

PROBLEMS IN USING INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY (ICT) IN PUBLIC LIBRARIES IN KOREGAON TALUKA: A STUDY

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Abstract

In today's modern era we can see the changed form of the library. In the age of information and technology today, information is being generated in a huge amount. The usefulness of the information is if the information is available to the researcher or the reader in a reasonably short time. Today public libraries are seen doing the work of imparting knowledge in rural areas. Public libraries are found doing the work of imparting knowledge to the common people in rural areas. In the current ICT era, changes are being seen in public libraries, while all these changes are taking place, many of the libraries are still using ICT technology or the problems that arise in the library in the use of ICT and what measures can be taken in this paper have been reviewed in this paper. In the said paper, the government subsidized libraries in Koregaon taluka have been reviewed and what kind of ICT facilities are provided by the said library.

Keywords

Information and Communications Technology (ICT), Public Library, etc.

Introduction

Satara is a city located near the confluence of Krishna River and its tributary Venna River in Satara district of Maharashtra state. The city derives its name from the seven forts (sat-tara) surrounding the city. Satara district was the capital of the Marathi state. Satara is a district in the Pune division of the state of Maharashtra. Satara district has a great historical, social and educational background. Satara district has contributed a lot to India's freedom struggle and social structure. Even in modern India, Satara district has left its mark. In most of the villages

of the district, youths keep the tradition of joining the Indian Army. Therefore, this district has been known as the District of Knights. Satara area in the western part of Maharashtra state is 10,480 sq. km. There are a total of 11 talukas in the Satara district which include Mahabaleshwar, Wai, Khandala, Phaltan, Man, Khatav, Koregaon, Jawali, Patan and Karad.

Koregaon taluka is a taluka of Satara district in the Indian state of Maharashtra. Koregaon taluka has a great historical, social and educational background. This taluka has contributed a lot to India's freedom struggle and social structure. Even in modern India, Koregaon taluka has left its mark. Koregaon town is the main place of this taluka.

According to the ownership of the libraries, the specific use and the nature of the collection, there are broadly different types of libraries, there are three main types namely academic, public and special or research. Children's libraries with books that entertain literate children, school libraries with collections of books that complement the curriculum, college libraries that introduce students to various branches of knowledge and create interest in them, and university libraries that satisfy the all-round knowledge curiosity of post-graduate scholars and researchers. These are included in the academic library.

The scope of the public library is correspondingly wide. A public library exists for the use of men, women, young, old, newly literate, well-educated, scholars and researchers from all walks of life. So everyone has free access here. Public libraries are divided into national, regional, city, taluka, village and mobile libraries. A public library is an essential institution for education, culture, information

and peace. A public library is a library in which reading materials are made available to readers of all castes and religions of the society without any discrimination of caste, class and without any prejudice free of charge or on subscription. Such a library is called a public library, this library is built according to the laws of the government. Former Chief Minister of Maharashtra Yashwantrao Chavan has expressed the opinion that there should be a 'Village There Library'. Keeping in mind the utility of public libraries in Maharashtra, the Maharashtra Public Libraries Act was enacted in 1967. Libraries play an important role in the development of society. Transmits cultural heritage from generation to generation.

Selection of Research Topic

In today's modern era of computerization, the library and information sector is developing rapidly due to the easy availability of electronic tools and technology. Today, librarians face many technical, financial, and other issues in implementing information and communication technology in public libraries. Managerial and training related problems are faced by the library. The topic is chosen to suggest the problems and solutions in the use of ICT at the public library level.

Objectives of the Research Study

1. To review the present condition of public libraries in Koregaon taluka
2. To review the current status of ICT related infrastructure of public libraries in Koregaon taluka.
3. To take the opinions of librarians about the use of ICT in public libraries in Koregaon taluka.
4. To review the implementation of ICT related training programs for library staff from public libraries in Koregaon taluka.
5. To set up guidelines on what to do about problems in using ICT in public libraries in Koregaon taluka.

Review of Previous Research

When considering the presented research, the problems in using ICT can be seen mainly in academic libraries and special libraries. However, very little research is done in public libraries. Some of the research done on the **subject is as follows**

(Kumar, 2012) Mr. Kumar, Parveen in his article Application of ICT in Public Libraries: A Comparative Study of State Central Library, Haryana, and T.S Central State Library, Chandigarh states that the use of information and communication technology (ICT) in libraries is considered a major impact of technology in modern times. Keeping the above concepts in mind, a study has been conducted in two central public libraries in the northern region of India, which is also a leading sector in the field of teaching and learning.

(Oghenetega, 2014) Mr. Lucky U. Oghenetega in his article Challenges Associated with the Use of ICT Facilities in Public Library of Nigeria, I. C. T. on the challenges associated with the use of facilities. Public libraries are currently incorporating information communication technology facilities into their services. Many Nigerians can afford outdated public libraries with information communication technology. Challenges related to the use of ICT facilities in public libraries and regulations of policies are discussed.

(Aabo, 2005) Mr. Spanhild Aabo in her research article "The role and value of public libraries in the age of digital technologies" has proposed that the role and value of public libraries in the age of digital technologies have been discussed.

Scope and Limitation of the Research:

The scope of the present research is up to class A, B, C and D public libraries in Koregaon taluka of Satara district. Class A has 1, class B has 4, class C has 8 and class D has 8 libraries. The sampling method will be used to collect information in this research. The present research is based on the information available in the library for the current year.

Hypothesis of the Research Study

1. The present condition of the public libraries in Koregaon taluka is satisfactory.
2. The current level of ICT related infrastructure in public libraries in Koregaon taluka is poor.
3. There are various opinions of librarians on problems in using ICT in public libraries in Koregaon taluka.

4. The number of ICT related training programs for library staff in public libraries in Koregaon taluka is low.

Importance of Research:

If we look at the journey of the library in the past, we realize that the public library is doing the work of bringing the locked books to all the common people of the society. In the era of modernization, the public library has to take the help of computers to provide accurate information to the readers in minimum time. But even today, many libraries do not seem to be using technology as much as they should because there are difficulties in using ICT technology, whether those difficulties are financial or computer illiterate. This topic has been selected for research to find out how ICT can be used on a large scale in public libraries by researching.

Research Methodology

Generally, a person does not know everything about an object or event, so the person's efforts to find out are continuous. The objectives of the research are to increase knowledge, clarify unclear knowledge and verify its validity with existing knowledge. A human being is an intelligent and curious animal, so he is in search of new knowledge.

Public Library list in Koregaon Taluka

Sr. No.	Name of the library	Address	Grade
1	Shri Bhairavnath Sarkarmanya Mofat Vachanalaya	Tal Koregaon Dist Satara	B
2	Hind Vachanalaya	Rahimatpur Tal Koregaon Dist Satara	A
3	Kai. Umatai Shankar Kanetkar Sarvajanik Granthalay	Rahimatpur Tal Koregaon Dist Satara	B
4	Navyug Vachanalay	Padali Tal koregaon Dist Satara	B
5	Saraswati Sarvajanik Vachanalaya	Wathar Kiroli Tal Koregaon Dist Satara	B
6	Chhatrapati Shivajiraje Granthalay	Pimpode Bk Tal Koregaon Dist Satara	C
7	Ratnadeep Mahila Mandal Sanstheche Jagruti Granthalay	Dhamner Tal Koregaon Dist Satara	C
8	Jyotiling Saravajanik Vachanalaya v Granthalay	Kumthe Tal Koregaon Dist Satara	C
9	Dr. Mirdev Gaikwad Sarvajanik Vachanalaya	Tal Koregaon Dist Satara	C

According to Webster's Dictionary, "Research is the clinical and systematic study of any field of knowledge to discover new facts and to test old facts and principles."

There are three types of research methods. 1. Historical research methods. 2. Experimental Research Methods 3. Descriptive / Survey research methods.

Descriptive research method will be adopted in this research. In descriptive research, various tools such as questionnaires, interviews, tests, observations etc. can be used to collect information about the problem. The type of information required and the quality of the respondent should determine which tool to use.

Tools of Information Collection:

In this research mainly, questionnaire has been used for data collection along with this data has been collected through interview, visit and phone.

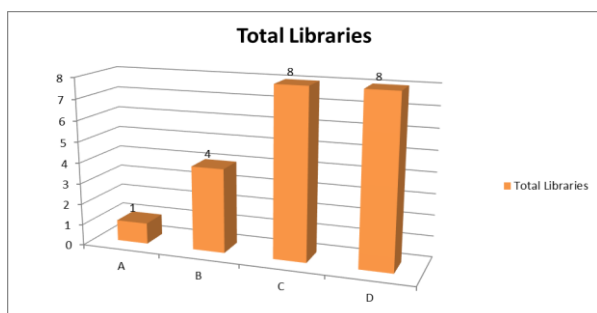
Koregaon taluka of Satara district has a total of 21 public libraries approved by the government. Existing libraries receive grants every year. For this research maximum information of libraries has been collected through questionnaires, interviews, visits and phone calls. Following is the list of libraries in Koregaon taluka.

10	Shri Ganesh Sarvajanic Vachanalay	Eksal Post Shirambe Tal Koregaon Dist Satara	C
11	Sant Gadagebaba Sarvajanic Granthalay	Sultanwadi Tal Koregaon Dist Satara	C
12	Sai Sarvajanic Vachanalay	Kinhai Tal Koregaon Dist Satara	C
13	Dnyanamurt Sarvajanic Vachanalay	Kanherkhed Tal Koregaon Dist Satara	C
14	Kai. Vishnu Bala More Sarvajanic Vachanalay	Sasurve Tal Koregaon Dist Satara	D
15	Ganesh Sarvajanic Vachanalaya	Ganeshsthal Bargewadi Post Khed Tal Koregaon Dist Satara	D
16	Chhatrapati Vachanalaya	Velu Tal Koregaon Dist Satara	D
17	Padmshri Appasaheb Pawar Sarvajanic Granthalay	Nandwal Tal Koregaon Dist Satara	D
18	Phule Sarvajanic Vachanalaya V Granthalay	Wagholi Tal Koregaon Dist Satara	D
19	Balsidhda Vachanalaya	Borgaon Tal Koregaon Dist Satara	D
20	Ramratan Sarvajanic Vachanalay	Banwadi Tal Koregaon Dist Satara	D
21	Shri Bhairavnath Sarvajanic Vachanalaya	Azadpur Tal Koregaon Dist Satara	D

The class of the library is determined based on the collection of books, facilities, working staff in these libraries. The government gives subsidies according to the library class. The number of public libraries in Koregaon taluka is divided according to the following classes.

Public Library Classwise in Koregaon Taluka

Sr. No.	Grade	Total Libraries
1	A	1
2	B	4
3	C	8
4	D	8
Total		21

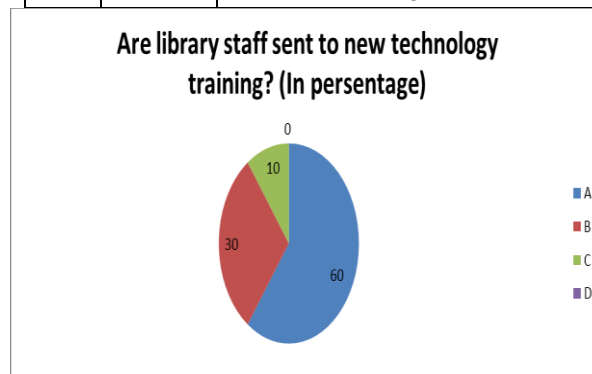


In today's modern era, information is being created at a very fast pace, but to get this

information to the right reader in the shortest possible time, libraries must use information and technology in libraries. To introduce new technology in public libraries, it is important that the library staff first learn the technology. From the said research it is noticed that the rate of learning new technology is low. The information is given in the following table.

Are library staffs sent to new technology training?

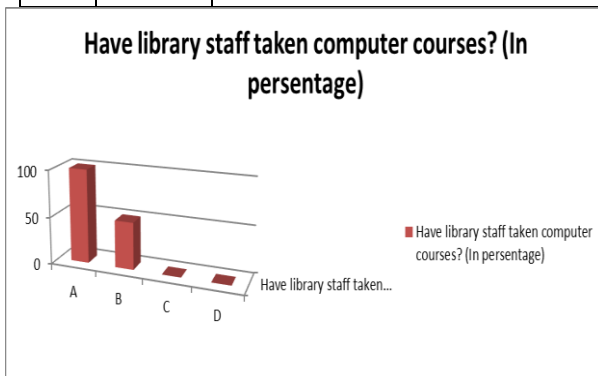
Sr. No.	Grade	Are library staffs sent to new technology training? (In percentage)
1	A	60
2	B	30
3	C	10
4	D	0



The staff working from the public library must be computer literate in this era. But from the said research it is noticed that the computer course from class B, C and D is very less like that of the employee classes. This information has been tried to be shown based on the basis of the following chart.

Have library staffs taken computer courses?

Sr. No.	Grade	Have library staffs taken computer courses? (In percentage)
1	A	100
2	B	50
3	C	0
4	D	0

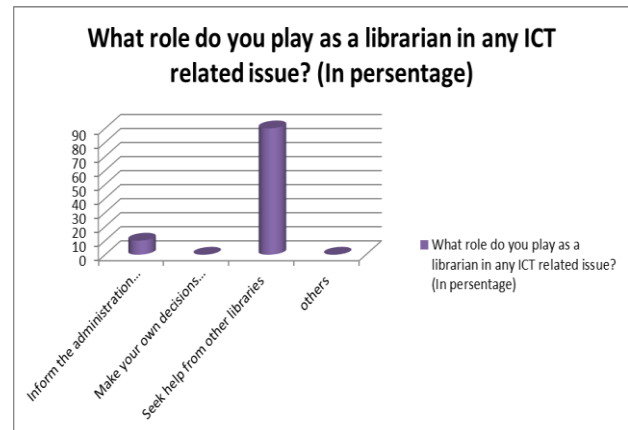


There are many difficulties when using any new technology. 10% of the libraries report this information to the library administration if the staffs working in the public library face any ICT related problems. 90% of libraries take help from other libraries.

What role do you play as a librarian in any ICT related issue?

Sr. No.	Details	What role do you play as a librarian in any ICT related issue? (In percentage)
1	Inform the administration immediately	10

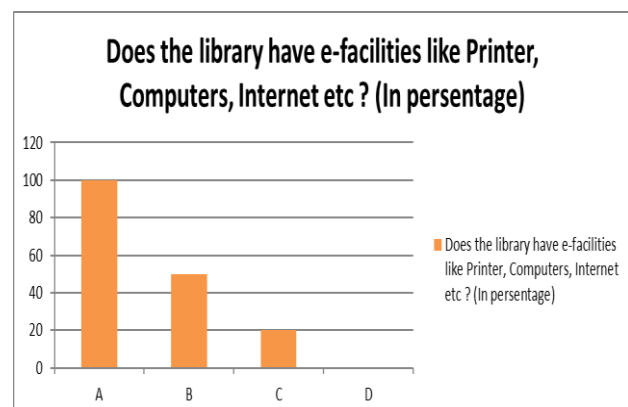
2	Make your own decisions and get out of the situation	0
3	Seek help from other libraries	90
4	others	0



Before using any new technology, you must have the materials required for that technology. Apart from Class A in the said library, the situation in other libraries is worth considering. An attempt has been made to show the information as per the following table.

Does the library have e-facilities like Printer, Computers, Internet etc?

Sr. No.	Grade	Does the library have e-facilities like Printer, Computers, Internet etc? (In percentage)
1	A	100
2	B	50
3	C	20
4	D	0



Findings and Recommendations

Findings:

1. More than 90% of library staffs are found to have education upto certificate courses.
2. Almost 90% of library buildings are taken on a lease basis.
3. The readership coming to the library seems to be coming to the library mostly for reading newspapers and periodicals.
4. Except few B-grade libraries of A-grade, none of the libraries have an updated software system.
5. It has been found in the said survey that computers are available only in A class and B class and some C classes.
6. It is found from 20% of the libraries that if any ICT related problem is reported first to the administration and 80% of the libraries seek help from other libraries.
7. There is no backup facility from the library except for A grade library.
8. According to librarians, the amount of subsidy required for library development is decreasing.
9. It is observed from the said survey that the rate of going to training is very low.

Recommendations

1. First of all computers and printers should be available in the library so try to see if you get printers and computers from the MP and MLA funds in your area. Many IT companies provide good quality used computers, you just need to reach them.
2. To keep the library up to date any new system i.e. software is necessary in the library if we have fewer funds then we can consider open source software and use the system well free of cost for example E-Granthalaya 3.0 can use this software.
3. If we provide an internet facility in the library then all the e-resources can be used and our library will be updated.
4. Not all libraries are rich, but if we help each other, many of our things become easier, so that the libraries are connected based on MoU under inter-library loan, the problems we face in ICT will be reduced.
5. The main factor in the library is the staff working there, if it is updated, then the

library is also updated. For the said staff to be updated, they need to undergo different new training. If the said staffs are sent for such new training, it will help the library a lot.

6. MLA fund, MP fund and many other trusts in the society are providing books for free for public libraries, if the books are available in the library, then if the funds available for purchasing the said books are used for ICT development, the problems in ICT will be reduced.

Conclusion

Today, public libraries are doing the work of imparting knowledge in the society at the village level. In order to update the said library, it is necessary to use ICT in such public libraries. From the above survey it can be seen that the work going on in the library is good but lack of funds in ICT and computer illiteracy are creating problems somewhere. If these problems are reduced to our level, the work of public library will be successful today. From this survey we realized that in future all facilities provided by large libraries can be provided by public library using ICT.

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