

Study on Use Pattern of Electronic Resources by the Science Research Scholars in Periyar University, Salem (Tamilnadu)



Library Science

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ABSTRACT

The present study is of descriptive in nature using normative survey in assessing the prevailing use pattern of electronic resources with the primary data collected from the science research scholars in Periyar University, Salem (Tamilnadu) and their perceptions towards the organizational variables. The researcher also personally visited the libraries of the institutions that all were studied to observe the library environment and distributed the structured questionnaires to solicit the data.

PILOT STUDY

A pilot study was carried out to conduct as a feasibility study, which comprises a sample of Periyar University, Salem (Tamilnadu), especially for Science Research Scholars. The data analyzed from pilot study revealed that the study is feasible for research work. Hence the researcher proceeded with the actual research work proposed by him.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- To identify the personal variables of the Science Research Scholars and the library environment in the Periyar University.
- To ascertain the perception of the Science Research Scholars regarding the infrastructure facilities available in Periyar University Library.
- To determine the impact of personal variables of Science Research Scholars on the organizational variables.
- To suggest an ideal model of Periyar University Library in general.

ABOUT PERIYAR UNIVERSITY

The Government of Tamil Nadu established the Periyar University at Salem on 17th September 1997 as per the provisions of the Periyar University Act, 1997. The University covers the area comprising the districts of Salem, Namakkal, Dharmapuri and Krishnagiri. The University got the 12(B) and 2f status from the University Grants Commission and has been accredited by NAAC with B+ grade in 2007.

The University is named after the Great Social Reformer E.V.Ramasamy affectionally called "Thanthai Periyar". The University aims at developing knowledge in various fields to realize the maxim inscribed in the logo "Arival Vilayum Ulagu" (Wisdom Maketh World). "Holistic development of the students" is the primary objective of the esteemed Periyar University. The University is located on the National Highway (NH7) towards Bangalore at about 8 Kms from New Bus Stand, Salem. It is well connected by frequent city bus services linking Salem and other places like, Omalur, Dharmapuri, Krishnagiri and Mettur.

Eighteen Departments of studies and research are actively engaged in teaching, research and extension activities. With the limited infrastructural facilities faculty members of the various Departments have published more than 600 research papers in the reputed National and International journals, Faculty Members have also participated in many National and International Conferences/Seminars and presented their papers and also delivered keynote address/invited talks.

The Departments have also organised many National Conferences and few International Conferences sponsored by various funding agencies on thrust areas and vital topics. Eminent Scholars from reputed Universities in India and abroad delivered talks in these conferences.

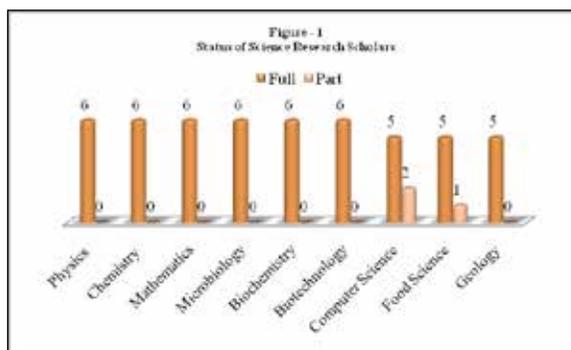
SAMPLE SIZE

Printed questionnaire has been distributed in persons to the

Science Research Scholars of Periyar University, Salem, Tamilnadu are identified. With regard to the Science Research Scholars of Periyar University, 65 questionnaires are distributed. Of which, 54 were filled in and received; therefore response rate is 84.38.00 percent.

Table - 1
Status of Science Research Scholars

S.No	Department	Time		Total	Percentage
		Full	Part		
1	Physics	6	0	6	11.11
2	Chemistry	6	0	6	11.11
3	Mathematics	6	0	6	11.11
4	Microbiology	6	0	6	11.11
5	Biochemistry	6	0	6	11.11
6	Biotechnology	6	0	6	11.11
7	Computer Science	5	2	7	12.97
8	Food Science	5	1	6	11.11
9	Geology	5	0	5	9.26
Total		51	3	54	100.00

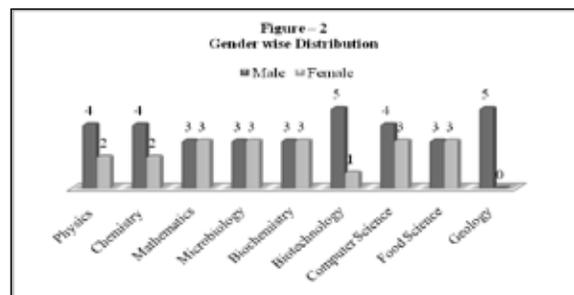


The above table reveals that the status of Science Research Scholars of Periyar University. Most of the Science Research Scholars are preferred to study in full time (94.44 percent). The remaining percent of the Science Research Scholars are preferred to part time. In between the categories, the computer science (2) and the food science (1) Research Scholars are choosing to part time research work.

Table - 2
Gender wise distribution

S.No	Department	Male	Female	Total	Percentage
1	Physics	4	2	6	11.11
2	Chemistry	4	2	6	11.11
3	Mathematics	3	3	6	11.11

4	Microbiology	3	3	6	11.11
5	Biochemistry	3	3	6	11.11
6	Biotechnology	5	1	6	11.11
7	Computer Science	4	3	7	12.97
8	Food Science	3	3	6	11.11
9	Geology	5	0	5	9.26
Total		34	20	54	100.00



Among the 54 Science Research Scholars of the Periyar University, there are 34 male Science Research Scholars and the 20 female Science Research Scholars are doing their own research work. The maximum of female Science Research Scholars in the department of Mathematics, Microbiology, Biochemistry, Computer Science and Food Science are each 3 Females. Biotechnology department are having only one female Science Research Scholar.

Table - 3
Aware of Electronic Library

S.No	Department	Yes	No	Total
1	Physics	5	1	6
2	Chemistry	6	0	6
3	Mathematics	6	0	6
4	Microbiology	5	1	6
5	Biochemistry	4	2	6
6	Biotechnology	6	0	6
7	Computer Science	7	0	7
8	Food Science	5	1	6
9	Geology	4	1	5
Total		48	6	54

The above table reveals that the aware of the electronic library of Periyar University, there are 48 Science Research Scholars are well known to the electronic library use. The remaining 6 Science Research Scholars are not aware of the electronic library.

Table - 4
Purpose of seeking e-resources

Department	Research work	General awareness	Prepare class notes	Publish articles/books	Paper presentation
Physics	6	4	2	3	2
Chemistry	6	5	2	4	6
Mathematics	6	6	5	1	2
Microbiology	6	4	4	4	2
Biochemistry	6	3	2	4	3
Biotechnology	5	5	3	3	1
Computer Science	7	2	4	4	5
Food Science	6	4	5	4	0
Geology	4	1	2	3	1
Total	52	34	29	30	22

The Science Research Scholars are mostly used for the e-collections for their research work (52), 34 Science Research Scholars are used for the e-resources for general awareness, 29 Science Research Scholars are used for the e-resources for prepare for class notes and 30 Science Research Scholars for published journal articles and publication of books. 22 Science Research Scholars are used to the paper presentations.

Table - 5
Satisfied with the Internet e-resources

S.No	Department	Fully	Partially	Least	Total
1	Physics	2	3	1	6
2	Chemistry	3	2	1	6
3	Mathematics	0	6	0	6
4	Microbiology	4	2	0	6
5	Biochemistry	1	5	0	6
6	Biotechnology	4	2	0	6
7	Computer Science	6	1	0	7
8	Food Science	2	4	0	6
9	Geology	0	4	1	5
Total		22	29	3	54

The above table reveals that the satisfaction of the Science Research Scholars in their internet e-resources. The 22 Science Research Scholars are fully satisfied using internet e-resources. 29 Science Research Scholars are partially satisfied using internet e-resources. The less number (3) of Science Research Scholars least satisfied using internet e-resources.

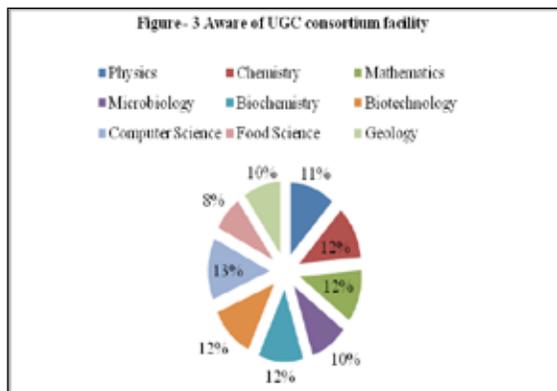
Table - 6
Aware of DELNET facility

S.No	Department	Yes	No	Total
1	Physics	4	2	6
2	Chemistry	6	0	6
3	Mathematics	6	0	6
4	Microbiology	5	1	6
5	Biochemistry	4	2	6
6	Biotechnology	0	6	6
7	Computer Science	4	3	7
8	Food Science	0	6	6
9	Geology	3	2	5
Total		32	22	54

Among the 54 Science Research Scholars in Periyar University, there are 32 Science Research Scholars aware of the DELNET facility in the university library. The remaining 22 Science Research Scholars are not aware of the DELNET facility.

Table - 7
Aware of UGC consortium facility

S.No	Department	Yes	No	Total
1	Physics	6	0	6
2	Chemistry	6	0	6
3	Mathematics	6	0	6
4	Microbiology	5	1	6
5	Biochemistry	6	0	6
6	Biotechnology	6	0	6
7	Computer Science	7	0	7
8	Food Science	4	2	5
9	Geology	5	0	5
Total		51	3	53



The above table reveals that the aware of the UGC consortium facility of the Periyar University. 51 Science Research Scholars are well aware of the UGC consortium. The 3 Science Research Scholars from Food Science (2) and Microbiology (1) are not aware of the UGC consortium.

Table - 8
Type of Journals do you prefer to obtain

S.No	Department	Print	Electronic	Both	Total
1	Physics	1	3	2	6
2	Chemistry	2	3	1	6
3	Mathematics	2	3	1	6
4	Microbiology	1	2	3	6
5	Biochemistry	1	0	5	6
6	Biotechnology	0	0	6	6
7	Computer Science	1	3	3	7
8	Food Science	1	0	5	6
9	Geology	0	2	3	5
Total		9	16	29	54

The above table reveals that the Science Research Scholars are prefer to the collection of the journal Medias. Most of the Science Research Scholars (29) are prefer to both of the journal Medias like print and electronic formats. 16 Science Research Scholars are used only electronic format and the 9 Science Research Scholars are preferred to use print version only.

CONCLUSION

The study also observes that significant gap between the resource development of e-resources and print resources among the Periyar University library. There is significant difference between Periyar University library in terms of e-resources facilities familiarity and awareness need to be improved among the Science Research Scholars of archival and access of different formats of information resources.

The study also could conclude that the surveyed Periyar University library is using library networks and consortia for resource sharing and access. As the outcome of the study the following collection building and management model is evolved to the existing library environment.

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