
DIGITAL LIBRARY IS AN ADDITION: A STUDY

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Abstract

Information Technology installations in the Universities and its libraries increased the awareness and information literacy in the user community. The long felt need of digital libraries came to handy to the users. The organizational support of INFLIBNET trained the library professional to meet the challenges of increasing problems. The knowledge users had the opinion as the digital library is an addition to the physical library by appreciating the facilities brought by the Information Technology and Digital Libraries.

Keywords : Digital Library

1. Introduction

There is Large scale diversification in the library profession due to acquiring of information technology facilities in its operational sectors. The INFLIBNET made the university libraries strengthen in acquire the Infrastructure facilities and training.

UGC in its Golden Jubilee year 2003 launched a consortium of Universities known as UGC-INFONET E-Journals consortium to provide electronic access over the Internet to scholarly literature in all areas of learning to the university sector in India. The programme is wholly funded by the UGC, The programme is executed by INFLIBNET (Information and Library Network) Centre, Ahmedabad, which is an autonomous institution under the UGC, Access to various E-Journals started from 1st January 2004. The programme will increase in a very fundamental way the resources available to the universities for research and teaching. It will provide the best current and archival periodical literature, from all over the world, to the university community. The programme will go a long way in mitigating the severe shortage of Foreign Journals faced by University Libraries for many years, due to the ever increasing subscription prices, foreign exchange conversion rates, inter disciplinary nature of research, growing demands of user community and limited budgetary resources. The E-Journals programme is a cornerstone of the UGC-INFONET effort, which aims at addressing the teaching, learning, research, connectivity and governance requirements of the Universities. A bouquet of E-Journals were presented to the nation by His Excellency the President of India Dr.A.P.J.Abdul Kalam on 28th December 2003 during the concluding day of UGC's Golden Jubilee celebrations. Currently access to 4200 Full-Text Electronic Journals from 25 Publishers across the globe are available under the programme in SV University Library.

SVU Library has created Databases for Theses (Ph.D and M.Phil Dissertations) and for Serials (Back Volumes of Journals). The creation of database for Books is in progress. Recently SVU Library has procured SOUL package(Software for University Libraries) developed by UGC-INFLIBNET Centre, Ahmedabad, for the total automation and networking of the Library. The internal cabling for LAN connectivity in SVU Library was completed last week. Computer systems have to be procured and installed in different sections of the Library and OPAC facility for users soon.

2. Objective of the Study

In the light of increasing information technology facilities available to the user community in university libraries, this study intended to know the opinion of the users on the present. IT services and the reference for continuing the physical library services.

3. Methodology

Since S.V.University library is providing digital information services apart from the conventional services to its users attempted a study with an object to know the user opinion with the help of a structured questionnaire developed for this purpose.

4. Sampling

The regular users of the both digital and physical library in SV University were identified at the first stage. Among them the questionnaire was administered for 75 users with a request to fill it and return. The distribution of questionnaire was based on accidental sampling. Among them 50 users were responded within time. The filled in questionnaire was based as data source for this study.

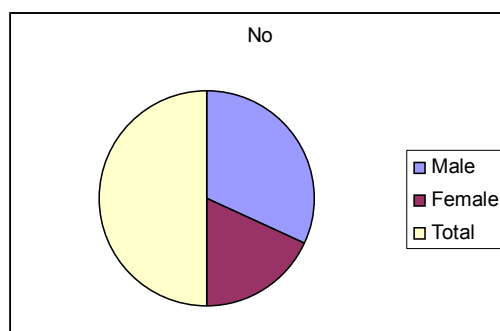
The data collected from the questionnaire was organized and tabulated and analyzed on the basis of simple analysis. Inferences were drawn from the data.

5. Analysis

As shown in Table 1 majority of the sample was research scholars , because they are regular users to the digital library .

Diagram no. 1 Sex wise sample

	Status	No.	Per cent
a.	Research	40	80%
b.	Faculty	10	20%
	TOTAL :	50	100%



From the diagram no .1 we can observe that male respondents are 64 per cent and female respondents are 36 per cent in the total respondents.

Diagram no. 2 Aware of computerization of the library

From the diagram no.2 we can observe that all most all respondents are aware of the computerization of the S.V.University library since it commissioned .

Table .2 Channel of Information

Channel	Frequency	Percentage
Friends	20	40
Circular from the library	12	24
Faculty	16	32
Staff from the library	0	0
Total	48	100

From the table No. 2 it can be observed that 40 per cent of respondents are aware of the computerization of the total library through friends.24 per cent of respondents are known through circular from the library. 32 per cent of respondents are known through their faculty and 16 per cent of respondents are known from the staff from the library.

Table no. 3 Visit of Networked Library Previously

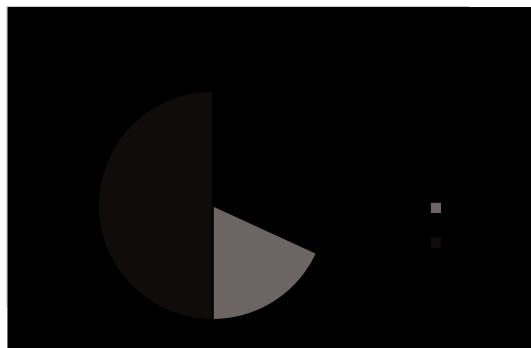
Sex	Yes	No
Male	21 (42%)	11 (22%)
Female	10 (20%)	8 (16%)
TOTAL :	31 (62%)	19 (38%)

From table No. 3 it can be observed that 62 per cent of respondents in total sample are visited networked library previously. Among them 42 per cent are male 20 per cent are female respondents.

Diagram No.3 Frequency of Visit to the Digital Library

From the Diagram no.3 it can be observed that 40 per cent of the sample are visit twice in a week followed by 34 per cent visit once in week to the digital library . The remaining 26 per cent visit occasionally. Hence majority of the sample visit digital library twice in a week .

Diagram No.4 Easily Access The Information From The Digital Library



From the Diagram no.4 it can be observed that all access the information from the digital library easily.

Table No .4 Assistance from the library staff

Sex	Yes	No.
Male	29 (58%)	3 (6%)
Female	18 (36%)	-
Total	47 (94%)	3 (6%)

From the table No. 4 it can be observed that maximum number of respondents (94%) are get assistance from the library staff which include male respondents are 58 percent and female respondents are 36 per cent.

A least per cent of male respondents are not getting assistance from the library staff. Hence majority of the users will assistance from the library staff in the use of Digital library .

Table No.5 : Networked digital library meeting all necessary information

Sex	Yes	No.
Male	25 (50%)	7 (14%)
Female	14 (28%)	4 (8%)
Total	39 (98%)	11(22%)

From the table No. 5 it can be observed that 78 percent of the respondents in the total sample are accepted that networked digital library meeting all their information needs which include 50 percent of the male respondents and 28 percent of female respondents.

Only 22 percent respondents are not accepted as networked digital library meeting all their information needs including 7 percent male, 4 percent female respondents.

Table no .6 Visit other organization for information to research or study

Sex	Yes	No.
Male	23 (46%)	9 (18%)
Female	12 (24%)	6 (12%)
Total	35 (70%)	15(30%)

From the table No. 11 it can be observed that 70 percent of respondents are visit other organizations for information to research or study .Only 30 percent respondents are not visit other organization for information to research or study .

Table no.7 Physical Library is necessary to continue

Sex	Yes	No.
Male	31 (62%)	1 (2%)
Female	18 (36%)	-
TOTAL :	49 (98%)	1 (2%)

From the table No. 7 it can be observed that all most all 98 per cent of respondents are accepted to continue the physical library which is necessary to them.

Table no. 8 Purpose of Physical library to continue

Purpose	No	Percentage
Physical Documents	29	58%
Other library service	14	28%
Staff services	07	14%
Any other	-	-
TOTAL :	50	100

From the table No. 8 it can be observed that maximum number of respondents (58%) are recommended to continue the physical library for physical documents, 28 percent respondents are for other library service, and 14 percent are for staff services.

The analysis shows that physical documents hold strong influence on user community.

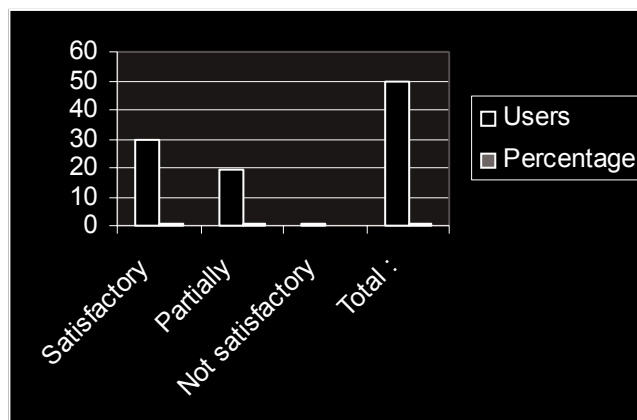
Table No.9 Digital library provide all necessary information instantly

Sex	Yes	No	Total
Male	23 (46%)	11 (22%)	34 (68%)
Female	16 (32%)	-	16 (32%)
Total	39 (78%)	11 (22%)	50 (100%)

From the table No. 9 it can be observed that 78 percent of the respondents are accept digital library provide all necessary information instantly.

Only 22 percent male respondents are not accept digital library provide all necessary information instantly.

Diagram no.5 Physical Library Meeting Necessary Information



From the diagram no.5 majority of the users are stated as they are satisfied with the services of physical library followed by 38 per cent partially satisfied. The negative response is very low . Hence the analysis depicts that physical library providing satisfactory services to the users even in the digital era .

Table no .10 Physical library having more advantages than digital library

Sex	Yes	No
Male	9 (18%)	24(48%)
Female	5 (10%)	9 (18%)
TOTAL :	17 (34%)	33 (66%)

From the table No. 10 it can be observed that 34 per cent of respondents are stated as physical library having more advantages than digital library. But 66 per cent respondents are not accepted to the statement as physical library having more advantages than digital library.

6. Conclusion

With the strength of the data analysis certain inferences were drawn and presenting herewith. The data reveals that almost all research scholars and faculty having certain level of information technology awareness and information literacy. Majority of the users previously visited the digital libraries and automated one, for their research work and study and feeling comfortable with digital library and its technology. Almost all the users in the sample started as physical library has to be continued with all its quality and strengthened. They also felt that the physical library is not substitute to digital library. It is only an addition, further the facilities available in conventional libraries can not be overruled at any cost by the digital library, both showed hand in hand at one place.

7. Reference

1. Annual report of the S.V. University Library 2005.

About Author



Mrs. P. Latha at present working as Library Assistant at S.V. University. She did M.L.I.Sc., and M.Phil. Presently working for Ph.D. on Information Technology in Medical Colleges. She attended the National Seminars and two papers were under publication. She is looking after the circulation system in S.V. University Library. She is interested in Information and Communication Technology.