

SKILLS AND COMPETENCES OF USER IN PANCHAYATH LIBRARIES RAMANAGARA TALUK: A STUDY

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Abstract: Information literate people are able to access information about their health, their environment, their education and work, empowering them to make critical decisions about their lives. IL skill has therefore become a new paradigm and most important skills required to meet academic needs and professional needs of the present advanced society. In this regard, researcher made an attempt to evaluate these skills adopted by rural users.

Keywords: Rural library, Information, Literacy skills, Internet, E resource

1.0 Introduction

The skills in utilizing library resources and developing competencies to access to the digital resources i.e., consortia, open access sources, websites and databases access etc. are the basis for present day education. Without skill development the users are outdated and cannot cope up with the present day competitions. People affirm that society requires multi-skilled learners, who are able to think critically, pose and solve problems, and become independent and lifelong learners. Skills not only required for just accessing to the information but also to evaluate accuracy of information and organizing the available information.

1.1 Objectives

1. To know the Existing Structure of Panchayath Library System of in General and RamanagaraTaluk in Particular.
- 1 To know the different types of resources and services rendered by the Ramanagara Library User in RamanagaraTaluk.
- 2 To ascertain the problems being faced by the Ramanagara Panchayath library Users in accessing information.
- 3 To give the proper suggestions
- 4 Find out the user awareness of the Library Classification and cataloguing.
7. To know the Librarian and User Relationship in Panchayath Library system.
8. To find out the users awareness of e-resources.
9. To assess the IL Programmes conducted in libraries.

2.0 Scope of the Study

The study mainly focuses on IL skills and frequently used to library and information source, aware of the services provided by Panchayath library users in RamanagaraTaluk. The study was limited to the 20 Panchayath Libraries in RamanagaraTaluk.

3.0 Methodology

For the survey of the primary data, a questionnaire was used to collect the data from the Library Users like Students, Farmer, House wife, agriculture, Unemployed, Private employees and Govt. Employees of the Panchayath Libraries in RamanagaraTaluk in Bangalore Rural District. The questionnaires cover areas like frequency of visit to library, aware of the services provided by library, find out the computer specialty, Library Building Structure, Reading Rooms Available, Drinking water Specialty, Good Library Collection Development, Awareness of the Online Resource by the Users, and find out the Librarian and User Relationship. I was used Simple Random Sampling Techniques. A total of 100 questionnaires were distributed in 20 Libraries and 81(81%) questionnaires were received back and analysed for present study. After analysing the responses of users Findings suggestion and conclusion drawn by the Investigators. References are listed and applied American Psychological Association (APA) method of Bibliography.

4.0 Data Analysis and Interpretation

This Chapter deals on the subject of analysis and Interpretation of the data, and discussion of the findings. Tables and Graphs are the most common methods of presenting analysed data. In total, 100 questionnaires were distributed and after continuous follow up, 81 were retrieved. This gave a response rate of 81%. Questions that were posed to the respondents include questions on the Qualification of the User.

Table 1: Response Rate

Libraries	Questionnaire Distributed	Questionnaire Received	Response Rate
20 Panchayath Libraries	100	81	81%

Table 1 shows total respondents. Investigator Distributed 100 questionnaires Only 81 (81%) respondents returned filled questionnaires. Remaining 19(19%) did not fill and returned.

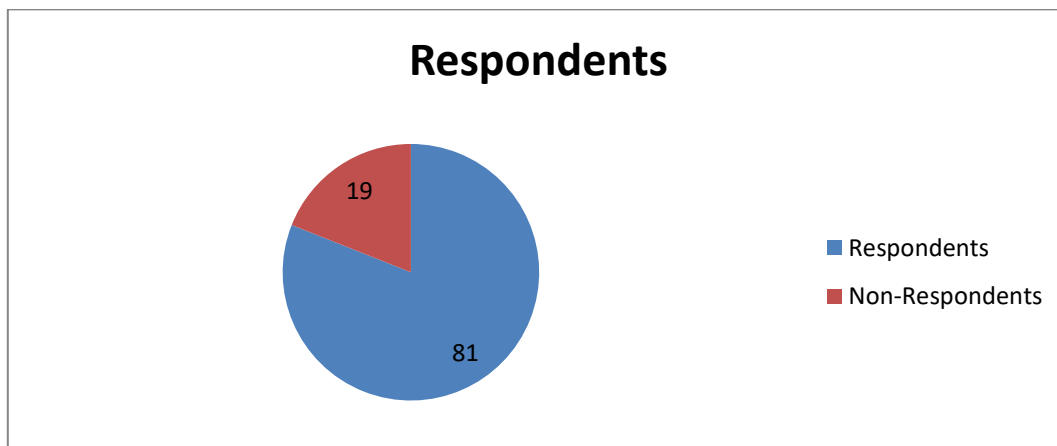


Figure 1

Table 2: Represented the result Gender wise

Gender	Frequency	Percentage
Male	53	65.43%
Female	28	34.56%
Total	81	100%

Table 2 shows the respondents of Panchayath Library Users by Gender Wise. The male respondents were 53(65.43%) and Female respondents were 28(34.56%).

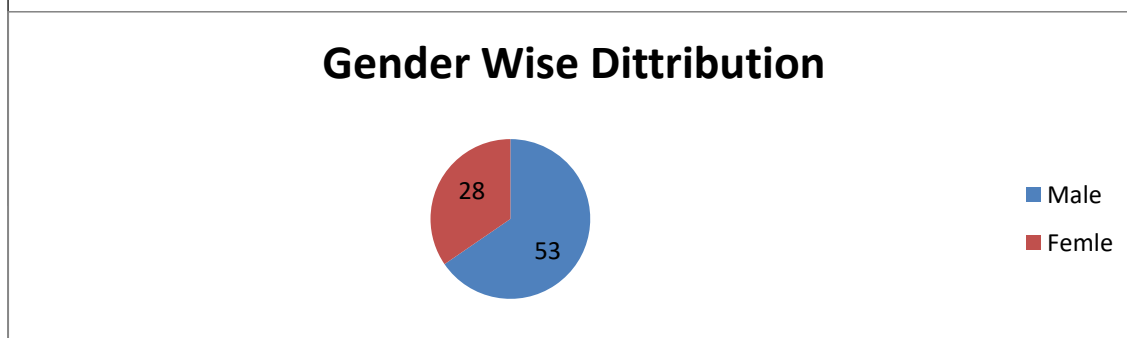


Figure 2

Table 3: Respondent by the Age Group

AGE	Respondents	Percentage
Above 20	26	32.09%
21-25	24	29.62%
26-30	9	11.11%
31-35	13	16.04%
Above 35	9	11.11%
Total	81	100%

The table 3 indicates that the predominant age group among the Users of the Panchayath libraries is in the age group of Above 20 responded 26(32.09%) and 21-25 age groups User 24(29.62%) users, 26-30 age Groups 9(11.11%) of users, 31-35 Age Groups There were 13(16.04%) respondents and above 35 age Group 9(11.11%) users responded.

Figure -3

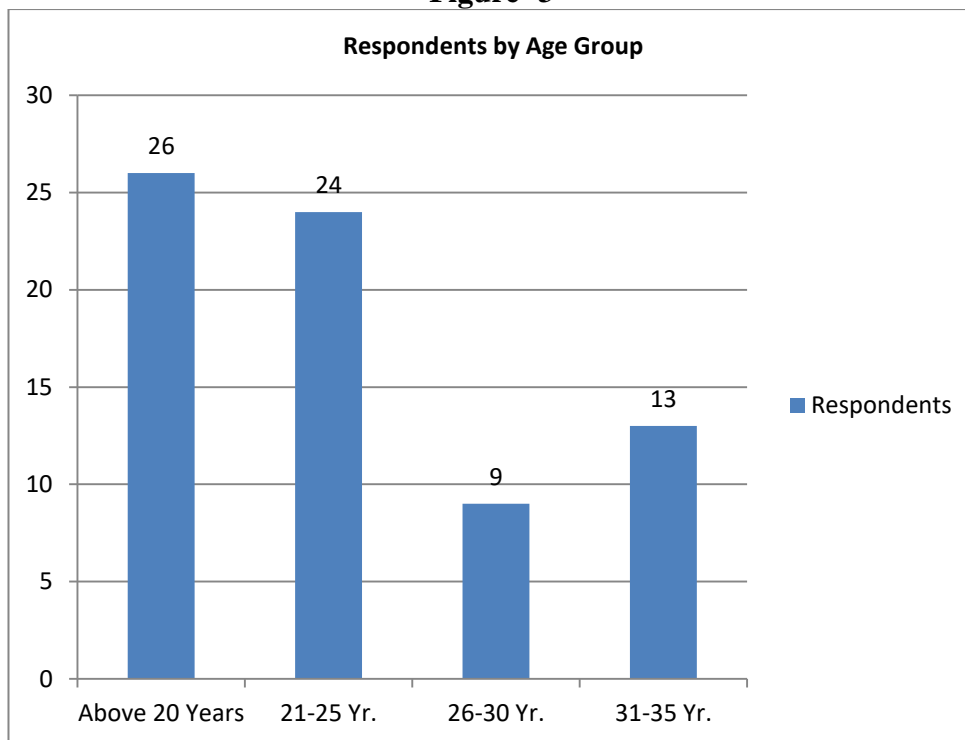


Table 4: Education and working status of respondent

Categories	Frequency	Percentage
Students	39	48.148
Private employee	10	12.346
Govt. employee	4	4.938
House wife	8	9.877
Agriculture	12	14.815
Farmers	8	9.877
Unemployed	00	0%

The Table 4 relevant that in Panchayath Library, the number of users as students were 39(48.14%), private employees were 10(12.34%), Govt. employees were 4(4.93%) and house wives were 8(9.87%), agriculture Farmers were 12(14.8%) and agriculture labourers were 8(9.87%) were responded.

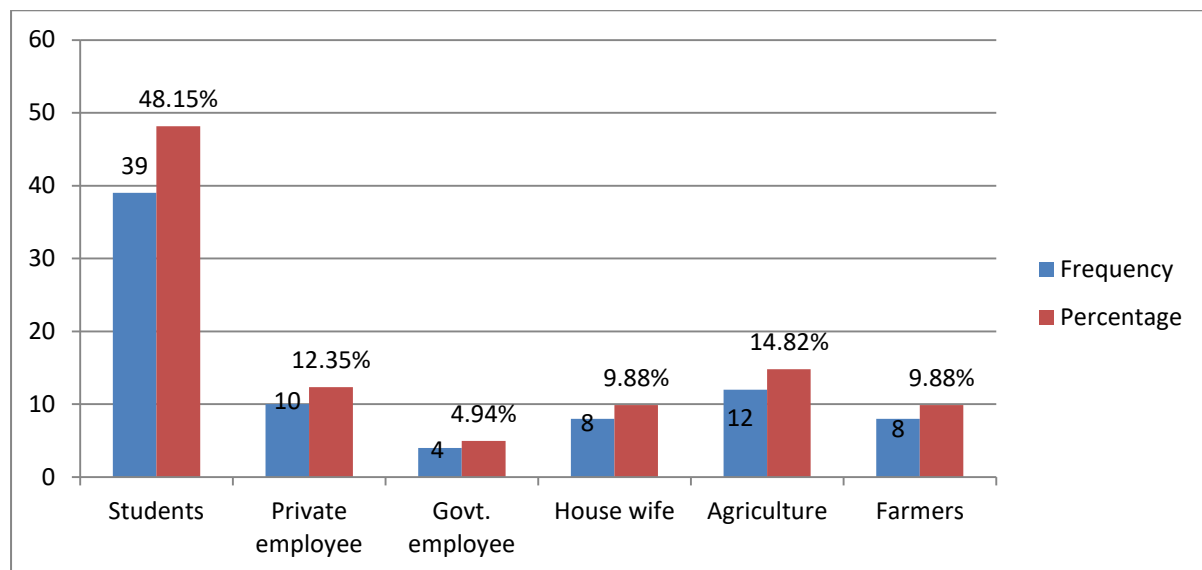


Figure -4

Table 5: Frequency of Visits to the Libraries by the User

Gender	Daily	2-3 times a week	Monthly	Occasional ly	Rarely	Never	Total
Male	06	17	7	10	13	0	53
%	7.40%	20.98%	8.64%	12.34%	16.04%	0%	65.43%
Female	4	6	10	6	2	0	28
%	4.93%	7.40%	12.34%	7.40%	2.46%	0%	34.56%
Total	12.34%	28.39%	20.98%	19.75%	18.51%	0%	100%

The data in the table 5 shows that, among the frequency of visits to the Panchayath Libraries. The 6 (7.40%) male users visit daily, 17 (20.98%) users visit two to three times a week, 7 (8.64%) users visit monthly, 10 (12.34%) users visit occasionally and 13 (16.04%) users visit rarely. In total 53 (65.43%) of male users visit Panchayath Libraries.

Among Frequency of visits of Female users in the Panchayath Libraries; 4 (4.93%) users visit daily, 6 (7.40%) users visit two to three times a week, 10 (12.34%) users visit monthly, 6 (7.40%) users visit occasionally, and 2 (2.46%) users visit rarely. In total 28 (34.56%) of Female users visit Panchayath Libraries.

Table 6: User awareness of E-journals

Gender	Yes	No	Not sure	Total
Male	17 (20.98%)	28(34.56%)	8(9.87%)	53(65.43%)
Female	9(11.11%)	14(17.28%)	5(6.17%)	28(34.56%)
Total	32.09%	51.85%	16.04%	100%

The table 6 shows the awareness of e-journals among respondents. It is seen that most respondents were aware about electronic journals. Here 32.09% of respondents (26 respondents) were aware about electronic journals and 51.85% of respondents (42 respondents) were unaware about electronic journals.

Table 7: User awareness of Internet service

Gender	Yes	No	Not sure	Total
Male	34 (41.97%)	10 (12.34%)	9 (11.11%)	53 (65.43%)
Female	20 (24.69%)	6 (7.40%)	2 (2.46%)	28 (34.56%)
Total	66.66%	19.75%	13.58%	81 (100%)

The table 7 shows the awareness Internet services among respondents. Most of the respondent 54 (66.66%) aware of Internet services and the 16 (19.75%) of respondent were unaware about internet services.

Table 8: Information retrieved from the internet

Gender	Excellent	Good	Poor	Total
Male	23 (28.38%)	18 (22.22%)	12 (14.81%)	53 (65.43%)
Female	10 (12.34%)	9 (11.11%)	9 (11.11%)	28 (34.56%)
Total	40.74%	33.33%	25.92%	81 (100%)

The table 8 shows the retrieved rate of the internet by respondents. 33(40.74%) respondents were retrieved information through internet. 27(33.33%) respondents were rated good and 25.92% respondents were poor.

Table 9: Satisfaction of overall Library services

Gender	Yes	No	Total
Male	42 (51.85%)	11 (13.58%)	53 (65.43%)
Female	25 (30.86%)	3 (3.70%)	28 (34.56%)
Total	82.71%	17.28%	81 (100%)

The table 9 represent, the overall satisfaction of the Library services. 82.71% of Users fully satisfied of the Library Services and 17.28% of Users Not Satisfied of Library Services.

Table 10: Awareness of E-resources

Gender	Yes	No	Total percentage
Male	15 (18.51%)	38 (46.91%)	53 (65.43%)
Female	6 (7.40%)	22 (27.16%)	28 (34.56%)
Total	21 (25.91%)	60(74.07%)	81 (100%)

Table 10 shows the awareness of e-resources among respondents. It is seen that most respondents were unaware about electronic resources. Here 74.07% of respondents (60 respondents) were unaware about electronic resources and 25.91% of respondents (21) were aware about e-resources.

Table-11 Types of E-resources

Type	Respondents	Percentage
CD-ROM databases	6	7.40%
Online databases	0	0%
E-books	5	6.17%

E-newspapers	5	6.17%
E-journals	8	9.87%
E-mail	57	70.37%
Total	81	100%

The multiple answer table 11 indicates that the types of e-resources used by respondents. Most of the respondent's prefer e-mail (70.37%), e-journals (9.87%), CD-ROM databases (7.40%), e-newspapers (6.17%) and e-books (6.17%).

Table 12: CCS and CAS services as information literacy tool

Respondents	Number	Percentage
Yes	15	18.51%
No	30	37.03%
Not sure	36	44.44%
Total	81	100%

The table 12 shows that about 15(18.51%) of the respondents have told that current content services and current awareness services also help in making users information literate. Whereas 30(37.03%) have told that they do not contribute in making users information literate and 36 (44.44%) users not sure about CCS and CAS services.

Table 13: Purpose of using Internet

Respondents	Number	Percentage
Sports	11	13.58
Entertainment	25	30.86
Education	13	16.04
Health	07	8.64
News	10	12.34
Agriculture purpose	00	00
Social media	15	18.51
Total	81	100

The table 13 shows that respondents' purpose for accessing internet. 11(13.58%) have accessed to get information on sports, 25(30.86%) has accessed for entertainment, 13(16.04%) have used for education purpose and

Findings, Recommendations and conclusion

5.0 Findings

1. Fifty three (65.43%) are males and twenty eight (34.56%) are females among the respondents.
2. Thirty nine (48.14%) are students, twelve (14.8%) are agriculture as the category of respondents.
3. Fifty four (66.66%) respondents have used internet daily and 16 (19.75%) have don't used internet.
5. Thirty Five (43.20%) respondents have told that they have used the internet for education.

6. Fifty seven (70.37%) respondents have used email regularly.
7. Fifty four (66.66%) respondents have used internet and sixteen (19.75%) have not used internet.
8. Thirty three (40.74%) respondents have taken internet as easy medium to retrieve information and rests have not.

6.0 Recommendations

- Libraries should make the users as daily users of internet.
- Libraries should encourage the users to use the internet, search engines for overall Development and various purposes.
- Libraries should encourage the users to use electronic resources.
- It is strongly recommended that resource (printed & electronic) based learning practice should be implemented in all the Panchayath Libraries.
- Network literacy should be provided to the users of network.

7.0 Conclusion

To conclude, the mission of information literacy is never ending. To cope-up with the growth of knowledge, users and information packages, there is always a need to master the technologies. Therefore, discussions, surveys and further intensive researches become inevitable to promote the information literacy movement in any country. This is more required in a country like India to keep alive the democratic system by empowering the citizens with information. In this process the libraries and information centres become the active partners in the progress. Considering all these important issues of information empowerment and its significance in the present society, it is prophesized that; Information literacy is an ongoing journey it should not be considered a destination.

8.0 Bibliography

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