

Library use Pattern of Undergraduate Students in SKR & SKR Government College for Women (A) in Kadapa Town, Andhra Pradesh: A Case Study

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Abstract

The library is considered an integral part of any effective education system. It plays an important role in the development of the organization. This case study conducted at the Government Degree College for Women (A) in Kadapa town reveals the nature and use of the college library. It evaluates in detail the type of material, sources and services used by the students. It also evaluates the level of student satisfaction in finding information about the collection, time and contribution of the library staff. Survey research method is adopted for the study. Two structured questionnaires were distributed one is for librarian and another one for women undergraduate students of the institute. Analysis of data is done through percentages and Chi-square tests.

Keywords: Information Sources; Library Services; Degree college; Kadapa Town; Andhra Pradesh.

INTRODUCTION

Education is about imparting knowledge and making good citizens. Libraries are repositories of knowledge and an integral part of education. Education is a process by which people not only gain knowledge, information and skills, but also values and the ability to live and communicate

within and within social groups. Higher education contributes to human resource development in many ways. Higher education institutions have a major responsibility to train students to participate in the development of the country. Libraries have a long history; begins with a chain of and closed-access libraries previous times for the current hybrid, digital and virtual libraries that use the latest technology to provide information through various services. On arrival Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) the nature of libraries has changed drastically. Today, libraries are surrounded by networked data that is connected to the vast ocean of Internet based Services. In addition, electronic resources are related to the profession is developing at an unprecedented pace. Academic libraries are considered nerve centers of educational institutions and support teaching, research and other educational programmes. Success of library meets the information needs

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of its users play an important role. There are technological advances it is also expected to change drastically to improve quality of library services.

EDUCATIVE FUNCTIONS OF THE COLLEGE LIBRARY

To participate effectively in the college instructional programme, the educative functions of the college library are

- Providing materials to the college community adequate for their various needs and purposes.
- Making material easily accessible physically through open shelves, orientations, or other efficient means and bibliographically through catalogues, bibliographies, and indexes.
- Making them available for library use and home use through reasonable loan period.
- By giving formal and informal instruction in the use of the library.
- By encouraging wide reading through easy accessibility of materials, reader's guidance, displays, and book discussions.
- By enlisting the cooperation of the faculty in making the library a studycentre.
- By providing bibliographical information and special material for the faculty.
- Borrowing needed materials on inter-library loan from other libraries.
- Providing adequate and comfortable physical facilities for study including carrels for work on special projects.
- By extending the hours of service to meet the needs of the users.

the college library also promotes cultural activities for the college community and often serves as a nucleus for community academic and cultural affairs.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

*Vyasamoorthy (1994)*¹ emphasized how college librarians should start automation of their services in a simple way. He explained the benefits of automation with hardware and software details. Details of some Indian software packages were also given.

*Singh (1996)*² the study is an attempt to analyse the

reader's services in college libraries as perceived by college librarians. The study of reader's services assumes significance as these services enable the students to achieve educational excellence.

*Gupta (1998)*³ describes the development of college librarians since last five years, highlights the problems being faced at present, and suggests ways in which libraries can become more effective by adopting more creative approach to planning, and some measures through which libraries can control and change their environment enhancing financial manpower resources. He advocates need for collection development policy and electronic devices to face the challenges of 21st century.

*Chinnamma (1998)*⁴ describes in detail the present status of college libraries and librarians in the state of Kerala. The areas covered are administration problems, budget, staff and services and physical facilities (buildings, furniture and fittings) available. The author suggests that national and state library associations should initiate action to improve the conditions of college libraries in the state.

*Ojha, Dave and Sharma (2000)*⁵ studied the application of information technology (IT) in Indian libraries during the last decade of the 20th century. They attempted to visualize Indian librarianship in the 21st century in the light of the ever changing IT. The use of computers in libraries, particularly for information management, emphasized the ways library professionals have to change from traditional to modern techniques. According to them, the impact of IT in library and information science is the most in the activities of networking, CD-ROM, Internet and multimedia.

*Jaikumar and Saravanan (2018)*⁶ attempted to analyze the non-use of library facilities and services by the undergraduate students of Arts and Science Colleges in Kanyakumari District. A case study was conducted among the undergraduate students of Lakshmipuram College of Arts and Science using structured questionnaire. The study revealed that 32.8 per cent of the undergraduate spend their leisure time for reading; and the majority of the respondents have no comments on their reading areas of interest. It also reveals that, 48.9 per cent of the undergraduate students are non users of college libraries and non use of college libraries is more among the science discipline (50 percent) than arts (47.8 percent). The major reasons for non use of college libraries by the undergraduate students are lack of innovative assignments, use of internet, lack of cooperation from the library staff and inconvenient library hours. The study serves as an eye opener for the college management, librarians

and the faculty.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The main objective of the present work is SKR & SKR Government College for Women (A) library, Kadapa by its user's and to suggest suitable measures to improve the services of the college library.

- To Know the inspiration behind visit to library by the undergraduate students.
- To study the frequency and purpose of visit to the library.
- To know the satisfaction of the users regarding the working hours, and facilities of the library.
- To know the satisfaction of the users regarding the latest editions of books available in the library.
- To know the opinion on problem while seeking information in the library.
- To identify the opinion of users on internet and Xerox facilities of the library.

SCOPE AND METHODOLOGY

The present study is intended to measure the extent of usage of college library by the undergraduate students of SKR & SKR Government College for Women (A) Kadapa, Andhra Pradesh, India. For the study, survey research is used. Two structured questionnaires are prepared to collect primary data. The purpose of first questionnaire was to get the information from the librarian and second questionnaire was to get information from the users of the library. The population for the study consists of 3rd year under graduates students in different branches viz. Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) Bachelor of Commerce (B.Com) and Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) of the institute. Questionnaires are distributed among 120 students out of which 105 (87.5%) filled questionnaires was selected for analysis. The author adopted random sampling technique to select participants from each stratum. Percentages and chi-square method is used for analyzing the data.

PROFILE OF SKR & SKR GOVERNMENT COLLEGE FOR WOMEN (A) LIBRARY, KADAPA

Institutional background

SKR & SKR Government College for Women (A),

Kadapa was established in 10-10-1973. At the starting level Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), Bachelor of Commerce (B.Com) and Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) courses, taught in this college. Recently some new courses i.e., Computer Science, Bio-Technology, Bio-Chemistry, Statistics, Electronics and Microbiology are also started in this college. Medium of instruction is both English and Telugu for all B.A., B.Com., and B.Sc. students.

Library background

The college library was came into existence in on the day of starting the college itself, i.e., 10-10-1973. The library works from 10 am to 5.30pm. There is no professionally trained librarian has been looking the library from the beginning. Present librarian is professionally trained and his qualification is M.A., B.LISc. He completed 2 years of service as librarian in this institution. His present scale of pay is UGC scale.

Management of the library

There is a library committee in the institution which consists of:

- Head of the institution: principal
- Librarian
- Heads of the various departments

Monthly one meeting of the library committee is conducted for proper functioning and to provide effective services to the users. Librarian works directly under the head of the institution for all library matters. The present total strength of library staff is 2 Consisting one professional, and 1 Non-professional staff. The present staff is not adequate for the proper functioning of the library. They require 3 Additional staff members viz; one assistant librarian and 2 Technical staff. Librarian also participates in the staff meetings and library staff members are entrusted with other works i.e., admissions and examination works.

Finance

Finance is a major source to meet the objectives of the institution. It has to acquire books, periodicals and other reading material to provide better services to the users.

Library building

The library does possess an independent building. There is separate seating arrangement for staff and students. The space available in the library is not adequate for the needs. There is no separate room for keeping teaching aids. There is a plan for

constructing new building in future. The library possesses adequate lighting & ventilation facility.

Library furniture

The library is sufficiently furnished. Wooden racks and almairahs with glass doors type of furniture is used for keeping the books. The library furniture is not specially designed to suit the library needs.

Library collection

Overall library collection

Subjects	Total
English	2423
Telugu	1881
Hindi	271
Urdu	151
Sanskrit	122
Environmental Studies	311
Indian Heritage and Culture	149
History	1567
Economics	1110
Political science	847
Commerce	2316
Mathematics	574
Statistics	342
Physics	553
Chemistry	1716
Botany	1975
Zoology	1482
Computer science	1040
Electronics	15
Bio-technology	291
Bio-chemistry	348
Micro-biology	183
General	1605
Grand Total	21272

Overall library collection the total number of books that library consists is not proportionate to the number of students. The library acquires sufficient number of multiple copies of the text books. The staff maintains a record (watch register) for registering the periodicals. Once in a year the old dailies are disposed through the auction committee.

Book selection & Acquisition

Books and periodicals are selected:

- Through the recommendations of the library/book selection committee.
- Through the recommendations of various

heads of the department.

- Recommendations of individuals, members of the staff/students are taken into consideration.
- The librarian's recommendations are also considered.

A separate file is maintained for the invoices of books purchased in different years. Books are purchased through inviting quotations once a year. Periodicals are acquired library through the local agency and also through the respective publishers.

Processing

The library classifies books by using Dewey Decimal classification. The library provides catalogue facility to the readers. The physical form of the catalogue is card catalogue. Classified books are arranged in the shelves by subject.

Circulation and maintenance

The library follows open access not only to the students but also to the staff members. Method is followed for charging and discharging of books. Register assigning pages for individual borrowers. Only text books and general books are issued on loan to the students. Loan period for different categories of members are shown in the below table.

Loan period

Category	Period
Students	15 days
Teaching staff	1 month
Non-teaching staff	1 month

It is evident from the above table that, the loan period for students is 15 days. The loan period for teaching and non-teaching staff is one month.

No. of library books issued to different categories at a time is shown in table.

No. of books issued at a time

Category	No. of books
Students	5
Teaching staff	10
Non-teaching staff	10

The above table shows that the library issues 5 books to the students. 10 books are issued to the teaching and non-teaching staff. For the late returning of books, library does not collect any overdue charges from the users. The library provides book reservation facility for the convenience of the users.

There is no provision for library periods in the time table. The library allows others (old students) to consult library books.

Stock verification

In this library, stock verification will be conducted annually by library staff. Library staff alone is responsible for the loss of books. The amount for loss of books is recovered through challans paid by the borrowers. The loss of books in th library is due to lack of adequate staff.

Librarian and his environment

Principal of the college, extends co-operate to the librarian for smooth functioning of the library

activities. Librarian does involve in admissions, examinations and maintenance of discipline works etc. For professional development higher authorities sponsor the librarian to attend the conference, seminars and refresher courses. Librarian is highly satisfied with the co-operation given by the students, teaching and non-teaching staff. He expressed that he is highly satisfied with the present job and also with the status as librarian.

DATA ANALYSIS AND FINDINGS

Analysis of data is the ultimate step in research process. It is the link between raw data and significant results leading to conclusions. This process of analysis has to be result oriented.

Table 1: Inspiration behind visit to library

Inspiration	Courses			Total	χ^2 Value $\chi^2 = 27.181$
	B.A	B.Com	B.Sc		
Teachers	9	11	4	24 (22.85%)	with 6 degrees freedom at 0.05 level P-value=0.00013393 (P<0.05 Significance)
Friends	14	9	4	27 (25.71%)	
Self interest	11	10	27	48 (45.71%)	
Any other, specify	1	5	0	6 (5.71%)	
Total	35	35	35	105 (100%)	

It can be observed from Table 1 that majority of the respondents (45.71%) are visiting the library out of their own self-interest followed by 25.71% of the respondents visiting the library who were inspired by their friends 22.8% respondents are inspired by Teachers, and 5.71% from others.

There is significant difference between the respondents with regard to inspiration behind visit to library. It is also evident from chi-square test of significance. The chi-square value is significant at 0.05 level with 6 degrees of freedom.

Table 2: Frequency of visit to college library

Frequency	Courses			Total	χ^2 Value $\chi^2 = 21.298$
	B.A	B.Com	B.Sc		
Everyday	19	13	14	46 (43.80%)	with 6 degrees freedom at 0.05 level P-value=0.00162156 (P<0.05 Significance)
Once in a Week	8	5	18	31 (29.52%)	
Once in a Month	5	12	2	19 (18.09%)	
Occasionally	3	5	1	9 (8.57%)	
Total	35	35	35	105 (100%)	

It is evident from the table 2 that majority of the respondents (43.8%) are visiting the college library every day, 29.5% of the respondents are visiting the library once in week, 18.09% are visiting once in a month, and 8.57% respondents are visiting the library occasionally.

There is significant difference between the respondents with regard to frequency of visit to college library. It is also evident from chi-square test of significance. The chi-square value is significant at 0.05 level with 6 degrees of freedom.

Table 3: Purpose of visiting the library

Frequency	Courses			Total	χ^2 Value $\chi^2 = 9.809$
	B.A	B.Com	B.Sc		
Reading newspapers	12	18	15	35 (33.33%)	with 10 degrees freedom at 0.05 level
Borrowing Books	12	20	12	44 (41.90%)	
For Preparation of Notes	4	3	5	12 (11.42%)	P-value=0.4574073
Subject Periodicals	3	2	2	7 (6.65%)	
For Reference Books	2	2	0	4 (3.80%)	
Any other Specify	2	0	1	3 (2.85%)	(P>0.05 NoSignificance)
Total	35	35	35	105 (100%)	

It is evident from table 3 that majority of the respondents (41.9%) are visiting the library for borrowing books, 33.3% are visiting the library for reading newspapers, 11.42% are visiting for preparation of notes, 6.6% are visiting the library for subject periodicals, 3.8% are visiting the library

for reference books and 2.8% are visiting for other purposes.

There is no significant difference between the respondents with regard to usefulness of internet facility in their libraries. It is also evident from chi-square test of significance.

Table 4: Satisfaction regarding working hours of the library

Course	Yes	No	Total
B.A	28	7	35
B.Com	26	9	35
B.Sc	26	9	35
Total	80 (76.19%)	25 (23.80%)	105 (100%)

It is clear from the table 4 that most of the respondents (76.19%) satisfied with the present working hours of the library, and only 23.8% of

the respondents are not satisfied with the working hours of the library.

Table 5: Average time spent in the library

Hours	Courses			Total	χ^2 Value $\chi^2 = 9.809$
	B.A	B.Com	B.Sc		
Less than one Hour	20	15	17	52 (49.52%)	with 4 degrees freedom at 0.05 level
One to two Hours	12	14	16	42 (40%)	
More than two Hours	3	6	2	11 (10.47%)	P-value=0.45309033 (P>0.05 No Significance)
Total	35	35	35	105 (100%)	

The table 5 shows that 49.52% of the respondents are spending less than one hour, 40% are spending one to two hours, 10.4% of the respondents are spending more than two hours.

There is no significant difference between the respondents with regard to usefulness of internet facility in their libraries. It is also evident from chi-square test of significance.

Table 6: Satisfaction regarding latest editions of books

Course	Satisfied	Dissatisfied	Can't say	Total
B.A	18	10	7	35
B.Com	27	4	4	35
B.Sc	28	2	5	35
Total	73 (69.52%)	16 (15.23%)	16 (15.23%)	105 (100%)
D.F				4
χ^2				9.868
P-value	0.04271088(P<0.05 Significance)			

The table 6 shows that 69.52% of the respondents are satisfied with the latest editions of books, 15.23% expressed their dissatisfaction and remaining 15.23% mentioned that they can't say anything in this regard.

There is significant difference between the respondents with regard to satisfaction regarding latest editions of books. It is also evident from chi-square test of significance. The chi-square value is significant at 0.05 level with 4 degrees of freedom.

Table 7: Satisfaction regarding collection of books in concern subject

Course	Yes	No	Total
B.A	21	14	35
B.Com	31	4	35
B.Sc	31	4	35
Total	83 (79.04%)	22 (20.95%)	105 (100%)

Table 7 explains that 79.04% of the users are satisfied with the collection of books in their concern subject,

and 20.95% mentioned that they are not satisfied with the collection of books in their concern subject.

Table 8: Satisfaction of the library collection

Library collection	Satisfied	Not Satisfied	No Idea	Total
News papers	72 (68.57%)	27 (25.71%)	6(5.71%)	105 (100%)
Periodicals	30 (28.57%)	65 (61.94%)	10 (9.5%)	105 (100%)
Text books	76 (72.80%)	25 (23.80%)	5 (4.76%)	105 (100%)
Reference books	36 (34.28%)	55 (52.80%)	14 (13.33%)	105 (100%)
Maps, charts, atlases	21 (20%)	48 (45.71%)	36 (34.28%)	105 (100%)
CD's, floppies etc.	11 (10.40%)	39 (37.14%)	55 (52.38%)	105 (100%)

It is evident from the table 8 that majority of the respondents (68.57%) are satisfied with the newspapers collection, 61.94% of the respondents are not satisfied with the periodicals collection, 72.80% of the respondents are satisfied with the textbooks collection, 52.80% of the respondents are

not satisfied with the reference books collection, majority of the respondents (45.71%) are not satisfied with the maps, charts, atlases collection, majority of the respondents (52.38%) are not aware of the cd's and floppies collection.

Table 9: Problem while seeking information in the Library

S. No.	Course	Yes	No	Total	χ^2 Value
1	B.A	22	13	35	$\chi^2 = 8.553$ with 2 degrees freedom at 0.05 level P-value=0.0138912 (P<0.05 Significance)
2	B.Com	18	17	35	
3	B.Sc.	10	25	35	
	Total	50 (47.61%)	55 (52.38%)	105 (100%)	

From the table 9, it is evident that among those who mentioned that they are facing problems while seeking information from library, 62.85% are B.A students, 51.42% are B.Com students, and the remaining 28.57% are B.Sc. students.

There is significant difference between the respondents with regard to problem while seeking information in the library. It is also evident from chi-square test of significance. The chi-square value is significant at 0.05 level with 2 degrees of freedom.

Table 10: Lending facility

Course	Yes	No	Total
B.A	33	2	35
B.Com	34	1	35
B.Sc.	35	0	35
Total	102 (97.14%)	3 (2.85%)	105 (100%)

It is clear from the table 10 that 97.14% of the respondents that mentioned there is lending facility

in their library while a negligible percent (2.85%) mentioned that there is no such facility.

Table 11: Satisfaction regarding library facilities

Library facilities	Satisfied	Not satisfied	No idea	Total
Library building	89 (84.76%)	15 (14.28%)	1 (0.95%)	105 (100%)
Furniture	50 (47.61%)	52 (49.52%)	3 (2.85%)	105 (100%)
Ventilation	59 (56.19%)	34 (32.38%)	12 (11.40%)	105 (100%)
Drinking water	39 (37.14%)	60 (57.14%)	6 (5.78%)	105 (100%)
Book reservation	57 (54.28%)	35 (33.33%)	13 (12.38%)	105 (100%)
Security for personal belongings	27 (25.71%)	46 (43.80%)	32 (30.47%)	105 (100%)

It can be observed from the table 11 that most of the respondents (84.76%) are satisfied with the library building, followed by 56.19% and 54.28% of the respondents who expressed their satisfaction regarding ventilation and book reservation

respectively. It is also evident from the table that most of the respondents (57.14%) are not satisfied with regard to drinking water, followed by furniture (49.52%).

Table 12: Sources used for finding required information

Hours	Courses			Total	χ^2 Value $\chi^2 = 4.486$
	B.A	B.Com	B.Sc		
Library catalogue	2	5	4	31 (29.52%)	with 8 degrees freedom at 0.05 level
Consulting librarian	12	11	8	11 (10.47%)	
Browsing all the document collection at racks	6	6	5	17 (16.19%)	P-value=0.81083212
Interpersonal communication	7	9	11	27 (25.71%)	
Through faculty members	8	4	7	19 (18.09%)	(P>0.05 No Significance)
Total	35	35	35	105 (100%)	

Library users are using different ways for finding information according to their needs. This aspect helps the library staff to know the needs of the users. This also help the library staff to develop various ways of sources of finding information.

The table 12 shows that the usage of source for finding the required information. The first preference 29.52 percent was given to consulting librarian, second 25.71 percent to interpersonal

communication, third preference 18.09 percent was given to through faculty members, fourth preference 16.19 percent was given to browsing all the document collection at racks and fifth preference 10.47 percent was given to library catalogue.

There is no significant difference between the respondents with regard to sources used for finding required information. It is also evident from chi-square test of significance.

Table 13: Availability of internet facility

Course	Yes	No	Total
B.A	1	34	35
B.Com	8	27	35
B.Sc	13	22	35
Total	22 (20.95%)	83 (79.04%)	105 (100%)
D.F		2	
χ^2		12.536	
P-value	0.00189602(P<0.05 Significance)		

It is evident from the table 13 that most of the respondents (79%) expressed that internet facility is not available in the library. 20.95% of the respondents expressed that internet facility is available in the library.

There is significant difference between the respondents with regard to availability of internet facility in the library. It is also evident from chi-square test of significance. The chi-square value is significant at 0.05 level with 2 degrees of freedom.

Table 14: Availability of xerox facility

Course	Yes	No	Total
B.A	14	31	35
B.Com	6	29	35
B.Sc	5	30	35
Total	15 (14.28%)	90 (85.71%)	105 (100%)
D.F		2	
χ^2		0.467	
P-value	0.7917576(P>0.05 No Significance)		

It can be observed from the table 14 that 85.71% of the respondents expressed that there is no Xerox facility in their library. 14.28% of the respondents expressed that Xerox facility is available in the library.

There is no significant difference between the respondents with regard to availability of xerox facility. It is also evident from chi-square test of significance.

FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

- Majority of the respondents (45.71%) are visiting the library out of their own self-interest.

- Majority of the respondents (43.8%) are visiting the college library every day.
- Majority of the respondents (41.9%) are visiting the library for borrowing books.
- More than three fourth of the respondents (76.19%) satisfied with the present working hours of the library.
- Almost equal to half of the respondents (49.52%) are spending less than one hour in the library.
- Majority of the respondents (69.52%) are satisfied with the latest editions of books.
- Most of the respondents (79.04%) are satisfied with the collection of books in their

concern subject.

- Majority of the respondents (68.57%) are satisfied with the newspapers collection and textbooks collection (72.80%). Majority of the respondents (61.94%) are not satisfied with the periodicals collection followed by reference books collection (52.80%) and maps, charts, atlases collection (45.71%).
- More than half of the respondents (52.38%) mentioned that they are not facing problems while seeking information from library.
- Most of the respondents (97.14%) mentioned that there is lending facility in their library.
- Majority of the respondents are satisfied with the library facilities viz. library building (84.76%), ventilation (56.19%) and book reservation facility (54.28%). Majority of the respondents are not satisfied with the library facilities viz. furniture (49.52%), drinking water (57.14%) and security for personal belongings (43.80%).
- As majority of the users (29.52 percent) are given first preference to consulting librarian for finding required information in their library.
- Most of the respondents (79%) expressed that internet facility is not available in the library. 85.71% of the respondents expressed that there is no Xerox facility in their library.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- As majority of the respondents are not satisfied with the maps, charts, atlases and other nonprint collection, the library administration must take care in increasing this type of collection.
- Majority of the respondents are not satisfied with the furniture, drinking water, and security for personal belongings facilities.

So the library administration must be fulfill these types of facilities.

- As many users expressed that Xerox and internet facilities are necessary steps are to be taken in this regard.

CONCLUSIONS

This study has given a clear picture of the use of college library in Kadapa Town by undergraduate women students. The utilization of college library in this town will be enhanced by adopting the modern formats like audio-visual materials and electronic resources such as CD, DVDs, photo copy service and the Internet. Automation of libraries according to new technologies is very essential to cope up with the present scenario.

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