**ASSESSMENT OF THE FACILITIES OF UNIVERSITY LIBRARY TO PROMOTE
READING CULTURE AMONG THE USERS: A STUDY OF SCIENCE
POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS IN KARNATAKA STATE AKKAMAHADEVI
WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY, VIJAYAPURA**

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ABSTRACT

This paper reveals about assessment of the facilities of University library to promote reading culture among the science postgraduate students of the Karnataka State Akkamahadevi Women's University Vijayapura. Libraries are major resource centre for developing a reading culture. The author discuss about online or offline services and facilities of the university library. This study result shows majority of the respondents are depending on the digital technologies, so libraries should provide digital facilities to promote reading culture among the science postgraduate students.

KEYWORDS: Reading, Reading habit, Reading culture

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INTRODUCTION

Reading promotes an extensive range of knowledge to the reader. Reading is basic need for the every human beings and it gives a lot of advantages to the readers, like it improves readers communication, improves readers vocabulary, it gives wide range of ideas to the readers, it builds curiosity of the readers etc. Karnataka State Akkamahadevi women's university is one of the first women's universities in Karnataka and it offers various facilities to promote women's education.

About KSAWU, Vijayapura University Library

Karnataka State Akkamahadevi Women's University library is located at central place of the university campus. It has more than 1Lakh collections of the library and its having well qualified library staff also. Library provides various services to promote reading culture among the library users like book borrowing service, Reading room facility, reference and referral service, Newspaper service, document delivery service, ILL service, OPAC and smartcard service, reprographic service, users orientation programmes, anti-plagiarism service, internet access, download journals and e-books, INFLIBNET/IUC facilities.

Need for the study

Karnataka State Akkamahadevi Women's University aims at providing formal education to the female students who get admission. The students get their education through class room, library, lectures, seminars, conferences, workshops etc. In

this digital era students are need to read variety of books and other related materials through online or offline/ electronic resources. Karnataka State Akkamahadevi women's University is having centrally very beautiful constructed library building with more number of resources. It provides variety of the resources like books, Newspapers, Journals, Magazines, electronic resources and well equipped reading room as well as reading environment also. To understand Students perception towards reading culture for Online and offline resources and their Searching Strategies and type of resources they consulted in library for various purposes. Libraries play a vital role in enhancing the learning experience, providing students with all the materials and services they need to improve their knowledge. Libraries need to centre of attention on students in order to satisfy their needs.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

1. **Mlay, Samali & Sabi, Humphrey M. (2019)** conducted a study entitled "A Structural analysis of ICT-based intervention on reading habits in Uganda". This article describe the information and communication technologies unlock new opportunities for pursuing culture, where people go after involved to leisure reading, in developing countries. Major results from 337 sustainable responses specify that ICT usage, home culture, school culture and expendable income significantly affect the reading habits of university students in Uganda.
2. **Vijayalaxmi Hippargi (2019)** conducted a study under the title "Effect of demographic factors on reading habits among youths with special reference to Dharwad district". This theses describes it is a complex interaction between text and the reader moulded by past Knowledge, experience, attitude. It requires continues practice, development fine-tuning Creativity and critical analysis.
3. **Nuning Kurniasih (2017)** conducted a study under the title "Reading Habits in Digital Era: Indonesian people do not like reading, is it true?" In this paper describes various surveys indicate very low per cent of reading interest in Indonesia. But now a day's Digital technologies has changed Peoples reading culture. .
4. **Krishnamurthy Channapatna, Awari and Veeresh. (2015)** conducted a study under the title "Newspaper Reading Habits among Post-Graduate Student of Karnataka University, Dharwad". Reading is a way to get better knowledge of one's own experiences and it can be an exciting journey to self-discovery. Reading transfers experiences to the individual so that the reader may expand one's horizons identity. Extend and intensity his or her interest and gain deeper understanding of the world. Newspaper is also an important source of information for all and brings new of daily happening of the world.
5. **Danladin Diyoshak Rhoda & Soko Yohanna Rejoice (2018)** conducted a study under the title "The Role of School libraries in Promoting Reading culture among secondary School Students: A case study of Federal Government college, JOS". This article describes that students do not have opportunities of borrowing books from the library and lack of interesting books. Major recommendations put forward by the researchers include that teacher librarians should host reading related events at school as a way to promote reading. Create attractive displays of books in the library to arouse the interest of learners; librarians should take advantage of the social media.
6. **Alindele Nadia (2012)** conducted a study under the title "Reading Culture, Parental Involvement and children's Development in formative Years: The covenant University Experience". This article Most of the respondents are of the opinion that learning activities provided by nursery school are not sufficient for children's development without parental involvement on the average parents spend at least one hour reading to their children, but mainly during the weekends. The

availability of time is a major obstacle faced by parents in cultivating reading culture for their children in cases, while lack of parental involvement account for 23.3%. Only 3.3% of the respondents thought reading to children is a waste of time. Based on the results of the study appropriate recommendations were made.

7. **Poosapati Durgaiah (2015)** conducted a study under the title “reading habits among student teachers with respect to gender and qualification” The present study was conducted on 600 student teachers from Hyderabad and Ranga Reddy districts of Telangana State. In this study shows that there was a notable difference in reading habits with respect to gender and qualification among the student teachers.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- Identify the reading culture among the Karnataka State Akkamahadevi women's university Science Postgraduate students.
- Identify the availability of facilities by the university library of KSWAU, Vijayapura.
- To assess the facilities provided by library to promote reading culture among the students.
- To assess the use of facilities provided by library among respondents.

METHODOLOGY

In the present Study follow the **Survey Method** of research. Secondary data collected through books, Journals and databases in the concerned them. To collect primary data from the target population **Structured Questionnaire/ Interview** method is followed. Questionnaire will be designed based on the objectives of the study identifying facet and major facets of the study. Questionnaires were distributed through offline and online mode among the Science Postgraduate students in Karnataka State Akkamahadevi Women's university, Vijayapura. The data was examined, organized and analysed as per the major objectives of the study.

Sampling Design:

The study has been conducted on Assessment of the facilities of university library to promote reading culture among Science postgraduate students. Totally 407 questionnaire were distributed through offline and online. Out of which 229 questionnaires was received from the selected sample with response rate of 56.26%. For the random sampling technique was used to the sample from population.

Data Analysis and Interpretation:

Research process includes with classification of the data, tabulation of the data, analysis and interpretation of the data. Total 407 questionnaires were distributed among Science Postgraduate students Karnataka state Akkamahadevi women's university, Vijayapura, among them 229 valid responses were received from the selected population with response rate 56.26%. That data has been classified, tabulated and analysed based on the major objectives of the present study and using SPSS software. Following data will be presented in the form of frequency, percentage tables and statistical tests.

Table 1: Location Wise distribution of the Respondents

Sl.No	Location	Frequency	%
1	Rural	123	53.7%

2	Urban	84	36.7%
3	Semi Urban	22	9.6%
	Total	229	100.0%

Table-1 shows the respondents of the study that is Science Postgraduate Students of Karnataka State Akkamahadevi women's University, Vijayapur belongs to different locations. More than 53.7%, (N=123) of respondents from rural area, 36.7%, (N=84) from urban area, and 9.6%, (N=22) from semi urban area.

Table 2: Semester wise distribution of the Respondents

Sl.No	Semester	Frequency	%
1	IV semester	176	76.9%
2	IIInd semester	53	23.1%
	Total	229	100.0%

Table-2 reveals the semester wise distribution of the respondents observed that greater study population 76.9% are studying IVth semester, remaining 23.1% re from IIInd semester. It can be concluded that majority of the study population are from higher semester.

Table 3: Facilities of University Library to promote Reading culture among the Respondents

Sl.No	Facilities provided by the University Library	Frequency	%
1	Newspaper Service	125	56.3%
2	Internet Facility	122	55.0%
3	Reading room facility	122	55.0%
4	Reference service	118	53.2%
5	Book bank Facility	114	51.4%
6	Book Exhibition	110	49.5%
7	Photocopying	101	45.5%
8	New Arrivals	97	43.7%
9	Periodicals	83	37.4%
10	OPAC	51	23.0%
11	Inter library loan	44	19.8%
12	Remote accessing	12	5.4%
	Total	1099	495.0%

Table-8 shows number of services provided by the university library to promote reading culture to the university students. Majority of the respondents are getting benefits for improving reading habits. Majority of the respondents 56.3% are using Newspaper service, 55.0% of the respondents using Internet Facility and Reading room facility, 53% of the respondents are using Reference services 51.4% of the respondents are getting Book bank facilities also, more than 49.5% of the respondents are getting Book exhibition services, further 45.5% of the respondents are using Photocopying services, nearly 43.7% of the respondents are using new arrival service, 37.4% of the respondents are using periodical services, further 23.0% of the respondents are using OPAC facility for the library, 19.8% of the respondents are getting benefit for the inter library loan facility and only few member of the respondents 5.4% are getting remote accessing facilities.

Table 4: Department wise distribution of the Respondents

Sl.No	Departments	Frequency	%
1	Mathematics	44	19.2%
2	Chemistry	35	15.3%
3	Botany	31	13.5%
4	Zoology	29	12.7%
5	Physics	28	12.2%
6	Food and Nutrition	23	10.0%
7	Computer Science	20	8.7%
8	Bio-informatics	8	3.5%
9	Statistics	8	3.5%
10	Computer Application	3	1.3%
	Total	229	100.0%

Table-3 reveals department wise distribution of the respondents. More than 3.5%, (No=8) respondents belongs to Bio-informatics department, 13.5%, (No=31) respondents belongs to Botany department, 12.7%, (No=29) respondents belongs to Zoology department, 19.2%, (No=44) respondents belongs to Mathematics department, 3.5%, (No=8) respondents belongs to Statistics departments, 12.2%, (No=28) respondents belongs to Physics department, 15.3%, (No=35) respondents belongs to Chemistry department, 8.7%, (No=20) respondents belongs to Computer Science department, 1.3%, (No=3) respondents belongs to Computer Applications department and 10.1%, (No=23) respondents belongs to Food and Nutrition departments.

Table 5: Opinion of the respondents about the Collections of the Library

Sl.No	Opinion about collections of the library	Frequency	%
1	Good Collection	130	56.8
2	Average Collection	65	28.4
3	Poor Collection	34	14.8
	Total	229	100

Above table shows that more number 56.8%, (No=130) of the respondents says Library have a good number of the collection, while 28.4%, (No=65) of the respondents says Library having Average number of collections and only some of the respondents 14.8%, (No=34) are says library having poor collections.

Table 6: Purpose of visit to the Library

Sl.No	Purpose to visit the library	Frequency	%
1	Reading	210	91.7%
2	Photocopying	73	31.9%
3	Consult librarian	24	10.5%
4	Consult library staff	22	9.6%
	Total	329	143.7

Table 5 shows that more than 91.7% (No=210) of the respondents are going to the library for purpose of reading. 31.7% (No=73) of the respondents are only the visiting of the Photocopying purpose, 10.5% (No=24) of the respondent are the consult of the Librarian and 9.6% (No=22) of the respondents are the Consult library staff.

Table 7: Frequency of Reading

Sl.No	Frequency of reading	Frequency	%
1	Everyday	119	52.0
2	Once in 2 days	45	19.7
3	Once in 3 days	19	8.3
4	Once in week	17	7.4
5	Occasionally	15	6.6
6	Only Exam time	14	6.1
	Total	229	100.0

Further question was asked to the respondent's i.e., frequency of reading. Greater number of the respondents 52.0% (No=119) are read every day, 19.7% (No=45) of the respondents are read once in two days, 8.3% (No=19) of the respondents are read once in three days, 7.4% (No=17) of the respondents read once in a week, 6.6% (15) of the respondents are read occasionally and 6.1% (No=14) of the respondents are read only exam purpose so only exam time they read.

Table 8: How many hours do you read?

Sl.No	Reading Hours	Frequency	%
1	one to three hours	150	65.5
2	less than one hour	56	24.5
3	3 to 6 hours	19	8.3
4	more than 6 hours	4	1.7
	Total	229	100.0

Table-28 shows how many hours respondents are read in a day. Significantly more number of the respondents 65.5% is read one to three hours per day (No=150), every day less than one hours read 24.5% of the respondents (No=56), nearly 8.3% of the respondents are three to six hours read per day (No=19) and least number of the respondents 1.7% are read more than six hours above (No=4).

Table 9: Language preference of the respondents reading

Sl.No	Language of the Respondent	Frequency	%
1	English	182	79.5%
2	Kannada	99	43.2%
3	Hindi	53	23.1%
4	Any other	11	4.8%
	Total	345	150.7%

Table-29 explains preference of language to use by the respondents. It is found that Majority of the respondents 79.5% are prefer to read in English language (No=182), More than 43.2% of the respondents are prefer to reading in Kannada language (No=99), further 23.1% of the respondents are prefer to read in Hindi language (No=53) and some of the respondents 4.8% (No=11) are like to read in some other languages like Urdu language, Marathi language etc.

Table 10: Time of Reading

Sl.No	Time of Reading	Frequency	%
1	Morning	115	50.22
2	Afternoon	17	7.42
3	Evening	44	19.21
4	Night	67	29.26
5	At my own leisure time	85	37.12
	Total	328	145.1%

Above table shows time spent for the reading among respondent. More than 50.22% of the respondents are read in the morning time (No=115), further 37.12% of the respondents are interested to read in at their own leisure time (No=85), then 29.26% of the respondents are interested in Night time reading (No=67), some other respondents 19.21% are interested in evening time reading (No=44), further 7.42% of the respondents are interested to reading in afternoon (No=17).

Table 11: Extent of Reading

Sl.No	Extent of Reading	Frequency	%
1	Very Frequently	53	23.1
2	Frequently	102	44.5
3	Often	39	17.0
4	Sometime	33	14.4
5	Never	2	.9
	Total	229	100.0

A question asked the respondents what extent you are reading. More than 44.5% of the respondents are frequently read the resources in the library (No=102), further 23.1% of the respondents are read very frequently (No=53), another 17.0% of the respondents are read often (No=39), some other 14.4% of the respondents are read some times (No=33), and finally 0.9% of the respondents are never read (No=2).

Table 12: Sources consulted in the library By the Respondents

Sl.No	Sources consulted by the Respondents	Frequency	%
1	Books	206	90.4%
2	Newspaper	114	50.0%
3	Journals	52	22.8%
4	Magazines	100	43.9%
5	Online Sources	50	21.9%
6	Reference Sources	106	46.5%
	Total	628	275.4%

Karnataka State Akkamahadevi women's University library provides very good collection like books, Newspaper, Magazines, Journals, Reference books etc. Highest numbers of the respondents, i.e. 90.4% visit the library for Book reading purpose, Smallest unit of the respondents 21.9% are visiting library for Online reading purpose, 50.0% of the respondents are Reading the newspaper for the library, 46.5% of the respondents are Reference book readers, 43.9% of the respondents are Magazine readers and 22.8% of the respondents are Journal readers.

Table 13: Extent of use of following resources

SL.N O	Sources	Greater Extent	Good Extent	Some Extent	Neutral	No Extent			
1	Books	68 29.69432	110 48.03493	35 15.28384	14 6.113537	2 0.873362	915	3.99	1
2	Newspaper	66 28.82096	106 46.28821	39 17.03057	15 6.550218	3 1.310044	904	3.947598	2
3	Journals	42 17.90393	78 34.06114	63 27.51092	27 11.79039	19 8.296943	784	3.423581	4
4	Magazines	51 22.27074	95 41.48472	39 17.03057	28 12.22707	16 6.9869	824	3.598253	3
5	E-Journals	26 11.35371	81 35.37118	60 26.20087	29 12.66376	33 14.41048	725	3.165939	6
6	E-Books	24 10.48035	83 36.24454	52 22.70742	27 11.79039	43 18.77729	705	3.078603	7
7	Online Databases	32 13.9738	83 36.24454	51 22.27074	24 10.48035	39 17.03057	732	3.196507	5

Another question asked to the respondents what extent you are using library resources. Above table-7 denotes analysis of given answers. Highest numbers of the respondents i.e. 48.03493% (No=110) are using books in greater extent and only few number of the respondents 6.113537% (No=14) are using books in small extent, more number of the respondents 46.28821% (No=106) are using Newspaper in Good extent and only few numbers of the respondents 6.550218% (No=15) are using Newspaper in small extent, nearly 34.06114% (No=78) of the respondents are using Journals in good extent and 11.79039% (No=27) of the respondents are using Journal in small extent, highest number of the respondents 41.48472% (No=95) are using Magazines in good extent and only 12.22707% (No=28) of the respondents are using Magazines in small extent, 35.37118% (No=81) of the respondents are using E-journals in good extent and only 12.66376% (No=29) of the respondents are using small extent of e-journals, 36.24454% (No=83) of the respondents are using E-books in good extent and only 11.79039% (No=27) of the respondents are using E-books in small extent, more than 36.24454% (No=83) of the respondents are using online databases in good extent and only 10.48035% (No=24) of the respondents are using online databases in small extent.

Table 14: Problems faced in accessing library facilities In promote reading culture of the Respondents

SL.No	Problem faced in accessing library services in promoting reading culture of the respondents	Frequency	%
1	Lack of Digital Facilities	100	43.66812
2	Lack of availability of resources	73	31.87773
3	Lack of types of resources	72	31.44105
4	Lack of training programmes	70	30.56769
5	Insufficient user Education	70	30.56769
6	Lack of Knowledge on how to use information retrieval skill	69	30.131

7	Lack of Computer Knowledge	68	29.69432
8	Lack of Mobile Knowledge	67	29.25764
9	Lack of Human resources	53	23.1441
	Total	642	280.34934

Above table shows Karnataka state Akkamahadevi women's university students' problem faced with the accessing of library resources. More number of 43.66812%(No=100) respondents are problem faced with the availability of lack of digital facilities like Smartphone's, Laptops, Computer systems, Wi-Fi connectivity etc., 31.87773% (No=73) are faced with the lack of resources availability, 31.44105%(No=72) are faced lack of types of resources, 30.56769% (No=70) of the respondents are problem faced with the Insufficient user education and lack of training programmes for the accessing of library resources, 30.131% (No=69) of the respondents are faced lack of proper knowledge on how to use information retrieval skill, 29.69432% (No=68) and 29.25764% (No=67) of the respondents are problem faced with the lack of Computer knowledge and mobile knowledge like anywhere, any time and any one can access any resources so respondents are more depending upon the mobile phones, another 23.1441% (No=53) of the respondents are problem faced with the lack of availability of Human resources.

FINDINGS

- In this study Karnataka State Akkamahadevi women's university, Vijayapura, larger number of Science Postgraduate students are from rural area.
- Majority of the respondents 76.9% from IVth semester and 23.1% of the respondents are studying IInd semester students.
- In the random sampling found that more number of science postgraduate students belongs to math and chemistry department and further very less number of the respondents from the Computer science and Statistics.
- Karnataka State Akkamahadevi women's university Library having good number of collection.
- Findings shows highest numbers of the respondents visit the library for reading purpose.
- High number of respondents are consulting the library for Books and Newspaper reading.
- Highest numbers of the respondents were greater extent to use books, Newspapers, Journals, Magazines, e-journals, e-books, and online databases in the library.
- Science postgraduate students give positive opinion about Number of facilities provided by the university library to promote reading culture among the university library users like well-equipped library building, reading room facility, Newspaper service, internet facilities, book exhibition, book bank facility, reference services, periodical, photo copying facilities, inter library loan, OPAC, New arrivals etc.
- Science postgraduate students of the university faced lot of problems with the accessing of library resources because of lack of digital facilities available in this internet era.

- Highest numbers of the respondents (52.0% No=119) are read every day and least number of the respondents 6.1%, No14) are only exam time reader.
- Majority of the respondents are every day spent one to three hours for reading.
- Under this study more number of the respondents are prefer in English language for reading.
- Significant numbers of the respondents are like read in morning time so libraries should open in morning time.
- Moderate number of the respondents 44.5% (No=102) are frequently read.
- More number of the respondents are problem faced with the digital technologies.

SUGGESTIONS

- Library should encourage the students for reading books, Newspapers, Magazines, Journals and other materials online/offline by providing required facilities and services
- Libraries should conduct the user orientation programmes.
- Libraries should conduct workshops to Postgraduate students.
- Libraries should conduct awareness programmes about importance of reading habit and facilities available in the library and bring out the library facilities broacher and send all departments.
- Library should update the new technologies like barcode system, RFID technology etc.
- Teachers should motivate the students to use library and improve their knowledge.
- Parents should support the ability in promote their children's reading habits.
- Library and concerned PG departments should encourage students to get reading culture.
- To provide remote accessing technology to promote reading habits of the students.
- Remote access and internet facilities to promote library to the Science postgraduate students.

CONCLUSIONS

Reading is one of the knowledge from various resources, sharing and communicating the ideas in the form of information. Reading is a very useful gateway for gathering specific information about particular problem. In this study assess the Karnataka State Akkamahadevi Women's university library system and services to promote reading culture among the Science postgraduate students. Library provides various services to the students for develop reading habit.

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