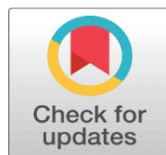
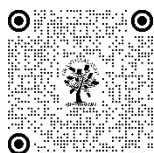


USE OF N-LIST IN HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

Ms. Binita Jha¹

¹ Librarian, Thakur Ramnarayan College of Arts and Commerce, Mumbai



DOI

[10.29121/shodhkosh.v5.i6.2024.4697](https://doi.org/10.29121/shodhkosh.v5.i6.2024.4697)

Funding: This research received no specific grant from any funding agency in the public, commercial, or not-for-profit sectors.

Copyright: © 2024 The Author(s). This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/).

With the license CC-BY, authors retain the copyright, allowing anyone to download, reuse, re-print, modify, distribute, and/or copy their contribution. The work must be properly attributed to its author.



ABSTRACT

In today's research landscape, accessing comprehensive information often requires navigating through extensive physical libraries or purchasing bulky books, which can be time-consuming, costly, and exhausting for researchers. However, the advent of E-Sources has revolutionized this process by offering efficient access to necessary information at a reduced cost and effort. The N-List specifically facilitates research by providing electronic access to a wide array of resources such as research articles, journals, and books. This platform not only simplifies research but also enables users to read, store, and evaluate electronic information conveniently. It is crucial for researchers, students, and higher education institutions to leverage the benefits of N-List to enhance research efficiency and awareness.

Keywords: N-List, Inflibnet, E-Resources, Research, Education, Institute/College, Libraries, etc

1. INTRODUCTION

In a world of rapid change, individuals constantly seek new advancements to excel in fields like sciences, robotics, electronics, computing, IT, and banking. Effective research demands a solid understanding of the subject area beforehand. However, acquiring relevant information is often arduous, involving searches through libraries and bookstores for books, manuscripts, and other materials. This process not only consumes significant time, money, and manpower but also offers no guarantee of success, potentially leading to research failures.

An online database called the N-List has been established to support research efforts in India. Managed by INFLIBNET, it includes a wide range of electronic information resources such as research articles, e-journals, e-books, and literature contributed by experts across different fields.

Arora, J., Rai, A. K., Pradhan, D. R. & Trivedi, K. J. (2010). The full name of the N-list is "National Library and Information Services Infrastructure for Scholarly Content". The N-List project, jointly managed by the UGC-INFONET Digital Library Consortium, INFLIBNET Centre, and the INDEST-AICTE Consortium, was established on May 4, 2010 in New Delhi, India. It facilitates cross-subscription between INDEST-AICTE and UGC INFONET resources, providing technical institutions access to INDEST-AICTE resources and universities access to UGC INFONET resources. Additionally, it offers selected e-resources to colleges. The project operates through servers at the INFLIBNET Centre,

enabling authorized users from colleges to access and download articles directly from publishers' websites. It includes four key components: subscription and access monitoring for UGC INFONET e-resources at technical institutions, subscription and access monitoring for INDEST e-resources at universities, subscription and access for selected e-resources at 6,000 government and government-aided colleges, and acting as a monitoring agency for colleges to enhance access efficiency and effectiveness.

2. OBJECTIVES

1. To study the current status of N-List.
2. To study what is the function of the N-List and how to use it.
3. Find out which E-Sources are available in the N-list.
4. Find out what are the advantages and disadvantages of N-List.
5. Find out the reasons why to use the N-list.

3. PURPOSE OF RESEARCH

The purpose of the research article is to ensure readers have access to comprehensive information in the digital age and to raise awareness about available sources. It also aims to emphasize the significance of electronic information sources to the readers.

4. METHODOLOGY

This study aims to promote awareness about the utilization of N-List. Information is gathered and assessed online from articles, journals, websites, and other sources.

5. STATUS OF -LIST

There are currently 6762 colleges registered in the N-list. It also includes Government /Government Aided colleges that are under the UGC's 12B/2F act. Out of the registered colleges, 3905 Government / Government Aided / Non-Aided colleges have taken ID and password to use N-List. (<http://nlist.inflibnet.ac.in/register.php>).

The following table shows the number of state-wise registered colleges.

Table No. 1
Number of registered Institutes/Colleges in the N-list (State wise).

Sr. No.	State	Registered	Beneficiary
1	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	2	2
2	Andhra Pradesh	281	179
3	Arunachal Pradesh	9	3
4	Assam	286	208
5	Bihar	203	84
6	Chandigarh	15	15
7	Chhattisgarh	208	89
8	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	3	3
9	Daman and Diu	1	1
10	Delhi	78	64
11	Goa	33	31
12	Gujarat	430	62
13	Haryana	184	118
14	Himachal Pradesh	55	37
15	Jammu and Kashmir	102	59
16	Jharkhand	125	62
17	Karnataka	772	427
18	Kerala	324	235
19	Ladakh	2	0
20	Madhya Pradesh	271	118
21	Maharashtra	1322	848
22	Manipur	59	36
23	Meghalaya	31	24
24	Mizoram	25	12

25	Nagaland	39	27
26	Odisha	123	42
27	Puducherry	26	13
28	Punjab	174	105
29	Rajasthan	181	53
30	Sikkim	7	3
31	Tamil Nadu	460	339
32	Telangana	161	100
33	Tripura	21	10
34	Uttar Pradesh	287	118
35	Uttarakhand	40	17
36	West Bengal	422	361
Total		6762	3905

Source<<https://nlist.inflibnet.ac.in/vstatewise.php>

6. E-SOURCES COLLECTION IN N-LIST:

6.1. E-JOURNALS:

Table No. 2 E-Journals Databases

Sr · N o.	E-Journals (Full text)	Publication Country	No. of Collection
1	American Institute of Physics	USA	18
2	Annual Reviews	USA	33
3	Economic and Political Weekly (EPW)	INDIA	1
4	Indian Journals	INDIA	180+
5	Institute of Physics	UK	46
6	JSTOR	USA	2500+
7	Oxford University Press	UK	206
8	Royal Society of Chemistry	UK	29
9	H. W. Wilson	USA	3000+
10	Cambridge University Press. [2010-2016]	UK	224+
Total Collection of E-Journals		Total	6237+

Source: <http://nlist.inflibnet.ac.in/eresource.php>

6.2. E-BOOKS:

Table No. 3 E-Books Sources

Sr. No.	E-Books	No. of Collectio n
1	Cambridge Books Online	1800
2	E-brary	125000+
3	EBSCoHost-Net Library	936
4	Hindustan Book Agency	65+
5	Institute of South East Asian Studies (ISEAS) Books	382+
6	Oxford Scholarship	1402+
7	Springer eBooks	2300
8	Sage Publication eBooks	1000
9	Taylor Francis eBooks	1800
10	My library-McGraw Hill	1124
11	World -EBooks Library	3000000
Total Collection of E-Books		3135809+

Source: <http://nlist.inflibnet.ac.in/eresource.php>

6. 3. BIBLIOGRAPHIC DATABASE

The N-List incorporates MathSciNet, which comprises the electronic version of Mathematical Reviews, the foremost component within MathSciNet. Mathematical Reviews serves as a comprehensive journal for reviewing international literature in mathematics. Since its inception in January 1940, MathSciNet has provided signed reviews and bibliographic data. It encompasses journals, conference proceedings, and books related to mathematical research. Additionally, it includes items listed in the yearly indexes of Mathematical Reviews that did not receive individual reviews. MathSciNet features more than 2 million entries and provides over 700,000 direct links to original articles. Each year, MathSciNet incorporates over 80,000 new entries, with the majority classified using the Mathematics Subject Classification. It compiles reference lists by internally collating data from more than 300 journals, offering comprehensive citation information for journals, authors, articles, and reviews.

7. FUNCTIONS OF N-LIST

The functions of N-list are as follows.

1. The primary purpose of the N-List is to furnish students, researchers, and professors with e-resources efficiently, at a reduced cost, with minimal effort, and in less time. This aims to enhance the effectiveness of research endeavors.
2. The N-List facilitates users by offering electronic information and the capability to download online articles, e-books, e-journals, and other materials directly from publisher websites.
3. The E-Sources provide both the full text of articles and their bibliographic details, ensuring rapid transfer of information.
4. The bibliographies in the N-List reference articles from database journals, conference proceedings, and book chapters. Additionally, most bibliographic databases include article summaries and links to their full texts, providing concise information.
5. The N-List offers colleges, students, researchers, professors, and staff the opportunity to enhance their knowledge by accessing e-resources through the server.
6. All government-aided colleges covered under Section 12B/2F of the UGC Act are eligible to access e-resources through the N-LIST program. The N-LIST program aims to provide educational materials to students and researchers in higher education at the government level. Non-aided colleges (excluding those in Agriculture, Engineering, Management, Medical, Pharmacy, Dentistry, and Nursing) can also benefit from the N-LIST program by participating in it.
(<http://nlist.inflibnet.ac.in/members.php>).

8. HOW TO USE OF N-LIST

Arora, J., Rai, A. K., Pradhan, D. R & Trivedi, K. J. (2010). Faculty, staff, students, and researchers from colleges covered under Section 12B/2F of the UGC Act are eligible to access e-resources through the N-LIST program. Follow the steps outlined below to access e-resources through the N-LIST program:

1. Register with N-LIST: Colleges, desirous of accessing e-resources, are required to register themselves with the N-LIST Programme. Visit the N-LIST Website, register online or download Registration Form to register offline. Send list of authorized users including faculty, staff, researchers and students along with associated data in prescribed format. Please enclose a copy of 12B / 2F certificate issued by the UGC. Colleges, not covered under the 12B Act of the UGC, can join N-LIST Programme as its Associate.
2. Obtain Login ID and Passwords: Once registered, obtain Login ID and passwords for all authorized users as per the list submitted by you.
3. Visit N-LIST Web Site: Log on to <http://nlist.inflibnet.ac.in>. Enter Your Username and Password in the text entry box to Login. If you do not have username and password, contact your college authorities to register with N-LIST and obtain username and password.
4. Access E-resources: Once logged-in successfully, a list of e-resources subscribed under NLIST Programme is displayed. Click on the desired e-resource to access its full-text on publisher's website. For further help in search, browse or navigate articles / book chapters through the publisher's website, Click on "User Guide / Help" from the navigation bar and download user manual and tutorials.

9. ADVANTAGES OF N-LIST

The importance of anything is understood by its advantages and disadvantages. Accordingly, we will see the benefits of N-list:

- Remote access to e-resources with User Id and password.
- Ambitious programme extending e-resources to colleges at affordable cost
- Provides multiple access of 24 hours a day and 7 days a week
- With facility for advance online publication, research papers are available online two months ahead of the print version.

(George, A., Pillai, M. G & Aparna P. R. 2014).

10. DISADVANTAGES OF N-LIST

Some of the important disadvantages of the N-List are as following below:

- Absence of a printed copy of Journals
- Require training of staff in handling electronic documents etc.
- Consortia require high initial investments in licensees and information and communication technology.
- Copyright problems
- Unreliable telecommunication links and insufficient bandwidth
- Lack of archiving and back files availability
- Internet Access ID necessary
- Users are not accepting e-journals as per with the printed Journals
- The N-list lacks known sources of knowledge in agriculture, engineering, management, medicine, pharmacy, dentistry and nursing.

(Barui, T. & Barui, S. N. 2015).

11. WHY SHOULD HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS USE THE N-LIST?

1. India boasts a vast number of libraries offering a wide array of printed materials such as books, manuscripts, maps, magazines, government publications, and research articles. However, locating and accessing these resources can be challenging and time-consuming due to the lack of library automation. In this context, N-LIST proves to be invaluable for libraries. It provides electronic access to all these materials, making them readily searchable and manageable for users.
2. Researchers, students, and professors must possess digital literacy to thrive in the current information age. Acquiring digital literacy involves gaining knowledge about digital tools, which is a global priority for every nation. N-List, an initiative under Digital India by the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India, aims to facilitate this. It empowers students, researchers, and professors to explore new technologies through digital tools and contribute to personal and national development.
3. Some higher education institutes face challenges in maintaining printed information materials due to limited library space, thereby affecting researchers' and students' access to adequate knowledge. However, through N-List, these resources are available in the form of E-Resources, which are not only cost-effective compared to printed materials but also unrestricted by space limitations. Consequently, N-List has proven to be a valuable and efficient means of accessing information.
4. The N-List features publications not only from India but also from various countries, ensuring access to world-class information for readers. These e-sources encompass research articles contributed by renowned researchers, students, and professors, along with e-books, e-journals, bibliographic databases, and other informative content. Exploring e-sources through N-List provides insights into global trends and developments.
5. The N-List server facilitates connectivity among numerous students, researchers, and professors, with unrestricted access to information. E-Sources are user-friendly and secure, requiring no special training for users to navigate effectively. Thus, N-List has emerged as a highly effective information technology platform.
6. N-List is continuously updated with new information daily, ensuring unlimited access to updated content for readers. Higher education institutions also benefit from this service without incurring additional fees.
7. E-resources are cost-effective for both publishers and libraries. The production costs associated with printed materials contribute to higher selling prices, limiting libraries' ability to acquire them. In contrast, publishers can reduce costs by distributing content in electronic formats, making e-resources more affordable for libraries. N-List serves as a prominent example of effective e-resource utilization.

12. CONCLUSION

The research indicates that both E-Resources and Printed Materials play crucial roles. Some printed materials are prohibitively expensive, making them inaccessible to libraries. In such cases, higher education institutions can rely on the N-List. This platform offers high-quality research materials from national and international publications in the form of e-books, journals, databases, and more. Professors, students, and researchers can leverage these resources for conducting superior research. Therefore, higher education institutions find the N-List indispensable. Access to the N-List is granted to these institutions through regular fees.

CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

None.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

None.

REFERENCES

- AMS, Mathscinet. Mathematical Reviews. Retrieved from: <http://www.ams.org/mathscinet/>
- Arora, J., Rai, A. K., Pradhan, D. R & Trivedi, K. J. (2010). N-List User Guide & Tutorials on E-Resources. Inlibnet Centre, Ahmadabad.
- Barui, T. & Barui, S. N. (2015). Role of Online Journals and Library Consortia on research: with special reference to N-LIST Programme of INFLIBNET.
- George, A., Pillai, M. G. & Aparna, P. R. (2014). Use of N-LIST programme & the role of college librarians.
- INFLIBNETE-Resources-List. Retrieved from: <http://nlist.inflibnet.ac.in/eresource.php> 6. N-List. Registered Colleges Status-LIST Retrieved from: <http://nlist.inflibnet.ac.in/register.php>