
A Study On The Users Of Govt College Libraries In Nimar Region Of Madhya Pradesh

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Abstract

The objectives of the study are: To find out the availability of sources and services in the libraries of Nimar region, to know the frequency of visit of users to the library, to find out the satisfaction of users with library resources and services, & to find out the problems faced by the users while accessing the sources and services. Sample of 300 users were selected from total users four Govt. college libraries of Nimar region. Data was collected from the users using the questionnaire. Analysis of data shows that the highest number of books (93620) are available in the library of SBNGPGC. Over a third of users thirty five percent are visiting the library daily. All the users ninety nine percent use text books. All the users hundred of college libraries are using lending service. Most of the users are facing problems namely inadequate collection to meet curriculum needs eighty six percent, inefficient inter library loan services eighty five percent, inadequate facilities eighty four percent, inadequate information literacy skills eighty two percent, outdated materials seventy eight percent, limited access to e resources seventy seven percent & late return and fine policies seventy seven percent. Majority of the facing the problems of 'Insufficient staff assistance' sixty four percent & 'Technological Barriers' sixty one percent. Forty one percent of users are partially satisfied with library resources. Forty three percent of users are partially satisfied with library service with facilities.

Keywords: Government college libraries, Madhya Pradesh, Nimar region, Knowledge dissemination, Service effectiveness, Modern technologies, Library management, Academic excellence

Introduction

Libraries are vital knowledge bases in the ever-changing world of higher education, supporting research projects, academic development, and the quest of intellectual superiority. Nestled in the heart of central India, the Madhya Pradesh region of Nimar is notable for its educational relevance and rich cultural legacy. In this regard, government college libraries are essential in giving students and scholars the basic tools and assistance they need for their overall growth. This thorough investigation aims to examine, evaluate, and shed light on the various aspects of government college libraries in the Nimar, Madhya Pradesh, area, with a particular emphasis on their present condition, difficulties, and future prospects.

Madhya Pradesh, known for its rich cultural heritage and historical significance, is home to several educational institutions that contribute to the academic landscape of the state. The Nimar region, situated in the western part of Madhya Pradesh,

is marked by its unique blend of tradition and modernity. Within this context, government college libraries in the Nimar region are critical hubs that facilitate learning, research, and the overall academic development of students.

Review of literature:

Soria, Nackerud and Peterson (Soria, Nackerud, & Peterson, 2015) investigated the potential relationships between a wide range of socioeconomic indicators and the use of academic libraries by first-year college students in six domains: borrowing general circulation books, reading electronic books, utilizing online reference librarian services or consulting with a peer research consultant, accessing electronic journals, using library workstations, or logging into databases. About 5133 first-year students at a sizable public research-heavy university in the upper Midwest of the United States provided the data. The findings imply that first-year students from backgrounds with lower socioeconomic status had lower library usage rates across the board. Additionally, conflicting results surfaced, indicating that socioeconomic variables, including weekly work hours, housing arrangement, and family size, are not always uniformly predictive of students' use of academic libraries.

Shaw and Sarkar (Shaw & De Sarar, 2021) researched the automation state of college libraries to provide improved Web-based library services on a cost-effective cloud computing virtualization paradigm. This study illustrates how libraries of colleges and smaller institutions could be connected to cloud Library Management System infrastructure using dedicated point-to-point WAN connectivity or the internet using the infrastructure as a Service (IaaS) delivery model. According to the study, a cloud-based consortium approach for college libraries will lower costs associated with setting up infrastructure and buying hardware, free up staff with additional IT skills, promote collaboration in a shared environment, and minimize duplication in resource subscriptions.

Librarians face the challenge of balancing instructional duties with other responsibilities. The resources available to alleviate these challenges can directly relate to the library context. In her article, Chelsea Contrada (Contrada, 2019) examined information literacy instruction in the context of a community college library and how that context shapes how she approaches library instruction. Contrada highlights some of the unique elements of instruction in community college and how community college library librarians differ from many of their colleagues at four-year colleges/universities. Contrada argues for greater collaboration across library types and more robust professional development and engagement opportunities for community college Librarians.

Omeluzor et.al. (2023) This study, conducted at the Federal University of Petroleum Resources Effurun (FUPRE) in Nigeria, focuses on the utilization of library resources and services by Postgraduate (PG) students. Using a descriptive survey design with 438 registered PG students, the research identified that most students visited the library monthly or quarterly, with reasons ranging from exam preparation to accessing various materials. The preferred resources included offline e-journals, e-books, textbooks, reference materials, theses/dissertations, and periodicals. Key services utilized were circulation, reference, reprographic, and Internet services. Challenges encountered by PG students included lack of orientation, inadequate awareness, insufficient ICT training, literacy skill gaps, and poor internet connectivity. The study concludes by emphasizing the importance of addressing these factors to enhance the library experience for PG students

Chandra & Negi (2017) Through the usage of Web 2.0 elements, modern libraries are connecting with their patrons and exchanging knowledge by venturing into the virtual world, where the majority of today's tech-savvy users reside. Libraries increasingly have WebPages and Web 2.0 capabilities as part of their web interface to give users access to information. This paper's primary goal is to present the state of the libraries under investigation regarding their patrons' use of Web 2.0 and ICT tools. The study is limited on the functions of the Government Medical College Libraries of Madhya Pradesh's homepage and their use of Web 2.0 tools. The research also suggests the fundamental.

Patidar (2017) One important part of the educational system is the provision of library services. An attempt has been made to describe the library's services in this article. Madhya Pradesh Colleges of Education was the library's status. lists education colleges along with the universities they are affiliated with. It also identifies them as government, university, or private. It examines the staff, furnishings, and A.V. equipment that are available, as well as the building and budget of the libraries. It also looks at other factors like the circulation, number of books issued, library committee, and so on. Finally, it concludes with the resuscitation of these colleges through the provision of more staff and funding.

Hussain (2013) This study explores the utilization of electronic information resources and services (EIRS) by 70 students and 50 teachers at the Sir Chhotu Ram Institute of Engineering and Technology in Meerut, Uttar Pradesh, India. Using 100 randomly distributed questionnaires (40 from teachers and 60 from students), the research delves into various aspects of EIRS usage, such as awareness of ICT, frequency of visits, linkage patterns, types of e-information accessed, use of search engines, satisfaction with information services, and more. The survey's findings and recommendations are detailed in the conclusions.

Sharma & Modak (2000) This essay aims to showcase the level of automation in libraries and outline the challenges faced by the university librarian and authorities during the implementation of the automation project. The absence of ICT-trained personnel in the Madhya Pradesh college library, delays in user databases, and initial lack of support for library software have posed significant issues. The report offers proven automated solutions to address these challenges.

Significance of the Study:

Understanding the status of Government college libraries in Nimar is crucial for several reasons. It provides a baseline for assessing the current state of library services, aids in the identification of areas that require improvement, and serves as a valuable resource for policymakers, educators, and library professionals. Additionally, the findings of this survey can contribute to the ongoing discourse on the role of libraries in educational institutions and help shape strategies for enhancing their effectiveness.

Objectives of the study:

- To find out the availability of sources and services in the libraries of Nimar region
- To examine user information sources, Services and facilities
- To find out the satisfaction about resources and services
- To find out the problems faced by the users while accessing the sources and services.

Methodology:

A Sample of 300 users are selected four Govt. college libraries of Nimor region. The survey will employ a combination of quantitative and qualitative research methods, including on-site visits, interviews with library staff, and surveys distributed to library users. Data analysis will be conducted to derive meaningful insights and draw conclusions based on the collected information. As we embark on this survey of government college libraries in the Nimar region, our aim is to contribute to the betterment of educational resources and services, ultimately fostering an environment conducive to academic excellence and intellectual growth. Present study is focused only on 4 colleges i.e. Shri Neelkantheshwar Government Post Graduate College, Khandwa (SNGPGC), Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru Government College, Nepanagar, (PJNGC), Shaheed Bheema Nayak Government Post Graduate College, Barwani (SBNGPGC), and Government Post Graduate College, Khargone (GPGC)

Analysis and interpretation:

Table-1 Availability of resources, infrastructure and staff

Name of college	Books	Journals	Computers	Staff
SNGPGC, Khandwa	63121	19	17	04
PJNGC, Nepanagar	14868	Nil	01	02
SBNGPGC, Barwani	93620	16	22	08
GPGC, Khargone	47451	12	04	04

Table 01 Shows that the highest number of books 93620 are available in the library of SBNGPGC, followed by SNGPGC college library 63121 books, GPGC college library 47451 books & 14868 books in PJNGC college library. The highest number of 19 journals are available in SNGPGC, 22 computers in SBNGPGC & 08 Staff members in SBNGPGC.

Table-2 Gender-wise distribution of respondents

Male	Female	Name of College	Total	Percentage
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49	24	SNGPGC	73	24.33
51	25	PJNGC	76	25.33
48	27	SBNGPGC	75	25.00
47	29	GPGC	76	25.33
195 (65%)	105 (35%)		300	100%

It is evident from table 02 most of the users (65%) of male users & remaining (35%) of them are female users.

Table-3 Frequency of library visit

	Gender			
Frequency of library visit	Male	Female	Total	Percentage
Daily	77(39.49%)	29(27.62%)	106	35.33
Once in a week	48(24.62%)	31(29.52%)	79	26.33
Twice a week	36(18.46%)	27(25.71%)	63	21.00
Once in a month	18(9.23%)	14(13.33%)	32	10.67
Very rarely	16(8.21%)	4(3.81%)	20	6.67
Total	195(100%)	105(100%)	300	(100%)

It is evident from table 03 that Over a third of users (35.33%) are visiting the library daily. It is also evident from the table that over a fourth of users (26.33%) visit the library twice a week, (10.67%) of them visit once in a month & remaining (6.67%) of them visit rarely.

Table-4 Most used library resources

	Gender			
Library resources	Male	Female	Total	Percentage
Text books	194	103	297	99
Reference books	164	97	261	87
Journals	138	83	221	73
News papers	174	49	223	74
E-books	128	72	200	66
E-journals	134	76	210	70
Any other	59	37	96	32

(Multiple responses collected from the respondents)

Table 04 shows that all the users (99%) use text books, table 04 also shows that most of the users (87%) use reference books, (74%) of the users use news papers, (73%) of them use journals, (70%) of them use e journals, (66%) of them use e books & (32%) of them use other information sources

Table-5 Most used library services and facilities

	Gender			
Services and Facilities	Male	Female	Total	Percentage
Book lending service	195	105	300	100
Reference service	137	61	198	66
Inter Library Loan service	24	19	43	14
Online services	176	73	249	83
Reprographic service	182	99	281	93
Reading facility	190	102	292	97
Lounge	189	101	290	96
Any other pl. specify	37	32	69	23

(Multiple responses collected from the respondents)

Table 05 shows that all the users (100%) of college libraries are using lending service. The table also shows that most of the users are using reading facility (97%) , lounge facility(96%) , reprographic service (93%) & online services. (83%) . Majority of the users (66%) are using reference service . Less percentage of users (14%) are using inter library loan service. Twenty three percent of them are using other service.

Table-6 Problems faced resources, services and facilities

	Gender			
Problems	Male	Female	Total	Percentage
Inadequate facilities	159	95	254	84
Inadequate information literacy skills	146	102	248	82
Inadequate collection to meet curriculum needs	172	86	258	86
Inefficient interlibrary loan services	184	72	256	85
Insufficient staff assistance	127	67	194	64
Late return and fine policies	167	64	231	77
Limited access to e resources	153	79	232	77
Outdated materials	148	86	234	78
Technological barriers	134	51	185	61

(Multiple responses collected from the respondents)

Table 06 shows that most of the users are facing problems namely inadequate collection to meet curriculum needs (86%), inefficient inter library loan services (85%), inadequate facilities (84%) , inadequate information literacy skills (82%) , outdated materials (78%) limited access to e resources (77%) & late return and fine policies (77%) . Majority of the facing the problems of ‘ Insufficient staff assistance’ (64%) & ‘ Technological Barriers’ (61 %).

Table-7 Level of satisfaction about library resources

Level of satisfaction	Male	Female	Total	Percentage
Fully satisfied	45(23.08%)	27(25.71%)	72	24.00
Partially satisfied	76(38.97%)	49(46.67%)	125	41.67
Cannot say	60(30.77%)	24(22.86%)	84	28.00
Dissatisfied	12(6.15%)	4(3.81%)	16	5.33
Fully dissatisfied	2(1.03%)	1(0.95%)	3	1.00
Total	195(100%)	105(100%)	300	(100%)

It is evident from table 07 41.67% of users are partially satisfied with library resources, 24% of them are fully satisfied with library resources, 5.33% of them are dissatisfied & 01% of them are fully dissatisfied. The remaining 28% of them replied that they could not say

Table-8 Level of satisfaction with library services and facilities

Level of satisfaction	Male	Female	Total	Percentage
Fully satisfied	67(34.36%)	34(32.38%)	101	33.67
Partially satisfied	72(36.92%)	58(55.24%)	130	43.33
Cannot say	35(17.95%)	9(8.57%)	44	14.67
Dissatisfied	19(9.74%)	3(2.86%)	22	7.33
Fully dissatisfied	2 (1.03%)	1(0.95%)	3	1.00
Total	195(100%)	105(100%)	300	(100%)

It is evident from table 08 that 43.33% of users are partially satisfied with library service with facilities , 33.67% of them are fully satisfied, 7.33% of them are dissatisfied & 01 of them fully dissatisfied. The remaining 14.67% of them replied that they could not say.

Major findings of the study

Table 01 Shows that the highest number of books 93620 are available in the library of SBNGPGC, followed by SNGPGC college library 63121 books, GPGC college library 47451 books & 14868 books in PJNGC college library. The highest number of 19 journals are available in SNGPGC, 22 computers in SBNGPGC & 08 Staff members in SBNGPGC

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Conclusions:

The book collection available in the libraries is satisfactory but the subscription of journals and infrastructure, particularly the computers is far from satisfaction. The respective managements of the libraries are required to pay attention to these issues on priority basis. The student user visits to the library are not promising. Therefore, the libraries should provide such facilities as comfortable furniture, acceptable room temperature, convenient library hours, latest books , e-resources etc., which would attract them to library. It is equally necessary to provide facilities like the latest computers, excellent bandwidth, Wi-Fi etc., to encourage the use of e-resources. It is important to explain the services of NLIST and Delnet particularly, the Inter Library Loan Services. There is a need to conduct Information Literacy programs on priority basis to enhance the library resources. It is necessary to conduct awareness programmes on various aspects of libraries to encourage the use of library resources

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