

College Library Services in Marathwada Region: A Study on Impact of NAAC Accreditation

Shivshankar Ghumre

D K Veer

Abstract

The objective of the present study is to highlight college library services in Marathwada region. It includes technical processing, circulation, periodicals control, reference services, book-bank services, and IT based services as well as modernisation of the library. The present study includes assessment of the present status of college library and its services in Marathwada region; and to find out need for change, to suggest practical solutions to the prevailing problems of the college libraries using questionnaire method. The questionnaire was sent to all the 116 NAAC accredited Arts, Commerce, and Science colleges in the month of October 2010. Out of the 116, only 80 (68.97%) questionnaires were received within a month.

Keywords: Library Services, College Libraries, NAAC, Marathwada

1. Introduction

After independence, various states of the country have been responsible for the progress of education in their respective areas, but the Central Government also shares some responsibilities in some field of education. The Central Government is irresponsible for determining the standard of research, as well as for science, technological, and higher education. Some universities and institutions have come under direct control of the Central Government. The Central Government established the University Grants Commission (UGC), Indian Institutes of Technology (IIT), National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) etc for the development of higher education in the country. At present, in Higher Education, there are 335 universities, 16,885 colleges. (www.education.nic.in, accessed on 13-08-2010)

The Marathawada region is dependent upon mainly the agriculture, and is backward in comparison with other parts of the state as far as education, industry, trade and commerce, and standards of living of its people are concerned. Its backwardness is due to historical, geographical, and political conditions. Marathawada, a division of Maharashtra state, includes Aurangabad. As regards higher education, Marathawada has three Universities: one is for agriculture established in 1972 at Parabhani having eleven affiliated colleges, and other two are non-agricultural universities. Among the non-agricultural universities, Dr. Babasahab Ambedkar Marathawada University (BAMU), Aurangabad (www.bamu.net, accessed on 12-08-2010) established in 1958 has 314 affiliated colleges, and Swami Ramanand Teerth Marathwada University (SRTMU), Nanded, established in 1994, has 361 affiliated colleges (www.srtmun.ac.in, accessed on 12-08-2010).

2. Objective of the Study

The present study entitled "College Library Services in Marathwada" is undertaken with the following objectives:

1. To know the present status of NAAC accredited colleges in Maharashtra in general and in Marathwada in particular.
2. To survey college library services in the Marathwada region.
3. To examine the budgetary provision of these libraries.
4. To study the extent of Information Technology application in the libraries under survey.
5. To identify, if any, lacunas in the library facilities, services and other infrastructure facilities.

3. Hypothesis

The following are the some of the major hypotheses formulated for the study.

1. Library budget increases every year.
2. Most of the college libraries used SOUL Software for Library Automation.
3. The library services have improved due to NAAC accreditation.

4. Scope and Limitations

This study is limited to 116 NAAC accredited Arts, Commerce, and Science college libraries in Marathwada affiliated to SRTMU, Nanded and Dr. BAMU, Aurangabad. Out of these colleges, only 80 colleges have responded to the questionnaire. Professional colleges i.e. of Law, B.Ed., Engineering, Management, Information Technology etc. are excluded from the study.

5. Research Methodology

Sadhu and Singh pointed out the advantages of survey in the following words:

“This ... has the advantage of grater scope in the sense that a large volume of information can be controlled from a very large population. Survey research, no doubt, is more expensive but the amount and quality of information, that is collected, makes such investigation very economical. This information is also accurate, of course, within the range of sampling errors because trained and technically knowledgeable personnel are employed for the job.” (Sadhu and Singh, 1992)

Considering the importance of ‘Survey’, it was decided to apply survey method to the collect data from NAAC accredited Arts, Commerce and Science college libraries in Marathwada.

6. Data Analysis

Data collected from the surveyed libraries has been tabulated and presented under following heads.

6.1 Year of Establishment of College

Table No 1: Year of Establishment

Sr. No.	Year of Establishment	No. of Responses	Percentage
1	1950-1959	4	5
2	1960-1969	8	10
3	1970-1979	15	18.75
4	1980-1989	18	22.5
5	1990-1999	17	21.25
6	Not Responded	18	22.5
	Total	80	100

If we compare the sample of responses received with the growth in the colleges in Marathwada, it can be observed that about 30 (37.50%) colleges were established before 1980. Those are considered as old colleges, and the remaining 17 (21.25%) colleges are considered as younger. Therefore, it is assumed that, the maximum number of respondents has good facilities and services.

6.2 Faculties available in the Colleges

Table No 2 Faculties available in the colleges

Sr. No.	Faculties	No. of Responses Received	Percentage
1	Arts	2	2.5
2	Commerce	2	2.5
3	Science	3	3.75
4	Arts and Commerce	11	13.75
5	Arts and Science	11	13.75
6	Arts, Commerce and Science	34	42.50
7	Arts, Science and Management	3	3.75
8	Arts, Commerce, Science and Management	14	17.5
	Total	80	100

From table no.2, it has been observed that the maximum responses i.e. 48 (60%) has been received from the colleges having Arts, Commerce and Science faculty. From these colleges 14 (17.5%) were having Management faculty also. There were 7 (8.75%) single faculty colleges, 11 (13.75) colleges having arts and commerce faculties, 11 (13.75) colleges having Arts and Science faculty, whereas 3 (3.75%) colleges having Arts, Science and Management faculty responded to the question. It is clear that 73 out of 80 (91.25%) colleges were multi faculty colleges. It is noticed that 75 (93.75%) colleges having Arts faculty, 61 (76.25%) colleges

were having Commerce faculty, 65 (81.25%) colleges were having Science faculty, where as 17 (21.25%) colleges were having Management faculty. It is interpreted that some of Arts, Commerce and Science colleges were having Management faculty. Such type of colleges started professional courses such as B.B.A., B.C.A., B.C.S., etc.

7. Library Budget

Table No 3: Library Budget

Sr. No	Range	2005-06		2006-07		2007-08		2008-09		2009-10	
		No of Resp.	%	No of Resp.	%	No of Resp.	%	No of Resp.	%	No of Resp.	%
1	Up to 50000	24	30	16	20	20	25	22	27.5	13	16.25
2	50001 to 100000	11	13.75	14	17.5	17	21.25	15	18.75	21	26.25
3	100001 to 150000	13	16.25	21	26.25	16	20	6	7.5	3	3.75
4	150001 to 200000	8	10	3	3.75	0	0	5	6.25	7	8.75
5	200001 to 250000	5	6.25	4	5	5	6.25	5	6.25	5	6.25
6	250001 to 300000	8	10	8	10	6	7.5	8	10	2	2.5
7	above 300000	11	13.75	14	17.5	16	20	19	23.75	29	36.25
	Total	80	100	80	100	80	100	80	100	80	100

Chi-square Test:

Variables	Chi-square	DF	Sig. Level
Library Budget	50.02	34	0.05

(0.05 43.72, 0.01= 50.89)

Above tables depict the co-efficient of chi-square on library budget. It reveals that there is significant difference found between library budget chi-square [50.02 (df – 34), P<0.05].

Software used for computerization of the library

Table No 4. Software used in Libraries

Software used	CDSISIS	ETH Pune	LIBMAN	Shikshan Kranti	SOUL
Responses	2	2	2	2	27
Percentage	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	33.75

From the above table it is noted that majority (33.75%) of college libraries use soul software developed by the INFLIBNET, Ahmedabad, and CDSISIS; ETH Pune, LIBMAN, and Shikshan Krranti software being used by 2.5 percent college libraries each.

Number of book issued/borrowed under ILL

Table 5: Number of Books Issued/Borrowed under ILL

Sr. No.	Range	No of Books Issued		No. of Books Borrowed	
		No. of Responses	Percentage	No. of Responses	Percentage
1	Up to 10	05	6.25	04	5.00
2	11 to 20	03	3.75	02	2.50
3	21 to 30	04	5.00	00	00
4	31 to 40	00	00	00	00
5	41 to 50	02	2.50	03	3.75
6	Above 50	06	7.50	05	6.25
	Total	20	25%	14	17.50

Table 5 shows that only 25% college libraries have responded for question on number of books issued under ILL service, whereas only 17.50% college libraries have responded for the number of books borrowed under ILL service from other libraries. It is also observed that the number of books issued ranged from 2 to 150 in the year 2010, whereas the number of books borrowed under ILL from other libraries was a minimum of 02 and a maximum 102 in the year 2010.

Age of the Librarian vs IT based Services Provided in the Library**Table No. 6 Age of librarian vs IT based services provided in the Library**

Sr. No.	Services provided	Age group of Librarians (Responses in Percentage)		
		30 - 40 Years	40 - 50 Years	50-60 Years
1	Computers available in the Library	90.63	97.62	71.42
2	Software used for library Operations	75	64.29	42.86
3	Automation began or completed	84.36	59.52	42.86
4	Computerised circulation	43.75	40.48	14.29
5	Bar code technology for circulation	31.25	35.71	14.29
6	Automation of periodicals	0	4.76	14.29
7	Database available	34.28	33.33	14.29
8	OPAC for users	56.25	40.48	42.86
9	Internet facility	96.88	47.62	42.86
10	E-resources available	34.38	16.67	14.29
11	CDs/DVDs available	71.88	61.9	14.29
12	Information literacy program for users	31.25	26.19	42.86
	Mean	54.16	44.04	30.95

(Percentages are calculated with in age group: 30-40 = 32, 40-50 = 42 & 50-60 = 7)

The table indicates that there is a unique relation between the IT based services offered by libraries and the age of the librarian. The young librarian aging between 30 to 40 are advanced in offering IT based services. The mean of the services provided by them is 54.16, whereas that of the librarians between 40 to 50, it is 44.04. The librarians providing least services are from the age group between 50 and 60. A keen observation of the above table noted that the group with age from 40 to 50, is ahead in computer purchase and bar-code based library circulation. The librarians who are automating periodicals are from 40 to 50 age group. Here the experience seems to count.

Impact of NAAC Accreditation on College Library Facilities**Table 7: Impact of NAAC Accreditation on Library Facilities**

Sr. No.	Name of facility	College Libraries in %		Growth in percentage
		Before of NAAC accreditation	After NAAC accreditation	
1	Library Committee	72.28	75	2.42
2	Separate Library Building	41.17	48.75	7.58
3	Water & Electricity supply	61.76	66.25	4.5
4	Book selection committee	60	81.25	21.25
5	Visitors' register	52.42	88.75	36.33
6	Separate Periodicals section	51.42	53.75	2.33
7	Computers for library operations	28.57	73.75	45.18
	Mean	52.52	69.64	17.08

The above table indicates that there has been an increase in the library facility after the NAAC accreditation, to mention specifically book selection committee, visitors' register, availability of computers in the library etc. Having tried to get result on the basis of the mean, the number of library facilities before and after accreditation, increased by 17% in the library.

8. Impact of NAAC Accreditation on Library Services

Having comparatively studied the number of library services before and after NAAC accreditation through the survey, the data received has been tabulated as follows.

Table 8: Impact of NAAC Accreditation on Library Services

Sr. No.	Name of services provided by Library	College Libraries in %		Growth in %
		Before NAAC Accreditation	After NAAC Accreditation	
1	Classification	74.28	91.25	16.97
2	Cataloguing	65	65	0
3	Computerised catalogue (OPAC)	0	45	100
4	In house circulation of books	57.14	88.75	13.16
5	In house circulation of periodicals	42.85	78.75	35.09
6	Computerised circulation	0	32.5	100

7	Inter Library Loan	25.71	46.25	20.54
8	Book Bank	34.28	48.75	14.47
9	Reference Service	51.42	72.5	21
10	Orientation to users	23.41	23.41	0
11	Abstracting Service	7.57	7.75	0.18
12	Indexing Service	23.41	23.75	0.34
13	Photocopying (reprography) Service	14.28	47.5	32.22
14	Clipping Service	54.28	61.25	6.97
15	C A S Service	11.42	23.75	12.3
16	S D I Service	2.85	11.25	8.4
17	Bibliographic Service	22.85	25	2.15
18	Library Automation (in progress or complete)	14.28	53.75	39.47
19	Computerised circulation	0	36.25	100
20	Bar code technology for circulation	0	36.25	100
21	Database available	0	27.5	100
22	Internet based Services	5.71	56.25	50.54
23	E-resources available	0	33.75	100
24	Information Literacy Program	0	33.75	100
	Mean	22.11	44.58	40.58

The above table clearly shows that there is a positive effect of NAAC accreditation on the library services. Consequently, the number of library services has increased. After the NAAC accreditation even those services previously unavailable have been introduced. Library automation deserves a particular mention among them, for example, computerised cataloguing & circulation, use of bar-code technology, database creation, and e-resource based services, and internet based services, information literacy program for users. Having drawn the mean of the services before and after NAAC accreditation, it is revealed that the services offered have nearly doubled, and increase is more than 40 percent.

9. Conclusions and Implications

It is noted that in the financial year 2005-06; 2008-09 and 2009-10 library expenditure was more than library budget. On an average, per capita expenditure in college libraries during financial year 2009 -10 was Rs. 232.89. Not a single library fulfils the standards suggested by Ranganathan, Radhakrishnah, and Kothari Commission.

1. It is also observed that 33.75% libraries were using SOUL software for computerized catalogue. Almost all (33.75%) libraries were kept and maintained separate terminal for OPAC to users, therefore it is noted that, the libraries having search modes are as the SOUL software search modes.
2. It is noted that there has been an outstanding increase in the library facility after the NAAC accreditation; it is found that there is an altogether 17% increase in the library facility after NAAC accreditation.
3. It comes out as fact that the services provided by the library have been double and increase of them is more than 40 percent after the NAAC accreditation.

References

1. Gaur, P. (1980). Glossary of Library Science Technical Terms. Patna: Library Science Publications.
2. Good, C.V. (1959). Dictionary of Education, Ed.-2, New York, McGraw Hill Book Company Inc., P. 1104.
Good C.V., 1959, Dictionary of Education, Ed.-2, New York, McGraw Hill Book Company Inc., P. 110
3. Hornby, A. (1971). The Advanced Learners Dictionary of Current English (2nd ed.). Landon: Oxford, ELBS and OUP.
4. Parmar, P.P. et. al. (1989), Ed. Encyclopedic Dictionary of Library and Information Science, Vol. 1, New Delhi, Anmol Publications, P. 259.
5. Sidhu, A.N. and Singh, Amerjit (1992). Research Methodology in Social Science, Bombay, Himalaya Publishing House, Ed. 5, P. 32.
6. www.bamu.net/affiliatedcolleges.htm accessed on 30-07-2010
7. www.srtmun.digitaluniversity.ac/affiliated_colleges_and_institutions/ accessed on 30-07-2010.

About Authors

Dr. Shivshankar Ghumre, Librarian, MSS College, Aurangabad.

E-mail: charvi.ghumre@gmail.com

Dr. Dharmraj Veer, Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad.

E-mail: dk.veer@rediffmail.com