

A Circulation Analysis of Books at Bangalore University Library, Bangalore: A Study

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Abstract

The users are prime aspect of any type of library. The collection developments, planning, decision making, organizing, delivering of information in the library should centered around the needs of the users. The main motive of this study was to examine and analyse books transactions among users of Bangalore University Library, Bangalore. In the study it is found that total 9280 books issued to patrons of 45 different departments during July 2015 to June 2016. The study will be helped to the library authorities in identifying the nature and needs of user community and to take necessary steps to build library collections and to satisfy user's requirements.

Keywords: Bangalore University, BUL, Circulation Analysis, Checkouts, Karnataka, India

1. Introduction

The Library is the heart of the university; University libraries play a vital role in achievement of the aims and objective of the university. Libraries are the essential part of any university to support teaching, learning and research work. Dr Shankar Dayal Sharma (1988) stated, a library is more important than a university, because a library can function without a university, where as a university cannot do without a library^[1]. Circulation analysis is one of the traditional approaches taken to use studies and collection evaluation in libraries^[2]. The results of circulation analyses have been applied to a number of important issues, including evaluating collection acquisition policies; guiding management decisions such as allocating physical space for materials, identifying materials for offsite storage, and allocating funding for materials; and suggesting approaches to deselection^[3].

Bangalore University was established in 1964 as a State University and is the third oldest University in Karnataka, India. It has four campuses are JnanaBharathi, Bangalore, Central College, Bangalore, Kolar PG Centre, and Ramanagara PG Centre. It has 6 streams - Arts,

Science, Commerce, Law, Education and Engineering with 48 Postgraduate Teaching and Research Departments offering a total of 209 academic Programs. We have 353 Faculties, 751 non-teaching and 230 technical staff. There are 3 University Colleges, 11 Autonomous Colleges and 606 Affiliated Colleges with a total student strength of about 3.5 lakhs^[4].

1.1 Bangalore University Library

The Bangalore University Library came into existence in the year 1966 by inheriting document collections of about 58000 books and several bound volumes of periodicals held by the Central College Library then affiliated to University of Mysore. The Main Library was set up in the year 1975 at JnanaBharathi Campus. However, the Central College Library continued to serve the Departments located there^[4].

The main aim of the Library is to acquire, organise, and provide access to various kinds of information sources including books, journals, theses, etc., both in print and electronic forms and provide excellent IT based information services and be partner in the pursuit of academic excellence by varsity students, researchers and faculty. And also to collaborate with other institutions at local, regional, national and international levels for mutually beneficial resource sharing and to maximise the efficiency of library staff, through continuous training, especially to provide IT based services and help in career development. Library is having rich collection about 3, 50,000 Text books & Reference books, 9000 Theses and Dissertations, 226 Current journals, 58000 Bound Volumes, 45 News Papers and 37 Magazines are available in libraries.

2. Objectives of the study

The aim of this study is to analyse the information-seeking behaviours of patrons like library resource usage at Bangalore University Library (BUL). The other objectives are:-

1. To know the transactions of books by gender of BUL.
2. To find department wise distribution of issued books at BUL.
3. To identify month wise distribution of circulated books at BUL.
4. To know the most circulated books and patron with most checkouts.
5. To determine the scope of the user study.

3. Literature Review

Nazia Salauddin(2015), conducted to study Library User Visit of under Graduate Students at an Engineering College, Central Library, Affiliated by APJ Abdul Kalam University, Lucknow, to

improve and increase the user visit, the department authorities and library personnel should take necessary steps to provide latest technologies and information resources in both physical and electronic formats at their best levels, so that the students can extend their skills and knowledge to use the information resources and services by the way of library visit^[5].

Justin Littman and Lynn SilipigniConnaway(2004), analysed Print Books and E-books in an Academic Research Library. This study compared the usage of 7,880 titles that were available in both print and e-book format at the Duke University Libraries. Although the results of this study cannot be generalized, it does provide information on the use of e-books in one academic research library and implications for e-book collection development. As librarians continue to acquire e-books, circulation analyses will become increasingly important to identify a more complete understanding of e-book usage patterns. Collection development librarians also can use these data to create e-book collection strategies and policies that better meet user needs^[6].

E.B. Lateef, A.O, Omotoso and K.A. Owolabi (2013) described in their study was that all the University libraries have books, journals, CD ROMS which are made available to the post graduate students aimed at enhancing effective teaching, learning and research. The knowledge of users education among the post graduate students is however not encouraging. This showed when the respondents claimed they do not visit the library regularly, on availability of current and relevant materials were identified as the major hindrances facing the use of libraries by post graduate students^[7].

4. Methodology

The study was conducted based on the books circulation statistics collected which was available in the Bangalore University Library automation website named <http://bublib-koha.informindia.co.in:8080/>^[8]. Data has collected for a period of one year from July 2015 to June 2016. The collected data which was separated based on by gender, department, subject, month, most circulated books and patrons with most checkouts.

5. Scope and Limitations of the study: The limitation of the study is confined to patrons of 45 departments located at Bangalore University, JnanaBharathi campus. The scope of this study is limited for the academic year 2015-2016.

6. Data Analysis and Interpretation

In the present study the data was simply put to excel format for executing simple operations like, addition, subtraction, drawing percentage etc. at all the places percentage has

been drawn up to two maximum decimal places and has also been rounded off at some places to next higher percentile value.

7.1 Gender wise circulated Books

Table-1 shows that the gender wise circulated books. Books issued to male gender was 4125books and for female were 5155books during the study. From the study, it can be notice that female gender (55.55%) is generally more majority that indicates that female users are using the library resources effectively compared with male users (44.45%).

Sl. No	Gender	Total No. of Books Issued	Percentage (%)
1	Male	4125	44.45 %
2	Female	5155	55.55 %
Total		9280	100 %

Table 1 - Gender wise circulated Books

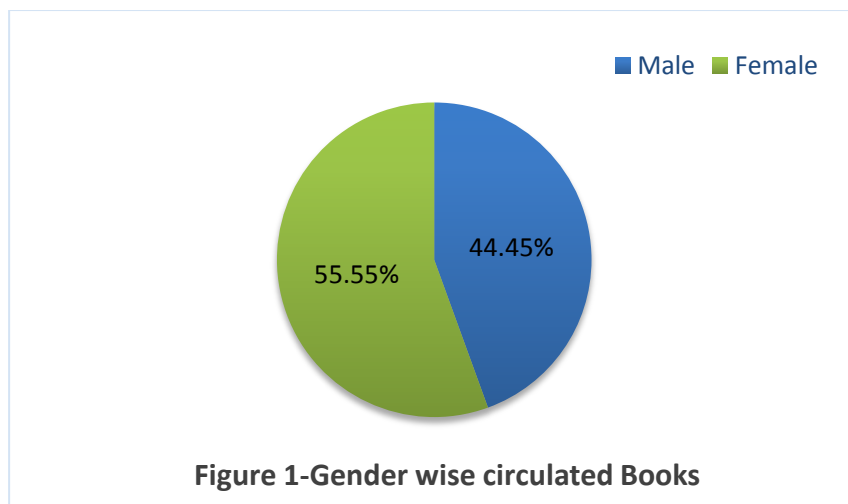


Figure 1-Gender wise circulated Books

7.2 Department wise distribution of Issued Books

Table -2 determines department wise distribution of issued books in the JnanaBharathi Campus Library, Bangalore University, Bangalore. During the study we have found the total

9280 books issued to patrons of 45 departments. Maximum number of books 1636 (17.64%) were issued to Physics department. Followed by 738 books to botany and 735 books to Kannada department. Minimum number of books issued to the department of Chemistry, Electronic Media and Commerce since they are having their own campus library.

SI No.	Department	Total No. of Books Issued	Percentage
1	Physics	1636	17.64%
2	Botany	738	7.96%
3	Kannada	735	7.93%
4	Economics	535	5.76%
5	History	504	5.44%
6	Zoology	504	5.44%
7	Computer Science	448	4.82%
8	English	360	3.87%
9	Library & Information Science	352	3.80%
10	Sociology	252	2.71%
11	Social Work	248	2.67%
12	Performing Arts	234	2.52%
13	Psychology	231	2.50%
14	Statistics	225	2.42%
15	Geography	219	2.35%
16	Electronic Science	198	2.13%
17	Geology	196	2.11%
18	Bio-Technology	195	2.10%
19	MCA	182	1.97%
20	Political Science	180	1.98%
21	Education	179	1.92%
22	Microbiology	160	1.72%
23	Biological Science	148	1.60%
24	Life Science	138	1.49%
25	Mass Communication/Journalism	70	0.75%
26	Philosophy	65	0.70%
27	Rural Development	61	0.65%

28	Women Studies	54	0.59%
29	Bio Chemistry	39	0.42%
30	MBA	39	0.42%
31	Environmental Science	37	0.40%
32	Library	24	0.25%
33	Hindi	17	0.19%
34	Mathematics	16	0.17%
35	Visual Arts	12	0.12%
36	Applied Genetics	10	0.10%
37	Sericulture	10	0.10%
38	Finance Section	8	0.08%
39	Administrative Section	4	0.04%
40	Yoga	4	0.04%
41	Urdu	4	0.04%
42	Chemistry	3	0.03%
43	Telugu	3	0.03%
44	Electronic Media	2	0.02%
45	Commerce	1	0.01%
TOTAL		9280	100%

Table 2 – Dept. wise distribution of issued books during Study

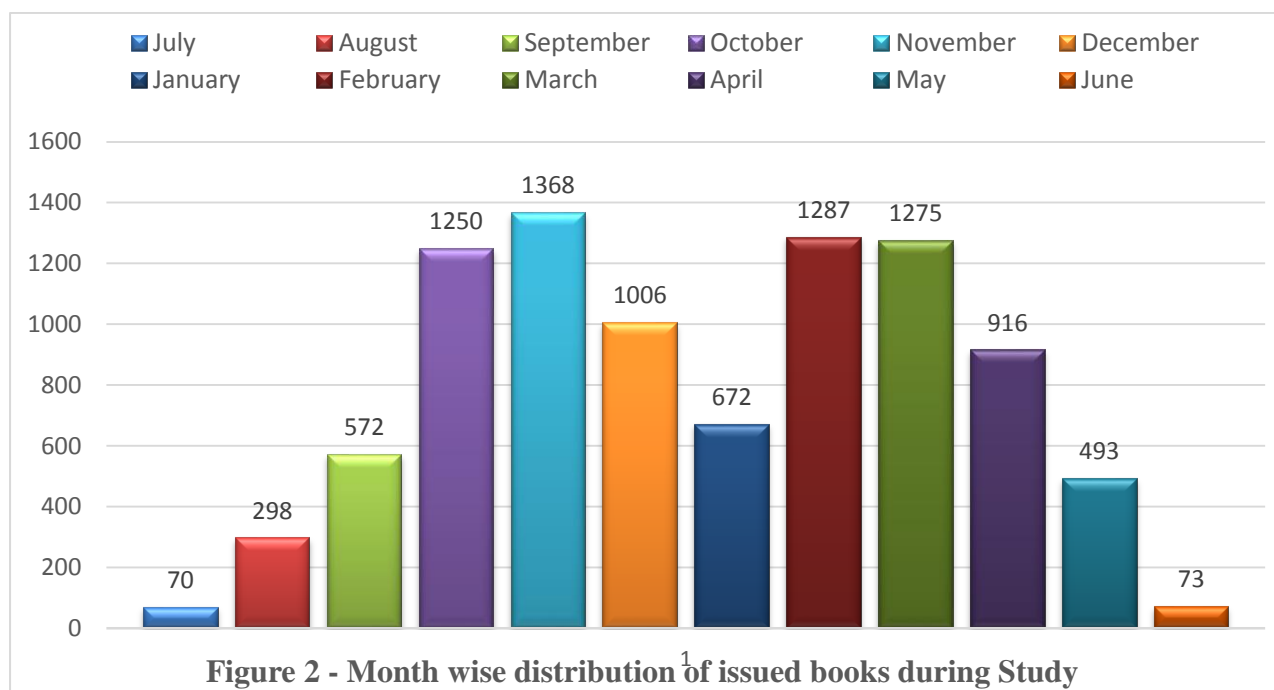
7.3 Month wise distribution of Issued Books

Table-3 shows the month wise distribution of books issued according to the number of checkouts. From the table it can be noted that highest number of books issued in the month of November with the total of 1368 checkouts, February stands the second place by 1287 checkouts, March is in third place by 1275 checkouts and October takes the fourth place by 1250 checkouts during study.

SI No.	Month	Total No. of Books Issued	Percentage
1	July	70	0.75%
2	August	298	3.21%

3	September	572	6.16%
4	October	1250	13.47%
5	November	1368	14.75%
6	December	1006	10.85%
7	January	672	7.24%
8	February	1287	13.87%
9	March	1275	13.73%
10	April	916	9.88%
11	May	493	5.31%
12	June	73	0.78%
Total		9280	100.00%

Table 3 - Month wise distribution of issued books during Study



7.4 Top Most-circulated Books

Table-4 shows the top five ranking of most circulated books according to the highest number of checkouts. From the table it can be noted that highest number of issued book entitled Nuclear physics by Ghoshal S N from S Chand publishers, with 72 checkouts. Followed by Research Methodology by Kothari C R, Quantum Mechanics by Aruldas G, Programming in ANSI by Balaguruswamy E and Molecular Spectroscopy by Colin Banwell N.

Sl. No	Title of the Book	Author	Publisher	No of checkouts	Percentage
1	Nuclear physics	Ghoshal S N	S. Chand & company Pvt.Ltd	72	7.75 %
2	Research methodology	Kothari, C.R.	New Age International Publication	35	3.24 %
3	Quantum Mechanics	Aruldas.G	PHI Learning	32	2.96 %
4	Programming in ANSI	Balagurusamy E.	Mcgraw Hill Education Private Ltd	31	2.87 %
5	Molecular Spectroscopy	Banwell, Colin N	Mcgraw Hill Education Private Ltd	30	2.78 %

Table 4 -Top Most-circulated books

7.5 Patrons with the most checkouts

Table-5 has been crafted with the view to give a better understanding of the top five ranking of patrons with the most checkouts of 9280 books issued over 12 months. On the whole we can see there are 81 checkouts belonged to patron of Biological science department, following patrons of Botany and Physics departments. It is also observed that science department patrons are using library resources most.

Sl. No	Patron Name	Department	No of checkouts	Percentage
1	V, Ashok Kumar	Biological Science	81	7.51 %
2	Raju, Ramya	Botany	66	6.12 %
3	B, Pramodh	Physics	62	5.75 %
4	N R, Pavithra	Botany	56	5.19 %
5	Bist Ganesh, Kumbu	Physics	53	4.91%

Table 5 -Patrons with the most checkouts

8. Findings and Conclusion

From the study it is found that highest number of books issued to department of Physics and most of the issued books are Nuclear physics by Ghoshal S N from S. Chand publishers, it is

in top place with 72 checkouts, Research methodology by Kothari C R from New Age International publication takes the second place with 35 checkouts. Maximum number of books issued to patron of Biological science department with 81 books out of 9280. It is also observed that Science stream students are very much interested to use library resources.

This study will be helped to the library authorities in identifying the nature and requirements of user community and to take necessary steps to satisfy their requirements. More than demonstrating the usage of books, this study suggests some approaches to collection development. As librarians continue to acquire books, circulation analyses will become increasingly important to identify a more complete understanding of book usage patterns. Collection development committee also can use these data to create book collection strategies and policies that better meet user requirements.

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