

Awareness of Library Information Resources and Services among the Students of Physiotherapy Colleges in Karnataka: A Study

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Abstract

Information is one important term when it is related to any need it tries to comply with its use to make it meaningful. No doubt that resources and services play a vital part in the lives of individuals, organizations, and institutions, and information awareness is the key to the optimum use of information. The study analyzed the “awareness of library information resources and services among the students of physiotherapy colleges in Karnataka.

Keywords: Library services, library users, library awareness, library usage, physiotherapy library

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INTRODUCTION

Library is an essential part of the chain of the human communication. Library is a busy workshop where persons of all ages can seek knowledge. A library makes it possible for us to share the experience of other persons by writing and reading about their thoughts and achievements. Library sometimes as “the memory of human race” it is like a giant brain that remembers all scientists, historians, poets, philosophers and others.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Nowadays there is a shortage of knowledge among library users of the services their university libraries provide is an increasing concern in academic librarianship. These will be caused by poor communication and inadequate interaction between users and the library, coupled with the library's failure to apply marketing strategies to promote its services (Roberts, Jacqueline M., 1995) [1, 2]. Osinulu (1998) [3, 4] also confirmed in her study that low use of the library is due to lack of awareness on the part of users.

Oyesiku and Oduwole (2004) study on the use of academic library revealed that students use the library mostly during examinations period.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

“Awareness of Library Information Resources and Services among the Students of

Physiotherapy Colleges in Karnataka: A Study”.

Need for the Study

Users get attached towards library and information system. It is often remarked that a library is basically a service institution designed to provide information services to fulfill the information requirements of the community.

Scope and Limitation of the Study

The study is limited for “Awareness of library information resources and services among the students of physiotherapy colleges in Karnataka, which are affiliated to Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences Bangalore, Nitte, Yenepoya, and KLE Universities.

Objectives

To know the students awareness on the existing resources and services in the physiotherapy college libraries in Karnataka.

Hypotheses

Majority of the respondents are aware of textbooks, general books, dictionaries, newspapers and magazines.

METHODOLOGY

This is very essential for a study to process data analysis them in accordance with the method laid down for the purpose in order to arrive at

the possible results. In the present study, the main purpose of the questionnaire was to collect the data about “Awareness of Library Information Resources and Services among the Students of Physiotherapy Colleges in Karnataka: A Study”. The data were analyzed using SPSS. The data obtained through the questionnaire were analyzed and interpreted in the following sections shown in Figure 1.

Data analysis and Interpretation

Table 1 depicts the age wise distribution of the students. It is observed that 447 (43.11%) students belong to the age group 19–20, whereas, 290 (27.97%) respondents belong to 21–22 age groups, followed by 161 (15.53%) respondents belong to the age group of 17–18 shown in Figure 2. The other details on the age group of the respondents are given in Table 1.

A total of 1200 questionnaires were distributed to the respondents. Among these, only 1037 respondents returned the duly filled in

questionnaires. Table 2 reveals the course wise distribution of the respondents. It is observed that 960 (92.57%) respondents belong to BPT and only 77 (7.43%) respondents belong to MPT shown in Figure 3.

Table 1: Profile of Students—Age Wise.

Age Group (Years)	No. of Students
17–18	161 (15.53)
19–20	447 (43.11)
21–22	290 (27.97)
23–24	95 (9.16)
25–26	44 (4.24)
Total	1037 (100%)

Table 2: Course wise Distribution of Respondents.

Course	No. of Respondents	% of the respondents
Bachelor of Physiotherapy	960	92.57
Master of Physiotherapy	77	7.43
Total	1037	100%

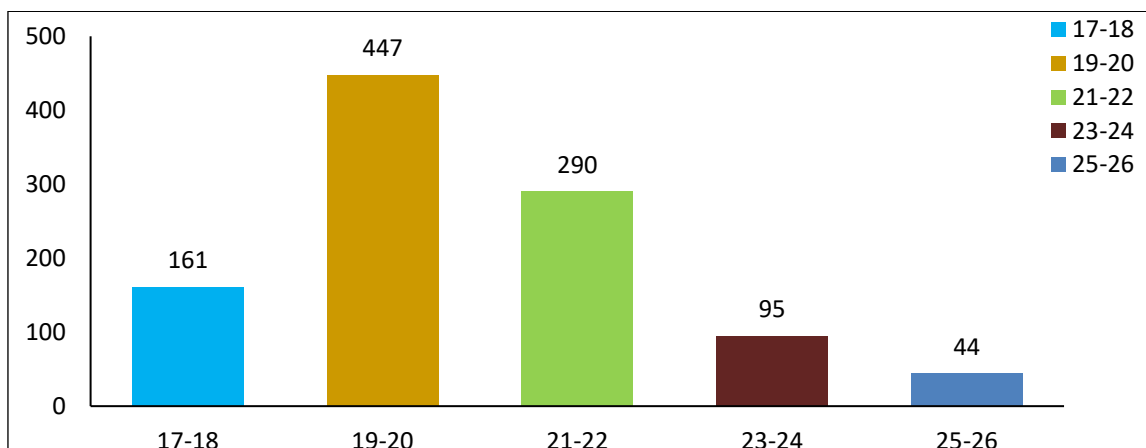


Fig. 1: Age wise distribution of Students.

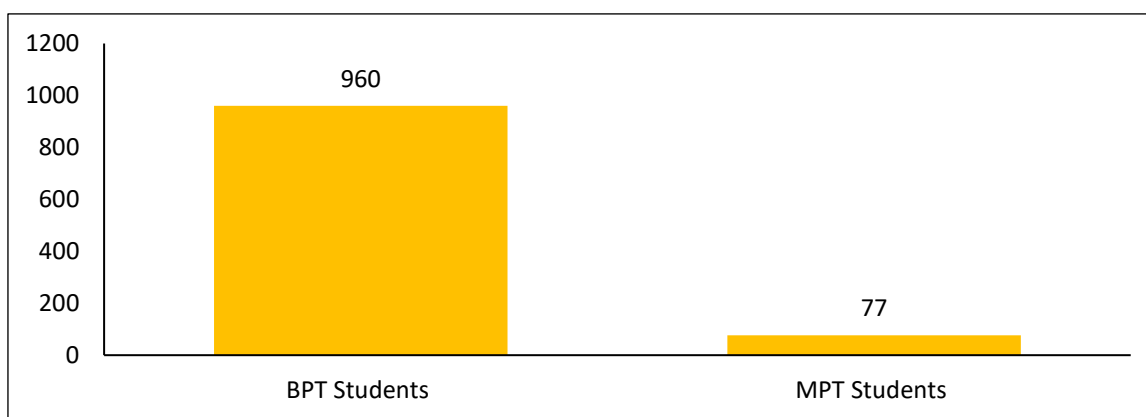


Fig. 2: Class wise Distribution of Bachelor of Physiotherapy and Master of Physiotherapy.

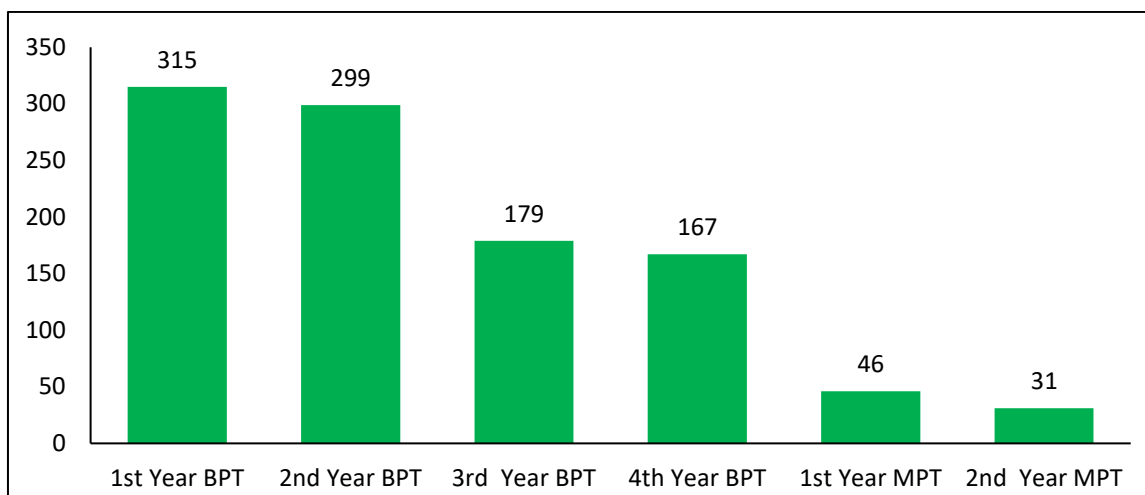


Fig. 3: Class wise Distribution of Bachelor of Physiotherapy.

Table 3: Class wise Distribution of Respondents.

Sl. No.	Semester	No. of Respondents	% of the respondents
1	1st Year Bachelor of Physiotherapy	315	30.38
2	2nd Year Bachelor of Physiotherapy	299	28.83
3	3rd Year Bachelor of Physiotherapy	179	17.26
4	4th Year Bachelor of Physiotherapy	167	16.10
5	1st Year Master of Physiotherapy	46	4.44
6	2nd Year Master of Physiotherapy	31	2.99
	Total	1037	100%

Table 4: Distribution of Respondents—Class Wise.

Class	Yes	No	Total	Chi-square	p-value
BPT	925 (96.35)	35 (3.65)	970	1.5590	0.2120
MPT	72 (93.51)	5 (6.49)	77		
Total	997 (96.14)	40 (3.86)	1037 (100)		

Table 3 depicts the class wise distribution of the respondents. The majority, i.e., 315 (30.38%) respondents belong to 1st year BPT, whereas, 299 (28.83%) respondents belong to 2nd year BPT, followed by 179 (17.26%) respondents belong to 3rd year BPT and 167 (16.10%) respondents belong to 4th year BPT. The number of respondents from 1st year to 4th year has increased. The other details are presented in Table 3.

A question was asked to the respondents on whether they make use of the library. The data is presented in the Table 4. It is evident from the study that majority, i.e., 925 (96.35%) BPT respondents make use of the library, whereas, 72 (93.51%) MPT respondents make use of the library. Some of the respondents do not make use of the physical library (Figure 4).

Collection is one the trinities of library science. Without sound collection of reading materials, it is very difficult to provide exhaustive, pinpointed and expeditious services to the library users. Hence, a question was asked to the respondents on the awareness of information materials available in the library (Figure 5). The majority, i.e., 972 (93.73%) respondents are aware of texts books in their respective specializations. This is followed by 759 (73.19%) respondents are aware of newspapers, 642 (61.91%) respondents are aware of General books, 639 (61.62%) respondents are aware of magazines respectively. The other details are given in Table 5.

A question was asked to the students on the adequacy of information sources in their

respective libraries. Their opinion is presented in Table 6. It is evident from the study that for all the information sources the respondents opine that they are uncertain about the adequacy of information sources viz. text books, general books, reference sources, e-resources etc. The mean value for all these information sources is more than 3 (Figure 6).

The library services are going to play a vital role is not only the helping the user but also in bringing the number of users (Figure 7).

The library provides various services to meet the needs and requirements of its users. A question was asked about the awareness of different services provided by the libraries. The majority, i.e., 737 (71.07%) respondents are aware of lending of books and other reading materials, followed by 579 (55.83%) respondents are aware of photo copy services, 559 (53.91%) respondents are aware of reference service, 226 (21.79%) respondents are aware of Book Bank services. The details of other services are given in Table 7.

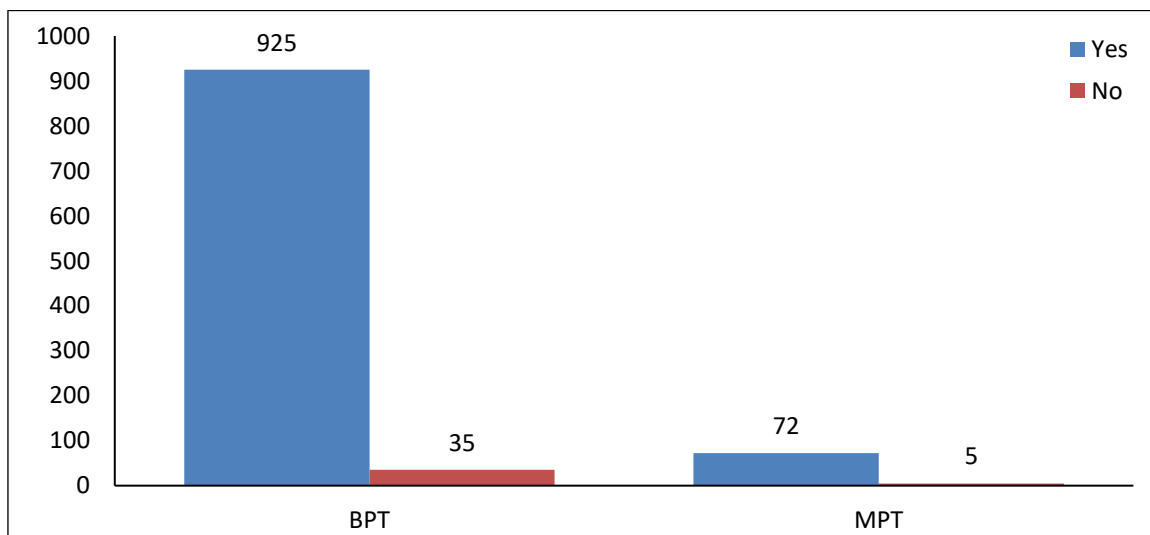


Fig. 4: Awareness of Information Sources among Students.

Table 5: Awareness of Information Sources.

Sources of Information	BPT	MPT	Total	Chi-square	p-value
Text books	895 (93.23)	77 (100.00)	972 (93.73)	5.5620	0.0180*
General Books	586 (61.04)	56 (72.73)	642 (61.91)	4.1280	0.0420*
Dictionaries	550 (57.29)	54 (70.13)	604 (58.24)	4.8310	0.0280*
Encyclopedia	407 (42.40)	50 (64.94)	457 (44.07)	14.6920	0.0001*
Periodicals	146 (15.21)	29 (37.66)	175 (16.88)	25.6200	0.0001*
News Papers	693 (72.19)	66 (85.71)	759 (73.19)	6.6470	0.0100*
Year Books	253 (26.35)	33 (42.86)	286 (27.58)	9.7200	0.0020*
Conference Proceedings	100 (10.42)	23 (29.87)	123 (11.86)	25.8040	0.0001*
Magazines	577 (60.10)	62 (80.52)	639 (61.62)	12.5620	0.0001*
Internet Sources	405 (42.19)	52 (67.53)	457 (44.07)	18.5770	0.0001*
Atlases	351 (36.56)	39 (50.65)	390 (37.61)	6.0280	0.0140*
Maps	225 (23.44)	26 (33.77)	251 (24.20)	4.1450	0.0420*
Biographies	224 (23.33)	31 (40.26)	255 (24.59)	11.0130	0.0010*
Audio Visual Material	164 (17.08)	29 (37.66)	193 (18.61)	19.9290	0.0001*
E-Journals	187 (19.48)	57 (74.03)	244 (23.53)	117.8740	0.0001*
E-Books	159 (16.56)	41 (53.25)	200 (19.29)	61.6230	0.0001*
CD-ROM	128 (13.33)	23 (29.87)	151 (14.56)	15.6690	0.0001*
E-Thesis and Dissertation	96 (10.00)	45 (58.44)	141 (13.60)	142.3800	0.0001*
Subject Directories	11 (1.15)	2 (2.60)	13 (1.25)	1.2130	0.2710
Any other				5.5620	0.0180*

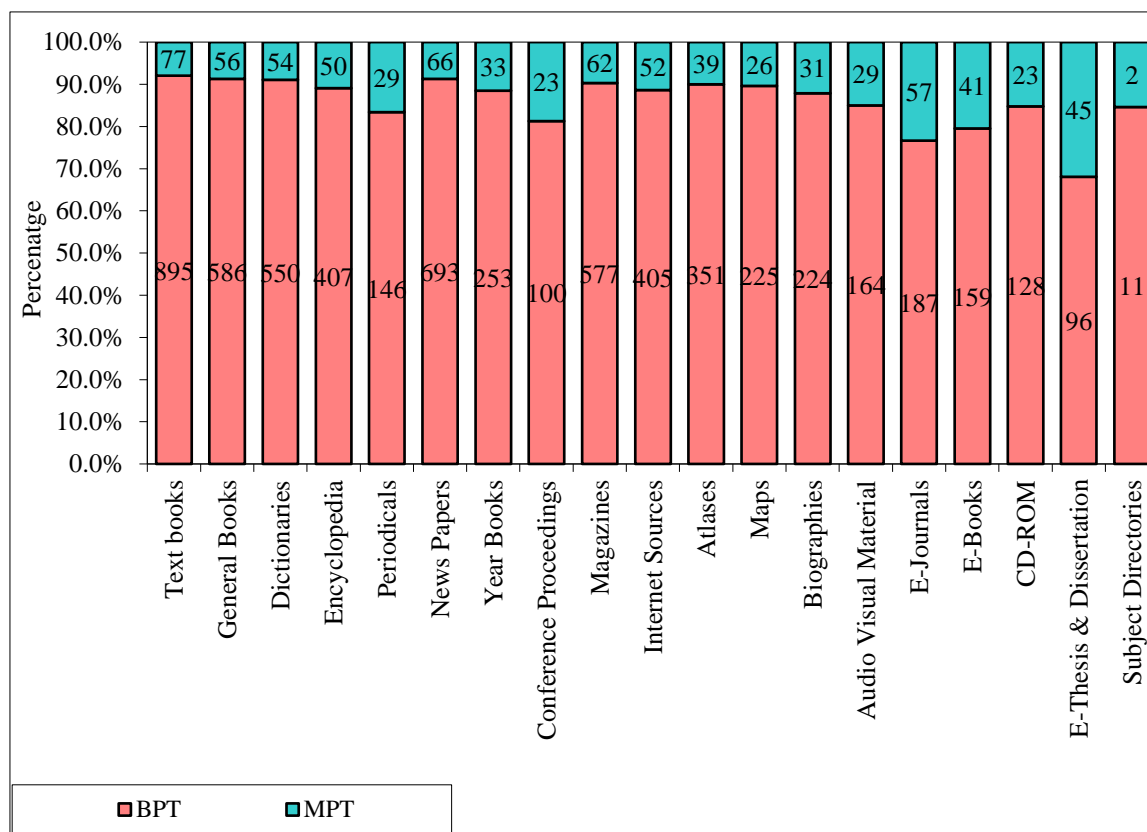


Fig. 5: Percent showing Awareness of Information Sources.

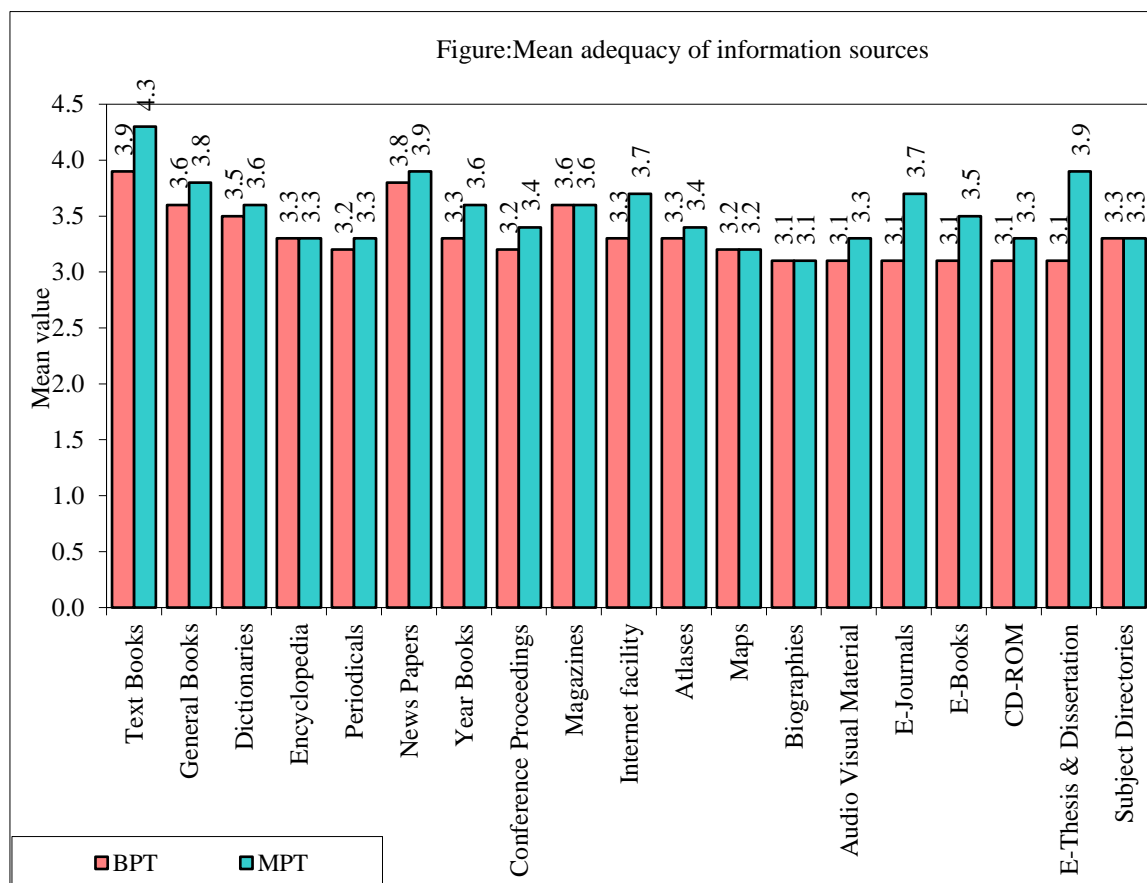


Fig. 6: Mean Adequacy of Information sources.

Table 6: Adequacy of Information Sources of all Books.

Sl. No	Information Source	Summary	BPT	MPT	Total	Z-value	P-value
1	Text Books	Mean	3.9	4.3	3.9	-2.4930	0.0130*
		SD	1.4	0.9	1.3		
2	General Books	Mean	3.6	3.8	3.6	-1.0810	0.2800
		SD	1.1	0.9	1.1		
3	Dictionaries	Mean	3.5	3.6	3.5	-0.4400	0.6600
		SD	1.1	0.8	1.1		
4	Encyclopedia	Mean	3.3	3.3	3.3	-0.3360	0.7370
		SD	1.0	1.0	1.0		
5	Periodicals	Mean	3.2	3.3	3.2	-1.3790	0.1680
		SD	0.8	1.0	0.8		
6	News Papers	Mean	3.8	3.9	3.8	-0.1670	0.8670
		SD	1.3	1.2	1.3		
7	Year Books	Mean	3.3	3.6	3.3	-2.8240	0.0050*
		SD	0.9	1.0	0.9		
8	Conference Proceedings	Mean	3.2	3.4	3.2	-3.1100	0.0020*
		SD	0.8	1.1	0.8		
9	Magazines	Mean	3.6	3.6	3.6	-0.2460	0.8060
		SD	1.1	1.2	1.1		
10	Internet facility	Mean	3.3	3.7	3.4	-3.0170	0.0030*
		SD	1.2	1.3	1.2		
11	Atlases	Mean	3.3	3.4	3.3	-0.5130	0.6080
		SD	1.0	1.1	1.0		
12	Maps	Mean	3.2	3.2	3.2	-0.3270	0.7440
		SD	0.9	1.0	0.9		
13	Biographies	Mean	3.1	3.1	3.1	-0.2670	0.7900
		SD	0.9	1.0	0.9		
14	Audio Visual Material	Mean	3.1	3.3	3.1	-1.7730	0.0760
		SD	0.9	1.1	0.9		
15	E-Journals	Mean	3.1	3.7	3.2	-5.6710	0.0001*
		SD	0.9	1.2	0.9		
16	E-Books	Mean	3.1	3.5	3.2	-3.8240	0.0001*
		SD	0.9	1.2	0.9		
17	CD-ROM	Mean	3.1	3.3	3.1	-2.9140	0.0040*
		SD	0.8	1.1	0.9		
18	E-Thesis and Dissertation	Mean	3.1	3.9	3.2	-7.7350	0.0001*
		SD	0.8	1.1	0.8		
19	Subject Directories	Mean	3.3	3.3	3.3	-0.8240	0.4100
		SD	0.9	1.0	0.9		

Table 7: Awareness of Library Services.

Services	BPT	MPT	Total	Chi-square	p-value
Lending of Books and other reading materials	673 (70.10)	64 (83.12)	737 (71.07)	5.8710	0.0150*
Reference services	509 (53.02)	50 (64.94)	559 (53.91)	4.0720	0.0440*
Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC)	113 (11.77)	22 (28.57)	135 (13.02)	17.7680	0.0001*
Book Bank services	203 (11.77)	23 (29.87)	226 (21.79)	3.1830	0.0740
Photo copy/Xerox service	518 (53.96)	61 (79.22)	579 (55.83)	18.4480	0.0001*
Inter Library Loan	69 (7.19)	8 (10.39)	77 (7.43)	1.0630	0.3020
News Paper Alert	512 (53.33)	47 (61.04)	559 (53.91)	1.7030	0.1920
Internet service	410 (42.71)	51 (66.23)	461 (44.46)	15.9770	0.0001*
Current awareness service (CAS)	96 (10.00)	13 (16.88)	109 (10.51)	3.5900	0.0580
Document Scanning	152 (15.83)	24 (31.17)	176 (16.97)	11.8970	0.0010*
Library Orientation Programme	154 (16.04)	27 (35.06)	181 (17.97)	17.9040	0.0001*
Any other	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)	0.0000	1.0000

Table 8: Satisfaction with Information Services.

Sl. No		Summary	BPT	MPT	Total	Z-value	P-value
1	Lending of books other reading materials	Mean	4.2	4.4	4.2	-1.4840	0.1380
		SD	0.9	0.8	0.9		
2	Reference services	Mean	4.1	4.2	4.1	-1.5830	0.1130
		SD	0.9	0.9	0.9		
3	Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC)	Mean	3.1	3.3	3.1	-1.6990	0.0890
		SD	0.8	1.1	0.8		
4	Book Bank services	Mean	3.2	3.2	3.2	-0.8870	0.3750
		SD	0.9	1.0	0.9		
5	Photo copy/Xerox service	Mean	3.6	3.6	3.6	-0.4880	0.6260
		SD	1.1	1.2	1.1		
6	Inter Library Loan	Mean	3.0	2.9	2.9	-0.4020	0.6870
		SD	0.9	0.9	0.9		
7	News Paper Alert	Mean	3.8	3.8	3.8	-0.1180	0.9060
		SD	1.0	1.1	1.0		
8	Internet service	Mean	3.5	3.6	3.5	-1.5850	0.1130
		SD	1.1	1.2	1.1		
9	Current awareness service (CAS)	Mean	3.1	3.0	3.1	-0.6280	0.5300
		SD	0.8	1.0	0.8		
10	Document scanning	Mean	3.1	3.2	3.1	-1.2950	0.1950
		SD	0.9	1.2	0.9		
11	Library Orientation Programme	Mean	3.1	3.3	3.1	-2.0320	0.0420
		SD	0.9	1.2	0.9		
12	Any other	Mean	3.0	3.0	3.0	-1.1450	0.2520
		SD	0.5	0.5	0.5		

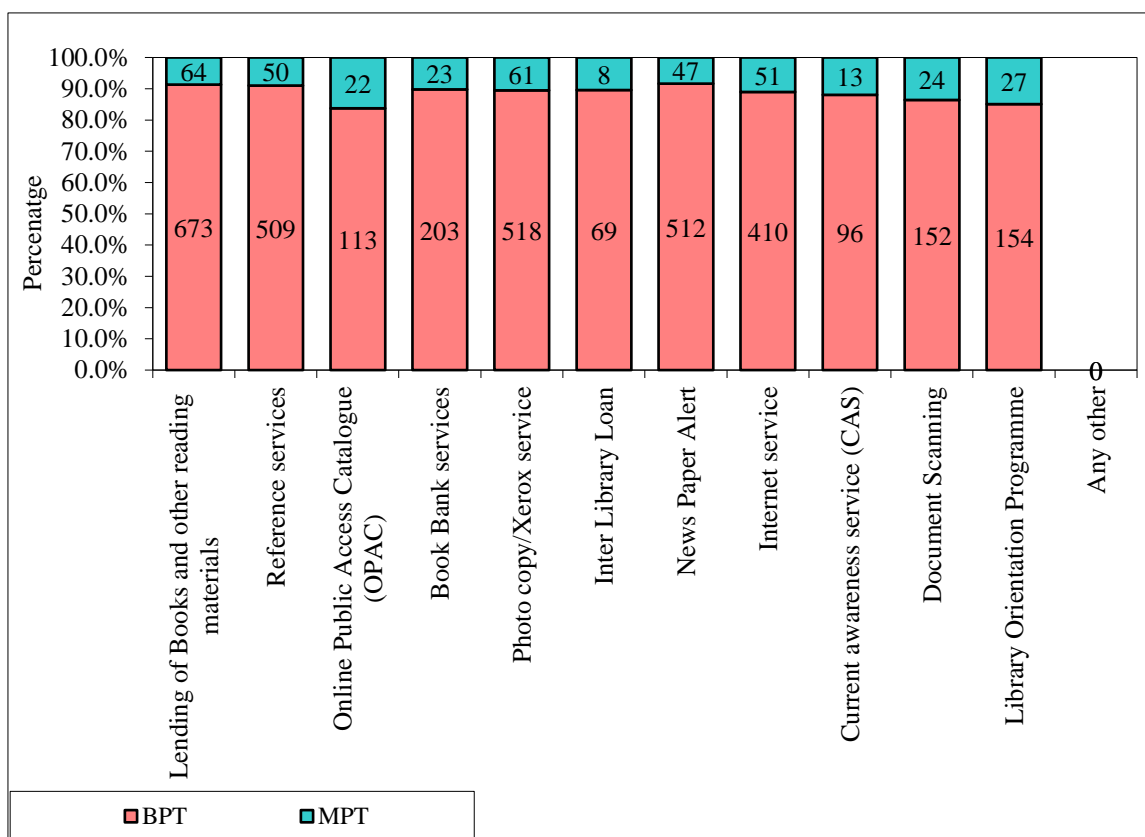


Fig. 7: Percent showing different Awareness of library Services.

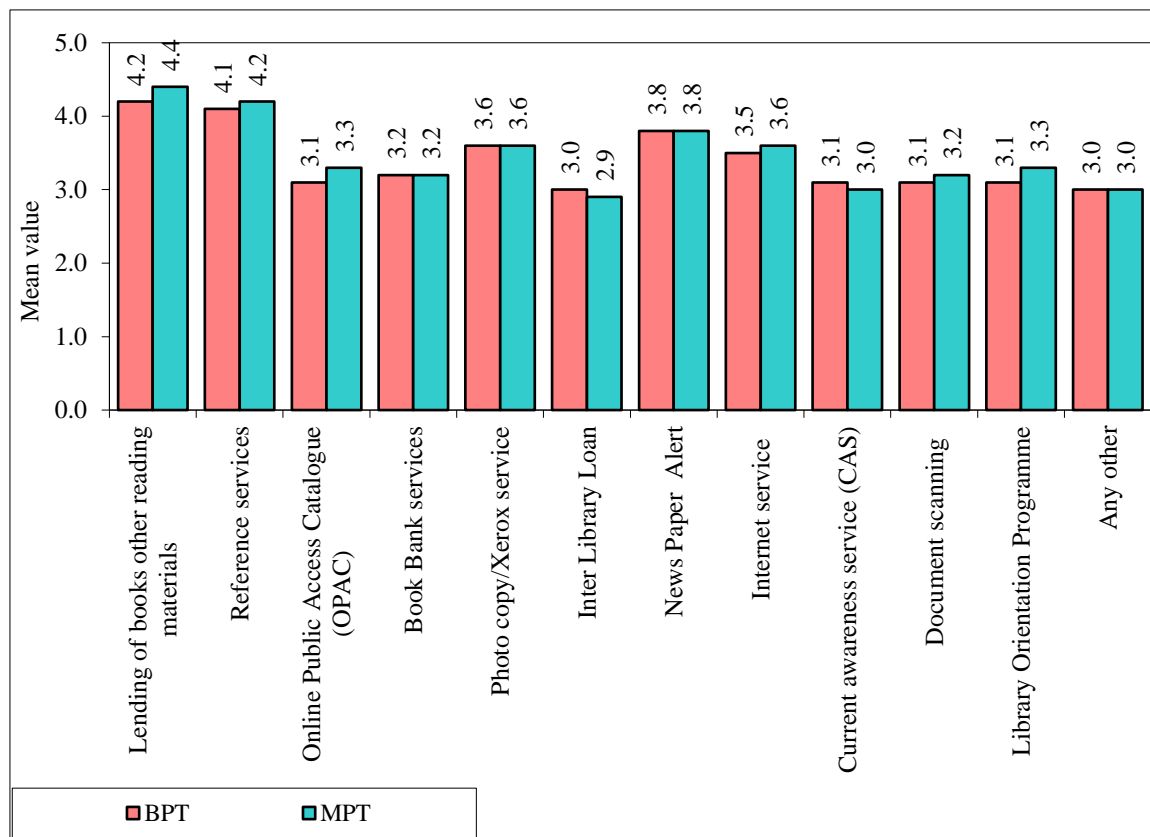


Fig. 8: Mean Satisfaction with Information services.

A question was raised to the respondents on the satisfaction of information services being provided by their respective libraries. The mean value is more than 3 for both the type of respondents (BPT and MPT). Hence, it can be inferred from the Table 8 that the respondents are not satisfied with the services being provided in their respective libraries (Figure 8).

MAJOR SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

The major findings of the study are identified on the basis of data received from the respondents. The same are presented below:

1. A total of 1200 questionnaire were distributed to the respondents, out of which an overwhelming, i.e., 1037 questionnaire were received back with a response rate 86.41%.
2. Majority of the respondents, i.e., 447 (43.11%) belong to the age group between 19 and 20 years, followed by 290 (27.97%) respondents belong to the age group between 21 and 22 years (Table 1).
3. Among the 1037 respondents, out of which the highest 315 of them belongs to 1st Year BPT (30.38%), whereas 299 respondents belongs to 2nd Year BPT (28.83%) and 179 respondents are from 3rd Year BPT (17.26%) (Table 3).
4. Out of 960 BPT Students, the majority of them (925) visited the library for study purpose; out of 77 MPT Students, the majority of them (72) visited to the library for study purpose (Table 4).
5. It is found from the study that the majority, i.e., 972 (93.73%) students are aware about the textbooks, in which there are (93.23%) of BPT students and (100.00%) of MPT. About 759 respondents (73.19%) students are aware of Newspapers, in which 693 (72.19%) of BPT students and 66 (85.71%) of MPT students are aware (Table 5).
6. The Mean response of students of BPT (3.9 ± 1.4) and MPT (4.3 ± 0.9) in relation to opinion on rate the adequacy of information sources on text books is found to be statistically significance (0.0130). It means that the MPT Students have a significant higher mean score (4.3=Agree) as compared to BPT students (3.9 Agree) in relation to ratings on adequacy of information sources. Whereas the Mean response of students of BPT (3.3 ± 1.2) and MPT (3.7 ± 1.3) in relation to opinion on

rate the adequacy of information sources on Internet facility is found to be statistically significance (0.0030). It means that the MPT Students have significant higher mean scores (3.7=Agree) as compared to BPT students (3.3 Agree) in relation to ratings on adequacy of information sources (Table 6).

7. It is found from the study that the majority, i.e., 737 (71.07%) students are aware about Lending of Books and other reading materials, in which there are (70.10%) of BPT students and (83.12%) of MPT. About 579 respondents (55.83%) students are aware library Photo copy/Xerox service, in which 518 (53.96%) of BPT students and 61 (79.22%) of MPT students are aware (Table 7).

CONCLUSION

The physiotherapy library plays a vital role in assisting the physiotherapy college to fulfill its goal. The effectiveness of the physiotherapy library to a large extent depends on the utilization of its resources and services.

Physiotherapy libraries invest lots of amount for every year on the collection development in order to meet the need of users. In order to maximize the use of library resources, every library should build up its collection keeping in mind the need of users; and library should be

designed with changing information environment.

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