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USE OF LIBRARY RESOURCES AND SERVICES BY UG STUDENTS -A STUDY OF NIT, KURUKSHETRA
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Abstract: The present study tries to know the use of library resources and services by UG Students of NIT, Kurukshetra. On the basis of the streams, 141 students were selected with the help of Stratified Sampling. The study highlights that the students visit the Library mainly for preparation of their course work and assignments (83.68%), examinations notes and tests (66.66%), preparation for workshops (39.71%) and tutorial presentations (16.31%). Maximum students considered that library collections (86.5%) fulfill their needs. Maximum students i.e. 61.7% used photocopying service followed by reference services (37.6%), current awareness services (31.2%) and circulation services (21.3%). Majority of the students visit the library for getting books (80.9%) followed by using periodicals (34.0%), reference materials (31.2%) and to read newspapers (30.5%) as source of information. Among the documentary Sources, first preference was given to text books (70.2%) followed by reference books (43.2%), Newspapers and its clippings (17.7%), Current Journals (14.2%), Back Volumes of the Journals (12.0%) and Thesis/Dissertations etc. (8.5%). The students faced some difficulties to acquire information such as lack of time (32.6%), inadequate library resources (21.3%), numerous sources (28.4%) and lack of suitable services (5.7%) in the library.

Keyword: Library Resources, Library Services, Information Needs, Documentary Sources.

INTRODUCTION:

The main purpose of any library is to support teaching, learning and research activities in sphere of life. The concept of Information Resource is often not defined properly. Library documents are called Information Sources as they provide information. They are also called Information Resources. But the terms Information Source and Information Resource are not interchangeable. A Source is one that makes something available, but a Resource helps in creating something new. As a library generates all its services on the basis of its information sources, they can also be called information resources. Information has its value, which no one can deny. Information is essential for survival, progress and it is a basic need of life. In the context of user studies, information has been used "to denote factual data or advice or opinion, a physical object, such as a book or journal, or the channel through which a message is conveyed, for example, oral or written communication" (Rohde, 1986). Within library and information science, information has been defined as "any stimulus that reduces uncertainty" (Krikelas, 1983). In legal sense, "information" means any material in any form, including records, documents, memos, e-mails, opinions, advices, press releases, circulars, orders, logbooks, contracts, reports, papers, samples, models, data material held in any electronic form and information relating to any private body which can be accessed by a public authority under any other law for the time being in force (RTI ACT, 2005). The term information need has also been used in a variety of ways. Information need is a subjective, relative concept only in the mind of the experiencing individual (Wilson and Streatfield, 1981). It has been defined as the "recognition of the existence of uncertainty" (Krikelas,

1983).

The available literature on the use of library resources and services represent different patterns and problems among the users such as Adedibu and Adio (1997) revealed that 70 % medical students spent 3-8 hours per week in the library for consulting relevant books and 68 % respondents approached the library staff for assistance in searching the books. All the respondents were satisfied with services of the library staff. Shanmugam (1999) found that maximum respondents focused on Informal and Interpersonal sources for their course work. Printed sources such as periodicals, encyclopaedias and indexes were not frequently used by the respondents. Public libraries were ranked higher than college libraries. Investigations showed that computers were largely used for typing rather than for seeking and processing information. Abifarin Abimbola (2003) found that students make less use of the library than expected. They preferred to attend formal lectures for seeking information than library. Oyesiku and Oduwele (2004) in their study found a higher frequency of use of library by the students during examinations and to prepare their assignments. The study also highlighted the inadequacy of library collections. Sharma and Pant (2004) revealed that 10% respondents were using library for referring the journal articles and 40.9% get library instruction. Lack of reading material and deficiency of their knowledge unable them to use library services and access information. The Internet was found most popular among the respondents. In a survey conducted a survey of the students and teachers of F.S. Idabacha Library to ascertain the level of effectiveness found that Circulation and Information Technology services were deficient. Frequency of use of library was low, which

USE OF LIBRARY RESOURCES AND SERVICES BY UG STUDENTS -A STUDY OF NIT, KURUKSHETRA
SUSHILA KUMARI , PREM KUMAR , ANIL KUMAR

<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);"> USE OF LIBRARY RESOURCES AND SERVICES BY UG STUDENTS - A STUDY OF NIT, KURUKSHETRA SUSHILA KUMARI, PREM KUMAR, ANIL KUMAR </p>	<p> Indian Streams Research Journal ISSN 2230-7850 Volume-3, Issue-6, July-2013 </p> <p> indicates that library did not meet information needs of users properly (Uganneya and Idachaba 2005). Patitungkho and Deshpande (2005) reported that most of respondents (41%) stated their method of seeking information by consulting a knowledgeable person in the field. First three preferences were given to textbooks, periodicals and newspapers and majority of the respondents (82 %) seek information for preparing their lectures. It was revealed that most of the faculty members (57%) used textbooks. The Internet had been almost universally adopted for searching materials from the library by using Google.com (as search engine) and email for communication. Unavailability of information and lack of time were the major problems of the majority of respondents in receiving information. Popoola (2008) in his study found a difference among the faculty members regarding awareness about the available library information products and services but they did not have sufficient knowledge of it in relevance to their teaching and research. The survey also revealed that the level of knowledge of faculty staff had positive relationship with the frequency of use, consultation with the librarians, faculty status and membership of library related committees. Edem and others (2009) examined that, catalogue indexes were used by majority of the users as a source of information. The users did not satisfy regarding the resources due to lack of physical materials and the cumbersome library organization. A Survey of graduate students was conducted in Boston University in 2012. The survey found that majority of the students used the libraries regularly, 51% respondents physically visit the library at least one time in a week, near about 2/3rd respondents access the online services of the libraries at least once a week. A study was conducted by Parveen Kumar (2013) to find out the resources and the services utilised by the students of IIM Rohtak and found that 63.54% students visited the library to read the newspapers but 32.39% students were not satisfied with the existing library resources. The study revealed that except for Universities, most of the facilities were not aware of the information Technology, due to lack of infrastructure in their libraries. </p> <p> Methodology, Sample Procedure & Techniques of Data Collection: - The present study is descriptive and exploratory in nature. The stratified random sampling method is used and 141 students (i.e. 10% of universe) were selected from the Institute (1413 B.Tech students) according to their strength randomly (Viz. Civil Engg. =21, Electrical Engg. =27, Mechanical Engg. =34, Electronics & Comm.Engg. = 31, Computer Engg. = 16, Information Tech. Engg. = 6, Industrial Engg. & Mgt. = 6). In the present study, interview-schedule, non-participant observation method, research articles and other relevant literature pertaining to the study have been consulted as sources of data. The present study is carried out in NIT, Kurukshetra of Haryana to know about the following objectives: </p> <p> 1To explore the information needs of undergraduate students. 2To identify the Resources and Services which utilized by </p> <p> the Students. 3To find out the problems that undergraduate students encounter in information seeking. </p> <p> RESULTS AND DISCUSSION:- The findings indicates that the main needs of undergraduate students of engineering which compel to them go to the Library for the purpose of Course work and assignments(83.68%), Preparation for examinations notes and Tests (66.66%), General reading to enhance lectures notes (55.31%), Seminars or preparation for workshops (39.71%) and Tutorial presentations (16.31%). The study indicated that 20.6% students visit their library daily followed by twice a week (39.0%), weekly (25.5%), fortnightly (5.0%) and monthly (9.9%). Thus, study reveals that all the students visit the library, but their frequencies of visit vastly differ. Maximum students (85.1%) visit the library within a week i.e. daily (20.6%), weekly (25.5%) and twice a week (39.0%). Table no. 4 shows the views of respondents regarding library collections. Maximum Students viewed that collection of resources in the Library are excellent (8.5%), fair (40.4%) and adequate (37.6%). Thus, 86.5% students consider the library collection is sufficient to their needs. Table No 5 highlights the response of Under-Graduate regarding the opening hours of Library. Maximum respondents i.e. 83.7% favoured the opening hours of library but 16.3% students did not satisfy with it. Table No. 6 explains the results of library services utilized by the students as follows:- </p> <p> (a) The Circulation Service is used by maximum respondents very frequently (9.2%), frequently (12.1%), sometimes (22.7%) and rarely (9.2%), but 46.8% respondents never used it. (b) The Reference Service is utilized by maximum respondents very frequently (9.9%), frequently (27.7%), sometimes (17.7%) and rarely (14.2%), but 30.5 % students did not utilize it. (c) Majority of the students i.e. 51.1% did not use Indexing Service while 5.7, 14.2, 19.9 and 9.2% used it very frequently, frequently, sometimes and rarely. (d) Majority of the students i.e. 52.5% did not use Indexing Service while 2.1, 12.1, 22.0 and 11.3% students used it very frequently, frequently, sometimes and rarely. (e) Maximum students (31.9% used very frequently, 29.8% frequently, 10.6% sometimes and 4.3% used it rarely) but 23.4% students never visit the library in this regards. Table No. 7 highlights the purposes of visit to library as follows:- (a) Majority of students visited the library (35.5% very frequently, 45.4% frequently and 15.6% some time) to issue the books. (b) The study highlight that 6.4% students visit the library very frequently, 17.0% frequently and 27.7% sometime to use the periodicals while 34.0% respondents never visit the library for use of this service. (c) The study indicates that 10.6%, 14.2% and 28.4% respondents visit the library very frequently, frequently and sometimes respectively to use the reference material. On the other hand 31.2% students never go to the library for using the reference material as a source of information. (d) Large numbers of respondents i.e. 12.1, 18.4 and 27.7% respondents visit the library very frequently, frequently and sometimes to read the newspapers/ magazines in the library. More than 1/4th i.e. </p>	<p style="text-align: center;">2</p>
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27.0% students never utilize this resource as a source of information. (e) It is observed in the study that majority of the students (68.1%) did not use audio-visual material as source of information. Thus on the basis of above interpretation it is concluded that first preference given goes to the library for to get books(96.5%) followed by to read newspapers(58.2%), to use reference materials(53.2%), to use periodicals(51.1%) and to use audio-visual materials(22.0%).

According to the table no. 8 there are only 5.0% respondents who used the Thesis/Dissertations very frequently, 3.5% frequently whereas 13.5% respondents used this source of information sometimes but 63.8% students never used Thesis/Dissertations as a source of information. It is also found in the study that maximum respondents did not use the Statistical Tables as source of information. It was observed in the study that 5.7% and 9.2% respondents used current journals very frequently and frequently respectively whereas 16.3% used current journals some times. Maximum respondents i.e. 51.8% respondents never used current journals as a source of information. More or less, the same pattern existed in using of back volumes of the journals. According to the table no. 8 there are only 5.7% respondents who used the general magazines very frequently, 14.2% respondents used it frequently whereas 26.2% respondents use the general magazines some times and only 14.2% respondents used it rarely and there are 39.7% respondents who never visited the library for using general magazines as a source of information. Articles related to survey as a source of information used by 5.7% and 1.4% respondents very frequently and frequently respectively. Maximum respondents i.e. 64.5% respondents never used it. Majority of students i.e. 63.1% students did not use pamphlets as a source of information. Newspapers and its clipping as source of information used by 7.1% and 10.6% respondents very frequently and frequently respectively whereas 22.7% and 17.7% respondents used it sometimes and rarely respectively. Maximum respondents i.e. 41.8% respondents never used Newspapers and its clipping as a source of information. Maximum respondents i.e. 68.8% respondents never used proceeding of seminars/conferences, library catalogue and other official documents as a source of information. Table no. 9 reveals that maximum respondents i.e. 28.4% use periodicals for general awareness followed by updating their knowledge and to prepare their exams. notes respectively 22.7% and 10.6% from the selected sample. It is noted in the survey that 29.1% never used periodical for any activity which is mentioned in the above 9. Only 6.4% use periodical for research works. It is cleared from the table no. 10 that 32.6% students face difficulties to acquire information due to lack of time, inadequate library resources(21.3%), lack of suitable service (5.7%) lack of suitable journals(3.5%) and 28.4% students not acquire information due to numerous sources of information.

CONCLUSIONS:-

The findings revealed that the students go to the Library for preparation of their course work and assignments (83.68%), examinations notes and tests (66.66%), preparation for workshops (39.71%) and tutorial

presentations (16.31%). Maximum students considered collections of library (86.5%) fulfill their needs. The study shows that 39.0% students visit the library twice a week. Maximum students i.e. 61.7% used photocopying services followed by reference services, current awareness services and circulation services respectively 37.6%, 31.2% and 21.3% from the universe. Regarding the purpose of visits to the library, first preference was given to get books (80.9%) followed by use periodicals (34.0%), reference materials (31.2%), read newspapers (30.5%) and to use audio-visual materials (7.8%). The researcher arranged the responses of the Documentary Sources as per utilization process of the students. First preference was given to text books (70.2%) followed by reference books (43.2%), Newspapers and its clippings (17.7%), Current Journal (14.2%), Back Volumes of the Journal(12.0%), Indexing Journals(10.6%), Thesis/Dissertations(8.5%) and Library Acquisition list(7.8%). It is found in the survey that 28.4% respondents use periodicals for increasing their general awareness, updating knowledge and to prepare their notes respectively 22.7% and 10.6%. Only 6.4% respondents use periodical for research works. It is cleared from survey that 17.0% students attended conferences/ Seminars/Workshops/Lectures related to the field very frequently & frequently whereas 42.6% students some times. 75.9% students used computer as a source of information. It is noted in the study that 32.6% students faced difficulties to acquire information due to lack of time and 21.3% due to inadequate library resources. 28.4% students not acquired information due to numerous sources of information and 5.7% students responsible it lack of suitable services in the library.

Table No. 1
Information needs of Under-Graduate Students

Sr. No.	Information needs of Under-Graduate Students	Frequency	Percent
1	Course work and assignments	118	83.68
2	Preparation for examinations and Tests	94	66.66
3	General reading to enhance lectures notes	78	53.31
4	Seminars or preparation for workshops	56	39.71
5	Tutorial presentations	25	16.31

Table No 2
How often do you visit the Institute Library?

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Daily	29	20.6	20.6	20.6
Twice a week	55	39.0	39.0	59.6
Weekly	36	25.5	25.5	85.1
Fortnightly	7	5.0	5.0	90.1
Monthly	14	9.9	9.9	100.0
Total	141	100.0	100.0	

Table No.4
How do you consider library collection

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Excellent	12	8.5	8.5	8.5
Adequate	53	37.6	37.6	46.1
Fair	57	40.4	40.4	86.5
Inadequate	17	12.1	12.1	98.6
Poor	2	1.4	1.4	100.0
Total	141	100.0	100.0	

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Table No 5

Library opening hours are				
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Very convenient	36	25.5	25.5	25.5
Fairly convenient	43	30.5	30.5	56.0
Convenient	39	27.7	27.7	83.7
Inconvenient	19	13.5	13.5	97.2
Very inconvenient	4	2.8	2.8	100.0
Total	141	100.0	100.0	

Table No 6
LIBRARY SERVICE USED BY STUDENTS

LIBRARY SERVICE USED BY STUDENTS	Very frequently	Frequently	Sometimes	Rarely	Never	Total
Circulation Service	13(9.2)	17(12.1)	32(22.7)	13(9.2)	66(46.8)	141(100)
Reference Service	14(9.9)	39(27.7)	25(17.7)	20(14.2)	43(30.5)	141(100)
Indexing Service	8(5.7)	20(14.2)	28(19.9)	13(9.2)	72(51.1)	141(100)
Abstracting Service	3(2.1)	17(12.1)	31(22.0)	16(11.3)	74(52.5)	141(100)
Photocopying Services	45(31.9)	42(29.8)	15(10.6)	6(4.3)	33(23.4)	141(100)

(Note- figures given in the brackets are percentage)

Table No 7

Purpose of visit of Library

Purpose of visit	Very frequently	Frequently	Sometimes	Rarely	Never	Total
To get books	50(35.5)	64(45.4)	22(15.6)	5(3.5)	-	141(100)
To use periodicals	9(6.4)	24(17.0)	39(27.7)	21(14.9)	48(34.0)	141(100)
To use reference material	15(10.6)	20(14.2)	40(28.4)	23(16.6)	44(31.2)	141(100)
To read newspapers/magazines	17(12.1)	26(18.4)	39(27.7)	21(14.9)	38(27.0)	141(100)
To use audio-visual material	7(5.0)	4(2.8)	20(14.2)	14(9.9)	96(68.1)	141(100)
Any others	6(4.3)	3(2.1)	8(5.7)	5(3.5)	119(84.4)	141(100)

(Note- figures given in the brackets are percentage)

Table No 8

Use of information Sources

Documentary Sources	Very frequently	Frequently	Sometimes	Rarely	Never	Total
Books	13(9.2)	43(30.5)	26(18.4)	18(12.8)	71(50.5)	141(100)
Reference books	25(17.7)	36(25.5)	35(24.9)	18(12.8)	37(26.4)	141(100)
Theses/Dissertations	7(5.0)	31(22.0)	19(13.5)	28(19.9)	96(68.1)	141(100)
Statistical Tables	8(5.7)	31(22.0)	22(15.6)	18(12.8)	92(65.5)	141(100)
Periodicals	3(2.1)	13(9.2)	28(19.9)	28(19.9)	77(54.9)	141(100)
a. Current Journals	3(2.1)	18(12.8)	26(18.4)	28(19.9)	74(52.5)	141(100)
b. Back volumes of the Journal	8(5.7)	28(19.9)	35(24.9)	28(19.9)	56(39.7)	141(100)
c. General Magazines	8(5.7)	20(14.2)	25(17.7)	17(12.1)	91(64.5)	141(100)
Survey articles	3(2.1)	7(5.0)	20(14.2)	22(15.6)	89(62.8)	141(100)
Pamphlets	10(7.1)	15(10.6)	32(22.7)	28(19.9)	56(39.7)	141(100)
Newspapers and its clipping	4(2.8)	3(2.1)	18(12.8)	18(12.8)	98(69.5)	141(100)
Proceeding of seminars/conference	4(2.8)	3(2.1)	15(10.6)	28(19.9)	91(64.5)	141(100)
Official documents	2(1.4)	8(5.7)	17(12.1)	18(12.8)	96(68.1)	141(100)
Library catalogue	2(1.4)	8(5.7)	17(12.1)	18(12.8)	96(68.1)	141(100)

(Note- figures given in the brackets are percentage)

Table No 9

Please indicate the purpose of using periodical.

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Updating Knowledge	32	22.7	22.7	22.7
To prepare Notes	15	10.6	10.6	33.3
General Awareness	40	28.4	28.4	61.7
Research	9	6.4	6.4	68.1
Any other	4	2.8	2.8	70.9
No use	41	29.1	29.1	100.0
Total	141	100.0	100.0	

Table No. 10

What are the difficulties you face to acquire information in your field?

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Lack of time	46	32.6	32.6	32.6
Inadequate Library resources	30	21.3	21.3	53.9
Information scattered in too many sources	48	34.0	34.0	87.9
Lack of suitable service	8	5.7	5.7	93.6
Lack of suitable journals	5	3.5	3.5	97.2
Any others	4	2.8	2.8	100.0
Total	141	100.0	100.0	

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