CHAPTER-5

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS
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A brief summary of the report, conclusions and suggestions are presented in this chapter.

5.1. Summary

The electronic and communication devices have been seen as explosion of social networking with there tools like web etc, which are empowering ordinary people to connect, collaborate in a global order. The most important assumptions of the academic libraries are student and faculty increasingly demand for faster and greater access to library services.

The demand for technology services is growing rapidly. Everywhere, the library has to push their genuinely valuable content, services, staff expertise, from the self defined boundaries to where user mind stands, to take benefit from them. Since the inception, library has been considered the power house of knowledge, always aims at keeping abreast with latest and new technology which leads to faster information seeking behaviour among users. The fast transformation mainly in the high technology areas are dominating the day to day reality of our work places. The NIT library has passed through their challenge, including in the social tides seriously. The Government of India’s healthy policies relating to putting emphasis on reformation of technological institutions was a great boon in our country. In this direction all the 20 regional engineering colleges were declared as Deemed Universities and with a new nomenclature of NITs. Each one of them have got further specialization, depending up on local resources.

5.2. The Overall Findings of the Study

Until the year 2000, there were only 17 Regional Engineering Colleges which were setup across the country to attract the young and brilliant students, to shape them as future leaders in different fields of engineering and
technology. Having proved well of their existence, these institutions were slowly given the status of national importance by way of calling them as National Institute Technologies.

This National Institute of Technology has attracted talented young men and women from the state where it is located and also across the country on competitive level. Subsequently, the number of National Institutes of Technologies was raised to 20, as discussed in the earlier chapters. These brilliant students had the fortune of having teachers of excellence drawn from different parts of the country as faculties who had a different outlook in changing the shape of future technocrats. The academic programmes in their institutions are very high order in nature and in no way inferior to international standards. The quality of education was considered as highly remarkable and the infrastructure facility also needs to go on par with them. The libraries attached to these institutions were the central hub of academic pursuits. Besides the labs, classrooms etc. the network culture as also started for creating campus area net work and to go out for widen area net work as well.

The wealth of information and resources, existing in these libraries were in process of modernization while doing so, war footing efforts were made to change the mindset of the existing manpower at different levels.

A variety of electronic resource models have been introduced in India for the first time in a large scale after the year 2001. The pioneers in this happen to be UGC-INFONET, e-journals consortia and INDEST-consortia besides CSIR, ICAR, and atomic energy etc. All these have brought a variety of experiences, economic models, licensing in patterns, training courses for their users. The efforts in the National Institutions of Technology libraries is to be stepped up, a great deal so that they can reach par excellence in short span of time.
The licensing models, the Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) electronic publishing, open source archiving benefits are to be borne in mind.

5.3. Conclusion

The researchers made in-depth investigation into the 4 NIT libraries selected from the southern part of India have seen technically management wise examined critically keeping in view the new responsibilities entered on them by the Government of India for raising the academic and supporting standards on par with in other ISO level institutes. This exercise has brought out the gaps, short comings, and remedial steps to be taken and trends to be followed in the international level are spelled out for effective implementation in the form of recommendation and suggestions. Once the recommendations are carried on, the output of the academic and research excises of these NITs are significantly moved upward are openly new vistas of research. This will be appraising for the country and benefits to the younger generation and role model to the other libraries across the country.

a. Majority among the overall male users responded to questionnaire from all NIT libraries comparing to female in time. The female students for same reasons or other shown in response to this sample study.

b. The data regarding the total users show that majority of users in general prefer to visit the library daily which raises to 51.6 percent among the sample data. However there are very few occasional visitors to the library. Among these the students rank the highest daily visitors to the library while the staffs are the lowest.

5.3.1 Knowledge on Computer

a. Majority library users among all categories in National Institute of Technology (NIT) libraries have computer proficiency in handling computer independently. Hence they may able to handle information packages independently in the library.
b. Majority library users are aware of electronic information resources in the library and able handle them shows effectively

c. Majority library users are willing to take awareness training in handling electronic information resources in the library though they have knowledge on computer handling and aware of e-resources.

5.3.2 Services by Users

a. Majority students users prefer to have the printed guide regarding the e-resources available in the library of have ready reference and effective use.

b. Among faculty users like to have instruction face to face from reference desk at the time of their visit library in use e-resources.

c. Majority Adm. Staff followed the faculty by claiming face to face information is more useful in use of e-information resources.

d. Majority users among all category users are using email service frequently and it may be one of the important services through internet to the users in information transfer and retrieval.

e. Majority among the users are using the web service frequently for information retrieval.

f. Majority of users are using e-journals and e-books frequently.

g. Majority of users are using on-line databases frequently.

h. Majority of the users are in the opinion of not having sufficient internet service in the library. It also shows that the users are expecting more internet service in the library.

i. Majority students felt that internet services are not satisfied to them regarding its quality and connectivity.

j. Majority of the faculty felt that the internet service are not satisfied them either in quality or connectivity.

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k. Majority of the Adm. Staff felt that the internet facility in the library has not sufficient.

l. Majority of the Tech. Staff felt that the internet facility in the library has not sufficient.

m. Majority library users are using internet daily and it occupies the primary position in information resources and services. The other services like online databases and on-line journals are also more popular among the library users.

n. Almost all electronic information devices are using by majority students users daily or 2 or 3 times in a week. Internet is more popular and using by majority students daily.

o. Majority faculty members are using internet daily. It proves that electronic information seeking pattern of the present day and the popularity of internet among the faculty.

p. There is no big difference in choice of different category of user in the library in using internet services. Majority administrative staff using internet daily.

q. The responses of users on information resource may depends upon their profession and need. The students and faculty usually associate with information resources available in the library and thus they constitute majority users to the library. However as per the majority among total users 93.6 percent responded as the information available through electronic resources is useful.

r. Majority of users opined internet as more important information resources to their profession among many other e-resources available to them.

s. Student users are giving first priority to online books followed internet and intranet facilities.
t. Majority faculty opined that on-line books are more important for them.

u. Majority of Adm. Staff users felt that internet is their favorite resources and rated as more important.

v. The AICTE - INDEST consortia is more popular among students community.

w. The AICTE-INDEST consortia is popular among the faculty also as it is with students.

x. The DELNET is more popular among Admn. Staff as for their professional are personal information-needs.

y. The DELNET is more popular among technical staff also.

5.3.3 Perception

a. Majority of the users have knowledge on use of electronic information resources through library training and their personal proficiency.

b. Majority of the users try to secure any software they need from their friends as a first choice and download form the internet.

c. Majority of users preferred LCD devices to present the information effectively.

d. Majority users like the full text format of the information which may suitable to their academic needs.

e. Majority of users categorized electronic journals in the internet is most useful.

f. Majority users among faculty felt that e-journals are most useful.

g. Majority of users opted for greetings among students category while chatting is the option among majority faculty.
h. The data analysis reveals that colleagues and friends are the priority source for knowledge on search engines. Hence majority users came to know about the search engines through their colleagues and friends.

i. Majority users are satisfied with the electronic information resources available at present in the library. Thus it can be stated that adequate electronic information resources available in the NIT libraries.

j. A small segment who dissatisfied with electronic information resources were reasoned lack of adequate access and inadequate electronic resources. It shows that users aspired more electronic information resources and sufficient access to it then presently available.

k. There are different methods of search in internet. There is no much difference between category of users in the methods of search the internet and the popular method is using search engine.

l. The Microsoft internet browser is popular among the users and using by majority of users.

m. Majority of users among all categories responded as Google search engines also is more familiar to them. It can be interpreted as that the Google is also more popular among all category of employees.

n. Majority of users responded as that the internet was influenced on the user behavior in using library. Hence, it can be stated that internet is having influence in changing behavior of library users and use of library.

o. Majority of students and faculty aware of the concept and practice of institutional resources.

p. Majority of the users felt comfortable facilities in the NIT libraries.

q. Majority among students users opined as excellent facilities and comport is available at present in the NIT libraries.
r. Majority among faculty users opined as excellent facilities and comport is available at present in the NIT libraries.

s. Majority among Adm. Staff users opined as excellent facilities and comport is available at present in the NIT libraries.

t. Majority among Tech. Staff users opined as excellent facilities and comport is available at present in the NIT libraries.

5.3.4 Difficulties

- Majority among students and faculty felt that the inadequate number of computer machines in digital library as problem.

- Majority on the over all users like to change the methods of operational process to over come from the technical problems in using the digital information services.

5.3.5 Feedback

- Majority of students and faculty members are using UGC INFONET consortia information services.

- Majority of users are responded as commercial consortia e-journals are using partially.

- Majority of student users and faculty are using the consortia e-journals selectively.

- Majority of users are using DELNET services for inter library loan. Hence inter library loan is more popular among academic community.

- Majority of users among all categories are recommend for subscription of e-books in the library.

- Majority academic community is aware of foreign consortia services.

- Majority of students and faculty suggested to improve access to on-line journals.
5.4. Recommendations

- The researcher found host of efforts to be made to make the electronic resource effective utilization by the community to the optimum level. The following are steps recommended which can be studied further and applied to make the systems function very effectively:

- More and more significant efforts are required to increase the awareness of new technologies among the library staff of National Institute of Technology invariably. This can be achieved by deputing them to larger network operations abroad like OCLC USA, net-library (Denver) USA, IEEE-USA, JANET (Joint academic network) UK, Lenin library consortia in Moscow, Russia, Germany. These programs can either short time or long time which will sharpen the skills of the staff and indirectly give benefit to the system.

- There is also an urgent need to conduct orientation programs for the faculty researchers and students for familiarizing with the networks, electronic resources, portals, gateways, open sources etc., which they use in day to day academic and research works.

- All the 20 National Institute Technology Libraries be connected through a powerful network which have the scalable architecture to upgraded at a later dates. This will ensure uniformity in the services and familiarity with the operations besides fast access to the resources available in all the center.

- It is desirable to go for a minimum of 5-10 MBPS bandwidth with 1:1 ratio from a reliable dedicated communication channel to each library.

- The NIT libraries network should have their own archival files of the resources subscribed for posterity. It is also desirable to have one NIT designated as archival library with all the print versions as stand by mechanism.
The libraries must cooperate among themselves in sharing the responsibilities by way of creating authority files, list groups, bulletin boards, alerts etc., periodically to update the clients.

Some times the aggregators files are to be subscribed from the publications for full text as there may not be within the consortia platform. In order to meet such cases it is recommended that the NIT network be extended for interdisciplinary searches to INFLIBNET, CSIR, ICAR, Atomic energy etc., databases and consortia invariably on reciprocal assurgent or so.

Specialized negotiations need to be made for entering into license agreements, economic models for subscribing e-resources of academic platform. Negotiations also needed to be made with the aggregators and vendors for designing specialized awareness and access programs at a very competitive price which is offered to large academic and research community.

Encouragement also needs to be made to the participating NIT libraries to embark upon creation of their own research publications and academic papers etc., by using liberally open archival initiatives using D space/Fedora/Greenstone etc, software. These will benefit the whole range of users in the NIT setup in the country and also out side.

The success of E-resources information in NIT libraries across India is successful only when human resources are harnessed properly by raising the level of productive potential manpower, resource and skills. These are in terms of knowledge skills and capabilities through appropriate mechanism such as educational training, counseling, planning which will contribute greatly to the goals of organizations. The remarkable evolution that has started taking place in India and in particular NIT libraries is traveling with emerging technology should help the young minds. The web technology, open access, institutional repositories are enriching E-resources to a greater level. In fact technology has been the most important key factor influencing the
pace of change often driving changes while making a comprehensive content access at relatively less cost. This is the mechanism that is allowing distribution of value of services to its users abundantly. Many more researchers can be undertaken in an in-depth on the above enumerated suggestions for furthering the domain of knowledge.

5.5 Suggestion of Users

Some of the suggestions, made by users regarding different aspects in library services, have been consolidated. The data was collected at informal interaction with use of NIT libraries.

1. All the NIT libraries must periodically conduct intensive training programmes for users regarding how to use online journals and online databases etc.

2. More and higher configuration computer terminals have to be installed in the library for the benefit of users.

3. More funds should be allotted to acquire e-books, e-resources like net library etc. to the library.

4. Periodical survey has to be conducted for knowledge on the emerging needs of the users.

5. Network topology has to be strengthened with higher bandwidth with Broadband as the information content density is moving towards visual areas.

6. Wherever necessary a dedicated wireless network be put into service.

7. There is a dire need to include more number of online journals and databases in various disciplines as the demand is alarmingly growing.

8. The library personnel have to be trained periodically in helping the users.

9. Numerous studies have to be conducted for accessing the impact of using e-resources.
10. Checks are made not to allow misuse of electronic resources which lead to legal complications.

11. Comparative study is taken up for evaluation of INDEST and UGC and other consortium, services.

12. All the NIT libraries should regularly provide electronic document supplying services on demand to the users.