

*Full Length Research*

# An Opinion and Perception of Web Technology Tools by LIS Professionals: A Study

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This paper is discussed about An Opinion and Perception of Web Technology Tools used Library Professionals working in the libraries Engineering College which are affiliated by the Anna University, Chennai and Trichy region. The purpose of the study was to find out the library professionals were getting opinion of web Technology tools and examine if they employ web technology tools used in their library activities. They are 400 questionnaire were distributed to library professionals out of which 338 was filled and returned to usable. The study shows that the respondents are Male and Female aware of the fact that being web technology literacy is very important in their library profession. It is pointed out that the RSS is very familiar and Web Conferencing software is less familiar among library science professionals when comparing other web tools.

**Keywords:** Web Technology tools; Web Resources; usage patter; Information Storage

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## INTRODUCTION

ICT is an acronym for Information and Communication Technology. ICT skills are those related to the use of computers and then the ability to transmit stored information through fixed line networks or through wireless phone networks. Thus it involves three steps of receiving digital information, storing it and after reshaping the information resending it. Digital information can be any communication whether in written form or in an audio and video format. It is basically information technology but with communications added on to the package In the past few years, information and communication technologies have provided society with a vast array of new communication capabilities. For example, people can communicate in real time with others in different countries using technologies such as instant messaging,

voice over IP, and video conferencing. Social networking websites like Face book allow users from all over the world to remain in contact and communicate on a regular basis. Today, the Web resources have become a valuable, perhaps indispensable, for conducting research, not because of the added convenience of rapid information retrieval and sharing, but because it also provides a means of making resources available that the printed media simply cannot. The availability and growth of the Web resources offer an opportunity to find information and data from all over the world. A Web consists of numerous and diversified information resources around the world. This is the reason why the net holds the interest of the information professionals. Almost all the research and academic institutions are

connected in one way or the other to the net. It has become the format of choice for academic library patrons as they offer users many opportunities that were not available to their predecessors. The advantages of Web resources are: international reach, speed of communication, unlimited capabilities, reduced cost, convenience, searchability and linking.

## REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Dhanavandan and Esmail (2000) found that the respondents from staff 40.82 percent use the digital resources to collect general knowledge. The majority of staff 40.81 per cent learned digital resources training provided by the Librarian. Pandey and Mehta (2002) conducted a study on awareness of educational technologies in open learning system by target group. Majority of the respondents were from active age group, unmarried, unemployed, belonged to nuclear families and were having service as the main family occupation. Nearly half of the respondents were having medium media-ownership and more than half of them had medium media exposure. Ommani and Chizari (2007) surveyed regarding appropriateness of e-learning based information technology to improve the productivity of crops. The results of the study revealed there was a significant relationship between the IT skill and knowledge, income, social participation, the extent of information-seeking motivation, level. Thangaraja *et al.* (2008) attempted a study on the utilization behavior of online journals by the students of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU). The results showed that majority (95.00%) of the students were aware about the availability of online journals in their respective subjects. Selvi and Dhanavandan (2012) attempted a study the respondents using the internet everyday them once in a week and 82.22 percent of the respondents were use the Google, 70.22 percent of the respondents were use the yahoo search engine. Dhanavandan and Tamizhchelvan (2012) were identified the availability of E-resources facility and accessing mode in the engineering institutions in Tamil Nadu. The users are acquiring knowledge from E-Books, E-Journals, Online resources, CDROM, Internet with related Databases are the impact of E-Resources. Dhanavandan (2014), was found the faculty members visited to the library for the purpose of collecting material for their subject and 55.43% stated that there is excellent collections in library. The respondents stated that the arrangement of reading material in the library is easy to access and 34.29% respondents are satisfied.

## OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. To assess the awareness of the web resources

2. To identify purpose of using the web resources
3. To know the types search method used
4. To assess the various types web resources accessed
5. To measure the use of social networking tools

## METHODOLOGY

The survey method was used to investigating the opinion and Perception of web Technology Tools among Library Professionals working in the Engineering Colleges affiliated by Anna University, Chennai and Trichy Regions. Specifically, a questionnaire was designed and distributed to College Librarian and Assistant Librarian of various engineering colleges. Totally 400 questionnaires were distributed among the library professionals and 338 questionnaire were filled, and returned for usable, and 62 questionnaires are not replied by the respondents.

## ANALYSIS OF DATA AND INTERPRETATION

Table 1 shows the distribution questionnaires to the library to study the awareness of web technology tools and services in the engineering colleges in Anna University Chennai and Trichy regions. The totally 400 questionnaire were distributed to library professionals, among of these 226(56.50 %) for Male professionals and 112(28.00%) to Female professionals, totally 338 (84.5%) of questionnaires were replied and returned to usable. Remaining 62(15.50 %) questionnaires was not yet returned.

Table 2 represents the frequency of how long you are get awareness of web tools by the library and information science professionals. Among 338, the highest percentage of 78 (23.08%) male professionals were get aware from 6-12 months, and 38 (11.24%) female professional said to get 12-24 months. The lowest percentage of male and female respondents are 12(5.30%), 10(8.93 %) says more than 5 years are respectively.

The Table 3 indicates the frequency of using web technology tools in library by the professionals. Among the 338 respondents, 92(27.22%) male professionals and 36(32.14%) female professionals are stated using web technology tools in library below 6 months and 64(18.93%) male professionals and 26(7.69%) female respondents are mentioned they are using web technology from 6-12 months. Followed by 38(11.242%) male respondents and 22(6.51%) female professionals are mentioned their frequency of using web applications one year to two year. It is pointed out that 14(4.14%) of male professionals and 10(2.96%) of female respondents mentioned they are using web technology the frequency of more than 60 months respectively.

**Table 1:** Statistics for Distribution of Questionnaires

Gender	Questionnaires Distributed	Questionnaires Received	Questionnaires not Replied
Male	272(68.00)	226(56.50)	46(11.50)
Female	128(32.00)	112(28.00)	16(4.00)
<b>Total</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>338(84.50)</b>	<b>62(15.50)</b>

**Table 2:** Respondents how long are you aware of Web Technologies

Sl. No	Frequency	No. of Respondents				Total	%
		Male	%	Female	%		
1	Below 6 months	66	19.53	26	7.69	92	27.22
2	6 to 12 months	78	23.08	22	6.51	100	29.59
3	12 to 24 months	42	12.43	38	11.24	80	23.67
4	24 to 60 months	28	8.28	16	4.73	44	13.02
5	More than 60 months	12	3.55	10	2.96	22	6.51
	<b>Total</b>	<b>226</b>	<b>66.86</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>33.14</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>100</b>

**Table 3:** Frequency of using Web Technologies in your Library

Sl. No	Frequency of use	No. of Respondents				Total	%
		Male	%	Female	%		
1	Below 6 months	92	27.22	36	10.65	128	37.87
2	6 to 12 months	64	18.93	26	7.69	90	26.63
3	12 to 24 months	38	11.24	22	6.51	60	17.75
4	24 to 60 months	18	5.33	18	5.33	36	10.65
5	More than 60 months	14	4.14	10	2.96	24	7.10
	<b>Total</b>	<b>226</b>	<b>66.86</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>33.14</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>100</b>

**Table 4:** Response from library users towards application of Web Technologies

Sl. No	User Responses	No. of Respondents				Total	%
		Male	%	Female	%		
1	Very Good	94	27.81	44	13.02	138	40.83
2	Good Support	76	22.49	34	10.06	110	32.54
3	Fair Support	34	10.06	18	5.33	52	15.38
4	Poor Support	22	6.51	16	4.73	38	11.24
	<b>Total</b>	<b>226</b>	<b>66.86</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>33.14</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>100</b>

The Table 4 shows to getting response from library users toward the application of web technology tools in the library. The highest of male 94 (27.81%) of responses are stated very good response and 44(13.02%) of female respondents are stated the same among the 338. And 76(22.49%) male respondents and 34(10.06%) female

respondents are mentioned the responses are very good. It is pointed out that only 38(11.24%) respondents noted very poor support from users.

The Table 5 to indicates the information about to time spending for using web technology per day by the professionals. Among 338, 84(24.85%) male

**Table 5:** Frequency of Time spent per day for using web Technology Tools in library

Sl. No	Time Frequency	No. of Respondents				Total	%
		Male	%	Female	%		
1	Below 15 minutes	32	9.47	22	6.51	54	15.98
2	15 – 30 minutes	62	18.34	32	9.47	94	27.81
3	30 -60 minutes	84	24.85	44	13.02	128	37.87
4	More than an Hour	48	14.20	14	4.14	62	18.34
<b>Total</b>		<b>226</b>	<b>66.86</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>33.14</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>100</b>

**Table 6:** Sources for getting Knowledge about Web Technologies

Sl. No	Sources of knowledge	No. of Respondents				Total	%
		Male	%	Female	%		
1	Joining Professional Training Course	42	12.43	12	3.55	54	15.98
2	Self-Study (Books, Internet)	38	11.24	20	5.92	58	17.16
3	Through Professional Associations	62	18.34	34	10.06	96	28.40
4	From Conferences/ Seminars/ Workshops	52	15.38	32	9.47	84	24.85
5	Through Colleagues/Peers group	32	9.47	14	4.14	46	13.61
<b>Total</b>		<b>226</b>	<b>66.86</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>33.14</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>100.00</b>

respondents and 44(13.02%) female respondents are using 30-60 minutes for per day to spend for web technology in library and 62(18.34%) male professionals and 32(9.47%) female professionals are stated 15-30minutes are using daily. It is pointed out that 62(18.34%) professionals are using web technology more than one hour daily in the library.

Above Table 6 was defined as various sources for getting knowledge about applications of web technology tools by the library and Information Science professionals. Among the 338, 96(28.40%) professionals getting the sources from professionals association which includes 62 (18.34%) male and 34 (10.06%) female professionals. And 84 (24.85%) professionals getting the sources from conferences/seminars/workshops which includes 52(15.38%) male and 32(9.47%) female professionals. It is concluded that 12 (3.55%) female professionals are getting sources from professionals training course.

Above Table 7 represents to familiarities on web technology tools in while using the library. With the help of WAM calculation based on the weightages the RSS is very familiar among the library professionals. And followed by the Digital Library Software is second position and Instant Messaging Tools is third position familiarities of web tools among the LIS professionals. It is pointed out that Web Conferencing software is less familiar with library science professionals when comparing other web

tools.

The Table 8 is clearly shows the responses experiences for using the web technology tools in the library. Among the 338, 90(26.63%) male professionals and 48(14.20%) female professionals' responses were mentioned extremely useful and 66(19.53%) male respondents and 34(10.06%) female respondents are stated very useful. It is pointed out that 46 (13.61%) professionals are mentioned it is slightly useful.

The Table 9 states the reason for using Web Technology tools in library by the professionals. Among the 338, 60(17.75%) professionals are mentioned the information management is the reason for using the web technology which includes 42(12.43%) male and 18(5.33%) female professionals. And, 48 (14.20%) professionals are mentioned the information storage is one of the reason for using the web technology which includes 36(10.65%) male and 12(3.55) female professionals. The lowest number of 10(2.96%) of male respondents were mentioned for using the web technology for file sharing purpose, and 6(1.78%) of female for using the reason of institutional repository.

## CONCLUSION

Now a day the Web Technology tools are utilized in the library operations to serve the user effectively. It is very

**Table 7:** Familiarity with web technology Tools by Respondents

Sl. No	Some of the Familiarities	Very Good	Good	Fair	Satisfactory	Poor	Total	WAM	Rank
1	Blog tools	86(25.44)	84(24.85)	70(20.71)	58(17.16)	40(11.83)	338(100)	3.35	7
2	Web application	90(26.63)	72(21.30)	58(17.16)	72(21.30)	46(13.61)	338(100)	3.26	10
3	Photo Sharing tool or website	90(26.63)	72(21.30)	78(23.08)	50(14.79)	48(14.20)	338(100)	3.31	9
4	Video Sharing tool or website	76(22.49)	78(23.08)	90(26.63)	58(17.16)	36(10.65)	338(100)	3.30	8
5	Content Management Systems (CMS)	112(33.14)	78(23.08)	76(22.49)	58(17.16)	14(4.14)	338(100)	3.64	5
6	Digital Library software	144(42.60)	114(33.73)	58(17.16)	18(5.33)	4(1.18)	338(100)	4.11	2
7	Server and Client side applications do you use to implement web technologies in your library	90(26.63)	72(21.30)	38(17.16)	72(21.30)	46(13.61)	338(100)	3.26	10
8	Federated Search	112(33.14)	78(23.08)	76(22.49)	58(17.16)	14(4.14)	338(100)	3.64	5
9	e-Learning Management System	130(38.46)	102(30.18)	46(13.61)	54(15.98)	6(1.78)	338(100)	3.88	4
10	Reference Management System	102(30.18)	104(30.77)	46(13.61)	62(18.34)	24(7.10)	338(100)	3.59	6
11	RSS (Really Simple Syndication) tool	162(47.93)	84(24.85)	70(20.71)	14(4.14)	8(2.37)	338(100)	4.12	1
12	Social Networking sites	88(26.04)	70(20.71)	58(17.16)	78(23.08)	44(13.02)	338(100)	3.24	11
13	Web Conferencing software	78(23.08)	92(27.22)	38(11.24)	90(26.63)	40(11.83)	338(100)	3.23	12
14	Instant Messaging (IM) tool	148(43.79)	78(23.08)	76(22.49)	22(6.51)	14(4.14)	338(100)	3.96	3

**Table 8:** Opinion of Responses for Accessing Scholarly Information / For Academic And Research Purpose

Sl. No	Opinion of Respondents	No. of Respondents				Total	%
		Male	%	Female	%		
1	Extremely useful	90	26.63	48	14.20	138	40.83
2	Very useful	66	19.53	34	10.06	100	29.59
3	Somewhat useful	38	11.24	16	4.73	54	15.98
4	Slightly useful	32	9.47	14	4.14	46	13.61
<b>Total</b>		<b>226</b>	<b>66.86</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>33.14</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>100</b>

**Table 9:** Reason for the using Web Technology

Sl. No	Reason for use	No. of Respondents				Total	%
		Male	%	Female	%		
1	Knowledge Sharing	22	6.51	8	2.37	30	8.88
2	Internal Communication	18	5.33	16	4.73	34	10.06
3	Repository	14	4.14	6	1.78	20	5.92
4	File Sharing	10	2.96	12	3.55	22	6.51
5	Information Storage	36	10.65	12	3.55	48	14.20
6	Information Retrieval	26	7.69	18	5.33	44	13.02
7	Information Processing	30	8.88	14	4.14	44	13.02
8	Information Management	42	12.43	18	5.33	60	17.75
9	Information Services	28	8.28	8	2.37	36	10.65
<b>Total</b>		<b>226</b>	<b>66.86</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>33.14</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>100</b>

essential for college libraries to initiate regular training programs and seminars and other programmes to create the awareness of web tools. In these circumstances the library professionals are in need of awareness of web tools to learn and use in their library activities. Further, the authorities of the engineering colleges should more concentrate to allocate the fund to improve the infrastructural facilities in respective libraries.

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