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Use of Consortium of E-Resources (Cera) P.G. Students in Dr. P. D. K. V. Akola.

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ABSTRACT

There are several library consortia in India UGCInfoNet is mainly for universities UGC, and Cera is for agricultural universities. This research paper Discusses the use of Consortia based digital information resource by post graduate students of Dr.Panjabrao Deshmukh Agricultural University, Akola (MS). This paper provides a brief background on the components of the Indian Consortia of e-Resources in Agriculture CERA and National Agricultural Innovation Project (NAIP). And the current overview with special reference to component -1 i.e. CERA objectives deliverables under and most innovative web based project especially Considering the current situation of Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh Krushi Vidyapith (PDKV), Akola has been highlighted.

Keywords: Agriculture Information, E-Resources, Cera,Dr.pdkv.

Introduction

Dr.PanjabraoDeshmukhKrishiVidyapeeth (PDKV or PKV) is an agricultural university located at Akola, in Maharashtra, India, in the Vidarbha region. The university is entrusted with the responsibility of agricultural education, research and extension education along with breeder and foundation seed programmes.

Its jurisdiction includes all eleven districts of Vidarbha namely Akola, Amravati, Bhandara, Buldhana, Chandrapur, Gadchiroli, Gondia, Nagpur, Washim, Wardha and Yavatmal.

Research

The university has over a total of 3425 hectares of cultivable land under its possession for conducting various research, and field trials in addition to a seed multiplication program This university covers the need of a wide range of climatic zones varying from Wet Humid Rice zones of East gradually ending with Arid Cotton and Millet Zone of the west. Similarly, its northern districts form the southern limit for wheat cultivation in India. In the past, this university has made significant contributions to research work, especially in cotton (PKV-2 cotton hybrid), sorghum (Kharif hybrids), pulses (TAU- series of Black gram), oilseed (TAG-24 Groundnut variety; few linseed varieties), watershed management, dryland management, and Mandarin orange cultivation.

- 20 research stations
- 24 all India co-ordinated projects
- 16 ad-hoc schemes under operation
- 28 non-plan and 2 plan research projects
- Biotechnology Centre
- Nagarjuna Medicinal and Aromatic Plant Park
- Biodiversity Park
- Maharajbagh Zoo)

Academics

PDKV grants bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees in Agricultural Sciences and Agricultural Engineering & Technology. Admission to all the degree, postgraduate, and doctorate programs are made through MCAER, Pune. A New College of Agriculture has been opened at Gadchiroli, a tribal district. There are also five agriculture schools for lower education located at Buldana, Hiwara, Mul-Maroda, Nimbi, Sawangi and Warud.

Recently under the grant of Dr.Panjabrao Deshmukh Krushi Vidhyapeeth running a new college VasantraoNaik College of Agriculture and Biotechnology, at Yavatmal. [1] .

Extension education

Imparting of extension education is one of the mandatory functions of the university. The university has 11 KrishiVigyanKendras (KVK), which undertake training and demonstrations for the benefit of farmers. It also has a Training and Visit Scheme (T&V) at Nagpur, Sindewahi and Yavatmal.

The Directorate of Extension Education of the university has been recognized by the Ministry of Agriculture, Govt. of India, as the Center of Excellence for imparting training on Dryland Agriculture Technology.

Institution Village Linkage Program (IVLP): The pilot project on technology assessment and refinement through IVLP sponsored by ICAR,New Delhi is being implemented by the university in the village Gorwha, Taluka Barshitakli, District Akola, since 1995.

The process of communication has expanded over the years to cover print and other modes like computer, Mobile phone and associated gadgets. India is predominantly Agrarian County, and the growth of agriculture is the reflected in the good yields of different crops that depend on varies factors- natural and man-made. Agricultural research, the backbone of agricultural growth in the country, demands timely dissemination of knowledge being generated and updated across the globe from time to time. R & D institutions have been procuring print versions of journals and literature in aid of science and technology. With the rapid growth of internet facilities and advancement of web technology, almost all reputed international journals are available on-line and can easily be accessed by researchers over the network. Since ICAR is having network connectivity across institutes and state community. Accordingly, the National Agricultural Innovation Project (NAIP) has funded for establishing the Consortium for e-Resources in Agriculture (CeRA) at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI) in November 2007 to facilitate accessibility of scientific journals to all researchers/teachers in the National Agricultural Research System by providing access to information specially access to journals online which is crucial for having excellence in research.

Review of Literature

Sharma Arati Kumar Sanjeev (2019) In this article This article discusses in brief about consortia, CeRA consortium and attempts to examine the level of awareness as well as extent of use of CeRA by the researcher and postgraduate students of Punjab Agricultural University. A questionnaire was designed to gather the information from the respondents. Review of literature was carried out to examine the findings of related studies. The results of the study yield precise information about the awareness of e-resources, usage of CeRA, mode of accessibility, fields preferred to access e- resources, purpose for accessing e-resources, area of users interest (CERA e-journals), preference of publisher, usage of DDR service, My favourite journal service and adequacy of information available through CeRA.

Sankar, M (2019) conducted a study on the consortium journals with reference to agriculture and the study revealed that most of the research papers are available in electronic format, and it will be accessed via different online databases based on the publishers. Consortium for electronic Resources in Agriculture (CeRA Consortium) was developed exclusively for the literatures belong to subjects of the different fields. The results of the study explores the content analysis of the CeRA Consortium for e-resources in agriculture, This paper investigates to find out the subject wise, topmost publishers, topmost publishing countries, and category wise in the resources in the agriculture and related discipline. The study deals from the consortium for e-resources in agriculture in the gateplus.com site, and results in information analysis also been taken up to identify the research output of agricultural and allied sciences.

Dr.ShilpaUplaonkar (2020) The research study is consortia based information dissemination in University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad by the faculty members using through gateplus.com in the consortium of resources in agriculture which is provided by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. National Agricultural Innovation Project. It is very good resources for the State Agricultural Universities and Central Agricultural institute users of India. A research study was conducted among using questionnaire method through data collection among the faculty members of four constituents' colleges of UASdharwad to identify the trend of using consortium e journals. The purpose of usability, usefulness of CeRA and attitude towards the consortia journals in the skill sets have been used in brief in this study. Keywords: Agriculture, e resources, CeRA

OBJECTIVES OF CERA :

a) To upscale the existing R&D information resource base of ICAR institutions/universities comparable to the world's leading institutions/organizations;

b) To subscribe to e-journals and create an e-access culture among scientists/teachers in ICAR institutes/ agricultural universities; and

c) To assess the impact of CeRA on the level of research publications measured through NAAS ID and Science Citation Index.

OBJECTIVES OF STUDY :

The purpose of the study was to explore the awareness and usage of consortia-based information and knowledge resources by the postgraduate (PG) Students of DR. PDKV. The main objectives were to:

- Evaluate the pattern of access and use of digital resources by the PG students
- Find out the purposes for which the digital resources were used
- Assess the impact of consortia-based delivery of digital resources
- Know the adequacy of resources available through the CeRA Assess the provision and impact of user education and information literacy courses for PG students
- Suggest suitable measures to improve the consortia-based delivery of digital resources

SCOPE AND LIMITATION

The study is based on the user behavior and the pattern of the utilization of information resources by the PG of DR. PDKV, The scope of the study is limited to the digital resources mainly available through CeRA and in DR. PDKV.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The study was conducted among the PG and research students of DR. PDKV Akola. Data was mainly collected using a Questionnaire. From P.G.Students and ‘research methodology for the PG Students of the university, the investigator has made additional discussions with the students and enriched the data thus collected. The data received was collected from total 243 PG students admitted during 2022-2023 tabulated, and analysed.

DATA ANALYSIS

An attempt has been made to analyze the research data collected from students from DR. PDKV and interpret the results revealing their awareness of the use of CeRA provides valuable source of information to the library managers and planners in designing and developing a suitable strategy in promoting the better use of valuable information sources including electronic format and thus justifying the cost-effectiveness of library

The results of the user observations, questionnaire schedule, interviews, and participatory design provide a rich description of how CeRAis used, searching methods employed in obtaining desired information, and problems of not using CeRA, if any. The research study is confined to students of Dr.PDKV. Questions like name, Gender, and educational qualification were asked.

The data is analysed in view to the objectives mentioned in the study as follows:

Table No 1

Subjective Wise Analysis of Respondents - Admissions

sr. No	Subject	PG (2022-23)
1	Agronomy	24
2	Genetic & Plant Breeding	13
3	Plant Physiology	6
4	Seed Science Technology	5
5	Agricultural Economics	18
6	Extension Education	18
7	Animal Husbondary	7
8	Dairy Science	7
9	Agril Entomology	21
10	Plant Pathology	21
11	Soil &Agri Chemistry	22
12	Fruit	10
13	Vegetable Science	10

14	Floriculture & Landscaping	5
15	Silviculture& Landscaping	3
16	Forest Biology and Tree improvement	3
17	Forest Product and Natural Resource Management	3
18	Forest Utilization and Processing	5
19	Agri Biotechnology	12
20	AgriPorcessEnginering	5
21	Farm Power Machinery	5
22	Irrigation & Drainage	5
23	Soil & Water Conservation	5
24	Renewable Energy	5
25	Agriculture Structure and Environment Management	5
	Total	243

The above table founded that in Dr.PDKV has 25 Departments of varies subject and PG students 243.

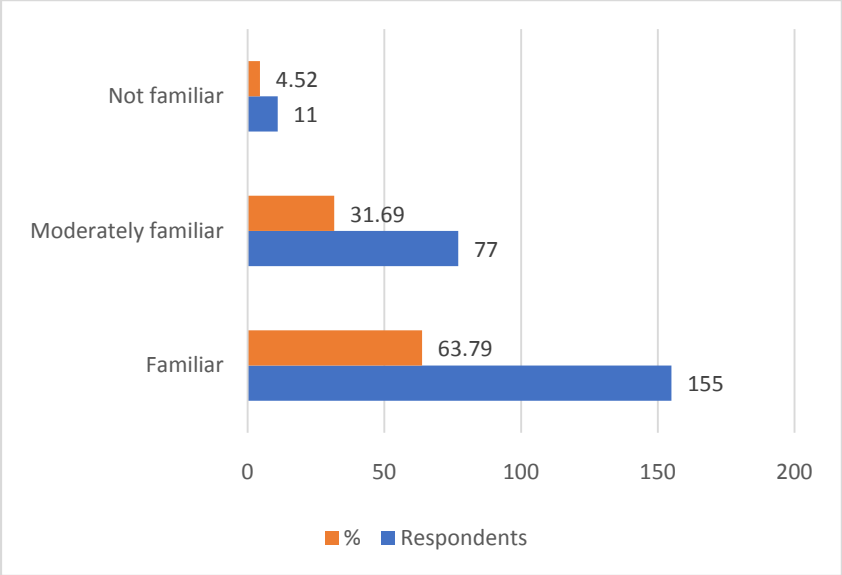
Table No 2

Awareness of Students of IT tools

Sr. No	**Awareness of Students of IT tools**	Respondents	%
1	Familiar	155	63.79
2	Moderately familiar	77	31.69
3	Not familiar	11	4.52
	Total	243	100.00

Graph No 2

Awareness of Students of IT tools



The table and graph display the distribution of students based on their expertise in computer and IT tools. It is observed that all students have some level of familiarity with these tools: 63.79% are highly familiar, 31.69% are moderately familiar, and 4.52% are not familiar.

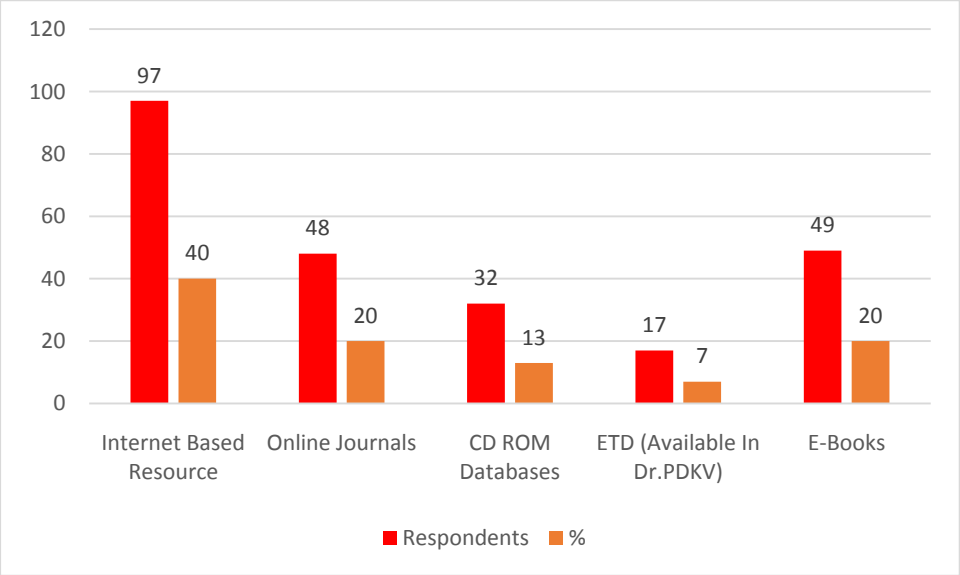
Table No 3

Use of digital information resources

Sr No	Use of digital information resources	Respondents	%
1	Internet Based Resource	97	40.00
2	Online Journals	48	20.00
3	CD ROM Databases	32	13.00
4	ETD (Available In Dr.PDKV)	17	7.00
5	E-Books	49	20.00
	Total	243	100

Graph No 3

Use of digital information resources



It is evident from the table and graph that all students use internet-based information resources. Specifically, 97 students (40.00%) use online journals, 48 students (20.00%) use CD-ROM databases, 32 students (13.00%) use electronic thesis databases, and 49 students (20.00%) use e-books.

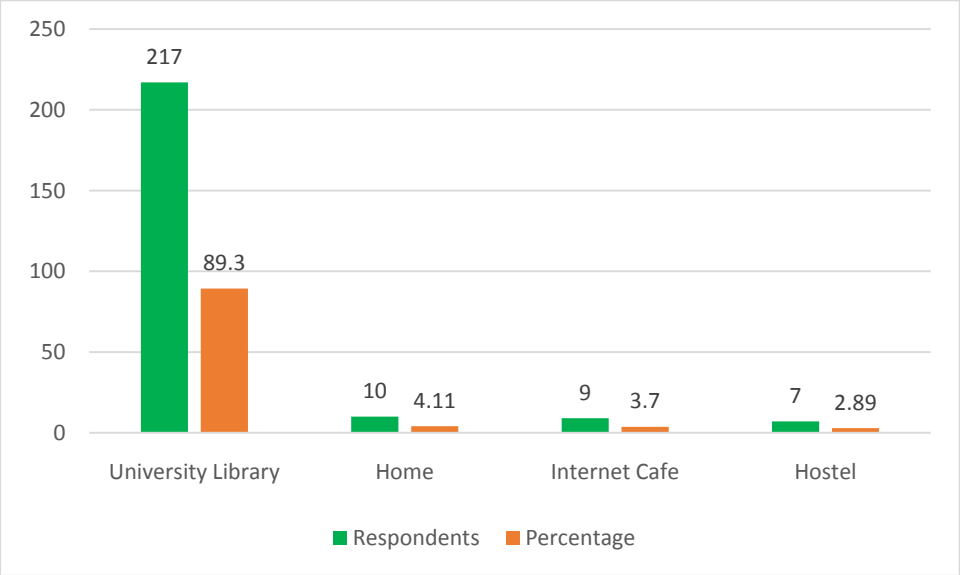
Table No. 4

Locations of accessing e-resources

Sr. No	Location	Respondents	Percentage
1	University Library	217	89.30
2	Home	10	4.11
3	Internet Cafe	9	3.70
4	Hostel	7	2.89
	Total	243	100.00

Graph No. 4

Locations of accessing e-resources



The table and graph highlight the most favored locations from where students accessed electronic resources. The majority, 217 students (89.30%), accessed resources from the University Library of DR. PDKV. Other locations included home on a personal PC or laptop (10 students or 4.11%), internet cafes (9 students or 3.70%), and hostels (7 students or 2.89%).

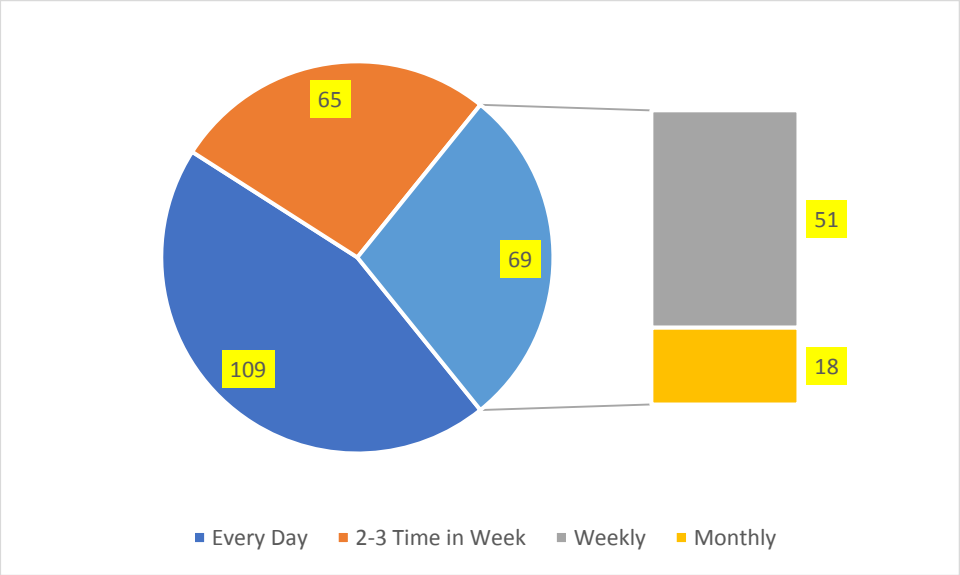
Table No 5

Frequency of Access and Use of CeRA Resources

Sr. No	Frequency	Respondents	Percentage
1	Every Day	109	44.85
2	2-3 Time in Week	65	26.75
3	Weekly	51	20.99
4	Monthly	18	7.41
	Total	**243**	**100.00**

Graph No 5

Frequency of Access and Use of CeRA Resources



The distribution of respondents according to the frequency of access and use of CeRA resources is shown in Table 5. It is evident that 109 students (44.85%) accessed and used CeRA resources daily, 65 students (26.75%) accessed them 2-3 times a week, 51 students (20.99%) used them weekly, and 18 students (7.41%) accessed them once a month.

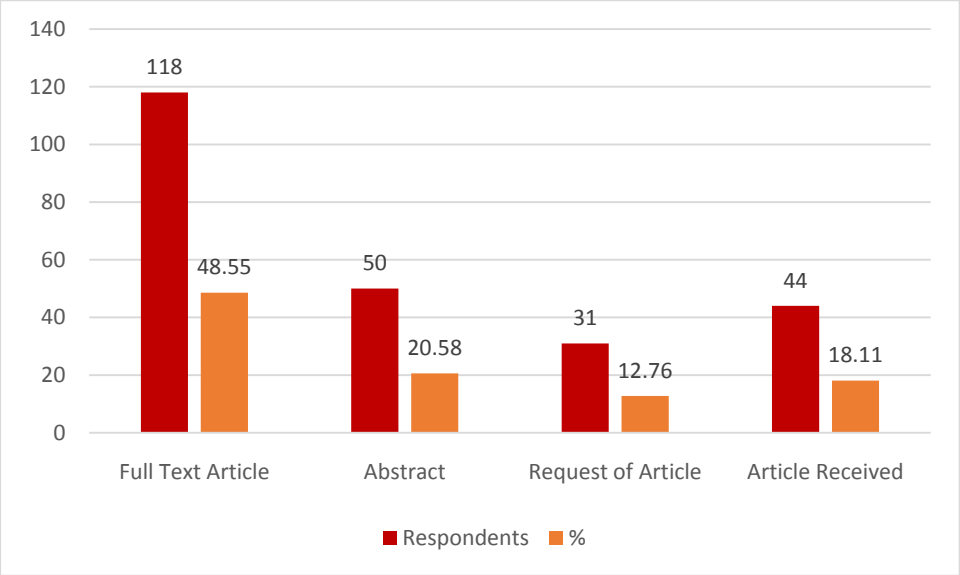
Table No 6

Purpose of access and use of CeRA resources

Sr. No	Purpose	Respondents	%
1	Full Text Article	118	48.55
2	Abstract	50	20.58
3	Request of Article	31	12.76
4	Article Received	44	18.11
	Total	**243**	**100**

Graph No 6

Purpose of access and use of CeRA resources



The table and graph show that 118 students (48.55%) accessed and used CeRA full-text resources, 50 students (20.58%) used abstracts only, 31 students (12.76%) requested articles, and 44 students (18.11%) received articles through the Document Delivery System of CeRA.

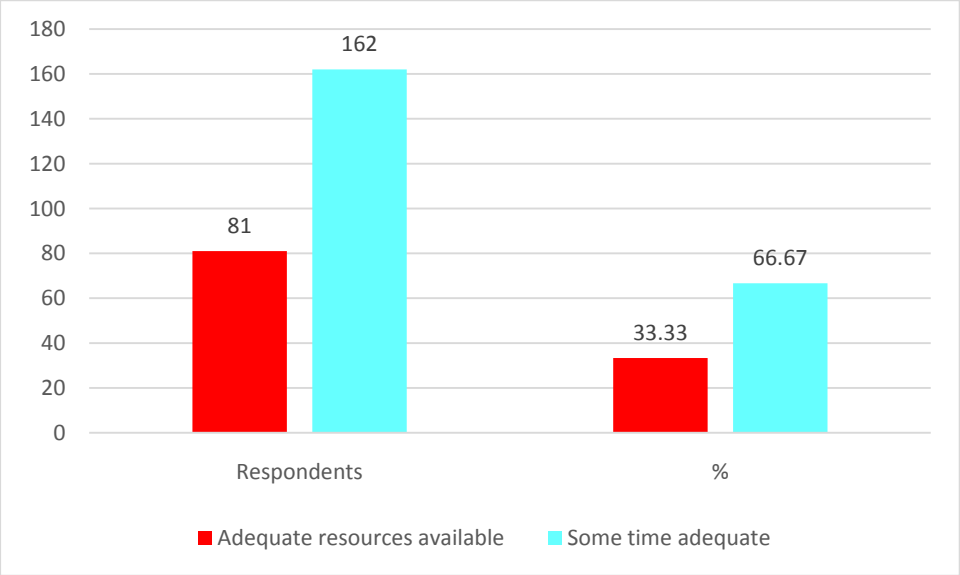
Table No 7

Adequacy of CeRA resources

Sr. No	Adequacy	Respondents	%
1	Adequate resources available	81	33.33
2	Some time adequate	162	66.67
	Total	**243**	**100.00**

Table No 7

Adequacy of CeRA resources



The distribution of PG students and research scholars indicating the adequacy of digital information resources is given in Table 7. It is evident that 81 students (33.33%) felt that adequate resources were available through CeRA, while 162 students (66.67%) felt that resources were sometimes adequate.

Table No 8

Problems in accessing and using CERA

Sr. No	Problems	Respondents	%
1	Many essential resources not available	60	25.00
2	finding relevant Information	27	11.00
3	Low Speed of internet	63	26.00
4	Abstracting and statistics not available	19	8.00
5	Request article service should be strengthened	45	19.00
6	Slow Response of Requested Articles	25	11.00
		243	100%

Graph No 8

Problems in accessing and using CERA

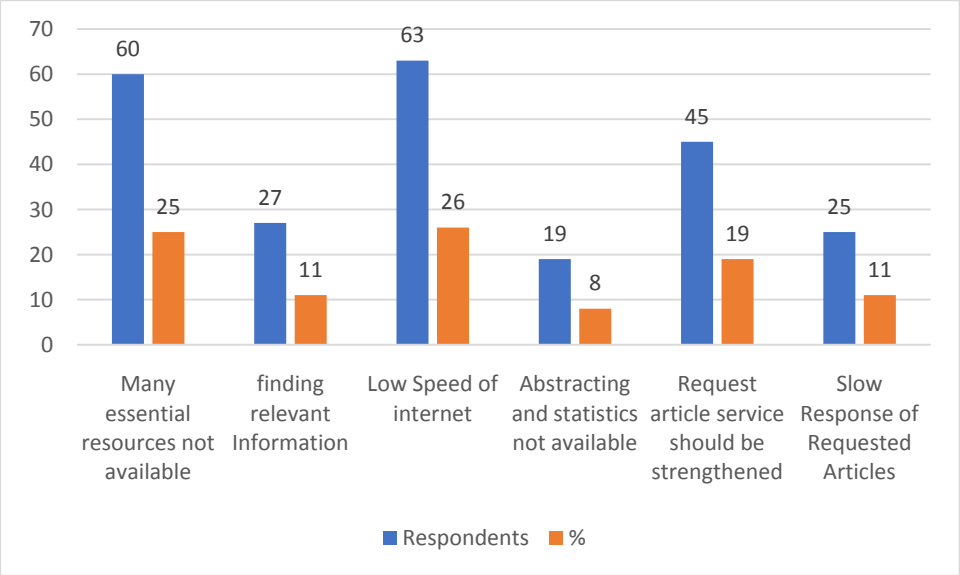


Table & Graph based on the provided data, the most significant issue faced by respondents is the low speed of the internet, affecting 26% of the total. This is closely followed by the lack of availability of essential resources, reported by 25% of respondents. The request for article service also needs improvement, as indicated by 19% of respondents. Additionally, 11% of respondents struggle to find relevant information, and an equal percentage experiences slow response times for requested articles. Lastly, 8% of respondents highlighted the absence of abstracting and statistics. These issues highlight the critical areas that need improvement to enhance user satisfaction and resource accessibility.

Recommendations

The following recommendations are made to improve the access and use of digital information resources and CeRA by the PG students:

- Consortia-based digital information services should be strengthened by adding more resources like journals, books, databases, theses, reports, union catalogue of all information documents available in all libraries.
- The document delivery service should be more effective and inter-consortia services between other consortiums maintained by agencies like ICAR, UGC, CSIR, DRDO, IITs, IIMs, etc., can be considered.

Conclusions

the data highlights several key areas for improvement in the students' access and use of digital information resources. While all students are familiar with computer and IT tools to varying degrees, and many actively use internet-based resources such as online journals, CD-ROM databases, electronic thesis databases, and e-books, there are significant challenges that need to be addressed. The most prominent issue is the low speed of the internet, which affects 26% of respondents. Additionally, 25% of students report the lack of essential resources, and 19% suggest that the request for article services needs strengthening. The struggle to find relevant information and the slow response time for requested articles are also notable concerns for 11% of students each. Furthermore, the absence of abstracting and statistical data affects 8% of respondents. These challenges underscore the need for enhanced internet speeds, improved resource availability, and better service responses to ensure greater satisfaction and accessibility for students using digital information resources.

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