

USE PATTERN OF LIBRARY COLLECTION AND SERVICES BY STUDENTS: A CASE STUDY OF LAW COLLEGE, OSMANABAD

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ABSTRACT:

This study investigates user satisfaction of law students of Law College, Osmanabad (Maharashtra). The study focuses on information required by the students and satisfaction level, what resources they require, methods for locating information, library collection, services and facilities available in the library. A descriptive survey method was used & the data was gathered through the questionnaire completed by 180 students, the users' opinions and suggestions have been collected in this study for data collection process.

Keywords: *Users study, Collection Development, Library Services, Best Practices, College Library, LAW, INFLIBNET and N-LIST.*

1. INTRODUCTION

India has a large educational system comprising thousands of colleges & hundreds of universities along with several institutes of higher learning & centers of excellence. The college & university libraries being the nerve centers of the higher education & learning play a vital role in support of all the activities such as teaching, research & publication.

Libraries are established to provide the information needs of their users, which is an essential for the students in their mental development in this complex and modern society. It is a prerequisite for socio-economic, cultural, scientific and personal development. Information may be stored in various forms, including print & non-print media, the second law of library science reads as "Every reader his her books" It means readers coming to the library for information searching & must be provided by the any type of libraries.

2. USE STUDY:

Use is a behavior; it leads to meet individual needs. A user study is a systematic examination of characteristics and behaviors of an Information system. The term user study reflects on, information use patterns, information needs, & information seeking behavior. Hence the investigator conducted user studies in order to improve the present library services, plan for new services, adjust the limited funds, evaluate the performances of the library & enhance the user satisfaction, such studies will help the librarians, authorities to know the satisfaction of users with the services, facilities type of the new service desired, & the funds required for their implementation.

3. LAW COLLEGE, OSMANABAD

Law College, Osmanabad is affiliated to Dr.Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad. Osmanabad is considered as semi-urban area. Until, 17th September, 1948 it was under Nizam rule. Later it was merged with Union of India. Our Management started the Law College to cater the needs of Legal Education in backward area. This College is 250 Km away from University Headquarters. To provide Legal Education to the needy & poor people of this area in terms of fees & expenses, this college location is beneficial to all the people here. We also conduct Legal Aid & Legal Literacy Camps to have the Legal Awareness as well as National & State Level Moot Court Competition. The College is affiliated to Dr.Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad.

The faculty members actively participate as the members of Board of studies, Faculty of Law, Dr.Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad. The college has provided wide range of core options, elective options, interdisciplinary courses and flexibility to the students as per their interest and likings. The adequate infrastructure and learning resources in respect of classrooms, library, playground, hostels, canteen (sharing with the sister institution), and other amenities have been consistently developed, extended, maintained and enriched from time to time.

The college library has the extensive reference books for research. It contains the infrastructure facilities like a computer lab, internet, printer and photocopier. In addition to that an extensive database of Supreme Court, High Court cases, State and Central legislations has been provided along with up to date collection of journals, magazines and periodicals.

The involvement of faculty in research activities is promoted through Research Committee. Moreover the college has planned to initiate the work towards an academic association with various other organizations. The library has rich collection of text books, reference books, journals, e-books, e-journals. Internet access to students is provided through Information Center of the College. Understanding the need of Osmanabad Districts, Shri Swami Vivekanand Shikshan [SSVSS] Kolhapur's founded this College in 1984 under the leadership of Honourable Bapuji Salunkhe. The College has following full-fledged facilities -

- Library with 11073 books
- 16 Journals + 04 Newspapers
- N-LIST E-resources
- Computer Lab with 10 computers
- Ladies Hostel
- Gymkhana

4. SANT DNYANESHWAR LIBRARY (SDL)

The library is the lung of every educational institute, which breathes knowledge and information into the minds of the students. The Library Advisory Committee considers the development proposals of the library and budget allocations and policy decisions. It also provides directions for a structured and balanced growth of the library and to provide improved facilities and innovative services. Allocation and utilization of funds and introduction of developmental programs and requirements of the users are addressed and approved by the Library Advisory Committee.

4.1 Collection development

The Library and Information Centre came into existence in the year 1984. The main Library is equipped with a good number of national and international books, journals in the field of Family Law, Company Law, Labour Law, CRPC, CPC, ADR, Human Right, English, Management and General reading, etc. and also with the modern and latest technology to cope up with latest development to provide quality and quick services to its users.

4.2 Library Staff

Library and Information Centre has good team of qualified Professional and Non-Professional Staff.

4.3 Library Services

ASPC's Library and Information Centre is providing the following services to its users.

- Circulation
- Reference Service
- Current Awareness Service
- Selective Dissemination Service
- Reprographic Service
- Audio-Visual service
- News Paper Clipping Service
- WEB OPAC
- Legal Awareness
- Interlibrary Loan

4.4 Library Automation of SDL

Law College, Osmanabad is one of the Best College of its kind in Marathwada Region to have a computerized Library Services. Computerization started since January, 2013 and built a complete database of over 10,246 books. Further we have Online Services provided to our users through UGC & INFLIBNET N-LIST program with INTER LIBRARY LAN SYSTEM consisting of 7 terminals connected to, the library and information center Server storing our database.

The project was implemented at the SDL, Law College, Osmanabad. It deals with the automation of the entire library system thereby reducing paperwork and increasing efficiency. A Library plays a vital role in any education. College has the latest and best possible books, magazines, journals, audio-visual aids for the student and faculty members. The students use these books for their academics, general knowledge etc. Our College Library has one of the best and wide collections of related Academic books and journals. Our dedicated and always helping Library Staff takes care of each and every student by availing them with best of their requirements. The functioning of the existing system was studied and following details were determined.

4.4.1 SOUL Software

Software for University Libraries (SOUL) 2.0 is state-of-the-art integrated library management software designed and developed by the INFLIBNET Centre based is used. The latest version of the software i.e. SOUL 2.0 was released in January 2009. It is user-friendly software developed to work under client-server environment. The software is compliant to international standards for bibliographic formats and circulation protocols. After a comprehensive study, discussions and deliberations with the senior professionals of the country, the software was designed to automate all house-keeping operations of library. The software is suitable not only for the academic libraries, but also for all types and sizes of libraries, even school libraries. The database for new version of SOUL is designed for latest versions of MS-SQL and MySQL (or any other popular RDBMS). SOUL 2.0 is compliant to international standards such as MARC 21 bibliographic format, Unicode based Universal Character Sets for multilingual bibliographic records and NCIP 2.0 and SIP 2 based protocols for RFID, electronic surveillance and control.

The Online Public Access Catalog (OPAC) is used to carry out online searches of library database by Author, Title; Keywords and Accession Numbers, which enables users to provide good reference service to staff and students.

5. OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

- ❖ To identify the type of information sources needs to the students.
- ❖ To know the purpose of seeking information
- ❖ To know users opinion about the library.
- ❖ To find out the satisfaction level of users & effectiveness of the library services.
- ❖ To suggest some measures this will help the student to use the library more effectively.

6. SCOPE & LIMITATION OF THE STUDY

The scope of the present study is limited to Students, of Law College, Osmanabad. The main focus of this study is to identify the needs & requirements of users in general & to know the use of College Library.

7. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Survey method has been used for the present study. This method plays a significant role in research as can be seen from the statement.

“The survey method is one of the most effective & sensitive instruments of research, survey research can produce much needed knowledge”.

A questionnaire is prepared to collect the data from students of Law College, Osmanabad. At present there are 443 students are studying in this college for different degrees i.e. Pre Law, LL.B. and LLM. A sample of 205 (Krejcie and Morgan, 1970) students has been selected as a samples size given by Krejcie and Morgan in 1970. The questionnaire was distributed among the different branches to the selected post-graduate students 180 (87.80%) students have completed and returned the questionnaire.

8. DATA ANALYSIS & INTERPRETATION

The collected data are analyzed and interpreted below.

8.1 Subject wise Students Strength

Responses received were analyzed to know which subject the respondents belong. The analyzed data is presented in table no.1

Table No.1 Class wise strength of Students

Class	No. Students		Percentage
	Male	Female	
Pre Law I	17	23	07.27
Pre Law II	10	19	05.27
Pre Law III	25	69	17.09
Pre Law IV	11	22	06.00
Pre Law V	16	27	07.84
LL.B. I	34	112	26.54
LL.B. II	06	18	04.36
LL.B. II	14	25	07.09
LL.M. I	15	37	09.45
LL.M. II	17	33	09.09
Total-	165	385	100

It is observed from table no.1 that out of 443 student 146 (26.54%) were for LL.B. I among the three classes, followed by Pre Law III 17.09% and the strength for all the rest class were 4% to 9 % for each class.

It is concluded that more number of students admitted for LL.B. I than all other class.

8.2 Frequency of Library Visit

The distribution of students according to the frequency of library visit is shown in table no.2.

Table No. 2 Frequency of Library Visit

Frequency	No. of students	Percentage
Almost Daily	22	12.22
Once in a week	115	63.88
Twice in a week	28	15.57
Once in fifteen days	08	04.45
Monthly	07	03.88
Rarely	00	00.00
Total-	180	100

It is found from table no.2 that out of the total 180 Students, 115 (63.88%) were visiting the library once in a week or almost daily, 15.57% twice in a week, 12.22% almost daily, while 8.33% Post Graduate student were visiting once in fifteen days or monthly, no students were found who use the library rarely.

8.3 Purpose of Library Use

Attempts were made to know for what purpose users use library. The analyzed data is presented in table no 3.

Table No. 3 Purpose of library use (N=180)

Purpose	No of Respondents*	Percentage
To Lending books to read	145	80.55%
To Consult Periodical	74	41.11%
To Read News Paper	85	47.22%
To Use Internet-E-mail	10	05.55%
Search Online and Offline Database	05	02.77%
To Keep Update Knowledge	65	36.11%
Preparing Article	22	12.22%
To Writing Notes	45	25.00%
Fun & Enjoyment	25	13.88%
As Meeting Point	20	11.11%
Photocopying Material	15	08.33%
To Preparing Competitive Exam	25	13.88%
To Preparing for Debating Elocution	07	03.88%

* Multiple responses

It can be revealed from the table no.3 that the main purpose of 80.55% post graduate students was lending the books for home reading, 47.22% and 41.11% students purpose was to read newspapers and to consult the periodicals respectively, while 36.11% users were using the library to keep update knowledge and 37.22% were attending library for preparing article and writing notes, 13.88% were using for preparing competitive exam. Very less number of the student were using the library for internet browsing and online as well as offline database, nearly 25% were using for fun & enjoyment and as meeting point of view. As well as 8.33% users purpose was getting photocopy of the required reading material while 3.88% users were using the library for preparing debating elocution.

Hence it is clear that the post graduate student are not much aware about e-resources provided by the library, the main purpose of these users were to collect the required information through print resources available in the library as per their prescribed syllabus.

8.4 How to Find out Required Information Sources

Attempts were made to know for how the users get required information. The analyzed data is presented in table no. 4

Table No.4 How to Find Out Required Information Sources (N=180)

Sources	No Respondents	Percentage
OPAC	115	63.88
Library Staff	75	41.66
Teachers	135	75.00
Friends	52	28.88
News Papers	42	23.33
Periodicals	64	35.55
Browsing Publisher Book Seller Catalog	13	07.22
Library Shelves	32	17.77

* Multiple Responses

It is observed from table no.4 that 75% post graduate students highly depends on their teacher and 63.88% browsing the books on OPAC to find out the required documents. These two are followed by assistance form the librarian and library staff 41.66%, Searching periodicals 35.55% help from friends 28.88%, browsing news papers 23.33% and browsing book seller & publishers catalogue 07.22%, therefore it is clear that major students consult to their teacher and browse the book on OPAC for the relevant documents.

8.5 Availability of Resources in the Library:

The vital aim of the library is to provide the required reading material to the students, researchers, and faculty of the college. These users need highly specialized and advanced information on the subject of their specialization in a variety of sources like text books, reference books, periodicals, news papers, or magazines, thesis dissertation reports, e-resources etc.

The distribution of post-graduate students according to the sufficiency of various information resources, which has been shown in table no.5

Table No.5 Availability of Library Resources (N=180)

Library Resources	Sufficient		Not Sufficient		Total
Text books	105	58.33	75	41.66	180 (100%)
Reference Sources	115	63.88	65	36.11	
Periodicals	135	75.00	45	25.00	
News Reports	25	13.88	155	86.11	
M. Phil Dissertation/ Project work	148	82.22	32	17.77	
E-resources	05	2.77	175	97.22	

It is clear from table no.5 that post graduate students opined, text book collection was sufficient while 41.66% student indicated that was not sufficient. It is an evident that 63.88% student noted that reference collection in the library is sufficient while 36.11% were of the opinion that was not sufficient, 75% were satisfied with periodical resources while 25%. Were found not satisfied 82.22% students also indicated that M.Phil dissertation & project work was good and sufficient while 17.77% stated that was not sufficient. As regard the collection of e-resources 97.22% felt that it was not sufficient while only 2.77% felt it was sufficient.

Hence it is concluded that majority of student were not satisfied with the e-resources, reports the notable thing is that they were quite satisfied with text, reference & periodicals, dissertation collection.

8.6 Satisfaction about Library Services

The main objective of college library is to collect, organize & retrieve the information to faculty, researcher and students of college community, Effective services will improve & deliver right information to right time to the right user in right manner, in the age of it libraries will have to play a vital role by providing information through modern techniques to render its services more efficiently and qualitatively. The distribution of students according of the satisfaction of different library services is shown in table no.6

Table No. 6 Satisfaction of Library Services

Library Services	Satisfaction Level		Total
	Satisfied	Not Satisfied	
Circulation Service	149 (82.77%)	31 (17.23%)	180 (100%)
Reference Service	135 (75%)	45 (25%)	
Reader Orientation Service	128 (71.11%)	52 (28.89%)	
Photocopying Service	44 (24.44%)	136 (75.56%)	
Internet Service	115 (63.35%)	65 (36.11%)	
Inter Library Loan	15 (8.35%)	165 (91.67%)	
CAS Service	145 (80.56%)	35 (19.44%)	
Bibliographic Service	117 (65%)	63 (35%)	

The table no.6 shows that post graduate students 82.77% are satisfied while 17.23% are not satisfied with circulation service, It is also an evident that 75% are satisfied while 25% not satisfied with reference service 71.11% are satisfied 28.89% not satisfied with reader orientation service 75.56% are not satisfied while 24.44% fied with photocopying service 63.89% are satisfied while 36.11% are not satisfied with internet & email service 91.67% felt not satisfied and only 8.25% are satisfied with inter library loan.

As regards the CAS 80.56% are satisfied while 19.44% are not satisfied, 65% are satisfied while 35% are not satisfied with regard to bibliographic service.

8.7 Library Facilities

The library has to maintain its inner & outer environment cleanliness, proper ventilation, appropriate space for reading as well as provide drinking water, sufficient lighting, furniture, toilets % use library resources more effectively.

The distribution of the responses about satisfaction of various facilities shown in table no.7

Table No. 7 Satisfaction of Library Facilities

Library Services	Satisfaction Level		Total
	Satisfied	Not Satisfied	
Specious Reading Room	155 (86.11%)	25 (13.89%)	(100%)
Cleanliness	175 (97.22%)	05 (2.78%)	
Furniture	164 (91.11%)	16 (8.89%)	
Ventilation	171 (95%)	09 (05%)	
Lighting	177 (98.33%)	03 (1.67%)	
Drinking Water	75 (41.66%)	105 (58.34%)	
Toilet	160 (88.89%)	20 (11.11%)	
Power Backup	173 (96.11%)	07 (3.89%)	

It is observed from table no.7 that above 86 to 98% students are satisfied over all the facilities provided by the libraries except drinking water 58.34%, toilet 11.11 users are not satisfied with these facilities.

9. CONCLUSION

The findings of the study include that 63.88% student of Law College visit the library once in a week the purpose of borrow books for reading purpose, to locate the books most of users consult with OPAC for getting the relevant document & other reading material, They are also getting the resources like text books, reference and periodicals in sufficient manner while e-resources are found not sufficient in the library overall students are satisfied with the library services and facilities provided to them by the library. The % of not satisfied user is less. However user feedback practices of library revaluation by students' users have really helped the library to function more effectively.

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