Full Length Research Paper

User's perception and opinion towards CAS and SDI services in agricultural science university libraries in India, with special reference to South India: An evaluative study

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The study highlights the issues relating to the CAS and SDI services in agricultural science university libraries in India, with special reference to South India. The required data were collected through a structured questionnaire, and the same is tabulated in the form of tables. Necessary statistical tests have been applied to draw the inferences. The study found that 48.42% of PG students, 52% of research scholars and 48% of faculty members have expressed that they are getting the current books in their respective libraries. 47% of PG students, 55% of research scholars and 49% of faculty members are of the opinion that article alert services are provided by the libraries; majority of users that is 84% of PG students, 80% of research scholars and 86% of faculty members are feeling that they require index of articles. 95% of PG students, 96% of research scholars and 90% of faculty members are of the opinion that they require the abstract of the articles for their study and research. Overall, 17% of PG students, 30% of research scholars and 28% of faculty members are satisfied with the existing CAS services provided by the libraries under the study. On the other hand, 32% of PG students, 30% of research scholars and 30% of faculty members have expressed that they need SDI services. But overall 19% of PG students, 48% of research scholars and 51% of faculty members are feeling happy with the existing SDI services provided by the libraries. The remaining users are not satisfied with SDI services.

Key words: CAS and SDI services, agricultural science, libraries, research scholars.

INTRODUCTION

Agriculture university libraries play an important role in providing the right direction to the agriculture, scientific and technological development of a nation. The agriculture university is to develop the personality of human being as a whole. Every library exists to serve the needs of its own community of users. It follows the overall evaluation of library thought to base mainly on how well it serves these needs. The organized information and necessitate a study of library and information service dissemination function to suit the needs of the users needs of users (Kannappanavar and Swamy, 2004).

With the strides in the area of Science and Technology any information centre has to initiate and sustain a variety of library and information services to provide the right type of information to the users. To achieve this, it is necessary to have a continuous feedback from the users. One of the ways by which this can be achieved is by observing and analyzing the requests received for further

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information on any of the items already included in the contents of the library and information services according to those requirements. This will form a quick and continuous way of evaluating the various library and information services. This type of evaluation will also help facilitate the information centre to collect and keep the right type of information, which is sought most by the users.

Agricultural university libraries in India have long history of 50 years now and have come a long way from the days when the Govind Ballabh Panth Agricultural University Library was setup in 1960. Those were the days when no library and information services were provided to the users, not even the circulation services. A university library now is no more a mere appendage to the parent institution; it is no longer a part of the ivory tower world; it has rather transformed itself to a great deal and has metamorphosed itself into a service institution (Kaur, 1995).

In this regard, the Parry Committee Report of the United Kingdom has noted with satisfaction that the foremost fundamental change in attitude in university library has been from inward looking conservative method to an outward looking organization geared more directly to the information needs of the users. Similarly, in India also the Radhakrishnan Commission Report, the University Grants Commission, the Kothari Commission Report etc have attached much importance to university libraries. The thesis is based on the survey method followed by the researcher in evaluating the collection and services provided by the South Indian agricultural university libraries.

Guha (1983) and Shinde and Karande (1991) have stressed that current awareness service is a useful device through which users can be informed promptly about information generated on a subject or an area in which a group of scientists are involved in research pursuits. Kumar (1987) and Ojha et al. (1999) draws attention to the fact that current awareness services aim at bridging the time lag between the publication of primary documents and their coverage in secondary information services. Roy (1987), Parker (1973) and Parkhi (1982) have further pointed out that the task of agricultural libraries is to disseminate pertinent information to the scientists at the right time through current awareness service and selective dissemination of information services. Therefore, it is impressed that all agricultural university libraries should offer current awareness services as an important dissemination function.

Objectives of the study

Modern agricultural university libraries are characterized by those objectives that stress the importance of rendering the maximum library and information services to agricultural research, teaching, learning and extension.

A major objective of the present study is to know the user's perception and opinion and evaluate the 'CAS and SDI Services in agricultural university libraries in India, with special reference to South India'. The other objectives are as follows:

1) To assess the CAS services offered by the agricultural university libraries in South India.
2) To assess the SDI services offered by the agricultural university libraries in South India.
3) To evaluate the CAS and SDI services in the agricultural university libraries in South India.

Hypothesis

Any scientific investigation starts with the statement of a problem followed by a tentative generalization in the form of a proposition, that is, hypothesis. Keeping in view the objectives of the study attempts have been made to test the following hypotheses:

1. There is a significant relationship among the opinion of the post graduate students, research scholars and faculty members towards overall satisfaction of current awareness service.
2. There is a significant relationship among the opinion of the post graduate students, research scholars and faculty members towards overall satisfaction of selective dissemination of information services.

METHODOLOGY

Many methods and techniques are available for data collection. Among them questionnaire survey is found to be very useful techniques for collecting data relating to the users and their information needs. So the survey method is adapted for the present study, which can be applied for collecting data. Five agricultural universities are functioning in the South India so all the five universities are taken up for the present study.

Analysis and interpretation of data: users' point of view

Here, an attempt has been made to analyze and interpret the data collected on user's opinion of "CAS and SDI services of agriculture university libraries in India, with special reference to South India." After collecting data, suitable tables have been formulated for each aspect with the aid of computer and the percentages of their performance are analyzed. In some important aspects cross comparisons are also made. Further, to trace out the variations among post graduate students, research scholars and faculty members, Chi-Square test has been conducted and the calculated values are displayed. The analysis of the evaluative study reveals that some of the findings are really startling. Results of the evaluative study are analyzed and displayed here under.

Users' general information in agricultural university libraries in South India

Population of this study consists of three categories of users- post graduate students, research scholars and faculty members (at different levels). Since the population size of South Indian agricultural

Table 1. Population, sample size of the distributed questionnaires.

Name of the university	Total population	Questionnaires distributed	Questionnaires distributed (%)	Total respondents	Total respondents (%)
UASB	895	200	22.34	163	81.50
ANGRAUH	802	200	24.93	146	73.00
TNAUC	1164	200	17.18	154	77.00
KAUT	836	200	23.92	147	73.50
UASD	699	200	28.61	155	77.50
Total	4396	1000	20.25	765	76.50

UASB, University of Agricultural Sciences Bangalore; ANGRAUH, Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University Hyderabad; TNAUC, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University Coimbatore; KAUT, Kerala Agricultural University Thrissur; UASD, University of Agricultural Sciences Dharwad.

Table 2. Gender wise distribution of respondents.

Name of the university	Questionnaires distributed	Male respondents	Female respondents	Total respondents
UASB	200	120(15.68)	43(5.62)	163(21.30)
ANGRAUH	200	109(14.24)	37(4.83)	146(19.08)
TNAUC	200	115(15.03)	39(5.09)	154(20.13)
KAUT	200	110(14.37)	37(4.83)	147(19.21)
UASD	200	116(15.16)	39(5.09)	155(20.26)
Total	1000	570(74.50)	195(25.49)	765(100.00)

Figures in parenthesis indicate percentage.

universities is very large, random sampling technique has been applied. Post graduate students sample size being larger has been limited to 25% of their total population, whereas for the the research scholars and faculty members strength. The sample research scholars and faculty members the sample size is 20% of size is inclusive of all South Indian agricultural universities. The details of population size and sample selected, that is, questionnaires administered along with the response are in Table 1.

Population, sample size in agricultural university libraries in South India: Table 1 shows clearly the entire population and the sample size of the respondents under the study. It is observed from the study that there were totally 4396 users, out of which 1000 users have been chosen as sample, with questionnaires distributed to them. Out of 1000 respondents, 765 returned the filled questionnaires which amounted to 76.50%. In case of university librarians, the response is 100% since the researcher has paid a visit to each university and has personally distributed the questionnaires and collected the duly completed questionnaires.

The details of the various responses on users' parameters are presented in Tables 1 to 5. The highest percentage of response has come from University of Agricultural Sciences Library, Bangalore, 81.50 (163), next is University of Agricultural Sciences Library, Dharwad with 77.50 (155), followed by Tamil Nadu Agricultural University Library, Coimbatore, 77.00 (154), Kerala Agricultural University Library, Thrissur, 73.50 (147) and the least response is form Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University Library, Hyderabad, 73.00 (146).

Gender wise questionnaires distribution in agricultural university libraries in South India: The data on the gender details of the respondents are presented in Table 2. The completed data in the table indicate that out of 765 respondents, 570 (74.50%) are males and the remaining 195 (28.49%) are females. This table shows that male is dominant over female categories.

Language wise respondents in agricultural university libraries in South India: The data of language wise distribution of respondents are presented in Table 3. The data in the table show that all the respondents under the study are proficient in English Language. 70% of the respondents have proficiency in the national language, that is, Hindi. Since the study is confined to South Indian agricultural universities, the regional languages have also played a dominant role. However, the data show that Kannada language occupies 32% followed by Telugu (28.76%), Tamil (17.52%) and Malayalam (21.57%), respectively.

Age wise distribution of library users in agricultural university libraries in South India: The library users are categorized into four types depending on their age, and so collected information was tabulated and presented in Table 4. It is observed from the table that most of the users 528 (69.02%) are between the age group of 21 to 30; naturally this group belongs to post graduate students and research scholars. Further, it is analyzed that 106 (13.86%) were under the age group of 31 to 40, followed by 109 (14.25%) of 41 to 50 age group and 22 (2.88%) of 51-above age group. This clearly shows that majority of the users are students.

Current awareness service in agricultural university libraries in South India

As the term denotes, the current awareness service aims at alerting the users about the current literature in their subject specialization. It is an announcement mechanism usually in a documentary form. It satisfies the current approach of the users to information, because

Table 3. Language wise distribution of respondents.

Languages	UASB	ANGRAUH	TNAUC	KAUT	UASD	Total
English	163(100.00)	146(100.00)	154(100.00)	147(100.00)	155(100.00)	765(100.00)
Hindi	118(72.39)	109(74.66)	117(75.97)	79(53.74)	117(75.48	540(70.59)
Kannada	83(50.92)	23(15.75)	13(8.44)	27(18.37)	99(63.87)	245(32.03)
Telugu	34(20.86)	84(57.53)	43(27.92)	15(10.20)	44(28.39)	220(28.76)
Tamil	10(6.13)	22(15.07)	83(53.90)	16(10.88)	3(1.94)	134(17.52)
Malayalam	15(9.20)	20(13.70)	29(18.83)	85(57.82)	16(10.32)	165(21.57)

Note: Because of the multiple choices the percentages are not rounded of to 100%.

Table 4. Age wise distribution of respondents.

Users' age	UASB	ANGRAUH	TNAUC	KAUT	UASD	Total
21-30	109(66.87)	91(62.33)	108(70.13)	108(73.47)	112(72.26)	528(69.02)
31-40	21(12.88)	21(14.38)	26(16.88)	22(14.97)	16(10.32)	106(13.86)
41-50	27(16.56)	29(19.86)	16(10.39)	14(9.52)	23(14.84)	109(14.25)
51-Above	6(3.68)	5(3.42)	4(2.60)	3(2.04)	4(2.58)	22(2.88)
Total	163(100.00)	146(100.00)	154(100.00)	147(100.00)	155(100.00)	765(100.00)

the aim of the service is to answer any specific query as current approach to information and get a panoramic view of current developments. Current awareness service is also defined as the service, which endeavours to keep the clientele informed promptly of all the nascent thoughts created in the specific fields and also in related fields.

Opinion about current awareness service by post graduate students

Opinion about the current awareness service by post graduate students of agricultural university libraries under the study is depicted in Table 5. It is clearly observed from the table that 215 (48.42%) post graduate students reported that the latest and current books are available in their subject area and the remaining 229 (51.58%) respondents have stated that the latest books are not available in the library pertaining to their subject areas. It is further observed from the same table that, majority of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore post graduate students 52 (58.43%) are more satisfied with the availability of latest books and agricultural university Dharwad post graduate students 37 (40.22%) are least satisfied with it.

It is observed from the table that 208 (46.85%) post graduate students reported that they regularly receive the article alert services and 236 (53.15%) respondents have stated that they have never received the article alert services from the library. Again, it is observed from the table that majority of the post graduate students 377 (84.91%) have stated that they prefer to have the index of articles, and a very small portion of students have said that they do not prefer to receive such services.

It is observed from the table that again a large majority of the students 420 (94.59%) have stated that they require abstracts of the articles whereas the remaining few students have not required abstracts. 192 (43.24%) post graduate students are consulting the documentation list brought out by other universities and institutions, but 252 (56.76%) post graduate students have not consulted any such documents for their study and research.

Opinion about current awareness service by research scholars

Opinion about the current awareness service by research scholars of agricultural universities under the study is depicted in Table 6. It is observed from the table that 83 (51.55%) respondents have reported that the latest books are available in the library in their research topics; 78(48.45%) respondents have reported that the latest books are not available according to their research needs. It is also observed from the table that the majority of the Tamil Nadu Agricultural University Library Coimbatore research scholars 20 (60.61%) are more satisfied with the latest books available in the library and Kerala Agricultural University Library, Thrissur research scholars 12 (37.50%) are least satisfied with it.

The research scholars were asked whether they received the article alert or content page of journals regularly. Out of 161 research scholars 89 (55.28%) have stated that they are receiving the article alert service, whereas the remaining 72 (44.72%) have reported that they have not received this service. Further, they were asked whether they required index and abstract of articles. Majority of the research scholars have reported that they require indexing and abstracting of articles services and only a few have stated that they do not require it. We asked whether they consulted documentation list brought out by other universities and institutions. Out of 161 research scholars, 67 (41.61%) have stated that they consult the documentation lists brought out by other institutions and the remaining 94 (58.39%) respondents have not consulted the same.

Opinion about current awareness service by faculty members

Opinion about the current awareness service by faculty members is depicted in Table 7. It is observed from the table that majority of the faculty members 84 (52.50%) have reported that the latest books are not available for teaching and research purpose and 76 (47.50%) faculty members have reported that the availability of latest books in the library is good. It is observed from the table that the majority of the faculty members of University of Agricultural Sciences Library, Dharwad 23 (74.19%) are more satisfied with the

Table 5. Opinion about current awareness service by post graduate students.

CAS service	Option	UASB	ANGRAUH	TNAUC	KAUT	UASD	Total
		N=94	N=84	N=89	N=85	N=92	N=444
Latest and current books are available in the subject	Yes	51(54.26)	34(40.48)	52(58.43)	41(48.24)	37(40.22)	215(48.42)
	No	43(45.74)	50(59.52)	37(41.57)	44(51.76)	55(59.78)	229(51.58)
Receive the article alert regularly	Yes	40(42.55)	35(41.67)	46(51.69)	42(49.41)	45(48.91)	208(46.85)
	No	54(57.45)	49(58.33)	43(48.31)	43(50.59)	47(51.09)	236(53.15)
Prefer to have the index of articles	Yes	78(82.98)	70(83.33)	76(85.39)	71(83.53)	82(89.13)	377(84.91)
	No	16(17.02)	14(16.67)	13(14.61)	14(16.47)	10(10.87)	67(15.09)
Require abstracts of articles	Yes	89(94.68)	79(94.05)	85(95.51)	80(94.12)	87(94.57)	420(94.59)
	No	5(5.32)	5(5.95)	4(4.49)	5(5.88)	5(5.43)	24(5.41)
Consulted documentation list brought by other institutions	Yes	43(45.74)	39(46.43)	32(35.96)	43(50.59)	35(38.04)	192(43.24)
	No	51(54.26)	45(53.57)	57(64.04)	42(49.41)	57(61.96)	252(56.76)

Table 6. Opinion about current awareness service by research scholars.

CAS service	Option	UASB	ANGRAUH	TNAUC	KAUT	UASD	Total
		N=34	N=30	N=33	N=32	N=32	N=161
Latest and current books are available in the subject	Yes	20(58.82)	14(46.67)	20(60.61)	12(37.50)	17(53.13)	83(51.55)
	No	14(41.18)	16(53.33)	13(39.39)	20(62.50)	15(46.88)	78(48.45)
Receive the article alert regularly	Yes	15(44.12)	20(66.67)	18(54.55)	19(59.38)	17(53.13)	89(55.28)
	No	19(55.88)	10(33.33)	15(45.45)	13(40.63)	15(46.88)	72(44.72)
Prefer to have the index of articles	Yes	29(85.29)	27(90.00)	28(84.85)	19(59.38)	25(78.13)	128(79.50)
	No	5(14.71)	3(10.00)	5(15.15)	13(40.63)	7(21.88)	33(20.50)
Require abstracts of articles	Yes	32(94.12)	29(96.67)	32(96.97)	31(96.88)	31(96.88)	155(96.27)
	No	2(5.88)	1(3.33)	1(3.03)	1(3.13)	1(3.13)	6(3.73)
Consulted documentation list brought by other institutions	Yes	14(41.18)	16(53.33)	14(42.42)	12(37.50)	11(34.38)	67(41.61)
	No	20(58.82)	14(46.67)	19(57.58)	20(62.50)	21(65.63)	94(58.39)

latest books available in the library and faculty members of Acharya NG Ranga Agricultural University Library, Hyderabad 4 (34.38%) are least satisfied with it.

Regarding articles alert services out of 160 faculty members 78 (48.75%) have stated that they are receiving the articles alert services whereas the remaining 82 (51.25%) have reported that they have not received this service. It was also asked whether they preferred to have index and abstract of articles. A large majority of the faculty members have stated that they require the index and abstract of journals articles and only a few faculty members have stated that they do not require this service. It was asked whether they consulted documentation lists brought out by other universities and institutions. Out of 160 faculty members 71 (44.38%) have reported that they consulted the documentation list brought out by other universities and institutions for their teaching and research purpose, whereas 89 (55.03%) have reported that they never

consulted such documentation lists.

Overall satisfaction of current awareness service

Table 8 examines users' opinion of agricultural science universities towards overall satisfaction of current awareness service. After going through the table, it is found that out of the majority of the post graduate students, 150 (35.78%) research scholars 40 scholars and 33 (20.63%) faculty members have reported that are (24.84%) and faculty members 51 (24.84%) are not satisfied with with the overall satisfaction of current awareness service. However, 87 (19.59%) post graduate students, 49 (30.43%) research strongly satisfied with overall current awareness service; 14 (9.23%) post graduate students, 36 (22.36%) research scholars and 31(19.38%) faculty members indicated that they are satisfied the overall current

Table 7. Opinion about current awareness service by faculty members.

CAS service	Option	UASB	ANGRAUH	TNAUC	KAUT	UASD	Total
		N=35	N=32	N=32	N=30	N=31	N=160
Latest and current books are	Yes	14(40.00)	11(34.38)	15(46.88)	13(43.33)	23(74.19)	76(47.50)
available in the subject	No	21(60.00)	21(65.63)	17(53.13)	17(56.67)	8(25.81)	84(52.50)
Receive the article alert	Yes	16(45.71)	12(37.50)	13(40.63)	18(60.00)	19(61.29)	78(48.75)
regularly	No	19(54.29)	20(62.50)	19(59.38)	12(40.00)	12(38.71)	52(51.25)
Prefer to have the index of	Yes	31(88.57)	24(75.00)	24(75.00)	28(93.33)	30(96.77)	137(85.63)
articles	No	4(11.43)	8(25.00)	8(25.00)	2(6.67)	1(3.23)	23(14.38)
Require abstracts of articles	Yes	31(88.57)	30(93.75)	31(96.88)	29(96.67)	23(74.19)	144(90.00)
	No	4(11.43)	2(6.25)	1(3.13)	1(3.33)	8(25.81)	16(10.00)
Consulted documentation	Yes	17(48.57)	7(21.88)	17(53.13)	14(46.67)	16(51.61)	71(44.38)
list brought by other institutions	No	18(51.43)	25(78.13)	15(46.88)	16(53.33)	15(48.39)	89(55.63)

Table 8. Overall satisfaction of current awareness service.

Overall satisfaction	Users category	UASB	ANGRAUH	TNAUC	KAUT	UASD	Total
	PGS	14(14.89)	11(13.10)	5(5.62)	1(1.18)	6(6.52)	37(8.33)
Strongly satisfied	RS	3(8.82)	3(10.00)	3(9.09)	3(9.38)	1(3.13)	13(8.07)
	FM	2(5.71)	4(12.50)	4(12.50)	2(6.67)	1(3.23)	13(8.13)
	PGS	6(6.38)	13(15.48)	9(10.11)	2(2.35)	11(11.96)	41(9.23)
Satisfied	RS	7(20.59)	2(6.67)	15(45.45)	8(25.00)	4(12.50)	36(22.36)
	FM	4(11.43)	5(15.63)	2(6.25)	1(3.33)	19(61.29)	31(19.38)
	PGS	14(14.89)	28(33.33)	13(14.61)	22(25.88)	10(10.8)	87(19.59)
Partially satisfied	RS	12(35.29)	14(46.67)	8(24.24)	10(31.25)	5(15.63)	49(30.43)
	FM	9(25.71)	11(34.38)	3(9.38)	3(10.00)	7(22.58)	33(20.63)
	PGS	33(35.11)	27(32.14)	21(23.60)	35(41.18)	34(36.96)	150(33.78)
Not satisfied	RS	12(35.29)	10(33.33)	1(3.03)	11(34.38)	6(18.75)	40(24.84)
	FM	10(28.57)	12(37.50)	12(37.50)	14(46.67)	3(9.68)	51(31.88)
	PGS	27(28.72)	5(5.95)	41(46.07)	25(29.41)	31(33.70)	129(29.05)
Not at all satisfied	RS	0(0.00)	1(3.33)	6(18.18)	0(0.00)	16(50.00)	23(14.29)
	FM	10(28.57)	0(0.00)	11(34.38)	10(33.33)	1(3.23)	32(20.00)
Chi-Square value			61.01			0.5% level	

awareness service. 129 (29.05%) post graduate students, 23 (14.29%) research scholars and 32 (20%) faculty members are not satisfied at all with overall current awareness service. However, of some of the percentage of post graduate students, 37 (8.35%) research scholars, 13 (8.07%) post graduate students and 13 (8.13%) faculty members indicated that they are partially satisfied with the current awareness service.

Hypotheses

There is a significant relationship among the opinion of the post graduate students, research scholars and faculty members towards overall satisfaction of current awareness service.

In addition to the above analysis statistical test has been conducted using Chi-Square technique. The calculated Chi-Square value is presented in Table 8 and found that there is significant relationship among different users and their overall satisfaction with current awareness services. Hence, the above hypothesis is accepted.

Selective dissemination of information service in agricultural university libraries in South India

Selective dissemination of information service is a unique informa-

tion service offered in the modern libraries to satisfy the current as well as exhaustive approaches of individual users of information. This service is tailored to the specific needs of each user.

Opinion about selective dissemination of information service by post graduate students

This is a personalized service provided by the library to its users. Basically this service is very useful to research scholars and faculty members. Here a library collects information about the research topic or research interest of the scholars and faculty members. We have made an attempt to ask them whether they had requested for the selective dissemination of information services. The collected and tabulated data are presented in Table 9. It is observed from the table that out of 444 only 140 (31.53%) post graduate students have requested the selective dissemination of information service and most of the post graduate students 304 (68.47%) have not requested for the selective dissemination of information service. It was further asked whether they had received any feedback from the library. Among the requested students only 37 (26.42%) respondents have received a feedback from the library. The remaining 103 (73.57%) respondents did not receive any feedback from the library. This clearly shows that the libraries do not effectively monitor selective dissemination of information services.

Opinion about selective dissemination of information service by research scholars

Table 10 depicts that majority of the research scholars 113 (20.19%) have not requested for the selective dissemination of information service and only a few 48 (29.81%) have requested for it. It was also asked whether they had received feedback from the library. Among the requested respondents only 14 (29.16%) research scholars have received a feedback from the library; the remaining 34(70.83) have not received any feedback from the library.

Opinion about selective dissemination of information service by faculty members

Table 11 clearly indicates that the majority of the faculty members 113 (70.63%) have not requested for the selective dissemination of information service and 47 (29.38%) have requested for this service. Faculty members were also asked whether they had received the feedback from the library. Among the requested respondents only 22 (46.81%) faculty members had received feedback from the library.

Opinion about the library providing selective dissemination of information service

Table 12 clearly shows how often library provides the selective dissemination of information service to its users. It is observed from the table that out of the majority of the post graduate students 100 (71.42%) research scholars 34 (70.83%) and faculty members 31 (65.95%) have stated that occasionally library provides the selective dissemination of information service. A very few respondents consisting of 19 (13.57%) post graduate students, 5 (10.41%) research scholars and 11 (7.48%) faculty members have reported that they always get the selective dissemination of information service. A few respondents reported that they have never got the selective dissemination of information service.

Overall satisfaction of selective dissemination of information service

The opinion of users on overall satisfaction of selective dissemination of information service is collected, tabulated and presented in Table 13. From the table it is clear that, 51 (11.49%) post graduate students, 10 (6.21%) research scholars and 8 (5%) faculty members have reported that they are strongly satisfied with the overall selective dissemination of information service; 33 (7.43%) post graduate students, 68 (42.24%) research scholars and 74 (46.25%) faculty members have expressed that they have satisfaction with selective dissemination of information service. 73 (16.44%) post graduate students, 37 (22.98%) research scholars and 39 (24.38%) faculty members have reported that they are partially satisfied with the selective dissemination of information service. Majority of the post graduate students and a few research scholars and faculty members have reported that they are either not satisfied or not at all satisfied with selective dissemination of information service.

Hypothesis

There is a significant relationship among the opinion of the post graduate students, research scholars and faculty members towards overall satisfaction of selective dissemination of information services.

In addition to the above analysis statistical test has been conducted using Chi-Square technique. The calculated Chi-Square value is presented in Table 13 and there is significant relationship among the different categories of users and their overall satisfaction with selective dissemination of information services. Hence the above hypothesis is accepted.

FINDINGS

The followings are the major findings of the study:

1. The study found that 48.42% of PG students, 52% of research scholars and 48% of faculty members have expressed that they are getting the current books in their respective libraries.
2. 47% of PG students, 55% of research scholars and49% of faculty members are of the opinion that article alert service is provided by the libraries.
3. Majority of users that is 84% of PG students, 80% of research scholars and 86% of faculty members are feeling that they require index of articles.
4. The study found that 95% of PG students, 96% of research scholars and 90% of faculty members are of the opinion that they require the abstract of the articles for their study and research.
5. Overall 17% of PG students, 30% of research scholars and 28% of faculty members are satisfied with the existing CAS services provide by the libraries under the study.
6. On the other hand, 32% of PG students, 30% of research scholars and 30% of faculty members have expressed that they need SDI services.
7. Overall 19% of PG students, 48% of research scholars and 51% of faculty members are feeling happy with the existing SDI services provided by the libraries. The

Table 9. Opinion about selective dissemination of information service by post graduate students.

SDI service	Option	UASB	ANGRAUH	TNAUC	KAUT	UASD	Total
		N=94	N=84	N=89	N=85	N=92	N=444
Required for the SDI Service	Yes	38(40.43)	22(26.19)	31(34.83)	23(27.06)	26(28.26)	140(31.53)
	No	56(59.57)	62(73.81)	58(65.17)	62(72.94)	66(71.74)	304(68.47)
Receive the feedback from the library	Yes	13(13.83)	5(5.95)	7(7.87)	9(10.59)	3(3.26)	37(26.42)
	No	25(26.60)	17(20.24)	24(26.97)	14(16.47)	23(25.00)	103(73.57)

Table 10. Opinion about selective dissemination of information service by research scholars.

SDI Service	Option	UASB	ANGRAUH	TNAUC	KAUT	UASD	Total
		N=34	N=30	N=33	N=32	N=32	N=161
Required for the SDI Service	Yes	11(32.35)	7(23.33)	15(45.45)	5(15.63)	10(31.25)	48(29.81)
	No	23(67.65)	23(76.67)	18(54.55)	27(84.38)	22(68.75)	113(70.19)
Receive the feedback from the library	Yes	2(5.88)	5(16.67)	3(9.09)	1(3.13)	3(9.38)	14(29.16)
	No	9(26.47)	2(6.67)	12(36.36)	4(12.50)	7(21.88)	34(70.83)

Table 11. Opinion about selective dissemination of information service by faculty members.

SDI service	Option	UASB	ANGRAUH	TNAUC	KAUT	UASD	Total
		N=35	N=32	N=32	N=30	N=31	N=160
Required for the SDI Service	Yes	8(22.86)	13(40.63)	9(28.13)	11(36.67)	6(19.35)	47(29.38)
	No	27(77.14)	19(59.38)	23(71.88)	19(63.33)	25(80.65)	113(70.63)
Receive the feedback from the Library	Yes	3(8.57)	5(15.63)	4(12.50)	9(30.00)	1(3.23)	22(46.81)
	No	5(14.29)	8(25.00)	5(15.63)	2(6.67)	5(16.13)	25(53.19)

Table 12. Opinion about the library providing selective dissemination of information service.

Overall satisfaction	Users' category	UASB	ANGRAUH	TNAUC	KAUT	UASD	Total
	PGS	7(5.00)	2(1.42)	1(0.71)	2(1.42)	7(5.00)	19(13.57)
Always	RS	2(4.16)	1(2.08)	1(2.08)	0(0.00)	1(2.08)	5(10.41)
	FM	3(6.38)	3(6.38)	2(4.25)	2(4.25)	1(0.68)	11(7.48)
	PGS	28(20.00)	15(10.20)	26(18.57)	18(12.85)	13(9.28)	100(71.42)
Occasionally	RS	9(18.75)	5(0.41)	9(18.75)	4(8.33)	7(14.58)	34(70.83)
	FM	5(10.63)	7(14.89)	7(14.89)	8(17.02)	4(8.51)	31(65.95)
	PGS	3(2.14)	5(3.57)	4(2.85)	3(2.14)	4(2.85)	19(13.57)
Seldom	RS	0(0.00)	1(2.08)	4(8.33)	1(2.08)	2(4.16)	8(16.66)
	FM	0(0.00)	3(6.38)	0(0.00)	1(0.68)	1(0.08)	5(10.63)
	PGS	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	2(1.42)	2(1.42)
Never	RS	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	1(2.08)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	1(2.08)
	FM	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)	0(0.00)

Table 13. Overall satisfaction of selective dissemination of information service.

Overall satisfaction	Users category	UASB	ANGRAUH	TNAUC	KAUT	UASD	Total
	PGS	8(8.51)	6(7.14)	11(12.36)	8(9.41)	18(19.57)	51(11.49)
Strongly satisfied	RS	3(8.82)	1(3.33)	2(6.06)	0(0.00)	4(12.50)	10(6.21)
	FM	2(5.71)	2(6.25)	2(6.25)	1(3.33)	1(3.23)	8(5.00)
	PGS	7(7.45)	5(5.95)	10(11.24)	4(4.71)	7(7.61)	33(7.43)
Satisfied	RS	9(26.47)	18(60.00)	11(33.33)	16(50.00)	14(43.75)	68(42.24)
	FM	15(42.86)	15(46.88)	10(31.25)	18(60.00)	16(51.61)	74(46.25)
	PGS	21(22.34)	23(27.38)	8(8.99)	17(20.00)	4(4.35)	73(16.44)
Partially satisfied	RS	9(26.47)	7(23.33)	8(24.24)	7(21.88)	6(18.75)	37(22.98)
	FM	10(28.57)	7(21.88)	9(28.13)	5(16.67)	8(25.81)	39(24.38)
	PGS	34(36.17)	18(21.43)	40(44.94)	32(37.65)	42(45.65)	166(37.39)
Not satisfied	RS	4(11.76)	4(13.33)	3(9.09)	5(15.63)	5(15.63)	21(13.04)
	FM	2(5.71)	3(9.38)	2(6.25)	6(20.00)	2(6.45)	15(9.38)
	PGS	24(25.53)	32(38.10)	20(22.47)	24(28.24)	21(22.83)	121(27.25)
Not at all satisfied	RS	9(26.47)	0(0.00)	9(27.27)	4(12.50)	3(9.38)	25(15.53)
	FM	6(17.14)	5(15.63)	9(28.13)	0(0.00)	4(12.90)	24(15.00)
Chi-Square value		55.98			0.5% level		

remaining users are not satisfied with SDI services.

Conclusion

Since India is a land of farmers, here socio-economic developments depend on the education of the farmers and their information level. They need information to become enlightened and rational so as to take quick and correct decisions to improve the rural life. The nature and efficiency of the information services provided by the agricultural university libraries vary from one to another, owing to the whole range of interest of the user community. However, with the emergence of the computer and revolutionary changes in communication technology, it has become possible for a agricultural university libraries to provide a variety of technology based information services to the users community with a vide range of interests, which was not possible earlier. As a matter of fact all these activities and services are interdependent, interrelated and directed towards maximization of the usefulness of the agricultural university library systems.

While observing the data in the above tables it is revealed that very important services like CAS and SDI services are not effectively implemented in the agricultural university libraries under the study. It is suggested that the University Library Authorities have not taken an

appropriate steps in this regard and re- tailored their services in order to satisfy their users to a maximum extent.

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