

Usage of NLIST by College faculty and students: a survey of selected colleges of Kashmir.

Ms. Rukhsana Shawl

College Librarian, Govt. College for women Nawakadal Srinagar

Email - rukhsana54@yahoo.com

Abstract: Gone are the days when e- resources were considered as part of library collection. Now they have become indispensable for the collection development and in future they may be the only resources available and used by the library users and as such it has become mandatory for the academic colleges in India to subscribe National Library and Information Services Infrastructure for Scholarly Content (N-LIST) which is the college component of e Shodh Sindhu of Information & Library Network, Ahmadabad, an inter-university centre and a statutory body of UGC. It provides access to e-resources to students, researchers and faculty from colleges and other beneficiary institutions through server(s) installed at the INFLIBNET Centre which include 6,150 e-journals and 31,64,309 e-books. This paper is an attempt to know about the awareness, accessibility, and use of NLIST resources by the college faculty members and students. To fulfill the objectives a structured questionnaire through Google form was used to collect the data. The findings of the study reveal that almost all the colleges under study have subscription for NLIST and faculty members are more aware about NLIST resources than students and majority of the college faculty access NLIST for preparing articles, presentations and projects. Though they found NLIST resources very useful, they face certain problems such as slow internet connectivity and lack of infra structure in colleges while as only a few students are using NLIST resources through their respective colleges for academic purposes.

Key Words: E-Resources, Scholarly Content, N-LIST,

1. INTRODUCTION:

National Library and Information Services Infrastructure for Scholarly Content (N-LIST)", offers access to e-resources to the students, researchers and faculties from colleges and other recipient institutions through server(s) fixed at the INFLIBNET Centre which is an inter-university centre of UGC at Ahmadabad. INFLIBNET launched N-LIST to facilitate access to e-resources to the students and faculty members in colleges. The consortium allows the academic libraries to access a large number of scholarly journals from reputed publishers. The Project N-LIST offers access to more than 6,000 + e-journals and 3125000 + e-books to students, researchers and faculties from colleges covered under Sections 12(B) and 2(f) of the UGC Act and Non-aided Colleges (except for colleges imparting education in Agriculture, Engineering, Management, Medical, Pharmacy, Dentistry and Nursing) are eligible to access selected e-resources subscribed for the colleges under e-Shodh Sindhu. The amount for subscription to NLIST depends upon the status of the college, colleges covered under Sections 12(B) and 2(f) of the UGC Act have to pay 5000+ 9000 as GST while as Non-aided Colleges have to pay 30000+ 5400 as GST per year. All eligible colleges are required to register themselves online. But colleges should have adequate number of Internet-enabled PCs and connectivity to Internet for accessing e-resources through N-LIST.

1.1. ELECTRONIC RESOURCES SUBSCRIBED UNDER THE N-LIST PROGRAMME:

The N-LIST covers about 3861 colleges with 595987 active users up to 20th of August, 2022 all over India. The academic colleges registered for the N-LIST, can access 6,150 electronic journals and 31,64,309 electronic books including e-books available through national subscription. Details of e-resources accessible through the INFLIBNET's proxy server (<http://nlist.inflibnet.ac.in/>) are as follows:

1.2. FULL TEXT ELECTRONIC RESOURCES:

S.No.	E-resources	Publishing country	No. of Journals	Back-files from
01	American Institute Physics	USA	18	Ten years
02	Annual Reviews	USA	33	Ten years
03	Economic and Weekly (EPW)	India	1	1966+
04	Indian Journals	India	186	2007+
05	Institute of Physics	UK	46	Vol.1+
06	JSTOR	USA	2500	Vol. 1+
07	Oxford University Press	UK	262	1996+
08	Royal Society of Chemistry	UK	29	Ten years
09	H. W. Wilson	USA	3075	1982+
	Total		6150	

1.3. ELECTRONIC BOOKS:

S. No.	E-Book Name	Publishing Country	Books
1	E-brary	USA	150000+
2	Cambridge Books online	UK	1800
3	EBSCO Host-Net Library	USA	936
4	Hindustan Book Agency	India	65
5	Institute of South East India Studies (ISEAS Books)	India	382
6	Oxford Scholarship Online	UK	1402
7	Springer eBooks	Germany	2300
8	Taylor & Francis eBooks	UK	1800
9	Mylibrary-McGraw Hill	USA	1124
10	Sage Publication eBooks	UK	1000
11	Open Access (Net Library)		3500
	Total		164309

1.4. E-RESOURCES AVAILABLE THROUGH NATIONAL SUBSCRIPTION:

S. No.	Name of Collection	No. of Titles
01	World eBook Library	3000000
02	South Asia Archive	4.5 million pages

Access to South Asia Archives (SAA) and World E-Book Library (WEL), subscribed by eShodh Sindhu on behalf of National Digital Library (NDL), are made available to member colleges of NLIST Programme through proxy server set up at INFLIBNET Centre.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW:

The problems of limited budget space and time forced library institutions and organizations to collaborate and use library consortia and digital repositories for maximum satisfaction of the information needs of the users. With the result there is rise in the number of such consortiums and repositories. Now the question whether people are making their use and upto which extent they are satisfied .Therefore different studies have been conducted to assess the importance and utilization of the same. **Arora and Trivedi (2011)** opined that the N-LIST programme along with other consortia initiatives are successfully serving the information need of the whole nation. **Shinde (2013)** revealed that N-LIST is a boon for the college libraries. **Chakraborty and Dangi (2013)** found that the faculty and students are N-LIST resources for seminar presentations. **Thirumagal and Bremala (2014)** are of the opinion that N-LIST is important source of information for the users. **Nayak and Adithya Kumari (2014)** found that teaching faculty are satisfactorily using N-LIST resources than students.. **Khan and Tripathi (2015)** found that poor infrastructure and network

connectivity are the main hinderences faced by the users. **Solanki (2017)** revealed that lack of proper infrastructural facilities in the institutes limited the utilization of N-LIST resources. **Ayoub (2018)** opined that for academic library, consortium is a requirement and useful for the information needs of users. **Dhule (2019)** revealed that of students are mostly unsatisfied with the N-LIST resources. The reason behind may be lack of awareness among them. **Hanchinal (2019)** found that students are mostly using the N-LIST e-resources for class notes and Assignments. **Atkinson (2019)**, is of the view that effective collaboration is not optional but mandatory for the academic libraries. **Nesta (2019)** revealed that consortium is important for making libraries more proficient & research oriented. **Mansoureh et al. (2020)** found that observed that a majority of the journals subscribed under consortia in the form of packages are useless and not used and cited by the users . . **Gautham and Sinha (2020)** opined that proper training to the users in the use of consortium resources can increase the awareness of the resources.

3. SCOPE: The scope of the study is restricted to selected colleges of Kashmir with representation of colleges from three districts namely Kulgam, Shopian and Baramulla.

4. OBJECTIVES:

- To identify the awareness of N-LIST resources among faculty and students of Govt. Degree Colleges.
- To know the use of N-LIST resources by college faculty and students.
- To identify the satisfaction level of target population.

5. METHODOLOGY:

To fulfill the objectives a structured questionnaire through Google form was used to collect the data. In order to fulfill the above objectives, data was collected by online and offline mode through observation, interview, questionnaire. A scheduled questionnaire was distributed among the target population. However, while collecting data from users the use of systematic sampling was done to minimize the population.

6. DATA ANALYSIS AND FINDINGS:

6.1. COLLEGES COVERED

This study covers six colleges of Kashmir division from three different districts ,however majority are from district Kulgam while as one college from district Shopian and one is from district Baramulla. The list of colleges is given in the table 1 as:

S NO.	NAME OF THE INSTITUTIONS
01.	Government Degree College, Kulgam
02.	Altaf Memorial Government Degree College, Killam
03.	Government Degree College, Damhal Hanjipora
04.	Government Degree College, Frisal
05	Imitiyaz Memorial Govt. Degree college Shopian
06	Govt. women's college Spore

6.2. GENDER WISE DISTRIBUTION:

During the survey of colleges the below table was framed which shows the gender wise distribution of respondents. Out of 200 respondents who participated in the survey 148 were males and 52 were females in the ratio 74:26. As usual the number of male respondents is greater than that of number of Female respondents. The table - 2 gives us an overview of the gender-wise distribution of the respondents

Gender	Respondents	Percentage
Male	148	74
Female	52	26
Total	200	100

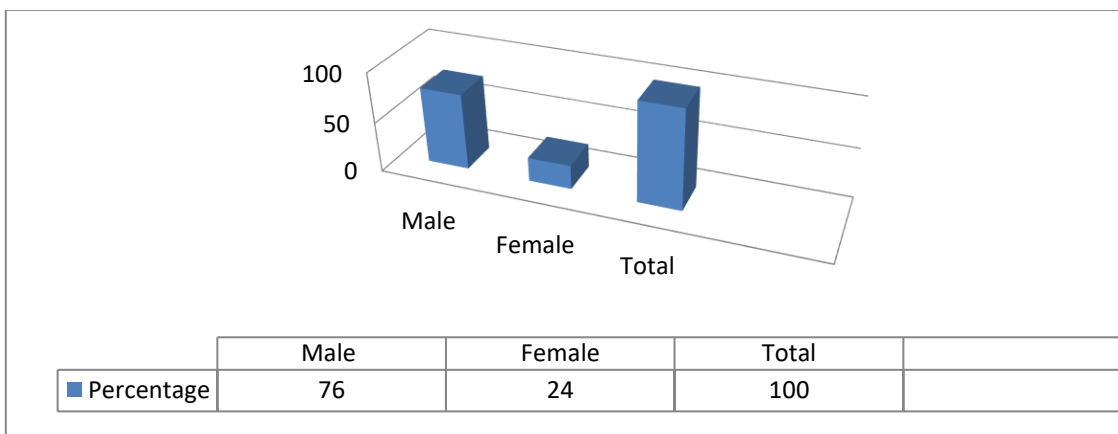


Figure 1. Column chart showing distribution of gender, participating in the survey

6.3. DESIGNATION OF RESPONDENTS:

The respondents who participated in the survey were faculty members (which include Assistant professors, Librarians, & Physical Training Instructors, Lecturers on academic arrangement) and students. Table 3 gives us an overview of the designation-wise distribution of the respondents.

Table-3 representing designation of respondents		
Category of respondents	Number of Respondents	Percentage%
Assistant Professor	22	11.0%
Librarian & supporting staff	10	5.0%
Physical Training Instructors	2	1.0%
Lecturers on Academic Arrangement	50	25.0%
Students	116	58.0%
Total	200	100%

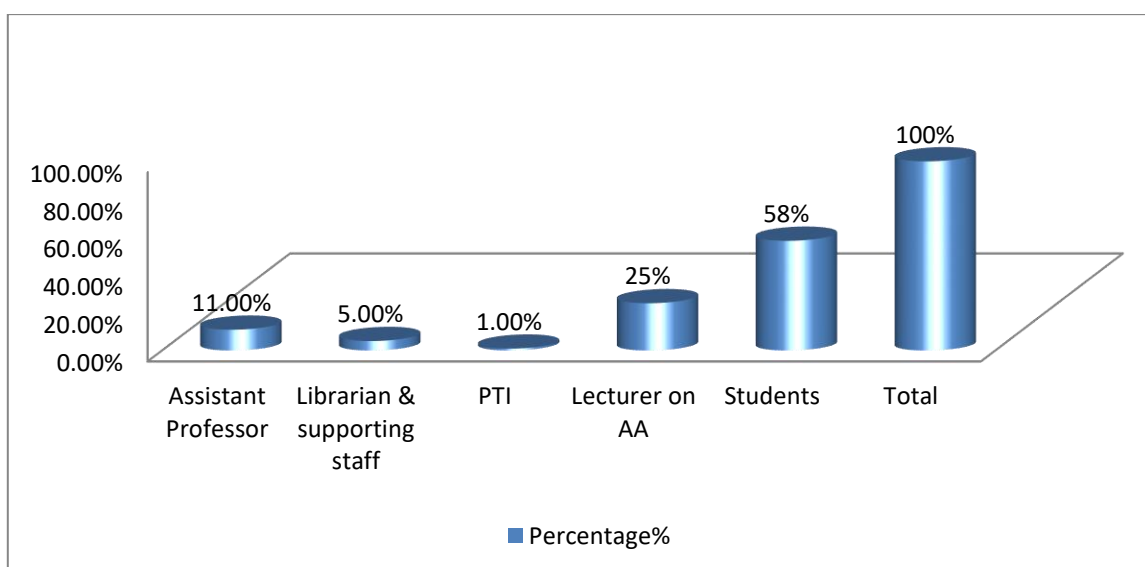


Figure 2. Designation of Respondents

6.4. EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATION OF RESPONDENTS:

The colleges being the higher educational institutions as such all the respondents in general and faculty members in particular are qualified persons. Table 4 gives an overview of the qualification of respondents as:-

Table 4: Shows educational Qualification of respondents

Qualification	Respondents	Percentage %
UG Students	116	58%
Post graduate	32	16%
M.Phil	08	4%
Ph.D	44	22%
Total	200	100%

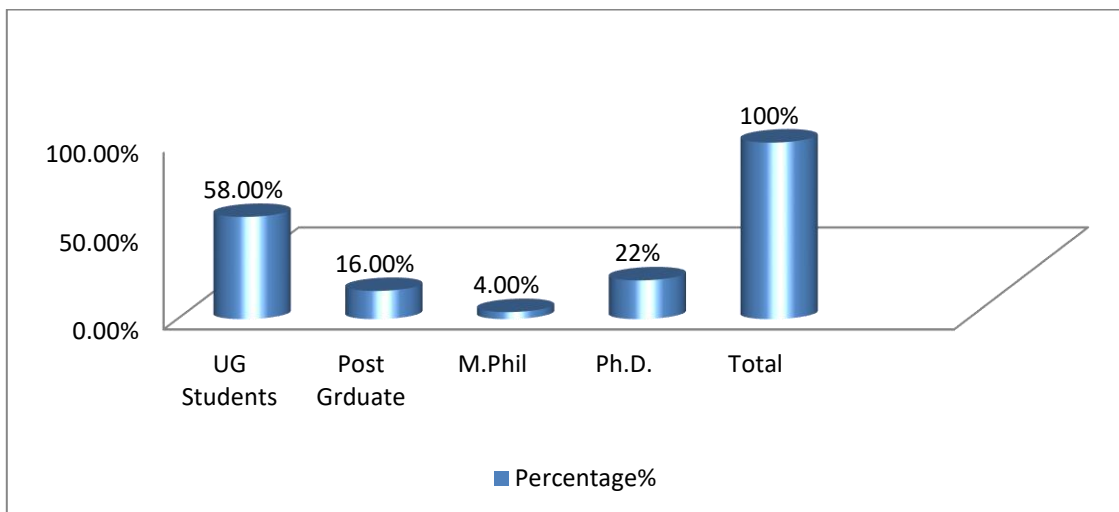


Figure 3. showing qualification of Respondents

6.5. AWARENESS OF RESPONDENTS ABOUT N-LIST:

To make the maximum use of N-LIST resources awareness of the users is a prime factor. While asked the respondents about the same majority of the faculty were aware about the N-LIST consortium while as majority of the students were unaware about the same. The details of which are tabulated in table 5 as:-

Table-5: Shows awareness of respondents

Category of respondents	Yes	Percentage	No	Percentage%
Assistant Professor	20	90.90%	02	9.09%
Librarian & supporting staff	10	100%	00	0%
Physical Training Instructors	02	100%	00	0%
Lecturer on Academic Arrangement	36	72%	14	28%
Students	52	44.83	64	55.17%
Total	120	60%	80	40%%

6.6. SATISFACTION LEVEL OF USERS:

The respondents were asked about their satisfaction level about the resources available in the N-LIST consortium. Most of them were not much satisfied .Out of the total 200 respondents only 120 respondent were aware and using the NLIST resources and the overall average satisfaction rate was 31% ,the details of which are given in the table 6 as:-

TABLE-6: SHOWS THE SATISFACTION LEVEL OF RESPONDENTS

Category of respondents	No. of respondents	Satisfaction Level	Percentage
Assistant Professor	20	06	30%
Librarian & supporting staff	10	05	50%
Physical Training Instructors	02	1	50%
Lecturer on Academic Arrangement	36	12	30%
Students	52	14	27%
Total	120	38	31.66%

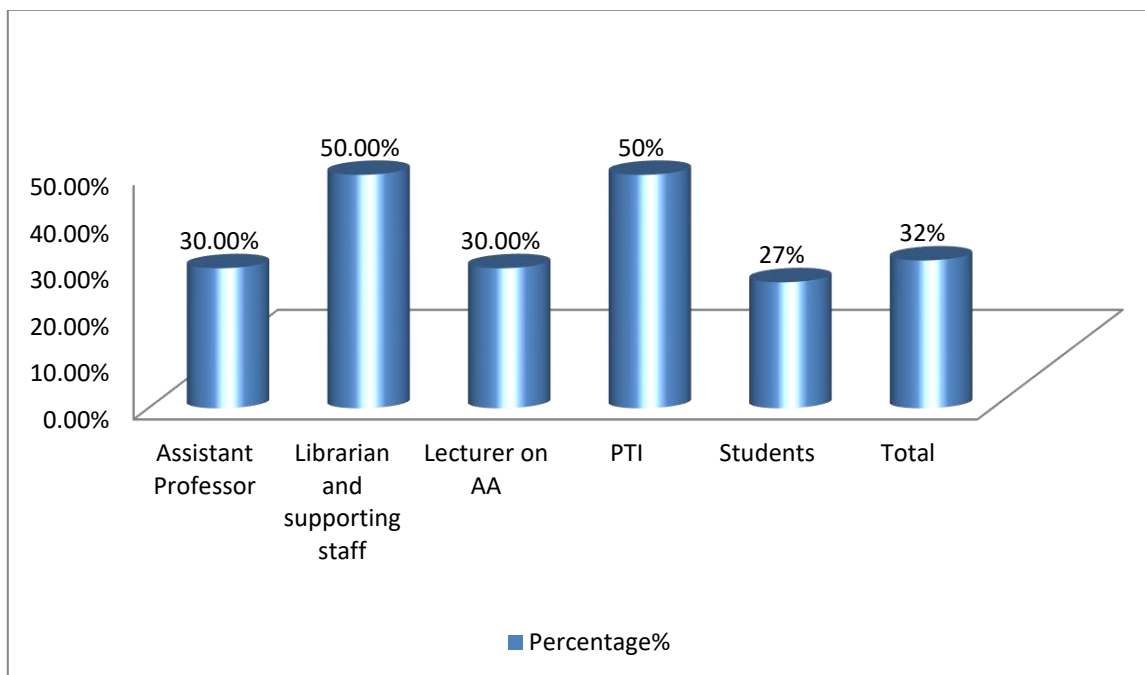


Figure 4. Satisfaction level of respondents who use NLIST resources

6.7. Time spent on N-LIST Resources:

In order to know the importance of the N-LIST for the faculty and students a question about the time spent on weekly basis was asked to the respondents who are using it and the data so obtained was tabulated in table 7 & 8 respectively as :-

Table-7 :Shows Time spent on N-LIST by faculty		
Weekly Time spent by faculty	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Less than one hour	40	33.33%
Two to three hours	30	25%
Three to four hours	25	20.83%
Four to five hours	20	16.66%
More than five hours	05	4.17%
TOTAL	120	100%

Table-8 :Shows Time spent on N-LIST by students		
Time spent by Students on weekly basis	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Less than one hour	28	56%
One to two hours	16	30.76%
Two to three hours	08	15.38%
TOTAL	52	100%

6.8. Purpose of Using N-LIST:

When the respondents were asked about their purpose of using N-LIST resources among faculty majority are using the resources for writing articles while as among students majority are using for preparing assignments, the data so obtained is tabulate in table 9 & table 10 respectively as:

Table-9: Shows Purpose of Using N-LIST by Faculty		
Purpose	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Teaching learning process	35	29.16%
Writing Articles	40	33.33%

Updating knowledge	25	20.83%
Research work	20	16.67%
TOTAL	120	100%

Table-10: Shows Purpose of Using N-LIST by students		
Purpose	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Learning purpose	10	19.23%
Preparing notes	18	34.62%
Preparing assignments	24	46.15%
TOTAL	52	100%

6.9. Problems faced while accessing N-LIST Consortium:

A question was asked to the faculty members to list the problems faced while accessing the NLIST E-resources and the data was tabulated in the table 11 as:

Table-11: Shows Problems faced by faculty		
Problems faced	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Lack of technical support	25	20.83%
Difficulty in finding relevant information	45	37.50%
Lack of infra-structure	30	25%
Connectivity problem	20	16.67%
TOTAL	120	100%

When students were asked about the problems faced while accessing N-LIST resources, the response of the majority of them was that they face technical issues, difficulty in finding relevant information, lack of infra structure and connectivity problems altogether simultaneously.

7. FINDINGS & SUGGESTIONS:

- Most of the colleges are subscribing N-LIST resources to improve their grade in assessment and accreditation process of university grants commission as there are points for subscription.
- Majority of the students are unaware & do not know about N-LIST resources, though most of the students are not interested in using the N-LIST and as such the need of the hour is to organize 2 to 3 days awareness and training programmes regarding N-LIST quarterly in a year.
- Majority of the students, who are using N-LIST resources, use them for preparing assignments.
- The college faculties are using N-LIST resources for teaching and research purposes.
- Most of the college libraries do not have required accommodation & infrastructure and as such the colleges need to develop infrastructure in terms of computer hardware, software & internet bandwidth.

8. CONCLUSION:

National Library and Information Services Infrastructure for Scholarly Content (N-LIST) is offering thousands of e-journals and lacs of E-books to the users of subscribing colleges. The subscription to N-LIST is indispensable for the improvement of grades and academic progress of higher education institutions in India. The users can directly login with login ID and password and then can browse & search by entering preferred keywords through the access points like title, author, subject, call number, ISBN/ISSN & tag but at the same time the resources available through NLIST have limited access to download the books and research papers as they can only be downloaded through specialized Adobe Digital Edition for a period of one day to 21 days and then it gets automatically removed. Ironically most of the college students are not making the best use of NLIST resources. The need of the hour is to arrange awareness programmes on availability & use of NLIST resources for educational purposes so that more and more users can utilize the resources for their progress in academics.

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