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A STUDY ON PERCEPTIONS OF FACULTY MEMBERS ON INFORMATION SOURCES OF LIBRARIES OF ENGINEERING COLLEGES AFFILIATED TO JNTU-ANANTAPUR, ANDHRA PRADESH, INDIA

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ABSTRACT

Analysis of data collected from a simple random sample of 1130 faculty members belonging to 37 Engineering colleges affiliated to JNTU-Anantapur using a questionnaire, reveals that most of the faculty members are using textbooks (97.3%), and Internet (85.7%) for their teaching activity. Further, most of the faculty members are using e-journals (80.1%) and Internet (79.0%) for their research activity. Most of the faculty members are satisfied with latest editions of books available (79.8%) and with the multiple copies available for prescribed textbooks in their libraries (75.02%). Most of them (77.3%) are consulting periodicals for their teaching and research work. Most of them (78.1%) are satisfied with the present collection of periodicals. **Nearly half of** *them (51.3%) are consulting indexing and abstracting periodicals to know the latest literature for their teaching and research needs. Most of them (77.2%) replied that the latest issues of periodicals are available in their libraries concerned. Majority of the faculty members replied that current issues of periodicals (68.8%) and the back volumes of periodicals (60.5%) are not issued for home reading. Most of them (81.8%) replied that their libraries are subscribing to e-journals. Majority of them (53.7%) replied that their libraries are not subscribing to e-books. A few recommendations have been made by the researchers on the basis of findings.*

Key words: Information Sources, Engineering College Libraries, User Surveys, Faculty Members' Perceptions

1. Introduction

Information is knowledge, facts or data, which can be used, transferred or communicated. Further, it is the result of research, experience and observation. It is regarded as a resource of resources. It plays a key role in economic, social, educational and cultural realms of the society. It is very important in transforming society speedily and it is a vital resource and input in the overall development and growth of a country. The supply of correct and reliable information at the right time to the right person helps

in minimizing wastage of resources and avoids duplication of work. Information plays a vital role in the growth of knowledge and wisdom, research and innovation, development and design, production and marketing, decision making and management, and education and training.

Library surveys are conducted to study the existing library conditions, library facilities, library personnel, nature of users and non-users, library services, library resources; to compare the present conditions and desired standards; to make suggestions for their improvement; and to develop library standards.

The users of engineering college libraries are students, research scholars and faculty members. They require information for learning, research and teaching purposes. The engineering college libraries contain various kinds of information resources and they provide various information services and facilities to meet the information needs of their user community. A study on information sources, services and facilities of engineering college libraries based on the perceptions of faculty members help the library authorities in the better organization and restructuring of their resources, and services to meet the information requirements of users. Hence, the present study has been undertaken to obtain perceptions of faculty members on information sources of engineering college libraries affiliated to JNTU, Anantapur, so that these sources can be better organized and restructured to meet the information requirements of faculty members.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

The following studies, which were conducted on faculty members of engineering colleges, universities and other colleges with regard to information sources and servicess were reviewed.

Adikata and Anwar (2006) conducted a study of faculty perceptions in a Malaysian University. Authors ascertained the perceptions of faculty members on the students library use and their role in motivating students to use libraries. Findings of study revealed that teachers played an important role in promoting the use of libraries by students. Teachers are not satisfied with students' skills to use the library and available information resources. They expected from the librarians a comfortable academic environment in the library. **Akthar (2010)** examined the use of library collections and services by the P.G. students of Dr. K.N. Modi Institute of Engineering and Technology,

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Modinagar, Uttar Pradesh. Well structured questionnaire was used for collecting opinions of the users on library collections and services **Ali and Hasan (2006)** undertook a survey of teachers to assess the library and information services of Aligarh Muslim University Library. The survey brought to the light that most of the teachers are visiting library to collect teaching material and borrow books, while approximately 14% of them visited the libraries for research purpose. However, the majority of the teachers were not satisfied with overall functioning of the library. **Apeji (1999)** assessed the resources and services of the library of Nigerian Educational Research and Development Council. The study reveals that the library resources mainly consist of books and back volumes of journals. Available resources are found relevant and accessible but inadequate.

Arora and Raghavan (1982) made a survey on the information needs of user groups connected with highway engineering. The investigator received filled in questionnaires from 338 highway engineering users out of 920 questionnaires distributed. It has been found that 90% of users consulted books, standards and specifications and 7% of them consulted journals regularly. The average number of periodicals that have been read is three, and only 27% are using abstracting journals. Hence, there is a need for training in using the secondary journals. The results also showed that 67% of information is obtained through peers and colleagues and 39% of information is obtained through correspondence. The general order of priority recognized in the use of literature has been: books/standards/specifications, current journals, personal contacts with peers and colleagues, conferences/workshops, trade literature, correspondence with colleagues, and abstracting journals. **Chavez et al. (2005)** has carried out a survey of the students, faculty and staff to measure their satisfaction with the resources, faculties and circulation service of Paradise Valley Community College Library. The findings revealed that generally users are satisfied with the resources, facilities and circulation service. Analysis of data collected by **Chinna Balu (2004)** from the 1853 users of 29 engineering college libraries located in Sri Venkateswara University area using a questionnaire reveals that majority of the users (66.7%) are visiting the library regularly; majority of them (59.2%) visit the library to borrow books; nearly half of them (48.6%) are spending one hour in the library; most of them (96.9%) are satisfied with the working of the library on working days; nearly three quarters of them (74.4%) are satisfied with the book collection; majority of them (86.9%) are satisfied with the number of periodicals subscribed; majority of them are satisfied with the reference

service (83.1%), circulation service (82.5%) and document reservation facility (68.6%); majority of them (81.4%) are satisfied with reading space and furniture; and a majority of them (86.5%) are satisfied with efficiency of the library staff. **Choukhande and Kumar (2004)** have conducted a study on information needs and use pattern of Faculty Members and Research Scholars of Amaravati University. According to them the purpose of user's visit to library largely depends upon the free time available to them. Teachers preferred book trade catalogue, bibliographies, indexes, abstracts, addition lists issued by library and the periodicals to know current literature in their fields concerned.

Doraswamy (2007) made an attempt to determine the status and use of digital resources. It was observed that use of digital resources is still inadequate among the engineering faculty of the universities in the developing countries. **Eqbal and Khan (2007)** found that 88.24% of faculty of science are more aware about e-journals compared to faculty of engineering. The majority of research scholars in faculty of science (67.64%) and faculty of engineering (69.23%) use e-journals for research work. **Helen (2004)** has evaluated the University of Hong Kong Library and found that majority of the respondents preferred to use online journals than print versions, but on the contrary, about 72% users preffered to use printed books as compared to the electronic books. **Kanakachary (1989)** conducted a survey on the users of Engineering College Library, Osmania University, Hyderabad. For the study, a total of 50 questionnaires were distributed and 27 (54%) received back. It was followed by personal interviews with the users and library staff. The study reveals that 66.7% of users are satisfied, while 33.3% of them are dissatisfied with regard to quality and standard of periodicals on subscription. About 85% of users are unaware of catalogue. Majority of users wanted change in library timings. More than 90% of users are not satisfied with physical facilities of the library. **Kannapanavar and Manjunatha (2010)** discussed the access tools used for locationg reading materials, frequency of visits to the library by the faculty, time spent in the library, use of library services and faculty opinion about library.

Kanniyappan, Nityanandam and Ravichandran (2008) conducted a survey at Anna University Library, Chennai, to find out the use of different types of e-resources and services and the impact of these resources on the academic development of faculty members. The study also highlighted the problems faced in using the e-resources and rate of satisfaction in getting the required information on e-resources/services. **Kaur and**

Singh (2013) made a study on the use of library resources and services by Assistant professors of five institutes under the management of the Khalsa College Lyallapur Educational Charitable Trust, Jalandhar. The study includes various aspects like frequency of visit, purpose of visit to the library, time spent in the library, adequacy of library hours, adequacy of reading space facilities, attitude of library staff, use of information sources, opinion about adequacy of library collection, accessing documents, library services, opinion about the behaviour of library staff, and functions of the library. This study is based on questionnaire method. **Lohar and Roopashree (2006)** conducted a study of the use of library at the Bapuji Institute of Engineering and Technology in Davanagere, Karnataka, by collecting data from sixty faculty members through a questionnaire. The analysis of the collected data covered the use of electronic resources and how the electronic resources are improving the academic career of the faculty. The study also tried to identify the problems that are faced in using the electronic resources. The authors concluded that the main intention of the use of electronic resources has been the academic interest of the users. **Malathi and Rohani (2011)** investigated the intention of using e-books as learning material among undergraduates in University Putra Malaysia, Malaysia, from an engineering department by using the Technology Acceptance Model (TAM) and gender as its external variable. A survey through questionnaire is conducted to collect data from the respondents. Data from 169 respondents, who had experience in using e-books, is analyzed in terms of factor analysis and structural equation modeling. The analysis showed that perceived ease of use is positively related to perceived usefulness. Perceived usefulness has significant effect on attitude and intention to use e-books. Meanwhile, attitude has significant effect on intention to use. However, perceived ease of use has no significant effect on attitude towards using e-books. In addition, gender appeared to have no significant effects either on perceived ease of use or perceived usefulness. The study was important in terms of obtaining better understanding of e-book reading intention among engineering undergraduates who are the real users of e-books. By obtaining the respondents' perception of their intentions, action can be taken on how to motivate the non-users of e-books to develop the intention to use e-books.

Mallaiah and Purushothama Gowd (2009) examined the usefulness of collection development in a university library. The data is collected from 261 users of Mangalore University consisting of research scholars and faculty members using a

questionnaire.   The results show that 51.13% of teachers and 41.04% of research scholars expressed that books are partially adequate to meet their information needs. Majority (43.35%) of research scholars visit the library daily to meet their information needs and a good number of research scholars and teachers visit the library to borrow books and periodicals.   The overall opinion as expressed by research scholars and teachers is that the periodicals, report literature and conference proceedings are not adequate enough to meet their needs. A significant number of teachers (29.55%) and research scholars (44.51%) have complained about the non-availability of current journals in time to meet their requirements, and majority of teachers (61.36%) have complained about non-accessibility of UGC-INFONET e-journals to meet their information needs. **Nageswara Rao and Ramesh Babu (2008)** executed a survey of the faculty members of autonomous government and government aided colleges in Chennai to examine the provision and use of library services, resources and facilities. Sample was chosen randomly. About 78.66% of the total 375 users responded to the questionnaire. More than three-fourths of respondents were visiting libraries for research studies and to write research papers. A few users were using e-resources. **Okiy (2002)** found that in Delta State University Library both the faculty and students were using books more often than any other material, because of dearth of relevant current journals, abstracts and indexes. According to **Osburn (1992)**, adequacy of collection is one of the important factors that determine the effectiveness of any library in meeting the information needs of its users. In fact, a majority of the information services offered by libraries are collection-based. Periodic collection assessment is necessary to determine to what extent library collections are relevant, current and adequate in meeting the information needs of users.

Padmaja and Doraswamy (2009) made an investigation of the relationship between academic role and information importance of engineering faculty members of Acharya Nagarjuna University, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh. The required data is collected from a sample of 126 faculty members using a questionnaire. The results show that 72.7 per cent of the faculty members placed a high importance on their own collection of books and journals as a source of information for their teaching purpose and 54.5 per cent of them for their research purpose. There was no respondent, who perceived his or her own collection of books and journals to be of importance for teaching. The faculty members placed more importance on the colleagues' collection of books and journals for their research than teaching. Professors gave more importance to other libraries as a

source of information for their research than teaching. The faculty members also placed much more importance on conferences/seminars as a source of information for their research than teaching. They placed more importance on computer service/databases as a source of information for their research than teaching. **Purnima's (2005)** study ascertained the information needs of college and university faculties in Manipur. The study reveals that majority of the college faculty members needed information for academic work, whereas university faculty members needed information to update knowledge and for research work. It was also observed that most of the faculties of colleges and university were unaware of the use of IT, because of lack of infrastructure in libraries. **Sanjeev Kumar and Mishra (1993)** conducted a survey on the users of the library of National Institute of Fashion Technology to ascertain the suitability of opening hours, frequency of library use, most frequently used services and helpfulness of library staff. Library hours is found convenient to users. Borrowing books is the main reason to visit library followed by use of reference material and periodicals. Lending service is most frequently used followed by Photocopy service. Majority of the users are satisfied with the library.

Singh (2002) revealed that faculty member's main purpose of visiting library is to prepare notes for the students. Journals and textbooks are not considered very adequate by the faculty members in Delhi University. **Singh (2013)** conducted a study among the users of Central Library, Dayal Bagh Educational Institute, Agra, on the use of library services by the users and their satisfaction with library collection, e-resources, OPAC, etc. Survey method was used for conducting the present study. **Swarna Kumari (2004)** has studied the opinions of students and teachers about B.Ed. college libraries in Andhra Pradesh on library collection, services, opening hours, facilities, rules and regulations, reading facility and organization of documents, etc. A survey was conducted by **Ugah and George (2011)** to know the use of library services in the universities of South East of Nigeria. Significant relationship is found between the size and quality of information sources and the use of library services, and that these information sources variables to a large extent influence the use of library services. As no comrprehensive study has been conducted on the faculty members of engineering colleges with regard to their perceptions on information sources of their libraries, the present study has been undertaken.

3. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The following are the objectives of the study:

1. To examine the information sources used by faculty members and to assess their adequacy for teaching and research;
2. To know the satisfaction of faculty members with book collection;
3. To know the satisfaction of faculty members with regard to availability of latest editions of books and availability of multiple copies for prescribed textbooks;
4. To know the sources used by faculty members for knowing the new arrivals in their respective libraries;
5. To know the satisfaction of faculty members with periodical collection and newspapers subscribed;
6. To examine the perceptions of faculty members with regard to lending of current issues and back volumes of periodicals;.
7. To examine the responses of faculty members with regard to the availability of online journals and online books, and
8. To make suggestions for the improvement of information sources of engineering college libraries.

4. METHODOLOGY

Survey method of research has been adopted in the present study.

4.1 Selection of sample

The population of the study consists of faculty members of engineering colleges affiliated to Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University-Anantapur located at Anantapur, Andhra Pradesh, India. There are 119 engineering colleges affiliated to JNTU- Anantapur as on 1-3-2015. These colleges are located in the districts of Anantapur, YSR, Kurnool, Chittoor and Nellore. Each college has its own library. The investigator selected 37 engineering college libraries out of 119 by simple random sampling.

There are 5274 faculty members working in these 37 engineering colleges. As the population is large in terms of cost, time and labour involved, the investigator selected a sample of 1130 faculty members out of 5274 (21% of the population) using simple random sampling.

4.2 Data collection

Among the various methods of collecting primary data, questionnaire method is used for collecting the required data for the present study. The questionnaire consists of questions on information sources used for teaching and research, sufficiency of collection for teaching and research, satisfaction with the present collection, availability of latest editions, availability of multiple copies, consultation of periodicals, satisfaction with number of newspapers subscribed, subscription to online journals and availability of online journals, . A pilot study was conducted on 50 faculty members and the defects identified in the questionnaire are rectified.   Copies of questionnaire are distributed personally to the faculty members of these engineering colleges and the filled in copies were collected from them. The investigator clarified the doubts raised by the faculty members at the time of filling up the questionnaire. The required data was collected from the faculty members during the period from March 2015 to October 2015.

5. ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF DATA

The data collected from the faculty members is analyzed and interpreted as per the objectives stated in the following paragraphs.

5.1 Information Sources used for teaching

A question has been posed to the faculty members to know the various information sources used for their teaching. The responses given by them are shown in Table 1.

Table 1

Distribution of faculty members according to various information sources used for their teaching

S. No.	Information sources	Faculty members (N = 1130)	
		No.	%
1	Encyclopaedias	399	35.3
2	Dictionaries	645	57.1
3	Maps/charts	380	33.6
4	Indexes and abstracts	272	24.1
5	Research reports	195	17.3
6	Doctoral theses	72	06.4
7	Patents	62	05.5
8	Seminars/conference proceedings	451	39.9
9	Standards	256	22.7
10	Audio/video cassettes	569	50.4
11	Microforms	112	09.9
12	CD-ROM databases	363	32.1
13	Textbooks	1100	97.3
14	Internet	968	85.7
15	E-journals	552	48.8
16	E-books	648	57.3
17	Others	2	0.2

Note: Respondents were permitted to tick more than one answer.

It is evident from Table 5 that most of the faculty members are using textbooks (97.3%), and Internet (85.7%) for their teaching avtivity. It is also evident from the table that majority of the faculty members are using e-books (57.3%) and dictionaries (57.1%) for their teaching. Nearly half of the faculty members (50.4%) are using audio-video cassettes. It is also evident from the table that a high percentage of them are using e-journals (48.8%), seminars/conference proceedings (39.9%), encyclopaedias (35.3%), maps/charts (33.6%), CD-Rom databases (32.1%), indexes and abstracts (24.1%), standards (22.7%), research reports (17.3%), microforms (09.9%), doctoral theses (06.4%), patents (05.5%), and others (0.2%) .

5.2. Information sources used for research

A question has been posed to the faculty members to know the various sources used for their research activity The responses made by them are shown in Table 2.

Table 2
Distribution of faculty members according to their replies with regard to various information sources used for their research

S. No.	Information sources	Faculty members (N = 1130)	
		No.	**%**
1	Encyclopaedias	319	44.1
2	Dictionaries	341	47.1
3	Maps/charts	128	17.7
4	Indexes and abstracts	289	39.9
5	Research reports	443	61.2
6	Doctoral theses	313	43.2
7	Patents	169	23.3
8	Seminars/conference proceedings	486	67.1
9	Standards	137	18.9
10	Audio/video cassettes	141	19.5
11	Microforms	59	08.1
12	CD-ROM databases	102	14.1
13	Textbooks	343	47.4
14	Internet	572	79.0
15	E-journals	580	80.1
16	E-books	229	31.6
17	Others	0	0

Note: Respondents were permitted to tick more than one answer.

It is evident from Table 2 that most of the faculty members are using e-journals (80.1%), and Internet (79.0%) for their research activity. It is also evident from the table that majority of the faculty members are using seminars/conference proceedings (67.1%) and research reports (61.2%) for their research work. A high percentage of faculty members are using textbooks (47.4%), dictionaries (47.1%), encyclopaedias (44.1%), doctoral theses (43.2%), indexes and abstracts (39.9%). Nearly one-third of them are using e-books (31.6%) and one-fourth of them are using patents

(23.3%). A few faculty members are using audio-video cassettes (19.5%), standards (18.9%), maps/charts (17.7%), CD-Rom databases (14.1%) and microforms (08.1%).

5.3. Sufficiency of information sources for teaching

A question was posed to the faculty members to know their opinion on sufficiency of various sources of information for their teaching. The responses made by them are shown in Table 3.

Table 3
Distribution of faculty members according to their replies on sufficiency of various sources of information for their teaching

S. No.	Sources of information	Response (N = 1130)			
		Sufficient		Insufficient	
		No.	%	No.	%
1	Encyclopaedias	551	48.8	579	51.2
2	Dictionaries	738	65.3	392	34.7
3	Maps/charts	393	34.8	737	65.2
4	Indexes and abstracts	284	25.1	846	74.9
5	Research reports	288	25.5	842	74.5
6	Doctoral theses	141	12.5	989	87.5
7	Patents	95	8.4	1035	91.6
8	Seminars/conference proceedings	423	37.4	707	62.6
9	Standards	262	23.2	868	76.8
10	Audio/video cassettes	475	42.0	655	58.0
11	Microforms	123	10.9	1007	89.1
12	CD-ROM databases	420	37.2	710	62.8
13	Textbooks	962	85.1	168	14.9
14	Internet	1048	92.7	82	7.3
15	E-journals	646	57.2	484	42.8
16	E-books	603	53.4	527	46.6
	Others	3	.3	1127	99.7

Note: Respondents were permitted to tick more than one answer.

It is evident from Table 3 that most of the faculty members opined that the Internet (92.7%) and textbooks (85.1%) are sufficient for their teaching needs. It is also evident from table that majority of faculty members opined that the dictionaries (65.3%) and e-journals (57.2%) are sufficient for their teaching needs. Most of them also opined

that patents (91.6%), microforms (89.1%), doctoral theses (87.5%) and standards (76.8%) are insufficient for their teaching needs. Majority of them also opined that indexes and abstracts (74.9%), research reports (74.5%), maps/chars (74.5%) CD-Rom databases (62.8%), seminars/conference proceedings (62.6%), audio-video cassettes (58.0%) and encyclopaedias (51.2%) are insufficient for their teaching needs.

.5.4. Sufficiency of information sources for research

A question was posed to the faculty members to know their perceptions about the sufficiency of various sources of information for their research. The responses made by them are shown in Table 4.

Table 4
Distribution of faculty members according to their replies on sufficiency of various sources of information for their research

S. No.	Sources of information	Response (N = 1130)			
		Sufficient		Insufficient	
		No.	%	No.	%
1	Encyclopaedias	231	20.4	899	79.6
2	Dictionaries	310	27.4	820	72.6
3	Maps/Charts	131	11.6	999	88.4
4	Indexes and Abstracts	172	15.2	958	84.8
5	Research reports	224	19.8	906	80.2
6	Doctoral theses	160	14.2	970	85.8
7	Patents	91	8.1	1039	91.9
8	Seminars/conference proceedings	268	23.7	862	76.3
9	Standards	109	9.6	1021	90.4
10	Audio/video cassettes	151	13.4	979	86.6
11	Microforms	61	5.4	1069	94.6
12	CD-ROM databases	162	14.3	968	85.7
13	Textbooks	535	47.3	595	52.7
14	Internet	403	35.7	727	64.3
15	E-Journals	341	30.2	789	69.8
16	E-books	262	23.2	868	76.8
	Others	2	.2	1128	99.8

Note: Respondents were permitted to tick more than one answer.

It is evident from Table 4 that a high percentage of the faculty members (47.3%) opined that textbooks are sufficient for their research needs. It is also evident from table

that over a third of the faculty members (35.7%) opined that Internet facility is sufficient for their research needs. Most of them also opined that patents (91.9%), standards (90.4%), maps/charts (88.4%), audio-video cassettes (86.6%), doctoral theses (85.8%), CD-Rom databases (85.7%), indexes and abstracts (84.8%), research reports (80.2%), encyclopaedias (79.6%), e-books (76.8%), seminars/ conference proceedings (76.3%) are insufficient for their research needs. Majority of them also opined that dictionaries (72.6%), e-journals (69.8%), Internet (64.3%) and textbooks (52.7%) are insufficient for their research needs.

It can be concluded that the collection available in engineering college libraries is more sufficient for the teaching needs of faculty members compared to their research needs.

5.5. Satisfaction with book collection

A question has been posed to the faculty members to know their satisfaction with the book collection. The responses made by them are shown in Table 5.

Table 5
Distribution of faculty members according to their satisfaction with the book collection

S. No.	Level of satisfaction	Faculty members	
		No.	%
1	Satisfied	900	79.6
2	Neither Satisfied nor dissatisfied	182	16.1
3	Dissatisfied	48	4.2
	Total	**1130**	**100.00**

It is evident from Table 5 that most of the faculty members (79.6%) are satisfied with the book collection of the library, 16.1% of them are neither satisfied nor dissatisfied with the book collection of the library, and the remaining of them (04.2%) are dissatisfied in this regard.

5.6. Availability of latest editions

A question has been posed to the faculty members to know their satisfaction with the latest editions of books available in the library. Analysis of their responses reveals

that most of the faculty members (79.8%) are satisfied with latest editions of books available in their libraries and 20.2% of them are dissatisfied in this regard.

5.7 Availability of multiple copies

A question has been posed to the faculty members to know their satisfaction with the multiple copies for prescribed textbooks available in their libraries. Analysis of their responses reveals that nearly three - fourths of the faculty members (75.2%) are satisfied with the multiple copies for prescribed textbooks available in their libraries and one-fourth of them (24.8%) are dissatisfied in this regard.

5.8 Sources for knowing the new arrivals

A question has been put to the faculty members to examine the sources of information for knowing about the new arrivals procured by the library. The responses made by them are shown in Table 8.

Table 8
Distribution of faculty members according to the sources of information for knowing about the new arrivals procured by their respective libraries

S. No.	Sources	Faculty members (N = 1130)	
		No.	%
1	Through friends/Colleagues	343	25.3
2	Through the library staff	443	32.7
3	Display in library	446	32.9
4	List of additions	124	9.1

Note: Respondents were permitted to tick more than one answer.

It is evident from Table 8 that nearly one-third of faculty members (32.9%) are knowing the new arrivals from the display in the library. It is also evident from the table that nearly one-third of faculty members (32.7%) are knowing the new arrivals through the library staff; over a fourth of them (25.3%) are knowing through the friends/colleagues; and 9.1% of them are knowing through the list of additions of the library.

5.9 Consultation of periodicals for teaching and research

A question has been posed to the faculty members to know whether they consult periodicals for their teaching and research work. Analysis of their responses reveals that most of the faculty members (77.3%) are consulting periodicals for their teaching and research work. A few percentage of them (22.7%) are not consulting periodicals for their teaching and research work.

5.10 Satisfaction with the periodical collection

A question has been put to the faculty members to know their satisfaction with the periodical collection of their libraries. The responses made by them are shown in Table 10.

Table 10
Distribution of faculty members according to their satisfaction with the periodical collection

S. No.	Level of satisfaction	Faculty members (N= 891)	
		No.	%
1	Satisfied	696	78.1
2	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	175	19.6
3	Dissatisfied	20	2.2
	Total	**891**	**100.00**

It is evident from Table 10 that most of the faculty members (78.1%) are satisfied with the present collection of periodicals, 19.6% of them are neither satisfied nor dissatisfied and 2.2% of them are dissatisfied in this regard.

A question has been posed to those faculty members, who are dissatisfied with the periodical collection of their libraries to mention the titles of journals to be subscribed. The following are the periodicals suggested by them for subscription.

S. No.	Name of the Journal/ Journal packages of publishers	No. of faculty members suggested
1	IEEE journals	5
2	Electronics for you	2
3	IETE Technical Review	1
4	Signal processing and Image Processing	1
5	Journals of American Society of Civil Engineers	2
6	Journals of American Society of Mechanical Engineers	2
7	Environmental Science Journal	1
8	International Journal of Heat & Mass Transfer	1
9	International Journal of Power System	1
10	Elseiver journals	1
11	Springer journals	1
12	Indian Concrete Journal	1
13	Wiley – Blackwell journals	1
	Total	**20**

5.11 Consultation of indexing and abstracting periodicals

A question has been put to the faculty members to know whether they consult indexing and abstracting periodicals to know the latest literature for their teaching and research. Analysis of their responses reveals that over a half of the faculty members (51.3%) are consulting indexing and abstracting periodicals to know the latest literature for their teaching and research and 48.7% of them are not consulting indexing and abstracting periodicals.

5.12 Latest issues of periodicals

A question has been put to the faculty members to know the availability of the latest issues of periodicals in the library. Analysis of their responses reveals most of the faculty members (77.3%) replied that the latest issues of periodicals are available in their libraries concerned and the remaining 22.7% of them replied negatively in this regard.

5.13 Reasons for not getting periodicals at the right time

A question has been put to the faculty members, who replied that the latest issues of periodicals are not available in their libraries, to know the reasons for not getting periodicals at the right time. The responses made by them are shown in Table 13.

Table 13
Reasons for the unavailability of latest issues of periodicals

S. No.	Reasons	Faculty members (N = 258)	
		No.	%
1	Delay in publication	96	37.4
2	Immediate issue of periodicals after their arrival	52	20.2
3	Improper subscription	107	41.6
4	Others	3	1.2

Note: Respondents were permitted to tick more than one answer.

It is evident from Table 13 that a high percentage of the faculty members (41.6%) opined that improper subscription of periodicals is the reason for not getting the latest issues of periodicals at the right time. The other reasons for not getting the latest issues of periodicals at the right time are the immediate issue of periodicals after their arrival (20.2%), delay in publication (37.4%), and others (1.2%).

5.14 Newspapers subscribed

A question has been put to the faculty members to know their satisfaction with the number of newspapers subscribed by their libraries. The responses made by them are shown in Table 14.

Table 14
Distribution of faculty members according to their satisfaction with the number of newspapers subscribed by their libraries

S. No.	Level of satisfaction	Faculty members	
		No.	%
1	Satisfied	1030	91.2
2	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	67	5.9
3	Dissatisfied	33	2.9
	Total	**1130**	**100.00**

It is evident from Table 14 that most of the faculty members (91.2%) are satisfied with the newspapers subscribed by their respective libraries, 5.9% of them are neither satisfied nor dissatisfied and 2.9% of them are dissatisfied in this regard.

5.15 Lending the current issues of periodicals for home reading

A question has been posed to the faculty members to know whether current issues of periodicals are issued for home reading. Analysis of their responses reveals, majority of the faculty members (68.8%) replied that the current issues of periodicals are not lent out for home reading. The remaining of them (31.2%)   responded negatively in this regard.

A question has been posed to those faculty members, who replied that the current issues of periodicals are not issued, to know whether   they want the current issues of periodicals are   to be lent out for home reading. Analysis of their responses reveals, majority of the faculty members (66.8%) replied that they do not want current issues of periodicals are to be lent out for home reading. Nearly one-third of the faculty members (33.2%) are interested in getting issued current issues of periodicals for home reading.

5.16 Issue of back volumes of periodicals for home reading

A question has been posed to the faculty members to know whether   back volumes of periodicals are issued for home reading. Analysis of their responses reveals, majority of the faculty members (60.5%) replied that the back volumes of periodicals are not issued for home reading. The remaining of them (39.5%) responded negatively in this regard.

A question has been posed to those faculty members, who replied that the back volumes of periodicals are not issued, whether   they want back volumes of periodicals to get issued for home reading. Analysis of their responses reveals, majority of the faculty members (58.8%) replied that they do not want back volumes of periodicals are to be lent out for home reading. A high percentage of the faculty members (41.2%) are interested to get back volumes of periodicals issued for home reading.

5.17. Subscription to online journals

A question has been posed to the faculty members to know whether their libraries subscribe to online journals. Analysis of their responses reveals, most of the faculty

members (81.8%) replied that their libraries are subscribing to online journals and 18.2% of them replied negatively in this regard.

5.18 Availability of e-journals

A question has been posed to the faculty members to know the availability of various e-journals in the library. The responses are shown in Table 20.

Table 20
Distribution of faculty members according to their responses with regard to availability of e-journals

S. No.	Journals of Publishers accessible	Faculty members (N = 924)	
		No.	%
1	IEEE	846	91.6
2	Elsevier	218	23.6
3	Wiley-Blacwell	54	05.8
4	Mc Graw Hill	306	33.1
5	Springer	294	31.8
6	ASME	201	21.8
7	ASCE	200	21.6
8	ASTM	70	07.6
9	J-Gate	351	38.0
10	INDEST	106	11.5
11	EBSCO	31	03.4
12	Others	28	03.0

Note: Respondents were permitted to tick more than one.

It is evident from Table 20, most of the faculty members (91.36%) replied that their libraries are subscribing to IEEE journals. It is also evident from the table that 38 per cent of the faculty members replied that their libraries are subscribing to J-Gate journals. One third of faculty members (33.1%) replied that their libraries are subscribing to journals of Mc Graw Hill and nearly one-third of them (31.8%) replied that their libraries are subscribing to the journals of Springer. It is evident from the table that the engineering college libraries are subscribing to journals of Elseiver (23.6%), ASME (21.8%), ASCE (21.6%),   INDEST (11.5%),   ASTM (07.6%)   Wiley-BlackwelL (05.8%), EBSCO (03.4%) and other journals (03.0%).

5.19 Subscription to e-books

A question has been posed to the faculty members to know whether their libraries are subscribing to e-books. Analysis of their responses reveals, most of the faculty members (53.7%) replied that their libraries are not subscribing to e-books and 46.3% of them replied negatively in this regard.

5.20 Availability of e-books

A question has been posed to the faculty members to know the availability of e-books in their libraries. The responses made by them are shown in Table 22.

Table 22
Distribution of faculty members according to their responses with regard to the availability of e-books

S. No.	Publishers	Faculty members	
		No.	%
1	Springer	293	45.0
2	Cambridge University Press	58	8.9
3	Oxford University Press	174	26.7
4	IETE	126	19.4
	Total	**651**	**100.00**

It is evident from Table 22 that a high percentage of faculty members (45%) replied their libraries are subscribing e-books of Springer. It is also evident from the table that over a fourth of the faculty members (26.7%) replied that their libraries are subscribing e-books of Oxford University Press, 19.4 per cent of them replied that their libraries are subscribing e-books of IETE and 8.9% of them replied that their libraries are subscribing e-books of Cambridge University Press.

6. Findings

The following are the findings of the study :

❖ Most of the faculty members are using textbooks (97.3%), and Internet (85.7%) for their teaching activity. Most of them are using e-journals (80.1%) and Internet (79.0%) for their research activity.

❖ Most of the faculty members opined that the Internet (92.7%) and textbooks (85.1%) are sufficient for their teaching needs. Most of them opined that indexes and abstracts (84.8%), research reports (80.2%), doctoral theses (85.8%) patents (91.9%), seminars/conference proceedings (76.3%), standards (90.4%) microforms (94.6%) CD-Rom databases (85.7%) and e-books (76.8%) are insufficient for their research needs.

❖ Most of them (79.6%) are satisfied with the book collection.

❖ Most of the faculty members are satisfied with the latest editions of books available (79.8%) and with the multiple copies available for prescribed textbooks in their libraries (75.2%).

❖ Most of the faculty members (77.3%) are consulting periodicals for their teaching and research work.

❖ Most of them (78.1%) are satisfied with the present collection of periodicals.

❖ Nearly half of them (51.3%) are consulting indexing and abstracting periodicals to know the latest literature for their teaching and research needs.

❖ Most of them (77.3%) replied that the latest issues of periodicals are available in their libraries concerned.

❖ The reasons for not getting the latest issues of periodicals at the right time are due to improper subscription (41.6%), immediate issue of periodicals after their arrival (20.2%), delay in publication, (37.4%) and other reasons (1.2%).

❖ Most of the faculty members (91.2%) are satisfied with the newspapers subscribed by their respective libraries.

❖ Majority of faculty members replied that the current issues of periodicals (68.8%) and back volumes of periodicals (60.5%) are not lent out for home reading by their libraries.

❖ Majority of them felt that current issues of periodicals (66.8%) and back volumes of peridocicals (58.8%) are not to be lent out for home reading.

❖ Most of the faculty members (81.8%) replied that their libraries are subscribing to online journals.

❖ Most of them (91.6%) replied that their libraries are subscribing IEEE journals. These are followed by J-Gate (38.0%), Mc Graw Hill (33.1%), Springer (31.8%), Elseiver (23.6%), ASME (21.8%), and ASCE (21.6%).

❖ Majority of them (53.7%) replied that their libraries are not subscribing e-books.

- ❖ A high percentage of the faculty members (45%) of the faculty members replied their libraries are subscribing e-books of Springer. These are followed by e-books of Oxford University press (26.7), IETE (19.4%) and Cambridge University Press (8.9%).

7. Recommendations

The following recommendations are made by the investigators based on the findings of the study.

- ❖ Majority of the faculty members opined that indexes and abstracts, research reports, doctoral theses, patents, standards, microforms, maps/charts, CD-Rom databases, seminars/conference proceedings, audio-video cassettes, and encyclopedias are insufficient for their teaching needs. In addition to the above categories majority of them also opined that dictionaries, textbooks, Internet, e-journals, and e-books are insufficient for their research needs. Hence, the library authorities should take necessary steps to improve the collection in the above categories after assessing their real requirement for teaching and research needs. of faculty members. Especially there is need to improve seminars/conference proceedings, Internet facility and e-journals for research needs of faculty members as they are mainly used by faculty members.

- ❖ A considerable percentage of faculty members (20. 2%) are dissatisfied with the availability of latest editions of books. Nearly one-fourth of the faculty members (24.8%) are not satisfied with the multiple copies available for prescribed textbooks in their respective libraries. Hence, the library authorities should take necessary steps to acquire latest editions of books with sufficient number of multiple copies.

- ❖ A considerable percentage of faculty members (22.7%) are dissatisfied with the periodical collection. Nearly half of the faculty members (48.7%) are also dissatisfied with indexing and abstracting periodicals. Hence, the authorities of AICTE, and JNTU-Anantapur, should insist the engineering college libraries to subscribe periodicals as per AICTE norms so that the faculty members can obtain latest information in their subjects concerned at the time of permission, inspection and affiliation.

- ❖ A considerable percentage of faculty members (22.7%) replied that the latest issues of periodicals are not available in their libraries. Hence, the library authorities should take necessary steps to obtain and provide access to the latest issues of periodicals to the faculty members.

- ❖ Nearly half of the faculty members (48.7%) are not consulting Indexing and abstracting periodicals Hence, the engineering college libraries should conduct user education programmes to faculty members about the importance and how to use abstracting and indexing periodicals for their teaching and research activities.

- ❖ A considerable percentage of faculty members (18.2%) replied that their libraries are not subscribing online journals. As the faculty members are using e-journals for their teaching activity (48.8%) and research activity (80.1%), it is suggested that those libraries which are not subscribing e-journals so far, should take necessary steps to subscribe them as per AICTE norms for improving quality in teaching and research.

- ❖ A high percentage of faculty members (46.3%) replied that their libraries are not subscribing e-books. The study reveals that the faculty members are using e-books for their teaching activity (57.3%) and for their research activity (31.6%). Hence, the library authorities should take necessary steps to subscribe e-books needed by faculty members.

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