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# **Creating Knowledge Awareness on Library Resources and Services Among the Students of St Xaviers College, Palayamkottai**

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## **Abstract**

The study aims to know the knowledge of Library resources and services among St. Xavier's college students. The questionnaire method was used for data collection. Keeping in view the objectives of the study well-structured questionnaire was prepared and distributed to St. Xavier's college students. A total of 150 questionnaires were distributed among the undergraduate (B.A., B.com.) students out of which 144 filled in questionnaires were received back with an overall response rate of 96%. From a total of 144 respondents, 113(78.47%) are aware of the services provided by the Library and 31(21.53%) of respondents were unaware of library resources and

services. The majority 43(38.05%) of the respondents visited the library on a daily basis. Majority of the respondents 28(24.78%) were aware of the books related to their study that have been suggested by the teacher for reference purposes. Most of the respondents 29(25.67%) are aware of the internet facility, followed by 23(20.35%) of respondents who are aware of reference service. The Majority of the respondents 31(27.43%) visited the library for reading books relating to their study, 26(23%) of the respondents used the library to read the newspaper. Major respondents 132(91.67%) wanted to attend Library awareness program and a hand few of them 12(8.33%) felt no need for the Library awareness program. The implication here is that the majority of the students are dependent on the library on a regular basis.

**Key words:** Library Resources, Knowledge, Library Services, Respondents, Questionnaire, Data Collection, Library Awareness Program.

## **1. Introduction**

Libraries are playing vital role in storage and dissemination of information. This has become possible of sufficient utilization of library resources and services. But in the present information era so many users are don't have a sufficient knowledge to utilization of library resources and services. We had undertaken a survey on Government first grade college students to know their knowledge of library resources and services.

### **St Xaviers College Profile**

St Xaviers College students is suited strategically on a Tuticorin road Palayamkottai . Though it is a Palayamkottai corporation, but has every potential to develop into industrial and educational hub in the coming years. Recently Industrial town ship proposed within the radius of 10kms, which will absorb the large junk of human resource. The St. Xaviers college students was

established during the academic year 2007-08 with mere 78 students in two rooms in Government junior college campus and shifted to new building in the year 2011 to cater to the needs of higher education aspirants in and around bilikere hobli. With the establishment of this college the girls students are really benefited to realize their dream to pursue higher education. More than 40% of total intake comprise of girls students. Had this college not being opened at this place, many of them wouldn't have continued their higher education. More than 95% of the intake of this college comprise of socially deprived and economically backward section of population, who happen to be the first generation of pursuing higher education at graduation and post-graduation level.

## **2. Review of Literature**

Naik & Manjunatha (2019) discussed the study on the use and awareness of electronic resource by college library users. They distributed 300 questionnaire in three colleges namely CFGC Honnali, CFGC Channagiri and CFGC Davanagree and received a response rate of 295 filled questionnaires. This study focused mainly on the use of electronic resources. He explained the opportunities and solutions to problems faced by the Libraries and the potential for a variety of applications to improve quality, productivity and services to the users. The impact of e-resources is visible in each and every activity of the Library.

Tahir, Mahmood & Shafique (2010) carried out a study on "Use of electronic information resources and facilities by humanities scholars" to find the extent humanities scholars value Information Technology (IT) and view their relation to research and teaching. These results correspond with previous studies conducted in various other countries. Finally it was found that

Humanities students not only rely on printed sources for their information but also pay good attention to Electronic Information Resources.

### **3. Objectives of the study**

The main objective of this study is to examine whether the first grade students are to be familiar or unfamiliar with the library resources and services provided by the library. The specific objectives are

- To examine the users familiarity of library resources and services being provided to them.
- To know the purpose for visiting the college library.
- To identify the frequency of user visits to the college library.
- To highlight the awareness of Library resources and services among users.
- To suggest measures for improvement of the use of the Library Resources and Services.

### **4. Methodology**

In this study, questionnaire method was used to collect data from the students. Keeping in view the objectives of the study well-structured questionnaire was prepared and distributed to St. Xaviers College students to obtain their opinion and suggestions. The survey was conducted through a structured questionnaire conducting a random sampling on 150 students (B.A and B.Com) the response rate was 144(96%) . The questionnaires were administered personally among the students of government college during the survey period.

### **5. Analysis of the study**

The data has been collected through questionnaire has been analyzed and presented in the form of tables. The researchers used the random sampling technique to choose the population for collection of data with an objective of taking representative samples from student users.

### 5.1 Gender-wise distribution of respondents

Table 1. Response rate on the basis of Gender

<b>Sl. No</b>	<b>Gender</b>	<b>Response</b>	<b>Percentage of Response received</b>
1.	Male	90	62.50%
2.	Female	54	37.50%
Total		144	100%

Source: Primary data

Table 1. Shows the total response received by 144 respondents out of which 90(62.5%) were male and 54(37.5%) of respondents were female. Here we can see a major response from male users.

### 5.2 Awareness of Library Resources and Services

Table 2. Response on the awareness of users

<b>SI. No</b>	<b>Response</b>		<b>Percentage</b>
1.	Yes	113	78.47%
2.	No	31	21.53%
Total		144	100%

Source: Primary data

Table 2. shows that out of total 144 respondents 113(78.47%) are aware about the library resources and services and 31(21.53%) of respondents were unaware of library resources and services.

### 5.3 Frequency of visit to the college library

Table 3. Frequency of Library visit by the users

	<b>Daily</b>	<b>Weekly</b>	<b>Monthly</b>	<b>Occasionally</b>	<b>Not at all</b>
Frequency	43	31	25	11	3
Percentage	38.05	27.43	22.12	9.73	2.67

Source: Primary data

Table 3 reveals the frequency of Library visit by users. A majority 43(38.05%) of the respondents visited the library on a daily basis, 3(2.67%) of the respondents never visited the library at all, 31(27.43%) of the respondents used the library weekly followed by 25(22.12%) who used the library on a monthly basis and finally 11(9.73%) of the users visited the Library occasionally.

### 5.4 Aware of Library Resources

Table 4. User awareness on Library Resources

<b>Library</b>	<b>Response</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Course Books	28	24.78
General Books	14	12.39
Reference Books	14	12.39

Journals	08	7.08
Magazines	06	5.31
Charts, Maps and Globe	02	1.77
E-Journals	07	6.19
E-Books	23	20.35
Database	11	9.74
Total	113	100

Source: Primary data

Table 4 shows the awareness of library resources among users. Majority of the respondents 28(24.78%) were aware of the books related to their study, 23(20.35%) are aware about the E-books that are available on the internet, 14(12.39%) are aware of General books and Reference books that are given by the teachers so that students can follow them, next to them 11(9.74%) students refer to various database for their study material such as Shodhganga, and only 02(1.77%) of respondents use charts, maps specially the geography students tend to use them.

### 5.5 Aware of Library Service

Table 5. User awareness on Library Services

Service	Aware	Percentage
Borrowing facility	16	14.16
Reference Service	23	20.35
Text book Loan Facility	12	10.63
CD-ROM Facility	01	0.88

Bibliographic Service	03	2.65
Current Awareness Service	08	7.08
Internet Facility	29	25.67
Photocopying Service	21	18.58
Total	113	100

Source: Primary data

Table 5 revealed the user awareness on library services. Most of the respondents 29(25.67%) are aware of the internet facility, followed by 23(20.35%) of respondents are aware of reference service, 21(18.58%) of the respondents were aware about photocopying facility of the materials that are only for reading purpose, 16 (14.16%) are aware of the borrowing facility provided by the Library and only 01(0.88%) of respondents are aware of the CD-ROM facility provided as one of the services.

## 5.6 Purpose of visit to the library

**Table 6 Purpose of visit**

Purpose	Response	Percentage
To borrow books	17	15.05
To read books	31	27.43
To read Newspapers	26	23.00
To read Magazines	20	17.70
To do reference work	11	9.74
Any other	08	7.08

Total	113	100
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Source: Primary data

Table 6. shows the majority of the respondents 31(27.43%) visited the library for reading books relating to their study, 26(23%) of the respondents used the library to read newspaper, 20(17.7%) of the respondents visited the library to read magazines such as India Today, Competition Refresher, etc. and 08(7.08%) respondents visit the Library for other purposes.

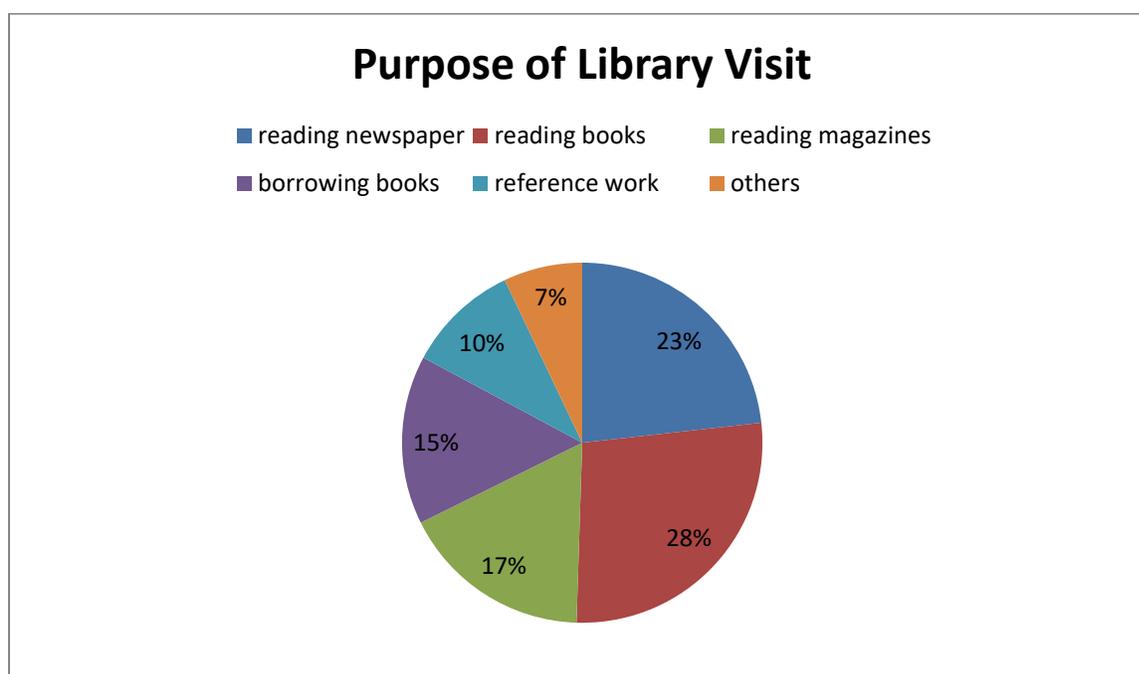


Figure 1. pictorial pattern showing percentage of users visiting the Library

### 5.7 Requirement of awareness program on library resources and services.

**Table 7. Library Awareness Program Requirement**

Si.No	Response	Percentage
1.	Yes	94
		83.19

2.	No	19	16.81
Total		113	100

Source: Primary data

Table 7 shows essential of library resources and services awareness programme of the respondents, majority of the respondents 132(91.67%) wanted to attend Library awareness program and a hand few of them 12(8.33%) felt no need for the Library awareness program.

## 6. Findings of the study

- Out of the total 144 respondents 90(62.5%) were male and 54(37.5%) of respondents were female. Here there is a greater response from the male users.
- From a total 144 respondents, 113(78.47%) are aware of the resources & services provided by the Library and 31(21.53%) of respondents were unaware of library resources and services.
- A majority 43(38.05%) of the respondents visited the library on a daily basis.
- Majority of the respondents 28(24.78%) were aware of the books related to their study that have been suggested by the teacher for reference purpose.
- Most of the respondents 29(25.67%) are aware of the internet facility, followed by 23(20.35%) of respondents are aware of reference service.
- Majority of the respondents 31(27.43%) visited the library for reading books relating to their study, 26(23%) of the respondents used the library to read newspaper.
- Majority respondents 132(91.67%) wanted to attend Library awareness program and a hand few of them 12(8.33%) felt no need for the Library awareness program.

## 7. Conclusion

Above study shows that the awareness of library resources and services among the Government Colleges must be considered and majority of the students are aware of the library resources and services who are dependent on their need for their course of study i.e. borrowing of books, reading newspapers etc. But other than this, the various other service and resources provided by the Library are not acknowledged properly hence the users face problems. however we also need to think about the other 31(21.53%) of respondents who are unaware of library resources and services. Secondly, it was found that majority of the respondents agreed that prior training will be required for better utilization of library resources and services. This should be taken into note so that it is easy for each and every user to get acquainted with all the services provided by the Library.

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