

A STUDY OF LIBRARY AUTOMATION IN PHARMACY COLLEGES LIBRARIES AFFILIATED TO JNTU, HYDERABAD.

Santosh Kamble*

Dr. Gautam R. Taksande**

***Research Scholar,**
Department of Library and
Information Science
Rashtrasant Tukdoji
Maharaj Nagpur University,
Nagpur,
Maharashtra, India

****Librarian**
Suresh Deshmukh,
College of Engineering,
Selukate, Wardha
Maharashtra, India

QR Code



ABSTRACT: - *This study was carried out to investigate the current status of library automation of Pharmacy College libraries affiliated to Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University, Hyderabad. Questionnaire tools are used for data collection. Only few pharmacy college libraries are fully automated. This research will focus on the status of information technologies in pharmacy college libraries automation and provides recommendations to promote library automation and effective application of information technology.*

KEY WORDS: Pharmacy College Libraries, Automation, Internet, Library Automation.

INTRODUCTION

We live in an information age, and libraries are expected to use Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) to provide information more expeditiously and exhaustively than before. Computerization of library "housekeeping" operations is an important activity in this context. "Automation," when used in a library or similar environment, refers to the computerization or mechanization of activities (Kumar, 1987; Harinarayana, 1991)

BACKGROUND TO THE STUDY

Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University Situated in the heart of the Hyderabad city at Kukatpally a major landmark- Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University, Hyderabad has an environment of academic excellence with 'A' Grade accreditation by NAAC (National Assessment and Accreditation Council). Bringing the spark of knowledge to young minds and

instilling a new confidence and vigor to face the world, it is providing quality education for nearly 4 decades.

This university has been deemed an autonomous one after Act No 30 of the approval of the Andhra Pradesh Legislature known as the Jawaharlal Nehru Technological Universities Act, 2008 which came into force on 18th August, 2008. It is a teaching cum research oriented university consisting of the constituent and affiliated colleges.

The territorial jurisdiction of the university covers the areas of Hyderabad, Ranga Reddy, Medak, Nizamabad, Adilabad, Karimnagar, Warangal, Khammam, Nalgonda and Mahboobnagar districts of Telangana State.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:

1. To study the present status of Library Automation and Networking in Pharmacy College Libraries Affiliated to Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University, Hyderabad.
2. To study the Computer Skilled Professional Staff for Library Automation. (Qualification, experience etc.)
3. To study the Housekeeping Operations (Acquisition module, Circulation, Cataloguing, Serial Control, OPAC/ WEB-OPAC (Intranet/ Internet).

4. To find the various barriers in the process the automation and networking faced by pharmacy college libraries such as inadequate staff, insufficient budget, etc.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY:

The present study is a survey using a structured questionnaire as a tool. The address of institutions in the area was collected through formal and informal sources. A short structured questionnaire was sent to these institutions.

ANALYSIS

The questionnaire was circulated to all the 99 pharmacy college libraries affiliated to Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University, Hyderabad. Out of 99 pharmacy college libraries, 82 libraries responded to the questionnaire and while the remaining 17 libraries did not respond, i.e. response rate is 82.82%. Hence the analysis of the data collected is based on the responses of these 82 libraries.

QUALIFICATION OF THE LIBRARIAN

For the present study it is essential to know the Educational Qualification of librarian. Librarian is decision taker person in the department of library. Therefore it is essential to know about the educational qualification of librarian. Below shown table and graph focused on the educational qualification of librarian.

Table- 1 Educational Qualification

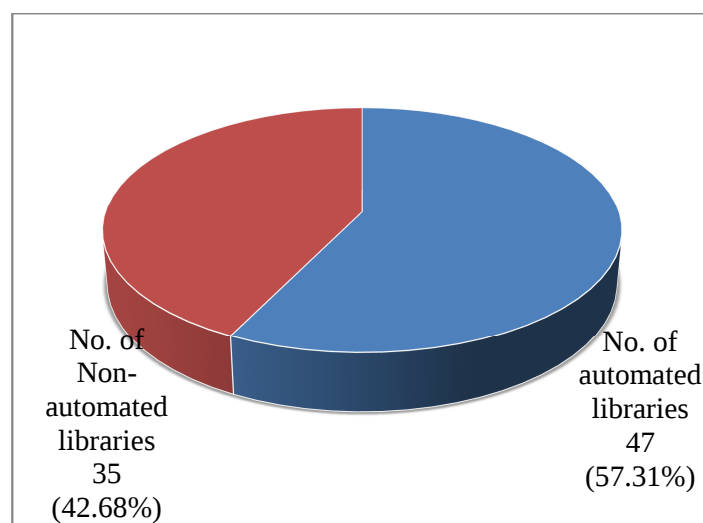
Sl. No.	Qualification	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1.	Ph.D. (Library and Inf. Science)	02	02.42%
2.	M.Phil. (Library and Inf. Science)	14	16.94%
3.	M. Lib. & I. Sc.	52	62.92
4.	B. Lib. & I. Sc.	02	02.42%
5.	Diploma in Lib Science	00	00%
6.	PGDLAN	08	09.68%
7.	PGDCA	04	04.84%
	TOTAL	82	100%

The analysis of data as shown in the above table no. 1 shows the distribution of libraries based on qualification out of 82 librarians. It shows that there are 52 (74.28 %) librarians are having Master degree in Library and Information Science, 2(2.42%) librarian has Bachelor degree in Library and Information science and 2 (2.42%) librarian has Ph. D doctoral degree. 14 (16.94%) librarians have M. Phil degree in Library and Information Science. 8 (9.68%) librarians have PGDLAN (Post Graduate Diploma in Library Automation and Networking) and 4 (4.84%) librarians have PGDCA (Post Graduate Diploma in Computer Application).

It is observed that mostly librarians have masters' degree in Library and information science 52 (62.92%)

LIBRARY AUTOMATION

For the present study it is essential to know how many respondent libraries are automated because the Automation has greatly enhanced the efficiency of library services. Computers are used to provide various Library services and perform the routine, repetitive and clerical jobs. The functioning of all types of libraries is influenced by this vital machine.

Graph No.-1 Library Automation

The Graph No. 1 shows that distribution of library Automation Response given by respondent libraries.

47 (57.31%) Respondent libraries works in Library Automation, 35 (42.68%) Respondent Libraries stated 'No' for Library Automation.

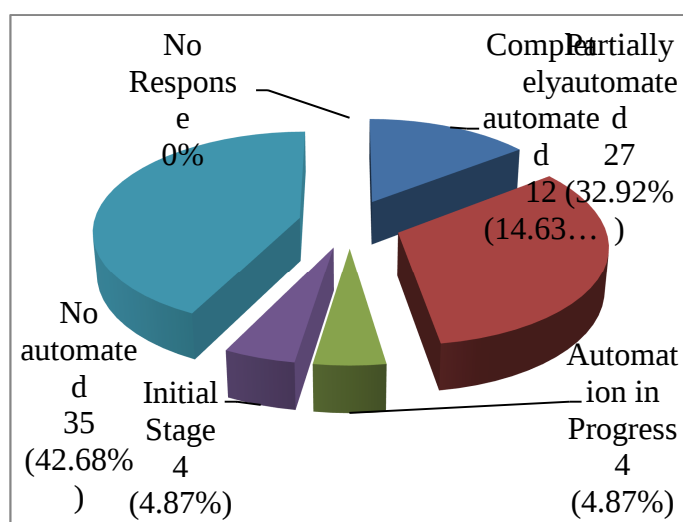
As per AICTE norms computerized indexing with bar coded essential for this service Library Automation is essential.

It is observed that mostly 47 (57.31%) Respondent Libraries have worked in Automation, 35 (42.68%) Respondent Libraries are not fulfilling with AICTE Library norms.

STATUS OF LIBRARY AUTOMATION

For the present study it is essential to know the status of library automation.

Graph No.- 2 Status of Library Automation



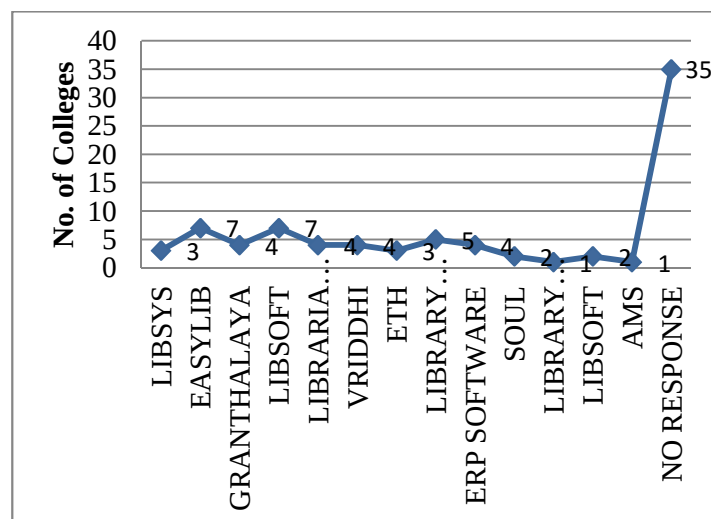
In order to ascertain the extent of the automation of the libraries the librarians were asked to indicate the extent of automation of the libraries. It is observed from the data as shown in the graph No. 2 out of 82 libraries. 12 (14.63%) libraries are completely automated, 27 (32.92%) libraries are partially automated. It is observed that 4 (4.87%) library is in automation progress stage and automation Initial stage respectively

each category. 35 (42.68%) libraries have not automated.

SOFTWARE USED FOR AUTOMATION

For the present study it is essential to know out of 82, 47 respondent libraries are automated with various software, which software are using 47 Automated Respondent Libraries.

Graph No.-3 Name of the Library Software used



The graph No. 3 shows that Name of the Software which are using in the Respondent Libraries.

3 (3.65%) Libraries are using respectively LIBSYS and ETH software, 7 (8.53%) libraries are using respectively EASYLIB and LIBSOFT software, 4 (4.87%) libraries are using respectively GRANTHALAYA, LIBRARIA MKCL, VRIDDHI and ERP software, 5 (6.09%) libraries are using LIBRARY MANAGER software, 1 (1.21%) libraries are using

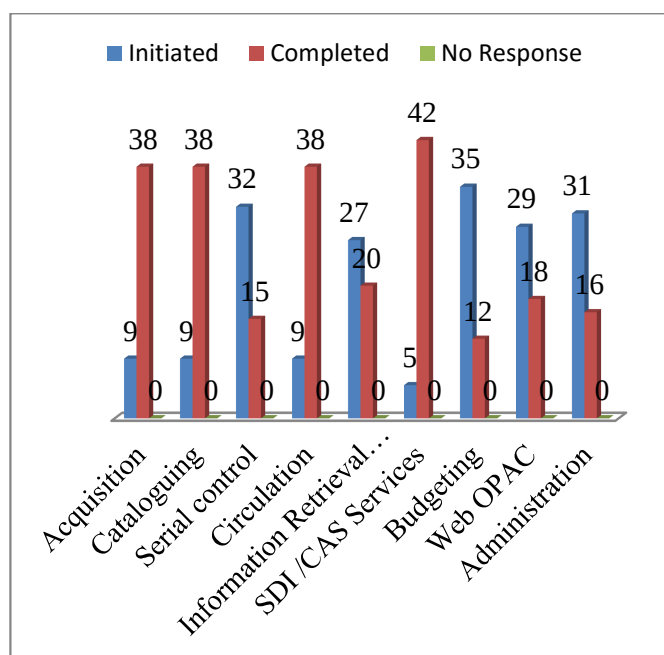
respectively SOUL, LIBRARY MANAGEMENT, LIBSOFT and AMS software, 35(42.68%) libraries are Not Response to this question.

It is observed that mostly Libraries use different Library Software.

AREAS FOR AUTOMATION

For the present study it is essential to know out of 82, 47 respondent libraries are automated with various software, which software are using 47 Automated Respondent Libraries.

Graph No.-4 Areas of Library Automation



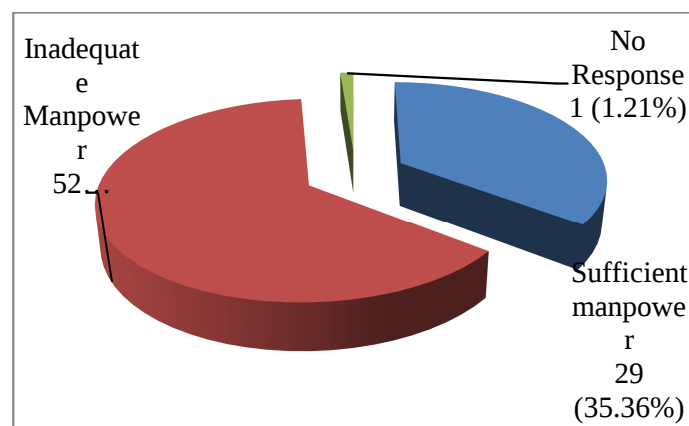
The analysis of data as shown in the graph no. 4 reveals that out of 82 libraries, 47 libraries are partially or completely automated. It is found that respectively Acquisition modules, Cataloguing modules and Circulation modules are initiated in 9 (19.14%) libraries, completed in 38

(80.85%) libraries each category. The Serial Control modules are initiated in 32 (68.08%) libraries, 15 (31.91%) libraries have completed. It is seen that Information Retrieval Service (IRS) modules 27 (57.44%) libraries have initiated, 20 (42.55%) libraries completed. It is observed that selective dissemination of information and current awareness services (SDI/CAS) 5 (10.63%) libraries have initiated, 42 (89.36%) libraries have completed. The Budget modules are initiated in 35 (74.46%) libraries, 12 (25.53%) libraries have completed. It is seen that Web OPAC modules are initiated in 29 (61.70%) libraries, 18 (38.29%) libraries have completed. And it is observed that 31 (65.95%) libraries administrative modules are initiated and 16 (34.09) libraries have completed.

Professional Man Power for Library Automation and Networking

For this research purpose it is essential to know about the professional man power for library automation and networking.

Graph No.- 5 Professional Man Power for Library Automation and Networking

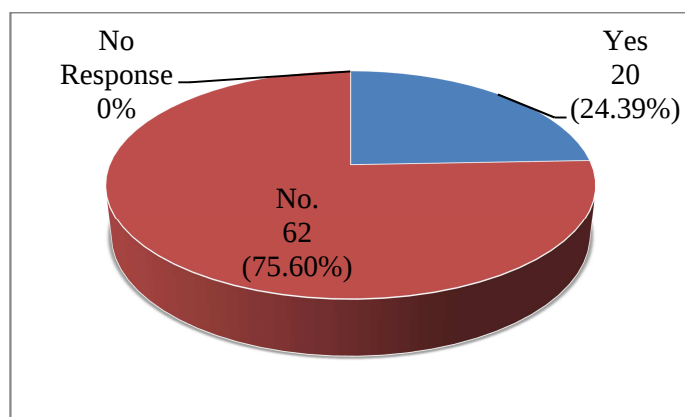


The graph no. 5 shows that the Manpower for Library Automation and Networking out of 82 libraries. It is observed that 29 (35.36%) libraries sufficient manpower and 52 (63.41%) libraries inadequate manpower for library automation and networking. 1 (1.21%) libraries there is no response for library automation and networking.

IT SPECIALIZED STAFF RECRUITED FOR AUTOMATION PURPOSE

The following table shows the number of libraries which have recruited specialized IT staff.

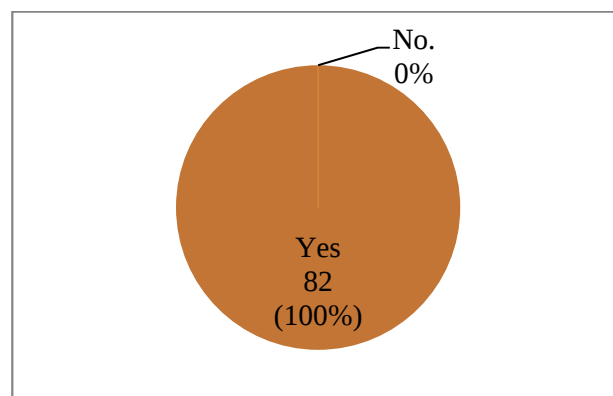
Graph No.- 6 IT Specialized Staff Recruited for Automation Purpose



The Graph No. 6 shows that I.T. Specialized staff for Library Automation and Networking. It is observed that 20 (24.39%) libraries have recruited I.T specialized staff for library automation and networking purpose, and in 62 (75.60%) libraries do not have recruited I.T specialized staff for library automation and networking purpose.

INTERNET CONNECTIVITY:

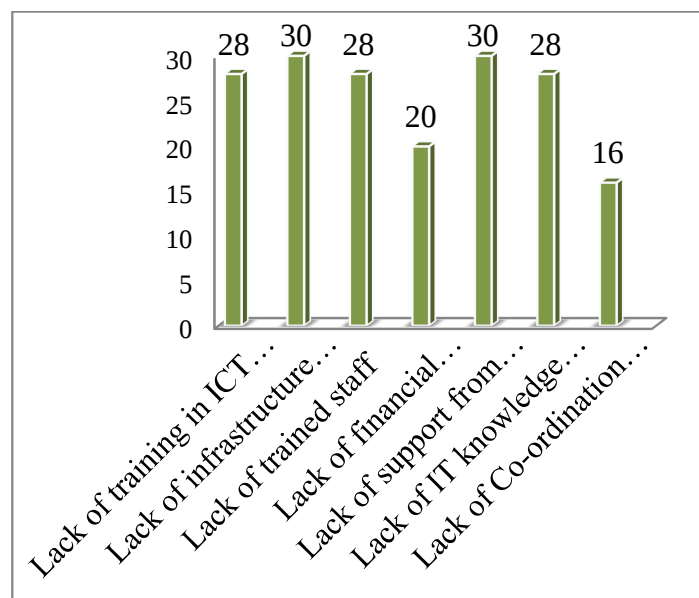
Graph No.- 7 Internet Connectivity



The graph No. 7 shows that in all 82 (100 %) libraries internet facilities are available.

BARRIERS FACED BY THE LIBRARY STAFF DURING AUTOMATION

Graph No.- 8 Barriers Faced by the Library Staff during Automation



The analysis of data as shown in the graph 8 reveals that out of 82 libraries, 47 libraries are automated. The barriers faced by the library staff during automation, it is found that 28 librarians say Lack of training in ICT application, 30

librarians say Lack of infrastructure facilities in library, 28 librarians say Lack of trained staff, 20 librarians say Lack of financial resources in the library, 30 librarians say Lack of support from the Management/Authority, 28 librarians say Lack of IT knowledge on the part of users and 16 librarians say Lack of Co-ordination and Planning.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

- Majority of librarians have masters' degree in Library and information science 52 (62.92%)
- Twenty-three college libraries have undertaken automation of the library.
- Forty-seven libraries have undertaken automation of the library.
- It is observed that mostly Libraries used different types of Library Software.
- Out of 82 libraries. 47 libraries are partially or completely automated. It is found that respectively Acquisition modules, Cataloguing modules and Circulation modules are initiated in 9 (19.14%) libraries, completed in 38 (80.85%) libraries each category. The Serial Control modules are initiated in 32 (68.08%) libraries, 15 (31.91%) libraries have completed. No libraries in the survey have done outsourcing of the work of automation.
- It is observed that 29 (35.36%) libraries sufficient manpower and 52 (63.41%)

libraries inadequate manpower for library automation and networking.

- It is observed that 20 (24.39%) libraries have recruited I.T specialized staff for library automation and networking purpose.
- All 82 (100 %) libraries internet facilities are available.
- Out of 82 libraries, 47 libraries are automated. The barriers faced by the library staff during automation, it is found that 28 librarians say Lack of training in ICT application, 30 librarians say Lack of infrastructure facilities in library, 28 librarians say Lack of trained staff, 20 librarians say Lack of financial resources in the library, 30 librarians say Lack of support from the Management/Authority, 28 librarians say Lack of IT knowledge on the part of users and 16 librarians say Lack of Co-ordination and Planning.

SUGGESTIONS

- Mostly 47 (57.31%) Libraries have worked in Automation, 35 (42.68%) Libraries are not fulfilling with PCI and AICTE Library norms.
- Parent institutions should provide sufficient funds as per the norms given by Dr. S.R. Ranganathan (1965) or by Kothari commission (Gupta, 1992).
- Staff of the library should be sent to training courses to upgrade their IT Skills.

CONCLUSION

The status of automation in the colleges of Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University, Hyderabad is similar to that of college libraries throughout India. Libraries, librarians, and college administrations must initiate automation in order to provide effective and efficient services to users. Library professionals must upgrade their skills in order to meet the growing expectations of users from libraries.

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