

## **Role Of Print And Electronic Resources Among Agricultural College Students: A Study Among Agricultural College & Research Institute Students, Kudumiyannalai, Pudukkottai.**

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**Abstract:** *The study investigated the resources provided to the Agricultural College & Research Institute Students, Kudumiyannalai, in the present electronic environment. Methods of gaining access to them are discussed. Through various methods followed in the analysis, the result reveals that Electronic resources highly dominating Print resources.*

**Keywords:** *Print Resources, E-resources, Information Technology, Internet, Agricultural College Students.*

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### **I. Introduction**

The advent of the Internet has had drastic and far-reaching impacts on the knowledge and information sector and added a new dimension to information retrieval platforms. Changes have seen in information seeking behaviour of users. Their preferences have been changed. User satisfaction level has been increasing. Now libraries have been able to provide fast and seamless access of information to its users. In the 21<sup>st</sup> century, most of the library resources are being made available in electronic formats such as e-journals, e-books, edatabases, etc. Libraries are moving from print to e-resources either subscribing individually or through consortia because of its advantages over print resources. But the appropriate selection of e-resources is one of the most difficult jobs faced by LIS professionals because there are too many products available in the market, making the task of a selector extremely difficult. For this a survey is conducted to find out the use and awareness of resources (print and electronic) available in the library for the users and the impact of these resources on their academic activities.

### **II. Scope Of The Study**

The study is limited to the students of Agricultural College & Research Institute Students, Kudumiyannalai, Pudukkottai district. This is one of the constituent college of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, India.

### **III. Objectives Of The Study**

Specific objectives of the study are:

- To know the frequency and purpose of visit to the library by the users.
- To know the awareness and use of different types of resources (print and electronic) among the users.
- To find out the communication channels through which information is acquired by users.
- To find out the revolutionary change brought out by the Information Technology in these libraries.
- To examine various aspects of library facilities

### **IV. Methodology**

The study is based on analytic method using questionnaire techniques. The study deals with library services provided to the students. It comprises of E-journals, E-mail services and data search through Internet. The data is based on the questionnaire distributed to 120 students of AC & RI, Kudumiyannalai. This is a newly established Agricultural College & Research Institute by Tamil Nadu Agricultural University at Kudumiyannalai, Pudukkottai District in the Year 2014. Hence in this Academic year Fourth year has not been reached and only three batch of students are available for this study. The total number of students in 2016-2017 academic year is 179. Among them a sample of 40 students were selected from each class and the questionnaire was distributed. Out of which (115)96% respondents have responded.

### V. Analysis & Interpretation

The analysis taken for this study is the attitude on E-sources used in the Library by Agricultural College and Research Institute, Kudumiyamalai. The information has been collected through Questionnaire and Personal Interview. The data collected is analysed using Genderwise distribution, Internet usage, Print documents, Attitude towards E-sources, Interest on Information Technology and interpreted through tables and figures.

**Table 5.1: Gender-Wise Distribution**

Sl. No.	Year	Number of students				
		Male	%	Female	%	Total
1.	First year (2016-17)	30	41	43	59	73
2.	Second year (2015-16)	25	47	28	53	53
3.	Third year (2014-15)	13	25	39	75	52
4.	Fourth year	-		-		-

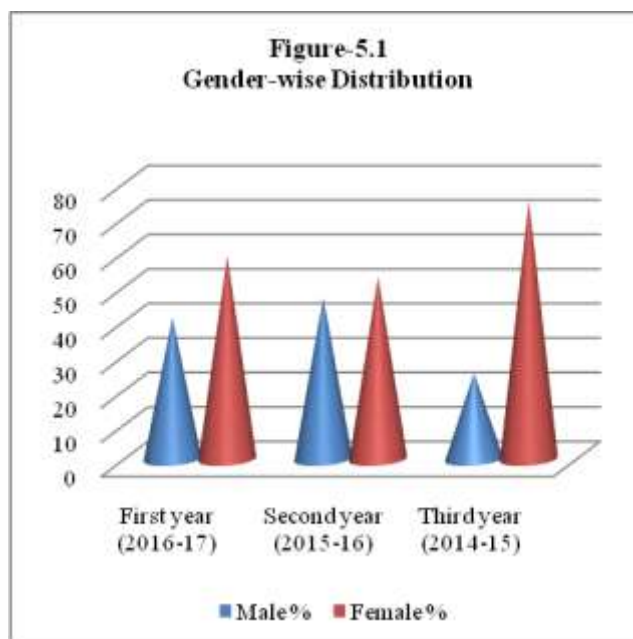
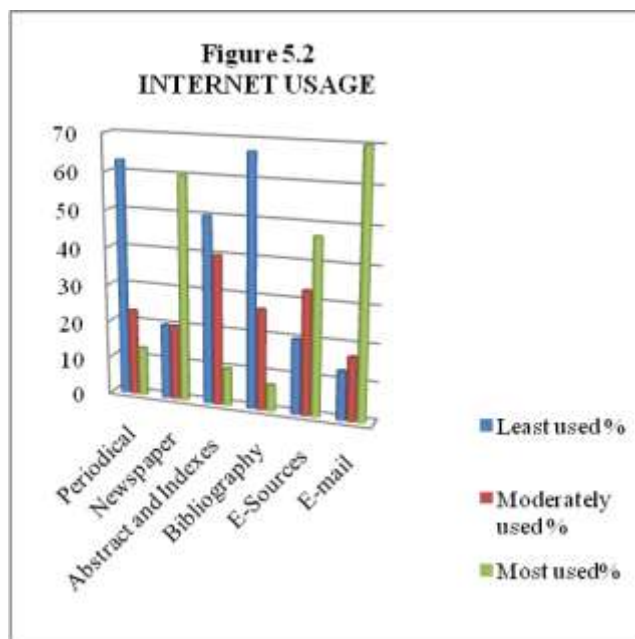


Table 5.1 reveals the gender variation among the three year students. Female students' strength is higher in the three years as 59% in first year, 53% in second year, 75% in third year. This data shows female students are greater in higher education.

**Table – 5.2: Internet Usage**

The INTERNET and its various services offer enormous support for Agriculture Graduates by providing access to large databases, discussion groups and current news located at remote locations.

Sl. No.	Description	Least used	%	Moderately used	%	Most used	%
1	Periodical	73	63	27	23	15	13
2	Newspaper	23	20	23	20	69	60
3	Abstract and Indexes	58	50	46	40	12	10
4	Bibliography	77	67	31	27	8	7
5	E-Sources	23	20	38	33	54	47
6	E-mail	15	13	19	17	81	70

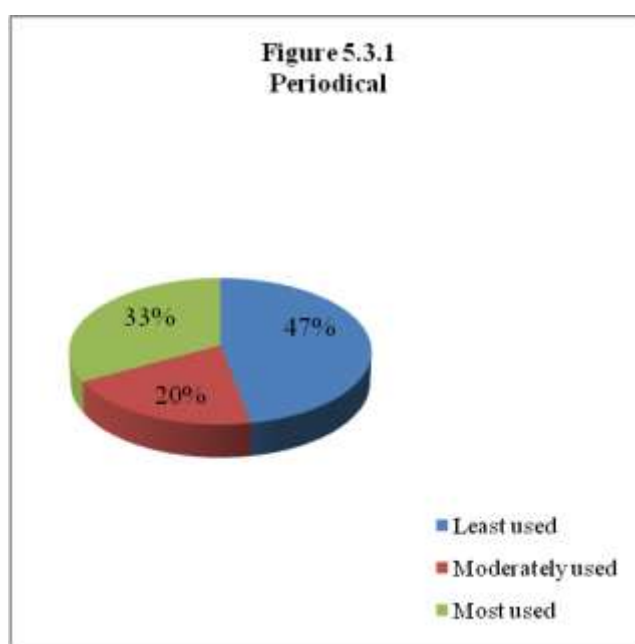


The Table 5.2 and Figure 5.2 indicates the various purposes of using INTERNET which is ranked by Agriculture students. Email is mostly used by 70% of the students, moderately used by 17% and least used by 13% of the students. Newspaper is mostly used by 60%, moderately and least used by each 20% of the students.

**Table 5.3: Print Documents**

Printed documents are easy to refer at any place. It can be taken to different places without much protection as in the case of Electronic sources.

Sl. No.	Description	Least used	%	Moderately used	%	Most used	%
1	Periodical	54	47	23	20	38	33
2	Book	12	10	42	37	61	53
3	Newspaper	15	13	35	30	65	57



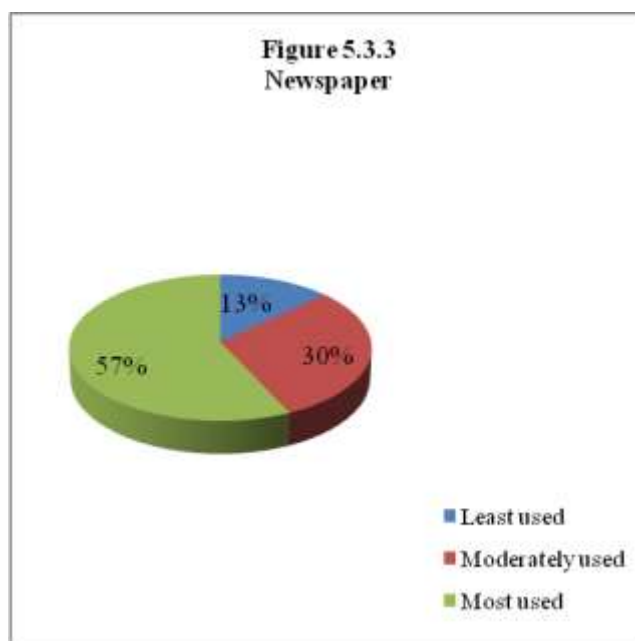
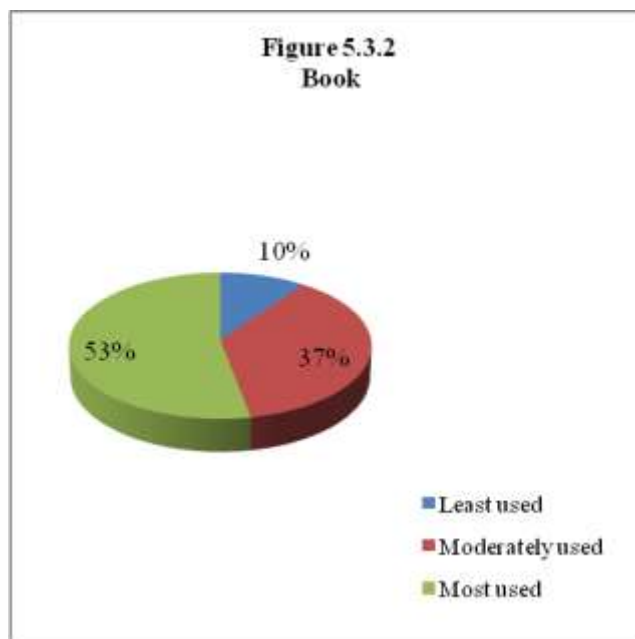


Table 5.3 reveals the idea of Agricultural graduates. Newspaper is viewed mostly by 57%, moderately viewed by 30% and least viewed by 13%. Book is mostly read by 53%, moderately read by 37% and least read by 10%. Periodical is least used by 47%, Most used by 33% and moderately used by 23%. The data has been clearly explained in Figures 5.3.1 to 5.3.3.

**Table 5.4:** Attitude towards E-Sources

Sl. No.	Description	Internet	%	Print Documents	%
1	More educative	65	57	50	43
2	Current Information	100	87	15	13
3	Economy	96	83	19	17
4	Location of valuable Information	38	33	77	67
5	Cultural richness	58	50	58	50

Table 5.4 shows that Information can be effectively retrieved from Internet and then by Print documents. 87% of the student report that current information can be retrieved from Internet and 13% from Print document. 83% of the students feel that Internet source is economy than Print document. More educative

purpose is reliable for 57% of the respondents. Cultural richness is equally distributed in Internet and in Print Documents.

**Table 5.5: Informtaion Technology**

Sl. No.	Opinion of Information Technology	Yes	%	No	%
1	Easy search	107	93	8	7
2	Save the Time of Reader	104	90	12	10
3	Highly expensive	81	70	35	30
4	Requires Basic Knowledge About Computer	104	90	12	10
5	Improve the Library Status	69	60	46	40
6	User friendly Tool	81	70	35	30
7	Minimized The Shelf Space of The Library	92	80	23	20
8	Used for chatting	77	67	38	33

Table 5.5 clears that Information Technology ease the search of knowledge by 93% of students. 90% students had the idea that IT save the time of reader and requires basic knowledge about computer. Though it is highly expensive maximum number of students are attracted by the development of Information Technology in this era.

### VI. Conclusion

In library literature, the ‘Library’ has been recognized as the heart of an educational institution and a centre for research. It is said to be like a hub of a wheel whose spokes radiate out to all the departments of learning.

One potential drawback of the increasing popularity of e-sources and the opportunity for remote access to them is that levels of contact between users and the library may diminish. In order not to lose their significance within their academic communities, libraries ought to be aware of ongoing developments and should modernise their services appropriately.

A wide range of studies have shown at least moderate benefits of computer access and information technology skills in several categories, including economic and educational advancement, community participation, access to government services, and access to health information.

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