Abstract

Purpose: The main purpose of this research is to identify, analyse and evaluate various aspects of the use of web based-resources by the engineering college libraries of Assam (both from user and library point of view). It covers the different types of academic users including Faculty members, Students and Research Scholars. It aims to consider the various factors of e-resources usage such as purposes, impact, importance, problems, acceptance, and satisfaction with e-resources. The research also tried to suggest a framework to provide maximum access within least possible time by the users.

Design/Methodology/Approach: The study was initiated with literature search on various topics of web based resources and their access in engineering education related aspects. The researcher personally visited different engineering college libraries in Assam to know the present status of e-resources management in those libraries and interacted with the professionals involved to know the policies, technical method and the problems they are facing in managing those resources. A survey method of research was applied to ascertain the present status of use of e-resources. The survey was conducted with the help of a structured questionnaire followed by interview as and where it was felt necessary. Two formats of questionnaire were prepared; first, a printed format and second, an electronic format using Google Docs spreadsheet. The data so collected were analysed and interpreted with the help of MS Excel.

Findings: The study finds many aspects of e-resources use among engineering academics of Assam. It reveals that engineering college library users are using many types of e-resources. Using the online resources, their academic/professional competency also improved. The teaching methodology also involved the e-resources uses and the students' ability was also affected in a positive manner by this methodology. A clear picture of various aspects of Web based resource access in engineering college libraries in Assam is found from the study. From the analysis of data, it is observed that the present scenario of the Engineering College libraries with regards to the proper management and access of the
web base resources is not satisfactory as is expected. A number of recommendations for proper implementation and improvement of the present position of the concerned libraries in Assam regarding online resources access and management are suggested.

**Research Limitations/Implications:** This study is an effort to raise the position and to solve the problems of the engineering college libraries in Assam in providing access to web based resources to their users. Of course, the emerging new technologies and methods of management need to be taken care of.

**Originality/value** – The study was an attempt to evaluate the use of e-resources by users of engineering colleges libraries of Assam. Results from the study are encouraging and it is hoped that the findings will provide meaning and a useful platform for further research as well as usability among engineering academics will also be improved.

**Practical Implications:** This research work can serve as a basic guideline to the Library & Information Professionals to select and implement proper electronic resources access and management policy in near future.

**Keywords:** Web Based resources, Digital Resources, E-resources, E-resource Management, Engineering Education, Engineering Education-India, Engineering College-Assam, Institutional Repository, Engineering College Library.

**Research Type:** Descriptive, Evaluative, Survey based.