USE OF LIBRARY RESOURCES BY THE STUDENTS OF LIBRARY

AND INFORMATION SCIENCE, KUK

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ABSTRACT

Describes the usage of library resources by 47 students of the library and information science of Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra. Survey method was used for the purpose. It was found that 68.08% students visit the library for reading text books.87.23% students were aware about the photocopy service, while 65.95% students use the internet for educational purpose.51.06% students face the problem while using the library catalogue and 61.7% ask for help to the teacher in using the library.25.53% students rated reading area as very good. Students need proper orientation in the use of library resources.

KEYWORDS: Library Resources, Kurukshetra University, Library Utilization

INTRODUCTION

In today's rapid changing world, information needs of learners and knowledge seekers are met through a plethora of sources. The resources available in a library play a prominent role in facilitating access to required information to the users in an easy and expeditious manner. However, it is imperative that one should be familiar with the use and exploitation of the print as well as digital resources for their quicker and effective usage. Further, digital resources can also be used for efficient retrieval. Thus, resources in a University Library play a significant role as they are mostly tuned for the promotion of academic excellence and research. In any organization information resources, system and users are three very important components. If any of the components is not compliance with other components of the system, either it will not work properly or that will not produce desired results. Here in this paper, an attempt has been made to know the information needs of the students of Library and Information Science Students and use of Library resources by them.

EARLIER STUDIES

An extensive search has been made of the relevant literature on the topic under study. In 2002, Gurudev Singh conducted a study on "Use of college libraries by faculty members of University of Delhi". The study shows that higher percentage (36.36%) of faculty members mainly visited the library for the purpose of making notes for teaching the students and 59.09% faculty members visit the library 2 to 4 times a week. Another study on "Library utilization by the undergraduates of a University of Agriculture" has been conducted by M.O.Salaam.This study examine the level of utilization of the services of Nimbe Adedipe Library of the University of Agriculture, Abeokuta by the undergraduates of the University. In 2005, AK Sharma and SP Singh conducted a study on reading habits of faculty members is based on a user survey carried out at University of Delhi to find out factors affecting the reading habits, average time spent in library, sources used in library, etc. Use of the Internet and e-resources for legal information: a case study" shows that 93.33%of students used internet in searching and retrieving information they needed. Study reveals that the majority of respondents access the internet from the college and the majority of the respondents feel that the internet and electronic resources cannot replace the library (Thanuskodi, 2008).

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the present study are:

- To examine the purpose of library visit by the students.

- To study the frequency and the use of different resources by the students.

- To find out the adequacy of the library collection.

- To know the types of resources required by the students.

- To identify the problems faced by the students while using library resources.

- To obtain suggestions from the students to improve the library resources.

SCOPE AND METHODOLOGY

The Kurukshetra University is the oldest institution of higher learning in Haryana, which was established in 1956 as a unitary residential University and its foundation stone was laid by late Dr. Rajendra Prasad. It is Located in the holy city of Kurukshetra, land of the historical battle of 'Mahabharata' and the great message of Bhagwad Gita. University has a mission of preparing a class of scholars and professionals with ingrained human values, adequately equipped with enviable competencies and dedicated to the advancement of society through preservation, creation and application of knowledge in the emerging global scenario.

The present study is confined to the knowledge and usage of Library resources in order to fulfil the academic needs by the students of B.Lib. & Inf.Sc, M.Lib. & Inf.Sc, M.Phil. and Research Scholars of the Department of Library and Information Science, Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra. It is based on the library resources and services provided by the Jawaharlal Nehru Libraries, Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra. Keeping in view the objectives in mind, a questionnaire was prepared to collect the data from the forty seven students of Library & Information Science, Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra during the 6th referesher course.

DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

The empirical data was collected by mean of survey i.e. through the distribution of questionnaires among the students of Library and Information Science. The responses were coded and presented in tabulation with interpretation. To fulfill the major research objectives of the present study, the data were subjected to statistical technique i.e. Percentage test. The figures in the brackets show the percentage of users' responses.

Table-1 indicates that out of 47 respondents 42(89.38%) students were each from B.Lib. & Inf.Sc.and M.Lib. & Inf. Sc.and rest five students were from M.Phil and Ph.D. **Table-2** reveals that majority of students i.e. 21(44.68%) visit the library daily, 17(36.17%) visit weekly, 06(12.76%) visit fortnightly and 03(6.38%) visit monthly. **Table-3** shows that 32(68.08%) students visit the library for reading the text-books followed by 51.06%, 48.93% and 44.68% students for updating knowledge, reading newspaper and borrowing books to read at home.40.42% students consult the reference books and 27.65% students visit library for the purpose of periodicals. Only 04(08.51%) students read the competitive materials. It was found from **Table-4** that a majority of students i.e. 40(85.10%) used Text Books. Reference Books, News Paper/Magazines and E-Journals were used by 21 (44.68%) students. Only 04(8.51%) students used CD-ROMs **Table-5** reveals that maximum students 41(87.23%) are aware about the photocopy Service followed by 30(63.82%) about

Reference Service.25 (53.31%) students are aware about the on-line service while 20(42.55%) and 15(31.91%) students are aware about Indexing and Abstracting Service, respectively. Only 11(23.40%) students know about Translation Service.

Table-6 tells that 31(65.95%) students use the Internet for the educational purpose while 15(31.91%) students use for e-mail.14 (29.78%) and 13(27.65%) students use Internet for the purpose of entertainment and research articles, respectively. **Table-7** shows that maximum percentage i.e. 51.06% students face the problem in using the library catalogue while 25.53% students do not know where to look the resources. 21.27% students feel hesitation in asking for help and 21.27% students face problem in using the e-resources. It is clear from **Table-8** that 29(61.70%) students ask a teacher for help in using the library while 25(53.19%9) students ask the librarian. 4.25% students purchase their own book and 2.12% students give up the or go to another library to fulfil their needs. **Table-9** reveals that 85.10% students feel comfortable in the library, while 61.70% students stated that library is quiet. 46.80% and 25.53% students found that library is welcoming and safe.14.89%, 08.51% and 06.38% students opined that it is noisy, exiting and boring. It was found from **Table-10** that 85.1% students graded good for the reference book area in the library, whereas 25.53% and 61.7% students rated reading area as very good and good, respectively. 10.63% rated the reading area and computer area as poor.

SUGGESTIONS

Some suggestions are given below:

Librarians should give proper orientation to the users to make aware of the different services provided by them.

- There should be proper shelving of the books in the library.

- Lockers should be provided for scholars.

- Staff should be helpful and cooperative.

- Library should be opened round the clock.

- Training programme should be provide on how to use OPAC and the library

- User education should be provided.

- Borrowing time should be increased from15 days to one month.

- Collection should be adequate.

CONCLUSIONS

The present study observed that majority of the students visited the library daily for reading text-books and spent 30-1hour in the library. Maximum percentage of students is aware about the photocopy service followed by reference service. It is also found that students use the Internet for the educational purpose. Maximum students ask a teacher for help in using the library. It can be concluded that students of Library and Information Science need proper orientation in the use of Library resources.

Table 1: Category-Wise Distribution of the Students

Category	No. of Responses	Percentage
B.Lib. & I.Sc.	21	44.68%
M.Lib. & I.Sc.	21	44.68%
M.Phil.	03	06.38%
Ph.D.	02	04.25%
Total	**47**	**100.00%**

Table 2: Frequency of Visiting the Library

Frequency of Visit	No. of Responses	Percentage
Daily	21	44.68%
Weekly	17	36.17%
Fortnightly	06	12.76%
Monthly	03	6.38%
Total	**47**	**100.00%**

Table 3: Purpose of Using Library

Purpose	No. of Responses	Percentage
Reading Text Books	32	68.08%
Reading Newspaper	23	48.93%
Borrowing books to read at home	21	44.68%
Consulting Reference Books	19	40.42%
Consulting Periodicals	13	27.65%
Reading competitive materials	04	08.51%
Updating knowledge	24	51.06%

Table 4: Use of Printed and Non-Printed Resources

Printed/Non Printed Resource	No. of Responses	Percentage
Text Books	40	85.10%
Reference Books	21	44.68%
General Books	10	21.27%
New Paper/ Magazines	21	44.68%
CD-ROMs	04	8.51%
E-Books	10	21.27%
E-Journals	21	44.68%

Table 5: Awareness of Library Services

Library Services	No .of Responses	Percentage
Lending Service	20	42.55%
Reference Service	30	63.82%
Translation Service	11	23.40%
Photocopy service	41	87.23%
Inter-Library Loan	08	17.02%
On-Line Service	26	55.31%
Indexing Service	20	42.55%
Abstracting Service	15	31.91%

Table 6: Purpose of Using Internet

Purpose	No. of Responds	Percentage
Educational	31	65.95%
Entertainment	14	29.78%
News	08	17.02%
E-Mail	15	31.91%
Research Articles	13	27.65%

Table 7: Problems Encountered in Using the Library Resources

Problems Encountered	No. of Responses	Percentage
I don't Know where to look	12	25.53%
Library has nothing on my topic	01	2.12%
Materials are already on loan	04	8.51%
Hesitation in asking	12	25.53%
Using library catalogue	24	51.06%
Using E-Resources	10	21.27%

Table 8: Statement Regarding Help Needed in Using the Library

Statement	No. of Responses	Percentage
Ask the librarian for help	25	53.19%
Go to another Library	01	2.12%
Purchase own book	02	4.25%
Give up	01	2.12%
Ask a Teacher	29	61.70%
Use the Guides/Leaflets	12	25.53%

Table 9: Opinion Regarding the Library

Opinion	No. of Responses	Percentage
Welcoming	22	46.80%
Comfortable	40	85.10%
Quiet	29	61.70%
Noisy	07	14.89%
Fun	01	02.12%
Boring	03	06.38%
Safe	12	25.53%
Orderly	09	19.15%
Exciting	04	08.51%

Table 10: Rating of Library Areas

Library Area	Very Good	Good	Poor
Text Books	04(8.51%)	33(70.2%)	09(19.14%)
Reference Books	06(12.76%)	40(85.1%)	01(2.12%)
Reading Area	12(25.53%)	29(61.7%)	05(10.63%)
Computer Area	15(31.91%)	26(55.31%)	05(10.63%)

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