

**SIGNIFICANCE OF E- RESOURCES IN THE DIGITAL ERA: A STUDY****Monika Mukh, Librarian,****Chitkara International School, Chandigarh****Abstract:**

*With the advent of paper the writing was start on paper and after the long time the printing press came to the human society for reading. Therefore, the books are the integral part of human learning since the invention of paper. Reading of books, magazines, journals and newspapers have a great role to enhance the knowledge of a person in any field like arts, medical, sciences, agriculture, general awareness, sports or business etc. to inculcate the reading habits among the children parents are emphasizing on reading the books. By the development of the technology e- resources are available in the market in the form of e-books, e-magazines, e-journals and e-papers of newspapers. These e-resources could also be accessed through 21<sup>st</sup> century high tech libraries which are providing electronic services in this digital era. This study describes the various e-resources, how to use e-resources and the problems facing while accessing the e-resources.*

**Keywords:** E-books, Electronic-resources, Databases. Generation Alpha,**Introduction:**

Information technology has brought eh drastic change in today's information seeking environment. There was a time when libraries were regarded as a store house and librarians were supposed to a storekeeper to only store the books in the library as there were no usage of books in that period of time, but with the passage of time that trend has totally been changed. Now a day's libraries are regarded as a social institution with the aim to provide the information towards the patrons. In this 21<sup>st</sup> century the explosion of literature is very high. One can get the end number of options for information, on a particular topic through Google Father. Everybody has time constraints and engaged with so many assignments in their daily life. One does not want to go to the library which is full of print books when he/she has I pads or laptop with internet accessibility. Instead of reading the text thoroughly page by page one should go for accessing the e resources, available according to the Information needs.

**Objectives:**

- To understand the need and importance of e-resources;
- To explore the importance of various e-resources;
- To understand the methods of accessing the e-resources;
- To bring different problems while accessing the e-resources; and
- To given some suggestions to increase the electronic resources usage and also improve the electronic library services to academic users.

**Meaning: e-resources**

An "electronic resource" is defined as any work encoded and made available for access through the use of a computer. It includes electronic data available by remote access and direct access (fixed media). In other words: Remote access (electronic resources) refers to the use of electronic resources via computer networks. (AACR2, 2002 edition; glossary). Direct Access (electronic resources) refers to the use of electronic resources via carriers (e.g., discs/disks, cassettes, cartridges) designed to be inserted into a computerized device or its auxiliary equipment.

Electronic resources represent an increasingly important component of the collection building activities of libraries. "Electronic resources" refer to those materials that require computer access, whether through a personal computer, mainframe, or handheld mobile device. They may either be accessed remotely via the Internet or locally.

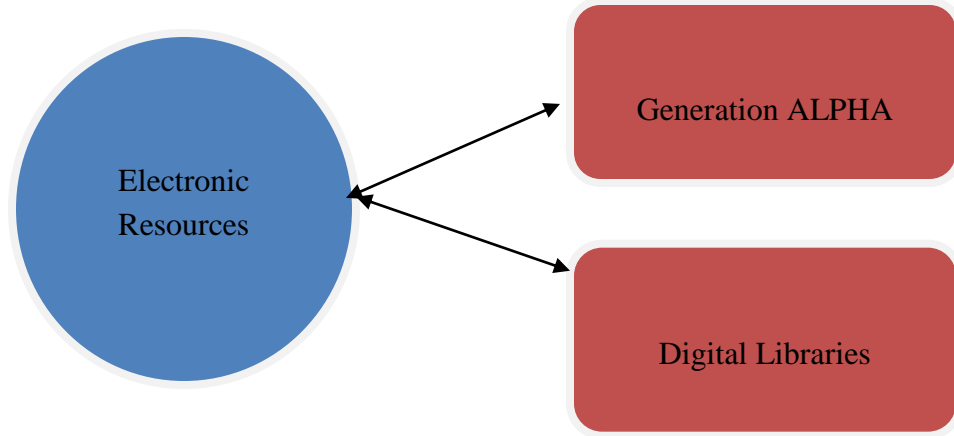
**Why e-resources? : Need and importance**

- Due to the information revolution;
- Helps in the development of a digital library;
- High demand of e-resources to the researchers according to their academic needs;
- Easy probability of the information through e-resources;
- Mandatory subscription of e-journal packages for all engineering institutions by AICTE

**E-resources and Generation Alpha**

Alpha generation children born after 2010 and expected to be more tech savvy, educated and materialistic than previous generations. Generation Z is followed by digitally superior and well informed generation Alpha. Generation Alpha being considered as Google kids want to adopt the technology faster and need information in more effective and efficient way, according to their day to day needs.

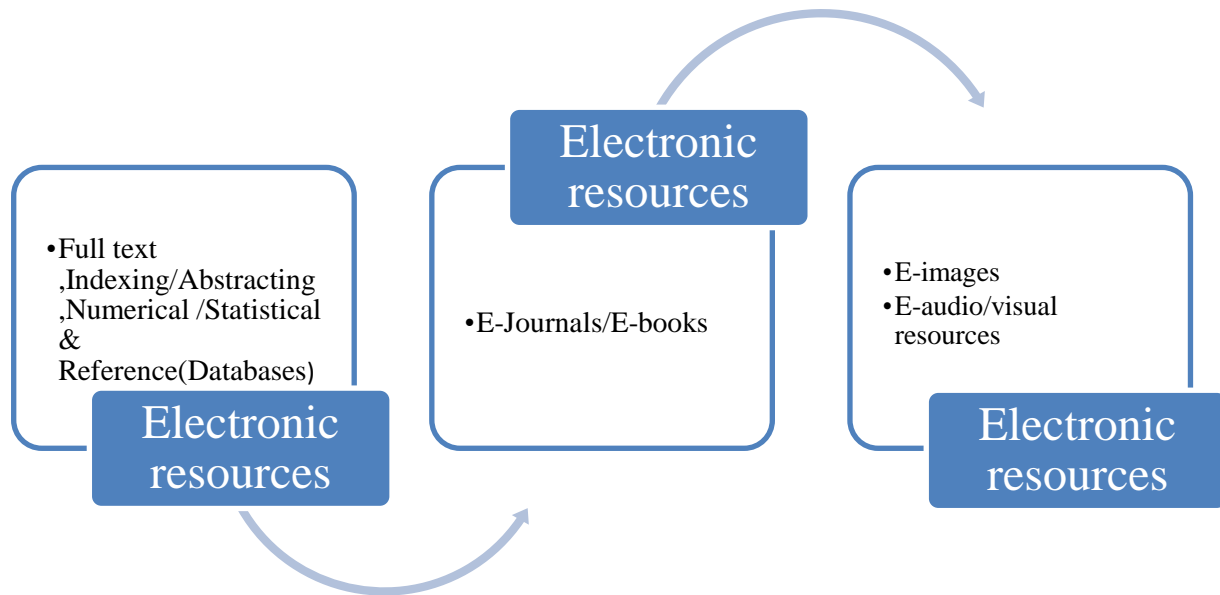
Generation Alpha is using this trend of electronic resources in more sufficient way as E-Resource will allow the user to approach the publications to analyze its content in new ways by click of the mouse on search mode. E-Resources may include international reach, unlimited capabilities, reduced cost, convenience, search ability and linking E - Resources provide quick information, up to date information, easy citations, various search options and special services like SDI (Selective Dissemination of Information), Alerts etc., and provide access to literally thousands of e-journals, e-books etc., than the library could possibly subscribe to in paper format.



**Fig1: Electronic –resources for Generation Alpha & for Digital Libraries**

**Types of E- resources**

**Fig 2: Types of Electronic- resources**



**E-resources/Online Databases**

Commonly accessed online databases/electronic resources are:

- ACM Digital Library
- AIP/APS Journals
- ASCE Journals Online
- ASME Journals Online
- ASTM Standards + Digital Library
- Capitaline Databases
- CRIS INFAC Industrial Information
- EBSCO Online
- Elsevier
- Emerald Management Xtra
- ESDU
- Euromonitor (GMID)
- Gale Cengage Learning
- ICE+Thomas Telford
- IEC Standards
- IEEE/IEE/IEL Online
- INSIGHT
- INSPEC on EI Village
- J-Gate
- MathSciNet
- McGraw- Hill's
- Nature
- OSA: Optics Infobase
- Pro Quest Science
- RMIT
- Science Direct
- SciFinder Scholar
- SCOPUS
- Springer
- Web of Science
- Wiley Blackwell
- Wiley InterScience

## E books

- Cambridge Books Online (1800 titles) <http://ebooks.cambridge.org>
- E-brary (83000+ titles) <http://site.ebrary.com/lib/inflibnet>
- EBSCOHost-Net Library (936 titles) <http://search.ebscohost.com>
- Hindustan Book Agency (65+ titles) <http://portal.igpublish.com/iglibrary>
- Institute of South East Asian Studies(ISEAS) Books (382+ titles) <http://portal.igpublish.com/iglibrary>
- Oxford Scholarship (1402+ titles) <http://www.oxfordscholarship.com/>
- Springer eBooks (2300 titles) <http://link.springer.com>.
- Sage Publication eBooks (1000 titles) <http://knowledge.sagepub.com>.
- Taylor Francis eBooks (1800 titles) <http://www.tandfebooks.com>.
- Mylibrary-McGraw Hill (1124 titles) <http://lib.mylibrary.com/>

## Methods of accessing e-resources

- **IP Based Access:** Resources access to the specific range of IP (Internet Protocol Address) every PC has its own IP address, for example: 22.231.113.64
- **Username and Password:** Using by username and password to access the resources. For example: KOHA is accessible by user name and password. (It could be paid or free of cost)
- **Free Access:** Freely available electronic recourse access via the Web. For example: Web OPAC of Panjab University.

## Problems while accessing e-resources

- Cannot get into a database;
- The user interface is "distorted" in some way...
- Saying "this eBook is in use"...
- Get the message "File missing: docs/suspend.htm"
- The wrong UNI and/or wrong password is being entered
- Account is Expiring.

## Solutions to overcome the problems

- Clear your browser cache;
- Download the book to your computer or portable device for uninterrupted reading;
- Wait for about 15 minutes, your connection should be restored;
- Login correctly; and

- Always keep an eye on the expiry of your card and get it renew before the period of expire.
- IP (Internet Protocol address) based access for online databases is very help full to access the campus wide access and also secure, outsiders cannot able to access the resources.
- All the available online databases in library details informed by internal circular, intranet link, OPAC and institution website to users.
- Keep the online databases link in OPAC, users they can easily to connect the online databases website.

### **Conclusion:**

From the above study, it could be said that the e-resources are the demand of the hour in today's busy life as compared to availability of information in print format. As per the mandatory instructions by AICTE, institutions are now bound to have the subscription of e-journals and e-magazines, it also emphasize the great usage of e-resources as much as accessed by the research scholars according their academic needs. There is no doubt that while accessing the e-resources problem could be occurred many times but with the suggested suggestions one can overcome the problems. Print information which is available in the form of books demand for the storage or great occupation space but electronic resources can be easily accessed through the remote only. Electronic resources are available in the digital libraries, but this is the librarian or information provider who endeavours to give the right e resource to the right information seeker at the right time.

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