

# MAPPING OF E-INFORMATION LITERACY IN SBNM INSTITUTE OF POLYTECHNIC, AURANGABAD

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## ABSTRACT

We are living in the information age. Information is the basic requirement for every human activity and it is important as food, air and water. Information in itself has no value, but its value lies in its communication and use. Information Literacy (IL) is the key competency for the Information age. The Library has a leadership role in the development of information literate, the effective embedding of information literacy programmes within the mainstream of the learning process require close co-operation between all stakeholders. Information Literacy is increasing important in the present contest of the information explosion and concomitant uncertainties about its authenticity, validity, and reliability. The present paper is to highlight the concept of literacy, Information literacy and to specify objective, hypothesis, limitations, methodology, analysis and finding of the study.

## Keywords:

*Literacy, Information Literacy, SBNM Institute of Polytechnic, Aurangabad, Internet and Information and Communication Technology (ICT).*

## 1. INTRODUCTION:

The greatest challenge for society in the 21st century is to keep pace with the knowledge and technological expertise necessary for finding, applying and evaluating information. It is acknowledged that we live in an information-rich society where the amount of information in the world is presently doubling every three years. Therefore it is necessity of 21st century to include IL in education.

With the advances in Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) the libraries are now changing to what may be called virtual or digital libraries. It has affected significantly the nature of delivery of library resources and services. The traditional concepts of organization, bibliographic description and dissemination of information are to be fine-tuned to the new environment by the library and information professionals. So the LIS professionals working in the environment have to face challenges. Hence it becomes

important for the patrons/clients also to develop skill in information literacy so that they can identify, evaluate and use the relevant information effectively.

IL is the key competency for the information age. It is valuable as more widely accepted concepts such as computer literacy and medial literacy. Every person has a fundamental right to information literacy and the information access. In modern era, information in the digital form is rapidly replacing the traditional printed counter parts, resulting in increased computer skills, processing tools and fast communication network connectivity. Digital information or e-information is more abstract dynamic in comparison to printed form. Hence understanding of how to enhance its value and its interaction becomes an important prerequisite for the users in the information society. In this digital age, users need to more information literate than ever before, while internet, e-mail, www can contain valid and accurate information; its very nature encourages quick and easy self publication. Without editorial or academic review the content is often low quality and there is a need for users to be able to recognize and access authentic and useful resources. Many users fail to properly locate, evaluate and, use Internet based information due to lack of understanding of issues surrounding the nature and structure of internet. Furthermore, users need to be able to precisely identify and communicate their information needs to clarify a subject or area.

Information society calls for all people to become information literate which mean that they should not only be able to recognize when information is needed but also be able to identify, locate, evaluate and use effectively information needed for decision making or fulfilling different goals. IL is increasingly important in the present context of the information explosion and related uncertainties about its authenticity, validity, and reliability.

## 2. DEFINATIONAL ANALYSIS

- ❖ **Information** - information is data that has given shape. It may be considered as processed data. Thus, information is data plus the meaning, which has to be a result of human action (Seetharama, 1999).
- ❖ **Literacy** - literacy involves the ability to use language in its written form: a literate person is able to read, write and understand his or her native language and expresses a simple thought in writing (Bawden, 2001).
- ❖ **Information Literacy** - Information Literacy is an understanding and set of abilities requiring individuals to recognize when information is needed, have the ability to locate, evaluate, use effectively the needed information and create information within cultural and social context (ALA, 1989).
- ❖ **E-Information Literacy** - Electronic information literacy refers to literacy activities (such as reading, writing, and research) that are delivered, supported, accessed, or assessed through computers or other electronic means rather than paper (Martin & Rader, 2003).

- ❖ **SBNM Institute of Polytechnic** – Shri Bhairavnath Nisarg Mandal, Subhash Road , Beed, Dist. Beed (M.S.) was established under the Societies Registration Act.(1860 Sub. Act 21 of 1860) and Bombay Public Trust Act. 1950 on 21/01/1999 and 16/08/1999 respectively.

**Dr.V.K.Patil**, former Vice-Chancellor, Marathwada Agricultural University, Parbhani, Maharashtra & Indira Gandhi Agricultural University, Raipur, M.P. & Chattisgarh and former President of Association of Indian Universities is the founder President Of Shri Bhairavnath Nisarg Mandal. Eminent Educationalist of International repute is instrumental in starting this Polytechnic College. He has a dream to produce galaxy of engineers, who will have great demand for domestic as well as overseas enterprises.

### 3. **AIM & OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY**

- ❖ To study the extent of Information Literacy in Students of SBNM Institute of Polytechnic, Aurangabad, with special emphasis of E- Information Literacy

### 4. **HYPOTHESIS OF THE STUDY**

- ❖ Awareness of use of Internet is prominent amongst the Student in SBNM Institute of Polytechnic, Aurangabad.

### 5. **SCOPE & LIMITATION OF THE STUDY**

The present study is limited to students in the SBNM Institute of Polytechnic Aurangabad. The main focus of this study is to identify the needs & requirements of users in general & to know e-resources including students of the present day.

### 6. **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

Present study has used survey method. This method plays a significant role in research as can be seen from the statement. The Survey method is one of the most effective and sensitive instruments of research survey research can produce much needed knowledge (Kasyap, 1969).

### 7. **DATA COLLECTION**

To know the needs of students of students covered, a structured questionnaire was designed and factual questions, opinion questions were asked. The researcher has distributed 245 questionnaires to Students, 187 questionnaires duly filled returned by students i.e the response rate was 76.33%

## 7.1 Population Sample

Membership of the Library is open to the teachers, student of Deogiri Institue of Engineering & Management Studies

**Table No.7.1 Distribution of member branch wise**

Sr. No.	Respondent or Library Users	No. of Student	No. of Questionnaire Distributed	No of Response Received	Percentage
1	Mechanical Engineering First year	120	85	60	23.08
2	Electrical Engineering First year	80	80	70	26.92
3	Computer Engineering First year	120	85	60	23.08
4	Civil Engineering First year	120	85	60	23.08
5	E&TC	16	16	10	3.85
6	Faculty	34	-	-	-
	Total	490	351	260	100.00

## 8. DATA ANALYSIS & FINDINGS

The data collected was analyzed & findings were noted as follows:

### 8.1 Gender Wise Analysis

Attempts were made to analyze data by Gender wise of the respondents which is presented in Table No.8.1.

**Table No. 8.1 Gender Wise Analysis**

Gender	Response	Percentage
Male	154	59.23
Female	106	40.77
<b>Total</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>100.00</b>

It can be observed from Table No.7.1 out of respondent 154 (59.23%) respondent are male and 106 (40.77.%) respondents are female.

## 8.2 Frequency of Using Computer

The data collected SBNM Institute of Polytechnic, Aurangabad, was further analysed to find out the frequency of using Computer which is represented in Table No.8.2

**Table No. 8.2 Frequency of Using Internet**

Frequency	Responses	Percentage
Daily	120	46.15
2-3 times a Week	60	23.08
Once a Month	52	20.00
Occasionally	28	10.77
<b>Total</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>100.00</b>

It can be noted from Table No.8.2 that 120 (46.15%) of the respondents daily use Computer, Secondly 60 (23.08%) of the respondents Once a Month use Computer, Third that 52(20.00 %) respondents use Computer twice or thrice a week & only 28(10.77%) respondents use Computer Occasionally.

## 8.3 Time Spent on Internet

**Table No. 8.3 Time Spent on Internet**

Time Spent	Response	Percentage
Less than 1 hour	115	44.23
2-4 hours	68	26.15
5-6 hours	48	18.46
7-9 hours	29	11.15
<b>Total</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>100.00</b>

It can be noted from Table No.8.3 that 115 (44.23%) of the student were used less than 1 hour & majority of the student 68 (26.15%) & 48 (18.46%) were used 2-4 hours, & 5-6 hours and Only 29 (11.15%) were student used 7-9 hours.

#### 8.4 Place of Internet Use

Attempts were made to analysis the data use of Internet which is represent in Table No.7.4

**Table No. 8.4 Place of Internet Use**

Place	Response	Percentage
Library	160	61.54
Home	26	10.00
Cyber Café	51	19.62
Any Other	23	8.85
<b>Total</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>100.00</b>

It is observed from Table No.8.4 most of the respondents 160 (61.54%) use internet in the Library, 51 (16.62%) & 26 (10.00%) respondents use the internet in the Cyber Café & Home and Only 26(8.85%) respondents use the internet in the Any other place.

#### 8.5 Purpose of Browsing Internet

**Table No. 8.5: Purpose of Browsing Internet**

Purpose	No. of Users	Percentage
E-Mail	138	53.08
E-Resources	58	22.31
OPAC	51	19.31
Any Other	13	5.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>100.00</b>

It observed from Table No.8.5 that 138 (53.08%) & 58 (22.31%) students browsing internet for the purpose of E-mail & E-resources respectively. & 51 (19.31%) student were used OPAC and 13 (5.00%) of the student were used any other purpose of the Internet.

## 8.6 Internet Skill of Users

**Table No. 8.6 Internet Skill of Users**

Internet Skill	No. of Users	Percentage
Excellent	102	39.23
Very Good	68	26.15
Good	59	22.69
Fair	23	8.85
Poor	8	3.08
<b>Total</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>100.00</b>

It can be noted from Table No.8.6 that 102 (39.23% ) & 68 (26.15%) students were having Excellent & very Good Internet Skills 59 (22.69%) & 23 (8.85) students were having Good & Fair and Only 8 (3.08%) Students are Poor in Internet Skill.

## 8.7 Use of Search Engines

**Table No. 8.7 Use of Search Engines**

Use of Search Engines	No. of Users	Percentage
Yes	<b>255</b>	98.07
No	<b>05</b>	1.92
<b>Total</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>100.00</b>

It can be revealed from the Table No. 8.7 that 98.07% users are using search engines, expects 1.92% students are not using search engines

## 8.8 Preferable Format for Downloading

In this question users were allowed to select multiple options therefore the percentage is more than 100%. It can be resolved from Table No. 8.8

**Table No. 8.8 Preferable Format for Downloading**

Preferable Format	No. of Users	Percentage
PDF	249/260	95.76
HTML	209/260	80.38
DOC	253/260	97.30
RTF	95/260	36.53

\* - Multiple Options

That majority 97.86% of the users use PDF format for downloading document. DOC format is used by 56.15% users & 74.33% of users used HTML type. While RTF format is used by only 24.60% of users.



## 9. CONCLUSION

It can be concluded that, in digital era users must have the knowledge of ICT as well as experience of using Internet & its technology. The students of 21<sup>st</sup> Century need more complex and analytical skills. The technological tools of ICT age computer networks, Telecommunication system, digital information resources and databases have put an unprecedented volume of information at in finger tips. In Indian universities, in spite of the fairly good exposure of younger generation to modern technology, there are still some inherent difficulties like lack of knowledge of how information is organize, unawareness of search strategies, retrieval techniques etc., Further the students are hardly able to make distinction between internet sources and electronic information sources. Therefore, it is necessary to teach the students to acquaint with what is available, when to use it and how to find it. IL is one such potential toll that empowers all learners. Information is the life blood of democracy and it is considered as the vital sources of power.

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