



## Online Information Searching During Pandemic : A Study with Reference to Library Science Students of Dr C.V. Raman University Kota Bilaspur Dist.

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### Abstract:

*This research paper examines "Online Information Searching" during pandemic with reference to Dr C.V. Raman University Kota Bilaspur Distt. The different aspects of Information Searching have been analysed and presented in the form of diagram. The various online activities of library have also been listed and explained. This research paper emphasised on types of search engines students preferred for their information demand during study at home. The frequency of using search through internet has also been analysed. This paper includes the profile and services of Dr C V Raman University Library.*

*The descriptive survey method was used, and simple random sampling adopted. Questionnaire was the major instrument of data collection. Results of the findings were interpreted using simple percentages and organized in tables, and charts for clarity and better comprehension.*

*The results of the findings revealed that students have good effective tendency to search internet for retrieving information and satisfy their requirements.*

**Keywords:** Dr C.V. Raman University, Online Information Searching, Orientation Session, User's Satisfactions, Search Engines, INTERNET, OPAC, Pandemic, Teaching Learning, Hands On Sessions, KOHA Library management Software

### Introduction:

Library is a key feature of any academic institution and constitute a centre entity. It is indeed "Heart" of the University, hence it should preferable be located at the centre of the campus. A library indeed plays very vital role in "Promotion of Reading Habits among its users". During the "current Pandemic" teaching-learning took place from home and library certainly played very vital role to assist in searching information.

The library of Dr C.V. Raman University is a resourceful and executes its services in a hybrid way. It is fully automated using KOHA Library Management Library Software. During recent Pandemic library services played very vital role in implementing online education in which students involved in teaching learning process from home. A survey was conducted to know the various aspects of "Information Searching" by the students. This survey helped to analyse the level of "information searching" took place through the initiatives of Central Library and its faculty members along with Guest lectures.

New format i.e., digital way enables users to retrieve information very quickly, pinpointedly and comprehensively.



### **Shri J. P. Choubey Central Library- Profile:**

Dr. C.V. Raman University Central Library was established in 2006. Central Library is the soul of the institution and it has an extensive collection of the books, scientific and technical journals and electronic reference materials for satisfying the academic and research needs of students and faculty community. The Library is the hub of academic student life on campus. Dr. C. V. Raman University houses a spacious library, stacked with approximately 50,000 books, 10000 titles and thousands of CDs, National & International journals and reports that cover all subjects pertinent to the courses. The CVRU Library consists of a Central Library & Separate Departmental Libraries to help students and faculties alike have to easy access to courses and reference materials through a membership card. It opens from 10.30 A.M. to 5.00 P.M. from Monday to Saturday.

Besides a huge collection of books on Engineering, Science and Humanities, the Library has a total seating capacity of 600 with an Integrated Information System in place. All its activities include in acquisition, cataloguing, circulation and stock have been computerized. The Central Library spreads over to ground plus first floor with an area of 10,000 Sq.Ft. It is well-protected with fire alarm and CCTV Surveillance. It has specialized collections of Books, Journals & other resources is Sciences, Engineering and Technology, Biotechnology, Humanities, Social Sciences, Law and Management ranging from printed books, e-books, back volumes and CDs/DVDs. The Central Library subscribes to National and International Journals in print and electronic form. The Library has a video conferencing facility and NPTEL video courses.

The special features of the Library is the recent collection of study materials including e-resources. The Library provides CAS, SDI, resource sharing, list of latest arrivals, On-line e-resources, OPAC Services, Central Library is automated with KOHA Library Management Software.

**E-Library:** e-library equipped with 25PCs, offer access to online, e-journals, e-books, e-database, e-lecture videos and open sources software with useful links. User can access the contents abstracts or full text in a flexible and easy manner to use for their study.

**Lectures and Videos (Nptel Videos):** Members can access Multimedia Video lectures/NPTEL Videos of all Subjects in the e-Library Section.

**DELNET:** The Library arranges books on loan from other libraries on specific demand. Library also provides the full text resources with the help of DELNET. CVRU Central Library is an institutional member of DELNET (Developing Library Network).

**Institution of Engineers:** CVRU Central Library is having Life-membership of on-line resource IOE (Institution of Engineers). It gives the on-line access of resources of different branches of Engineering and Technology.

**National Digital Library:** Central Library provides the NDL facilities for members to access e-books and e-journals.

**E-pathshala & E-pgpathshala :** e-pgpathshala and e-pathshala is an initiative by Ministry of Human Resource Development to promote ICT based education. CVRU Central Library provide



the access for e-pgpathshala and e-pathshala for members to use the resources. It is a free portal of Government of India.

**SWAYAM:** SWAYAM is a joint initiative by Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) and All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) to promote ICT based education. CVRU Central Library use to register the member of the Library on various undergraduate and post graduate online courses and allow them to go through the various video lectures of their concern courses.

**J-gate (Engineering & Technology) & J-gate (Social & Management Science) :** Central Library is providing the facility of access online journals of J-gate (Engineering & Technology) & J-gate (Social & Management Sciences) for the research scholars and faculty. J-gate is an electronic gateway to global e-journal literature and provides access to millions of journals articles available online offered by 13,395 publishers. It presently has a massive database of journals literature, indexed from 49,101 e-journals with links to full text.

**Library Mission:** Dr. C. V. Raman University Central Library will be an excellent modern knowledge resource center to disseminate information for teaching, learning and research of the University's diverse community by providing modern library and information services. Maintain effective National and International resource sharing network relations towards disseminating our value-added information services to all the University community within the library budget limits.

**Library at a Glance :**

- |                                 |   |                          |
|---------------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| 1. Year of Establishment        | : | 2007                     |
| 2. Total Carpet Area            | : | 12,378 Sq.Ft.            |
| 3. Total Seating Capacity       | : | 1000                     |
| 4. Working Hours of Library     | : | 10.30 A.M. to 5.00 P.M.  |
| 5. Library Members              | : | 5000                     |
| 6. Total No. of Books           | : | 54966                    |
| 7. Total No. of Titles          | : | 13238                    |
| 8. Total No. of Reference Books | : | 13238                    |
| 9. Library Networking Facility  | : | LAN, Wifi, Area Network  |
| 10. Reprographic Facility       | : | Xerox Rs 1/- per Page.   |
| 11. Over dues Charges           | : | Rs 1/- per day per book. |

**Library Services:**

Library offers the following Services, Documentation Services, Reading Room Facilities, Reference Services, OPAC, Reprographic Services, Xeroxing Facility, Circulation Services, access of on-line Resources, Periodical Service, Internet access Information Search, Library Orientation, Newspaper Clipping, Resource Sharing, Digital Library, Thesis project reports Section, Circulation Section, Circulation of Books. Database of Indian Business Insight (ibi) , MoU with Shodhganga, Member of NDLI, Urkund Antiplagiarism Software we are using, Uploading our awarded research works into Shodhganga, Membership with e-Shodhsindhu, Planning to build our own institutional repository using koha and soul Library Management Software

### **Objectives of the Study**

This study is intended to achieve the following objectives:

- 1.To know the comprehensive profile of Central Library of University
- 2.To know the level of help from orientation sessions
- 3.To examine the frequency of searching internet.
- 4.To examine the preference of search engine for searching information by the students.
- 5.To know the existing e-libraries utilities are adequate.
- 6.To know the usage of OPAC
- 7.To know the satisfactions of users' demand through information searching
- 8.To find out any difficulties faced by the students during online searching in current Pandemic
- 9.Th know whether users are aware about internet and subsequently they can retrieve their demand
10. To know overall level of satisfactions through the assistance of Faculty members, Guest Lectures

### **Research Questions:**

1. Have you been provided orientation session on information searching during pandemic?
- 2.Frequency of searching internet and browsing sites for information?
- 3.Whether the existing e-library materials are adequate?
- 4.Which search engine you prefer for searching information?
- 5.Have you been provided opportunity to access OPAC?
- 6.Do you think that e-library sources and services helped you to satisfy your demand?
- 7.Have you faced any difficulty in searching online information?
- 8.Are you able to search information using internet?
9. How you overall satisfied on information searching due to supervision from Faculties, Guest lectures?

### **Methodology adopted:**

The descriptive survey study method was used in conducting this research. Users were given questionnaire through google form. Interview technique also been adopted.

This method is not simply amassing and tabulating facts, but includes proper analysis, interpretation, comparisons, identification of trends and relationships. This study method offers an opportunity to study a particular subject e.g., an organization in-depth or a group of individuals and usually involves gathering and analyzing information that may be both qualitative and quantitative.

### **The Survey Area:**

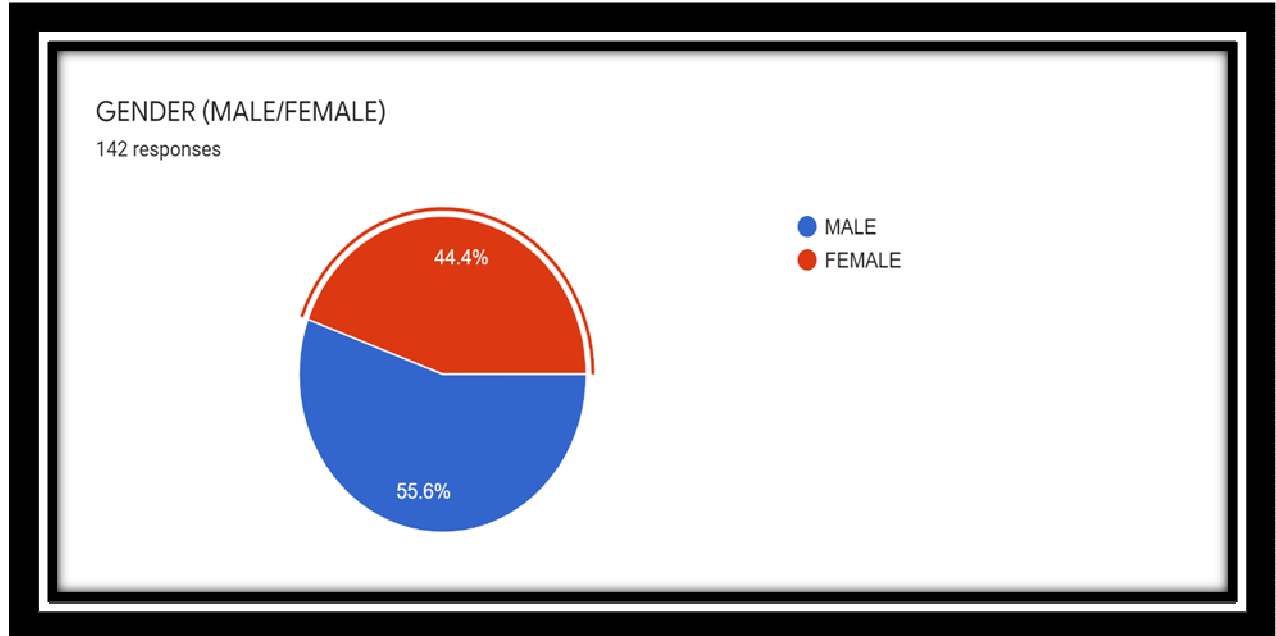
This study is a case study of a selected area. The study is limited to BLISC and MLISC students of Library Department of Dr C.V. Raman University Kargi Road Kota. The respondents were given the questionnaire through google form and interview technique also adopted to complete this study.

### **The Sample Population:**

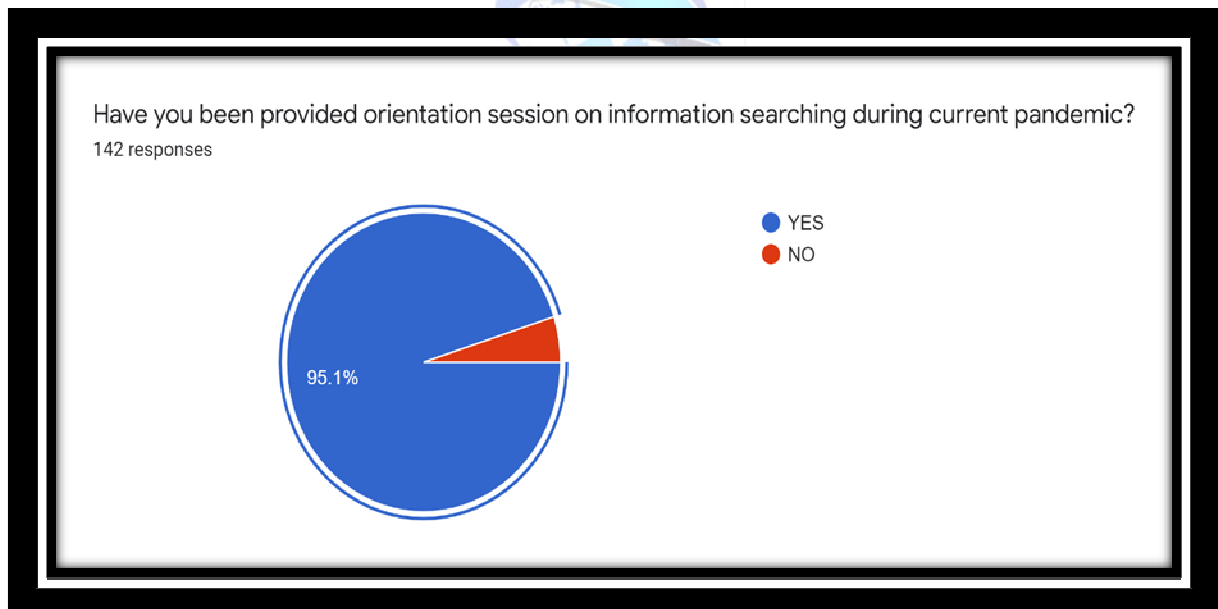
To ensure a fair representative sample and effective handling, 142 students of BLISC and MLISC were sampled for the study through simple random sampling technique.

The sample were taken from students (BLISC and MLISC) of Dr C.V. Raman University Kargiroad Kota. This study was conducted during the ongoing pandemic.

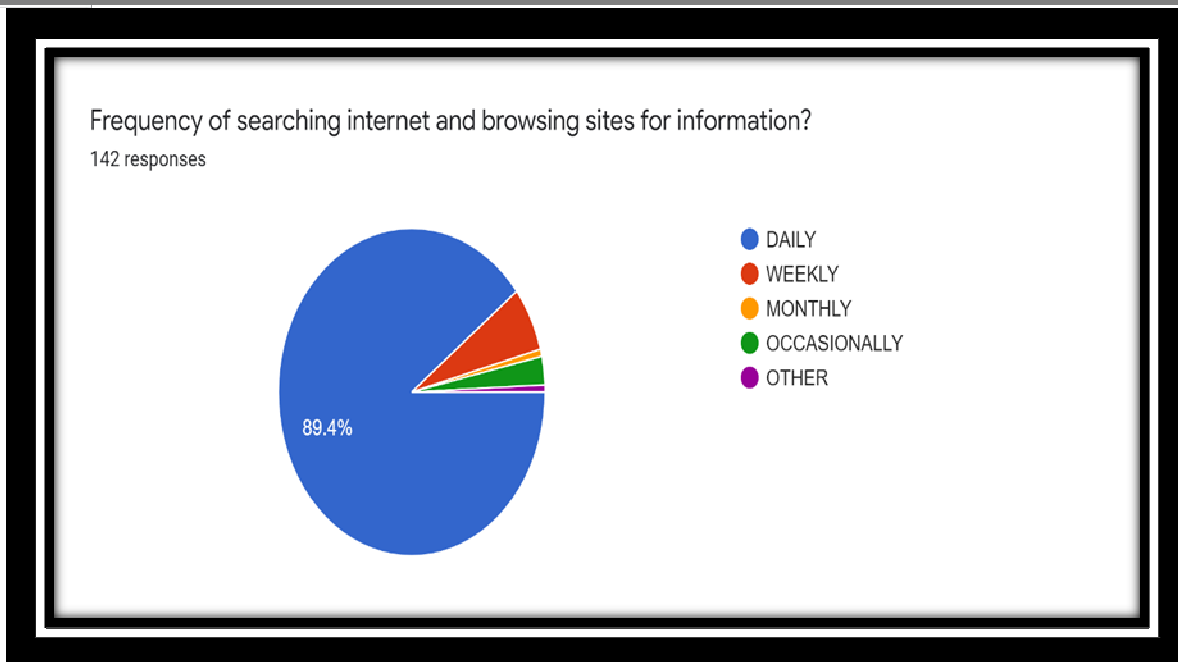
### Data Analysis and Interpretations



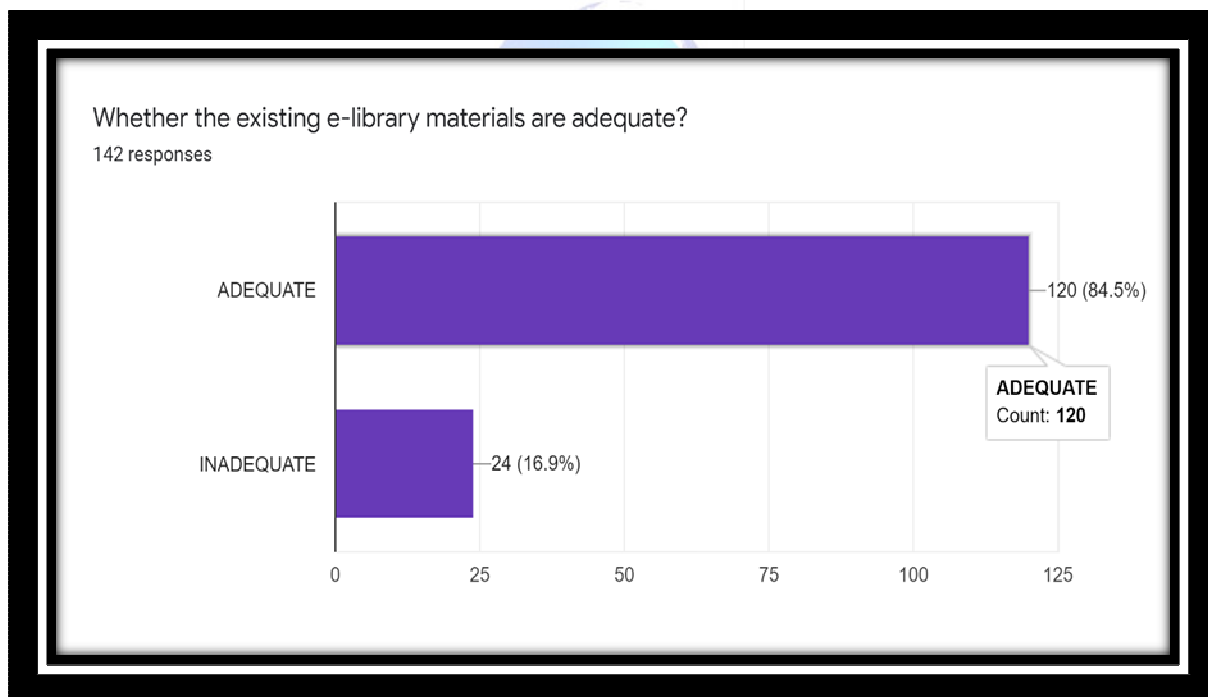
**Fig.1: Gender Analysis shows 79(55.6%) of male whereas 63(44.4%) of females participated actively and responded the research questions.**



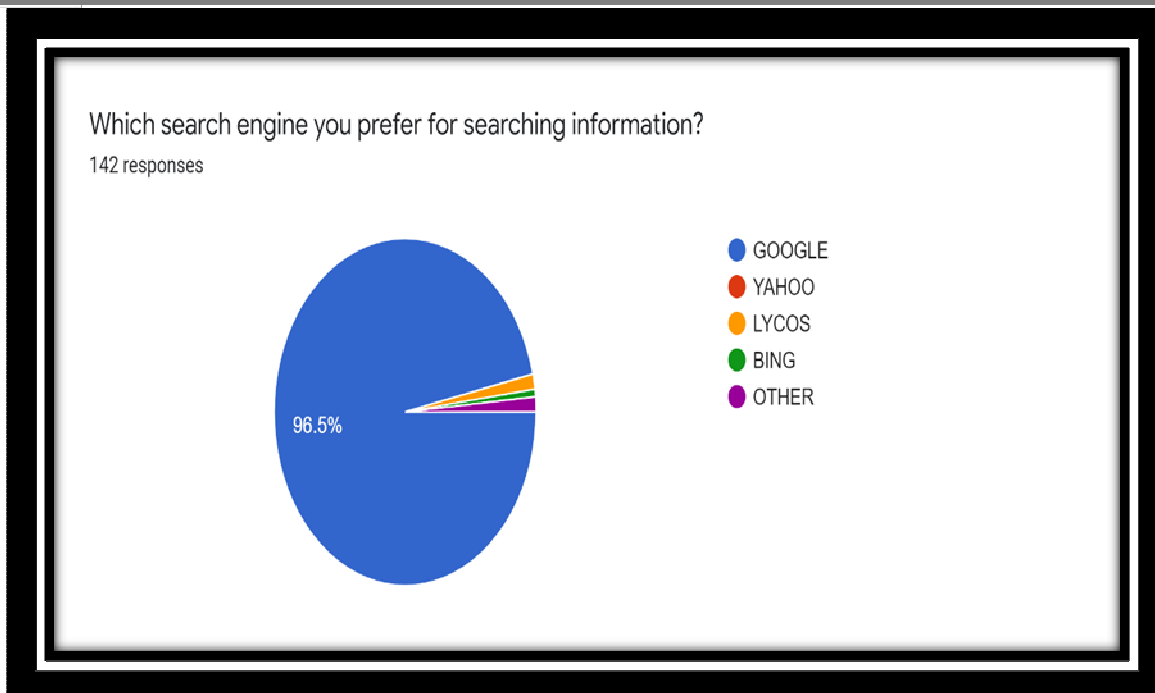
**Fig. 2: Orientation Session clearly indicates that students taking part in orientation session which is taking place at regular intervals. This research shows 135 (95.1%) respondents agreed with having attended the orientation session on information searching during current pandemic whereas only 7(4.9%) of students are unaware about it.**



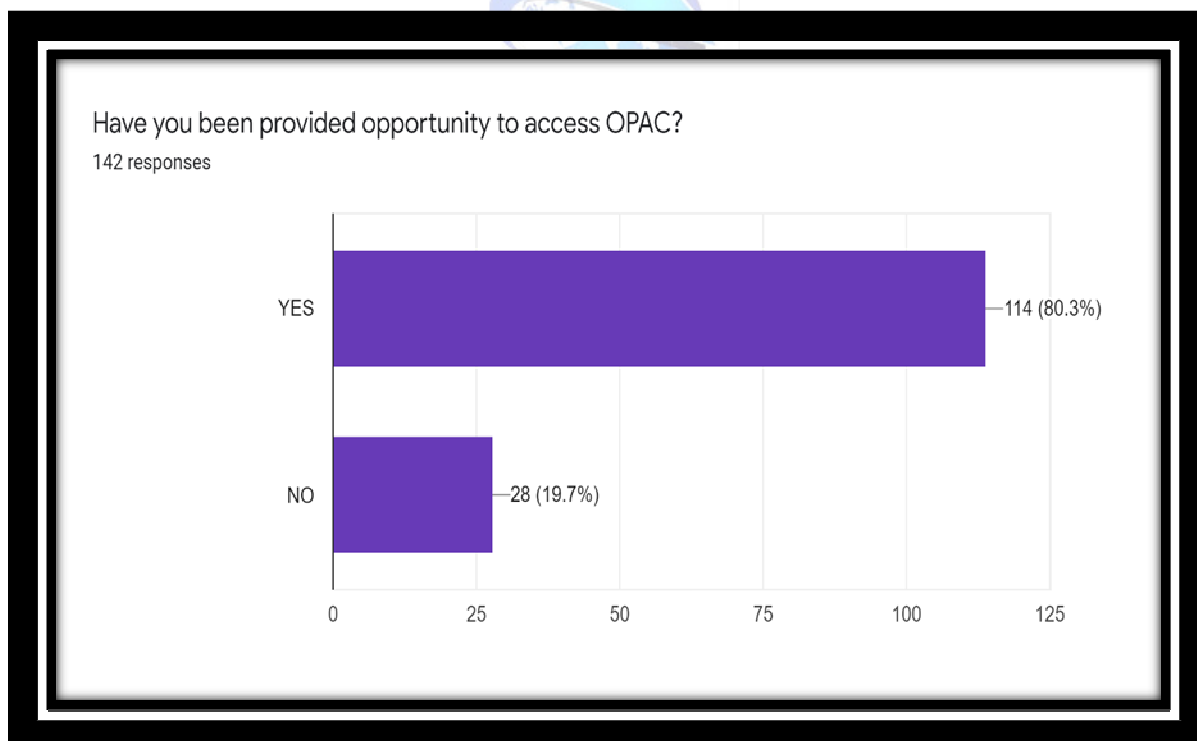
**Fig. 3:** Frequency of searching Internet shows large number of students 127 (89.4%) search information through internet and retrieve their specific demand and pursue their study where as 9(6.3%) of students prefer to search the internet for their desired information weekly. Rest of the students 4(2.8%)search occasionally.



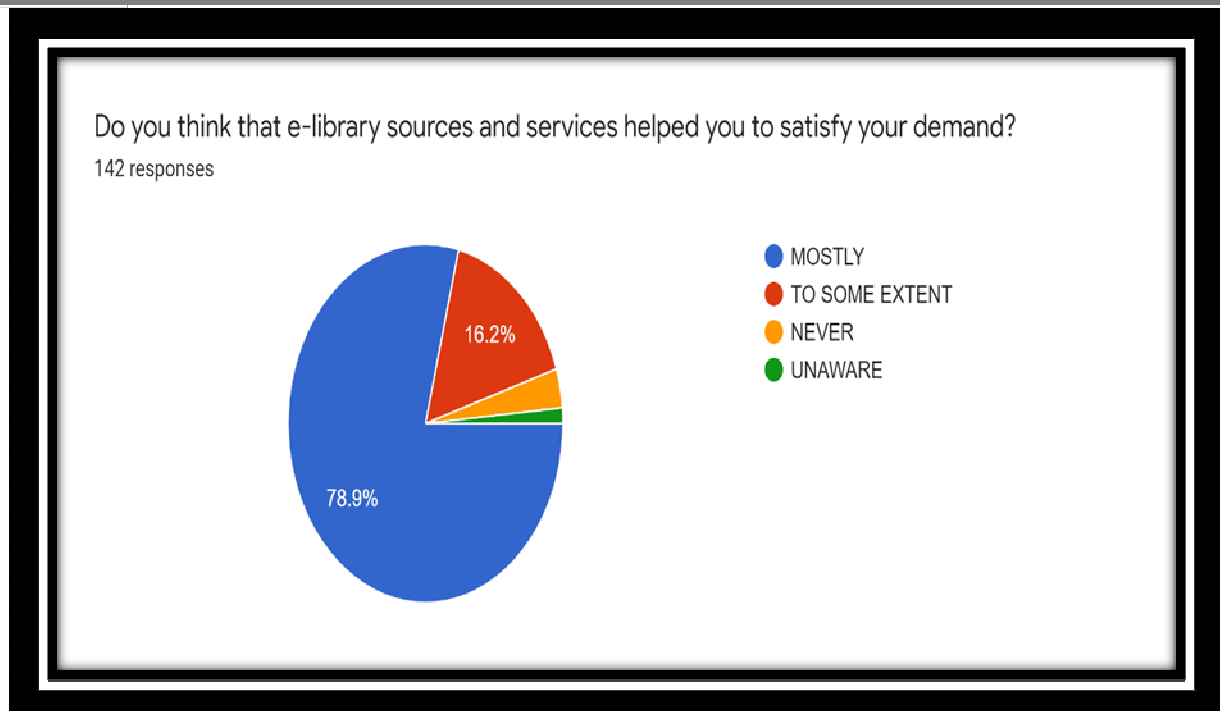
**Fig. 4:** Adequateness of existing e-library materials indicates 120(84.5%) of students are with adequate whereas only 24(16.9%) of students intend to place further requisitions to strengthen the e-library materials of the department.



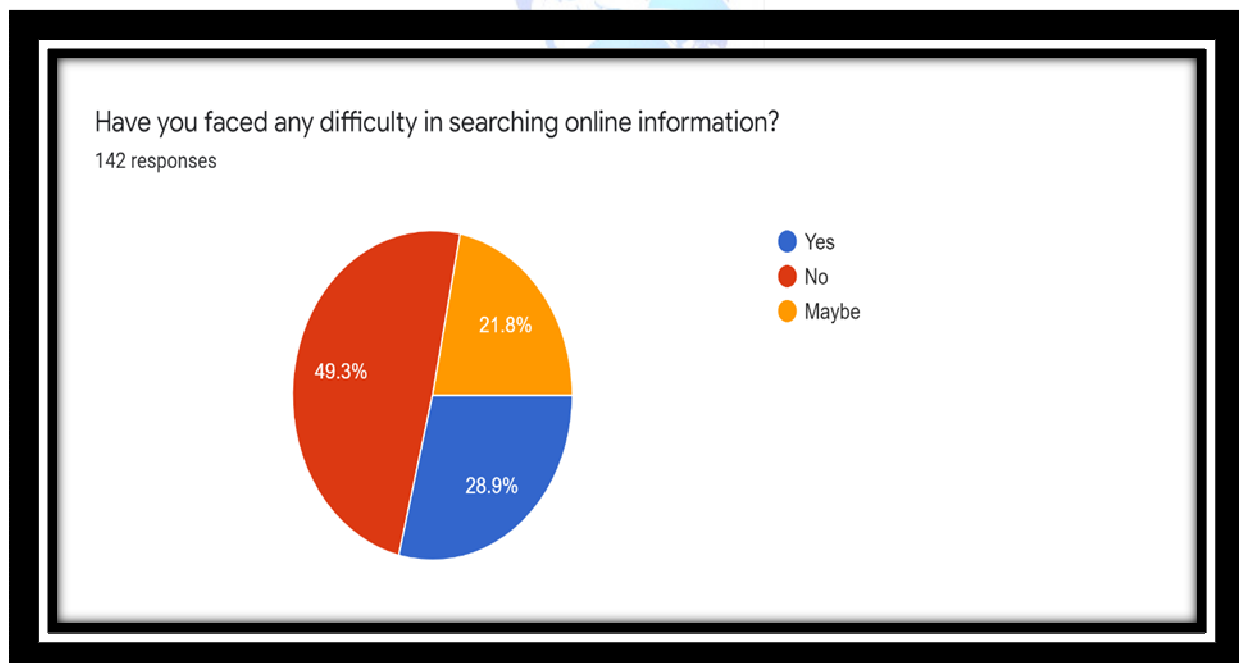
**Fig. 5:** This analysis clearly indicates the choice of Search Engine of students is “Google”. The large number of sample of students 137(96.5%) frequently use “Google” for information searching whereas only rest of the students 5(3.5%) are trying other search engines like Yahoo, Lycos, Bing etc..



**Fig.6:** Have you been provided opportunity to access OPAC. This analysis indicates that 114(80.3%) of students agreed that they knew and use OPAC whereas only 28(19.7%) of students are unaware about it. They need regular orientation in this regard.

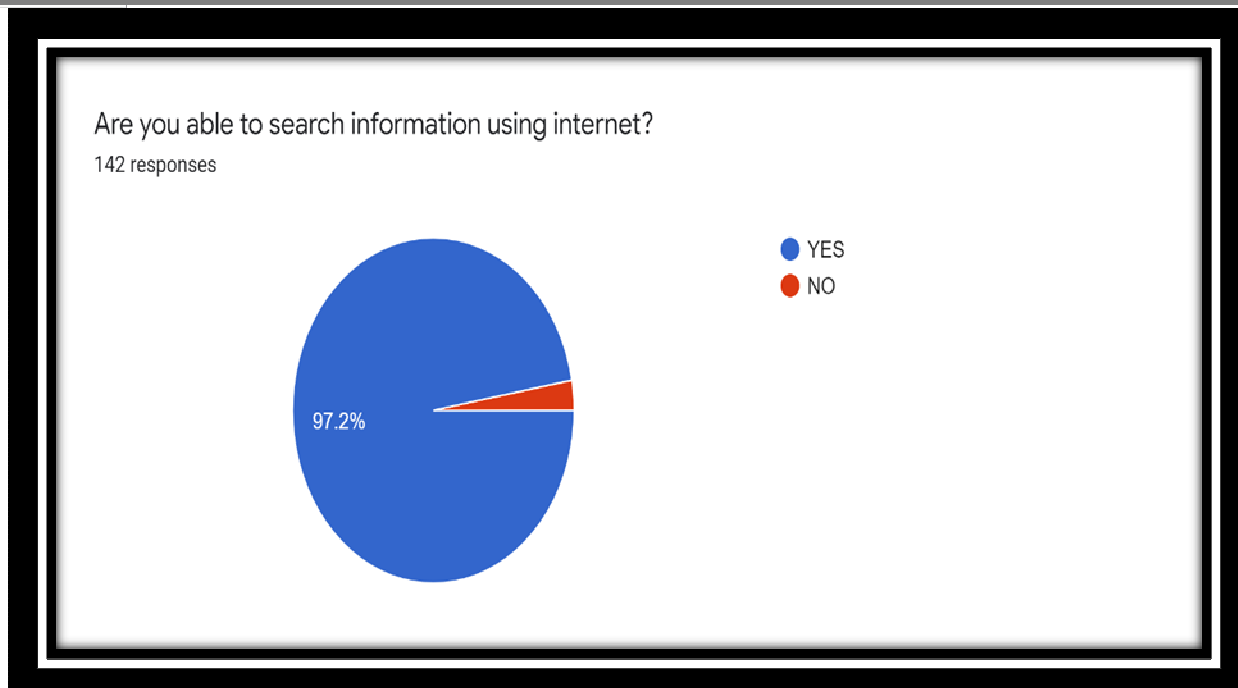


**Fig.7: Whether e-library sources and services helped to satisfy user’s demand. The analysis reveals that 112(78.9%) of students are agreed with e-library resources helping them to retrieve the information they seek where as 23(16.2%) of respondents think they get it to some extent. There are very few students 4% are unare about it.**

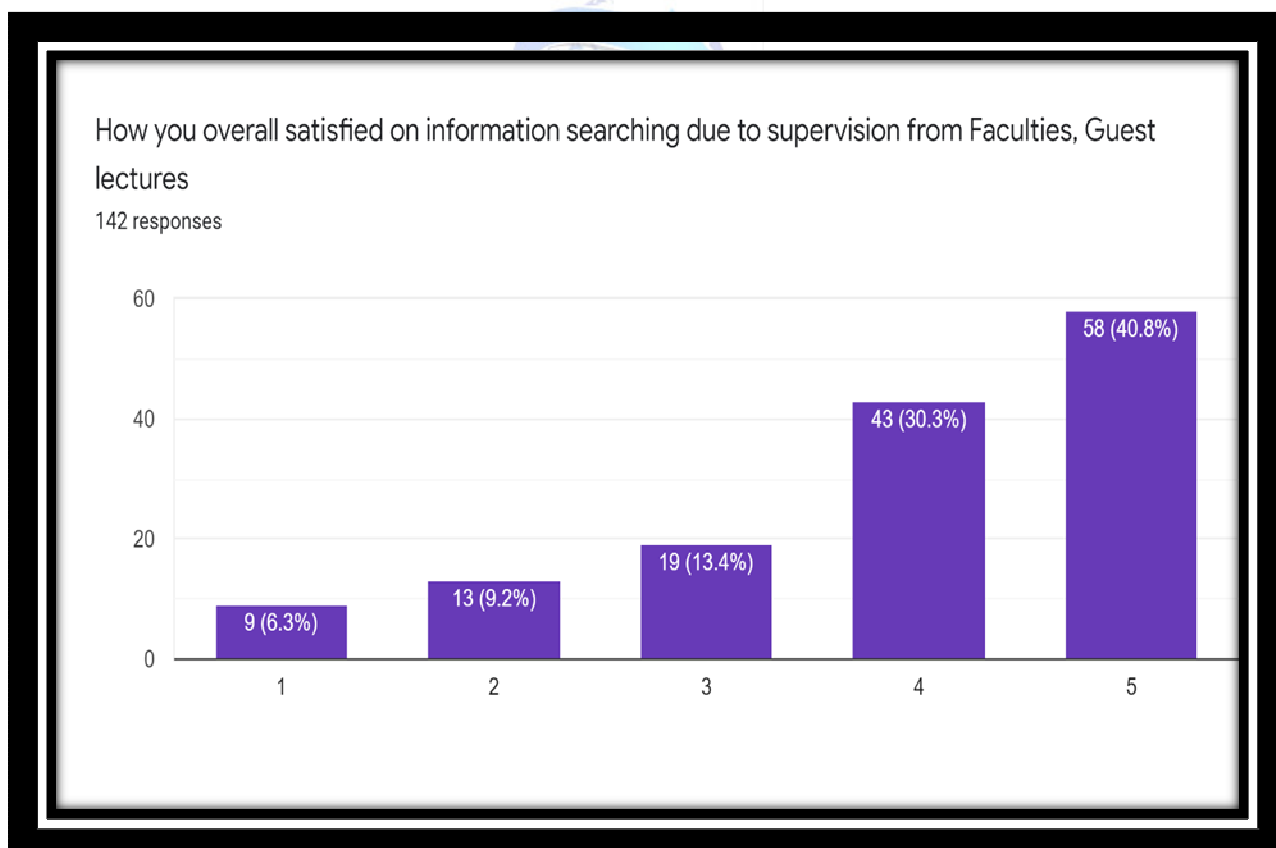


**Fig. 8.:** The analysis reveals that 70 students (49.3%) have not experienced any time of difficulties during searching for their information online whereas 31 students (21.8%) think that sometimes they face technical difficulties and 41 students (28.9%) students agreed with facing difficulties hence frequent hands-on session may be conducted for such segments of students in order to familiar themselves with such online searching of desired information.





**Fig.9:** The present analysis confirms that majority of the students 138(97.2%) are able to search information using Internet whereas only 4 students (2.8%) students need training, hands on session in this aspect.



**Fig.10:** Overall satisfactions. The figure clearly shows that different level of overall satisfactions of information searching by the students with the help extended by their faculties, guest lectures etc.. These are almost 101(71.1%) are students in the scale of 4 to 5

indicating “Extremely satisfied” whereas 19(13.4%) of respondents expressing their satisfactions. As figure depicts the scale indicating 1-2 means 22(15.5%) to be satisfied with overcoming their hurdles.

### **Findings**

The data analysis reveals the fact that students are accessing desired study materials using internet during current pandemic. Teaching and learning taking place online effectively. Online classes and orientation sessions by the faculty members help students to know various aspects of information searching. Guest lectures are also helping in this aspect. They are also enhancing their ICT skills. They update and secure information very quickly. It helps to know the existing facilities of e-library. They spend quality time in reading and retrieving desired resources. Data analysis indicates the most of the time students access “GOOGLE” search engine for accessing information and it takes place daily. Students are very satisfied and keen to utilize their online library services during current pandemic while staying at home

### **Suggestions:**

- ✚ More orientation programmes may be conducted.
- ✚ User’s feedback should be regularly taken.
- ✚ Users should frequently share their e-requisitions.
- ✚ More hands-on session should also be planned.

### **Conclusion:**

The present research survey clearly suggested the “online information Searching” and “Teaching-Learning” taking place very effectively through digital mode in the current pandemic. It also ensured the meaningful use of these ICT devices by the users very effectively. The students have been aware about application of ICT through the orientation sessions, hands on session and workshops along with online classes through their faculty members, Guest lectures. Group discussions. Students perform search through “GOOGLE Search Engine” regularly and retrieve their desired materials. It saves their valuable time also.

### **References:**

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