

Use of OPAC by the Users of First Grade Colleges Affiliated to the University of Mysore, Karnataka

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Abstract - The present paper provides the use of OPAC (Online Public Access catalogue) by users of first grade colleges affiliated to the University of Mysore. A structured questionnaire was used to collect primary inputs from users of college libraries to understand the present status. Out of the 160 colleges total of 29 college libraries were fully automated i.e. is Acquisition module, cataloguing module, circulation module, OPAC (Online Public Access catalogue) and Serial control. A total of 1200 questionnaires were distributed in 29 colleges among the Students, Research Scholars and Faculty members of First Grade Colleges affiliated to the University of Mysore, Mysore. Stratified random sampling was adopted for the data collected from four districts, Mysuru, Mandya, Chamrajnagara and Hassan, coming under the jurisdiction of the University of Mysore. 994 filled-up questionnaires were received back consisting of 82.83% responses. The study's findings reveal that 738 (81.54%) respondents' access OPAC from the stand-alone system, 867 (95.80%) search OPAC by 'Author', followed by 770 (85.08%) by 'Title'. It is suggested that the librarians must provide through the orientation programs to familiarize new members with the library resources and services. The use of OPAC, retrieving and reserving documents, including Boolean search, should be imparted to users during orientation programs and the librarians must create e-resources portals to facilitate access to various information resources and surrogates.

Keywords: OPAC (Online Public Access Catalogue), College Libraries, User Studies

I. INTRODUCTION

Information-seeking behaviour of users with the development and advancement of Information Communication Technologies (ICTs) is the main influencing factor to automate the libraries. The basic needs for library automation may be seen from two angles-productivity and accessibility. Productivity implies the saving time of the users, library professionals, efficient service output, etc. On the other hand, accessibility implies the different services given to its users with the automated library system. Automation of library ensures automated service to the clients as well as automated in-house library work. Automation envisages the training of knowledgeable technicians. The library automation is planned for automated acquisition, technical processing, circulation, cataloguing, serial control, and online public access catalogue, etc. (Gupta, 1992)

II. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

An automated library environment is quite different from that of a library whose operations and services are still done manually. The user-preferred automated system to a manual system because of enhanced functions and provision of information services (Otunla & Adeyemo, 2010).

Amarnath and Arathi (2006) described OPAC (Online public access catalogue) as one of the services provided by modern libraries with various technologies such as computers, telecommunication, and other electronic devices for storage, retrieval, reproduction and dissemination in the library environment. IT applications have brought a dynamic change in the whole scenario of information storage and access and dissemination. Dinet *et al.*, (2004) described those Boolean systems still constitutes the base of online public access catalogues (OPACs) in French universities. The result showed among the three groups invited to use Boolean operators, the level of information search expertise increased the precision rate increased significantly. Kumar and Vohra (2011) investigated using the Online Public Access Catalogue by the users at Guru Nanak Dev University Library, Amritsar (Punjab). One hundred twelve users covered different disciplines such as Basic Sciences, Applied Sciences, Social Sciences and Humanities. The users use the OPAC to locate the documents despite faced some difficulties and are not satisfied with the OPAC. They suggest that users be familiar with the OPAC's use and operation by providing special training. Ansari and Fatima (2017) investigation at the central University of North India found that varying levels of progress have been made to implement a cataloguing system with automation, libraries, and satisfied user communities through easy retrieval. It has removed discrepancies and set the trend for standardization, and staff morale has been boosted up in an automated environment.

Singh *et al.*, (2008) explained that libraries have started using advanced information technology in providing services to users. Online Public Access Catalogue is one of the services offered by the Devi Ahilya University Library. At the same time, respondents felt that there must be someone near the OPAC to retrieve the required documents. Ravikumar and Ramanan (2014) proposed to enforce

guidelines to execute OSSs in such a manner to connect all bibliographic databases into a cooperative OPAC. Emiri (2015) investigated the influence of some demographic factors on the online public access catalogue (OPAC) by undergraduate students of two selected Universities in Southern Nigeria. At the University of Benin and Ambrose Ali University, 288 questionnaires were collected from both the institute and revealed that gender, age, and level influenced access to OPAC.

III. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. To know the awareness of OPAC among the users of first-grade college libraries affiliated to the University of Mysore.
2. To investigate the methods adopted to access OPAC by users
3. To know the way of access to OPAC among the users of college libraries affiliated to the University of Mysore.
4. Use of OPAC services by users of college libraries affiliated to the University of Mysore.

IV. METHODOLOGY

Stratified random sampling was adopted for the data collected from four districts, Mysuru, Mandya, Chamrajnagara and Hassan, coming under the jurisdiction of the University of Mysore. A well-structured questionnaire for library users was distributed where the OPAC was used. Out of the 160 colleges total of 29 college libraries were fully automated i.e., is Acquisition module, cataloguing module, circulation module, OPAC (Online Public Access catalogue) and Serial control. A total of 1200 questionnaires were distributed in 29 colleges among the Students, Research Scholars and Faculty members of First Grade Colleges affiliated to the University of Mysore, Mysore. 994 filled-up questionnaires were received back consisting of 82.83% responses. Apart of from the questionnaire, informal interview and observation method was also adopted.

TABLE II GENDER-WISE DISTRIBUTION

Gender	Government (N=374)	Private Aided (N=108)	Private Unaided (N=233)	Autonomous (N=279)	Total (N=994)
Male	176(47.05)	43(39.81)	106(45.49)	102(36.55)	427(42.95)
Female	198(52.94)	65(60.18)	127(54.50)	177(63.44)	567(57.04)

Table II also depicts that 176 (47.05%) of respondents from 'Government' colleges, 43 (39.81 %) respondents of 'Private Aided' colleges, 106 (45.49%) respondents from 'Private Unaided' colleges and 102 (36.55%) respondents from 'Autonomous' colleges are 'Male'. About 198 (52.94%) respondents from 'Government' colleges, 65 (60.18%) respondents 'Private Aided' colleges, 127 (54.50%) respondents from 'Private Unaided' colleges and 177 (63.44%) respondents from 'Autonomous' colleges are 'Female'.

V. DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

A. Distribution of the Questionnaire

The First Grade Colleges affiliated to the University of Mysore, Mysuru has been categorized into four types, i.e., Government Colleges, Private Aided Colleges, Private Unaided Colleges and Autonomous Colleges.

A total of 1200 questionnaires were distributed among the Students, Research Scholars and Faculty members of First Grade Colleges affiliated to the University of Mysore, Mysore, of which 994 filled-up questionnaires were received back consisting of 82.83% responses. Table-1 also depicts the type of management wise distribution and receipt of questionnaires. About 374 (37.62%) of the questionnaire have been received from Government Colleges, followed by 108 (10.86%) Private Aided, 233 (23.44%) Private Unaided and Autonomous Colleges amount to 279 (28.06%).

TABLE I DISTRIBUTION OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE

Type of Colleges	Questionnaire Distributed (N=1200)	Questionnaire Received (N=994)	
		Frequency	Percentage
Government	450	374	37.62
Private Aided	150	108	10.86
Private Unaided	300	233	23.44
Autonomous	300	279	28.06

B. Gender-Wise Distribution

The gender-wise distribution of the respondents under the study has been shown in Table II. Out of 994 respondents of First Grade College libraries, 427 (42.95%) are 'Male' and the remaining 567 (57.04%) are 'Female'. In this survey, more female users accounting for 57.04% responded

C. Frequency of Visit to the Library

Table III depicts the frequency of visit to the library by the respondents. It is observed that 202 (20.32%) respondents visit the library 'Once in two days', followed by 184(18.51%) 'Once in a week', 180 (18.10%) 'Daily', 178 (17.90%) 'Occasionally', 125 (12.57%) 'Twice in a week', 86 (08.65%) 'Once in two weeks', 39 (03.92%) respondents visit the library 'Once in a month.'

TABLE III FREQUENCY OF VISIT TO THE LIBRARY BY USERS

Frequency	Government (N=374)	Private Aided (N=108)	Private Unaided (N=233)	Autonomous (N=279)	Total (N=994)
Daily	56(14.97)	32(29.62)	39(16.73)	53(18.99)	180(18.10)
Once in two days	109(29.14)	25(23.14)	46(19.74)	22(07.88)	202(20.32)
Twice in a week	61(16.31)	21(19.44)	28(12.01)	15(05.37)	125(12.57)
Once in a week	36(09.62)	12(11.11)	48(20.60)	88(31.54)	184(18.51)
Once in two weeks	58(15.50)	02(01.85)	13(05.57)	13(04.65)	86(08.65)
Once in month	11(02.94)	05(04.62)	07(03.00)	16(05.73)	39(03.92)
Occasionally	43(11.49)	11(10.18)	52(22.31)	72(25.80)	178(17.90)

Note: Figures in parentheses indicate percentage
 $\chi^2=173.47$, $df=18$, $P=0.00$

Table III also shows that 109 (29.14%) respondents of 'Government' colleges visit the library 'Once in two days', followed by 32 (29.62%) respondents from 'Private Aided' colleges visit 'Daily', 52 (22.31%) respondents from 'Private Unaided' colleges visit 'Occasionally' and 88 (31.54%) respondents from 'Autonomous' colleges visit the library 'Once in a week'.

The χ^2 -test was conducted for 18 d.f. at the 5% level of significance shows that there is an association between the frequency of visits to the library by users and the type of colleges ($\chi^2=173.47$, $p=0.00<0.05$).

D. Purpose of Visit to the Library

The purpose of the visit to the library by the respondents has been illustrated in Table IV. It is observed that 996 (97.18%) respondents visit the library 'To borrow books', followed by 774 (77.86%) 'To read textbooks, reference books and other reading materials', 770 (77.46%) 'To refer old question papers', 621(62.47%) 'To prepare for competitive examinations and entrance tests', 567 (57.04%) 'To read own reading materials', 363 (36.51%) 'To meet friends', 319 (32.09%) 'To use electronic resources (e-books, e-journals, e- databases)', 199 (20.02%) 'To check e-mail', 194 (19.51%) 'To use current journals' and 190 (19.11%) respondents visit the library 'To use audio-visual resources'.

TABLE IV PURPOSE OF VISIT TO THE LIBRARY BY USERS

Purpose	Government (N=374)	Private Aided (N=108)	Private Unaided (N=233)	Autonomous (N=279)	Total (N=994)
To borrow books	366(97.86)	103(95.37)	224(96.13)	273(97.84)	966(97.18)
To read textbooks, reference books and other reading materials	342(91.44)	94(87.03)	86(36.90)	252(90.32)	774(77.86)
To use current journals	41(10.96)	31(28.70)	36(15.45)	86(30.82)	194(19.51)
To read own reading materials	183(48.93)	56(51.85)	122(52.36)	206(73.83)	567(57.04)
To refer old question papers	307(82.08)	73(67.59)	167(71.67)	223(79.92)	770(77.46)
To prepare for competitive examinations and entrance tests	245(65.50)	62(57.40)	139(59.65)	175(62.72)	621(62.47)
To use electronic resources (E-books, e- journals, e- databases)	102(27.27)	52(48.14)	23(09.57)	142(50.89)	319(32.09)
To use audio-visual resources	56(14.97)	32(29.62)	18(07.72)	84(30.10)	190(19.11)
To meet friends	136(36.36)	65(60.18)	59(25.32)	103(36.91)	363(36.51)
To check e-mail	72(19.25)	30(27.77)	26(11.15)	71(25.44)	199(20.02)

Note: Figures in parentheses indicate percentage and because of multiple-choice options the percentage is exceeded to more than 100%

Table IV also shows that 366 (97.86%) respondents from 'Government' colleges, 103 (95.37 %) respondents of 'Private Aided' colleges, 224 (96.13%) respondents from 'Private Unaided' colleges and 273 (97.84%) respondents from 'Autonomous' colleges visit the library 'To borrow books'.

E. Knowledge of Use of Computers

Table V depicts information gathered from the respondents towards knowledge of the use of computers in the library. All the respondents 994 (100.00%) have experience with the use of computers in the library.

TABLE V KNOWLEDGE OF USE OF COMPUTERS BY USERS

Knowledge of using Computers	Government (N=374)	Private Aided (N=108)	Private Unaided (N=233)	Autonomous (N=279)	Total (N=994)
Yes	374(100.00)	108(100.00)	233(100.00)	279(100.00)	994(100.00)
No	00(00.00)	00(00.00)	00(00.00)	00(00.00)	00(00.00)

Note: Figures in parentheses indicate percentage

F. Awareness of OPAC

Table VI depicts the opinion towards awareness of OPAC (Online Public Access Catalogue) among the respondents. It is observed from the table that 905 (91.04%) respondents

stated as ‘Yes,’ i.e., they are aware of OPAC and 89 (08.95%) respondents stated as ‘No,’ i.e. they are not aware of OPAC. Many respondents accounting for 91.04% have an awareness of OPAC.

TABLE VI (a) AWARENESS OF OPAC BY USERS

Aware about OPAC	Government (N=374)	Private Aided (N=108)	Private Unaided (N=233)	Autonomous (N=279)	Total (N=994)
Yes	322(86.09)	94(87.03)	221(94.84)	268(96.05)	905(91.04)
No	52(13.90)	14(12.96)	12(05.15)	11(03.94)	89(08.95)

Note: Figures in parentheses indicate percentage
 $\chi^2= 24.989$, $df=03$, $P =0.00001552$

TABLE VI (b) ANOVA

Particulars	Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	2.128	3	.709	8.899	.000
Within Groups	78.904	990	.080		
Total	81.031	993			

Table VIII also presents those 322 (86.09%) respondents from ‘Government’ colleges, 94 (87.03%) respondents of ‘Private Aided’ colleges, 221 (94.84%) respondents from ‘Private Unaided’ colleges and 268 (96.05%) respondents from ‘Autonomous’ colleges stated as ‘Yes,’ i.e., they are aware of OPAC.

About 52 (13.90%) respondents from ‘Government’ colleges, 14 (12.96%) respondents of ‘Private Aided’ colleges, 12 (05.15%) respondents from ‘Private Unaided’ colleges and 11(03.94%) respondents from ‘Autonomous’ colleges stated as ‘No,’ i.e., they are not aware of OPAC. The χ^2 -test and ANOVA were conducted for 03 d.f. at the 5% level of significance shows that there is an association

between awareness of OPAC among respondents and the type of colleges ($\chi^2=24.989$, $p=0.00 <0.05$).

G. Access to OPAC

The information gathered from respondents towards access to OPAC has been presented in Table VII. The table depicts that 738 (81.54%) respondents’ access OPAC from the stand-alone system with a mean value of 2.4607 and SD 1.2370, followed by 110 (12.15%) respondents who access OPAC within the library premises with mean value 2.3727 and SD 1.2421, 49 (05.41%) respondents’ access OPAC within the campus network with mean value 2.9387 and SD 1.2682 and 08 (00.88%) respondents’ access OPAC in a Web with mean value 3.0000 and SD 1.3228.

TABLE VII ACCESS TO OPAC BY USERS

Access to OPAC	Government (N=322)	Private Aided (N=94)	Private Unaided (N=221)	Autonomous (N=268)	Total (N=905)	Mean	SD
Stand-alone system	269(83.54)	64(68.08)	201(90.95)	204(76.11)	738(81.54)	2.4607	1.2370
Library premises	40(12.42)	21(22.34)	17(07.69)	32(11.94)	110(12.15)	2.3727	1.2421
Campus network	11(03.41)	08(08.51)	03(01.35)	27(10.07)	49(05.41)	2.9387	1.2682
Web Access	02(00.62)	01(01.06)	00(00.00)	05(01.86)	08(00.88)	3.0000	1.3228

Note: Figures in parentheses indicate percentage $\chi^2= 43.952$, $df=09$, $P =0.00000144$

Table VII also depicts those 269 (83.54%) respondents from ‘Government’ colleges, 64 (68.08%) respondents of ‘Private Aided’ colleges, 201 (90.95%) respondents from ‘Private Unaided’ colleges and 204 (76.11%) respondents from ‘Autonomous’ colleges access OPAC form a stand-alone system.

The χ^2 -test was conducted for 09 d.f. at the 5% level of significance shows that there is an association between access to OPAC by respondents and the type of colleges ($\chi^2=43.952$, $p=0.00 <0.05$).

H. Methods Adopted to Search OPAC

Table VIII depicts the methods adopted to search OPAC by the respondents. It is observed that 867 (95.80%) respondents search OPAC by ‘Author’, followed by 770

(85.08%) by ‘Title’, 383 (42.32%) by ‘Subject’, 69 (07.62%) by ‘Series’, 28 (03.09%) by ‘ISBN’ and 06 (00.66%) respondents search OPAC by other means like the publisher, call number etc. Many respondents accounting for 95.80% search OPAC by ‘Author’.

TABLE VIII METHODS ADOPTED TO SEARCH OPAC BY USERS

OPAC Search	Government (N=322)	Private Aided (N=94)	Private Unaided (N=221)	Autonomous (N=268)	Total (N=905)
By Author	306(95.03)	92(97.87)	213(96.38)	256(95.52)	867(95.80)
By Title	317(98.44)	81(86.17)	192(86.87)	180(67.16)	770(85.08)
By Subject	184(57.14)	43(45.74)	59(26.69)	97(36.19)	383(42.32)
By Series	29(09.00)	11(11.70)	09(04.07)	20(07.46)	69(07.62)
By ISBN	14(04.34)	02(02.12)	03(01.35)	09(03.35)	28(03.09)
Others (Publisher, Call No. etc.)	03(00.93)	00(00.00)	01(00.45)	02(00.74)	06(00.66)

Note: Figures in parentheses indicate percentage and because of multiple-choice options the percentage is exceeded to more than 100% $\chi^2= 38.387, df=15, P=0.00079075$

Table VIII also shows that 317 (98.44%) respondents of ‘Government’ colleges search OPAC by ‘Title’, followed by 92 (97.87%) respondents of ‘Private Aided’ colleges search by ‘Author’, 213 (96.38%) respondents of ‘Private Unaided’ colleges search by ‘Author’ and 256 (95.52%) respondents of ‘Autonomous’ colleges search OPAC by ‘Author’.

The χ^2 -test was conducted for 15 d.f. at the 5% level of significance shows that there is an association between

methods adopted to search OPAC by respondents and the type of colleges ($\chi^2=38.387, p=0.00 <0.05$).

I. Use of Boolean Search Techniques

Table IX depicts opinions gathered from the respondents towards the use of Boolean Search Techniques. 492 (54.36%) respondents stated as ‘Yes,’ i.e., they use Boolean Search Techniques in searching OPAC and 413 (45.63%) respondents stated as ‘No,’ i.e., they do not use Boolean Search Techniques in searching OPAC.

TABLE IX USE OF BOOLEAN SEARCH TECHNIQUES BY USERS

Use of Boolean Search Techniques	Government (N=322)	Private Aided (N=94)	Private Unaided (N=221)	Autonomous (N=268)	Total (N=905)
Yes	125(38.81)	61(64.89)	132(59.72)	174(64.92)	492(54.36)
No	197(61.18)	33(35.10)	89(40.27)	94(35.07)	413(45.63)

Note: Figures in parentheses indicate percentage $\chi^2= 50.173, df=03, P=0.00$

Table IX also shows that 125 (38.81%) respondents from ‘Government’ colleges, 61 (64.89%) respondents of ‘Private Aided’ colleges, 132 (59.72%) respondents from ‘Private Unaided’ colleges and 174 (64.92%) respondents from ‘Autonomous’ colleges stated as ‘Yes,’ i.e., they use of Boolean Search Techniques in searching OPAC.

About 197 (61.18%) respondents from ‘Government’ colleges, 33 (35.10%) respondents of ‘Private Aided’ colleges, 89 (40.27%) respondents from ‘Private Unaided’ colleges and 94 (35.07%) respondents from ‘Autonomous’ colleges stated as ‘No,’ i.e., they do not use of Boolean Search Techniques in searching OPAC.

The χ^2 -test was conducted for 03 d.f. at the 5% level of significance shows that there is an association between the

use of Boolean Search Techniques by users and the type of colleges ($\chi^2=50.173, p=0.00 <0.05$).

J. Use of OPAC services

Table X presents the use of OPAC services by the respondents. It is observed from the table that 862 (95.24%) respondents use OPAC to ‘Browsing Book Titles available in the library’, followed by 166 (18.34%) ‘Recommending new books for library’, 144 (15.91%) ‘Access to electronic resources’, 76 (08.39%) ‘Intimation of reservation of book(s) through email’, 50 (05.52%) ‘Renewal of book (s) through internet/email’ and 32 (03.53%) respondents use OPAC to fine payment, user information etc.

TABLE X USE OF OPAC SERVICES BY USERS

Use of OPAC Services	Government (N=322)	Private Aided (N=94)	Private Unaided (N=221)	Autonomous (N=268)	Total (N=905)
Intimation of reservation of book(s) through email	23(07.14)	11(11.70)	06(02.71)	36(13.43)	76(08.39)
Renewal of book (s) through internet / email	12(03.72)	09(09.57)	07(03.16)	22(08.20)	50(05.52)
Access to electronic resources	17(05.27)	12(12.76)	09(04.07)	106(39.55)	144(15.91)
Browsing Book Titles available in the library	306(95.03)	89(94.68)	206(93.21)	261(97.38)	862(95.24)
Recommending new books for library	22(06.83)	06(06.38)	02(00.90)	136(50.74)	166(18.34)
Others like fine payment, etc	05(01.55)	02(02.12)	01(00.45)	24(08.95)	32(03.53)

Note: Figures in parentheses indicate percentage and because of multiple-choice options the percentage is exceeded to more than 100% $\chi^2=248.098$, $df=15$, $P=0.00$

The Table X also depicts those 306 (95.03%) respondents from 'Government' colleges, 89 (94.68%) respondents of 'Private Aided' colleges, 206 (93.21%) respondents from 'Private Unaided' colleges and 261 (97.38%) respondents from 'Autonomous' colleges use OPAC to 'Browsing Book Titles available in the library'.

The χ^2 -test was conducted for 15 d.f. at the 5% level of significance shows that there is an association between the use of OPAC services by respondents and the type of colleges ($\chi^2=248.098$, $p=0.00<0.05$).

K. Opinion about the College Library Catalogue Made Accessible Over Mobile

The opinion about the college library catalogue made accessible over mobile has been depicted in Table XI. It is found in the table that 189 (20.88%) respondents stated as 'Yes,' i.e., the college library catalogue is made accessible over mobile, and 716 (79.11%) respondents stated as 'No,' i.e., the college library catalogue is not made accessible over mobile. It could be seen that there is no catalogue links accessible over mobile in many of the college libraries which accounted for 79.11%.

TABLE XI OPINION ABOUT COLLEGE LIBRARY CATALOGUE MADE ACCESSIBLE OVER MOBILE

Library Catalogue made accessible over Mobile	Government (N=322)	Private Aided (N=94)	Private Unaided (N=221)	Autonomous (N=268)	Total (N=905)
Yes	64(19.87)	12(12.76)	22(09.95)	91(33.95)	189(20.88)
No	258(80.12)	82(87.23)	199(90.04)	177(66.04)	716(79.11)

Note: Figures in parentheses indicate percentage $\chi^2= 47.638$, $df=03$, $P=0.00$

The Table XI also presents that 64 (19.87%) respondents from 'Government' colleges, 12 (12.76%) respondents of 'Private Aided' colleges, 22 (09.95%) respondents from 'Private Unaided' colleges and 91 (33.95%) respondents from 'Autonomous' colleges opine as 'Yes,' i.e. the college library catalogue is made accessible over mobile. About 258 (80.12%) respondents from 'Government' colleges, 82 (87.23%) respondents of 'Private Aided' colleges, 199 (90.04%) respondents from 'Private Unaided' colleges and 177 (66.04%) respondents from 'Autonomous' colleges opine as 'No,' i.e., the college library catalogue is not made accessible over mobile.

The χ^2 -test was conducted for 03 d.f. at the 5% level of significance shows that there is an association between opinion about college library catalogue made accessible over mobile to users and the type of colleges ($\chi^2=47.638$, $p=0.00<0.05$).

VI. FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

1. As regards the frequency of visits to the library, 202 (20.32%) respondents visit the library 'Once in two

days,' followed by 184 (18.51%) 'Once in a week,' 180 (18.10%) 'Daily,' 178 (17.90%) 'Occasionally,' 125 (12.57%) 'Twice in a week,' 86 (08.65%) 'Once in two weeks,' 39 (03.92%) respondents visit the library 'Once in a month.'

- A total of 996 (97.18%) respondents visits the library 'To borrow books,' followed by 774 (77.86%) 'To read textbooks, reference books and other reading materials,' 770 (77.46%) 'To refer old question papers,' 621(62.47%) 'To prepare for competitive examinations and entrance tests,' 567 (57.04%) 'To read own reading materials,'
- It is highlighting that all the respondents, 994 (100.00%), know the use of computers in the library.
- Among the 994 respondents, 905 (91.04%) respondents stated as 'Yes,' i.e., they are aware of OPAC and 89 (08.95%) respondents stated as 'No,' i.e., they are not aware of OPAC. The majority of respondents accounting for 91.04% have an awareness of OPAC. Among them, 322 (86.09%) respondents from 'Government' colleges, 94 (87.03%) respondents of 'Private Aided' colleges, 221 (94.84%) respondents from 'Private Unaided' colleges and 268 (96.05%)

respondents from 'Autonomous' colleges were are aware of OPAC.

5. Out of 905 respondents, a total of 269 (83.54%) respondents from 'Government' colleges, 64 (68.08%) respondents from 'Private Aided' colleges, 201 (90.95%) respondents from 'Private Unaided' colleges and 204 (76.11%) respondents from 'Autonomous' colleges access to OPAC from a stand-alone system.
6. The methods adopted to search OPAC by the 905 respondents revealed that many respondents 867 (95.80%) respondents search OPAC by 'Author', followed by 770 (85.08%) by 'Title', 383 (42.32%) by 'Subject', 69 (07.62%).
7. Regarding the use of Boolean Search Techniques 492 (54.36%) respondents stated as 'Yes,' i.e., they use Boolean Search Techniques in searching OPAC and 413 (45.63%) respondents stated as 'No,' i.e., they do not use Boolean Search Techniques in searching OPAC. Among them, 125 (38.81%) of respondents from 'Government' colleges, 61 (64.89%) of respondents of 'Private Aided' colleges, 132 (59.72%) of respondents from 'Private Unaided' colleges and 174 (64.92%) of respondents from 'Autonomous' colleges used Boolean Search Techniques in searching OPAC.
8. Out of 905 respondents who use OPAC for a different purpose, 862 (95.24%) respondents use OPAC to 'Browsing Book Titles available in the library,' followed by 166 (18.34%) 'Recommending new books for library', 144 (15.91%) 'Access to electronic resources', 76 (08.39%) 'Intimation of reservation of book(s) through email', 50 (05.52%) 'Renewal of book (s) through internet/email' and 32 (03.53%) of respondents use OPAC to know fine payment, user information etc.
9. About access to the library catalogue over mobile, 189 (20.88%) respondents stated as 'Yes,' i.e., the college library catalogue is made accessible over mobile, and 716 (79.11%) respondents stated as 'No,' i.e., the college library catalogue is not made accessible over mobile. Among them, 189 respondents using library catalogue over mobile 64 (19.87%) respondents from 'Government' colleges, 12 (12.76%) respondents of 'Private Aided' colleges, 22 (09.95%) respondents from 'Private Unaided' colleges and 91 (33.95%) respondents from 'Autonomous' colleges access.

VII. SUGGESTIONS

All the college libraries must create and upgrade websites to provide the students and staff with direct access to the latest resources and services. The libraries' web pages should have

all the information on library resources and programs and connections to different information portals to facilitate the users. The attempt must be made through the orientation programs to familiarize new members with the library resources and services. The use of OPAC, retrieving and reserving documents, including Boolean search, should be imparted to users during orientation programs. The college libraries must obtain feedback from users on the facilities and services being extended every year, which will improve quality performance.

VIII. CONCLUSION

The users expect the libraries to provide remote access to the online public catalogue to access and browse the catalogues and online databases anytime and anywhere. Added to this trend, the libraries of late will host the library data in the cloud environment and enable library members to conduct the federated searches. Hence, the libraries must create e-resources portals to facilitate access to various information resources and surrogates.

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