
Use and Usage Perception of Information Sources: A Study

M. Selvi

Asst. Technical Officer

University of Madras, Chennai

selvinandu2909@gmail.com

Abstract

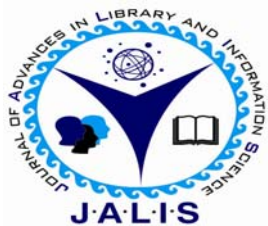
This study aims to ascertain the use usage perception of information sources Hence the main aim of the study is to asses the need, use pattern of information sources and satisfaction of the users of A.V.V.M. Sri Pushpam College, Poondi in view of the library resources and services.

Keywords

Use of information sources, library services, users satisfaction.

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Introduction

The term information has been derived from two Latin words 'Forma' and 'Formatio'. Both these terms convey more or less the same meaning of giving scope to something and forming a pattern. All term such as Knowledge' facts, news' message etc. used as synonyms or near synonyms to information. It is not easy to define the term information means communication of knowledge about an event of given condition or the spread of knowledge derived from observation, study experience or instruction. One can at least assign some expected value to pieces of information, which could affect the course of action chosen by the individual. As per Visit, information has more of an incremental value than the absolute value. Instruction to use library resources more effectively through directed and structured lessons and demonstrations are the core services useful in maximizing the library use. Commonly used terms such as library instruction, library orientation, user education and bibliographic instruction indicate the process of helping users as how to use the library, how to access information and introducing the various bibliographic tools. The information has been the basic need of the society always but at no point of time, it has played such a crucial role as it is playing today. A rapid change world, information needs of learners and knowledge seekers are met plethora of sources. The digital resources available in a library play prominent role in facilitating access to the required information to the user are an expediency manner. Further one need not go to the library to make use of print formats as the digital resources can be made use of by any user through On-line access via networks or authentication methods at any time by comfortably sitting at hour office. As a result of these complexities, information technologies have marked ahead concurrently at a rapid rate to facilitate dissemination of information in digitized media. Libraries are undergoing rapid changes due to the developments in information communication technology paper based resources are giving way to electronic resources.

Review of Literature

Zhang¹ stresses that a thorough understanding of user information needs and information seeking behavior is fundamental to the provision of successful information services. Wilson² points out that the scope of information-seeking behavior research is vast and many new concepts and methods are being developed with the help of this research. It is clear that the study of human information-seeking behavior is now a well-defined area of research. According to

Devadason and Lingman³ the understanding of information needs and information-seeking behavior of various professional groups is essential as it helps in the planning, implementation, and operation of information system, and services in work settings White⁴ states that if academic librarians are to realistically serve academic researchers, they must recognize the changing needs and variations in information gathering and provide services that would be most useful. Shahzad⁵ conducted a survey to find out the information-seeking behavior of faculty members of Government College University, Lahore. He acquired the data from all three faculties, i.e., science and technology, social sciences and humanities.

Dhanavandan identified the Information literacy in usage of Information tool among the Computer Science engineering professionals in Engineering Colleges in Thiruvannamalai District. He observed that the 'Personal health problem' and 'education of the dependent' are the two factors that hinder the information seeking behaviour than the other items of the Computer Science engineers of Thiruvannamalai District.

Need for the study

The review of literature reveals that there is no study have been conducted so far about the usage of the information in A.V.V.M. Sri Pushpam College, Poondi. Hence the main aim of the study is to asses the need, use pattern of information sources and satisfaction of the users of A.V.V.M. Sri Pushpam College, Poondi in view of the library resources and services.

The review of literature helps to formulate the research design. In this chapter a brief statement of objectives, hypotheses and methodology used in this study are presented.

Objectives:

The objectives of the present study are:

- 1.To make aware the users about the library. Library Service and Library Science studies.
2. To find out the recent facilities provided by the Library.
- 3.To find the level users' satisfaction on Library service.
- 4.To make finding and give suitable suggestions in the light study made.

Hypotheses

Based on the above mentioned objectives, the following hypotheses have been formulated and tested in this study.

There would be a significant variation among the faculty members and students in the following:

1. Frequency of library visit
2. Purpose of visit to the library
3. Regarding the adequacy of library collection
4. In the use of computerised library services
5. In the degree of extent of usefulness of information.

Information Seeking Behaviour

The study of information seeking behaviour can stand on its own as an area of special research where the motive for the investigation is pragmatically related to system design and development. A different motivation is involved if we wish to understand why the information seeker behaves as he does. This is an area of basic area of research and although the resulting knowledge may have practical application, there is no necessity that it should.

Methodology

Survey method was followed for this study since the study relating to user satisfaction regarding library facility provided by the A.V.V.M. Sri Pushpam College, Poondi.

Data Collection

The study required both primary and secondary data. Primary data collected through a well-designed schedule and secondary data were collected from the books and journals relating to library, magazine, newspaper, etc.

DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

Table 1 Gender Wise Distribution of The Respondents

S.No.	Gender	No. of Respondents	%
1.	Male	146	73
2.	Female	54	27
	Total	200	100

From the above table 1 is observed that the sample population consists of 200 respondents. Among the respondents, the above table 1 it is found that, (146)73% of respondents are males and (54)27% of respondents are females

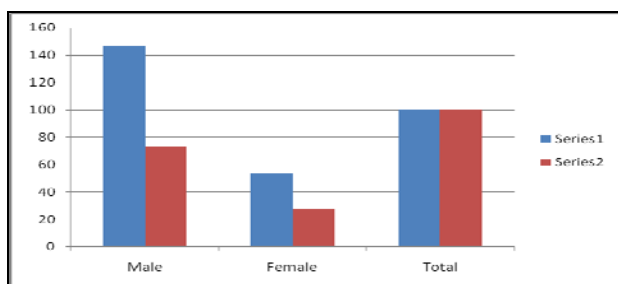


Figure 1. Gender wise classification of respondents

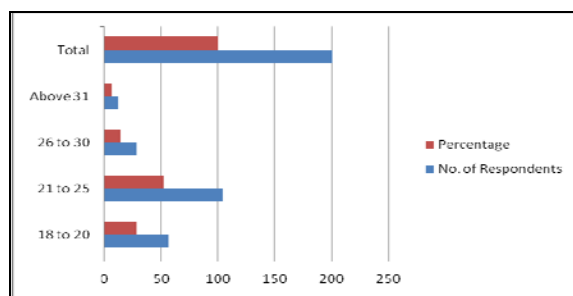


Figure 2. Age Wise Classification of Respondent

Table 2 Age Wise Classification of Respondents

Age	18 to 20	21 to 25	26 to 30	Above 31	Total
No. of Respondents	56	104	28	12	200
Percentage	28	52	14	6	100

From the above table 2. it is found that, (56) 28% of respondents come under the age group of 18 to 20, 52% of respondents come under the age group 21 to 25, 14% of respondents come under the age group 26 to 30, 6% of respondents are above 31.

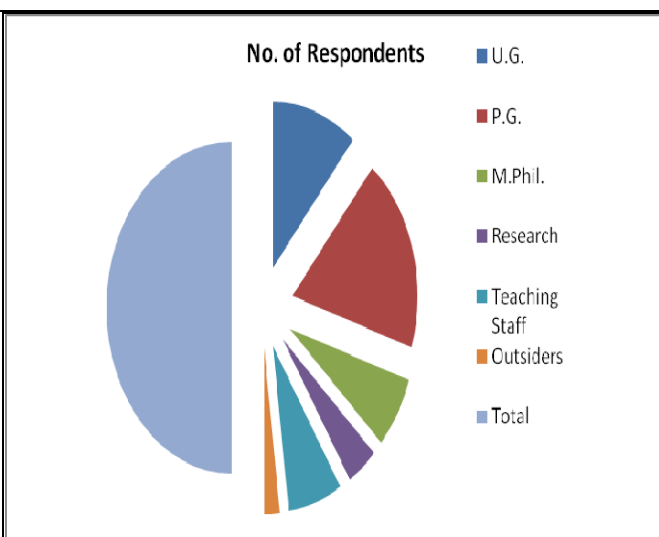
Table 3 Frequency of Library Visits

S.No.	Periodicity	No. of Respondents	%
1	Daily	144	72
2	Weekly	40	20
3	Monthly Twice	12	6
4	Monthly	4	2
	Total	200	100

The table 3 shows the frequency of library visits of the respondents. Most of the respondents, 144 (72%) are daily using the library. On the other 40 users they can access the library weekly

Table 4 Distribution of Respondents in Course Wise

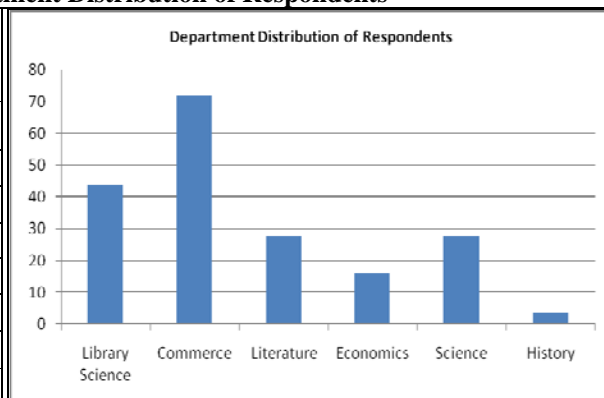
S.No.	Course	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1.	U.G.	44	22
2.	P.G.	76	38
3.	M.Phil.	28	14
4.	Research	16	8
5.	Teaching Staff	28	14
6.	Outsiders	8	4
	Total	200	100



As per the table 4 it is found that, 22% of respondents are in the UG level, 38% of respondents are in the PG level, 14% of respondents are in the M.Phil level, 8% of respondents are research scholars, 14% of respondents are teaching staff, 4% of respondents are outsiders.

Table 5 Department Distribution of Respondents

S.No.	Department	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1.	Library Science	44	22
2.	Commerce	72	36
3.	Literature	28	14
4.	Economics	16	8
5.	Science	28	14
6.	History	4	2
7.	Others	8	4
	Total	200	100



From the above table 5 shows the Department Distribution of Respondents, 22% of respondents belong to library science, 36% of respondents belong to commerce, 14% of respondents belong to literature, 8% of the respondents belong to economics, 14% of respondents belong to science, 2% of respondents belong of history, 4% of respondents to others disciplines.

Table 6 Awareness of Library and its Services by Respondents

S.No.	Awareness	No. of Respondents	%
	Yes	190	95
	No	10	5
	Total	200	100

The table 6 shows the awareness of the library by the respondents. The Most of the respondents like 190 (95%) are having the awareness of the library and services.

Table 7 Purpose of Using Library

S.No.	Purpose	No. of Respondents	%
1	To prepare Exam	130	65
2	To Gather General Knowledge	36	18
3	Periodicals	24	12
4	For Entertainment	6	3
5	To Save Money	4	2
	Total	200	100

Above the table 7 shows the purpose for which the respondents are visiting the library. Among the members, 130 (65%) the major purpose visit to the library were found to be to prepare exam.. Majority

of the users 36 (18%) visit the library to gather general knowledge.

Table 8 User Satisfaction of Library Services

S.No.	Opinion	No. of Respondents	%
1	Very Good	156	78
2	Good	34	17
3	Satisfactory	8	4
4	Poor	2	1
	Total	200	100

Above table 8 shows the users satisfaction of the library. The majority of the users i.e 156 (78%) were replied very good. But only two users were replied poor services in the library. So, it is found that the library provides very good services to users.

Table 9 Types of information users seek in the library

S.No.	Gender	No. of Respondents	%
1.	Subject Book	112	66
2.	Reference Book	36	18
3.	Project	28	14
4.	News Paper	14	7
5.	Magazine	10	5
6.	Others	-	-
	Total	200	100

From the above table 9 it is found that,66% of respondents seek subject book 18% of respondents seek reference book, 8% of respondents seek project, 14%

of respondents seek newspapers, 5% of respondents seek magazine.

Table 10 Details regarding about automation of library

S.No.	Suggestion	No. of	%
1.	Time Saves	128	64
2.	No confusion in Knowing the availability of Books in	68	34
3.	No Difference	4	2
	Total	200	100

From the above table 10, it is found that, 64% of respondents opinion about automation is time saved, 34% of respondents opinion is no confusion in knowing the availability of books in library.

Table 11 Users Satisfaction of Collection of books

S.No.	Suggestion	No. of Respondents	%
1.	Very Good	124	62
2.	Good	60	30
3.	Satisfied	14	7
4	More Required	2	1
	Total	200	100

Table 11 indicates the user's satisfaction of respondents. The 124 (62%) of the users were replied the library collection of books very good. The 60 (30%) of the users were replied is good collection of books. But only 2 (15) are required more books in the library.

Table 12 Users Satisfaction of Utilizing the Library

S.No.	Satisfaction	No. of Respondents	%
1.	Always Good	120	60
2.	Good	64	32
3.	Satisfied	14	7

Table 15 Information Seeking through formal Channel

Sources	Large Extent		Some Extent		Least Extent		Mean (Rank)
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
Books	110	55	45	22.5	45	22.5	2.32 (I)
Journals	87	43.5	52	26	61	30.5	2.16 (II)
Thesis/Dissewrtation	81	40.5	71	30.5	48	24	2.02 (III)
Research Reports	36	18	96	43	68	24	1.75 (IV)
Confere.Proceeding	54	27	70	35	76	38	1.86 (V)
Abstract Index	45	22.5	81	40.5	74	36	1.2 (VI)
Govt.Publications	31	15.5	62	31	107	53.5	1.1(VII)
News Paper	26	13	50	25	124	62	1.0 (VIII)

4	Never	2	1
	Total	200	100

Table 12 indicates the user's level of satisfaction of respondents while using the library. The 120 (60%) of the users were replied the library collection of books always good good. The 64 (32%) of the users were replied was good. It is concluded that majority of the user were satisfied the library services.

Table 13 Awareness of Reprographic And CAS Services

S.No.	Awareness	No. of Respondents	%
1	Yes	188	94
2	No	12	6
	Total	200	100

The table 13 shows the awareness of reprographic and CAS services provided by the library. The 94% of the users are having the awareness of library reprographic and CAS services.

Table 14 Most Attracted Service by Users

S.No.	Suggestion	No. of Respondents	%
1.	Circulation	150	80
2.	Reference Services	42	21
3.	Reprographic and CAS	10	5
4	Others	2	1
	Total	200	100

Table 14 shows the most attracted services provided by library are represented by the users. The 150 (75%) users were replied Circulation is more attracted services. And also gradually i.e 42 and 10 users were replied to the attracted reference and reprographic services.

Above the table 15 shows formal information sources, 55% books. 43.5% journals, 40.5% thesis and dissertation, were used large extent by the students and faculty members of the three colleges. Research reports (24%). Abstracts and Indexes (36%) are used to some extent: Government publications (53.5%) and Conference proceedings (38%) are the sources which are used least extent. The mean use score and the ranking of the different formal information sources also indicates that books were largely used, journals

Table: 16 Extent of usefulness of Information

Sl.No.	Usefulness	Total	%
1	Most useful	122	61
2	Moderately useful	64	32
3	Least useful	10	5
4	Can not say	4	2
	Total	200	100

The above table 16 shows the extent of usefulness of information . It could be noted that out of 190 respondents, 122 (61%) of them feel that the information they gather is most useful. Among this 64 are have expressed that the information are moderately useful and 10 (5%) have expressed that they are not able to express about their satisfaction.

Table: 17 Factors that hinders Information Seeking Behaviour

S.No	Particulars	Total
1	Personal Health Problem	74
2	Education of the Dependent	48
3	Marriage of the Dependent	26
4	Employment of the Dependent	24
5	Economic condition of the family	11
6	Other factors	17
	Total	200

Above the 17 shows the six different reasons that hinders Information Seeking Behaviors, the personal health problem and the factor Education of the dependent scores high percentage. Out of 190 respondents 74 (37%) users feel that personal health problem is the reason which hinders Information Seeking Behaviour. The other factor that hinders information seeking scores a less percentage in all the categories.

FINDINGS,

The sample population consists of 200 respondents. Among the respondents, (146)73% of respondents are

males and (54)27% of respondents are female. Further it is (56) 28% of respondents come under the age group of 18 to 20, 52% of respondents come under the age group 21 to 25, 14% of respondents come under the age group 26 to 30, 6% of respondents are above 31. The 22% of respondents are in the UG level, 38% of respondents are in the PG level, 14% of respondents are in the M.Phil level, 8% of respondents are research scholars, 14% of respondents are teaching staff, 4% of respondents are outsiders.

Most of the respondents, 144 (72%) are daily using the library. On the other 40 users they can access the library weekly. And, 22% of respondents belong to library science, 36% of respondents belong to commerce, 14% of respondents belong to literature, 8% of the respondents belong to economics, 14% of respondents belong to science, 2% of respondents belong of history, 4% of respondents to others disciplines.

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The majority of the users i.e 156 (785) were replied very good. But only two users were replied poor services in the library. So, it is found that the library provides very good services to users. The 66% of respondents seek subject book 18% of respondents seek reference book, 8% of respondents seek project, 14% of respondents seek newspapers, 5% of respondents seek magazine.

The 124 (62%0 of the users were replied the library collection of books very good. The 60 (30%) of the users were replied is good collection of books. But only 2 (15) are required more books in the library.The 120 (60%0 of the users were replied the library collection of books always good good. The 64 (32%) of the users were replied was good. It is concluded that majority of the user were satisfied the library services. The 150 (75%) users were replied Circulation is more attracted services. And also gradually i.e 42 and 10 users were replied to the attracted reference and reprographic services.

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and 10 (5%) have expressed that they are not able to express about their satisfaction.

CONCLUSION

A.V.V.M. Sri Pushpam College Library introduces variety of services, which are ever offered by other libraries in Thanjavur District. Many of its services are useful for the users, Teachers, Researchers and Outsiders in their various information needs.

All the services provided by this library are good. If the services expanded in future. The library can cover vast user communities. As far as the study is concerned more users aware of library services but they very hard to know about the purpose and importance of the services. The users have lack of time to utilize the library even though they are interested. If they have library how it only helps to avail the library resources and its services fully and satisfaction. All kinds of library should encourage the users to utilize the libraries by conducting book exhibition, and cultural programmes about library and its service and users. If so the user communities will fulfill their requirements by accessing libraries without any difficulties in the future and libraries will be considered as a literacy center.

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