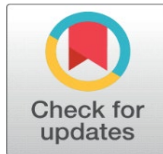# USER STUDY ON PURPOSE AND FREQUENCY OF LIBRARY USAGE AMONG J. M. PATEL COLLEGE BHANDARA STUDENTS

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ABSTRACT

This study focuses on the frequency of student library visits as well as the many reasons they use it. To learn more about the reasons for and usage trends of the library, information was gathered from 446 students. The J.M. Patel College of Arts, Commerce, and Science in Bhandara was founded in 1964. It is situated in an urban area. It's situated in Maharashtra's District Bhandara. There are 99 lakh books at the college library. The user walks 100–120 per day. According to the monthly report of college library, taking out books is the most popular activity, whereas getting ready for lectures and passing the time are the least prevalent uses. According to the real needs of students, this analysis attempts to assist academic institutions in optimising library resources and services.

Keywords: Library Usage, Student Behaviour, Academic Resources, Reference Queries, Journal

1. INTRODUCTION

Libraries are essential to academic institutions because they are centres of research and learning. Students use libraries for different reasons and at different times, based on their personal and academic needs. This study looks at the frequency of specific library use by students, including research, reading journals, borrowing books, and answering reference questions.

2. OBJECTIVES

- To examine the main motivations behind students' library visits.
- To ascertain how frequently each purpose is visited.
- To evaluate the effects on academic planning and library administration.

3. METHODOLOGY

Questionnaire and survey research method is used for this research paper. Information about 446 students' library use was gathered and divided into seven main categories:

1) Borrowing Books
2) Reading Journals
3) Solving Reference Queries
4) Searching Latest Articles
5) Research Information
6) Preparation for Lecture
7) Newspaper Reading
8) Time Pass

Five categories were used by the students to report how often they visited: Never, Rarely, Sometimes, Often, and Most Frequently.
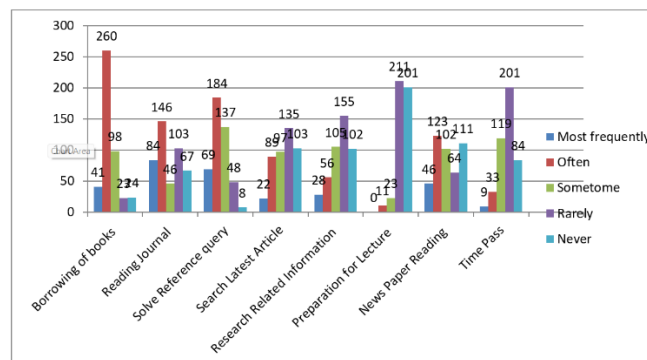
3.1. PURPOSE OF LIBRARY USAGE

The library users visit the library for various purposes with a different frequency of visit. The frequency of library visit depends on a particular purpose of the user. The investigator has collected the data from the respondents to know the frequency of their library visit for their particular purpose. The data is depicted in the following table.

Table 1 Purpose of Library Use

Purpose N-Value=446	Never		Rarely		Sometimes		Often		Most Frequently		
	Count	Row N %	Count	Row N %	Count	Row N %	Count	Row N %	Count	Row N %	
Borrowing Book	24	5.38	23	5.16	98	21.97	260	58.3	41	9.19	446
Reading Journals	67	15.02	103	23.09	46	10.31	146	32.74	84	18.83	446
Solve Reference Query	8	1.79	48	10.76	137	30.72	184	41.26	69	15.47	446
Search Latest Article	103	23.09	135	30.27	97	21.75	89	19.96	22	4.93	446
Research Related Information	102	22.87	155	34.75	105	23.54	56	12.56	28	6.28	446
Preparation for Lecture	201	45.07	211	47.31	23	5.16	11	2.47	0	0	446
News Paper Reading	111	24.89	64	14.35	102	22.87	123	27.58	46	10.31	446
Time Pass	84	18.83	201	45.07	119	26.68	33	7.4	9	2.02	446

Figure 1 Purpose of Library Use

4. RESULTS AND ANALYSIS
4.1. BORROWING BOOKS

- Most common reason: 58.30 percent visit frequently, and 9.19 percent visit most frequently.
- Only 5.38 percent of respondents claimed to have never done this in the library.
- This illustrates that students come mostly to check out books.

4.2. READING JOURNALS

- 18.83% use journals most regularly, while 32.74% use them frequently.
- Even so, 15.02% never kept a journal.
- Indicates a moderate level of interest, which is crucial for academic depth.

4.3. SOLVING REFERENCE QUERIES

- Most often, 15.47% do this, while 41.26% do it on a regular basis.
- 10.76% of users rarely use this feature.
- Shows that students seek help for specific academic issues on a regular basis.

4.4. SEARCHING LATEST ARTICLES

- Most commonly, 4.93% do it, while 19.96% do it regularly.
- 23.09% is a high "never" rate.
- Reduces the importance of reading up-to-date articles.

4.5. RESEARCH INFORMATION

- Just 6.28% very often, 34.75% infrequently, and 23.54% occasionally.
- It is never used for research by 22.87% of people.
- This indicates that a significant number of students are not actively participating in research.

4.6. PREPARATION FOR LECTURE

- 45.07% of people never use the library to study for a lecture, while 47.31% do so infrequently.
- Just 2.47% of the time, and 0% of the time, are prepared for lectures.
- The least used purpose, suggesting a possible deficiency in study techniques or materials.

Newspaper Reading

The percentage of people who visit the library to read newspapers is 27.58% regularly, 10.31% most frequently, and 24.89% never. shows a moderate level of interest in current events.

Time Pass

The user come library passes the time is26.68% of people occasionally utilize libraries for this and 18.83% of people never visit the library for a time pass, while 45.07% do so infrequently. Only 2.02% of users visit most often for engage their time. shows that academic, not recreational, uses of the library are the main focus.

5. DISCUSSION

The findings clearly show that book borrowing is the most common library activity, followed by reading journals and resolving reference questions. However, students seldom ever mention using the library for things like studying for lectures or passing the time, indicating that they largely see it as a location to obtain study materials rather than to engage in idle activities.

Library policy could be guided by this data in ways like:

- Increasing the number of volumes in circulation;
- Improving reference services.
- Offering workshops or advice on how to prepare lectures and do research;
- Encouraging the use of digital journals and research tools.

6. CONCLUSION

The use of libraries by students is mostly in keeping with their academic requirements, especially when it comes to book borrowing and reference support. But underuse in areas like research and lecture preparation suggests that awareness-raising and resource alignment are needed. Determining how best to allocate library resources and develop student engagement tactics requires an understanding of these usage trends.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

- Conducting orientation on how to use the library to prepare lectures and do research.
- Promote and make online journals and papers more accessible.

Faculty should be encouraged to include library use into their lessons.

CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

None.

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