

Information Use Pattern of Public Library Users: a study

Dominic, J. and RameshKumar G.

jdom16@gmail.com , grameshkumar1000@gmail.com

Abstract

This paper describes about the Information use pattern of public library Users: a study. It includes the objectives of the study, scope, methodology, analyses the educational qualification of the users, occupation of the respondents, purposes for visiting library, average time spent in library, ranking search options and prioritized search strategies. The study revealed that the most of the college students in that area are using the public library.

Keywords: *Information use, Information resources, Public library, Search strategies*

Introduction

Public libraries are the standing testimonies of democracies. They are the social transformers and cultural saviors. They are the storehouses of intellectual heredity of our forefathers which are the lighthouses fostering creative leisure activities. This study was conducted with the help of structured questionnaires to analyze the information seeking behavior of different types of the users and randomly selected 946 users of Public Libraries Coimbatore District in Tamilnadu. The data was entered and analyzed using simple average percentage methods and descriptive statistical tools. Information needs of individuals in an organization differ depending upon their respective functions and tasks, the level of their knowledge and experience (in the specific field of specialization and in the use of information systems and services), their particular interest and need to satisfy which they seek information.

The public library system in Punjab comprises of district library, libraries under municipalities, panchayats and certain rural areas. The present study has its scope of investigation limited to the branch libraries in Coimbatore District in Tamilnadu. The study will be helpful to public libraries not only in Coimbatore District; it may project the position of entire population of public libraries. The recommendations of the study may strengthen public libraries whereby the knowledge society may enrich with intellectual assets and user community may show their increased attention towards visiting public library frequently.