**Usage of Generalia books in Morning Star polytechnic college: A Case Study**

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**Abstract:**

The study is very useful to analyze the usage of Generalia books for the faculty members and students of Morning Star Polytechnic College, Chunkankadai. It analyzed the various aspects of library collection usage, frequency and purposes of library visits and user satisfaction of library visits and user satisfaction of library services.

*Keywords*: Generalia books, usage and polytechnic college.

**Introducation**

Books play a vital role to improve knowledge in education by giving information. So, every educational Institution shows interest in building a well equipped and well furnished library with variety of books. The books can give subject oriented knowledge and general knowledge to students and faculty members.

The books which give up- to- date current affairs and general knowledge. They are called Generalia books. Tablets, Manuscripts, Archives, Sound books, Printed books, Micro Film Strips, Film rolls, General books, News papers, Periodicals, Aptitude books, Reference books, patents, Autographs, pamphlets are the various type of generalia books . These sources will be very useful to prepare for competitive examinations and various literary competitions. In today’s changing world, learners and knowledge seekers need more information to meet the industry needs. This information can be provided by these generalia books.

**About the College**

Morning Star Polytechnic College was established on August 1984 under Roman Catholic Diocese of Kottar in Kanyakumari District. Its aim is imparting high quality engineering education. The polytechnic college is situated in an eco-friendly serene and peaceful atmosphere. True to the Motto ‘Towards Fullness of Life’ is engraved in the emblem of this Polytechnic College . It is located at Chunkankadai in Nagercoil – Trivandrum high way and 5 Kms from Nagercoil. It has well furnished class rooms well equipped laboratories and well stacked library with more than 17,000 books and 6,025 generalia books. It includes 21 national and International journals. In the library new technology like Internet is also available.

**About the users of library**

Many of the users of MSPTC library are students and staff. Students of various departments are using the library. In polytechnic colleges, students are allowed to take books in Tamil as well as in English. They can write their board exams in both the languages.

**Review of Literature**

The related studies on the present topic of research

**Siva Kumar, K.P. (2014)** conducted a study on “Periodicals Use Pattern by Faculty Members of Noorul Islam University, Kumaracoil”. The study investigates the utilization patterns of Periodicals literature among the faculty members at Noorul Islam University. About 110 questionnaires were distributed and 96 were received. The study found that equal number of users (40.62%) prefer both national and international level periodicals. As far as purpose of using periodicals is concerned, as first preference updating the latest development 55.68% followed by gaining deeper knowledge (54.54%) 48.95% of users rated as excellent for printed version, where as 28.12% for electronic version and 60.41% of users preferred both printed version and electronic version.

**Dipika Majumder, M and Mehedi Hasan, D(2013)**  published an article on “Newspaper Reading Habits of Private University Students: a Case Study on World University of Bangaladesh”. Reading is primarily an intellectual activity of learning new things, developing new ideas and it provides a sense of completeness. Newspaper is a wonder of modern science. It carries new and views of home and abroad to us. Newspaper reading is a habituated reading which influences readers to discover and enter the store house of knowledge on daily basis. The aim of present study is to investigate the level of newspaper reading habits of students. The target population of the study consist 1st year to postgraduate students of science commerce and arts faculties of World University of Bangladesh. On the basis of questionnaire survey the study made some possible recommendation to improve the newspaper reading habits of respondents.

**Naqvi, Tanveer Haider. (2013)** designed a study on “Current Awareness Services: A case Study of the CBHTS Nasinu”. Due to the ever changing information world, different approaches and new tools emerge all the time. It is necessary to be selective both for library staff themselves and for helping users. This survey was conducted to seek users’ input concerning the awareness and use of the current awareness (CA) services in the college of Business, Hospitality & Tourism studies (CBHTS) Nasinu library of Fiji National University. A total 150 questionnaires were distributed randomly among students and staff CBHTS. 100 (67%) questionnaires were completed and returned. The findings of the study reveal that the majority of the students and staff came to know about CA services through the library website, e-mail are most popular among staff and students. A number of suggestions were also made regarding how to improve existing CA services and to develop new ones.

**Henry N. Kemoni (2002)** made a research report about “The Utilization of Archival Information by Researchers in Kenya: A Case Study of the University of Nairobi”. Its objective was to ascertain the utilization of archival information by researchers and the extent to which the Kenya National Archival and Documentation Services were meeting their information needs. Opinions of users were collected by interviews. Study revealed that researchers were using variety of information sources to meet their information needs and relied more on archival personnel to access information.

**Need and Significance of the study**

The purpose of the study is to present that how generalia books play a vital role in polytechnic libraries. The students and faculty members refer these books for competitive examinations and also for their entrance to higher education. So a huge amount of money is spent for collecting these books by the management authorities for their libraries.

**Objectives of the study**

The present study focuses on the usage of Generalia books in Morning Star Polytechnic College. It attempts

1. To find out the purpose of library visit.
2. To analyze the availability of generalia books.
3. To know the collection of different types of Generalia books in Morning star polytechnic college and
4. To determine the frequency and purpose of generalia books usage.

**Limitation of the study**

This study is confined to the students and faculty members of the Morning Star Polytechnic College only.

**Methodology**

A survey of usage of Generalia books in Morning Star Polytechnic college library by the students and faculty members was carried out using a structured questionnaire. It was randomly distributed to 25 faculty members, 20 civil department students ,20 Mechanical department students, 20 Electrical & Electronics department students, 20 Electronics & Communication department students and 20 students in Computer Engineering department. Survey method was used to collect primary data. Questionnaire method was followed to collect the relevant data. Stratified random sampling will be followed for collecting the data. To collect data and other necessary information related to the research topic, a structured and well designed125 questionnaires were distributed. The collected data were tabulated and applied simple percentage was calculated and analyzed.

**Data Analysis**

**Table 1 : Sample size**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Sl. No. | Type of Respondents | No of respondents | Percentage |
| 1 | Faculty members (FM) | 25 | 20 |
| 2 | Students (S) | 100 | 80 |
|  | Total | 125 | 100 |

**Source : Primary data**

Interpretation: Table 1 shows in the Morning Star polytechnic college total students are around 900 and faculty members are 108. The table depicts the questionnaire distributed among respondents were 125 . Out of these respondents 20% of the population under study consists of faculty members and 80% respondents are students.

**Table -2 Size of the sample based on level of the respondents**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Departments** | **FM** | **Percentage** | **S** | **Percentage** | **Total** | **Percentage** |
| Civil | 6 | 24 | 16 | 16 | 22 | 17.6 |
| Mechanical | 4 | 16 | 12 | 12 | 16 | 12.8 |
| EEE | 3 | 12 | 20 | 20 | 23 | 18.4 |
| ECE | 7 | 28 | 24 | 24 | 31 | 24.8 |
| Computer | 5 | 20 | 28 | 28 | 33 | 26.4 |
| Total | 25 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 125 | 100 |

**Source : Primary data**

Interpretation: Table 2 shows the distribution of respondents by departments: 6 faculty members (24%) and 16 students (16%) from the Department of Civil, 4 faculty members (16%) and 12 students (12%) from the Department of Mechanical, 3 faculty members (12%) 20 students (20%) from the Department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering, 7 faculty members 24 students (24%) from the Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering, 5 faculty members (20%) 28 students (28%) from the Department of Computer Engineering.

**Table 3: Frequency of library visit**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Frequency | FM | Percentage | S | Percentage | Total | Percentage |
| Daily | 2 | 8 | 12 | 12 | 14 | 11.2 |
| Weekly | 8 | 32 | 28 | 28 | 36 | 28.8 |
| Monthly | 10 | 40 | 36 | 36 | 46 | 36.8 |
| Never | 5 | 20 | 24 | 24 | 29 | 23.2 |
| Total | 25 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 125 | 100 |

**Source : Primary data**

Interpretation: Findings in Table 3 above reveal that 8% faculty members and 12% of students do visit library daily, 32% of faculty members and 28% of students visit library weekly. 40% of faculty members and 36% of students visit the library Monthly, 20% of faculty members and 24% of students are never came in the library .

**Table 4: Language preference of respondents**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Language** | **FM** | **Students** | **Total** | **Percentage** |
| Tamil | 20 | 80 | 100 | 80 |
| English | 4 | 15 | 19 | 15.2 |
| Malayalam | 1 | 5 | 6 | 4.8 |
| Hindi | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 25 | 100 | 125 | 100 |

**Source : Primary data**

Interpretation: Table 4 shows majority of the respondents (80%) prefer to read newspaper in Tamil, as it is their mother language, whereas (15.2%) respondents prefer to read English newspaper. The table also shows that respondents from students (80%) prefer to read Tamil newspaper mostly because they are studying their academic books in Tamil as they did it in their higher secondary level.

**Table 5: Satisfaction level in Generalia books**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Satisfaction level** | **FM** | **Students** | **Total** | **Percentage** |
| Fully satisfied | 15 | 40 | 55 | 44.0 |
| Satisfied | 5 | 25 | 30 | 24.0 |
| Partially satisfied | 3 | 33 | 36 | 28.8 |
| Not satisfied | 2 | 2 | 4 | 3.2 |
| Total | 25 | 100 | 125 | 100.0 |

**Source : Primary data**

Interpretation: Table 5 shows (44%) respondents are fully satisfied in the usage of Generalia books. (24%) of respondents are satisfied , (28.8%) of respondents are partially satisfied, only (3.2%) respondents are not satisfied in the collection of Generalia books.

**Table 6 :Time spent in Library during each visit**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Sl.No.** | **Time Spend** | **FM** | **S** | **Total** | **Percentage** |
| 1 | Less than 30 minutes | 15 | 80 | 100 | 80 |
| 2 | 30 minutes to 1 hour | 5 | 15 | 20 | 12 |
| 3 | More than one hour | 5 | 5 | 10 | 8 |
|  | Total | 25 | 100 | 125 | 100 |

**Source : Primary data**

Interpretation: able 6 shows that most of the respondents (80%) spent less than 30 minutes time spent in the library. (12%) respondents spent 30 minutes to 1 hour in the library while only (8%) of respondents spent library more than one hour.

**Purpose Library Visit to the library**

The respondents were asked to indicate the purpose of visits to the library. The data collected are analyzed and presented in table 7.

**Table 7: Purpose of visit to the library**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Sl.No.** | **Visiting purpose** | **FM** | **S** | **Total** | **percentage** |
| 1 | To read news papers | 10 | 60 | 70 | 56 |
| 2 | To read periodicals | 5 | 18 | 23 | 18.4 |
| 3 | To refer subject books | 5 | 15 | 20 | 16 |
| 4 | To know employment opportunities | 5 | 7 | 12 | 9.6 |
|  | Total | 25 | 100 | 125 | 100 |

**Source : Primary data**

Interpretation: The table shows majority of the respondents 70 (56%) have expressed that they visit the library to read news papers and 23 (18.4) respondents have said that they visit the library to read periodicals ,those who visits the library to refer subject books are 20 (16%) and 12(9.6%) respondents have said that they visit library to know about the employment opportunities.

**Findings**

The present study has the following findings :

Majority of the faculty members (40%) and students ( 36%) are visiting library monthly.

Majority of faculty members and students (80%) prefer Tamil language for reading books.

Majority of the respondents are fully satisfied with the collection of the Generalia books.

Majority of the respondents (80%) spending in less than 30 minutes in library per day.

Majority of the faculty members and students (56%) are visiting library to read news papers only.

**Conclusion**

Library plays a vital role in all the educational institutions. Education is the soul of all countries. Students are the future of a nation. Books are playing important role in giving Education. Books are used to impart knowledge to learners. The usage of generalia books is also very important in the library. The faculty members and students need up-to -date information and general knowledge. To teach and learn new technologies which can be retrieved. Because the world is looking for those who from generalia books those who are having new ideas to meet the changing world’s need.

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