



RURAL ACADEMIC LIBRARIES AND ITS USE BY STUDENTS

RAVIKIRAN SUBHASH MORE

M. S. Kakade College Someshwarnagar, Tal- Baramati, Dist- Pune.

Abstract:

Now a day's with the anticipation of computers academic libraries are changing in each and every manner. Computers are now being used for many purposes in libraries like processing information, storing information, retrieving information and disseminating information. Combination of computers and communication technologies changed all the functions and services of the libraries. But all this happens only in urban area of the country; still today in rural area academic libraries are functioning traditionally.

INTRODUCTION

There are very few libraries in rural area which are automated and provide services through newer technologies. Academic libraries support teaching, learning, research and other academic programmes and for that libraries must provide maximum information with the help of internet based services and electronic collection of reading materials. For satisfying the needs of students, all these academic libraries of rural area have to be changed and must adopt computer and other ICT tools to provide internet based service.

PRESENT SITUATION IN RURAL AREA:

In India many college libraries of rural area don't have appropriate facilities to fit the needs of their students. The collection of libraries of rural area is not up to date and their budget also inappreciable and limited. In rural area many times it's found that there is no sufficient space for library or library hall/reading room is not available, so students find difficulty to do proper use of library. These libraries give only book lending service to students. In several libraries no systematic classification is followed for the arrangement of available collection. And in most college libraries there is total darkness even in day time. Some libraries are visually unattractive, that's why the use of library is suffers.

College library can be a tool in student's development because libraries promote information literacy and also provide several resources and services. So it's a responsibility of librarian and library staff that every student who comes to the library gets the satisfactory service.

BARRIERS IN OPTIMUM USE OF LIBRARY:

Limited or poor services of the library.
Outdated collection.
Close access to collection.
Rude or unprofessional behavior of library staff.
Biased response to student's request.
Lack of knowledge about the new technologies.
Failed to do optimum use of Internet.

INCREASING LIBRARY USE:**Information Literacy:**

Information Literacy means the ability to access, evaluate and use information from various forms of sources. Students must know how to handle dictionaries, encyclopedias and other information sources to find specific information regarding the query. Tool literacy is also important because reading materials now are being published in electronic format, so students must learn to access electronic resources, search engines, online database. It will help to increase the use of library.

Satisfactory Library Resources:

To fulfill the needs of students, librarian must increase the books and add more relevant journals/magazines so they keep themselves up to date by using it.

Electronic Resources:

To attract the students, librarian must develop the collection of electronic reading materials. There should be separate section in the library for electronic resources, so students can use it to learn more about interested topics related to curriculum.

Improve Library Atmosphere:

The unstructured and non-decorated library failed to attract students. For making a library more comfortable and attractive place to visit, it's very important to keep the library clean. For the brightness and ventilation do the systematic arrangement of shelves.

Healthy Communication:

For enhancing the use of library it's essential to increase healthy communication between library staff and students, and its responsibility of librarian. Rude and unprofessional behavior, biased responses really affects the library use. So to avoid this librarian must implement some programmes to increase communication between the library staff and students.

Motivation:

Motivation is the important factor to increasing reading habit and enhancing library use. Best practices like a Reading Competition. Best Reader Award helps to motivate students to read.

Interpretation of Library Services:

Students must know about the services available in the library, for that interpretation of the library services is important. Librarian should work out the interpretation of library services plan using talented student's help to arrange exhibition, to do art and sign work, and to keep library attractive. Students must know what is Book Bank Service, Inter-Library Loan Service, Current Awareness Service and other services available in the library.

LIBRARY INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMME:

The Library Instructional Programme provides the various opportunities and meaningful learning experience to the students. This programme enhances their reading skills. Library Instructional programme helps students to acquire better skills in using books and other reading materials. This programme increases the interest in reading and appreciation about books. Library Use Instruction should be given to the first year students at the beginning of the every academic year.

LIBRARY ORIENTATION PROGRAMME:

Library Orientation Programme provides easy and quick introduction about the operations and services available in the library. By the Library Orientation programme students will get the introductory

information about the library services, physical layout of the library, arrangement of books.

CONCLUSION:

The college libraries from the rural area are not being used by students because they are not aware about the library and its services or maybe they are not satisfied with the services which are provided by the library. So it's a duty of librarian to attract these students towards the library and make them familiar with the library. For increasing the use of library librarian must render effective services to students and also organize the orientation programmes, exhibitions and display the new arrivals to create awareness of the services. College library should keep open two or three hours before college begins and two or three hours after the college close. For meeting the educational needs and overall development of student library must improve their collection regularly. Library should provide the audiovisual reading materials in the library so it will increase the student's interest.

REFERENCES:

1. Trehan, G. L., College Library Management, Sterling Publishers, New Delhi.
2. Tejomurty, Studies in Academic Librarianship, Printwell Publishers, Jaipur.