CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

Owing to the emergence of information communication technology and its application in the libraries and information centres, traditional print journals are being gradually replaced by electronic journals with the benefits for the libraries as well users in many ways. The terms 'electronic library', 'electronic journals', and 'electronic resources' are the well-known and frequently used terms by the academic community consisting of students, research scholars and faculty. American Library Association Presidential Committee on Information Literacy (1998) emphasized the impact of the information age on all people and the need for everybody to become information literate. National Knowledge Commission (2006) has also stressed the importance of sharing knowledge and this process is further strengthened through modern electronic gadgets. The emergence of World Wide Web (WWW) has given an excellent opportunity to find information all over the world. In addition to the Internet, there are various platforms sponsored by the Government and private agencies to extend the accessibility of e-resources.

Libraries prefer digital collections for many reasons like the problem of missing issues and binding. Damage of papers has also been minimized and users can access at any time, download, store and printout papers quite easily (Kaur & Verma, 2009).
1.1 E-Resources

The change in traditional document delivery services, from print to electronic, has come about very quickly, and libraries and information services have undergone significant transformation in order to effectively deliver electronic resources to the academic community (Appleton, 2006). Moreover, the rapid advancement of Information Communication Technology (ICT) has brought revolutionary changes to the users’ community to handle varied information resources conveniently and effortlessly. As a result of which e-resources have become the lively substance to the modern library users in satisfying the varied needs of students, teachers, and researchers with minimum risk and time.

E-Resources are resources in which information is stored economically and which are accessible through electronic systems and networks. E-Resources are a very broad term that includes a variety of different publishing models, including OPACs, CD-ROMs, online database, e-journals, e-books, internet resources, print-on-demand, e-mail publishing, wireless publishing, electronic link and web publishing and so on. In this context the e-resources means 'any electronic product that delivers collection of data be it in text, numerical, graphical, or time based as a commercially available resources'.

An electronic resource consists of materials that are computer-controlled, including materials that required the use of a peripheral attached to
a computer; the items may or not be used in the interactive mode. There are two types of e-resources: data and programs (Bavakutty, M. 2003).

Electronic resources are becoming very important these days as they are more up-to-date, and can be accessed anywhere, crossing all geographical boundaries. Such resources add value while conducting Research and Development activities.

The term Electronic resource includes any resource available in an electronic format that was accessed and viewed by the users on computer screen. It includes every-thing from e-journals to e-newspapers, e-books, library owned CD-ROMS to web based newscasts.

E-resources refer to any kind of documents in digital formats which are made available to library users through a computer based information retrieval system. The internet is said to be the right and most extensively used channel. Therefore, e-resources include online databases, sources from web pages, e-journals articles, electronic personnel papers, e-mail messages, newspaper postings, newsletters, government publications, electronic theses and dissertations, e-newspapers, CDs/DVDs and things of similar sorts (Swain & Panda, 2009).

1.2 Features of E-Resources

Important features of e-resources are: Fast and easy access of information, easy to retrieve the documents using search engine, easy to
publish and reduce the delay, multiple access at a time, article can be downloaded, stored and printed on one’s own convenience subject to copy right protection, supported by multimedia, save physical storage, links to related items and simultaneous access.

Even though these features enhance its value among the users, it is not free from disadvantages in the library environment in developing countries like India. They are lack of information literacy skills among the users, frequent power failure, internet connectivity, spot help, rapid technological changes, attitude of the users, slow access speed, lack of archiving and back files; websites change their Universal Resource Locator (URL) frequently and disappear, quality, authority and so on.

1.3 Different Forms of E-Resources

Various forms of e-resources are Internet resources, e-books, e-dictionaries, e-encyclopedia, e-journals, e-tutorials, online databases, e-theses, e-preprints, e-newspapers, e-mail, discussion groups, OPAC, CD-databases, e-reports and blog.

In the present environment, e-resources collection and mainly built upon digital and online databases and subscribed as well as open access materials like Springer link, Emerald Insight, Science Direct, Proquest, J-Gate, IEEE-explore, ACM Digital Library, Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ), consortia movements like UGC-Infonet, INFLIBNET N-LIST, and so on.
1.3.1 E-Journals

Electronic journals, as many consider, are the first developed feature of electronic publishing. Many journals from almost all fields are currently available electronically via web. Some web-based electronic journals are graphically modeled on the print version. The rising cost of print journal subscriptions has led many academic libraries to explore electronic alternatives.

An increasing number of publishers are using the internet as a global way to offer their publications to the international academic community. Electronic journals are boon to the libraries. It has many advantages. One can access it round the clock across geographical barriers, which make e-journals omnipresent (Jayaprakash, 2009).

Electronic journals may be defined broadly as any serial publications viz. journal, magazine, newsletter in digital format and made available on CD-ROM. Online systems and the Internet have become the primary medium for e-journals today. Based on the level of content, e-journals could be classified as scholarly research and Industry or trade journals.

1.3.2 E-Book (Electronic Book)

An e-book is an electronic representation of a book, usually a parallel publication of a print copy. The new Concise Oxford English Dictionary (2011) defines an e-book as “an electronic version of printed book which can be read on a personal computer or handheld device designed specifically for this purpose”.
1.3.3 E-mail (Electronic mail)

E-mail is the most frequently used application of the Internet. E-mail facilitates communication with people all over the world. It made the geographical boundaries of nations shrink, as one can send mail to anyone connected to the internet wherever he is almost instantaneously. E-mail is being used by the faculty members of various disciplines to communicate with professionals, experts and to communicate research findings.

1.3.4 CD-ROM Resources

The digital resource in CD-ROM/DVD works as standalone, a single user and a network CD-ROM server, a multi-user facility. Several publishers are now making their publications available in CD-ROMs apart from print versions. Several backup journals are also available in CD-ROMs.

1.3.5 Online Databases

Online databases offer instant information which is current and constantly updated. The retrospective searchables are processed through computers. There are a number of commercial online search services at the national and international level.

1.3.6 Electronic Prints

E-prints are scientific or technical documents circulated electronically to facilitate peer exchange and scientific advancement. In certain research areas it is common to publish very specialized or technical results of temporary
importance only as e-print without submitting them to a peer-reviewed journal as they are expected to become superseded during the review delay. It has benefits such as low cost, the reduction of time in announcing research findings, and the provision of access to all with Internet capability.

1.3.7 OPAC (Online Public Access Catalogue)

The OPAC is a database describing documents via bibliographic entries composed of fields, some which may be queried. It provides access to bibliographic records for the entire collection of books, back volumes, video, and film of the library. The OPAC can be searched in many ways as accession number search, author search, title search, keyword search, author/title search and so on.

1.3.8 Open Access Articles

Another type of online journals, whose full-text articles are available in the web for viewing and downloading free of charge are called open access journals. Open access articles means online access without access charge to individuals and libraries. Open access can be achieved by two ways – by publishing an article in open access journals or depositing the same in open access archives or institutional repositories. A large number of important full text articles are available free of charges in the personal or institutional websites of few eminent personalities.
1.4 Types of e-journals

The electronic journals are categorized into many types according to the purpose. On the basis of distribution methods the following types of e-journals have been identified (Singh, 2009).

i. **Internet applications e-journals**: These e-journals are available through Internet applications, which are also known as classic electronic journals. Originally they were distributed via the e-mail but now have been available on the web and only announcements regarding issues are distributed by e-mail.

ii. **Parallel e-journals**: These types of journals are published simultaneously in both forms: print and electronic. The online version may include the full text of journal, selected articles or only table of contents. The website provides previews and excerpts of issues. The electronic version is always available much more quickly than its print counterpart.

iii. **Database model**: Another type of e-journal is called database model. It is also known as the software model. Here articles reside in centralized database and the publishers and subscribers are given permission to access the database and use search software on the central computer to locate and download articles. The database model provides a piece of software that runs on an Internet-connected computer which connects to the database of the journal’s central computer and

iv. **CD-ROM journals**: Commercial publishers have also made journal titles available through the CD-ROM. The full text of journals and other serial publications have been made available by the means of a CD-ROM.
On the basis of accessibility e-journals are divided into two categories. They are:

a. **Commercial E-journals**: These e-journals are not available freely. Readers and libraries have to pay for the subscription of these e-journals. Many big publishers publish commercial e-journals.

b. **Open Access E-journals**: Open access journals are those which use a funding model that does not charge readers or their institutions for access. Open access provides users the right to “read, download, copy, distribute, print, search, or link to the full texts of these articles” as mandatory for a journal to be included in the directory.

1.5 Consortia Approach

The term consortium has been defined as ‘a cooperative arrangement among groups or institutions’. A library consortium provides a way for its members to conduct business in a competitive manner. The basic premise of consortia is that its members can collectively achieve more than what they can achieve as individual institutions.

Library consortia is a group of two or more libraries that have agreed to cooperate with each other in order to fulfill certain similar needs, usually resource sharing. A consortium supports resource sharing and provides services to users through programmes in cooperative acquisition, access to electronic resources, access to physical collections, enhanced interlibrary loan and document delivery. It refers to co-operation, co-ordination and collaboration.
between and amongst libraries for the purpose of sharing information resources (Ram and Sharma, 2006).

The different models of consortia suggested by Bisen (2005) are:

1. *Print plus electronic access*: Print copies of the journals held at the time of agreement will have to be maintained along with the electronic access to the full text database.

2. *Electronic only*: No print is included in this model but can be purchased at a discounted price.

3. *Flip Pricing*: In this model, a price is calculated on the predicted usage and value to each institution.

1.5.1 **Consortia models**

A number of consortia models have emerged in India based on funding sources and participants affiliation. Patil and Savanur (2006) have listed the following models:

Open consortia: In this type, libraries are free to join and leave as and when they please. Example: FORSA, SNDT’s LISA and INDEST

Closed Group consortia: This type of consortium is formed by coalition, affiliation libraries. Example: CSIR, DAE and IIMs

Institution Headquarters funded: As the name indicates, it is funded by the institution. Example: TIFR and its branch libraries
Centrally funded: In this type, a parent body or the coordinating agency will have the financial responsibility for running the consortium. Example: CSIR, INDEST, UGC-INFONET, ICMR

Shared budget: In this type, management of funds and other aspects are handled individually by the member libraries. Example: FORSA, IIMs and HELINET

National Consortia: This is a model perceived at national level which includes member libraries from one country. Example: INDEST, UGC-INFONET and ICARNET

Publisher’ initiatives: Certain publishers are also encouraging consortium formation by giving a deep discount in prices to the member libraries. Example: Emerald full-Text library

1.5.2 Consortia Initiatives – Indian Scenario

J-Gate is the first e-journal portal from India. Launched in 2001 by informatics India Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore, J-Gate provides seamless access to millions of journals articles available online offered by 5586 publishers. It presently has a massive database of journal literature, indexed from 16400 e-journals with likes to full text at publisher’s sites. It also plans to support online subscription to journals, electronic delivery, archiving and other related services. Some of the initiation are:
- N- LIST of UGC and MHRD,
- INDEST- AICTE Consortia,
- DRDO E- journal Consortium,
- FORSA,
- CSIR Consortia,
- MCIT Library Consortium,
- RGUHS- HELINET Consortium,
- ICMR Consortia,
- SpaceNet- ISRO Consortium,
- Consortium for e-resources in Agriculture,
- IIM Library Consortia ,
- ISI Library Consortium and
- ICICI Knowledge Park.

### 1.6 Print Journal

A periodical devoted to disseminating original research and commentary on current developments in a specific discipline, sub-discipline, or field of study, published annually, half yearly, quarterly, bimonthly, or monthly issues sold by subscription, which is available in printed form. Journal articles are usually written by the person who conducted the research.

#### 1.6.1 Advantages of print journals

Advantages of print journals are the following:

- Hot medium of communication as it fires imagination and creativity.
- Less eye strain over extended reading time
- Small and portable.
Usable in adverse environmental conditions

Robust and durable

Readable when severely damaged

Requires no power source and no alternative reading device like a PC and

Easy to browse

### 1.6.2 Disadvantages of print journal

Disadvantages of print journals as suggested by Singh (2009) are as follows:

- One person can read at a time
- Geographical coverage
- Time lag
- From the author’s point of view it can be difficult to get a publisher to publish and
- High cost

The explosion of information led to an increase in publication of journals and it was considered a very costly and lengthy process. Information technology applications have also revolutionized the journal publication industry and it has resulted in the formation of e-journals.

### 1.7 Need of e-Resources

Creating a balanced collection, fulfilling time tested ethos of library profession that “Best Reading for the Largest Number at the Least Cost” is a
great challenge before librarians who are confronted with many problems. Not only they have to bank on trade for supplying the information on new arrivals but they also have to manage with meager funds to meet the information needs of large community of students, researcher and the faculty, if regular flow of funds is ensured by the management. Libraries may think of subscribing to online databases and membership of consortia may also help in meeting the demands of the user community (Valsayya, 2007).

Advances in printing and information communication technology have completely transformed the publishing industry. A good number of standard publishers have started e-publishing and many of them have now started issuing their publication in e-version besides paper print format, this results in

- Easy access to latest information,
- Great saving of time,
- Ease of use any time anywhere,
- Ease of portability,
- Saving of physical space in storing and use,
- Unlimited concurrent use,
- Downloading ,saving , reading, forwarding facility at click of a button,
- Font size can be enlarged as per individual’s requirement,
- Timing the pages and skipping are easy,
- Hearing impaired may go in for audible e-resources,
- Background music and animation facility available,
- Overhead charges like shipping, postal, handling cost in procuring e-resources are ruled out,
- More interactive in comparison with other media,
- No problem of theft, pilferage, mutilation in online mode,
- Binding cost saved,
- Shelving and rectification time taken by print resources is saved and
- No fear of users misplacing or hiding the resources.

1.8 Advantages of Electronic Journals

Advantages of electronic journals include accessibility, usability, increased communication and collaboration between authors and readers, dissemination, technological capabilities, facilitation of scholarly work and cost (Ludwick and Greer, 2000).

1.8.1 Accessibility

Electronic journals are accessible to all users regardless of geographic location. Anyone in the world with services and proper computer software and browser services can access online journals. This accessibility leads to a more diverse audience throughout the world as well as a readership that may include not only academics, but students and lay people. The electronic medium allows for translation of articles into other languages using software.
1.8.2 Usability

Due to the universal accessibility of electronic journals (with the proper equipment and services), they can be used regardless of location. The reader is not required to be in a library at a specific place where the specific journal is located. In addition, the reader does not have to possess or read the entire journal or article.

Electronic journal articles are particularly easy to use because journal issues can be “unbundled” and specific files identified and retrieved. Within specific files or journal articles, it is easy for the reader to read only pieces. Content from electronic journals can be easily transmitted to others and reproduced. Ease of search ability of content is often cited as an advantage of electronic publication; however search ability varies considerably in different electronic publications at this time.

The potential for increased collaboration between authors and readers increases as electronic journals move along the continuum from paper content transferred to the web to fully interactive journals. The electronic medium allows for the opportunity for debate and discussion either by posting interchanges between readers and authors, as well as reviewers, related to specific articles or chat rooms and including datasets that are available to all. These discussions could be ongoing and not restricted to one-time letter to the editor response. Increased communication and collaboration are also the result of lack of space and time constraints in the journals. Since there are usually no
page limitations with electronic journals, the author and readers are free to express their thoughts thoroughly and during a time frame that may be convenient for the individual. The accessibility associated with online journals results in increased diversity and frequency of communication, with a much larger audience than print journals as well as the potential for more interdisciplinary collaboration.

1.8.3 Dissemination

A major advantage of online journals is the immediacy of dissemination from review of articles to production and distribution of the articles. Whereas the process from article submission to publication can take at least 1-2 years for print journals, the process can take significantly less time for electronic journals. The review process may take 6-8 weeks with publication nearly instantaneously once the article is accepted and revised. The electronic journal editors are free to publish articles as they are ready rather than delaying publication until a specific number of articles are accepted for a specific issue. Therefore, electronic journals will have more current information than print journals. A related benefit of electronic publication is that the editors can notify subscribers that new articles or materials have been posted, assuring immediacy of information retrieval.

1.8.4 Technologic Capabilities

Things that are not possible to do with print journals are among the best features of online journals. Electronic journals can provide animation, virtual
reality, interactive three-dimensional display, forward references, linked comments and replies and navigational aids such as internal hyperlinks between the text and corresponding tables, figures, and bibliographic references. At the present time, multimedia capabilities are often limited by the user’s equipment and services.

1.8.5 Facilitation of Scholarly Work

The greatest facilitator of scholarly work is the ready and quick access to scientific materials, whether they are actual datasets or scholarly articles. The scholar has the most up-to-date information available as compared to print articles which are usually at least 1-2 years old. Articles in online journals can include retractions of incorrect information and additions of new information from either the original author or readers. The linkage of text with other scholarly works enables the scholar to easily retrieve articles that pertain to the area of scholarly inquiry without reliance on a library collection. The scholar could develop a personal electronic file of articles that is individualized so that materials can be organised and accessed in the manner best suited to the scholar’s own needs. The ability to easily track use of electronic journals articles through user sessions or “hits” is a welcome benefit for scholars interested in documenting impact of their scholarly work for promotion and tenure committees.
1.8.6 Cost

Most electronic journals do not charge the reader at the present time. Thus the cost for the reader of online journals is less than the cost for print journals. In addition, there is no cost to the reader for reprints. Many libraries have welcomed electronic journals as a way to circumvent the high cost of print journals. The rising costs associated with print journals are associated with excessive increases in cost of paper and rising postage rates. There are, however, costs to the publishers of electronic journals in terms of extensive time commitments to produce the journal, use of facilities and use of materials and equipment.

1.9 Disadvantages of Electronic Journals

Most of the disadvantages of electronic journals relate to technical difficulties of the user and network constraints. Other disadvantages are user unfriendliness, lack of accessibility, cost, misconduct and security issues, time commitment and lack of widespread acceptance within the scientific community.

1.9.1 Technical Difficulties

The reader must possess some basic computing and networking skills in order to take advantage of electronic journals. Basic computer skills are needed, in addition to the ability to navigate the World Wide Web. In order to get the most out of the potential benefits of online journals, the reader should
be able to create personal electronic files of articles of interest. The ability to
do this is one that the reader must have acquired prior to use of the electronic
journals. Since the amount and helpfulness of instructions for specific journals
varies widely, a novice computer user may find the experience of searching for
and accessing online journals frustrating or impossible. Obviously someone
without any computer experience needs help to use electronic journals.

Readers with computer expertise may also find the experience of
accessing online journals frustrating. Network constraints and
telecommunication problems abound. Electronic journals that include graphics
and sound often are very slow to access. The lack of technical standardisation
sometimes results in the inability of the reader to access sites. It is not unusual
to find the host site not accessible at the time the reader is trying to access it,
and if the host site is not current, the e-journal is impossible to access.

1.9.2 User Friendliness

User Friendliness varies widely. Although many online journals contain
excellent information, the user unfriendliness of some results in the nonuse of
the journal. The reader is required to scroll linearly through the article which
may create boredom, eyestrain, or discomfort in reading the screen. In
addition, there are no standard patterns for presentation of information. People
who are used to reading print journals may find the lack of conventional
presentation troublesome. Frequency of publication and length of articles are
considerably different in various online journals. Bishop (1995) reported that
the number of scholarly papers published per year in electronic journals ranged from one to twelve. The reader who wants to access a back issue may find the task daunting considering the number of steps required and simplicity of following commands highly variable among journals. User friendliness is also limited by lack of consistency and availability of current and accurate information for subscribing to and retrieving electronic journals. Lastly, readers who are used to marking up copies of print articles may miss this print article advantage. However, they are able to print the electronic articles.

1.9.3 Cost

There are financial and time costs related to the use of electronic journals. The user must have a computer monitor, software, service provider and browser. There are financial and time costs related to the use of electronic journals.

Clearly, the financial outlay is prohibitive for many people worldwide. The time spent searching for accessing and reading electronic journals must be considered. Time commitments for novice computer and network users will be considered in the beginning. Experienced computer and network users may also spend excessive amounts of time when accessing electronic journals. Although the ability to link to other sources can be quite beneficial, it is not unusual to spend far more time on the computer accessing interesting links. Time can also slip away responding to queries and talking on list serves.
1.10 Need of Print and Electronic Version

Sometimes there may be technical problems with accessing the electronic version, so the print is needed as a back-up. Many publishers insist that users continue to receive the printed version and some will not allow an electronic only through subscription.

Some users prefer to use print journal for reference. A print version is always with the user to keep as an archive. Many e-versions are no longer available if subscription is later cancelled, or are only available in a CD format. Some are only available on a rolling basis, or some other dynamic basis.

1.11 Issues and Challenges

Many of the e-journals publish articles without the refereeing process. Thus, authors may not get the recognition, particularly by the selection/promotion committees in academic institutions. An objective of the e-journals is to provide quick access to articles, rather than ownership. Due to the inadequacy of the current legislation and the cost of duplication and copyright act hardly protects the rights of the publishers as well as the rights of the authors.

In the near future, e-journals will become very popular particularly because of the possibilities of having linkages among users, documents, publications, websites and other electronic resources. More and more structured texts are to appear in e-journals, particularly because of the
developments in Standards Generalized Markup Languages (SGML), Office Document Architecture (ODA) and Portable Document Format (PDF).

1.12 The Differences between Print and Electronic Journals

The printed version of a particular journal may differ in its appearance and presentation from its electronic equivalent.

- Some articles may not be available in online.
- The electronic version may have added-value features such as links to extra related information or other articles.
- Most electronic versions are presented in PDF format, which requires the Adobe Acrobat Reader software to be installed in the computer. This enables the article to appear exactly the same as the printed version including pictures, graphs and figures.
- Some are also available in HTML format which appears as a normal web page. This has various advantages: extra links can be added to related material; it loads more quickly than Adobe; does not require Adobe to be installed.

Often the electronic version will be loaded and available before the printed version is received, either due to printing/postal delays or because articles are loaded as soon as they have been peer-reviewed and before ‘publication date’.

1.13 Need and Significance of the Study

Research in any field needs sources of information. The sources refer to journals, books and other documents related to their study area in the print form
or electronic form. Among all the sources, journal usage is felt as the best and considered as primary source among the majority of the research scholars. The journals related to their area give reliable information either in print form or electronic form. The journals support the research by providing recent innovations, methodology and analysis. Modern methodology and up-to-date information help the researcher in an advanced way. Therefore, it is necessary to study the extent of journal usage for their research in the South Tamil Nadu research centres.

1.14 Statement of the Problem

This study aims at analyzing the print and e-journal usage with reference to research centres in southern Tamil Nadu. This study gives due attention to analysing the performance of libraries in research centres from the point of view of users. An attempt is made to examine the user utilization of library services. There is a need to assess the extent of requirement of print journals and e-journals. Efforts could be made to examine the advantages and disadvantages of print journals and e-journals from the point of view of users. This study has taken into account of user utilization of print and e-journals. This study makes an analysis of the problems faced by the respondents towards the utilization of print and e-journals in the selected institutions. Hence, the researcher has chosen the title “A Study of Print and E-Journal Usage in Research Centres of Southern Tamil Nadu”.

24
1.15 Objectives of the Study

The specific objectives of the study are:

1. To identify the availability of print and e-journals in the research centres.
2. To find out how frequently print and e-journal are used by the research scholars.
3. To assess the various mode of service rendered by the research centres.
4. To compare the usage of print and e-journals by the research scholars.
5. To evaluate user satisfaction of print versus e-journals.
6. To point out the various problems faced by the research scholars while using print and e-journals and
7. To compare the information seeking behavior of the research scholars in print and electronic media.

1.16 Hypotheses

The following hypotheses are framed for the study:

1. There is no association between the usage of print journals among the research scholars with respect to gender and locality, age, discipline, research scholar’s type of research programmes and status of research work.
2. The association existing between the awareness of research scholars towards e-journals with gender, age, locality, category of research scholar’s type of research programs, states of research work and University is not significant.
3. There is no significant difference in opinions among the research scholars towards e-journals with respect to gender age discipline,
locality, research scholars, and types of research programmes state of research work

4. The difference of opinion among the research scholars towards e-journals with respect to computer literacy is significant.

1.17 Concepts of Key Terms

*Print Journal*

A periodical devoted to disseminating original research and commentary on current developments in a specific discipline, sub discipline or field of study, usually published at regular intervals which is available in printed form. Print journals here refers to print journals which are available to the research scholars in print form.

*Electronic Journal*

A digital version of a print journal or a journal like electronic publication with no print-counterpart made available via the web, e-mail, or other means of Internet access.

*Usage*

The act or the manner of using a journal or book or information. Usage here refers to the use of print and electronic journals by the research scholars.

*Research Centre*

A centre where research is done. Research center here refers to centre approved by the Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Madurai Kamaraj
University and Alagappa University in the colleges for undertaking research in various disciplines their jurisdiction.

**Southern Tamil Nadu**

Southern Tamil Nadu is the geographical area located in the southern part of Tamil Nadu. The researcher considered Kanyakumari district, Tirunelveli District, Thoothukudi district, Virudhunagar district, Madurai district, Sivagangai district, Theni district and Ramanathapuram district as Southern Tamil Nadu.

1.18 Chapterisation

The first introductory chapter gives a brief description about the need and purpose of conducting the study.

A brief review of literature is presented in the second chapter.

The third chapter explains the profile of the study area.

The fourth chapter is devoted to research design. It deals with the methodology of the study.

The data analysed and discussed are carried out in the fifth chapter.

The sixth chapter presents a brief summary of findings, conclusion arrived at and suggestions.