OPEN ACCESS E-RESOURCES IN LAW

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Keywords
Law, Open access, E-resources, Archives, Repositories, Research, Judiciary, Library

Abstract
The open access movement is placing its steps in the legal profession and also extending facilities to various bodies connected with Law. This is a greater development in the legal profession. These resources provide access and facilitate judiciary, academics, industries, and other user groups for their information need. It has brought challenges in managing these resources in organisation, preservation and retrieval in various institutes. This article provides information on availability of such resources for various user groups in legal community.

Introduction
In present global scenario, the Open Access Resources are emerging one and it draws serious attention from academicians, scholars, and wide range of its user community. These resources are free, available in electronic format, and very little restrictions to use. It allows any users to study, share, refer, index, cite, and use it exclusively without social, economical, and technical barriers. The reproduction and distribution in a publication should be done by properly acknowledging or citing its original source of author's work as the right to do such things is retains with the control of author. The author or creator of these resources upload their work or article in repositories or databases to provide open access and make it usable freely by its user community at large. In addition to this, many publishers and institutions are also provide open access to their repositories and databases where works and articles stored would give them a wide publicity to contribute to the learned society in a greater way. The people who wish to remove barriers to access these resources are contributing to research, education, and knowledge of the society. The authors of such minds want their articles to be used and cited by large number of people. These resources are having chances more likely to be cited than non open access resources.

Initiatives
Open Access movement was grown up and this initiative was started earlier in the decades of 1990 across the globe. Budapest Open Access Initiative (BOAI) was noted first worldwide initiative. Though BOAI was not a regular publisher, they provided open access to its resources. The technological development in ICT brought changes in the digital library environment such as organisation, preservation, retrieving of information. These new changes and experiments encourage the Open Access Movement. The other initiatives such as The Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resource Coalition, Public Library of Science, Open Access Initiative and other few started supporting and developing mechanisms for open access for the information resources. These movements further enriched as open access repositories, archives, e-books, e-journals, directories, portals, virtual libraries, reference tools, courseware, open source softwares, etc.

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E-Resources in Law
Open Access E-Books
The first and biggest collection of e-books was Project Gutenberg. It provides links to more than 2 lakhs titles from two thousands publishers, universities, and other institutions and provides open access to more than fifty thousand books. Thereafter, Digital Book Index, Classic Reader, OAPEN, Google Books, Universal Digital Library, American Libraries, Questia, 4shared, Book Boon, E-Books Directory, E-Book Lobby, Free-EBooks.Net were started and been provided open access to the e-books.

Open Access E-Journals
The Open Access E-Journals are more authoritative than any other sources of information in its dissemination and presently its popularity increasing in a greater extent. The Directory of Open Access contains more than 8800 journals with open access to full text with good quality and it covers many subjects and languages. In addition to latest issues, it also provides access to its archive from the beginning of the journal publication. A list of open access e-journals in all subjects and languages was made available in the Directory of Open Access Journals. The Open J-Gate and some other have made landmark in open access e-journals world.

Open Access E-Archives / Repositories
The archives created by institutions contain information produced by them and they allow individuals to upload their articles to the archive. The subject wise, topic wise, author wise, title wise, and date wise content search options are provided and made available on internet to give open access to the public. These archives include resources such as articles, technical reports, assignments, theses, dissertations, teaching, learning & course materials, manuals, year reports, multimedia files, etc. The examples of E –archives / repositories are Vidyanidhi, OhioLINK ETD Center, DORAS, PQDT OPEN, UDL Theses, E-Thesis, MGU Online Theses Library, Caltech Thesis, Shodh Ganga INFLIBNET, OAIster, Registry of OAR, Open Theses, Open Access Theses and Dissertations, The Library of Congress, Thesis Abstract and Dissertation Abstracts, DMOZ, etc.

Materials & Information for Legal Research
There is a vast demand for legal research in India and abroad. Many agencies promote and sponsor to conduct research in law. The researcher always needs many sources of information to find topics, to get ideas, and other necessary things on latest and burning issues. The Wikipedia is such a collection of articles written by legal experts and likeminded people voluntarily in many languages. The other such sources of information are Google Scholar, Find Law, Law Guru, Legal Service India, Legal Sutra, Lawyers club, Manupatra, SCC Online, Lexis Nexis, Lawkhoj, Legal Sutra, Taxmann, etc.

Judiciary, Constitutions & Legislature
The information on judiciary, courts, judgments, acts, constitution, parliament, and legislature are very much essential and without these it is not possible complete any legal research. The important websites providing these resources are Supreme Court, High Courts, District Courts, Tribunals, Boards, Causelist, India Code, Indian Courts, Indian Kanoon, International Court of Justice, Judgment Information System, Constituent Assembly Debates, Constitution of the World, Indian Parliament, Lok Sabha & Rajya Sabha, Karnataka Legislature, etc.

Ministries, Boards, & Commissions
The notifications, circulars, reports, rules, regulations, notices, decisions, are also necessary to administer various constitutional bodies, institutions, boards, etc. The major sources of

these are as follows: Ministries, Departments, Autonomous Bodies, Bar Associations in India, Bar Council of India, Cabinet Secretariat, Govt. of India, Central Board of Excise & Customs, Central Bureau of Investigation, Reserve Bank of India, Securities and Exchange Board of India, Law Commission of India, National Human Rights Commission, Election Commission of India, Finance Commission, Central Information Commission, National Commission for Women, National Commission for Protection of Child Rights, etc.

Open Access Directories & Blogs
The Open Access Directories have huge collection of resources and it has classified as subject wise and based on other parameters created by various institutions. The blogs are also created by institutions, individual authors, and also multi author blogs have developed recently. The following are the major websites of directories and blogs. Legal Information Institute of India, Global Web Directory, National Portal of India, Yahoo Directory, Directory World, Web Directory, Directories List, 707 Directory, Directory Archives, Google Blog Search, Justia, Blog Directory, FDA Law Blog, etc.

International Organisations & Institutes
The international organizations are having helping role to place the agenda, mediating and initiating certain issues, and to take necessary decisions to help the nations for proper arrangements and development. The Indian Missions, Foreign Missions, UN Organizations, International Organisations, World Legal Information Institute, Global Legal Information Network, Asian Legal Information Institute, etc. are such international organisations, institutes, & networks carrying out these responsible tasks.

Information on Collection of Libraries
The libraries play an essential role in providing access to information resources. The libraries usually upload its collection of institutional repository in digitised form and also the descriptions of the materials they hold and subscribed materials through WEB OPAC. The details of availability of materials on internet help the users to obtain it. The following are some of the law libraries providing these services to the user community of law. The Business Law Library, Indian Law Institute Library, Indian Legal Information Institute Library, Internet Law Library, Law Library of Congress, University of Mysore Library, Karnataka State Law University Library, NLSIU Library, Supreme Court Judges Library, etc.

Conclusion
Open Access E Resources are greatly contributing to the economy and welfare of its users. These are highly useful to the authors, publishers, libraries, education institutes, funding agencies and various other user communities. It increases researcher convenience, hassle free access and ease of retrieval. It also provides good impact factor and visibility of work to the authors. Though the research articles in open access e resources are sometimes seems to be not authoritative and peer reviewed the users rely on it. The advantages over the printed resources are economic, up to date, availability in time, and access anywhere in the world. Open Access E Resources are gaining popularity where research and utilisation of resources is more with collaborative effort and active participation of user community.

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