

Self-Assessment of Library Function Hours in Private Autonomous Engineering College Libraries of Andhra Pradesh

V.V. Lakshmi Ravi Kiran

Research Scholar
Rayalaseema University
Kurnool – 518007
email: vvlravikiran@gmail.com

K. Venkata Rao

University Librarian
Acharya Nagarjuna University
Nagarjuna Nagar – 522510
email: kodela2006@yahoo.com

Abstract - *This work examines the issues related to self-assess of total library functioning hours in weekdays and Sundays among the private autonomous engineering college libraries of Andhra Pradesh. This paper tries to assess opening hours and closing hours of libraries in weekdays and Sundays. Andhra Pradesh has total fifty autonomous engineering colleges up to academic year 2018-19 as per UGC (https://ugc.ac.in/subpage/Autonomous_Colleges.aspx)^[1], out of which, five are government autonomous engineering colleges, and the remaining 45 are under private management. The forty five private autonomous engineering college libraries selected to my research study. At first gathered these librarian names, contact numbers and email ids. Open form questionnaire was mailed to all the librarians for a free response in the respondents own words. The questionnaire related to library timings among the college libraries. Primary data were received from eight colleges on the appointment visit, fifteen colleges sent by post, eighteen colleges sent by e-mail and four colleges not responded any way. The response rate was 91 percent. This article identifies out of 41 colleges 30(73.17%) colleges were opening in Sundays and only 11(26.82%) colleges were not opening libraries in Sundays. The study suggests needful minimum functioning hours in week days and helpful findings for librarians to make libraries will open in Sundays.*

Key words: Self-Assessment, Autonomous engineering colleges, Libraries, Library functioning hours

Introduction:

Libraries play a significant role of higher education system including engineering education for dissemination of information to the users. Libraries are actually supporting learning and research services of their parent colleges. Libraries act as regular and up-to-date information provider. Self-Assessment will help the library professionals to be more creative at their work, inviting risks, new ideas and concepts. Through this self-assessment plan, necessary changes and adjustments can be brought into libraries, particularly in information technology. The library professionals should be given an opportunity to assess their services and contributions from time to time, which may help them to engage and accept influence of information technology in the libraries and their services. Librarians have to know the books and journals selection tools to acquire them and satisfy large number of users. The major purpose of self-assessment is to provide the learning opportunity for library professionals to

develop an understanding of their own level of skill, knowledge or personal readiness for a task in relation to their works.

Eligibility and role of autonomous engineering colleges – an overview:

“The college should have at least 10 years of existence. The college must be accredited by either NAAC with minimum ‘A’ grade or NBA for at least three programmes with a minimum score of 675 individually or a corresponding grade/score from a UGC empanelled accreditation agency.”^[2] The college must permanently affiliate to concerned University.

Autonomy granted to the college is at the institutional level and is not partial, and shall cover the programmes at all levels such as U.G., P.G. and Ph.D. offered by the college. Research achievements of the faculty and adequacy infrastructure of library books and e-resources are the key criteria for granting autonomy to colleges. Autonomous colleges have anatomy to review existing courses/programmes and, restructure, redesign and prescribe its own courses/programmes of study and syllabus and to formulate new courses/programmes, modernize their curricula or make them globally competent, locally relevant and skill oriented to promote employability.

Need of the present study:

Engineering students need maximum library functioning hours in their college to support their learning and essential to identifying and utilizing all the resources. Using resources in the library will depend on number of users visiting to the library and number of hours functioning. We can provide access different user services to the users. It is important for the development of the library and information system. As we know education in higher and technical level is no longer solely teacher oriented. A good library is a prime requirement of an engineering college in order to fulfil its objectives of dissemination and promotion of information. Its prime duty is to disseminate the information according to the diversified requirements of the users. Libraries have to accept minimum functioning hours, to a large extent, the basic objectives of their college. The library professionals working in these colleges should pay importance to acquire appropriate and need based literature in libraries to meet the information needs of their users. There is a great need to create awareness among the colleges about the functioning hours of the different libraries. Hence, there is a need of setting up of library functioning hours in the colleges.

Research questions:

Weekday’s library timings: __?

Sunday’s library open/closed (Please tick) if open timings: _?

Rewiew of literature:

“Self-assessment tools and tips in enhancing organizational performance go beyond measuring the impact of programs, products and services. The tools and techniques are flexible, and the model can be adapted to any type or size of organization. It is initiating a process of self-assessment, internal change. It will particularly appeal to academics and professionals in organizational development and evaluation.”^[3]

“Self-assessment is used for identifying gaps and to provide information for a decision on where the gaps in could be individual analysis. Self-assessment enables to make own evaluation. Effective self-assessment is greater than the sum of the parts from which it is composed and it is a skill that is assumed more than judged.”^[4]

“The assessment is part of planning process focusing on identifying and solving performance problems.”^[5] Many studies have identified that the capacity to self-assess is essential for safe and effective practice. Brown et al (1997:170) regard self-assessment as primarily tools for learning rather than tools of summative assessment.

The significant of this study is to prepare a plan that discusses the different functioning hours in libraries are understood, then the libraries will become more efficient, productive and service oriented.

Objectives of the study:

- The main objective of the study is to create awareness and functioning hours among the private autonomous engineering college libraries of Andhra Pradesh.
- To identify the library and functioning hours in a week days among the private autonomous engineering college libraries of Andhra Pradesh.
- To know the library and functioning hours in a Sundays among the private autonomous engineering college libraries of Andhra Pradesh.
- To identify average functioning hours of libraries in a week days and Sundays among the private autonomous engineering college libraries of Andhra Pradesh.

Analysis:

Private Autonomous Engineering College Libraries:

The 41 different private autonomous engineering colleges located at different places of Andhra Pradesh have been identified and surveyed. The list of all the private autonomous engineering college libraries under study has been appended in the Table-1.

Table-1: List of private autonomous engineering colleges under study

| S.No. | Name of the college | Acronym |
|-------|---|---------|
| 1 | Velagapudi Ramakrishna Siddhartha Engineering College, Kanuru, Vijayawada | VRSE |
| 2 | NBKR Institute of Science and Technology, Vidhyanagar, Nellore | NBKR |
| 3 | Sagi Rama Krishnam Raju Engineering College, Chinaamiram, Bhimavaram | SRKR |
| 4 | K.S.R.M. College of Engineering, Yerramaspalli Village, C.K. Dinne Mandal, Kadapa | KSRM |
| 5 | Bapatla Engineering College, G.B.C. Road, Bapatla | BECB |
| 6 | G.Pulla Reddy Engineering College, Nandyal Road, Kurnool | GPRE |
| 7 | R.V.R. & J.C. College of Engineering, Chandramoulipuram, Guntur | RVJC |
| 8 | Rajeev Gandhi Memorial College of Engineering & Technology, Nandyal | RGIT |
| 9 | Gayatri Vidya Parishad College of Engineering, Maduravada, Visakhapatnam | GVPE |
| 10 | Sree Vidyanikethan Engineering College, Sree Sainath Nagar, Tirupati | SVNE |
| 11 | Maharaj Vijayaram Gajapathi Raj College of Engineering, Chintalavalasa | MVRG |
| 12 | Bonam Venkata Chalamayya Engineering College, Odalarevu, Allavaram Mandal | BVCE |
| 13 | G.M.R. Institute of Technology, GMR Nagar, Rajam | GMRI |
| 14 | Sreenivasa Institute of Technology and Management Studies, Murukambattu Post | SSCC |
| 15 | QIS College of Engineering & Technology, Vengamukkapalem (V) Pondur Road, Ongole | QISE |
| 16 | Narasaraopeta Engineering College, Kotappakonda Road, Yellamanda Post, | NSPE |

| | | |
|----|--|------|
| | Narasaraopeta | |
| 17 | Godavari Institute of Engineering & Technology, NH-16, Rajahmundry | GIER |
| 18 | Prasad V. Potluri Siddhartha Institute of Technology, Kanuru, Vijayawada | PPSV |
| 19 | Lakireddy Bali Reddy College of Engineering, Mylavaram | LBCE |
| 20 | Sri Venkateswara College of Engineering & Technology, R. V. S. Nagar, Tirupathi Road | SVCT |
| 21 | Aditya Engineering College, Aditya Nagar, ADB Road, Surampalem | ADTP |
| 22 | Sri Vasavi Engineering College, Pedatadepalli, Tadepalligudem | VSVT |
| 23 | Pragati Engineering College, ADB Road, Surampalem | PRAG |
| 24 | Raghu Engineering College, Dakamarri, Bheemunipatnam (Mandal), Visakhapatnam | RAGU |
| 25 | Aditya Institute of Technology and Management, K. Ketturu, Tekkali | ADIT |
| 26 | Anil Neerukonda Institute of Technology & Sciences, Bheemunipatnam, Visakhapatnam | ANIL |
| 27 | Siddharth Institute of Engineering & Technology, Narayanavaram Road, Puttur | SDTN |
| 28 | Audisankara College of Engineering and Technology NH – 5, Bypass Road, Gudur | SANK |
| 29 | Swarnandhra College of Engineering & Technology, Seetharampuram, Narsapur | SWRN |
| 30 | Shri Vishnu Engineering College for Women, Vishnupur, Bhimavaram | VISW |
| 31 | Sasi Institute of Technology & Engineering, Tadepalligudem | SASI |
| 32 | Vignan's Institute of Information Technology, Duvvada, Visakhapatnam | VIVP |
| 33 | Devineni Venkata Ramana & Dr.Hima Sekhar MIC College of Technology, Kanchikachrla | MICT |
| 34 | Chadalawada Ramanamma Engineering College, Tirupati | CHDL |
| 35 | Amrita Sai Institute of Science and Technology, Paritala (P), Kanchikacherla (Mandal) | ASIP |
| 36 | Annamacharya Institute of Technology and Sciences, Tallapaka Village, Rajampet | AITT |
| 37 | Raghu Institute of Technology, Dakamarri (V), Bheemunipatnam (M), Visakhapatnam | RITV |
| 38 | G. Pullaiah College of Engineering and Technology, Pasupula (V), Nandikotkur Road | PCEK |
| 39 | NRI Institute of Technology, Pothavarappadu (Village), Agiripalli (Mandal), Vijayawada | NRIA |
| 40 | PACE Institute of Technology & Sciences, NH-16, Near Valluramma Temple, Ongole | PACE |
| 41 | Siddhartha Institute of Science and Technology, Narayanavaram Road, Puttur | SIST |

Table-2: Library Functioning Hours

| S.No. | Name | Opening Hour | Closing Hour | Total Hours | Sunday Timings | Total Hours |
|-------|------|--------------|--------------|-------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| 1 | VRSE | 08:00 A.M. | 08:00 P.M. | 12:00 | 09:00 A.M. To 01:00 P.M. | 04:00 |
| 2 | NBKR | 08:30 A.M. | 07:30 P.M. | 11:00 | Closed | 00:00 |
| 3 | SRKR | 09:00 A.M. | 11:00 P.M. | 14:00 | Closed | 00:00 |
| 4 | KSRM | 09:00 A.M. | 07:00 P.M. | 10:00 | 10:00 A.M. To 01:00 P.M. | 03:00 |
| 5 | BECB | 07:00 A.M. | 07:00 P.M. | 12:00 | Closed | 00:00 |
| 6 | GPRE | 08:00 A.M. | 07:00 P.M. | 11:00 | Closed | 00:00 |
| 7 | RVJC | 08:00 A.M. | 08:00 P.M. | 12:00 | 10:00 A.M. To 05:00 P.M. | 07:00 |
| 8 | RGIT | 08:00 A.M. | 08:00 P.M. | 12:00 | 10:00 A.M. To 04:00 P.M. | 06:00 |
| 9 | GVPE | 07:00 A.M. | 07:00 P.M. | 12:00 | 09:00 A.M. To 01:00 P.M. | 04:00 |
| 10 | SVNE | 08:00 A.M. | 08:00 P.M. | 12:00 | 08:00 A.M. To 05:00 P.M. | 09:00 |
| 11 | MVRG | 08:00 A.M. | 09:00 P.M. | 13:00 | 09:00 A.M. To 01:00 P.M. | 04:00 |
| 12 | BVCE | 08:30 A.M. | 10:00 P.M. | 13:30 | 10:00 A.M. To 01:00 P.M. | 03:00 |
| 13 | GMRI | 08:00 A.M. | 10:00 P.M. | 14:00 | 09:00 A.M. To 05:00 P.M. | 07:00 |
| 14 | SSCC | 08:30 A.M. | 06:00 P.M. | 09:30 | 09:00 A.M. To 01:00 P.M. | 04:00 |
| 15 | QISE | 08:00 A.M. | 07:00 P.M. | 11:00 | 10:00 A.M. To 01:00 P.M. | 03:00 |
| 16 | NSPE | 09:00 A.M. | 06:00 P.M. | 09:00 | Closed | 00:00 |
| 17 | GIER | 08:00 A.M. | 08:00 P.M. | 12:00 | 09:00 A.M. To 02:00 P.M. | 05:00 |
| 18 | PPSV | 08:00 A.M. | 08:00 P.M. | 12:00 | 09:00 A.M. To 12:00 P.M. | 03:00 |
| 19 | LBCE | 08:00 A.M. | 08:00 P.M. | 12:00 | 09:00 A.M. To 05:00 P.M. | 08:00 |
| 20 | SVCT | 08:40 A.M. | 05:30 P.M. | 08:50 | 09:30 A.M. To 04:30 P.M. | 08:00 |
| 21 | ADTP | 08:00 A.M. | 10:00 P.M. | 14:00 | 09:00 A.M. To 01:00 P.M. | 04:00 |
| 22 | VSVT | 08:00 A.M. | 08:00 P.M. | 12:00 | 09:00 A.M. To 01:00 P.M. | 04:00 |
| 23 | PRAG | 08:00 A.M. | 06:00 P.M. | 10:00 | Closed | 00:00 |
| 24 | RAGU | 09:00 A.M. | 06:30 P.M. | 09:30 | 09:00 A.M. To 12:00 P.M. | 03:00 |
| 25 | ADIT | 08:00 A.M. | 09:00 P.M. | 13:00 | 09:00 A.M. To 01:30 P.M. | 03:30 |
| 26 | ANIL | 08:00 A.M. | 07:00 P.M. | 11:00 | Closed | 00:00 |

| | | | | | | |
|----|------|------------|------------|-------|--------------------------|-------|
| 27 | SDTN | 08:00 A.M. | 08:00 P.M. | 12:00 | 09:00 A.M. To 04:00 P.M. | 07:00 |
| 28 | SANK | 08:00 A.M. | 08:00 P.M. | 12:00 | 08:00 A.M. To 01:00 P.M. | 05:00 |
| 29 | SWRN | 08:00 A.M. | 08:00 P.M. | 12:00 | 09:00 A.M. To 01:00 P.M. | 04:00 |
| 30 | VISW | 08:00 A.M. | 12:00 P.M. | 16:00 | 10:00 A.M. To 10:00 P.M. | 12:00 |
| 31 | SASI | 08:00 A.M. | 08:00 P.M. | 12:00 | 09:00 A.M. To 01:00 P.M. | 04:00 |
| 32 | VIVP | 07:00 A.M. | 10:00 P.M. | 15:00 | 09:00 A.M. To 01:00 P.M. | 04:00 |
| 33 | MICT | 09:00 A.M. | 06:00 P.M. | 09:00 | Closed | 00:00 |
| 34 | CHDL | 08:45 A.M. | 05:30 P.M. | 08:45 | 09:00 A.M. To 01:00 P.M. | 04:00 |
| 35 | ASIP | 08:00 A.M. | 08:00 P.M. | 12:00 | 10:00 A.M. To 01:00 P.M. | 03:00 |
| 36 | AITT | 08:00 A.M. | 08:00 P.M. | 12:00 | 09:00 A.M. To 01:00 P.M. | 04:00 |
| 37 | RITV | 08:30 A.M. | 06:30 P.M. | 10:00 | 09:00 A.M. To 12:00 P.M. | 03:00 |
| 38 | PCEK | 08:00 A.M. | 06:00 P.M. | 10:00 | Closed | 00:00 |
| 39 | NRJA | 09:20 A.M. | 09:00 P.M. | 11:40 | 09:20 A.M. To 01:00 P.M. | 03:40 |
| 40 | PACE | 08:00 A.M. | 08:00 P.M. | 12:00 | Closed | 00:00 |
| 41 | SIST | 08:00 A.M. | 08:00 P.M. | 12:00 | Closed | 00:00 |

Table-2 shows the library functioning hours in the private autonomous engineering college libraries of Andhra Pradesh. VISW Library functioning 16:00 hours in week days and 12:00 hours in Sundays is the highest working hours among the private autonomous engineering college libraries of Andhra Pradesh.

Table-3: Library opening hours - wise colleges in a week days

| S.No. | Opening hours in a week days | No. of Colleges |
|-------|------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. | 07:00 A.M. | 3 |
| 2. | 08:00 A.M. | 26 |
| 3. | 08:30 A.M. | 4 |
| 4. | 08:40 A.M. | 1 |
| 5. | 08:45 A.M. | 1 |
| 6. | 09:00 A.M. | 5 |
| 7. | 09:20 A.M. | 1 |
| Total | Average: 08:27:51 | 41 |

Table-3 shows that 3 numbers of libraries are opening early morning at 07:00 A.M., maximum 32 numbers of libraries are opening between at 08:00 A.M. to 08:45 A.M., minimum 6 numbers of libraries are opening between at 09:00 A.M. to 09:20 A.M. in week days. The average opening hours of private autonomous engineering college libraries is morning at 08:00 hours 27 minutes 51 seconds i.e. approximately morning 08:00 A.M. in a week days.

Table-4: Library closing hours - wise colleges in a week days

| S. No. | Closing hours in a week days | No. of Colleges |
|--------|------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. | 05:30 | 2 |
| 2. | 06:00 | 5 |
| 3. | 06:30 | 2 |
| 4. | 07:00 | 6 |
| 5. | 07:30 | 1 |
| 6. | 08:00 | 16 |
| 7. | 09:00 | 3 |
| 8. | 10:00 | 4 |
| 9. | 11:00 | 1 |
| 10. | 12:00 | 1 |
| Total | Average: 08:15:00 | 41 |

Table-4 shows that 2 numbers of libraries are closing early evening at 05:30 P.M., maximum 33 numbers of libraries are closing between at 06:00 P.M. to 09:00 P.M., minimum 6 numbers of libraries are closing between at 10:00 P.M. to 12:00 P.M. in week days. The average closing hours of private autonomous engineering college libraries is evening at 08:00 hours 15 minutes 00 seconds i.e. approximately morning 08:00 P.M. in a week days.

Table-5: Library functioning hours - wise colleges in a week days

| S.No. | Functioning hours in a week days | No. of Colleges |
|-------|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. | 08:45 | 1 |
| 2. | 08:50 | 1 |
| 3. | 09:00 | 2 |
| 4. | 09:30 | 2 |
| 5. | 10:00 | 4 |
| 6. | 11:00 | 4 |
| 7. | 11:40 | 1 |
| 8. | 12:00 | 18 |
| 9. | 13:00 | 2 |
| 10. | 13:30 | 1 |
| 11. | 14:00 | 3 |
| 12. | 15:00 | 1 |
| 13. | 16:00 | 1 |
| Total | Average: 11:42:42 | 41 |

Table-5 shows that 10 numbers of libraries are functioning 08:45 to 10:00 hours, maximum 23 numbers of libraries are functioning 11:00 to 12:00 hours, minimum 8 numbers of libraries are functioning 13:00 to 16:00 hours in week days. The average functioning hours of private autonomous engineering college libraries is 11:00 hours 42 minutes 42 seconds i.e. approximately 12:00 hours in a week days.

Table- 6: Library opening hours - wise colleges in a Sundays

| S.No. | Opening hours in a week days | No. of Colleges |
|-------|------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. | 08:00 A.M. | 2 |
| 2. | 09:00 A.M. | 19 |
| 3. | 09:20 A.M. | 1 |
| 4. | 09:30 A.M. | 1 |
| 5. | 10:00 A.M. | 7 |
| Total | Average: 09:10:00 | 30 |

Table-6 shows that 2 numbers of libraries are opening early morning at 08:00 A.M., maximum 21 numbers of libraries are opening between at 09:00 A.M. to 09:30 A.M., minimum 7 number of libraries are opening at 10:00 A.M. in Sundays. The average opening hours of private autonomous engineering college libraries is morning at 09:00 hours 10 minutes 00 seconds i.e. approximately morning 09:00 A.M. in a Sundays.

Table-7: Library closing hours - wise colleges in a Sundays

| S.No. | Closing hours in a week days | No. of Colleges |
|-------|------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. | 01:00 | 17 |
| 2. | 01:30 | 1 |
| 3. | 02:00 | 1 |
| 4. | 04:00 | 2 |
| 5. | 04:30 | 1 |
| 6. | 05:00 | 4 |
| 7. | 10:00 | 1 |
| 8. | 12:00 | 3 |
| Total | Average: 05:00:00 | 30 |

Table-7 shows that 3 numbers of libraries are closing midnight at 12:00 P.M., maximum 19 numbers of libraries are closing between at 01:00 P.M. to 02:00 P.M., minimum 8 numbers of libraries are closing between at 04:00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M. in Sundays. The average closing hours of private autonomous engineering college libraries is evening at 05:00 hours 00 minutes 00 seconds i.e. exactly evening 05:00 P.M. in a Sundays.

Table-8: Library functioning hours - wise colleges in a Sundays

| S.No. | Functioning hours in a Sundays | No. of Colleges |
|-------|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. | Closed | 11 |
| 2. | 03:00 | 7 |
| 3. | 03:30 | 1 |
| 4. | 03:40 | 1 |
| 5. | 04:00 | 11 |
| 6. | 05:00 | 2 |
| 7. | 06:00 | 1 |
| 8. | 07:00 | 3 |
| 9. | 08:00 | 2 |
| 10. | 09:00 | 1 |
| 11. | 12:00 | 1 |
| Total | Average: 06:07:00 | 41 |

Table 8 shows that 11 private autonomous engineering college libraries are closed on the Sundays, minimum 20 numbers of libraries are functioning 03:00 to 04:00 hours, maximum 10 numbers of libraries are functioning 05:00 to 12:00 hours in Sundays. The average functioning hours of private autonomous engineering college libraries is 06:00 hours 07 minutes i.e. approximately 06:00 hours in a Sundays.

Major findings:

The study was found that the private autonomous engineering college libraries have freedom in setting functioning hours. The variation of functioning hours of these libraries is very high from college to college in week days and Sundays. We found that 12:00 hours library functioning is suggestible for good service to users in week days i.e. from morning 08:00 A.M. to 08:00 P.M. We also found that 06:00 hours library functioning is suggestible for

good service to users in Sundays i.e. from morning 09:00 A.M. to 03:00 P.M. and on examination days evening up to 05:00 P.M.

Conclusion:

Higher education authorities UGC, AICTE and universities should take necessary initiative for the setup and mandatory open of the private autonomous engineering college libraries in Sundays. The authorities also fix the minimum functioning 12 hours in weekdays and 6 hours in Sundays. This provides an opportunity to library science professionals to get employability. This will motivate the library professionals to learning library science course. Sufficient budget should be made available by the authorities for developments of library resources. The libraries are the most important place for getting the required literature and information by the scientists, research scholars and students etc. The libraries should try to provide more and more user services to their users.

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