

E-Resource Consortia Boon to Academic Libraries

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Abstract

Along with time libraries have experienced many transformations, currently situation has changed rapidly due to information explosion and approach of the internet. Information becomes significantly more unpredictable because of consistently expanding the measure of information, in both printed and electronic structures and no library is independent enough to acquire all reading material. So to overcome this problem Library consortium is one of the solutions in this aim and objective MHRD, Govt. of India come up with an e-resources consortium, especially for college libraries that initiative only N-LIST(National Library and Information Services Infrastructures for Scholarly Content)now a part of e-ShodhSindhu being executed by INFLIBNET center.

Based on the recommendation of an Expert Committee, the MHRD has formed e-ShodhSindhu merging three consortia initiatives, namely UGC-INFONET Digital Library Consortium, NLIST, and INDEST-AICTE Consortium

KEYWORD: e-resources, Consortium, Library Consortia, N-LIST

Introduction

Colleges and universities Libraries in India are today encountered by what may prove to be their ultimate challenge: maintaining or achieving traditional standards of excellence while simultaneously meeting ever-greater demands on curriculums, facilities, and finances. Increasing enrollments, coupled with advancing knowledge and rising costs, have placed an unprecedented burden on these institutions.

Individual Libraries with limited resources are thus finding it more and more difficult to maintain academic standards. These Libraries can no longer rely on traditional methods to meet current and future demands. Recognizing the inadequacy of conventional methods in organizing and administering the complex organism that is the new college or university, they have begun to apply administrative principles long since proved requisite in business and industry. One such policy is that of the consortium, and many leading professionals believe that this principle is one of the promising approaches to solving many of e-resources problems.

Methodology

Information related to this study were collected from professional journals, conference proceeding. Relevant literature was also browsed from the different notable website. All concern data collected up to 23rd April 2019 from INFLIBNET's N-LIST websites and analyzed as per specific pre-defined criteria, for data interpretation MS excel is used.

Definition

Consortium

Consortium defines that it is an association of two or more organization, companies or individuals with a common interest to achieve the same objective.

E-resources

Electronic resources (or e-resources) are materials in digital format accessible electronically. Examples of e-resources are electronic journals (e-journal), electronic books (e-book)

The objective of the study

- To be familiar with e-resource consortium
- To know the types of college registered in N-LIST
- To know the state wise members of N-LIST
- To understand the different sources available in N-LIST

Notable e-resource consortium in India

- e-ShodhSindhu
- FORSA - Forum for Resource Sharing in Astronomy and Astrophysics
- IIM Libraries Consortium
- HELINET Consortium (Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences, Karnataka)
- DAE Library Consortia (Department of Atomic Energy)
- ICICI Knowledge Park (Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India)
- CSIR Library Consortia (Council for Scientific and Industrial Research)

E-Shodhsindhu Consortium

The main objective of the e-ShodhSindhu: Consortia for Higher Education E-Resources is to provide access to qualitative electronic resources including full-text, bibliographic and factual databases to academic institutions at a lower rate of subscription

In the e-ShodhSindhu consortium the project entitled "National Library and Information Services Infrastructure for Scholarly Content (N-LIST)," being jointly executed by the e-ShodhSindhu Consortium,

N-LIST (National Library and Information Services Infrastructures for Scholarly Content)

The N-LIST project provides access to e-resources to students, researchers and faculty from colleges and other beneficiary institutions through server(s) installed at the INFLIBNET Centre. The authorized users from colleges can now access e-resources and download articles required by them directly from the publisher's website once they are

duly authenticated as authorized users through servers deployed at the INFLIBNET Centre.

N-LIST to subscribe and provide access to selected e-resources to Govt./ Govt.-aided and non-aided colleges (**except Agriculture, Engineering, Management, Medical, Pharmacy, Dentistry and Nursing**) and monitor its usage; and to act as a Monitoring Agency for colleges and evaluate, promote, impart training and monitor all activities involved in the process of providing effective and efficient access to e-resources to colleges.

N-LIST membership.

- Colleges under the 12B section of the UGC act Annual Membership Fee Rs. 5,900.00
- Non-Aided Colleges Annual Membership Fee Rs. 35,400.00

1. Data Interpretation

Table: 01

State-wise number of colleges registered in N-LIST consortium

Sl.no	State	Registered	Sl.no	State	Registered
1	Maharashtra	797	18	Rajasthan	33
2	Karnataka	348	19	Goa	27
3	West Bengal	299	20	Jammu and Kashmir	26
4	Tamil Nadu	254	21	Himachal Pradesh	23
5	Gujarat	200	22	Meghalaya	21
6	Andhra Pradesh	178	23	Jharkhand	20
7	Kerala	175	24	Nagaland	19
8	Assam	156	25	Chandigarh	14
9	Uttar Pradesh	117	26	Uttarakhand	13
10	Punjab	100	27	Mizoram	11
11	Madhya Pradesh	99	28	Manipur	10

12	Telangana	62	29	Tripura	9
13	Haryana	58	30	Pondicherry	7
14	Bihar	48	31	Arunachal Pradesh	3
15	Chhattisgarh	48	32	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	2
16	Delhi	47	33	Sikkim	2
17	Orissa	41	34	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1
Total Number of college=3268					

As per Table 01 total 3269 colleges of 29 States and seven union territories are registered in N-LIST program out 29 states Maharashtra stand out first among the other states with 797 colleges, and notably, Karnataka stands in the second position with 348, and minimum from Sikkim, i.e., 2. In union territories maximum colleges registered by Delhi, i.e., 48 and minimum from Andaman and Nicobar Islands, i.e., 01. Lakshadweep and Daman and Diu have no registered college in N-LIST. This table concludes that Maharashtra colleges are well aware of N-LIST and actively fulfill the needs of college Libraries.

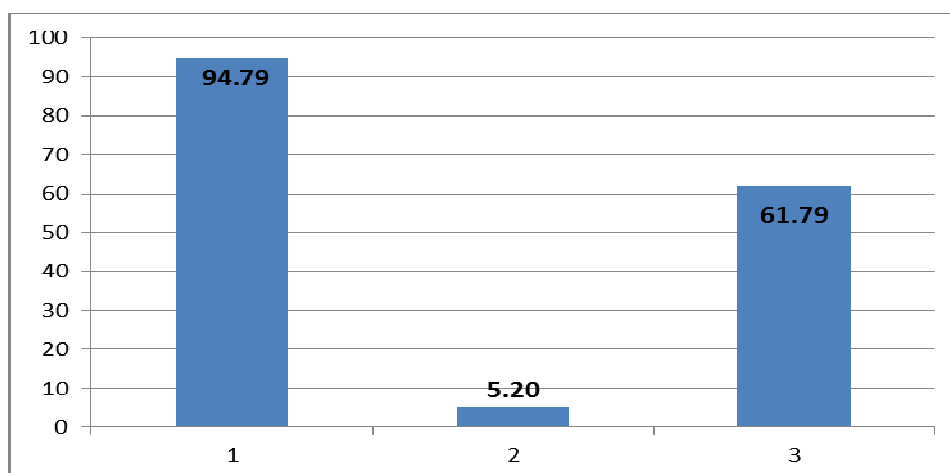
Table: 02

Type of colleges

Sl.no	Type of College	No. of College(n=3269)	Percentage
1	12B/2F Colleges	3099	94.79
2	Non-aided Colleges	170	5.20
3	Science College	2020	61.79

Table 02 represented that types of college registered in N-LIST out 3269 registered colleges 12B/2F colleges are 3099(94.79%) and the remaining 170 (5.20%) colleges are no-aided in nature. Out of 3269 colleges, we have 2020 (61.79%) science college it includes both 12B/2F and Non-aided Colleges.

Figure 1: Graphical representation of Table: 02



We can see that around 95 percent of that registered colleges are 12B/12F maybe it is because of the low annual membership fee for this colleges and 61.79 % of Science colleges are registered in N-LIST it shows the significance of the E-recourse in Science discipline.

Table: 03

Available resources in N-LIST

Sl.no	E-journals(full text)	No. of Title	Subjects covered
1	American Institute of Physics	18	Physics, Mathematicalphysics
2	Annual Reviews	33	Biomedical/ Life sciences. Physical sciences, Socialsciences
3	Economic and Political Weekly	1	Economics, Politics
4	Indian Journals	180+	21 subjects from Agriculture to Veterinary Science, but Literature is excluded
5	Institute of Physics	46	Physics, Environmental science
6	JSTOR	2500+	Area studies, Arts, Business, Humanities including Language and Literature, Medicine, Mathematics & Science, Social science
7	Oxford University Press	206+	Multidisciplinary
8	Royal Society of Chemistry	29	Chemistry
9	H. W. Wilson	3000+	GREENFILE-Research papers on all aspects of human impact to Environment

			Library, Information science & Technology Abstracts with Full text
10	Cambridge University Press	224	Multidisciplinary

6237 plus full-text journals from 10 notable publishers are subscribed from N-LIST consortium maximum number of journals title are subscribed from H.W. Wilson publishers followed by JSTOR. It has almost all the discipline cover in its subscription; this will help the Libraries to develop rich e-resource collection.

Sl.no	E-books(full text)	No. of Title	Subjects covered
1	Cambridge Books Online	1800+	Humanities, Social sciences, Science and Engineering, Medicine and English Language teaching
2	E-library	125000	Multidisciplinary
3	EBSCO Host-Net Library	936	Multidisciplinary
4	Hindustan Book Agency	65+	Multidisciplinary
5	ISEAS Books	382+	Religion Social sciences, Technology, History & Geography
6	Oxford Scholarship	1402+	Multidisciplinary
7	Springer eBooks	2300	Multidisciplinary except Literature
8	Sage Publication eBooks	1000	Multidisciplinary
9	Taylor Francis eBooks	1800	Multidisciplinary
10	My library-McGraw Hill	1124	Multidisciplinary
11	World e-books Library	3000000	Multidisciplinary
12	South Asia Archive	though NDL	Multidisciplinary

N-LIST has 31,35,809 plus full-text e-book titles from the well-known national and international publishers all most all the subjects are covered in this collection currently 12 renowned publishers are providing full-text e-books to the registered colleges.

Findings

- Total 3268 colleges are registered in N-LIST consortium
- State wise maximum Maharashtra 797 colleges and minimum Sikkim 2 colleges registered in N-LIST

- Types and number of colleges have a membership of N-LIST (i.e., 12F/2B colleges, Non-aided and Science colleges)
- 6200 plus full-text e-journals and 31 lakh plus full-text e-books are available in N-LIST

Conclusion

Library consortium for e-resources is extremely useful in this fast-growing digital era it will help the college libraries to enrich their collection and achieve the ever-greater demands on curriculums with minimum financial input. In this path MHRD (Ministry of Human Resource Development), Govt. of India come up with N-LIST consortium and many colleges in India today beneficiary this program and it is still a way ahead to it reach and bring awareness in left out colleges in India and libraries should take this initiative and improve the use e-resources from the college level only and use technology in the most significant way to achieve curriculum demand.

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