

AWARENESS OF DIGITAL LIBRARY AMONG LIBRARY PROFESSIONAL IN COIMBATORE DISTRICT – A STUDY

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ABSTRACT

A digital library is a library in which collections are stored in digital formats as opposed to print, other media and accessible by computers the digital content may be stored locally, or accessed remotely via computer networks. A digital library is a type of information retrieval system. DL is an integrated approach to identifying, managing and sharing all of an organization's knowledge assets.

Introduction

It is well recognized that libraries all over the world are undergoing transformation, especially owing to the development in information and communication technologies. Traditional libraries are changing to digital libraries and new libraries that are being set up are increasingly of the digital kind. As a result, there is widespread interest and consequently, a lot of research and development activities are being carried out in this area world over. In India a number of institutions are also in the process of setting up digital libraries and many scholars and practitioners are conducting research on digital libraries. In recent years, quite a few conferences on digital.

What is a “digital library”?

Traditional user/librarian distinction is blurred

Computers make information active

Kitchens for knowledge preparation

WWW ≠ DL!—organization, selectivity

Nice Web site \neq DL!—import new documents easily Collection of digital objects (text, video, audio) along with methods for access and retrieval, [user] and for selection, organization, and maintenance [lib].

OBJECTIVES OF DL

- ❖ To make sure of an effective Resource sharing of new knowledge and improvement of existing the information ;
- ❖ To ensure an effective securing of knowledge and make easily accessible to the organization;
- ❖ To ascertain a specific distribution of new DL and transfer of knowledge to new employees;
- ❖ To improve the form of DL bearers in relation to the users;

Methodology

In order to collect the comprehensive and relevant data from the library professionals Engineering colleges Polytechnic college and Arts Science College in Coimbatore, a structured questionnaire was designed and interview method was also adopted as the tool for collection of data. The questionnaire was formulated keeping in view, the objective and various facers of the study and the questionnaires were personally distributed and collected with constant personal pursuance and the data obtained from the filled in questionnaires, later classified, analyzed, tabulated and logically interpreted.

DATA COLLECTION

❖ **Primary Data**

Questionnaire method has been adopted to collect the required primary data.

❖ **Secondary Data**

Secondary data have also been collected through published and unpublished resources.

Sample Design

Fifty samples were chosen for the present study. The library professionals were requested to fill up the questionnaire.

LIMITATIONS

The study covers the professionals who are working in different types of College Libraries in Coimbatore District.

- ❖ Engineering College Library
- ❖ Polytechnic College Library
- ❖ Arts & Science College Library

AREA PROFILE OF THE STUDY

Coimbatore, also known as Koyambatoor, Kovai or sometimes spelt as Covai, is a city in the Indian state of Tamil Nadu. It is located on the banks of the Noyyal River and surrounded by the Western Ghats. Coimbatore is the second largest city in Tamil Nadu after Chennai and the 16th largest urban agglomeration in India as per the census 2011. It is administered by the Coimbatore Municipal Corporation and is the administrative capital of Coimbatore District.

The city is one of the largest exporters of jewellery, wet grinders, poultry and auto components; the "Coimbatore Wet Grinder" and the "Kovai Cora Cotton" are recognised as Geographical Indications by the Government of India.

Coimbatore was part of Kongu Nadu during the Sangam period between c. 1st and the 4th centuries CE and was ruled by the Cheras as it served as the eastern entrance to the Palakkad Gap, the principal trade route between the west coast (Kerala) and (Tamil Nadu). Coimbatore was located along the ancient trade route that extended from Muziris to Arikamedu in South India. The medieval Cholas conquered the Kongu Nadu in the 10th century CE. The region was ruled by Vijayanagara Empire in the 15th century followed by the Nayaks who introduced the Palayakkarar system under which Kongu Nadu region was divided into 24 Palayams. In the later part of the 18th century, the Coimbatore region came under the Kingdom of Mysore and

following the defeat of Tipu Sultan in the Anglo-Mysore Wars, the British East India Company annexed Coimbatore to the Madras Presidency in 1799. The Coimbatore region played a prominent role in the Second Poligar War (1801) when it was the area of operations of Dheeran Chinnamalai.

DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

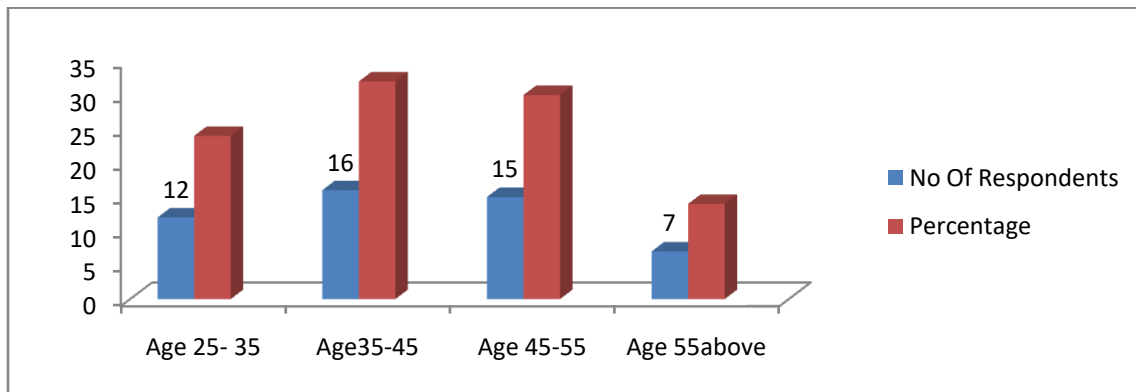


Figure :1 Age Wise Classification

The Found that 32% of the Library professionals belong to the age group 35-45 and 30 of them are in the age group of 45-55.

CLASSIFICATION BY QUALIFICATION

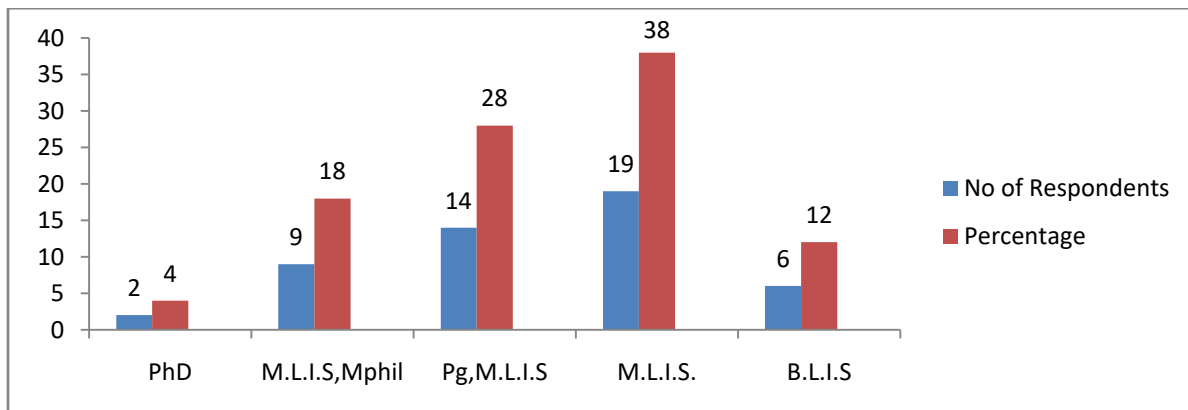


Figure : 2 Qualification Details

It is observed from the above that 38% of the respondents are possessing postgraduates degrees along with Master degree in Library and Information science, 28% respondents possess PG Master degree in Library Information science, 18% respondents possess M.L.I.S, Mphil degree in Library Information science, 12% respondents B.L.I.S degree in Library in Library science and 4% PhD degree in Library Information Science.

AWARENESS ON DIGITAL LIBRARY

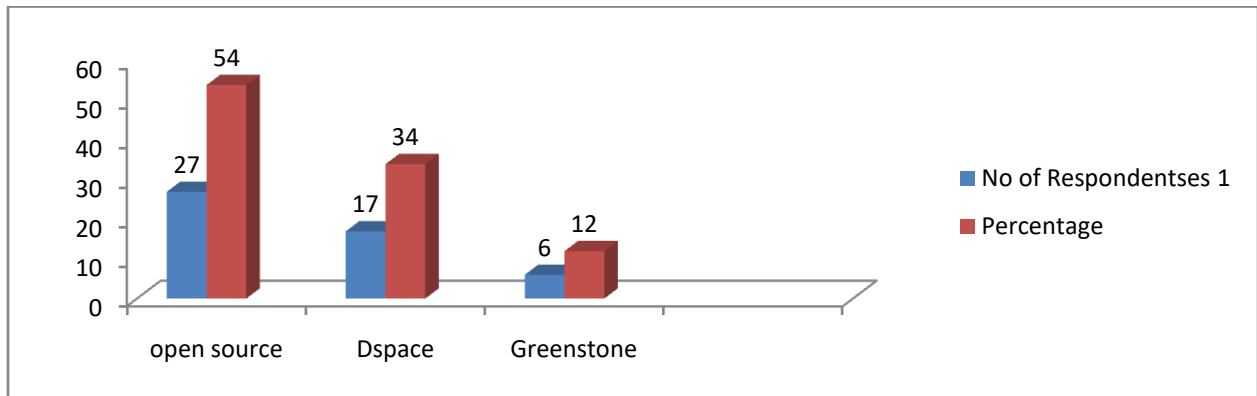


Figure: 3

Maximum number of respondents (54%) is knowledge on Open source and 34% are knowledge on Dspace and 12% of the respondents are knowledge on Greenstone.

AWARENESS ON DIGITAL LIBRARY

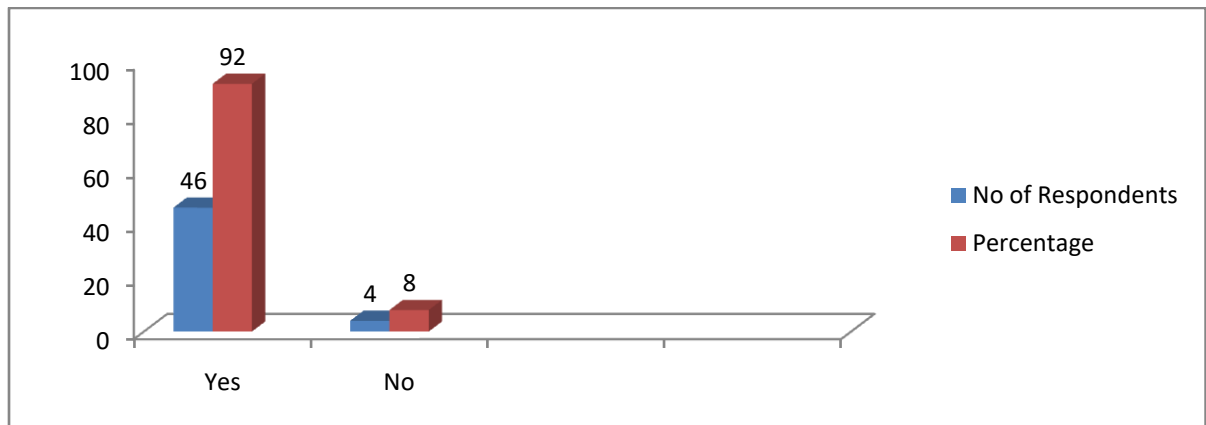


FIGURE: 4

It is observed the above table that 92% of the respondents are aware of the concept of Digital Library and 8% of the respondents are not.

OPINION ON APPLICATION OF DIGITAL LIBRARY

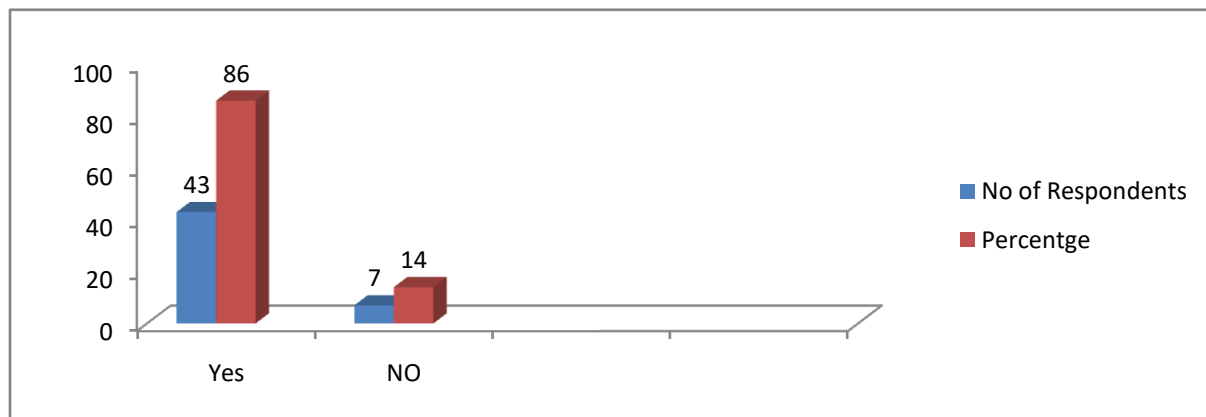


FIGURE: 5

The above table shows that 86% of respondents are eager to apply the concept “Digital library” and 14% of the respondents are not willing.

CONCLUSION

Digital Library are excellent assessment tools, both for teachers and students. They allow us to collect the best examples of our progress, our work, and our creativity. DL are real-world in Ways that test score data is not. DL allow us to showcase our best efforts at what we do DL is one that is compact in size. It can incorporate a wider selection of materials. A digital (electronic, virtual) Library can easily be duplicated, shared, and augmented in the field of library.

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