

A Study on Use of Electronic Resources and Information in National Law University of India

Archana Dubey^{1*} Dr. Sunita Pamnani²

¹ Librarian

² Assistant Professor, Department of Library and Information Science, Rabindranath Tagore University Bhopal, MP

Abstract – The present study aims to know the use of Electronic Resources and Information in National Law University of India. The main focus of the study is to know the availability and use of Electronic Resources, services and facilities in national law university libraries. The present study is conducted to know frequency and purposes of using national law Universities, adequacy of print and electronic law electronic resources.

Keywords: Electronic Resources, Information, Libraries, Law University

-----X-----

INTRODUCTION

Lifelong learning was a new concept and has become a part of human life. The first step was the labourer's movement, called the labor movement. It was originally routed in technical institutes and many organisations during the British period in the United Kingdom. For instance, WEA (Workers Educational Association), which organized classes to improve the status of the worker and provide access to e-resources that are useful for e-learning and social activities. It also aimed to develop the skills and knowledge of the laborers. It has been more focused on e-learning's and elevation over the past thirty years as powered by a shorter product life cycle. It was about increasing the speed of access and successfully implementing new technologies at the workplace. It also kept work insecurity in sectors in drive out. The main reason for this was to have lifelong learning to upgrade their professional skills and knowledge for educational and technical skills.

A law library is a library intended to help law understudies, lawyers, judges and their law representatives and any other person who wishes to decide the condition of the law. Law libraries can be categorized as a form of special library due to their focus on providing law-related specialized services and their broad and restricted user base. Many law schools around the world have at least one section of the university library dedicated to law, or in some universities. Law libraries can also be used in courts, branches of government, private law firms and the chambers of barristers (<http://lawgupshup.com/2018/03/law-library-and-its-advantage>).

The emergence of online legal research sources such as SCC Online, Westlaw, LexisNexis, Indian Kanoon, and Manupatra in recent years has eliminated the need for other types of printed volumes such as reporters, and legislative compilations. Consequently, a number of law libraries have limited the supply of printed works that can be readily found on the Internet, and have expanded their own internet access.

ELECTRONIC RESOURCE:

The term "electronic tools" has been broadly defined as computer-accessed content, perhaps useful as bibliographic guides to potential sources, but as yet they rarely appear in their own right as cited references (Graham, 2003). Additionally, electronic resources allude to that sort of computerized position records made accessible to library users through a PC based information recovery framework. Electronic resources have become the source of information, due to the effective presentation with multimedia tools. On the Web, electronic tools manifest in various flavors and categories.

In order to ensure quality procurement of e-resources, periodic evaluation of online e-resources and careful evaluation of the e-journal standard before placing orders are some of the key issues that the librarian needs to address, so that its clientele should make the best use of it. It is also possible to build an efficient elearning environment so as to reduce expenditure and optimize the efficiency of electronic information services through periodic research. This will give information professionals the right kind of boost to set the right

expectations and approaches for supporting e-learning in the libraries.

Until now, however, no such initiative has been conducted for such a comprehensive study to measure the depth of such e-resources in university libraries. Nevertheless, the use of e-resources in UP universities has recently come up, on a limited scale, with some interesting findings and useful recommendations that will certainly promote modified e-services in university libraries in the days ahead.

IMPORTANCE OF ELECTRONIC RESOURCE:

In addition to improving help speed and quality, the electronic information framework likewise improves the quantity of users served, the quantity and thoroughness of the information gave. This had contributed to changes in both the consistency and magnitude of services provided by the libraries using a variety of e-resources.

In order to ensure quality procurement of e-resources, periodic evaluation of online e-resources and careful evaluation of the e-journal standard before placing orders are some of the key issues that the librarian needs to address, so that its clientele should make the best use of it. It is also possible to build an efficient e-learning environment so as to reduce expenditure and optimize the efficiency of electronic information services through periodic research. This will give information professionals the right kind of boost to set the right expectations and approaches for supporting e-learning in the libraries.

LEGAL INFORMATION:

Law is a specialized and highly technical subject; it is a living discipline which continues to grow every day. Law is complex and ever growing by its characteristic definition. Legal information is fundamental to everyone, lawyers and non-lawyers alike. Each and every citizen should understand and apply the law (Otiye, 1997).

According to Okello Obura (1998), legitimate information can be defined as the obligation or right set somewhere near law which dwells in all electronics and put down accounts. Legal knowledge includes laws and rules, jurisprudence, and legal literature.

LEGAL INFORMATION RESOURCES:

Legitimate study was concerned, according to Ayua (2001), with the creation or elaboration of lawful doctrine and standardizing objects of law, using resources, for example, rules, legislation, decisions, and cases. Legal information services could therefore be referred to as legal literature such as law books, law reports, laws and regulations, legal

journals, government documents, reference materials, and other interrelated unpublished works of law, non-legal books, such as conference papers, e-resources, law theses, etc.

LAW LIBRARY:

The law library system has housed the human knowledge recorded in its various forms (print and electronic) in the form of law sources. As explained by Deakin University Australia (2014), the law library provides quality legal information sources to law practitioners, scholars, researchers, law teachers and law students through relevant law books, journals, and periodicals. The library offers the organizational facilities, promotes information services and follows the role of libraries.

TYPES OF INFORMATION SOURCES:

Law is a knowledge-intensive career in which the dependence on external information has historically been strong, calling for a need to find and access the right sources. A legal source of information which is respected by its users promotes confidence in decision-making in all facets of the legal activity and will be regularly accessed or used. The source of Law has been interpreted differently.

Considering Dina et al. (2013), the constitution, statute and jurisprudence are the primary sources of law referred to as the law, while other sources of law are seen as sources of secondary law in Nigeria (Dina et al. 2013). The primary sources of legislation, however, are the laws made by government or public bodies, judges, legislatures, and administrative institutions (Congress Legislation Library, 2014).

The sources of law are grouped into: primary sources of law, and secondary sources (Congress Law Library, 2014). Secondary law sources offer analysis, remark or repetition on the essential laws, and shed light on the multidimensional point of view of the principles received in the essential law sources.

• Primary Legal Information Resources

It is a simple way to regulate matters too complex for legislation to address. Most of the purely local application instruments are available for publication. The most common forms of primary legislation are legislative acts often collectively known as the Statutes. In their draft form, Acts are known as Bills of Parliament before being approved by Parliament and receiving royal assent. There are two types of parliamentary acts; public general acts which include public policy matters and which are of general application, and local and personal acts (sometimes referred to as

private acts). Such letters grant entities or persons special powers, such as local authorities or public corporations. Bylaws, on the other hand, are secondary legislation made by a local or national body under powers granted by a legislative act.

• **Secondary Legal Information Resources**

Secondary sources are sources of information about the law which are not sources of legal authority themselves. Their consistency, form and authority vary widely. In spite of the fact that they need legitimate expert in a proper sense, some may have an enticing influence in the authoritative procedure because of the perceived distinction of their creators or the nature of their grant. Examples include newspapers, textbooks, treatises, reviews, restatements, and other periodicals. Finding instruments or tertiary sources of legal information is a way to find the primary sources of legal information.

ELECTRONIC LAW INFORMATION RESOURCES:

The current level of access to legal services through digital means is vast. Some sources are available from LexisNexis and Westlaw, for example in U.S. law, including court opinions, legislative acts and administrative agency actions, and other vendors and free public websites also provide access to resources (Todd 2007; Makri 2008).

The law libraries move from the traditional type of manual support of the electronic conveyance framework through Internet connection to PC workstation systems, for compelling and effective conveyance of administrations. Within law libraries, electronic information services are important factors that have brought improvements within forms, legal research with the university environments. In legal research, trust, imagination and self-actualisation are done in the libraries to build legal research. This is because electronic information sources have become the channel for lawful analysts to find information to help create investigate situated lawful issue solutions (Kenny and Qiang, 2004).

However, the large amount of legal information available in electronic formats has created difficulties in legal professionals amongst people. In which, from the considerable volume of electronic data, Kane recommended law researchers and students to connect with law libraries and its staff to access needed electronic information.

ELECTRONIC RESOURCES AND LIBRARIES:

An electronic resource is defined as a resource requiring computer access or any electronic item conveying data collection, whether alluding to complete content bases, electronic newspapers,

picture accumulations, and other digital products and numerical, graphical, or time-based objects, as a monetarily accessible title distributed with a marketing plan. These could be distributed on CD ROM, on tape, over the Internet, etc. The Library and Information Center is a piece of any educational foundation that is the center of teaching and learning exercises where students, teachers and researchers receive the information they require as indicated by their need.

E-Resources possess a critical part of the literature worldwide. They allude to electronically formed sources of information. Databases, E-journals, E-books, CDs / DVDs, E-meeting protocols, E-Reports, E-Maps, E-Manuscripts, E-Pictures / Photographs, E-Newspaper, E-Theses, Newsgroups, Topic Gateways, Listservs, FAQs, USENET, etc. These may be distributed on a CD-ROM / DVD, over the Internet, etc. Providing access to e-resources is a service that helps library users to explore e-Databases, e-Journals, e-Magazines, e-Books / e-Audio / e-Images, Data / GIS, Digital Library Projects, Electronic Exhibitions, e-Subject Guide, e-Newsletters, E-Meeting Procedures, and point-scale Web search tools. Given their simple versatility and its aspect of combining more than one book into a single hand held device, the electronic books are useful. Likewise, the distributed materials are available on open access website. It additionally allows the more unfortunate to get the necessary details free of expenses and to expand the digital separation. They do not need to stress the authorisation and use of the information.

CLASSIFICATION OF E-RESOURCES:

E - Resources classified as E - journals, E - books, E - databases, CDs & DVDs, E - theses and dissertations, E reference sources, E - zines, E - newspapers, etc.

E-RESOURCES CHARACTERISTICS:

Retrieval of e-resources is easier than print resources *ibid*. Access to each database by anyone; from anywhere. The program can help users retrieve the perfect information; scarcely transitional can support users *ibid*. Easy to look through the text *ibid*.

- Not unreasonably significant ownership*
- Accessible accumulation in electronic format may be of any media.
- No defined user community / Collaboration between user and
- librarian is visited in the electronic world.

IMPACT OF E-RESOURCES IN LIBRARIES AND INFORMATION CENTRES:

There are several explanations in libraries for using the E-Resources. Should summarize these as follows:

- Easy to access and search.
- Increase the technological development.
- Irregular publication and the long time gap between publication of a journal and its availability in the market.
- Ever increasing price rate of the print journals.
- Low searching time.
- Problems related to conversion rate of foreign currencies.
- Lower price per user or free.
- Availability of vast amount of the E-Resources

NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITIES:

The first autonomous law school was founded in Bangalore as the National Law School of India University to introduce the reforms in legal education. Many national law schools were founded in many states, following the NLS model. While these basically differ from NLS in terms of modalities, etc., in these law schools the structure and concept of giving legal education has remained the same. The autonomous law schools differed in structural design and in various other ways, quite in contrast to the current model of legal education. Both colleges are accredited as 'state universities' by the University Grants Commission, and are affiliated with the Indian Bar Council. Each of these law schools was to be set up under a specific law, to be enacted by the state legislature to create a law school in the States. The Bar Council of India has connected with various esteemed and gifted individuals with such law schools, for example, the Chief Justice of India or the Chief Justice of the High Courts as the 'guests' or 'chancellors' of the national law schools, to improve the nature of legitimate education and to guarantee that the education gave in these institutions satisfies the guidelines required.

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY:

Libraries are widely recognized for their role in providing universal and equitable access to knowledge. Throughout today's context, libraries will play two distinct roles—acting as an information center of recognition and as a local portal to the

information center of national and global awareness. To achieve this goal, existing libraries need to modernize their collection, programs and facilities, and become more involved and work with other organizations, agencies, and NGOs to establish a community-based system of information.

The Radhakrishnan Commission on University Education in India (1948) rightly noted that "the library is the centre of the work of the university, directly in its research work, and indirectly in its educational work. Scientific research requires a library as well as its laboratories, while the library is both the library and the laboratory in one for humanistic science. "Therefore library has become the heart and soul of the university system. Knowledge resource collection is an essential function of any library. Design of collections is a complex process that involves the evaluation of user information needs, the assessment of present collection, the creation of collection design policies, the acquisition of information sources and resource sharing planning. The university library takes into account the information needs of users—teachers, students, scholars, etc. And it maintains the selection of all forms of sources of information in whatever format they are written.

The libraries provide access to the information through computer networks which have broken down space and time barriers. Therefore, the change is from librarianship model of information possession to the model of access to information. Libraries users' knowledge attitudes, and their libraries and information services preferences have also shifted.

E-Resources and Services in University Library
Electronic information resources offer unique benefits: compact storage, quick retrieval and delivery, interactivity and flexibility in information transfer.

University libraries provide the academic staff with attractive facilities via a robust and reliable campus network. Data on subscribing to online sources and sources of information accessible by consortia is passed on to the desk-top of the academic personnel. The CD-ROM server linked to the campus LAN provides access at the door steps of the academic staff to the information sources available on CD-ROMs and DVD-ROMs.

User education is another significant service a modern library provides. University libraries arrange training programs, workshops, special lectures, and audio visual presentations; publish brochures, handbooks, and tutorials on computer and internet fundamentals; search for CD-ROM, DVD-ROM, internet, consortium-based resources, institutional repositories, etc.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE:

Padma and Ramasamy (2017) analyzed the conduct of Madurai District Court Library, Madurai, the advanced information seeking lawyers. Questionnaire technique was utilized to gather information from 152 lawyers. The study reveals that: 137 respondents (90.13 per cent) are male lawyers. The majority of respondents, i.e. 71 (46.71%) lawyers belong to a group of over 40 years of age. 97 (63.82%) respondents have B.L degrees in three years and 52 respondents (34.21%) have B.L degrees in five years. The majority of lawyers, i.e. 46.09 percent (70) of respondents, are specialized in civil cases handling and 40.79 percent (62) of lawyers are specialized in criminal cases handling. 63 (41.45 per cent) are Junior Lawyers and 43 (28.29 per cent) are Senior Lawyers. 19 respondents (12.50 per cent) have 16 to 20 years of experience.

Nwabueze and Urhiewhu (2015) conducted an examination of the accessibility and use of advanced information resources by university graduates in Delta and Edo states, Nigeria. The exam found that the dominant part of digital information resources is accessible in Delta and Edo states university libraries. Furthermore, the examination found that issues such as epileptic power supply, deficient number of computers, insufficient bandwidth, organizing issues, lack of ability to access digital information resources and lack of formal internet preparation use digital information resources in all university libraries.

Alam (2014) discussed the impact of ICT on information product format, as well as the approach to disseminating legal information resources. The impact of open access movement on the law results in the Declaration of Montreal. The Free Access to Law Movement (FALM) has assisted with establishing lawful information institutes (LIIs) in different pieces of the globe. Indian Legal Information Institute is the contribution of the Universities of National Law towards the FALM.

Article by Bhardwaj and Madhusudhan (2013) identifies the various open access resources which are popular in India's legal community. Study findings reveal that most respondents are conscious of open access resource. The main purpose of using those resources is to search for case law. Most respondents said that the legal information available in open access resources is not properly organized and is a barrier to use.

Mandal et al. (2012) discussed the challenges facing special libraries, the importance of knowledge management and the role of library information professionals, vital skills and staff skills if profession wishes to survive in the digital era. It is predicted that Mlearning is the next generation of e-learning that will have to support such trends in the future, using mobile technologies and libraries.

Parvez (2011) highlights libraries ' dependence on ICT, and lists the benefits of ICT-based library operations and services. He explained the transformation of library products and their services in the field of library and information services, due to ICT implications. The study is based upon the author's work experience in different libraries. He focussed on the importance for hi-tech users of ICT-based services.

CONCLUSION:

The higher education system in India has constantly strived hard to build colleges and universities as places of culture and learning, keeping them open to everyone and, above all, strengthening the theme of lifelong learning. In this study the focus is to know the use of Electronic Resources and Information in National Law University of India. The main focus of the study is to know the availability and use of Electronic Resources, services and facilities in national law university libraries. It is concluded from the study that library staff should be the students to find Electronic Resources and Information on their own. To improve the facility and services in law libraries it is suggested that they should adopt the practice of taking users feedback which will certainly help strength of the library services.

REFERENCES:

- GRAHAM (S R) (2003). Historians and Electronics Resources : A Citation Analysis. JAHIC. 3 (3); pp. 18-24
- Ayua.I. (2001). In Azinge, E. 2002.Information Technology and Legal Practice. Paper presented at the 10th Advanced Course in Practice and Procedure held at the Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies,University of Lagos Campus. 20
- Otiye, J. (1997). Legal information needs of the general public. Library Review. 46(1), pp. 28-33.
- OkelloObura, C. (1998). Legal information sources.Unpublished Master of Science in Information Science report, Makerere University.
- Deakin University Australia. (2014). MLL110 Legal Principles and Skills students. Retrieved November 14, 2014, from Library Resource Guides: <http://deakin.libguides.com/law>
- Dina, Y., Akintayo, J. O., & Ekundayo, F. (2013). Hauser Global Law School Programme: Globalex- update- Guide to Nigerian Legal Information. Retrieved October 29, 2011, Available at:

<http://www.nyulawglobal.org/Globalex/Nigeria1.htm>

The Law Library of Congress. (2014). Guide to Secondary Legal Resources. Retrieved November 14, 2014, Available at: <http://www.loc.gov/law/help/secondary-rsrcs.php>

Todd, K.M. (2007). Lawyers need more than an electronic library. Legal Times (July 10)

Makri, S. Blandford A. and Cox, A.L. (2006). Studying Law Students Information Seeking Behaviour to Inform Design of Digital Law Libraries, 2006. Available at www.ucl.ac.uk/events/dl-cuba2006/papers/makri/pdf

Kenny, G. J. & Qiang, C. Z. (2004). Information and Communication Technologies and Broad-Based Development: A Partial Review of the Evidence. Washington, D. C: The World Bank.

Padma, P., Ramasamy, K., & Selvam, K.P. (2015). Digital Information Seeking Behaviour of Lawyers of Madurai. In K Karunai Raghavan, etc, ed. Library and information services : Advancing with Technology. pp. 226-238. SALIS, Chennai.

Nwabueze, A. U. and Lucky O. Urhiewhu (2015). "Availability and use of Digital Information Resources by Undergraduates of University in Delta and 334 Edo States, Nigeria." International Journal of Digital Library Services 5, no. 2: pp. 1-12.

Bhardwaj, R. K., & Madhusudhan, M. (2013). Open Access Legal Information Sources and their Use by Students of National Law University. Annals of Library and Information Studies , 60 (4), pp. 314-319.

Mandal, B. R., Podder, A. K., & Choudhuri, B.C. (2012). Building Knowledge Management System: the key to Special libraries renaissance at the digital era. Challenges in Library Management System, 24, pp. 369.

Parvez, A. (2011). Development in Library Services with the advent of ICT based Products and Services: A Continuous Process. International Journal of Digital Library Services, 1 (2), pp. 1-9

Corresponding Author

Archana Dubey*

Librarian

archanadubey872@gmail.com