
A SURVEY ON INFORMATION LITERACY AMONG THE STUDENTS OF VIVEKANANDA POLYTECHNIC COLLEGE AGASTEESWARAM KANYAKUMARI DT, TAMILNADU

Mr.T.SURESH KUMAR

Ph.D Research Scholar,
Department of Library and Information Science,
Madurai, Tamil Nadu, India

Dr.P.CHELLAPANDI

Assistant Professor,
Department of Library and Information Science,
Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai, Tamil Nadu, India

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Abstract

This paper discusses the Information Literacy among the students and status of Vivekananda Polytechnic College Agasteeswaram Kanyakumari Dt, Tamilnadu. it can be analyses Information Literacy has fulfilled its promise in academic Library activities. There is remarkable rise in the use of Knowledge and many of the libraries activities, this study has lead to the speed on Literacy skills and learning Techniques, strategy Selection Skill from Models, communication level by users Information literacy is becoming a key component of general education programs nationwide, The basic communication course is on the frontlines of the charge to teach information literacy skills. This investigation is purely based on the information gathered from the Students and staff of Polytechnic college library. It is concluded that the research would be fully comprehensive if the Information fluency from the clientele of the libraries are also collected and analyses.

Keywords: Information Literacy, Information seeking behavior, Information Fluency

Introduction

Information need is a composite concept, which is generally dynamic in users. Information seeking behavior results from the recognition of some need experienced by the user. Though information seeking behavior in one sense deals with actual seeking information represented at the stage of means of searching various sources of information. It would be appropriate to cover other earlier stages and later stages to get a clear picture of the entire sequence. Information literacy is nonetheless becoming more commonplace in higher education. Changes taking place in Society are behind some of these discussions. A useful context for the information-literacy movement. This is an integral component of this study, is library instruction, sometimes

known as bibliographic instruction. Library instruction, usually considered to have developed in the past 150 years. The information communication seeking behavior studies primarily emphasize user as producer and/or sender of message or information. Hence as a person communicating information user plays multiple roles such as receiver, creator, and sender of message in communication behavior studies. The Information communication technology as one of the major tools of tomorrow to shape our society and our institution particularly our libraries as one of the most important influences in education, culture and society. Our educational and cultural infrastructure must change to meet these challenges, addressing them through new and creative educational techniques.

Review of Literature

Hileima Devi and Purnima Devi (2006) Conducted study of the information literacy skills of Library professionals in Academic in Academic Libraries of Manipur. The findings of their research revealed that most of the library professionals are not able to contribute information literacy within the library due to the following problems faced there by most of the libraries functioned with inadequate number of staff. Lack of professional competency.

Kuruppu and Gruber (2006) conducted the study they tried to analyze how graduate students perceive the library,s collection the research paper concluded once graduate and discover information in their field from their peers, once graduated students realize advice from their follow students is insufficient for adequate information.

Mittermeyer and Quirion (2003) reported in a study oa incoming first year undergraduate students in Quebec that many students used the internal extensively to find course – related information.

Objectives of the Study

The main objectives of the study are:

- To measure the information seeking behaviors of the respondents through the use of library, documents, information locating tools and Library service.
- To study the categories of users by age and department.
- To study about visiting pattern of users in the library.
- To found out the method of learning about the use of resources.
- To identify the purpose of reasons for seeking information for their work.
- To study the problems encountered while using the online source.
- To study the opinion the rating about the library services and channels of collecting information in **Vivekananda Polytechnic College Agasteeswaram Kanyakumari Dt,**

Methodology

The present study is survey method to using a questionnaire. A total number of 180 Questionnaires were randomly distributed to the users of **Vivekananda Polytechnic College Agasteeswaram Kanyakumari Dt.** Out of 180 questionnaires, 175 filled questionnaires were received back by the Students. Hence selected 175 questionnaires are used for data analysis and interpretation. Secondary data are collected from journals, books and online database. The data was simplified by means, table's single column and double column or triple column tables. The tabulated data was analyzed with simple percentage method in MS Excel to draw necessary inferences.

Data Analysis and Interpretation

Table 1: Gender and Department - wise distribution of Respondents

Particulars		No. of Respondents	Percentage
Gender	Male	94	53.7
	Female	81	46.3
Total		175	100
Name of The Department	Mechanical Engineering	27	15.4
	Civil Engineering	22	12.6
	Electrical and Electronic Engineering	51	29.1
	Electronic Communication Engineering	33	18.9
	Computer Engineering	42	24
Total		175	100

Source: Primary data

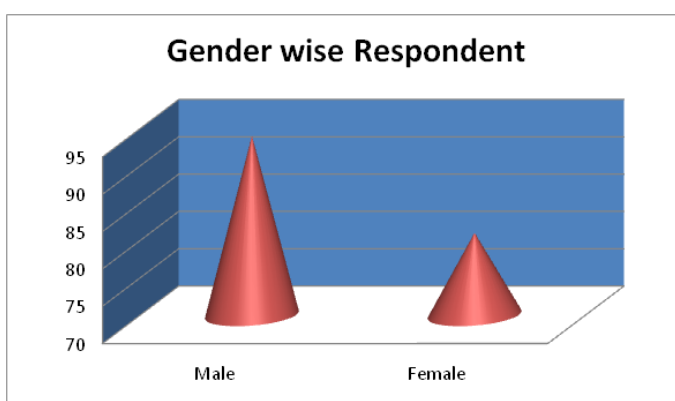


Table 1 shows the gender and department -wise distribution of respondents. In this study, 94 (53.7%) of the respondents are Male whereas 81(46.3%) of the respondents

are Female. Hence the more than half of the respondents belong to the category of Male.

Among the overall 175 respondents, 27 (15.4%) of the respondents belong to the department of Mechanical Engineering, 22 (12.6%) of the respondents belong to the department of Civil Engineering, 51 (29.1%) of the respondents belong to the department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, 33 (18.9%) of the respondents belong to the department of Electronic Communication Engineering, 42 (24%) of the respondents belong to the department of Computer Engineering. Hence above fifty percent of the respondents belong to the department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering.

Table 2: Frequency of visit the library

S.No.	Option	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	Daily	128	73.1
2	Twice a week	24	13.7
3	Weekly	12	6.9
4	Monthly	11	6.3
Total		175	100

Source: Primary data

Table 2 exposed the frequency of visiting the library. Among the overall 175 respondents, 128(73.1%) frequency of visiting the library every day, 24 (13.7%) of them report that it is twice in a week, 12 (6.9%) weekly .and of 11(6.3%) monthly. Therefore nearly three fourth of the respondents frequency of visiting the library every day.

Table 3: Method of Learning about the use of Library

S.No	Method of Learning	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	Guidance from friends	65	37.1
2	Library staff	59	33.7
3	Trial and Error method/ Self instruction	125	71.4
4	Training Programmes	143	81.7
Total = 175			

Source: Primary data

The table 3 indicates the method of learning about the use of Library sources. Total of 175 respondents 65 (37.1%) of the respondents learning guidance from friends, 59 (33.7%) of them learning from library staff, 125 (71.4%) of them learning from trial and Error method self instruction, and 143 (81.7%) of them learning from Training Programmes. It is to find the majority of the respondents learning from training Programmes.

Table 4: Purpose of Using Library Resources

S.No	Propose	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	Developing knowledge	162	92.6
2	Prepare class Seminar	72	41.1
3	Prepare competitive exam's	93	53.1
4	Writing journal articles	62	35.4
5	Others	36	20.6
Total = 175			

Source: Primary data

The table 4 revealed that total of 175 respondents and their purpose of using Library resources. Total of 162(92.6%) respondents purpose of using Library resources for developing knowledge, 72(41.1%) for prepare class Seminar, 93(53.1%) for prepare competitive exam's, 62(35.4%) for writing journal articles, and 36(20.6%) for other purposes. Hence the majority of the respondents purpose of using online resources for developing knowledge.

Table 5: Opinion about the problems encountered while using the Library sources

S. No	Opinion	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1.	Seeking library document	53	30.3
2.	Difficulty in finding relevant information	78	44.6
3.	Lack of document	95	54.3
4.	Privacy problem	82	46.9
5.	Open mouth reading	46	26.3
6.	others	25	14.3
Total = 175			

Source: Primary data

Table 5 reveals that among the overall respondents and their opinion about the problems encountered while using the Library sources. The total 53 (30.3%) of the respondents said slow Seeking library document, 78 (44.6%) of them said difficulty in finding relevant information, 95 (54.3%) of them said Lack of document, 82(46.9%) of them said privacy problem, 46 (26.3%) of them said Open mouth reading, and 25(14.3%) other problems. Interesting note that more than half of the respondents said Open mouth reading encountered while using the Library sources.

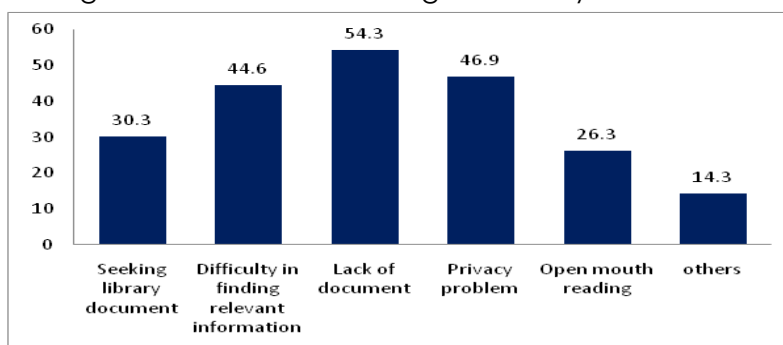


Table 6: Chi- square analysis of opinion the rating about the library services and channels of collecting information by gender – wise

S.No	Gender	Rating (%)					Total
		Excellent	Very good	Good	Poor	No comments	
1.	Male	11 (11.7)	15 (16)	52 (55.3)	9 (9.6)	7 (7.5)	94
2.	Female	8 (9.9)	12 (14.8)	49 (60.5)	7 (8.6)	5 (6.2)	81
Total		19	27	101	16	12	175

Source: Primary data **Chi- square value:** 0.517 **df=4**

Table 6 Predict the opinion the rating about the library services and channels of collecting information by gender – wise. Among the male respondents, 11 (11.7%) of the respondents opinion the library services and channels of collecting information is excellent, 15 (16%) of them said very well, 52 (55.3%) good, 9 (9.6) poor, 7 (7.5%) have not expressed any comments. Among the female respondents, 8 (9.9%) opinion the library services and channels of collecting information is excellent, 12 (14.8%) of them said very good, 49 (60.5%) good, 7 (8.6%) poor, 5 (6.2%) have not expressed any comments. Therefore majority of the male and female respondent's opinion the library services and channels of collecting information is excellent in **Vivekananda Polytechnic College Agasteeswaram Kanyakumari Dt.**

Testing of Hypothesis

Ho: Null Hypothesis

There is no association between the gender -wise respondents and their rating about the library services and channels of collecting information

H1: Alternative Hypothesis

There is an association between the gender -wise respondents and their rating about the library services and channels of collecting information.

Chi-Square Summary Result

Chi-Square Value	Calculated	Degrees of Freedom	Chi-Square Table Value 5%
0.517		4	9.488

The table value of χ^2 for 4 degrees of freedom at 5% level of significance is 9.49. The calculated value of χ^2 is lower than this table value and hence the Null hypothesis is accepted and hence Alternative hypothesis is rejected. It is concluded that there is no association between the gender - wise respondents and their rating about the library services and channels of collecting information.

Major Findings

1. More than half of the respondents belong to the category of male and More than one fourth of the respondents belong to the department of EEE
2. Nearly three fourth of the respondents frequency of visiting the library every day.
3. Majority of the respondents learning from training programmers.
4. 162 (92.6%) of the respondents purpose of using Library sources for developing knowledge.
5. More than half of the respondents said that Lack of document encountered while using the Library sources.
6. Majority of the male and female respondents opinion the library services and channels of collecting information is excellent
7. The gender - wise respondents and their rating about the library services and channels of collecting information in Vivekananda Polytechnic College Agasteeswaram Kanyakumari Dt..

Conclusion

The information literate people are those who have learned how to learn because they know how knowledge is organized. The library user know the Library information seeking pattern and process . which is the hub issue of this study suggested that the users seek different kinds of information for different types of information sources. It is concluded both formal and informal sources. However the accent is more on formal sources especially for teaching and study work. Majority of the user's purpose of using library sources of information in Vivekananda Polytechnic College Agasteeswaram Kanyakumari Dt

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