

EXPLOITATION OF LIBRARY SERVICES BY COLLEGE TEACHERS IN KANYAKUMARI DISTRICT

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Abstract

The present study attempts to examine the perception of teachers towards the utilization of library resources in Kanyakumari district. It examines the college teachers perceptions towards the library utilization and services in the study area based on their selected demographic profile. Further, it examines the factors influencing the college teachers to opt for use the services in the study area. It also aimed to understand the awareness of the teachers regarding E-resources services. The study is made taking the teachers of both arts and science and engineering college in Kanyakumari district into consideration. The research will also study the level of satisfaction of college teachers towards the library services and also the problems faced by the customers while availing the services. The purpose of this paper is to find out how technology became a rescuer during the COVID -19 pandemic in educational field. The study explores the type of services provided by libraries based on the contents.

Keywords: Library Services, Utility, Pandemic, Analysis-Resources

1. Introduction

Library is the backbone of functional education without which academic excellence cannot be achieved. The Library is a vital facility for enhancing learning, teaching and research and as the hub of all academic activities is established for provoking intellectual excellence. The Library is an information resource that provides and enhances personal and national development and more so influence student's overall academic achievement. Thus the effective utilization of information resources in the Library is critical to students overall academic achievement. The study skills adopted determine to a large extent how well students utilize information resources culminating in academic success. Availability of adequate library facilities encourage passionate study behavior in students early in life. It also helps students inculcate the attitude of self-inquiry and self development.

The main purpose of a college library as stated by Ania (2004) is to support the objectives of an academic environment in the areas of learning, teaching, research and service. Today many school libraries have transformed into college library resource centers, The width an scope of knowledge in this modern age has become extensive and diverse which has made full education within the wall of classrooms impossible. Hence, the need for good and standard libraries in our college cannot be ignored. The quality of any education depends on the library it has or owned. The college library aids in carrying out the education plan successfully. Schools library contributes to the total development of its users.

2. Review of literature

Sharma, C. (2009) has conducted a situation-specific case study to identify health information services and technology access during and after the catastrophic flooding in South Carolina. The study investigated the role played by public libraries as partners of public health agencies during and after a disaster. Focus group meetings and one-on-one interview method was used to get the required data. The study recommended that public libraries should be proactively prepared to provide reliable disaster and health digital resources for adult users.

Tu-Keefner, et al 2017 through their study titled "Public Libraries as Post-Crisis Information Hubs" reports that public libraries played a great role by providing internet access to community members to request aid, to help find missing family and friends, to file insurance claims, and, in general, to begin rebuilding their lives. This article reports the quality of services and activities public libraries performed in response and recovery in twelve different communities impacted by tornadoes. The discussion includes an evaluation of the quality of the responses and also lists some recommendations to improve the preparedness and response in time of emergencies (**Bishop & Veil, 2013**). **Jingjing et al (2019)** have emphasized the role libraries

could play in disaster preparedness and recovery via social media by disseminating credible information. The recommendations given by the authors could help libraries to proactively create risk communication strategies using social media for effective information services (**Liu, et al 2017**). In due course with popularity web contents, a proliferation of literature one evaluation of web content through pre designed checklist based on recommendations of previous studies is quite visible (**Pareek & Gupta, 2012**), (**Devi & Verma, 2019**). **Naqvi (2017)** investigated the users' opinion concerning the use of collection and services in the IARI library. Therefore, the study is focused on users' opinion not only in terms of use, purpose, and satisfaction level with the library collection and services, but also in terms of use of e-resources, and adequacy of library collection. The questionnaire was administered to students of the IARI to collect data regarding the use of collection and services and analyse the level of users' satisfaction

2.1 Objectives

Considering the statement of the problem and significance of the study, the following objectives were considered:

1. To Study the utilization of library resources among college teachers in Kanyakumari district.
2. To construct and adopt the research tool for the utilization of library resources for College teachers.

2.2 STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

- The study has initiated with the research problem of the current state of affairs of the college libraries in kanyakumari district
- The research problem seeks to find out that information resources traditional as well as digital of college libraries and check the expected level of the teachers in providing sufficient electronic information resources and services as well as users are satisfied with the provision of web based services

2.3 HYPOTHESES OF THE STUDY

H₀₁ - There is no significant difference in the information service in Arts and science and Engineering colleges

H₀₂ - There is no significant development activities and usage of web resources by college teachers during and after covid

3. METHODOLOGY

Research Method in Education explains the research process with emphasis on the formulation of a research question, referencing current literature in the field, using appropriate research designs including tool construction and data collection and analyzing and writing and evaluating research reports. This chapter presents the design of the study and procedure adopted by the researcher in selecting the sample, variables used, the tools adopted/developed and employed, and the statistical technique adopted for the present study.

3.1 DATA COLLECTION METHODS

The present study is Exploratory, where a survey method was used to collect primary data from Arts and Science college and Engineering college teachers in Kanyakumari district. Primary data has been collected to elicit the views based on their utilization of library resources through a specially designed interview and questionnaire schedule. The analysis was used to measure the responses on the utility of library resources.

3.2 DETERMINATION OF SAMPLE SIZE

The determination of sample size is a very important issue, because samples that are too large may cause wastage of time, resources, and money, while samples that are too small may lead to inaccurate results. According to Saunders *et al.*, (2000) researchers normally work to a 95 percent level of certainty. This means that if samples are selected 100 times, at least 95 of these samples would be certain to represent the characteristics of the population. The margin of error describes the precision of the estimation of the population. For most business and management researches, a researcher estimates the population's characteristics by plus or minus three to five percent of its true values. The following formula was used for sample size calculation when estimating the proportions:

$$n = \frac{Z^2 pq}{e^2}$$

4. DATA ANALYSIS

Table 4.1. Designation of Respondents and importance and usefulness of Traditional Library Services

Designation	Scientific Journals/Periodicals					Total
	Can't say	Not Very Important	Somewhat Important	Quite Important	Extremely Important	
Arts& Science CT			21.0%	61.7%	17.4%	100.0%
Engineering CT	2.4%	1.9%	18.7%	44.6%	32.4%	100.0%
Total	.7%	.6%	20.3%	56.5%	21.9%	100.0%

Chi-Square Tests

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig.(2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	87.811 ^a	4	.000
Likelihood Ratio	87.821	4	.000
Linear-by-Linear Association	2.228	1	.136
No of Valid Cases	1390		

Table 4.2. Designation of Respondents and importance and usefulness of E- Resources

Designation	Conference/seminars proceedings					Total
	Can't say	Not Very Important	Somewhat Important	Quite Important	Extremely Important	
Arts& Science CT		21.7%	7.4%	36.8%	34.1%	100.0%
Engineering CT	2.9%	9.9%	9.6%	26.6%	54.4%	100.0%
Total	26.6%	17.1%	40.2%	13.2%	2.9%	100.0%

Figure 4.3 Pearson Chi-Square

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	3.708E2 ^a	4	.000
Likelihood Ratio	423.554	4	.000
Linear-by-Linear Association	353.174	1	.000
No of Valid Cases	1390		

The result depicts that, half of the respondents consider Internet based e-journals; Databases & Archives is quite important source of information to support for the academic activities (50.5%), whereas 28.2% of respondents consider to be extremely important and only 1.3% of respondents consider Internet based e-journals, and Databases & Archives are not very important source of information. Statistically result finds that there is an association between designation of respondents and importance and usefulness of Internet based e-journals, Databases & Archives

Findings:

As my research period was 2019-2022 the study focused the changes in the utility stream of library and its utilization by Arts and science and Engineering college teachers. Covid19 has dramatically changed the educational system and 1.2 billion children are affected worldwide. During this situation education is completely transferred to online mode in almost all countries around the world. But covid19 forced the world to co-operate with E Resources method. This research work was done through case study and received the information how the digital mode of learning applicable in the fast advances in technology. The teachers need to learn at any time, and any place was in its way to be achieved. According to college teachers, online classes held through Whatsapp and sometimes teachers conduct live classes for better understand. Through online education new technical and communication skills, and knowledge of technology were improved among college teachers. This study stated that a quick change from room to a digital platform of utilization of library resources emerged during pandemic and also some are already existed. The usage of library hall was highly reduced during Covid pandemic and increase of online digital mode of teaching and learning were shifted to virtual format. The user of a digital library faced some challenges that teachers about 58.6% from all college teachers gain access to the information, as long as an Internet connection is available. It is indeed a challenge before any organization to keep the staff safe and comfortable in providing services. As libraries re-opened in May after nationwide lockdown, many are doing so only for limited hours every day, and are allowing staff to work with minimum number in accordance with the government guidelines

Conclusion

The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic has necessitated rapid and essential changes in the delivery of library services, as exacting social distancing and lockdown measures were imposed in the early phases of the pandemic. The Internet and web technologies have formed new and unparalleled surroundings and enable the libraries to enhance and support the research, teaching and learning even in this complicated and hesitant time. The concept and practice of providing remote access of e resources by libraries is not new, but the user friendly way adopted by many libraries and the number of resources made available by them during the pandemic is commendable. Substantial planning by the library professionals will be mandatory even after the open of educational campuses. It will be essential to re-assess every accessible service and re-design it in view of the government protocols to deal with the situation

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