UGC Approval No: 43960

Impact Factor: 2.114

A STUDY ON INFORMATION SEARCHING PATTERN OF THE USERS OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES IN DINDIGUL DISTRICT, TAMILNADU

Article Particulars

Received: 28.6.2017

Accepted: 8.7.2017

Published: 28.7.2017



S. JAYASEELI VIJAYA RANI

Ph. D Research Scholar, Department of Library and Information Science, Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai - 625021, Tamil Nadu, India

> Dr. A. BALADHANDAYUTHAM Assistant Professor, Department of Library and Information Science, Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai - 625021, Tamil Nadu, India



Abstract

The present study deals with the information searching pattern of the users of public libraries in Dindigul District, Tamilnadu. The study found that 39.2% of the respondents visit to the public library daily. 31.7% of the respondents need a public library in their village /city to get an easy access to any news or information. 41.1 % of the overall respondents who belong to various age groups state that value of journals and books is relevant. 50.5% of the respondents are easy to access the reading materials. 40.5% of the respondents agree that the librarians conduct extension activities on a regular basis. 35.2% of the respondents agree that Library Extension activities encourage the readers' frequency of visit to the library. 24.1% of the respondents cite that the access to photocopy facilities is the main influence of the village library services and it has got the first rank. It is found that a majority of the respondents are satisfied with the Infrastructure of the public library. 29.8% of the respondents strongly agree with satisfaction of the borrowing facilities of the library. **Keywords:** Public Library, Information, Information searching pattern, user study

Introduction

The vital role the public libraries can play in a country's programmes for development and national reconstruction particularly in areas such as spread of education, dissemination of information, utilization of the leisure time in purposeful activities as well as in programmes for the overall socio-economic development has been accepted and even well demonstrated in developed as well as developing countries all over the world¹. The public services are to be examined and recorded with

the help of tentative guidelines. It is observed that some changes are required to introduce into the method and content of the library service. First, the public library should become a centre of a full-fledged information and advice bureau, either in coordination with other local information agencies or independently². It has been pointed out "the public library must attempt to serve all the people in its community whatever their needs, rather than serving just those people who happen to like what the library chooses to provide. It should ascertain what services and facilities are wanted by the individuals in its community and provide them³.

Objectives of the Study

Vol. 5

The following are the main objectives of the study:

- To ascertain the information searching pattern of the users of public libraries in Dindigul District, Tamilnadu.
- To find out the frequency of visit to the public library by the users
- To find out the needs of the public library users
- To get the opinion from the users regarding the value of journals and books
- To know the accessibility of reading materials by the users
- To know the opinion about the statement librarians conduct extension activities on a regular basis
- To know the opinion about the statement Library Extension activities encourage the readers' frequency of visit to the library
- To study the influence of public library services
- To study the Infrastructure of the public library
- To get the opinion from the users regarding the borrowing facilities of the library

Research Methodology

Research is an intensive and purposeful search for knowledge and understanding of social and physical phenomena. Research is a scientific activity undertaken to establish something, a fact, a theory, a principle or an application. It is an academic activity. Research in common parlance refers to a search for knowledge. One can also define research as a scientific and systematic search for pertinent information on a specific topic. Infect, research is an art of scientific investigation. Research as a movement, a movement from the know to the unknown⁴. The present study is a descriptive method. The questionnaires were used to collect the primary data. There are 500 Questionnaires were randomly distributed to the users of public libraries in Dindigul District, Tamilnadu, India for collecting primary data and 477 filled questionnaires were received back by the researchers. The target group of this study includes library users of the six libraries of Dindigul District. A detailed study of six public Libraries of Dindigul District such as 1. Athoor 2. Ammanayakanur 3. Chinnalapatti 4. Panjampatti 5. Sempatti 6. Vakkampatti. Hence 477 questionnaires were used for data analysis and interpretation. The primary data have been collected on August 2016.

Review of Literature

Fahmi, et al., (2013)⁵ viewed an analytical study to discover the attitude towards the rural library services among youths in Malaysia. It also considers that the individual factors might influence attitudes towards the services offered. This is a correlation study in nature, and uses a developed questionnaire to obtain the data needed. A total of 400 respondents among rural youths from 16 selected rural libraries in four states of Peninsular Malaysia were chosen. It is concluded that the rural youths have favorable attitude towards the services offered by local libraries and frequency of attending rural libraries has a positive relationship with attitude towards rural library services

Hawkins, et al., (2001)⁶ studied the socio- economic features of the public library users in United Kingdom. The aims of the study were to assess the value of the public library services to the user and to the society, to explore how the approaches developed in USA could be applied in the public libraries of UK and to assess the impact of such approaches. The results indicated that persons in the age group of 25 – 54 used non-fiction books for job- related searches. Adolescents in the age group of 15 – 19 were found using books based on their need for study and career opportunities. Children of pre – school age had limited reading skills and picture books were found to be stimulators of their imagination. Library use was found to fall off after the age of 11 as children were pursuing more social activities, but they used library for study purposes, and reading for pleasure lost its attraction at this age,. Library use among the young adults depended on whether or not the individual was in formal education. Those who were in formal education tended to use the range of services offered by the public libraries.

Islam (2012)⁷ conducted focus group discussion to evaluate the library services in northern districts of Bangladesh. The study also highlighted the information needs of rural community. Respondents mentioned that they need information for education, health care, food and nutrition, family planning, agriculture information needs such as information about weather, soil, seeds, fertilizers and pesticides. They mentioned that they also need information about cultivation of vegetables and dairy development. They described that in leisure time they visit their neighbor or friends. They pointed out that they like to read books on poetry, text books, and books on religion, agriculture, poultry, biography and livestock. They were aware of the rural library services and use library for finding needed information.

Data Analysis and Interpretation

Table 1: Gender and Age – wise distribution of respondents

P	articulars	No. of Respondents	Percentage	
	Male	321	67.3	
Gender	Female	156	32.7	
	Total	477	100	

	Below 15 Years	88	18.4
	16 to 20Years	107	22.4
	21 to 30Years	117	24.5
Age	31 to 40 Years	75	15.7
	41 to 50 Years	58	12.2
	51 and above	32	6.7
	Total	477	100

Source: Primary data

Table 1 reveals the gender and age-wise distribution of the respondents. In this study, a majority of 321 (67.3%) respondents come under the male category while 156 (32.7%) respondents are female category. The above table also indicates that among the 477 respondents, a majority of 117 (24.5%) respondents belong to age group between 21 and 30 and it is followed by 107 (22.4%) respondents between 16 and 20 age group, 88 (18.4%) of them between below15 age group, 75 (15.7%) of them between 31 and 40 age group, 58 (12.2%) of them 41 and 50 age group and 32 (6.7%) of them 51 and above age group.

 Table 2: Distribution of respondents according to marital status and residential sector

 Source:
 Primary data

Particulars		No. of Respondents	Percentage	
	Unmarried	316	66.2	
Marital Status	Married	161	33.8 100	
	Total	477		
	Rural	298	62.5	
Residential sector	Urban	179	37.5	
	Total	477	100	

Table 2 describes thedistributionofrespondentsaccordingtomaritalstatusandresidentialsector. In thisstudy, a majority of 316

(66.2%) respondents come under the unmarried category whereas 161 (33.8%) respondents married. The above table also indicates that of the 477 respondents, a majority of 298 (62.5%) respondents come under the rural areas whereas 179 (37.5%) respondents urban areas.

Table 3: Frequency of visit to the	public library by the respondents of marital status
------------------------------------	---

S.	Marital		Frequency (%)					
No	status	Daily	Weekly	Twice a week	Monthly	Rarely	Total	
1.	Unmarried	94 (29.7)	123 (38.9)	34 (10.8)	27 (8.5)	38 (12)	316	
2.	Married	93 (57.8)	28 (17.4)	17 (10.6)	12 (7.5)	11 (6.8)	161	
	Total	187	151	51	39	49	477	

Source: Primary data

Table 3 presents the frequency of visit to the public library by the respondents of marital status. After getting opinion from the respondents of unmarried category, a majority of 123 (38.9%) respondents visit to the library weekly and it is followed by, 94 (29.7%) daily, 34 (10.8%) twice a week, 38 (12%) rarely and 27 (8.5%) monthly respectively. Of the respondents of married category, a majority of 93 (57.8%) respondents visit to the public library daily and it is followed by 28 (17.4%) weekly, 17 (10.6%) twice a week ,12 (7.5%) monthly and 11 (6.8%) rarely respectively. It is

concluded that one third of the married and unmarried respondents visit the public library weekly.

S. No	Public library needs	No. of overall Responses	% of valid Respondents N= 477	% of overall Responses N=665	Rank
1	To spend my leisure time usefully	101	21.2	15.2	3
2	To read comics or literature	45	9.4	6.8	6
3	To utilize the internet or computer facilities	15	3.1	2.3	8
4	To acquire knowledge or education	98	20.5	14.7	4
5	To know about my kingdom and the world	86	18	12.9	5
6	To get an easy access to any news or information	151	31.7	22.7	1
7	To gain more general and subject knowledge	110	23.1	16.5	2
8	To preserve cultural heritage of the country	13	2.7	2.0	9
9	To ensure the more civilized society	34	7.1	5.1	7
10	Many other reasons as I know (pi mention)	12	2.5	1.8	10
	Total N= 477	665	139.4	100	

Table 4: Needs of the Public Library N=477

Source: Primary data

Multiple Responses

The above table 4 indicates that among the overall 477 respondents, a majority of 31.7% of the respondents need a public library in their village /city to get an easy access to any news or information, and it has got the first rank while 23.1% to gain more general and subject knowledge and it has got the second rank, 21.2% respondents to spend leisure time usefully and it has got the third rank, 20.5% to acquire knowledge or education and it has got the fourth rank, 18% to know about their kingdom and the world and it has got the fifth rank, 9.4% to read comics or literature and it has got the sixth rank, 7.1% to ensure the more civilized society and it has got the seventh rank, 3.1% to utilize the internet or computer facilities and it has got the ninth rank and 1.8% some other reasons and it has got the tenth rank respectively.

Table 5: Opinion about the value of journals and books	s by the respondents of various Age groups
--	--

	•		•	•			
6 N.a			Opinion				
S. No	Age group	Relevant	Moderately relevant	Highly relevant	Not relevant	Ν	
1.	Below 15 Years	45 (51.1)	21 (23.9)	13 (14.8)	9 (10.2)	88	
2.	16 to 20 Years	44 (41.1)	25 (23.4)	17 (15.9)	21 (19.6)	107	
3.	21 to 30 Years	43 (36.8)	30 (25.6)	23 (19.6)	21 (17.9)	117	
4.	31 to 40 Years	17 (22.7)	23 (30.7)	15 (20)	20 (26.7)	75	
5.	41 to 50 Years	30 (51.7)	12 (20.7)	-	16 (27.6)	58	
6.	51 and above	17 (53.1)	15 (46.8)	-	-	32	
	Total	196	126	68	87	477	

Opinion is obtained from the respondents of below 15 years of age group, a majority of 45 (51.1%) respondents opine that the value of the journals and books are relevant and it is followed by 21(23.9%) of them opine that it is moderately relevant, 13 (14.8%) of them opine that it is highly relevant and 9 (10.2%) not relevant respectively. Of the respondents of 16 to 20 years of age group, a majority of 44 (41.1%) respondents state that the value of the journals and books are relevant and it is followed by 25 (23.4%) of them moderately relevant, 21 (19.6%) not relevant and 17 (15.9%) highly relevant respectively. After getting the opinion from the respondents of 21 to 30 years of age group, a majority of 43 (36.8%) respondents opine that the value of the journals and books are relevant and it is followed by, 30 (25.6%) moderately relevant, 23 (19.6%) highly relevant and 21 (17.9%) not relevant respectively. of the respondents of 31 to 40 years of age group, a majority of 23 (30.7%) respondents opine that the value of the journals and books are moderately relevant and it is followed by 20 (26.7%) of them not relevant,17 (22.7%) relevant and 15 (20%) highly relevant respectively. Opinion is obtained from the respondents of 41 to 50 years of age group, a majority of 30 (51.7%) respondents opine that the value of the journals and books are relevant and it is followed by 16 (27.6%) not relevant and 12 (20.7%) moderately relevant respectively. Opinion is obtained from the respondents of 51 and above years of age group, a majority of 17 (53.1%) respondents opine that the value of the journals and books are relevant and it is followed by 15 (46.8%) moderately relevant respectively. It is concluded that 41.9 % of the overall respondents who belong to various age groups state that value of journals and books is relevant.

 Table 6: Opinion about the Accessibility

 of Reading Materials by the Respondents of Gender

 Source: Primary data

S. No	Gender	Easy to access	Fairly easy to access	Not Satisfied to access	Total N	
1.	Male	147 (45.8)	53 (16.5)	121 (37.7)	321	
2.	Female	94 (60.3)	26 (16.7)	36 (23.1)	156	
Total		241	79	157	477	

Table 6 reveals the opinion on the accessibility of the reading materials by the respondents of gender. Among the respondents of male category, a majority of

147 (45.8%) respondents are easy to access the reading materials and it is followed by 121 (37.7%) respondents are not satisfied to access and 53 (16.5%) fairly easy to access respectively. Of the respondents of female category, a majority of 94 (60.3%) respondents are easy to access the reading materials and it is followed by 36 (23.1%) respondents are not satisfied to access and 26 (16.7%) respondents are fairly easy to access the reading materials and it is followed by 36 (23.1%) respondents are not satisfied to access and 26 (16.7%) respondents are fairly easy to access respectively.

Table 7: Opinion about the librarians conduct extension activities on aRegular basis by the respondents of gender

6 NI-	Gender	Opinion (%)					
S. No		Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Ν
1.	Male	23 (7.2)	136 (42.4)	72 (22.4)	12 (3.7)	78 (24.3)	321
2.	Female	26 (16.7)	57 (36.5)	25 (16)	27 (17.3)	21 (13.5)	156
Total		49	193	97	39	99	477

Data presented in table 7 discuss the opinion about the librarians conduct extension activities on a regular basis by the respondents of gender. Of the respondents of male category, a majority of 136 (42.4%) respondents agree that the Librarians conduct extension activities on a regular basis and it is followed by 78 (24.3%) of them strongly disagree, 72 (22.4%) do not express any opinion, 23 (7.2%) strongly agree and 12 (3.7%) disagree respectively. Among the respondents of female category, a majority of 57 (36.5%) respondents agree that the Librarians conduct extension activities and it is followed by 27 (17.3%) of them disagree, 26 (16.7%) strongly agree, 25 (16%) do not express any opinion and 21 (13.5%) strongly disagree respectively. Therefore 40.5 of the respondents of male and female category agree with librarians conduct extension activities on a regular basis on a regularly basis.

S.	Income		Opinion (%)					
s. No		Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total N	
1.	Below Rs10,000	25 (14.5)	56 (32.6)	35 (20.3)	31 (18)	25 (14.5)	172	
2.	Rs.11000 - Rs.20000	23 (19.2)	51 (42.5)	18 (15)	16 (13.3)	12 (10)	120	
3.	Rs.21000- Rs.30000	13 (14.9)	29 (33.3)	14 (16.1)	14 (16.1)	17 (19.5)	87	
4.	Rs.31000 - Rs.40000	6 (10.9)	20 (36.4)	8 (14.5)	11 (20)	10 (18.2)	55	
5.	Above Rs.41000	8 (18.6)	12 (27.9)	9 (20.9)	6 (14)	8 (18.6)	43	
Total		75	168	84	78	72	477	

 Table 8: Opinion on Library Extension activities encourage the readers' frequency of visit to the library by the respondents of income

Source: Primary data

It is understood from the table 8 that among the respondents of below Rs.10,000 income level, a majority of 56 (32.6%) respondents agree with Library Extension activities encourage the readers' frequency of visit to the library and it is followed by 35 (20.3%) neutral, 31 (18%) disagree and 25 (14.5%) strongly garee and another 25(14.5%) strongly disagree respectively. Of the respondents of between Rs.11000 and Rs.20000 income level, a majority of 51 (42.5%) respondents agree with Library Extension activities encourage the readers' frequency of visit to the library and it is followed by 23 (19.2%) of them strongly agree, 18 (15%) neutral, 16 (13.3%) disagree and 12 (10%) strongly disagree respectively. Among the respondents of between Rs.21000 and Rs.30000 income level, a majority of 29 (33.3%) respondents garee with Library Extension activities encourage the readers' frequency of visit to the library and it is followed by 17 (19.5%) of them strongly disagree, 14 (16.1%) of them disagree, neutral and 13 (14.9%) strongly agree respectively. Among the respondents of between Rs.31000 and Rs.40000 income level, a majority of 20 (36.4%) respondents agree with Library Extension activities encourage the readers' frequency of visit to the library and it is followed by 11 (20%) of them disagree, 10 (18.2%) of them strongly disagree, 8 (14.5%) neutral and 6 (10.9) strongly agree respectively. Among the respondents of above Rs.41000 income level, a majority of 12 (27.9%) respondents agree with Library Extension activities encourage the readers' frequency of visit to the library and it is followed by

9 (20.9%) of them neutral, 8 (18.6%) of them strongly disagree, 8 (18.6%) strongly agree and 6 (14%) disagree respectively. It is found that more than one fourth of the respondents agree Library Extension activities encourage the readers' frequency of visit to the library.

S. No	Library services	No. of Responses	% of valid Respondents N= 477	% of overall Responses N=674	Rank
1.	Access to photocopy facilities	115	24.1	17.1	1
2.	Access to loan facilities (book borrowing)	110	23.1	16.3	2
3.	Access to journals and serials materials like newspapers and magazines	82	17.2	12.2	3
4.	Conducive reading environment	60	12.6	8.9	6
5.	Access to recent and up-to-date library materials	73	15.3	10.8	4
6.	Access to internet facilities	53	11.1	7.9	8
7.	Access to reference resources	71	14.9	10.5	5
8.	Access to free online/electronic resources	59	12.4	8.8	7
9.	Helps me to meet my information needs at all times	51	10.7	7.6	9
	Total	674	139.4	100	

Table 9: Opinion about the influence of public library services N=477

Source: Primary data

Multiple Responses

Table 9 reveals the opinion about the Influence of the public library services. It is found that among the overall 477 respondents, 24.1% of the respondents cite that the access to photocopy facilities is the main influence of the village library services and it has got the first rank while 23.1% cite that access to loan facilities (book borrowing) and it has got the second rank, 17.2 % access to journals and serials materials like newspapers and magazines and it has got the third rank whereas 15.3% access to recent and up-to-date library materials and it has got the fourth rank. Of the 477 respondents, 14.9% of them cite that access to reference resources of the library is the main influence of the village library services and it has got the sixth rank, 12.4% access to free online/electronic resources and it has got the seventh rank, 11.1% access to internet facilities and it has got the eighth rank and 10.7% helps me to meet my information needs at all times and it has got the ninth rank.

Infrastructure Services	Opinion (%)						
	Highly satisfied	Satisfied	No comments	Dissatisfied	Poor		
Collections	111 (23.3)	167 (35)	98 (20.5)	78 (16.4)	23 (4.8)		
Physical facilities	121 (25.4)	157 (32.9)	68 (14.3)	59 (12.4)	72 (15.1)		
Service of Library staff	136 (28.5)	112 (23.5)	95 (19.9)	72 (15.1)	62 (13)		
Working hours	126 (26.4)	166 (34.8)	84 (17.6)	52 (10.9)	49 (10.3)		
Location of library	136 (28.5)	141 (29.6)	79 (16.6)	67 (14)	54 (11.3)		
Arrangement of Books	109 (22.9)	118 (24.7)	123 (25.8)	59 (12.4)	68 (14.3)		
ICT facility	88 (18.4)	133 (27.9)	102 (21.4)	98 (20.5)	56 (11.7)		
Water and Parking	98 (20.5)	137 (28.7)	113 (23.7)	87 (18.2)	42 (8.8)		
	Services Collections Physical facilities Service of Library staff Working hours Location of library Arrangement of Books ICT facility	ServicesHighly satisfiedCollections111 (23.3)Physical facilities121 (25.4)Service of Library staff136 (28.5)Working hours126 (26.4)Location of library136 (28.5)Arrangement of Books109 (22.9)ICT facility88 (18.4)	Services Highly satisfied Satisfied Collections 111 (23.3) 167 (35) Physical facilities 121 (25.4) 157 (32.9) Service of Library staff 136 (28.5) 112 (23.5) Working hours 126 (26.4) 166 (34.8) Location of library 136 (28.5) 141 (29.6) Arrangement of Books 109 (22.9) 118 (24.7) ICT facility 88 (18.4) 133 (27.9)	Highly Services Satisfied No comments Collections 111 (23.3) 167 (35) 98 (20.5) Physical facilities 121 (25.4) 157 (32.9) 68 (14.3) Service of Library staff 136 (28.5) 112 (23.5) 95 (19.9) Working hours 126 (26.4) 166 (34.8) 84 (17.6) Location of library 136 (28.5) 141 (29.6) 79 (16.6) Arrangement of Books 109 (22.9) 118 (24.7) 123 (25.8) ICT facility 88 (18.4) 133 (27.9) 102 (21.4)	Highly Services Highly satisfied Satisfied No comments Dissatisfied Collections 111 (23.3) 167 (35) 98 (20.5) 78 (16.4) Physical facilities 121 (25.4) 157 (32.9) 68 (14.3) 59 (12.4) Service of Library staff 136 (28.5) 112 (23.5) 95 (19.9) 72 (15.1) Working hours 126 (26.4) 166 (34.8) 84 (17.6) 52 (10.9) Location of library 136 (28.5) 141 (29.6) 79 (16.6) 67 (14) Arrangement of Books 109 (22.9) 118 (24.7) 123 (25.8) 59 (12.4) ICT facility 88 (18.4) 133 (27.9) 102 (21.4) 98 (20.5)		

Table 10: Opinion about the Infrastructure of the public library N=477

Shanlax International Journal of Arts, Science and Humanities

It could be understood from the table 10 that among the overall respondents, a majority of 167 (35%) respondents are satisfied with public library collections and it is followed by, 111 (23.3%) respondents are highly satisfied, 98 (20.5%) respondents have not expressed any comments, 78 (16.4%) respondents are dissatisfied and 23 (4.8%) respondents are poor respectively. Of the overall respondents, a majority of 157 (32.9%) respondents are satisfied with physical facilities of public library and it is followed by 121 (25.4%) respondents are highly satisfied, 68 (14.3%) respondents have not expressed any comments, 72 (15.1%) respondents are poor and 59 (12.4%) are dissatisfied respectively. Opinion is obtained from the overall respondents, a majority of 136 (28.5%) respondents are highly satisfied with services of public library staff and it is followed by, 112 (23.5%) respondents are satisfied, 95 (19.9%) respondents have not expressed any comments, 72 (15.1%) respondents are dissatisfied and 62 (13%) respondents are poor respectively. Of the overall respondents, a majority of 166 (34.8%) respondents are satisfied with public library working hours and it is followed by, 126 (26.4%) respondents are highly satisfied, 84 (17.6%) respondents are have not expressed any comments, 52 (10.9%) respondents are dissatisfied and 49 (10.3%) respondents are poor respectively. Among the overall respondents, a majority of 141 (29.6%) respondents are satisfied with location of library and it is followed by, 136 (28.5%) respondents are highly satisfied, 79 (16.6%) respondents have not expressed any comments, 67 (14%) respondents are dissatisfied and 54 (11.3%) respondents are poor respectively. Of the overall respondents, a majority of 123 (25.8%) respondents have not expressed any comments, 118 (24.7%) respondents are satisfied with arrangement of books and it is followed by, 109 (22.9%) respondents are highly satisfied, 68 (14.3%) respondents are poor and 59 (12.4%) respondents are dissatisfied respectively. Among the overall respondents, a majority of 133 (27.9%) respondents are satisfied with ICT facility and it is followed by, 102 (21.4%) respondents have not expressed any comments, 98 (20.5%) respondents are dissatisfied, 88 (18.4%) respondents are highly satisfied and 56 (11.7%) respondents are poor respectively. Of the overall respondents, a majority of 137 (28.7%) respondents are satisfied with water and parking and it is followed by, 113 (23.7%) respondents have not expressed any comments, 98 (20.5%) respondents are highly satisfied, 87 (18.2%) respondents are dissatisfied and 42 (8.8%) respondents are poor respectively.

Table 11: Opinion about the satisfaction with borrowing facilities of the library by the
respondents of gender

			respond	enis or gen			
S.	Condor	Opinion (%)					
No	Gender	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Ν
1.	Male	87 (27.1)	75 (23.4)	57 (17.8)	61 (19)	41 (12.8)	321
2.	Female	55 (35.3)	43 (27.6)	24 (15.4)	22 (14.1)	12 (7.7)	156
	Total	142	118	81	83	53	477

Data presented in table 11 reveal the level of satisfaction with the borrowing facilities of the library by the respondents of gender. Of the respondents of male category, a majority of 87 (27.1%) respondents strongly agree that the level of satisfaction with the borrowing facilities of the library and it is followed by 75 (23.4%) of them agree, 57 (17.8%) of them neutral, 61 (19) of them disagree and 41 (12.8%) strongly disagree respectively. Opinion is obtained from the respondents of female category, a majority of 55 (35.3%) respondents strongly agree that the level of satisfaction with borrowing facilities of the library and it is followed by 43 (27.6%) of them agree, 24 (15.4%) neutral 22 (14.1%) disagree and 12 (7.7%) strongly disagree respectively. Therefore more than one third of the respondents of male and female category strongly agree with the level of satisfaction with the borrowing facilities of the library.

Testing of Hypothesis

Null Hypothesis

There is no association between the respondents' gender and their level of satisfaction with the borrowing facilities of the public library.

Chi-Square Test (SPSS)						
	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)			
Pearson Chi-Square	7.328ª	4	.120			
Likelihood Ratio	7.473	4	.113			
Linear-by-Linear Association	7.136	1	.008			
N of Valid Cases	477					

a. 0 cells (0.0%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is 17.33.

The above output gives the opinion about the satisfaction with borrowing facilities of the library by the respondents of gender. Pearson's \mathscr{X}^2 is 7.328 for 4 degrees of freedom, i.e., [(r-1) (c-1)]=[(2-1) (5-1)]. The p-value 0.120 is higher than 0.05. The difference is considered not significant. Hence the Null hypothesis is accepted and therefore it is concluded that there is no association between the respondents' gender and their level of satisfaction with the borrowing facilities of the public library.

Findings

- 67.3% of the respondents come under the male category.
- 24.5% respondents belong to age group between 21 and 30 years.
- 66.2% respondents belong to unmarried category.
- 62.5% respondents come under the rural areas.
- It is found that 39.2% of the respondents visit to the public library daily.
- It is found that 31.7% of the respondents need a public library in their village /city to get an easy access to any news or information.
- It is found that 41.1 % of the overall respondents who belong to various age groups state that value of journals and books is relevant
- It is found that 50.5% of the respondents are easy to access the reading materials.

- It is found that 40.5% of the respondents agree that the librarians conduct extension activities on a regular basis
- It is found that 35.2% of the respondents agree that Library Extension activities encourage the readers' frequency of visit to the library.
- It is found that 24.1% of the respondents cite that the access to photocopy facilities is the main influence of the village library services and it has got the first rank
- It is found that a majority of the respondents are satisfied with the Infrastructure of the public library.
- 29.8% of the respondents strongly agree with satisfaction of the borrowing facilities of the library.
- It is inferred from the Chi-square analysis that there is no association between the respondents' gender and their level of satisfaction with the borrowing facilities of the public library.

Conclusion

The Public Library services need to be promoted on priority basis. This is possible only if the library professionals are trained in automation; networking, and software handling skills. The public libraries are called people's university. Most of the people those who are unable to procure of information materials for their own and they mainly depending public library. Without using public libraries they cannot achieve anything like academic improvement, general knowledge, job seeking information and knowledge updating etc. The study proves that a majority of the library users are satisfied with accessibility of reading materials, Infrastructure of the public library, Extension activities and borrowing facilities of the library.

References

- 1. Mangla, P.B. (1986). Library legislation in India, IN RK. Rout (Ed.), Library Legislation in India: Problems and Prospects. New Delhi: Reliance Publication House.
- 2. Ramaiah, L.S et al., (1997). Public Library system services and Networking. New Delhi: Ess Ess Publications.
- 3. Harvey, Graham. (1973). Public Library Impact-Breaking down the barriers, Assistant Librarian, 66 (7), 11
- 4. Rajendra Kumar, C. (2012). Research Methodology. New Delhi: APH Publishing Corporation.
- 5. Fahmi, Mohamad Zaim, et al., (2013). Attitude towards Rural Library Services among Youths in Malaysia, J. Basic. Appl. Sci. Res, 3(6), 777-782.
- 6. Hawkins, Margaret, et al., (2001). Socio Economic Features of UK Public library users. Library Management, 6, 258-265.
- 7. Islam, S. (2012). Rural library services: a qualitative assessment of information provision in selected rural communities in northern districts of Bangladesh. New Library World, 113(3-4), 118-138.