Chapter 5

Findings, Suggestions and conclusions

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FINDINGS CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

- Major findings of the study
- Tenability of hypotheses
- Suggestions and Recommendations
- Suggestions for Further Study
- Conclusions
FINDINGS CONCLUSIONS
AND SUGGESTIONS

This chapter includes the summary of findings, suggestions for the proper organisation of the services of the public library which will support to the women empowerment programme and also helps to maintain the sections of the library for the proper use of women users for their empowerment. It also reveals the tenability of hypotheses and suggestions for the further research.

The major findings of the study have evolved from the discussion in the previous chapter are summed up under various headings.

5.1 MAJOR FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

1. Majority of the women users having one year experience in using public library. Among these, women users from Ernakulam is ahead.

2. More number of women users from Thrissur having the experience of 1-5 year compared to other public libraries.

3. Majority of the women users prefer to visit the library once in a month and more number of users from Kottayam visit regularly than other libraries.

4. The statistical analysis shows that there is significant difference among women users in the frequency of library visit

5. Majority of the women users spent time 1-2 hours per day in the library and the users from Thiruvananthapuram public library is ahead.

6. More number of users from Thrissur spent 2-5 hours to make use of library when compared to other public libraries.
7. Statistical analysis indicate that time spent by the women user are significantly different.

8. Women users give first preference to read news papers and magazines while visiting the library.

9. Small number of women users are visit public library for participating various activities conducted by the public library and among these, women users from Thrissur public library are ahead.

10. The Chi–square value of 52.17 and p-value .000 shows significant difference among women users with respect to purpose of visiting the library.

11. A good number of women users from Kottayam, Thrissur and Kozhikode oftenly use books related to education even though other libraries have occasional use educational books.

12. More number women users from Thiruvanathapuram oftenly use General books related to Fashion designing and Cookery when compared to other libraries.

13. Women users from the Kozhikode mostly use general books related education than other library.

14. More number of women users from Kottayam use general books related to Agriculture than other library.

15. Women users from all the libraries give least preference to contemporary subjects and first preference to Cookery related books.

16. In Kottayam public library, majority of the women users oftenly use books related to Agriculture and Cookery and a good number of women users oftenly use books related to Education and Literature.
17. Majority of the women users in Ernakulam public library oftenly use books related to Fashion designing and Cookery.

18. A good number of women users from Thrissur opined that they mostly used books are Education and Literature.

19. Small percentage of women users oftenly use books related Fashion designing except in Thiruvanathapuram and Ernakulam.

20. More number of women users from Thiruvanathapuram, Kottayam, Kozhikode and Ernakulam oftenly use Cookery books whereas women users from other library Thrissur and Cannanore have occasional use to Cookery books.

21. Small percentage of women users oftenly use books related to Socio economic.

22. Women users give their first preference to Women magazines and General magazines followed by magazines related to Current affairs and Health magazines. However women users give almost equal preference to various magazines.

23. A good number of women users from Thiruvanathapuram, Kottayam, Thrissur, Kozhikode and Cannanore oftenly use Vanitha whereas women users from Ernakulam opined that Vanitha have occasional use.

24. Only women users from Thiruvanathpuram opined that they oftenly use Mahilarathnam where as a good number of women users never used Mahilarathnam.

25. Women users from Thiruvanathapuram, Kottayam, Ernakulam, Thrissur and Kozhikode are oftenly use Women’s era and Femina.
26. Women users give the first preference to Vanitha and they give least preference to Mahilrathnam.

27. Majority of the women users 55.89 per cent opined that library staff are somewhat helpful to women empowerment programmes. More number of women users from Cannanore opined that library staff are not helpful to the women empowerment programmes when compared to other public library.

28. Almost a good number of women users from Thiruvanathapuram, Kottayam, Thrissur, Kozhikode and Cannanore never used sports periodicals whereas a good number from Ernakulam occasionally use sports periodicals.

29. More number of women users from Kottayam oftenly use periodicals in Agriculture when compared to other library. Majority of the women users from Cannanore never used periodicals in Agriculture.

30. Around thirty percent of the total respondents at each library under study occasionally using Current affairs Health periodicals have occasional use only.

31. The Chi-square value of 62.64 and p-value .0001 shows that there exist a significant difference among women users with respect to the opinion on women magazines are helpful to their progress.

32. Women users give first preference to Women magazine, followed by General magazines and they give least preference to Sports periodicals.

33. A good number of the women users from Thiruvanathapuram and Thrissur public library are satisfied with library activity and services related to educational activity.
34. In Kottayam public library, women users opined that activity and services related to culture, career guidance and socio-economic activity are satisfactory.

35. A good number of the women users from Ernakulam replied that activity and services related to culture, education, entertainment and socio-economic activity are not satisfied whereas career guidance activities are partially satisfactory.

36. Women users from Thrissur opined that they are satisfied with only educational and entertainment activity.

37. In Kozhikode public library women users are partially satisfied with culture, career guidance and socio-economic activities. Whereas they are not satisfied with educational and entertainment activity.

38. Women users from Cannanore opined that they are satisfied with only cultural activities.

39. Majority of the women users prefer Malayalam language for reading. Only small per cent of the women users prefer Hindi and other languages such as Sanskrit, Arabic, Tamil etc for reading.

40. More number of users from Thiruvananthapuram public library prefer other languages such as Sanskrit, Arabic, Tamil etc for reading.

41. More number of users of Cannanore public library prefer Hindi language for reading when compared to other public libraries.

42. There is a significant difference in the language preferred for reading among women users.

43. Most of the women users give first preference to general magazines and journals and second preference to news papers for reading.
44. Women users from Kozhikode and Cannanore public library do not use Online materials.

45. Large majority of women users opined that reading is helpful to progress of their day to day life.

46. A significant difference exists among women users in the opinion of helpfulness of reading for the progress of women.

47. Majority of the women users opined that they didn't get information about various field i.e agriculture, women empowerment, health and hygiene, income generating programme, alternative life style, personality development, social value, law educational, various government programmes, life style, leadership and religious informations.

48. Majority of the women users replied that they use educational information from the library.

49. Majority of the women users from Thiruvanathpuram, Ernakulam, Thrissur, Kozhikode and Cannanore public libraries are not providing proper literacy programmes to them.

50. Fifty percent of women users from Kottayam public libraries are attended literacy programme and other 50.00 per cent are not attending any type of literacy programme.

51. Women users from Cannanore and Thrissur are attended seminar and workshop conducted by the library.

52. A good number of women users are attended programme on contemporary activity among these Kozhikode public library is ahead.
53. Only few percentage of the women users get ICT related training from library.

54. Kozhikode public library will not provide ICT related programme.

55. A good number of the women users from Thiruvanathapuram, Cannanore and Kottayam opined that library activities related to educational and socio-economic activity have greater use.

56. About half of the women users from Kottayam and a good number from Thrissur opined that library activities related to entertainment activity have greater use.

57. Only users form Kozhikode opined that library activities effected to their career guidance activity have greater use.

58. Majority of the users from Thrissur opined that library activity and services related to cultural activity have greater use.

59. Among the various activities provided by the public libraries education and socio economic activites have greater extent of use.

60. Womne users have only an average level of perception about activities related to the educational activity, women child education, job oriented programme, IT based Training, Technical education related programme, Leadership, Health programme and Government programmes conducted by public library.

61. Majority of the women users replied that women empowerment is programme for improving women whereas a few of them suggest that it is the programme for women welfare.

62. The Chi–square value of 80.55 and p-value 0.000 shows that there is a significant difference among women users regarding the opinion of
the helpfulness of public library as educational institution in women empowerment.

63. Majority of the women users from Thiruvanthapuram, Kottayam, Eranakulam, Thrissur and Cannanore opined that public libraries more supportive for socio economic development while majority of the women users from Kozhikode opined that public library is not supportive.

64. Ernakulam opined public libraries are more supportive to their users for socio economic development.

65. Majority of the women users from Thiruvanthapuram, Kottayam, Eranakulam, Thrissur and Cannanore replied that public library is helpful for cultural activity while majority of the women users from Kozhikode respond against the arguments.

66. Kottayam and Thrissur public libraries are more supportive to their users in developing cultural activities.

67. 50.00 per cent of women users from Thruvanathapuram opined that library helpful for political development and at the same time remaining 50.00 per cent opined that library is not helpful for political development.

68. Majority of the women users from Kottayam, Eranakulam and Thrissur replied that the library is helpful for political development whereas women users from Kozhikode and Cannanore replied that library is not help for political development.

69. A good number of women users from Thrissur, Kottayam and Cannanore replied that activities and service are good.
70. Women users from Thiruvanathpuram replied that library activities and service are average whereas majority of the women users from the Kozhikode public library opined that the library service and activities are poor.

71. The statistical analysis shows that there exist significant difference among women perception of the public library services and activities.

72. Majority of the women users replied that women empowerment is programme for improving women whereas a few of them replied that it is the programme for women welfare.

73. Women users give their first preference to educational activities conducted by the public library.

74. Women users from Kottayam public library and Thrissur public library opined that they get moderate level of inspiration from this libraries to protect them.

75. Women users from Thiruvananthapuram, Ernakulam, Cannanore and Kozhikode opined that they get low level of inspiration from this libraries to protect them.

76. Majority of the women users from Thiruvananthapuram, Cannanore, Kottayam, Thrissur and Kozhikode are not member of any women organisations.

77. More number of women users from Ernakulam public library are not member in any of the women organisation when compared to other public library.

78. Majority of the women users are members of Kudumbasree unit and small number of women users have taken the membership in other women organizations like NGO, Janasree etc.
79. Majority of the Women users opined that the women organizations are not cooperate with the library activities.

80. Majority of the women users are of the opinion that women organisations are helpful to them for their development.

81. The Chi–square value of 26.303 and p-value .0000 indicate that there exists significant difference among women users of public libraries regarding the opinion on women organization are helpful to women empowerment.

82. Women users give their first preference to undertake thrift deposit activity of women organisations and second preference to health awareness programme of women organisation.

83. A good number of the women users regardless of the category opined that information available in the public library are helpful to contact with other women organisation.

84. A good number of women users from Thrissur opined that information available in the public library are very helpful to contact with other women organisations.

85. None of them from Kottayam and Kozhikode opined that information available to the public are helpful to contact to other women organisations.

86. Majority of the users of the public library are using Information Technology for their personal activity.

87. The Chi-square value of 113.814 and p-value 0.000 indicate that there is a significant difference among women users of public libraries in the use of information technology.
88. Most of the women users are interesting to use Social Network Site and YouTube than other online information sources.

89. The women users form Kozhikode public library are ahead in using social networking sites and YouTube.

90. Majority of the women users prefer online information for educational purpose.

91. Women users from Kottayam give more preference to Online information sources for educational purpose than other purpose.

92. Very small percentage of women users from Ernakulam prefer Online sources to search information about cultural activities.

93. Large majority of the women users from various library except Kozhikode opined that they are satisfied with ICT facility available in Public library.

94. More number of women users from the Thiruvanathapuram opined that ICT and Internet facilities are influenced the women users.

95. The statistical analysis shows that there is significant difference among women users of public libraries with respect to influence on Internet and ICT services.

FINDINGS OF ANALYSIS PART II

96. Most of the public libraries under study are subscribing maximum number of periodicals which includes standard periodicals in different languages such as Mathrubhumi, Deshabhimani, Grihalakshmi, Vanitha, Mahilarathnam, India today, Frontline, The week, Femina, Women’s Era, Arogya masika, and subscribe the agricultural related, career guidance and Film magazines etc.
97. Most of the public library under study subscribe newspaper in different languages, with in their budget and Thiruvananthapuram public library also subscribe other language news papers.

98. Public libraries under study are providing lending service, general reading room, members reading room and reference services.

99. Thiruvananthapuram, Kottayam, Thrissur and Ernakulam public library provide Gazette extract.

100. Kozhikode Public library do not provide Internet facility and OPAC. Kozhikode and Cannanore public library do not provide Gazette extract and date conversional services to the public.

101. Thiruvananthapuram public library recently start a section of British Library and Kottayam public library newly start an American corner with more than one thousand collection of American books. Thrissur public library provide the facility of Mobile library it was the only one mobile library functioning under the Public library.

102. Thiruvananthapuram, Kottayam and Ernakulam public library provide the facility of digital library.

103. Public libraries in Thiruvananthapuram and Kottayam provide study centres and they are conducting different courses.

104. Kottayam and Ernakulam public libraries are maintaining art galleries.

105. Thiruvananthapuram Kottayam, Ernakulam and Cannanore public libraries have Auditorium.

106. All the libraries maintained readers forum expect Kozhikode public library.
107. Kozhikode public library do not provide any of the other activities.

108. Public library of Thiruvanathapuram automated with LIBSYS software. At the same time Public libraries of Kottayam and Ernakulam automated with KOHA software and Thrissur are automated with the help of Visual Basic.

109. Public library of Kozhikode and Cannanore has not complete the Library automation.

110. Thiruvanathapuram Public library have sufficient number of professional staff for library functioning. Most of the library has suffering due to the insufficient of professional staff.

TENABILITY OF HYPOTHESES

Hypothesis No. 1

*Women users are frequently using general books, general magazines and periodicals to search information for satisfying various requirements.*

The analysis clearly indicate (Table number 4.5 to 4.10) that only small percentage of women users oftenly use books related to Fashion designing and Socio economic. It can be observed that only women users from Kottayam and Kozhikode oftenly use books related to Agriculture. Only women users from Thrissur oftenly use books related to Health and majority from Kottayam never used books related to Health. Table No. 12 reveals that women users give almost equal preference to various magazines. From the analysis (Table No. 4.13 to 4.18) clear that a good number of women users from Thiruvanathapuram, Kottayam, Thrissur, Kozhikode and Cannanore oftenly use Vanitha while women users from Thrissur have occasional use to Vanitha. Only women users from Thiruvanathapuram opined that they oftenly use Mahilarathnam where as a good number of women users never
used Mahilarathnam. From the analysis (Table No. 21 to 26), it can be found that almost good number of women users from Thiruvananthapuram, Kottayam, thrissur, Eranakulam, Kozhikode and Cannanore never used sports periodicals and majority of respondent from Cannanore never used Agriculture periodicals. Hence this hypothesis is not fully accepted based on finding number 11-37.

**Hypothesis No. 2**

*Women users preferred public library for getting needed information for their progress.*

As per the findings number 47 (Table No. 33 ), it clears that women users didn’t get needed information on various filed from public library but finding number 48 shows that women users opined that they get educational information from library. In the light of these findings, the second hypothesis is not fully substantiated.

**Hypothesis No. 3**

*Public libraries are providing various activities to women to meet their various requirements and women users have good perception about these activities*

According to the findings number 60 (Table No. 43 -54), it is clear that women users have only average level of perception about various activities provided by the library. In the light of this finding, this hypothesis is not substantiated.
Hypothesis No. 4

Various public library activities have greatest extent of use among women users

According to the findings number 55-59 (Table No. 36-42), it proves that women users have greater use to activities provided by the public library. Therefore the hypothesis is fully substantiated.

Hypothesis No. 5

Public library helpful to women for their educational, socio-economic, cultural and political development.

As per the findings number 62 to 68 (Table No. 56-58), it is clear that women users from Kozhikode opined that public library is not supportive for socio-economic development and cultural activity. It also clears that women users form Thrivanthapuram public library opined that library is not supportive for political development. Therefore this hypothesis is not proved.

Hypothesis No. 6

The reading habit of women users have considerably helped for their progress.

According to the finding number 45-46 this hypothesis is fully substantiated. Analysis from the table 30-32 states reading is helpful for the progress of women. Therefore this hypothesis is fully proved.
Hypotheses No. 7

The Information Communication Technology facilities provided by the public library in Kerala are adequate to meet the requirements of women users in the digital era

According to finding number 93-95 (Table no 71-72) majority of the users are satisfied with ICT facilities available in public libraries except in Kozhikode public library. This hypothesis is not fully accepted.

Hypothesis No. 8

Women organisations are co-operate with library activities and it is highly helpful to their development.

According to finding number 79-80 (Table no.4.64), public libraries are not co-operate with women organizations. Majority of the women users opined that women organisations are helpful to their development (Table no 4.65). Hence the hypothesis is not fully proved.

SUGGESTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Empowerment of women is necessary for every development of the society and it can play a decisive role in the success of many development programmes and bring about positive social changes. It is necessary for ensuring not just their own health and welfare but also well-being of their entire household. The library is an integral part of society and plays various significant roles in the social and cultural life of women. To achieve the goals for the women empowerment programme the librarian and other professional has very important role in the utilization of library resources and services for women. Up-to-date and systematic information is required for successful implementation of poverty alleviation and development of women. But it is clear that most of the women users are not aware about the library services
and facilities offered by the public library. It is evident from the study that public library had a important role for socio economic, cultural and educational development of women users. On the basis of analysis and findings of the study, certain suggestion and recommendations are made in order to improve the role of public library on women empowerment.

- Public library should provide various programme of socio-economic, cultural and educational development of the women and conducting seminar and classes in collaboration with various educational organisations.

- Public libraries in collaboration with various women organisations can implement appropriate educational, socio-economic and cultural activities for empowering women.

- Public library can collaborate with Knowledge Centre in village, which will provide more information service to the rural people.

- Public library should conduct special orientation programme for women users on different types information available in the library.

- Special work shop should be conducted for searching, locating and retrieving information from different types of information resources.

- To provide proper ICT facilities and there should be organise special programme on different types of online information sources and give training to utilization of various information sources.

- To conduct awareness programme to women users for the better utilisation of the online sources.

- Library should carry out proper human resources planning of development programme.
• Public library should keep close link between other governmental and non-governmental agencies of different field to collect and share resources.

• Public library should start skill development centre with the financial support from governmental and non-governmental agencies, this will help to solve specific problems of the women users related to career opportunities.

• Public library can implement mobile library with the financial support of government and non-governmental agencies in and outside Kerala.

• Public library act as source of motivation for women empowerment.

• Public library should appoint competent professional and thereby attaining excellency.

CONCLUSION

Empowerment of women is crucial to the socio-economic progress of the community and it empower the women into the main stream of national development. Kerala is the first state to implement the women empowerment programme through women organisations. Most of the women organisations are working for the development of women and the ‘Kudumbasree’ is the leading women organisation in the state but it does not undertake the educational programme to empower the women. This study is an attempt made to understand the role of public library activities and services for women empowerment in Kerala. This study made an attempt to evaluate the possibility of women education with the help of public library.

Public library which are entrusted with the basic task of preserving the recorded knowledge of past and present for future use, are also responsible for providing required information of the community. Public
libraries are conducting various educational and cultural programme for their women users and majority of the women users are participating these programmes, but they are not sufficient to meet their demands. It is the single agency to collect and repackage information in a suitable form as per the request of women users. Most of the women users need accurate and quick information from the public library, but they are not able to use the Information Communication Technology to retrieve various information from the library. Today most of the women users are interesting to use online information sources like e-paper, e-magazine, YouTube, Social Network Site than other online information sources. Hence there is a need to conduct awareness programme to women users for the better utilisation of the online sources.

Different activities and services of the public libraries are helpful to the women users for supporting their decision making process. All the public libraries provide socio-economic, cultural and educational programme for the development of their women users. Most of the women users are housewives and they can only visit the public library in a week or in a month. The study reveals that majority of the public libraries have good collections of reading materials and are able to provide information to the women users for their empowerment. The study also revealed that the public libraries are conducting various programme for their women users, it is not sufficient to meet their requirements. Public libraries activities and services are not fully supported to the women users to empower them. At the same time majority of the women users are participate the various activities conducted by the public libraries and this programme are very helpful to the women users. In order to motivate them to visit regularly, the public library may conduct seminars and classes to discuss about various services and activities conducted by the public library and thereby creating an awareness among them about the benefits in attending these programmes.
In short, public libraries are a social organization, to help lifelong self-education and also to provide various awareness programmes. But the impact of public libraries on society as well as women is marginal. Women users are of the opinion that they get a good level of inspiration from libraries to protect them.

In Kerala, various women organizations are functioning for the development of women, but these organizations are not cooperating with public libraries. From the analysis, it can be found that women organizations are not cooperating with the library activities. Only 38.75% of women users are members in any of the women organizations. Among these, the majority are members of Kudumbasree units, and a small number of women users are members in other women organizations like NGOs, Janasree, etc. Hence, public libraries should keep close link between these women organizations and other governmental and non-governmental agencies of different fields to collect and share resources.

The public libraries do not cope with the changing needs of women users for their empowerment with the advancement of information communication technology. Thus, it can be concluded that the present scenario of public libraries in Kerala gives a little encouragement for women empowerment. Therefore, it is concluded that the public library is the best organization or agency to support women empowerment programmes than any other organizations or agency. However, it is highly essential that once this programme is undertaken by the library with the collaboration of Kudumbasree units in the various parts of the state, the programme should be constantly reviewed, and necessary changes and modifications should be made to empower women effectively.
SUGGESTIONS FOR THE FURTHER RESEARCH

In the light of the study, following are suggestions for conducting further research.

1. The study can be extended to assess the role of women organisations to socio-economic, culture and educational development of women in Kerala.

2. A study may be conducted in the area of services and sources and facilities offered by the rural library in Kerala.

3. The study can be extended to the Information Communication Technology skill and competencies needed for women for the better utilization of online information sources.

4. A study may be conducted on the utilization of information sources by rural people for lifelong education.

5. A study may be conducted on the role of village information centres on women empowerment in Kerala.