

EVALUATION OF SPECIFIC OPEN ACCESS LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE JOURNALS

Kaushal Chauhan*

Abstract *The revolution in information and E-Resources is registering significant changes everywhere and have been playing substantial role in library and information systems ever since its inception. The advancement of E-Resources during recent years has given libraries a powerful new resource to support learning and research with availability of both forms of journals in the library. It has become necessary to evaluate effectiveness of E-Resources. Many E-Resources have hosted their own websites across the World Wide Web. This study highlights the importance of online Open Access E-Journals with their facilities and features. Last one decade has witnessed a great boom in scholarly E-Resources, which in addition to making great impact, has generated enormous debate among researchers and information professionals.*

Keywords: *E-Resources, E-Journals, Open Access E-Resources, Open Access E-Journals*

INTRODUCTION

Open access means unrestricted access of electronic resources for everyone. Users can access and download required information available on these sources in their computers and can use for their academic and research purpose only. These resources have provided a scope for researchers and authors in various subjects' fields and stimulated their research productivity and Library and Information Science is no exception to this. In India, authors in the LIS field have access to a very limited number of scholarly literatures, especially journal articles. Hence, there is an increasing trend to use Internet, the best alternative medium to search for scholarly literature and to use web resources to support their research productivity. Libraries have witnessed a great metamorphosis in recent years both in their service literature Print medium are increasingly giving way to the electronic form of material. Use of Information Technology has marked a tremendous impact over the all functions and services catered by the traditional library and information professionals. Electronic journals are also known as E-Journals, Electronic Serials and scholarly journals or intellectual magazines that can be accessed via Electronic Transmission. They are usually published on the web, in a specialized form of electronic

document, for purpose of providing materials for academic research and are formatted approximately like journal article in traditional printed journals.

OBJECTIVE

- To provide Open Access E-Journal's List that help in updating individual knowledge.
- To describe the overall structure of these open access E-Journals.
- To establish effective electronic communication between users and Open Access E-Journals.
- To examine how many E-Journals having Archiving, Indexes and other special features.
- To examine structure of E-Resources according to the accepted standards and guidelines.
- To find out the latest developments and researches in Library and Information Science field.

METHODOLOGY

The words 'Open Access Online E-Journals in LIS' have been used as keywords for searching. The research study adopts a mixed methodology i.e. evaluative cum observation

* Librarian, M.D.S.D. College, Ambala City, Haryana, India. Email: chauhan_khushi@rediffmail.com

by going to the various search engines, there after browsing the actual websites of E-Journals. A detailed observation, checking ascertaining is done through self study whether the E-Resources are actually Open Access or not. After that the facilities and features of these E-Journals have been enlisted and structured in a tabular form by adopting Criteria of evaluation, Checkpoints of different authors prescribed for evaluation of Information Sources including selected 40 parameters have been fixed through assimilating the different evaluation methods. The data thus obtained have been used systematically, analyzed, figurative representations also made and with appropriate interpretations.

List of Analyzed Free E-Journals in LIS

- Health Information and Libraries Journal <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/14711842/current>
- Evidence Based Library and Information Practice <http://ejournals.library.ualberta.ca/index.php/EBLIP/index>
- Firstmonday <http://firstmonday.org/>
- Electronic Journal of Health Informatics <http://www.ejhi.net/ojs/index.php/ejhi>
- DESIDOC Journal of Library & Information Science <http://publications.drdo.gov.in/ojs/index.php/djlit>
- EDUCAUSE Quarterly <https://er.educause.edu/about/eq-archives>
- Electronic Journal of Africana Bibliography <https://journals.library.columbia.edu/index.php/ejab>
- Electronic Journal on Information Systems in Developing Countries <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/16814835>
- European Journal of ePractice <http://www.epracticejournal.eu/>
- Information Research: an International Electronic Journal <http://informationr.net/ir/>
- Information for Social Change <https://informationforsocialchange.wordpress.com/table-of-contents/>
- Data Science Journal <http://www.datasciencejournal.org/>
- E-JASL: The Electronic Journal of Academic and Special Librarianship <http://southernlibrarianship.icaap.org/>
- Electronic Journal of Knowledge Management <http://www.ejkm.com/>
- Information Scotland: The Journal of the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals in Scotland https://www.cilip.org.uk/members/group_content_view.asp?group=201288&id=694702
- IFLA Journal <https://journals.sagepub.com/toc/IFL/current>
- EBIB Electronic Information Bulletin for librarians https://www.ebib.pl/?page_id=63
- Human IT <https://humanit.hb.se/>
- Informatica Economica Journal <http://revistaie.ase.ro/index.html>
- High Energy Physics Libraries Webzine <http://webzine.web.cern.ch/>
- Digital Document Quarterly <https://www.sciencegate.app/keyword/514380>
- DIGITHUM: The Humanities in Digital Age <http://www.uoc.edu/digithum/>
- Information Technology and Disabilities <http://itd.athenpro.org/>
- Electronic Transactions on Artificial Intelligence <https://www.ida.liu.se/ext/etai/>
- Research Management Review <https://www.ncura.edu/Publications/ResearchManagementReview/Archives.aspx>

Table 1: Analysis of Free/Open Access E-Journals

Maximum Parameters Covered	39	38	38	36	35	35	35	35	34	34	33	32	32	32	31	30	29	29	29	27	26	26	25	24	26
Peer Review & Indexed		Y	Y	Y	Y				Y																
Search with Personalization	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
ISSN	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N
Peer Reviewed	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N
Refereed E-Resources	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
International	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Personalization	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Searching	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Indexed	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N
Archiving	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Latest and Currents Trends	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N
Information: Factual or Opinion	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Information: Primary or Secondary	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Standards	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Review	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Specific guidelines	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Internal Search Engine	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Currency	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N
Download	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Help	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Special Features	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N
Periodicity/Frequency	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	N	Y
Link	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	Y
Structure	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Response Time	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Arrangement	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Objectivity	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Accuracy	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Treatment	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Design & Layout	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Format	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Networkability	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Browseability	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Accessibility & Reliability	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Scope/Coverage	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Geographical Area/Country	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Publisher(organization, editor, host)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
AuAuthority	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
URL	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
S. NO.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25

KEY FINDINGS

This study is confined to Open Access E-Journals in India and others country. This study ranked “Health Information and Libraries Journal <http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/journal/120118368/group/home/home.html>” is the best E-Journal as it covered all the Parameters. It is found that E-Journals are concentrating towards digital library initiatives, technological, information developments. Out of several searched E-Journals it is found that all available in form free of cost and can be received regularly. The most notable findings in the study are that it provides communication between user and online Free E-Journals. (Table 1: Analysis of E-Journals).

Table 2: Summary Table of Parameters Covering by Open Access E-Journals

Parameters	No.
Response time	24
Link	12
Periodicity	19
Special Feature	16
Help	16
Currency	16
Internal search engine	16
Current Trends	16
Indexed	10
Searching	16
Personalize	8
International	3
Refereed	2
Peer reviewed	11
ISSN	8
Search -w-Personalize	5
Peer Reviewed & Indexed	5
Others	25

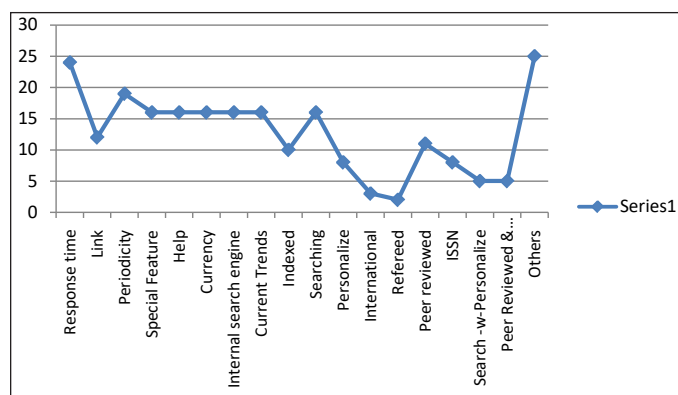


Fig. 1: Distribution of E-Journals by Parameter

The above chart shows no parameters covering by various Journals. It shows that Title, URL, Authority, Pub, Geographical Area, Scope, Accessibility, Brows ability, Format, Treatment, Accuracy, Objectivity, Arrangement, Structure, Archiving parameters are Covered by all E-Journals. It shows that response time is covered by all 25 Open Access E-journals, Periodicity by 19, Special features 16 and ISSN by 8 and Currency and searching parameters are covered by 16 online free/open access e-Journals.

CONCLUSION

There has been a rapid urge of the user community to get more and more Information Online. Academic libraries facing shrinking budgets are trying to acquire quality Information Resources in the most efficient and effective means possible. This coupled with the positive attitudes. The Free E-Journals are available in accepted standards and the users are using Free E-Journals satisfactorily. The result of the study can help and stop them subscribing in print and can save fund. One can easily get information for total strength of free available online E-Journals. The results of this study can be useful for information scientists studying or working with portal-based retrieval of E-Resources, and also for the designers and developers of future online interactive Information Retrieval systems.

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