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**Use of ICT based Resources and Services by the Students and Faculty Members of Arts and Science Colleges in Cuddalore District, Tamil Nadu: A Study**

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**Abstract**

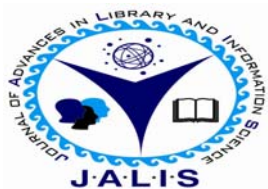
This paper discussed the awareness Adequacy, purpose, usefulness and satisfaction level of using ICT based resources among the users of Arts and Science colleges in Cuddalore District .

**Keywords**

Information and communication Technology, Arts and Science Colleges, E-resources.

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**Introduction**

Academia system largely relies on teaching, learning and research. Eternally, education depends on ICT based resources and services. These resources are the driving forces for making an educated society. The educated society can exist only when information is stored, shared and utilized properly. In an academic arrangement, both 'education' and 'library' are inseparable – indivisible concepts, working for the promotion and evolution of teaching, learning and research for greater use of academia.

**Objective of the Study**

1. To Study the awareness of ICT based resources among the users of Arts and Science colleges in Cuddalore District, Tamilnadu.
2. To identify the adequacy of accessing ICT based resources.
3. To study the purpose and usefulness of accessing ICT based resources among the users of Arts and Science colleges.
4. To identify the method of acquiring IT Skills by the users of Arts and Science Colleges in Cuddalore district.
5. To identify the problem faced by the users of Arts and Science colleges.
6. To determine the level of satisfaction among the users of Arts and Science Colleges.

**Methodology**

This study attempts to examine the use of ICT based resources by the users of Arts and Science colleges in Cuddalore District and it traces out the awareness, adequacy, purpose, usefulness and Satisfaction level of ICT based resources among the users in terms of exploratory approach. It is primarily a fact finding venture. The author has planned to adopt stratified Random sampling method.

**Data collection**

The author has collected relevant data from the users of the Arts and Science colleges located in Cuddalore District, Tamilnadu. The relevant data are collected from the UG students, PG students and Faculty members of the concerned colleges by questionnaire method. The data collection was carried out between July and August 2012. The collected data were classified and tabulated according to the objective stated.

## Analysis and Interpretation

**Table-1 Status wise Distribution of Respondent's**

Status	No. of Respondents	Percentage
UG Students	930	60.47
PG Students	198	12.87
Faculty members	410	26.66
Total	1538	100.00

Table 1 indicates the status wise response rate of users towards the distribution of questionnaires. The result reveals that out of a total of 1538 responses, the UG Students population is 930 in number and comes

to 60.47 percent where as the population of PG Students and faculty members is 198 and 410 and the percentage share comes to 12.87 percent and 26.66 percent respectively.

**Table-2 Status wise Distribution of Respondent's Awareness of ICT based resources.**

Status	Very good	Good	Poor	Total
UG Students	122(13.12)	693(74.52)	115(12.37)	930
PG Students	60(30.30)	112(56.57)	26(13.13)	198
Faculty members	165(40.24)	220(53.66)	25(6.10)	410
Total	347(22.56)	1025(66.64)	166(10.79)	1538

Table 2 shows the status wise distribution of respondent's awareness of ICT based resources. It could be noted that out of 1538 respondents, 347 (22.56%) respondents have very good awareness, 1025 (66.47%) respondents have good awareness and 166 (10.79%) respondents have poor awareness of the use of ICT based resources. With regard to 930 UG Students, 74.52 percent of them have good

awareness and 12.37 percent of them have poor awareness of the ICT based resources. Among 198 PG Students, 56.57 percent of them have good awareness and 13.13 percent of them have poor awareness of the ICT based resources. From the total of 410 Faculty members, 53.66 percent of them have good awareness and 6.10 percent of respondents have poor awareness of the use of ICT based resources.

**Table -3 Status wise Distribution of Respondent's Adequacy of accessing ICT based resources.**

Status	Always	Sometime	Never	Total
UG Students	198(21.29)	650(69.89)	82(8.82)	930
PG Students	67(33.84)	121(61.11)	10(5.05)	198
Faculty members	312(76.10)	94(22.93)	04(0.98)	410
Total	577(37.52)	865(56.24)	96(6.24)	1538

Table 3 shows the status wise distribution of respondent's adequacy of accessing ICT based resources. Out of 1538 respondents, 577 (37.52%) respondents are accessing always; 865(56.24%) respondents are accessing some time and 96(6.24%) respondents are never accessing ICT based resources. With respect UG students, 69.89 percent of them

some time accessing and 8.82 percent of them never accessing ICT based resources. Among 198 PG students, 61.11 percent of them same time accessing and 5.05 percent of them never accessing ICT based resources. Out of 410 faculty members, 76.10 percent of them always accessing and 0.98 percent of them never accessing ICT based resources.

**Table- 4 Status wise Distribution of Respondent’s Purpose of Using ICT based resources.**

Status	Study	Findings relevant information	Keeping up-to-date information	Others	Total
UG Students	620 (66.67)	120(12.90)	132(14.19)	58(6.24)	930
PG Students	81 (40.91)	32(16.16)	61(30.81)	24(12.12)	198
Faculty members	52(12.68)	98(23.90)	182(44.39)	78(19.02)	410
Total	753(48.96)	250(16.25)	375(24.38)	160(10.40)	1538

Data presented in table 4 shows that opinion about the purpose of accessing ICT based resources. It is clearly observed from the table that, 753 (48.96%) respondents have used ICT based resources for their study purpose. It is found to be more (66.67%) among the UG students. 250(16.25%) respondents

have used ICT based resources for finding relevant information; 375 (24.38%) respondents have used ICT based resources for keeping up-to-date information and 160(10.40%) respondents have used ICT based resources for some other purpose.

**Table-5 Status wise Distribution of Respondent’s mode of learning of IT skills**

Status	Trial and error method	Formal training	Reading books and articles	Assistance from colleagues or friends	Total
UG Students	178 (19.14)	516(55.48)	42(4.52)	194(20.87)	930
PG Students	43(21.72)	36(18.18)	29(14.65)	90(45.45)	198
Faculty members	84(20.49)	244(59.51)	56(13.66)	26(6.34)	410
Total	305(19.83)	796(51.76)	127(8.26)	310(20.16)	1538

Table 5 shows the status wise distribution of respondent’s method of acquiring IT skills. Out of 930 UG students, 178 (19.14%) respondents adopted trial and error method; 516 (55.48%) respondents underwent formal training; 42 (4.52%) respondents acquired IT skills by reading books and articles and 194 (20.87%) respondents acquired IT skills from their friends and colleagues. Out of 198 PG students, 21.72 percent of them acquired IT skills by trial and error method; 18.18 percent of them underwent

formal training; 14.65 percent of them acquire IT skills by reading books and articles and 45.45 percent of them acquire IT skills from their friends and colleagues. With the total of 410 faculty members, 84 (20.49%) respondents adopted trial and error method; 244 (59.51%) respondents underwent formal training; 56(13.66%) respondents learnt by reading books and articles and 26 (6.34%) respondents learnt IT skills from their friends and colleagues.

**Table-6 Status wise Distribution of Respondent’s regarding the usefulness of ICT based resources**

Status	Very useful	Useful	Average	Not useful	Total
UG Students	192(20.65)	644(69.25)	76(8.17)	18(1.94)	930
PG Students	58(29.29)	120(60.61)	12(6.06)	08(4.04)	198
Faculty members	194(47.32)	174(42.44)	38(9.27)	04(0.98)	410
Total	444(28.87)	938(60.99)	126(8.19)	30(1.95)	1538

Data presented in table 6 shows the status wise distribution of respondents regarding the usefulness of ICT based resources. It is clear that out of 1538 respondents, 444 (28.87%) respondents felt that it is

very useful; 938 (60.99%) respondents felt that it is useful; 126 (8.19%) respondents felt that it is average and 30 (1.95%) respondents felt that it is not useful. With respect to 930 UG students, 69.25 percent of

**Table-7 Status wise Distribution of Respondent's Hindrances faced while accessing ICT based resources**

Status	Slow access speed	Finding relevant information	Accessing Full text	Read from computer	Excess retrieved information	Others	Total
UG Students	172(18.49)	294(31.61)	144(15.48)	42(4.52)	59(6.34)	219(23.55)	930
PG Students	52(26.26)	43(21.72)	32(16.16)	19(9.60)	24(12.12)	28(14.14)	198
Faculty members	121(29.51)	62(15.12)	48(11.71)	21(5.12)	58(14.15)	100(24.39)	410
Total	345(22.43)	399(25.94)	224(14.56)	82(5.33)	141(9.17)	347(22.56)	1538

Data presented in table 7 shows the status wise distribution of respondents Hindrances faced while accessing ICT based resources. Out of 1538 respondents, 345 (22.43%) respondents have faced slow access speed; 399 (25.94%) respondents have faced finding relevant information. 224 (14.56%) respondents have faced accessing full text; 82 (5.33%) respondents have faced read from computer; 141 (9.17%) respondents have faced excess retrieved information and 347 (22.56%) respondents have faced other problems while accessing ICT based resources.

With respect to 930 UG students, 31.61 percent of them have faced finding relevant information and 4.52 percent of them have faced read from computer. Among 198 PG students, 26.26 percent of them have faced slow access speed and 9.60 percent of them

have faced read from computer. Out of 410 faculty members, 29.51 percent of them have faced slow access speed and 5.12 percent of them have faced read from computer as problem while accessing ICT based resources.

### Conclusion

From this study it is found that, majority of the respondents (66.64%) have good awareness of the ICT based resources. Among the 1538 total respondents 56.64 percent of them accessing ICT based resources some time. It is found that 48.96 percent of the respondents have used ICT based resources for their study purpose. It is also found that 60.99 percent of the respondents felt that it is useful for their study and keeping up-to-date information and 39.14 percent of the respondents are satisfied

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