# Information Resource and library Services Literacy through website in Engineering College Libraries: A case study

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## Abstract

In engineering education library has play a vital role in the development education and knowledge output of the organization. The library wants to provide needed information when they required to the students. They often need to include reams of information in a way that makes everything easy to explore and it's a great challenge. The purpose of this research is to highlight some points which will show the importance of library websites to create awareness of the library resources and services to improve the resources and service to the user community.

**Keywords**: Library Resources Promotion, VTU, Website Evaluation, Webpage Evaluation, Engineering Colleges

## Introduction

Academic libraries around the world face a challenge to promote the use of their library resources and service to maximize utilization. The Internet & ICT has a major role to play to create awareness of the library resources and services for the students; it helps in accessing universe of knowledge across the globe, irrespective of their geographical location from their desktop. With the help of Internet technologies, any organization or institution can make its presence on the Internet. Many institutions library websites are playing major role to improve resources and service awareness with providing online services, OPAC facility, open sources links, e-resources accessibility links and providing many more tailored made services to the user's community. The Internet already has a profound influence on institutes of higher education, and this influence is, projected to further grow of library services.

**Role of Library website to Enhance information literacy**
In this technology era, the passion of internet is boosting among the students. For any search they usually like to use the Google to collect the information. Similarly in the case of education, it is often helpful to use education websites as a means of collecting the relevant information about the concerned subject. Today the many institutes and colleges in India are developing their own sites to offer the clear concepts to the students. With the help of these education websites student can search any colleges across the country just by entering the few relevant keywords.

It is well said "Action Speaks Louder than Words"; in the same way education website will speak volume for students. Every year thousands of students make a decision that will have a significant impact on the rest of their lives. They choose what college or university to attend. This decision will affect their career, earnings, and professional development. This decision is equally important to the institutions that depend upon students.

The library website link has a major role to contribute the development of the students with providing relevant information and educating the user community. The purpose of this paper is to examine the library websites and information they are mention about their resources, services for educating the user community.

**Visvesvaraya Technological University: A Brief Profile**
Visvesvaraya Technological University (VTU) is a collegiate public state university in Karnataka State, India. It was established on 1 April 1998 by the Government of Karnataka as per *VTU Act* 1994, to improve the quality of technical education in the state. It is a statutory requirement for colleges offering any program in Engineering or Technology in the state to be affiliated with the university. Additionally, the university has three regional centers located in Bangalore, Gulbarga and Mysore.

**Objectives**
- To identify whether the library webpage provides the hyperlink to all the information sources and services offered by the library
- To know the general and specific instructions are mentioned in the library website to educate the user community.
- To understand the library resources, services and other facilities of available in engineering college libraries under the study
- To assess the user guidelines, instructions, training and information literacy programme offered to user community in engineering college libraries affiliated to VTU with special reference to Bangalore City.

**Methodology**
Authors visited all engineering colleges website under Bangalore region and collected the data of library facilities, resources, training and literacy programmes, resource arrangement and security. The results have tabulated in the form of tables and graphs

for the study. After the website verification we have conducted the sample survey of faculty and students of Don Bosco institute of Technology, Bangalore for the opinion of the library information on webpage.

**Scope and Limitation of the Study**
Visvesvaraya Technological University (VTU), has three regional centers located in Bangalore, Gulbarga and Mysore. The total 201 Engineering colleges are affiliated to university. The Bangalore region has covered 99 major Engineering colleges. We have made our study limitation only to the Bangalore region which is covered majority of the Engineering colleges.

**Analysis and Interpretation Of Data**
**Library webpage link**
Table-1 shows that the 77.78% of the colleges are created the library link page in the website. It shows that majority of the libraries has showed their interest to put their services information on the website.

**Table-1 details of Library webpage links**

| Website link Status | No of colleges | Percentage% |
|---|---|---|
| Website available | 77 | 77.78 |
| website not Available | 22 | 22.22 |

**Library timings and Working hours**
Library timing is the important for every user for utilization of library facilities. Table-2 shows that the 35.35% of the libraries are notified their working hours, 46.46**%** of Libraries are mentioned library opening times and reference section timings and only 8.08% of Libraries are mentioned their working hours in holiday.

**Table-2 Library timings & Working hours**

| Library timings | No of Colleges | percentage |
|---|---|---|
| Library working hours information | 35 | 35.35 |
| Library opening Time information | 46 | 46.46 |
| Library reference section timings information | 46 | 46.46 |
| Information about working in holiday | 8 | 8.08 |

**Library rule, Resources & Facilities**
Table-3 shows that the library general rules will help the new users for understanding and minimum awareness of the library. The 36.36% of the libraries are mentioned their library general rules. The 71.72% of libraries are mentioned their resources

information and 61.62% of libraries are mentioned their services and additional facilities.

The OPAC is the major facility to know the library resources collections availability of the resources and status of the resources, the 44.44% of libraries are mentioned in their website. Majority of the Engineering college libraries are having good infrastructure facility but only 21.21% of library are mentioned their digital library information

The information storage and retrieval is the major function of the library. The planned arrangement will help the users to save their time. The 18.18% of libraries are mentioned the information. The only 8.08% of libraries are mentioned the reading room facility to read their personal books readings. The Library staff information is the major resources for user community to contact and to get information through e-mail or over phone. The 43.43% of Libraries are mentioned their staff details in the website .The resources security is also a main important aspect of the library. The 4.04% of the libraries are sheered their resources security information

**Table-3 Library rule, Resources & Facilities**

| Category | No of Colleges | % |
|---|---|---|
| Library general rules | 36 | 36.36 |
| Library Resources information | 71 | 71.72 |
| Library services information | 61 | 61.62 |
| Opac Facility | 44 | 44.44 |
| Digital Library information | 21 | 21.21 |
| Library Resources arrangement | 18 | 18.18 |
| Reading Room facility | 8 | 8.08 |
| Library staff Information | 43 | 43.43 |
| library Resources security | 4 | 4.04 |

**E-Resources Information**
Table 4 E-Resources are playing the major rules in the 21$^{st}$ century to the development and intellectual output of the every organization. The 41.42 % of the Libraries are subscribed the e-Resources but only 29.3% of the Libraries are given the website link to access the e-resources. The same way are talking about the open source resources in every conference and seminars but only 22.22 % of the libraries are mentioned in the website some useful website of open sources. E-Resources consortia has initiated by VTU for engineering college libraries, the only 18.18 % of libraries are mentioned the information on their website.

**Table-4 E-Resources Information**

| Category | No of Colleges | % |
|---|---|---|
| E-Resources Information | 41 | 41.42 |
| E-Resources website link | 29 | 29.3 |
| Open sources link | 22 | 22.22 |
| Information of VTU consortium | 18 | 18.18 |

## Information Literacy & Training programmes

Table -5 shows that only 10.1% of Libraries are mentioned their information literacy and orientation programmes details, So we need to find out the actual literacy practices under the study and to conduct professional activities like conference, seminars and workshops for library staff development and update the professional, the only 5.05% of libraries is mentioned in their professional activities in the website.

**Table-5 Information Literacy & training programmes**

| Trainings | No of Colleges | % |
|---|---|---|
| Orientation && IL | 10 | 10.1 |
| Conference & Seminars organized | 5 | 5.05 |

## Importance of Library website

We have made the survey of 50 students and 28 faculties' members for need of library website link to educate or improve the IL skills. They suggested that in The Table-6, 78.57% of faculty and 84% of students are strongly agreed the website link is the one which is known more about library and motivate us visit the library.

**Table-6 Importance of Library website**

| Users | link required | % | Not necessary | % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Faculty | 22 | 78.57 | 6 | 21.43 |
| Students | 42 | 84 | 8 | 16 |

## Major Findings of the Study:

- 77.78% of the colleges are created the library link page.
- 46.46**%** of Libraries are mentioned library opening times.
- Majority of the libraries are mentioned their resources & service and OPAC facility in the website.
- 41.42% of libraries are mentioned their subscribed e-Resources information but majority of them are not given online link in the website.
- 22.22% of libraries are mentioned some useful open sources links.

- 10.1% of libraries are mentioned their orientation and information literacy training programmes information.
- 5.05% of libraries are mentioned the professional activities in the website

**Conclusion**

A library website now is an important tool in the information gathering stage in the consumer decision making process. Potential students' first impressions are influenced electronically via the website. A library web presence is extremely important because visiting the website first is found to be a precursor to visiting the library. There is a need to enhance website as a marketing tool for library resources and service and also enhance the literacy skills for the users.

To view the above results authors feels that, since the colleges are investing lot of money and human resources it need to be properly utilized all the resources acquired by the library. Therefore the professional working in the engineering college libraries under the study need to conduct periodic user survey, user education, user orientation and information literacy programme to effective and efficient use of library resources and services.

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