

Impact of Information Literacy Programmes in Private Engineering College Libraries

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***Abstract** - The present study is an attempt to examine the impact of information literacy programmes in Private Engineering College Libraries in Karnataka. The prime objectives of the study is to examine the automation status of private engineering college libraries, assess the effectiveness of implementation of Information Literacy Programmes, find out the ICT infrastructure of libraries, to know how library professionals promote their resources, to know the impact of ILP's on users to improve their search skills and services and find out the problems faced by librarians while conducting ILPs. The study covered 132 Private Engineering College Libraries in Karnataka affiliated to Visveswaraya Technological University (VTU) and this covered the all four regions (Bengaluru, Mysuru, Belagavi and Kalburgi) VTU.*

Keywords: Literacy, Information Literacy, Private Engineering Colleges, Library, College Libraries.

INTRODUCTION

Information literacy is "a set of abilities requiring individuals to recognize when information is needed and have the ability to locate, evaluate, and use effectively the needed information - American Library Association. As a result of implementing the Information Literacy Programmes in Academic institution's the staff and students conduct the better research, do the better study and improve the evaluation of information skills. From the growth of ICT now a days the library professionals can reach the Information of resources available in their libraries to their end users through so many ways like using social sites, blogs and by creating library websites etc., The library professionals should know how they can provide better service and they should become expert and educated about searching skills of information and resource they have. The present study has been conducted to know the Impact of information literacy programmes in Private engineering college libraries in Karnataka.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

The literature review of previous study shows that there are limited studies has been done on the Impact of Information literacy programmes in private engineering college libraries. Pradeepa and Kalpana (2014) conducted the study to review an information literacy programme offered for undergraduates in a Faculty of Law in Sri Lanka. For designing the programme they were used Constructive Alignment Theory of Biggs & the Empowering 8® Information Literacy Model. From their study they determined that the Library and faculty members gained first hand insights into the strengths and weaknesses of the information usage of the students and understanding the reasons for the weaknesses so that they could address the issues appropriately. It also determined that, several critical success factors, other than an appropriate curriculum, are essential for an IL programme to thrive. The programme is unique since it is the first evident Information Literacy programme designed and delivered in Sri Lanka using an Information Literacy model. Emmanuel, Doubra and Vera (2013) conducted a case study on 'Information Literacy Programmes in University Libraries'. According to the authors University libraries in the UK and US provide IL training in all the areas mentioned compared to university libraries in Nigeria. There are differences between university libraries in UK, US and Nigeria in IL training delivery methods. From their study they clearly mentioned the barriers while conducting of Information Literacy Programmes such as lack of facilities, lack of understanding of IL, students' nonchalant attitude towards attending IL sessions, and low acceptance of the online approach were identified as factors militating against librarians' efforts when advocating and providing IL training in the university libraries in Nigeria, while barriers such as lack of time allotted for teaching IL skills, students tendency to be apathetic and bored, and a lack of understanding of what IL is were mentioned by the libraries studied in the UK and US. They also suggested to have effective IL training programmes, university authorities in developing countries should see the need to provide the necessary facilities such as computers with stable Internet access in university libraries, regular power supplies, and training of librarians on IT. Most of all, librarians should collaborate with other stakeholders in their institutions to ensure an IL policy formulation and implementation in their institutions. Marcia and Robert (2013) mentioned detail in their study about how theories of adult learning have helped the authors to create a multimodal approach to information literacy instruction online for adult learners in both undergraduate and graduate programs.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

This study has been carried out with the following objectives

1. To examine the automation status of private engineering college libraries.
2. To assess the effectiveness of implementation of Information Literacy Programmes.
3. To find out the ICT infrastructure of libraries of private engineering college libraries.
4. To know how library professionals promote their resources and services.
5. To find out the areas in which the libraries offers the IL training for the users.
6. To know the impact of ILP's on users to improve their search skills.
7. To find out the problems faced by librarians while conducting ILPs.

METHODOLOGY

The present study was carried out as a survey-based study used structured questionnaire with five point likert scale as the tool for data collection to obtain information related to objectives of the study. Microsoft excel was employed for analysis of the data.

DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

1. Designation wise Distribution

Table 1 shows that the designation wise distribution of the respondents. It may be seen from the table that the majority of respondents were designated as Librarian accounting 88 (66.66%), remaining respondents are Chief librarian accounting 37 (28.03%), Assistant Librarians accounting 6(4.54%) and Library Assistant 1(0.75%). It may be observed from the table that 99% libraries having well qualified library staff.

Table 1: Designation wise Distribution

Sl. No.	Designation	Frequency	Percentage
1	Chief Librarian	37	28.03
2	Librarian	88	66.66
3	Assistant Librarian	6	4.54
4	Others	1	0.75
	Total	132	100

2. Courses Offered

Table 2 shows that degrees offered in Private Engineering Colleges. It may be seen from the table that all colleges offered Bachelor degree accounting 132 (100.0%), followed by 95 (71.96%) colleges offered Master degree and 56 (42.42%) of colleges offered Doctoral degree. Finally it may be observed from the table that all 132 (100.0%) private engineering colleges offered bachelor degree for their students.

Table 2: Courses Offered

Sl. No.	Courses	Frequency		Percentage	
		Yes	No	Yes	No
1	Bachelor Degree	132	0	100.0	0.0
2	Master Degree	95	37	71.96	28.03
3	Doctoral Degree	56	76	42.42	57.57

3. Library Automation Status

It may be seen from the table 3 that majority of libraries are automated accounting 127 (96.21%) and 5 (3.78%) libraries are still not automated. From the table clearly shows that libraries were moved towards traditional manual system to modern automated system.

Table 3: Library Automation Status

Sl. No.	Automation Status	Frequency	Percentage
1	Yes	127	96.21
2	No	5	3.78
	Total	132	100.0

4. Level of Library Automation

Table 4 reveals the level of library automation. It may be seen from the table that majority of libraries accounting 108 (85.03%) are fully automated. 15 (11.81%) libraries are partially automated and remaining 4 (3.14%) libraries are in under process stage.

Table 4: Level of Library Automation

Sl. No.	Automation Level	Frequency	Percentage
1	Fully Automated	108	85.03
2	Partially Automated	15	11.81
3	Under Process	4	3.14
Total		127	100

5. Software used in Library

Different types of Integrated Library Management Software's used in private engineering colleges for the automation of their libraries were analyzed in the table 5. It may be seen from the table that majority of the libraries were automated using Easylib software accounting 49 (38.58%), followed by 34 (26.77%) libraries used Libsoft software, 11 (8.66%) libraries used New Genlib software, 10 (7.87%) libraries used KOHA software, 7 (5.51%) libraries used E-Granthalaya software, each 3(2.36%) libraries used Libsys, ERP management & Net-lib softwares. And each 1(0.78%) libraries used SOUL, Smart campus management software, Libsuit, Adstock, E-Cap and Effia software's.

Table 5: Software used in Library

Sl. No.	Software used	Frequency	Percentage
1	Easylib	49	38.58
2	Libsoft	34	26.77
3	New Genlib	11	8.66
4	KOHA	10	7.87
5	E-Granthalaya	7	5.51
6	E-Lib	3	2.36
7	LIBSYS	3	2.36
8	ERP MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE	3	2.36
9	Net-Lib	1	0.78
10	SOUL	1	0.78
11	Smart campus management software	1	0.78
12	Libsuit	1	0.78
13	Adstock	1	0.78
14	E-Cap	1	0.78
15	Effia	1	0.78
Total		127	100

6. ICT Infrastructures the existing in the Libraries

Table 6 shows the ICT Infrastructures existing in the Libraries. It may be seen from the table that 131 (99.24%) libraries having computing facilities, Internet connectivity and Printers facility, followed by 124 (93.93%) libraries having Scanners, 118 (89.39%) libraries having Wi-Fi facility, 113 (85.60%) libraries having Barcode technology, 111 (84.09%) libraries

having Telephone facility, 79 (59.84%) libraries having Plain paper copier facility, 72 (54.54%) libraries having LCD projectors, 68 (51.51%) libraries having Laptops facility, 54 (40.90%) libraries having Fax machines, 51 (38.63%) libraries having Video conference technologies, 49 (37.12%) libraries having Access control door facility, 47 (35.60%) libraries having Smart card technology, 44 (33.33%) libraries having OHP facility and 13 (9.84%) libraries implemented the RFID technology. So the table clearly shows that almost all libraries are having very good basic ICT infrastructures.

Table 6: ICT Infrastructures existing in the Libraries

Sl. No.	ICT Infrastructure	Frequency (Frequency=132)		Percentage	
		Yes	No	Yes	No
1	Computing Facilities	131	1	99.24	0.75
2	Internet connectivity	131	1	99.24	0.75
3	Wi-Fi facility	118	14	89.39	10.60
4	Laptops	68	64	51.51	48.48
5	Scanners	124	8	93.93	6.06
6	Printers	131	1	99.24	0.75
7	Plain paper copiers	79	53	59.84	40.15
8	Video conference technologies	51	81	38.63	61.36
9	Smartcard technology	47	85	35.60	64.39
10	Barcode technology	113	19	85.60	14.39
11	RFID Technology	13	119	9.84	90.15
12	Telephone facility	111	21	84.09	15.90
13	O.H.P	44	88	33.33	66.66
14	LCD projectors	72	60	54.54	45.55
15	Fax machines	54	78	40.90	59.09
16	Access control facility	49	83	37.12	62.87

7. Promotion of Library Resources and Services

Table 7 reveals that the how private engineering college libraries promote their resources and services. It may be seen from the table that 127 (96.21%) libraries are promote through Display of new arrivals, followed by 121 (91.66%) libraries promote through Orientation programmes, 106 (80.30%) libraries promote through Personal talks, 98 (74.24%) libraries promote through Library talks, 93 (70.45%) libraries promote by creating of Library webpages, 91 (68.93%) libraries promote through Library exhibitions, 78 (59.09%) libraries were promoting through using Library brochures, 57 (43.18%) libraries were promoting through conducting Debates/Seminars/Workshops, 56 (42.42%) libraries promote through conducting Book review programmes, 54 (40.90%) libraries were promotes using Posters/Banners display, 52 (39.39%) libraries promote by Celebrating of library week, 41 (31.06%) libraries were promoting through Organizing National/local festivals, Organizing National/local festivals, 36 (27.27%) libraries promotes using Library bulletins, 32 (24.24%) libraries were promoting by Mobile library facility, 28 (21.21%) libraries were promoting through Organizing reading competitions and 16 (12.12%) libraries were promote through organizing film shows. The table clearly showing that libraries were used majorly three methods for promotion of their resources and services are Display of new arrivals 127 (96.21%), Orientation programs 121(91.66%) and Personal talks 106 (80.30).

Table 7: Promotion of Library Resources and Services

Sl. No.	Promotion of Library Resources and Services	Frequency (N=132)		Percentage	
		Yes	No	Yes	No
1	Library Broachers	78	54	59.09	40.90
2	Library talks	98	34	74.24	25.75
3	Personal talks	106	26	80.30	19.69
4	Library exhibitions	91	41	68.93	31.06
5	Orientation programs	121	11	91.66	8.33
6	Book review programs	56	76	42.42	57.57
7	Display of new arrivals	127	5	96.21	3.78
8	Creating of Library Webpage	93	39	70.45	29.54
9	Library bulletins	36	96	27.27	72.72
10	Posters/banners display/distribution	54	78	40.90	59.09
11	Debates/seminars/workshops	57	75	43.18	56.81
12	Celebrations of library week	52	80	39.39	60.60
13	Organizing Film shows	16	116	12.12	87.87
14	Organizing National/local festivals	41	91	31.06	68.93
15	Organizing reading competitions	28	104	21.21	78.78
16	Mobile library facility	32	100	24.24	75.75

8. IL Training Offered in Different areas for user community

Table 8 shows the IL training offered in different areas for user community. It may be seen from the table that to educate or creating awareness to library users the libraries are offered IL training for their user community includes different areas of the library. 130 (98.48%) libraries offered for use of e-Journals, 128 (96.96%) libraries offered Finding of books/Journals in the Library, 124 (93.93%) libraries offered for Access of e-books, 112 (84.84%) libraries offered for Internet search skills, 109 (82.57%) libraries offered Catalogue search, 95 (71.96%) libraries offered for Using of library websites, 91 (68.93%) libraries offered for Use of CD-ROM database, 84 (63.63%) libraries offered to Writing research articles/conference papers, 57 (43.18%) libraries offered for Proposal of minor/major research projects, 49 (37.12%) libraries offered the Organizing of experts lectures on information literacy and each 41 (31.06%) libraries offered the Citation patterns to write research/theses in APA, MLA style, etc and Interactive tutorials to teach the users and how to evaluate the quality of information available on the internet.

Table 8: IL Training Offered in Different areas for user community

Sl. No.	IL Training Offered in Different areas for user community	Frequency (N=132)		Percentage	
		Yes	No	Yes	No
1	Finding Books/Journals in the Library	128	4	96.96	3.03
2	Catalogue search	109	23	82.57	17.42
3	Writing Research articles/Conference papers	84	48	63.63	36.36
4	Proposal of Minor/Major Research Projects	57	75	43.18	56.81
5	Use of e-Journals	130	2	98.48	1.51
6	Access of e-books	124	8	93.93	6.06
7	Use of CD-ROM Database	91	41	68.93	31.06
8	Internet search skills	112	20	84.84	15.15

9	Citation patterns to write research/theses in APA, MLA style, etc	41	91	31.06	68.93
10	Interactive tutorials to teach the users and how to evaluate the quality of information available on the internet	41	91	31.06	68.93
11	Using Library websites	95	37	71.96	28.03
12	Organizing experts lectures on IL	49	83	37.12	62.87

9. Assessment of statements of ILP’s

Table 9 reveals that the assessment of information literacy programmes conducted in the Private Engineering College libraries. The highest number of libraries accounting 74 (56.06%) strongly agreed that ‘IL Programs are very relevant in library for the benefit of users’, 55 (41.66%) respondents agreed, 2 (1.51%) respondents selected the no opinion and 1 respondent strongly disagreed the said statement. 69 (52.27%) respondents agreed to ‘IL Programs helps in building resources and conducting search skills’, 49 (37.12%) respondents strongly agreed, 13 (9.84%) respondents mentioned no opinion and only 1 (0.75%) respondent disagreed the said statement. 70 (53.03%) of respondents are agreed to ‘IL Programs helps in increasing research output of the users and Institutions’, 46 (34.84%) respondents strongly agreed, 13 (9.84%) respondents mentioned no opinion and 3 (2.27%) respondents disagreed the said statement. Majority of respondents accounting 82 (62.12%) agreed to ‘Assessment tools are required to measure the effectiveness of the Information Literacy Programs, relevant research, services and reviews’, 38 (28.78%) of respondents were strongly agreed, 10 (7.57%) respondents mentioned no opinion and 2 (1.51%) respondents disagreed to the said statement. The table clearly shows that conducting of information literacy programmes effectively impacted on library search skills, usage and research output of the users.

Table 9: Assessment of statements of ILP’s

Statements		Strongly Disagree	Disagree	No Opinion	Agree	Strongly Agree	Total
IL Programs are very relevant in library for the benefit of users	F	1	0	2	55	74	132
	%	0.75	0.0	1.51	41.66	56.06	100.0
IL Programs helps in building resources and conducting search skills.	F	0	1	13	69	49	132
	%	0.0	0.75	9.84	52.27	37.12	100.0
IL Programs helps in increasing research output of the users and Institutions.	F	0	3	13	70	46	132
	%	0.0	2.27	9.84	53.03	34.84	100.0
Assessment tools are required to measure the effectiveness of the Information Literacy Programs, relevant research, services and reviews.	F	0	2	10	82	38	132
	%	0.0	1.51	7.57	62.12	28.78	100.0

10. Main problems for effective delivery of ILP's

Table 10 shows the problems faced for effective delivery of ILP's. From the table it may be seen that 62 (46.96%) respondents were faced the problem of Lack of awareness about Information literacy programmes, followed by 40 (30.30%) respondents faced the problem of Lack of support from Management/Principal/Head of the institution, majority of the respondents faced the problem of Lack of interest by user community and 42 (31.81%) respondents faced the problem of Non-co-operation of teaching staff.

Table 10: Main problems for effective delivery of ILP's

Problems		Yes	No	Total
Lack of awareness about ILP	F	62	70	132
	%	46.96	53.03	100.0
Lack of support from the Management/Principal/ Head of the Institution	F	40	92	132
	%	30.30	69.69	100.0
Lack of interest by user community	F	78	54	132
	%	59.09	40.90	100.0
Non-co-operation of teaching staff	F	42	90	132
	%	31.81	68.18	100.0

CONCLUSION

Form the best practices of Information Literacy Programmes the end users becomes expert in search skills of required information, develop the critical thinking & deeper learning process and finally they develop good research papers and projects etc.,The findings of the study shows that99% of libraries having well qualified library staff. All 132 (100.0%) private engineering colleges offered bachelor degree for their students. Almost all libraries are having very good basic ICT infrastructures. The libraries were used majorly three methods for promotion of their resources and services are Display of new arrivals 127 (96.21%), Orientation programs 121(91.66%) and Personal talks 106 (80.30). By conducting information literacy programmes effectively impacted on library search skills, usage and research output of the users.

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