E-Resources: Need, Types, Forms and Utility

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Abstract: This paper deals with the study of E-Resources along with its forms, types, utility, and sources of e-resources. Purpose of this paper is to present basic information of various aspects of e-resources and significance of e-resources in modern age. How e-resources and in which form its are available is also in glance. Major types of e- resources and their use also explained through this paper. Maximum article emphasizes on diversity of e-resources its need and utility in this modern epoch.

Keywords: Forms of E-Resources, Need of E-Resources, Types of E-Resources, Utility of E-Resources

I. INTRODUCTION

In the beginning of use of Information resources, there were incunabula (the books without papers) in ancient civilization, printed resources in medieval age and now electronic or digital resources in this recent modern age. This is an epoch of information explosion and it is hard to control and manipulate this information from various knowledge fields. It is not affordable to purchase these resources in traditional printed form. Information technology has been developing rapidly in the world and occupied every field of knowledge which resulted in revolutionary change in human life. Web technologies and database technologies has compelled information centers to use these technologies effectively to render effective services to user and save their valuable time and money. The electronic resources are effective outcome of efforts of information technologies to overcome the problem of this controlling and manipulating which includes information acquisition, storage, retrieval and preservation. E resources have great potential and bright future to attract user. It combines all the benefits of multimedia, digital coding and internet. E resources got wide popularity due to its accessibility across geographical barriers. Hence, almost all libraries prefers acquisition of e-resources due to ease of manipulation, wider accessibility and cost effective in the long run. E resources are easy accessible through computer based information retrieval system or through internet using different search engines like Google, Altavista, MSN, yahoo etc.

Today Information Communication is rapidly changing by information technology. New avenue to e-resources opened by Information and communication technology. These resources are available in huge quantities in any electronic form such as CD-ROM, floppy disc, magnetic tape or across a computer network like E journals, E book, ETD etc.

II. OBJECTIVE

Objective of this paper is to study basic various aspects of e-resources. Following objectives are declared for study

- To study need of e-resources
- To study structure of e-resources
- To study types of e-resources.
- To study utility of resources
- To study resources to retrieve e-resources

III. LITERATURE REVIEW

Research organizations, universities, teachers, research scholars, students has been carried out number of relative studies in recent period about e-resources.

1)Anand   Y. Kenchakkanavar.(2014) in his article published in Types of E-resources and its Utilities in Libraries, presents need type and utility of e-resources,

2) Sudharma Haridasan. (2009) in his study, Impact and Use of E-resources by Social Scientists in National Social Science Documentation Center (NASSDOC),India he asserted the importance of E-resources in libraries for collection development and degree of user satisfaction.

IV. NEED OF E RESOURCES

This is also important to find out needs of these e-resources comparing contemporary printed resources.

1. To filter search and reach to information quick we want. This is hard to do with printed materials.
2. To make rapid and effortless search of information. We could not do rapid search when printed resource is not available in library.

3. To save time and money of both library servants and user. There is no need of help of staff every time and user can get direct access of information through computer or internet.
4. To save space of library.
5. To carry out or transfer data easily.
6. To make available in more quantity.
7. To make better preservation of information collection,
8. To make use for more user at a time.
9. To acquire up-to-date information.
10. To browse huge amount of information to make deep study or research work.
11. To search information worldwide available.
12. Printed material is limited and exclusive.

V. STRUCTURE OF RESOURCES

E-Resources are available in many forms in soft nature. These forms are useful in different ways for different purpose.

1) HTML Format: This is a hypertext markup language used for most web pages.
   Using HTML can be read using a standard browser like Microsoft Internet Explorer.
   There is no need of special equipment.
2) PDF: is a file format that has captured all the elements of printed document as an electronic image that you can view, navigate, print or forward to someone else. This file can created using adobe acrobat or acrobat capture.
3) TIFF (Tagged Image File Format: This file format used for storing image like photo graphs and line arts. It is widely supported by image manipulation applications.
4) CHM Format: This is an extension for the compiled HTML file format, almost used by Microsoft HTML based help program. It contain many compressed HTML documents and the image and java script they link to. This includes table of contents index and full text searching.
5) Post Script Format: This is page description language used primarily in electronic and desktop publishing areas for describing the contents of a printed page.
6) Desktop Author Format: This is an electronic publishing format and creates digital web books with virtual turning pages. The documents like e book, digital photo album, e cards, digital diaries, online resume, quizzes tests exams brochures can be written in this format.
7) Rich Text Format: This is developed by Microsoft in 1987 for cross platform document most word processors able to read and write this.

8) To encourage co-operative efforts to save and share the investment in research resources computing and communication network.

VI. TYPES OF ERESOURCES

Information have been embedded in variety of types. So there should have priority to study types of e-resources. Some of the types of e-resources related to higher education are given below.

A) E Books: E books are books in electronic forms. It can be used via internet browser, a computer or other electronic device. It can be downloaded to computer, laptop, and tablet. It is like printed book. E books are available on subscription by some publisher or by some institutions. There are so many free e book websites like Project Gutenberg, book boon, many books, book spot Google Scholar etc.
B) E Journals: Like e books, e journals are also in electronic form or it may be defined as any serials produced, published and distributed nationally and internationally via electronic networks. These are used mostly for research purpose
C) E Magazines (E Zine): These are also electronic magazines. It deals with product advertisement, educational, cultural, and political and some social issues. It has attractive quality of pictures and graphs than other resources.
D) Full text Databases: Full text database is compilation of document or other information in form of database in which the complete text of each referenced document is available for online viewing, printing or downloading. These databases are made available by some publisher on subscription like ProQuest, j gate ebsco etc.
E) Indexing and Abstracting Databases: These databases provides bibliographic information about journals including abstracts of the articles used for the reference work. These resources can be used to find reference sources in research and some other works. These resources are useful for data mining.
F) Reference Databases: The databases mostly used for reference which are available both online and offline. These includes Encyclopedias, dictionaries, almanacs.
G) Statistical Databases: These databases contains numerical databases useful for business and study.
  H) E Thesis: These databases includes PHD, M.Phil and other master degree thesis and dissertations. These can be used for further research by research scholars.
  I) E Newspapers: There are many newspapers which are available on internet also. We can read them with zooming conveniently and can save the part which we want.

J) E Patients:

K) E Standards:

L) E Images:

M) E Audio visual resources:

N) E Specifications:

UTILITIES OF E RESOURCES:

1) Library Staff will have complete control over this electronic repository. Documents stored in the computer hard disc, CD, or other storage devices will remain safely without fear of being misplace and damage.

2) E-resources are available in large quantity of any knowledge field so we can do deep study of any discipline in less time and money.

3) Sometimes e-resources provide information which is not available in printed books.

4) E- resources are easy to carry out. These are transferable and downloadable to multiple devices.

5) We can provide better current awareness service (CAS), selective dissemination of information (SDI) service with the help of e- resources.

6) If user is not satisfied with available information, he can link to other database or e-resource quickly. Almost it not happens with printed materials.

VII. RESOURCES TO RETRIEVE E RESOURCES

It is also important to study the sources through which we can get e resources. These sources are expensive but more beneficial than its expenses. We can access and retrieve plenty of e resources and can save in the quantity however we want. These resources are as follows.

1) OPAC (on-line public access catalogue): By the OPAC we can get information of information centers or libraries profile, announcements, member status, books /theses, serials and consortia.

2) Electronic Text and Journals: Electronic text, text that is in a form of electronically stored and displayed on the screen of any electronic device like computer. Journal is highly used electronic resource. So many research papers, articles are made available through this.

3) CD Rom: It is compact disc designed to adopt electronic data in the form of text graphics as well as qualitative sound.

4) Computer Networks like LAN and WAN: LAN is local area network where group of computer connected together by switch or stack of switches. WAN is wide area network where multiple LANs connected together using routers.

5) Multimedia: It is presentation of more than one medium like text, sound or motion vedios.

6) Internet: It is global network connecting computer and other electronic devices. All the global information centralized systematically and distributed to all the world.

7) E Mail and Bulletin Board: We can use e-mail for correspondence of e-resources through e-mail via internet. Bulletin board is a surface intended for posting a public message or instructions.

8) Audio visual aids: Audio visual aids are instructional devices used to communicate message more effectively through sound and visual.

VIII. CONCLUSION

This study will remain helpful to modern user to know basic different aspects of e-resources like need, utility, types forms and its retrieving sources for their further study.

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