

# Resource Sharing in the University Libraries of Karnataka State: A Study

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**Abstract** - This paper examines the current state of resource sharing in the University Libraries of Karnataka State. The research design adopted was survey research design by using questionnaires and interview methods. The self-developed questionnaires were distributed among the 55 university libraries, out of which received responses were 54. The responses were analyzed using statistical software. Resource sharing is very important in today's society with constraints of space, manpower, and finance. With the advancement of Information Technology, there has been a very much impact on libraries and information centers that have further shown the way to modernizing them in different ways. This includes some of the important issues and challenges regarding resource sharing and ILL among Government and Private University libraries within the state of Karnataka. The paper presents the different steps followed by the researcher throughout the study, the need for the study, the method adopted, objectives, sample, research design, procedure, research tools used, statistical techniques adopted for data analysis, findings, suggestions and concludes with a summary.

**Keywords:** Resource Sharing, ILL, Information & Communication Technology, University Libraries, Karnataka

## I. INTRODUCTION

It is pertinent to note that no library by the result has any hope of being self-sufficient. It is neither possible nor feasible for a library, to their irrespective of size, to be self-reliant in terms of the document collection (Adam, 2013). Due to the exponential growth and the increasing cost of information resources, it is difficult for a library to acquire all the documents, which are required by the users of the library. The only way developed by libraries to improve their services to their users is by broadening the base of information available through resource sharing.

According to (Sangal, 1984) a group of libraries working together in co-operation for the common purpose of material benefit can be termed as a resource-sharing system. Resource sharing embodies a wide range of physical, intellectual and conceptual resources on the one hand and a body of people with library and information needs on the other hand. The terms "resource sharing", "library cooperation", "library networking", "library linkages", "library collaboration", "library consortia", "interlibrary loan", "document supply", "document delivery", "access services", are used interchangeably to describe resource

sharing activities in libraries (Fetterman, 1974). At present, the state comprises 1 central, 26 state, 14 deemed-to-be, 14 private universities, and 2431 colleges which include 362 Government colleges, 315 Aided Colleges, 1740 Private Colleges, 24 University Colleges (UGC, 2013).

## II. RESOURCES

Information resources comprise of published and unpublished records of information in all fields of knowledge. They may be textual, numeric or graphic, in any physical form, in any language, produced within the country or outside (Pandey, 2011). The word 'Library Resource' here includes anything that might be thought of as legitimate sources; novels, reference books, databases, catalogues, computer software, audiovisual material and so on.

### A. Resource Sharing

According to the Encyclopedia of Library and Information Science, the term "resource" applies to any, person, or action to which one turns for aid in time of need. The word "sharing" connotes apportioning, allotting, or contributing something that is owned, to benefit others. It is willing and able to make available when needed (Kent, Lancour, and Daily, 1978). The main objective of resource sharing is to maximize the availability of materials and services and to minimize expenses (Majid, 1999).

Today, however, resource sharing does not involve just "improved bibliographic access, or better document delivery, or more co-operative collection development, but a combination of activities in all three areas" (Srivastava, 2007).

## III. UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

Sri Phadya observing the situation of university libraries states that "a university library is not merely storage of books, other reading and non-reading material's preservation, but it is a dynamic instrument of education". However, the sole aim of an education system is to promote learning and extend the boundaries of knowledge. Thus, to satisfy these demands of readers the university and higher educational institution has to depend upon its library (Sri Phadya, 1969).

#### IV. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

The studies related to Resource Sharing are briefly presented.

Abdulrahman (2015) attempts in his paper to justify and propose a resource sharing and networking arrangement among university libraries in Nigeria. It discusses the rationale for resource sharing and networking particularly in this present technological age, it also discusses the benefits of resource sharing, the structure, areas of cooperation and funding.

Ogunrewo (2015) discusses that information resource sharing in the library setting means making available to other libraries what they could not provide in terms of human and material resources. Furthermore, it is considered also, necessary to occasionally train the library personnel as soon as new technologies are introduced in effecting, information resources sharing.

Krishnaappa (2013) suggests resource sharing implies the sharing of library resources by participating libraries among themselves based on cooperation. This can be implemented in the areas of documents, manpower, facilities, services, building, space or equipment.

According to Anasi (2012)'s barriers of effective resource sharing among academic libraries in Nigeria, includes inadequate funding, a dearth of skilled librarians, power outages, an absence of web-accessible OPACs, uneven development of libraries, and slow progress of library automation.

Based on the available review of the literature and in the line with the need for the study, the identified research problem for the current research investigation is "RESOURCE SHARING IN THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES OF KARNATAKA STATE: A STUDY" that supports the higher education.

#### V. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

TABLE II ARRANGEMENT FOR RESOURCE SHARING IN PRIVATE AND GOVERNMENT UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

Arrangement for Resource Sharing	Government Universities		Private Universities	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Through DELNET-ILL	9	32.14	19	67.86
Through the Professional Network	21	75.00	18	64.29
Contacting directly to the Author / Visiting Author's personnel website (for article download purpose)	12	42.86	15	53.57
From Publishers & International Document Suppliers like Reprints Desk	0	0.00	1	3.57
Conducting zonal workshops	1	3.57	0	0.00

This includes the arrangement made by the university libraries for resource sharing. It may be through DELNET-ILL, through the professional network, and contacting

1. To study the Resource Sharing among Government and Private University Libraries within the state of Karnataka.
2. To study the ILL (Interlibrary Loan) service among Government and Private University Libraries within the state of Karnataka.

#### VI. METHODOLOGY

The present study was intended to highlight the sharing of resources, networking of university libraries within the state of Karnataka. This study covers only the universities including the state, private, central and deemed-to-be universities located within Karnataka state. The researcher has used the methodology as a part of this research work. The research design adopted was survey research design by using questionnaires and interview methods. The self-developed questionnaires were distributed among the 55 university libraries, in which 54 university libraries have responded and the response rate is 98.18%. These collected data have been grouped into two broad categories such as Government University Libraries and Private University Libraries. In those 54 responses, there were 28 Private University libraries and 26 Government University Libraries. Later collected data were tabulated and analysed by using statistical software.

TABLE I TYPES OF UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES REPLIED

Type of University Libraries	Frequency	Percentage %
Government University Libraries	26	48.15
Private University Libraries	28	51.85
Total	54	100

#### VII. ANALYSIS OF RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The present empirical investigation has been carried out with the primary objective to study the existing library resource sharing and ILL system being followed by both Government and Private sector University libraries within the state of Karnataka.

directly to the author/visiting author's personnel website. The universities providing the ILL service, type of documents issued or received. The postal expenditure paid

by the user or institution for the ILL in the university libraries and their overall satisfaction with the ILL service. An Analysis of the above table indicates that there were 28 private universities and 26 government universities. Resource sharing through DELNET-ILL of Private Universities is 67.86%, while that of government universities is 32.14%. Resource sharing through a professional network is 64.29%, while that of Government

Universities is 75%. Resource Sharing through directly contacting to author or visiting the author's personnel website of private universities is 53.57% and Government universities are 42.86%. Resource sharing from publishers & international document suppliers of private universities is 3.57% and resource sharing through conducting zonal workshops of government universities is 3.57%.

TABLE III INTER-LIBRARY LOAN (ILL) FACILITY IN PRIVATE AND GOVERNMENT UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

Inter-Library Loan (ILL) facility	Government Universities		Private Universities	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Yes	17	65.38	19	67.86
No	9	34.62	9	32.14
Total	26	100.00	28	100.00

An analysis of the above table indicates that the interlibrary loan facility provided by the Private university libraries is 67.86% and whereas government university libraries is 65.38%.

TABLE IV TIME TAKEN TO RECEIVE THE ILL BOOK IN PRIVATE AND GOVERNMENT UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

Time taken to receive the ILL book	Government Universities		Private Universities	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
One Week	2	7.69	11	39.29
Two weeks	3	11.54	3	10.71
Three weeks	2	7.69	0	0.00
More than a Month	10	38.46	5	17.86

An analysis of the above table indicates that the time taken to receive the ILL Book in private universities one week is 39.29%, two weeks is 10.71%, three weeks is 7.69%. And more than a month is 17.86%. While in government universities one week is 7.79%, two weeks is 11.54% and more than one month is 38.46%.

TABLE V RESPONSE FROM OTHER LIBRARIES IN THE ILL SERVICE OF PRIVATE AND GOVERNMENT UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

Do you get a good response from other libraries	Government Universities		Private Universities	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Yes	16	61.54	17	60.71
No	10	38.46	11	39.29
Total	26	100	28	100

An analysis of the above table indicates that getting a response from other libraries in the ILL service of private universities is 60.71% and whereas in government universities it is 61.54%.

TABLE VI TYPE OF DOCUMENTS ISSUED/BORROWED FROM OTHER LIBRARIES IN THE ILL SERVICE OF PRIVATE AND GOVERNMENT UNIVERSITIES

Type of documents issued/borrowed from other libraries	Government Universities		Private Universities	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Books	17	65.4	18	64.3
Periodicals	5	19.2	6	21.4
Reports	5	19.2	7	25.0
Theses/Dissertations	4	15.4	6	21.4
Back Volumes	5	19.2	7	25.0
Print Journal Articles	8	30.8	11	39.3
Online Journal Articles	13	50.0	11	39.3

An Analysis of the above table indicates that the types of documents i.e., books borrowed from other libraries in interlibrary loan of private universities is 64.3% whereas government universities are 65.4%. The types of documents i.e., periodicals borrowed from other libraries in interlibrary loan of private universities is 21.4% whereas government universities are 19.2%. The types of documents i.e., reports borrowed from other libraries in interlibrary loan of private universities is 25.00% whereas government universities are 19.2%. The types of documents i.e., Thesis/Dissertations borrowed from other libraries in interlibrary loan of private

universities is 21.4% whereas government universities are 15.4%. The types of documents i.e., back volumes of journals borrowed from other libraries in interlibrary loan of private universities is 25.00% whereas government universities are 19.2%. The types of documents i.e., print journal articles borrowed from other libraries in interlibrary loan of private universities is 39.3% whereas government universities are 30.8%. The types of documents i.e., online journal articles borrowed from other libraries in interlibrary loan of private universities is 39.3% whereas government universities are 50%.

TABLE VII POSTAL/COURIER EXPENDITURE FOR THE INTER-LIBRARY SERVICE OF PRIVATE AND GOVERNMENT UNIVERSITIES

Postal/courier expenditure for this inter-library service	Government Universities		Private Universities	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
User	5	19.2	10	35.7
Institution / Library	12	46.2	9	32.1

An analysis of the above table indicates that the postal/courier expenditure for the ILL services by Users suggested in private universities is 35.7%, whereas in government universities it is 19.2%. Postal/Courier

expenditure for the ILL service by Institution/Library suggested in Private universities is 32.1% and whereas in Government Universities it is 46.2%.

TABLE VIII SATISFACTION OF ILL SERVICE IN PRIVATE AND GOVERNMENT UNIVERSITIES

Satisfaction of ILL Service	Government Universities		Private Universities	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Extremely Satisfied	1	3.8	4	14.3
Satisfied	13	50.0	12	42.9
Partially Satisfied	3	11.5	3	10.7
Not Satisfied	0	0.0	0	0.0

An analysis of the above table indicates that extremely satisfied with ILL Service in private universities is 14.3% and whereas in government universities are 3.8%. Satisfied about ILL Service in private universities is 42.86% whereas government universities are 50%. Partially satisfied in private universities is 10.7% whereas in government universities it is 11.5%.

**VIII. DISCUSSION**

This section focuses on highlighting resource sharing and ILL facilities provide by each library. Resource sharing implies the sharing of library resources by participating libraries among themselves based on mutual co-operation. This can be implemented in the areas of documents, manpower, facilities, services, building, space or equipment. The advantage of this co-operative venture is that the users of participating libraries can make use of the resources, not only his libraries but also those of all the other participating libraries. One of the main objectives of the present study is to identify the existing system of cooperation among the libraries and to examine the problems towards effective resource sharing discussed.

**IX. FINDINGS OF THE STUDY**

1. Resource sharing among University Libraries can be worked out for better accessibility of documents available in other Libraries.
2. More funds should be allotted for Automation, Resource Sharing, and Networking.
3. Librarian and other professionals should visit any developed computerized libraries to have a better idea and to train the staff of the library.
4. Resource sharing obviously to make the greatest amount of best information available to most users at the most reasonable cost possible. If it is not available in the library, the librarian should arrange a particular document through other sources like interlibrary loan, Internet Referral service.
5. In light of the emerging resource sharing movement in all fields, the strong feeling among the professionals is to formulate a statewide university network.
6. Interlibrary loan facilities used more in Private universities compare to Government universities. Time taken for receiving the ILL book is one week, two weeks and more than one month in the Private and Government university libraries.

7. The type of documents issued or borrowed from the libraries are Books, Periodicals, Reports, Thesis and Dissertations, Back Volumes, print journal articles, and online journal articles.

## X. SUGGESTIONS

1. It is suggested to the librarian of every university to make automation of the library for further resource sharing services.
2. The management should allocate sufficient funds to the libraries for networking for resource sharing purposes, to introduce new services and also to improve the existing services. Generous funds are to be made available for the up-gradation of technology to face future consequences.
3. As a prerequisite, there should be a union catalogue of library resources of all the universities' libraries.
4. Though resource sharing is taking place at a minimal level among the university libraries, it can improve to a larger extent by way of training programs, workshops, and seminars for all librarians.

If the suggestions given above are implemented effectively it may enhance the resource sharing among the university libraries in Karnataka to a larger extent, with the minimal expenditure and the satisfaction of the academicians.

## XI. CONCLUSION

For the present study, the following conclusion is drawn based on the research. University libraries play a crucial role in the dissemination of information services to the academicians, students, and research scholars. Network resource sharing is an important factor in the growing era of information explosion. University Libraries of Karnataka State can minimize their expenditure and maximize their facilities if they plan to make networking of their libraries

with the help of UGC, Karnataka Government and Library Professionals together. Then only the university libraries will prosper in a new direction. Thus we can say that if we can make the different portal of the University library network of Karnataka, it would be very fruitful to the students, staff, and management of the institutions and of course to the library professional.

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