

**Awareness of Information Literacy among the Students of BMS Government Degree
College, Huliya, Karnataka: A Study**

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Abstract:

The study investigates to find out the awareness of Information Literacy concept among undergraduate students of Government Degree College, Huliya and emphasizes the relevance of information literacy programmes in a college library setup for better usage of resources.

Keywords: Information literacy, college library, undergraduate students.

Introduction:

The library is a dynamic institution providing access to digital print information and fostering the lifelong learning skills essential for health and human services professional however, in a world of unprecedented increase of information no library can afford to acquire all the materials necessary to meet all the needs of its users. The high rate of inflation of scientific materials and the trend towards expensive electronic information storage and retrieval; system have further placed libraries in a difficult financial position. The library has embraced new information technologies in order to serve its client etc., in the most efficient and cost effectively possible.

Information Literacy

Information literate people are those who have learned how to learn. They know how to learn because they know how information is organized, how to find it, how to use information in such a way that others can learn from them.

Information literacy forms the basis for lifelong learning. It is common to all disciplines, to all learning environments, and to all levels of education. It enables learners to master content and extend their investigations, become more self-directed, and assume greater control over their own learning.

- Literacy meanings
 - Able to read and write
 - Literacy is deliberately taught and consciously and deliberately learned
 - ability to read and write impacts considerably on a person 's potential to communicate and learn
- Information literacy defined...
 - “ the ability to access and evaluate information effectively for problem solving and decision making ”
 - Information literate people know how to be lifelong learners in an information society.
 - They recognize when information is needed and have the ability to locate, evaluate and use effectively the information needed.

Methodology:

The present study is based on the survey method using structured questionnaire and set the scope of the present study limited to the awareness of information literacy concept among undergraduate students of government Degree College, Huliartumkur dist. The questionnaire has been devised keeping in view the objectives of the study. The questionnaire is divided into two parts, part 1 deals with background information and part deals with information literary practices and characteristics of the study population.

Analysis and Interpretation of data

Based on the data collected from eighty nine respondents an attempt has been made to analysis and interpret the data in terms of awareness of IL concept among undergraduate students.

Variables	Number	Percentage
Male	43	48.32
Female	46	51.68
Total	89	100

Table-1 Gender

In this table majority of the respondents are female 51%(N-46) where in 48% (43) are males.

Variables	Number	Percentage
18-20	58	65.18
21-22	29	32.58
23 and above	2	2.24
Total	89	100

Table -2 Ages

Table-2 indicates the age of the respondents which is grouped in three stages i.e., 18-20 years, 21-22 years and 23 and above. Sixty five percent (58) of the study population is between the age group of 18-20 years, 33% (29) from 21-22 years and only 2% (2) belongs to the age group 23 and above.

Variables	Number	Percentage
Yes	35	39.33
No	24	60.67
Total	89	100

Table-3 Email Account

It is found that 60% (54) of the population don't give an email account whereas 39 % (35) of the respondents have their email accounts. Hence it is clear that maximum number of the study population is no aware of internet and its use and facilities.

Variables	Number	Percentage
Yes	46	51.68
No	43	48.32
Total	89	100

Table – 4 use of WWW

Table no -4 indicates that 51%(46) of the study population uses www and remaining 48%(43) are not aware of the concept www.

Variables	Number	Percentage
Yes	31	34.84
No	58	65.16
Total	89	100

Table -5 Full text articles

This table indicates 65% (58) of respondents are not using the full text articles whereas 35%(31) are aware of and using the full text articles.

Variables	Number	Percentage
Yes	50	56.17
No	39	43.83
Total	89	100

Table-6 experience of computer course

Question was asked to the respondents whether they had any computer courses or not it was found that 56%(50) of the students have the experience to computer courses and remaining 43%(39) have not received any computer course hence maximum number of students received the computer course.

	Variables	Number	Percentage
A	Read complex documents	5	5.62
B	Locate, evaluate and use information effectively	10	11.23
C	Search the free web for information	30	33.71
D	Summarize information you read	5	5.62
E	Don't know	39	43.82
	Total	89	100

Table – 7 IL Describes as

Table – 7 IL Describes as question was asked to describe IL. Forty three percent (39) of the population cannot describe what the IL is 33%(30) says it is a searching the fee web for information, 11% (10) describes as locating, evaluating and use of information, whereas 5%(5) describes as it is reading complex documents and summarizing information which they read.

	Variables	Number	Percentage
A	Conomic	64	71.92
B	Ec*	0	0
C	Economi*	15	16.85
D	Eco*	0	0
E	In reference book	0	0
F	Don't know	10	11.23%
	Total	89	100

Table – 8 best way to truncate the word ECONOMICS

Question was asked to the students that what is the best way to truncate ECONOMICS in order to get the variant words. It is found that 72% (64) says Economic 17 %(15) indicates economic, whereas 11%(10) of the respondents not aware of how to truncate ECONOMICS. The term Ec*, Eco* and reference.

	Variables	Number	Percentage
A	Publishes articles of internet to a non-academic audience	59	66.29
B	Normally includes advertisements	12	13.48
C	May be published weekly, monthly	18	20.23
D	All the above	0	0
E	Don't know	0	0
	Total	89	100

Table no 9 describing a magazine

This table shows the respondents awareness of magazine and its publications. Sixty six percent (59) of respondents indicate that a magazine published articles for a non-academic audience, 14% (12) indicates it normally includes advertisements and 20% (18) of respondents have the opinion that magazine mat published weekly, monthly.

	Variables	Number	Percentage
A	Newsgroups	39	43.83
B	Encyclopedia	0	0
C	Book	0	0
D	video	0	0
E	Don't know	50	56.17
	Total	89	100

Table No 10 Publications such as magazines and journals are called.

Table No 10 Publications such as magazines and journals are called here the respondents have to answer the question about the publication such as magazines and journals are called. Fifty six percent (50) of the population is not aware about publications where as 44%(39) of the respondents indicates it is newsgroups.

	Variables	Number	Percentage
A	Journal article	0	0
B	Encyclopedia	10	11.24
C	Book	35	39.32
D	Video	0	0
E	Don't know	44	49.44
	Total	89	100

Table no 11 best places for looking broad introduction to topic

Here the question was asked if a student look for a broad introduction of a topic were should they consult for. It is found that 50% (44) indicate non awareness 40% (35) consult to books and reaming 12% (10) consult encyclopedias.

	Variables	Number	Percentage
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A	Journals	0	0
B	Newspaper articles	42	47.19
C	Book	0	0
D	Video	0	0
E	Don't know	47	52.81
	Total	89	100

Table no 12 Information about something happened last month

Question was asked that if they need information about what happened last month where they should look for? Fifty three percent (47) they are not aware of where as remaining 47% (42) referring to newspaper articles.

Variables	Number	Percentage
Author	39	43.82
ISBN	0	0
Title	20	22.47
Call no	0	0
Don't know	30	33.71
Total	89	100

Table-13 Arrangement of books

Here indicates the arrangement of books in an academic library. Forty four percent (39) of respondents indicates the according to author, 23% (20) indicates to title and 34% (30) are not aware about the arrangement.

	Variables	Number	Percentage
A	The number stored used to identify the book	16	17.97
B	used to locate the book on the library shelves	5	5.63
C	The phone number of the author	45	50.56
D	Allows you to order the book online	3	3.37
E	Don't know	20	22.47
	Total	89	100

Table 14 call no.,of books is

Here question has asked to the students that what a calla number is. Fifty one percent(45) indicates it is a phone number of the author18%(N= indicates a call number is the number store use to identify the book 6%(5) used to locate the book on the library shelves, and 4% (3) allows you to order the book online.

	Variables	Number	Percentage
A	Only public access content	12	13.48
B	Online public access catalogue	10	11.24
C	Offering public allowed content	17	19.10
D	Original property available	50	56.18
	Total	89	100

Table 15 OPAC stands for

This table shows what is meant by OPAC fifty six percent(50) indicates original property available 19% (17) offering public allowed content 14%(12) indicates only public Access content, and remaining 12%(10) indicates OPAC stands for online public access catalogue.

	Variables	Number	Percentage
A	Far more reliable than books and magazines	31	34.83
B	Factual because the internet is constantly monitored by world educational organizations	0	0
C	Required by law to be accurate, timely and appropriate.	48	53.94
D	Comes from many varied sources such as business, the government, or private citizens	48	53.94
E	Don't know	10	11.23
	Total	89	100

Table no 16 finding information on internet

This table shows that 54% (48) of the respondents indicates that the information available on internet comes from many varied sources such as business, the private, government or private citizens 35%(31) is more reliable than books and magazines where as 12% (10) of the respondents are not aware of the information available on internet.

Summary and findings:

- It is found that majority of the respondents didn't have their email accounts and they are also not aware of the facility and services available on internet.
- More number (46) of students using www.
- Nearly 65% of the population is accessing full text article.
- Fifty six percent of the population has experience of computer course.
- Majority of the population that 44% (39) are not aware about IL.
- Seventy two percent of the population used ECONOMIC to truncate the word ECONOMICS.
- Majority of the population that is 66% describes a magazine as it published articles to non-academic audiences.
- Fifty six percent of the study population is no aware of the publications such as magazines and journals are called.

Conclusion:

The ultimate of any library service is to ensure that the select are able to access the information purpose from which they request it this raises the need of information literacy to client with foal assisting client to identify and select relevant information using appropriate search strategies and being able to evaluate, organize and synthesis that information a meaningful presentation conduction various IL practice in library environment.

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