



USE OF LIBRARY INFORMATION RESOURCES AND SERVICES BY THE STUDENTS OF TERESIAN COLLEGE, MYSORE: A STUDY

Vasantha, N¹, Ambika Basawaraj² and Raju, C³

¹Library Project Assistant, Mysore University Library, Mysore.

²Library Project Assistant, Mysore University Library, Mysore.

³Library Project Assistant, Mysore University Library, Mysore.

ABSTRACT

The study examined the use of library resources and services among students in Teresian College Library. The questionnaire was used as the main research instrument. 170 copies of the questionnaire were distributed to the students; the return rate was 85%. The major findings



were; the majority of the students do not use the library regularly. Their main purpose of visiting the library is to consult study materials. They used more internet sources and their major challenge was the lack of time. They were also averagely satisfied with the library services. Suggestions were offered to improve the library

services.

KEYWORDS :Library resources, Library Services, Information Resources & Services, Students, Teresian College.

INTRODUCTION

Thus to study and provide the suggestion for improving the existing library services and resources, an attempt has been made here to evaluate library resources and services offered by Teresian college Learning being a continuous process in the academic environment requires access to information on available at the place of working and also in other libraries. Education is to humanize

the community. Man becomes 'man' through education. Without education, the individual would be unqualified for group life. Education implies experience, insight and adjustment on the part of man as he is stimulated towards growth and development. Education is the acquisition of the utilization of knowledge.

2.BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

18th of March 1963 was a memorable day in the history of Teresian when they took possession of the building. Temporary sheds were erected to house classrooms and laboratories. The institution had to face innumerable hurdles to begin with, financial constraints apart, lack of personnel, irregular and scanty transport, the meagre water supply was the problems that required immediate attention.

The Misereor Grants were received in 1970, with which the new Science block and hostel were completed in 1973. Once the financial insecurity was tackled there was no looking back and the college very quickly reached a high standard of efficiency. The emphases were in admitting average students and make them really above average, unlike most of the colleges which keep a cut off percentage for admission to attract the best. Hence, the college became very popular even though its location was considered to be 'out of the city' those days before the city started extending. Teresian became a landmark in the true sense of the word, finding a place of prominence in the map of the city.

The college is named after St. Teresa of Avila, a mystic of 16th Century and a reformer of Carmelite Order from which Carmelite Sisters of St. Teresa draw inspiration.

The college emblem consists of the Apostolic Crest which is constituted by a mountain, three stars, cross and five-flowered crown. The Scrolls contain the motto of the college "Virtue is the sole and only nobility".

3.OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The main objective of this study is to examine whether the students utilized the resources and services provided by the library and the extent to which the library was used. The specific objectives are:

- To identify the adequacy of the reading materials/collection of the library.
- To know the necessary information resources for teaching and learning in the field of interest to the college.
- To know the services extended by the library.
- To find out the types of information resources required by the students.
- To ascertain the opinion of the faculty and students regarding the adequacy of information resources and services available in the library.
- To identify the problems faced by the users in using the library.
- To help the administrator of the libraries for preparing and enrichment program for better use of the library.

4. METHODOLOGY

For the present study, a questionnaire was used for data collection. A random sampling technique was adopted to select students at Teresian College, Mysore. 200 copies of the questionnaire were randomly distributed by the researchers to students at the Teresian College. 170 copies of the questionnaire were returned, representing 85% response rate. The data were analysed using descriptive statistics of frequency count and percentages and the result is presented in tables

5.RESULT AND DISCUSSION:

Table 1: Frequency of Library visit

Library visit	Frequency	%
Every day	52	30.58%
Twice a day	18	10.58%
Once in a week	37	21.76%
Twice in a week	28	16.47%
Once in a month	9	5.29%
Occasionally	26	15.30%
Total	170	100%

Respondents were asked to indicate how often they use the library. The answer to this question is presented in Table 1. The analysis of the result presented in Table I revealed that majority 52(30.58%) of the respondents used the library daily while only 37(21.76%) of the respondents used the library once in a week and 28(16.47%) respondents used the library twice in a week followed by 26 (15.30%) who used the library on an occasionally. The implication here is that majority of the students do not use the library on a regular basis. This may be due to the fact that majority of the students are gainfully employed and therefore, they have to combine their job with their study. Hence, the time available for their study might not be sufficient as it is competing with their other activities. This will in effect, reduce their utilisation of library resources. However, if the resources are under-utilized, the students may be missing out a lot of information that would have made them better students.

Table 2: Purpose of visit to the library

Purpose	Frequency	%
To borrow books	41	24.11
To read books	45	26.47
To use reference sources	38	22.35
To read professional Magazines	10	5.88
To improve general knowledge	25	14.70
To prepare for competitive exams	11	6.47
To prepare for Seminars/Dissertations	21	12.35
To prepare for debates	3	1.76
To refer question papers of previous years	4	2.35

(Percentage is more than 100 because of multiple choices)

The respondents were asked to state their reasons for visiting the library; the analysis of their responses is presented in Table 2. Maximum users visit for the purpose to read books they are

45(26.47%), Least use is for the purpose of preparing for debates only 3(1.76%), 41(24.11%) of users visit library for reading books, 38(22.35%) respondents visit for the purpose to use reference sources, 25(14.70%) users visiting for improving general knowledge, then 21 (12.35) users visit library for preparing seminars and dissertations and 10(5.88) respondents visit library for read professional magazines and remaining 4(2.35) users visit library for referring question papers of previous year.

Table 3: Use of library catalogue

Response	Frequency	%
Yes	86	50.59%
No	84	49.41%
Total	170	100%

Out of 170 users, 86 (50.59%) of users are using the library catalogue and remaining 84(49.41%) of users are not using the library catalogue.

Table 4: The way of learning of computer knowledge by the users

Modes of learning	Frequency	%
From friends	40	23.52%
Computer courses	70	41.18%
In class	35	20.58%
Self-taught	25	14.70%
Total	170	100%

Above table shows that mode of learning computer knowledge, out 170 users, 70 (41.18%) of users learn thoroughly computer courses and 40 (23.52%) of users learn through friends. Whereas 35(20.58%) of users learn in the classroom and remaining 25 users learn through self-taught.

Table 5: Success rate of finding required information in the library

Degree of Success rate	Frequency	%
100	22	12.94%
75-99	42	24.70%
50-74	63	37.06%
25-49	35	20.58%
Less than 25	8	4.70%
Total	170	100%

Out of 170 users, 63 users succeed 50 to 75% in finding required information, 42 succeed in 75 to 99%, 35 users succeed 50-75%, 22 users succeed 100% and remaining 8 users succeed less than 25% from the total.

Table 6: Users rate of satisfaction with internet information

Rate scale	Frequency	%
Excellent	43	25.29%
Good	92	54.11%
Moderately good	21	12.35%
Poor	14	8.24%
Total	170	100%

These most of respondents i.e. 92 (54.11%) reply that the internet information is good while 43 (25.29%) of users state that excellent, whereas 21 (12.35%) of users responded that moderately good against 14 (8.24%) users opine that the content is poor.

Table 7: Showing extent of dependency on library resources

Information Resources	Dependent	Fully Dependent	Partially Dependent
Textbooks/prescribed books	85 (50%)	15 (8.82%)	29 (17.05%)
Subject books	50 (29.41%)	45 (26.47%)	18 (10.58%)
Reference books	45 (26.47%)	32 (18.82%)	39 (22.94%)
Question papers	36 (21.17%)	19 (11.17%)	53 (31.17%)
Newspapers and magazines	40 (23.52%)	39 (22.94%)	34 (20%)
Journals (subjected related)	25 (14.70%)	29 (17.05%)	53 (31.17%)
Internet	43 (25.29%)	40 (23.52%)	42 (24.70%)

(Multiple choices has given to users)

The above table shows that the extent of dependency on library resource. Out of 170 users, 85 (50%) of users reply that they depend on the textbooks, 15 respondents fully dependent and 29 users partially dependent. Whereas subject books are concerned 50 users are dependent, 45 users reply that they fully dependent and remaining 18 users partially dependent with representing 29.41%, 26.47% and 10.58% respectively. And 45 users reply that they depend on reference books, 32 users fully depended on reference books and 39 of them are partially dependent. Question papers are concerned 53 users (31.17%) of users state that they partially concerned. Newspapers and magazines are other sources of information and most of the users depend on this. Out of 170 users, only 25 users reply that they depend on journal against 39 users fully dependent and 53 of them are partially dependent. The Internet is concerned almost same percent of users i.e. 24% of users depend on,

partially depends on and fully depends on.

Table 8: Showing adequacy of information resources available in the library

Types of Resources	Adequate	Partially Adequate	In Adequate	Can't say
Subject books	76 (44.70%)	28 (16.47%)	16 (9.41%)	5 (2.94%)
General books	42 (24.70%)	54 (31.76%)	8 (4.70%)	5 (2.94%)
Reference books	58 (34.11%)	37 (21.76%)	11 (6.47%)	1 (0.58%)
Subject journals	30 (17.64%)	45 (26.47%)	11 (6.47%)	16 (9.41%)
Old question papers	32 (18.82%)	27 (15.88%)	20 (11.76%)	26 (15.29%)
Audio/ video materials	32 (18.82%)	18 (10.58%)	21 (12.35%)	33 (19.41%)
Internet facility	33 (19.41%)	38 (22.35%)	20 (11.76%)	10 (5.88%)

Shows that a maximum number of students that is 76(44.70%) out of 170 respondents opine that subject books in the library are adequate, and 28(16.47%) respondents felt that partially adequate and 16 (9.41%) users reply that it is inadequate. General books are concerned 54 users reply that partially adequate and 42 users said adequate and 13 users give a negative answer. Whereas reference books are concerned 55% of users reply that it is adequate against 8% of the user's replies inadequate. Another almost similar percentage of users i.e. 18% of the users reply that they depend on the subject journals, old question papers, audio/video materials and internet facilities against 11 users each reply that reference books and subject journals are inadequate. And another 20 users each replied that the old question paper, audiovisual materials and internet facility are inadequate. Further, some the users do not reply for all the resources.

Table 9: The satisfaction of users with the library different services

Library Services	Highly satisfied	Moderately satisfied	Slightly satisfied	Not at all satisfied
Current awareness Services	47 (27.64%)	49 (28.82%)	16 (9.41%)	7 (4.11%)
Selective Dissemination of Information	16 (9.41%)	52 (30.58%)	26 (15.29%)	5 (2.94%)
Reference Services	40 (23.52%)	48 (28.23%)	14 (8.23%)	5 (2.94%)
Referral Services	16 (9.41%)	40 (23.52%)	24 (14.11%)	7 (4.11%)
Newspaper clipping Services	59 (34.70%)	25 (14.70%)	17 (10%)	11 (6.47%)
Indexing and Abstracting Services	18 (10.58%)	27 (15.88%)	26 (15.29%)	9 (5.29%)
Reprographic Services	15 (8.82%)	26 (15.29%)	27 (15.88%)	9 (5.29%)
The Internet browsing services	40 (23.52%)	30 (17.64%)	23 (13.52%)	12 (7.05%)
Interlibrary loan services	15 (8.82%)	12 (7.05%)	20 (11.76%)	35 (20.58%)

From the above table, we can analyse that most of the users i.e. 25% to 30% of the users are highly satisfied with the current awareness service, reference services, newspaper clipping services and Internet browsing services. Whereas nearly 30% of the users i.e. 45-50 in number are moderately satisfied with current awareness service, selective dissemination of information, reference services and referral services. Further almost 10-15% of the respondents slightly satisfied with all the services and lastly 5-10% of the users not at all satisfied with any services.

6. CONCLUSION

Library is one such non-profit service organization and spending institution. The basic function of the library is educative and informative. Thus, it provides resources and services necessary for the success of all formal programmes of an institution. The college library plays a vital role in assisting the college in fulfilling its goal. The effectiveness of the college library to a large extent depends on the Utilisation of its resources and services. This study has therefore ascertained that students do not maximise the use of library resources provided for them because the majority of them do not use the library on a regular basis. They also prefer internet sources to print resource. Their main purpose of visiting the library is to consult research materials and borrow some materials for home use while their major problem is a lack of time.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Library should also bring the awareness to users about online, Internet and other advanced services.
2. Library will organize orientation programmes be provided to make adequate publicity about the availability of library recourses and various services to the users.
3. Interlibrary loan facilities are improved as the longer time taken to get the documents often hampers.
4. The collection of advanced books and journals in all disciplines should be strengthened to support the study, teaching and research work.
5. The non-book material (Audiovisual material) collection should be strengthened.
6. Computerization of library collection and other operation should meet the users need quickly and promptly.
7. New arrivals of the library should be informed to users on regular basis.

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Vasantha, N

Library Project Assistant, Mysore University Library, Mysore.