Research Article

Studies on Digital libraries information's in Academic Institutions in Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India

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Keywords	Abstract
Information Services , Web based information services, College Libraries, digital libraries	Introduction highlighting the features of the study including the use of Information Services and Web based information services in Selected College Libraries in Chennai, objectives of the study and the definition of basic concepts. Literature reviews of foreign and Indian studies, drawn from journals, conference proceedings, and web based information resources in College libraries related to the methods and quantitative techniques and their applications in the context of the problem under study are included. Methodology includes research methods, facets of the questionnaire, data collection and analysis and limitations of the study. Analysis and interpretation of the collected data on the use of information service and web based information services in the Selected College Libraries in Chennai.

INTRODUCTION

In this study an attempt is being made to highlight the access to Information Services System for Digital Libraries in Selected Academic Institutions in Chennai. Academic Libraries, particularly in recent past are providing some of notable information services that can be accessed via the College library websites are Web OPAC, latest addition display, data search, and federated search, access to full text and bibliographic databases, online document delivery, access to institutional repository and open access resources, databases and multimedia access resources, live chat, RSS feeds, compilation of research profile, web based CAS and SDI, remote access and so on. Libraries and Information Centres have been employing information resources and services system to satisfy the diverse information needs of their users. It also points out the need for assessing the impact of the Web based Services in the College Libraries on library users. College Libraries launch their websites with a view to provide services to users without their physical presence.

INFORMATION SERVICES AND DIGITAL LIBRARIES

Schneyman (1985) elaborates on the definition of "Information Technology" covering five types of "Information Services", Systems support and including computers and telecommunications, processing data and images, Conversion and transformation, including reprographics, distribution and commutation, including network management, telecommunications, Retention of information, Storage of Information and Retrieval of Information. This covers libraries, record centres, filing systems, and internal and external databases. A digital library is a collection of digital objects. A collection of research papers is a typical example. When this collection gets sufficiently large, users of the digital library cannot examine each paper individually to find if its subject interests them. In a traditional library, an example of this would be a card catalog – a collection of small cards that represent the larger objects contained in the collection. This description is called metadata – data (the description) about data (the digital object). This metadata is more manageable than the digital objects that it represents. Metadata is written in

a standard format. This allows the metadata to be manipulated using automated tools.

METHODOLOGY

The present study is descriptive in nature and it is a case study on the "Information Services System for Digital Libraries in selected Academic Institutions in Chennai". The researcher has chosen descriptive research design and the method is normative survey. The survey is also analytical in terms of collecting the details of the use of web based information services in selected Academic Institutions in Chennai. This covers descriptors such as objectives of the library information services, the process, the impact of user's practices, e-resources required and the data have been collected using structured Questionnaire. The Questionnaire is refined and modified based on the basis of the pilot study carried out in selected Academic Institutions in Chennai, with the consultation of experts**.**

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- To identify the e-Resources and Web Resources which are made available in the Selected College Libraries in Chennai.
- To find out the Information services and Web enabled access facilities provided in the Selected College Libraries in Chennai.
- To know the extent of development and use of Information Service in the Library surveyed the access to library facilities and services prevailed in the College environments.
- To study the information access and Web resources usage among the Library users in the Selected College Libraries in Chennai.

- To know the productivity of the respondents among the surveyed Selected College Libraries in Chennai.
- To find out the limitations on access to prevailing ICT facilities and Web enabled services and e-resources

HYPOTHESES

The following hypotheses are formulated based on the framed objectives and they are tested by employing appropriate statistical tools.

1. There is no significant difference in their dependency on library for research and teaching among university faculty members and Students of selected College Libraries in Chennai.
2. There is no significant difference in using the browser and search engines among college teachers and Students of selected College Libraries in Chennai.
3. There is no significant difference in the purpose of using e- resources among the respondents of selected College Libraries in Chennai.
4. There is no significant difference in the frequency of accessing e- resources among respondents of selected College Libraries in Chennai.
5. There is no significant difference in the level of satisfaction with the availability of e-resources among teachers and the students of College Libraries in Chennai.

SOURCE OF DATA

The following Institutions were selected and the survey was conducted to collect primary data among the selected College Libraries in Chennai with Websites

S.No	Name of the College in Chennai	URL	YoE
1.	Meenakshi College for Women	www.meenakshicollege.com	1975
2.	Bharathi's Women's College (Autonomous)	www.bwcas.com	1964
3.	Ethiraj College for Women (Autonomous)	www.ethirajcollege.in	1948
4.	Dhanraj Baid Jain College (Autonomous)	www.dbjaincollege.org	1972
5.	Loyola College (Autonomous)	www.loyolacollege.edu	1870
6.	New College (Autonomous)	www.thenewcollege.in	1951
7.	Women's Christian College (Autonomous)	www.wcc.edu.in	1915
8.	M.O.P. Vaishnav College for Women (Autonomous)	www.mop-vaishnav.ac.in	1992
9.	Madha Arts and Science College, Chennai	www.madhaartsandscience.com	2006
10.	Mohamed Sathak College of Arts and Science,	www.mscartsandscience-edu.in	1991
11.	Anna Adarsh College for Women	www.annaadarsh.edu.in	1985
12.	A.A. Arts and Science College (Women)	www.alphagroup.edu/alpha_arts	1996
13.	Stella Maris College for Women (Autonomous)	www.stellamariscollege.org	1947
14.	Justice Basheer Ahmed Syed College for Women	www.jbascollege.edu.in	1955

SAMPLE SIZE

Printed questionnaire has been distributed in person to the respondents of fourteen Selected Colleges in Chennai. With regard to the users, 700 questionnaires (each college 50 questionnaires) in selected College in Chennai are distributed. Of which, 566 were filled in and received and therefore response rate is 80.86 percent.

STATISTICAL TOOLS

The SPSS package is used for tabulations, correlation analysis and other relevant analysis of the data and simple percentile analysis has been used for analyzing the data besides other selective, appropriate statistical tools such as Chi-square and ANOVA test are applied to test the hypotheses.

LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

The study is confined to selected Libraries in Chennai Colleges only. The result arrived at from the study may or may not be applicable to other Colleges. There may be response bias. Time and other resource constraints have restricted the selection of more college libraries. The survey method which adopted for collecting the data in this study has its own limitations. Hence, the generalization of the findings of the study is subject to the above condition. The study is confined between the data collection period of January 2011 to March 2013.

MAJOR FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

There are 700 structured questionnaires have been distributed among fourteen selected Academic Colleges in Chennai, 50 questionnaires have been randomly distributed to the respondents in each colleges which include the faculty members (Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, Professor) and Students (UG, PG, M.Phil., and Ph.D.,). Of which, 566 (80.86 percent) filled responses received from the fourteen colleges, the response rate is 80.86 percent among the selected Academic Colleges in Chennai.

It is found from the above table that male are dominated with 343 (60.60 percent) respondents while the rest is of female 223 (39.40 percent) respondents. Between the categories of the respondents, UG Students are major group with 192 (33.92 percent) respondents which is followed by 92 Assistant Professors (16.25 percent), 86 Associate Professors (15.19 percent) and 79 respondents (13.96 percent) in the PG Students.

Students are having the research experience between 6-10 years, 55.81 percent of the Associate Professors having the research experience between 16-20 years, 55.43 percent of the Assistant Professors having the research experience between 11.15 years. It is also interesting to note that 46.67 percent of the Professors having the research experience between above 20 years.

The genderwise distribution on research experience of the respondents among the surveyed selected academic institutions in chennai, revealed that a majority (28.80 percent) of the male respondents and female respondents (17.31 percent) are having experience between 0-5 years, which is followed by 8.30 percent of female respondents and 12.19 percent of the male respondents are having research experience between 6 and 10 years.

There is significant difference among use of electronic information sources and the surveyed respondents found significant difference. A majority of the respondents (86.22 percent) have used Wikipedia, which is followed by Websites (74.56 percent), Blogs (70.85 percent) used by the respondents.

Among the Students (81.53 percent), more number of Assistant Professors (97.83 percent) and Associate Professors (95.35 percent) are preferred Wikipedia, while the UG Students (75.52 percent) are least preferred. Professors are least preferred Portal (62.22 percent) and Subject Gateways (53.33 percent) respectively.

Use of various major search engines among the respondents revealed that the surveyed respondents have been using Google while Yahoo is a preferred search engine by a first and second largest group of respondents (96.29 percent and 85.86 percent) which is followed by Rediffmail (74.55 percent), AltaVista (66.60 percent), and Hotmail (51.76 percent).

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