
Printed Books are Ever Green Resources in Digital Era: A Study among the Professional College Students

S.G.Sundararajan

Librarian,

Bharathiyar College of Engineering and Technology,
Karaikal, sundararajan19@gmail.com

Abstract

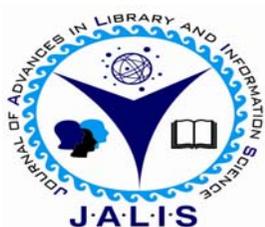
Printed resources are ever green resources; particularly the printed books are playing a vital role even in the digital era. Information retrieval and dissemination through the network has tremendous growth in the digital era. Scientist and Technocrats are plunging in the internet world. The digital era is explicit the trend of the paper less society. Now a days the information disseminate through the electronic media. Apart from the phase the printed books are having own merits. The aim of the study is to ascertain how printed books are effectively utilized by the professional college students for their curriculum, with this background an attempt was made to study the sophistication and comfort in the utilization of printed books.

Keywords

Printed Resources, Digital Era, Utilisation.

Electronic access

The journal is available at www.jalis.in



Journal of Advances in Library and Information Science
ISSN: 2277-2219 Vol.1. No.2. 2012. pp. 65-68

Introduction

Printed resources are having their own merits among the students and faculties. Books are the ever green sources in the curriculum and playing vital role and the students always prefer the prescribed text books for the academic preparation. The students and faculties prefer the printed media like magazines, periodicals, newsletters, newspapers, etc. On the other side the digital sources and service also reveals the booming information technology.

Review of Literature

Ajayi. & Adetaya (2005) recommended in their research paper, "Library environment should be made more pleasant and comfortable, since readers have made library their friend. More copies of recommended textbooks should be made available on the shelves for readers. And the role of librarian should not be limited to one of technician, as is often stated now that learning alone is no longer sufficient is no longer sufficient justification to play the role of intermediary between the readers and collection¹".

Simon (2001) find in his study "e-books to gain widespread acceptance as an educational tool, they must reproduce the many easy-to-use feature of a printed book. A majority of students used the glossary lookup (65%) and bookmarking (55%) features, while exactly half used highlighting and less than half (40%) annotated content²".

Troll (2002) "in his study focused the status of the new technologies adopted in the libraries. Online reference and instruction, desktop document delivery, self-checkout, and user initiated library loan and direct borrowing. Librarians disagree about whether the shift to user- initiated services is a needed simplification of library operations or a cheapening of devaluing of library services analogous to fast food³".

Status of the Printed Books in Digital era

Books are the ever green source and shine as a precious stone in the human life. Books are the very good companion and friend to the human, once the information is stored in the human knowledge database by reading, never is it lost; it shapes the man and inculcates the behavior and character. The present scenario shows that the rate of using computer and internet is high. Every student has the system to upload and download the information in the system, though they are using the books for their basic academic information thrust. They have

confidence and belief authentically in the book information.

Statement of the Problem

The study aims to analyze the awareness of printed books among the professional students in karaikal district. Presently the electronic resources dominating the information centers, though the printed medias and resources are having a role in the information centers. This study also tries to trace out the status of the printed books and its utilization.

Objectives of the Study

- To find out the printed books’ status in the digital era.
- To find the Professional college students’ utilization of the printed books.
- To find if any disparity in the utilization among the professional students.

Sampling and Methodology

The methodology used in this research is descriptive analysis and mainly it is based on the collection of primary data, collected from the professional college students in Karaikal region of Puduchery union territory. The required information is gathered through administering questionnaire among the sample students. Survey method was used for this study, a sample of 300 respondents were selected based on stratified sampling method. Out of 300 sample students are stratified through discipline wise Engineering, Agricultural, Medical, and PG-MCA and MBA. 75 samples have been taken from each discipline segment. The parametric analyses of variances (ANOVA) one-way are used to find the significance between the respective respondents and attributes.

Professional College Students’ Printed books Utilization Level

Table-1: Professional College Students’ Text Books Utilization Level

Text Books					
Professional Students	Engineering Students	Agriculture Students	Medical Students	PG- MCA & MBA Students	Total
Utilization Levels					
Almost always	57 (76%)	51(68%)	42 (56%)	63 (84%)	213(71%)
Often	14 (18.6%)	13(17.3%)	19 (25.4%)	10 (13.4%)	56 (18.6%)
Sometime	4 (5.4 %)	11(14.7%)	14 (18.6%)	2 (2.6%)	31(10.4%)
Seldom	0	0	0	0	0
Almost never	0	0	0	0	0
Total	75	75	75	75	300

Table-1-a: Statistics of Professional College Students’ Text Book Utilization Level

Text Books				
Professional Students	Engineering Students	Agriculture Students	Medical Students	PG- MCA & MBA Students
Statistics				
Mean	15.0	15.0	15.0	15.0
Std. Deviation(SD)	24.2	21.6	17.3	27.1
Std. Error(SE)	10.8	9.6	7.7	12.1

Table-1-b: ANOVA for Professional College Students’ Text Books Utilization Level

Utilization	Source of Variation	Sum of Squares	Mean Square	d.f.	F-ratio	Sig.
Text Book	Between Group	7.35	2.45	3	0.0047	NS
	Within Group	8341.2	521.33	16		
	Total	8348.6		19		

Table 1: shows the professional college students' (Engineering, Agriculture, Medical, and PG-MCA & MBA) utilization levels of printed text books. The percentage reveals the accessing status of printed text books by the students. Overall 71% of professional students utilize the printed text books almost always. Often and sometime utilization level is 18.6% and 10.4 % respectively, but the level of utilization differs among them. ANOVA test was employed in the utilization between various professional college students. The F- ratio is 0.0047 and 5% F – limit (3, 16) is 3.24. It is greater than F- ratio; so it's concluded that they are not significant between them.

Discussion: Based on the above statistical inference, professional college students' printed text books utilization level is overall high, but among them their

utilization levels differ. In general 71 % of professional students utilize the printed text books almost always. In particularly 84% of PG students, almost always utilize the text books, but 56% of Medical students almost always, similarly over all 18.6% of students often utilize the text books, in particular 25.4% of Medical students, 13.4% of PG Students often utilize the sources, so the result is not significant between them.

Inference:

The statistical inference reflects that the printed text books are preferably used by the professional college students, though the Medical students' utilization is low when compared with other professional students.

Table-2: Professional College Students' Reference Books Utilization Level

Reference Book					
Professional Students	Engineering Students	Agriculture Students	Medical Students	PG- MCA & MBA Students	Total
Utilization Levels					
Almost always	35 (46.6%)	44(58.7%)	17 (22.7%)	31 (41.3%)	127(42.3%)
Often	23 (30.7%)	20(26.7%)	28 (37.3%)	25 (33.3%)	96 (32%)
Sometime	17(22.7 %)	11(14.6%)	25 (33.3%)	19(25.4%)	72(24%)
Seldom	0	0	5 (6.7)%	0	5 (1.7%)
Almost never	0	0	0	0	0
Total	75	75	75	75	300

Table-2-a: Statistics of Professional College Students' Reference Books Utilization Level

Reference Book				
Professional Students	Engineering Students	Agriculture Students	Medical Students	PG- MCA & MBA Students
Statistics				
Mean	15.0	15.0	15.0	15.0
Std. Deviation(SD)	15.1	18.2	12.2	14.3
Std. Error(SE)	6.8	8.1	5.4	6.4

Table- 2-b: ANOVA for Professional College Students' Reference Books Utilization Level

Utilization	Source of Variation	Sum of Squares	Mean Square	d.f.	F-ratio	Sig.
Reference Book	Between Group	0.00	0.00	3	0.000	NS
	Within Group	3670.0	229.4	16		
	Total	3670.0		19		

Table.2-a: shows the professional college students' (Engineering, Agriculture, Medical, and PG-MCA&

MBA) utilization levels of printed reference books. The percentage reveals the accessing status of the

reference books by students. Overall 42.3% of professional students utilize the printed reference books almost always. Often, sometime, and seldom utilization levels are 32%, 24 % and 1.7 respectively, but the level of utilization differs among them.

ANOVA test was employed in the utilization between various professional college students. The F-ratio is 0.000 and 5% F – limit (3, 16) is 3.24, it is greater than F- ratio; so they are not significant between them.

Discussion:

Based on the above statistical inference, professional college students' printed reference books utilization level is overall high, but among them their utilization levels differ. In general 42.3 % of professional students utilize the printed reference books almost always. In particular 58.7% of Agriculture students almost always utilize the printed reference books, but 22.7% of Medical students almost always utilize printed reference books. Similarly overall 32. % of students often utilizes the reference books, in particular 37.3% of Medical students and, 26.7% of Agriculture Students often utilize the sources, so the result is not significant between them.

Inference:

The statistical inference reflects that the printed reference books are preferably used by the professional college students, though the Medical students' utilization is low when compared with other professional students.

Findings

Form this statistics analysis of the students' utilization of the printed books the following findings are traced.

- In general Printed books are having a vital role among the professional college students.
- There is no correlation between the professional college students' utilization of printed books

- 71% of professional college students are regularly using the printed books for their curriculum. 18.6% of students often using the printed text books, ultimately 89.6% of professional college students are using the printed text books for their preparation.
- 42.3% of students regularly prefer the printed reference books for their reference, 32% of students often prefer the same. Ultimately it is found that the 74.3% of students prefer the printed reference books for their curriculum reference.
- Medical college students' utilization of printed books is low when compare with other professional students.

Conclusion

From this study it is clearly viewed the usage of printed books. The statistical analysis found that the printed books are valuable resource among the professional college students by the way they have given good utility percentage. Even in the digital era the printed books usage is prolonged. It is a good sign to the publishers and library. As a mandatory the library professionals fabricate the library with printed and digital resources. The printed books have its own merits and retain its reliability. The books are ever green resources to the reader society.

References

1. Ajayi.N.A, & Adetaya .J.O (2005), 'Utilization of Library books to Enhance Academic Excellence in Nigeria Tertiary Institution: A case Study of Hexejiah Oluwasanmi library', *journal of Social Science*, 10(2) p. 19-122.
2. Simon, E.J (2001), 'Electronic textbooks; A pilot study of students e-reading habit', <http://www.ericjsimon.com/paper/papers/ebook.pdf>
3. Troll D.A (2002), 'How and why libraries are changing: what we know and what we need to know', *Portal: Libraries and the Academy*, vol.2(1), p.99-123,