

A Study of Library Operations in Academic Colleges Affiliated to Gondwana University, Gadchiroli**Pravinkumar B. Gohane**

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Ashti, Dist. Gadchiroli**1.0 Introduction**

The success of any academic institution cannot be separated from the working operations of a library. However, the switch from conventional to modern tools has changed the ways routine library operations like cataloguing, circulation, assigning of core numbers to new arrivals, indexing, etc. are carried out in terms of productivity and efficiency of the libraries (Ajani and Buraimo, 2022). Presently a range of practices do take place in collection management that have direct bearing on the information available to the users. There includes selection, acquisition, interlibrary loan, preservation and cataloguing of information resources to name a few. These are all routine library operation that are carried out by librarians in the library day to day. Moreover, it is becoming impracticable for librarians to perform their job operations without carrying out these practices. In addition to above, the librarians now perform their library operations utilizing latest technology like the information and communication technology (ICT) that offers fast and increased alternatives to information resource gathering and research orientation bringing about accuracy and efficiency in various types of libraries and the entire library environment (Aliu and Emese, 2011; Saikia, 2021).

Furthermore, the ICT has offered librarians and information users, different options that can be used in carrying out routine library operations which will give them fast and accurate results (Ekpang and Abua, 2021). For example, the books that used to take over three months to catalogue can be catalogued within one week now through the use of computer and internet services. It is becoming unrealistic for librarians to achieve success in their job operations without carrying out these functions

with the latest aids of information an technology (Essien et al., 2022). Librarians now perform their library operations utilizing ICT which offers fast and increased alternatives to information resource gathering and research orientation bringing about accuracy and efficiency in various types of libraries (Ivwithreghweta, 2013). Librarians now send e-mails reminders to users that borrowed library books reminding them the due date to return the books rather than the issuance of manual library card (Qutab et al., 2014). All library records and transactions during acquisition of library books can now be done electronically with the aid of information and communication technology tools (Kasim et al., 2018).

The latest addition of 4G internet communication speed has enabled the users to access information from the remote places and resulted in significant savings in time and energy (Omini and Esin, 2019). The conventional methods where collections are being destroyed by fire, mutilated by users and occupies large space has been transformed and has become thing of past. Librarians now utilize these services anytime and anywhere on the internet enabled facilities which is becoming more attractive and time saving in information searching and retrieval. Moreover, it is becoming impossible to have access to information without the help of ICT. In view of the above, the changing times demand that the library operations are studied routinely so that any problem related to these operations can be rectified thereby ensuring the optimum library efficiency. Since, the research related to libraries of academic colleges affiliated to Gondwana University, Gadchiroli is not much; the present investigation was carried out.

2.0 Research Methodology

The present study is conducted with the assessment of library operations of academic colleges

affiliated to Gondwana University, Gadchiroli. All the standard methods were used to conduct the study.

3.2 Study Area – Gondwana University, Gadchiroli

The academic colleges affiliated to Gondwana University, Gadchiroli were considered for this study.

3.3 Research Design

In this study “Descriptive (Cross Sectional)” research design was used by the researcher.

3.4 Universe of the Study, Sample size and sampling method

All the academic colleges affiliated to Gondwana University, Gadchiroli were considered as the universe of the study. In all data was obtained from 76 librarians working in various academic colleges. The selection of sample was conducted by following purposive sampling method.

3.5 Data Collection

The primary data collection was done using a structured research instrument and by following survey method. The data was collected using an online survey where a Google Form was developed and shared through online medium. Prior to data collection, reliability and validity of the data was checked.

3.6 Statistical Analysis and Significance Level

Analysis of data was done with the help of various statistical tests. The collected data was analyzed with the aid of Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) 18.0 software. The Chi-Square Test was used as an inferential statistics test. The significance level was chosen to be 0.05 (or equivalently, 5%).

3.0 Results and Discussion

3.1 Number of Library Users/Visitors

Table 1: Number of Users/Visitors of academic college libraries

No. of Library Users/Visitors	Me an	±S D	Mi n	Ma x
Total Students (Average)	282	±4 6	14 0	39 0
Staff Members (Teaching/Non Teaching)	28	±7	12	48
Other Users (Retired Staff and Ex-Student etc.)	14	±5	9	32
Total No. of Registered Users	342	±9 4	18 0	45 0

SD: Standard deviation; Min: Minimum; Max: Maximum

Above Table 1 presents information regarding no. of library users/visitors in the academic colleges affiliated to Gondwana University. It is observed from the collected data, that total students in the library is 282 ±46, overall variation in the no. of students varied from 140 to 390. However total staff members in the library is 28±7, overall variation in the no. of staff members varied from 12 to 48. In addition to it total no. of other users is 14±5, overall variation in the no. of other users varied from 9 to 32.

3.2 Library catalogue used

Table 2: Catalogue used in the libraries

Library catalogue	Frequency	Percent
Register Form	25	32.9
Card form	8	10.5
Leap form	7	9.2
OPAC	31	40.8
other	5	6.6
Total	76	100.0

Chi-square: 48.788; df: 4, Table Value: 9.49; p<0.05

Above Table 2 presents the information regarding the library catalogue used in the libraries of academic colleges affiliated to Gondwana University. It is observed from the collected data, that 32.9% libraries of the study area use register form, while 10.5% libraries used the card form. Further it is observed that 9.2% and 40.8% libraries used leap form and OPAC respectively. In addition to this 6.6% libraries used other type of catalogue.

3.3 Book Issue System

Table 3: Book Issue System of the libraries

Book Issue System	Frequency	Percent
Register	6	7.9
Newark	5	6.6
Browne	51	67.1
Mixed/Hybrid	10	13.2
other	4	5.3
Total	76	100.0

Chi-square: 94.109; df: 4, Table Value: 9.49; p<0.05

Above Table 3 presents the information about the Book Issue System in the libraries of academic colleges affiliated to Gondwana University. It is

observed from the collected data, that 7.9% libraries of the study area use register whereas 6.6% libraries use Newark book issue system. In addition to this 67.1% and 13.2% libraries use Browne and Mixed/Hybrid book issue system respectively. Further 5.3% libraries use other type of book issue system.

3.4 Separate Sections in Library

Table 4: Separate reference section in the libraries of Eastern Vidarbha

Section	Response				Total	
	Yes		No		No s.	Per
	No s.	Pe r	No s.	Pe r		
Reference section	54	71.1	22	28.9	76	100.0
Textbook section	68	89.5	8	10.5	76	100.0
Journals/periodicals section	49	64.5	27	35.5	76	100.0

Above Table 4 presents the information about the presence of a separate reference section in the libraries of the academic colleges affiliated to Gondwana University. It is observed from the collected data, that 71.1% libraries of the study area have a separate reference section while 28.9% libraries of the study area do not have a separate reference section. 89.5% libraries have textbook section while 10.5% libraries do not have. Moreover 64.5% libraries have journals/periodicals section while 35.5% libraries do not have.

3.5 Adequacy of manpower to perform day to day library functions

Table 5: Adequacy of manpower to perform day to day library functions

Response	Frequency	Percent
Adequate	21	27.6
Inadequate	49	64.5
Not sure	6	7.9
Total	76	100.0

Chi-square: 74.666; df: 2, Table Value: 5.99; p<0.05

Above Table 5 presents the information about the adequacy of manpower to perform day to day functions in the libraries of academic colleges

affiliated to Gondwana University. It is observed from the collected data, that 27.6% libraries of the study area have adequate manpower while 64.5% libraries do not have adequate manpower. In addition to these 7.9% library professionals are not sure about adequacy of manpower to perform day to day library functions.

3.6 Presence of standard operating procedures for library operations

Table 6: Presence of standard operating procedures for library operations

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	9	11.8
No	62	81.6
Not sure	5	6.6
Total	76	100.0

Chi-square: 134.062; df: 2, Table Value: 5.99; p<0.05

Above Table 6 presents the information about presence of standard operating procedures for library operations in the academic colleges affiliated to Gondwana University. It is observed from the collected data, that 11.8% libraries of the study area have presence of standard operating procedures for library operations while 81.6% libraries do not have presence of standard operating procedures. In addition to this 6.6% library professional are not sure about presence of standard operating procedures for library operations.

4.0 Conclusions

4.1 Number of Library Users/Visitors

- On the basis of the study results, it is observed that most of the libraries of academic colleges affiliated to Gondwana University have maximum no. of students as library users.

4.2 Library catalogue used

- On the basis of the study results, it is observed that most of the libraries of the academic colleges affiliated to Gondwana University use the OPAC library catalogue.

4.3 Book Issue System

- On the basis of the study results, it is observed that most of the libraries of the academic colleges affiliated to Gondwana

University use the Browne system for issuing books.

4.4 Separate Sections in Library

- On the basis of the study results, it is observed that most of the libraries of the academic colleges affiliated to Gondwana University have a separate reference section, textbook section and journals/periodicals section.

4.5 Adequacy of manpower to perform day to day library functions

- On the basis of the study results, it is observed that most of the libraries of the academic colleges affiliated to Gondwana University do not have adequate manpower to perform day to day library functions.

4.6 Presence of standard operating procedures for library operations

- On the basis of the study results, it is observed that most of the libraries of the academic colleges affiliated to Gondwana University do not have standard operating procedures for library operations.

5.0 Bibliography

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