

## Awareness and Utilization of Digital Library By Library Users of ARIBAS Colleges: A Study

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### ABSTRACT

In this digital era, the faculties, research scholars and students of different colleges and institutes are familiar with functions and services of physical libraries as well as digital libraries. In current scenario, a librarian should aware about all types of digital products as well as its services used for educational purpose. Moreover, a librarian should motivate the students to access the digital library and its resources, their responsibilities for development, utilization and awareness for digital library. To fulfill this aim, the present study on awareness and utilization of digital library by the users of Ashok & Rita Patel Institute of Integrated study and Research in Biotechnology and Allied Science, New Vidyanagar conducted.

**Keywords:** *Digital Library, Digital Resources, Digital Awareness.*

The main role is physical libraries are knowledge collection, storage, arrangement and retrieval process. The main of library function are learning and giving out of information. In this digital era different function of libraries are digital selection, scanning, cropping, uploading, formatting of data, and arrangement of data through metadata for retrieval information. Digital resources includes all types of non-printed materials, e-books, e-journals, online databases, research papers, e-classes, e-learning, etc,.. Information technology has change at every level, so libraries highly affected in present digital era. Day by day there is a decrease in the reading habit by the users, in this context librarian should be familiar to all types of digital resources to maximize use of digital resources that may fulfill user needs.

The rapidity of transform has produced an innovative librarian setting in requisites of his services as well as tricks. These “innovations contact the roles, competencies, skills and knowledge of LIS professionals”. There are many Biotechnology institutes in Anand districts than the districts of the Gujarat state. Now, it is necessary for the institutes or colleges to maintain UGC/AICTE/GTU/NAAC norms and implement best practices to provide best

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services to students. Government as well as management, trust and organization yearly allocate financial provision for smooth functioning of the institute. As a part of librarian responsibility, there is a need to create awareness among the staff and students for maximum use of institutional resources especially library resources in a digital and physical form.

### ***About ARIBAS:***

Ashok and Rita Patel Institute of Integrated Study and Research in Biotechnology & Allied Sciences (ARIBAS), New Vidyanagar, Anand of Gujarat State established in June 2005. The institute is affiliated to Sardar Patel University and has been granted affiliation for M. Sc. (Integrated) Biotechnology-120 intake, M. Sc. Microbiology-60 intake, M. Sc. Pharmaceutical Chemistry-60 intake, M. Sc. Biotechnology-60 intake, M. Sc. Genetics-60 intake and M. Sc. Forensic Science-60 intake. The institute spacious building, having all infrastructural facilities for academic and research work. With the generosity and kind gesture of Shri Ashok Patel and Rita Patel (USA), Charutar Vidya Mandal has been able to fulfill one more of its dreams of Integrated study of Biotechnology is an eleven semester (5.5 years) course offering degree in four branches of Biotechnology viz. General Biotechnology, Environmental Biotechnology, Industrial Biotechnology and Medical Biotechnology leading to M. Sc. Degree. Institute also offering doctoral degree in various subjects. For more details visit website [www.aribas.edu.in](http://www.aribas.edu.in)

### **AIRBAS Digital Resources:**

As library is an indispensable component in any academic institutions, ARIBAS has not only created very good physical library facilities but also digital library for their students and staff. The library resources available at ARIBAS are highlighted in figure.

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**ARIBAS RESOURCES**

**Library**

ARIBAS has a well-equipped Library with the latest Reference books, Newsletters, Bulletins, Monographs, Literature, National and International Journals. The Library have approximately over 5000 Books - both Indian and Foreign, Scientific Journals, Magazines and Periodicals spanning Technical and Management subjects

ARIBAS is registered under NLIST program, an Initiative of Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) Under the National Mission on Education through ICT and have access for the e-resources 3000+ e-journals and 75000+ ebooks through campus wide LAN and WiFi

**Services Provide**

- Circulation
- Refrence and Information
- Document Delivery
- Book Reservation
- Database Search Service
- Old Question Paper(External on digital format)

**Email**  
library@aribas.edu.in

**Staff**

	Mr. Sanjay Parekh	
	M. Lib., M. Phil (Library Sci.)	
	Assistant Librarian	
	Mr. Pritesh Patel	
	M. A	
	Junior Librarian Clerk	

**Library OPAC**  
Search ARIBAS library by title, author, publisher.  
Search 6000 books + 17 Journals. [VISIT](#)

**n-List Infilbnet Center**  
ARIBAS is registered to Infilbnet network of UGC.  
Search 70,000+books, 3800 +journals [VISIT](#)

**e-Library Digital Repository**  
Search e-books, Dissertation Thesis, Bio related softwares, CD's, Paper published and many more.  
500+ books, 400+ articles, 200 thesis [VISIT](#)

**InTech**  
World's largest multidisciplinary open access library covering the fields of Science, Technology and Medicine.  
Search 3250+ books. [VISIT](#)

**C2Class**  
Learn from the World's best Instructors  
Anytime, Anywhere Harverd, Stanford, Yale University, Khan Academy & many more [VISIT](#)

**Fg 1**

**ARIBAS e-Library** About ARIBAS e-Library

Search ARIBAS e-Library  [Go](#)

Advanced Search

- Home
- Browse
  - Communities & Collection
  - Issue Date
  - Author
  - Title
  - Subject
- Sign on to:
  - Receive Email Update
  - My e-Library authorized users
  - Edit Profile
  - Help
  - About DSpace

"ARIBAS e-Library" |

**ARIBAS E-Library**  
Welcome To Our Digital Repository!

**Search**  
Enter some text in the box below to search ARIBAS e-Library

 [Go](#)

**Communities in ARIBAS e-Library**  
Choose a community to browse its collectors.

- 1-Teaching Plan
- 2-Laboratory Protocol
- 3-Question Paper Collection
- 4-Text Book
- 5-Research Articles
- Annual Day
- CSIR NET Some's Biology
- CVM Circular

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***Objectives:***

In order to maximize use of digital resources by ARIBAS users. The present study undertaken with following objectives:

1. To access the types and frequencies in the use of different types of digital resources from ARIBAS digital library by the users.
2. To maximize use of subject/course specific digital resources (Biotechnology) available at ARIBAS.
3. To identify problems faced by library users while accessing the digital library.
4. To improve and develop smooth functioning digital library in biotechnology field.

***Scope And Limitation Of The Study:***

This study is based on the library usage capability of the biotechnology students, research scholars and staff members of ARIBAS, New Vidyanagar, Anand, Gujarat state. The scope of the study is only ARIBAS student, research scholar and faculties for the resources and awareness towards maximum use of digital resources and suggestions to improve library services to them (Library users).

***Review Of Related Literature:***

Thanuskodi S. and Ravi S. (2011) discussed different aspects on use of digital resources, use of internet for education and research; understanding should be generated about the online journal to get current information. Walmiki *et al.*, (2010) discussed reasons for non use of UGC Infonet digital library, lack of different parameters i.e. knowledge to use, relevant information sources, lack of assistance by library staff, problem faced during the use of digital resources and necessity for user education by library staff. Kumar (2016). in his study discussed awareness of different types of resources, methods of learning for digital resources, faculty opinion for development of digital library and digital products. Problem faced while using digital library and level of satisfaction by faculty the members. Bagudu *et al.*, (2013). pointed out that importance of digital resources in students learning and research.

## **METHODOLOGY**

The study was conducted using questionnaire method. The study comprised biotechnology students, research scholars and faculty members of ARIBAS. Researcher mailed research questionnaire to the faculties and personally handed over the questionnaire to the students and research scholars. A set of questionnaires distributed to 120 ARIBAS library users and 116 users responded to questionnaires through online (faculties) as well as physical form (students and research scholars).

***Analysis:***

The analysis of the data obtained throughout the research questionnaire provided lots of information to satisfying the objectives.

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### *Using the digital library:*

The distribution of faculties, students and research scholars according to their use of digital library (Daily, Weekly, Monthly, Exam Time and Occasionally) is shown in Table 1. The percentage of users varied with 13.79% (Daily), 45.69 % (Weekly), 23.28 % (Monthly), 6.03 % (Examination time) and 11.21 % (Occasionally) using the digital library.

**Table1. Frequency of ARIBAS Digital Library users**

Frequency	Number of Respondents	Percentage
Daily	16	13.79
Weekly	53	45.69
Monthly	27	23.28
Exam Time	07	6.03
Occasionally	13	11.21
Total	116	100

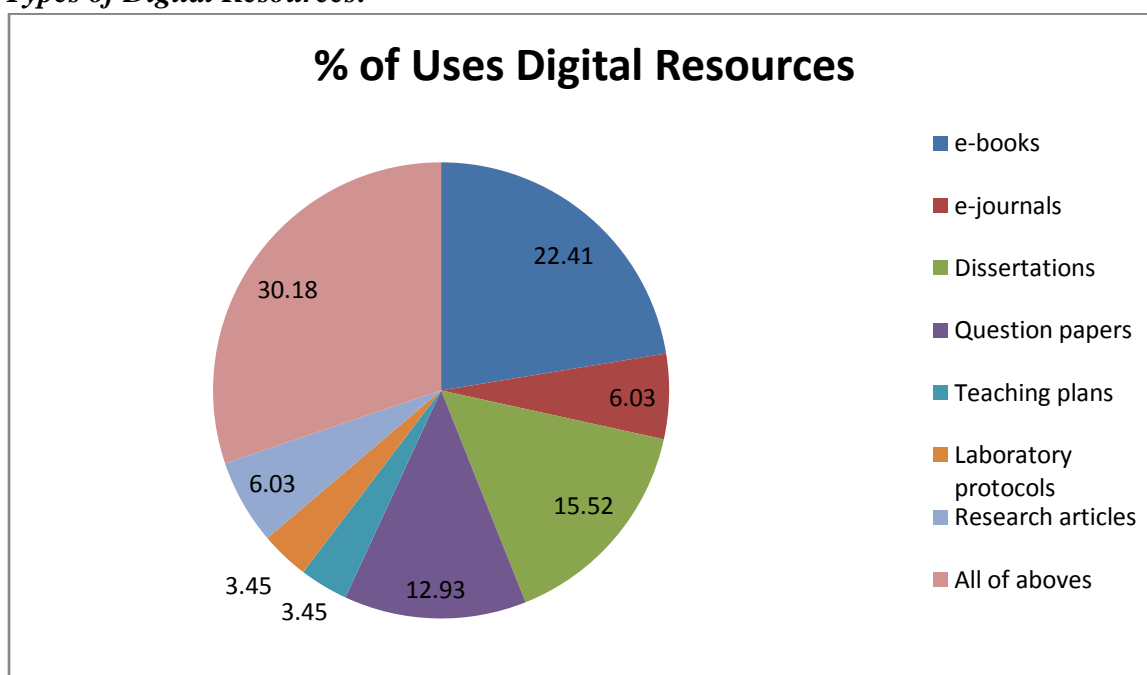
### *Faculty, student and research scholar's familiarity with digital resources:*

The distribution of faculties, students and research scholars according to their familiar to use of digital resources is shown in Table 2. It is evident that 84.48% familiar to digital resources, while 15.52% answered non- familiar.

**Table 2. Familiarity of the ARIBAS users to digital resources**

Use	Number of Respondents	Percentage
Familiar	98	84.48
Non familiar	18	15.52
Total	116	100

### *Types of Digital Resources:*

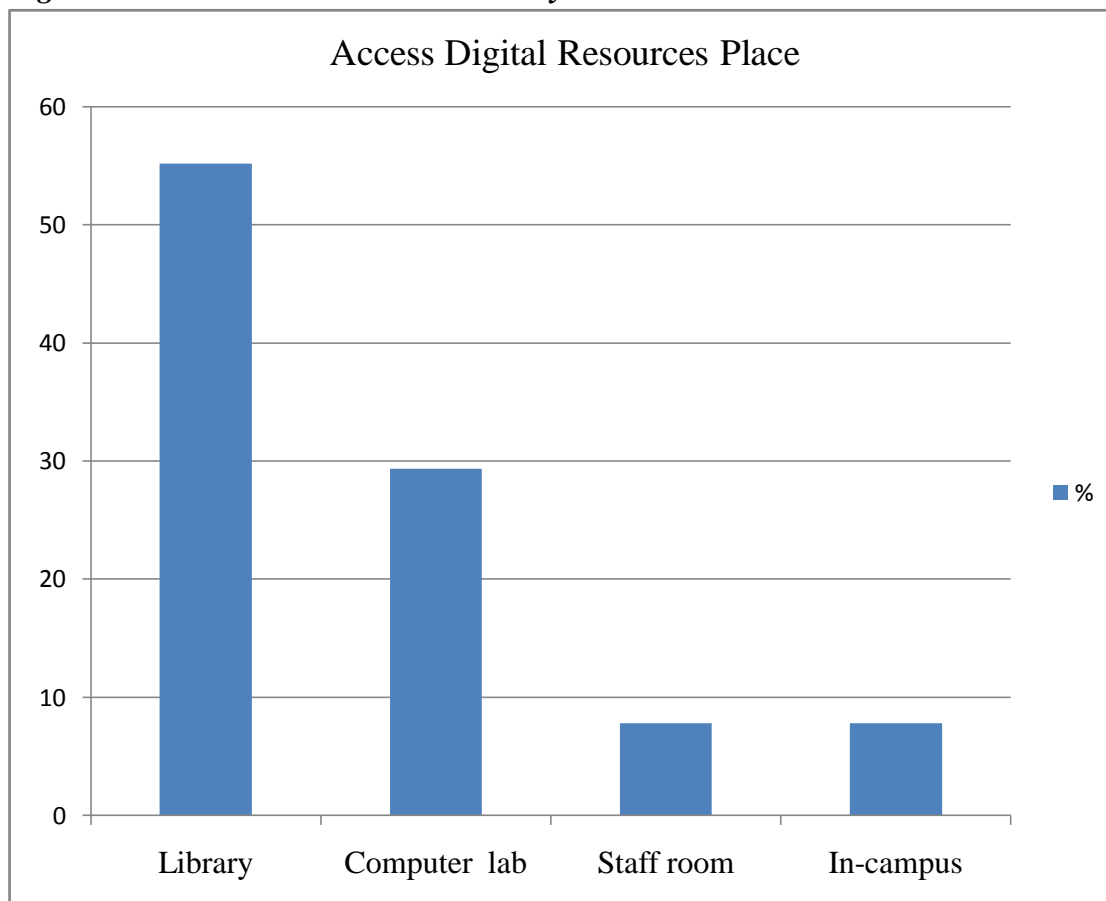


**Figure 1. Types of Digital Resources used by the users**

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Figure 1 depicts types of digital resources used by the users. It is evident that e-books (22.41%), e-journals (6.03%), dissertations (15.52%), question papers (12.93%), teaching plans (3.45%), laboratory protocols (3.45%), research articles (6.03%) and all types of digital resources used by faculty members, students and research scholar (30.18%).

### *Digital Resources access locations used by the users within ARIBAS*



**Figure 2. Digital Resources access locations used by the users within ARIBAS**

Figure 2 highlights the place within ARIBAS where the digital resources accessed by the library users. At the library place (55.17%), computer lab (29.31%), staff room (7.76%) and in-campus (7.76%) accessed the digital resources.

### **Awareness methods for Digital Resources:**

Table 3 summarizes the digital resources utilization by the ARIBAS library users through different means. These methods increase awareness among the library users. The different methods used and their responses are presented in Table 3.

**Table 3. Awareness methods**

Variables	Number of Respondents	Percentage
Orientation program	53	45.69
Workshop	23	19.83
Mail	22	18.97

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Variables	Number of Respondents	Percentage
Social media	09	7.76
Personal information	07	6.03
Non of response	02	1.72
Total	116	100

From the analysis it was clear that Orientation programs (45.69%), workshops (19.83%), mail (18.97%), social medias (7.76%), personally information (6.03%) and none of response (1.72%).

### **Recommendations:**

Based on the analysis, library users suggested the followings:

1. E-books and e-journals which are provided through intranet should be added to our college website (Digital Resources) so that it can be accessed easily whenever we need.
2. Increase numbers of computers.
3. Increase the speed of internet.
4. Making digital library accessible from any corner of ARIBAS.
5. Digital library awareness program/workshop should be organized at least twice in a year.
6. New updated resources availability should be informed to all the students via electronic communication.
7. By sharing tricks and methods of digital library via blogs and websites.
8. Information related to jobs, interviews, date of important national examinations, notifications are added in digital resources.
9. Due to lowest configuration of computers, sometimes computers may not work properly. So improve the latest configuration of computers for easy access of digital library.

## **CONCLUSION**

In the present digital era, benefits to the library users related to digitalization of knowledge and information can easily accessed through such type of studies. Awareness for how to access the digital library can be created in the students/users by organizing at least 2 workshops per year by the management and staff of library.

It is well known that library is a good source of knowledge where we can provide maximum information related to academics, research, curricular and co-curricular activities that can be accessible to all the members of the institute without any delay.

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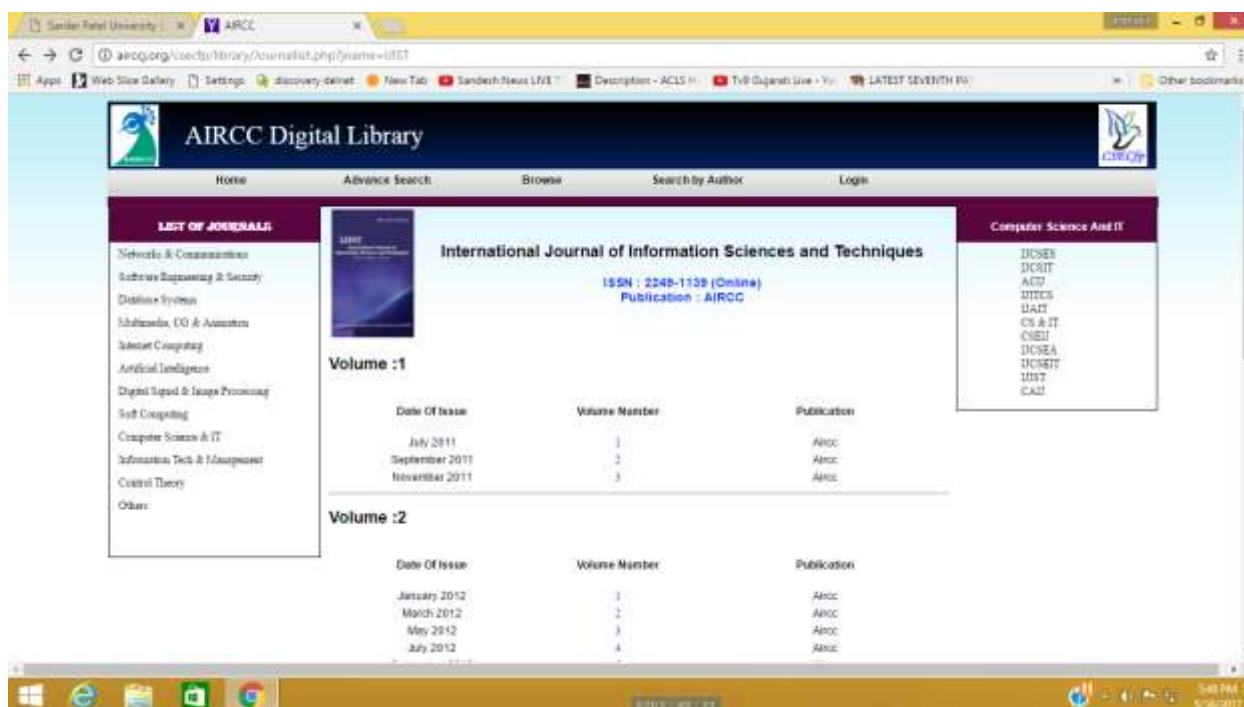


Fig 3



Fig 4

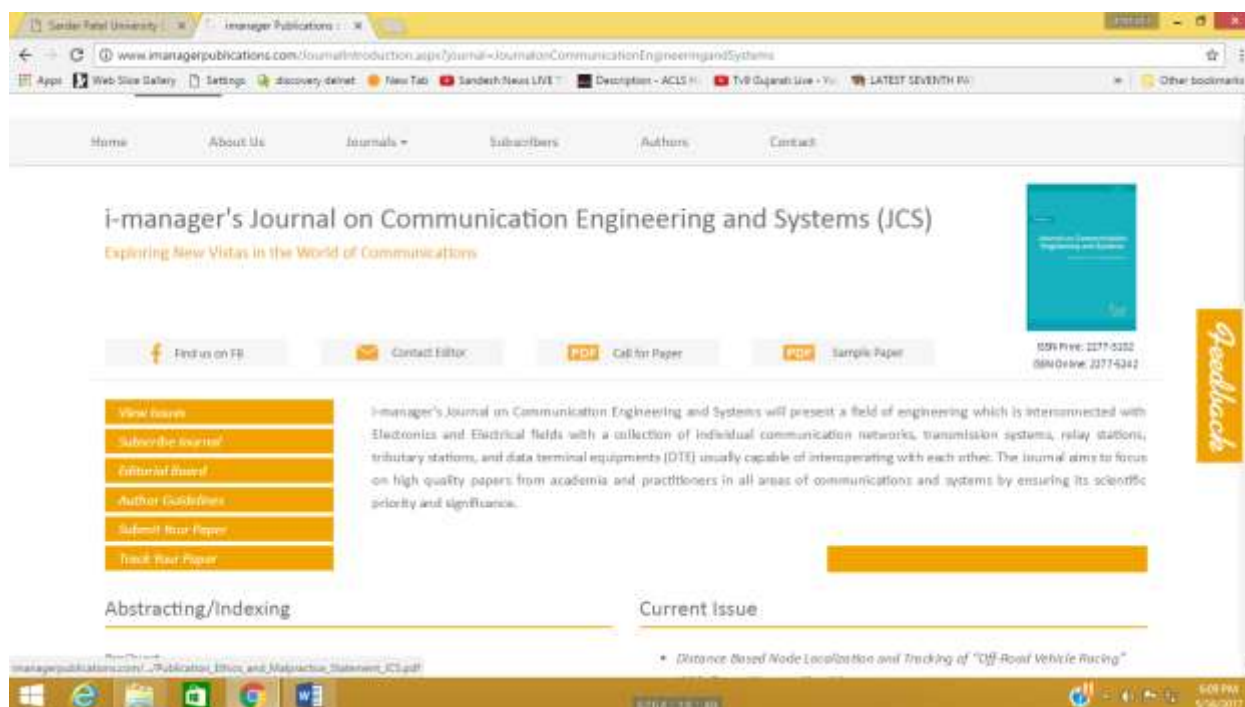


Fig 5

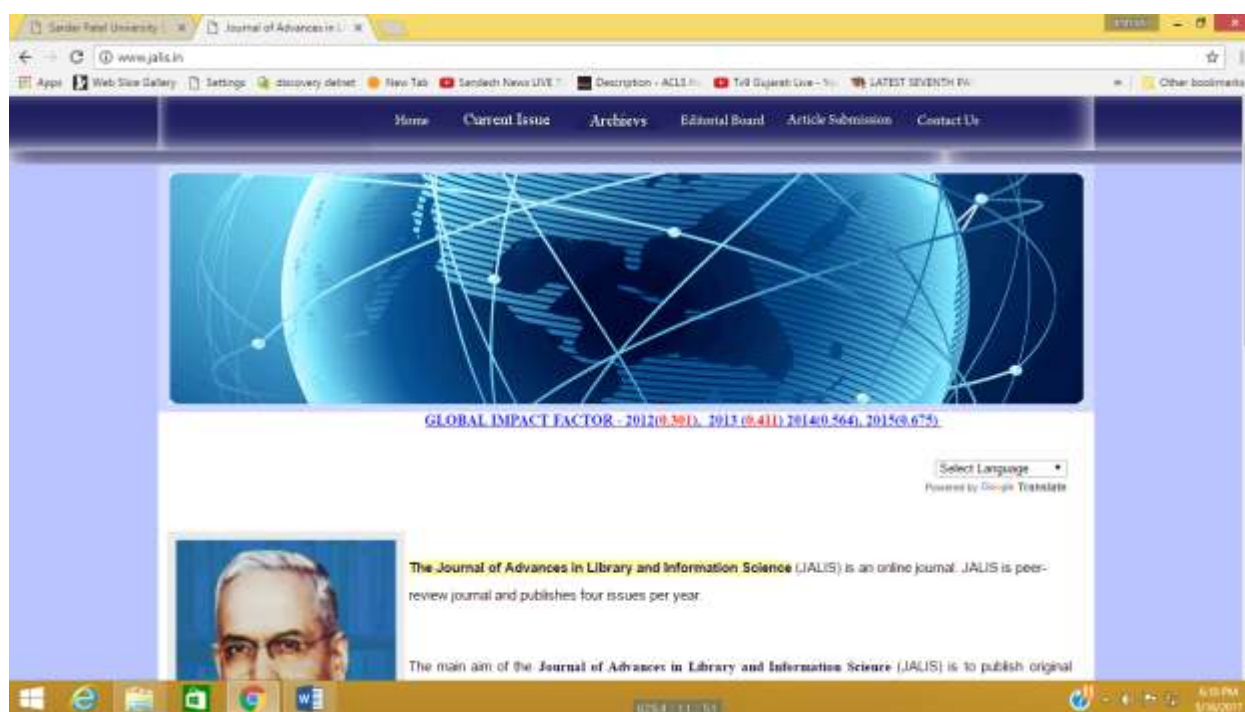


Fig 6

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**Fg 8**

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