ABSTRACT

The present study aims at assessing awareness towards open access sources among students, researchers and faculty in management colleges in Karnataka and compare across them. A total of 923 respondents including 470 students, 176 researchers and 277 faculty members were included. Researcher has selected 20 colleges from four divisions such as Bangalore Division, Belgaum Division, Kalaburagi Division and Mysore Division having post graduate, M.Phil. and Ph.D. programmes in various branches of management colleges in Karnataka for study. They were administered a structured questionnaire on various aspects of open access sources. The data is subjected to descriptive and contingency coefficient analysis. Results revealed that, the selected sample had high awareness on sources like Directory of Open Access Journals: Business and Economics, Directory of Open Access Books, American Libraries through Internet Archive, arXiv, and MIT Open Courseware. The selected sample had least awareness on OAJS. Biz/ed: Business Studies Teaching and Education Resource, BCStats (British Colombia), Open Learn (OU),University of Michigan Open Courseware, OAlder Digital Repository, and CORE (Connecting Repositories). Comparison across faculty, researchers and students revealed that in most of the aspects researchers had higher awareness.

Further, study aims at assessing attitude towards open access sources and services. They were administered a structured questionnaire on various aspects of open access to measure the attitude, on the whole we find favorable attitudes towards open access by the selected sample. For majority of the statements on open access, faculty and researchers had more agreement followed by students had least agreement. Research scholars had higher levels of agreement on clear structure and display of material
available, archives available at open access sources, Bibliographical details available for material in open access sources, publications for my career development and Keeping own copy of the manuscript that is the same in all respects as published version in the process of producing a journal article for publication. Faculty, researchers and students had similar attitude on Indexing system available at open access sources, and availability of flexible copyright restrictions in open access. The majority of respondents indicated high agreement towards role of libraries in popularizing the open access resources and services. Among the respondents research scholars had high level of agreement compared to faculties and students.