

Digital Resources linked with university library website: An evaluative study

¹Vipulkumar Pragajibhai Banker

¹Research Scholar,

¹Department of Library and Information Science,
¹Madhav University, Rajasthan.

&

¹Librarian, Shanti Business School,

¹Ahmedabad, Gujarat.

Email - ¹vipulbanker10@gmail.com

²Dr. Bharti L. Vaja

²Associate Professor,

²Department of Library and Information Science,
²Madhav University, Rajasthan.

Email - ²vajabharti@gmail.com

Abstract: In this pandemic situation of Covid 19, Libraries are playing vital role to disseminate information to the students, research scholar faculties and other needy people. This study enlighten and inspect digital resources linked with university libraries' website/webpages. The targeted Libraries are university libraries of the Gujarat state and observation self-evaluation method used in the study. Total 55 universities library website were observed out of 75 universities.

Key Words: Databases, Digital Document, Digital Resources, Library Services, Library Website.

1. INTRODUCTION:

In this Corona 19 pandemic time education system is stuck everywhere, only hope is online courses and resources. University libraries are the main source as information and knowledge sharing platform. Information are needed for teaching and research and information seekers as students, research scholars, faculties and other library users. In this pandemic time universities and colleges are not working, teaching and learning made available by online platform. So users need information on these type of platform, in this situation it is library professional's duty to provide all type of information by online platform. Website is very useful platform to broadcast information. It is needed to observe university library website, to know their credibility in current time.

1.1 Definition:

1.1.1 Digital:

- Recording or storing information as a series of the numbers 1 and 0, to show that a signal in present or absent.¹
- Using or relating to digital signals and computer technology.¹
- Showing information in the form of an electronic image.¹

1.1.2 Digital Document:

Any document in a digital format. A digital document can be text. Any kind of data and information weather it is audio or video, has a representation into a computer, therefore it can be manipulated by a computer system.²

An electronic document is any electronic media content that is intended to be used in either an electronic form or as printed output. Originally, any computer data were considered as something internal the final data output was always on paper. However, the development of computer networks has made it so that in most cases it is much more convenient to distribute electronic documents that printed ones. The improvements in electronic visual display technologies made it possible to view documents on screen instead of printing them.³

1.1.3 Digital Resources:

Digital resources is intentionally broad and includes rich media objects (maps, video, images, simulations, and so forth) as well as text. These digital resources may reside in or outside digital libraries and include those developed by individual scholar and by other entities.⁴

1.2 Universities in Gujarat State:

As per observation of UGC website, total 75 universities are existed in Gujarat state. The present study covers different types of universities, such as 1 central university, 31 state universities, 40 private universities and 3 deemed universities. If we more segregate the list, it is fund that total 34 government funded universities and 41 are private funded universities are available. The Gujarat state having some very well-known and prestigious universities.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW:

Pathak, S. K. and others (2008)⁵ are conducted a survey on content management of library website of IIT's. The focus on content management and usability of an academic library website. They found that all IIT's have their website. They also examined the services provided by IIT's library websites. **Islam, Shariful and Mostofa, SK. Mamun (2013)**⁶ discuss about the status of digital resources and different types of libraries in Bangladesh. The study is based on secondary resources. In conclusion of the paper researcher proposed some expected strategies to increase the use of digital resources in academic libraries. **Choukhande, Vaishali and Dongre, Sandesh M. (2004)**⁷ carried out an analytical study on electronic resources and related services offered to users with special reference to research scholar of VNIT library, Nagpur. This paper is investigated some factors of library such as resources, services, adequate collection and challenges face by research scholar etc. **Gadhvi, Geeta G. (2017)**⁸ conduct an evaluative study to analyzed the content of library websites of Institute of National Importance. **Bharadwaj, Mukul and Sharma, Swadesh (2015)**⁹ discuss about digital resources available in university libraries and their advantages. In this article they especially focus on benefits and advantages of digital resources and give some suggestion about how to utilize maximum e-resources. **Walmiki, R H and Ramakrishnegowda, K C (2009)**¹⁰ conduct a survey on electronic resources in university libraries of Karnataka state. They noted that the digital collection is strength of the library system. **Khatrri, Ajay B. and Baheti, Satyanarayan (2013)**¹¹ carried out the evaluative study on 21 Deemed university websites and their library webpages special reference to Maharashtra state. The purpose of the study to analyze the several aspects of the credibility of websites. **Suseela, V. J. (2014)**¹² conducted a study on management of electronic resources in university libraries special reference to Hyderabad Library. Mainly this study discuss about e-resources and their characteristics, limitation and advantages, issues in handling the e-resources, acquisition process, management of online access and monitoring of usage etc. **Kumar, Vinod and Bansal, Jivesh (2014)**¹³ emphasizes on evaluation of library website and their content quality of eight new IITs. The also discuss about accuracy and authenticity of the content provided on library website. **Carlos, V S and Rodrigues, R G (2012)**¹⁴ presented an evaluative study on website quality in higher education institutions. To investigate the website quality level they used Aladwani's and Palvia's instrument. They concluded that Higher Education Institution are not committed to use the website as an important marketing tool, hence much work need to be done.

3. OBJECTIVES:

There are total three objectives set to achieve the goal of the study.

- To know availability of digital resources linked with university library website.
- To know what type of digital resources linked with university library website.
- To study the situation of university libraries website/webpage.

4. SCOPE AND LIMITATION:

Scope and limitation of the study is University library websites of Gujarat state. Among them all universities are covered such as Central University, State Universities, Private Universities and Deemed University; those who have their website or webpages. Some universities are excluded from the study due to various reason. List of the university derived from the website of University Grant Commission as per April 2020, there were total 75 universities listed in Gujarat state, among them 55 university libraries are selected for the study.

5. METHODOLOGY OF THE STUDY:

In this study data collected from the website of university libraries of Gujarat state. An initial stage study started with the list of universities existed in Gujarat state, the university list obtained from UGC site – www.ugc.com, till May 2020 there were 75 universities listed in Gujarat state on UGC website. Finally it is found that total 55 university library have web presence, which is useful for the study. The data were collected through searching and browsing the website/webpages. For the accurate data collection of the study, checklist have been formulated, its having different criteria such as status of website, resources linked with website/webpages, status of digital library and status of web OPAC. All library website scanned carefully and analyzed based on a formulated checklist during the month of February – May 2020. The collected data were analyzed in Microsoft excel and word software. Analyzed data were presented in tabular as well as graph format for better understanding.

6. DATA ANALYSIS:

For the study mainly university library websites were observed to collected the data, during the observation website were analyzed according to set criteria such as types of university, status of library website/webpage, resources linked with university library website, status of digital library, and status of web OPAC. Data were analyzed in Microsoft Soft Excel application software and here presented in tabular form, for better understanding.

Table 6.1: Status of University Library Website

Sr. No.	Type of University	No. of University	University Library with website/webpage
1	Government University	34 (45.34%)	26 (47.30%)
2	Private University	41 (54.66%)	29 (52.70%)
Total		74 (100%)	55 (100%)

Table 1 shows the status of number of Government and Private Universities are existed in Gujarat state, it is also show the status of university libraries with website/webpages. As per data total out of 74 universities only 55 universities libraries have website/webpages. In the same out of total 55 (100%) selected universities 26 (47.30%) are government universities and 29 (52.70%) are private universities. The study consider only those university library website, those who have web presence and accessible via internet.

Table 6.2: Status of Library Webpage

Sr. No.	Status of Library Webpage	Status
1	Independent	10 (18.20%)
2	Linked with the University website	45 (81.80%)
Total		55 (100%)

Table 2 clearly shows that the status of university library webpage i.e. 10 (18.20%) university libraries have independent website and 45 (81.80%) university libraries have their website/webpages linked with university website.

Table 6.3: Resources Linked with Library website / webpage

Sr. No.	Name	Yes	No	Total
1	E-books	30 (54.50%)	25 (45.50%)	55 (100%)
2	E-Journals	26 (47.30%)	29 (52.70%)	55 (100%)
3	Databases	33 (60.00%)	22 (40.00%)	55 (100%)
4	Free Online Resources	32 (58.20%)	23 (41.80%)	55 (100%)

Table 3 shows that the status of resources linked with university libraries website/webpages. Out of total 55 university, 30 (54.50%) university libraries have linked e-books with their website/webpages, 26 (47.30%) university libraries have linked e-journals with their website/webpages, 33 (60.00%) university libraries have linked there databases with their website/webpages and 32 (58.20%) university libraries have linked free online resources with their website/webpages.

Table 6.4: Status of Digital Library

Sr. No.	Status	Status
1	Available	27 (49.10%)
2	Not Available	28 (50.90%)
Total		55 (100%)

Table 4 shows the status of digital library linked with university library website/webpage. Out of total 55 university library website, 27 (49.10%) university library websites have make available their digital library.

Table 6.5: Status of Web OPAC

Sr. No.	Status	Status
1	Available	31 (56.40%)
2	Not Available	24 (43.60%)
Total		55 (100%)

Table 5 shows the status of Web OPAC linked with university library websites. Out of total 55 university library website 31 (56.40%) have linked their Web OPAC and make available to the users.

7. FINDINGS:

- It is found that 47.30% government and 52.70% private universities have make available their website/webpages online.
- It is found that 10 (18.20%) university libraries have independent website and 45 (81.80%) university libraries have dependent website/webpages or linked with university website.
- It is found that universities library websites have linked with their digital resources such as 30 (54.50%) e-books, 26 (47.30%) e-journals, 33 (60.00%) databases and 32 (58.20%) free online resources.
- It is found that availability status of digital libraries are 50-50 in universities of Gujarat state.
- It is found that total 56.40% university libraries have online OPAC.

8. SUGGESTIONS:

This is paper is very important especially in the current situation to evaluate the resources available in university libraries. The suggestion have influence of current pandemic situation of Covid 19.

- Web presence of the university library are 55 out of 75, it is satisfied but it should have 100%.
- It is suggested that all libraries have full flagged and independent website.
- The ratio of digital resources linked with university library website is not satisfied. Therefore it is suggested that to at least as per guideline of GUC all university libraries should have digital resources and all of them are link with their web presence portal.
- It is also suggested that the digital library and OPAC must available in all university library and it is also linked with their website.

9. CONCLUSION:

In this study, digital resources linked with university libraries website/webpage have been examined and evaluated. In the process of carried out this study author learned about importance of digital resources, especially in the condition of lockdown. When all educational institution are not able to function properly, and experts and needy peoples are helpless. In this condition only university libraries are the organization, which have quality learning resources. Majority of university libraries have good number of digital resources.

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