MANAGEMENT OF COLLEGE LIBRARY AND SERVICES: A STUDY OF PROVINCIALISED DEGREE COLLEGES OF BARAK VALLEY, ASSAM.

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ABSTRACT

Purpose: The boom of Internet and cyber World made easy access of resources on finger tip yet library has a place of authentic resources and manual, formal reading services which can be everlasting. The services of libraries, attraction of users depends on the professional library management and service policies. Therefore the college libraries have to be well managed and served professional services to its users. This can be the only motto of modern day library services to be survived in this era of information pandemic (infodemic) world. The present study is conducted to observe the library management and library services provided in the colleges of Barak Valley which are affiliated to Assam University Silchar. There are total numbers of 24 govt. degree colleges in three districts of Assam. This study will cover whole population of 24 colleges to find out the status of library management and library services.

Methodology: The present study is a survey based descriptive study with the help of structured questionnaire along with interview and personal observation to conduct this study. There are total numbers of 24 govt. degree colleges in three districts of Assam. This study will cover whole population of 24 colleges to find out the status of library management and library services.

Findings: Many libraries found running with no librarian and contractual staffs, average no's of visitors per day and daily issue return is unsatisfactory, only 60.86% libraries are fully classified & remaining are in progress which impacts library function and overall academic achievement.

Originality: This is an original research works conducted by the researcher in the govt. degree colleges of Barak valley affiliated to Assam University, Silchar.

Keywords: Colleges Library, Library Management, Library Services, User Satisfaction, Assam University.

1. INTRODUCTION

Change is the law of nature and an evitable part of any progressive society. Change involves strategy, efficiency and effectively to maintain equilibrium of modernise and conventional library services. With flood of technological advancement we the library professional should think of our basic foundation of libraries services along with latest techno based library facilities such as automated library management, digitized materials on 24/7 access. We should not forget reading services, reference services, classification of materials, orientation of library services and lending services etc.

Library is the heart of an academic institution. Library plays most vital role on overall academic achievement. Therefore an academic institution should focus on the development of meaningful library collection, proper management of libraries and professional attitude to provide library services like reading service, reference service, lending service and so on

This can be the only motto of modern day library services to be survived in this era of information pandemic (infodemic) world. The present study is conducted to observe the library management and library services provided in the colleges of Barak Valley which are affiliated to Assam University Silchar.

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The present study is carried out to achieve both qualitative and quantitative analysis of status of library management and services of college libraries Barak Valley, Assam. The main objectives of this study are:

 i)   To find out the status of library collection in the colleges libraries of Barak Valley.
 ii) To understand the status of knowledge organisation such as classification and cataloguing in the colleges libraries of Barak Valley.
 iii) To observe the use of different library services in the colleges libraries of Barak Valley.
 iv) To find out the status of lending services in the colleges libraries of Barak Valley.

3. SCOPE AND LIMITATION OF THE STUDY

The present study will help to understand the growth and development of library management works such as collection development, library classification, library cataloguing and library services such as lending services reading services, reference services etc. in the college libraries of Barak Valley affiliated to Assam University, Silchar. This study population is the whole population of degree college libraries of three districts of Barak Valley under jurisdiction of Assam University, Silchar. There are 24 Govt. provincialised degree colleges apart from B. Ed. College, Law College, Medical College, Poly Technique College are covered in this study to see the overall development of college libraries affiliated to Assam University, Silchar.

4. METHODOLOGY

Methods: The present study is a survey based descriptive study with the help of structured questionnaire along with interview and personal observation to conduct this study. There are total numbers of 24 govt. degree colleges in three districts of Assam.

Sample size and selection: This study will cover whole population of 24 colleges to find out the status of library management and library services.

Deign of questionnaire: A structured questionnaire designed for the college librarian and distributed to collect the data from the whole population.

Statistical measures: After collecting the data from the selected college libraries have been tabulated and analyzed to find out the frequency, percentage and graphical representation of data according to the study objectives.

Data sources: The data sources are the library data provided by the college librarian or library in charge in the questionnaire distributed during the survey from 24 degree colleges of Barak Valley is the total data source used in this study.

5. LITERATURE REVIEW

A literature survey has been made to find out different studies related to ICT in the college libraries, library automation, and studies on college libraries and Assam University are listed below:

Chakraborty and Sinha (2012) the paper attempts to identify the present status of collection development and its management and manpower pattern along with services of selected college libraries of Barak Valley

Choudhury and Dey (2012) this study reveals that the use of modern technology in surveyed libraries of Hailakandi district is still in initial stage. The status of library automation is very poor, only 14.29% has been partially automated.

Choudhury, S. and Sarmah (2017) conducted a study on ICT infrastructure and application in the degree colleges of Cachar Districts. The study discussed the availability of ICT infrastructure and issues related to the implementation ICT in the colleges.

Konwar and Sinha (2014) discussed the status of ICT infrastructure and development of library network among the major colleges of Barak Valley, Assam. The study opined that most of the college libraries are not well of in context to ICT infrastructure, internet connectivity.

Lahkar (2014) in this study he discussed the collegiate education and modern librarianship. He opined that modern librarianship is a changing library establishment on its duties and services. Being as a resource center the library and growing due to implementation of ICT in the libraries.

Laskar and Sharmah (2012) the paper discusses modules, process and techniques of knowledge management in different college libraries of Hailakandi, Assam.

Paul and Sinha (2012) this paper discuss about ICT in college libraries of Karimganj Districts where maximum libraries are partially automated.

5. DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATIONS

The present study covers the degree college libraries of three districts of Barak valley under jurisdiction of Assam University, Silchar. There are 24 Govt. Provincialised colleges the present study is covering the whole population of 24 college libraries of Barak Valley affiliated to Assam University. There are 24 out of which 23 colleges have contributed and responded the questionnaire distributed during the survey and respond rate is 95.83%. It has been observed that quite a large no's of posts are vacant. The list of colleges surveyed along with the library staff have been is given below:

Table 1: List of College libraries surveyed with library staff

SL NO.	Name of the College	Name of the Librarian/In-charge	Qualification	Librarian	Asst. Librarian	Library Asst.	Grade IV	Total staff
1	S. S. College	Shibojit Choudhury	MLIS, UGC NET	1	0	1	3	5
2	Lala Rural College	Mithun Nath (I/C)	M.A, SLET	0	0	0	1	1
3	S. K. Roy College	Nabanita Dasgupta	M.A, PhD	1	0	0	0	1
4	A. L. C. College	Rofique Uddin Laskar	MLIS, UGC NET	1	1	1	1	4
5	M. H. C. M. College	Sufia Khanom Mazumder	MLIS	1	1	1	0	3
6	S.C. Dey College	Bivash Ranjan Dey (I/C)	M.A, MLIS	0	1	1	1	3
7	Karimganj College	Dr. Nirmal Kumar Sarkar (I/C)	M.A, PhD	0	0	1	2	3
8	Nabin Chandra College	Sankar Kumar Chackrabarty	MLIS, MPhil, PhD	1	0	1	2	4
9	Rabindra Sadan College	Sangita Talukdar	MLIS, PhD	1	0	1	1	3
10	Ramkrishnanagar College	Shyam Thakuriya	MLIS, UGC NET	1	0	0	1	2
11	Nilam Bazar College	Parasar Roy (I/C)	B.A, BLIS	0	1	1	1	3
12	Pathar Kandi College	Kazi Abu Bakkar Salim	BLIS	0	1	1	0	0
13	Vivekananda College	Not Responded	Not Responded	-	-	-	-	-
14	Cachar College	Sucheta Bhattacharjee (I/C)	MLIS, PhD	0	0	1	2	3
15	G. C. College	Sehnara Begum Choudhury	MLIS, UGC NET, PhD	1	1	1	0	3
16	Radhamadhab College	Sonali Choudhury	MLIS, PhD	1	0	1	1	3
17	Women's College	Sarita Bhattacharjee	MLIS, PhD	1	0	1	0	2
18	Janata College	Pradeep Kumar Singh	MLIS, UGC NET	1	0	1	1	3
19	Nehru College	Sangeeta Yadav (I/C)	MLIS, UGC NET	0	0	1	2	3
20	M. C. Das College	Mihir Kanti Nath	MLIS, UGC NET	1	1	1	1	4
21	West Silchar College	Ali Hussain Barbhuiya	MLIS	1	1	1	1	4
22	Silchar College	Minakshi Sinha (I/C)	MLIS	0	0	1	1	2
23	Satya Ranjan College	Kailash Roy	MLIS	1	1	1	1	4
24	J. N. Singh College	Susona Singh	MLIS, PhD	0	1	1	1	3
		VACANT		9	13	3	3	3

6. REGISTERED LIBRARY USERS

Library members or users are backbone of library who decides what material need to be subscribed based on their demands and interest. All college students are may not be library users, there are procedures to be followed to be registered user in the library to access or issue/return books for study. In this study it has been observed that the registered numbers of user as per the college enrolment is quite less and per day

library visitors are not up to the mark. The library authority should take necessary action to grasp the user community towards the library.

Table 2: Registered Library Users

Sl. No.	Name of The College	Faculty Members	Students	Non-Teaching Staff	Others	Average No. of Library User Per Day	
						During Session Time	During Vacation
1	S. S. College	50	2550	6	5	200	10
2	Lala Rural College	24	275	10	4	23	8
3	S. K. Roy College	15	157	4	9	20	2
4	A.L. C. College	24	220	11	2	25	6
5	M.. H. C. M. College	15	53	2	0	13	0
6	S. C. Dey College	20	492	4	0	70	0
7	Karimganj College	58	1210	21	12	135	25
8	Nabin Chandra College	55	700	25	0	25	10
9	Rabindra Sadan College	60	1250	10	0	70	5
10	Ramkrishnanagar College	25	500	10	0	80	10
11	Nilam Bazar College	24	355	12	0	185	15
12	Patharkandi College	18	459	7	0	90	0
13	Vivekananda College	-	-	-	-	-	-
14	Cachar College	52	1240	19	0	220	25
15	G. C. College	97	4928	31	0	250	50
16	Radhamadhab College	23	980	10	8	200	70
17	Women's College	13	1425	14	0	180	60
18	Janata College	25	369	4	0	25	7
19	Nehru College	22	255	10	0	40	11
20	M. C. Das College	35	1300	10	0	200	130
21	West Silchar College	24	100	2	0	20	0
22	Silchar College	18	100	9	0	35	10
23	Satya Ranjan College	20	250	15	0	15	5
24	J. N. Singh College	17	230	10	0	15	8

7. LIBRARY BUILDINGS AND READING ROOM CAPACITY

In the above table we can see the library users are quite minimal in number due to the capacity of library and strength of reading room. Data reveals that only 12 (52.17%) college having independent library building where 11 (47.82%) are satisfied with the library space. The impact of library space can be seen in the ration of reading room capacity which is negligence as per the NAAC criteria which is 5% of total enrolment.

Table 3: Library Buildings and Reading Room Capacity.

Sl. No.	Name of The College	Area of The Library	Independent Library Building	Level of Satisfaction		Reading Room Facility	
		Sq. Feet		Library Space	Architecture of The Library Building	Teachers	Students

1	S. S. College	6000	Yes	Yes	Yes	10	100
2	Lala Rural College	1100	Yes	Yes	Yes	15	25
3	S. K. Roy College	1050	Yes	Yes	Yes	19	20
4	A.L. C. College	600	No	No	No	5	20
5	M.. H. C. M. College	400	No	No	No	0	20
6	S. C. Dey College	314	No	Yes	No	12	20
7	Karimganj College	1250	Yes	Yes	Yes	15	100
8	Nabin Chandra College	2000	No	No	No	10	30
9	Rabindra Sadan College	3500	Yes	Yes	Yes	10	30
10	Ramkrishnanagar College	800	No	No	No	10	40
11	Nilam Bazar College	416	No	No	No	2	10
12	Patharkandi College	400	No	No	No	5	10
13	Vivekananda College	-	-	-	-	-	-
14	Cachar College	5600	Yes	Yes	Yes	20	200
15	G. C. College	15000	Yes	Yes	Yes	20	150
16	Radhamadhab College	3000	Yes	No	No	20	50
17	Women's College	4000	Yes	No	No	10	100
18	Janata College	4500	No	Yes	No	10	30
19	Nehru College	4600	Yes	Yes	Yes	15	25
20	M. C. Das College	6400	Yes	Yes	Yes	30	220
21	West Silchar College	500	Yes	No	No	10	20
22	Silchar College	400	No	No	No	10	30
23	Satya Ranjan College	450	No	No	No	10	25
24	J. N. Singh College	500	No	No	No	8	15

Apart from the above table the level of satisfaction on library building is further represented in graphical chart below which reflects the only 12 (52.17%) having independent library buildings and 11 libraries satisfied with library space and 9 libraries are satisfied with architecture of the library building.
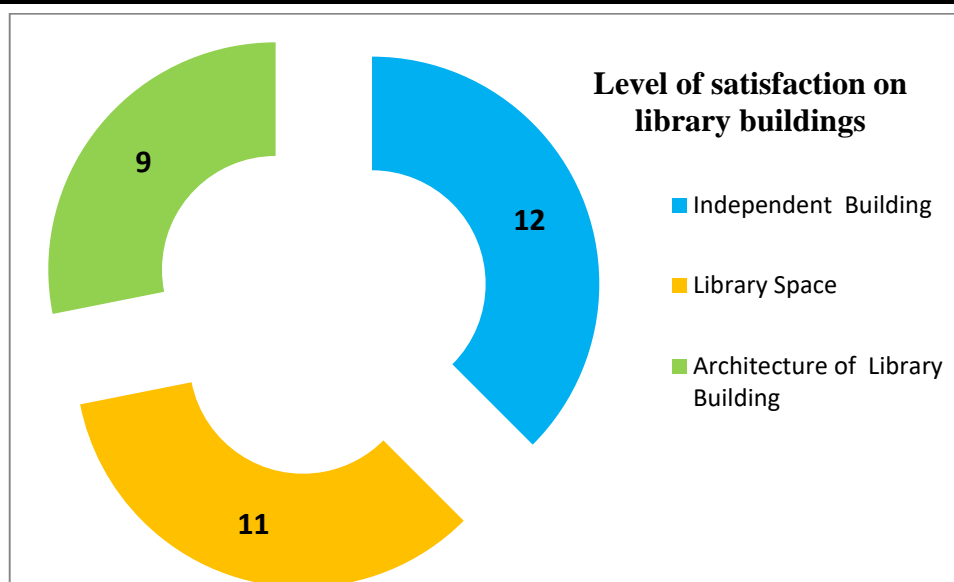
Figure 1: Level of satisfaction on library buildings

8. LIBRARY COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT

The better use of library depends on the collection and variety of materials. The college libraries of Barak Valley are rich with its collection. In this table it can be clearly seen that the libraries which are newly provincialised after 2011 are lacking behind as compare to the colleges assessed and accredited by NAAC. The Govt. of Assam is trying to develop these libraries on step by step process of sanctioning financial grants on time to time. The highest numbers of collection are 39000 (G.C. College), 37000 (Karimganj College), 27000 (Cachar College). Another noticeable point is observed that most of the colleges have a big difference of total collection and the collection which is physically available, that clearly shows the improper library management policies and safety of library materials.

Table 4: Current Library Collection

Name of The College	PRINTED RESOURCES			JOURNALS			Magazines	NEWSPAPERS		THESIS/ DESERTATIONPROJECT REPORT	TOTAL NO. OF BOOKS PHYSICALLY AVAILABLE
	Text Book	Reference Book	Total	Indian	Foreign	Bound Volumes		Local	National		
S. S. College	21946	1445	23391	11	5	0	19	3	3	0	23244
Lala Rural College	9400	3300	12700	0	0	0	5	2	1	0	11600
S. K. Roy College	1575	600	2175	0	0	0	0	4	2		21700
A.L. C. College	3000	800	3800	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	3780
M.. H. C. M. College	1516	1011	2527	0	0	0	5	2	1	0	2527
S. C. Dey College	1900	200	2100	15	0	4	5	2	1	2	1700
Karimganj College	30108	7000	37018	10	2	0	10	4	3	0	33438
Nabin Chandra College	14226	1500	15726	8	0	0	2	5	0	0	14000
Rabindra Sadan College	15000	3000	18000	7	0	12	7	1	3	0	18000
RK. Nanagar College	7845	2015	9860	4	0	0	15	6	2	10	9540
Nilam Bazar College	7635	721	8356	0	0	0	2	4	0	0	8356
Patharkandi College	2090	220	2310	0	0	0	5	4	1	0	2310
Vivekananda College	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cachar College	21500	6050	27550	10	9	0	12	5	3	0	27400
G. C. College	35391	4000	39391	20	16	242	16	5	2	0	39000
Radhamadhab College	13500	4500	18000	25	0	120	5	3	5	28	17000
Women's College	11819	13941	25760	12	0	126	7	4	2	0	25000

Janata College	5610	12135	17745	16	0	73	9	2	3	4	17000
Nehru College	10000	8000	18000	2	0	0	18	3	4	0	17500
M. C. Das College	12500	1000	13500	8	2	0	5	2	4	16	13500
West Silchar College	3100	900	4000	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	3910
Silchar College	1800	1200	3000	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	2880
Satya Ranjan College	350	700	1050	0	0	0	10	3	2	0	1000
J. N. Singh College	2378	2162	4540	1	0	0	2	2	1	0	2100

9. KNOWLEDGE ORGANIZATION

Proper library management depends on the proper implementation of knowledge organization policies such as Classification, cataloguing and maintaining library databases. As per the classification of books are concern the libraries of Barak valley are lacking behind, only 9/ (39.13%) colleges fully classified and 14/ (60.86%) library have partially classified their library material which shows negligence regarding classification are concerns. Library database shows the clear records of library collection and works as catalogue which is maintained by the library in ILMS of other computer applications. But data revels that 30.43% of libraries still have no library database either in Excel or Library Automation Software's while 69.56% libraries having library database.

Table 5: Technical Processing

Sl. No.	Name of The College	No's f Books Classified		Classification Schemes			Cataloging Rules			Library Database	
		Partially	Fully	DDC	CC	UDC	AACR2	RDA	CCC	Yes	No
1	S. S. College	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
2	Lala Rural College	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0
3	S. K. Roy College	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
4	A.L. C. College	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
5	M.. H. C. M. College	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
6	S. C. Dey College	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
7	Karimganj College	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
8	Nabin Chandra College	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
9	Rabindra Sadan College	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
10	RK. Nanagar College	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
11	Nilam Bazar College	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
12	PatharKandi College	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
13	Vivekananda College										
14	Cachar College	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
15	G. C. College	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
16	Radhamadhab College	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
17	Women's College	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
18	Janata College	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
19	Nehru College	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
20	M. C. Das College	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
21	West Silchar College	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
22	Silchar College	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
23	Satya Ranjan College	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
24	J. N. Singh College	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
	FREQUENCY	14	9	23	1	0	23	0	0	16	7

In the figure Use of Classification Schemes shows the entire population is using DDC and only one library having both DDC and CC scheme of classification. Initially these libraries started classifying book on CC but at present they are using DDC 19, 22, 23 edition.
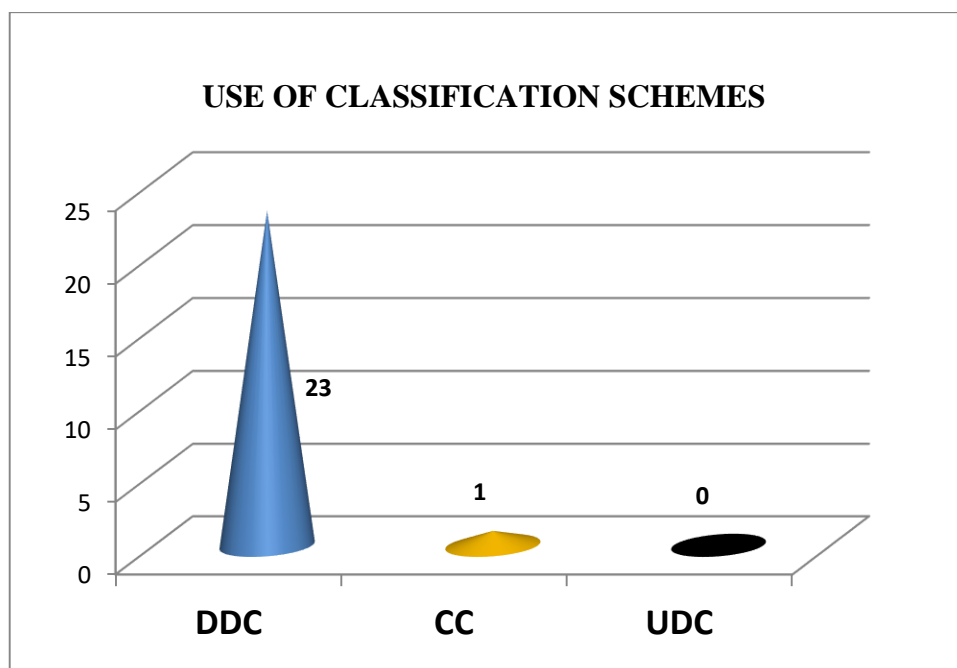

Figure 2 : Classification Schemes Using

10. USE OF LIBRARY SERVICES

Modern libraries running with motto of services first, quality must, for everlasting trust. Library services are prime parameter to evaluate at library. In this study, major library services such as reference service, newspaper clipping service, bibliographic service, CAS, SDI, book-bank service, book exhibition service, orientation service etc. have been evaluated to see the frequency of services used by the colleges of Barak Valley. The frequency distributions of 23 libraries who have responded are shown as per different library services are concern.

Though the services shown in pen paper is good but in practice there are big gap between user and the library has been observed which can also be seen in the per day library visitors, ratio of library user with total enrolments etc.

Table 6: Use of Library Services

Sl No.	Library Services	Frequency
1	Reference service	23
2	Indexing Abstracting Services	0
3	Newspaper Clipping	12
4	Routing of Periodicals	2
5	Book Exhibition	15
6	Bibliographic Services	9
7	Inter Library Loan	2
8	SDI	0
9	CAS	6
10	User Orientation	21
11	Content Page Services	1
12	Book Bank Services	13
13	Literature Search Service	6
14	**OTHER**	1

The above table has been represented in the Vann diagram for better understanding of the services frequency in the surveyed libraries. It has been found that every college is providing reference service and 21 libraries are providing user orientation services each year. Selective Dissemination of Information and Indexing Abstracting service are not been used in these libraries.
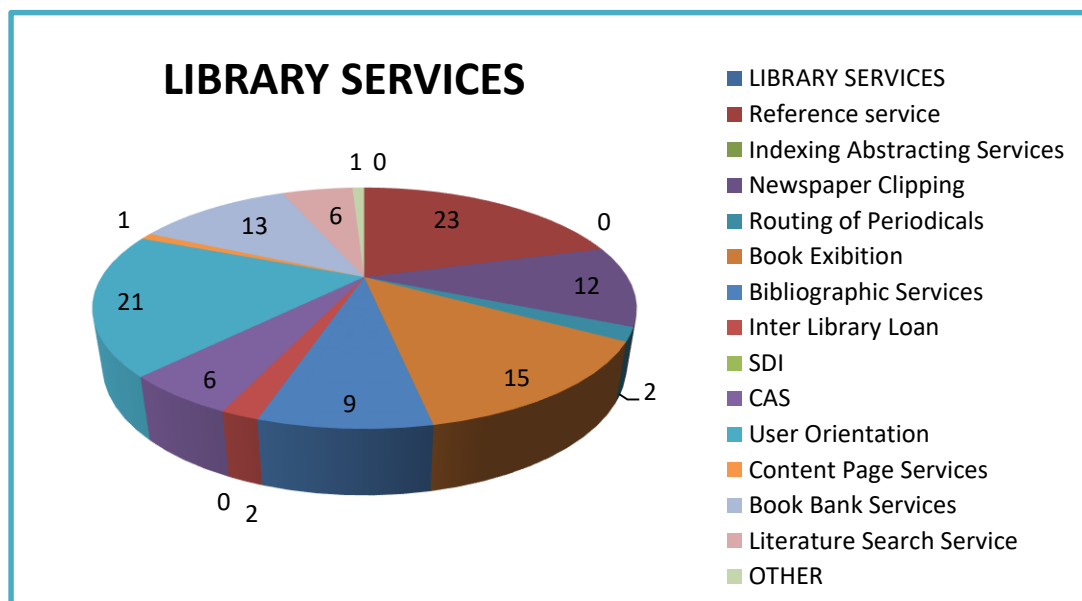

Figure 1 : Frequency of use of library services

11. LENDING SERVICES

The front end of library is circulation section where lending or charging of books take place. It is the corner where direct meet of user and library staff takes place. The record maintain in the library statistics clearly reveals the usage of library and its material to decide for further library planning, such as collection development policies, level of user satisfaction and interest. In this study it has been found that the average no's of issue / return is quite minimal due to online availability of resource on figure tip and swing of habit or resources.

Table 8: Lending Services

Sl. No.	Name of the College	Average No's of Books Per Day	
		Issue	Return
1	S. S. College	50	50
2	Lala Rural College	15	5
3	S. K. Roy College	15	8
4	A. L. C. College	11	6
5	M. H. C. M. College	37	19
6	S.C. Dey College	8	5
7	Karimganj College	30	5
8	Nabin Chandra College	30	20
9	Rabindra Sadan College	70	5
10	Ramkrishnanagar College	20	5
11	Nilam Bazar College	50	5
12	Pathar Kandi College	20	5
13	Vivekananda College	-	-
14	Cachar College	25	5
15	G. C. College	50	20
16	Radhamadhab College	90	40
17	Womens College	60	50
18	Janata College	50	30
19	Nehru College	36	24

20	M. C. Das College	100	80
21	West Silchar College	10	4
22	Silchar College	35	10
23	Satya Ranjan College	10	2
24	J. N. Singh College	15	8

12. SUGGESTION AND CONCLUSION

The study concluded with suggestion and requesting remarks that the college librarian should come out with professional good will and attitudes to meet the all possible requirements just not to maintain the library on records to face NAAC and high scores but also to meet quality, services, satisfaction and overall academic performance. In these connection libraries have to be properly organized, maintain database, increase lending services, conduct orientation programmes and provide quick response for reference service and to follow the best practices in order to improve quality and services to sustain in the everyday competition.

Use of information communication technology, library automation, digitization of library, active collaboration among the sister colleges and consortium to meet user satisfaction and academic achievement which are necessary to realize the importance of library and influence of librarian in an academic library. The authority should focus on library development and fulfilling the vacancies on priority basis and the librarian should focus on the proper usage of library material and services using library management skills and experiences.

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