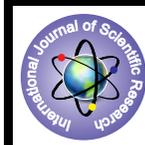


## Information Use Pattern by the Faculty Members and Research Scholars in Muthayammal Institutions (Arts & Science and Engineering), Rasipuram, Tamilnadu: a Study



### Library Science

**KEYWORDS :** E-Resources, Search Engines, Library Collections.

**Mr. T. Sakthivel**

Librarian, Muthayammal Arts College, Rasipuram, Namakkal, Tamilnadu-637408

**Dr. N. Subramaniyan,**

Head & Librarian, Periyar University, Salem.

### ABSTRACT

*In this paper an attempt has been made to analyze the role of Web based information services in the Muthayammal Institutions, Rasipuram, Tamilnadu. To achieve this, the investigator has used the survey method to collect data from the Muthayammal Institutions Library users. They are processed scientifically and tabulated as to the variables of the study.*

### INTRODUCTION

Libraries and Information Centres have been employing web based information resources and services to satisfy the diverse information needs of their users. Library services, CD-ROM databases, online databases, web-based services, and a variety of other electronic media are replacing the traditional services of libraries. It also points out the need for assessing the impact of the Web based Services in the College and University Libraries. College Libraries launch their websites with a view to provide services to users without their physical presence.

In this study an attempt is being made to highlight the access to web-based Information services in the College Libraries in Muthayammal Institutions, Rasipuram, Tamilnadu. College Libraries, particularly in recent past are providing some of notable information services that can be accessed via the College library websites are Web OPAC, latest addition display, data search, and federated search, access to full text and bibliographic databases, online document delivery, access to institutional repository and open access resources, databases and multimedia access resources, live chat, RSS feeds, compilation of research profile, web based CAS and SDI, remote access and so on.

### ABOUT MUTHAYAMMAL INSTITUTIONS

Muthayammal College of Arts & Science was established in the year 1994. It is affiliated to Periyar University, Salem, not only caters to the needs of Rasipuram and neighboring areas but also draws a good number of students from the neighboring states of Andhra Pradesh, Kerala and Karnataka. It is surprising to note that a couple of students from distant northern states like Jammu and Kashmir, West-Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Chandigar, Manipur, Delhi and Union territory of Andaman and Nicobar islands, Uttaranjal, Orissa, Maharashtra, Jharkhand, have joined this institution which is situated in a clam, rural area in the interior part of Tamil Nadu. And also a few students from Sri Lanka, Bhutan, Nepal & Kenya have joined this institution.

Muthayammal Engineering College was established in the year 2000 with a view to Imparting Quality Technical Education to the Youths of our Nation. It is beautifully and serenely located at Rasipuram, 25 kms away from Salem. It is undoubtedly due to the un-tiring and remarkable efforts of Sri. R.Kandasamy, Chairman and Prof. K. Gunasekaran M.E., (Ph.D) FIE., Secretary & Managing Trustee that the Institution has come to such a glorious Temple of Learning and Knowledge. The college has large classrooms, seminar halls, auditorium and well-equipped laboratories and a library. Internet facility is also provided for the benefit of the student community.

### METHODOLOGY

The survey is also analytical in terms of collecting the details of the use of web based information services in college libraries in Muthayammal Institutions, Rasipuram, Tamilnadu. This covers descriptors such as objectives of the library information services, the process, the impact of user's practices, e-resources required and the data have been collected using structured Questionnaire. The Questionnaire is refined and modified based

on the basis of the pilot study carried out in Muthayammal Institutions, Rasipuram, Tamilnadu with the consultation of experts.

### OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- To identify the e-Resources and Web Resources those are made available in the in Muthayammal Institutions, Rasipuram, Tamilnadu.
- To find out the Web Based Information services and Web enabled access facilities provided in Muthayammal Institutions, Rasipuram, Tamilnadu.
- To know the extent of development and use of Institutional Repository (IR) in the Colleges surveyed and access to library facilities and services prevailed in the college environments.
- To study the information access pattern and Web resources usage among the Library users in the Muthayammal Institutions, Rasipuram, Tamilnadu.
- To know the productivity of the respondents among the surveyed Muthayammal Institutions, Rasipuram, Tamilnadu.
- To find out the limitations on access to prevailing ICT facilities and Web enabled services and e-resources

### SAMPLE SIZE

Printed questionnaire has been distributed in person to the respondents of Muthayammal Institutions (Arts & Science and Engineering College Only), Rasipuram, Tamilnadu are identified. With regard to the users, of Colleges, 100 questionnaires in Muthayammal Arts and Science College, and in Muthayammal Engineering College 100 questionnaires are distributed. Of which, 75 were filled in and received and therefore response rate is 75.00 percent in Muthayammal Arts and Science College and in Muthayammal Engineering College 85 questionnaire were received and therefore response rate is 85.00 percent.

**Table - 1**  
**Total Number of Staff and Students Selected as Sample in the Muthayammal Institution Libraries**

Muthayammal Institutions	Questionnaire Distributed	Responses Received
Muthayammal Arts and Science College	100	75 (75.00%)
Muthayammal Engineering College	100	85 (85.00%)
Muthayammal Polytechnic College	0	0 (0.0%)
Total	200	160 (80.00%)

There are 200 structured questionnaires have been distributed among Two Muthayammal Institutions, 100 questionnaires have been randomly distributed to the respondents in each Institutions which include the faculty members (Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, Professor) and Research Scholars, Muthayammal Polytechnic College was not taken in this study. Of which, 75 were filled in and received and therefore response

rate is 75.00 percent in Muthayammal Arts and Science College and in Muthayammal Engineering College 85 questionnaire were received and therefore response rate is 85.00 percent. The response rate is 80.00 percent with 160 filled in questionnaires received among the Muthayammal Institutions surveyed.

**Table - 2**  
**Distribution of Gender Wise Information**

Respondents	Gender (Arts & Science)		Gender (Engineering)		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Research Scholars	25	12	0	0	37
Assistant Professor	12	5	29	21	67
Associate Professor	9	4	18	10	41
Professor	5	3	6	1	15
Total	51	24	53	32	160

It is found from the above table that Male are dominated with 104 respondents while the rest is of Female (56) respondents. Between the categories of the respondents Assistant Professor are major group with 67 respondents which is followed by 41 Associate Professor, 37 Research Scholars and 15 respondents in the Professor Cadre.

**Table - 3**  
**Use of Electronic Resources for Information**

Use of electronic source of information	Research Scholars N=37	Assistant Professor N=67	Associate Professor N=41	Professor N=15	Total N=160
E-Books	12	58	34	12	116 (72.50)
E-Journals	12	59	31	09	111 (69.38)
E-Databases	03	45	26	05	79 (49.38)
DVD/CD-ROMs	15	14	13	08	50 (32.25)
UGC Infonet	06	32	22	11	71 (44.38)
AICTE Indest	05	16	11	06	38 (23.75)
Any Other	02	12	09	04	27 (16.88)

The trend of use of electronic information sources among the surveyed respondents found significant difference. A majority of the respondents (72.50 percent) have used E-Books, which is followed by E-Journals (69.38 percent), E-Database (49.38 percent) of respondents. UGC Infonet and AICTE Indest are used by 44.38 and 23.75 percents of respondents.

**Table - 4**  
**Distribution of Usage of Search Engines**

Search Engines	Research Scholars N=37	Assistant Professor N=67	Associate Professor N=41	Professor N=15	Total N=160
Google	37	67	41	15	160 (100.00)
Yahoo	22	61	38	14	135 (84.38)
Alta Vista	12	42	26	09	89 (55.63)
Rediff	10	46	24	08	88 (55.00)
Ask.com	06	35	11	04	56 (35.00)
Bing	00	18	10	07	35 (21.86)
Lycos	00	08	07	01	16 (10.00)

Sify	00	07	05	03	15 (9.38)
Any Other	00	09	04	05	18 (11.25)

The above table reveals that Distribution of usage of search engines, the most of the respondents used Google (100.00 percent), Yahoo (84.38 percent) and Alta Vista (55.63 percent). In between the categories 67 Assistant Professors are mostly used Google and the 41 Associate Professors. The Search Engine Yahoo used by 61 Assistant Professor, 38 Associate Professor and 14 Professor. The Research Scholars are used by the Search Engines is very less.

**Table - 5**  
**Time Spent on Accessing of E-Resources by Hours/ Week**

Time Spent	Research Scholars N=37	Assistant Professor N=67	Associate Professor N=41	Professor N=15	Total N=160
Below 3 hours	28	22	10	05	65 (40.63)
4-6 hours	05	18	12	04	39 (24.38)
7-9 hours	02	16	09	01	28 (17.50)
10-12 hours	01	05	09	02	17 (10.63)
Above 12 hours	01	06	01	03	11 (6.88)

It is evident from that the respondent of spending time on accessing e-resources is at variance. It is found that (40.63 percent) of respondents between an hour below 3 hours per week, Which is followed by 4-6 hours time spend on accessing e-resources by the next major group (24.38 percent) of respondents, 7-9 hours and 10-12 hours time spend on accessing e-resources by the next group (17.50 and 10.63 percents) of respondents. While a small group (6.88 percent) of the surveyed respondent's access the e-resources more than 21 hours per week.

It is inferred that Assistant Professors are spending more time an accessing e-resources compare than other category of Faculty members.

**Table - 6**  
**Sources that made aware on E-Resources Access**

Source that make Awareness	Research Scholars N=37	Assistant Professor N=67	Associate Professor N=41	Professor N=15	Total N=160
Self Instruction, Trial & Error Methods	01	05	03	01	10 (6.25)
Help of Library Professional	08	06	08	02	24 (15.00)
Colleagues/ Friends	04	12	04	01	21 (13.13)
Teachers/ Guides	17	02	01	00	20 (12.50)
Course materials	01	24	12	04	41 (25.63)
Training Programming	05	10	05	04	24 (15.00)
Websites	01	08	08	03	20 (12.50)

It is found that the using of Course materials (25.63 percent) and help of Library professional and Training Programming (15.00 percent) are each the major means to know and familiarize the access of e-resources. It is inferred that the Engineering College library environment is the major mean to make aware and familiarize the access of scholarly information resources in electronic environment.

**Table - 7**  
**Sufficiency of Library Collections**

Library Collection	Highly Sufficient	Sufficient	Fairly Sufficient	Insufficient	No Opinion
General Books	123	25	12	00	0

Text Books	111	35	11	03	0
Reference Books	96	41	18	04	01
Hand Books	81	31	21	18	09
Standards	15	29	81	21	14
Periodicals	81	42	18	17	02
News Paper	60	51	31	18	0
Theses/ Dissertation	58	61	25	08	08
DVD/CD ROMs	49	35	61	11	04
Online Databases	25	38	71	12	14

The above table reveals that sufficiency of library collections in the muthayammal group of institutions, the collection of general book and text books are highly sufficient in the surveyed libraries. There was no opinion of the standards and online database of the library users are very high. In between the categories the users mostly coded in highly sufficient in the surveyed libraries.

## CONCLUSION

The present study concludes that the studied library environment has qualified library users with exposure to the Information and Communication Technology application on library information services and there is significant variation among the personal variables of the respondents in terms of socio-demographic and professional aspects. The study could also found that the different library environment and the facilities including the infrastructure influence the provision of library information services. As the web has emerged as an important mode of communication in all domains of human life, the same issue reflected in the College environments which are surveyed in muthayammal group of institutions.

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