

Members' Attitudes towards Library Facilities and Information Resources in Some Selected Engineering Colleges in West Bengal: A Study

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Abstract - This paper describes on members' attitudes towards library facilities and information resources in some selected Engineering colleges in West Bengal. An attempt has been made in this study to know the frequency of library visit, to know the use of types of resources, to study the lending procedure of documents, to providing of Library Services etc. Questionnaires were distributed to some selected government and private engineering colleges in the West Bengal.

Keywords: Engineering College Library, Information Resource, Library Facility

I. INTRODUCTION

Libraries deals with ideas and knowledge which are intangible, but they do so by means of very large numbers of highly tangible physical objects, bearing texts, image measure and other sorts of potentially informative data. Libraries are, in large measure, collections of books and similar materials. Ranganathan says "Libraries are not mere store houses; they are rich springs from which knowledge flows out to irrigate the side field of education and culture". The production and use of engineering information have a direct bearing upon the development of a nation. It has also a bearing upon the welfare and comfort of the society. Library play crucial role in engineering education. The diversified functions of the library include but not limited to acquisition, processing, organising, storing, retrieval and dissemination of engineering information. Its user group, reading materials, services and staff are of a special type.

II. OBJECTIVES

The following objectives have been formed for the study.

- a. To know the frequency of library visit;
- b. To know the use of types of resources ;
- c. To study the lending procedure of documents;
- d. Providing of Library Services;
- e. To know the types of audio visual materials available in library;
- f. To study the frequency of use of audio visual material by member;

- g. To assess the use of Internet service;
- h. To study the members opinion regarding physical facilities provided by the library;

III. REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

A number of studies on core journals in various subjects exit but no attempt have been made to develop a systematic study in the area services of engineering colleges. Saravanan [1] emphasize library is a social institution a college library, of which an engineering college library is one example, is a service component of its parent body, and since it is a non-profit organization, it must manage its finances in a judicious manner. At the same time, library services are increasingly expensive. He highlight the Service Orientation, Impact of IT, Financial support and budget of college library. Mezbah-ul-Islam, Akter, Sawad bin Shahid [2] studied the significant role of College libraries in preparation of dynamic future leaders by offering students lucrative services so that users can learn the process of how to enter methods of higher research oriented studies gradually. They realize to do so professional library manpower is a great concern. Sayeed [3], in his paper basically prepared sample survey to understand the college libraries and librarians' situation in Bangladesh. Thirty three colleges have been taken from different areas of Bangladesh as sample. Activities, technical works, expected library services, clientele's intention towards use and not to use libraries in colleges were trying to find out.

IV. METHODOLOGY

The questionnaire method was used for the collection of usage data in the present study. The respondents from the questionnaire were drawn from engineering colleges of West Bengal. The primary level questionnaire was sent to various engineering colleges in West Bengal to obtain basic data regarding users etc. The second level questionnaire was distributed to different category of users i.e., students, teachers, staff in respective engineering colleges. Simultaneously, interview and observation study on the use of reference sources and the user behaviour was also carried on. The data thus collected was analysed and on the basis of this

data, the interview technique was employed to seek further information from some selected users to clarify the doubts faced during analysis of questionnaires. The random sampling technique was adopted to choose the population for collection of data with an objective of taking representative samples from all user categories and from all engineering colleges in West Bengal under study. Proper care was taken to choose samples representing each of user categories proportionately.

V. SCOPE AND LIMITATION

The present study attempts to know the present conditions i.e., facilities, resources and services of engineering college libraries in West Bengal. The study delimits its scope to government and private engineering colleges in the West Bengal.

VI. DATA ANALYSIS

In this case study a total of 150 questionnaires were distributed to collect the primary data. 94 questionnaires from Government Colleges and 92 questionnaires from Private Colleges were collected. Collected data were analyzed.

TABLE I DISTRIBUTION OF QUESTIONNAIRES TO MEMBERS

Colleges	Questionnaire Distributed	Responses Received
Government Colleges	150	94
Private Colleges	150	92

TABLE II AGE OF THE RESPONDENTS

Age of the Respondents	Government Colleges		Private Colleges	
	Respondents	%	Respondents	%
15-25	34	36.17	29	31.53
26-35	25	26.59	26	28.27
36-45	18	19.14	18	19.57
46-55	15	15.95	14	15.18
Above 55	2	02.15	5	5.45
Total	94	100.00	92	100.00

Table II expresses age-wise distribution of the respondents. It is found that 36.17% respondents of government colleges and 31.53% respondents of private colleges are between age group of 15-25 years and 26.59% respondents of government colleges and 28.27% respondents of private colleges are between age group of 26-35 years. 19.14% respondents of government colleges and 19.57% respondents of private colleges are between age group of 36-45 years. 15.95% respondents of government colleges and 15.18% respondents of private colleges are between age group of 46-55 years.

Table III shows 34.04% respondents of government colleges and 33.69% respondents of private colleges almost daily use library. 28.72% respondents of government colleges and 26.08% respondents of private colleges several times in a week use library. 17.02% respondents of government colleges and 20.65% respondents of private colleges once in a week use library. 10.63% respondents of government colleges and 14.15% respondents of private colleges once in a month use library. 9.59% respondents of government colleges and 5.43% respondents of private colleges rarely use library.

TABLE III FREQUENCY OF LIBRARY VISIT

Frequency	Government Colleges		Private Colleges	
	Respondents	%	Respondents	%
Almost Daily	32	34.04	31	33.69
Several Times in a week	27	28.72	24	26.08
Once in a week	16	17.02	19	20.65
Once in a month	10	10.63	13	14.15
Rarely	9	9.59	5	5.43
Total	94	100	92	100

TABLE IV TYPES OF RESOURCES USAGE

Types of Resources	Government Colleges		Private Colleges	
	Respondents	%	Respondents	%
Text Book	27	28.72	32	34.78
Reference Book	30	31.91	27	29.35
Journals	20	21.27	13	14.14
Magazines	9	9.57	10	10.86
Newspaper	5	5.34	8	8.69
Other	3	3.19	2	2.18
Total	94	100	92	100

Table IV shows 28.72% respondents of government colleges and 34.78% respondents of private colleges use library for textbook lending purpose. 31.91% respondents of government colleges and 29.35% respondents of private colleges use library for reference book lending purpose. 21.27% respondents of government colleges and 14.14% respondents of private colleges use library for journal lending purpose. 9.57% respondents of government colleges and 10.86% respondents of private colleges use library for magazines lending purpose and so on.

Table V displays 47.87% respondents of government colleges and 52.17% respondents of private colleges are satisfied about lending procedure of documents. 27.65 % respondents of government colleges and 26.08% respondents of private colleges are somewhat satisfied about lending procedure of documents. 13.82% respondents of government colleges and 11.95% respondents of private colleges are unsatisfied about lending procedure of documents. 8.51% respondents of government colleges and 5.46% respondents of private colleges are somewhat unsatisfied about lending procedure of documents. 2.15 % respondents of government colleges and 4.34% respondents of private colleges are not given any opinion about that matter.

According to 30.85% respondents of government colleges and 30.43% respondents of private college library provide mainly text and reference book service. 22.34% respondents of government colleges and 26.08% respondents of private college's library provide Book Bank service and so on.

Table VII reveals that 55.31% respondents of government colleges and 57.61% respondents of private colleges were aware about CD-ROM availability in the library. 28.72 respondents of government colleges and 22.82% respondents of private colleges were aware about DVD-ROM availability in the library and so on.

TABLE V LENDING PROCEDURE OF DOCUMENTS

Opinion	Government Colleges		Private Colleges	
	Respondents	%	Respondents	%
Satisfied	45	47.87	48	52.17
Somewhat satisfied	26	27.65	24	26.08
Unsatisfied	13	13.82	11	11.95
Somewhat Unsatisfied	8	08.51	5	05.46
No Opinion	2	02.15	4	04.34
Total	94	100	92	100

TABLE VI PROVIDING OF LIBRARY SERVICES

Library Services	Government Colleges		Private Colleges	
	Respondents	%	Respondents	%
Text And Reference Book Service	29	30.85	28	30.43
Book Bank Service	21	22.34	24	26.08
Online Public Cataloguing	16	17.03	18	19.56
Internet Browsing	14	14.89	10	10.86
Display of New Arrivals	8	8.51	7	7.64
Photo Copying Service	6	6.38	5	5.43
Total	94	100	92	100

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TABLE VIII FREQUENCY OF USE OF AUDIO VISUAL MATERIAL BY MEMBERS

Frequency of use of audio visual material	Government Colleges		Private Colleges	
	Respondents	%	Respondents	%
Satisfied	35	37.24	37	40.22
Somewhat Satisfied	20	21.28	20	21.74
Unsatisfied	23	24.46	18	19.57
Somewhat Unsatisfied	13	13.83	12	13.04
No Opinion	3	03.19	05	05.43

TABLE IX USE OF INTERNET SERVICE

Use of Internet service	Government Colleges		Private Colleges	
	Respondents	%	Respondents	%
Yes	62	65.96	71	77.18
No	27	28.73	14	15.22
No Opinion	6	05.31	07	07.60

TABLE X MEMBERS OPINION REGARDING PHYSICAL FACILITIES PROVIDED BY THE LIBRARY

Opinion	Government Colleges	Private Colleges
Reading Room Has Adequate Space With Enough Seating Capacity.	Y	Y
Reading Room is Well Furnished	Y	Y
Library Has Adequate Space For Browsing Materials	Y	Y
Good Ventilation And Lighting Facility in the Reading & Stack Room.	Y	Y
Mainly Library Stack is Congested	Y	N
Books On Shelves Are Always Unorganized.	N	N
Latest Textbooks Are Not Available.	Y	Y
Multiple Copies of Textbooks Are Not Adequate.	N	N
No Proper Balance Collection of Books In The Entire Subject.	N	N
Library Staff is Courteous And Always Cooperative And Ready To Help.	Y	Y
Reference Collection is Not Adequate.	N	N
No Guidance From Library Staff About How to Use Library Resources And Services.	N	N
Continuous Drinking Water Supplies in The Library.	Y	Y
Adequate Toilet Facility for Students.	Y	Y

Table VIII represents 37.24% respondents of government colleges and 40.22% respondents of private colleges are satisfied about frequency of use of audio visual material. 21.28% respondents of government colleges and 21.74% respondents of private colleges are somewhat satisfied about frequency of use of audio visual material. 24.46% respondents of government colleges and 19.57% respondents of private colleges are unsatisfied about frequency of use of audio visual material. 13.83% respondents of government colleges and 13.04% respondents of private colleges are somewhat unsatisfied about frequency of use of audio visual material. 3.19% respondents of government colleges and 5.43% respondents of private colleges are not given any opinion about that matter.

Table IX reveals that 65.96% respondents of government colleges and 77.18% respondents of private colleges are agreed about the importance of internet service in library.

VII. CONCLUSION

The last few years have seen the growth of engineering institutions imparting education and training all across the country. Libraries are the soul of any academic institution. They form the most vital environment of technical education. Due to the rapid development of science and technology (S & T) it becomes imperative for the libraries to remain up-to-date with the latest advances in technology so that the dissemination of information becomes efficient, quick, feasible, economic, accessible and useful. The present study collected the opinions of the members about the use of information resources and services in engineering colleges in West Bengal.

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