



ROLE OF DIGITAL INFORMATION SOURCES IN RESEARCH

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Abstract

The research paper attempts to describe the importance and role of digital information sources in research activity. Because, the digital information resources are part of the research work. Hence, the need arises of requirement of usage of digital information sources during the research work for faster and enables researchers to search their needed information requirement from digitalized sources within fraction of seconds. As it is safer and faster for the users to utilize the resources in digitally enhanced environment. The changed situation necessitates use of digitally enabled information resources for research work. This research paper will also portray how the various components of digitally enabled information sources to play a collective role in research work for more efficiently. Overall, this research paper also tries to look in to various related aspects of digitally enabled information resources for research work more effectively.

Key Words: Digital sources, Online sources, Digital information sources.

Introduction:

The role played by digital information resources in research activity is paramount one in the context of the study. Because, it will become need of the day for the researchers to utilize digital sources for their research work in order to find more efficient conclusions at the end of their research. Transformation of conventional information sources in digital form is to be considered as revolutionary step. Emergence of the Internet and its applications in birth of digital sources will be considered a benchmark step in the research work. Accordingly, there will be a need in changing the habit of searching the needed by the researchers from conventional information sources to digital information sources for their research work. Digital resources can be helpful for researchers in many ways for their research activity specifically by saving their precious time in searching the required information sources for the research work. Scalability of digitally enabled information sources are more than conventional information sources in research. The effect of ICT and the Internet has changed the facets of information sources in libraries in digital form because ICT gives rise to more number of digital information sources. Recent study of research suggests that usage of digitally enabled information resources in libraries will be increasing day by day due to emergence of digital resources in more number. Digitally enabled information sources in libraries were

shown significantly saves the library space for stacking and also in reaching out to its users in safer and faster mode with Internet technology. It has been shown by various studies that to increase in usage of digital resources by implementing proper and suitable library user oriented information literacy programmes to greater extent. Undoubtedly, digital information resources will play a greater role in research activity by helping the researchers in completing their research tasks in time.

Statement of the Problem: Present research study has basically look into the reasons for utilization of digitally enhanced information sources for research work in more efficient ways. Also the role played by the digital resources in completion of research tasks taken by the researchers in time with the aid of these sources. Hence, the research problem selected for the study has to be stated as “ Role of Digital Information Sources in Research ”.

Objectives of the Paper:

The research paper has the following objectives,

1. To know the need of digital information resources in research work
2. To find out the role of digital resources in research work.
3. To made an effort in analyzing the review of literature published.
4. To draw the findings, suggestions and conclusions based upon the study.

Purpose of Research Paper:

Basic purpose of this research paper is to know the role played by digital resources in research work.

Scope of the Research Paper:

The definition of scope of the study is primarily to know the usage of available digital resources in research work.

Research Methodology: In adherence to the requirements of the objectives of the research study, research design employed for the study is analytical and descriptive type. This research design is adopted to have greater accuracy and in depth analysis of research study. This present research study has its own limitations.

Research Questions to be Raised:

The following research questions will guided the study are;

- 1) What are the Digital Information Resources ?
- 2) To what extent need and usage of Digital Information Resources (DIRs) in research work?
- 3) What are the outcome of the research study?

Overview of the Digital Information Resources:

Generally, digital information resources are information resources available in digital or electronic form like, e- journals, e-books, e-information storage aids, online databases, and other resources accessible with the aid of Internet are called digital resources.

Advantages of Digital Information Resources:

In the context of the research paper, we can note down few of the benefits of digital information resources are as follows,

- 1) Faster and easier to search leads to saving the researchers time.
- 2) Remote accessibility to the resources and services by the researchers.
- 3) It gives a new technological experience to researchers in searching the digital resources.
- 4) Promotes self way of searching for the reaserachers needs.

Disadvantages:

1. Few of the disadvantages have to noted down in context of the study.
2. Most of the digital resources are costlier to procure for all the libraries.
3. Always needs the availability of the proper bandwidth Internet facility.
4. Always needs uninerrupted electricity supply.
5. Always one has to sit infront of the computers or similar devices.
6. Sitting longer time infront of the electronic devices emits radiation. It affects health of the users.

7. Maintenance problem with non-availability of technicians in need of time and escalating costs.

Tools Used for Gathering Information:

Useful information for the study has been gathered from secondary resources. Available information from secondary sources from the journal article and from the Internet are used. Further, all the information collected from different sources has been collated and presented herewith.

Review of Literature:

Few selected works of the researchers in the field have to be reviewed herewith as part of the research study

Dukare, D A (2020): Elaborated on basic concepts of digital resources and the need consortium in order to vercome cost escalation.

Osinulu, L F (2020): Analyzed the findings of study conducted to know the usage of electronic resources by users of Olabisi Onabanjo University, Nigeria.

Abubkar, B M (2020): Described the results the study conducted on users of higher educational institutions in Nigeria.

Vasantha, B & others (2018): Presented a results of the survey report carried out to know the usage of electronic sources by the research scholars of reva university, Bengaluru.

Kumar, S (2017): Discussed about the results of the survey conducted to know usage of electronic sources by research scholars of his university where he is working.

Findings of the Study:

We can note down few of the important findings of the research study are as follows,

- 1) Benefits of digital information resources are many for researchers.
- 2) Various researchers are published papers on many issues related to advantages of utilization of digital resources by researchers, which is based upon outcomes of the review of literature published worldwide.
- 3) Digital information resources are providing new technological experience to research scholars.

Suggestions: A few important suggestions have been noted down as a part of the discussion have been made herewith. The few suggestions are as follows,

1. Libraries should go for procuring the more number of various types of digital resources which will helpful for researchers in their research work. Because, it helps to serve researchers in better way.

2. Sources in digital form in libraries will help in easing stress among library staff.
3. Conduct of digital information literacy to researchers in using the digitalized sources provided by the libraries is must. Because it will make them self-reliant of their information requirements.
4. Properly structured digital information literacy skills will play a beneficial role among researchers in using digitalized sources to the fuller extent.

Conclusion: It is evident from the research study that, the benefits of digital information sources are many for researchers. Emerged situation necessitates to procure more number of digital information resources in libraries. Because, digital resources fact of the day for researchers. Hence, it is hoped that, study addressed issues related to theme of the article to some or wider extent.

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