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EXCLUSIVE STUDY WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THE EFFECTIVE UTILIZATION OF AVAILABLE RESOURCES IN THE COLLEGE LIBRARY BY THE COLLEGE STUDENTS

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ABSTRACT

This article illustrates a special study with emphasis offer quency of the reason for information search by effective utilization of available resources by the college students in Dindigul district college library, India. In the present scenario, utilization of journals and books has been accelerated expeditiously. This paper limelight's the availability of various sources of information resources, access and the utilization of available resources by the students pursuing UG and PG graduation. This study appraises the gender-wise frequency of visit to the library to know the impact of library visit based on qualification, reasons for information search with the available resources. Researchers those who frequent the library can retrieve the required information by accessing the resources in various formats which is available in the library even without the assistance of the librarian.

Keywords: Introduction, Review of Literature, Analysis and Interpretations, Finding and Conclusion.

1. INTRODUCTION

Accreditation activity is gaining momentum in our country as people and educational institutions have come to realize the importance of quality enhancement.Libraries play a prominent role everywhere in the process of institutional accreditation.The assistance rendered by the people in the librariesareexpanding as they contribute significantly to the learning process especially the e-learning process. Libraries are considered to be the store house of knowledgein promotingeducation. The primary objective of the library is to organize and provide access to requiredinformationto the visitors. Collection Development / Management and Information Services Generation are the two most important interrelated functions that facilitate the provision of the right information to the right user at the right time and thereby conformance to the five laws of Library Science is ensured. Collection or Information Sources Development should be based on healthypolicies and programs. Therefore, there is a need for formulating CollectionDevelopment Policy which considers the various factors such as users and their information demand, subject boundaries, information sources, documentary and non-documentary sources, priorities and limitations.This objective is constantbut the format and methods will undergo changesgraduallybyproviding new opportunities and challenges. Libraries have witnessed a great metamorphosis in the recent scenario.   The print medium pay the way to the electronic form of materials. Thus, the libraries play a vitalrole in the society in the form of providing required information to the users by quenching their thirst for knowledge.

2. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Lakshmi Sankariet. al. (2011) in her study entitled *Information seeking behavior of the users of Vinayaka Mission's Kirupananda Variyar Engineering College Library,* examined several aspects of the benefits of library, including frequency of visiting the library, level of satisfaction regarding the working hours of the library, availability of books and journalsand other library services. Based on the details collected from the Information providers it is understood from this study thatlibrary and information centers should understand the demands of the library users as it immensely helps them to offer their best service to the information seekers of those who frequent the library for various reasons. Sadaf (2011)as a part of research career made an attempt to study on *Information Seeking Behavior of B. Tech. and M.B.B.S. students in Lucknow*in order to examine theirinformation seeking behavior which is expressed in various forms rangingfrom reading printed material to research and experimentation. In this research, the scholar made great efforts to determine the sources consulted and the general pattern of Information gathering system by the studentsbased on their level and course of study. Muruganandham and Pandian (2015) made theirstudy on *Information Seeking Behavior of Students' Community with e-Resources of Engineering Colleges, Kanchipuram District.*In their study they expressed the truth that the students appreciate the services provided by the library even though they have great expectations. Their findings revealed that most of the students visit the library daily and some students visit the library on weekly and fortnight basis because of their busy schedule and other related works.Majority of the users have the common opinion that e-resources provided by the library fulfill their requirements. The Online resources are very important for the library to satisfy the requirement of target groups. It is essentialto train the staff members of the library. In this connection, the authority has to organizea systematic training program for library staff from time to time. The student orientation programs are also to be incorporated along withthe regular activity of the library. The attitude of the studentsremainpositive about e-resources availablefor their education and researchpurpose. Libraries have to play a role as thegateway of e-resources and to provide assistance in accessing these resources. Numberof computers should be increased in the library for accessing e-resources. The study reveals that the students of Engineering Colleges in Chennai Metropolitan areautilize the available e-resources to their fullest satisfaction. Saravanan and Esmail (2015) made theirstudy on*Impact of Electronic Information Seeking Behaviour of Users of Selected Engineering Colleges Affiliated to Anna University in Thiruvallur District.*From their Study they found that 98.55% of the respondentsare accessing e-resources and 99.05% of the respondents are satisfied withthe services of e-resources and 97.17% of the respondents are aware of e-resources and also found that e-resources play a vital rolein providing information to users' community.

3. NEED FOR THIS STUDY

The inquiry underway has the object of studying the activities, behavior, of library users seeking information particularly undergoing under-graduates and post-graduates. Almost all seekers of academic information, however vital the need may be, depend primarily on their personal collection of books and they tend to, if it is possible, get at the collections of their friends or colleagues and then and only then do they get over their state of lethargy and decide upon entering the library to get information they cannot do without.The main objective of this study is to analyze dependency of under-graduates and post-graduates on Resources, the

perceived impact of the resources on the academic efficiency and problems faced by them while using the resources. The research scholars are exposed to an array of resources through the library for research. They should be able to differentiate between useful and useless information and should be able to access the needed information effectively and efficiently. If academic libraries as information providers wish to retain their pivotal role in their university setting they must gain knowledge of information seeking by their academic communities to provide quality services and access to relevant information, training and resources. Developing modules of how students and academics search for information is one of the ways of understanding it.

4. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The selected user groups of the college library are expected to utilize the resources of the library as it is their major source of information. Are they making full use of it? When they find that source not adequate to meet their requirements do they make use of the resources? They could encounter problems in their quest either because of their lack of skill in accessing information resources search or because they are not at all aware of their existence and availability.

5. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The main objectives of this study is
1. The identitygender-wise frequency of visit to the library.
2. To know the impact of library visitingbased on qualification.
3. To analyzereasons for information search by effective utilization of available resources.

6. METHOD OF DATA COLLECTION

The present research aims at collecting primary data from the respondents of the surveyed institutes. Among the different data collection methods, questionnaire method has been chosen. The researcher has personally visited four arts and science colleges in dindigul district, Tamilnadu, India. The distributed the questionnaire to the undergraduate and Post Graduate students and collected responses at the different times.

7. STUDY POPULATION

Library users of college libraries were selected for the study. All the users of undergraduate and postgraduate were provided with a Pre-tested questionnaire and the respondents were selected by simple random sampling technique. 978 copies of the questionnaire were distributed and 853 filled copies were received back. 49 questionnaires were incomplete, 804 copies of the Questionnaire were taken to the survey. The College wise distribution of selected sample respondents is furnished.

8. ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATIONS

The gender wise distribution of the respondents during the course of thestudy period, 45.1% respondents of undergraduatesand 62.3% respondents of Postgraduates are male. 54.9% respondents of undergraduatesand 37.7% respondents of Postgraduates are female. The age wise distributions of the respondents during the course of the study period, 78.2% of the respondents of undergraduates are less than 20 years old and all the respondents of Postgraduates are above 20 years old.

Table 1 shows the distribution of the respondents by their frequency of visit to the Library. 44.5% respondents of undergraduates and 46.6% respondents of Postgraduates visited the Library daily, 40.0% respondents of undergraduates and 38.6% o respondents of

Postgraduates visited the Library Twice a week, 10.2% respondents of undergraduates and 8.5% respondents of Postgraduates visited the Library Weekly once. 5.3% respondents of undergraduates and 6.4% research scholars visited the Library Occasionally.

Table no. 1 - Distribution of the respondents by their frequency of visit to the library and by gender wise

Frequency of visit	UG* (568)				PG* (236)				Total (804)	%
	Male	Female	Total	%	Male	Female	Total	%		
Daily	114	139	253	44.50	74	36	110	46.50	363	45.10
Twice in a week	116	111	227	40.00	63	28	091	38.60	318	39.60
Weekly once	016	042	058	10.20	06	14	020	8.50	078	09.70
Occasionally	010	020	030	05.30	04	11	015	06.40	045	05.60
Total	**256**	**312**	**568**	**100.00**	**147**	**89**	**236**	**100.00**	**804**	**100.00**

Source: Primary data. *UG – Undergraduates PG – Postgraduates

Table no. 2 - Distribution of the respondents by their purpose of visit to the library and by course wise

Purpose	UG*(568)		PG*(236)	
	No.	%	No.	%
To Borrow Books	568	100.00	236	100.00
To Read Periodicals	427	075.10	183	077.50
To Refer Reports/ Seminar Papers/ Proceedings etc.,	172	030.20	070	029.70
Searching Abstracts for related articles	163	028.60	077	032.60
Library Catalogue (OPAC)	66	011.60	021	008.90
To Browse Internet	180	031.60	068	028.80
To Access Online Databases	165	029.00	058	024.50
To Use CD-ROM /DVD Databases	106	018.70	029	012.30
To Refer Books	201	035.40	095	040.20
To Refer Thesis/Dissertations	306	053.90	142	060.10
Reading Newspaper	445	78.3	199	84.3
Reprographic purpose	206	36.2	85	36.0
Others if any	0	---	0	--

Source: Primary data.   *UG – Undergraduates PG – Postgraduates

Table 2 shows the distribution of the respondents based on their purpose of visit to the library by course wise. Since thepurpose of their visit to a library has multiple purposes for each respondent, it has been measured by using 12 different purposes and it has been noted foranother purpose if their purpose is different. Since it is a multiple answer question, the percentage exceeds 100. It has been observed that to borrow the books is one of the main purposes to visit the library by all the respondents (i.e. 100% in both the groups). The other two major purposes of thevisit are reading the newspapers and to refer the periodicals. To refer the library catalog is the least purpose of visit.

Table no. 3 - Percentage distribution of the respondents by their frequency of reason for information search

Mode	Unit	UNDERGRADUATES				POSTGRADUATES			
		Regular	Occasional	Never	Total	Regular	Occasional	Never	Total
Information on personal development	Nos	238	211	119	568	100	090	046	236
	%	41.90	37.10	21.00	100	42.40	38.10	19.50	100.00
Information for Research purpose	Nos	349	182	037	568	151	077	008	236
	%	61.40	32.00	06.50	100	64.00	32.60	3.40	100.00
Writing and Paper presentation	Nos	266	198	104	568	116	091	029	236
	%	46.80	34.90	18.30	100	49.20	38.60	12.30	100.00
For upto date Information	Nos	289	157	122	568	111	079	046	236
	%	50.90	27.60	21.50	100	47.00	33.50	19.50	100.00
General awareness	Nos	358	133	077	568	144	052	040	236
	%	63.00	23.40	13.60	100	61.00	22.00	16.90	100.00
Discussion	Nos	200	231	137	568	077	102	057	236
	%	35.20	40.70	24.10	100	32.60	43.20	24.20	100.00
Extension activities	Nos	193	336	039	568	062	148	026	236
	%	34.00	59.20	06.90	100	26.30	62.70	11.00	100.00

Source: Primary data.

The respondents of undergraduates act of accessing e-resources for Information on personal development were 41.9%, 37.1% and 21% on regular,occasional andnever respectively and the respondents of Postgraduates act of accessing e-resources for Information on personal development were 42.4%, 38.1% and 19.5% on regular,occasional andnever respectively.The respondents of undergraduates act of accessing e-resources for information for research purpose were 61.4%, 32% and 6.5% on regularly,occasionally andnever respectively and the respondents of Postgraduates act of accessing e-resources for information for research purpose were 64%, 32.6% and 3.4% on regularly,occasionally andnever respectively.The respondents of undergraduatesact of accessing e-resources for writing and paper presentation were 46.8%, 34.9% and 18.3% on regularly,occasionally andnever respectively and the respondents of Postgraduates act of accessing e-resources for writing and paper presentation were 49.2%, 38.6% and 12.3% on regularly,occasionally andnever respectively.The respondents of undergraduatesact of accessing e-resources for upto date information were 50.9%, 27.6% and 21.5% on regularly,occasionally andnever respectively and the respondents of Postgraduates act of accessing e-resources for upto date information were 47%, 33.5% and 19.5% on regularly,occasionally andnever respectively.The respondents of undergraduatesact of accessing e-resources for General awareness were 63%, 23.4% and 13.6% on regularly,occasionally andnever respectively and the respondents of Postgraduates act of accessing e-resources for General awareness were 61%, 22% and 16.9% on regularly,occasionally andnever respectively.The respondents of undergraduatesact of accessing e-resources for discussion were 35.2%, 40.7% and 24.1% on regularly,occasionally andnever respectively and the respondents of Ph.D. research scholar's act of accessing e-resources for discussion were 32.6%, 43.2% and

24.2% on regularly,occasionally andnever respectively.The respondents of undergraduatesact of accessing e-resources for Extension activities were34%, 59.2% and 6.9% on regularly,occasionally andnever respectively and the respondents of Postgraduates act of accessing e-resources for Extension activities were26.3%, 62.7% and 11% on regularly,occasionally andnever respectively.

Table no. 4 - Mean and Standard Deviation of reason for information searchamong the respondents of undergraduates

Mode	Mean	SD	Mean rank	Friedmann's test value	P-value	Post hoc test result
Information on personal development.	1.790	.7653	4.63	574.73	<0.001	Information for Research purpose, General awareness > Writing and Paper presentation, for upto date information, > Discussion, Extension Activities, Information on personal development
Information for Research purpose	1.451	.6152	3.55			
Writing and Paper presentation	1.715	.7557	4.43			
For upto date Information	1.706	.7989	4.30			
General awareness	1.505	.7225	3.75			
Discussion	1.889	.7629	4.85			
Extension activities	1.729	.5793	4.63			

Source: Primary data.

The mode of information search has been assessed by seven modes namely information on personal development, information for research purpose, writing,and paper presentation, for upto date information, General awareness, for discussion, for extension activities. Each reason has been assessed by a 3 point scale as Regular, Occasional and Never. The score has been provided as 1, 2 and 3 respectively for Regular, Occasional and Never. If the mean score is less, it indicates that the respondents are using the library regularly for that reason.

Table 4 shows the mean and standard deviation of the reason for information search. It has been observed that the reason for research purpose is the foremost reason among the seven options. To find out if there is any statistical difference exists in the preference level of the seven options; Friedman's non-parametric test has been applied to find out whether the respondents of undergraduateshave given the similar level of preference for the seven reasons. The significant p-value of the test reveals that respondents are not giving equal preference for the above seven reasons for the respondents of undergraduates. To find out the order of preference level of the seven reasons, under hoc test for Friedmann's test has been applied. The result indicates that the first choice has been for Research purpose and General awareness. The second choice of preference has been for writing and the paper presentation and for up to date information. The third choice of the preference has been for discussion purpose, for extension activities and personal developments.

Table no. 5 - Mean and standard deviation of thereason for information search among the respondents of Postgraduates.

Reasons	Mean	SD	Mean rank	Friedmann's test value	P-value	Post hoc test result
Information on personal development.	1.771	.7541	4.57	278.56	<0.001	Information for Research purpose, General awareness > Writing and Paper presentation, for upto date information, Information on personal development > Discussion, Extension Activities,
Information for Research purpose	1.394	.5549	3.37			
Writing and Paper presentation	1.631	.6932	4.18			
For upto date Information	1.725	.7694	4.38			
General awareness	1.559	.7668	3.76			
Discussion	1.915	.7503	4.93			
Extension activities	1.847	.5925	4.91			

Source: Primary data.

Table 5 shows the mean and standard deviation of the reasons for information search among the respondents of aPostgraduate. The foremost reason for information search has been for Research purpose. Friedmann's test has been applied to find out whether the respondents of Postgraduates have given the similar level of preference for the seven reasons. The significant p-value infers that level of preference of the seven reasons has been different for the respondents of Postgraduates. To find out the order of preference of the seven reasons, Post hoc test for Friedmann's test has been applied. The result indicates that the first reason for information search has been for research purpose and General awareness. The second choice has been the reasons namely for writing and paper presentation, for up to date information and for personal development. The third preference has been for Discussion purpose and for extension activities.

Comparison: Table 4 and 5 furnish the reasons for information search among the respondents of undergraduatesand Postgraduates. The result indicates the reason for information search has been almost similar for the two groups of respondents except on the reason for personal development. The respondents of undergraduatesgive the third choice for personal development whereas the undergraduatesgive the second choice.

9.FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION

From the research, it is identified that majority of the users visit the library to read newspapers and toborrow books. Users are not interested to use CD-ROM/DVDlikeother information sources. Hence,the authorized people of the library haveto work in this aspect to provide satisfied service to the users. The result indicates that the first choice is meantfor Research purpose and General awarenessand the second choice of preference is meant for writingforpaper presentation by collecting up to date informationfor this necessary research. It is concluded that high tech library comprising of latest infrastructure should be setupin each college. All the resources in various formats should be available in such a way to access at any time to gather the required data even without the assistance of the librarian. There is no doubt the digital library with its latest infrastructure will contribute much in the field of education by satisfying the information seeking behavior of the library visitors.

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