# ORIGINAL RESEARCH PAPER

## N-LIST PROGRAMME : A BOON TO USERS OF COLLEGE LIBRARIES

**Education**

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**ABSTRACT**

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) has affected the all sectors of society. With the impact of Information and Communication Technology (ICT), the information handling activities in the libraries have totally changed. In the changing scenario of library & information science, the new web technologies have revolutionized the operations and service delivery of libraries. The needs of users are also changing . Electronic information resources and services in the form of CD-ROMs , E-books , E-journals , Electronic Current Awareness Service (E-CAS) and information subject gateways accessed through the Internet , have taking place of printed materials. In an academic library, the availability of electronic resources is very common . But , academic libraries in India are facing many problems like limited sources of funds , static budget, price hike of library collections , lacking of skilled staff, etc. Many efforts have been made by UGC, ICSSR, AICTE, ICAR, ICMR, INFLIBNET centre and other governmental agencies to overcome these financial and other problems , and to provide easy access to e-resources by resource sharing through consortia. And, N-LIST is one these remarkable consortiums , which is jointly administered by UGC-Info-net Digital Library Consortia, INFLIBNET Centre and INDEST-AICTE Consortium, IIT Delhi, for access to select resources to colleges . This effort must be a boon to college library users. This paper is an attempt to provide an overview on usability and accessibility of e-resources available on N-LIST programme.

## INTRODUCTION:-

The advancement of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) has made tremendous improvement and change almost in every field of our society. ICT has revolutionized academic libraries fundamentally. With the impact of ICT applications, the libraries are moving towards electronic or digital resources , which are found to be less expensive and more helpful for easy access. E-resources are providing the requested documents within a minimum time. With the changing needs of users, the goal of libraries is also changing. In this digital era, their goal is to provide an effective combination of print, non-print and electronic resources and effective service to cater the needs of their respective users. Electronic resources are slowly replacing the printed materials of books and journals. Examples of electronic resources include CD-ROMs , E-books , E-journals , Web sites, Online databases, Electronic integrating resources, Electronic current awareness service (E-CAS) and information subject gateways accessed through the Internet , have taking place of printed resources.

## E-RESOURCES:-

"Electronic resources" refer to those materials that require computer access and that may either be available by direct access or accessed remotely via the Internet. "Electronic resources" are the resources or materials that require computer access, whether through a personal computer, mainframe, or handheld mobile device. Electronic resources are accessible through computers and computerized equipments or devices.

An "**electronic resource**" is defined as any work encoded and made available for access through the use of a computer. It includes electronic data available by (1) remote access and (2) direct access (fixed media). In other words: Remote access (electronic resources) refers to the use of electronic resources via computer networks. Direct Access (electronic resources) refers to the use of electronic resources via carriers (e.g., discs/disks, cassettes, cartridges) designed to be inserted into a computerized device or its auxiliary equipment.

**According to AACR 2, 2005 update**, "An electronic resource is material (data and (or) program(s)) by encoded for manipulation by a computerized device. This material may require the use of peripheral directly connected to computerized device (e.g., CD-ROM drive) or a connection to a computerized network (e.g., the internet)."

**According to IFLA-ISBD (e-resources),** "An electronic resource consists of materials that bare computer controlled, including materials that required the use of a peripheral device (e.g., a CD-ROM player) attached to a computer; the items may not be used in interactive mode. There are two types of e-resources: data (information in the form of numbers, letters, graphics, images, and sound or a combination there of) and programs instructions or routines for performing certain tasks including the processing of data and programs (e.g., online services, interactive multimedia)."

An electronic resource is defined as any resource which requires computer access. Any electronic product that delivers a colection of data, be it text referring to full text bases, electronic journals, image collections, multimedia products and numerical, graphical or time based, as a commercially available title that has been published with an aim to being marketed. These may be delivered on CD ROM, on tape, via internet and so on.

The term "E-Resource" is the abbreviated form of the term "Electronic resource". The term "Electronic Resource" has been replaced by "digital resource" and "online resource", and definitions remain essentially unchanged. Now, we can say that "E-Resources" are the combination of electronic resources, digital resources and online resources. Electronic resources (E-resources) comprises of Electronic books and Electronic journals, bibliographic databases and gateway portals.

### (I) TYPES OF E-RESOURCES:-

The e-resources are basically divided in two major types. The major types are:

(A)  Online e-resources, which may include :
- E-journals (Full text & bibliography)
- E-books
- Online Databases
- Web sites

(B)  Other electronic resources may include:
- CD-ROM
- Diskettes
- Other portable computer databases.

### INFLIBNET's INITIATIVES:-

Many efforts have been made by UGC, ICSSR, AICTE, ICAR, ICMR, INFLIBNET centre and other governmental agencies to overcome the financial problems of academic institutions and to provide easy access to e-resources by resource sharing through consortia. INFLIBNET Centre has made many efforts towards modernization and digitalization of academic libraries and information centres. The UGC also provides financial assistance to INFLIBNET centre to promote their major activities and to promote information transfer and access of e-resources through consortia. The UGC had taken-up two major initiatives for academic community in universities. The first initiative is "UGC-INFONET Connectivity Programme"

provides for networking of university campuses with state-of-the-art campus wide networks and Internet bandwidth, the second initiative called the "UGC-INFONET Digital Library Consortium" provides access to selected scholarly electronic journals and databases in different disciplines. Both the initiatives are executing, monitoring and administrating by INFLIBNET.

Information and Library Network (INFLIBNET) Centre, Gandhinagar is an Autonomous Inter-University Centre (IUC) ofUniversity Grants Commission (UGC)India. It is a major National Programme initiated by the UGC in March 1991. Its Head Quarter is situated at Gujarat University Campus, Ahmedabad. It was initially started as a project under the IUCAA and in June 1996, it became an independent Inter-University Centre (IUC).

INFLIBNET Centre provides easy access to electronic resources for resource sharing. The following are major initiatives of INFLIBNET Centre in resource sharing:-

- e-Consortium
- e-PGPathshala
- Indcat: Union Database
- Open Access Initiative
- Research Project
- SOUL
- Vidwan Database

### N-LIST PROGRAMME :-
N-List "National Library & Information Services infrastructure for Scholarly Content" is the younger child of UGC, elder one being INFONET. N-List project has been funded by Ministry of Human Resources & Development (MHRD), Govt. of India. The Project entitled "National Library and Information Services Infrastructure for Scholarly Content (N-LIST) was inaugurated by Honorable Union Minister of Human Resources Development(MHRD), **Sh. Kapil Sibal** on 4th May, 2010 at New Delhi. The Project provides for cross-subscription to e-resources subscribed by the two consortia, i.e. subscription to INDEST-AICTE resources for universities and UGC-INFONET resources for technical institutions and subscription to selected E- journals and E- books for colleges. The program has been funded use & monitored by INFLIBNET, Ahmadabad. N-List is jointly administered by UGC Info-net Digital Library Consortia, INFLIBNET Centre and INDEST-AICTE Consortium, IIT Delhi, for cross subscription to e-resources subscribed by the consortia and also access to select resources to colleges.

### USE AND ACCESS OF E-RESOURCES :-
The N-LIST covers all the disciplines viz. Pure Sciences, Social Sciences and Humanities including Linguistic and Languages. However e-resources in Engineering, Agriculture and Medicine are not covered under the N-LIST programme.

It provides access to e-resources to students, researchers & faculty members from colleges & others beneficiary institutions. 6000 government & government aided colleges covered under section 12B of UGC Act can make use of these consortia at a very nominal rate of Rs. 5900/-per annum. Private colleges covered under section 2F of UGC can enroll as N List Associate member by payment of Rs. 35400/-. An MOU is required to sign an agreement with the INFLIBNET Centre to ensure proper usages of e-resources. Universities individuals and institutions of higher learning are not eligible to join N-Lists.

N-List project includes 6000+ e-journals & 31,35,000+ e-books and a bibliographic data base Math & Sc.Net (USA) having 300 journals. The list of journals & books included in N-list is not static & many more e-resources are being added regularly. The N-list programme offers best possible discounted price on 365 days a year & 24 hours for day. It is a smaller bouquet with select titles have been prepared under a new programe N-List & offered to colleges only. There is no limit to number of users at one time but sometimes certain e-Resources in demand may be congested due to simultaneous use by many users at certain hours of a day & during certain period in a year.

### Current Status:-
As on **Nov.12, 2017**, a total number of **3137** colleges have registered with the N-LIST programme including **2892** Govt. / Govt.-aided colleges covered under the section 12 B/2F of UGC Act as well as **245** Non-Aided colleges . A total number of **496160** users have registered with the N-LIST programme. All e-resources subscribed for colleges under the N-LIST Project are now accessible to these **3137** colleges through the N-LIST website by using their Log-in ID's and password for accessing e-resources. (http://nlist.inflibnet.ac.in).

### E-Resources Available through N-LIST Programme:-
All electronic resources subscribed under N-LIST Programme are available from the publisher's Web site.

### (I) E-Journals (Full Text) :-

| | |
|---|---|
| **American Institute of Physics** (18 titles) | http://journals.aip.org/ |
| **Annual Reviews** (33 titles) | http://arjournals.annualreviews.org |
| **Cambridge University Press** (224 titles)(2010-2016) | http://journals.cambridge.org/ |
| **Economic and Political Weekly (EPW)** (1 title) | http://www.epw.in/ |
| **Indian Journals** (180+ titles) | http://www.indianjournals.com/ |
| **Institute of Physics** (46 titles) | http://iopscience.iop.org/ |
| **JSTOR** (2500+ titles) | http://www.jstor.org/ |
| **Oxford University Press** (206 titles) | http://www.oxfordjournals.org |
| **Royal Society of Chemistry** (29 titles) | http://pubs.rsc.org/en/journals?key=title&value=current |
| **H. W. Wilson** (3000+ titles) | http://search.ebscohost.com |

### (II) E-Books :-

| | |
|---|---|
| **Cambridge Books Online** (1800 titles) | http://ebooks.cambridge.org |
| **E-brary** (125000+ titles) | http://site.ebrary.com/lib/inflibnet |
| **EBSCoHost-Net Library** (936 titles) | http://search.ebscohost.com |
| **Hindustan Book Agency** (65+ titles) | http://portal.igpublish.com/iglibrary |
| **Institute of South East Asian Studies(ISEAS) Books** (382+ titles) | http://portal.igpublish.com/iglibrary |
| **Oxford Scholarship** (1402+ titles) | http://www.oxfordscholarship.com/ |
| **Springer eBooks** (2300 titles) | http://link.springer.com. |
| **Sage Publication eBooks** (1000 titles) | http://knowledge.segepub.com. |
| **Taylor Francis eBooks** (1800 titles) | http://www.tandfebooks.com. |
| **Myilibrary-McGraw Hill** (1124 titles) | http://lib.myilibrary.com/ |
| **World -ebooks Library** (30,00,000 titles) | http://community.ebooklibrary.org/?AffiliateKey=WEL-NDL |
| **South Asia Archive** (though NDL) | http://www.southasiaarchive.com |
| **Indexing and Abstracting database (Bibliographic Database) :- MathSciNet** | http://www.ams.org/mathscinet/ |

The list of journals & books included in N-list is not static & many more e-resources are being added regularly.

### WAY TO E-RESOURCES THROUGH N-LIST:-

This particular section is concerned with the question 'how to access e-resources through N-List'. This section of the paper includes two steps, i.e. (I) Registration/Membership, (II) Access to E-Resources.

### Registration/Membership:-

All colleges covered under section 12B/2F of UGC Act and Non Aided Colleges (except Agriculture, Engineering, Management, Medical, Pharmacy, dentistry and Nursing ) can access to electronic resources subscribed by N-LIST project. Faculty, staff, students and researchers from the above mentioned colleges are eligible to access e-resources through the N-LIST programme. First of all, eligible colleges are required to register themselves with the N-LIST project.

For online registration, following are the key steps :-
Visit the N-LIST Website.

Click on **Register** link on the navigation bar.

Fill-in the Registration Form online.

Read out the particulars carefully.

Then, submit it.

After submitting details of authorized users, User ID and Password of each user will be sent to the contact person / Principal of College as mentioned in the Registration Form. You may also download the Registration Form and submit it by post. Ensure to provide a list of authorized users including faculty, staff, researchers and students. The original cost of subscription of the full text and database is shown in Appendix 1. The consortium charges a fee of Rs. 5,900.00(Rs. 5000/- Membership Fee + Rs. 900/- (18%) GST) extra as annual membership/renewal fee. Private colleges covered under section 2F of UGC can enroll as N List Associate member by payment of Rs. 35,400.00 (Rs. 30,000/- Membership Fee + Rs. 5400/- (18%) GST). An MOU is required to sign an agreement with the INFLIBNET Centre to ensure proper usages of e-resources. Universities individuals and institutions of higher learning are not eligible to join N-List.

### Access to E-Resources :-

After getting registered with the N-LIST programme, user received Log-in ID and password from N-LIST service providers. Then, Log on to http://nlist.inflibnet.ac.in. Enter your username and password in text entry box to login. Once you logged-in-successfully, the list of e-resources subscribed under N-LIST Programme is displayed. Click on the desired e-resource to access. Log-in process is displayed here with help of some picture.
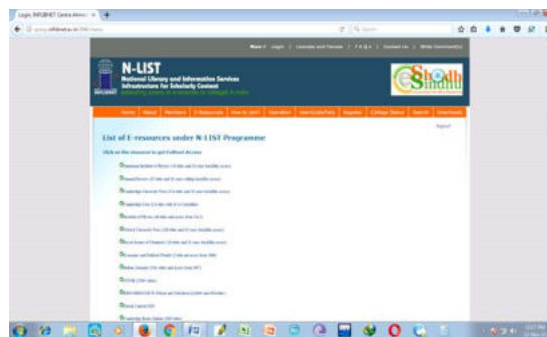
### Login :-

First of all, launching your Internet Browser, i.e. Internet Explorer, Google Chrome, Mozila Firfox etc. Then log on to http://nlist.inflibnet.ac.in. Enter your username and password in text entry box to login (as show below). Once you logged-in-successfully, the list of e-resources subscribed under N-LIST Programme is displayed.
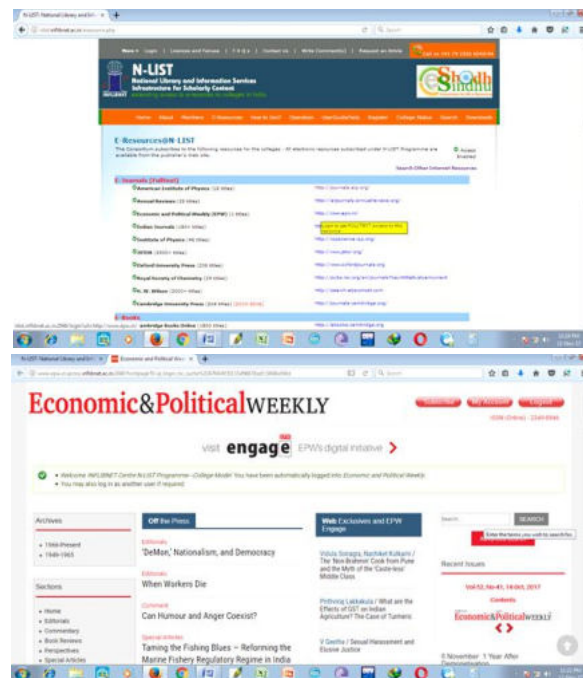


### (b) Access to E-Resources :-

Click on the desired **e-resource** to reach out to the full-text e-resource on publisher's website.
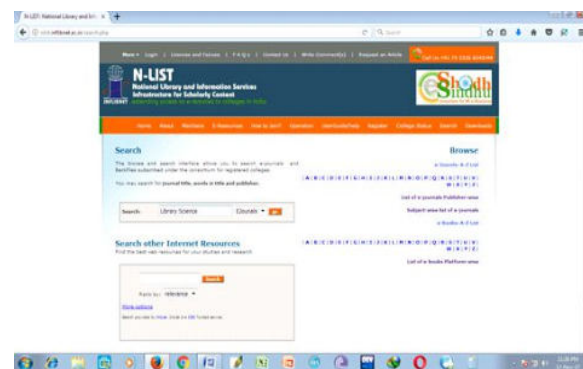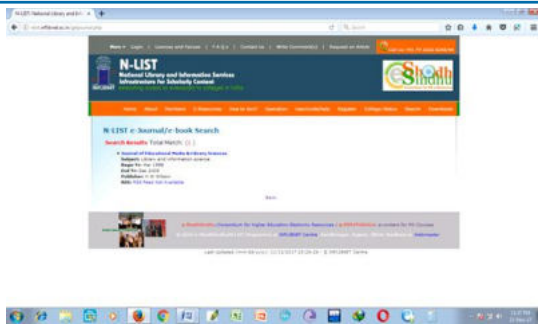


E-resources will also be displayed by clicking "E-Resources" link available on navigation bar. Click on desired specific e-resource to reach out to the full-text e-resource on publisher's website.





### (c) Searching :-

Click on "Search" option on navigation bar of N-LIST Web Site to search journals covered under the N-LIST Programme. Enter name of journal or a subject term in text entry box and click on "Go". Search results will be displayed with link to full-text of journal(s) on publisher's Web site. By using "Search" option, user can find his/her desired journals titles covered under N-List programme. For help in searching, Click on User Guide / Help from navigation bar and download user manual and tutorials.

## (d) Log Out :-

Click on

| X |

Close button on your browser to logout.

### *CONCLUSION* :-

Information and Communication Technology has changed the working procedures of libraries. With the implementation of ICT in the library and information, libraries are moving towards 'E-Resources'. With the implementation of ICT in the library and information centres, we are fastly going towards paperless society. And, N-List project is a remarkable step towards paperless society. This consortium is created by INFLIBNET and supporting agencies for academic institutions (colleges) in India. Day by day increasing growth of users of N-List project has proved that our academic institutions are interestingly adopting the changes that come into existence due to ICT impact. And now, with the unique services of N-LIST programme, the colleges in India have become more capable to providing digital library services and to cater the electronic and digital needs of their respective users. Day by day, this programme is becoming a useful tool for college libraries by providing access to electronic and digital resources to their patrons at very nominal price. This will definitely boost the level of higher education in colleges.

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