

Faculty Members Knowledge in Information and Communication Technology in Krishnagiri District

D.Dhanaseelan

Research Scholar

Dept. of Library and Information Science

Annamalai University

Annamalai Nagar, Chidambaram, Tamil Nadu

Dr.T.Prabakaran

Asst. Professor

Dept. of Library and Information Science

Annamalai University

Annamalai Nagar, Chidambaram, Tamil Nadu

***Abstract** - ICT plays an important role in higher education. It helps to increase variety of educational services & medium, promote equal opportunities to obtain education & information, develop a system of collecting & disseminating educational information, promote technology literacy and sharing experience & information with others. The study reveals that how the faculty members using ICT facilities available in the Arts and science colleges in Krishnagiri district. It also found their knowledge about ICT Sources and Services, preferred search engine, browser used to access ICT and so on. In this article, data's were collected from respondents and analyzed by using various simple frequency and other tools.*

Key words: Information and Communication Technology (ICT), faculty, browser, search engines.

Introduction

The application of ICT facilitates easy and instantaneous access to information. It provides opportunities for libraries and information centres to widen the scope of their resources and services and to increase their significance within the organisation they serve. The increasing availability of information in machine readable forms allows many information needs to be satisfied with decreased involvement of libraries and librarians. Information is generated too faster that the libraries with traditional technologies are unable to handle.

The information and Communication Technologies have brought many benefits of library and information systems and services. The application of computers in storage, retrieval and dissemination of information has brought new possibilities of automatic indexing and free text searching. Computerized acquisition helps processing purchase requests, receiving and accessioning documents, invoice processing and payment arrangement, order follow-up, online enquiries and preparation of reports, etc. In this process, computers enable libraries in making use of the same data available in different files without entering it again each time. Computerized catalogue is the most efficient tool in retrieving quickly. Computerized serial control helps in creating a database of journals, processing new subscriptions, renewal of subscriptions, order placing and invoice processing, receiving and recording issues, claiming missing issues, bindery management, maintenance of list of periodicals, serials holdings, etc. Circulation procedure in a conventional system is very lengthy and consumes much of the

staff time in repetitive works. The use of technological devices such as computers, barcode scanners, smart cards, etc in circulation helps in performing routine operations easily and quickly. It saves lot of time for the staff as well as users. Computerized library can provide information quickly on various library management activities required by the management for budgetary control, preparation of account, maintenance of records, library statistics, etc. Once the computerization activities are well progressed, information retrieval and database management activities, including the Internet based information service can be strengthened. A wide variety of advantages can be derived by the appropriate use of ICT.

The application of information and Communication Technologies in different types of libraries in India has gained much momentum. New and emerging technologies such as wireless Networking, Radio Frequency Identification technology, multimedia technology, graphical user interfaces, etc have immense possibilities for libraries. Although the use of ICT in libraries in India at present is quite low, it is expected to go up in the coming years with continued reduction in the prices of the hardware and software. The extent of use of ICT in the libraries, which are already using it, will increase substantially. Libraries will use expert systems and artificial intelligence systems. Remote browsing of database and tele-delivery of documents will increase. Packet-switched networks will be common. Use of CDROM and DVD-ROM will increase further. The World Web is going to be more interactive and multidimensional, incorporating multimedia presentations.

The impact of ICT on when and where students learn in the past educational institutions have provided little choice for students in terms of the method and manner in which programs have been delivered. Students have typically been forced to accept what has been delivered and institutions have tended to be quite staid and traditional in terms of the delivery of their programs. ICT applications provide many options and choices and many institutions are now creating competitive edges for themselves through the choices they are offering students. These choices extend from when students can choose to learn to where they learn.

Review of literature

Abdel Motey and Al-Anzy (2003) surveyed internet use by the faculty members of the College of Basic Education, Kuwait and found that 39 (64.0 %) participants used the internet mainly for e-mail (21.0 %) and accessing information (20.0 percent) and mentioned the lack of time and training as major problems. A large majority (71.0 percent) showed interest in getting training in the use of the internet. **Govinda raju (2010)** found by his survey that the use of electronic resources is found to be significant among the users of the Andhra University. This is quite natural and expected in the present day implementation environment. Some of the resources such as e-book, e-encyclopedias, e-dictionaries are less used. He also felt that to further maximize use of the e-resources, wide publicity and imparting trainings were found to be necessary. **Prabu (2012)** study aim to indentify the level of ICT skills among Library and Information Science professionals working in colleges affiliated to Bharathidasan University. The study indicate that the extent of the gap of digital divide among the information professionals. The study found that office automation has been given predominance by all the librarians. It is also revealed from the study that 43.8% of librarians from autonomous and 20.4% of librarians from non-autonomous institutions are having high level of ICT skills in office automation, library automation and networking, institutional repositories and web technologies. **Tamrakar and Garg (2016)** examine and measure the extent and use of e-resources, information alert services, awareness towards the e-resources, purpose of using the e-resources, attitude of library staff and overall quality of e-services

offered by the library of Indian Institute of Technology-Guwahati. The findings show that e-journals are more popular than print journals; the library regularly invites users views regarding the information constraint; and the library continuously regular puts forward information alert services to their users. It was found that most of the users are aware of e-journals and they are not only using them to update their knowledge but also to accumulate relevant material for their studies and research. The study also reveals that library staff is courteous and co-operative. The overall qualities of e-services offered by IIT-Guwahati library are found effective. **Rajeswar (2017)** investigates the awareness and use of digital library resources by the faculty members of engineering college in Warangal district. He concluded that 92.42% of faculty members are aware about the digital resources, 86.36% using for collecting subject information, 52.12% of faculty members for their teaching and research work and 39.70% used for update their knowledge. Most of the faculty members are browsing the digital resources from their libraries and computer centers.

Objectives

- To find out the level of Knowledge with computers among faculty members
- To find out the frequency of accessing ICT sources and services
- To identify the most commonly used browser to access ICT sources
- To find out the preferred search engine to access ICT sources

Methodology

The questionnaire based survey method used for data collection from the faculty members. The total numbers of 816 respondents were selected in Arts and Science College in Krishnagiri district. The collected data are analysed by using simple frequency, one sample t-test, cross tabulation.

Analysis of Data

In this paper, data were collected from faculty members of Arts and Science College and the data was analysed and interpreted with necessary standard statistical techniques. All the results have been presents in the term of tables and figures. Total numbers of 1000 questionnaires were distributed and 816 questionnaires were received back. The overall responses are 81.6%.

Table 1: Profile of the respondents

| | Classification | No. of respondents | Percentage |
|---------------------------|----------------|--------------------|------------|
| Age | Below 30 | 259 | 31.74 |
| | 31-40 | 288 | 35.29 |
| | 41-50 | 172 | 21.08 |
| | 51 and above | 97 | 11.89 |
| | Total | 816 | 100 |
| Sex | Male | 304 | 37.25 |
| | Female | 512 | 62.75 |
| | Total | 816 | 100 |
| Educational Qualification | PG | 97 | 11.89 |
| | M.Phil. | 482 | 59.07 |
| | Ph.D | 103 | 12.62 |

| | | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|------------|------------|
| | NET/SET | 81 | 9.92 |
| | Others | 53 | 6.49 |
| | Total | 816 | 100 |
| Designation | Guest Lecturer | 179 | 21.94 |
| | Assistant Professor | 613 | 75.12 |
| | Associate Professor | 24 | 2.94 |
| | Total | 816 | 100 |
| Experience | Below 5 years | 416 | 50.98 |
| | 5-10 years | 307 | 37.62 |
| | Above 15 years | 93 | 11.4 |
| | Total | 816 | 100 |

Source: Primary data

Table 1 shows the personal profile of the selected respondents in Arts and Science colleges in Krishnagiri district. 35.29% of the respondents are in the age group of 31-40 years, 31.74% are less than 30 years, 21.08% falls in the age group of 41-50 years and 11.89% of them are more than 51 years. In the selected 816 respondents, 62.7% of them are female and the remaining 37.25% are male. Most of the respondents 59.07% working in Arts and Science colleges in Krishnagiri district were having M.Phil degree. Most of the respondents (75.12%) are Assistant Professor, 21.94% are working as Guest lecturers and the remaining 2.94% of the respondents are Associate Professor. 50.98% of the respondents working in the Arts and Science Colleges are having less than 5 years experience in similar field, 37.62% of them having 5-10 years and 11.4% of them having more than 15 experiences.

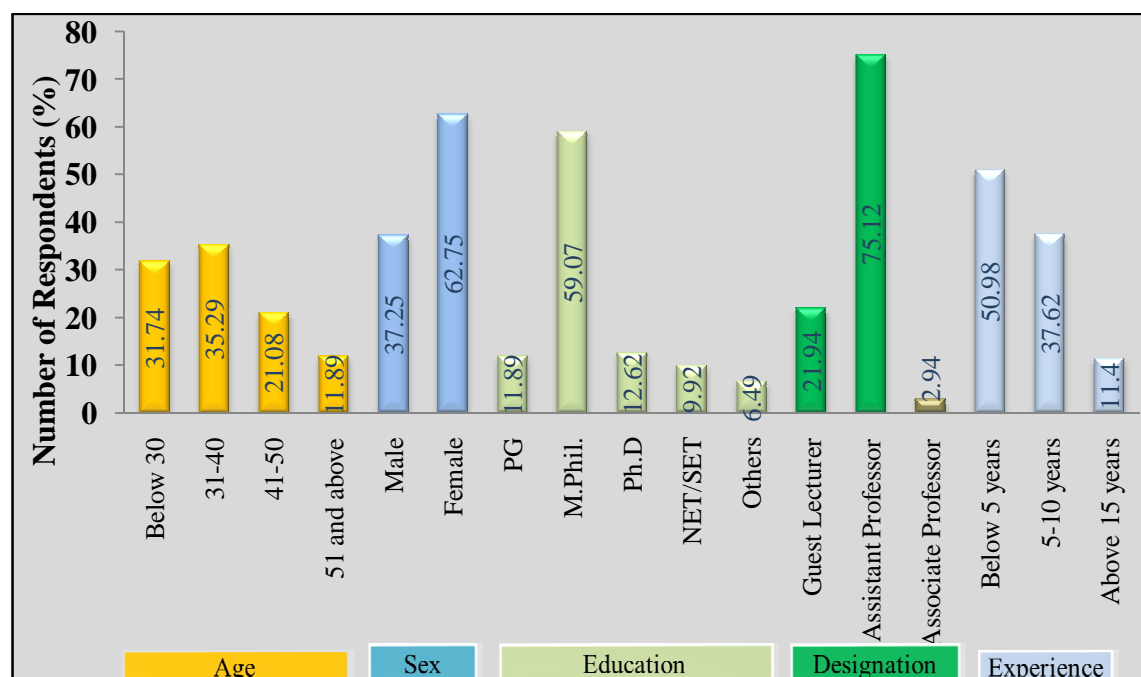


Figure 1: Personal profile of the respondents

Table 2: Frequency of accessing

| Classification | No. of respondents | Percentage |
|-------------------------|--------------------|------------|
| Daily | 64 | 7.84 |
| Weekly | 211 | 25.86 |
| Several times in a week | 332 | 40.69 |
| Monthly | 157 | 19.24 |
| Rarely | 52 | 6.37 |
| Total | 816 | 100 |

Source: Primary data

In the above table, the respondents frequency of accessing ICT sources and services were described. 40.69% of the respondents accessing ICT sources several times in a week, 25.86% accessing weekly once, 19.24% access monthly once, 7.84% used daily and 6.37% of the respondents accessing ICT sources rarely.

Table 3: Browser used to access ICT sources and services

| | Frequency | percentage |
|-------------------|------------|------------|
| Internet explorer | 124 | 15.2 |
| Google chrome | 463 | 56.7 |
| Opera | 35 | 4.3 |
| Mozilla firebox | 146 | 17.9 |
| Others | 48 | 5.9 |
| Total | 816 | 100 |

Source: Primary data

In the above table, more than half of the selected respondents (56.7%) using Google chrome as prime browser to access ICT sources and services followed by Mozilla firebox and Internet explorer.

Table 4: Search engine used to access ICT sources and services

| | Frequency | percentage |
|--------------|------------|------------|
| Google | 482 | 59.1 |
| Alta Vista | 63 | 7.7 |
| Yahoo | 221 | 27.1 |
| MSN | 34 | 4.1 |
| Any Other | 16 | 2.0 |
| Total | 816 | 100 |

Source : Primary data

The above table describes the selected respondents preferred search engine to access ICT sources and services in Krishnagiri district. 59.1% of them used Google search engine followed by Yahoo search engine (27.1%) to access ICT sources and services.

Table 5: One sample t-test for Knowledge about ICT

| Statements | Mean | SD | t-value | p- value |
|------------|------|------|-----------|----------|
| Internet | 3.21 | .580 | 157.894** | .000 |
| E-mail | 3.29 | .545 | 172.434** | .000 |
| SMS/MMS | 2.85 | .758 | 107.505** | .000 |

| | | | | |
|------------------|------|------|-----------|------|
| Telephone | 2.87 | .423 | 193.955** | .000 |
| Mobile Phone | 2.98 | .824 | 103.292** | .000 |
| CD/DVD | 2.76 | .792 | 99.569** | .000 |
| Fax | 1.67 | .877 | 54.374** | .000 |
| Web Camera | 1.46 | .719 | 58.077** | .000 |
| Video conference | 1.63 | .755 | 61.501** | .000 |
| Chatting | 1.70 | .795 | 61.055** | .000 |

****Significant at 1% level**

Table 5 shows the results of one sample t-test for variables measured under selected respondents knowledge about ICT in Arts and Science College in Krishnagiri district and average score. The t-values of the variables: 157.894, 172.434, 107.505, 193.955, 103.292, 99.569, 56.374, 58.077, 61.501 and 61.055 are significant at 1% level. This shows that there is significant difference between the mean responses given by the respondents towards Knowledge about ICT in Krishnagiri district, the null hypothesis is rejected. Further the mean score of the variables shows E-mail and Internet are higher than average mean score of 3.00. Fax, Web camera, Video conference and chatting are lower than average mean score. It shows that the faculty members in Arts and Science college in Krishnagiri district are having proficient knowledge in internet and e-mail.

Major Findings

- 40.69% of the respondents accessing ICT sources several times in a week, 25.86% accessing weekly once, 19.24% access monthly once, 7.84% used daily and 6.37% of the respondents accessing ICT sources rarely.
- more than half of the selected respondents (56.7%) using Google chrome as prime browser to access ICT sources and services followed by Mozilla firebox and Internet explorer
- 59.1% of them used Google search engine followed by Yahoo search engine (27.1%) to access ICT sources and services.
- Most of the faculty members in Arts and Science College in Krishnagiri district are having proficient knowledge in ICT sources of internet and e-mail.

Major Limitations

- The present study has been conducted only among the faculty members of Arts & Science College
- The area of the study restricted only in the district of Krishnagiri.

Conclusions

The present study reveals that there is increased acceptance of electronic sources and services by the faculty members in Arts and Science College in Krishnagiri district. The rapid developments in ICT have facilitated the convergence of new electronic devices and formats. A rapid change in information seeking behaviour and use of Internet and On-line access of E-Resources has become the vital part of various information needs. 59.1% of them used Google search engine, 56.7% of them using Google chrome as prime browser to access ICT

sources and services. Most of the faculty members in Arts and Science College in Krishnagiri district are having proficient knowledge in ICT sources of internet and e-mail.

References

1. Abdel Motey, Y. and Al-Anzy, K. (2003). Internet services: A study of its use by the faculty at College of Basic Education in Kuwait in Arabic. *The Electronic Library*, 23(3),45-60.
2. Amit Kumar Tamrakar and Ram Gopal Garg (2016). User Perception towards E-resources and Services of IIT-Guwahati Library. *DESIDOC Journal of Library & Information Technology*, 36(1), 40-46.
3. Govindaraju, Nemani.,(2010). Use and user awareness of E-resources in Andhra University library: A study. *PEARL: A journal of Library and Information Science*, 4(3), 183-188.
4. Prabu (2012). Information and Communication Technology Skills among the Colleges Librarians Affiliated to Bharathidasan University: A Study. *International Journal of Library and Information Science (IJLIS)*, 1(2), 25-33.
5. Rajeswar, Kumar G (2017). Awareness and use of digital library resources by faculty members of engineering college libraries in Warangal, Telangana: A study. *e-Library Science Research Journal*, 5(4).

