

ABSTRACT

This is an age of Science, Technology, and Innovation and university libraries play a basic role in gaining knowledge and skills of new and emerging technologies and fields of science. Higher Education Commission of Pakistan, appreciating the dynamic role that libraries are playing in the creation and dissemination of knowledge, has been spending the enormous amount for the provision of Electronic Journals and Electronic Books and other digital learning resources. In order to assess the performance of participating educational institutions, usage statistics in terms of the number of the research article downloads have been collected. The usage statistics have been critical performance indicator in signifying which resources need to be trimmed from the collection and which might be expanded. Information literacy and technology skills are basic needs of postgraduate students. In this regard, they may greatly be supported by higher education institutions. The assessment of library facilities is one of the main concerns of professional librarians to better utilize library resources and services in higher education and research . This study determines the awareness and use of electronic journals by postgraduate students of the Mehran University of Engineering & Technology, Jamshoro.

The study examines the user awareness about available E-Journals; assess the frequency of use of E-Journals; identify the hindrances and problems of users accessing E-Journals. In this study, it is found that there is a good awareness of postgraduate students about E-Journals but most of them are accessing information through search engines which creates problems of losing HEC subscribed digital library database and usage statistics of our university goes down and we face difficulties to subscribe more electronic resources for

our institution. Total 18% of PG students are accessing HEC digital library, 27% are satisfied regarding E-Journals and most of them are not satisfied with E-Journals. 95% of postgraduate students are facing problems of absence of back issues. Majority of postgraduate students face quality and reliability problems while using E-Journals and facing the problem of the slow response of network and poor internet connectivity. This study also suggests measures to plan needed policies and effective implementation of existing policies to enhance E-Learning, reading, and research in higher education institutions and fulfill the user needs in the digital environment.

Keywords: University, Libraries, Electronic Journals, Postgraduate, Students, HEC, Database, Problems, Policies, Science, Technology, Innovation.