Study of LMS & ICT Services of Libraries in Grant-in-Aid Colleges of Gadchiroli District in Maharashtra State

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ABSTRACT

This research article deals with the status of LMS and some ICT based library services provided in grant-in-colleges of Gadchiroli district. Today, LMS is the need of every college library. Library personal can give fast and accurate services through LMS. The other thing is that, with the help of Information Communication Technologies library personal; or librarian can put the lot of services before its users. Library users can also get required services with the help of LMS and ICT within less time. Information is essential for national development; but information-rich libraries are just as important. This research article will shed light on the various college libraries status regarding to LMS and their status of automation using in the library of the aided colleges in Gadchiroli district and the difficulties faced by the librarians while providing those services through LMS and ICT services. Data of 24 grant-in-aided colleges out of 27 colleges has been obtained through a well-structured questionnaire filled in by the librarians.
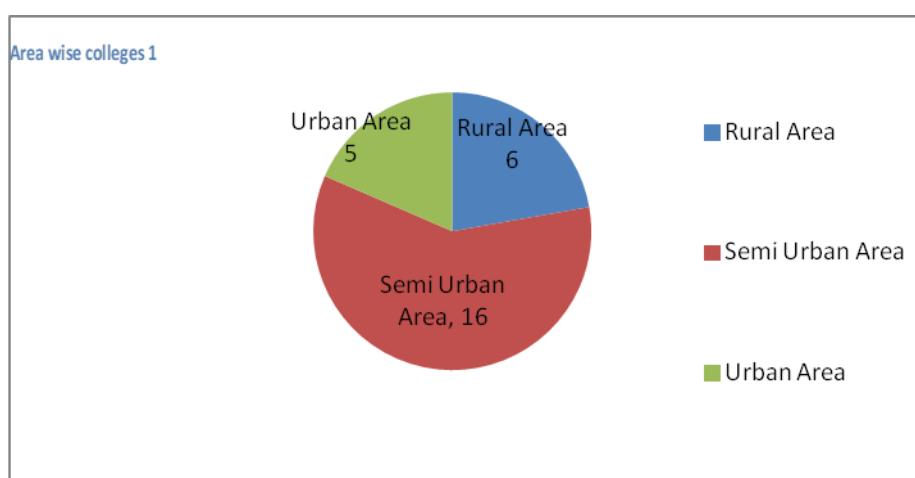
KEYWORDS: LMS, Library Management System, Library software, Library Services, ICT, Grant-in-Aid.

INTRODUCTION

Gondwana University is located in Gadchiroli district in the Indian state of Maharashtra. It is named after the Gondwana region of central India. Gondwana University, Gadchiroli was established in 2011 with the basic objective of developing students mainly from rural and tribal areas and getting them higher education in their area (unigug.ac.in). All the colleges from Gadchiroli & Chandrapur district are affiliated to Gondwana universities.

At present, Gondwana University has a total of 236 affiliated colleges (unigug.ac.in/affcol/). Out of which a total of 70 colleges are grant-in-aid. All other colleges are non-grant or self financed. Out of 236 affiliated colleges, 147 colleges are functioning in Chandrapur district. The remaining 89 colleges are functioning in Gadchiroli district. Out of 70 grant-in-aid colleges, 27 colleges are situated in Gadchiroli district; and remaining all 43 colleges are comes in Chandrapur district. Most of the non-grant traditional colleges (except professional course colleges like; Management, Pharmacy, Engineering etc.) are not providing good infrastructure and library services to its users. It's may be due to newly affiliated colleges and lack of funds to develop basic as well as essential things to its employees as good as users and students.

Most of the grant-in aid colleges are established before the year 2000. It means they are all minimum 20 years old since their establishment. So, it is necessary that all colleges and their libraries are providing and developed maximum user based library services.

Area wise college   1

OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY
The objective of the study is to know the status of LMS equipped libraries and ICT based library services in grant-in-aid colleges situated in Gadchiroli district.

METHODOLOGY
The present study is based on Primary as well as secondary sources. Like, Questionnaires, books, websites are being used (Das, 2000). The primary data has been received through well prepared questionnaire and filled by librarians working in grant-in aid colleges within Gadchiroli district. The data of the 24 grant-in-colleges has been received though questionnaire.

BENEFITS OF LMS
Now a days LMS are became essentials things in all large and well as small libraries. Government and private school libraries also going to developed with the help of LMS (Tiwari, 2010). There are some major benefits of LMS are as follows:-

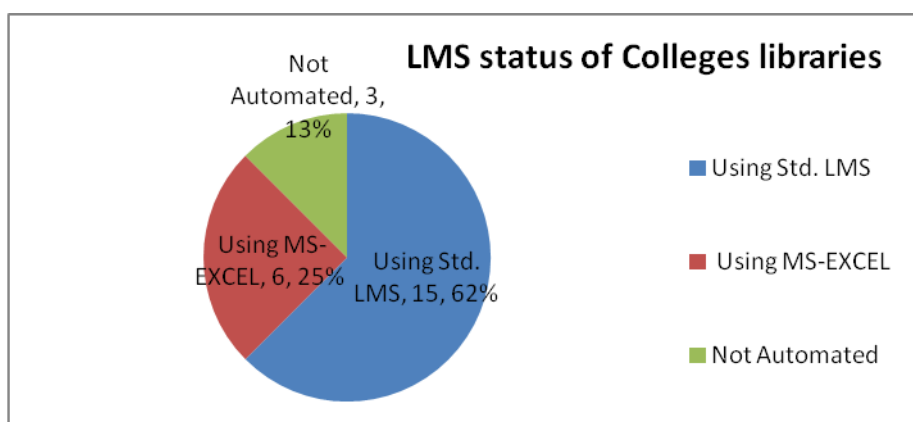   a) Very much simple in use.
    b) Provide less time to serve.

    c)   Making various reports in less time.

    d)   Secure.

    e)   Facility of data to save on cloud.

    f)   Remote access.

    g)   Can upgrade/update time to time.

    h)   Large storage capacity

    i)   Error free

    j)   Upgradable as per requirement etc and more.

Library Management Systems in various college libraries within grant-in-aid colleges in Gadchiroli district

There is lot of LMS available in open market. Each and every LMS has their own benefits. As per the college management and librarian's suggestions & requirement they choose/select the LMS or make LMS by their institution (in-house LMS). There are total 27 grant-in-aid colleges available in Gadchiroli district. Out of 27, **the data of 24 colleges has been received through questionnaire.** The percentage of the received data is 88.88% (89%). Out of 24 colleges, 15 college libraries are using standard library software, 6 college libraries are maintaining his data in MS- Excel format and 3 college libraries are not maintaining his data through computerized format.
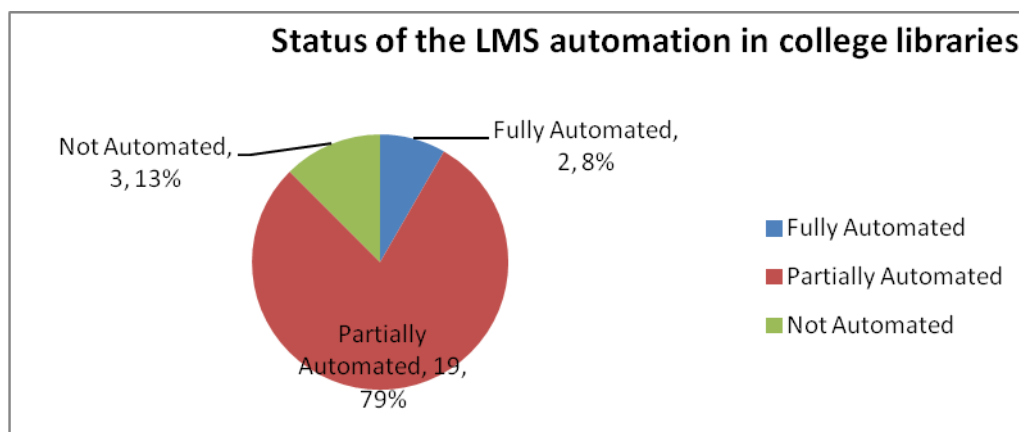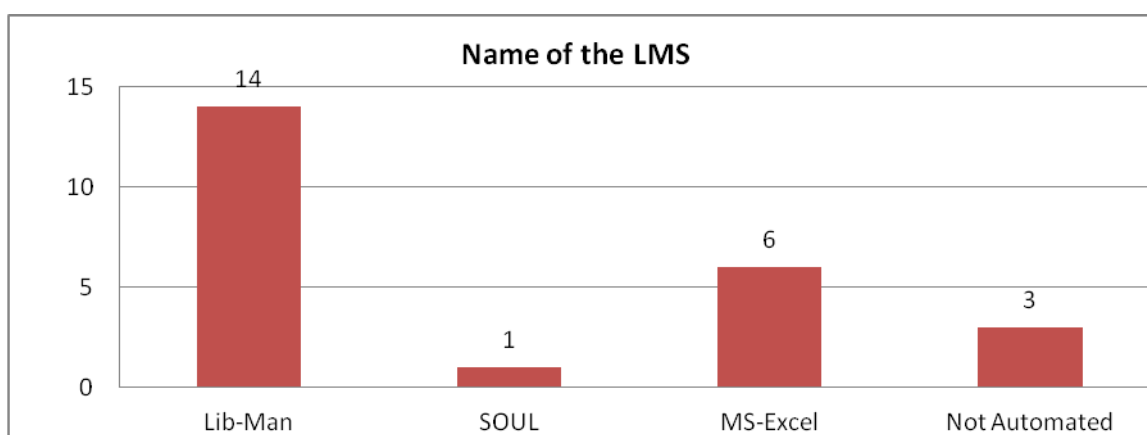
Status of the LMS

Type of LMS

Status of LMS Automation

Out of 24 college libraries, only two (2) college libraries has been fully automated with their LMS and provided services with fully automation techniques. Whereas, ninteen (19) college libraries are partially automated and providing his services with limited use of automation techniques; and three (3) college libraries is still not automated and not maintaining his records with any LMS or any basic computersied techniques.

Status of the LMS automation in college libraries

Not Automated, 3, 13%
Fully Automated, 2, 8%
Partially Automated, 19, 79%

- Fully Automated
- Partially Automated
- Not Automated

Name of the LMS

Most of the college libraries were interested to use Lib-Man LMS. In the middle region of India, Lib-Man LMS is mostly used in college libraries. Some are other LMS also used in various libraries. In Gadchiroli district out of 24 colleges, 14 college libraries are using Lib-Man LMS (offline and online); 1 college library (Govt. Science College, Gadchiroli) is using SOUL LMS. 6 college libraries maintain his records using through MS-Excel; and 3 college libraries are still not automated till date and nor using computers to keep his records through applied automation services.
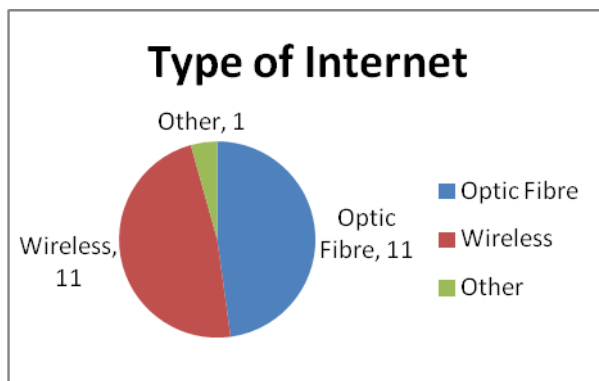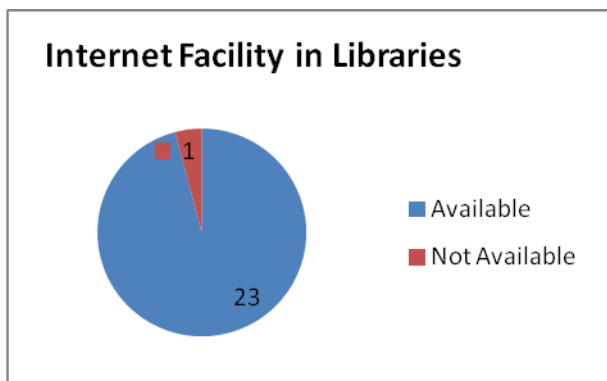

Name of the LMS

Lib-Man	14
SOUL	1
MS-Excel	6
Not Automated	3

ICT Knowledge/Awareness among college librarians

The questioned was asked to librarians in well structured questioned that, **Have you done any Basic Computer Course (e.g. MS-Office/DIT or other? or Are you practically aware about Computer Literacy?** The answer is received that the all librarians are done the basic computer course and very well aware about computer literacy. It means 100% college librarians are computer literate. The entire 24 college librarians are aware about ICT and computer literate.

Internet Facility in libraries

Out of Twenty seven (27) colleges, information has been received from Twenty four (24) colleges through structured questionnaire. (Three (3) Posts are still vacant) Out of the 24 college libraries, there are 23 college libraries are equipped with internet facility. Only two (1) college library does not have internet facility. Out of Twenty three (23) college libraries, Eleven (11) college libraries have internet through Optic fiber, other Eleven (11) college libraries have Wireless connection and only One (1) college library have the other type of connection.
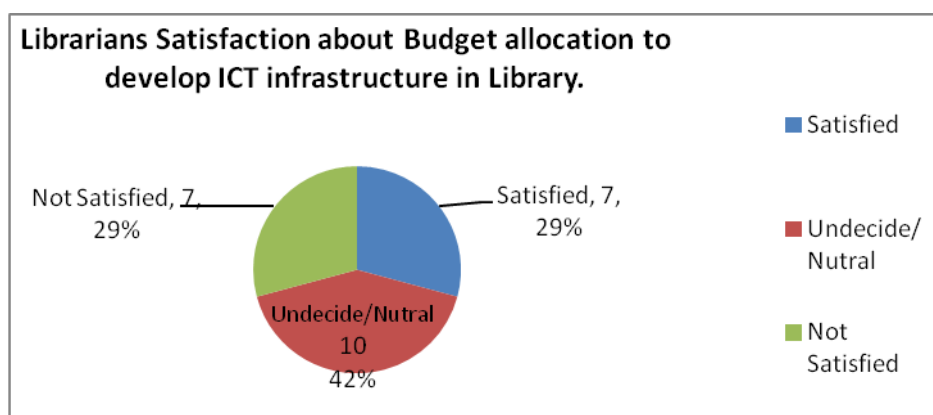
Services provided by the Libraries

All of the below mentioned library services has been provide through the grant-in-aid 24 college libraries in Gadchiroli district. It does not mean that, all the following services are provided through all the college libraries (Hussain, 2013). Here, we are presenting the types of services.

CAS, SDI, Indexing, Abstracting, Circulation, OPAC, m-OPAC/ Web OPAC, Bibliographic services, Translation, Photocopying/Reprographic service, Remote access, Internet service, email, Electronic document delivery service, Book(s) reservation, CD-ROM/CD/DVD database, Resource sharing/Inter-Library Loan (ILL), Library website/Portal, Computer Literacy Training/Online Training/Orientation Programme for Users, Social media services like, Facebook, WhatsApp, Institutional repository, Ask a librarian service, Document scanning, Library network service e.g. DELNET/Inflibnet/NICNET etc., and other services As per user demand.

Librarian's views on budget allocation by the Library Advisory Committee to develop ICT infrastructure in library

ICT development in each and every library is very essential thing in today's era. You (library personal) can't serve the best services to the library users without the help of ICT. Day by day, library services are going to be digital through ICT. With the lack of ICT infrastructure, Librarian also helpless to serve better services to his library users. Therefore, it is very important and essential that every library should equip with all better ICT infrastructure.

The below table shows how much satisfied the librarians are with the budget provided/allocated by the Library Advisory Committee or the College Management for the development of ICT infrastructure in the college library.

FINDINGS & SUGGESTIONS

With the help of I.C.T. each teacher/librarian can provide more services in the best possible way. Teaching and providing all possible services is considered a noble and honorable thing in the society. ICT helps the librarian to further develop his skills. Gaining knowledge of ICT will benefit both students and teachers/librarian.

Out of the total grant-in aid (subsidized) colleges, most of the colleges are in rural and semi-urban areas. However, 100% of librarians are computer literate, which is a matter of satisfaction. Internet facilities are available in almost all colleges; and through that they are providing various library services to their users. The entire college libraries in the grant-in-aided colleges in Gadchiroli district are still not fully computerized through LMS computerized system/software. As well as; it is observed that most of the librarians are dissatisfied with the budget allocated/provided for the development of ICT infrastructure in the libraries.

The efforts of the College Management, Principal and Library Advisory Committee should focus on providing more budgets for the development of ICT infrastructure and facilities in the college library. Also, priority should be given to how the college can get more donations/grants through various schemes provided by the university or UGC. In this way we can create a brighter future for the students through various services using more and more information and communication technology.

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