

Usage of Library Print Resources among Postgraduate Students of Vignan Group of Educational Institutions in Guntur: A Survey

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Abstract: *The main aim the study is to examine the level of usage of various print resources and services prevailed in Vignan Group of Educational Institutions in Guntur of Andhra Pradesh. The survey design method with help of a well-structured questionnaire is used in the study. This study is conducted among 1070 postgraduate students of Vignan Group of Educational Institutions in Guntur City and the response was received from 734 postgraduate students which constitute 68.60% of response rate. The study aimed at identifying the usage levels of various print resources such as text books, reference books, magazines/journals, dissertations/project reports, previous question papers and newspapers made postgraduate students. The results of the data indicate that more male students used these print resources when compared to the female students. It is also found that there is no significant difference in the level of usage of print resources, such as, text books, magazines/journals, dissertations/project reports, old question papers and newspapers among the students, namely, MBA, MCA, Engineering and Science.*

Keywords: Usage pattern, Print resources, Digital resources, Postgraduate students

1. Introduction

In today's rapidly changing academic environment, libraries must constantly adapt and innovate to create and provide information resources and services. They should design and implement new programs and procedures to best meet users' information needs. Library professionals need to stay updated on the latest developments in both academic and technology fields so they can respond quickly to changes. It's crucial to have a well-thought-out plan to effectively handle new challenges that arise. This planning relies on accurately assessing the current situation. To meet the future needs of diverse user groups, libraries should have a flexible and sustainable plan for developing their resources and services. Due to the rapid increase in data and information sources, along with the many ways information is shared, people everywhere want faster and better services. At the same time, with less money available and more digital tools and technologies, librarians and information scientists are starting to closely evaluate how useful and timely the current systems in their libraries are, as well as the different activities they are involved in.

Rapid changes in technology have altered social structures and user expectations, leading to some initial challenges for libraries, as well as new opportunities. These changes have created a demand for updated methods while also prompting a critical look at current practices. To continually assess how well existing systems and practices work, library and information science (LIS) professionals should conduct surveys. Libraries, regardless of their size or type, need to regularly adjust their systems to ensure that all services effectively reach their intended users and provide maximum benefits. It is important to note that the past focus on books

has shifted to prioritizing users. In today's world, where engagement with different user groups is essential, it is crucial to recognize the importance of users and use all available channels and media to meet their information needs and ensure their satisfaction.

Many studies have tried to identify what information readers need, but they haven't effectively captured future trends and practices in a reliable way. Analyzing what users need should be a detailed and ongoing process in information science. It's important to recognize that users and their preferences change over time, which requires a thorough examination of their evolving behavior. Therefore, conducting user surveys in a scientific manner with the right tools can help libraries better adapt to the changing information needs of users while using their resources wisely. It assists library officials in assessing how well the library is doing, which can improve user satisfaction. This paper mainly focus on usage of library print resources among postgraduate students of Vignan Group Educational Institutions in Guntur districts and how these surveys affect user usage and satisfaction.

2. Objectives of the study

- The main objectives of the study is to examine the usage of different library print resources such as, text books, reference books, magazines/journals, dissertations/project reports, previous question papers and newspapers made by the postgraduate students.
- Recommend concrete suggestions and recommendations to authorities for improving the library collection basin on inputs collected from postgraduate students.

3. Hypotheses

The following hypotheses were formulated for testing

- 1) There would not be any significant differences in usage of library print resources between female and male post graduate students.
- 2) There would not be any significant differences among the students of MBA, MCA, Engineering and Sciences from one another in usage of different library print resources.

4. Research Design

Methodology

The methodology of this research is based on the exploratory design.

Sources of the data

The required data for the study was collected from the primary and secondary sources. The primary data was collected from the questionnaires. The secondary data was collected from various sources like books, journals and websites.

Data collection instrument

The primary data was collected through questionnaire tool which was carefully designed and tested to analyse the use of library resources by post graduate students.

Sampling instrument

The sampling technique used here is simple random sampling method.

Sample size

The sample size of this study comprises of 1070 postgraduate students studying in Vignan Group of Educational Institutions in Guntur District of Andhra Pradesh.

Sampling Population

This study is conducted among 1070 postgraduate student of Vignan Group of Educational Institutions in Guntur City. The response was received from 734 postgraduate students which constitute 68.60% of response rate.

5. Data Analysis

5.1 Usage of Library Print Resources

To know the usage pattern of postgraduate students with regard to library print resources, namely text books, reference books, print magazines/journals, dissertations/project reports, previous question papers and newspapers were examined in the following paragraphs.

5.2 Usage pattern of text books

The distribution of postgraduate students according to their usage pattern of text books in the library, in relation to gender and cluster of students is shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Distribution of postgraduate students according to their usage pattern of text books

Pattern of Usage	Gender		Cluster of Students				Total
	Female	Male	MBA	MCA	Engg.	Sci.	
Always	101 (31.56)	141 (34.06)	74 (28.91)	86 (34.82)	31 (37.34)	51 (34.46)	242 (32.97)
Frequently	179 (55.94)	225 (54.35)	149 (58.20)	131 (53.04)	42 (50.60)	82 (55.41)	404 (55.04)
Occasionally	24 (7.50)	42 (10.15)	28 (10.94)	24 (9.72)	56 (6.03)	9 (6.08)	66 (8.99)
Rarely	16 (5.00)	6 (1.44)	5 (1.95)	6 (2.42)	5 (6.03)	6 (4.05)	22 (3.00)
Total	320 (100.00)	414 (100.00)	256 (100.00)	247 (100.00)	83 (100.00)	148 (100.00)	734 (100.00)

(Note: Numbers indicated in parentheses are percentages)

Table 1 shows that 55.04 percent users frequently used text books for their study, 32.97 percent used always, 8.99 percent used occasionally, and the remaining 3 percent used rarely.

χ^2 test has calculated to observe whether there were any statistically significant differences between the gender and among the cluster of students in the pattern of usage of text books and the results are displayed in Table 2.

Table 4.4.1: χ^2 test between genders and among the cluster of students Vs usage levels of text books

Relation between students	χ^2 value	DF	TV	NR	LS
Female – Male	9.4201	3	7.815	Sig.	0.05
MBA – MCA	2.2954	3	7.815	NS	0.05
MBA – Engineering	7.1611	3	7.815	NS	0.05
MBA – Science	4.9985	3	7.815	NS	0.05
MCA – Engineering	3.55	3	7.815	NS	0.05

MCA – Science	2.362	3	7.815	NS	0.05
Engineering - Science	0.7873	3	7.815	NS	0.05

It is found from Table 2 that there is significant difference in the level of usage of text books between the female and male students. It is proved by the χ^2 value, which is significant at the 0.05 level with three degrees of freedom. This means that more male students used text books compared to the female students. However, there is no significant difference in the level of usage of text books among the cluster of students namely MBA, MCA. Engineering and Science programs.

5.3 Usage pattern of reference books

The distribution of postgraduate students according to their usage pattern of reference books in the library, in relation to gender and cluster of students is shown in Table 3.

Table 3: Distribution of postgraduate students according to their usage pattern of reference books

Pattern of Usage	Gender		Cluster of Students				Total
	Female	Male	MBA	MCA	Engg.	Sci.	
Always	95 (29.69)	132 (31.89)	74 (28.91)	81 (32.79)	26 (31.33)	46 (31.08)	227 (30.93)
Frequently	169 (52.81)	209 (50.48)	131 (51.17)	128 (51.82)	44 (53.01)	75 (50.68)	378 (51.50)
Occasionally	27 (8.44)	54 (13.04)	33 (12.89)	31 (12.55)	8 (9.64)	9 (6.08)	81 (11.04)
Rarely	29 (9.06)	19 (4.59)	18 (7.03)	7 (2.84)	5 (6.02)	18 (12.16)	48 (6.53)
Total	320 (100.00)	414 (100.00)	256 (100.00)	247 (100.00)	83 (100.00)	148 (100.00)	734 (100.00)

(Note: Numbers indicated in parentheses are percentages)

Table 3 shows that 51.50 percent users frequently used reference books for their study, 30.93 percent used always, 11.04 percent used occasionally, and the remaining 6.53 percent used rarely.

χ^2 test has calculated to observe whether there were any statistically significant differences between the gender and among the cluster of students in the pattern of usage of reference books and the results are displayed in Table 4.

Table 4: χ^2 test between genders and among the cluster of students Vs usage pattern of reference books

Relation between students	χ^2 value	DF	TV	NR	LS
Female – Male	9.464	3	7.815	Sig.	0.05
MBA – MCA	5.094	3	7.815	NS	0.05
MBA – Engineering	0.8073	3	7.815	NS	0.05
MBA – Science	7.1076	3	7.815	NS	0.05
MCA – Engineering	2.2426	3	7.815	NS	0.05
MCA – Science	15.6568	3	7.815	Sig.	0.05
Engineering - Science	2.9841	3	7.815	NS	0.05

It is found from Table 4 that there is significant difference in the level of usage of reference books between the female and male students. It is proved by the χ^2 value, which is significant at the 0.05 level with three degrees of freedom. This means that more male students used reference books compared to the female students. It is also found that there is no significant difference in the level of usage of reference books between the students of MBA-MCA; MBA-Engineering; MBA-Sci.; MCA-Engg.; and Engg.-Sci. However, there is significant difference in the usage pattern of reference books between the MCA and Science students. This means that more number of MCA students used reference books compared to the Science students.

5.4 Usage pattern of print magazines/journals

The distribution of postgraduate students according to their usage pattern of print magazines/journals in the library, in relation to gender and cluster of students is shown in Table 5.

Table 5: Distribution of postgraduate students according to their usage pattern of print magazines/journals

Pattern of Usage	Gender		Cluster of Students				Total
	Female	Male	MBA	MCA	Engg.	Sci.	
Always	84 (26.25)	121 (29.23)	69 (26.95)	71 (28.74)	24 (28.92)	41 (27.70)	205 (27.93)
Frequently	148 (46.25)	183 (44.20)	115 (44.92)	109 (44.13)	38 (45.78)	69 (46.62)	331 (45.10)
Occasionally	37 (11.56)	58 (14.01)	32 (12.50)	34 (13.77)	11 (13.26)	18 (12.16)	95 (12.94)
Rarely	35 (10.94)	32 (7.73)	27 (10.55)	24 (9.72)	5 (6.02)	11 (7.44)	67 (9.13)
Never	16 (5.00)	20 (4.83)	13 (5.08)	9 (3.64)	5 (6.02)	9 (6.08)	36 (4.90)
Total	320 (100.00)	414 (100.00)	256 (100.00)	247 (100.00)	83 (100.00)	148 (100.00)	734 (100.00)

(Note: Numbers indicated in parentheses are percentages)

Table 5 shows that 45.10 percent users frequently used print magazines/ journals for their study, 27.93 percent used always, 12.94 percent used occasionally, 9.13 percent used rarely and the remaining 4.90 percent never used.

χ^2 test has calculated to observe whether there were any statistically significant differences between the gender and among the cluster of students in the pattern of usage of print magazines/ journals and the results are displayed in Table 6.

Table 6: χ^2 test between genders and among the cluster of students Vs usage pattern of print magazines/ journals

Relation between students	χ^2 value	DF	TV	NR	LS
Female – Male	3.6211	4	9.488	NS	0.05
MBA – MCA	0.9929	4	9.488	NS	0.05
MBA – Engineering	1.5902	4	9.488	NS	0.05
MBA – Science	1.2278	4	9.488	NS	0.05
MCA – Engineering	1.8443	4	9.488	NS	0.05
MCA – Science	2.0951	4	9.488	NS	0.05
Engineering - Science	0.2388	4	9.488	NS	0.05

It is found from Table 6 that there is no significant difference in the level of usage of print magazines/journals between the female and male students and among the cluster of students namely MBA, MCA, Engineering and Science. It is proved by the χ^2 value, which is not significant at the 0.05 level with four degrees of freedom.

5.5 Usage pattern of dissertations/project reports

The distribution of postgraduate students according to their usage pattern of dissertations/project reports in the library, in relation to gender and cluster of students is shown in Table 7.

Table 7: Distribution of postgraduate students according to their usage pattern of dissertations/project reports

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Pattern of Usage	Gender		Cluster of Students				Total
	Female	Male	MBA	MCA	Engg.	Sci.	
Always	85 (26.56)	128 (30.92)	74 (28.91)	71 (28.74)	27 (32.53)	41 (27.70)	213 (29.02)
Frequently	149 (46.56)	167 (40.34)	101 (39.45)	116 (46.96)	33 (39.76)	66 (44.60)	316 (45.05)
Occasionally	37 (11.56)	62 (14.97)	38 (14.84)	33 (13.36)	11 (13.25)	17 (11.49)	99 (13.49)
Rarely	42 (13.13)	39 (9.42)	35 (13.67)	22 (8.91)	7 (8.43)	17 (11.49)	81 (11.03)
Never	7 (2.19)	18 (4.35)	8 (3.13)	5 (2.03)	5 (6.03)	7 (4.72)	25 (3.41)
Total	320 (100.00)	414 (100.00)	256 (100.00)	247 (100.00)	83 (100.00)	148 (100.00)	734 (100.00)

(Note: Numbers indicated in parentheses are percentages)

Table 7 shows that 45.05 percent users frequently used dissertations/ project reports for their study, 29.02 percent used always, 13.49 percent used occasionally, 11.03 percent used rarely and the remaining 3.41 percent never used.

χ^2 test has calculated to observe whether there were any statistically significant differences between the gender and among the cluster of students in the pattern of usage of dissertations/project reports and the results are displayed in Table 8.

Table 8: χ^2 test between genders and among the cluster of students Vs usage pattern of dissertations/project reports

Relation between students	χ^2 value	DF	TV	NR	LS
Female – Male	9.0811	4	9.488	NS	0.05
MBA – MCA	4.9488	4	9.488	NS	0.05
MBA – Engineering	3.1493	4	9.488	NS	0.05
MBA – Science	2.4223	4	9.488	NS	0.05
MCA – Engineering	4.3101	4	9.488	NS	0.05
MCA – Science	3.2584	4	9.488	NS	0.05
Engineering - Science	1.4965	4	9.488	NS	0.05

Table 9: Distribution of postgraduate students according to their usage pattern of previous question papers

Pattern of Usage	Gender		Cluster of Students				Total
	Female	Male	MBA	MCA	Engg.	Sci.	
Always	85 (26.56)	124 (29.95)	67 (26.17)	76 (30.77)	25 (30.12)	41 (27.70)	209 (28.47)
Frequently	139 (43.44)	173 (41.79)	111 (43.36)	104 (42.11)	34 (40.96)	63 (42.57)	312 (42.51)
Occasionally	39 (12.19)	66 (15.94)	43 (16.80)	33 (13.36)	11 (13.25)	18 (12.16)	105 (14.31)
Rarely	38 (11.88)	42 (10.14)	29 (11.33)	28 (11.34)	8 (9.64)	15 (10.14)	80 (10.90)
Never	19 (5.93)	9 (2.18)	6 (2.34)	6 (2.42)	5 (6.03)	11 (7.43)	28 (3.81)
Total	320 (100.00)	414 (100.00)	256 (100.00)	247 (100.00)	83 (100.00)	148 (100.00)	734 (100.00)

(Note: Numbers indicated in parentheses are percentages)

Table 9 shows that 42.51 percent users frequently used previous question papers for their study, 28.47 percent used always, 14.31 percent used occasionally, 10.90 percent used rarely and the remaining 3.81 percent never used.

χ^2 test has calculated to observe whether there were any statistically significant differences between the gender and among the cluster of students in the pattern of usage of previous question papers and the results are displayed in Table 10.

Table 10: χ^2 test between genders and among the cluster of students Vs usage pattern of previous question papers

Relation between students	χ^2 value	DF	TV	NR	LS
Female – Male	9.8198	4	9.488	Sig.	0.05
MBA – MCA	1.9673	4	9.488	NS	0.05
MBA – Engineering	3.7187	4	9.488	NS	0.05
MBA – Science	7.3238	4	9.488	NS	0.05
MCA – Engineering	2.6011	4	9.488	NS	0.05
MCA – Science	5.9069	4	9.488	NS	0.05
Engineering - Science	0.3572	4	9.488	NS	0.05

Table 11: Distribution of postgraduate students according to their usage pattern of newspapers

It is found from Table 4.7.1 that there is no significant difference in the level of usage of dissertations/project reports between the female and male students and among the cluster of students namely MBA, MCA, Engineering and Science. It is proved by the χ^2 value, which is not significant at the 0.05 level with four degrees of freedom.

5.6 Usage pattern of previous question papers

The distribution of postgraduate students according to their usage pattern of previous question papers in the library, in relation to gender and cluster of students is shown in Table 9.

It is found from Table 4.8.1 that there is significant difference in the level of usage of previous question papers between the female and male students. It is proved by the χ^2 value, which is significant at the 0.05 level with four degrees of freedom. This means that more male students used previous question papers compared to the female students. However, there is no significant difference in the level of usage of previous question papers among the cluster of students namely MBA, MCA, Engineering and Science.

5.7 Usage pattern of newspapers

The distribution of postgraduate students according to their usage pattern of newspapers in the library, in relation to gender and cluster of students is shown in Table 4.9.

Pattern of Usage	Gender		Cluster of Students				Total
	Female	Male	MBA	MCA	Engg.	Sci.	
Always	93 (29.06)	123 (29.71)	82 (32.03)	69 (27.94)	22 (26.51)	43 (29.05)	216 (29.43)
Frequently	135 (42.19)	186 (44.93)	115 (44.92)	106 (42.91)	34 (40.96)	66 (44.60)	321 (43.73)
Occasionally	51 (15.94)	57 (13.77)	31 (12.11)	37 (14.98)	14 (16.87)	26 (17.57)	108 (14.71)
Rarely	34 (10.62)	43 (10.39)	24 (9.38)	31 (12.55)	11 (13.25)	11 (7.43)	77 (10.49)
Never	7 (2.19)	5 (1.20)	4 (1.62)	4 (1.62)	2 (2.41)	2 (1.35)	12 (1.64)
Total	320 (100.00)	414 (100.00)	256 (100.00)	247 (100.00)	83 (100.00)	148 (100.00)	734 (100.00)

(Note: Numbers indicated in parentheses are percentages)

Table 11 shows that 43.73 percent users frequently used newspapers for their study, 29.43 percent used always, 14.71 percent used occasionally, 10.49 percent used rarely and the remaining 1.64 percent never used.

χ^2 test has calculated to observe whether there were any statistically significant differences between the gender and among the cluster of students in the pattern of usage of newspapers and the results are displayed in Table 12.

Table 12: χ^2 test between genders and among the cluster of students Vs usage pattern of newspapers

Relation between students	χ^2 value	DF	TV	NR	LS
Female – Male	1.9825	4	9.488	NS	0.05
MBA – MCA	2.7459	4	9.488	NS	0.05
MBA – Engineering	3.0832	4	9.488	NS	0.05
MBA – Science	2.6878	4	9.488	NS	0.05
MCA – Engineering	0.4824	4	9.488	NS	0.05
MCA – Science	2.8132	4	9.488	NS	0.05
Engineering - Science	2.5353	4	9.488	NS	0.05

It is found from Table 12 that there is no significant difference in the level of usage of newspapers between the female and male students and among the cluster of students namely MBA, MCA, Engineering and Science. It is proved by the χ^2 value, which is not significant at the 0.05 level with four degrees of freedom.

6. Findings

- 1) As per data analysis, on an average the usage pattern of library print resources by the postgraduate students that 30 percent users always used, 47 percent frequently used, 13 percent occasionally used, 9 percent rarely used and 2 percent never used for their study purpose. It reveals that 77 percent of postgraduate students have used print resources regularly and frequently.
- 2) As per the χ^2 test, there is no significant difference in the level of usage of print resources, such as, text books, magazines/journals, dissertations/project reports, old question papers and newspapers among the students, namely, MBA, MCA, Engineering and Science.
- 3) There is no significant difference in the level of usage of reference books between the students of MBA-MCA; MBA-Engineering; MBA-Science; MCA-Engineering; and Engineering- Science. However, there is significant difference in the usage pattern of reference books between the MCA and Science students. This means that a greater number of MCA students used reference books compared to the Science students.
- 4) There is significant difference in the level of usage of text books, reference books and previous question papers between the female and male students. The results of the data indicate that more male students used

these print resources when compared to the female students.

- 5) There is no significant difference in the level of usage of magazines/journals, dissertations/project reports and newspapers between the female and male students.

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