CHAPTER - 01
INTRODUCTION

1.1 INTRODUCTION

Online catalog systems tended to closely reflect the card catalogs that they were intended to replace. Using a dedicated terminal or telnet client, users could search a handful of pre-coordinate indexes and browse the resulting display in much the same way they had previously navigated the card catalog.

Throughout the 1980s, the number and sophistication of online catalogs grew. The first commercial systems appeared, and would by the end of the decade largely replace systems built by libraries themselves. Library catalogs began providing improved search mechanisms, including Boolean and keyword searching, as well as ancillary functions, such as the ability to place holds on items that had been checked-out.

At the same time, libraries began to develop applications to automate the purchase, cataloging, and circulation of books and other library materials. These applications, collectively known as an integrated library system (ILS) or library management system, included an online catalog as the public interface to the system's inventory. Most library catalogs are closely tied to their underlying ILS system.

1.2 HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT OF CATALOGUE

In ancient times, the libraries were devoted to the acquisition and preservation of reading materials and used some primitive systems of bibliographical organization or control to locate available material according to need. This was a crude inventory lists which served only as an index for the library and there were no universal rules. Many attempts were made at standardization of bibliographic entries among library catalogues but primitive methods of bibliographic control continued to persist.
1.3 DEVELOPMENT OF CATALOGUE CODES

In the early stages, cataloguing was a local and individual library practice, whereby each library constructed its own catalogue best suited to its purpose. Bibliographic records were in forms and styles peculiar to each library but they lacked a system. Gradually, librarians realized the advantages of co-operation among libraries and standardization of practice. The need for codification of cataloguing practice became apparent. Since the mid-nineteenth century saw a series of cataloguing codes which came into existence. These codes were developed to standardize practices and improve preceding ones. The earlier codes were efforts of individuals while the later ones were results of corporate undertakings.

The prominent developments of cataloguing are briefly discussed in the following.

1.3.1 Pre-AACR Era

The British Museum catalogue was considered to be the first major cataloguing code developed in 1839; as it influenced cataloguing practices of many libraries. It was also known as Panizzi’s ninety-one rules. It reflected the functions of catalogues as inventory lists and finding lists. This code had provision only for author entry arranged alphabetically in which only the main entry contained fairly bibliographical details with shorter ‘added entries’ after being prepared in the form of simple cross references.

Another landmark was the publication of Cutter’s Rules for a Dictionary Catalogue in 1876 containing 205 rules. This was an epoch-making year in the history of cataloguing as the rules were specially designed for a dictionary catalogue rather than any particular library. Cutter established the principles of specific subject entry and the rules governing the choice of subject heading.

The American Library Association and British Library Association jointly prepared the AA Code 1908 to secure greater uniformity in catalogue rules. This was the first attempt to achieve international co-operation in the
field. The joint code was, however, perfected. During the Second World War both associations fell apart. The ALA constituted a committee to revise the AA code 1908. It produced the ALA Draft Code in 1941 in which the 174 original rules of the AA Code were expanded to 375. Then the ALA revised the first part of the 1941 draft and published these ALA Rules in 1949. The second part of this draft was revised by Library of Congress which published its own Rules for Descriptive Cataloguing in 1949 under the title Library of Congress Descriptive Cataloguing 1949.

In India, S.R. Ranganathan designed the Classified Catalogue Code (CCC) and its first edition was published in 1934. After five editions the last was in 1964. Each new edition sought to improve the preceding one. The subject approach was recognized as dominant in CCC. It had no restriction of language unlike other codes which were of non-local nature. The fifth edition appeared with additional rules and included a feature of economy as it does not cover the use of imprint and collation in its entries.

1.3.2 AACR Era

A new code, the Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules (AACR), appeared in 1967 based on Paris principles and published in two editions, British and North American. It had some variations between the British and the American texts. The Library of Congress 1949 was used as the basis of description for monographs, serials and non-book material. The logical arrangement and emphasis on conditions of authorship rather than types of works were a landmark improvement. Next step was taken the International Meeting of Cataloguing Experts (IMCE) held in Copenhagen in 1969. Based on this meeting, the International Standard Bibliographic Description (ISBD) was formulated and issued in 1971. In 1975, the General International Standard Bibliographic Description (ISBD (G)) was developed. The primary aim of this code was to prescribe the order of bibliographic elements and punctuation marks on a record to maintain uniformity.

Keeping in view the ISBDs, Anglo-American Cataloguing Code was also modified. A Joint Steering Committee for the Revision of AACR was formed to redraft the AACR provisions for bibliographic description to
promote international standards. As a result, the AACR2 was published in 1978. The ISBD (G) was incorporated into it as the general framework for bibliographic description. In the course of application of AACR2 (1978), new developments occurred and the rules were found inadequate to AACR2 (1978) it was renamed as AACR2 R, 1988. Although AACR2 R is the result of ongoing revisions, yet it maintains the same principles and guidelines as AACR2. Other changes are related to material for the blind, sound recordings, music, etc., also for the purpose of achieving greater conformity in establishing the headings, a few rules were also changed.

1.4 MODERN TRENDS

Libraries had begun using computer applications for their catalogues in the latter part of the 20th century. Developments in information technology (IT) revolutionised the catalogue and consequently, the online public access catalogue (OPAC) emerged.

An improvement over OPAC has been in use for quite some time in the developed countries and has also taking place in some libraries in India.

1.4.1 Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC)

One of IT’s greatest accomplishments is transformation of the card catalogue to the OPAC to facilitate libraries. An OPAC is a library catalogue accessed via a computer terminal for the benefit of library users. It is a computerised catalogue of documents and reading materials available in a library. It provides online access to library’s catalogue for users and allows the searching and retrieval of bibliographic records. The OPAC works on several databases, but primarily on the library catalogue database. A catalogue database is the machine-readable form of the card catalogue and is made up of a number of bibliographic records which comprise a collection of data elements (author, title, publisher, subject heading, etc.) organised in a systematic manner which represents bibliographic items.

Harrod’s Librarian’s Glossary and Reference Book defines it as ‘An OPAC is the catalogue of a library or information centre made available to users online and generally providing a variety of additional facilities such as loan information, online reservation, and library news. With the demise of the
card catalogue, the need for stressing the ‘online public access’ part has disappeared and they are now frequently just ‘catalogue’.

The Online Dictionary for Library and Information Science defines, ‘OPAC as an acronym for Online Public Access catalog’, a database composed of bibliographic records describing the books and other materials owned by a library or library system, accessible via public terminals or workstations usually concentrated near the reference desk to make it easy for users to request the assistance of a trained reference librarian. Most online catalogues are searchable by author, title, subject, and keywords and allow users to print, download or export record to an e-mail account.

According to Wells, the library OPAC has at least three distinct functions:

(a) It acts as a bibliographic database or an electronic version of the card catalogue that it replaced, acting as an index for users in search, for example of a particular book. As a logical extension of this, OPAC increasingly also provides links to electronic texts, freeing the user from the necessity of physically locating material on the library’s shelves.

(b) It functions as a ‘portal’ in a way not dissimilar to a library homepage, providing links to non-bibliographical data, either relating to users themselves, i.e., information about overdue books, fines, etc. or other library information like opening hours, etc. In principle, this portal function could be extended indefinitely to connect to a variety of data considered to be of interest to library users; and

(c) The OPAC functions as a promotional artifact, advertising the presence of the library and the services it can provide and at the same time making a statement of authority about communicative links that are supported and facilitated. OPAC potentially has a fourth function as the management of full-text data and management of bibliographic data coverage and the bibliographic functions of OPAC itself become enabled for full-text searching rather than remaining primarily an index. This technology is not widely implemented in current OPAC installations, but it is on the anvil and likely to develop.
Thus, OPAC is a form of catalogue, a computerized catalogues containing records of items in a library or information centre. It is used for storage and retrieval of information as it provide basic search, advanced search, browsing search, Boolean search, search through access points such as author, title, subject, keyword, call number, etc., options. It also provides information on facilities like loan status, location, availability and reservation of document. Basically, the OPAC acts as an information retrieval system. It is not only an information retrieval system but also a module of an integrated library system. Therefore, it has more search capabilities and facilities than the traditional catalogue.

1.4.2 Historical Development of OPAC

Computer applications firstly concentrated on library activities other than the catalogue. They were used in libraries mainly for housekeeping operations like circulation control, acquisitions and serial control. Afterwards began the computerisation of library catalogues and as a result, OPAC came into existence. Much had occurred in OPAC development over the last four decades. Bibliographic records have gone from brief (in some systems) to full, catalogues have been expanded to become catalogue and circulation systems. To facilitate use, ‘user friendly’ interfaces have been built.

Following are some developments in OPAC which have taken place with passage of time:

• Sixties and early seventies

   Earlier some libraries in the sixties used computers for the production of catalogues. Eighty column punched cards were used to print the catalogues on paper. The computer systems of that time were not capable of searching the catalogue online. OPACs made their appearance in the mid-1970s, while the history of library automation can be traced back to 1954; the experiments with online information retrieval began only in the early sixties.

   The concept of MARC (Machine Readable Catalogue) heralded a new era in libraries. MARC stimulated the development of library automation and information networks. The Library of Congress launched MARC-I as an experiment when there was no established bibliographic record in machine-
readable form. There was no consensus as to which access points were required to take full advantage of an automated cataloging system. Four months before the end of the MARC-I project, MARC-II had been initiated after substantial evaluation of the MARC-I format and developed in 1968 as a result of Anglo-American cooperation. The British Library adopted the MARC record format in 1967 and later on it received increasing acceptance all over the world.

**• Mid-seventies**

By the mid-seventies, computers started affecting more library processes, particularly circulation control.

**• Late seventies and early eighties**

Some companies started to develop hardware and software packages or turnkey system for libraries.

The ability to search bibliographic records online came to be referred to as OPAC. The first generation OPACs allowed only direct searching using the actual author or title by matching the exact phrase to the library holding. This meant that they had no ability to browse the catalogue, and a mistake in the search term would leave the user bereft of a correct match. These OPACs had access points similar to those of a traditional card or COM catalogue. Some OPACs were primarily book-finding and locating tools and were fully equipped for known item searching. They were phrase-indexed or pre-coordinate OPACs with access points similar to those of a traditional card or COM catalogue, i.e., author, title (as a phrase), class mark or call number (as a phrase) or possibly subject headings (as a phrase).

**• Mid-eighties to late eighties**

The OPACs became very popular and were rapidly available during 1980s. The first demonstration of OPAC from University of Adelaide held at Biennial Victorian Association for Library Automation (VALA) in 1981 boosted many universities and institutes of technology. By 1985, some public libraries implemented the integrated library management systems like URICA, VTLA, GEAC, DOBIS/LIBIS with OPAC modules.
A large number of suppliers provided integrated systems for library management which included modules for various subsystems such as cataloguing, acquisition, circulation, serial control, interlibrary lending and also OPAC in the mid-eighties. These were second generation OPACs. Some new suppliers like Dynix, came into the field with them based on information retrieval techniques developed by online search services, like Dialog in the 1990s. These OPACs were termed as keyword or postco-ordinate OPACs. The words from titles, subject headings, authors or other names were access points in these types of OPACs and search statements could be combined by linking Boolean operators, user did not require an exact author or title match to find information. These OPACs had an in-built circulation system, which let users know the copy status of documents and allowed them to place reserves or holds on books.

Figure 1.1 - Screenshot of a Dynix menu. First introduced in 1983, Dynix was one of the first and most popular commercial library automation systems ever released, enjoying nearly twenty years of dominance in libraries worldwide.

Keyword search, Boolean search and the increased or decreased of search results were among the features of second generation OPACs. Interfaces were usually in two modes-menu driven and command-driven. This
made flexible interaction between the user and OPAC more flexible. In terms of user assistance, these provided more options including, help access, error messages and suggestive prompts. Ease of use and user friendliness were two major features of this generation of OPACs.

1.4.3 Advantages of Online Public Access Catalogue.

Following are some of the advantages of using an OPAC:

• OPAC offers a greater number of access points for a single record;
• It provides access to a wide coverage of information quickly;
• It provides information which may not be available in the printed form;
• It connects to current information since online databases are updated speedily and more frequently;
• It eliminates need for tedious clerical work of typing and arranging catalogue cards;
• It offers faster search facilities and the capability of Boolean searching.

1.5 Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC)

Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC) is an advanced technological form of Catalogue. It is a library catalogue on the web or internet and is the next generation of OPAC. It utilizes the World Wide Web protocol to deliver a library’s catalogue. It is programmed to facilitate the library user to access OPAC. The concept of OPAC is very well established and practiced successfully in developed countries, like USA and UK. In India, however, some libraries have begun providing OPAC.

According to Harmsen, “Web-OPACs are an advanced generation of traditional OPACs serving as a gateway to the resources not only held by a particular library but also to the holdings of other linked to full-text resources.”
Harrod’s Librarians Glossary and Reference Book defines, Web-OPAC as, ‘a library OPAC made available to users via a Web browser.’

According to ODLIS, ‘an Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC) uses a graphical user interface (GUI) accessible via the world wide web, as opposed to a text-based interface accessible via telnet’.

Thus, Web-OPACs are those OPACs which make the searching of resources of a library possible through the World Wide Web. The major advantage of web-OPACs is that their usage is global, a person can access them anytime and from anywhere in the world. They perform all the functions of OPACs.

1.5.1 Features of Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC).

The important features of Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC) are:

- The GUI is available which is typically thought of as a combination of windows with pull-down or drop down menus, icons and a pointing device such as mouse or trackball to manipulate information;

- The usual features of traditional OPACs such as, storing bibliographical and sometimes full-text databases; providing direct access to a library’s bibliographical database by means of terminal or PC, providing instructional help, display of search results in readily understandable form, sometimes remote access from the library’s location, information about community events, providing links to circulation files, reference help, etc., providing search through a variety of access points such as author, title, keyword, subject, periodical title, series, call number, ISSN, or ISBN, etc.;

- The ability to use hypertext links to facilitate navigation through bibliographic records;

- A move towards emulation of the appearance and search features similar to those found in search engines;

- Linking to full-text when available;
• Ability to help bring a convenience in searching of all electronic information available through one interface e.g., catalogue, CD-ROMs, internet sources, etc.

### Table No. 1.1 Some of the OPAC Links.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. No.</th>
<th>Name of the OPAC’s Link</th>
<th>Link</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>The Library of Congress Online Catalog:</td>
<td><a href="http://lcweb.loc.gov/catalog/">http://lcweb.loc.gov/catalog/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>HYTELNET on the World Wide Web</td>
<td><a href="http://lights.ca/hytelnet/search.html">http://lights.ca/hytelnet/search.html</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>WebCATS- gives Geographical index, Vendor index and library-type index:</td>
<td><a href="http://www.librarytechnology.org/libwebcats/">http://www.librarytechnology.org/libwebcats/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Z39.50 Gateway</td>
<td><a href="http://www.loc.gov/z3950/">http://www.loc.gov/z3950/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>OCLC’s World Cat</td>
<td><a href="https://www.worldcat.org/">https://www.worldcat.org/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>INFLIBNET IndCat: Online Union Catalogue of Indian Universities.</td>
<td><a href="http://indcat.inflibnet.ac.in/">http://indcat.inflibnet.ac.in/</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 1.6 SOME UNION CATALOGUES IN INDIA AND ABROAD

#### 1.6.1 INFLIBNET IndCat: Online Union Catalogue of Indian Universities:-

The University Grants Commission (UGC) in India, with the help of the Information and Library Network (INFLIBNET), is playing an important
role by providing funds and technical support for implementation of library management systems (LMSs), including OPACs, in university libraries. NIC is also playing important role by supplying free software to their institutions, after open source technologies many LMS are came up, most of the library are implementing the open source LMS. The functions of the OPACs various from application to application, nowadays people are using different LMS in Indian academic libraries and Research Libraries.

INFLIBNET IndCat: Online Union Catalogue of Indian Universities is unified Online Library Catalogues of books, theses and journals available in major university libraries in India. The union database contains bibliographic description, location and holdings information for books, journals and theses in all subject areas available in more than 157 university libraries across the country. A Web-based interface is designed to provide easy access to the merged catalogues. The IndCat is a major source of bibliographic information that can be used for inter-library loan, collections development as well as for copy cataloguing and retro-conversion of bibliographic records. The IndCat consists three components available in open access to users and librarians.

![Figure 1.2 - Screen Shot of INFLIBNET IndCat: Online Union Catalogue of Indian Universities](image.png)
1.6.2 OCLC’s World Cat:-

WorldCat is a union catalog that itemizes the collections of 72,000 libraries in 170 countries and territories which participate in the Online Computer Library Center (OCLC) global cooperative. It is built and maintained collectively by the participating libraries.

History

The catalog was created in 1971. It contains more than 300 million records, representing over 2 billion physical and digital assets in more than 470 languages, as of January 2014. It is the world's largest bibliographic database. OCLC makes WorldCat itself available free to libraries, but the catalog is the foundation for other fee-based OCLC services (such as resource sharing and collection management). WorldCat was founded by Fred Kilgour in 1967.

In 2003, OCLC began the "Open WorldCat" pilot program, making abbreviated records from a subset of WorldCat available to partner web sites and booksellers, to increase the accessibility of its member libraries' collections. In 2006, it became possible to search WorldCat directly at its website. In 2007, WorldCat Identities began providing pages for 20 million "identities", predominantly authors and persons who are the subjects of published titles.

Model

WorldCat operates on a batch processing model rather than a real-time model. That is, WorldCat records are synchronized at intermittent intervals with the underlying library catalogs instead of real-time or every day. WorldCat shows that a particular item is owned by a particular library, but does not provide that library's call number. It also does not indicate if the item is currently borrowed, lost, undergoing restoration or repair, or moved to storage not directly accessible to patrons (thereby forcing them to submit a retrieval request and wait). WorldCat also does not show if a library owns multiple copies of a particular title.

As an alternative, WorldCat allows participating institutions to add direct links from WorldCat to their own catalog entries for a particular item, which enables the user to determine its real-time status. However, this still requires users to open multiple Web pages, each pointing to a different OPAC with its own distinctive user
interface design (which places item status in a different portion of the Web browser display), until they can locate a catalog entry that shows the item is currently available at a particular library.

Figure 1.3 - Screen Shot of OCLC’s World Cat

1.7 TITLE OF THE RESEARCH

The present study “Use of Online Public Access Catalogue of Selected University Libraries of Maharashtra: A Study”.

1.8 EXPLANATION OF THE CONCEPTS

1.8.1 Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC)

An online public access catalog (often abbreviated as OPAC or simply library catalog) is an online database of materials held by a library or group of libraries. Users search a library catalog principally to locate books and other material available at a library.
1.8.2 University Library

A University Library is a library that is attached to a higher education institution which serves two complementary purposes to support the school's curriculum, and to support the research of the university faculty and students. It is unknown how many academic libraries there are internationally. An academic and research portal maintained by UNESCO links to 3,785 libraries. According to the National Center for Education Statistics there are an estimated 3,700 academic libraries in the United States. The support of teaching and learning requires material for class readings and for student papers. In the past, the material for class readings, intended to supplement lectures as prescribed by the instructor, has been called reserves. In the period before electronic resources became available, the reserves were supplied as actual books or as photocopies of appropriate journal articles.

University libraries must determine a focus for collection development since comprehensive collections are not feasible. Librarians do this by identifying the needs of the faculty and student body, as well as the mission and academic programs of the college or university. When there are particular areas of specialization in academic libraries these are often referred to as niche collections. These collections are often the basis of a special collection department and may include original papers, artwork, and artifacts written or created by a single author or about a specific subject.

1.8.3 Maharashtra

Maharashtra is a state in the western region of India. It is the second most populous state after Uttar Pradesh and third largest state by area in India. Maharashtra is the wealthiest state in India, contributing 15% of the country's industrial output and 13.3% of its GDP (2006–2007 figures).

Maharashtra is bordered by the Arabian Sea to the west, Gujarat and the Union territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli to the northwest, Madhya Pradesh to the north and northeast, Chhattisgarh to the east, Karnataka to the south, Andhra Pradesh to the southeast and Goa to the southwest. The state covers an area of 307,713 km² (118,809 sq mi) or 9.84% of the total geographical area of India. Mumbai, the capital city of the state, is India's largest city and the financial capital of the nation. Maharashtra is the world's second most populous first-level administrative country
sub-division. Were it a nation in its own right, Maharashtra would be the world's twelfth most populous country ahead of Philippines.

1.9 OBJECTIVES

The study was carried out with the following Aims & Objectives

1. To find out the user’s opinion regarding hit terms found through the Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC).
2. To know the user’s opinion about updating of information.
3. To ascertain the user’s opinion about the Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC).
4. To know whether surveyed libraries provide special training to their users for appropriate use of Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC).

1.10 HYPOTHESES

The following Hypotheses were taken up for the present study

1. Library users are aware about the Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC).
2. Library users are utilizing the available Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC) Service.
3. When the user’s initial approach fails, system do not assist by providing alternative search strategy.
4. Users are satisfied with the Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC).

1.11 SCOPE & LIMITATIONS

SCOPE

The study was confined to the Library Professionals, Faculty Members, Research Scholars and Post Graduate Students Members of selected University Libraries from Maharashtra State. Only 05 % of each category of users will be taken from the selected 04 Universities.
The main Aim of the study was to assess the purpose, knowledge and frequency of using Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC) and problems found by users.

Table No. 1.2 - University Libraries under Study

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. No.</th>
<th>Name of the University</th>
<th>Name of the University Library</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad.</td>
<td>Knowledge Resource Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>North Maharashtra University, Jalgaon.</td>
<td>Central Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Swami Ramanand Teerth Marathwada University, Nanded.</td>
<td>Central Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune.</td>
<td>Jaykar Library</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1.12 RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Following Research Methodology was used in the present study:

The tools of investigation utilize in the present study, was Survey Method which included a Structured Questionnaire, which was meticulously prepared to gather information on various parameters along with secondary data and in-depth discussions with respondents.

1.13 DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS

The questionnaire was administer to stratified sample for which users were selected randomly and from among different categories, viz., Library Professionals, Faculty Members, Research Scholars and Postgraduate Students utilizing the University Library services of the selected University Libraries from Maharashtra State.
Other tools which included observation and informal interview methods which was adopted as and when required for data collection. The data collected was analyzed with the help of Statistical Software of which the percentage and averages was employed as statistical tools to determine the resultants.

1.14 SAMPLE

Sampling

Teaching faculty members, research scholars and postgraduate students of the Selected Universities were covered for the present research study. “Stratified random sampling technique” was applied and a representative sample of 600 users was taken for the selected four universities. The sample has been taken on the basis of a table given by Krejcie & Morgan for determining sample size. There were 12075 users in all the Four University Libraries and the investigator used “proportionate stratified random sampling” taking approximately 05 per cent of each category of users from each university, as the size of sample is approximately five percent of the universe of the study.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. No.</th>
<th>University</th>
<th>Faculty/ Teaching</th>
<th>Research Scholars</th>
<th>Post Graduates</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<td>02</td>
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<td>S. R. T. M. U., Nanded</td>
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<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>600</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1.15 MAJOR FINDINGS & CONCLUSION

The Finding of the study are as follows

1. Out of Total 477 Respondents, 251 (52.62%) are Male & 226 (47.37%) are Female this is slight variation seen in the ratio.

2. It is observed that 317 (66.45%) respondents belong to the age group below 25 years. It is clear & evident that majority of users belong to the age group below 25 years.

3. It was found from Table No. 4.5, in the present study that 460 (96.41%) users are aware of OPAC facility in all the four University Libraries. Which Indicates that “Library users are aware about the Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC)” Hypotheses- 1 is proved.

4. From Table No. 4.6, Majority of the respondents are found to be using OPAC Very Frequently & Frequently. Out of all the Four University Libraries Only SRTMUN, Nanded shows slightly lower results for using OPAC very frequently and a Large Number of Users are using OPAC. Which Indicates that “Library users are utilizing the available Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC) Service” Hypotheses- 2 is proved.

5. From the study we can conclude that the major reasons for not using OPAC is Lack of Computer Knowledge & Lack of Online Help.

6. From Table No 4.8, It reveals that Card Catalogue is used to Search the Document’s by users who never use OPAC.

7. The study reveals from Table No. 4.10 that Simple Search is used by Maximum Number of Respondents i.e. 376 (83.37%) out of 451 (100%) Hence If the Initial Approach Fails, the System does not assist by Providing Alternative Search Strategy. Which Indicates that “When the
user’s initial approach fails, system do not assist by providing alternative search strategy” Hypotheses- 3 is proved.

8. It is observed from the Table No. 4.11 that Title & Author are most used Access Point.

9. It can be seen from Table No. 4.12 that Books and Reference Books are searched extensively in all the Four Libraries.

10. From the Table 4.13 it is observed that 411 (91.14%) out of 451 (100) no of users are able to locate the documents of their interest from their library OPAC.

11. It is observed from Table No. 4.13.1 that Rate of Success of Locating Documents of Interest from OPAC is 50%.

12. It is seen from Table No.4.14, 253 (56.01%) out of 451 (100) respondents learned how to Use OPAC from Library Course or Orientation

13. Out 451 Respondents 386 (85.58%) Users are Awareness of User Orientation Programme using OPAC and the percentage User Orientation Programme is slightly higher in SRTMU Nanded.

14. It is clear from the Table 4.15.1 that those who attend the orientation programme in majority of cases opines that it helps in searching OPAC. Almost this kind of observation is found in all the Four University Libraries.

15. The Table No. 4.16, illustrates that 59 (13.08%) users say that library staff is always available near OPAC, 112 (24.83%) users say library staff usually available, 145 (32.15%) say library staff occasionally available, 38 (8.42%) say library staff rarely available and 97 (21.50%) say library staff
never available near OPAC. It is clear from the data that a large, group of
users say that library staff is occasionally & usually available near OPAC.

16. From the Survey it can be inferred that a large portion of users says that
the number of available Computer is Adequate.

17. The Table No. 4.18 it reveals the 50(11.08%) out of 451 users opine very
fast, 99 (21.95%) opine fast speed of OPAC, 136 (30.15%) opine moderately fast speed of OPAC, 42 (9.31%) opine slow speed & 42
(9.31%) opine very slow search speed of OPAC computer.

18. From Table No. 4.19, we can conclude that OPAC was easier than
expected; it is comfortable with Simple and Quick Search. The repos dents
were comfortable while using OPAC.

19. From the Survey It is clear from Table No. 4.20, that the satisfaction level
of OPAC among the users is more in all the Four University Libraries.

Which Indicates that “Users are satisfied with the Online Public
Access Catalogue (OPAC)” Hypotheses- 4 is proved.

20. From Table No. 4.21, Highest Number of respondents feels that when a
full, detailed OPAC record for a Book was displayed, easy to read that
Display to find specific Information about the Book(s) was the Post Search
Perception about Library OPAC

21. It is clear from the data furnished in the Table No. 4.22, that the users from
all the Four University Library are influenced by the impact of OPAC.

22. Table 4.23, analyses the association between gender and frequency of use
of OPAC. The test results reveal that the significance of Chi-square value
is 0.006 (<0.05). Hence, the gender and frequency of use of OPAC are
associated. It is observed from the table that overall, majority of users
belonging to both genders use OPAC almost regularly, while male users use slightly very frequently of OPAC facility. Thus, the gender of user affects the frequency of use of OPAC.

1.16 CONCEPTUS (CHAPTERIZATION)

The present study is organized into following chapters:

Chapter -1 Introduction

The chapter deals with the emergence of concept, historical development followed by an account of the proposed research, its objectives, hypothesis & methodology.

Chapter -2 Review of Literature

This chapter will provide review of literature

Chapter -3 University Library OPAC: An Overview

This Chapter deals with History of Cataloguing and details of OPAC and Librarian Questionnaire Analysis

Chapter -4 Data Analysis & Interpretation

In this chapter data analyzed with various parameters are presented in textual and diagrammatic form.

Chapter -5 Conclusion & Suggestions

This chapter presents a brief description of the results of the study, significant suggestions and Areas for further study.

Bibliography

The thesis ends with bibliographical reference.

The Chapter is followed by Chapter No. 02 – Review of Related Literature
REFERENCES:


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