Preferences Of Library Services By The Faculty Members Of Colleges Of Education In Tamil Nadu

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(**Abstract:** Library is an important component in an educational institution which performs a significant function of providing learning experiences to lead their students from the darkness of ignorance to the light of knowledge. The main objective of this study is to identify the Preferences of Library Services among Faculty Members of College of Education in Tamil Nadu. The study is confined to the libraries of 21 colleges of education, including 07 Govt. Colleges of Education and 14 Govt. Aided Colleges of Education in Tamilnadu. Data has been collected from 255 respondents. This study found that faculty members in College of Education prefers reference service. It is interesting to note that reference service is sought more by female faculty members (mean score=2.01) than male teachers (mean score=1.96).

(**Keywords:** Loan of Books, Reference Services, Colleges of Education, Teacher Training)

I. INTRODUCTION

Education and Library co- exist and it plays a vital role in teaching and learning. It is an important component in an educational institution which performs a significant function of providing learning experiences to lead their students from the darkness of ignorance to the light of knowledge. The satisfaction of the users of library services is an important aspect. The standard of teaching is expected to be enhanced by use of the library services by the faculty. The development of user services has been a feature of recent activities and programmes in all kinds of libraries. The library of teacher education institutions also offers useful library services to its users.

2. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Pauline Adeniran (2011) examined the relationship between service quality and user's satisfaction at Redeemer's University. The study revealed that students have used the library more than the academic faculty. The College of Management Sciences had the highest frequency of use and it also showed that users were satisfied with the services of the library. **Gowda and**

Shivalingaiah (2009) found significant differences in the satisfaction level of research scholars of different disciplines with facilities and services of libraries Majority of the respondents of humanities and social science found the facilities and services of university libraries as poor, while the respondents of Science group considered the facilities and services as moderately good.

Pushpalatha and Mallaiah (2009) conducted a study to assess the use of Information Resources in Chemistry in Mangalore University Library. It was found that majority of the users were visiting libraries to borrow books and consulting the periodicals. Online Public Access Catalogue and assistance of library staff were the primary means to locate needed documents. About 58.92% post graduate students rated library collection as adequate to meet their information needs, whereas 40% research scholars and 83.33% of the teachers considered at partially adequate. Harinarayana et al., (2008) conducted a survey to measure the effectiveness of library services of selected college libraries in Mysore city. Their aim was to ascertain the effectiveness of college library services in Mysore. It was found that majority of the users were visiting libraries for reading in the library and for borrowing books. Text book service was the most highly sought after service.

3. OBJECTIVE

1. To asses the Preferences of Library services by the Faculty Members of Colleges of Education in Tamil Nadu, among the following library services identified.
    a) Loan of books
    b) Reference service
    c) Inter library loan
    d) Newspaper clippings
2. To find out the preferences according to the age group of respondent gender difference and institution type viz Govt and Govt aided.

4. METHODOLOGY

Survey method is used to collect the data. Survey is a research technique of investigating by direct observation of a phenomena or collection of information through interview, questionnaire etc. In this study questionnaire is used as a principal tool for the data collection. The study is confined to the teachers of 21 colleges of education, including 07 Govt. Colleges of Education and 14 Govt. Aided Colleges of Education in Tamilnadu. Data has been collected from 255 respondents and coded into excel worksheet. The data in the excel worksheet were exported to SPSS database and necessary tables were extracted from the SPSS database.

5. DATA ANALYSIS & INTERPRETATION

5.1 Extent of use of Library Services

Table 5.1 Extent of use of Library Services

Services	Mean
Loan of books	1.83
Reference service	2.01
Inter library loan	1.39
Journals/ periodicals circulation	1.86
News paper clippings	1.75

Table 5.1 shows the extent of use of library services. Reference service ranks first (mean score=2.01) followed by journals/ periodicals (mean score=1.86) loan of books (mean score=1.83) and Newspaper clippings (mean score=1.75).The least score is for inter –library loan (mean score=1.39).

5.2 Extent of use of Library Services – Age wise difference

Table 5.2 Extent of use of Library Services – Age wise distribution

Services	25 -30 years	31-40 years	41-50 years	Above 50 years	Total
Loan of books	1.96	1.81	1.77	1.86	1.83
Reference service	2.04	2.06	1.86	2.12	2.01
Inter library loan	1.56	1.48	1.36	1.26	1.39
Journals/ periodicals circulation	1.81	1.93	1.76	1.93	1.86
Newspaper clippings	1.93	1.74	1.73	1.71	1.75

Table 5.2 shows the extent of use of library services by teachers of various age groups. The reference service ranks first (mean score=2.01), and it is high in case of teachers of age group above 50 years (mean score=2.12)least in case of teachers of age group 41-50 years (mean score=1.86). Loan of books is highly used by teachers of age group 25 -30 years (mean score=1.96) and this is followed by teachers of age group above 50 years (mean score=1.86). Inter -library loan service is used much by teachers of age group 25 -30 years (mean score=1.56). Journals/ periodicals are used to an equal extent by teachers of age group 31 -40 years and above 50 years (mean score=1.93).

5.3 Extent of use of Library Services based on Gender

Table 5.3 Extent of use of Library Services – Sex wise distribution

Services	Male	Female	Total
Loan of books	1.90	1.77	1.83
Reference service	1.96	2.05	2.01
Inter library loan	1.41	1.38	1.39
Journals/ periodicals circulation	1.87	1.86	1.86
Newspaper clippings	1.73	1.76	1.75

Table 5.3 shows the extent of use of library services by teachers of different sex. The reference service ranks first (mean score=2.01), which is high in case of female teachers (mean score =2.05) and least in case of male teachers (mean score=1.96). Loan of books is highly used by male teachers (mean score=1.90) and this is followed by female teachers (mean score=1.77). Inter - library loan service is used more by male teachers (mean score=1.41). This shows that the men spend more time in reading the library books at home and women refer the books at the library.

5.4 Extent of use of various types of Library services based on type of Institutions

Table 5.4 Extent of use of Library Services – Institution wise distribution

Services	Government	Government Aided	Total
Loan of books	1.78	1.84	1.83
Reference service	1.86	2.06	2.01

Inter library loan	1.38	1.39	1.39
Journals/ periodicals circulation	1.62	1.94	1.86
News paper clippings	1.73	1.75	1.75

Table 5.4 shows the extent of use of library services by teachers of government and government aided college. Though reference service ranks first (mean score=2.01), this is high in case of government aided colleges teachers (mean score =2.06) and it is least in case of government college teachers (mean score=1.86). It is interesting to note that all the five services are more utilized by the teachers of government aided colleges than the teachers of government colleges. This warrants the government college librarians to concentrate their attention much on library services.

CONCLUSION

Today, Libraries in Colleges of Education are required to provide their services to meet various information needs of faculty members, research scholars and teacher-students. This study found that faculty members in College of Education mainly use reference services. This is high in care of teachers of age group above 50 year and least in case of teachers of age group of 41-50 years who may be motivated to use reference service which is an essential service for teaching. The use of reference service is high in case female teachers and least in case of male teachers. This is high in the case of Govt aided institutions. It is high time that the librarians of Govt college of Education should concentrate on various library services in order to attract the young faculty members.

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