



A Survey of Library Facilities of NAAC Accredited Autonomous Colleges affiliated to HNGU, Patan

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Abstract:

The present research paper has made an attempt to study the facilities of libraries on colleges affiliated to Hemchandracharya North Gujarat University, Patan (Guj.) These colleges got accredited by National Assessment and Accreditation Council of India; hence the standard of education and the library services and facilities in these colleges are generally behind to be the best. The study used a questionnaire and the results revealed that faculty has a low perception on the collection, services, ICT facilities, and manpower and infrastructure facilities of libraries in these colleges.

Keywords: *Autonomous colleges, Accredited, Library facilities, NAAC, ICT*

1. Higher Education in India

India's higher education system is the second largest in the world, after the United States. The main governing body at the tertiary level is the University Grants Commission, which enforces its standards, advises the government, and helps coordinate between the Centre and the State. Accreditation for higher learning is overseen by 12 autonomous institutions established by the University Grants Commission. Indian higher education system has expanded at a fast pace by adding nearly 42,338 colleges and 294,270,000 students registered in the year of 2016-17 and 895 universities established and functioning under the UGC in 2016. Autonomous System in Higher Education Highlighting the importance of autonomous colleges, the UGC document on the XI Plan profile of higher education in India clearly states that: "The only safe and better way to improve the quality of undergraduate education is to the link most of the colleges from the affiliating structure. Colleges with academic and operative freedom are doing better and have more credibility. The financial support to such colleges boosts the concept of autonomy. It is proposed to increase the number of autonomous colleges to spread the culture of autonomy, and the target is to make 10 per cent of eligible colleges autonomous by the end of the XI Plan period. National Assessment and Accreditation Council The National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) is an organization that assesses and accredits institutions of higher education in India. It is an autonomous body funded by University Grants Commission of Government of India headquartered in Bangalore. A bill - National Accreditation Regulatory Authority for Higher Educational Institutions Bill, 2010 has been introduced in Parliament of India to make it mandatory for every higher educational institution in the country (other than institutions engaged in agricultural education) to be accredited by an independent accreditation agency.

2. Research Design

2.1 Methodology

The methodology of this research is based on the exploratory design.

2.2 Sources of the Data

The required data for the study was collected from the primary and secondary sources. The primary data was collected from the questionnaires. The secondary data was collected from various sources like books, journals and websites.

2.3 Data Collection Instrument

The primary data was collected through questionnaire tool which was carefully designed and tested by T test for analyse the use of library resources by faculty members.

2.4 Sampling Instrument

The sampling technique used here is simple random sampling method.

2.5 Sample Size

The sample size of this study comprises of 100 faculty members working in 05 NAAC accredited autonomous colleges affiliated to Hemchandracharya North Gujarat University, Patan (Gujarat). The response was received from 87 faculties which constitute 74% of response rate.

3. Objectives of the Study

The primary objective of the study is to identify the faculty perception on library facilities in Colleges affilited to HNGU, Patan of HNGU. The specific objectives of the study are:

1. To identify the perception of the faculty on library collection, facilities and library services.
2. To identify the perception of staff of the libraries.

4. Hypothesis

Ho₁: There will be no significant difference between designation and perception on collection.

Ho₂: There will be no significant difference between gender and perception on services.

Ho₃: There will be no significant difference between experience and perception on services.

5. Analysis and Interpretation

Table 1: Age, Gender and Marital Status

Age			Gender			Marital Status		
	Frequency	%		Frequency	%		Frequency	%
25-30	26	18	Male	55	68	Married	74	82
31-40	31	28						
41-50	20	43	Female	32	32	Unmarried	13	18
>50	10	11						
Total	87	100		87	100		87	100

From the table- 1 it is observed that the 43% of respondents fall between 41-50 years. 31% are in 31-40 age groups, 26% are in 25-30 years of age group, the remaining 103% fall above 50 years of age. In the case of gender, majority are male faculty members (68%). From marital status majority of respondents are married (82%). The remaining is unmarried (18%).

Table 2: Experience, Designation and Nativity

Experience			Designation			Nativity		
	F	%		F	%		F	%
2-10 Yrs	34	26	Professor / Associated Pro	64	66	Rural	66	69
11-20 Yrs	26	44						
21-30 Yrs	20	26	Assistant Prof.	23	34	Urban	21	31
>31 Yrs	07	04						
Total	87	100		87	100		87	100

The analysis based on the experience, designation and nativity of respondents indicate the following: 44% have 11-20 years of working experience, 66% are Assistant Professor by designation and 69% are rural citizen.

Table 3: Perception on Collection, Services and Library Staff

	Perception on Collection		Perception on Services		Perception on Library Staff		Perception on ICT Facilities		Perception on Physical Infrastructure	
	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%
Low Level	70	91	72	70	64	76	56	60	63	72
High Level	17	09	15	30	23	24	31	40	24	28
Total	87	100	87	100	87	100	87	100	87	100

- The perception of maximum faculty members (91%) on the collection of library resources is low, 9% perceived it as high.
- More than half of the respondents perceived the services provided by the library as low (70%). The remaining 30% are perceived the services in the library as high.
- Two third part of the respondents perceived the role of the staff in the library as low (64%). The remaining 23% perceived that the staff in the library and services rendered by them as high.
- More than half of the respondents perceived ICT facilities provided by the library as low (60%). The remaining (40%) perceived the ICT facilities provided by the library as high.
- Two third part of the respondents perceived that the physical infrastructure of the library is low (72%). The remaining 28% viewed that the physical infrastructure of the library is high.

Table 4: Designation Vs Collection

Designation	Collection (I)		Total	Statistical Inference
	Low Level	High Level		
Professor Asso. Pro.	60	04	64	X² = 7.18 P<0.05 Significant
Assis. Prof.	20	03	23	
Total	80	07	87	

The demographic variable designation was tested against the research variable collection of the library. The result reveals that there is a significant association among them, thus proving that designation has an impact on collections of the library.

Table 5: Gender Vs Services

Gender	Services (II)		Total	Statistical Inference
	Low Level	High Level		
Female	15	06	21	X² = 4.96 P<0.05 Significant
Male	50	16	66	
Total	65	22	87	

The demographic variable gender was tested against the research variable services offered by the library. The result reveals that there is a significant association among them, thus proving the Gender has an impact on library services.

Table 6: Experience Vs Services

Experience	Services (II)		Total	Statistical Inference
	Low Level	High Level		
2-10 Yrs	14	06	20	X² = 8.1 P<0.05 Significant
11-20 Yrs	18	09	27	
21-30 Yrs	16	07	23	
>30 Yrs	10	07	17	
Total	58	29	87	

- The demographic variable experience was tested against the research variable services in the library.
- The result reveals that there is a significant association among them, thus it is proved that experience and services are correlated to each other.

6. Suggestions

To improve the library facility in the Science College Libraries the following suggestions are put forth by the researchers

1. Man power is a crucial factor for library effectiveness. Therefore, it is essential to recruit people with ICT skills as librarians in Autonomous Science College Libraries.
2. It is essential to conduct periodic user surveys to identify the current needs and problem of users in accessing and retrieving library facilities enabled collection and services.
3. It is suggested that, a separate digital library unit may be set up in all the Autonomous Science College Libraries.
4. Use of electronic resources may be introduced by subscribing relevant e-resources for various programmes offered.

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