

Library consortia in modern era: An evaluative study

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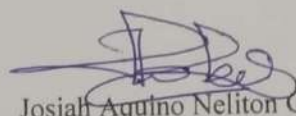
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I hereby declare that the data presented in this Dissertation report entitled, "Consortia in modern era: An evaluative study" is based on the results of investigations carried out by me in the Library and Information Science at the D.D. Kosambi School of Social Sciences and Behavioural Studies, Goa University under the Supervision of Dr Carlos Matheus Fernandes and the same has not been submitted elsewhere for the award of a degree or diploma by me. Further, I understand that Goa University or its authorities will be not be responsible for the correctness of observations / experimental or other findings given the dissertation.

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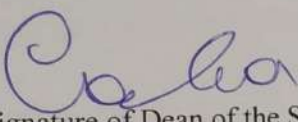
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ABBREVIATIONS

Entity	Abbreviation
Documentary Delivery Service	DDS
Information Communication Technology	ICT
One Nation One Subscription	ONOS
Information Technology	IT
Indian Organization of Standardization	ISO
Information Network	INFONET
Information and Library Network	INFLIBNET
Corona Virus Disease	COVID
Open Educational Resources	OER
Inter Library Loan service	ILLs
Virtual Library of Virginia	VIVA
Integrated Library Systems	ILSs
University Grants Commission	UGC
Article Processing Charges	APC
Strengths Weakness Opportunities Threats	SWOT
Greater Western Library Alliance	GWLA
Joint University Librarians Advisory Committee	JULAC
Research & Development	R&D
Bielefeld Academic Search Engine	BASE
Connecting Repositories	CORE
Directory of Open Access Journals	DOAJ
Selective Dissemination of Information	SDI
Library and Information Science Abstracts	LISA
Online Computer Library Center	OCLC
National Knowledge Resource Consortium	NKRC
Human Resource Development	HRD
New England Journal of Medicine	NEJM
National Agricultural Research and Education System	NARES
International Center for genetic Engineering and Biotechnology	ICGBE

Indian Council of Agricultural Research	ICAR
National Research Center	NRC
North Eastern Region	NER
Defense Scientific Information & documentation Center	DESIDOC
Defense Research and Development Organization	DRDO
Ministry of health and family welfare	MOHFW
The Directorate General of Health Services	Dte.GHS
Ministry of Human Resource Development	MHRD
National Library and information Services Infrastructure for Scholarly Content	N-LIST
Forum for Resource Sharing in Astronomy and Astrophysics	FORSA
Elton B. Stephens Company	EBSCO
Institute of Electrical Electronics Engineers	IEEE
Molecular and Cellular Biology	MCB
Online Public Access Catalogue	OPAC
Open Access Initiative-Protocol for Metadata Harvesting	OAI-PMH
Machine Readable Cataloguing	MARC
Metadata Encoding Transmission Standards	METS
Software as a Service	SaaS
Application Service Provider	ASP
Government of India	GoI
National Medical Library's Electronic Resources in Medicine Consortium	NML-ERMED
Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences	RGUHS
The Health Sciences Library and Information Network	HELINET
The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research	(CSIR)
National Institute of Science Communication and Information Resources	NASCAIR
Indian Institutes of Management	IIM
Consortium for e-Resources in Agriculture	CeRA
National Agricultural Technology Programme	NATP

National Agricultural Innovation Project	NAIP
Uniform Resource Locator	URL
Internet Protocol	IP
Science Citation Index	SCI
Department of Biotechnology e-Library Consortium	DeLCON
Department of Biotechnology	DBT
Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council	BIRAC
Department of Telecommunication	DOT
Department of Post	DOP
Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology	MCIT
National Informatics Center	NIC
China Academic Library and Information System	CALIS
CONsortium on Core Electronic Resources in Taiwan	CONCERT
Taiwan E-book Network	TEBNET
Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries in Illinois	CARLI
Patron-Driven Acquisition	PDA
The International Coalition of Library Consortia	ICOLC
American Library Association	ALA
CAVAL Archival and Research Materials	CARM
South African National Library and Information Consortium	SANLIC
Cape Higher Education Library Network	CHELIN
Cape Peninsula University of Technology	CPUT
Stellenbosch University	SU
The University of Cape Town	UCT
University of the Western Cape	UWC
Kenya Library and Information Services Consortium	KLISC
Electronic Information for Libraries	EIFL
Open Society Institute	OSI
Non-governmental organisations	NGOs
Science Technology Engineering Mathematics	STEM

Consortium of European Research Libraries	CERL
The Heritage of the Printed Book Database	HPB
Research Library UK Consortium.	RLUK
Consortia of University Research Libraries	CURL
The Libraries Consortium	TLC
The London Library Consortium	LCC
Radio Frequency Identification	RFID
Future Of Libraries Is Open	FOLIO
Current Awareness Services	CAS
Developing Library Network	DELNET
Indian Space Research Organisation	ISRO
J-Gate Custom Content for Consortium	JCCC
Department of Atomic Energy	DAE
Artificial Intelligence	AI
Virtual Reality	VR
Augmented Reality	AR
Intellectual Property Rights	IPR

CHAPTER - 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction:

In the past academic libraries were seen as pioneering bodies for acquiring, storing, and accessing various resources including documents and other information sources. Considering the growing information needs of its patrons and other challenges towards the purchase and acquisition of scholarly content, libraries incorporate the concept of resource sharing.

The term consortia is not a modern or new concept, it has had its origin and existence for a long time with the management, however the precise date and genesis of 'Library Consortia' is not clear within the field of library and information science.

Earlier terms such as cooperation, resource sharing, and networking were used interchangeably as synonymous terms, slowly these terms were combined and exhibited together by 'consortia'

This notion resulted in exchanging union catalogs, information, storage spaces, collection development, and human resources at the local, regional, and national levels. Another type of collaboration is founded on interlibrary loans, whereby member libraries exchange resources and make bilateral borrowings with one another (Allen & Hirshon, 1998)¹. Later by the 1980s, as this notion developed many libraries began adopting technology harnessing automation in their operations via computers which became an important medium for organizing databases and bibliographic-related processing.

Another potential technology-related role for consortia is website development and management (Hirshon, 1999)². Consortia can be extremely beneficial when it comes to offering high-quality websites for libraries that are either unable or unwilling to handle this duty within the organization or they can act as an outsourcing agent by educating their participants about the technological processing. These processes of selecting and training employees with strong customer service and web operation abilities are becoming more and more important in the provision of services especially DDS (Manjunatha & Shivalingaiah, 2013)³.

The development of Library consortia has reinforced academic libraries with the spirit of cooperation that is essential for library services, especially in the present digital environment (Verma & Lalthanmawii, 2016)⁴.

Ever since its inception the motto of such consortia agreements focuses on archiving optimum satisfaction levels among its patron's needs be it social, intellectual, and educational information needs (Francis, 2005)⁵.

1.2 Significance of the study:

This research study helps to understand and analyze consortiums operating within the state of Goa. Additionally, this study contributes to our understanding of various advantages related to consortiums and their impact on Goa's numerous college libraries. The study will also present to us the various additional/ extension services that are available at the disposal of users in addition to subscribed consortia resource packages, and how such services would benefit users through quick information dissemination and help towards bridging the digital divide.

1.3 Objectives of the study:

1. To study and understand the modern trends in library consortia.
2. To examine various services offered through Library consortia
3. To examine the role of ICT towards the operation and development of library consortia.
4. To evaluate the influence of library consortia on college libraries in the state of Goa
5. To assess and evaluate the awareness, challenges, and implications associated with the implementation ONOS model

1.4 Scope of study:

The study focuses on modern trends within library consortia contributing towards optimum resource utilization, information dissemination, and research output, leading towards cost reduction and minimizing document replication.

1.5 Hypothesis:

1. The benefits of consortia are yet to be understood by library professionals and users.
2. Advancement of electronic infrastructure and other related technologies can help boost library consortia services and enhance their overall quality.
3. Library professional lacks confidence in building library consortia.
4. The college librarians in Goa have a limited understanding of the "One Nation One Subscription" (ONOS) concept.

1.6 Limitation of study

The study will be limited to only collage libraries functioning in the state of Goa

1.7 Research Methodology:

- The researcher has browsed all the literature available in print and non-print documents on library consortia in the modern era
- Further the researcher has visited all the digital portals dealing with library consortia at the national and international level
- Further the researcher has prepared an open-ended questionnaire and will distribute it among all the stakeholders dealing with library consortia
- The researcher has interviewed the experts in consortia along with IT professionals who are well-versed in library consortia
- At the end the researcher has tabulated all collected data using appropriate statistical tools to present the data and conclusion with a precise and clear understanding

1.8 Population Of study:

The study has included around 100 library professionals including library users, LIS students, and experts.

1.9 Organization of the Study:

The research study is divided into 6 chapters:

Chapter 1: Introduction.

Chapter 2: Review of Literature.

Chapter 3: Library Consortia and Related Concepts.

Chapter 4: Library Consortia at the National & International Level.

Chapter 5: Data Interpretation and Analysis.

Chapter 6: Findings, Suggestions, and Conclusion.

1.10 Conclusion:

In today's world of ever-expanding information, a consortium is really important and extremely helpful. A library consortium is like a vast ocean of information and resources. Libraries must understand that collaboration can result in much more than they could accomplish separately.

Consortia and the development of a consortium network among academic libraries in Goa can immensely contribute towards the development of all academic libraries within the state, by boosting Research output and enhancement of consortia services would result in overall user Satisfaction, including collection development and other cost benefits.

This research has tried to evaluate the present trends in consortia and their impact on all stakeholders, analyzing the users' perspectives along with field librarians' viewpoints all of which help to contribute to a better understanding of the current scenario, effectiveness, trends, and other related parameters concerning library consortia.

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CHAPTER - 2

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

2.1 Introduction

This chapter aims to provide an extensive review of the literature available on library consortia in relation to its origins, growth, terminology, features, reasons for development, models, issues and concerns, benefits, characteristics contributing towards its success, various other related aspects including its present state in developed and developing countries, especially concerning India.

The review of literature in this chapter involves the sampling of print and online resources covering major concerns and aspects directed towards library consortia together with their impact on patrons, institutions, and society as a whole. This chapter is an attempt to compile together various resources scattered over the internet, scholastic journals, conference proceedings,

2.2 Literature Reviews:

1. **Muhammad, Abba & Others (2023)**¹ The study highlights the cardinal benefits of a consortium network; and resource sharing and concludes that such a sharing model serves as a repository for scholarly works, providing a vast array of material to satiate the information needs of scholars, researchers, and other library users. It is challenging for a standalone library to achieve this. However effective resource exchange initiatives through official agreements and legislative support under terms and conditions can lead to an efficient procurement, handling, distribution, and pooling of information resources among participating libraries.
2. **Choudhari (2023)**² Through his study, described library consortia as a collective organization that supports the work of a service program through the addition of human

resources and material beyond those available with individual organizations. With aims to deliver much more to its users and at the same time providing an ideal solution in situations of scarcity of funds.

3. **Gonda & Papatheodorou (2023)³** The study identified that ISO 11620 could be used not only to measure performance for library services, and functioning but it could also be adopted for evaluating consortium-based services. Monitoring a consortium's management by measuring economic efficiency, human resources, and financial stats. Giving a consortium the authority to control financial boundaries and personnel issues more efficiently and effectively. Evaluating the consortia performance on collaborative purchasing of e-resources was achieved by determining cost-benefits, the balance of expenses, and adequate licenses. It also helps in assessing the performance of resource sharing and interlibrary loans, providing cumulative insights into the services offered through such networks, feedback, and user satisfaction rates.
4. **Shree & Sc (2022)⁴** The study conducted shows that CSIR collaborations offer the largest number of E-Resources, INFONET, HELINET, E-SHODHSINDU (INFLIBNET) and CeRA offer bibliographies and full-text resources. The study showed a 36.33% and 23.59% annual growth in the download rates and usage patterns of E-resources offered by INDEST-AICTE and UGC-INFONET consortiums respectively. The study also highlighted that the cost recovered against total expenditure by the INDEST consortium is higher than the national savings and cost recovered by UGC-INFONET.
5. **Nche (2021)⁵** The purpose of this study was to examine the influence of library consortia on resource sharing in academic libraries in Kenya concerning the University of Nairobi library. It examines resource sharing in academic libraries discovering methods for resource sharing among academic libraries through various consortia initiatives that boost and enhance resource sharing in academic libraries.
6. **Martzoukou (2021)⁶** This study conducted during the COVID-19 pandemic highlights the shift to an online-based platform whereby various sectors underwent several

challenges affecting productivity, economy, education, and learning. In such a condition the study marks the role of academic libraries to help their patrons including distant learners, providing them a reliable and equitable accessibility to various information resources. making them digitally competent. Setting forth a strategic objective to overcome hardships that arise in the online learning environment.

7. **Shaw & Sarkar (2021)**⁷ The study states that the cost of installing infrastructure and buying hardware for college libraries will be lower with a cloud-based consortium strategy, besides this it will also spare libraries from hiring more IT specialists. reduce
8. **Sweet & Clarage (2020)**⁸ The study conducted on the CARLI consortium, USA during the outbreak of Covid 19 highlights various project initiatives and accessibility provisions to several Open Educational Resources (OER) via library consortia Networks contributing towards college affordability, resulting in better retention rates for students even during budgetary constraints and reduction of academic fundings.
9. **Israel (2020)**⁹ The article critically examines the utility of bibliographies as a roadmap for expanding library resource-sharing consortia. It emphasizes the importance of bibliographic utility as an essential element of an effective library consortium, as a paradigm shift from notions of individual ownership to collective access to distributed networked resources and knowledge.
10. **Pereira & Franco (2020)**¹⁰ This article contributes to revealing the methods followed by the scientific literature on library consortia in academic libraries, specifically open access contracts and their challenges, consortia budget limits, and the scientific output of member institutions. From the practical point of view, it helps managers of library consortia and member institutions to recognize their importance in this scenario of promoting open access, both for accessing and inclusion in the process of scientific publication based entirely on resource-based theory, centered on partners' collaboration. besides this, the possibility of retrieving that information in a consortium context gives recognition to the content available, whether licensed or not, at both the consortium and library levels.

11. **Machovec (2020)**¹¹ This study reflected the effects of COVID-19 on consortia networking whereby libraries had to limit databases, journal packages, eBook packages, and other subscription services. these negotiations processed through consortia declined thus lowering revenue. The vendors and publishers also witnessed a drop in revenue rates, since libraries demanded discounts. Consortia licensed fewer resources as available funds declined along with their member libraries. Traditional interlibrary loans for various resources were substantially declined as libraries shut down. This made libraries and users understand the benefits of acquiring eBooks and other digital resources. such resources have been a lifesaver for academic professionals. Thus, setting libraries to adopt such digital packages over their print collections.
12. **Levine-Clark & Emery (2020)**¹² This article highlights the importance of collaboration across consortium platforms. This helps promote and share experiences, uniting the two consortium networks to achieve more than any single consortium could achieve. The article also highlights the increasing need and benefit to collaborate at such an inter-consortia level, such an approach would help accomplish more advanced and complex objectives and goals.
13. **Chanchinmawia & Verma (2020)**¹³ In a study conducted on the E-ShodhSindhu Consortium, the faculty and the research scholars of Mizoram universities agreed that this consortium initiative had a tremendous impact on their academics and research performance. E-ShodhSindhu e-journals were considered to have positive impacts and this learning has assisted respondents in meeting their expected satisfaction levels and related improvement suggestions.
14. **Murphy (2019)**¹⁴ The study highlights various eBooks sharing models through library consortia networks that have helped Libraries, consortia, publishers, and aggregators to develop new and innovative ways to manage eBook acquisitions and tackle the problems involved in sharing eBooks between libraries. Among these, the most prominent example is VIVA's whole-eBook ILL initiative the article also states that if publishers are willing to offer the same terms to other libraries across the world, eBooks ILL could quickly become a universal notion that would revolutionize the resource scope and coverage of consortium-based networks.

15. **Morris & Hammer (2019)¹⁵**. This article describes two initiatives related to business models based on a multi-consortium of libraries and commercial partnerships that go beyond the acquisition of information including the coverage of technology, for access, storage, organization, and retrieval of information. One of the initiatives is the management of statistical data related to access of electronic resources that is permitted by Commercial publishers thus it does not belong to the consortium, and when the contract ceases the information cannot be accessed the other initiative is relations in terms of partnership between the multi-consortium and a commercial company to develop software related technologies to manage library services.
16. **Liu & Fu (2019)¹⁶** The study highlights the next generation consortium-based ILSs leading to a more advanced collaboration between libraries. whereby such collaborations would lead to a significant rise in all aspects of library operations especially those related to resource sharing, user experience, shared content, collaborative technical services, systems, as well as unique and local digital content. it also poses both challenges and opportunities to individual members in all these areas, such integrations expands boundaries towards developing effective partnerships between wider consortiums networks strengthening bonds among member libraries
17. **Kaushik (2019)¹⁷** This study aims to analyze various contents related to services, search interfaces, e-resources, and other facilities provided by various library consortia websites. The study highlighted that the majority of library consortia platforms offered various information related to different content algorithms patterns based respective consortia. Apart from these, it was also found that several library consortia websites are using Web 1.0-based applications while a few used Web 2.0 applications to deliver content. It also encourages a shift to adopt Web 3.0 technologies to further enhance and develop the scope and coverage of the services offered through such platforms.
18. **Nesta (2019)¹⁸** This article highlights various global initiatives among different library consortia throughout the world that are undertaking various consortium programs to address cost, expenditure, research, and distribution. This article traces the role of consortia from past to present, advancing research through collaboration in the development of indexes and catalogs, thus fostering new future coordination and

collaboration to build large-scale global repositories. It emphasizes the ability to be independent and avoid excessive subscription fees

19. **Willinsky (2018)**¹⁹ In his study underlines the importance of library consortia towards strengthening open access via scientific communication, whereby they take responsibility for paying the APC for various other journals to make them open access, they are responsible for publishing open access scientific journals, acquiring negotiating power with maximum cost-benefits to all consortium members.
20. **Miholič & Južnič (2018)**²⁰ analyzed the participation of a single university via three consortia networks for access to electronic e-journals through the available resources. This study confirms a significant rise in the total number of articles published by researchers as compared to the previous years when linked to the consortium institution, thus stating the benefits of such a participation.
21. **Emery & Levine-Clark (2018)**²¹ This article reviews collaborative librarianship efforts in collection management that aim to improve the library's overall ability to protect scholarly output and cultural heritage while providing continued access to these resources for current and future users. The purpose is to achieve efficiency in library collection management to develop a comprehensive collection with continuous curation, and continuous access through joint engagements on the other hand, due to limited resources, libraries also need to coordinate and engage in the development of their future collections so that any publication can be moved into active management.
22. **Verma & Brahma (2017)**²² studied 9 selected library consortiums in India. The study findings showed that E-ShodhSindhu has the highest Domain Authority and Page Authority with 56 (16.61%) and 51 (21.33%) respectively, while the second highest Domain Authority and Page Authority was occupied by NKRC with 53 (15.72%) and 47 (19.66%), followed by CeRA with 47 (13.94%) and 44 (18.41%) respectively. DeLCon had the highest total Linking Root Domains tops with 11 LRDs, followed by CeRA, e-Shodh Sindhu, NKRC, and UGC-DAE with a total of 7 LRDs. E-ShodhSindhu topped

with the highest internal equity-passing links and total equity-passing links with 27,046 (99.34%) and 27,095 (95.99%) respectively.

23. **Rao (2017)**²³ This study deals with the SWOT analysis of the C5 model for the library consortium management which includes various SO strategies such as building a client-centered resource management system, centralized gateway, collaborative actuation model, common copyright communication, and cost-benefit analysis. Apart from these various WO strategies such as organizational planning, equality in ICT infrastructure facilities, quality content, public disclosure of copyright obligations, and effective economic models, the study highlights how these strategies not only helped in better consortium management and decision-making processes but also optimized returns and improve the intellectual outcome of institutions
24. **Machovec (2017)**²⁴ The article stresses that having a properly written investment policy will lead to better governance thus enabling the consortium to properly manage its assets for the long term. such policies define the specific investment objectives, restricted investments, reviewing procedures, expenditure policy, and other related information that may help provide insight into some of the unique challenges and opportunities faced by library consortia.
25. **Jeon & Menicucci (2017)**²⁵ The study stated that libraries having similar preferences are less likely to benefit from building a consortium whereas libraries having diverse preferences are likely to benefit through establishing a consortium. It also highlights the potential tension that can arise between a short-term strategy and a long-term strategy as long as the former dictates forming a library consortium among libraries with similar preferences to benefit from quantity discounts. such tension could result in a consortium trap whereby short-term gain is associated with a long-term loss
26. **Arch& Gilman (2017)**²⁶ This article highlights different examples of innovative consortium programs that have the potential to significantly impact teaching, learning, and research. This article not only focuses on academic libraries as an economic value,

but also seeks to consider their impact on institutional priorities, student outcomes, field growth, and educational patterns. All of this improves overall educational outcomes

27. **Verma & Lalthanmawii (2016)**²⁷ in his study states that the development of library consortia has reinforced academic libraries with the spirit of cooperation that is essential for library services, especially in a present digital environment. Consortia subscriptions are the most common channel of resource sharing, offering highly discounted rates with the most favorable terms of the agreement. Consortia are tools, which will aid in exploiting the features of the e-journals as well as in effecting savings. Helping the researcher to swiftly retrieve information and save their time.
28. **Panada & others (2016)**²⁸ Analyses the usage of J-Gate Plus Discovery and resource-sharing models to examine the inter-lending and document delivery services within the Indian universities through the UGC-INFORNET digital library consortium which provides web-based access to journals held by consortium networks including those that are subscribed by their library.
29. **Pal (2016)**²⁹ The study organizes various consortia-related models highlighting their usefulness and value in terms of user satisfaction levels stating that There is no single best model for a library consortium. The governance, features, and scope of consortia are diverse. from its operation by an agency to a learned society, the government, or a national academic institution It also proposes that no consortium has all the attributes related to a particular model and the models are not mutually exclusive. rather a consortium may evolve from one model to another to achieve collaborative success.
30. **Pal (2016)**³⁰ According to the study, library consortia are playing a new role in extracting more favorable e-licensing deals from publishers. Information intermediaries such as publishers and vendors are also beginning to adopt a consortium culture through resource distribution networks. Modern library consortia have evolved into various forms of collaboration, enabling more efficient expansion and distribution of resources and services through shared agendas and commitments. Therefore, libraries are building further strategic partnerships to enjoy higher levels of collaboration.

31. **Chauhan (2015)**³¹ This article evaluates UGC-INFORNET Digital Library Consortium and its impact on the research output of Indian universities and how it has brought about a dynamic change in the higher education system as compared to the previous year's whereby universities independently subscribed resources which were expensive as compared to discounts offered by the consortia purchases the article also stresses that the establishment of national library consortium will be an economical option for improving the academic research systems within the country.
32. **Ye & Bryant (2015)**³² The study conducted reflects upon an integrated library system whereby consortia borrowing systems have been incorporated alongside with campus authentication system to streamline workflows such integrations have proved to reduce the problem of staff shortages with additional benefits that would help libraries add new services which transformed and open up new ways in which user are assisted over cloud-based systems.
33. **Lee & Horton (2015)**³³ This article reviews various shared communication methods used in library operations to provide effective and efficient consortium services. It focuses on communication-related best practices and introduces unique communication ideas used by library consortia. It also explains how each method differs from each other and how each method can be used to meet specific needs.
34. **Chander & Gupta (2015)**³⁴ Library consortiums are extremely helpful for researchers, faculty, and students to access information and save time. libraries benefit if they can procure more electronic resources with limited library budgets. Consortium is a tool for leveraging the power of electronic resources and efficiently preserving them. This not only saves time and money but also significantly improves service to users.
35. **Tripathi & Kumar (2014)**³⁵ The study demonstrates a strong correlation between the number of e-resources downloaded from various databases within the same time period; thus, a database's increase in popularity stimulates users to check out other databases. The study shows that there is an academic-oriented influence on the university libraries' e-resource utilization patterns.

36. **Rao (2014)**³⁶ The Article understands the financial constraints related to various academic and professional libraries and the rising costs of acquiring information sources that make it extremely difficult for libraries to subscribe to all the journals that satisfy their patron's needs. The most probable solution to this problem is a membership of a library consortium, especially related to electronic resources. The article points out that the key functions of a library consortium include cooperative negotiations, purchasing and financing electronic resources, management of resources, storage, and training library staff to effectively manage the resources available to the consortium.
37. **Perushek & Douglas (2014)**³⁷ The Article highlights a comparative study between three library consortia namely China Academic Library and Information System (CALIS), the Greater Western Library Alliance (GWLA) in the U.S. and the Joint University Librarians Advisory Committee (JULAC) of Hong Kong. The study brings out various key factor's differences and other silent related features related to each respective consortia it helps carious librarians to realize the benefits of different models. This, helps them make a suitable future choice related to governance, service orientation, and policy setting, which in turn would affect the overall state of technology as a determiner of consortium networking, patron satisfaction, training and development programs, and staff and user satisfaction levels.
38. **Machovec (2014)**³⁸ In his study listed the following challenges facing consortia solutions of next-generation Integrated Library Systems (ILS) among the listed the major ones being a selection of an interface, cost determinants, levels of collaboration, security, scalability, authoritative accessibility, solutions, and the integration with other library-based applications
39. **Kumar (2014)**³⁹ The Study states that to establish an effective consortium, important factors include identifying resources based on usage and usefulness, long-term planning of technical infrastructure, access to periodicals, copyrights and licenses, archived versions, and economically advantageous pricing. Lastly, a library consortium must ensure lasting security and a strong model for achieving these objectives. The study

also highlights the advantages and disadvantages related to the establishment of the consortium network

40. **Fresnido & Yap (2014)**⁴⁰ Research results of a study conducted in the Philippines showed that the role of university and academic-based library consortium networks played a significant role in the overall development and growth of academic disciplines further leading towards the promotion of professional development and resource sharing at various operational levels
41. **Machovec (2013)**⁴¹ The study indicated that collaborative librarianship through consortium initiatives has several attributes which when combined in different ways make a successful group enterprise. Some of these programmatic areas concerning consortia are shared purchasing, shared technology, extending influence, and better services to libraries, apart these collaborations have led to shared integrated library systems, delivery systems, shared digital depositories services, and shared print archiving, all of which strive to satisfy the information needs of its users
42. **Muthu (2013)**⁴² With improvements in communication technologies, knowledge explosion, and additional monetary, infrastructure, and space constraints, as well as issues with product standardization, staff professional development, training, and numerous obstacles presented by new technologies, together with significant reductions in library funding, resource sharing has become more crucial or necessary, to address various issues related to librarianship.
43. **Arora, Trivedi & Kembhavi (2013)**⁴³ The Study conducted highlighted that the access to print and e-resources made a qualitative difference in research, learning, staff development, and scholarly and other R&D activities of institutes. The accessibility to this high-quality scholarly content to various universities in India through the UGC-INFONET consortium significantly increased the research output of member universities. The research productivity of universities benefited from access to e-resources through the Consortium initiatives. The research output data from citation indices like SCI, and SSCI, highlighted that research articles produced by these

universities have increased by more than 75% from 2005 to 2010 compared to the last 5 years.

44. **Pradhan (2012)**⁴⁴ In his study stated that the modernization aspects of management via consortia models of libraries using the technology. The study is focused on resource sharing and automated services in the management of the libraries.
45. **Wiser (2012)**⁴⁵ The study states that the most successful library consortium arrangements are those that provide a "cafeteria" approach, both in the consortium's offerings and in the expectations of community member institutions. Library consortia must strive to provide benefits to members and overcome obstacles to protect the consortium as an organization independent of the interests of member libraries. Therefore, as all consortia, like other human organizations, develop and mature, they must overcome the tendency to turn inward and resist readjustment when members adopt different approaches.
46. **Vasishta& Dhanda (2012)**⁴⁶ The study highlighted in the 21st century, an era of Information explosion the most proficient way to gain access to subscribed information resources is through consortium agreements. whereby more and more libraries will get maximum access to information resources at negotiated prices. such agreements have directly or indirectly benefited several institutions in India. right from its inception in India, it has become possible for all higher education institutions to access various electronic databases, and over the years is increasingly facilitated, having quality journals in a wide range of disciplines.
47. **Bansode (2012)**⁴⁷ The study highlights the various aspects through which the establishment of library consortia helps the researchers, faculties, and students to retrieve information, saving their time. Such an establishment enables libraries to procure more electronic resources in the library in case of a limited library budget and this is what the libraries require in the present scenario, furthermore, the article also deals with the issues related to consortia such as licensing, accessibility, copyrights, sustainability, training, usability offering plausible ways to tackle such issues and also

providing insights upon the prospects available for such establishments within the library ecosystem.

48. **Rajasekaran (2010)**⁴⁸ In his study highlighted the importance of the digital library development issues which may be a foundation for the development of network base information sharing, acquiring digital objects and retro conversion of print sources is useful in the network-based environment. Hence the author suggested that the libraries must go on for the digital collection and organize them to make them accessible over the internet anywhere any time in the world making them available 24/7. Making information accessible in a seamless process through the networks of libraries.
49. **Arora & Trivedi (2010)**⁴⁹ The study highlighted the Economics of the UGC-INFONET digital library and outlined a model for its implementation within the college consortium, by successfully infusing a new culture of electronic access to scholarly information among the academic communities. The UGC-INFONET connectivity program provides for networking of university campuses with wide area network bandwidth, including access to selected scholarly journals and databases in different disciplines.
50. **Arora (2010)**⁵⁰ The Study Adopts ICT to develop an innovative pricing model for the N-LSIT Programme launched in 2010 as an NME-ICT funded project, wherein one subscription is being paid for a set of 200 colleges. The target users of this initiative are 6,000 Government colleges and an equal number of private colleges which includes 73% of colleges having undergraduate programs.

2.3 Conclusion

In this chapter, the investigator has reviewed literature pertaining to library consortia, related models, and other consortia-based initiatives that have been undertaken at both the national and international levels. The investigator has critically analyzed the literature based on various information sources, reports, conference papers, and research articles.

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The investigator has also investigated various academic social networking platforms like ResearchGate and academia.edu to collect literature. Besides this, the investigator has also browsed reputed research databases like JSTORE, SCOPUS, Web of Science, DOAJ, Emerald, Google Scholar, Science Direct, BASE, and CORE, to guide his research study.

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CHAPTER – 3

LIBRARY CONSORTIA AND RELATED CONCEPTS

3.1 Introduction

In today's modern era of advancements and developments in information communication, technology has revolutionized how information can be transformed and exchanged across various platforms. Information on its own has become a commodity that is so difficult to keep pace with. Over the years we see that information is growing at an exponential rate making it very difficult to keep track of all the information. Furthermore, the question arises whether such all the information available to us is reliable, accurate, and verified. Although information is available such information has to also be organized and managed based on certain parameters. This job is handled by the library. Libraries are considered to be the storehouses of knowledge. A storehouse in which information is stored managed verified retrieved and disseminated as per the needs of its patrons. Previously before the eve of the internet and technological advancements, the library followed a traditionally laid pattern to organize and manage information whereby most libraries prioritize notions of closed access. (Sunil & Ojha, 2017)¹ Seeking and obtaining information was a time-consuming process at the same time it was also a tedious task. Furthermore, in cases where information isn't available led to disappointment among the users who weren't aware of the various sources available at their disposal to acquire these sources. Moreover, certain desired information was also inaccessible to the users. Thus, they were solely dependent on the library to meet their information needs. The library in turn faced numerous challenges and barriers while providing such services to its users irrespective of its vision aims and nature. Furthermore, the information explosion meant that libraries had to keep themselves updated with the latest information and update their overall knowledge collections accordingly. This in turn brought issues such as budget strain and maintenance overloads.

Thus, the concept of 'Consortia' was borrowed and implemented within the library setup to make and uphold the fundamental laws of library science. Implementation of consortia within the library setup led to an effective and efficient partnership among libraries at the international, national, local, and remote levels. Such an agreement resulted in a successful coordination whereby the libraries joined hands to create a network through which they would exchange,

borrow, and share resources interchangeably. (Muthu, 2013)² This alliance further led to several extension services pertaining to the library clientele to ensure faster and more efficient information delivery when a query arose. Babra Allen and Arnold Hirshon states that “perhaps the most important development for libraries during the current decade has been more from organizational self-sufficiency to collaborate survival mode as is seen from the developments in library consortia”. (Allen & Hirshon, 1998)³

3.2 Definition of Consortia

The term consortia is the plural form of the consortium. This word has been derived from the Latin word *consort* which means partnership. As per The Oxford English Dictionary, it is “an association typically of several companies for a common purpose; it is an association of similar type of organization who are engaged for producing and servicing the common things for providing services for a specific purpose of its users.”

According to Merriam-Webster Dictionary, “Consortium is an agreement, combination or group as of companies, formed to undertake an enterprise beyond the resources of any one member”.

Cambridge online dictionary defines “Consortium as an organization of several businesses or banks, joining as a group for a shared purpose.”

According to the American Heritage Dictionary, “A consortium is said to be a cooperative arrangement among a group of institutions or an association or society.”

According to Gosh, Biswas and Jeevan (2006)⁴, the term 'consortium' can be defined as A consortium refers to a 'temporary cooperation of several powers, companies, etc. for a common purpose. It is an association of similar types of organizations/institutions that are engaged in producing and servicing the common things/for providing services for a specific purpose of its users.

Library consortia in simple terminology is a simple alliance and association of libraries at the remote, local, national, and international levels. It's a platform that provides means for systematic, logical, effective, and efficient resource sharing including coordination and cooperation among the libraries within the consortium network. This network also runs across

various library bodies be it a school, special, academic, or state libraries including information centers devoted to primary research. In other words, it is like a mutual agreement whereby libraries decide to come together and work together to meet common goals that is to cater to the information needs of the users. The term consortia is not a new concept, this concept has been followed and used within the management sector for many years.

The libraries work in correspondence with each other to achieve their main aim which is the integration of library functioning and its operations together with collaboration and coordination. It's very important to understand the notion of consortia goes beyond the physical walls of the library to achieve an objective that otherwise cannot be achieved by individual libraries. There can be several approaches that various individual libraries patronize. However, the libraries in the consortium network work in a union. Over the years we see that the implementation of consortia within the library system has also helped to analyze and improve various past parameters within the library context for example it has helped to reduce the cost of purchases, has boosted the concept of a digital library, has improved services like DDS, SDI interlibrary loan, exchange bibliographic information, etc. these practices are now been adopted by several individual libraries in the country. Terms like library collaborations, library cooperation, library network, interlibrary service, and resource sharing have been used simultaneously to refer to the same concept.

3.3 Objectives of Library Consortia:

Every library follows certain objectives that concern the overall functioning of the library and the utilization of its resources. Such objectives act as the guidelines that are to be followed. However, implementation of consortia within the library setup has further concretized these objectives helping to achieve the most optimum functioning of any library (Muthu & Sivaraman, 2015)⁵. These objectives are:

- To Train and improve the technical expertise of library staff, for the usage of E-databases
- To enhance the overall collection of libraries within the consortium network
- To have greater accessibility and buying power
- To Increase the cost benefit per subscription
- To stay updated with the latest information trends and technological advances

- To promote maximum fund utilization for rational purposes
- To share insights from various library professionals across the globe
- To work for a common interest
- To provide better and faster services to all library patrons.
- To Increase the user base
- Ensure continuous subscription

3.4 Need for Consortia Among Libraries

Library consortia is essential for libraries. It provides new routes to access information quickly both physically as well as electronically. (Moorthy, 2009)⁶ it considers various parameters including pricing models of the publishers, E-Publishing E-Journals, extension services, Budget control, etc. helping build a strong network of the libraries that are interconnected to each other. Consortia is also essential in situations:

- **Information Explosion:** Numerous amounts of research have been carried out across various academic disciplines. This contributes to the growth of that discipline and the same time results in an information explosion, such information is later exchanged and uploaded via the internet in various formats and forms, and as a storehouse of all knowledge the library has a role towards archiving, preserving, and conserving such information be it in physical or in electronic formats. And consortia-based models assist the library in such a situation.
- **Nature of Professional:** Today's rapidly growing technological world has marked a shift in the functioning of the library, its staff, its patterns, etc. The library has changed from being a conserver of books to a provider of services. There is shift from the traditional ways to new updated ways of functioning from books being chained through closed access through open access and remote access and in such a shift consortium has played an important role to link and ensure smooth functioning of resource sharing.
- **Budget strains:** As the world progresses, the overall expenditure rates have also peaked up to a great extent this is also the case in books. The prices of the books are increasing day by day. Be it reference books or regular leisure books this has greatly affected the library budget ratio to a great extent, however, consortia have increasingly led in

building a platform by which the participating libraries share resources, identify the collections, and provide inter-library loan services and book drop services as per the convince of the users this in turn increase the overall purchasing power and budget control of the library.

- **Availability and Accessibility:** Through library consortia, information is available in full text via the online interface as a result of which the overall accessibility increases users can identify the availability of the books and trace the exact location of the books across the connected library network through consortia using union catalogs.
- **Format and Language Barriers:** Through the library consortium network information is been published in various file formats and languages irrespective of race age sex and area this helps to overcome the barrier of language and file formats during resource sharing
- **It reduces the space and storage problem**

3.5 Concept of library consortia

Library consortia concepts came into existence for the first time from academic libraries which initiated a consortium approach for the primary purpose of sharing printed materials. Presently, academic libraries sort consortia agreements to provide common access to electronic resources across the internet, and they are forming these consortia on a statewide basis, as such a task is very difficult to be accomplished single-handedly by a library. However, by forming a consortium among libraries, it becomes possible to purchase information in a stabilized manner at reasonable prices.

The common platform for such an Ecosystem was the sharing of union catalog, documents, Delivery service, facilities, collection development, and human resources at the local, national, and regional levels. Another form of cooperation was primarily based on inter-library loan service where member libraries agreed to share their resources. This form of cooperation enabled libraries to borrow books, periodicals, and other reading materials which otherwise were not available locally. The mode of delivery for such materials was post, fax, and courier services.

3.6 Characteristics of Library Consortia

- Consortia networks make purchases and web-based publications efficient.
- The services of consortia must cater to the requirements of individual libraries.
- The member libraries of the consortia get a product as cheaply as possible if the consortia have central funding
- Consortia buys products that are suited to bulk purchases and those that have a variety of popular titles in the bundles.

3.7 Features of library consortia

These are the features of library consortia below:

- It provides each organization and institution with the capacity to share their resources without sacrificing the individuality of each member library.
- Cooperative research and development in the application of information communication and technology enhance service and realize cost-effectiveness.
- Staff development and interaction with quality of service.
- The collection of the consortium libraries enables each member library to support scholarly research for its users.
- To expand library searching at less cost is possible.
- To advise library services are provided with an emphasis on access to new E-resources including databases and services offered through the internet and www.
- Uncertainties in legal issues are handled with more confidence.

3.8 Advantages and Disadvantages of Library Consortia:

3.8.1 Advantages of Library Consortia

- Consortia helps to uphold budget control and power through an increase in cost benefits for subscription-based content be it print resources or E-resources
- Unites like-minded, subject-specific, and special groups having a common goal and vision together as participating libraries

- Improves identification and accessibility of content sources across participant libraries to improve collections, reduce expenditure, and improve referral services thus satisfying users' information queries.
- Widens access to several E-resources: It provides a platform to access large amounts of information published through various information sources in various file formats across various academic disciplines, including contents of a multi-disciplinary nature.
- Available 24x7x365 days
- Fund utilization for technical assistance, support, and staff training
- Visibility: It Increases the visibility of the participating libraries, the activities that they conduct, its collection to a larger audience
- Assurance and Security: Such platforms ensure that the resources available with the participating libraries are safe secure, anti-theft, and insect-pest-free.
- Development of technological infrastructure to provide seamless services to users in the best way possible.
- Library Contact Help: Contact and email details have been provided to better assist the users with their needs, and borrowing procedures.
- Consortium Benefits: Access to resources with discounts, with a good term agreement license.
-

3.8.2 Disadvantages of Library Consortia

- Absences of Hardcopies: E- versions of the journals are available to access however in some cases the hard/physical copy of the journal isn't available for physical access. This creates problems for some users who may find it difficult to download and access them.
- Server Issues: in cases of disconnection at times, backup issues arise whereby the server disconnects from the database causing sync errors.
- Copyright infringements
- Contributors Fee: there are cases whereby the parental organization body may demand expensive charges. This affects libraries with low budgets.
- Setup membership investment may be high whereby the library may not be able to afford to participate as a body

- Limited Bandwidths: In some cases, this may result in problems of accessibility through their access ID
- Lack of expertise of the staff or operators to provide service, archive files and handle E resources
- Refusal of cooperation from any one of the participating libraries
- Lack of maintenance of union Catalogs and failure to Update content entries

3.9 Benefits of Consortia to Aggregators

Since the advent of information and communication technology, which has been a major factor in the development of services related to consortia, the advantages of consortia have been widely recognized, via increasing research outputs and experimentation, such services offer a greater return on investment through library operations, which collectively support an institution's growth and success.

Besides this, the consortium benefits are also enjoyed jointly by various aggregators rather than just the librarians and patrons

3.9.1 Benefits to Publishers

- It provides a comprehensive network for increased participation and management of the many prominent stakeholders which results in maximum cost reductions. enhanced administrative functionality as well as increased usage and coverage
- Upfront negotiations to fix the terms and conditions of usage through a single deal
- Single agency for administering licenses
- Electronic publications will have a single point of access through the publishers, giving them more control over these channels.
- Scope for credible digital advertising services
- The physical printed equivalents were replaced by a single electronic version, resulting in maximum cost savings for the publishers.

3.9.2 Benefits to Librarians

- Standardization of license agreements

- Reductions of print counterparts, thus reducing infrastructure strain
- Tremendous increase in existing physical storage capacity due to electronic access to resources
- Cost benefits with optimum reductions seen in article transactions cost
- Cooperative collection development
- Union cataloging among participant libraries
- Reductions in duplication of resources
- A Single ecosystem to solve joint Issues faced by participating libraries
- Consortia Agents will offer useful feedback with detailed user data stats for efficient administration and subsequent subscription decision-making.
- Hassel-free affordable negotiations are done via consortia agents under favourable terms and usage conditions.
- Customizable Interface to suit the needs of the institution

3.9.3 Benefits to Patrons

- Accessibility across all E-journals via a single gateway
- Filtration and Systematic organization of resources in broad categories
- Improved Retrieval functionality
- Abstracting and indexing services
- Inter-library loans, book drops, and DLL services
- Remote access functionality

3.10 Critical Success Factor of Consortia

- A well-focused organization.
- The quality of the response provided.
- Ability to adapt over time.
- Staff, skills, attitudes and commitments.
- A shared vision and philosophy.
- Perceived cost effectiveness.

3.11 Library Consortia Models:

There are several library consortia models being proposed and the criteria for their implementation depends upon the goals that the participant's library aims to achieve. However, on a broad scale it varies from highly decentralized to highly centralized organizations the relationship of the participant libraries therefore depends degree of centralization, even the external relations, be it with the publisher, the distributor, and the author are also affected by this (Saini, 2017)⁷

3.11.1 Open Consortia Model: This is an OPEN-type model which means that the participating libraries have the utmost to join in, leave, or call off (if needed) there is flexibility in terms of partnership. This model focuses upon a specific number or certain chosen libraries to form such a consortia INDEST is an example of a consortium that has adopted such a model

3.11.2 Closed-End Group consortia: This consortia model is formed through common interests or goals among participant libraries. They have a planned structure with a sponsoring agency. The consortia guidelines, operations, and objectives are easily interpretable and functional with a moderate exercise of power by the center. DAE and IIM are examples of this model.

3.11.3 Centrally Funded Model: This model is very popular compared to the rest consortia model this model is solely dependent upon its funding from the central agency. It is a joint agreement between participating libraries. Speaking of control it's highly rigid exercising a strong power hold. UGC, INFONET, ICMR, and MCIT, are a few examples of this model.

3.11.4 Share Budget Model: Such a model proposes the appropriate distribution of funds among participant libraries whereby the budget control is handled individually. Eg: FORSA.

3.11.5 Specific Group-based Model: This model deals only with specific groups Eg: LISA

3.11.6 Subject-Based Consortia Model: This model with specific subject areas. Eg: UGC

3.11.7 Regional Consortia Model: This model covers a specific geographical territory
Eg: Chandigarh Library Consortia.

3.11.8 National Level Consortia Model: This model covers the national-level licensing of Products like INDEST, UGC,

3.11.9 International Level Consortia Model: This Is an International Level-based model whereby libraries belonging to different countries coordinate. Eg: OCLC or Network of various national level-based consortia modeled libraries.

3.12 Consortia Initiatives in India

- **3.12.1 Existing Consortiums:**

- **E-ShodhSindhu Consortium**

The E-ShodhSindhu consortium is established by the Ministry of HRD. The E-ShodhSindhu consortium offers current as well as archival access to over 10,000 core and peer-reviewed journals and a variety of bibliographic records, and factual databases in different disciplines.

- **CSIR Library Consortium** (<http://www.niscair.res.in>)

The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research was established in 1942. It is India's largest research and development (R&D) organization. CSIR is a network of 38 national laboratories and three innovation complexes. CSIR operates in the areas of engineering, biological, chemical, physics, environmental, and information science. The consortium started working in the year 2002 with Elsevier Science. Today NKRC facilitates access to 5000+ e-journals of all major publishers, patents, standards, citations, and bibliographic database

- **DELNET:** Developing Library Network, previously known as 'Delhi Library Network' is a major resource-sharing-based library network, with a connection of 8100 institutions spread across 33 Indian states including various R&D organizations, Universities, colleges, etc. Registered in June 1992, it is currently situated in Delhi, Jawaharlal University campus. its major aim involves the promotion of resource sharing among member libraries through storage retrieval and dissemination of information via networked services. It also provides opportunities for knowledge discovery through lecture modules.

- **IIM Library Consortium** (<https://www.iimlibrariesconsortium.in/>)
IIM Libraries consortium was initiated in 2000. The IIM Libraries consortium has four major resources in its domain and they include Wiley, Springer, Taylor & Francis, and Sage Presently The consortium consists of 20 libraries
- **HELINET** -(<http://www.rguhs.ac.in/hn/newhell.htm>)
Health Science Library and Information Network was started by the Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Science in the state of Karnataka in 2002.
- **National Knowledge Resource Consortium (CSIR)**
Established in 2009 is a library network of 43 CSIR and 26 DST institutes. The consortium provides access to 1200 journals of Elsevier to all its participant bodies. Today's NKRC has access to over 5000 E-journals from all major publishers, patents, standards, and bibliographic databases.
- **J-Gate Custom Content for Consortium (JCCC)**
J-Gate Custom Content for Consortium (JCCC) is a customized e-journal access gateway and database solution that functions as a virtual library of journal content. In addition to serving as an index to open access journals, it provides one-point access to the 7900+ journals that are currently subscribed under E-ShodhSindhu and university libraries recognized as Inter Library Loan (ILL) Centers.
- **ICMR Library Consortium** (<https://main.icmr.nic.in/content/e-consortium>)
ICMR has been extending consortia mode subscriptions to all ICMR organizations with coverage of a variety of e-journals, such as Science, NEJM, Nature, Lancet, and J Gateplus.
- **CeRA Consortium**
The Consortium for e-Resources in Agriculture (CeRA), is an electronic consortium of agricultural libraries affiliated with the National Agricultural Research and Education System (NARES) Libraries of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR). It

was founded in November 2007. The State Agricultural Universities and ICAR institutes, NRCs, directorates, project directorates, national bureaus, etc. make up the 152 Consortium members.

- **DBT e-Library Consortium (DeLCON)**

It is a unique electronic journal consortium that is operational since January 2009. Currently, the Consortium includes 16 DBT Institutions including ICGEB in New Delhi and 18 North Eastern Region (NER) Institutions.

- **DRDO E-Journal Consortium**

Established in 2009, DESIDOC is the nodal agency that administers and monitors the access/subscriptions on behalf of DRDO libraries.

- **National Medical Library's Electronic Resources in Medicine (NML-ERMED) Consortium**

It is an initiative taken by Dte.GHS & MOHFW to develop nationwide electronic information resources in the field of medicine for delivering effective health care.

- **UGC-DAE Consortium for Scientific Research – (Established 1990)**

- **ISRO Consortium**

- **3.12.2 Merged Consortia**

- **UGC INFONET**

The UGC INFONET digital library consortium was launched in December 2003. By A.P.J Abdul Kalam, the President of India. The consortium provided current as well as archival access to more than 10,900+ core and peer-reviewed journals. The consortium was established under the 'Associate Membership Program' whereby other private universities and other research organizations could join the consortium. As of 2017, 230 universities, 3000+ colleges and 94 technology institutions are accessing resources

from the program. More than 15000 e-journals and 3135000+e-books, 40 resources, and 16 databases are available now.

- **INDEST AICTE Consortium**

Indian National Digital Library in Engineering Science and Technology was initiated by the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) in 2003 by an expert group under the ministry of the chairmanship of Pro. N.Balakrishnan. The INDEST-AICTE consortium has three types of members Core members supported by MHRD, AICTE-supported members, and self-supported members.

- **N-LIST (National Library and Information Services Infrastructure for Scholarly Content)**

the N-LIST project gives academics, researchers, and students from universities and other beneficiary institutions access to e-resources. Colleges with permission users can download articles straight from publishers' websites and access e-resources after properly authenticating as authorized users via servers located at the INFLIBNET Center.

- **3.12.3 Dissolved Consortia**

- **FORSA – (Dissolved) –(<http://www.iiap.res.in/library/forsa.html>)**

Forsa stands for Resource sharing in Astronomy and Astrophysics. It was the first official consortium initiative established on July 29, 1981, at Raman Research Institute, Bangalore. (currently dissolved)

3.13 Management, Governance, and Funding of Library Consortia:

The management governance and funding of library consortia network are majorly from funding agencies, participating members, and subject discipline. Several review committees have taken over the change to carry out duties such as timely reviews, monitoring, inspection, and analyses of these consortium bodies. A few among these are the Negotiation committee, national Steering committee, and review committee these deal with the purchase, organization, and licensing of electronic resources including provisions for training the staff involved in such managerial operations. The funds that are generated are further utilized for education

purposes and to develop technology and infrastructure to ensure smooth access and service delivery to all users. (Vasistha & Dhingra, 2012)⁸

Sr. No	Name of Consortium	Funding Agency
1	UGC INFONET Digital Library Consortium	INFLIBNET Center
2	INDEST-AICTE consortium	MHRD/IIT, Delhi
3	NKRC E- Journal Consortium	NISCAIR
4	DAE Consortium	Dept of Atomic Energy
5	IIM Consortium	IIMs
6	FORSA Consortium	India Institute of Astrophysics
7	DeLCON Consortium	Dept of Biotechnology
8	N-LSIT Consortium	INFLIBNET Center
9	ERMED Consortium	National Medicine Library
10	RGUHS-HELINET Consortium	Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Science
11	DRDO	DESIDOC
12	MCIT Library Consortium	Ministry of Communication and Information Technology
13	Consortium for E-resources in Agriculture (CeRA)	Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR)

Table 3.1

3.14 Factors Affecting Library Consortia

Several factors act as barriers to achieving an effective and efficient functioning of library consortia below listed are a few:

- Insufficiency of budget

- Insufficient manpower
- Lack of trained personal
- Lack of bibliographical tools
- Lack of cooperation among participating library professionals
- Lack of technological infrastructure
- Failure to maintain indigenous contents
- Lack of awareness among the society and library sector
- Information explosion
- Multi-dimensional user needs that frequently keep changing
- Issues while allocating funds
- Communication barriers
- Disapproval of license and other related permissions
- Administrative overload and lack of support in decisions
- Expensive pricing models
- Political and legal authority pressure
- Copyright issues
- Wrong understanding or lack of understanding of the notion of consortia and its related benefits

3.15 E-Resources and Consortia

E-Resources include a wide variety of materials e.g. e-journals, bibliographic databases, reviews published by scholarly societies, university presses, and institutional and commercial publishers.

The E-Journal has played a major role in the creation and transmission of knowledge as the primary medium of formal scholarly communication and has remained unchanged in form and function for more than three centuries. (Sudheir, 2011)⁹

The developments in computers and communication networks, especially the World Wide Web have facilitated the creation of alternative electronic forms of the conventional paper journal. Some of the major e-journal databases are Science Direct, EBSCO databases, ProQuest, Kluwer online, Springer LINK, Wiley Inter Science, IEEE Xplore, Institute of Physics, and MCB.

3.16 Services Provided Via Consortium to Member Libraries and Users

Consortium is more than simply a purchasing organization; libraries continue forming consortiums to provide lower subscription prices for their member institutions to access electronic resources. To attain economies of scale and best use of the electronic resources it subscribes to, apart from this a consortium also engages itself in several associated operations in addition to just the purchase of electronic resources.

These operations offer various services that contribute towards the satisfaction of user needs and services, libraries are service institutions, that attempt to utilize their available resources to fulfill the stated objectives and to provide the best possible services.

3.16.1 Collection Development Services:

- **Collective acquisition services:**

A consortium seeks to distribute the combined resources of its member libraries fairly, equitably, and efficiently. Consortia agreements that enable the pooling of resources show a commitment to increased cooperation while also introducing accountability and transparency. The greatest way to increase the amount and accessibility of resources needed for research, instruction, and service delivery is via cooperatively creating and disseminating information resources.

Such services can be achieved through i) Pre-order searching; ii) integration of new bibliographic data in OPAC; iii) accounting iv) maintaining an address file of the supplier and publisher names and other related details v) negotiating the purchase of multiple copies of books and vi) updating databases when documents are withdrawn

- **Cooperative Cataloguing:**

A reference to the collective collection of member libraries is provided by a union catalog of libraries via consortium. Consortia systems provide integrated linked interfaces for computerized cataloging, enabling member libraries to download records for books that are already in the union database or generate bibliographic entries for fresh titles, in addition to accessing the database. Member libraries harvest entries via

the Z39.50 protocol and further share their local collection data via OAI-PMH via MARC formats. Such data is also secured through Metadata Encoding Transmission Standards (METS). The initiatives help prevent resource duplication and save time for all participating libraries.

3.16.2 Software as a Service (SaaS)

- **Inter-Library Loan Services**

The local collaboration between two or more libraries led to the development of such a service in the library ecosystem. Various other factors including budget constraints, space, and storage issues in many libraries, have resulted in this kind of cooperation. Smaller academic and research libraries are unable to procure enormous amounts of information resources that are necessary to meet the constantly changing prerequisites of their clientele.

In such instances, interlibrary loans and other related services have enabled library users to acquire electronic documents and request materials from various other libraries. Access to resources beyond the local library's collection can be facilitated through the utilization of such a service, further resulting in the establishment of an extensive network of partnering libraries towards cooperative collection development.

- **Document Delivery Services**

A DDS is a kind of interlibrary lending service that makes it easier to send copies of journal articles that are owned by any member library. It aids in bridging the digital divide.

Document distribution is a popular method of giving marginalized communities access to necessary resources. By providing timely, efficient, and cost-effective access to materials held at other libraries and by delivering library materials to user's homes upon their request. Document Delivery Service (DDS) is the provision of documents in print or non-print formats, either as originals or copies. Since the effectiveness of DDS directly affects the value and significance of other access services, it is a crucial service.

3.16.3 Application Services

- **Shared Technology Systems**

The consortium plays an important role in assisting libraries in exchanging knowledge, cutting budgetary expenses, and freeing up staff time to focus on serving patrons rather than building up IT infrastructure. Using a central data server, the library consortium can act as an Application Service Provider (ASP), managing and distributing software-based solutions to its clients across a wide area network.

Participating member institutions can use the library automation packages provided as an application, facilitating them to utilize the consortium's server infrastructure in a wide area network without having to worry about maintaining and upgrading their IT systems.

3.16.4 Archival Services

- **Joint Achieves and Storage Facilities**

The latest innovation in the library consortium ecosystem is document storage facilities whereby the consortium of libraries finances the development of a high-density storage facility. Since it's not practically possible to store several versions of the same document that are jointly owned.

Document sharing and its storage is a cooperative initiative to build a storage framework. Dedicated remote storage facilities may offer better storage conditions, and may be the best solution for all other participating libraries. Cooperative storage facilities can be active facilities that arrange, house, and disseminate resources that are too expensive or possibly too infrequently used to justify purchase in an individual institution.

In addition, member libraries may share computer storage interfaces, providing a platform for hosting backfiles and archives that are subsequently available to other affiliate libraries. It is also feasible to set up e-print archives using such collaborative services. Digital archives can also assume their responsibilities in a dispersed manner.

3.16.5 Digital References Services

- **Ask-A-Librarian**

Digital reference services occasionally referred to as "Ask-A-Librarian" services, are online inquiry and response services that pair users with individuals who are informed about a certain subject and can perform precise searches. Depending on their area of expertise, reference librarians from member libraries can respond to inquiries as part of a digital reference service provided by a library network. A query can be allocated to a specific expert from a participating library to be answered after it is received, in case unavailable or unable to provide a suitable or satisfactory response the query is directed to the other available member library.

Moreover, a reference librarian is also involved in delivering reference services including SDI services, that require a deep intellectual understanding of the subject. All of this is possible via advancements in technology that have enabled reference librarians to interact with users via the network rather than having them wait at the reference desk.

3.16.6 Training Services

- **Staff and user Training**

The library organizes targeted training for all relevant staff of member libraries when new systems and software are introduced besides this it also organizes various courses on improving the competence levels, and skills of the library staff, besides the degree and certification examinations.

The parental organization also offers various help and support in case any technical issues arise.

Besides this the library also organizes several orientations, live demonstrations, webinars, workshops, and other training programs for its patrons, informing and training them to effectively utilize the resources in the best way possible.

3.17 Current Trend in Library Consortia

One Nation One Subscription

The Government of India (GoI) has proposed the One Nation, One Subscription (ONOS) a type of consortium model policy/program, which aspires to make national and international academic and scientific content accessible to the entire nation. It is anticipated that ONOS will enter into national license agreements with the majority of well-known STEM publishers (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) and database providers worldwide to facilitate simple access to scholarly material, hence promoting scientific inquiry and innovation within the nation.

It is anticipated that every citizen of the nation will gain from this endeavor through public libraries, as well as research and educational institutions like universities, colleges, and research organizations. When put into effect, the ONOS consortium policy may provide better licensing conditions and more cheap, nationwide access to a greater quantity of electronic resources.

It is yet too early to say how the ONOS policy will impact the sustainability of library consortiums, but it has the potential to significantly expand access to intellectual publications in India

3.18 Conclusion

Considering The present day. Where information is an essential component for all types of research and development. Its access marks the pathway to the growth of various disciplines. Be it students, researchers, IT professionals, or planners all demand need for information. and libraries archives of information have a responsibility and duty to disseminate information as and when needed. Irrespective of the purpose, age, or sex. But first and foremost, before dissemination of such information such information has to be managed, stored, analyzed, and retrieved. In this process the library also undergoes various problems be it space, budget strains, network, communication, management and preservation disasters, etc. In light of these problems, consortia have proved to be an emerging solution to overcome all these difficulties and provide a channel for effective resource sharing to cater to the information needs of its users. With additional benefits as well thus satisfying the objectives and laws laid out by libraries.

Modern librarianship as defined by the last 100 years assumes an underlying resource sharing and cooperative work ethic. It has always been a profession of partners and not competition.

Development in modern resource sharing, whether they are document delivery services or computing services does not have to alter the ethic. It's very important to keep the old traditions but at the same time they should be applied to new environments. This will enable libraries to grow and continue to provide useful services.

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CHAPTER- 4

LIBRARY CONSORTIA AT THE NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

4.1 Introduction

Library consortia agreements have existed since the late 1980's whereby various libraries, be it academic, public, or special, libraries have joined hands together to coordinate various activities and resources pertaining to the maximum satisfaction of their patron's Needs Over the Years such consortia agreements have been developing with the task of providing information services at various geographical levels including local, state, National, and international levels.

If we trace the origins of library consortia, we see that library consortia have been operating globally for decades, with a large majority of such consortiums being located in the United States and Europe as early as the 1930's. (Horton & Pronevitz, 2014)¹. Besides this library consortia were also established in Canada, Asia, United Kingdom, South America, Middle East, Australia, Africa, and New Zealand.

In India consortia, the concept of consortia was not integrated among the libraries until 1980. In 1981 we saw the dawn of the first consortium initiative, whereby a group of Indian astronomy library professionals formed a group called Forum for Resource Sharing in Astronomy and Astrophysics (FORSA) under 'Open Consortia'

4.2 National Level [India]

**National Medical Library's Electronic Resources in Medicine Consortium
(NML-ERMED)**

The joint efforts of Dte.GHS (The Directorate General of Health Services) & MOHFW (Ministry of Health and Family Welfare) led to the establishment of the National Medical Library's Electronic Resources in Medicine (NML-ERMED). Consortium as a project to provide national electronic medical information resources for delivering excellent medical care. Members of the consortium are chosen from among 70 state and federally financed government institutions, including all AIIMS.

Level-I and level-II-based memberships are separated depending on the quantity of end users served across multiple organizations. (Kalita, 2021)². Members are not liable for any particulars or membership fee, and as part of the NML-ERMED consortium initiative, the MOHFW has supplied the money needed to buy electronic publications. The NML serves as the consortium's headquarters, whereby coordination is handled. The consortium maintains growing and getting revisions continuously. It also values recommendations, and suggestions for pertinent and helpful insights promoting growth and development in the field of health sciences. The consortium package also offers access to around 242 top-notch online e-journals from five very reputable publishers namely British Medical Journal Publishing, Cambridge University Press, Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, Oxford University Press, and John Wiley.

Through IP address and user ID credentials, the consortium offers many users 24/7 internet access. (Narula, 2019)³. The seamless access to materials outside of the library's physical area is provided by the well-integrated online platforms. Through campus intranet connectivity or remote access, users can access library e-journal materials.

The consortium's ultimate goal is to increase platform accessibility and provide distant medical researchers working in remote places with access to a wider range of online journal publications through electronic media. The consortium thus makes it easier to handle information resources effectively and distribute literature quickly and efficiently in the medical setting. (Tripathi, M. 2013)⁴ In addition, this partnership works on projects including hassle-free print resource preservation.

ESS Consortium (E-ShodhSindhu Consortium)

E-ShoudhSindhu originated as a result of three major consortium initiatives in India namely the NLIST, the INDEST-AICTE Consortium, and the UGC-INFONET Digital Library Consortium that when combined led to the establishment of E-ShodhSindhu by the Ministry of

HRD. The E-ShodhSindhu consortium offers current as well as archival access to over 15,000 core and peer-reviewed journals besides this it also offers access to a wide variety of bibliographic, citation, and factual databases in different disciplines from a large number of publishers and aggregators.

The creation of an extensive collection of e-books, e-journals, and e-journal archives enabling perpetual access to remote use of e-resources at participating Indian universities, colleges, and technical institutes is the key objective of the E-ShodhSindhu consortium. In addition, the consortium monitors records of member universities' use data and tracks activity. Additionally, the consortium organizes numerous training programs on different topics and seeks to raise awareness. (Gupta, 2017)⁵.

The consortium aims to bridge the digital divide and promote an information-rich society by offering access to scholarly content (Singh, 2017)⁶, that is publicly available through the subject portals and subject gateways. In addition to its resource database, it grants access to particular e-resources of other institutions, such as open universities and MHRD-funded organizations, which are not included in any other consortium that is currently operational in the nation.

The E-ShodhSindhu covers all the disciplines viz. Pure Sciences, Social Sciences and Humanities, Engineering, Agriculture, Medical science, Law, Library Science including Linguistics and Languages, etc. (Chanchinmawia & Verma, 2020)⁷. Presently e Shodh Sindhu joining members involved, 221 University members, 98 centrally funded technical institutions (CFTIs), and more than 4500 colleges are members in this project. The consortium resources included more than 15000+ e-journals and 199500 e-books, 42 resources, and 16 databases.

HELINET (The Health Sciences Library and Information Network)

The Health Sciences Library and Information Network (HELINET) Consortium was hosted by Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences (RGUHS) in Karnataka on the 15th of March 2003. The HELINET Consortium's vision is to improve the quality of education and research in the colleges affiliated with RGUHS in the state of Karnataka through enhanced access to high-quality medical literature. HELINET's primary goal is to deliver information to the user's desktop, with round-the-clock access. The consortium has successfully accomplished the task

of developing an e-journal and e-book consortium and a resource-sharing model that networks 660+ health sciences colleges

HELINET is the first medical library consortium to be launched in the country with the objective of networking libraries affiliated with the university to promote resource sharing, especially concerning international medical journals and databases. (Urs, 2014)⁸

HELINET consortium offered a gateway for many medical professionals including students and research scholars within the health science community pursuing their studies in various faculties of health sciences all of which is demonstrated by the user download statistics, which show that when it was first released in 2003, there were over 21,000 full-text article downloads currently, these numbers have peaked to over 15 lakh articles downloaded annually. HELINET consortium has access to more than 7000+ online bibliographic databases of PG dissertations, and 6500 digitized UG and PG courses.

The consortium is a network of members from colleges of medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, nursing, physiotherapy, ayurveda/homeopathy, and other paramedics. A differential fee is charged from the categories, the highest from the users in medicine and the lowest from other paramedics. (Tauro & Gopakumar, 2018)⁹

CSIR E-Consortium (The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research)

The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) E-Consortium was developed by NISCAIR. It is India's largest research and development (R&D) organization established in 2001. Later in 2009. With 39 national laboratories and three innovation hubs, CSIR has a vibrant network, extending towards disciplines like engineering, biology, chemistry, physics, environmental science, and information science. (Dasgupta, 2013)¹⁰. In the beginning, the consortium offered access to 1200 journals of Elsevier Science to all its users including scientists this approach facilitated increased research outputs, experimentations, and development in CSIR laboratories.

Today NKRC facilitates access to 5000+ internationally reputed e-journals of all major publishers, patents, standards, citations, and bibliographic databases. It also provides access to a large number of open-access resources in science and technology including access to about 1500 e-journals from the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ).

CSIR consortium works towards developing and improving the capabilities for sharing, exchanging, and electronically accessing CSIR information resources, to give S&T employees electronic access to global S&T literature thus helping foster a culture directed towards the evolution of digital libraries

Besides this, the consortium is also engaged in coordinating various negotiations, and agreements, conducting analysis reports, monitoring user statistics, and organizing various training programs, taking the leadership towards advancements in the R&D sector with ample information required to uphold and strengthen the fundamental research and development systems in the country.

IIM Consortium (Indian Institute of Management)

The Indian government established the prestigious Indian Institutes of Management (IIM) in 2000 as one of the country's top centers for business management education. (Prakashe, & Tayade 2015)¹¹. These are autonomous societies operated independently by separate boards of governors. Currently, in India, there are 20 IIMs. the major objective of such consortiums is to provide all necessary resources to young minds to mould them into becoming professional managers.

The IIM consortium aims to serve as the central hub of knowledge, fostering intellectual curiosity, critical thinking, and creativity across all ages. (Sandeep Gireesh & Aditya, 2021)¹² By curating diverse resources, embracing emerging technologies, and promoting collaboration, which inspires lifelong learners, equipping them with the tools to thrive in an ever-changing world.

The IIM Consortium subscribes to over 2550 scholarly titles of which around 1200 are overlapping titles. Among these, 33 reputed international titles are being subscribed to by all the IIMs. In addition to this, the consortium also offers electronic access to over 740 E-journals and 245 E-Resources across all 20 IIMs around India.

Apart from this overall the IIM consortium has a massive number of 12,442 publications distributed across the 20 IIM institutes in India with a total collection of 1239 theses published by the faculty of these prestigious institutes, they are also available and accessible via 10 repositories under the IIM consortium, apart from this the consortium also provides access to 17 datasets and 12 open textbooks related to management.

CeRA Consortium (Consortium for e-Resources in Agriculture)

CeRA, the Consortium for e-Resources in agriculture was established in November 2007 at the Indian Agriculture Research Institute (IARI), Pusa in New Delhi. The foundation for this consortium was formed by providing internet access to several of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) institutes under the National Agricultural Technology Programme (NATP). The setup of this consortium initiative was solely funded by the National Agricultural Innovation Project (NAIP) to provide access to literature in agriculture facilitating the accessibility of selected scientific journals related to agriculture and allied fields to researchers, professors, and scientists, students, workers, policy planners and administrators involved in the national agricultural system.

The consortium's e-published resources provide an array of opportunities and benefits over print media, such as user-friendliness, shareability, accessibility on the internet, links to multimedia, and hyperlinks to writings that are linked, etc. The consortium covers about 3000 scholarly journals (comprising consortium-subscribed, library-subscribed, and open-access journals) from seven major reputed publishers and caters to 134 institutions under NARS. (Kalbande & Syed, 2012)¹³. Members of CeRA can access online journals by using IP authentication, which offers an impenetrable security system and eliminates the need to memorize user IDs, passwords, publisher URLs, etc.

Besides This, the Consortium also offers effective functionalities that provide quick and easy access, and security as well as save the time of its users, some of these various features offered via the consortium platform include simple search, advanced search, and other related search techniques all which helps navigate through the consortia resources efficiently. furthermore, ePublishing has increased the interactivity and customization-related operations for consortia users by providing alerting services like 'My Journals'.

The primary objective of CeRA is to Develop the current R&D information resource base of ICAR institutes/universities, etc., to the level of top-tier organizations worldwide, subscribing to e-journals, fostering an e-access culture among ICAR universities, and researching the consortium's effects on the caliber of research publications as determined by the Science Citation Index (SCI) and NAAS Ratings. Besides this, the consortia also conduct workshops and training programs to create awareness and keep users and libraries updated regularly.

DeLCON (Department of Biotechnology e-Library Consortium)

The Electronic Library Consortium (DeLCON) of the DBT (Department of Biotechnology) was established to fulfill the ever-growing demands and R&D information needs among various Institutes. It was a significant undertaking, directed towards the goal of improving the caliber of its research institutes. In January 2009, the Consortium was established and put into action.

To enhance teaching, learning, and research outputs, the project contributed as a nationwide endeavor to provide reliable access to numerous scholarly electronic resources, including full-text and bibliographic databases, in all life science subject disciplines.

Today the consortium covers 16 DBT institutions, including ICGEB in New Delhi, and 18 institutions in the North Eastern Region (NER). DeLCON also includes the Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC), located in New Delhi. Overall, currently, there are 34 "DeLCON members" in all, under DeLCON. Besides this 1171 peer-reviewed chosen journals as well as a database (SCOPUS) are covered and provided access to via DeLCON. The consortium members can access all the available resources via the DeLCON portal which is very user-friendly and intuitive. (Lal, 2012)¹⁴. besides this keeping in mind the general users the consortium also offers a separate section whereby the users can access the limited abstracts and papers free of cost

Considering statistics, the DBT's Electronic Library Consortium (DeLCON) is the biggest consortium in India established in the field of biotechnology and life sciences. (Mishra & Kumar, 2017)¹⁵. Its primary goal is to connect with all DBT institutes, research organizations, and specific universities including their colleges. Ever since its inception the DBT's e-library Consortium (DeLCON) has made it its priority to offer member institutions affordable membership rates with favorable terms and conditions for utilizing and getting maximum benefits of full-text and bibliographic database servers, as well as other qualitative electronic resources.

MCIT Consortium (Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology)

The MCIT library consortium was founded in 2005, The consortium comprises various member organizations from the Department of Telecommunication (DOT), Department of Post

(DOP), and Ministry of Communication and Information Technology (MCIT) together with sixteen other organizations. To meet the information needs of their authorities, each member organization has a dedicated library, documentation repository, and information center. A significant portion of the consortium's budget is used to buy or subscribe to books, journals, etc.

The consortium of MCIT libraries also stacks important annual reports, standards, patents, and numerous other significant government documents all of which are kept under account in a digital library of participating organizations, these collections are made available on the consortium website for general public use whenever feasible as well as for private consumption by MCIT personnel.

The MCIT also has its very own web OPAC, its dedicated website upon which a union catalog of books, journals, and various other resources available in member libraries are hosted. (Nimbhorkar, 2004)¹⁶. This consortium to a great extent prioritizes the inter-library loan facility.

A few of the MCIT consortium's other initiatives include building institutional repositories, creating national union catalogs, and developing, maintaining, and upgrading e-Granthalaya, a library automation program under NIC.

4.3 International Level [Global]

4.3.1 ASIA

CALIS Consortium (China Academic Library and Information System)

CALIS consortium is the national academic library consortium established in May 1998, the project was approved by the State Development Planning Commission of China, under the leadership of the Ministry of Education. Through consultations by experts from academic libraries across the country.

It is the largest and first multi-language cooperative online cataloging system in China. The goals of CALIS are to assist the growth of higher education in China, provide lower-cost benefits for member libraries, and encourage and enhance the notion of resource sharing among academic libraries. (Xu, 2010)¹⁷.

Besides this, the consortium also provides the participating libraries with various resource-sharing functionalities to create and achieve a self-sufficient infrastructure for document delivery services and interlibrary loan services together with coordinated purchasing and cataloging. It also takes initiatives towards digitization of available resources. Its long-term objectives include creating China's greatest academic digital library, by creating, integrating, maintaining, and distributing digital resources to all Chinese colleges and universities. The consortium currently has more than 800 member libraries distributed throughout 31 Chinese provinces, cities, and autonomous territories.

The newly launched CALIS digital resource portal integrates about 340 foreign and Chinese digital resources, including abstract and index databases, e-books, OPACs, newspapers, dissertations, e-journals, and search engines. With a union catalog of over 4 million bibliographic records of various materials in multilingual languages.

CONCERT (CONsortium on Core Electronic Resources in Taiwan)

In 1990, the CONCERT was established to capitalize on and meet the increasing demand for web-based full-text materials. The Science and Technology Policy Research and Information Centre (STPI) coordinates this consortium offering maximum cost benefits related to pooling resources and consortium group purchases among member libraries which are majorly Taiwan-affiliated colleges and universities. It provides access to over 100 databases to about 230 members.

CONCERT majorly focuses on the enhancement of sci-tech policy-based research and establishing knowledge ecosystems including critical national furthermore, it's also directed towards creating a national integrated information service mechanism in Taiwan. This consortium further led to the establishment of the Taiwan E-book Network (TEBNET) to cope with the emergence of eBooks (Ching, Poon & Huang, 2003)¹⁸.

In addition, the consortiums promote new research achievements and publications beyond national boundaries participating in global information activities, which quickens bilateral and multilateral collaboration. Additionally, it serves as a significant hub for the diffusion of knowledge and innovation supporting state-of-the-art technology through several collaborative programs, which also provide important insights to decision-making entities.

The main goal of this consortium has always been to act as a middleman in granting excellent cooperative agreements with advantageous conditions, as well as expert procurement support, counsel, and direction for CONCERT members. Additionally, it seeks to elevate the delivery of exceptional services, programs, and collections by combining many points of view. A variety of benefits are provided to CONCERT participants, including continuing education opportunities, contract reviews, price negotiations, and consultation services. Additionally, CONCERT holds yearly conferences, training sessions, and user meetings in addition to holding intense discussion forums to address a range of concerns raised by its members.

4.3.2 North and South America

CARLI (Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries in Illinois)

To meet the consortium requirements of Illinois's academic and research libraries, CARLI was established in July 2005. The Illinois Cooperative Collection Management Program, Illinois Digital Academic Library, and Illinois Library Computer Systems Organization were merged to form CARLI.

The primary objective of this consortium was to create a more rich, supportive, and diverse knowledge ecosystem to facilitate teaching, learning, and research productivity through resource sharing, expert reviews and analysis, and training programs. The CARLI consortium consists of 128 Illinois academic libraries that collectively serve over 800,000 students, faculty, and staff

The consortium collection management committee undertakes various roles relating to supporting the collections initiatives, including consortia union book acquisition, various consortia patron-driven acquisition modules (PDA), and collaborative collection development projects. Besides this CARLI is also engaged in negotiating best pricing models for e-resources and journal packages for its member libraries, CARLI also has arrangements via EBSCO, Sage, Springer, etc whose databases are provided free to all members (Guzzy, 2010)¹⁹.

The consortium I-Share facility enables participating users to check out documents from other libraries. via uniquely integrated IDs to borrow materials from these libraries. Participating libraries under the I-Share initiative make annual payments to avail of such services. (Sweet & Clarage 2020)²⁰.

Additionally, CARLI hosts training sessions and webinars for its users regularly, focusing on the effective and efficient use of the resources provided. It also arranges various courses for the personnel of participating libraries.

ICOLC (The International Coalition of Library Consortia)

The consortium of consortiums, ICOLC convened for the first time informally in 1997. The coalition represents thousands of member libraries globally and consists of more than 200 library consortiums worldwide. The coalition mainly assists institutions of higher education by organizing orientations on topics of shared interest among consortiums.

ICOLC does not request support from vendors or publishers. To date, the ICOLC has held 26 North American meetings and 16 European meetings (Feather, 2015)²¹. Additionally, several shorter gatherings are carried out at the American Library Association (ALA) meetings twice per year to discuss operational models, services, Online content licensing for groups, shared library catalogs are still, etc. However, as these programs mature, these consortia are motivated to discover new ways and strategies to collaborate and coordinate together to advance their communities.

The ICOLC has an overall profile of about 170 consortia networks worldwide that can be found on the ICOLC website. Approximately seven hundred participants throughout the ICOLC email discussion list, with representatives representing more than 200 consortia. Numerous consortia outside of the US are also linked together with ICOLC and represent entire nations.

Several consortia are working together as one new ICOLC endeavor to address a common issue regarding the gathering of consortia usage statistics. ICOLC has demonstrated a long-standing interest in consumption data through its efforts to develop agreed expectations.

4.3.3 AUSTRALIA

CAVAL Consortium

CAVAL Ltd collectively owns eleven Australian universities across three states in Australia. This Australian-based consortium was founded in 1978. It offers shared services to the information and library industries across Australasia. CAVAL's members can obtain

collaborative and reasonable pricing models together with additional library support services by utilizing its economies of scale, scope, and experience. The consortium aims to accomplish this in a transparent, continuous, safe, and risk-managed setting, operated by an experienced team of library professionals and booksellers (Jilovsky & Genoni, 2014)²².

This non-profit limited consortium also offers various research-sharing strategies comprising of interlibrary loans, exchange, and cataloging services together with a cooperative storage facility on short and long-term leased bases for print materials and other collections for libraries, museums, galleries, and archives. Through their operations with CARM (CAVAL Archival and Research Materials)

CAVAL also organizes activities for member libraries including a facilitated mentoring program, a collaborative network of interest groups plus tailor-made events. The Cross-Institutional Mentoring Program incorporates training, facilitated networking, and presentations from industry leaders, and is one of the most successful programs offered by CAVAL.

CAVAL is the first in Australia to implement FOLIO+ ReShare, this open-source library management platform strengthens collaborations, increases discoverability, and fosters interaction within and outside of Australian educational institutions, thereby empowering the entire library community. This brand-new, free, and open-source library management system is adaptable, user-friendly, and reasonably priced. This program is integrated with Reshare, a recently launched worldwide resource-sharing platform with a distinct core economic model. ReShare, in contrast to the majority of existing consortia resource-sharing systems, is fully founded on an open, peer-to-peer methodology and open standards, such as ISO 18626. It is intended to function in diverse settings where participating libraries may belong to several consortia and use various library automation systems.

4.3.4 AFRICA

SANLIC (South African National Library and Information Consortium)

SANLIC established on 21st June 2011 is a consortium of higher education and research libraries in South Africa. It's directed towards offering member universities high-quality research resources at reasonable prices. Its goal is to "enable members' learning, teaching, and

research activities by providing affordable access to scholarly electronic information on a nonprofit basis, whereby the consortium engages in collective bargaining with the publisher's primary means of achieving this. Additionally, it encourages the utilization of excellent electronic information resources all in open access including e-books and e-journals.

Being a nonprofit organization it is supported by membership and service fees. This business model of the SANLIC forms a stable financial foundation and spares none of the member institutions from undue financial hardship (Ossai, 2010)²³. Members are offered the benefits of having a committed expert representing them when interacting with publishers, suppliers, and other providers of online information goods.

On behalf of its beneficiaries, SANLIC also bargains license contracts with publishers and aggregators for academic publications and reading materials. In addition, the collaboration works to advance several open-access projects that support improved research-related activities and advance several science-related disciplines in South African educational institutions.

Members of SANLIC have access to complete product specifications and other consortium-related material online via the SANLIC website, which is updated as soon as offers are finalized (Halland, 2013)²⁴. Additionally, SANLIC personnel arrange publisher training courses and oversee various logistics of events like the SANLIC conferences.

CHELiN (Cape Higher Education Library Network) - Previously Cape Library Cooperative

CALICO, the Cape Library Cooperative was established in 1992. In 2017, the central CALICO office ceased to exist and by the end of 2018, CALICO was renamed Cape Higher Education Library Network (CHELiN). CHELiN is a library consortium of four tertiary educational institutions in the Western Cape. i.e. the Cape Peninsula University of Technology (CPUT), Stellenbosch University (SU), the University of Cape Town (UCT), and the University of the Western Cape (UWC). It directed to stimulate economic development and promote information literacy in the Western Cape via the existing information services

CALICO provides a central office from which the library products jointly purchased by the consortium are managed. The products include Aleph, Metalib, and SFX. The ultimate vision is to enhance the provision of information to all who needed, where they need it, and, in the form, they want it.

For every consortium member, CAHELiN offers a networked library automation service that includes shared access to the Online Public Access Catalogues (OPACs) for members. This made up a single Western Cape collection that was spread across several locations, giving staff and registered students access to a multitude of materials (Darch, Rapp & Underwood, 1999)²⁵. In addition, the consortium helps member universities with a range of capacity-building initiatives, including the CHEC library academy. The consortium is partly funded by the Department of Science and Technology, to support and promote research in the national integrated cyberinfrastructure system of South Africa.

Kenya Library and Information Services Consortium (KLISC)

To cope with the rising expense of knowledge resources, the Kenya Library and Information Services Consortium (KLISC) was founded in 2003 with the sole objective of facilitating group subscriptions to electronic resources. Public and national libraries, research institutes, and university libraries constitute the consortium's primary sources of membership.

Currently, the consortium is working with industrial leading partners with a coverage of over 140+ member institutions, 4+ working communities, and more than 100,000+ individual member KLISC servers.

Presently the consortium is working towards the aim of providing universal access to various resources across different African regions. The consortium aims to be recognized internationally as a leading library network to provide access to knowledge resources for sustainable development. (Mwaurah & Namande, 2018)²⁶.

4.3.5 EUROPE

EIFL (Electronic Information for Libraries)

The origins of EIFL date back to September 1st, 1999 when the Open Society Institute - Budapest (OSI) and EBSCO Publishing collaborated on a project to develop the largest information consortium in the world. This initiative came to be known as Electronic Information for Libraries Direct - EIFL Direct. EIFL was a non-profit organization based in

Europe with a global network coverage extended towards developing countries in transition in Africa, Asia, Europe, and Latin America.

The consortium was directed towards making information available electronically to all libraries: academic, research, medical, public, national, and parliamentary including ministries, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). (Feret & Kay 2001)²⁷.

EIFL bargains with publishers offering discounted access to academic publications for study, research, and teaching. It gives consortiums access to more than 60 countries. The electronic resources coverage ranges from academic journals, e-books, and bibliographic databases from over 25 reputed providers. Additionally, it provides local libraries with training in e-resource management and licensing. It also makes it easier for libraries to set up and operate free and open-source software.

Since the project began, over 2,000 new journals have been added to these databases, bringing the total number of available full-text journals offered in the EIFL Direct suite of databases to over 8,000+. The focus has also shifted from almost entirely soft sciences journals to a mix of soft sciences and STM journals. There are more than 3,000 hard sciences (STM) journals available in full text in the databases available through the project.

Besides this, all public and community libraries in developing and transitional nations are eligible to apply for the EIFL public library innovation awards. The consortium honors the creative use of digital technology to enhance people's lives and draw attention to significant concerns in community development.

CERL (Consortium of European Research Libraries)

CERL was formally established in June 1994, having been founded in 1992 at the behest of research libraries throughout several European nations. The primary purpose of the consortium is to share resources and expertise between research libraries to improve and make accessibility more flexible together with the preservation of European rich printed heritage. (Versprille et al., 2014)²⁸.

CERL was one of the first organizations to provide researchers with integrated bibliographical materials via web-based interfaces. With over 190 active libraries, CERL is a community that possesses early printed and manuscript materials. The consortium has actively been engaged

in recording all books printed in Europe during the hand press period i.e. before 1830 into a machine-readable format. Thus, integrating information over a common platform collectively from over 200 major research as well as specialized institutions, made accessible through a shared catalog.

The Heritage of the Printed Book Database (HPB) provides access to scholarly literature in all disciplines with a cumulative of nearly 5 million items of European printed heritage, from its earliest beginnings. additionally, it also includes commonly occurring indexes, such as author, title, and date, the HPB offers specialist indexes such as for the bibliographical format, provenance information, imprint names, fingerprints, and bibliographic citations all with an integrated thesaurus.

The consortium also organizes seminars with invited resource speakers to address topics relating to the Consortium's objectives. Apart from this it also conducts training workshops for its members and participates in conferences in the academic and library worlds.

4.3.6 United Kingdom

RLUK (Research Library UK) – Formally CURL Consortium.

CURL now called RLUK is a Consortium of University Research Libraries. The consortium has an alliance of 39 significant research libraries in the UK and Ireland, and several of CURL's undertakings towards developments are supported by JISC sponsorship. (Naylor, 1999)²⁹. The consortium makes efforts to support researchers worldwide, CURL member institutions build distributed and hybrid research libraries to contribute to the wider knowledge economy through innovative projects and services that add value and impact to the process of research and researcher training

These libraries facilitate researchers to quickly and easily search, retrieve, and request resources of all kinds in different formats from various connected devices, providing increased access to electronic resources, both born digital and digitized, and physical access to manuscripts, and printed items are also available.

Currently, the consortium is working with partners on the cross-sectoral Emerging Leaders project, to help develop a program to address the lack of ethnic diversity within the library workforce, particularly in management and leadership positions. (Baxter et al., 2021)³⁰.

RLUK also organizes prestigious events and programs like the RLUK Conference, the RLUK Space Programme, and the Digital Shift Forum, to showcase the importance of research libraries as essential components of research infrastructure to a broad range of professionals, researchers, funders, and decision-makers from many sectors,

TLC (The Libraries Consortium)

TLC also known as The London Library Consortium (LCC) was originally formed in 2004 through a merger of Havering, Wandsworth, and Redbridge, these authorities came together to share resources and contracts to get the best financial value for their patrons and member institutions. The consortium follows a single supplier framework agreement for supplying resources to participating library management systems. The LCC also provides various other services including shared catalogs consisting of physical stock items, over 40,000 eBook titles, over 800 e-magazines, and nearly 5,000 audiobooks and other digital resources

TLC Consortium also provides high-quality training and development at an affordable price offering an extensive portfolio with a program of events tailored for users at different stages of their career advancements including the latest updates. (TLC, n.d.)³¹. The consortium initiative also covers a wide range of issues from legal compliance to building management covering 23 council library services, 321 libraries, and over 7.3 million resources, providing timely support to diverse aspects of library and information service provision.

The TLC has also launched a Discovery Platform in collaboration with SOLUS, this library app supports about 15 different ILS platforms using APIs and web services and is available in 30 different languages. With additional features for the everyday public like book borrowing, bookmarks, wishlist boxes, reading tracker, multi-part RFID tag support, DDL services, etc.

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CHAPTER - 5

DATA INTERPRETATION AND ANALYSIS

5.1 Introduction

The practice of identifying patterns and trends in data is called data analysis. To answer important issues of the ongoing research, data analysis helps researchers organize, modify, and summarize data, the classified data is further systematically tabulated in rows and columns and is called data tabulation. Based on this tabulation the data is then represented using appropriate charts and graphs.

This stage is then followed by the process wherein the researcher carefully and systematically examines the classified data, drawing pertinent conclusions from it using a variety of analytical research techniques, this process is known as data interpretation.

The research made use of the survey method to carry out the data collection process pertaining to the study. This method involved sending out questionnaires via a Google form, considering both time and convenience factors of the librarians and the users.

A total of 41 questionnaires were sent to various Academic college librarians' across the state of Goa out of which 31 responses have been received which corresponds to 75.6% of the response rate. 71 responses were recorded from the users'.

Based on the responses recorded the data is further used to test the objectives and hypothesis to draw a suitable conclusion.

5.2 Librarians' Responses: Interpretation & Analysis

Q1. Which library consortium does your college/Institute currently subscribed to?

Table 5.1 Consortiums in the state of Goa

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
E-ShodhSindhu	7	22.6
IIM Consortium	0	0
CeRA Consortium	1	3.2
CSIR Consortium	0	0
ICMR	0	0
DELNET	13	41.9
N-List	24	77.4
Not Part of Any Consortia -individual subscription	0	0
NDLI	2	3.2
Pearson eLibrary	1	3.2



Figure No 1

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to understand which was the most widely subscribed consortium among Goan college libraries. The data presented in Figure No. 1 shows that a large majority of 77.4% of the academic libraries in Goa are a part of N-List. 41.9% of the libraries are part of DELNET. About 22.6% of the libraries are subscribed to E-

ShodhShondhu consortium and a small equal minority of 3.2% of the libraries subscribe to CeRA, NDLI, and Pearsons eLibrary respectively.

Q2. Reasons according to you as to why students, faculty, or researchers utilize the library the most?

Table 5.2 Reasons for Visiting Academic Libraries in Goa

Reasons	Frequency	Percentage
Due to Convenient Operational Hours	17	54.8
Availability of scientific Information	25	80.6
Helpful Nature and Expertise of Library Staff	23	74.2
Availability Of Computer and Internet facility	23	74.2
Quiet Place to Study or do research with Peaceful Surrounding	26	83.9
For Group Study Purposes / Group Research	26	83.9
To Read Newspapers, Periodicals	28	90.3
To be updated in ones subject	21	67.7

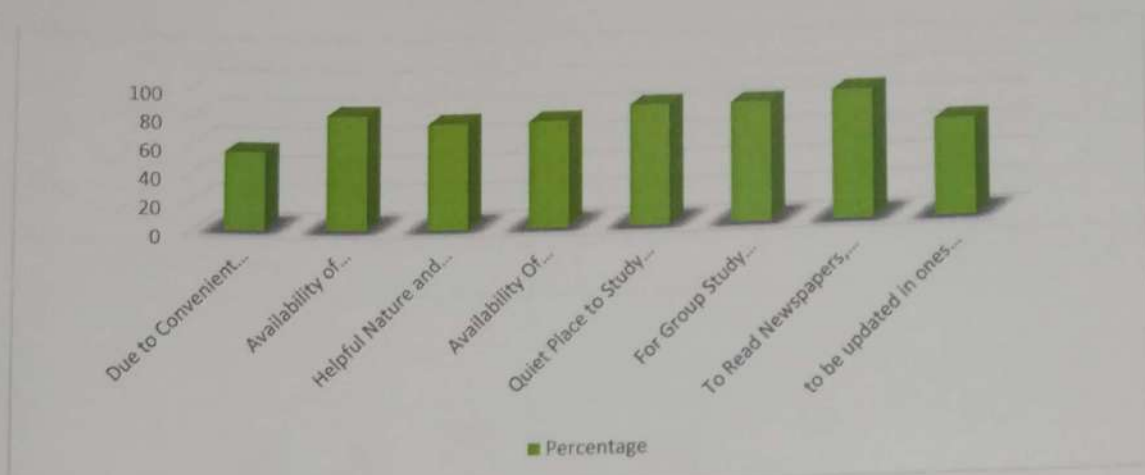


Figure No 2

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to understand the reasons as to why the users mostly visit the college libraries. The data presented in Figure 2 shows that a large majority of 90.3% of the users visit the library to read newspapers and periodicals about 83.9% of the users visited the library considering the quiet and peaceful place to study. Another 83.9% of users visited for group study/research purposes respectively about 80.6 % of the users visited the library due to the availability of scientific information, another 74.2% of the librarians claimed that users visit the library due to the helpful nature of the staff and availability of computers and internet connectivity respectively. About 67.7% of the users visit the library to be updated in their subject area and 54.8% of the users visit the library due to convenient operational hours.

Q3. Which of the following Extension Services does your library/Institution Provide?

Table 5.3 Extension services offered in Goan libraries

Service	Frequency	Percentage
Selective Dissemination of Information	19	61.3
Document Delivery Services	20	64.5
Inter-Library Loans	23	74.2

Ask Librarian	19	61.3
Document Scanning	21	67.7
Book donation Drive	1	3.2
Newspaper clippings	1	3.2
Referral services	1	3.2

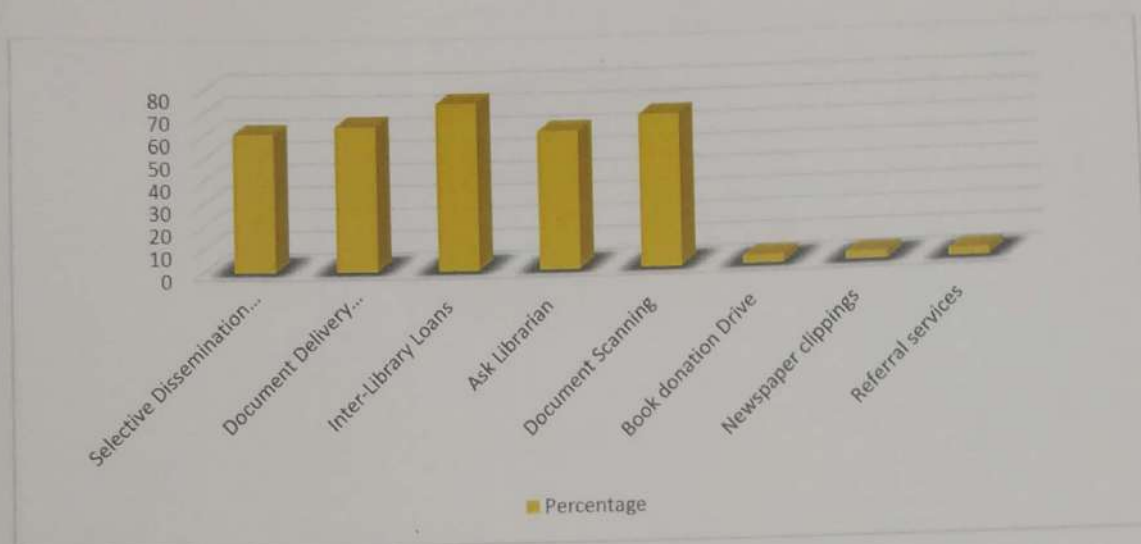


Figure 3

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to understand the various extension services offered by Goan College libraries. The data presented in Figure 3 shows that a large majority of 74.2% of the libraries offered ILL services, and about 67.7% of the libraries offered document scanning services. 64.5% of the libraires offered DDS. 61.3% of the libraries offered SDI and Ask Librarian services respectively, followed by a small minority of 3.2% of libraries also provide book donation drives, 3.2% of the libraries offer newspaper clippings and another 3.2% of the libraries provide referral services respectively for their users.

Q4. Does your Library/Institution have a User OPAC

Table 5.4 User OPAC in Libraries

Answers	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	30	96.8
No	1	3.2

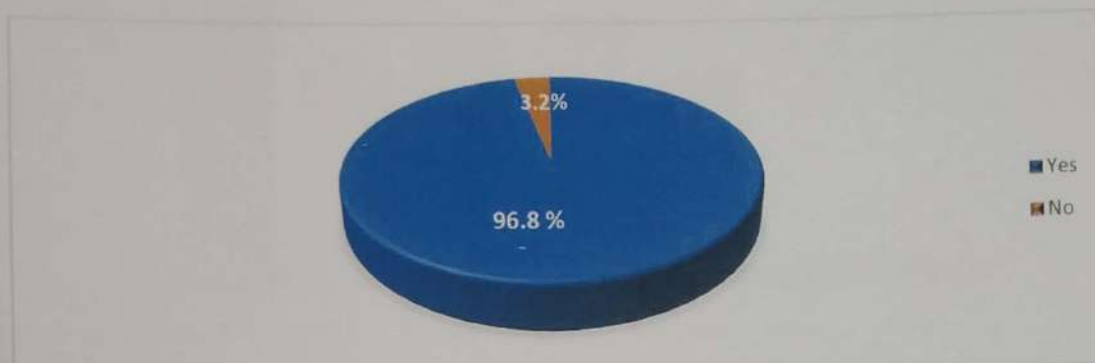


Figure 4

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to understand how many libraries in Goa offer the facility of OPAC for the convenience of their users. The data presented in Figure 4 shows that a large majority of 96.8 % of the libraries in Goa have their very own User OPAC and about 3.2% of libraries are yet to offer a user OPAC

Q5. What hardware is available in your library/institution?

Table 5.5 Hardware Available in the Libraries across Goa

Hardware	Frequency	Percentage
Computers	31	100
Server & Router	26	83.9
Scanners	29	93.5
Printers	31	100
Photocopier	24	77.4

Binding machine	0	0
Laptops	1	3.2
CC TVs	1	3.2

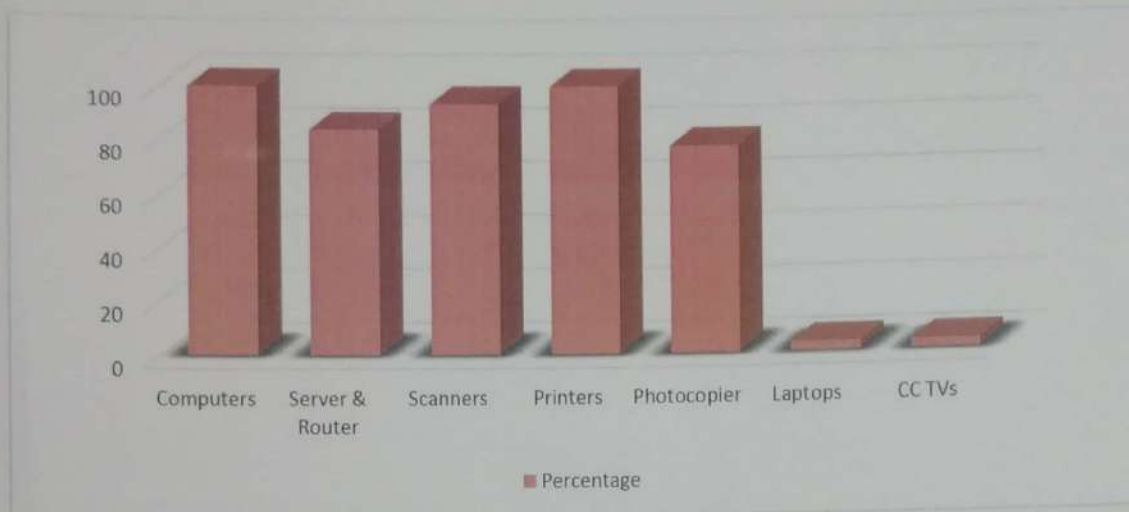


Figure 5

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to understand what are the various hardware available in Goan college libraries. The data presented in Figure 5 shows that a complete majority of 100% of libraries in Goa had computers and printers respectively, to cater to the needs of their users. 93.5 % of the libraries also had several barcode scanners for quick stock verifications and circulation processing. 83.9% of the libraries also had various servers and routers offering remote access and network connectivity within the library. Besides this, 77.4% of the libraries also had photocopier machines. An equal minority of 3.2 % of the libraries had CCTVs and laptops respectively.

Q6. Does your library provide remote access facility to users?

Table 5.6 Library Remote Access Availability Analysis

Answers	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	28	90.3
No	3	9.7

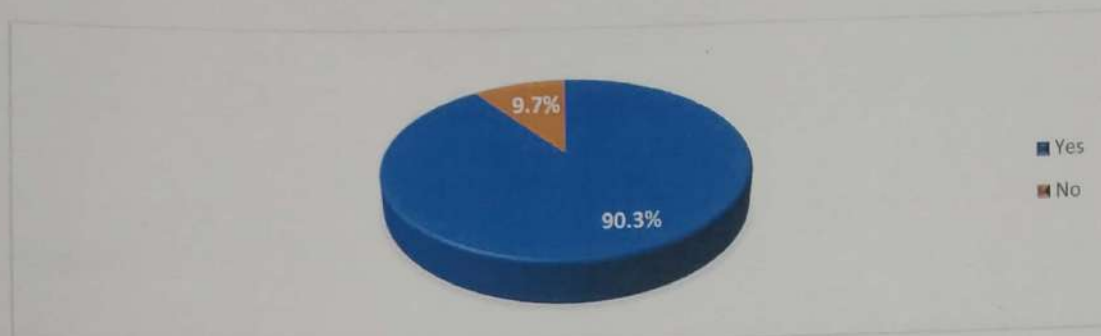


Figure 6

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to understand how many Goan college libraries offer remote access facility to their users. The data presented in Figure 6 shows that a large majority of 90.3% of the academic college and professional libraries in Goa offered remote access services to their users, and about 9.7% of college and professional libraries in Goa are yet to provide this service.

Q7. What LMS software does your library use?

Table 5.7 LMS software Used in Goan Collage Libraries.

Softwares	Frequency	Percentage
KOHA	26	83.9
E-Granthalaya	1	3.2
NewGenLib	3	9.7
LIBSYS	1	3.2

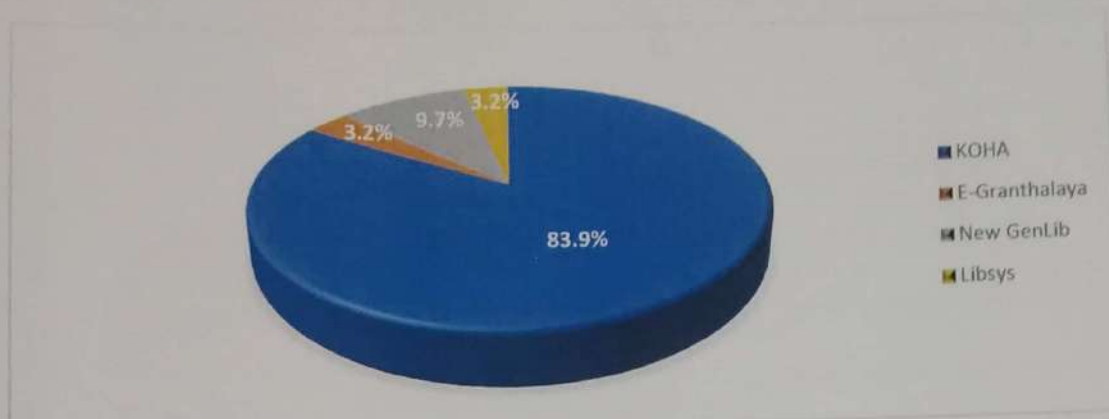


Figure 7

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to understand what was the most widely used LMS software among Goan college libraries. The data presented in Figure 7 states that a large majority of 83.8% of the libraries were using KOHA, followed by 9.6% of the libraries using NewGenLIB and a small minority of 3.2% of the libraries used E-Granthalaya and LIBSYS respectively.

Q8. As a librarian, personally If allowed to choose how would you prefer subscribing to journals for your library?

Table 5.8 Goan librarians' Opinion about subscribing to Journals for library

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Directly from publisher	8	25.8
Through Vendor	2	6.5
Institutional Membership	5	16.1
National/Internation Consortium	6	19.4
Library based Networks	1	3.2
Both directly from vendor and publishers	9	29

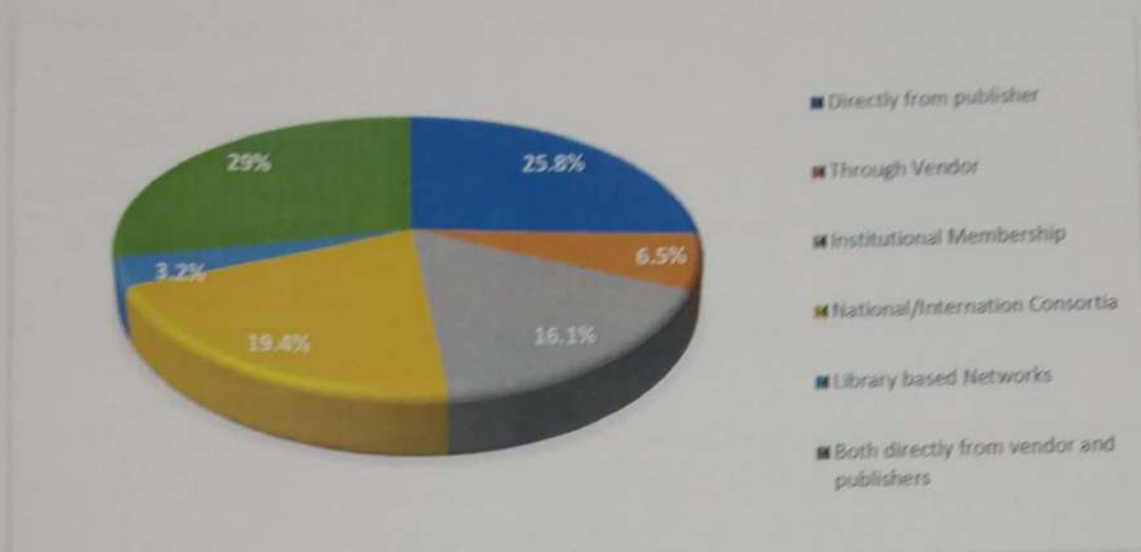


Figure 8

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to understand the librarians' opinions about the sources/vendors/distributors of journal subscriptions/purchases. The data presented in Figure 8 shows that a large majority of 29% of the librarians preferred subscribing to journals both directly from the vendor and publishers. About 25.8% of the librarians preferred subscribing directly from the publisher. 19.4% of the librarians preferred subscribing through national/International consortia. about 16.1% of the librarians preferred subscribing through the institutional membership. About 6.5% preferred purchasing from the vendors. And a small minority of 3.2% of the librarians preferred subscribing via library-based networks.

Q9. How would you describe the evolution of library consortia over the past decade in terms of their scope and services offered?

Table 5.9 Description of Library consortium Evolution in terms of Scope and services

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Significantly expanded in scope and services	23	74.2
expanded in scope but maintained same services	4	12.9
Maintained similar scope but expanded in services	1	3.2
Minimal changes in scope and services	3	9.7

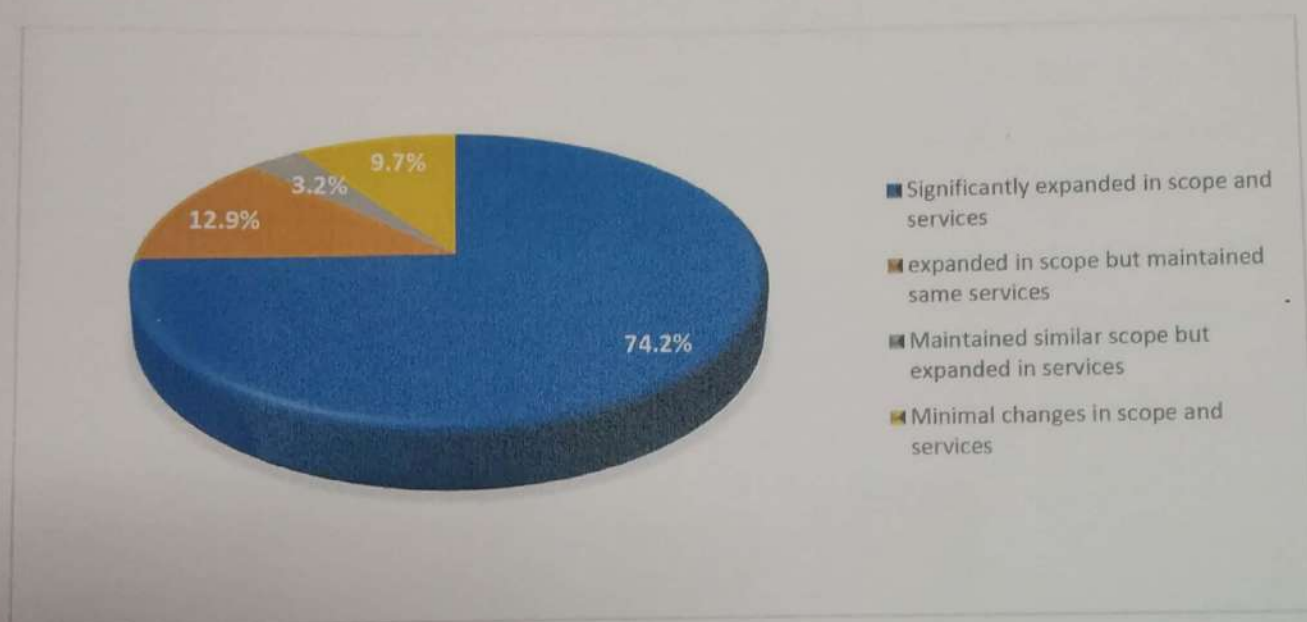


Figure 9

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to know the librarians' opinions about the evolution of the library consortium. The data presented in Figure 9 shows that a large majority of 74.2% of the librarians stated that it has significantly expanded in scope and services offered. About 12.9% of the Librarians said that it has expanded in scope but maintained the same services. About 3.2% of the librarians said that it has maintained a similar scope but has expanded in the services offered. A small minority of 9.7% of the librarians also said that it has undergone minimal changes in the scope and services offered.

Q10. How have library consortia adapted to meet the challenges posed by the digital transformation of scholarly communication and publishing?

Table 5.10 Library consortium response to challenges posed by digital transformation

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Negotiating favorable Licensing agreements for electronic resources	20	64.5
Advocating for open-access publishing models	10	32.3
Disseminating Digital Scholarship and undertaking other Digitization initiatives	19	61.3

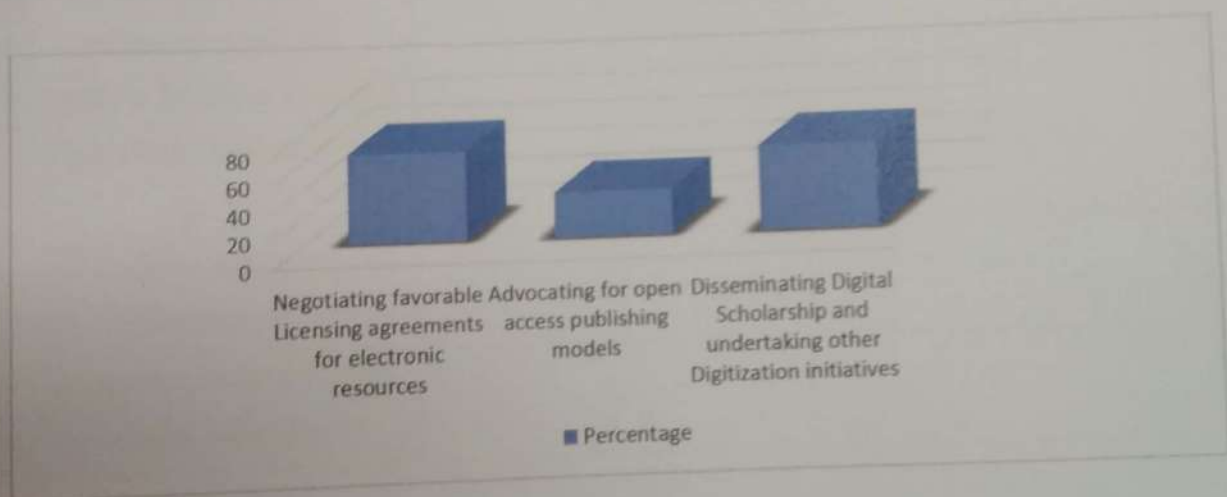


Figure 10

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to understand how consortiums have tackled challenges posed by digital transformations. The data presented in Figure 10 shows that a majority of 64.5% of the librarians say that library consortiums have negotiated favorable

licensing agreements for electronic resources. About 61.3% of the librarians say that consortiums have undertaken dissemination of digital scholarship and other digitization initiatives. A small minority of 32.3% of librarians say that consortiums have also undertaken advocating open access publishing model to adapt to the challenges opposed by the digital transformation of scholarly communication and publishing.

Q11. What emerging trends do you foresee in the future of library consortia, particularly in response to technological advancements and ever-changing user needs?

Table 5.11 Emerging trends foreseen by librarians in the future of Library consortia

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Integration of AI and other related technologies	25	80.6
Adaptive Machine Learning Technology Including AR and VR	15	48.4
Robotic functional Integrations	12	38.7
Greater emphasis on Open Access initiatives	23	74.2

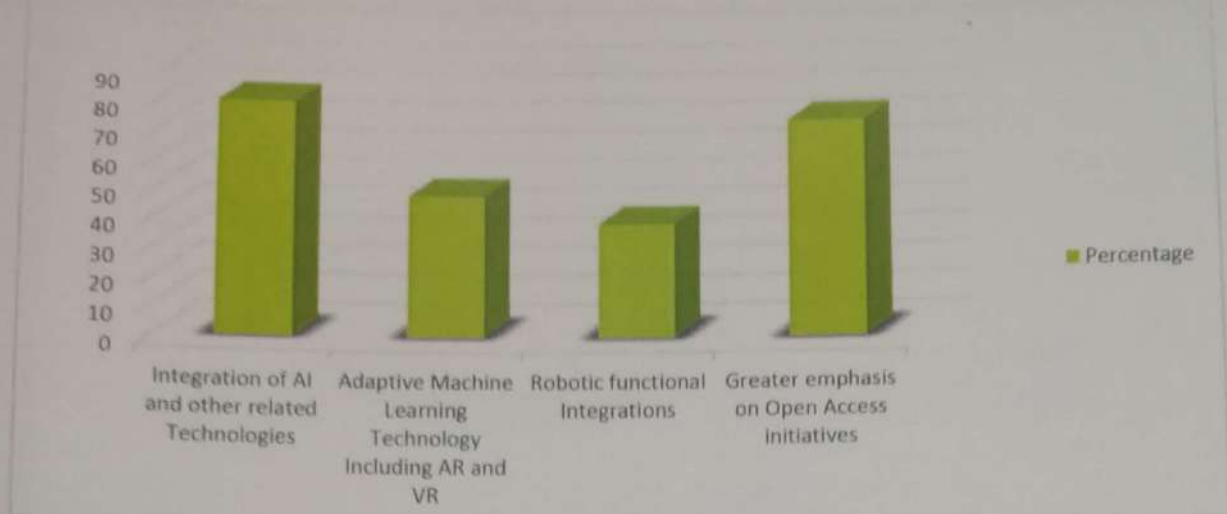


Figure 11

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to understand the trends Goan librarians foresee for the future of library consortia. The data presented in Figure 11 shows that a large majority of 80.6% of the librarians foresee the integration of AI and other related technologies within library consortia. About 74.2% of the librarians foresee greater emphasis on open access initiatives in library consortia. About 48.4% of the librarians foresee adaptation of adaptive machine learning technology including AR and VR technologies. About 38.7% of the librarians also foresee the robotic functional integrations within library consortia.

Q12. How do you perceive the role of library consortia in promoting diversity equity and inclusion in access to scholarly resources and services?

Table 5.12 Role of consortia in promoting diversity and equity to access resources

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Very Positively	12	38.7
Positively	16	51.6
Neutral	3	9.7

Negatively	0	0
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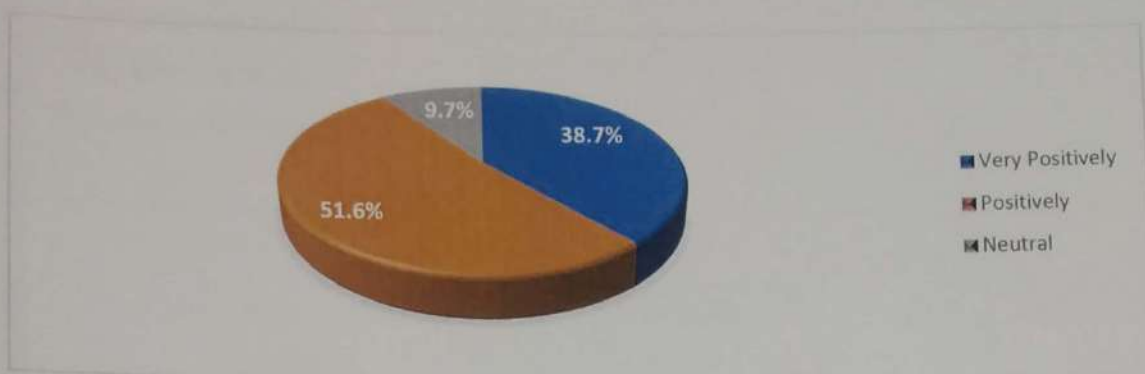


Figure 12

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to understand the role of library consortia in promoting diversity and equity to access to scholarly resources and services. The data presented in Figure 12 shows that a large majority of 51.6% of the librarians' state that the library consortium has played a positive role in the diversity and inclusion of access to scholarly resources and services. About 38.7% of the librarians say that the library consortium has played a very positive role in the diversity and inclusion of resources and services. A small minority of 9.7% of the librarians say that library consortiums have played a neutral role in access to resources and services.

Q13. What challenges do you anticipate for library consortia in staying relevant and effective rapidly evolving landscape of scholarly communication and information access?

Table 5.13 Challenges anticipated by consortiums in the growing landscape of information access and scholarly communication

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Keeping pace with the technological advancements	26	83.9

Addressing the complexity related to diverse and evolving user needs	16	51.6
Navigating complex Licensing and copyright issues	18	58.1

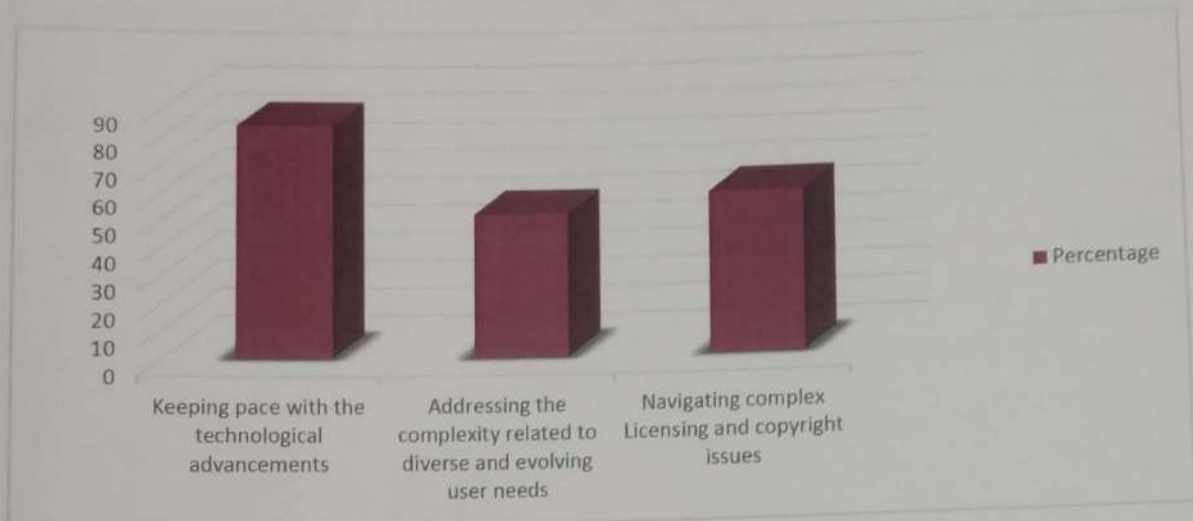


Figure 13

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to understand the challenges anticipated by consortiums in today's era of information explosion. The data presented in Figure 13 shows that a large majority of 83.9% of the librarians anticipated that library consortiums would find it challenging to keep up with technological advancements. About 58.1% of the librarians said that library consortiums would face challenges in navigating complex licensing and copyright issues. About 51.6% of the librarians said that library consortiums would also face challenges in addressing complexity related to diverse and evolving user needs.

Q14. What initiatives have library consortia undertaken to address the digital divide and ensure equitable access to information resources for the underserved communities?

Table 5.14 Initiatives of Consortium to address digital divide

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Providing Subsidized or Free access to E-resources for Community Libraries	22	71
Offering Training Programmes and digital Literacy initiatives	22	71
Establishing and expanding the scope and coverage of DDL services	12	38.7
Establishing Mobile Libraries in remote areas	11	35.5

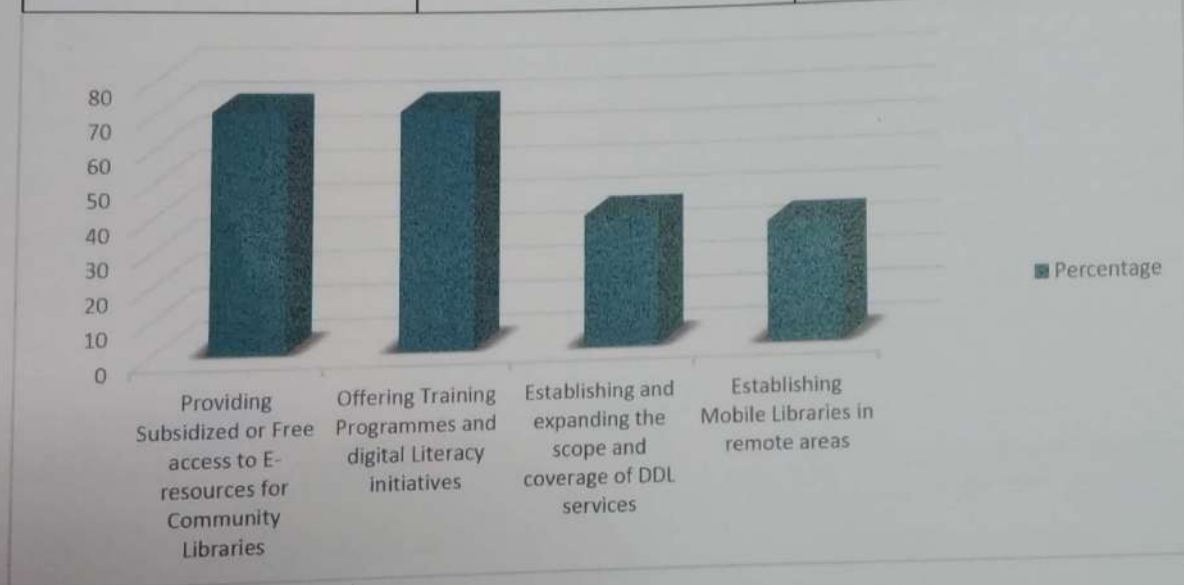


Figure 14

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to understand the various initiatives undertaken by library consortiums to address the digital divide. The data in Figure 14 shows that a large majority of 71% of the librarians stated that consortiums have provided subsidized or free access to E-resources for community libraries another 71% of the librarians also said that consortiums also offered training programs and digital literacy initiatives. About 38.7% of the

librarians stated that consortiums have also established and expanded their scope and coverage of DDL services. And about 35.5% of the libraries have established mobile libraries in remote areas.

Q15. Which services offered via your library consortia do you find most valuable for supporting teaching and research activities?

Table 5.15 Services Offered by Consortiums to support research and teaching

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Access To e-books and Academic Journals	29	93.5
Inter-library Loan Services	12	38.7
Document Delivery Services	10	32.3
Remote Access	28	67.7
SDI	7	22.6
Plagiarism Checker	8	25.8
Grammarly	1	3.2

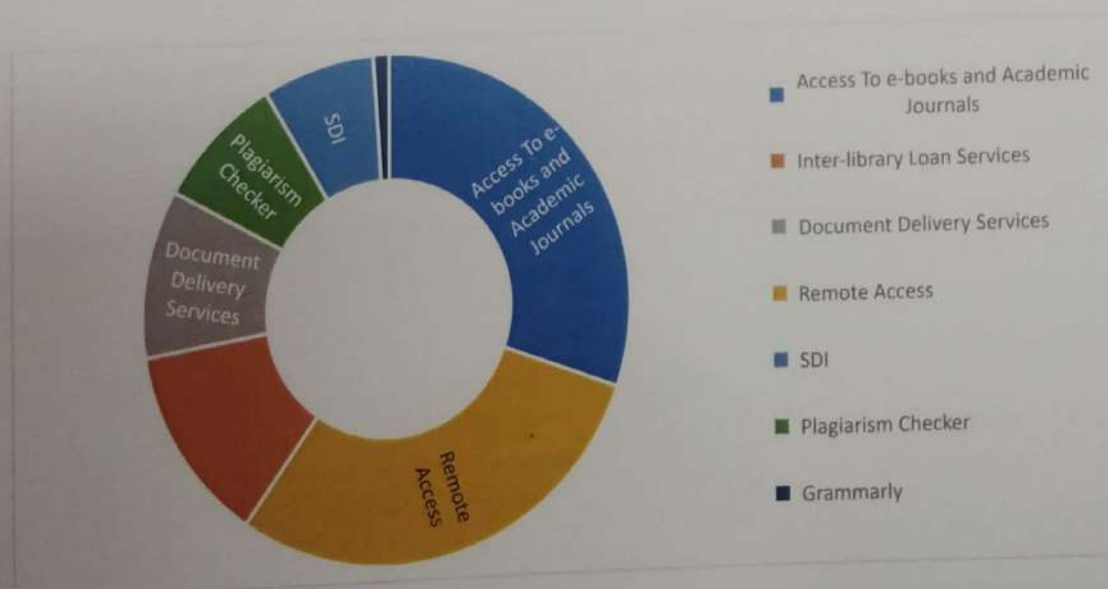


Figure 15

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to understand the various services offered via library consortia to support research and teaching. The data presented in Figure 15 shows that a large majority of 93.5% of librarians state access to eBook and academic journals is most valuable to support research and teaching. About 67.7% of the librarians' state remote access services are most valuable to support research and teaching, about 38.7% of the librarians' state ILL is most valuable to support research and teaching. About 32.3% of the librarians' state DDS as the most valuable service to support research and teaching. Besides this about 25.8% of librarians state that the plagiarism checker offered by them is most valuable to support teaching and research., about 22.6 % of librarians also state that SDI services are most valuable to support research and teaching. Also, about 3.2% of librarians say the Grammarly offered by them helps support teaching and research.

Q16. Have you utilized inter-library loan services offered via your consortium to access resources, not available in your institution collection?

Table 5.16 Utilization of ILL for Library consortia resources

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Yes, frequently	0	0
Yes, occasionally	19	61.3
No Never	12	38.7

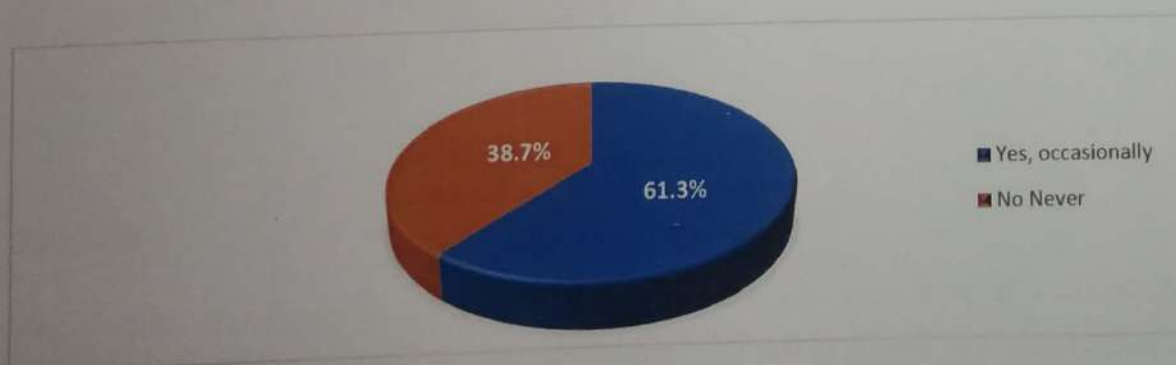


Figure 16

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to understand the utilization frequency of ILL among college libraries in Goa. The data presented in Figure 16 shows that a large majority of 61.3% of the librarians say that they have utilized Interlibrary loan services to access resources not available in their library. About 38.7% of libraries have not utilized such services.

Q17. How important do you think establishing collaborative purchasing agreements via consortium are in acquiring resources that would otherwise have been unaffordable by the library/institution?

Table 5.17 Importance of establishing collaborative purchasing agreements

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Significantly Important	22	71
Moderately Important	9	29
Slightly Important	0	0
Not Important	0	0

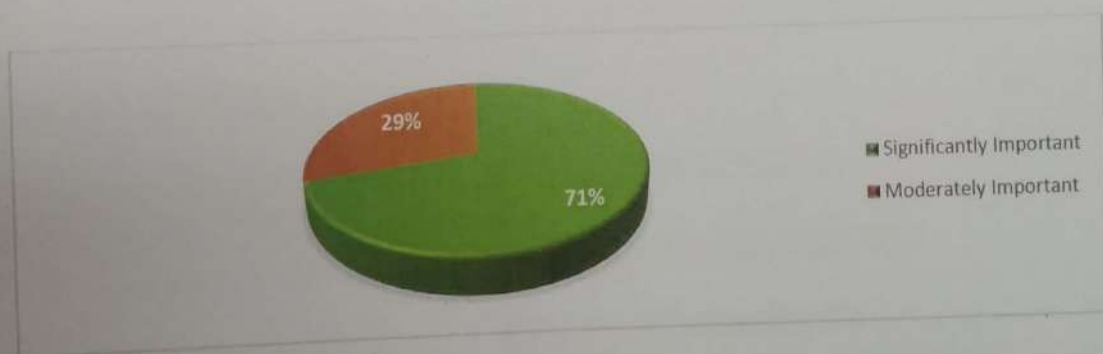


Figure 17

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to understand the importance of establishing collaborative purchasing agreements for consortiums. The data presented in Figure 17 shows that a large majority of 71% of the librarians considered establishing collaborative purchasing

agreements via consortiums as significantly important. While 29% of the librarians considered it as moderately important.

Q18. In what ways do you think library consortia could further enhance the usability and accessibility of their online platforms and resources?

Table 5.18 Strategies consortium use to enhance usability and accessibility via their platforms

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Improving Search Functionalities	23	74.2
Enhancing User Interface Design	17	54.8
Provide User Trainings, guides and Tutorials	20	64.5
Provide 24x7 uninterrupted access with Real Time Assistance	18	58.1

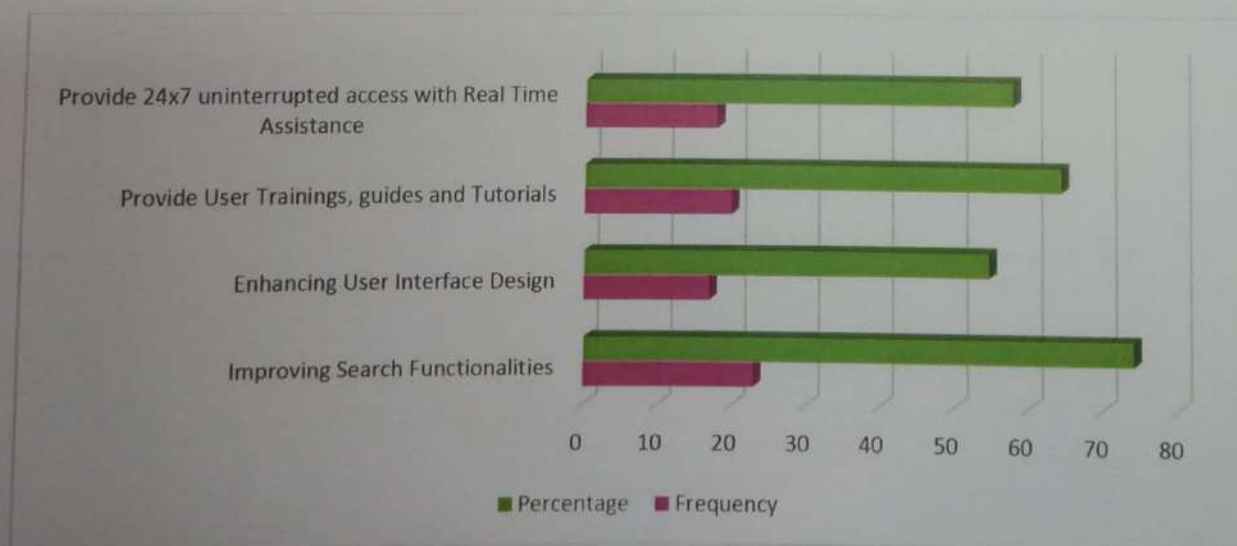


Figure 18

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to understand the strategies adopted by consortiums to enhance their usability and accessibility. The data presented in Figure 18 shows that a large majority of 74.2% of the librarians suggested that consortiums could improve their search functionalities. about 64.5% of librarians said consortiums should provide user training guides and tutorials. About 58.1% of the librarians felt that consortiums should provide 24x7 uninterrupted access with real-time assistance. About 54.8% of the librarians felt that consortiums should enhance user interface design to further enhance the usability and accessibility of their online programs.

Q19. How do you perceive the role of library consortia in facilitating cooperative collection development and management among member institutions?

Table 5.19 Role of library to facilitate cooperative collection development

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Primarily Important	13	41.9
Important	18	58.1
Somewhat Important	0	0
Not Important	0	0



Figure 19

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to understand the librarians' opinion on how important they perceive the role of library consortium towards cooperative collection development. The data presented in Figure 19 shows that a large majority of 58.1% of the librarians considered the role of consortium as being important to facilitate cooperative collection development and management among member institutions. Apart from this 41.9% of the librarians considered the role of library consortium as primarily important to facilitate cooperative collection development and management among member institutions.

Q20. To what extent do you believe the integration of ICT has streamlined administrative tasks within library consortia?

Table 5.20 Extent of Integrating ICT for administrative task within consortium

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Majorly	27	87
Slightly	2	6.5
Minimal	2	6.5
Non	0	0

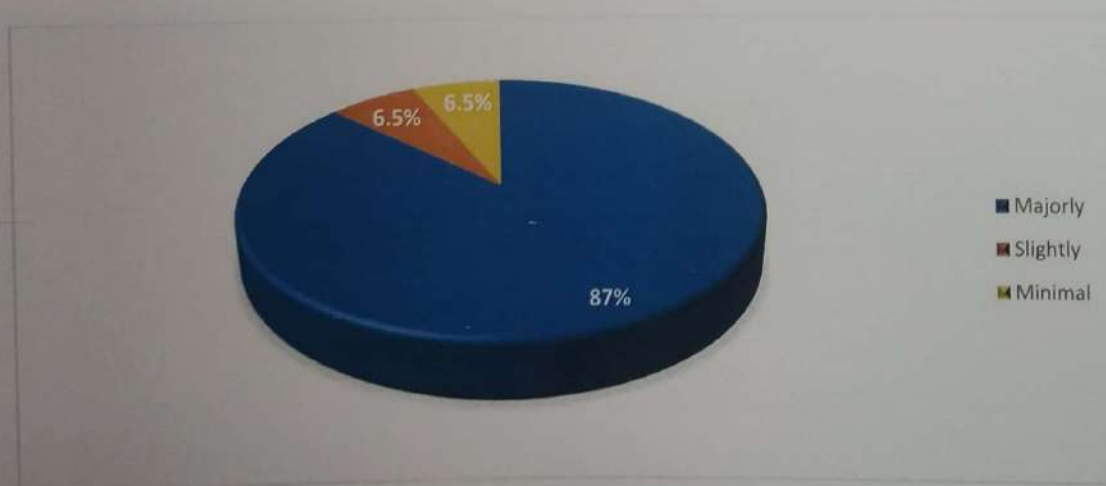


Figure 20

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to understand the importance of integrating ICT within consortiums. The data presented in Figure 20 shows that a large majority of 87% of the libraries perceived the integrations of ICT as majorily important to streamline the administrative tasks within consortiums. About 6.5% of the librarians perceived the integrations of ICT as slightly important, and another 6.5% of the librarians considered it as minimally important in streamlining administrative tasks within the library consortium.

Q21. In what ways has the implementation of ICT enhanced communication and collaboration among member libraries within consortia?

Table 5.21 Enhancements via implementations of ICT within consortiums

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Real-time communication channels	15	48.4
Online collaboration platforms	18	58.1
Shared databases and repositories	21	67.7

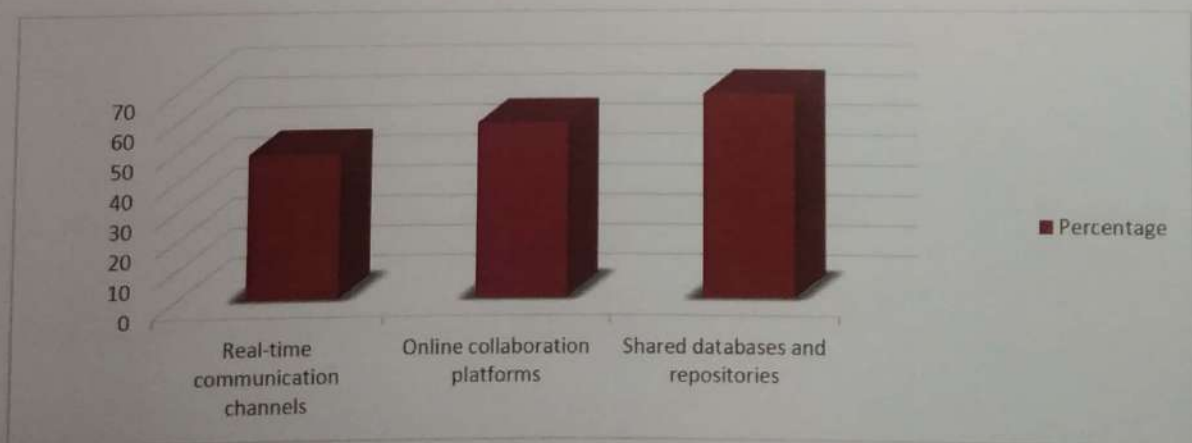


Figure 21

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to understand ways via which ICT has enhanced collaborations between member libraries within the consortiums. The data presented in Figure 21 shows that a large majority of 67.7% of librarians state integration of ICT within the library consortia has resulted in shared databases and repositories. About 58.1% of the librarians said that it also resulted in enhanced online collaboration platforms. About 48.4% of the librarians state the integrations of ICT within consortia have resulted in enhanced real-time communications channels.

Q22. What ICT infrastructure improvements do you think are necessary to further enhance the effectiveness of library consortia services?

Table 5.22 Necessary ICT infrastructure improvements required to enhance consortia services

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Upgrading network bandwidth and connectivity	25	80.6
Implementing advanced search and discovery tools	24	77.4
Enhancing cybersecurity measures	20	64.5

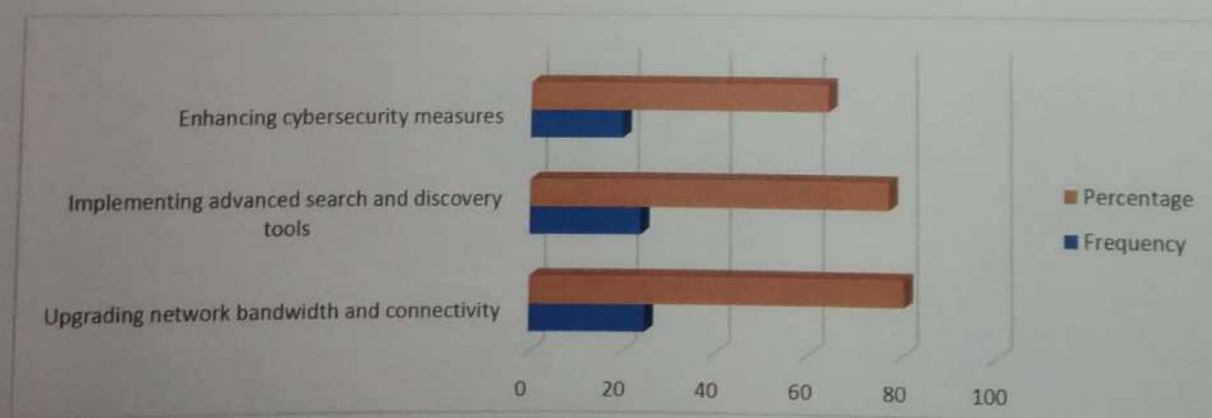


Figure 22

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to understand the necessary ICT infrastructure improvements needed to further enhance consortium services. The data presented in Figure 22 shows that a large majority of 80.6% of the librarians believed that upgrading bandwidth and connectivity would help enhance library consortia services. About 77.4% of the librarians felt that implementations of advanced search and discovery tools would help to enhance library consortia services. About 64.5% of the librarians also felt that enhancing cybersecurity measures would also help to further enhance services offered by library consortia.

Q23. How has the use of ICT contributed towards the customization and personalization of services offered through library consortia?

Table 5.23 Customization and Personalized services offered via consortium via implementation of ICT

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Tailored recommendations based on user preferences	20	64.5
Personalized alerts for new resources and updates	24	77.4
Customized search interfaces and filters	15	48.3



Figure 23

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to understand the customized and personalized services offered via consortiums in college libraries of Goa. The data presented in Figure 23 shows that a large majority of 77.4% of the librarians felt ICT integrations led to personalized alerts for new resources and updates. About 64.5% of the libraries felt ICT implementation resulted in tailored recommendations based on user preferences. About 48.3% of the libraries felt ICT integrations also resulted in customized search interfaces and filters.

Q24. What challenges, if any, have you encountered in adopting and integrating ICT solutions within library consortia operations?

Table 5.24 Challenges face while adopting ICT solutions within the consortium

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Technical compatibility issues	19	61.3
Resistance to change among staff members	12	38.7
Budgetary constraints	24	77.4
No Challenges faced	3	9.7
Creating awareness of ICT services	1	3.2

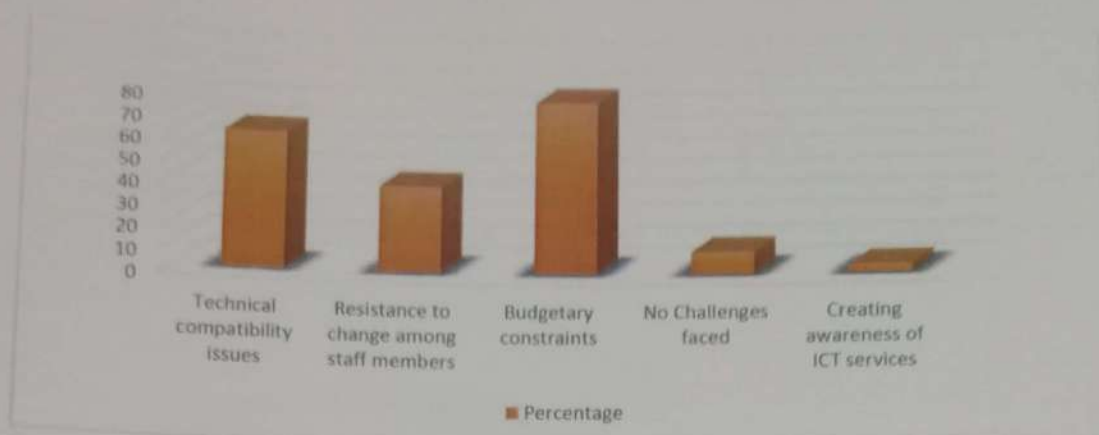


Figure 24

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to understand the challenges faced by librarians while integrating ICT within their library consortium operation. The data presented in Figure 24 shows that a large majority of 77.4% of the librarians faced budgetary constraints while implementing ICT within library consortium operations. About 61.3% of the librarians faced technical compatibility issues while integrating ICT with the library consortium ecosystem. About 38.7% of the libraries faced issues related to resistance to such new changes by the staff members. About 9.7% of the librarians said that they didn't face any challenges and a small minority of 3.2% of librarians faced issues related to creating awareness about ICT services.

Q25. To what extent have library consortia collaborations impacted the professional development opportunities available to library staff in your institution?

Table 5.25 Impact of consortia collaborations on Professional development of Library staff and institution

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Enhanced training and networking opportunities	14	45.2

Average Impact	11	35.4
Limited impact on professional development	3	9.7
No noticeable change	3	9.7

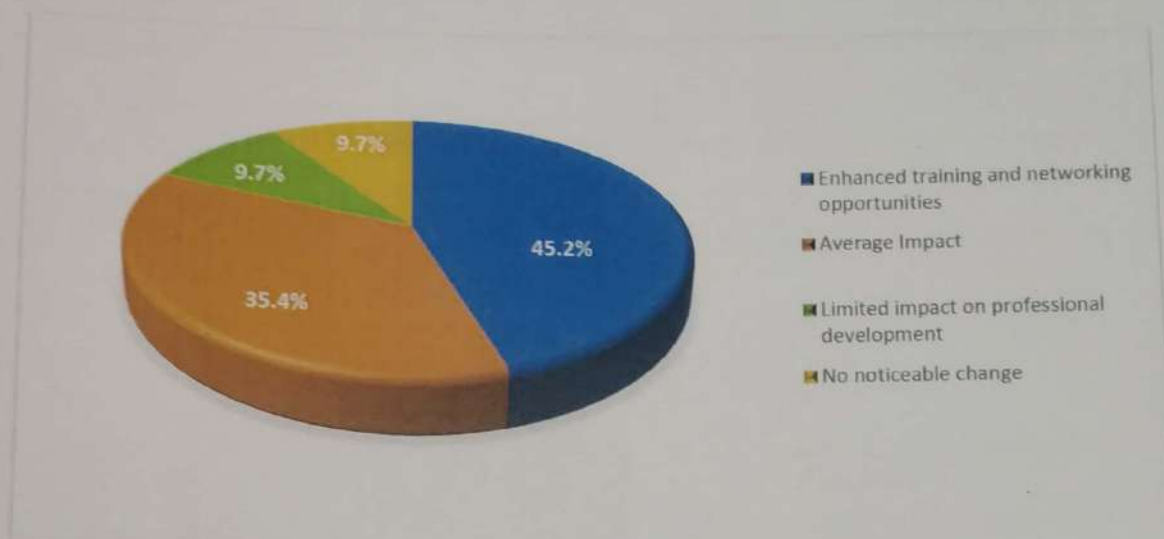


Figure 25

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to understand the impact of consortia on the professional development of library staff. The data presented in Figure 25 shows that a large majority of 45.2% of librarians say that library collaborations have resulted in enhanced training and networking opportunities for the staff and institution. About 35.4% of the librarians say that such collaborations have had an average impact on the professional development of staff members and institutions. Besides this, 9.7% of the librarians said that such collaborations have had a limited impact on the professional development of their staff and institution. Another 9.7% of the librarians said that there has been no noticeable change seen in the professional development of the staff and institution.

Q26. How do you perceive the future role of library consortia in supporting the development and advancement of Academic Libraries

Table 5.26 Future role of Library consortia in supporting the development and advancement of academic libraries

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Essential partners in library development	22	71
Supportive but not central to library advancement	9	29
No significant role towards future library development	0	0

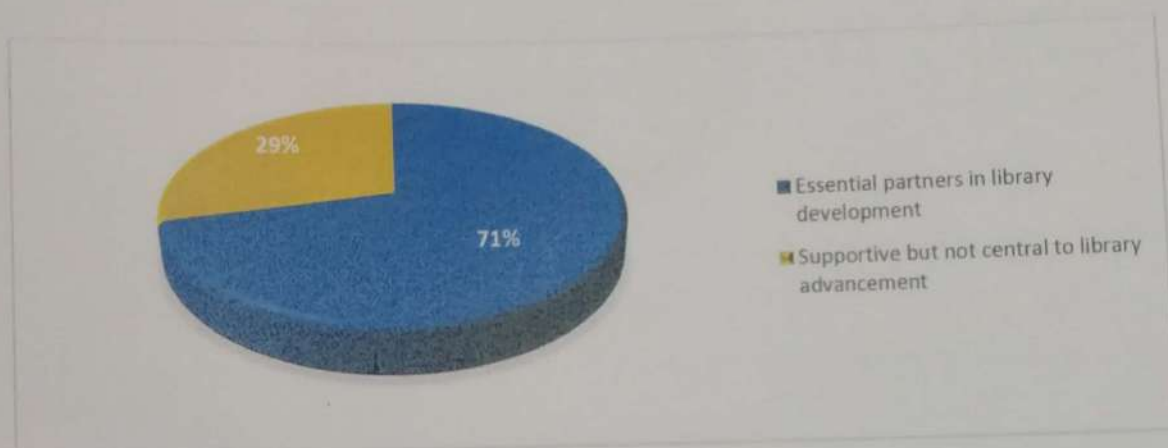


Figure 26

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to understand the future role of library consortiums in supporting the development of academic libraries. The data presented in Figure 26 shows that a large majority of 71% of the librarians considered the future role of library consortia as an essential partner in library development and about 29% of the librarians considered the future role of library consortia as supportive, but not central to the development of academic college and professional libraries.

Q27. Have library consortia collaborations influenced the implementation of open access initiatives (OER) and policies within your library/Institution?

Table 5.27 Response rates of how library consortia have resulted in the Implementation of OER

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Yes, significantly	18	58.1
Yes, moderately	11	35.5
No, not at all	2	6.5

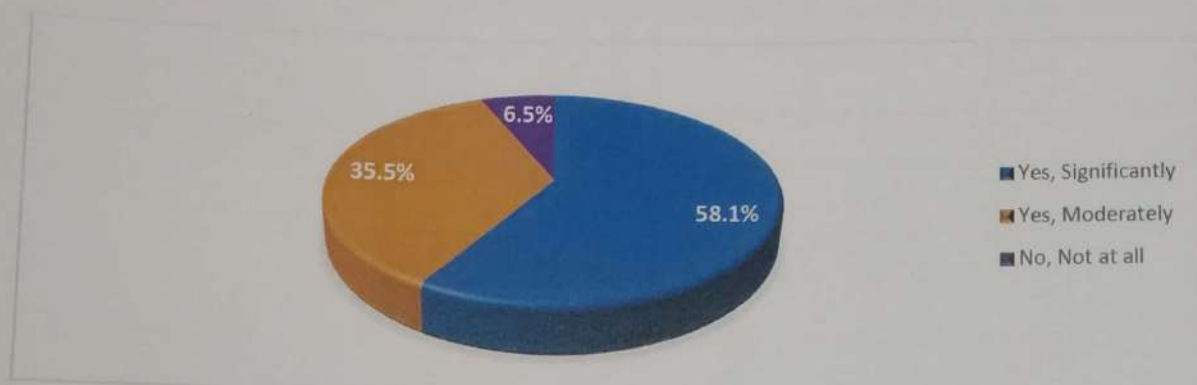


Figure 27

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to understand how well library consortium collaborations have influenced OER initiatives among Goan college libraries. The data presented in Figure 27 shows that a large majority of 58.1% of the librarians claimed that library consortia collaborations have very significantly influenced the implementation of OER initiatives. About 35.5% of the librarians have claimed that it has moderately influenced the implementation of OER initiatives and around 6.5% of the librarians claim that hasn't impacted nor influenced any implementation of OER initiatives

Q28. To what extent do you believe library consortia collaborations have promoted interdisciplinary research and collaboration within your college library/Institute?

Table 5.28 Response rates of how consortia collaborations have promoted interdisciplinary research

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Significantly promoted interdisciplinary research	10	51.6
Moderately promoted interdisciplinary research	16	32.2
Minimal impacts on interdisciplinary research	3	9.7
Not applicable	2	6.5

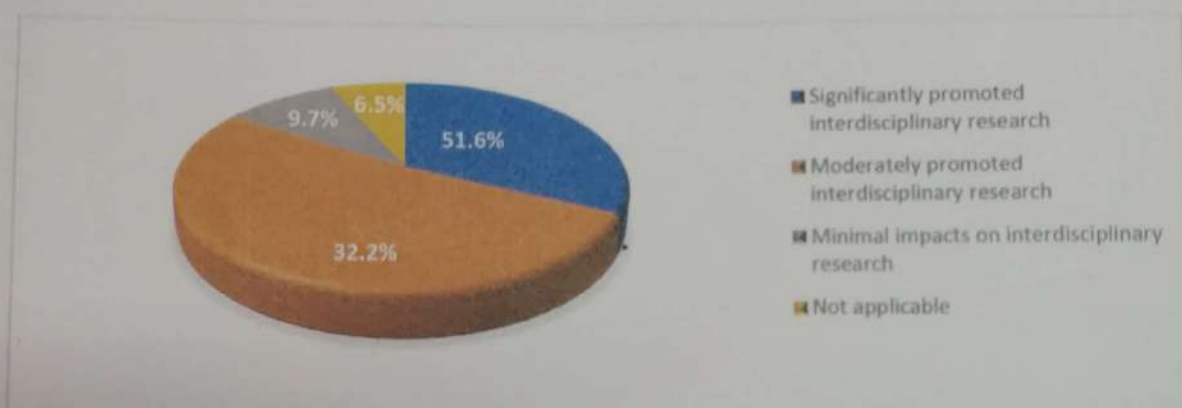


Figure 28

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to understand how significantly have library consortiums promoted interdisciplinary research. The data presented in Figure 28 shows that a large majority of 51.6% of the librarians said that library consortia collaborations have significantly promoted interdisciplinary research within their respective institutions. About 32.2% of the librarians said that it has moderately promoted interdisciplinary research, and around 9.7% of the libraries said that such collaborations have had minimal impact on interdisciplinary research within their institution. Apart from this, a small minority of 6.5% of the librarians stated that it did not apply to their institution.

Q29. In your opinion does participating in a Consortium offer better cost-effective coverage and access to a wider range of resources as compared to individual vendor-based Library subscriptions? (Eg: DELNET)

Table 5.29 Assessment of Consortium vs. Individual Vendor Subscriptions for Cost-Effectiveness and Resource Accessibility

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	27	87.1
No	1	3.2
Unsure	3	9.7

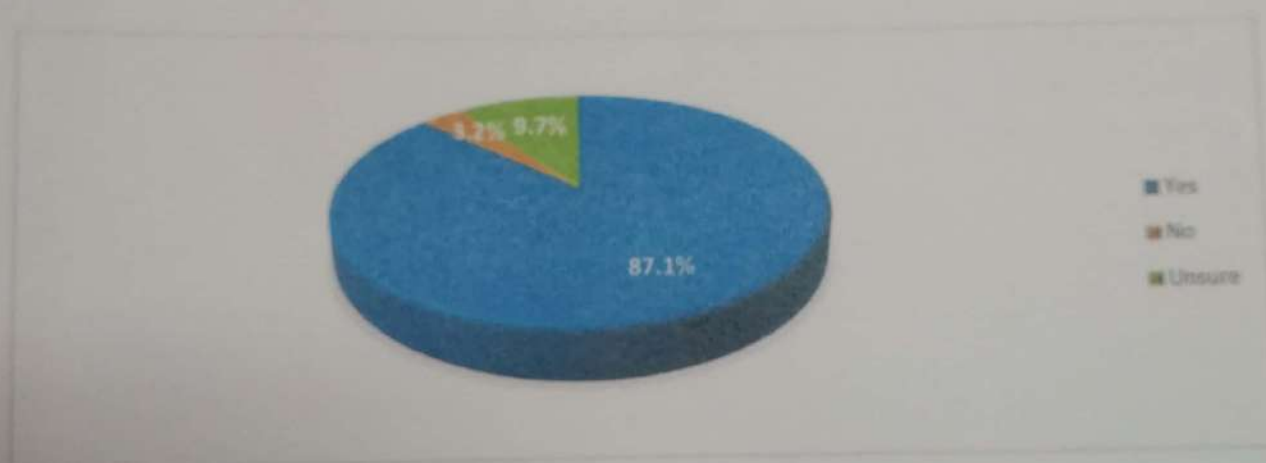


Figure 29

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to know the librarians' opinion on whether or not participating in a consortium is better than an individual vendor-based subscription. The data presented in Figure 29 shows that a large majority of 87.1% of the librarians agreed that participating in the consortium provides better benefits in terms of cost-effective coverage and access to a wider range of resources as compared to individual vendor-based library subscriptions. About 9.7 % of the librarians were unsure about this and about 3.2% of librarians said no it's not beneficial.

Q30. How familiar are you with the concept of "One Nation One Subscription" Model for digital content access in libraries?

Table 5.30 Responses related to familiarity with ONOS model

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Very familiar	9	29
Somewhat familiar	19	61.3
Not very familiar	3	9.7
Not familiar at all	0	0

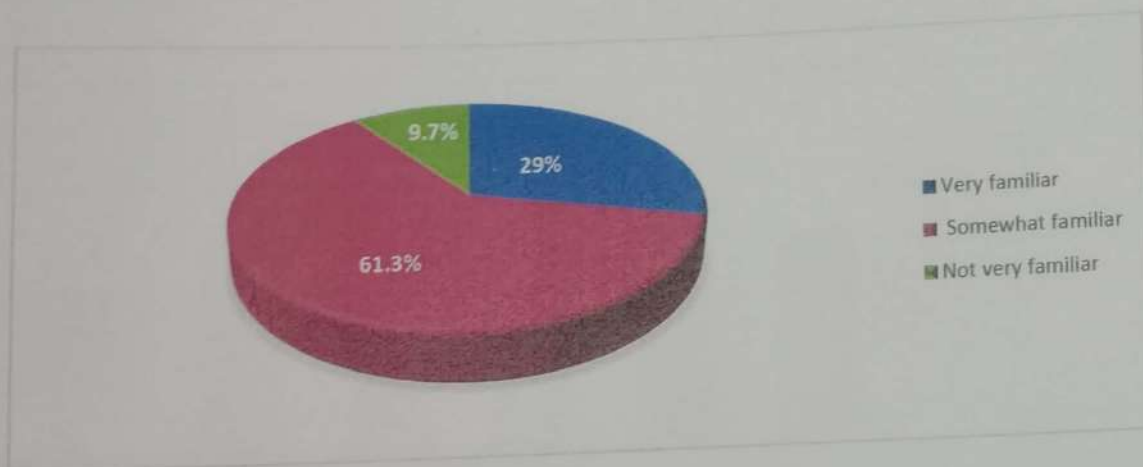


Figure 30

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to understand how familiar were Goan College librarians with the term/concept of ONOS. The data presented in Figure 30 shows that a large majority of 61.3% of the librarians were somewhat familiar with the ONOS policy. About 29% of the libraries were very familiar with the ONOS policy and around 9.7% of the librarians were not very familiar with the ONOS policy.

Q31. If yes, you are familiar with ONOS, how did you become aware of/ come to know about the "One Nation One Subscription" policy?

Table 5.31 Medium/means/mode of Awareness about the ONOS Model/Policy

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Through professional associations or conferences	15	48.4
Communication with library consortia Experts or organizations	7	22.6
E resources or publications	6	19.4
Internet	14	45.2
Newspaper/Magazine Articles	13	41.9

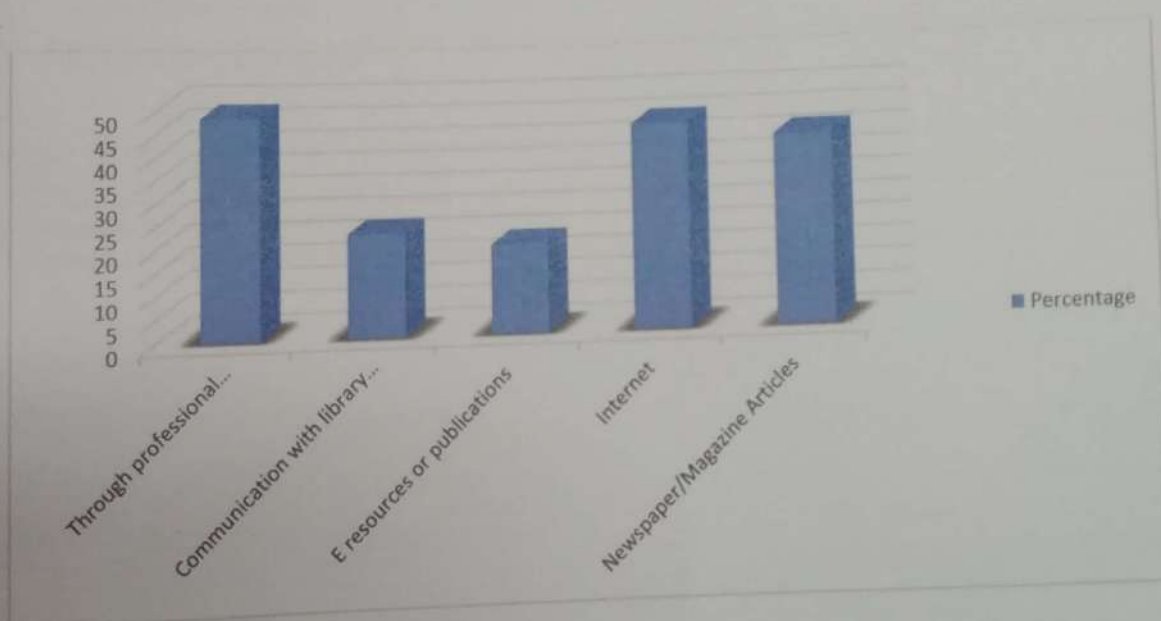


Figure 31

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to know about the sources from where the librarians heard/read about ONOS. The data presented in Figure 31 shows that a majority of 48.4% of the librarians said they got familiar with the ONOS policy via professional associations. 45.2% of the librarians said they were familiar with this policy model through the Internet. Around

41.9% of the librarians claimed to be familiar with the concept through newspapers and magazines. Around 22.6% of the librarians said that got familiar with it via communications with consortia experts and about 19.4% of the librarians said that they heard and read about it through E-resources and publications.

Q32. Have you attended any workshops, webinars, or training sessions specifically addressing the “One Nation One Subscription” policy?

Table 5.32 Responses based on workshops attended on ONOS by librarians

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Yes, multiple sessions	0	0
Yes, One session	4	12.5
No, but I am interested in attending	23	72
No	4	12.5
No such workshops are held	1	3

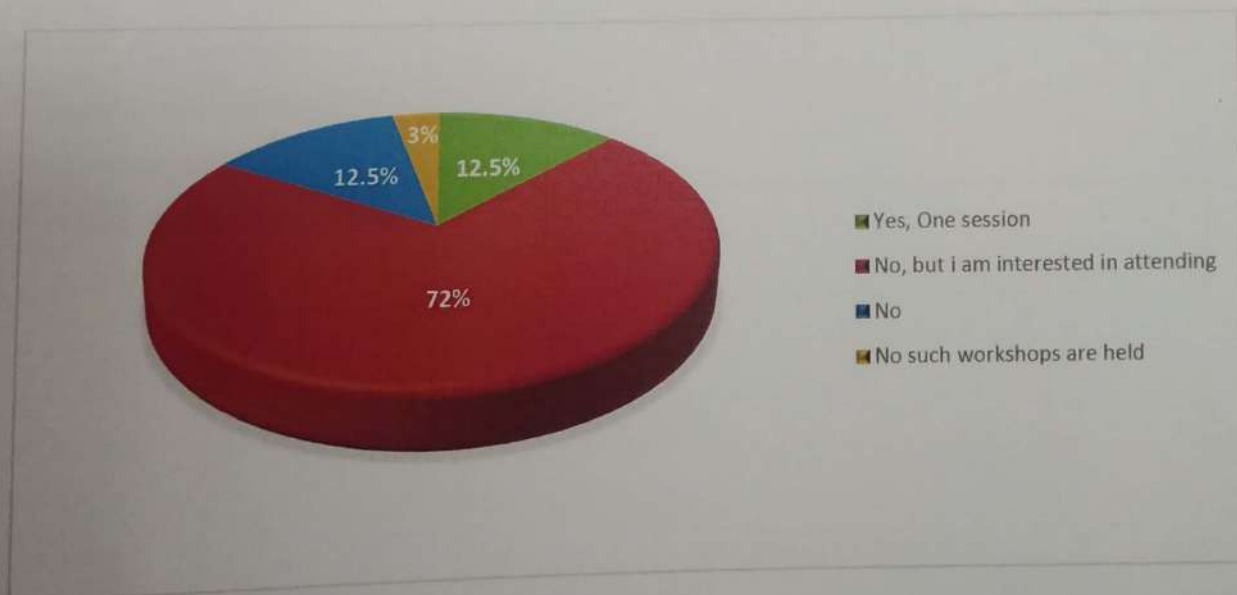


Figure 32

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to understand whether or not the college librarians in Goa have attended any workshops or seminars on ONOS. The data presented in Figure 32 shows that a large majority of 72% of the librarians said that they hadn't attended workshops seminars or webinars addressing ONOS policy however they were interested in attending. About 12.5% of the librarians said yes, they had attended one session. Another 12.5% of the librarians also said No, they hadn't attended any sessions. About 3% of the librarians stated that no such workshops are being conducted.

Q33. In your opinion, what does the term "One Nation One Subscription" imply in the context of library services?

Table 5.33 Responses about what the ONOS imply in context of library services

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Uniform access to digital content across all libraries nationwide	22	71
One centralized subscription managed by a national authority	20	64.5
Regional subscription pooling for shared access	9	29

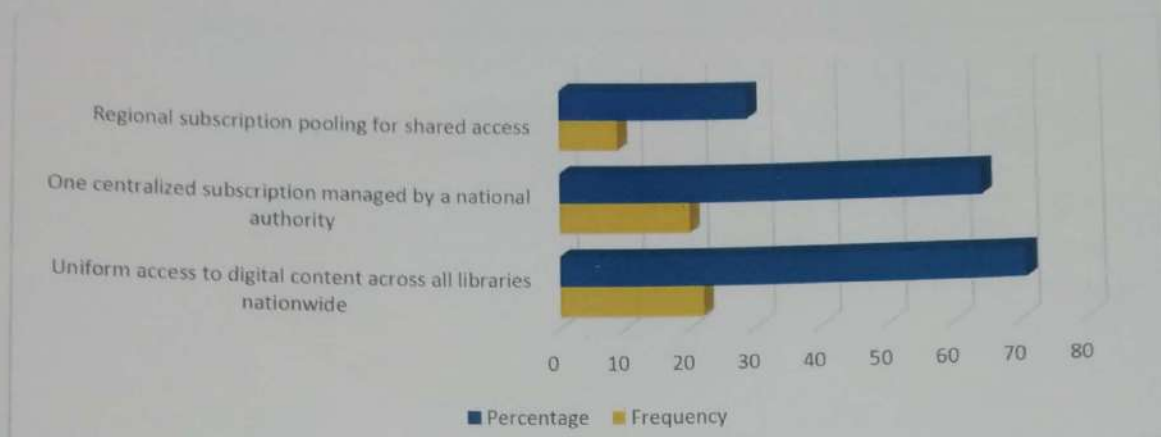


Figure 33

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to know the opinion about college librarians in Goa as to what the term ONOS implies in the library context. The data presented in Figure 33 shows that a large majority of 71% of the librarians said that the notion of ONOS implies to uniform access to digital content across all libraries nationwide. About 64.5% of the librarians said that ONOS policy implies one centralized subscription managed by a national authority. About 29% of the libraries stated that ONOS implies regional subscription via shared access.

Q34. Do you think implementing a "One Nation One Subscription" model in India benefits your library/Institution more than being part of a consortium

Table 5.34 Comparing Benefits: 'One Nation One Subscription' vs. Consortium Membership for Libraries/Institutions

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	23	74.1
No	2	19.4
Unsure	6	6.5

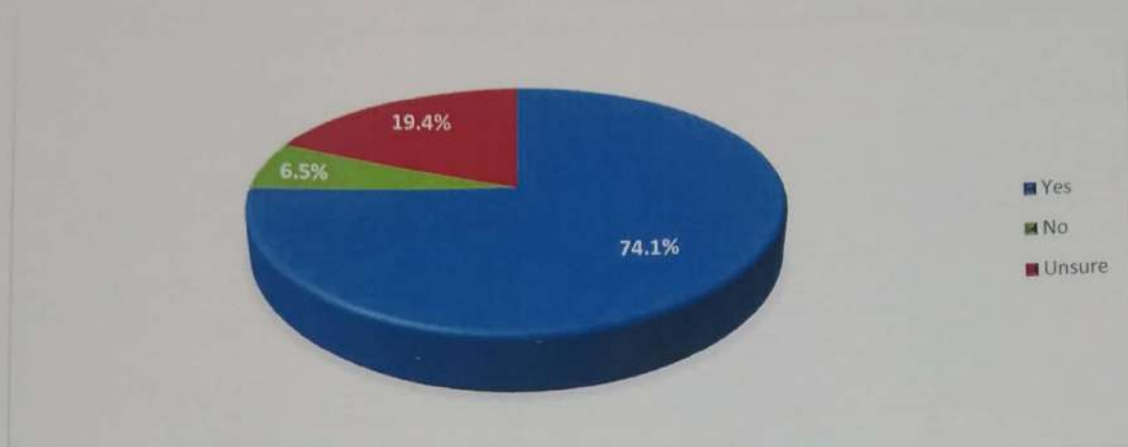


Figure 34

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to understand the librarians' opinion as to whether implementing ONOS would be more beneficial than being part of a consortium. The data presented in Figure 34 shows that a large majority of 74.1% of the librarians claimed that the ONOS model would benefit libraries more than being part of a consortium. About 6.5% of the librarians were unsure about whether it was beneficial or not and about 19.4% of the librarians said that ONOS would not be beneficial than being part of a consortium.

Q35. What challenges do you anticipate in transitioning from the existing consortium Model to a "One Nation One Subscription" model?

Table 5.35 Challenges Faced while transitioning from consortium model to ONOS models

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Technical compatibility with existing systems and Infrastructure	22	71
Negotiating terms with content providers	16	51.6

Training staff and users on the new system	24	77.4
Ensuring equitable access for all students and faculty	17	54.8
Legal or contractual Barriers with content providers	16	51.6
Network Connectivity and server Issues	20	64.5
No Challenges	0	0

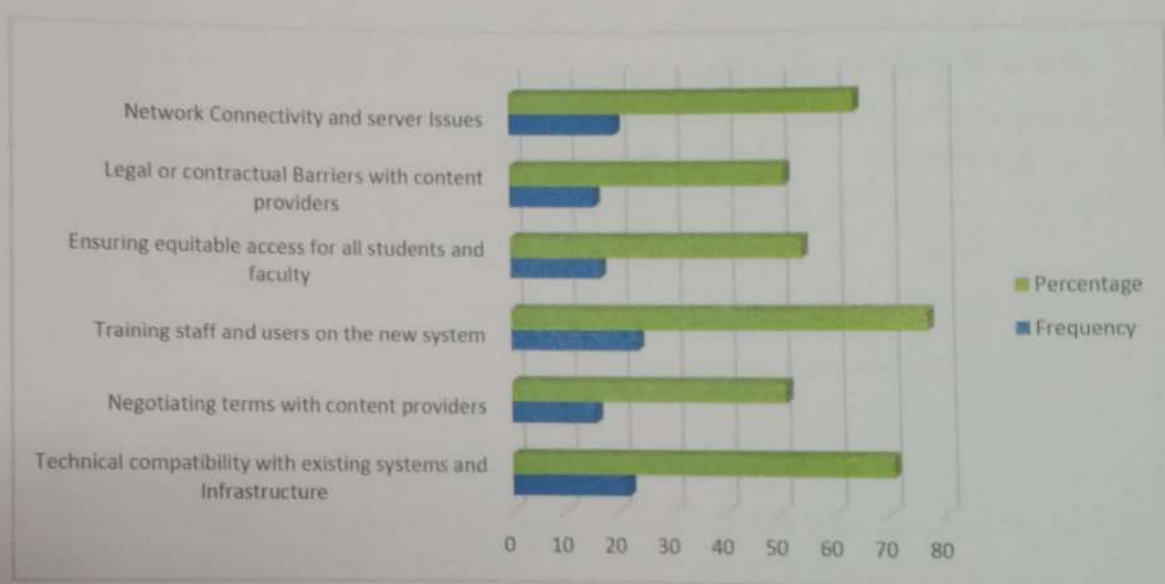


Figure 35

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to understand the challenges anticipated by Goan College librarians towards the transitioning of the current consortium model to the ONOS model. The data presented in Figure 35 shows that a large majority of 77.4% of the librarians anticipated that while transitioning from the existing consortium model to the ONOS model Staff and user training, related to the operation of a new system will be a major challenge. About 71% of the librarians said technical compatibility with the existing system and infrastructure will be another major issue. About 64.5% of the librarians stated that network

connectivity and server access would be another issue. Around 54.8% of the librarians said providing equitable access for all students and faculty was another challenge. Besides this, 51.6% of the librarians said negotiating terms with content providers was another issue. Another 51.6% of the librarians stated that legal and contractual barriers with content providers would also pose an issue in transitioning from the existing model to the ONOS model.

Q36. What criteria would you prioritize when selecting digital content for inclusion in a nationwide subscription model?

Table 5.36 Priorities while selecting digital content for the ONOS model

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Relevance to academic curriculum	26	83.9
Quality of content	27	87.1
Availability of usage statistics	20	64.5
Cost-effectiveness	19	61.3

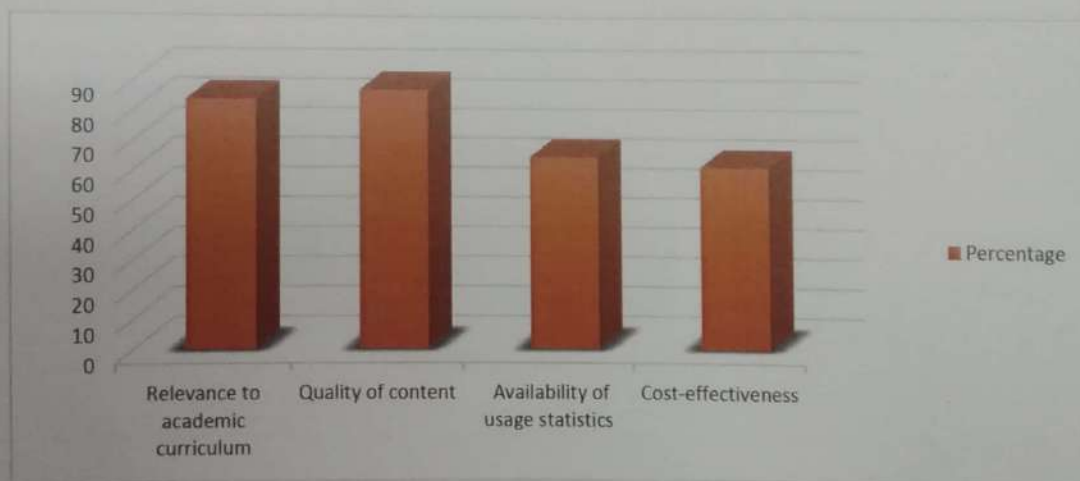


Figure 36

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to understand the criteria Goan College librarians would prioritize while selecting digital content for the ONOS model. The data presented in Figure 36 shows that a large majority of 83.9% of the librarians considered prioritizing digital content that is relevant to the academic curriculum. About 87.1% of the librarians gave priority to the quality of the content selected. About 64.5% of the librarians considered those content that avail for high usage statistics and about 61.3% of the librarians prioritized the cost-effectiveness factor while selecting digital content for the ONOS model.

Q37. How do you think a "One Nation One Subscription" model would impact the academic community as a whole?

Table 5.37 Responses on the impact of the ONOS model on the academic community

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Positively	24	87.1
Neutral	4	12.9
Negatively	0	0

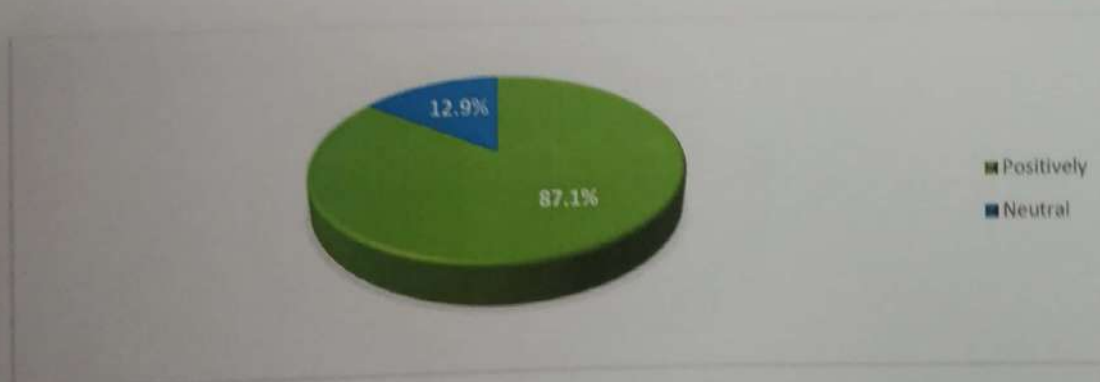


Figure 37

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to understand the anticipated impact of the ONOS model on the academic community in Goa. The data presented in Figure 37 shows that a large majority of 87.1% of the librarians said that ONOS would have a positive impact on the academic community. About 12.9% of the librarians said that the impact on the academic community would be neutral.

Q38. If the upcoming "One Nation One Subscription" Model Poses the initiative for Union Cataloguing, E-Resource Sharing would you like to join this consortium Initiative as a Data Provider?

Table 5.38 Interest Assessment: Participation in 'One Nation One Subscription' Union Cataloguing and E-Resource Sharing Initiative as a Data Provider

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	26	77.4
No	1	19.4
Unsure	4	3.2

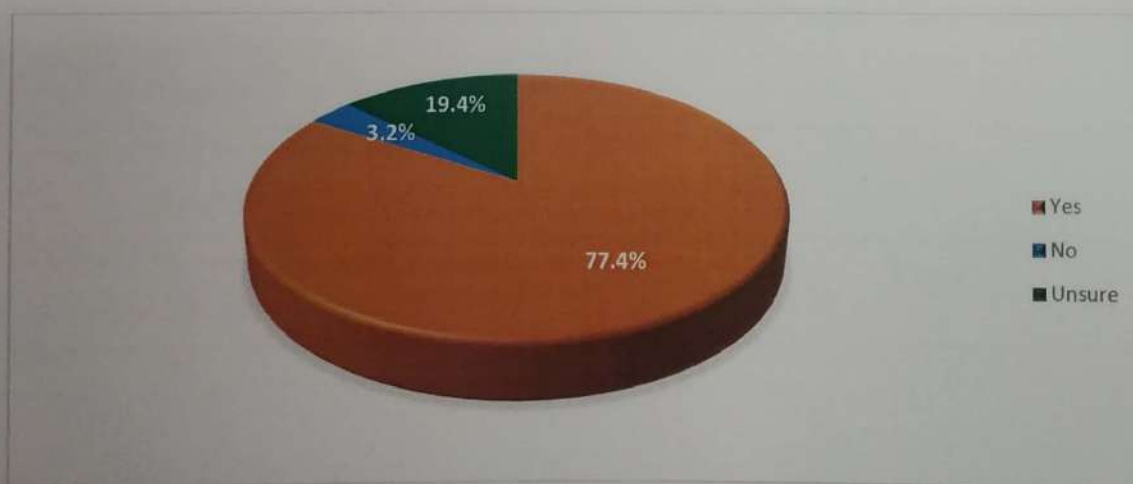


Figure 38

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to assess whether Goan college libraries would serve as data provider for the ONOS Union cataloging initiative. The data presented in Figure 38 shows that a large majority of 77.4% of the librarians said yes, they would like to join the ONOS model if it proposes an initiative for union cataloging and E-resources sharing. About 3.2% of the librarians were unsure about their decision and 19.4% of the librarians firmly said no, they wouldn't join the ONOS model initiative as data provider.

Q39. What according to you can be some of the Problems/concerns/issues that have discouraged the establishment/formation of a library consortium?

Table 5.39 Problems/issues that have discouraged the establishment of consortiums

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Unreliability of Existing Infrastructure	13	41.9
Inadequate ICT infrastructure	24	77.4
Inadequate Access to Internet	18	58.1
Lack of Staff training OR Expertise	19	61.2
Unwillingness of Publishers to offer such a Platform	1	3.2

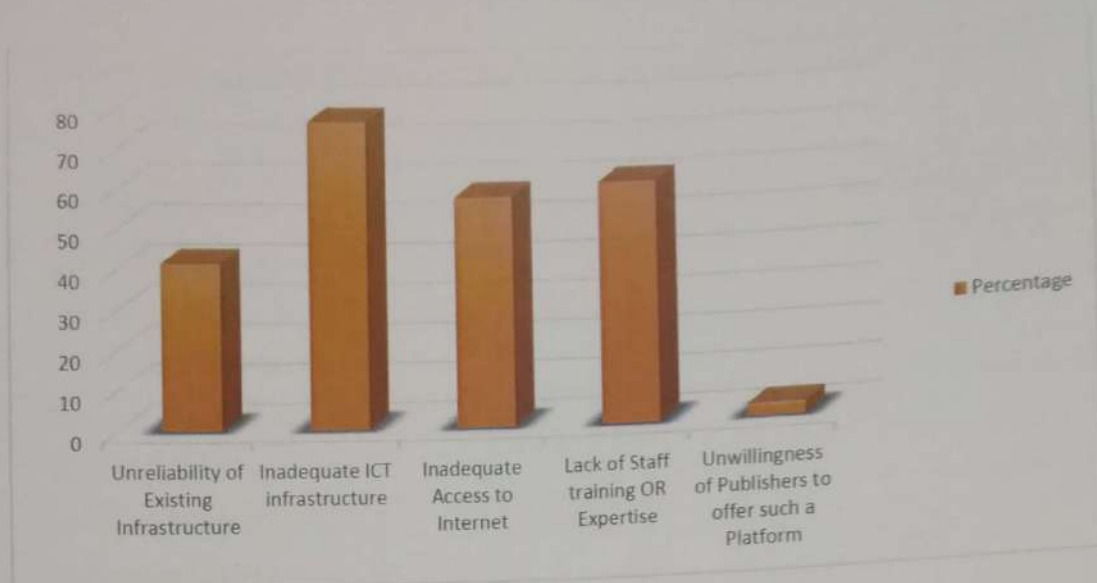


Figure 39

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to understand various problems or issues according to Goan College librarians that have discouraged the establishment of library consortiums. The data presented in Figure 39 shows that a large majority of 77.4% of the librarians considered inadequate ICT infrastructure to be the major concern/issue that discouraged the formation of modern-day library consortiums. About 61.2% of the librarians consider a lack of staff training and expertise to be another issue related to the formation of a library consortium. about 58.1% of the librarians also considered inadequate access to the internet as a problem/ issue discouraging the formation of a consortium. About 41.9% of the librarians also considered the unreliability of the existing infrastructure, and about 3.2% of the librarians considered the unwillingness on the part of publishers to offer such a platform as another issue/concern discouraging the formation of a library consortium.

Q40. What according to you can be some of the problems/concerns/issues that have resulted in the dissolution or lack of cooperation among existing consortiums?

Table 5.40 Problems that have resulted in dissolution or lack of cooperation among consortium

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Lack of Interest among Participant Libraries to work towards Cooperation	22	71
Demands Imposed on staff such as Work Overloads	8	22.6
Professional Jealousy and Personality Clash among Staff	4	12.9
Confidential Nature of participant Libraries	10	32.2
Copyright and IPR issues responsible for Resource Sharing	18	58.1
Absence of a Common communication Platform	13	41.9
Budget Constrains	17	54.8

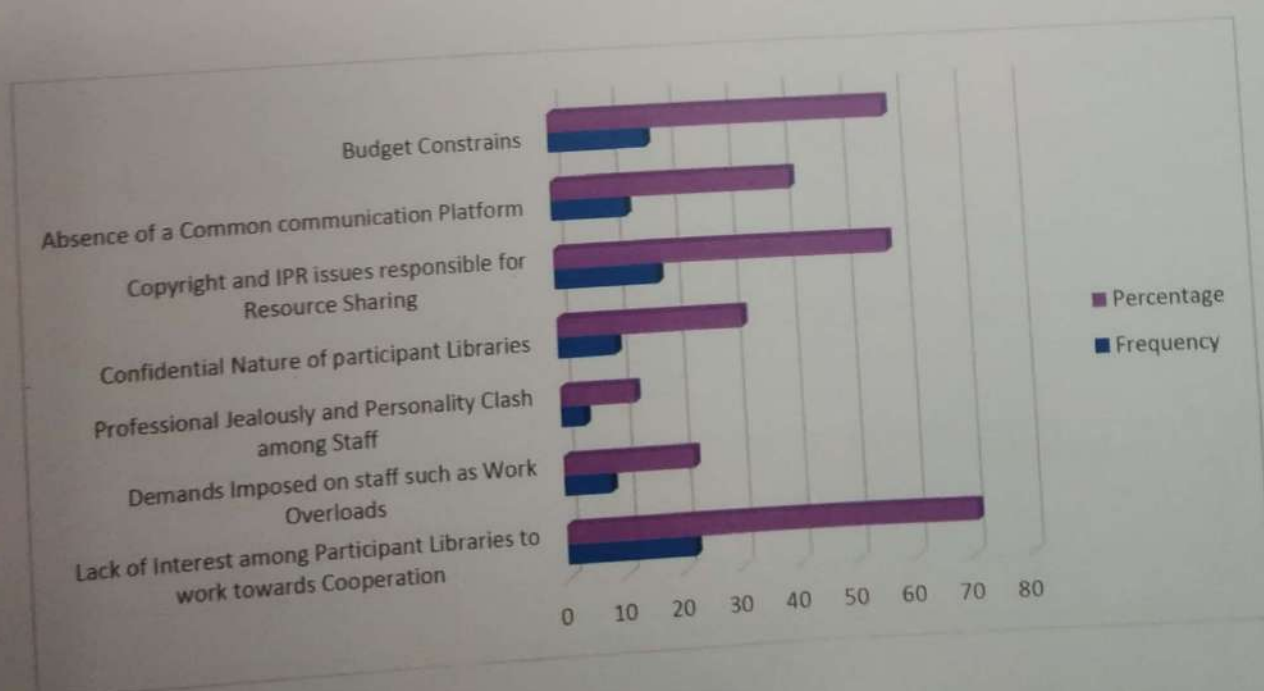


Figure 40

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to understand the problems/issues according to Goan College librarians that have resulted in the dissolution or lack of cooperation among existing consortiums. The data presented in Figure 40 shows that a large majority of 71% of the librarians considered the lack of interest among the participating libraries to work in cooperation with each other as a major reason as to why library consortiums have been dissolved or lack of cooperation is seen in the consortiums. 58.1% of the librarians consider copyright and IPR concerns related to resource sharing as another cause of dissolution and lack of cooperation among consortiums. About 54.8% of the librarians also consider budget constraints as another cause for dissolution or lack of cooperation among consortiums. Around 41.9% of the librarians consider the absence of a common communication platform as another cause of dissolution. Besides this, 32.2% of the librarians consider the confidential nature of libraries as another reason for dissolution or lack of cooperation. About 22.6% of the librarians also state that demands imposed on staff including work overloads are another cause for dissolution and a small minority of 12.9% of the librarians say professional jealousy and personality clashes among library staff are another reason that result in dissolution or lack of cooperations among consortiums.

5.3 Users' Responses: Interpretation & Analysis

Q41. Are you familiar with the term 'Library Consortia'?

Table 5.41 Responses related to familiarity of term library consortia among users

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	31	43.6
No	40	56.4

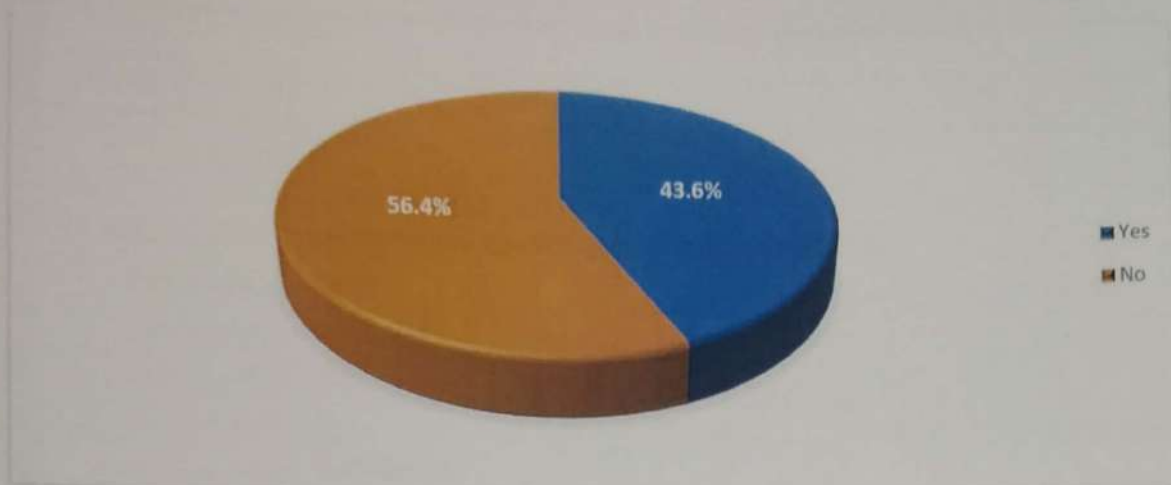


Figure 41

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to understand whether the users were familiar with the term/concept of 'Library Consortia'. The data presented in Figure 41 shows that a large majority of 56.4% of the users were not familiar with the term 'Library Consortia' and about 43.6% of the users were familiar with this term.

Q42. Which of the below Library Consortiums have you heard of/used/familiar with?

Table 5.42 Understanding Familiarity with and Participation in Library Consortiums

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
E-ShodhSindhu	29	40.8
IIM Consortium	13	18.3
HELINET Consortium	10	14
ICOLC	0	0
CSIR Consortium	9	12.6
FORSA Consortium	4	5.6

CeRA Consortium	5	7
None of the Above	42	59.1

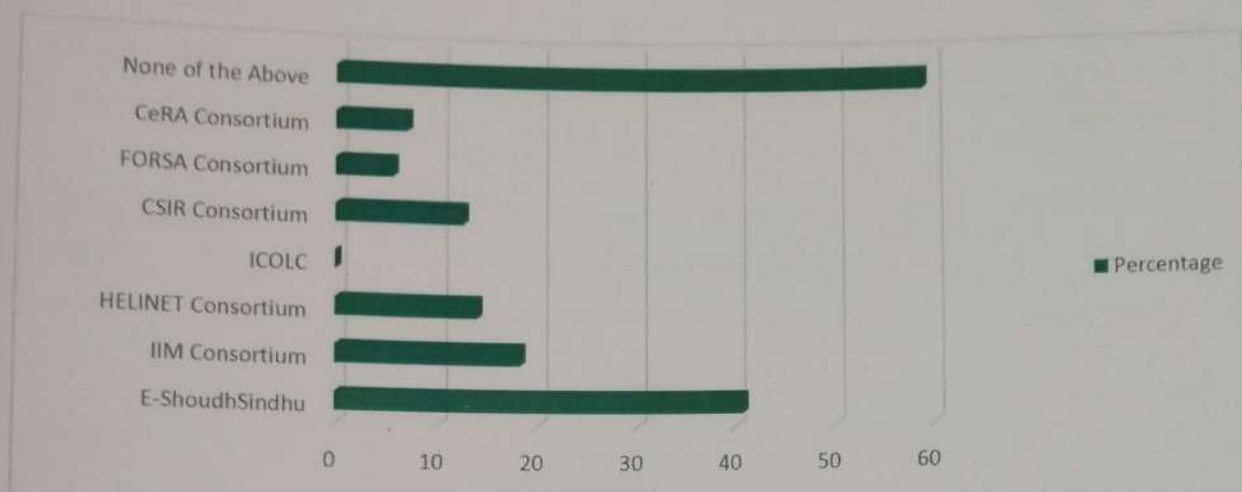


Figure 42

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to understand which of the above-listed consortiums have the users heard of/ are familiar with. The data presented in Figure 42 shows that a large majority of 59.1% of the users are not familiar/heard of any of the consortiums, about 12.6% of the users were/had familiar with/heard of CSIR consortium, about 18.3% of the users are familiar/heard of IIM consortium, about 14% of users claimed to be familiar with / have heard of HELINET consortium, about 7% of the users were familiar/have heard of CeRA consortium, about 5.6% of the users have also heard of/ are familiar with FORSA consortium and 40.8% of the users stated that they had heard of E-ShodhSindhu consortium

Q43. What according to you can be the benefits of library consortia?

Table 5.43 Benefits of library consortia

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Provides quick access to library resources	50	70.4
Prevention of Resource Duplication	16	22.5
Cost Reduction Benefits	21	29.5
Resource Sharing (ILL)	18	25.3

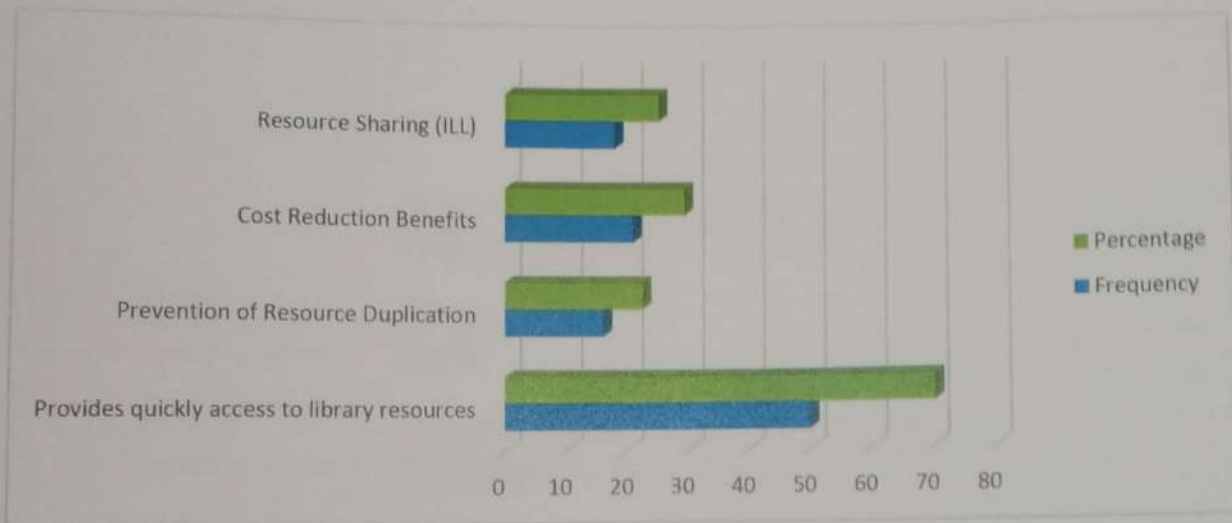


Figure 43

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to understand what according to the user's perception could be the benefits of a library consortium. The data presented in Figure 43 shows that a large majority of 70.4% of the users considered quick access to library resources as the most common benefit of a library consortium. about 25.3% of the users also considered resource sharing to be a benefit of library consortia. Besides this 29.5% of the users consider cost reductions to be a benefit of library consortia. 22.5% of the users also considered prevention of resource duplication to be another benefit of library consortia.

Q44. What types of resources or services have you accessed through library consortia?

Table 5.44 Resources access via library consortia by the users

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Online Databases	59	83
E-books and Digital Collections	11	15.4
E-Journals	42	59.1

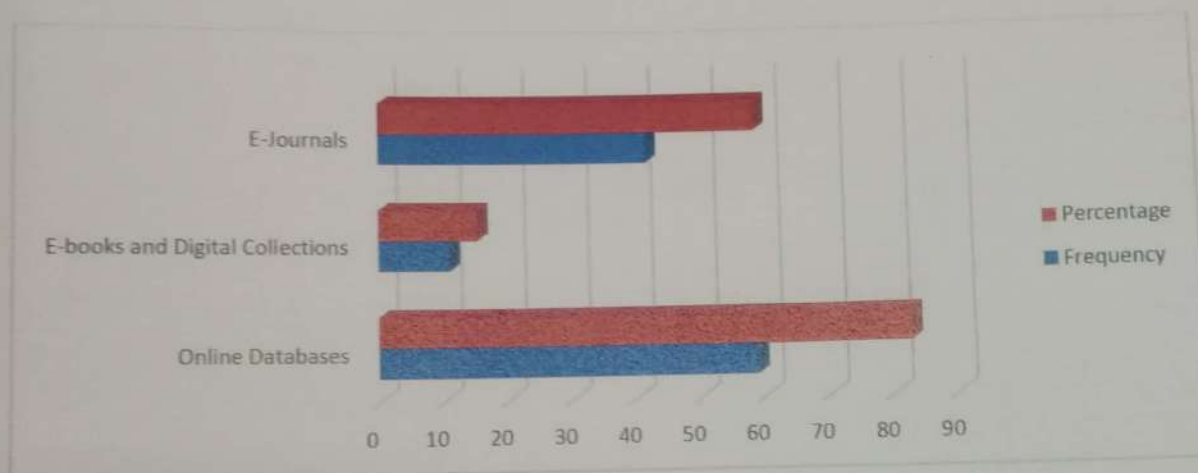


Figure 44

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to understand what were the various resources accessible/provided to the user via his college library. The data presented in Figure 44 shows that a large majority of 83% of the users access online databases via library consortium. About 59.1% of the users' access e-journals via the consortium and about 15.4% of the users access E-books and Digital collections via the library consortium.

Q45. For what purposes do you use the resources of a library consortium?

Table 5.45 Users Purposes for using resources of library consortia

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
For Study Work	43	60.5
For Research Purposes	27	38
To Be Updated in the Subject Field	5	7
To Clear Entrance Exams	12	16.9

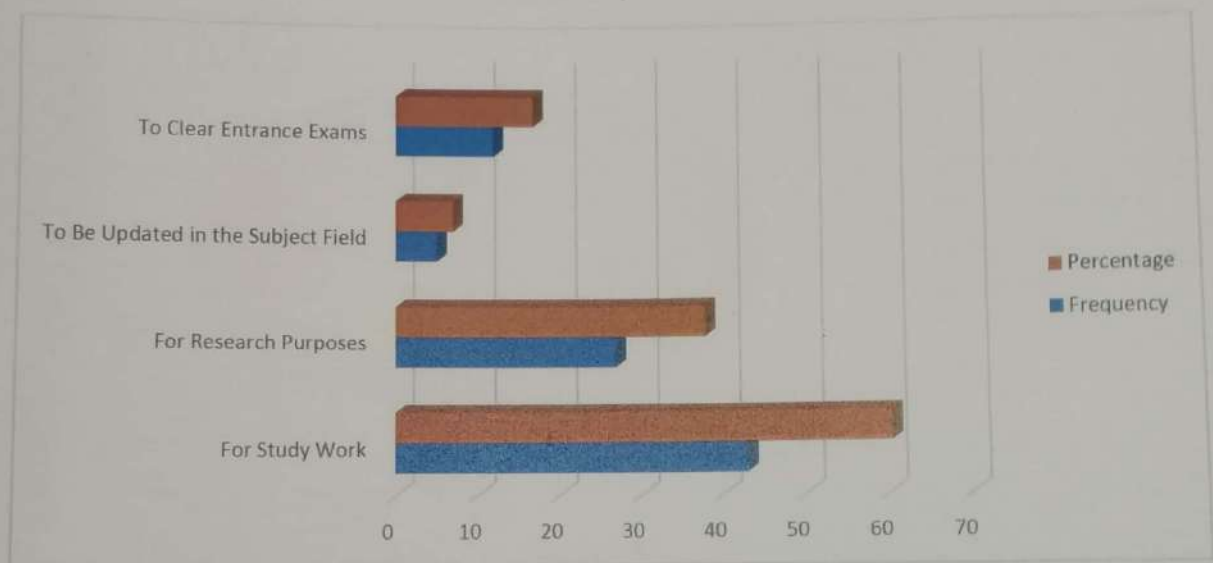


Figure 45

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to understand for what purposes did the users mostly utilize consortium resources. The data presented in Figure 45 shows that a large majority of 60.5% of the users claimed to use consortia resources for study work/purposes, and about 38% of the users also claimed to use the resources for research purposes. Besides this 7% of the users also used the resources offered via library consortia to be updated in their subject field and another 16.9% of the users claimed to use the resources to clear various entrance exams.

Q46. How often do you use Consortium resources?

Table 5.46 Periodicity of using resources offered via library consortia

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Everyday	5	7
Few Times in a Week	8	11.5
Once a Week	10	14
Once a Month	38	53.5
Never	10	14

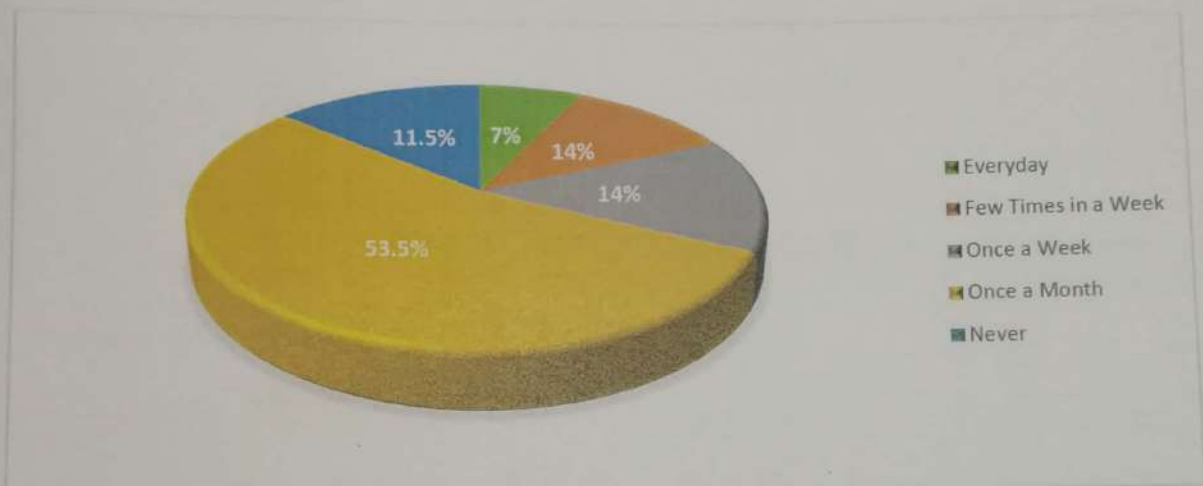


Figure 46

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to understand the often did the users utilized their consortium resources offered via their college library. The data presented in Figure 46 shows that a large majority of 53.5% of the users utilize consortia resources once a month and about 14% of the users utilize the resources once a week. Besides this 11.5% of the users utilize the consortia resources a few times a week, 14% of the users don't use the consortia resources at all and a small minority of 7% use the consortia resources every day.

Q47. What Techniques do you use for Searching Content via Consortium?

Table 5.47 Techniques used to search content via consortia

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Phrase Search	22	30.9
Boolean Operators	28	39.4
Keywords	50	70.4
Truncation	9	12.6
Proximity Search	3	4.2

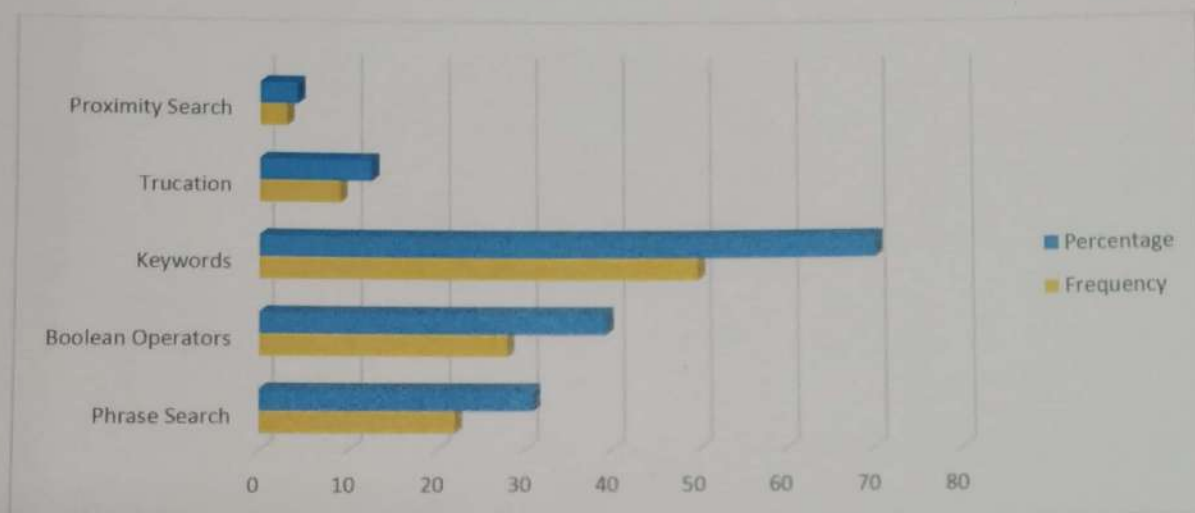


Figure 47

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to understand the various search techniques used by users while navigating the library consortium content/resources. The data presented in Figure 47 shows that a large majority of 70.4% of the users make use of keywords to search content via consortium platforms. About 39.4% of the users make use of Boolean operators to search content. Besides this, 30.9% of the users make use of phrase search to navigate for content. About 12.6% of the users make use of truncations, and another 4.2% of the users make use of proximity search to retrieve content offered via the consortium.

Q48. Do you feel that a Consortium should have Print Journals alongside E-Journals?

Table 5.48 Assessing Preferences Regarding Print and E-Journal Inclusion in Consortia

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	38	53.5
No	33	46.5

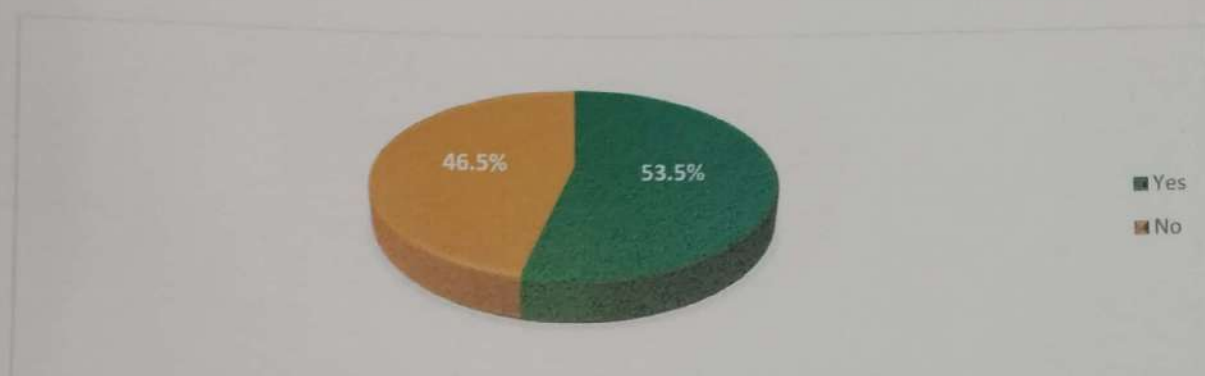


Figure 48

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to understand whether or not the users preferred that the library should maintain print journals alongside their E-counterparts. The data presented in Figure 48 shows that a large majority of 53.5% of the user specify the need to keep print journals alongside their E-Journal counterparts. About 46.5% of the users feel that it's not necessary to keep print journals alongside their counterparts.

Q49. Do you feel the need for a user training program to use a Library Consortium Resource Platform?

Table 5.49 Responses for the need of a training program to use the consortium platform

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	71	100
No	0	0

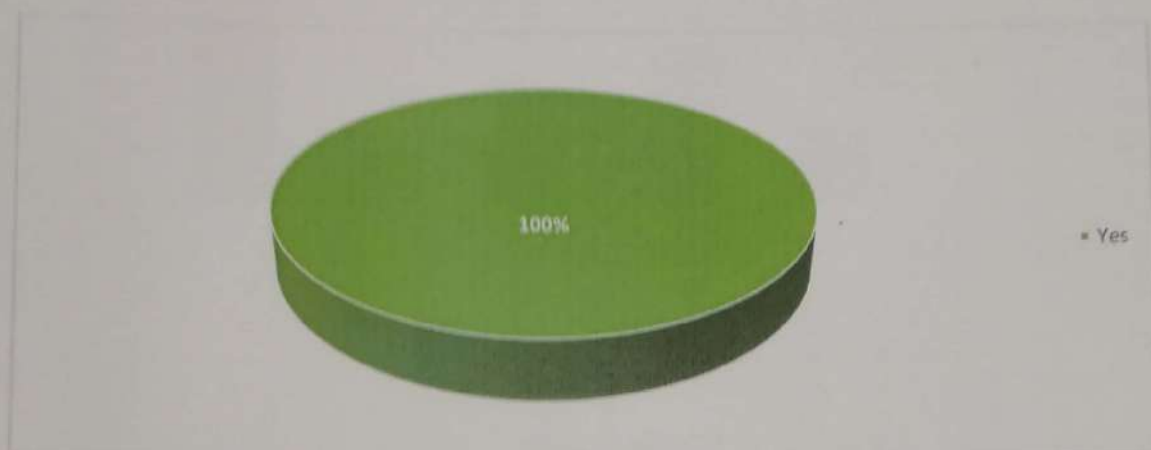


Figure 49

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to understand whether or not the users preferred that the library should conduct a user training program to better operate the consortia platform. The data presented in Figure 49 shows that a complete majority of 100% of the users agree on the need for a training program to efficiently use consortium resource platforms.

Q50. Which E-devices do you use to access resources via library consortia?

Table 5.50 Devices Utilized for Accessing Resources through Library Consortia

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Smartphone/Tablet	42	59.1
PC	7	9.8

Laptop	13	18.3
Campus Computers	25	35.2
OPAC	10	14

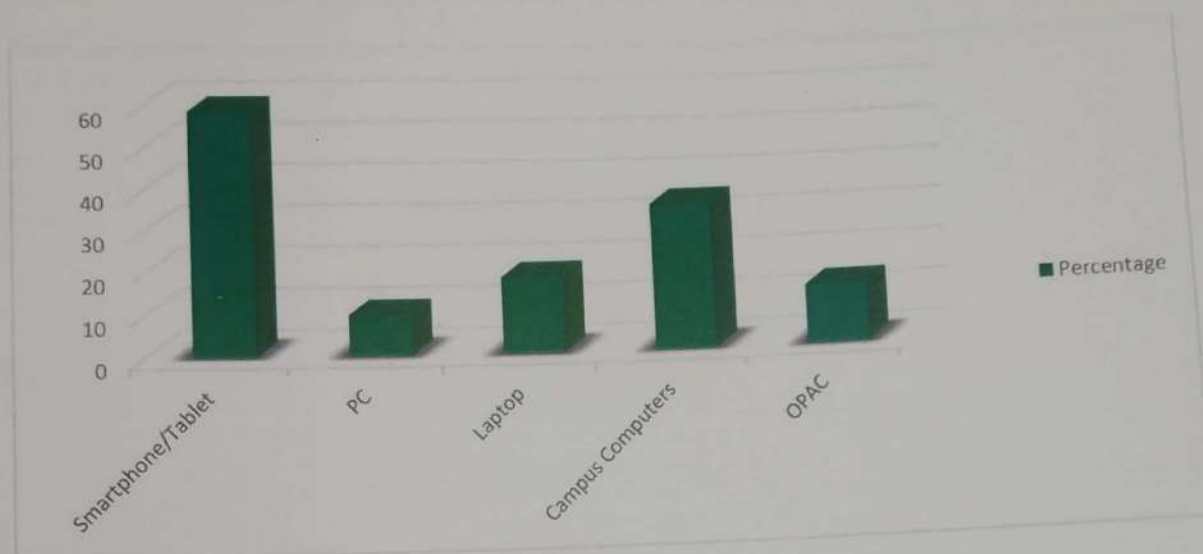


Figure 50

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to understand the devices used by the users to access the resources offered via their college library. The data presented in Figure 50 shows that a large majority of 59.1% of the users said that they accessed resources from the library consortia via their smartphone, 18.3% of the users said that they accessed the resources through their laptops, another 35.2% of the users reported that they used the campus computer to access resources. 14% of the users used the OPAC and 9.8% of the users used their own PCs to access resources offered via the library consortia.

Q51. Are you satisfied with the resources offered via your library consortium?

Table 5.51 Responses on User satisfaction about resources offered via consortia

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	59	83
No	12	17

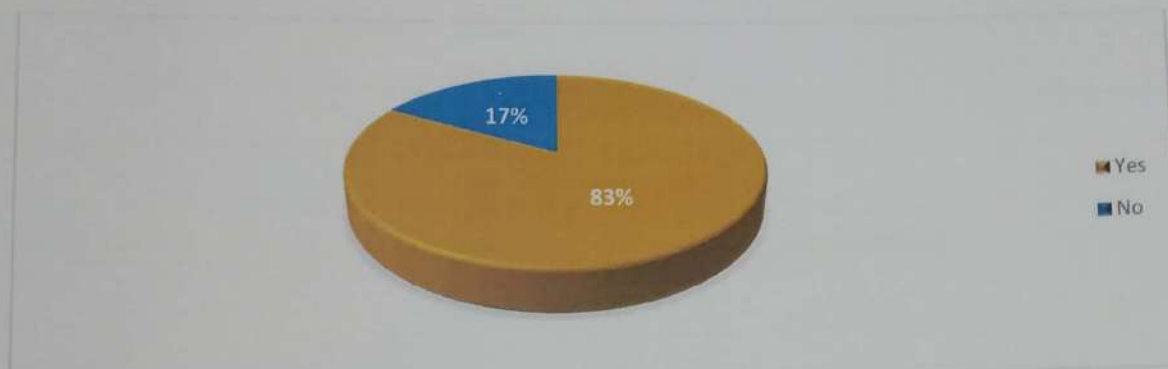


Figure 51

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to understand how satisfied where the users were with the resources offered via their college library consortium. The data presented in Figure 51 shows that a large majority of 83% of the users exclaimed to be satisfied with the resources, however, 17% of the users stated that they weren't satisfied with the resources offered via the library consortium.

Q52. Do you face any inconvenience while accessing the consortium resources?

Table 5.52 Inconvenience faced by users while accessing consortium resources

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Poor Network Connectivity	40	56.3
Poor Hardware	28	39.4
Incompetence to Navigate the Consortia Resources	2	2.8
Limited Access to Website Links	20	28.1

Dead Links	8	11.2
Maintenance Error	12	16.9

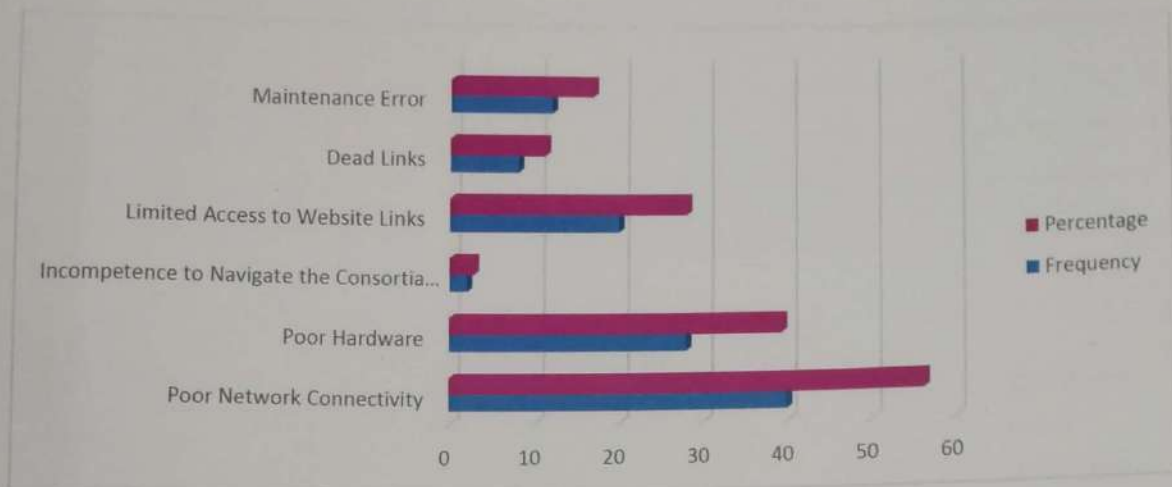


Figure 52

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to understand the inconvenience faced by users while accessing consortium resources offered via their college library. The data presented in Figure 52 shows that a large majority of 56.3% of the users said that poor network connectivity was the major inconvenience faced by them while accessing resources, 28.1% of the users also reported limited access to website links was another issue faced by them. About 16.9% of the users faced the issue of maintenance errors. While 39.4% of the users reported issues related to poor hardware, another 11.2% of users complained about the issue of dead links and a small minority of 2.8% of the users faced issues related to incompetence in navigating consortium resources.

Q53. How would you consider rating the usage and coverage of consortia resources for your study or research projects?

Table 5.53 Ratings based on usage and coverage of consortia resources

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Excellent	9	12.6
Good	44	62
Fair enough	15	21.2
Poor	3	4.2

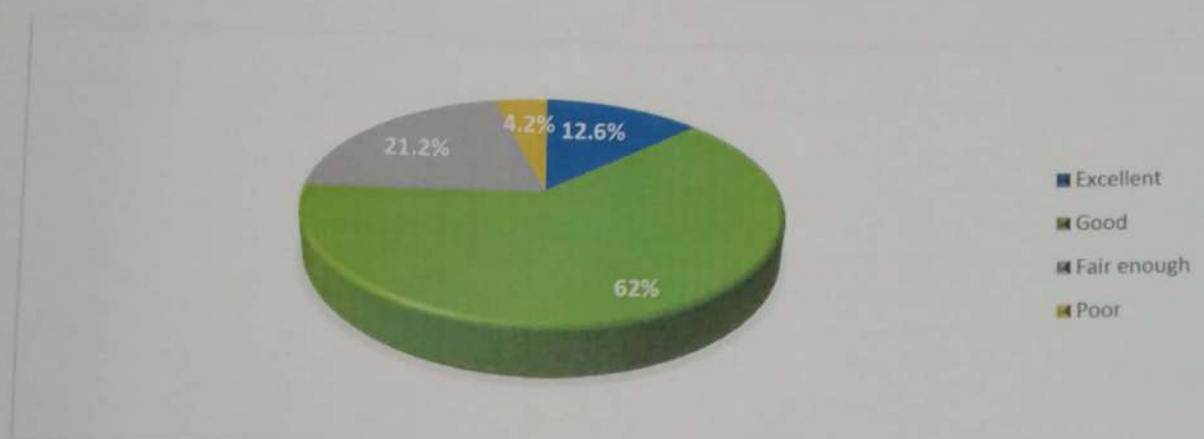


Figure 53

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to analyze the user based on the usage and coverage of consortium resources. The data presented in Figure 53 shows that a large majority of 62% of the users considered rating the usage and coverage of consortia resources as Good enough for research projects, and 21.2% of the users considered rating the coverage of consortium resources as fair enough for research projects. Besides this, 12.6% of the users considered the coverage of resources as excellent for research projects and a small minority of 4.2% of the users considered the coverage of consortium resources as poor for research projects.

Q54. Rate the usefulness level of the resources offered via consortium in your library on a scale of 1-5

Table 5.54 Ratings based on the usefulness level of consortium resources

Ratings	Frequency	Percentage
1	9	12.7
2	5	7
3	43	60.5
4	9	12.7
5	5	7



Figure 54

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to understand the rating scale given by users based on the usefulness level of resources offered via the library consortium. The data presented in Figure 54 shows that a large majority of 60.5% of the users gave a rating of 3 for the usefulness level of consortium resources. 12.7% gave a rating of 1 and another 12.7% of users gave a rating of 4 for the usefulness level of consortia resources. A minority of 7 % of the users gave a rating of 2 and another minority of 7% of the users gave a rating of 5 for the usefulness level of resources offered by the library consortia.

Q55. Have you ever borrowed materials through inter-library loan services?

Table 5.55 Usage of inter-library loan services for borrowing materials

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	5	7
No	66	93

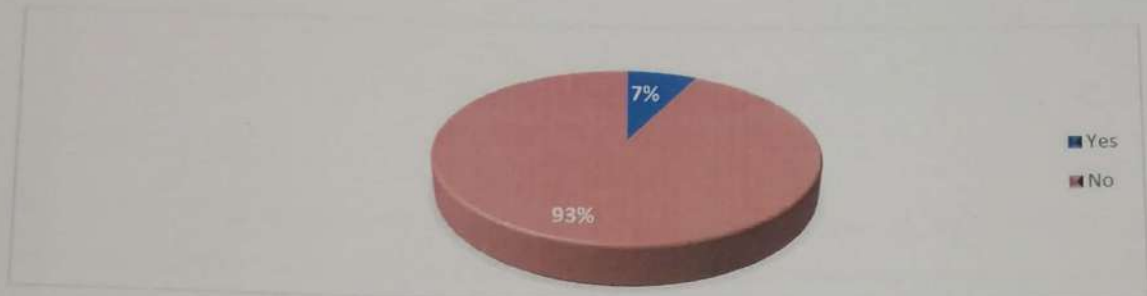


Figure 55

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to know how many users actually utilize the ILL service offered via the libraries. The data presented in figure 55 shows that a large majority of 93% of the users said that they had never borrowed resources via ILL service and a small minority of 7% of the users said that they had availed borrowing books via ILL service.

Q56. If yes, you have availed of ILL, how would you rate the service offered?

Table 5.56 Ratings of ILL services by users

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Excellent	2	40
Good	1	20
Average	2	40
Bad	0	0

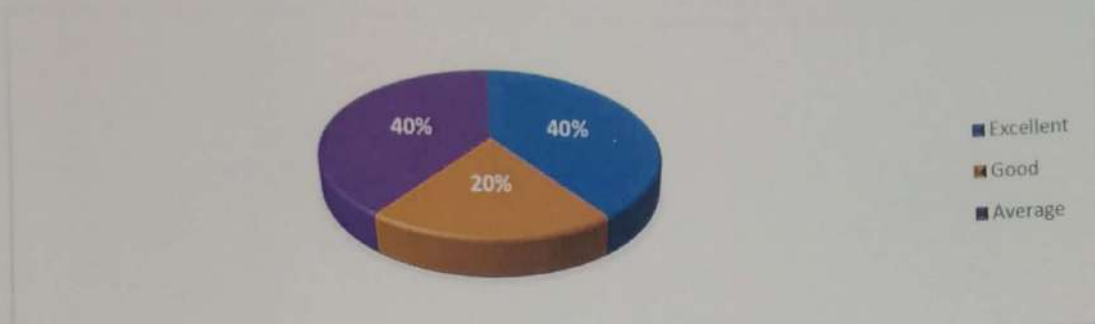


Figure 56

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to understand the rating level given by those users who actually utilize the ILL service. The data presented in Figure 56 shows that a large majority of 40% of the users rated the ILL service as Excellent, and another 40% of the users that availed such a service rated it as Average. 20% of the users also rated the ILL services as good.

Q57. when seeking resources for yourself either for study or research work. do you utilize materials available within your own library collection first? Or do you seek resources via a consortium platform first?

Table 5.57 Assessing Resource Utilization Patterns: Own Library Collection vs. Consortium Platforms

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Library collection	64	90.1
Consortium Platform	7	9.9

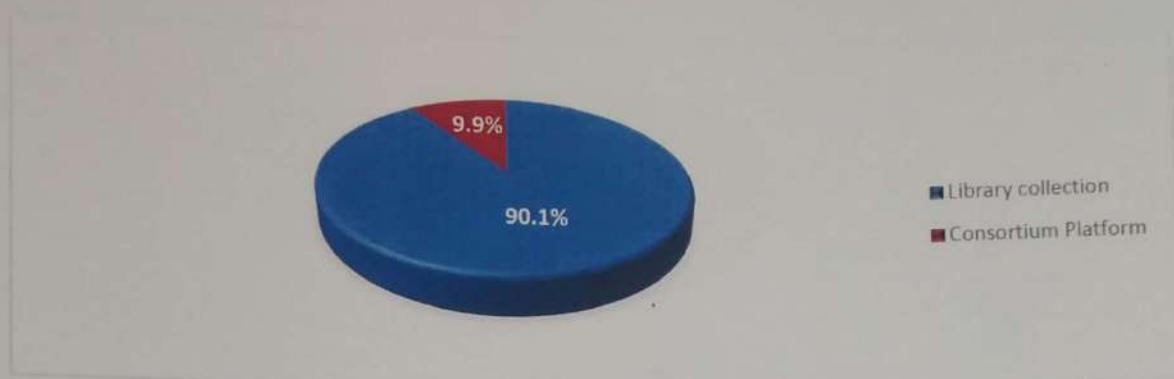


Figure 57

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to understand whether or not the users preferred directly utilizing their own library collection resources over the resources offered via the library consortium for research and study purposes. The data presented in Figure 57 shows that a large majority of 90.1% of the users reported that they first utilized the resources available within their own library collection, and a small minority of 9.9% of the users claimed that they first utilized resources via the consortium platform and then their library collection.

Q58. In Your opinion does participating in a library consortium offer cost-effective Access to a wider range of resources as compared to individual Library subscriptions via library networks Ex: DELNET

Table 5.58 Assessment of Resource Accessibility: Library Consortium vs. Individual Subscriptions through Networks

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	63	88.7
No	8	11.3

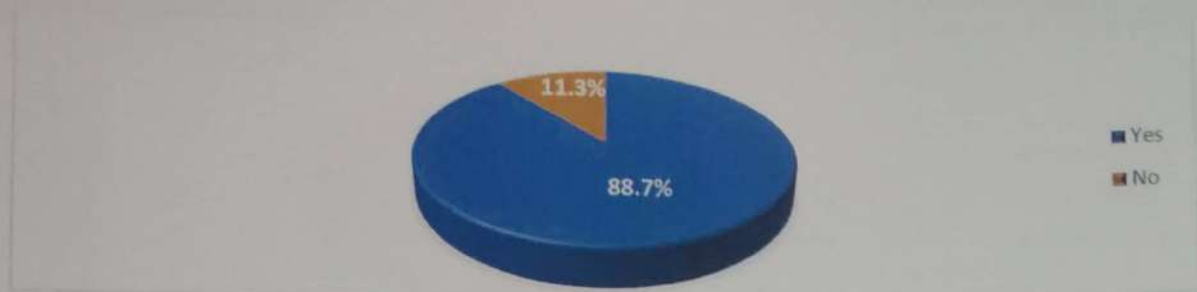


Figure 58

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to assess the users' opinions on whether participating in a library consortium is more beneficial in terms of cost-effectiveness and resource access than individual subscriptions via library networks. The data presented in Figure 58 shows that a large majority of 88.7% of the users considered that participating in a consortium offers better cost-effective access to a wider range of resources as compared to individual subscriptions. However, 11.3% of the users said NO, it was not beneficial to participate in consortium as compared to individual-based library subscriptions via library networks.

Q59. How would you consider the role of information and communication technologies (ICT) in facilitating the operation and development of library consortia?

Table 5.59 Ratings based on the role of ICT in facilitating the development of consortia

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Very Essential	26	36.6
Important	43	60.5
Somewhat important	2	2.8
Not important	0	0

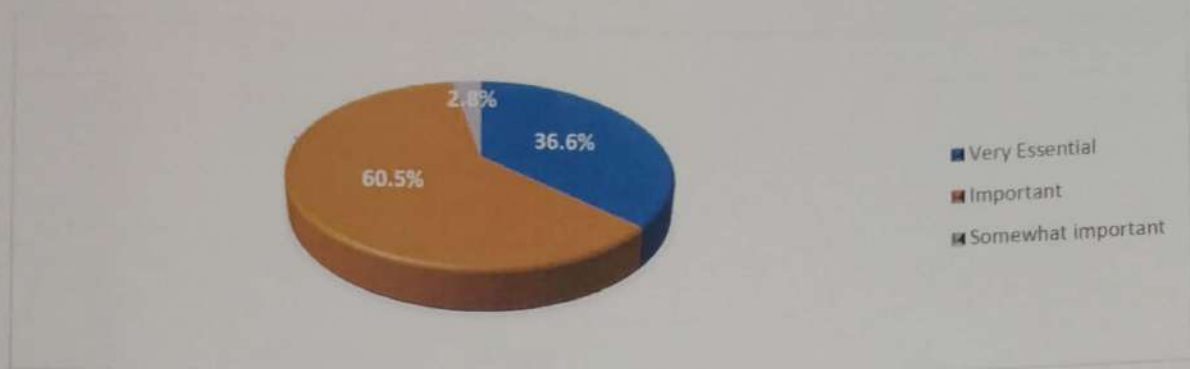


Figure 59

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to understand the users' rating based on the importance level of the role of ICT in facilitating the operation and development of library consortia. The data presented in Figure 59 shows that a large majority of 60.5% of the users stated ICT plays an important role in the operation and development of library consortiums. 36.6% of the users said that ICT plays a very essential role in the development of library consortiums and 2.8% of the users stated that the role of ICT is somewhat important in the development of library consortia.

Q60. What improvements or enhancements would you like to see in the services provided by library consortia to better meet the needs of students?

Table 5.60 Suggestions for Enhancing Library Consortium Services for Students

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
More comprehensive access to electronic resources	47	66.1
Enhanced support for research data management	18	25.3
Improved user interface and accessibility of consortia platforms	24	33.8

Real Time Assistance	17	23.9
24x7 Accessibility	24	33.8

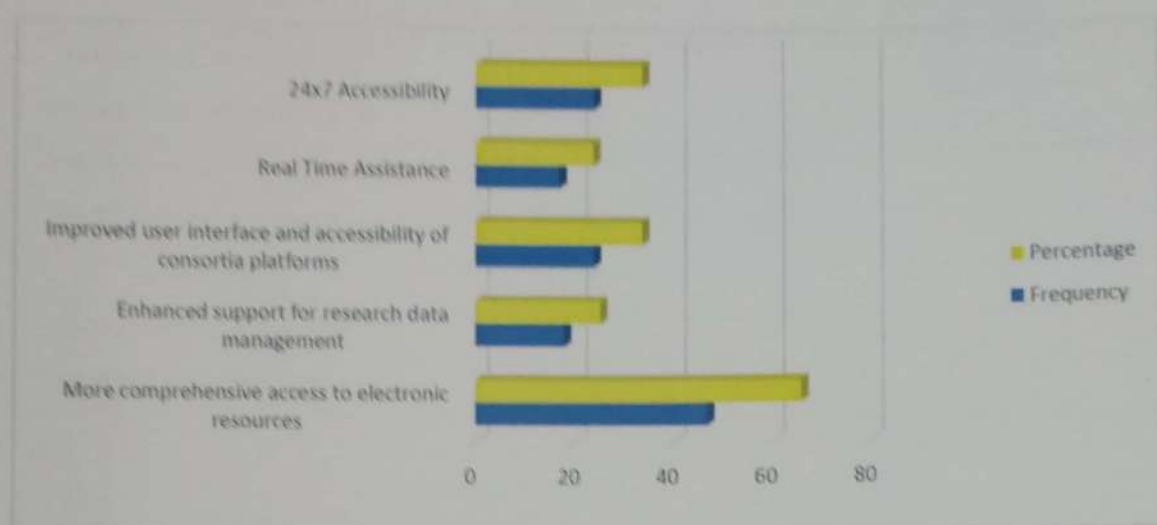


Figure 60

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to understand the suggestions made by users related to enhancements and improvements in services to better meet the needs of students. The data presented in Figure 60 shows that a large majority of 66.1% of the users hoped to see more comprehensive access to electronic resources. 33.8% of the users hoped to see an improved user interface and accessibility of the consortia platform, and another 33.8% of the users hoped for 24x7 accessibility. About 25.3% of the users also hoped to see enhanced support for research data management and 23.9% of the users hoped for real-time assistance to better meet and satisfy their information needs.

Q61. What recommendations would you make to enhance the effectiveness and impact of library consortia in supporting the development and advancement of libraries and information centers in Goa?

Table 5.61 Recommendation to enhance the effectiveness and impact of consortia towards the development of libraries in Goa

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Strengthen collaboration among member institutions	36	50.7
Improve communication and transparency in consortia governance	34	47.8
Foster partnerships with other stakeholders	18	25.3



Figure 61

Analysis

The purpose of asking this question was to highlight the recommendations made by users to enhance the impact of library consortia towards development of libraries in state of Goa. The data presented in Figure 61 shows that a large majority of 50.7% of the users recommended strengthening collaboration among member institutions, 47.8% of the users made recommendations to improve communication and transparency in consortia governance, about 25.3% of the users recommended fostering partnerships with other stakeholders according to the users this would enhance the effectiveness and impact of library consortia in supporting the development and advancement of libraries in the state of Goa.

CHAPTER - 6

FINDINGS SUGGESTIONS AND CONCLUSION

6.1 Introduction

The current dissertation study is directed towards analyzing the impact of library consortia in the modern era, including its related functional aspects, usage patterns, new developments, and advancements, among the academic libraries in the state of Goa. The study highlights the need and importance for libraries to be part of a library consortium. It also seeks to understand how the resources made available via this collaboration help support and promote research and scientific investigation further contributing towards the advancement of various academic disciplines.

This chapter discusses the findings based on the responses collected by the researcher from various librarians in the state of Goa including responses collected from the library patrons based upon their usage of resources offered by their libraries, besides this, the chapter also offers suggestions and a conclusion based on the responses obtained to implement better and improve collaborations among libraries and increase satisfaction levels of the patrons. Furthermore, the chapter also presents the scope for future research related to the topic.

This dissertation also points out various benefits, advantages, and disadvantages on the topic of study. The questionnaire prepared, focused on analyzing and testing the objectives and hypothesis put forth in Chapter 1. Based upon the collected and interpreted data using the survey method in Chapter 5 the following are findings noted by the researcher:

6.2 Findings based on Librarians' responses

- It is observed that majority of the academic libraries, including professional institute libraries in Goa are currently subscribed to NList and DELNET, with the exception of 7 libraries being part of the E-ShodhSindhu consortium.
- It is observed that majority of the users, faculty, and researchers visit academic libraries to access scientific subject-related resources and to read newspapers and periodicals.

- It is found that majority of academic libraries provide Interlibrary loan services together with DDS, SDI, and Ask a Librarian service so as to meet the needs of their users
- Majority of the academic libraries in Goa provide an OPAC platform to save the time of the users.
- The data collected indicates majority of libraries are equipped with computers and printers with dedicated IT/computer room sections in the library for both faculty as well as students.
- The study indicated that 90.3% of the academic college libraries in Goa provide remote access
- Majority of the college libraries in Goa use/prefer KOHA as their current LMS
- From the responses received majority preferred subscribing to journals directly via the publishers and vendor agents.
- From the responses obtained majority of librarians in Goa agree that library consortia have significantly expanded in both, their coverage scope and also in the services offered via consortium collaborations
- Majority of the librarians in Goa conclude that library-based consortiums have begun advocating open-access publishing models together with participation in various negotiations to obtain favorable licensing agreements for various e-resources on behalf of its participating libraries in response to the challenges posed in today's digital transformation era
- 96.8% of the academic college libraries have an OPAC facility for their users.
- From the responses collected it's found that majority of the Librarians in Goa foresee the Integration of AI-related technology and processes together with open access initiatives as a future development and adaptation in the library consortium ecosystem in response to the current rate of technological advancements.
- The study responses indicate that the library consortium plays a positive role in promoting diversity, and equity of access to numerous scholarly resources across various regions and stratus of the society.
- The study highlights that library-based consortiums have failed to keep up with the current pace of technological advancements which limits their usage and service development.

- The study also states that library consortiums are providing standardized or free access to various resources together with training programmers and workshops to bridge the digital divide and prepare the library personnel to better serve and boost overall library productivity.
- About 93.5% of the Librarians interviewed consider the provision of access to E-resources, E-journals, and e-books offered via consortium as one of the most vital components to support research and boost teaching.
- About 61.3% of the librarians interviewed, reported having utilized interlibrary loan services occasionally to access resources outside their library collection.
- As per the data collected 71% of the librarians in Goa consider establishing collaborative purchasing agreements significantly important to acquire resources.
- The study indicated that 74.2% and 64.5% of the Librarians considered improving search functionalities and providing user training guides and tutorials respectively would enhance the usability and accessibility of resources offered via the library's online platform.
- As per the responses obtained from the study 58.1% of the Librarians considered Cooperative collection development as being primarily important among member institutions. This in turn would help reduce resource duplication, save up space, and reduce strain on library infrastructure.
- 87.1% of the Librarians interviewed were of the impression that integration of ICT has been primarily/majorly significant in underlining administrative tasks, integrations, and other related functionalities among library consortiums in the modern era.
- Around 67.7% of the librarians interviewed agreed that implementation of ICT has played a pivotal role in the promotion of shared resource databases, and repositories together with the establishment of online collaboration platforms all of which have enhanced communication networks and strengthened collaboration ties among participating libraries.
- From the responses obtained, a majority of 80.6% of the librarians believed that upgradation of network bandwidth and connectivity would immensely boost the usage and effectiveness of various services offered via the library consortia. besides this implementation of advanced search tools and improved cybersecurity measures would further help to enhance the services offered.

- 77.4% of the librarians interviewed state that incorporation of ICT within the library consortium has helped to personalize alerts for new resources and updates, besides this 64.5% agree that such an implementation has also helped tailor recommendations based on user preferences and thus overall has helped to achieve optimum user satisfactory levels.
- According to 77.4% librarians have faced budgetary constraints and about 61.3% faced various technical compatibility issues while adopting and integrating ICT solutions within their consortium ecosystem.
- Majority of the librarians are of the impression that consortia collaborations have significantly impacted and provided enhanced training and networking opportunities, together with a significant boost in the overall expertise levels of their library staff.
- Around 71% of the librarians interviewed believe that the library consortium serves as a primary agent towards the overall development and future advancement of all academic and professional libraries and colleges in Goa.
- From the data collected, 58.1% of the librarians agree that library consortium collaborations have significantly influenced and led to the implementation of OER policies within their library.
- About 51.6% of libraries interviewed have responded that establishing library collaborations and resource coverage via such agreements has significantly promoted interdisciplinary research opportunities within their respective institutions.
- Majority of the librarians interviewed conclude that participating in library consortiums offers better cost-effective access and coverage to a wider range of resources as compared to being a part of an individual vendor or library network like DELNET.
- From the collected responses about 61.3% of librarians in Goa are somewhat familiar with the concept of the One Nation One Subscription policy, with 29% of librarians being completely familiar with this concept and about 9.7% were not very familiar with the concept.
- Majority of the librarians interviewed claimed to know about/have heard about ONOS via professional associations and connections followed by internet updates and reading about this concept in newspapers and magazines.
- When asked whether the librarians had previously attended any webinars workshops or training sessions addressing ONOS, 72% of the librarians claimed that they hadn't

participated in any of the above related to the topic, but they would be interested in attending the same.

- According to the librarians' understanding of ONOS, 71% of the librarians stated that the concept implies uniform access to digital content across all nationwide libraries. 64.5% perceived it to be one centralized subscription managed by a national authority.
- A majority of 74.2% of the librarians concluded that implementation of the ONOS policy in India would significantly be more beneficial for academic libraries than being part of a consortium.
- About 77.4% of the librarians interviewed anticipate training staff to be the major issue in transitioning from the existing consortium model to an ONOS model besides this 71% of the libraries stated that several technical compatibility issues would also be another major to be dealt with while adopting this change.
- When asked 87.1% and 83.9% of the librarians stated that they would prioritize selecting digital content and resources based on relevance to the academic consortium and quality peer-reviewed content respectively.
- Majority of the Librarians are of the impression that the ONOS model/policy would have a positive impact on the research community.
- Among the Interviewed librarians, majority of them agreed to join and be a part/participate as a data provider in the union cataloging, and e-resource sharing instantiates if the ONOS model was proposed in Goa.
- Majority of the librarians interviewed believe that inadequate ICT infrastructure, unreliable internet access, and lack of staff training initiatives have been the primary reasons/ problems that have discouraged the formation of consortiums in today's modern era.
- According to the majority of the librarians interviewed, 71% of librarians conclude that lack of interest in working towards cooperation, budgetary constraints, and copyright issues are the primary reasons why consortiums in the modern era are dissolving.

6.3 Findings based on Users' responses

- Among those interviewed 43.6% are university library users, 56.4% are college users
- Majority of the users interviewed were not familiar with the term Library consortia

- Majority of the users claimed to have heard, none of the mentioned consortiums
- As per the responses obtained from users, majority of users believed that the primary benefit of a library consortium was to provide quick access to library resources.
- From the responses collected it was seen that majority of the library users access online databases followed by e-journals offered via library consortium.
- The study data revealed that majority of the library users used library resources for study purposes followed by usage for research purposes.
- The study revealed that the majority of the library users utilized consortium resources once a month.
- The study revealed that the most preferred searching technique adopted by users to navigate content via consortium was keywords followed by the use of Boolean operators and phrase search.
- The study also revealed that majority of the users agreed that the library should also have print counterparts alongside E-journals.
- A complete majority of the library users felt the need to conduct a user training program to effectively and efficiently use and operate the resources offered via the library consortium.
- The study revealed that majority of the library users access the consortium resources via their smartphones followed by accessing resources via the campus computers.
- The study responses state that majority of the library users are satisfied with the resources offered via their library consortium.
- As per the responses obtained it was clear that majority of the library users face Poor network connectivity issues followed by poor hardware issues, all of which limit their study scope and hinder their information need.
- The study indicates that majority of the library users considered the scope, coverage, and usage of consortia resources as good enough, for their study and research purposes.
- The study conducted also revealed that majority of the users (93%) have never utilized the Inter-library loan service.
- Those users who have utilized the ILL services, have given it a balanced rating of excellent and average (40%)

- The study also revealed that a large majority of 90.1% of users prioritized using resources from their library collection first, rather than directly seeking out resources via the consortium platform.
- The study also revealed that majority of the library users (88.7%), believed that participating in library consortiums was much more beneficial in terms of cost, access, and coverage of resources as compared to individual vendor subscriptions or library networks like DELNET.
- When asked, the users stated that, the role of ICT is important in terms of the operations and development of library consortia in the modern era.
- When asked the users, what improvements they would like to see in services provided via library consortia, majority of the users (66.1%) hoped to see a more comprehensive access to electronic resources, followed by an improved user interface and 24x7 access functionality.
- When asked for user recommendations regarding ways to further enhance the effectiveness and impact of library consortia concerning the advancements and development of libraries in Goa, majority of the users (50.7%) recommended strengthening collaborations among member libraries followed by improvements in overall communications and increase in transparency at the consortium governance level and fostering partnerships with other industry-leading stakeholders.

6.4 Testing of Objectives

The following objectives were tested through the study conducted

1. It is found that in today's digital ecosystem, technology plays a pivotal role in shaping society, it changes the way we think, act, and communicate, in such an era we also see, library-based consortiums joining hands and primarily adopting various technological trends and advances to provide seamless digital services and connectivity to its users, to keep up with the pace of modernization and satisfy the user's complex information needs. Some of the newly incorporated or in-process trends involve 24/7/365 access to consortium resource servers, and faster dissemination of information using mobile technologies-based tools/apps like consortium-based WhatsApp channels, library

consortium apps, and remote login services. enhanced CAS/SDI services, open access initiatives, consortium-based cloud computing, and semantic web-based technologies. At the international level, several bodies are working towards cooperating AR, VR, ChatGPT, and other related machine learning technologies into a consortium framework. Apart from this, attempts are also been to implement a nationwide subscription model to provide standardized access to all users in one nation under one subscription.

2. The study revealed that overall, the services provided via consortium are excellent, they cater to the information needs of their users, faculty, and other research-related queries. From the data obtained it's evident that 51.6% of librarians state that consortium services have encouraged and significantly promoted various interdisciplinary research opportunities. Around 96.8 % of the libraries in Goa offer OPAC facility alongside with remote access log-in facility for its users thus saving their time. Apart from this the libraries also provide various open access initiatives, DDS, ILL, book bank CAS, Ask-a-Librarian, etc. All of these services immensely support users to find quick responses to their queries and help researchers and faculty to carry out further research and boost teaching respectively. Besides this, the libraries are also equipped with modern technological infrastructure like printers, Scanners, computers, and routers to cater to the needs of its patrons.
3. The study has revealed that a majority of 87.1% of the librarians in Goa agree that the integration of ICT has played an important role in underlining various administrative tasks within the consortium. It has also further led to the advancement and enhancement of the services that the library offers to its users besides this, 67.7% of librarians also claim that the implementation of ICT within the consortium has led to the expansion of shared databases and repositories, which further help to reduce duplication of resources. 58.1% of the librarians also say that it has also provided an enhanced user-friendly collaboration platform that has opened up numerous opportunities for the user community. Furthermore, it has also enabled more flexibility when it comes to user preferences. adopting user recommendations, customizable user search interfaces, and personalized user notification alerts on new resources added. Thus, ICT and its implementation have given added advantages to libraries to carry out and provide services to their clientele in a much better way as compared to the previous years.

4. The study data obtained indicates that a large majority of 74.2% of the academic college libraries in Goa are a part of/subscribed to NLIST, 41.9% of libraries subscribed to DELNET, 22.6% are part of E-ShodhSindhu, 3.2% of libraries are part of CeRA, and 3.2% of libraries are part of NDLI. The libraries in Goa also prioritize various consortia services, as per the data collected it is evident that 64.5% of libraries provide DDL, 74.2% of libraries provide ILL services, 61.3% Offer ASK-a-Librarian service, these services have also enhanced various teaching initiatives and supported research activities thus having a positive impact on the academic community and institution as a whole in Goa. Apart from this, a large majority of 74.2% of librarians in Goa, state that the library consortium has significantly expanded both in scope and service coverage compared to the past years. 51.6% of librarians in Goa have agreed that being part of a consortium has positively promoted diversity and equity in access to scholarly resources and services in Goa. 58.1% of the librarians in Goa agree that cooperative collection development has also helped to save space, reduce infrastructure strain, and avoid resource duplication. About 58.1% of librarians in Goa also conclude that consortia collaborations have also influenced the implementation of OER initiatives in their institution. From all of this, we can conclude that consortia till date library consortiums have had a significant impact on college libraries in the state of Goa.
5. The study data revealed that a large majority of 61.3% of Goan librarians claimed to be somewhat familiar with the ONOS concept. when asked what are the various challenges librarians foresee towards the implementation and adaptation of the ONOS model with the current existing consortium model in Goa, 77.4% of the librarians stated that training staff and users to adapt to the new system would be a hassle, about 54.8% of the librarians said that providing equitable access to resources for students and faculty was another challenge. 51.6% of the librarians said that there would be several legal and contractual barrier issues to be dealt with the content providers. Another 51.6% of the librarians said that negotiating terms with content providers would also be another issue considering nationwide access to resources under ONOS. About 71% of the librarians said there would be technical compatibility issues with the existing infrastructure and systems. About 64.5% of the library also said that poor network connectivity and server issues would be another problem. Besides this, when the librarians were asked what according to them does this model imply, a majority of 71%

of the librarians said that the ONOS concept implies uniform access to digital content across all libraries in India. According to 64.5% of librarians said it implied to one centralized subscription managed by the national authority. 29% of the librarians said that it implied regional subscription pooling for shared resources.

6.5 Testing Hypothesis

1. In the study we find that even though several college and professional libraries in Goa are part of a consortium and though the services are available we find that these services are not utilized to the fullest. They are just like a formality on paper that isn't put to practical use in a case whereby they are needed by a user, the reason for this may either be due to lack of expertise of the library staff, inadequate training or knowledge of the service. Moreover, there are no initiatives taken to carry out training for staff or students. For ex. 38.7% of librarians claimed that they have never utilized ILL services in case a particular resource request by a user isn't available in one's library collection. Besides this Ask-a-Librarian services have been offered but the response rates are very poor. On the other hand, we see that such services exist for the users but the library takes no initiative to spread awareness about the existence of such services. About 9.7% of the librarians are still unsure whether being part of a library consortium is more beneficial than purchasing resources from individual vendors.
2. The idea that libraries have incorporated various ICT components to keep up with the pace of modernization, holds high regard for the future of consortium. with this regard, the study conducted highlights that a large majority of the libraries in Goa use an LMS like KOHA, NewGenLib, LIBSYS, and E-granthalaya which functions as a more enhanced centralized management system, with improved access, easy cataloging modules, efficient circulation, real-time reporting, multi-lingual support, interoperability, community support, and security measure etc. besides this several libraries have also in cooperated various remote accessing platforms like Knimbus, MyLOFT, RemoteXS, EZproxy, Refread, INFED, OpenAthens, MAPMyAccess, and RemotLog, so that users can access resources with necessary credential anytime anywhere. Especially during the COVID-19 lockdown period. About 96.8% of the libraries in Goa provide OPAC facilities for their users which helps the users to navigate

the library collection without the library staff assistance, they are designed to search the resources author-wise, subject-wise, or by using keywords. From the study, it is also evident that majority of the libraries also provide computers with network connectivity, printers, and barcode scanners which helps the users to quickly access the consortia subscribed resources and databases within the campus, printers help to quickly disseminate information, scanners help in quick circulation and also promote DDL services. Overall, we can say that IT infrastructure has boosted the services offered via library consortiums in Goa.

3. The study also revealed the major reasons why librarians lack the confidence to consider forming new consortiums. From the data obtained it was evident and concluded by 77.4% of the librarians that inadequate ICT infrastructure was the major issue for establishing new consortiums, followed by this 58.1% of librarians stated that inadequate internet access was another issue. Another 61.2% of librarians said lack of staff expertise was another reason discouraging the establishment of library consortiums. 41.9% of the librarians stated that the existing infrastructure was unreliable for establishing such consortiums. Finally, a small majority also considered the unwillingness of publishers and lack of specialized IT skills among the staff to perform operational functioning were among the other reasons that discouraged the formation of the consortium. Besides these other reasons, about 71% of the librarians stated that lack of cooperation among participating libraries to work together as one community was the primary factor that discourages, and even results in the dissolution of an existing consortium.
4. The study data revealed that majority 61.3% of the librarians in Goa were somewhat familiar with the concept of ONOS. About 9.7% of the librarians confirmed that they were not very familiar with the concept. Apart from this 72% of the librarians also said that they hadn't participated/attended any of the workshops, webinars, or seminars relating to ONOS, but were interested in participating or attending such workshops. 12.5% of the librarians stated that they had attended only one session on this topic. When asked about the beneficial aspect of implementing the ONOS model within their institution, about 6.5% of the librarians were unsure about the benefits of implementing the ONOS model. 19.4% of the librarians said No, it was not beneficial to implement

the ONOS model. When asked about the impact ONOS would have on the academic community 87.1% of the librarians confirmed that it would have a positive impact, while 12.9% considered the impact to be neutral. When asked if the librarians would be interested in joining the ONOS consortium initiative to be a data provide for union cataloging resource sharing, 3.2% of the librarians were unsure about joining as a data provider and 19.4% of the librarians firmly said NO, they wouldn't like to be a part of such an initiative. However, 77.4% of the librarians agreed to join the initiative as a data provider.

6.6 Suggestions

Based on the above findings the researcher has proposed the following suggestions:

- The consortium package to member libraries should also include a subscription to Grammarly and plagiarism software to better support and help researchers, faculty, and users.
- Library consortium should develop an AI consortium model that incorporates modern machine learning technologies like ChatGPT, AR, VR, etc.
- Apart from majorly focusing only on scholarly journals the consortium models should also provide access to eBooks library collections like Bookbub, Pearsons E-library, Smashwords, etc.
- Partnerships among Consortiums which will facilitate greater resource coverage and increase chances of multidisciplinary research.
- The study also points out that libraries should upgrade this existing hardware to better cater to the information needs of their users.
- It is suggested to establish a centralized consortium custodian agency in India like NCLCOI – National Coalition for All Library Consortia India, and all existing consortiums in India be registered under this agency
- The study suggests that librarians should conduct training sessions for their users to keep them updated and increase their overall expertise.
- The study also suggests that the libraries should involve speaking about extension services they offer and consortium benefits provided by the library orientation session for new users.

- It is also suggested to keep the user OPAC up and running 24x7 with regular updates on new content added to the system.
- It is also suggested to utilize more DDL services keeping in mind the distant learners and those who are in remote/rural/ or unable to personally visit the library.
- It is also suggested that the library patronizes the CAS services via User Emails or SMS services to keep their patrons updated on activities conducted and resources added.
- The study strongly suggests that all academic college libraries and professional libraries in Goa subscribe to E-ShodhSindhu consortium.
- The study strongly suggests that all members of existing consortiums should equally contribute and develop strong cooperative and collaborative attitudes to ensure continuity of the consortia agreements in the future.
- The study also suggests that newly formed consortiums should also necessarily make demands for perpetual access and backfiles.
- The study also suggests Prioritizing the development of robust ICT infrastructure, including network bandwidth, connectivity, and cybersecurity measures, to support the seamless operation of library consortia services.
- The study also suggests encouraging consortiums to adopt a user-centric approach in consortium framework including decision-making processes, soliciting feedback and actively involving users in the selection of resources and services offered.
- It is also suggested that consortiums foster strategic partnerships with other stakeholders and negotiate favorable terms and pricing for e-resources, to leverage resources, expertise, and funding opportunities, contributing to the advancement and development of libraries in the region, ensuring that consortium members have access to high-quality content at affordable rates.
- It is also suggested that the consortium develop strategies and protocols for digital preservation within consortia, ensuring the long-term accessibility and integrity of digital resources for future generations of users.
- It is also suggested that various consortiums facilitate knowledge exchange programs, sharing best practices among various consortium bodies in the country through national forums, conferences, and collaborative projects, fostering a culture of continuous learning and improvements.

- The study also suggests that the libraries address various issues related to poor network connectivity and limited access to website links etc. by optimizing the library website server to better provide consortia services to its patrons.
- The study also suggests establishing mechanisms for collecting regular feedback from users to highlight areas for improvement in consortium services and satisfy user needs and preferences effectively.

6.7 Scope for Future Research:

Based on the findings of the study there is a lot of scope for further research, especially in regards to the upcoming ONOS model. Apart from this, there is also scope to further study and identify various strategies to harness various technological advancements, especially in today's era that is dominated by artificial intelligence.

6.8 Conclusion

In today's Modern Era of Technological advancements, where every sector of society is advancing, challenges are becoming more and more complex, where globalization is increasing specialties are growing, and needs are multiplying. This era can be classified as 'The survival of the fittest' whereby every institution has to work hard and strive to keep up with the technological phase. The same applies to libraries, whereby if the library has to survive it has to keep up with the latest technological trends.

It is very clear that in today's era, information is growing at an exponential rate thus it is the prime responsibility of the library to cater to this multi-dimensional user needs. If the library fails to do so, then the users will find other means to satisfy their thirst for information. In such a situation libraries need to be part of a library consortium.

Library consortiums are ever-growing bodies, that have been in existence for the past 4.4 decades in India. They have actively been working in various educational and societal sectors to boost productivity and further lead to advancements in various disciplines, providing up-to-date information and constant services aimed to satisfy its users. These bodies try to achieve a common goal which by no means is possible to achieve by a single individual library/institution.

The consortium bodies are at work negotiating with publishers to achieve the best possible conditions under favorable terms of usage for its participating libraries. Thus, helping these libraries save up on various resources including space, time, licenses, budgets, etc. Even though such consortiums have advantages, at the same time also have their flaws and disadvantages, which have to be identified and worked upon to enhance and provide better services to the users.

It's not only enough that the existing consortium models aim at achieving standardization of access, ILL, DDS, cooperative collection development, union cataloging, etc. Besides all of this, the consortium also has to investigate other means to harness technology and come up with better strategies and new models that incorporate components of AI, as compared to conventional methods. This will not only mark a new advancement but will also mark a new stage and a new era in the library consortium ecosystem.

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SYNOPSIS

Title: Library Consortia in Modern Era: An Evaluative Study

Introduction:

In the past academic libraries were seen as pioneering bodies for acquiring, storing, and accessing various resources including documents and other information sources. Considering the growing information needs of its patrons and other challenges towards the purchase and acquisition of scholarly content, libraries incorporate the concept of resource sharing.

Earlier terms such as cooperation, resource sharing, and networking were used interchangeably as synonymous terms, slowly these terms were combined and exhibited together by 'consortia'.

The term consortia is not a modern & new concept, it has had its origin and existence for a long time with the management, however the precise date and genesis of 'Library Consortia' is not clear within the field of library and information science.

Simply stated, the term library consortia means: A group of libraries working together for a common purpose or cause that is, to satisfy the information needs of its patrons.

Review of Literature:

1. Francis (2005) depicts the benefits of library consortia, analyses the present trends in the formation of consortia in India, and suggests a new model of consortia in which all academic institutions and government research organizations could participate
2. Sahoo & Agarwal (2012) discuss various consortia operating in India, and the inception of the INDEST-AICTE, consortium, including its objectives, administrative structure, membership services, and activities of INDEST-AICTE. Consortia.

3. Perushek & Douglas (2014) compares the administration of three university consortia and explores the cultural educational and geo-political forces that produce and shape university library consortia.
4. Manjunath (2013) states the concept of consortia has been in vogue in the library profession for quite some time. it has taken firm root in librarianship due to the evolution and revolution of digital information,

Objectives of Study:

1. To study and understand the modern trends in library consortia.
2. To examine various services offered through Library consortia
3. To examine the role of ICT towards the operation and development of library consortia.
4. To evaluate the influence of library consortia on college libraries in the state of Goa
5. To assess and evaluate the awareness, challenges, and implications associated with the implementation ONOS model

Scope of Study:

The study focuses on modern trends within library consortia contributing towards optimum resource utilization, information dissemination, and Research output, leading towards cost reduction and minimizing document replication.

Hypothesis:

1. The benefits of consortia are yet to be understood by library professionals and users.
2. Advancement of electronic infrastructure and other related technologies can help boost library consortia services and enhance their overall quality.
3. Library professional lacks confidence in building library consortia.

4. The college librarians in Goa have a limited understanding of the "One Nation One Subscription" (ONOS) concept.

Limitation of Study

The study will be limited to only college libraries functioning in the state of Goa

Research Methodology:

- The researcher will browse all the literature available in print and non-print documents on library consortia in the modern era
- Further the researcher will visit all the digital portals dealing with library consortia at the National and international level
- Further the researcher will prepare an open-ended questionnaire and will distribute it among all the stakeholders dealing with library consortia
- The Researcher will interview the experts in consortia along with IT professionals who are well-versed in library consortia
- At the end the researcher will Tabulate all collected data using appropriate statistical tools to present the data and conclusion with a precise and clear understanding

Population Of Study:

The study has included around 100 library professionals including library users, LIS students, and experts.

Organization of the Study:

The research study to divided into 6 chapters:

Chapter 1: Introduction.

Chapter 2: Review of Literature.

Chapter 3: Library Consortia and Related Concepts.

Chapter 4: Library Consortia at the National & International Level.

Chapter 5: Data Interpretation and Analysis.

Chapter 6: Findings, Suggestions and Conclusion.

Conclusion:

Consortia and the development of a Consortium Network among academic libraries in Goa can immensely contribute towards the development of all academic libraries within the state, by boosting Research output, and enhancement of consortia services would result in overall user Satisfaction, including collection development and other cost benefits.

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APPENDICES

Appendix – I

Forwarding letter and Questionnaire to Librarians'

From

Mr. Josiah Lobo

MLISC Programme

Goa University

Date:

To,

Sub: Questionnaire to Librarians.

Sir/Madam,

Kindly find enclosed herewith the questionnaire regarding my dissertation topic "Library Consortia in Modern Era: A Evaluative Study" under the guidance of Dr. Carlos M. Fernandes HoD, Dept. of Library and Information Science, Goa University, Goa.

My research involves primary data collection via the survey method. Therefore I, kindly request you to spare some time to read and fill out my questionnaire

I assure you that, all responses collected as part of this study will be confidential and will be used for academic purposes only.

Thanking you and awaiting for your kind co-operation.

Yours faithfully,

(Josiah A.N.G. Lobo)

Questionnaire for Librarians

Name: _____

Institution: _____

Email: _____

Years of Experience: _____

Q1 Which library consortia does your college/institute currently subscribe to?

- ☐ E-ShodhSindhu
- ☐ IIM Consortium
- ☐ CeRA Consortium
- ☐ CSIR Consortium
- ☐ HELINET Consortium
- ☐ ICMR Consortium
- ☐ DELNET
- ☐ N-List
- ☐ Not part of any consortia

Q2 Reasons According to you why do students, faculty, or researchers utilize the library the most?

- ☐ Due to Convenient Operational Hours
- ☐ Availability of Specific information /Scientific resources
- ☐ Helpful Nature and Expertise of Library Staff
- ☐ Availability Of Computer and Internet facility
- ☐ Quiet Place to Study or do research with Peaceful Surrounding
- ☐ For Group Study Purposes / Group Research
- ☐ To Read Newspapers, Periodicals
- ☐ To Be Updated in One's Subject area or discipline

Q3 Which of the following extension services does your library/Institution Provide?

☐ Selective Dissemination of Information

☐ Document Delivery Services

☐ Inter-Library Loans

☐ Ask Librarian

☐ Document Scanning

Q4 Does your library/institution have a User OPAC

☐ Yes ☐ No

Q5 What Hardware is available in your library/institution? (Others-Specify)

☐ Computers

☐ Servers & Routers scanners

☐ Printers

☐ Photocopier Machines

☐ Binding Machines

Q6 Does your library provide a remote access facility to users?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Q7 LMS software does your library use?

☐ KOHA ☐ E-Granthalaya ☐ New GenLib ☐ LIBSYS

Q8 As a librarian, personally If allowed to choose how would you prefer subscribing to journals for your library? (If any other combination specify in other)

☐ Directly From the Publisher

☐ Through Vendor/Agents

☐ Through Institutional Membership Through National/International consortia

☐ Library- Based Networks

☐ Both Directly from Publisher and Vendors/Agents

Q9 How would you describe the evolution of library consortia over the past decade in terms of its scope and services offered?

- ☐ They have significantly expanded both their scope and services
- ☐ They have expanded their scope but maintained similar services
- ☐ They have maintained a similar scope but have expanded their services
- ☐ They have seen minimal changes in both scope and services

Q10 How have library consortia adapted to meet the challenges posed by the digital transformation of scholarly communication and publishing?

- ☐ By Negotiating favorable Licensing agreements for electronic resources
- ☐ By Advocating for open-access publishing models
- ☐ By Disseminating Digital Scholarship and undertaking other Digitization initiatives

Q11 What emerging trends do you foresee in the future of library consortia, particularly in response to technological advancements and ever-changing user needs?

- ☐ Increased Integration of AI and other related technologies
- ☐ Adaptive Machine Learning Technology Including AR and VR
- ☐ Robotic functional Integrations
- ☐ Greater emphasis on open-access initiatives

Q12 How do you perceive the role of library consortia in promoting diversity and equity and inclusion in access to scholarly resources and services?

- ☐ Very Positively ☐ Positively ☐ Neutral ☐ Negatively

Q13 What challenges do you anticipate for library consortia in staying relevant and effective rapidly evolving landscape of scholarly communication and information access?

- ☐ Keeping pace with technological advancements
- ☐ Addressing the complexity related to diverse and evolving user needs
- ☐ Navigating complex Licensing and copyright issues

Q14 What initiatives have library consortia undertaken to address the digital divide and ensure equitable access to information resources for underserved communities?

- ☐ Providing Subsidized or Free access to E-resources for Community Libraries
- ☐ Offering Training Programmes and digital Literacy initiatives
- ☐ Establishing and expanding the scope and coverage of DDL services
- ☐ Establishing Mobile Libraries in remote areas

Q15 Which services offered via your library consortia do you find most valuable for supporting teaching and research activities?

- ☐ Access To e-books and Academic Journals
- ☐ Inter-library Loan Services
- ☐ Document Delivery Services
- ☐ Remote Access
- ☐ SDI
- ☐ Plagiarism Checker

Q16 Have you utilized inter-library loan services offered via your consortium to access resources, not available in your institution collection?

- ☐ Yes, frequently ☐ Yes, occasionally ☐ No Never

Q17 How important do you think establishing collaborative purchasing agreements via consortium is in acquiring resources that would otherwise have been unaffordable by the library/institution?

- ☐ Significantly Important ☐ Moderately Important ☐ Slightly Important ☐ Not Important

Q18 In what ways do you think library consortia could further enhance the usability and accessibility of their online platforms and resources

- ☐ Improving Search Functionalities
- ☐ Enhancing User Interface Design
- ☐ Provide User Training, guides, and Tutorials
- ☐ Provide 24x7 uninterrupted access with Real Time Assistance

Q19 How do you perceive the role of library consortia in facilitating cooperative collection development and management among member institutions?

☐Primarily Important ☐Important ☐Somewhat important ☐Not Important

Q20 To what extent do you believe the integration of ICT has streamlined administrative tasks within library consortia?

☐Majorly ☐Slightly ☐Minimal ☐Not at All

Q21 In what ways has the implementation of ICT enhanced communication and collaboration among member libraries within consortia? (If others do specify)

☐Real-time communication channels

☐Online collaboration platforms

☐Shared databases and repositories

Q22 What ICT infrastructure improvements do you think are necessary to further enhance the effectiveness of library consortia services?

☐Upgrading network bandwidth and connectivity

☐Implementing advanced search and discovery tools

☐Enhancing cybersecurity measures

Q23 How has the use of ICT contributed towards the customization and personalization of services offered through library consortia?

☐Tailored recommendations based on user preferences

☐Personalized alerts for new resources and updates

☐Customized search interfaces and filters

Q24 What challenges, if any, have you encountered in adopting and integrating ICT solutions within library consortia operations?

☐Technical compatibility issues

☐Resistance to change among staff members

☐Budgetary constraints

☐No Challenges faced

Q25 To what extent have library consortia collaborations impacted the professional development opportunities available to library staff in your institution?

☐Enhanced training and networking opportunities

☐Average Impact

☐ Limited impact on professional development

☐ No noticeable change

Q26 How do you perceive the future role of library consortia in supporting the development and advancement of Academic libraries/Specialized institutions?

☐ Essential partners in library development

☐ Supportive but not central to library advancement

☐ No significant role in future library development

Q27 Have Library consortia collaborations influenced the implementation of open access initiatives (OER) and policies within your library/Institution?

☐ Yes, significantly ☐ Yes, moderately ☐ No, not at all

Q28 To what extent do you believe library consortia collaborations have promoted interdisciplinary research and collaboration within your college library/Institute?

☐ Significantly promoted interdisciplinary research

☐ Moderately promoted interdisciplinary research

☐ Minimal impacts on interdisciplinary research

☐ Not applicable

Q29 In your opinion does participating in a consortium offer better cost-effective coverage and access to a wider range of resources as compared to individual vendor-based Library subscriptions? (Eg: DELNET)

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure

Q30 How familiar are you with the concept of the "One Nation One Subscription" Model? for digital content access in libraries?

☐ Very familiar ☐ Somewhat familiar ☐ Not very familiar ☐ Not familiar at all

Q31 If yes, you are familiar with ONOS, how did you become aware of/ come to know about the "One Nation One Subscription" policy?

☐ Through professional associations or conferences

- ☐ Communication with library consortia Experts or organizations
- ☐ E-resources or publications
- ☐ Internet
- ☐ Newspaper/Magazine Articles
- ☐ Not familiar with/ Unaware of it

Q32 Have you attended any workshops, webinars, or training sessions specifically addressing the "One Nation One Subscription" policy?

- ☐ Yes, multiple sessions Yes, One session
- ☐ No, but I am interested in attending
- ☐ No, I am not interested

Q33 In your opinion, what does the term "One Nation One Subscription" imply in the context of library services?

- ☐ Uniform access to digital content across all libraries nationwide
- ☐ One centralized subscription managed by a national authority
- ☐ Regional subscription pooling for shared access

Q34 Do you think implementing a "One Nation One Subscription" model in India benefits your library/institution more than being part of a consortium?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure

Q35 What challenges do you anticipate in transitioning from the existing consortium model to a "One Nation One Subscription" model?

- ☐ Technical compatibility with existing systems and Infrastructure
- ☐ Negotiating terms with content providers
- ☐ Training staff and users on the new system
- ☐ Ensuring equitable access for all students and faculty
- ☐ Legal or contractual Barriers with content providers
- ☐ No Challenges

Q36 What criteria would you prioritize when selecting digital content for inclusion in a nationwide subscription model?

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Relevance to academic curriculum | <input type="checkbox"/> Quality of content |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Availability of usage statistics | <input type="checkbox"/> Cost-effectiveness |

Q37 How do you think a "One Nation One Subscription" model would impact the academic community as a whole?

- ☐ Positively ☐ Negatively ☐ Neutral

Q38 If the upcoming "One Nation One Subscription" Model Poses the initiative for Union Cataloguing, E-Resource Sharing would you like to join this consortium Initiative as a Data Provider?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure

Q39 What according to you can be some of the Problems/concerns/issues that have discouraged the establishment/formation of a consortium?

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Unreliability of Existing Infrastructure | <input type="checkbox"/> Inadequate ICT infrastructure |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Inadequate Access to the Internet | <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of Staff training OR Expertise |

Q40 What according to you can be some of the Problems/Concerns/Issues that have resulted in the Dissolution OR Lack of Cooperation among existing Consortia?

- ☐ Lack of Interest among Participant Libraries to work towards Cooperation
- ☐ Demands Imposed on staff such as Work Overloads
- ☐ Professional jealousy and Personality Clash among Staff
- ☐ Confidential nature of participant Libraries
- ☐ Copyright and IPR issues responsible for Resource Sharing
- ☐ Absence of Common communication Infrastructure/Platforms to share information
- ☐ Budget Constraints

Appendix – II

Forwarding letter and Questionnaire to Users'

From

Mr. Josiah Lobo

MLISC Programme

Goa University

Date:

To,

Sub: Questionnaire to Users

Sir/Madam,

Kindly find enclosed herewith the questionnaire regarding my dissertation topic "Library Consortia in Modern Era: An Evaluative Study" under the guidance of Dr. Carlos M. Fernandes HoD, Dept. of Library and Information Science, Goa University, Goa.

My research involves primary data collection via survey method. Therefore I, kindly request you to spare some time to read and fill out my questionnaire

I assure you that, all responses collected as part of this study will be confidential and will be used for academic purposes only.

Thanking you and awaiting for your kind co-operation.

Yours faithfully,

(Josiah A.N.G. Lobo

Questionnaire for Users'

Name: _____

Institution: _____

Email: _____

Q1 Are you familiar with the term 'Library Consortia'?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Q2 Which of the below Library Consortiums have you heard of/used/familiar with? (If other Specify)

- ☐ E-ShodhSindhu
- ☐ IIM Consortium
- ☐ HELINET Consortium
- ☐ ICOLC
- ☐ CSIR Consortium
- ☐ FORSA Consortium
- ☐ CeRA Consortium
- ☐ None of the Above

Q3 What according to you can be the benefits of library consortia?

- ☐ Provides quick access to library resources
- ☐ Prevention of Resource Duplication
- ☐ Cost Reduction Benefits
- ☐ Resource Sharing (ILL)

Q4 What types of resources or services have you accessed through library consortia? (Other - Specify)

- ☐ Online Databases
- ☐ E-books and Digital Collections
- ☐ E-Journals

Q5 For what purposes do you use the resources of a library consortium?

- ☐ For Study Work
- ☐ For Research Purposes
- ☐ To Be Updated in the Subject Field
- ☐ To Clear Entrance Exams

Q6 How often do you use consortium resources?

- ☐ Everyday
- ☐ Few Times in a Week
- ☐ Once a Week
- ☐ Once a Month
- ☐ Never

Q7 What techniques do you use for searching content via consortium?

- ☐ Phrase Search
- ☐ Boolean Operators
- ☐ Keywords
- ☐ Truncation
- ☐ Proximity Search

Q8 Do you feel that a consortium should have print journals alongside E-Journals?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Q9 Do you feel the need for a user training program to use a library consortium resource platform?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Q10 Which E-devices do you use to access resources via library consortia?

- ☐ Smartphone/Tablet
- ☐ PC
- ☐ Laptop
- ☐ Campus Computers
- ☐ OPAC

Q11 Are you satisfied with the resources offered via your library consortium?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Q12 Do you face any inconvenience while accessing the consortium resources?

- ☐ Poor Network Connectivity
- ☐ Poor Hardware

☐ Incompetence to Navigate the Consortia Resources

☐ Limited Access to Website Links

☐ Dead Links

☐ Maintenance Error

Q13 How would you consider rating the usage and coverage of consortia resources for your study or research projects?

☐ Excellent ☐ Good ☐ Fair Enough ☐ Poor

Q14 Rate the usefulness level of the resource consortium in your library on a scale of 1-5

☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5

Q15 Have you ever borrowed materials through Inter-Library Loan services?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Q16 If yes, how would you rate the service offered?

☐ Excellent ☐ Good ☐ Average ☐ Bad

Q17 When seeking resources for yourself either for study or research work, do you utilize materials available within your library collection first? Or do you seek resources via a consortium platform first?

☐ Library Collection ☐ Consortium Platform

Q18 In Your opinion does participating in a library consortium offer cost-effective access to a wider range of resources as compared to individual library subscriptions via Library Networks Ex: DELNET?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Q19 How would you rate the role of information and communication technologies (ICT) in facilitating the operation and development of library consortia?

☐ Very Essential ☐ Important ☐ Somewhat Important ☐ Not Important

Q20 What improvements or enhancements would you like to see in the services provided by library consortia to better meet the needs of students? (Other - Specify)

- ☐ More comprehensive access to electronic resources
- ☐ Enhanced support for research data management
- ☐ Improved user interface and accessibility of consortia platforms
- ☐ Real Time Assistance
- ☐ 24x7 Accessibility

Q21 What recommendations would you make to enhance the effectiveness and impact of library consortia in supporting the development and advancement of libraries and information centers in Goa? (Other- Specify)

- ☐ Strengthen collaboration among member institutions
- ☐ Improve communication and transparency in consortia governance
- ☐ Foster partnerships with other stakeholders (e.g., government agencies, industry partners)