



A STUDY OF ATTITUDE OF LIBRARIAN TOWARDS ICT IN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

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Abstract

The study was carried out on a representative sample of 500 College librarians working in various Colleges libraries of Cuddalore and Villupuram Districts of Tamil Nadu. The basal sample was obtained using proportionate stratified sampling procedure. It is interesting to note that the male respondents are more in number than female respondents. It is interesting to note that the number of respondents who say that ICT meets their requirements is more. There is no significant difference between male and female college librarians regarding their level of attitude towards ICT. There is a significant difference in level of attitude of librarian towards ICT with regards to whether ICT meets your requirements or not.

Keywords: Attitude of Librarian towards ICT, Gender, whether ICT meets their requirements

Introduction

The present study discusses the attitude of librarian towards ICT to perform various library operations. Tremendous development has been seen in the field of Library & Information Science due to faster growth in technology. In the past few decades, with the use of internet and technology, the library work has become very fast. To satisfy the needs of library users, speed and accuracy is the two most important dimensions. Basically, the knowledge of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) enhances the workflow of the librarian which reduces manual work and escalates the library services. The very purpose of this study is to express the usefulness of the different ICT tools for a librarian. Libraries and Information Centers are emerging as a major domain for Information Technology applications. Librarians act as intermediaries between users and information resources; provide general and special information services to the benefit of users with the aid of Information Technology.

Reviewed Studies

Avuglah, Bright Kwaku et al. (2020) surveyed librarians' and students' attitudes, perceptions, and concerns on privacy in Ghanaian universities with the aim of seeking a better alignment of their perspectives in the online library context. The study adapted and applied the instrument developed by Zimmer that assessed attitudes and practices of librarians in the United States on privacy rights and protecting patrons' privacy in the library. The study found that, between librarians and students in Ghanaian universities, there was a need for greater control over their personal data and a need for ethical responsibility on the part of data collecting online library agents; both groups expressed dislike for state censorship and corporate monopoly over their personal data. However, despite their positive attitude about the strong role of librarians in guaranteeing their personal data, a significant number of them demonstrate little faith in librarians to actualize the protection of their personal data. Finally, privacy attitudes and concerns of academic librarians were noted to align with those of university students in Ghana. Among others, it was recommended that Ghanaian academic librarians integrate privacy education and awareness creation in their universities, emphasizing the need to make informed online decisions and exposing potential repercussions of their decisions while using online library and digital resources

Scott, Rachel Elizabeth; Harrington, Caitlin; Dubnjakovic, Ana Portal (2021) the results of a 2019 survey of academic librarians that investigated their attitudes, practices, and policies regarding open access (OA). This study asks if academic librarians write policies to ensure that they approach OA intentionally and systematically across all library services. The results indicate that, though librarians report favorable beliefs about OA and integrating OA into technical and public services, they seldom create OA policies.

Sampath Kumar and Biradar (2010) professionals have positive attitude towards the use of ICT applications and library automation. In a today's ICT era when most of the library services are ICT based, it is important for LIS professionals to be well adequate, informed and updated time to time regarding developments in ICT. The use of ICT based applications by LIS professionals (College Librarians), their attitudes towards ICT, skills in handling new technologies, need for training in the new technologies etc. is very much positive.

Need for the Present Study

Libraries must be continuously improvised with up-to-date computer technologies for knowledge transmission and networks. To sustain efficient services, librarians need to have ICT knowledge. The use of computers for library operations, saves considerable amount of time, increases resources and reduces the amount of labor required. It also speeds up technical processing and information services. ICT has been a means to bring quality services. Systematic planning of its introduction and application will assure that the technology based information services are sustainable and enhances the ability of library services.

Objectives of the Study

- To find out the level of attitude of librarian towards ICT with reference to gender
- To find out whether there is any significant difference between attitude of librarian towards ICT and whether ICT meets their requirements or not.

Methodology

The study was carried out on a representative sample of 500 librarians working in various college libraries of Cuddalore and Villupuram Districts of Tamil Nadu. The basal sample was obtained using proportionate stratified sampling procedure. Survey method has been adopted for the present study. Both questionnaire and interview methods have been applied to collect primary data.

Limitation of the Study

The data of the study involving 500 Librarians working in different colleges situated in Cuddalore and Villupuram Districts of TamilNadu.

Analysis and Discussion

General Information of Respondents

1.1 Distribution of Respondents Based on Gender Wise

The following table shows the distribution of respondents based on gender

Table-1

Distribution of Respondents based on Gender

Gender	N	%
Male	327	65.4
Female	173	34.6
Total	500	100

Table-1 depicts the distribution of respondents based on gender. Among 327 respondents 65.4 per cent are male whereas among 173 respondents 34.6 per cent are female. It is interesting to note that the male respondents are more in number than the number of female respondents.

1.2 Distribution of Respondents Based on Whether ICT Meets Their Requirements or Not

The following table shows the distribution of the respondents based on whether ICT meets their requirements or not.

Table-2

Distribution of Respondents based on whether ICT Meets their Requirements or not

Whether ICT meets their requirements	N	%
Yes	388	77.6
No	112	22.4
Total	500	100

Table-2 depicts the distribution of respondents based on whether ICT meets their requirements or not. Among 500 respondents, 388 respondents (which equates to 77.6 per cent) says that ICT meets their requirements whereas 112 respondents (which equates to 22.4 per cent) says that ICT does not meet their requirements. It is interesting to note that the number of respondents who say that ICT meets their requirements is more than the number of respondents who say that ICT does not meet their requirements.

1.3 Independent Samples t-test to check the significant difference between male and female regarding Attitude of Librarian towards ICT.

Hypothesis:

There is no significant difference between the gender and attitude of librarian towards ICT.

Table-3

Distribution of respondent's significant difference between male and female regarding Attitude of Librarian towards ICT by t-test

Categories	Sub Samples	N	Mean	't' value	Significant at 0.05 level
Gender	Male	327	136.78	0.433	Not Significant
	Female	173	136.15		

From table-3, in order to find out the significant difference between male and female regarding their attitude of librarian towards ICT, the 't' value was calculated and the 't' value was found to be 0.433 which is lesser than the table value 1.96 which is not significant at 0.05 level. Therefore the null hypothesis is accepted and concluded that there is no significant difference between male and female regarding their attitude of librarian towards ICT.

1.4 Independent Samples t-test to check the significant difference in Attitude of Librarian towards ICT with regards whether ICT meets their requirements or not.

Hypothesis:

There is no significant difference between the Whether ICT meets their requirements and attitude of librarian towards ICT.

Table-4

Distribution of respondent's significant difference between whether ICT meets their requirements and Attitude of Librarian towards ICT by t-test

Categories	Sub Samples	N	Mean	't' value	Significant at 0.05 level
Whether ICT meets their requirements	Yes	388	137.39	2.222	Significant
	No	112	133.71		

From table-4, in order to find out the significant difference between whether ICT meets their requirements and Attitude of Librarian towards ICT, the 't' value was calculated and the 't' value was found to be 2.222 which is greater than the table value 1.96 which is significant at 0.05 level. Therefore the null hypothesis is rejected and concluded that there is a significant difference between whether ICT meets their requirements and Attitude of Librarian towards ICT.

Major Findings

- Among 327 respondents 65.4 per cent are male whereas among 173 respondents 34.6 per cent are female. It is interesting to note that the male respondents are more in number than the number of female respondents.

- Among 388 respondents 77.6 per cent say that ICT meets their requirements whereas among 112 respondents 22.4 per cent say that ICT does not meet their requirements. It is interesting to note that the number of respondents who say that ICT meets their requirements is more than the number of respondents who say that ICT does not meet their requirements.
- There is no significant difference between male and female regarding their attitude of librarian towards ICT.
- There is a significant difference between whether ICT meets their requirements or not regarding Attitude of Librarian towards ICT.

Conclusion

The present study states that, according to the opinion of librarians, the usages of technology in libraries are excellent in time of modern ICTs era. All librarians' opiniate that e-resources are very useful to modern library users and it satisfies their informational needs. Generally, all librarians accepted that the reprographic facility is very important in day to day activities of managing library in the modern time. Library management software in circulation section of the library is very good and also reduces management pressure of the librarian at the time of circulation. The librarians are required to update their the knowledge and skill in Information communication technology.

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