A STUDY OF POST GRADUATE STUDENT'S ATTITUDE TOWARDS ACADEMIC LIBRARY

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ABSTRACT

This research paper focused on the post graduate students' views on the attitude towards academic library. The main objectives of this paper are to know the attitude towards use of library and to know the factors which motivate students to use of library. Data was collected from 61 post graduate students use in convenience sampling method in The Mandvi Education Societys' College Campus, Mandvi. The result of study indicates that post graduate students have positive attitude towards the academic library. The factors such as library software to search reading materials, physical facilities, and library hours, friendly behavior of library staff and availability of resources are a major contributor that motivates post graduate students to use library.

Keywords: *Academic Library, Sampling Method, Library Software, Library Hours.*

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Introduction

The library is the heart of the academic institutions. Academic libraries are the usual destination for students, academic staff, and researchers seeking information and resources. Academic libraries need to keep the connection with researchers and development process in this latest information environment.

Academic Library

An academic library is a library which serves an institution of higher learning in college and university. Libraries in secondary and primary schools are called school libraries. These libraries serve to support the school's curriculum and teaching recourses for students and faculty. In the earlier period, the study material given by educator during their lecture in writing format, now a new era electronic resources became available in academic library. College library is provides the useful study material for exam preparation, assignments, preparation for competitive exams and web browsing service for students and essential information for successful class room teaching, seminars, workshops and update their knowledge fellowships advising students, and exam papers services for faculty. The services of librarian also create excellent consumer satisfaction among library users. Librarian should view the user satisfaction. The College library collection contain Text books, journals, periodicals, scholarly journals, research reports, theses, conference proceedings, seminar proceedings, standards, patents, maps, atlas, globes, microfilms, manuscripts, slides, Databases, CDROMS, E journals, Databases online, bibliographic databases, E-books and other Online resources. These valuable resources are most important for the students and faculties.

The Mandvi Education Society College Campus

The Mandvi Education Society Campus established by The Mandvi Education Society in the year of 2007 at Mandvi in Surat district in South Gujarat Region. MES provides the Under Graduate and Post Graduate programs in various subjects like, Management, Computer Application and Science. The Mandvi Education Society has three Academic Institutions and one English medium School.

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TMES Library

TMES has well set multi disciplinary library, automated by SOUL Software. The TMES library has a wealthy collection of Textbooks, Reference books, National and International journals, Periodicals and CDs & DVDs for related subjects. The TMES library provides the Internet facility, Membership service, E-referencing service, Reservation of books service, Project Reports, Reading room, Photocopying Service, Open Access System facility, searching and borrowing Books service, Information literacy Service, Book service, Circulation Service and Reference Service for Students and Staff. The TMES Library is open for all users from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.

Objectives

- To know the post graduate student's attitude towards the academic library.
- To know which factors are motivates students to use of library.

Literature Review

Rasul and Singh (2010) observed the academic library provides better services to post graduate students for their research. **Chegoni (2018)** focused on utilization of library resources, student's satisfaction, optimum utilization of resources for the update their knowledge and the research also. According to, **Nawarathne and Singh (2013)** users are highly satisfied with the library services. **Farhadpoor (2018)** studied that playing attention to the features of information resources richness could be effective in increasing the student's attitude to use the information resources.

Research Methodology

A structured questionnaire having 9 statements was distributed to 80 post graduates students randomly and got filled in questionnaire from 61 students, who study is last semester for post graduation. The population of users' attitudes towards library was measured in terms of 9 items each with a 5 point scale covering different aspects of library services, collection and satisfaction. The Answer categories ranged from strongly agree to strongly disagree. The scale of synchronization at last reflects the strength of their attitude towards library.

Data Analysis

Data analysis was done by SPSS Software.

Statement – 1 Library Software is helping very much to search locate and access the database and Reference books through OPAC.

Table 1

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Agree	13	21.3	21.3	21.3
	Agree	34	55.7	55.7	77.0
	Neutral	2	3.3	3.3	80.3
	Disagree	12	19.7	19.7	100.0
	Total	61	100.0	100.0	

Majority of students (77%) either strongly agree or agree that Library Software is helping very much to search locate and access the database and Reference books through OPAC.

Statement – 2 Physical facilities, such as reading rooms, seating arrangement, electricity, Ventilation, water cooler and sanitation encourage students to use library.

Table 2

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Agree	16	26.2	26.2	26.2
	Agree	32	52.5	52.5	78.7
	Neutral	8	13.1	13.1	91.8
	Disagree	3	4.9	4.9	96.7
	Strongly Disagree	2	3.3	3.3	100.0
	Total	61	100.0	100.0	

Majority of students (78.7%) either strongly agree or agree that Physical facilities, such as reading rooms, seating arrangement, electricity, Ventilation, water cooler and sanitation encourage students to use library.

Statement - 3 ICT (Computers) with internet facility helps to access reading materials.

Table 3

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Agree	20	32.8	32.8	32.8
	Agree	17	27.9	27.9	60.7
	Neutral	14	23.0	23.0	83.6
	Disagree	5	8.2	8.2	91.8
	Strongly Disagree	5	8.2	8.2	100.0
	Total	61	100.0	100.0	

Though considerable number of students (60.7%) believes that ICT with internet facility helps to access reading materials, there are (39.4%) of students who are either indecisive or do not believe the statement. Statement - 4 prolonged library hours encourage students to use the library.

Table 4

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Agree	7	11.5	11.5	11.5
	Agree	37	60.7	60.7	72.1
	Neutral	8	13.1	13.1	85.2
	Disagree	5	8.2	8.2	93.4
	Strongly Disagree	4	6.6	6.6	100.0
	Total	61	100.0	100.0	

Majority of students (72.2%) either strongly agree or agree with statement that prolonged library hours encourage students to use the library. Statement - 5 Circulation procedures like, issue of number of books, limited time for returning the Books, late fee and none issuing the reference book etc discourage you in using the library.

Table 5

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Agree	11	18.0	18.0	18.0
	Agree	26	42.6	42.6	60.7
	Neutral	12	19.7	19.7	80.3
	Disagree	7	11.5	11.5	91.8
	Strongly Disagree	5	8.2	8.2	100.0
	Total	61	100.0	100.0	

Though considerable number of students (60.6%) believe that circulation procedures, discourage them, there are (39.4%) of students who are either indecisive or do not believe the statement. Statement - 6 Open Access systems encourages students.

Table 6

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Agree	9	14.8	14.8	14.8
	Agree	28	45.9	45.9	60.7
	Neutral	16	26.2	26.2	86.9
	Disagree	4	6.6	6.6	93.4
	Strongly Disagree	4	6.6	6.6	100.0
	Total	61	100.0	100.0	

Though considerable number of students (60.7%) believe that Open Access System encourages them, there are (39.4%) of students who are either indecisive or do not believe the statement. Statement - 7 Friendly behaviors of library staff inspires students who spend more time in library. They are helping and guiding you in locating, using resources in the library.

Table 7

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Agree	17	27.9	27.9	27.9
	Agree	30	49.2	49.2	77.0
	Neutral	7	11.5	11.5	88.5
	Disagree	4	6.6	6.6	95.1
	Strongly Disagree	3	4.9	4.9	100.0
	Total	61	100.0	100.0	

Majority of students (77%) either strongly agree or agree that Friendly behaviors of library staff inspires students who spend more time in library. They are helping and guiding you in locating, using resources in the library. Statement - 8 Availability of resources in the library such as printed reference books, periodicals and Journals are helping for your study.

Table 8

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Agree	18	29.5	29.5	29.5
	Agree	25	41.0	41.0	70.5
	Neutral	13	21.3	21.3	91.8
	Disagree	4	6.6	6.6	98.4
	Strongly Disagree	1	1.6	1.6	100.0
	Total	61	100.0	100.0	

Majority of students (70.5%) either strongly agree or agree that availability of resources in the library such as printed reference books, periodicals and Journals are helping for your study. Statement - 9 Your College libraries had encouraging impact on your academic and career development.

Table 9

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Strongly Agree	9	14.8	14.8	14.8
	Agree	36	59.0	59.0	73.8
	Neutral	8	13.1	13.1	86.9
	Disagree	2	3.3	3.3	90.2
	Strongly Disagree	6	9.8	9.8	100.0
	Total	61	100.0	100.0	

Majority of students (73.8%) acknowledge that their college library had encouraging impact on your academic and career development.

Conclusion

The main objectives of this paper are to know the attitude towards use of library and to know the factors which motivate students to use of library. Data was collected from 61 post graduate students use in convenience sampling method in The Mandvi Education Society's Post Graduate colleges. The result of study indicates that post graduate students have positive attitude towards the academic library. Overall, this study indicates that students' attitude is quite positive about library software to search reading materials, physical facilities, prolonged library hours, friendly behavior of library staff, availability of resources and university library towards career development. However; regarding use of ICT, library services and Open Access System; (40%) students' attitude is somewhat less favorable.

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