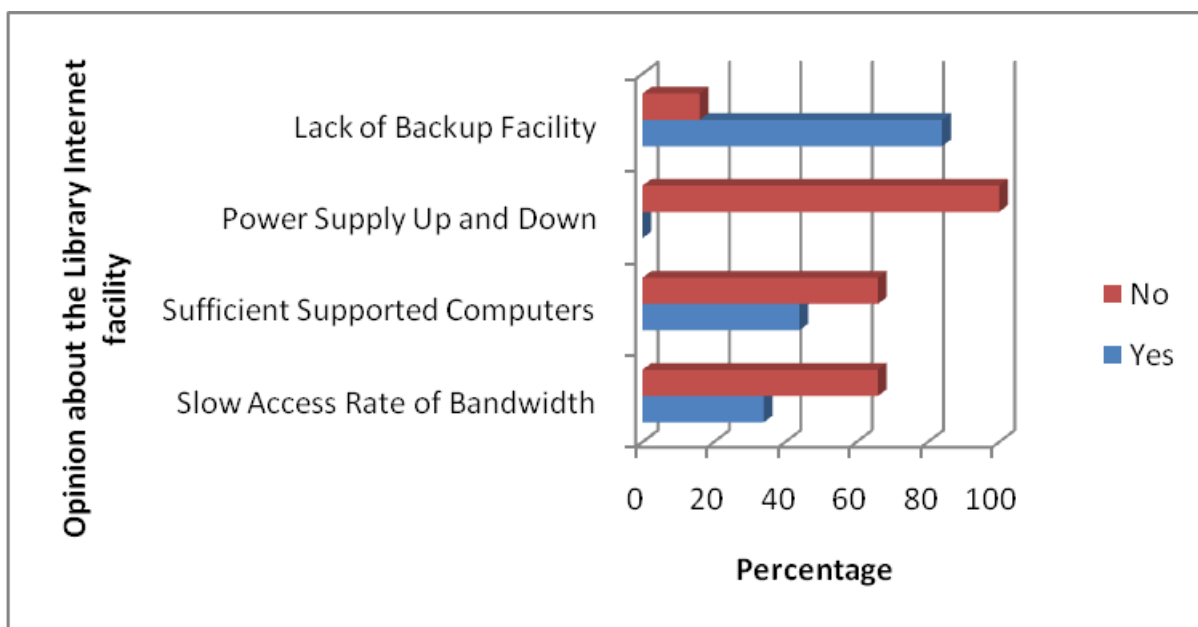
The traditional environment has been rapidly changing to an electronic one and the demand for internet and e-resources among the academic an research community has increased manifold over the years being the most popular source of undertaking research. The main objective of any library is to provide access to Internet materials which are user need oriented and help in satisfying their information requirements. Table 8 presents the opinions of students on the Internet facility at the RAGHU Engineering college Library.

Table 8: Opinion on Library Internet Facility (More than One)

S. No.	opinion	Opinion (%)		No. of Students (%) (N=250)
		Yes	No	
1	Slow Access rate of Bandwidth	85 (34)	165 (66)	250 (100)
2	Sufficient supported computers	110 (44)	140 (66)	250 (100)
3	Power supply up and down	0 (0.0)	250 (100)	250 (100)
4	Lack of backup facility	210 (84)	40 (16)	250 (100)

The responses from students have indicated interesting findings on the quality of the Internet facility maintained by the RAGHU library. About 84% students are not satisfied with backup facility. All students satisfied with power supply for use the Internet, a majority of the students (66%) responded that the existing systems are not sufficient in the library and 34% students felt the slow access rate because of low bandwidth.

Figure 6: Opinion on Library Internet Facility



Library provide the following electronic facilities (More than one)

The table below displays the availability of different kinds of electronic facilities offered in the selected engineering college Library of Raghu engineering college. . the table indicates the extent to which the library support students, faculty and research scholars by providing LAN, Intranet, Internet OPAC, Online databases etc. facilities.

S. No.	Opinion	Yes (%)	No (%)	Total (%) (N=250)
1	Lan Facility	250 (100.00)	(0.00)	250 (100)
2	Internet facility	250 (100.00)	(0.00)	250 (100)
3	Photocopy facility	250 (100.00)	(0.00)	250 (100)
4	Language lab facility	250 (100.00)	(0.00)	250 (100)
5	INFLIBNET access facility	192 (76.8)	58 (23.2)	250 (100)
6	OPAC facility	250 (100.00)	(0.00)	250 (100)
7	Electronic Bulletin Facility	178 (71.2)	72 (28.8)	250 (100)
8	Teleconferencing facility	250 (100.00)	(0.00)	250 (100)
9	Online databases availability	210 (84.00)	40 (16.00)	250 (100)
10	V-Sat connectivity facility	(0.00)	250 (100.00)	250 (100)
11	ISDN Integrated service Digital Network	(0.00)	250 (100.00)	250 (100)

The above table shows that the availability of electronic facilities in a Raghu engineering college library based on the responses of 250 respondents (N=250). LAN, Internet, Photocopy, Language Lab, OPAC and Teleconferencing facilities are available in all the cases (100%). Online Engineering databases (84%), INFLIBNET access (76.8%) and Electronic Bulletin facilities (71.2%) are available to a certain extent. However, V-SAT and ISDN facilities are not available (0%). The library on the whole have very good basic electronic facilities, however, there is scope for strengthening digital information services respectively.

Major Findings

1. Majority of the respondents (68.8%) are visiting the library weekly followed by monthly (17.2%) and daily (14%) for using Internet.
2. The study also shows that most of the users are satisfied with the information available on Internet information resources.
3. Majority of RAGHU students is using Internet engineering databases for project work followed by e-journals.
4. All of the view that Internet is more informative, timesaving and useful for the study.
5. All respondents aware of only NPTEL e-resources followed by DELNET databases
6. About 66% respondents are not aware of online free resources and Engineering databases like ASCE, ASME, and NDL,
- 7.
8. A majority of the respondents (73%) required / needed training in the use of Internet and e-resources for the use of academic.

9. About 84% respondents are not satisfied with backup facility Internet facility in RAGHU Engineering library followed by slow access rate of bandwidth of computers.
10. The findings show that basic electronic facilities are widely available, with LAN, Internet, OPAC, and other major facilities at 100%. Online databases 84% and INFLIBNET 76.8% are also available, while V-Sat and ISDN are not providing by the college library.

Conclusion

The proliferation of electronic resources and virtual library has brought a tremendous change influencing the clientele in their pattern of library use. The study exposed that e-resources have a great impact on the students in Raghu Engineering college, Visakhapatnam. The future of engineering college Library depends up on the good collection of e-resources. So, it is necessary for the Raghu engineering college that it must update the necessary both print and e-resources in regular basis. It is found the survey that Raghu Engineering college library should increase their Internet backup facilities, Internet and e-resources facilities for promoting of use of Internet in library; more numbers of terminals of computer systems to be provided and some printers should also be installed in the Internet section, so that the respondents can get printouts of their study materials and other important documents at nominal fee. Engineering College Library have adequate collection of e-resources for their users. The results of the study evidently help us in identifying the areas which have to be looked into and give better Internet service facility to the students and members of the college. The study also analyzed that majority of the student's users are satisfied with the information available on the Internet. This study has highlighted the existing situation of the Internet facility provided by the RAGHU Engineering college library, Visakhapatnam, so that the library users can make maximum utilisation of these facilities, resources and services.

Suggestions

- I. Dedicated Internet access section should be made available in library with minimum 100 computers with latest congregations and multimedia kits for effectively use of e-resources.
- II. The bandwidth should be increased to facilitate fast access
- III. The library staff should be skilled with retrieval technology to help users to e-resources maxim access to e-resources.
- IV. It is necessary to conduct orientation in programme regularly to update the knowledge of the users about the e-resources.

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