

Purpose and Use of Library Information Services by Telangana Journalists

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of the study to investigate the use of library services and purpose information gathering the Journalists of Telangana state news agencies. For this purpose, the investigator collected the primary data from 93 respondents of various journalism profession using random sampling technique by administering a questionnaire on use of library services and purpose of information gathering. The data was analysed using statistical techniques like, percentage and chi-square. It is found that majority of the journalists uses the library services such as referral (40.9%) and internet (34.4%) services. The results shows that the main purpose of information gathering is for writing a news item with a percentage of 71.0. It is also noticed that there is a significant difference in the opinions of journalists on use of library services & various type of journalists and information gathering services and type of journalists.

Keywords: Use, Information services, Purpose, Information gathering.

INTRODUCTION

Journalists spend a lot of time immersed in information in pursuit of a story. This is otherwise known as researching, and it is defined as systematically examining resources and materials in order to determine the validity or authenticity of information. The purpose of research is not simply to find facts and statistics, but to uncover reliable data. It is the bread and butter of the investigative journalist – which is the hope of most writers as they pursue their career.

OBJECTIVES

- ✓ To find out the uses of library services by the Journalists working in various news agencies of Telangana state.
- ✓ To know the purpose of information gathering by the Journalists in their day to day activities.

HYPOTHESES

1. There is no significant difference in the opinions of the Journalists regarding use of library services.
2. There is no significant difference in the opinions of the Journalists regarding purpose of information gathering.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Literature review is undertaken to know the use of library services and the purpose of information gathering for the use of Journalists of Telangana state.

Els Diekerhof (2023)¹ explored how journalists in high-speed newsrooms gather information, how gathering activities are temporally structured and how reliability manifests itself in information-gathering activities.

Mukarambi, P. and Kohinoor, V. (2022)² investigated the use of various information channels, the awareness of the existence of information sources, ways used for disseminating information and use of libraries among the newspaper journalists in Mysore.

Anupama Khera, G.P.Pandey and Manoj Kumar Sinha (2021)³ highlighted the survey findings in terms of availability of sources in media libraries. Apart from media professionals and media librarians, the library use pattern, e-resources use pattern, library visit pattern and the problems encounter by media professionals in accessing the information sources etc., were highlighted.

Sinha, Bhattacharjee and Bhattacharjee (2014)⁴ in their paper on "A Study on Library and Internet Usage Pattern among the Media Professionals of North East India," emphasized how the media professionals are seeking information by using library resources. The findings shows that the media professionals are using e-resources while working with newspaper houses, TV channels, etc.

Joseph R. (1993)⁵ examined the reasons why journalists use the libraries of their newspapers; how they use the information they obtain; which types of library materials they use, and how often; what other sources of information they use, and how often; how often they visit the library and for how long; how long they have to wait to obtain the information they need, and who searches for it.

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METHODOLOGY

Design of the study: It is an arrangement of data collection. It is a blue print for the collection, measurement and analysis of data.

Population & Sample: The target population is defined as a specific group of people or objects. For present study the journalists of different media i.e., print and electronic media are selected. The investigator collected the data from 93 journalists working in print and electronic media.

Source: The researcher collected the data from primary and secondary sources of information. The primary data is based on first-hand information using research instrument. The secondary data is from books, journals, periodicals, research articles of seminars and conferences and internet source.

Research Tool: To investigate the print and electronic media library services for journalists, the research instrument is used which consists questions mainly use and purpose of library information sources at news agencies.

Statistical Techniques: The research study is a quantitative type of research and it is descriptive in nature, after coding. The responses of the sample is represented in statistical tables. To know the significance the researcher used the chi-square test and percentages were applied. For this purpose SPSS 17th Version is used.

DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

In the origin of the modern technology, library never loses its importance, there things won't ever loses its shine, Devalaya (Temple), Vidhayala (School) and Granthalaya (Library). However, every man has a library in his pocket as apple cell phone with web facility. Regularly columnists utilize a great many sources of data in their everyday work journalists, by the idea of their calling, are data finders. Journalists have five purposes in observing for data: fact checking, current awareness, research, context, and stimulus. According to Singh and Sharma (2013)⁶ the working journalists who deal with news and views use different strategy in seeking and searching information from libraries which may vary from other types of journalists.

In Table 1 different library services used by the journalists to report their news. The respective services are – borrowing, referral, SDI, CAS, addition list, reference service, photocopy and internet.

Table 1: Library services used by the respondents

Sl. No.	Library Service	Using		Not Using		Total	
		<i>f</i>	%	<i>f</i>	%	<i>f</i>	%
(1)	Borrowing	4	4.3	89	95.7	93	100.0
(2)	Referral	38	40.9	55	59.1	93	100.0
(3)	SDI	20	21.5	73	78.5	93	100.0
(4)	CAS	16	17.2	77	82.8	93	100.0
(5)	Latest Addition list	12	12.9	81	87.1	93	100.0
(6)	Reference service	20	21.5	73	78.5	93	100.0
(7)	Photocopy	7	7.5	86	92.5	93	100.0
(8)	Internet	32	34.4	61	65.6	93	100.0

Source: Primary data

Purpose and Use of Library Information Services by Telangana Journalists

Out of 93 respondents, who use the library services a high percentage (40.9%) of journalists use referral service and it is followed by the internet services with 34.4%. 21.5% of the respondents use SDI services and another 21.5% of them used reference services. The Current Awareness Service (CAS) used by 17.9% and latest addition list used by 12.9%. Interestingly, only 7.5% of the journalist use photocopy service.

In the following table, it is presented the uses of library services by the journalists on the basis of their designations.

Among 4 respondents who use the borrowing services, fifty per cent of them each are Editorial staff and Press staff. The referral services used by the Reporters, Journalists, Editorial staff, Press staff and other staff are 39.5%, 23.7%, 21.1%, 10.5% and 5.3%, respectively. Majority of the SDI services are used by Editorial staff with 35.0% and it is followed by Journalists (30.8%) and (25.0%). Out of 16 respondents who uses CAS services, 50.0% of them are Editorial staff, and remaining fifty per cent are Journalists (18.8%), Reporters (18.8%) and Administrative staff (12.5%). The service like Latest addition list used by Editorial staff (41.7%), Reporters (33.3%) and Journalists (25.0%). 55.0% of Journalists, 25.0 percent of Reporters and 10.0% of Editorial staff and Press staff uses reference services. The Photocopy service is used by the majority of Editorial staff i.e., 85.7 and only 1 (14.3%) of Journalists. Reporters (43.8%), Journalists (31.3%) and 25.0% of Editorial staff uses the internet services.

Table 2: Library services * Types of staff

Sl. No.	Library Service	Editorial staff	Journalists	Reporter	Press staff	Administrative staff	Others	Total
(1)	Borrowing	2 (50.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	2 (50.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	4 (100%)
(2)	Referral	8 (21.1%)	9 (23.7%)	15 (39.5%)	4 (10.5%)	0 (0.0%)	2 (5.3%)	38 (100%)
(3)	SDI	7 (35.0%)	8 (30.8%)	5 (25.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	20 (100%)
(4)	CAS	8 (50.0%)	3 (18.8%)	3 (18.8%)	0 (0.0%)	2 (12.5%)	0 (0.0%)	16 (100%)
(5)	Latest Addition list	5 (41.7%)	3 (25.0%)	4 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	12 (100%)
(6)	Reference service	2 (10.0%)	11 (55.0%)	5 (25.0%)	2 (10.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	20 (100%)
(7)	Photocopy	6 (85.7%)	1 (14.3%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	7 (100%)
(8)	Internet	8 (25.0%)	10 (31.3%)	14 (43.8%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	32 (100%)

Source: Primary data

In Table 3, the investigator presented the Pearson Chi-square values to know the significance of the journalists' opinions on library services.

Table 3: Pearson Chi-square value for library services used by respondents

Sl. No.	Library Service	Pearson Chi-square value	df	Asymptotic Significance
(1)	Borrowing	16.644	5	.005
(2)	Referral	6.426	5	.267
(3)	SDI	6.616	5	.251
(4)	CAS	20.296	5	.001
(5)	Latest Addition list	3.850	5	.571
(6)	Reference service	11.281	5	.046
(7)	Photocopy	17.612	5	.003
(8)	Internet	5.882	5	.318

The library services such as borrowing, CAS reference service and photocopy as the p value are less than .001 i.e., .005, .001, .046 and .003 respectively at 5 degrees of freedom. This indicates that there is a significant difference in the opinions of above library services. This shows that there is an association between various type of journalists and use of library services.

In the following table for what purpose the library and information services are used to gather facts and figures for factual news. Majority (i.e., 71.0%) of the respondents gather the information to write a news item and 34.4% of the respondents gather information for general knowledge purpose. Of 93 respondents, 29.0% collect information to write a news article.

Table 4: Purpose of Information Gathering

Sl. No.	Purpose	Yes		No		Total	
		f	%	f	%	f	%
(1)	Writing a news item	66	71.0	27	29.0	93	100.0
(2)	Editing a news item	17	18.3	76	81.7	93	100.0
(3)	Writing an editorial	29	20.4	74	79.6	93	100.0
(4)	Writing an article	27	29.0	66	71.0	93	100.0
(5)	Writing a column	11	11.8	82	88.2	93	100.0
(6)	Writing a feature	16	17.2	77	82.8	93	100.0
(7)	Personality profile	10	10.8	83	89.2	93	100.0
(8)	General Knowledge	32	34.4	61	65.6	93	100.0

Source: Primary data

Similarly 20.4% of them gather for editorial purpose, 18.3 for news item, 17.2% of them gather information to write a future, 11.8 of them use for writing a feature and 10.8% of them use for personality profile purpose.

Purpose and Use of Library Information Services by Telangana Journalists

In the following Table 5, the purpose of information gather by type of staff.

Table 5: Purpose of information gathering * Type of staff

Sl. No.	Purpose of information gathered	Editorial staff	Journalists	Reporter	Press staff	Administrative staff	Others	Total
(1)	Writing a news item	17 (25.8%)	21 (31.8%)	26 (39.4%)	2 (3.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	66 (100%)
(2)	Editing a news item	7 (41.2%)	6 (35.3%)	2 (11.8%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	2 (11.8%)	17 (100%)
(3)	Writing an editorial	8 (42.1%)	6 (31.6%)	3 (15.8%)	2 (10.5%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	19 (100%)
(4)	Writing an article	10 (37.0%)	8 (29.6%)	5 (18.5%)	2 (7.4%)	2 (7.4%)	0 (0.0%)	27 (100%)
(5)	Writing a column	7 (63.6%)	3 (27.3%)	1 (9.1%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	11 (100%)
(6)	Writing a feature	9 (56.3%)	3 (18.8%)	2 (12.5%)	2 (12.5%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	16 (100%)
(7)	Personality profile	2 (20.0%)	4 (40.0%)	2 (20.0%)	2 (20.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	10 (100%)
(8)	General Knowledge	10 (31.3%)	10 (31.3%)	12 (37.5%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	32 (34.4%)

Source: Primary data

The purpose of information gather is used by majority (39.4%) Reporters for writing a news item, 31.8% used by journalists, 25.8% used by editorial staff, 3.0% used by Press staff. Majority (41.2%) of Editorial staff use for the purpose of editing a news item. The other respondents such as Journalists (35.3%), Reporters (11.8%) and Others (11.8%) also use. 42.1% of Editorial staff, 31.6% of Journalists, 15.8% of Reporters and 10.5% of Press staff gather the information for writing an editorial. Of 27 respondents, 37.0% of Editorial staff, 29.6% of Journalists, 18.5% of Reporters, 7.4% of Press staff and 7.4% of Administrative staff use the information gather to write an article. A large percentage i.e., 63.6% of Editorial staff, 27.3% of Journalists and 9.1% of Reporters gather the information to write a column. The table also shows that 56.3% of editorial staff, 18.8% of Journalists, 12.5% of Reporters and 12.5% of Press staff also gather the information for writing a feature. The purpose of information gather is used by Journalists (40.0%), Editorial staff (20.0%), Reporters (20.0%) and Press staff (20.0%) for personality profile. For General knowledge purpose 37.5% of Reporters, 31.3% of Editorial staff and 37.5% of Reporters are used.

Table 6: Pearson Chi-square value for purpose of information gathering

Sl. No.	Purpose	Pearson Chi-square value	df	Asymptotic Significance
(1)	Writing a news item	16.158	5	.006
(2)	Editing a news item	18.219	5	.003
(3)	Writing an editorial	9.025	5	.108
(4)	Writing an article	13.327	5	.020
(5)	Writing a column	13.484	5	.019
(6)	Writing a feature	15.644	5	.008
(7)	Personality profile	5.297	5	.381
(8)	General Knowledge	7.077	5	.215

Table 3 displays the Pearson Chi-square values to know the significance of the journalists' opinions on purpose of information gathering. The information gather is for writing a news item, editing a news item, writing an editorial, writing an article, writing a column, writing a feature, personality profile and general knowledge. The significance value for writing a news item is .006, for editing a news item is .003, writing an article .020, writing a column .019 and writing a feature is .008. This indicates that there is a significant difference in the opinions for purpose of information gathering. From this it is understood that there is an association between various type of journalists and purpose of information gathering.

FINDINGS

1. It is found that majority of the journalists uses the library services such as referral (40.9%) and internet (34.4%) services. Further, the study indicates that 50.0% of Editorial staff and another 50.0% of Press staff is used for borrowing. Majority (39.5%) of Reporters is used the library staff for referral services. The Editorial staff mainly used the library services for CAS (50.0%), Latest Addition list (41.7%) and Photocopy (85.7%). The Reference service (55.0%) is used by Journalists. Higher percentage (43.8%) of the Reporters used internet services.
2. The findings also illustrates that there is a significant difference in the opinion of journalists and use of library services (borrowing, CAS, Reference service and Photocopy).
3. The results show that the main purpose of information gathering is for writing a news item with a percentage of 71.0. Majority Reporters' (39.4%) purpose of information gather is to write a news item. The purpose of information gathering for Editorial staff is to write an editorial, writing an article, writing a column, writing a feature. Whereas the Journalists' (40.0%) gather the information for the purpose of Personality profile and 37.5% of the Reporters information gather is for General knowledge purpose.
4. It is found that there is an association between various type of journalists and purposes (Writing a news item, Editing a news item, writing an article, writing a column and writing a feature) of information gathering.

CONCLUSION

As majority of the journalists are not using proper library services like photocopy services, latest addition list and CAS, which is below 20.0%, it is difficult to report proper news at proper time. Even though it is a little sample, majority of journalists using photocopying services and the journalists are not making the use of other library services. Majority of the journalists' purpose of information gather is for writing a news item or general knowledge purposes. Among all other type of journalists category, majority of Editorial staffs' purpose of information gathering is for news item, editorial writing, writing an article, writing a column and writing a feature.

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