An Analysis of Library and Information Services of Agriculture University of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh

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Abstract

The university system in India is heavily involved in agricultural education and research, and this has allowed the government to spend money on it because it has helped to tackle the food and famine problems. In this essay, the role of agriculture university libraries and information services in higher education and research in engineering, science, and technology in Northern India is discussed. In this study, we examine the function that fourteen agricultural university libraries play in providing agricultural information to Northern Indians who are looking for it. Agricultural libraries in Northern India transmitted information to seekers mostly through document loan and reference services, according to an evaluation of the collection and services offered. Provision of photocopying and current computer assisted information services, which would expedite information dissemination, remains a scarcity. In this work, the analysis of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh state agriculture university library and information service if performed.

Keywords: Agriculture library, Information Services, Technology, Higher education, Indian economy.

1. Introduction

Agricultural libraries play an important part in all cultures around the world. While much of the globe is still surviving on agriculture, just scraping by and able to feed their families, another significant segment of humanity is reaping the benefits of civilization. Our modern world is involved in global trade and rapid communication with people from all over the world. We recognize the importance of information transmission and recognize that library services are just as important as its fundamental value. The investigator describes how agricultural information communication progressed and spread across the globe from ancient man to the modern information civilization. He has also painted a stunning image of India's development, notably in terms of library and information services and the world.

Agriculture is humanity's oldest and most primitive occupation. Agriculture probably developed somewhere between the Nile River in Egypt and the Indus River region in Western India between 6,000 and 10,000 years ago. Agriculture provides people with the essential necessities of life, such as food, clothing, and employment, as well as revenue for those who work. True, man can exist without manufacturing industries, but not agriculture; one can live without industrial commodities, but not food. As a result, farming is still a way of life for many people around the world. Furthermore, agriculture has contributed significantly to the material wealth that has defined industrialised countries in the past and present. Hence, the prosperity of the country and the welfare of the vast majority of the population are intertwined with the efficiency harnessing of agriculture.

2. Agriculture Library of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh

The majority of the agricultural libraries in India have a sound collection of information resources in the print form, which may continue to act as a source of attraction for users in the future for a long time to come. Yet, the acquisition of information resources in the print form across the studied libraries continues at routine pace, and as such the advent of e-resources seems to have not yet laid any prominent impact on acquisition of resources in print form. E-Books have not yet been fully incorporated into the library collection and that e-journal collection “CeRA”

(Consortium for Electronic Resources in Agriculture) seems to gratify the needs of users of these libraries, as no additional e-journals are seen to be subscribed to at present.

Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Viswa Vidyalaya, Jabalpur

Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya (JNKVV), Jabalpur (MP) was established on 1st October, 1964, by the Government of Madhya Pradesh under Act 1964 (No. 15 of 1964). JNKVV is cent percent Government funded State Agricultural University, implementing government funded research projects for agricultural development in the State of Madhya Pradesh. With the assistance of the State Government established the biggest multi-campus university at Jabalpur, in the heart of India, named after the architect of modern India, Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru based on the recommendations of Radhakrishnan Commission (1949) on the concept of Establishment of Agricultural University. An approach was envisaged to narrowed down the gap between the experts and farmers through the Joint Indo-American Team on Agricultural Research and Education in 1954-55 and 1959-60 on the patterns of Land Grant Colleges of USA. On October 1, 1964, Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya (JNKVV) came into existence and was inaugurated by the then Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting Smt. Indira Gandhi.[17]

Indira Gandhi Krishi Viswa Vidhyalaya, Raipur

The Nehru Library is an important educational center of the university and working as Central Library of Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwavidyalya. Nehru Library is functioning as Central University Library for constituent and affiliated colleges of Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwavidyalya viz. 23 constituent Colleges and fifteen private colleges, Research Stations and Krishi Vighyan Kendras (KVKs). The Nehru Library established in 1987 after IGKV came in to existence by bifurcation from JNKVV Jabalpur. Before that, it was the library of College of Agriculture, Raipur. It has been recognized as Regional Library of Central India by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research in 2005. The Nehru Library of IGKV has been well equipped with the latest communication media and information technologies like web based information, CD Rom database search, OPAC, internet browsing as it is well connected through LAN/ BSNL leased line. This library has become a HUB connected on LAN with all automated centralized facilities and acting as a nodal center for disseminating all kind of agricultural information to its users.

The library is linked with various consortiums for online journals. Nehru Library maintains around less than 60000 collections of books, reference book, reports, theses, monograph, back volumes, journals, CD ROM Database and e-resources. This was possible by the help of ICAR through NATP/NAIP. Chhattisgarh Government supported for its infra structure development and provided other facilities.

Nanaji Deshmukh Pashu ChikitsaVisvaVidyalaya, Jabalpur

Established in the year 1948, since then it continues to make progress in its programme to face the challenges of information explosion by adopting information technology. The college Library of veterinary science and animal husbandry is providing quality services to the students, teachers & research scholars, supporting teaching research and extension programme of the college. College Library has a highly specialized collection of 25 thousand documents in the field of Veterinary Sciences, Animal Husbandry, Fisheries, Basic Sciences, Humanities, Technology & other allied subjects. The collection includes Books, Theses, Periodicals, Journals, Standards, Review, Maps, Globes, Advances & CD-ROMs. The collection grows at an average rate of 1000 number per year.

Rajmata Vijayaraje Scindia Krishi VishwaVidyalaya, Gwalior

The Rajmata Vijayaraje Scindia Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, Gwalior was established by Government of Madhya Pradesh Vide Ordinance No. 4 of 2008 notified in the Extraordinary Gazette No. 507 dated 19th August 2008 as second Agricultural University by bifurcating the JNKVV, Jabalpur. As per RVSKVV act (No. 4, year 2009), the horticulture and veterinary science & animal husbandry. The research activities are operated through five Zonal Agricultural Research Stations (Morena, Khargone, Jhabua, Indore and Sehore); four Regional Agricultural Research Stations (Gwalior, Mandsaur, Ujjain and Khandwa) and 4 special research stations (Entkhedi, Bagwai, Jaora and Badwah) having 22 All India Coordinated Research Projects and several adhoc projects to enhance the productivity and profitability of agriculture system. Transfer of technology is the part of extension activities carried out by 21 Krishi Vigyan Kendras.

Chhattisgarh Kamdhenu Visvavidyalaya, Durg

The Chhattisgarh Kamdhenu Vishwavidyalaya is entrusted with the triple functions of producing trained personnel, carrying out research and extension activities in Veterinary sector. Information is a valuable resource and important constituent that determines the quality of education, research and extension activities. Chhattisgarh Kamdhenu Vishwavidyalaya University Library is envisaged for the collection, organization and dissemination of information

on agriculture. CGKV consists of the University Central Library, libraries in all constituent Colleges and Research Stations which spread all over Chhattisgarh.

3. Methodology

There have been 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. Generally the Research Design, Data Collection methods are historical analysis, literature survey, literature search, questionnaire method, interview method, observation method, Delphi techniques etc., were applied.

Research Design

The completion of research work is associated with a series of actions or steps. These include formulating the research problem; comprehensive review of the available literature; defining the scope of the study and its limitations; development of a hypothesis; collection, processing and analyzing of data; and finally enumerating inferences and conclusion. Formulating the problem facilities discerning the data that is relevant and useful from the irrelevant and useless data. Data collection assumes the greatest importance in the whole process since it deals with the collection of both qualitative and quantitative information about the research problem in terms of facts and figures. For this study data has been collected through various methods on different aspects of the subject including a) Historical Analysis, b) Literature Survey and c) Questionnaire Survey followed by personal interview. The first two methods have been used to collect textual data from published and unpublished documents; the questionnaire method has been used to solicit information from Post Graduate Students, Research Scholars and Faculty Members of Five Agricultural Universities of Northern Part of India. Thus the data collected includes both primary raw data and secondary data.

Data Collection

The section briefly discusses the data collection methods used in the present study:

Chi-Square Test

Chi-square test is a nonparametric test used for two specific purpose: (a) To test the hypothesis of no association between two or more groups, population or criteria (i.e. to check independence between two variables); (b) and to test how likely the observed distribution of data fits with the distribution that is expected (i.e., to test the goodness-of-fit). It is used to analyze categorical data (e.g. male or female patients, smokers and non-smokers, etc.), it is not meant to analyze parametric or continuous data (e.g., height measured in centimeters or weight measured in kg, etc.).

4. Analysis and Interpretation of Data

The development of research in fields of agricultural and production improvement essentially requires timely supply of information to scientists related to agricultural industry. The food production self-sufficiency is not probable to accomplish without the supply of adequate information to agricultural scientists.

The absorption of efforts is almost certainly effectual in apprising agricultural scientists of enhanced approaches in agriculture. It also comprises an unfortunate provincialism distressing both the agricultural scientists and the Information Industry. To stimulate an operative working relationship among research workers who produce novel agricultural acquaintance and farmers whose outlook in need of such acquaintance, the information system acts as 'middle-man' in a situation to convey such knowledge to the obligatory points of dispersal. The sources of agricultural information are wide-ranging in benevolent and extensively scattered in location with similarly widespread distribution. In the similar way, agricultural information users are also similarly scattered. To conduit this gap, we requisite a system related to agricultural information. As far as the organization of the agricultural information service is apprehensiveness, we should reminisce that in this complex world it is not probable for any distinct agricultural library to meet the thorough information requirements of the users. The user's requirements are becoming more and more miscellaneous in the quantities and qualities. We also select time factor as pressure on the source of agricultural information. There is also an imperious prerequisite for widening information exposure, encompassing the sphere of services and quickening the speed in the supply of information. It is indispensable to

form the obligatory information infrastructure for agricultural scientists inside the state and nation. This is predominantly relevant in the context of 'food for everyone'. In quest of scientific superiority, agricultural information organization is compulsory and agricultural information service aptitude keeps track of the newest scientific, agricultural and technological progression over the world.

Thus, a university library must have scientifically organized and effectively administered library with all required reading materials in sufficient numbers, so that it becomes an intellectual hub of the university. The university library is not merely a storehouse of books and non-book materials and preservation of them, but it is a dynamic instrument of education. For this, it should maintain co-operation between different faculties and staff to promote effective use of the library. If the collection is to be used in the library, there should be good catalogues, aids and guides. It would be a great drawback if there were no sound catalogue. Apart from the catalogues, there should be a reference librarian to pick literature available in the library. University Library, to demonstrate its usefulness, its ability for speedy service must employ reference personnel.

General Information in Agricultural University Libraries in Central India

Population of this study consists of three categories of users i.e. Post Graduate Students, Research Scholars and Faculty Members (at different level). Since the population size of Central Indian agricultural 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 Research Scholars and Faculty Members the sample size is 20% of the Research Scholars and Faculty Members strength. The sample size is inclusive of all Central Indian agricultural universities. The details of population size and sample selected i.e., questionnaires administered along with the response has been provided in the following Table-1

Table-1 Population, Sample Size of the Distributed Questionnaires

Name of the University	Total Population	Sample Size	Questionnaires Distributed	Questionnaires Distributed(¾)	Total Respondents	Total Respondents (%)
JNKVV	857	197	125	14.59	112	89.60%
NDPCV	655	146	125	19.08	98	78.40%
RVSKVV	603	137	125	20.73	82	65.60%
CGKV	703	158	125	17.78	89	71.20%
IGKV	873	195	125	14.31	116	92.80%
Total	**3691**	**833**	625	**86.49%**	**497**	**79.52%**

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 3691 users, out of which 833 users have been chosen as sample and distributed the questionnaires to them. Out of 625 respondents, 497 were returned the filled in questionnaire and which amount to 79.52%. 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 user's parameters are presented in table numbers 1 to 5. The highest percentage of response has come from Indira Gandhi Krishi Viswa Vidhyalaya, Raipur 92.80% (116), next is Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Viswa Vidyalaya, Jabalpur with 89.60% (112), followed by Nanaji Deshmukh Pashu ChikitsaVisvaVidyalaya, Jabalpur 78.40% (98), Chhattisgarh Kamdhenu Visvavidyalaya, Durg 71.20% (89), Rajmata Vijayaraje Scindia Krishi VishwaVidyalaya, Gwalior 65.60% (82).

Gender Wise Questionnaires Distribution in Agricultural University Libraries in Central India

Table-2 Gender wise Distribution of Respondents

Name of the University	Questionnaires Distributed	Male Respondents	Female Respondents	Total Respondents
JNKVV	125	80	32	112
		(64%)	(25.6%)	(89.6%)
NDPCV	125	52	46	98
		(41.6%)	(36.8%)	(78.4%)
RVSKVV	125	42	40	82
		(33.6%)	(22.2%)	(55.4%)
CGKV	125	52	37	89
		(41.6%)	(29.6%)	(71.2%)
IGKV	125	78	38	116
		(62.4%)	(30.4%)	(92.8)
Total	625	304	193	497
		(48.64%)	(30.88%)	(79.52%)

University Library Membership in Agricultural University Libraries in Central India

Library exists for providing library and information services to its readers. Usually, university library gives membership to their Post Graduate Students, Research Scholars and Faculty Members of the universities.

So, far as the library and information services are concerned, the membership and the circulation of books are the twin sisters and they are interdependent of each other. For the encouragement of these two, library collection, efficiency of the library staff, location of library building and opening hours of the library are more important. It seems that, library must have rich collection in almost all the subjects taught in the university and in which researches are being conducted in the university. Here efficiency of the staff in relation to the technical services means that a library must have an up-to-date catalogue, books are properly classified according to set scheme of classification and they are arranged properly on the shelves of the library stack must be neat and clean, there should not be dust on books or shelves. The library is to be centrally located in the campus and close to all teaching departments and their laboratories. Similarly, library should remain open for maximum hours during daytime. All these factors affect the membership and circulation of books.

Table 3 University Library Membership in Agricultural University Libraries in Central India

Users Age		**JNKVV**	**NDPCV**	**RVSKVV**	**CGKV**	**IGKV**	**Total**
Post Graduates	**Yes**	54	48	35	42	57	236
		48.21	48.97	42.68	47.19	49.14	46.88
	No	0	0	0	0	0	0
		0	0	0	0	0	0
Research Scholar	**Yes**	36	25	25	29	39	154
		32.14	25.51	30.49	32.58	33.62	30.98
	No	0	0	0	0	0	0
		0	0	0	0	0	0
Faculty member	**Yes**	22	25	22	18	20	107
		19.64	25.51	26.83	20.22	17.24	21.52
	No	0	0	0	0	0	0
		0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Response with Percentage		112	98	82	89	116	497
		22.53	19.71	16.5	17.91	23.35	100

Table-3 reveals that all the respondents under the study are members of the university library. It is obvious because non-members are getting a limited information services. Among them 46.88% of users are Post Graduate Students followed by 30.98% are Research Scholars and 21.52% of Faculty Members.

4. CONCLUSION

Because India is a land of farmers, the country's socioeconomic advancement is determined by the farmers' education and degree of information. They need information to become enlightened and smart, so they can make quick and informed judgments that will improve rural life. The nature and efficiency of the information services provided by agricultural university libraries vary from one to the next due to the diverse interests of the user population. Agricultural university libraries, on the other hand, have been able to provide a variety of technology-based information services to customers with a wide range of interests since the birth of the computer and substantial advances in communication technology, which was previously impossible. In actuality, all of these operations and services are integrated and focused toward maximising the utility of agricultural university library systems. The agricultural university libraries in the study are still in the planning stages. Consumers' information requirements are currently being met in libraries using new technologies. The staffs of these libraries need to be trained and exposed to new technology that is available on a national and international scale. It is necessary to cultivate a culture of interlibrary lending services and electronic document transfer, particularly of articles. A website must provide users with access to a bibliographical database of theses, journal articles, and library catalogues. Through the dissemination of library and information services to the user community, the agriculture university library is able to achieve its goals and objectives in terms of advanced learning and research. University libraries must provide active library services to the users community in order to achieve quality in their library service systems. The major responsibility of the university library is to collect and preserve information before making portions of it available to the public. As soon as practicable, an Indian Agricultural Bibliographical Database must be constructed and developed (IABD). Several important research institutes, including the Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Viswa Vidyalaya in Jabalpur, the Indira Gandhi Krishi Viswa Vidyalaya for the benefit of the user community. In information technology, there is a growing rate of innovation and rapid development, leading in a considerable shift in employment credentials and a significant change in library organization. Librarians learnt to deal with problems that followed a logical, predictable pattern with a lot of effort. Today's university libraries are in the midst of a period of tumultuous transition with many causes. A bigger issue is dealing with regular alternating directions of rapid change; librarians won't be able to remain in today's competitive and networked market unless they learn to manage extreme change.

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