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Electronic Resource in Libraries

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Abstract

E-Resources and digital library services is essential for users. E-resources are available freely on the web. Selection of proper resources is really a challenge. Electronic resources such as databases, electronic journals and e-books are increasingly prevalent in libraries today Evolution and growth of e-publishing industry in the field of ICT has given birth to electronic resources. It is an umbrella term for all digital resources. These resources have advantages over print format which encourages the libraries to move towards digital and electronic sources.

Keywords: E-resources, Electronic Resources. E-Books,

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Introduction

E-resources are resources in which information is stored electronically and it can be access through electronic system and network that can include text, visual material, audio material video material, stirred as electronic media formats, along with means for organizing storing and retrieving the files and media contained in the library collection.

Definition of e-Resources:

According to AACR2, 2005, an electronic resource is: "Material (data and/or program(s)) encoded for manipulation by a computerized device. This material may require the use of a peripheral directly connected to a computerized device (e.g., CD-ROM drive) or a connection to a computer network (e.g., the Internet)." This definition does not include electronic resources that do not require the use of a computer, for example, music compact discs and videodiscs.

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What are E-Resources?

Electronic products are deliver a collection of data, text, referring to full text, databases, e-journals, e-books image collections, other multimedia products and numerical, graphical or time based, as commercially available title that has been published with an sole aim to being marketed and for information dissemination. These may be delivered on any optical media or via the Internet.

Salient Features of E-resources

The salient features of e-resources are

- ✓ It can be used simultaneously by more than one user.
- ✓ Provide timely access.
- ✓ Allows remote access.
- ✓ Supports different searching capabilities.
- ✓ Accommodate unique features.
- ✓ Save physical storage space.
- ✓ Can support multimedia information.

The following types of electronic resources are mostly using in library

- 1. E-Databases : (Electronic Databases) are include periodical indexes & abstracts, for example Library and Information Science Abstract (LISA), METADOX (Metal Abstracts), SCOPUS (Abstracting, Indexing and Citation data in Science, Engineering and Technology), WIPS (Worldwide Intellectual Property Search), ASTM standards, ASTM Journals, Life Science Review Journals, Communication & Mass Media, Magill ion Literature Plus, Taylor & Francis (List), Directories, Encyclopedias, Dictionaries and related reference works.
- 2. E-Journals: -E-journals are the online journals published by online publishers. E-journals are the serial publication which is produced and stored in electronic format only, subjected to peer view process. They carry an ISSN mark and adhered to stringent quality standards of electronic techniques. Electronic journals are also perceived as the electronic version of print journals. E-journal plays a vital role in dissemination knowledge and within

fraction of time in any corner of world. It seems to be a boon to users, researchers and for academic students.

- 3. E-Newspaper:-E-newspaper also known as online or web newspaper are available on internet. E-newspaper has offered broadcast journalism to extend their wings and especially the most famous breaking news presentation has become easier and readily accessible. E-newspaper has lessened the pain of journalist and has created numerous job opportunities for young generation.
- **4. Electronic Magazines:** (E-Magazines) Magazines can now be in zinio format instead of the hard copy for a price, which is equivalent of the print version

5. E-Books: -

E-books have brought new look to the old traditional books. An e-book is an electronic version of a traditional print book that can be read by using a personal computer or by using an e-book reader. Full text of e-books is available in HTML, PDF and Latest DJVU formats online. Publishers offer access to their e-books. e.g. Elsevier, Springer, Wiley.

- 6. Internet and Websites: -Internet is a network of networks. It is the worldwide collection of multiple computer networks. To accomplishes exchange of information all the computers on the internet have to use a common set of rules for communication. It is a capable to transfer information across the geographical boundaries in an electronic format at a very fast speed.
- **7. Consortia**: A consortia is community of two or more information agencies which have formally agreed to co-

ordinate or consolidate certain function to achieve mutual objective. Consortia have offered a platform for promotion of activities and programs in the world of electronic resource sharing by acquiring licenses. It has opened a new opportunity to publishers all over the world to enter the Indian market. Its main role is to cater the demand and make it available to all higher educational institutions, research centre.

8. E-thesis and Dissertation: - Online ethesis and dissertation are available Different universities upload today. dissertation thesis and of their researchers. This technology has immensely helped the research followers to seek their need easily and within fraction of seconds in any corner of world.

9. Online Public Access Catalogue: (OPAC)

The OPAC is a database describing documents via bibliographic entries composed of fields, some which may be queried. It provides access to bibliographic records for the entire collection of books, back volumes, video and film of the library. The OPAC can be searched in many ways as detailed below.

- Accession number search
- Author search
- Title search
- Title keyword search
- Author/Title search
- Serial number search.
- Subject search

10. E-Images

Digital images are electronic expression of images that are stored on a computer. The most important thing is about digital images, that we can't see them and they don't have any physical size until they are displayed on a screen or printed on paper. Digital images are just a collection of numbers on the computer's hard drive that describe the individual elements of a picture and how they are arranged. These elements are called pixels, and they are arranged in a grid format with each pixel containing information about its color or intensity.

11. E-Conference Proceedings

Electronic conferencing is a widespread method used in today's businesses, as well as in education and social networking websites. The motto of electronic conferencing is for individuals to engage in various dialogues without being in the same room.

12. CD-ROM: -

Compact disc-read only memory is one of a series of devices. Large amount of structured data, bibliographies, full text information, images can be stored, retrieved and can be used. It is portable, cost-effective etc.

Advantages of using e-resources:

- Save the time of users
- Speedy and easy access of Information
- Helps to attract the users
- Increase the range of services offered
- More up to data information
- Information flexibility to the users
- Integration within the organizations
- It supports searching Capabilities.

Need of E-Resources:-

There are several reasons to prefer electronic. Some of them are following:

- 24X 7 availability
- Electronic resources can be accessed from anywhere at any time.
- E- Resources can be downloaded instantly.
- Searching and downloading is easy and quick.

- The library can get usage data that are not available for print collections;
- Electronic resources are relatively easy to maintain.
- Electronic journals can be linked from and to indexing and abstracting databases;
- Users can get a huge amount of information through Electronic resources.
- Resource sharing and transportation of information has become very easy through Electronic resources.
- Through electronic resources, users can get his/her information immediately.
- E- Resources do not require any maintenance

Advantages of E-Resources:-

- E Resources can be accessed from any computer on campus and usually any computer off campus, anytime of the day or night, so there is no need to make a trip to the library
- It provides multiple accesses.
- Animations and graphics can also be accessed.
- It is cost saving.
- Wide ranges of journals articles are searchable.
- Information access can be made without wasting any time.
- Desired information can be retrieved within few minutes at learning desk.
- Economy in maintenance.
- Its not cover space in library.
- It is very cheap to store data with the reduction in the costs of computing hardware and it is preventable from being lost, stolen or damaged.
- E-resources can be downloaded instantly.

Disadvantages of E-Resources:-

- Difficulty reading computer screens.
- Limitations of computer monitor.
- Read information in the screen.
- Often not included in indexing and abstracting services.
- Search engines ignore PDF files.
- Format that a large proportion of ejournal use.
- Cost is high to access E-resources documents.

Challenges of E-Resources:-

- Preservation of Electronic resources.
- Lack of Professional Skills
- Inadequate Library Funds.
- Need of Technical Infrastructure
- Lack of Co-operation of Staff Members.
- Technological obsolesce.
- Licensing of Electronic resources.
- Security to access of Electronic resources.
- Lack of awareness towards e- resources

Conclusion:-

The e-resources play a vital role for the development of information communication technology in the information explosion environment in the world. The growth of electronic resources is significant. development technological provides opportunity for easy access and uninterrupted access of electronic resources. These resources play an important role in the creation, transmission and storage of information. Electronic resources located and remotely accessed by librarians have been characterized by continuous, incremental growth in products and services.

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