



# **AWARENESS AND UTILIZATION OF LIBRARY RESOURCES BY LIBRARY USERS' OF NIMS UNIVERSITY CENTRAL LIBRARY, JAIPUR, INDIA**

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## **ABSTRACT**

*The main argument behind this paper was to determine the awareness and utilization library resources by library users' of NIMS Central Library, Jaipur India. In this study, a descriptive survey method was used, using a questionnaire as a data collection tool. 60 library users were selected randomly from the NIMS University Central Library and managed by a questionnaire, of which 52 copies were completed and returned. The research questionnaires were analyzed by the frequency counts and simple percentages. The findings showed that participants surveyed disclose that female preferred the library more than their male counterparts less than 30 years of age. It was also noted that the majority of respondents indicated that 34 (65.3%) of library resources, indicated that gazetteers were not available. Users of the NIMS Central Library use more books / e-books, journal/ electronic journals, newspapers / magazines, and Internet /computer. It concluded that for the proficient and effective use of the library for teaching, learning and research, the academic institution must provide a live library of updated library resources to get together the information requirements of the library users'. It recommended that the management of the library or university should bring in the use of library literacy education to teach users how to properly manage the library. This will encourage more users who are not aware of the library resources. Finally, Board Display Services should be expanded sufficiently to reflect the available resources to users' and thus representing all library resources.*

**Keywords:** *Availability, Awareness, Library Resources, Library Users', NIMS University, Central Library, Utilization.*

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

The library contains several types of reading materials, ie books, magazines, maps, microforms, audio recordings, video recordings, electronic resources, etc. They are obtained to meet up user information needs.



Library users visit the library to receive sufficient, significant and up-to-date information in print and non-printed forms for effective teaching, learning and research that meets their information needs, allowing them to make important decisions [1]. However, they can obtain this information through research, which includes the search for new ideas, facts and information through scientific and methodological research [2]. Therefore, the library is stacked with diverse type of recorded information, like books, periodicals, reference materials, manuscripts, periodicals, etc. e-resources such as microforms, films, tapes and slides. Videos and data stored on electronic media such as disks and CDs are available in the libraries [3]. Academic libraries are libraries created in colleges, such as polytechnics, universities, colleges of education etc. Its main function is to provide resources and information services to achieve the overall objectives of the parent education and research program [4].

However, the University alone cannot achieve the commendable goals of education without the Library [5]. As a result, academic libraries are established to support the teaching, learning, research and charitable services of their parent organizations through the acquisition, processing, storage, retention and provision of information [6]. Aina [2004] in [7] considers library users as all those who exploit the services given by the library.

### 1.1 Library Resources

The term "resource" refers to the source of supply, in general. It is said that a person is "witty" when he can deal with difficult situations [8]. Fayose [2000] in [9], library resources have been discovered as materials that allow libraries to effectively perform the functions of providing resources to clientele like books and other media. It also contains everything that is used to provide the requested information service from the client. According to Kent and Lancour [1971] in [10], library resources includes, among others, books, manuscripts, periodicals, government publications, brochures, catalogs, reports, files, microfilm, microfiche and micro cards. Punched cards, computer tapes and so on. [11] included that library resource comprise prints and electronics, including textbooks, magazines, notebooks, summaries, newspapers, magazines, reports, databases on CD-ROM, Internet, e-mail, video cassettes, floppy disks, computers and microforms.

Awareness is to know that something exists or to understand a situation or a subject at current moment found on information/experience [12]. It can also be understood as knowledge of a situation, truth, conscience, knowledge, achievement, understanding and perception. Recognition of attention and intimacy in a given position or development [13]. The use of resources and information services is the amount the library resources and services are used in teaching, learning and research. The extent to which library resources are used in university libraries is generally reflected in library statistics, compiled daily by library staff [14]. [15] identify use as an activity that measures the value of a library article or information system. Therefore, use is the only measure we adopt to determine why a document is retained in the library collection, and its use is necessary for the development of the library collection [16].



## **2. BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY**

In conjunction with the mission of creating career paths for the future, NIMS has become the largest and best self-financing university in Northern India. NIMS was established in the same way as the leading universities in the world and well known in research and teaching in all disciplines. Nearby the Aravali Mountains, located in Jaipur, India. The university is among the ten top medical universities in India and the hub of education in health sciences to humanities, technical training to advance engineering, personnel management to corporate management, creative literature for multimedia, innovative arts and architecture. The university has an ideology for effective teaching. The curricular and co-curricular activities are planned and managed by faculty members from different departments. College of Medicine and Hospital provide a base for highly qualified and experienced professors of leading institutions of national and international importance. Our Institute of Advanced Engineering and Technology seeks to be among the best in the country, thanks to IIT and ILS faculty members.

## **3. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM**

The importance of the library lies in the accessibility, awareness and exploiting of resources by users of academic institutions [17]. However, the University Library faces a critical challenge in responding to the new demand of the 21st century with growing demographic growth linked with a lack of appropriate usage of library resources. [18], [19]. Studies have shown that Mann (1974), during his research has shown that students can complete their field of study with relatively little use of library books. This assertion was also confirmed in subsequent studies by Popoola (2008), Seth and Parida (2006), Ugwu (2008), Nnadozie and Nnadozie (2008) [20] stressed out that the ease of use of library resources is automatically transferred to as information access. The sad fact is that, despite the number of studies on the utilization of library resources, there is no comprehensive study demonstrating the awareness and use of library resources among library users' in this strategic institution [21], [22]. This compels us to ask ourselves whether it is because of the insufficient availability of these resources, inadequate knowledge and inadequate utilization of these resources.

Therefore, the study was designed to determine awareness and utilization of library resources from the central library of Nims University, Jaipur, Rajasthan, India.

## **4. SCOPE OF THE STUDY**

The scope of the study covered the awareness and utilization of sixty library users' at NIMS University Central Library, Jaipur India.

## **5. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY**

1. To identify varied forms of library users' available to library users' in NIMS University Central library, Jaipur India.



2. To establish the level of awareness of library resources by library users' of NIMS University Central library, Jaipur India.
3. To find out the extent to which library users' utilize library resources in NIMS University Central library, Jaipur India.

## **6. RESEARCH QUESTIONS**

1. What are the varied forms of library resources available to library users' in NIMS University Central library, Jaipur India?
2. What is the level of awareness of library resources by library users' of NIMS University central library, Jaipur India?
3. What is the extent of utilization of library resources by library users' in NIMS University Central library, Jaipur India?

## **7. LITERATURE REVIEW**

Douglas [23] conducted a study entitled "e-books or textbooks: students prefer textbooks," noting that students, despite the arrival of computers interactive technologies, in their class, textbooks are preferred more by the students than e-books for learning and this preference does not change because of knowledge of the center. Both Adeoye and Popoola [2011] in [24] highlighted the effectiveness, availability, accessibility and usage of information resources in their studies. [25] conducted a study and discovered that many users still prefer electronic print. Based on this finding, they suggest that e-book offers from the publishers and libraries may be higher than many users' preferences. Oyewusi and Oyeboade (2009) in [26] carried out a study at Ladoké Akintola University in Ogbomosho, Nigeria, to study the access and utilization of library resources among students. A questionnaire was distributed to 600 university students, 393 of which were suitable for data analysis and finalization. Respondents were asked to provide rationale for making use of the library. The survey revealed that 76.8% of the respondents believed that, the library is a place used to read and study, 7.9% for research, and 4.3% go to the library to be loaned books. While 7.4% doze and socialize in the library. It was further revealed that Nigerian students perceive the library to be a serious academic workplace. [27] found out that most graduate students exploit e-books more frequently than students, who were more frequently used by students and academics in the humanities and social sciences. He persistently said that e-books are used by students for entertainment, and fiction e-book was the most popular, not textbooks, non-fiction and research monographs. Komolafe-Opadeji (2011) in [28] investigated the use of the Internet and e-resources among graduate students at a Nigerian private university and found that students frequently access the Internet and share at no cost e-resources from Google and Wiki and e-databases such as JSTOR, Questia e.t.c and High Beam. [29] evaluated electronic resources in agriculture in the context of the Agricultural University of Kerala. The study found that 100% of users were known with the use of digital e-resources that were available on the Internet, while 87.14% of them used CeRA. Mainly all the users have discovered to use CeRA language by



using information from the library based on the program and Services. [30] conducted a study on awareness, accessibility and use of electronic databases among academics Babcock University staff. It was found that respondents had knowledge about journals 59 (69.4%), JSTOR 48 (56.5%), Theses & Dissertation 46 (54.1), and Ebscohost 43 (50.6). The analysis also showed that most respondents did not know book Boon, the World Bank's Open Knowledge Warehouse and the National Virtual Library 22 (25.9%), 28 (32.9%) and 25 (29.4%), respectively. It is also concluded that nine of the 13 audited databases were assessed by respondents on average. This means creating awareness about all electronic resources shared by the Library. Okiy (2000) and Ajileye-Laogun (2002) in [31] evaluated the use of the library by students and teachers. It was found out that students and teachers make use of the library materials for teaching and research at the State University Delta , Abraka, and OAU, Ile-Ife.

## 8. METHODOLOGY

A descriptive survey research design was used for the study using questionnaires to collect data from the study participants. The tool was used to gather detailed information about the participants' studied. Among the target groups for library users, a random sample of 60 participants was selected from the library users'. Of these, 52 representing 87% of the total, were distributed and retrieved from the participants of the NIMS Central Library, Jaipur, India. The collected data were analyzed and presented in tables containing descriptive statistics, especially percentage, and graph replicas.

## 9. RESULTS

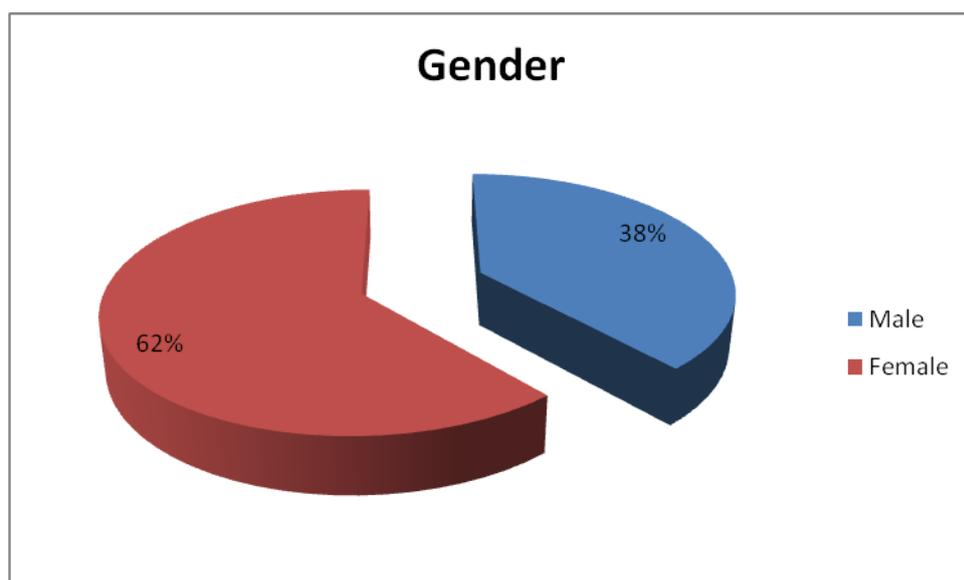
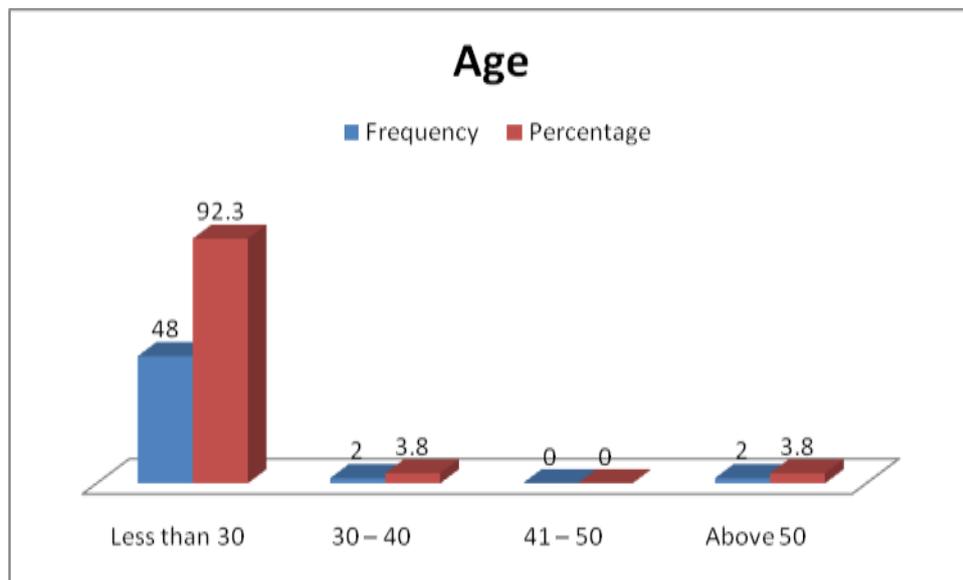


Figure 1, Gender of the respondents

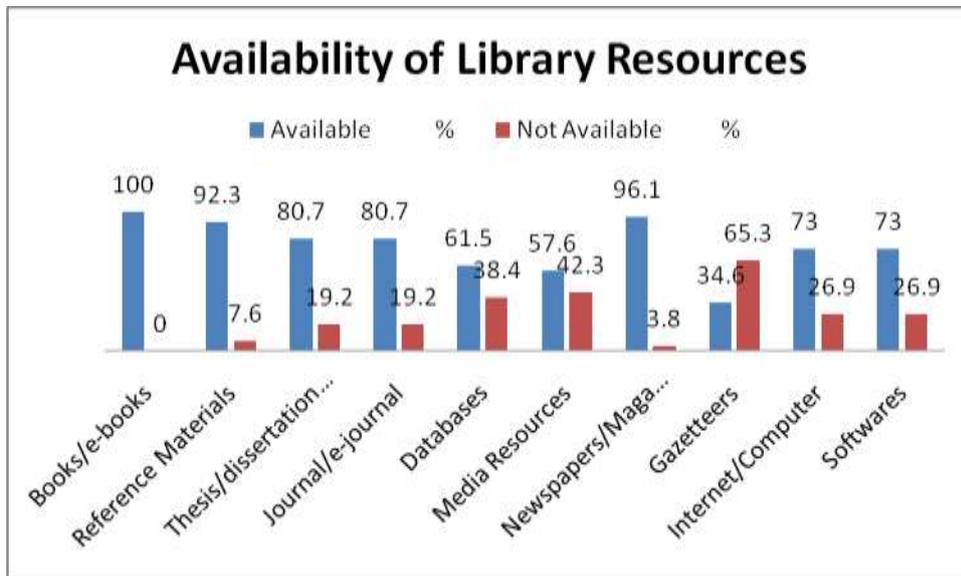


Figure 1 shows the distribution of library users by sex. The results showed that 32% (61.5%) of the female surveyed were the main users of the library, while 20 (38.4%) of the respondents were users of the male library. This means female beneficiaries often use the library more than the men surveyed and are more numerous than their male counterparts at the NIM Medical Library, Jaipur, India.



*Figure 2, Age of the respondents*

Figure 2 above, shows the age of the participants. The results showed that 48 (92.3%) of the respondents who used library resources in the library were less than 30 years old. 2 (3.8%) between the ages of 30 and 40 years and 2 (3.8%) 50 years above. The age limit 41-50 was not in the library at the during this investigation. This conclusion suggests that library users over the age of 50 occasionally use the library.



**Figure 3, Availability of resources in the library**

From Figure 3 above, all respondents indicated that books / e-books 52(100%) were available in the library. Other sources indicated that the reference materials 48 (92.3%), Dissertation / Thesis / Project 42 (80.7%), Journals/ Electronic Journal 42 (80.7%), Databases 32 (61.5%), Media Sources 30 (57.6%) Internet/ Computer 38 (73.0%) and software 38 (73.0%) are available to them in the library. On the other hand, a majority of respondents indicated that the Gazetteers 34 (65.3%) is not available in the library. The findings showed that the NIMS library is stacked well with enough library resources for the users' daily use.

**TABLE 1: Level of Awareness of Library Resources**

**N=52**

S/N	Awareness of Resources	Aware		Not Aware	
		F	%	F	%
1	Internet/Computer	38	73.0	14	26.9
2	Software	24	46.1	28	53.8
3	Media Resources	24	46.1	28	53.8
4	Newspapers/Magazines	44	84.6	8	15.3
5	Databases	24	46.1	28	26.9
6	Thesis/dissertation/Project	34	65.3	18	34.6
7	Journal/e-journal	42	80.7	10	19.2
8	Gazetteers	20	38.4	32	61.5



<b>9</b>	Books/e-books	46	88.4	6	11.5
<b>10</b>	Reference Materials	34	65.3	18	34.6

Table 1 above shows the level of awareness of the library resources of the respondents. The results showed that the respondents were fully aware with the resources of the library such as Internet / Computer that represents 38% (73.0%), Dissertation / Thesis / Project 34 (65.3%), Books/e-books 46(88.4%), Electronic journals / Journals 42 (80.7%), ) and reference materials 34 (65.3%). This study is supported by the findings of [32], which showed that most of the respondents are familiar with the academic journal, databases, thesis and dissertations, respectively. This study also supports the results of [33]. On the other hand, small proportion of respondents indicated that they were not aware with the resources of the library, such as the Software that represents 24 (46.1%), Media resources 24 (46.1%) and Gazetteers 20 (38.4%).

**TABLE 2: Extent of Utilization of Library Resources**

**N=52**

S/N	Library Resources	Yes		No	
		F	%	F	%
<b>1</b>	Newspapers/Magazines	46	88.4	6	11.5
<b>2</b>	Gazetteers	24	46.1	28	53.8
<b>3</b>	Media resources	20	38.4	32	61.5
<b>4</b>	Internet/computer	32	61.5	20	38.4
<b>5</b>	Databases	20	38.4	32	61.5
<b>6</b>	Reference materials	36	73.0	14	26.9
<b>7</b>	Books/e-books	46	88.4	6	11.5
<b>8</b>	Software	22	42.3	30	57.6
<b>9</b>	Journal/e-journal	36	69.2	16	30.7
<b>10</b>	Thesis/dissertation/Project	34	65.3	18	34.6

Table 2 above shows the use of library resources by the users of the library. The outcome of the results showed that the majority of respondents indicated to use library resources Newspapers / Magazines representing 46 (88.4%), Internet / computer 32 (61.5%), Books/e-books 46(88.4%), Reference documents 36 (73.0%), Journal/



e-journal 36 (69.2%) and Thesis / dissertation / project 34 (65.3%). This study also supports the results of William *et al.*, (2010), Julie *et al.*, (2014), Wang and Bay (2016) and Komolafe-Opadeji (2011) in [34]. However, very little respondents indicated that they do not use library resources, such as Media resources 20 (38.4%), Databases 20 (38.4%), and Software 22 (42.3%)

## 10. SUMMARY OF THE FINDINGS

Summary of results showed the following;

1. It was revealed that those females surveyed were more likely to attend the library than their male counterparts under the age of 30.
2. It was also revealed that the majority of the respondents 34(65.3%) reported that library resources such as gazetteers were not available to them.
3. The majority of respondents are aware of library resources, such as the Internet / computer, dissertation / thesis / project, books / e-books and journals / e-journal.
4. Users of the NIMS Central Library use more books / e-books, journals / electronic journals, newspapers / magazines, and Internet / computer

## 11. CONCLUSION

It can be concluded that the effectiveness and efficiency of teaching, learning and research in each university institution is to provide vibrant library stacked with library resources updated to meet up the information requirements of library users which would allowing them to make important and relevant decisions. Thus improves the library sustainability by attracting many users.

## 12. RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the above findings, some recommendations were made, including:

1. The information should be used from the library to be read and written by the parties concerned or to manage the library / university to teach users how to properly cope with the library. This will encourage more users who do not know the library resources.
2. Map presentation services should be properly developed to reflect the resources available to users, which will display all resources in the library.
3. Must expand other e-books / e-books / electronic journals / CD. The databases, software, and ICT devices, such as the Internet and broadband speed, should be updated and updated.



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