

Digital Health Resources: Classification, Organization and Management with Focus on Medical Reference Sources: Challenges and Developments

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ABSTRACT

The article emphasize on the Significance, deliberates the main features of e-resources, kinds of e-resources and the effects of e-reference sources on research, progress and other theoretical activities. This article also deliberates the selection process of e-reference sources, institute of e-reference sources and enclosing the e -reference policy in an association. It is attempted to make the higher Education Student and Researcher and People Awe about E-resources to get Information In minimum Times. Distribution of e-reference service, main issues involved and many initiatives required on the part of librarians and top administration of numerous organizations are also discussed extravagantly

Keywords: Features of E-collection, effect of E-Reference service, selection process, organization of E- reference sources, framing E- reference policy, delivery of E-reference service

INTRODUCTION

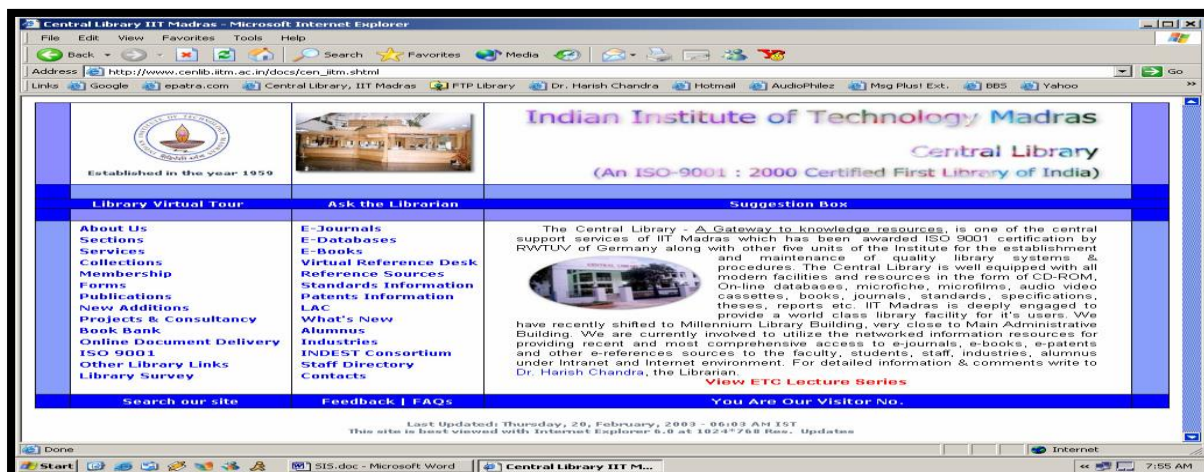
E-resources are very important part of great effort ward the modern Research and development there are many publishers or stanch older providing Access E-recourse. Now days E- Recourse Playing very Great Role to Provided E- Resources in various Type of fields Such as Science & Technology, Management, Media science, And many other field of information

On the basis of literature survey as well as experiences, it has come to our knowledge that university libraries, institutions of national and international importance, specialized organizations, professional societies and associations are deeply engaged to build e-resources in their respective areas, with the sole objective to

provide instant and comprehensive access to their stakeholders. This creativity is ultimately considered as a principled step to help end-users to attain excellence in their studies, R&D and consultancy efforts and actions. In this direction, e-resources are extremely in effect and effective to offer instant and inclusive use to users at their desktops regardless of time & space.

FEATURES OF E-COLLECTIONS

E-Collections are very beneficial to all institutes and persons to get immediate, appropriate, comprehensive information at doorsteps. Keeping these factors in view, largely organizations are concentrating to build e-collections for their use. Certain of the main features of e-collections are recorded below:



1. Globalised reach
2. Users can use the same e-resources @the same time@ any place
3. Easily copied, stored and disseminated
4. Easy to revise, manipulate and merge
5. Less bulky than paper
6. Speedy delivery
7. Add value to services
8. The e-collections save user's time
9. Generate satisfaction among users
10. Purchasing and retailing of e-collections is accessible on WWW[3]
11. Promote Interaction with remote users
12. On-line users tracking
13. E-Collections enhance the R&D effectively and efficiently
14. As we have seen that e-resources are very influential, vibrant and important to any administrations. We find e-resources of numerous types, mostly; the following main types of e-resources are listed:
 15. E-Journals
 16. E-Books
 17. E-Groups
 18. Search Engines
 19. E-Lists
 20. Web Rings
 21. Library Networks
 22. Databases
 23. Library Websites
 24. FAQs
 25. Web OPACs
 26. Digital Archives

27. Bulletin Boards
28. Virtual Conferences
29. Web Exhibitions
30. Virtual Help Desks

EFFECTS OF E-REFERENCE SOURCES

It has been experienced that the reference sources and services are basically needed by the faculty and research scholars in university environment including IITs system in our country. Recognizing, the significance of reference service, educational and research libraries worldwide produce distinct Reference Section duly supported with devoted staff and collections based on the presence of economic resources. Similarly, currently under digital environment, libraries create separate web page in the main page under various heads like Virtual Reference Desk, FAQs, Ask the Librarian, Virtual Help Desk, Bulletin Board Service, E-Resources etc. Realizing this, the Central Library of Indian Institute of Technology Madras has created various major links of e-reference sources in the area of science and technology for the benefit of the teachers and the scholars with the objective to offer access to numerous e-reference sources. Based on these reference sources, we are given that virtual reference services under Intranet and Internet surroundings. A screenshot of the main page is given here:

SELECTION PROCESS

The assortment of e-resources mainly depends upon the recent and potential information requirements of users, IT structure and the policy of respective institutions or universities. It has been noted that an organized effort to study the web efforts of several institutes in the same area offers a great help to recognize the suitable e-reference sources. We have

experienced that number of e reference sources are obtainable free of cost. There is necessity only to offer hyperlinks to the chief web site of a Library. Keeping this fact in view, we have identified various e-reference sources which are accessed by our users through the following separate web page exclusively devoted to e-reference sources. The screenshot of the page is given below:

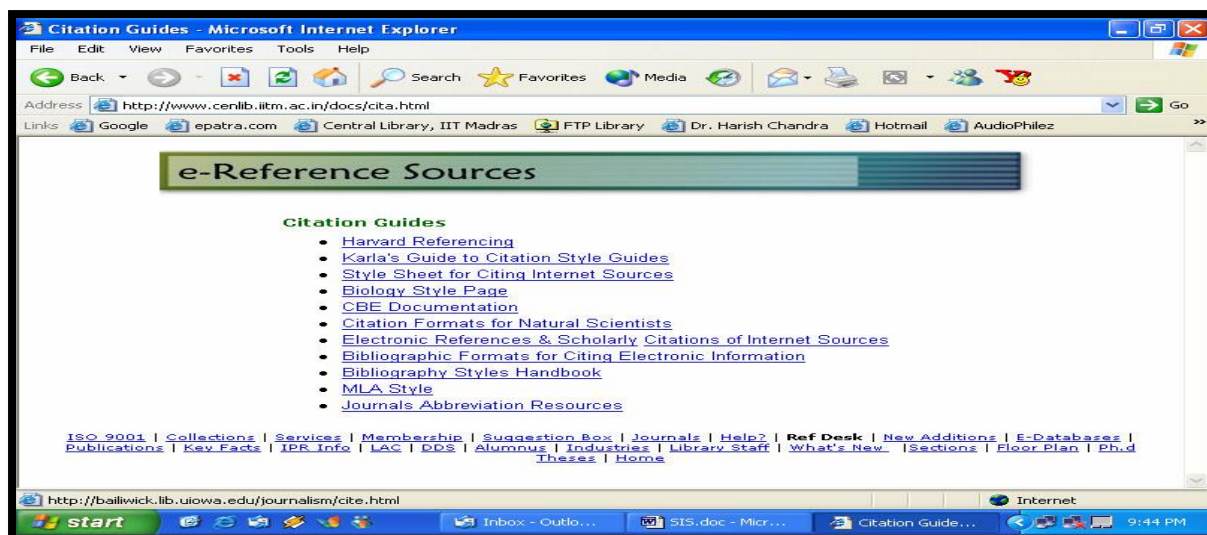


There is needed to keep the following factors in view while deciding to have e reference sources for an institution:

1. Continuous up-dotation of hyperlinks
2. Continuous subscription to e-reference sources
3. Careful study of digital licensing provisions
4. To make setting up for exchange of e-reprints for educational use
5. To ensure adequate on-line help and instructions
6. To provide adequate and frequent training to users and staff
7. To conduct periodic information literacy program
8. To provide training hand-outs to end users
9. To avoid replication in the coverage of e-reference sources
10. To organize test for limited period
11. Loading of the software
12. Numerous authentications

ORGANISATION OF E-REFERENCE SOURCES

It is essential to organize e-reference sources keeping in vision the importance and priorities of particular institutes and users. For example an Institute in the area of Chemistry must recognize e-references first in Chemistry and then particular topics like Chemical Engineering. Keeping this factor in view, we have recognized numerous e-reference sources in the area of electronic citations, which will provide a great help to our faculty, and research scholars who are more interested to submit their papers through on-line sources for publishing in various e-journals. The electronic citation sources deliver great help to our users in refer to papers electronically. The following screenshot shows the citing e-resources are available at the Central Library of IIT Madras:[1,2]



FRAMING E-REFERENCE POLICY

There is strong need to have a well-defined e-reference policy in an organization for effective and efficient building of e-reference sources and also to deliver comprehensive and dynamic e-reference services. The following factors can be taken into account while framing e-reference policy:

1. Fee based or free e-reference sources
2. Networking printing facility
3. Application of e-commerce
4. Creation of on-line forms
5. Usage tracking
6. Restricted or unlimited users
7. Collaborative development of e-references sources

DELIVERY OF E-REFERENCE SERVICE

The e-reference sources are the base to deliver e-reference service by the libraries globally. Research scholars and the faculty are fortunate in the digital era to get reply to their reference queries at their desktops without wasting their precious time. There are numerous specialized e-reference facilities are delivered by numerous university libraries in the developed world. Understanding, the significance of e-reference service, the Central Library of IIT Madras has initiated to deliver the following major e-reference services:

1. Virtual reference desk

2. Ask the librarian
3. E-reference sources
4. On-line document delivery service
5. Web-reference form
6. FAQs / Help?

MAJOR ISSUES

There are numerous major problems and serious issues involved in the management of e-resources with particular reference to e-reference sources. Based on the exposure and experience about the administration of e-reference resources, some of the main issues are point to as under:

1. Identification of proper e-reference sources
2. Creation and maintenance of IT Infrastructure
3. Lack of trained manpower
4. Lack of adequate training facilities
5. Lack of sustained Interest amongst staff and users
6. Lack of well-defined e-reference policy
7. Lack of cooperation amongst librarians and computer center staff
8. Lack of resources
9. Lack of support from top management
10. Lack of cooperation amongst librarians

INITIATIVES

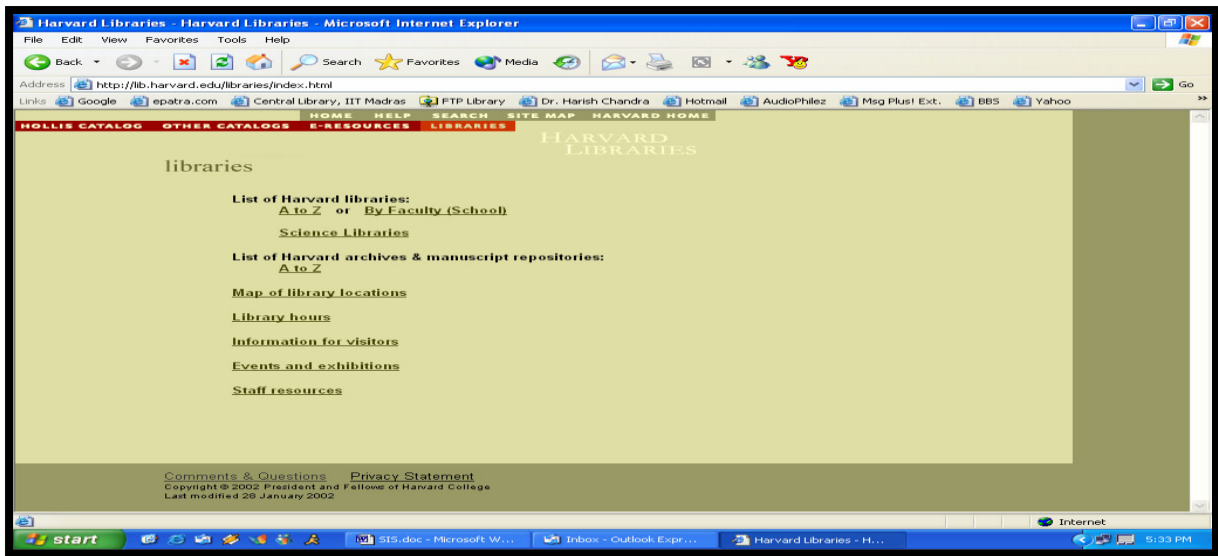
It is very much true that e-resources with specific reference to e-reference sources are basically vital under digital are. There

is strong need on the part of librarians and the top administration of all organizations regardless of their size and resources to build e-reference sources and also deliver various e reference services. The following major creativities are requisite. These can be executed in phased manner.

Website of the Library

It is completely essential for the librarians to make essential preparations for an inclusive and interactive website entirely for the library, incorporating with the chief website of an organization. The resources containing e-reference sources must to be

planned under Intranet and Internet environment dependent upon the e-policy of relevant institute. The domain of the website required to have recall value and professional web pages for every action. It is also suggested that the websites for major libraries of the world need to be studied and reviewed first so that a good website is designed and developed for the users. The screen shot of the libraries of Harvard University, USA clearly shows the link for e-resources so that users can directly browse the e-resources. The following website is a good example for providing links for e resources.



Identification of Related E-Reference Sources

It is required to recognize e-reference sources advantageous to a particular organization. There is requirement to have a separate staff for digital library actions in the libraries. The staff can be assigned special task to prepare the list of reference sources both fee based as well as freely available e-reference sources which can be grouped and further sub grouped keeping in view of users and organizational interests.

Providing Related Hyperlinks

Currently, it is very easy to provide access to e-reference sources to users through

simply providing hyperlinks in the website of a library. This can be completed for both free and fee based e-reference sources. The Central Library of IIT Madras has provided various hyperlinks to various important and useful e reference sources in the website which are extensively used.

Periodic Presentation

There is great need to organize periodic presentations by the library staff at the doorsteps of users. This will support the users to recognize the existence of e reference sources for their improved and effective use. In this direction, the Central Library of IIT Madras has taken various

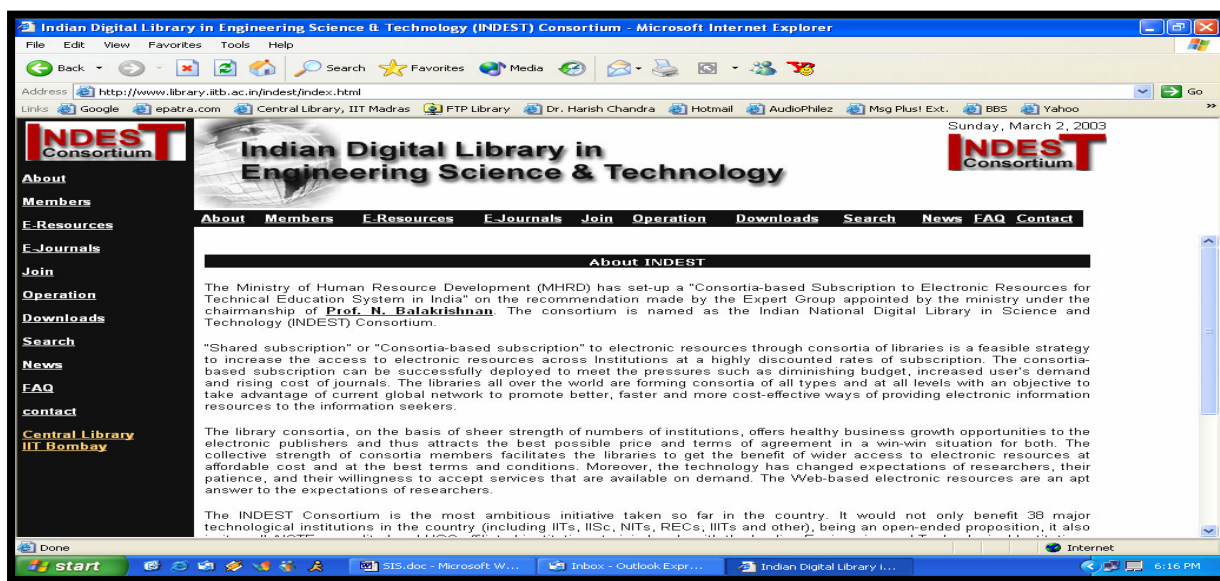
initiatives. Some of them are listed below:

1. Organization of staff-users meets
2. Specialized presentations by e-resources vendors
3. Presentation by experts
4. Presentation by the librarian
5. E- announcements

Developing Collaborations

There is an urgent need to develop constructive cooperation and

collaborations among libraries at local, regional, national and international level to have more and more e-resources for the user’s community for assisting them to achieve excellence in research, development and academic activities. It is nice to quote that Indian S&T library especially IITs are actively participating to provide all-inclusive and cost in effect access solutions to e-resources through INDEST Consortium. The screenshot of INDEST is given below:[4,5]



CONCLUSION

The adoption of E-recourse proverbs true to the age old principal that every Readers should get information at any time in. It can be decided that active management of e-resources creates satisfaction between users community and also confirms fineness in collections and services. There is strong requirement on the part of librarians to take inventiveness to have inclusive and interactive website for their libraries. Librarians can recognize the staff for this purpose and develop fruitful associations with other libraries for delivering in effect and efficient e-reference facilities and solutions.

List of Web Resources Consulted

1. <http://www.cenlib.iitm.ac.in>
2. <http://www.library.iitb.ac.in/indest/index.html>
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