

Access of e-journals through INDEST: A Study

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ABSTRACT

The paper highlights background details of INDEST. Also shows literature study. The paper presents most frequently use of e-journals by the core members and AICTE supported members in select engineering colleges. The paper presents the number of professional staff and non-professional staff working in the library to support the users to access the INDEST journals. Further the authors examine the extent of help sought from staff by users in accessing e-journals. They also highlight the Path/method adopted by users to access e-journals. The authors also access the usage satisfaction of e-journals by users. The paper states state wise membership holder of INDEST in India.

Keywords: INDEST Consortium; AICTE Consortium; E-Resources; Students; INDEST E-Resources; Engineering colleges and Satisfaction.

Introduction:

The “Indian National Digital Library in Engineering Sciences and Technology (INDEST) Consortium” was set-up by the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) on the recommendation of an Expert Group appointed by the Ministry under the chairmanship of Prof. N. Balakrishnan, IISc. 38 centrally-funded Government institutions including IITs, IISc Bangalore, NITs, IIITs and IIMs are core members of the INDEST Consortium. The Ministry provides funds required for providing differential access to electronic resources subscribed for the core members through the Consortium Headquarters set-up at the IIT Delhi. The Consortium was re-named as INDEST-AICTE Consortium in December 2005 with the AICTE playing pivotal role in enrolling its affiliated engineering colleges and institutions as members of the Consortium for selected e-resources at much lower rates of subscription.

The INDEST-AICTE Consortium is the most ambitious initiative taken so far in the country. The benefit of consortia-based subscription to electronic resources is not confined to its core members but is also extended to all educational institutions under its self-supported category. 44 Govt. / Govt.-aided engineering colleges are provided access to selected electronic resources with financial support from the AICTE and 96 engineering colleges and institutions have already joined the Consortium under its self-supported category. Besides existing 96 institutions under self-supported category, more than 175 AICTE-affiliated institutions have already applied for the membership of the Consortium responding to the call made by the AICTE.

The total number of members in the Consortium is now growing. The INDEST-AICTE Consortium, on the basis of sheer strength of present and prospective numbers of institutions has attracted the best possible price and terms of agreement from the publishers. The Consortium subscribes to over 6,500 electronic journals from a number of publishers and

aggregators. The INDEST-AICTE website (<http://indest.iitd.ac.in> or <http://paniit.iitd.ac.in/indest>) hosts a search interface to locate these journals and their URLs.

Objectives:

- To show most frequently use of e-journals by the core members and AICTE supported members in select engineering colleges in the present study.
- To present the number of professional staff and non-professional staff of select engineering college in the present study.
- To examine the extent of help sought from staff by users in the accessing e-journals of INDEST.
- To know the guidelines adopted to access e-journals of INDEST by users.
- To access the usage satisfaction of e-journal by users.

Scope and limitations:

This geographical scope of the study limited to the users of INDEST at the engineering colleges in the Bangalore city. Further this study will be limited to selected engineering colleges in Bangalore city. (Students)

Sample population:

The sample for the current survey is restricted to the students of the selected engineering colleges in Bangalore city.

Methodology:

The investigator combines survey method and observation method to collect data. The investigator design a questionnaire for libraries under study and personal distributed to the users. Simultaneously the researcher visited each of this college and had personal interviews with the library staff to obtain valued data about INDEST consortium and recorded required data or information for the study.

Literature study

Some of the similar studies carried out in this area of work are reported here. **Tamrakar and Garg (2016)**. opined that Indian Institute of Technology-Guwahati made voluminous efforts to provide better e-resources services to its users. They measure the extent and use of e-resources, information alert services, awareness towards the e-resources, purpose of using the e-resources, attitude of library staff and overall quality of e-services offered by the library of Indian Institute of Technology-Guwahati. 394 survey based questionnaires were distributed and received from PG students, research scholars and faculty members of IIT-Guwahati which were analyzed in this study. The found that e-journals are more popular than print journals; the library regularly invites users views regarding the information constraint; and the library continuously puts forward information alert services to their users. Most of the users are aware about the e-journals/database offered by the library concerned to their subject and also are able to explore the e-resources allied to their area of interest. **Khanchandani, V and Hasan, N (2016)**. Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi is one of the premier institutes of India and was established in 1961. To cater the research and the teaching needs of the institute, Central Library, IIT Delhi is providing different resources, services and products to

the faculty and the students. To maximize the usage and for increasing the importance, libraries in the present era around the world are adopting the different marketing strategies. Marketing besides providing sustainability, also helps in realizing the goals of libraries. They provide a comprehensive overview on different marketing strategies adopted by libraries with special reference to Central Library, IIT Delhi for reaching to its users and to increase the outreach. The paper is intended to help professionals and the library users in knowing the various resources, services and products provided by the Central Library, IIT Delhi as a model to be explored and followed by other libraries and their administrators. **Srivastava and Verma (2015)** are of the view that consortium based library subscription to e-journals and electronic full-text databases are picking up good momentum in India. INDEST-AICTE consortium, CSIR consortium, IIM consortium, INFLIBNET's, UGC-INFONET consortium, DRDO consortium and so on are successful ones to name a few. **Khan (2015)** portray that users are the key component of a library. An attempt was made to study the use of e-resource by the users with specific reference to INFLIBNET N-LIST. **Khaparde and Ambedkar (2014)** discuss the developments in ICTs, the growth of ETDs, history of ETD in India. Further the paper presents an account of UGC Regulations 2005 and 2009, INDEST Consortium, ICSSR – NASSDOC and National Knowledge Commissions.

Analysis

Table 1: shows that the analysis of usage of e-journals by core member institutions

Sl. No	Name of the journal	Core member (48)
1	ACM Digital Library	39
2	J-Gate Custom Content for Consortia (JCCC)	37
3	Nature	36
4	Science Direct	35
5	ASME (including AMR)	33
6	ASCE	31
7	ASTM Standards and Journals	29
8	Indian Standards	29
9	ProQuest Science (formerly ASTP)	22
10	IEL Online (5 Users)	21
11	ABI / Inform Complete	15
12	Capitaline	13
13	EBSCO Databases	13
14	Emerald Xtra	13
15	Euromonitor (GMID)	13
16	IEL Online (1 User)	13
17	MathSciNet	13
18	COMPENDEX on EI Village	8
19	IEL Online (15 Users)	8
20	INSPEC on EI Village	8
21	CRIS INFAC Ind. Information	6
22	INSIGHT	6
23	AIP/APS	5
24	JCCC	5
25	INSPEC & Compendex on EI Village	1
26	Science Direct: Option I	1

Note: Core Members: The Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) provides funds required for providing differential access to various electronic resources subscribed by the Consortium for 48 core member institutions. The members of core group of Institutions are as follows: IITs and IISc (8) NITs , ISM, SLIET and NERIST (21) IISERs (5) IIMs, IIIT, IIITM and NITIE (14)

The above table (table 1) reveals that the vast amount of used e-journals is ACM Digital Library which accounts for 39 institutions out of 48 core members. J-Gate Custom Content for Consortia (JCCC) which stands second in the rank accounting for 37 core member users out of 48 core members. Nature, Science Direct, ASME (including AMR) and ASCE with a least difference of each representing 36, 35, 33 and 31 respectively. Followed by ASTM Standards and Journals and Indian Standards accounts for 29 each core member users. While there are 22, 21 and 15 core users representing ProQuest Science (formerly ASTP), IEL Online (5 Users) and ABI / Inform Complete respectively. Remaining sub categories of journals like Capitaline, EBSCO Databases, Emerald Xtra, Euromonitor (GMID), IEL Online (1 User) and MathSciNet which represent 13 core users each, accounting 27.08% each users out of total 48 core users. COMPENDEX on EI Village, IEL Online (15 Users), INSPEC on EI Village, CRIS INFAC Ind. Information, INSIGHT, AIP/APS, JCCC, INSPEC & Compendex on EI Village and Science Direct: Option I representing 16%, 12.5%, 10% and 2%out of total 48 core users.

Findings:

ACM Digital Library, J-Gate Custom Content for Consortia (JCCC), Nature, Science Direct, ASME (including AMR) and ASCE which are the most used and on demand usage accounting for 81.25%, 77%, 75%, 72% and 62% respectively out of total core members(48). Whereas CRIS INFAC Ind. Information, INSIGHT, AIP/APS, JCCC, INSPEC & Compendex on EI Village and Science Direct: Option I though this e-journals are popular the usage percentage of this journals are least to 2%.

Table 1a: shows that the analysis of usage of e-journals by AICTE Supported member institutions

Sl. No	Name of the journal	AICTE member (60)
01	IEL Online (1 User)	59
02	ASME (including AMR)	36
03	ASCE	35
04	ProQuest Science (formerly ASTP)	02

Note: **AICTE - supported Members (60)** AICTE provides funds for access to e-resources to (60) Government engineering colleges or technical institutions.

The above table indicates that among 60 total AICTE members of using e-journals IEL Online (1 User) accounts for 59 representing 98.3%. Followed by ASME (including AMR)(36) and ASCE(35) accounting for 60% and 58.3% respectively. ProQuest Science (formerly ASTP) represent only 3% out of 60 AICTE members.

Findings:

IEL Online (1 User) shows the topest usage representing 98.3% and ProQuest Science (formerly ASTP) represent for least usage 3%.

Table-2 State wise membership holder of INDEST in India

Sl. No	Name of the state	Total
1	<u>Tamil Nadu</u>	166
2	<u>Maharashtra</u>	144
3	<u>Andhra Pradesh</u>	92
4	<u>Karnataka</u>	84
5	<u>Uttar Pradesh</u>	75
6	<u>Haryana</u>	57
7	<u>West Bengal</u>	50
8	<u>Kerala</u>	50
9	<u>Madhya Pradesh</u>	41
10	<u>Gujarat</u>	32
11	<u>Punjab</u>	28
12	<u>Orissa</u>	24
13	Delhi	23
14	<u>Rajasthan</u>	21
15	<u>Uttaranchal</u>	7
16	<u>Assam</u>	6
17	<u>Chattisgarh</u>	6
18	<u>Jharkhand</u>	6
19	<u>Jammu and Kashmir</u>	5
20	<u>Himachal Pradesh</u>	4
21	<u>Bihar</u>	3
22	<u>Chandigarh</u>	3
23	Goa	3
24	<u>Sikkim</u>	2
25	<u>Arunachal Pradesh</u>	1
26	<u>Pondicherry</u>	1

Table-3: Categories of staff working in Libraries

Sl. No	Name of the college	No of Professional Staff	No of non-Professional Staff	Total no of staff
1	Dayananda Sagar College of Engineering	12	9	21
2	BMS Institute of Technology	6	3	9
3	Global Academy of Technology	6	2	8
4	Acharya Institute of Technology	5	3	8
5	Don Bosco Institute of Technology	5	2	7
6	B.N.M. Institute of Technology	5	2	7
7	K.S. Institute of Technology	4	3	7
8	Amrita School of Engineering	4	2	6
9	East Point College of Engineering & Technology	4	2	6
10	East Point College of Engineering for Women	3	1	4
Total		54	29	83

Categories of staff managing library:

Nowadays managing library requires special knowledge. Therefore information about professional staffs and non-professional staffs is obtain and presented in the table 3 exhibit that the Dayananda Sagar College of Engineering is managed by 21 total numbers of staff out of whom 12 are professional staffs and 9 are non-professional staffs. The BMS Institute of Technology is managed by 6 professional staffs and 3 non-professional staffs which accounts 9 total numbers of staffs. Global Academy of Technology and Acharya Institute of Technology accounts for 8 total numbers of staffs each of whom 6 are professional staffs and 2 are non-professional staffs in Global Academy of Technology and 5 are professional staffs and 3 are non-professional staffs in Acharya Institute of Technology. Don Bosco Institute of Technology, B.N.M. Institute of Technology and K.S. Institute of Technology represents 7 total numbers of staffs 5, 5 and 4 are professional staffs respectively, 2, 2 and 3 are non-professional staffs respectively. There are 6 total numbers of staffs each and 4 professional staffs each and 2 are non-professional staffs each in Amrita School of Engineering and East Point College of Engineering & Technology respectively. While East Point College of Engineering for Women has 4 total numbers of staffs of whom 3 are professional staffs and 1 are non-professional staffs.

Note:

- It is observed and personal interview with the professional staffs says that they have not under gone any special orientation or special training about INDEST.
- It spells out that staffs have awareness of INDEST by reading user guidelines of INDEST.
- It was found that through interview of staffs and observation of users that users are satisfied by the staff providing services of INDEST usage.

Table-4: Number of users in Libraries

S/ N	Name of the college	Users sample
1	Dayananda Sagar College of Engineering	72
2	BMS Institute of Technology	50
3	Global Academy of Technology	40
4	Acharya Institute of Technology	40
5	Don Bosco Institute of Technology	30
6	B.N.M. Institute of Technology	30
7	K.S. Institute of Technology	30
8	Amrita School of Engineering	30
9	East Point College of Engineering & Technology	22
10	East Point College of Engineering for Women	16
Total		360

Table- 5: Help sought by the students from the library staff for Accessing INDEST

S/N	Extent of Help Sought	Respondents	Percent
1	To moderate extent	160	44.44
2	Not at all	110	30.55
3	To large extent	60	16.66
4	To some extent	30	8.35
Total		360	100

Table 5 present help sought by student from the library staff. The table demonstrates that out of total 360 user 160 user take help to moderate extent accounting 44.44%. 110 users representing 30.55% have not sought help from library staff. While 60 user sought help to large extent representing 16.66% of the total respondent. Remaining 30 user out of total 360sought help to some extent represent 8.35% of the total.

- There is a 50% difference in opinion from users of saying that the extent of help sought to a large extent and to some extent.
- There is a vast difference in the percentage between moderate extent of help sought by student and large extent of help sought by student from staff.

Table-6: Method/Path adopted to access E – journals

S/N	Method/Path	Users sample	Percent
1	Got guidance from library staff	240	66.68
2	Learnt From friends / colleagues	70	19.44
3	By Trail and error	50	13.88
Total		360	100

Table 6 shows users were asked to spell out their method/path adopted to access e-journals. The responses received are tabulated and presented in table 6.

The table depicts that there are 240 users respondents who adopted or took guidance from library staff account for 66.68% of the total respondents (360). Further 70(19.44%) users discussed among learned friends are colleagues to access e-journals. Remaining 50 users accessed e-journals by trail and error guidelines represent 13.88% of the total respondents.

- Maximum number of user respondents that is 240 out of total 360 took guidance from library staff represent 66.68%.
- The least user respondents representing 50(13.88%) are by trail and error basis.

Table- 6 user usage satisfaction of e-journals

S/N	User response	Users	Percent
1	Moderate satisfied	180	50
2	Highly satisfied	90	25
3	Not satisfied	60	16.66
4	Very little satisfied	30	8.34
Total		360	100

To know the status of satisfaction of user respondents, information was sought and the same is presented in table 6.

The table furnishes the details about user usage satisfaction of e-journals. It may see that maximum (180) numbers of users are moderately satisfied with the usage of e-journals of INDEST represent 50% of the total 360. It shows that there are 90 users who are highly satisfied with the usage of e-journals represent 25% of the total. 60 users are not satisfied while accessing to e-journals of INDEST accounts 16.66%. while i.e., 30 users who are very little satisfied in using e-journals of INDEST represent 8.34% of the total.

- It may observe that out of 300 user's. The 30 users who are very little satisfied accounting for 10%.
- 30% out of 300 satisfied user respondents who are highly satisfied account for 90 users.
- 180 user respondents who are moderately satisfied account for 60% out of total 300.
- Remaining 60 user respondents who are not at all satisfied out of total 360 user respondents.
- Note: - it may see that out of 360 users 300 users are satisfied.

Findings and suggestions:

ACM Digital Library, J-Gate Custom Content for Consortia (JCCC), Nature, Science Direct, ASME (including AMR) and ASCE which are the most used and on demand usage accounting for 81.25%, 77%, 75%, 72% and 62% respectively out of total core members(48). Whereas CRIS INFAC Ind. Information, INSIGHT, AIP/APS, JCCC, INSPEC & Compendex on EI Village and Science Direct: Option I though this e-journals are popular the usage percentage of this journals are least to 2%. IEL Online (1 User) shows the topest usage representing 98.3% and ProQuest Science (formerly ASTP) represent for least usage 3%. It is observed and personal interview with the professional staffs says that they have not under gone any special orientation or special training about INDEST. It spells out that staffs have awareness of INDEST by reading user guidelines of INDEST. It was found that through personal interview of staffs and observation of users that users are satisfied by the staff providing services of INDEST usage. There is a vast difference in percentage between moderate extent of help sought by students from staff. There is a very least difference in percentage between the moderate extent of help sought by students and not at all. Maximum number of user that is 240 out of total 360 take guidance from library staff to access INDEST journals represents 66.68%. The least user representing 50(13.88%) access INDEST journals are by trail and error basis. It may observe that out of 300 users. The 30 users who are very little satisfied accounting for 10%. 30% out of 300 users who are highly satisfied account for 90 users. 180 users who are moderately satisfied account for 60% out of total 300. Remaining, 60 users who are not at all satisfied out of total 360 users. It may see that out of 360 users 300 users are satisfied.

Conclusion

INDEST- consortium is the most ambitious initiative subscription to electronic resources. The number of members in the consortium is growing vast. IEC online is on the top in the usage rank engineering e- journal. It is observed that library staff not undergone any

professional training on accessing INDEST e- journals. There is a vast difference in percentage between moderate extent of help sought by students and large extent of help sought by student from staff. Maximum number of users that is 240 out of total 360 took guidance from library staff. 30% out of 300 satisfied user who are highly satisfied accounting for 90 respondents.

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