INFORMATION NEED AND USER EXPECTATION OF VINAYAKA MISSIONS UNIVERSITY, SALEM

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ABSTRACT

This study deals with information need and user expectation of Vinayaka Missions University; Salem .A structured questionnaire is distributed among the users of the library and the collected data analyzed and result brought out. The study is mainly based on the primary data collected from the teaching community through a well designed questionnaire. The secondary data have been collected from sources like text books, reference books etc. This study attempts to examine the information needs and user expectation of faculty members by making an experiment of Vinayaka Mission's Institutions, and it traces out the user expectation and information needs of faculties in terms of descriptive approach. The motives and purposes of users give a new insight into information needs and requirements. To satisfy such needs and requirements, users adopt various means for accession to sources of information, and in the act of accession to information, the user relies or calls upon the sources predetermined which lead to satisfaction or dissatisfaction.

Keyword: Newspapers, Dissertations, Faculty, Library Resources, Information needs.

INTRODUCTION

Information is considered as an important resource that contributes towards the development of nation. Therefore, the role of libraries becomes vital in meeting the information needs of individuals in the society. Libraries develop their collections, facilities and services to meet the information needs of their patrons. However, in order to accomplish this task effectively. Libraries must have a thorough understanding of the information needs [1]. Many people speak about the information Age as the advent of the knowledge Age or knowledge society, the information society, the information revolution, and information technologies, and even though informatics, information science and computer science are often in the spotlight, the word "information" is often used without careful consideration of the various meanings it has acquired[2]. In another variation, it is not required that the sender be capable of understanding the message, or even cognizant that there is a message, making information something that can be extracted form an environment, e.g., through reading or measurement[3]. Records are a specialized form of information [4]. In an approach similar to defining information as meaning, information is often understood in terms of knowledge that is transmitted to a sentient being[5]. Some surveys on user needs were undertaken for factual finding and perspective purposes.

User's surveys are extremely useful in assessing the success of existing library services and identifying the need for new ones [6]. Today, information science largely examines technical bases, social consequences, and theoretical understanding of online databases, widespread use of databases in government, industry, and education, and the development of the Internet and World Wide Web [7]. Tom Wilson (1981) is aware of the difficulties in the concept of information need and suggests that it is abandoned and replaced with the term information-seeking behavior [8]. Need is further complicated by the necessity to distinguish among expressed, unexpressed, or unfelt needs[9].

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The following objectives are framed, in according with the scope of this investigation:

1. To analyze the respondents' duration of library visit in search of information in the libraries of selected Institutions.
2. To examine the nature and type of information required by faculty members in Vinayaka Mission's Institutions
3. To identify the extent of motivation among the faculty members of Vinayaka Missions Institutions in collection of library information for various purposes.
4. To determine the extent of usage of library facility and services made by libraries of Vinayaka Mission's Institutions.
5. To suggest some rational measures for the effective dissemination of information by the library management according to the information needs of the faculty members.

HYPOTHESIS

The following hypothesis is formulated on the basis of content and coverage of framed objectives and employing appropriate statistical tools tests them:

1. There is significant difference among the faculty members of various institutions with respect to nature and type of information sources.

2. There is significance difference in the use of library facility and services among the faculty of the selected institutions.

METHODOLOGY

The study is mainly based on the primary data collected from the teaching community through a well designed questionnaire. The secondary data have been collected from sources like text books, reference books etc. This study attempts to examine the information needs and user expectation of faculty members by making an experiment of Vinayaka Mission's Institutions. The researcher used survey method for collecting primary data with the help of well structured questionnaire. Because of finite population (population size is 860), simple random sampling

(Lottery method) have been used for collecting the required sample. Sample size of this study is 720 for analytical purpose, we have used the statistical tools such as percentage analysis, Chi-square Analysis, Analysis of Variances.

ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

Table 1: Showing distribution of respondents' Designation wise

S. No	Designation	No. of Respondents	% of Respondents
1.	Professor	115	(15.97)
2.	Reader	167	(23.19)
3.	Asst. Prof	202	(28.06)
4.	Lecturer	236	(32.78)
Total		**720**	**(100.00)**

Data presented in table – 1, indicate the distribution of respondents according to their designation wise. As per above table it is under stood that, out of 720 respondents 236(32.78%) of them are lecturers, 202 (28.06%) of them are Asst. Professors, 167(23.19%) of them are readers, 115 (15.97%) of them are professors. It could be seen clearly from the above discussions that, the Lecturers are more when comparing with other respondents.
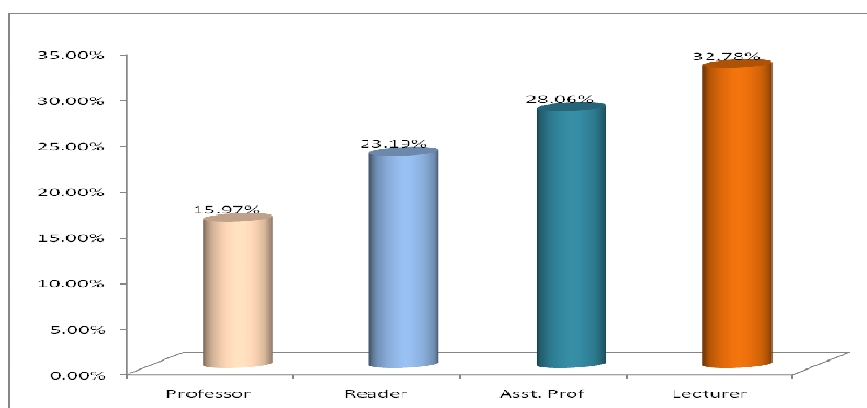
Figure:1

Table: 2. Showing distribution of respondents' type of Information Sources

Information sources	No dependence	Rarely dependence	Occasional dependence	Frequent dependence	High dependence	Total
Books	28(3.89)	35(4.86)	83(11.53)	218(30.28)	356(49.44)	720
Journals	30(4.17)	43(5.97)	94(13.05)	209(29.03)	344(47.78)	720
Newspapers	56(7.78)	49(6.80)	110(15.28)	210(29.17)	295(40.97)	720
Govt.Documents	33(4.58)	51(7.08)	98(13.61)	225(38.25)	313(43.47)	720
Dissertation	45(6.25)	64(8.89)	108(15.00)	220(30.55)	283(39.91)	720
indexing,abstracting	55(7.64)	71(9.86)	106(14.72)	212(29.45)	276(38.33)	720
Audio / visual	68(9.44)	83(11.53)	115(15.97)	189(26.25)	265(36.81)	720
Internet	15(2.08)	28(3.89)	124(17.22)	202(28.05)	351(48.75)	720

Data presented in table 2, indicate the distribution of respondents according to their library information sources. It could be noted that, out of 720 respondent's about Books which is most important of them all other type of information ,3.89% of them are no dependence, 4.86% of them are rarely dependence,11.53% of them are occasionally dependence, 30.28% of them are frequent dependence, 49.44% of them are High dependence. It could be seen clearly from the above discussion that, the majority of respondents are in high dependence of information sources, at Vinayaka Mission University.

Table:3. Showing distribution of respondents' depend on Information and Interpersonal Sources Compared to Formal and Informal Sources

Responsibility	Formal sources only	In formal sources only	Formal and informal sources	More on formal sources then informal sources	More on informal sources then formal sources	Grand Total
Professor	33	21	30	18	13	15
Reader	46	25	51	28	17	167
Asst. Prof	82	36	48	21	15	202
Lecturer	102	42	53	24	15	236
Total Percentage	**263(36.53)**	**124(17.22)**	**182(25.28)**	**91(12.64)**	**60(8.33)**	**720(100.00)**

The chi-square value with 12 degrees of freedom: 21.0925
The p value: 0.049 i.e. $P < 0.05$; Significant

Data presented in table – 3, indicate the distribution of respondents according to their formal sources and formal sources depend. It could be noted that, out 720 respondents. 263(36.53%) of them are almost informal sources only, 182(25.28%) of them are equally on both formal and informal sources, 91(12.64%) of them are more on formal sources than informal sources, 60(8.33%) of them are more on informal sources then formal sources. It could be seen clearly from the above discussion that, the majority of the respondents depend on almost formal sources only.
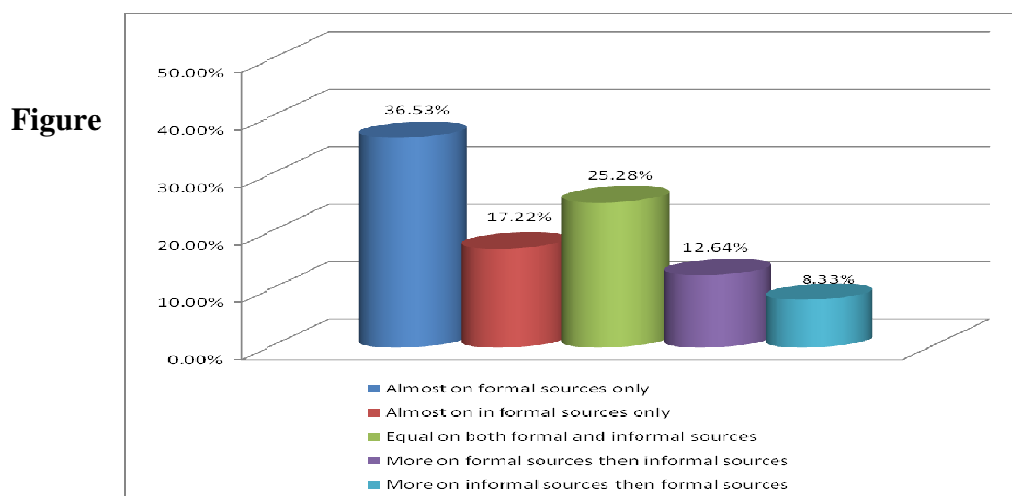

Figure

Table: 4. Showing distribution of respondents' Utilization of Library Services

Services	Marginally	Substantially	Completely	Total
Circulation services	210(29.17)	424(58.89)	86(11.94)	720
Reference service	212(29.45)	429(59.58)	79(10.97)	720
Bibliographical services	229(31.81)	427(59.31)	64(6.88)	720
Current awareness services	180(25.00)	392(55.28)	148(19.72)	720
Selective dissemination services	236(32.78)	434(60.28)	50(6.94)	720
Inter library loan	168(23.33)	362(50.28)	190(26.39)	720
Refer graphic services	218(30.28)	394(54.72)	108(15.00)	720
Abstracting and indexing services	181(25.14)	432(60.00)	107(14.86)	720

Data presented in table – 4, indicate the distribution of respondents according to their utilization of library service. It could be noted that, Out of 720 respondents about Circulation services 29.17% of them are marginally 58.89% of them are substantially, 11.94% of them are completely, depending on them. It could be seen clearly from the bove discussion that, the majority of respondents are substantially dependence on library services.

FINDINGS

1. The Findings of respondent's information sources reveals the following facts. The majority of the respondents are in high dependence on Books, Journals, News paper, Govt documents, indexing and abstracts, Audio-visual aids, Internet, and library Information sources.
2. The Findings of respondent's in extent depend on formal and informal source of information sources reveals that the majority of the respondents depend on formal sources only.

3. The Findings of respondent's utilization of library services reveals that the majority of respondents are substantially dependence on library services.

CONCLUSION

The users of libraries of this university and its constituent colleges seek a need based approach to library information services. They prefer to access the latest books, Magazines, Journals, Periodicals and other online resources to keep abreast of developments in their respective fields, and information thus obtained is shared with their superiors, peers and colleagues. The data collected through this course of study will serve as a benchmark for various projects of a similar nature. In future it will provide a complete analysis of user pattern of faculty members in Vinayaka Missions University, Salem.

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