

Study of user opinion on Library Automation & OPAC in college libraries with special reference to N. P. Shivaji Mahavidyalaya Library, Mowad

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Abstract:

Many of the college and university libraries have library automation software in order to provide their best services to the right users, in the right time. The present study deals with user's opinion on OPAC and accessing of OPAC of Learning Resource Centre, Nagar Parishad Shivaji Mahavidyalaya, Mowad. In this paper observed the awareness of online public access catalogue, level of access, and satisfaction level of OPAC among the users.

Keywords: OPAC, online public access catalogue, Library automation, Users, NPSMM,

Introduction

The impacts of ICT on libraries are changing the way of library resources, services and management of library collection. It also changed the role of the libraries in acquire, maintain, manage and distribution of the information, to the end users at right time. The main purpose of library automation is to easily access the main modules and functions of the library and is to free the librarians and the library staff and to allow them to contribute more meaningfully to spread of knowledge and Information. Library Automation reduces the repeated manual efforts in library routine work. Library automation has replaced the traditional library work in to automated work.

Definition of Library Automation

Library automation may be defined as the application of automatic and semiautomatic data processing machines (computers) to perform traditional library housekeeping activities such as acquisition, circulation, cataloguing and reference and serials control. Today "Library Automation" is by far the most commonly used terms to describe the mechanization of library activities using the computer. (Uddin, 2009)¹

"Library Automation is the use of automatic and semiautomatic data processing machines to perform such traditional library activities as acquisitions, cataloguing, and circulation. These activities are not necessarily performed in traditional ways, the activities themselves are those traditionally associated with libraries; library automation may

thus be distinguished from related fields such as 77 information retrieval fields such as information retrieval, automatic indexing and abstracting and automatic textual analysis" (Kent, 1977).²

About Nagar Parishad Shivaji Mahavidyalaya Library, Mowad

The Nagar Parishad Shivaji Mahavidyalaya Library was established in the year 1997. The library has separate reading room and computer lab having large collection of text books, reference books, maps, CDs etc. The automation of library has been completed using Library management software LIBMAN. Library has its own website in which all the information and e-resources are available to the users.

Literature review

Before the study a few article have been reviewed for understanding the concept of Library Automation.

Sridhar (2004) dispensed a comparative study of use of OPAC and library catalogue of the library at ISRO. The study examines for the declining use of OPAC by finish users and also the associated issues just like the gift information light, negligible use of Boolean operators and combination searches, too several records labelled , too broad descriptors, etc. It concludes that, moving from ancient library catalogue to trendy OPAC has not created subject lookingout, additional enticing and effective References.³

Tanja and Maja, (2008). in the study draws attention to some important issues concerning Web 2.0 trends for OPAC. They observed that at this point, none of the catalogues offered as vast as a

range of features, as Amazon did but one catalogue managed to surpass Amazon in some of the examined features (Tanja and Maja, 2008).⁴

Islam Maidul (2010) investigated the use of library catalogue in Dhaka University Library. The study employed descriptive research methods and a questionnaire to generate the data. The analysis revealed that 61.38 percent (178) of the users were aware of library catalogue, and 53.45 percent (155) had never used the catalogue. The study also showed that 71.03 percent (206) encountered difficulties in using the catalogue because of lack of proper education and, as a result, 69.31 percent (201) of the users did browsing/reading through the shelves to locate books. The analysis also revealed that 68.97 percent (200) of users indicated that proper user education was a means to easy catalogue use in the library. ⁵

Mohammad, Jafar & Parvez (2014) have examined the impact of automation on library management services of four selected management institutes at Aligarh. The study used survey research methods for obtaining the data from the participative libraries. The study found that of the four libraries participated in the survey three of them have partially automated their libraries. The Al-Barkaat Management Institute has completely automated its library. Eighty five percent of the users were of the view that library automation system was better than manual system. ⁶

Objective of the study

1. To find out the awareness of OPAC from users.
2. To find out the search frequency of OPAC for searching library sources.
3. To find out the extent of fields use in OPAC for the academic purpose at the Library.
4. To find out the level of satisfaction of OPAC.

Methodology

Data sample selection

Present study was limited to Nagar Parishad Shivaji Mahavidyalaya, Library Mowad so the only users of Nagar Parishad Shivaji Mahavidyalaya Library, Mowad are selected for the present study. From B. A. First Year, Second year and final year

user group, 50 users per year was selected as sample for the study.

Data sample size

From each class, 50 questionnaires were distributed among users, total 150 questionnaires was distributed. All 150 filled questionnaires are received from library users. Based on convenience sampling selected the sample size in which those users who not uses OPAC for searching resources are neglected for the study.

Survey Method

Descriptive statistics were used for data analysis of data. With the help of well-structured questionnaire opinion of respondents have been collected. The depth incites about the topic has been developed using sources of data such as journals, books and research papers etc..

Data Analysis

Table: 1 Class wise distribution of respondents
Class wise distribution

User group	Respondents	% age
B. A. First Year	50	100 %
B. A. Second Year	50	100 %
B. A. Third Year	50	100 %
Total	150	100 %

Table 1 shows class wise distribution of respondents that 100 % users from each class actively response to questionnaire. 50 questionnaire per class was distributed and all the 50 fulfil questionnaire from each class has been received.

Table: 2 Use of OPAC to search for reading material
Use of OPAC to search for reading materials

Nagar Parishad Shivaji Mahavidyalaya, Mowad Library	User group	Yes	No	Total
	B. A. First Year	48 (96 %)	2 (4 %)	50 (100 %)
	B. A. Second Year	48 (96 %)	2 (4 %)	50 (100 %)
	B. A. Final Year	49 (98 %)	1 (2 %)	50 (100 %)
	Total	145 (96.66%)	5 (3.33%)	150 (100%)

Search frequency of OPAC

Table: 3 Search frequency of OPAC

Sr. No.	Period	User Group		
		B. A. First Year	B. A. Second Year	B. A. Final Year
1	Daily	9 (18.75 %)	10 (20.83 %)	12 (24.49%)
2	Once in two days	6 (12.5 %)	5 (10.42 %)	9 (18.37 %)
3	Once in a week	17 (35.42 %)	19 (39.58 %)	21 (42.86 %)
4	Twice in a week	4 (8.33 %)	6 (12.5 %)	3 (6.12 %)
5	Once in a two week	8 (16.67%)	3 (6.25 %)	2 (4.08%)
6	Once in month	3 (6.25 %)	2 (4.17 %)	1 (2.04 %)
7	Rarely	1 (2.08 %)	3 (6.25%)	1 (2.04 %)
Total		48 (100 %)	48 (100 %)	49 (100 %)

The above table no. 3 shows that OPAC search frequency by samples of Nagar Parishad Shivaji Mahavidyalaya library users. Among class wise users, the majority 12 (24.49 %) of Final year

student accessing OPAC daily followed by B. A. Second year users 10 (20.83%) and 9 (18.75 %) of B. A. First year users. Referring another frequency once in a two days majority of 9 (18.37 %) of B. A. Final year followed by B. A. First Year 6 (12.5%) and B. A. Second year users 10(20.83%) are registered. Majority of 21 (42.86%) of B. A. Final followed by B. A. Second year 19 (39.58 %) and 17 (35.42 %) are use OPAC once in a week. While in frequency twice in a week 6 (12.5 %) B. A. Second Year student followed by 4 (8.33%) First year user and 3 (6.12 %) final year users are registered. Referring once in a two week 8 (16.67 %) of B. A. First year student followed by 3 (6.25%) second year users and 2 (4.08 %) final year users are registered. While 3 (6.25%) of B. A. First year users followed by 2 (4.17%) second year users and 1 (2.04%) final year users are using OPAC once in a month.

Search option use while searching resources in OPAC

Table no. 4 Search option use while searching resources in OPAC

User Group	Frequency	Title	Subject	Author	Publisher	Keywords	Call No.	Combination of above
B. A. First Year users	Very Frequently	30 (62.5%)	32 (66.67%)	29 (60.42%)	10 (20.83 %)	30 (62.5%)	7 (14.58%)	32 (66.67%)
	Frequently	10 (20.83 %)	6 (12.5 %)	9 (18.75 %)	32 (66.67%)	9 (18.75 %)	1 (2.08 %)	2 (4.17 %)
	Occasionally	8 (16.67%)	7 (14.58%)	6 (12.5 %)	6 (12.5 %)	8 (16.67%)	11 (22.92%)	5 (10.42%)
	Rarely	0 (0%)	2 (4.17 %)	4 (8.33 %)	2 (4.17 %)	1 (2.08 %)	29 (60.42%)	5 (10.42%)
	Very rarely	0 (0%)	1 (2.08 %)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	4 (8.33%)
Total		48 (100 %)	48 (100 %)	48 (100 %)	48 (100 %)	48 (100 %)	48 (100 %)	48 (100 %)
B. A. Second Year users	Very Frequently	27 (56.25%)	30 (62.5%)	32 (66.67%)	9 (18.75 %)	32 (66.67%)	8 (16.67%)	35 (72.92%)
	Frequently	11 (22.92%)	10 (20.83 %)	11 (22.92%)	6 (12.5 %)	10 (20.83 %)	6 (12.5 %)	11 (22.92%)
	Occasionally	7 (14.58%)	6 (12.5 %)	4 (8.33 %)	30 (62.5%)	6 (12.5 %)	4 (8.33 %)	1 (2.08 %)
	Rarely	3 (6.25%)	2 (4.17 %)	2 (4.17 %)	3 (6.25%)	0 (0%)	30 (62.5%)	1 (2.08 %)
	Very rarely	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (2.08 %)	0 (0%)	2 (4.17%)
Total		48 (100 %)	48 (100 %)	48 (100 %)	48 (100 %)	48 (100 %)	48 (100 %)	48 (100 %)
B. A. Third Year users	Very Frequently	32 (65.30%)	32 (65.30%)	31 (63.26%)	6 (12.24%)	30 (61.22%)	4 (8.16)	32 (65.30%)
	Frequently	10 (20.41%)	10 (20.41%)	9 (18.36%)	8 (16.32%)	11 (22.45%)	6 (12.24%)	11 (22.45%)
	Occasionally	4 (8.16)	4 (8.16)	8 (16.32%)	14 (28.57%)	7 (14.28%)	10 (20.41%)	4 (8.16)
	Rarely	2 (4.08%)	2 (4.08%)	0 (0%)	20 (40.81%)	0 (0%)	20 (40.81%)	1 (2.04%)
	Very rarely	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Total		49 (100 %)	49 (100 %)	49 (100 %)	49 (100 %)	49 (100 %)	49 (100 %)	49 (100 %)

Search option: Title

The above table shows the fields used in OPAC while to search a resources. It can be inferred from the above table title field usage by the uses in OPAC. In B. A. First year user group, majority 30 (62.5%) respondents use the title to find a resources very frequently and 10 (20.83 %) are frequently. In B. A. Second year user group, about 27 (56.25%) use title very frequently and 11 (22.92%) frequently as a mode of search n OPAC. Whereas, In B. A. Final user group 32 (65.30%) respondents use the title as a searching mode very frequently and 10 (20.41%) of them use the same frequently. Compared to all user group all are use title as a mode of searching in OPAC very frequently.

Search option: Subject

It can be shows from above table that in B. A. First year user group majority 32 (66.67%) respondent use the subject search option in OPAC very frequently and 10 (20.83 %) are frequently used. In B. A. Second year user group majority of 30 (62.5%) respondents use the subject as a searching mode very frequently and 10 (20.83 %) are frequently. Whereas, in Final year user group 32 (65.30%) respondents use the subject as a searching mode very frequently and 10 (20.83 %) are frequently. Compared to all user group all are use title as a mode of searching in OPAC very frequently.

Search option: Author

The table shows author field usage by the uses in OPAC. In B. A. First year user group majority 29 (60.42%) of users access by author field very frequently and 9 (18.75 %) are used author field very frequently. In B. A. Second year user group majority 32 (66.67%) are used very frequently and 11 (22.92%) respondent used frequently the author search option. Whereas, In B. A. Final year user group majority 31 (63.26%) are used author filed very frequently and 9 (18.36%) are frequently used. Compared to all user group all are use Author as a mode of searching in OPAC very frequently.

Search option: Publisher

It can be shows from above table that in B. A. First year user group majority 32 (66.67%) respondent use the publisher search option in OPAC frequently and 10 (20.83 %) are very frequently used. In B. A. Second year user group majority 9 (18.75 %) used very frequently and 6 (12.5 %) are

used frequently the publisher search option. While in B. A. Final year user group majority 8 (16.32%) of respondent used publisher search option frequently and 6 (12.24%) are very frequently. Compared to all user group all are use Publisher as a mode of searching in OPAC frequently.

Search option: Keywords

The table shows the search option keywords. It can be shows that in B. A. First year user group majority 30 (62.5%) are used keywords search option very frequently and 9 (18.75 %) are frequently. In B. A. Second year user group 32 (66.67%) are used very frequently and 10 (20.83 %) frequently. In B. A. Final user group 30 (61.22%) respondent used keywords very frequently as a search option in OAC and 11 (22.45%) are used frequently. Compared to all user group all are use keywords as a mode of searching in OPAC very frequently.

Search option: Call No.

In the table B. A. First year user group majority of 7 (14.58%) are used call no. Search option very frequently and 1 (2.08 %) frequently. In B. A. Second year user group 6 (12.24%) used keywords search option frequently and 4 (8.16) used very frequently. Whereas in B. A. Final user group 6 (12.24%) are used keywords search option frequently and 4 (8.16) very frequently. Compared to all user group all are use call no. as a mode of searching in OPAC frequently.

Search option: Combination of above

In B. A. First year user group Majority of 32 (66.67%) are used combination of above search option very frequently and 2 (4.17 %) frequently used. In B. A. Second year user group 35 (72.92%) are used very frequently and 11 (22.92%) are used frequently. Whereas, In B. A. final year user group 32 (65.30%) are used this search option very frequently and 11 (22.45%) are used frequently. Compared to all user group all are use combination of above as a mode of searching in OPAC very frequently.

Satisfaction level of OPAC

Table no. 5 Satisfaction level of OPAC

User group	Highly satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Not satisfied	Highly dissatisfied	Total
B. A. First year	32 (66.67%)	12 (25%)	2 (4.17%)	1 (2.08%)	1 (2.08%)	48 (100%)
B. A. Second year	33 (68.75%)	12 (25%)	1 (2.08%)	2 (4.17%)	0 (0%)	48 (100%)
B. A. Final Year	35 (71.43%)	10 (20.41%)	1 (2.04%)	3 (6.12%)	0 (0%)	49 (100%)

Above table shows that the level of satisfaction to the usage of OPAC. All user group shows highly satisfied with OPAC facility in the college in ranges between 66.67% to 71.43 %. The users from B.A Final year group highly satisfied with 71.43 % with 35 users followed by B. A. second year users 68.75 % with users 33 and B. A. First year 66.67 % with 32 users. Only B. A. First year user 2.08% with 1 user are highly dissatisfied with the OPAC facility.

Findings

Among all the user group of Nagar Parishad Shivaji Mahavidyalaya Library, Mowad are accessing OPAC. On daily basis B. A. Final year user group 12 (24.49%) respondent access OPAC high and 21 (42.86 %) respondent on same group access OPAC in once in a week. Search option subject are used by all user group high with 32 (66.67%) respondent from first year group and 32 (65.30%) respondent from final year group. The average ration of search option combination of above is found high in the entire group. Satisfaction level of OPAC is high in all groups highest in B. A. Final user group with 35 (71.43%) respondent. The popularity of OPAC facility is nearby same in the entire group expect 1 to 2 respondents from each group.

The findings of the present study suggest that there is a need for a regular Orientation programme and information literacy programme in general in all the user group of Nagar Parishad Shivaji Mahavidyalaya Library, Mowad. The study also suggests that all user group covered under study have to motivate the users to access OPAC. Also

suggest arranging library visit for all the users to access OPAC and to retrieve the exact bibliographic details of the resources they need.

Conclusion

Present study provides information on users' opinion on Library automation and OPAC facility in the college library of Nagar Parishad Shivaji Mahavidyalaya, Mowad. As explain in the introduction the main purpose of library automation is, to access the main modules and functions of the library. The study explains that awareness of library automation services and use of OPAC in NPSMM library. There is a need of motivate the users to access the OPAC. Also need of the college libraries to moving from desktop library software version to cloud base library software so the end user can remotely access the web opac facility and other facilities related to cloud base version.

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