


Chapter 10

Utilization of Open Educational Resources (OERs) by College Students in India

M. Nagaiah

 <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-6423-5325>

Alagappa University, India

P. Kannan

 <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4121-5919>

INFLIBNET Centre, India

ABSTRACT

In the information driven society OERs facilitates quality educational resources to the community without expecting anything in return. Here, researcher attempts to understand the utilization level of these resources among the college students. The study aims to evaluate the attitude of college students from rural area towards Information and Communications Technology (ICT) and Open Educational Resources (OERs) and the necessity of using OERs among students which will shed light on the internet access, and learning methods. The sample taken from arts and science college students located in Pudukkottai District, Tamil Nadu, India. Samples of 649 were taken from the total population of 26449 students. Most of the respondents came to know about OERs through their teachers and started using it from less than a year before. Furthermore, it was found that librarians were playing a vital role in familiarizing students and teachers with OERs.

DOI: 10.4018/979-8-3693-5807-8.ch010

INTRODUCTION

In the modern world, the sharing and improvement of knowledge have become prevalent. However, there's a noticeable shift as people now market their knowledge, aiming to monetize valuable intellectual information. Despite this trend, the emergence of Open Educational Resources (OERs) has facilitated better learning for students within this knowledge-driven market. OERs encompasses a wide range of freely available resources like textbooks, media, modules, PDF files, podcasts, case studies, articles, videos, and more, offering convenient access to quality intellectual materials without cost.

This study focuses on how students from the Arts and Science colleges of Pudukottai district utilize Open Educational Resources and the benefits they gain from doing so. Additionally, it explores the barriers they encounter while accessing OERs information. The primary goal of this research is to raise awareness among students about the potential of Open Educational Resources and to examine the various opportunities and challenges they bring to the modern educational system. By understanding these dynamics, we can foster a more inclusive and effective learning environment.

Need for the Study

The current state of college students is primarily attributed to insufficient resources, funding, and manpower. This study aims to explore the potential of Open Educational Resources (OERs) in higher education and examine their role in enhancing the educational skills of students beyond their regular coursework. OERs offer diverse resources sourced from various educational centers, contributing to the development of education in India. The majority of students in the rural areas of Pudukkottai district are facing numerous challenges. To address these daily hurdles, college students require access to ICT tools and resources through Open Educational Resources. This approach holds the promise of overcoming demographic, financial, and geographical barriers, facilitating lifelong learning and personalized knowledge acquisition.

Review of Literature

Elmunsyah et al. (2020) attempted to develop a new curriculum in Indonesian state universities to overcome the problems raised along with Industry 4.0 using the theme Life-Based Learning. Internet, social media, smart phones, and online platform-based learning methods are more acclaimed methods of teaching to this generation of students. An online portal was introduced in support of this initiative,

20 more pages are available in the full version of this document, which may be purchased using the "Add to Cart" button on the publisher's webpage: www.igi-global.com/chapter/utilization-of-open-educational-resources-ers-by-college-students-in-india/367952

Related Content

ShodhGangotri: The Pulse of Indian Research

Naseehath S. (2020). *Handbook of Research on Digital Content Management and Development in Modern Libraries* (pp. 263-275).

www.irma-international.org/chapter/shodhgangotri/245008

Digital Libraries as Learning Environments for Youths

Natalie L.S. Pang (2005). *Design and Usability of Digital Libraries: Case Studies in the Asia Pacific* (pp. 254-269).

www.irma-international.org/chapter/digital-libraries-learning-environments-youths/8142

Perceptions and Attitude of Students in Relation to Vandalism in University Libraries in South-South Zone of Nigeria

Owajeme Justice Ofuaand Ogochukwu Thaddaeus Emiri (2011). *International Journal of Digital Library Systems* (pp. 23-28).

www.irma-international.org/article/perceptions-attitude-students-relation-vandalism/59885

Embracing E-Resource Discovery Technique Using Open Source Software: The IUB Library's Experience

Md. Mukhlesur Rahmanand Md. Zahid Hossain Shoeb (2016). *E-Discovery Tools and Applications in Modern Libraries* (pp. 138-167).

www.irma-international.org/chapter/embracing-e-resource-discovery-technique-using-open-source-software/159528

Libraries: From the Classical to Cloud-Based Era

Maria Salamaand Ahmed Shawish (2012). *International Journal of Digital Library Systems* (pp. 14-32).

www.irma-international.org/article/libraries/83499