

RESEARCH ARTICLE

A Study on Information Sources and Services in Government Siddha Medical College Library, Thirunelveli

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Abstract

A siddha medical college library aims to provide wide and efficient information sources and services to the medical professionals as well as the users. The present study is an attempt to know the information sources and services by government siddha medical college library. The government siddha medical college library. The purpose of the research is to assess the usage, purpose, frequency of using the information sources and services of and what are all the practical difficulties faced by the users.

Keywords: *Information sources, Services, User, Siddha Medical College- Search engine.*

Introduction

Information is considered as the first element in the search for wisdom in a human chain process. Thus documentation produces information, which is converted into documentation and again into information. In every country, from the less developed to the most advanced and large amount of scientific and technological information locally produced or information origin is stored in some form or another for the benefit of users.

Government Siddha Medical College, Thirunelveli

GSM library boasts a wide range of books more than 15000, to enlighten everyone. Library is also subscribing important medical journals and also provides links to number of open access journals. An audio –visual unit is also available in the library block for the benefit of students and faculty in conducting seminars/ Lecture etc. Departmental library is also functioning to teachers and scholar.

They have a reading hall that could accommodate a hundred readers at a time. The reference section contains rare collection of books for the aid of students and staff alike. We have books under various topics such as Siddha, Ayurveda, Unani, Naturopathy, Allopathy, etc. Apart from the core topics, the library also provides books such as literature and so, for general

purpose. We have an exclusive collection of books dedicated to medicinal plants, which serves as encyclopedia for readers. The library also maintains the records of Dissertation done by PG students, as a reference. They also have published works by Indian Medicine - Homeopathy Department, for sale, to public. Books can be bought at all working days.

Information Sources

Information is great diversity in various formats. The two main formats are Print and Non-print

Print

Books, periodicals, bibliographies, Maps, Indexes and Abstract, Photography's, Government documents etc.

Non-Printed

Multimedia, Microform, Audio, Video, Electronic books and Journals, Images, text, Internet and Web documents.

Library Services

The services offered by libraries can be grouped as conventional services and the services for promoting library use:

o Conventional library Services

- Library rules
- Circulation

- Inter Library loan services

○ Services Promoting library Use

- Orientation services
- Current awareness Services
- Reference services
- New books arrival
- Press clipping services

Need and Significances of the Study

The purpose of the study is to present the fact that information resources, electronic resources are significant part of the library collection. Since siddha medical college library play a virtual role knowledge dissemination process in the higher education especially in medical. There are several studies are conducted in different context.

Review of literature

Leon (2010) In an Australian revealed that the staff responds positively towards change by exuding satisfaction among the sources of new area of work and providing the improved services.

Priti Jain (2015) in his paper purposes how it is possible to use ICT in medical field to manage and disseminate indigenous knowledge and services.

Objectives

The following objectives and framed for the study.

- To identify the availability of information resources in Govt. Siddha Medical College.
- To identify the information services available in Govt. Siddha Medical College.
- To identify the frequency of using information resources.

- To found the purpose of using information resources.

Hypothesis

- There is no significant difference in the availability of information resources in government Siddha Medical College.
- There is no association between frequencies of using information resources with gender wise analysis.
- There is no association between purposes of using information resources with designation.
- There is no significant difference in the availability of information services in government Siddha Medical College.

Methodology

For the purpose of accomplishing above stated objectives a questionnaire has structured to collect primary data from the users of govt. Siddha Medical College library. The data collected through the questionnaire were coded and tabulated.

Statistical Tools Used

For the purpose of analyzing the primary data the statistical tools such as simple percentage method correlation analysis, chi-square test are used.

Sample Design

There are 72 faculties are there, among them 52 users are selected on the basis of random sampling. This study confined to the information resources and services of govt. siddha medical college. The main aim of the study is to study the awareness of the information resources and services available in the library.

Data Analysis and Interpretation

Table 1: Types of information resources available in the library

Category	Available	Not available
Reference books	60	40
Subject books	90	10
General books	30	70
Periodicals	80	20
Newspaper	80	20
project report	77	13
thesis/Dissertation	15	85
CD-ROM Database	80	20
Medline Database	55	45
Web resources	60	45

Sources: Primary data

Table 1 shows that majority of the respondents said that newspaper, project reports, subject books, CD-ROM database, reference books are available more and

thesis, general books, web resources are very less. It could be found that most of the information resources available in the government Siddha Medical College library.

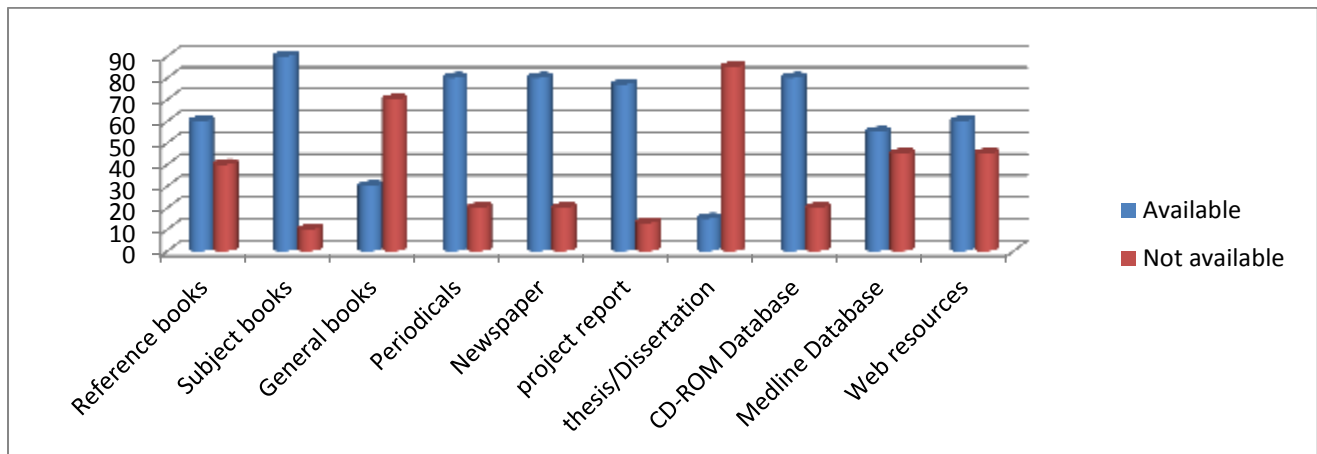


Fig: 1 Types of information resources available in the library

Table 2: Association between frequency of using information resources with gender

Variable	Category	Daily	Twice a week	Three times a week	Once in a week	Total	Chi-square value
Gender	Male	24	5	3	4	36	1.23
	Female	12	2	1	2	17	
	Total	36	7	4	6	53	

Sources: primary data *indicates the significant at 0.05 levels

Testing hypothesis; there is no significant association between frequencies of using information resources with gender. Table 2 indicates that the chi-square value with respect to gender is 1.23 at 3 degrees of freedom.

Which is not significant at 0.05 levels? Hence the hypothesis is accepted at 0.05 levels. Hence there is no significant association between frequencies of using information resources with gender.

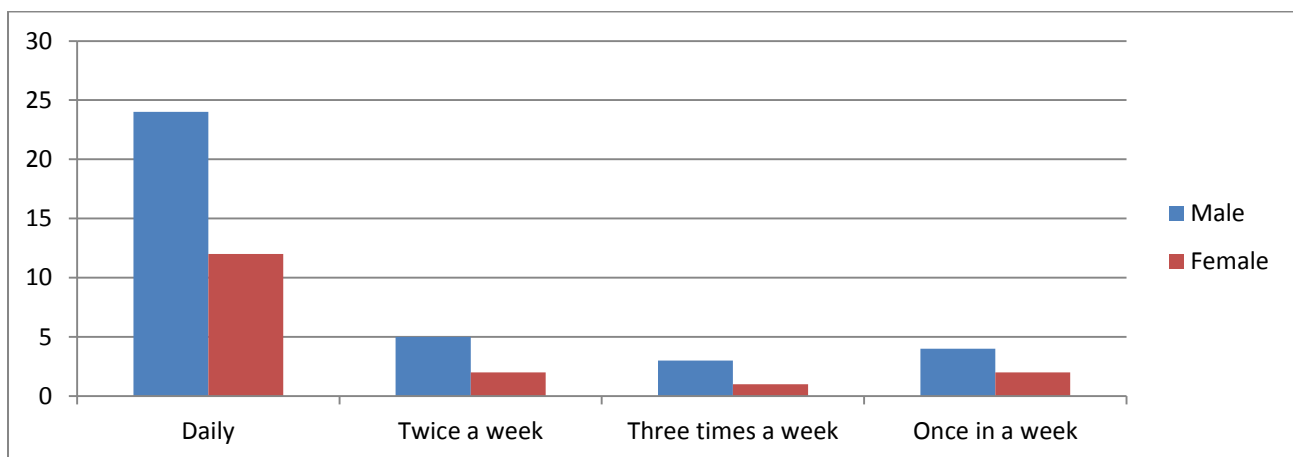


Fig: 2. Association between frequencies of using information resources with gender

Table 3: Association between purposes of using information resources with designation

Variable	Category	Purpose				Total	Chi-square value
		Research work	Class work	Update information	Examination		
Designation	Professor	2	1	-	-	3	5.28
	Associate Professor	2	-	-	-	2	
	Reader	6	2	1	1	10	
	Assistant Professor	-	-	2	-	2	
	Lecturer	3	10	2	1	16	
	Assistant Lecture	-	11	8	1	20	
	Total	13	24	13	3	53	

Sources: Primary data: Indicates the significant at 0.05 level

Testing of hypothesis; there is no significant association between purposes of using information resources with designation. Table 3 indicates that chi-square value with respect to designation is 5.51 at 6 degrees of

freedom, which is not significant at 0.05 levels. Hence the hypothesis is accepted at 0.05 levels. Hence there is no significant association between purposes of using information resources with designation.

Table 4: Information resources with designation

Indicator	Responses	No. of respondents	Chi-square value
	Available	37	
Availability of information services	Not available	16	4.64
	Total	53	

Testing of hypothesis; there is no significant difference in the availability of information services in government Siddha Medical College. Table 4 shows that 37 percent of the respondents said that the information services are available in the library and 16

percent of the respondent's information services are not available in the library. There is significant difference in the opinion among the respondents towards the availability of information services in the library, therefore the hypothesis is rejected.

Table 5: Types of information services available in the library

Category	No. of respondents	Percentage
Abstracting and indexing sources	48	48
Reprography services	50	50
Document delivery for CAS& DI	30	30
CAS& SDI	38	38
Inter library loan	25	25
User orientation	31	31
On-line services	52	52

Sources: Primary data

From the above table shows that 48 percent of the respondents said that abstracting and indexing services are available in the library, 50 percent of the respondents said that reprography facilities available in the library, 30 percent of the respondents said that document delivery services available in the library, 38 percent of the respondents said that CAS & SDI services available in the library, 25 percent of the respondents said that inter library loan available in the library.

31 percent of the respondents said that user orientation programme available in the library, But 52 percent of the respondents said that online services available in the library. So it could be seen clearly from the

above discussion majority of them accepted government Siddha Medical College library available in on-line services.

Findings

Based on the findings of the study, the following suggestions are given, which would help to provide the information resources and services more effectively

- Proper training and orientation must be provided to the users.
- Facilities like Reprographic, Printout, must be made inside the library.
- Infrastructure facilities in the existing library must be improved.
- Develop the collection in all forms to meet the ever green needs of the users.

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