CHAPTER- I
INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction:

People all over the world have acknowledged education as an essential instrument for human development and various means (such as schools and seminars) to extend the benefits of education to all. Of the entire means library provides a key source of information to its citizens library can be described as a collection of books and their forms of records housed, organized, and interpreted to meet broad and varying needs of people such as information, knowledge, recreation and esthetic-values. The libraries are the social institutions to mould the human resources and help to make it more productive and valuable by their informational, educational, cultural and recreational services.

Among different types of libraries, public libraries are very popular with people. Public libraries are considered as universities of self education. The libraries have to perform an important role in the development of knowledge society. A public library has a very significant function to transmit knowledge in all the fields of learning because it is fundamentally linked up with the social welfare of its people. Thus, public library becomes an inseparable link with the social progress. Public libraries are meant to meet the needs of the general public in various aspects of life. Intellectual society can solve its own problems by using a public library to their functions.

UNESCO considers that –“A public library is a living force of people’s education and terms it as people’s university”. UNESCO Public Library Manifesto (1994) has made it clear that the public library is a local gateway to the world of knowledge, information and culture the manifesto also considers public library as democratic social
institution, which provides equal access to all its citizens. It is an organization which provides access to knowledge, information, and works of imagination through a range of resources, services and equally, available to all members of the community regardless of race, nationality, age, gender, religion, language, disability, economics, and employments status, and educational attainments (IFLA/UNESCO, 2001).

IFLA defines (1985) public library as an institution established and financed by a local or in some cases, central government body or by some other organization authorized to act on its belief available without bias or discrimination to all who wish to use it, Ranganathan defines Public library as:

1. Any library established or maintained by a local library authority, including travelling library and services stations.

2. Any libraries open to the public free of charge and maintained and managed by government or by any local body.

3. An aide library receiving, grant in aid, from the government according to the prescribed rules.

4. Any other library notified by the Government as public library for the purpose of the Act (Ranganathan and Neelmeghaan, 1972).

1.2 Need for the study

Public libraries are products of culture and essentially a response to information needs of a society. As such a public library is expected to serve different kinds of people men, women, children, blind, prisoners etc without any bar on gender, race, caste, creed etc with various services. Public libraries have been considered over centuries as
important entities for community development and empowerment process and trusted information resources at the heart of communities. However, in the beginning, many early public libraries had denied women and children right to use libraries. Women in some places were not allowed inside libraries at all. In the contemporary public library environment, the situation has changed. Today in the contemporary public library environment women have become the primary focus of providing any services, programs or activities and as such public libraries are designing programs to attract women. This is because women have always been enthusiastic and devoted users of public libraries.

As Buschman(2003) points out, determining how libraries help adults using the library are either using it to help them find a job or using it to read the newspaper. For the most part, men read the newspaper in the library, and seemed to have the leisure time to spend hours in the library for reading the newspaper or magazines or books. Older women were not seen doing these things, although some young women would. But the character of library use is changing rapidly.

Many libraries in the western countries have indeed developed programming for women and many more have planned as part of their regular offering of programs. Women’s programming has been strengthened by a greater visibility of the diverse needs and interests of women by providing for public library collection. Women themselves have been avid users of public libraries and often the primary audience for library programs. Libraries empower women. Libraries may partner to expand awareness and treatment of health issues. Libraries help bridge the education gap. Local women may use the library which can serves as a space for learning, discussion, and knowledge. Library provides information on a wide range of topics and opinion for patrons to seek and use as
they choose. New frontiers of technologies and ever changing information environment have produced endless potential for those who seek information.

Experience and anecdotal evidence suggest that men and women use—or do not use—public library in different ways and amounts (Applegate 2000). Several major studies of library users, the general public including non-library users, do not report gender difference (D’Ella and Rodger, 1994; Walzer, Scott and Sutton, 2001). The study is undertaken to focus on the empirical role of public library in society in general and among women in particular. It will be important for public library to discover their role in educating women about library use, particularly electronic resources and how to effectively locate and evaluate information from other resources so that libraries can remain a vital part of lifelong learning.

However there is a feeling among cross section of professionals that women—a major component of society are going away from public libraries. Padmamma and Walmiki (2012) examined the present situation of public libraries in the city of Shimoga in the Karnataka. The study revealed that less number of women users visit the City Central Library daily, and they consult variety of information sources to fulfill different information needs, Parvathamma and Reddy (2009) surveyed the use of information resources and services in the public libraries of Bidar district, which shows that a majority of the users were men between the age group of 11-30 years and they included all categories of users. They spent less than one hour in the library inconvenient timing was the main reason for not visiting the library.
Khaiser and Rajasekhara’s (2003) study carried out in two branches of public library of Mysore city find out the reasons for reading books and the electronic media have influenced reading habits of people has enabled us to reveal some interesting findings given in results and discussion. Chandrasekhara, and Pradeep (2012) argued to extend the services not only to earnest seekers of knowledge but also to those who are seeking relaxation and recreation. In this respect the city central library is doing lot of work in the maximum use of its. Kala (2010) seeks to explore the role of public libraries in Bangalore using structured questionnaire with an objective to study the users’ perception towards public libraries in Bangalore. These results give an impression that women are consistently ignored by the library authorities in the Karnataka state which has well structured public library system. Hence it is felt that a study needs to be extensively carried out on urban women in city central library environment.

As per provisional report of Census India, (15/04/17) population of Bijapur (15/04/2017) in 2011 was 3, 27,427 male and female were 1, 65,177 and 1, 62,250 respectively. Total literacy rate was 73.42 (2, 39,631) which was less than the state literacy rate (75.36) and the literacy rate among men was 77.89 (128615) and among women it was 68.85 (111016) which is slightly higher than the state literacy rate (68.1) among women. The City Central Library Bijapur (now Vijayapura) established in 1981 has 14 branch libraries and 1 children library located at different parts of the city. At present the library has a registered membership of 3324 women that accounts for 2.04% of the population. Hence the present study has been undertaken.
1.3. Statements of the problem:

“Use and non use of City Central Library by women in Digital Environment: A case study of City Central Library Bijapur.”

1.4 Objectives of the study

Primary objective of the study is to examine the use and non use of city central library in digital environment. Specifically the objectives of the research investigation are:

1. To identify the extent of awareness and non awareness of the resources, facilities and services offered City Central library. Bijapur.

2 To investigate the extent of the usage of the resources, facilities and services offered City Central library, Bijapur.

3. To determine purpose of visit to CCL, Bijapur.

4. To identify the reasons for non usage of resources, facilities and services offered in City Central library, Bijapur.

5. To examine the usefulness of City Central library, Bijapur.

6. To investigate the extent of availability of information resources required by women.

7. To study the user perceptions to improve the services of City Central library, Bijapur.

8. To provide suggestions for the improvement of City Central library, Bijapur.
1.5 Hypotheses of the study

Based on the objectives of the study the following hypotheses were formulated.

1. Gender has no bearing on the use of City Central Library and its branch libraries.
2. Personal attributes of women have no bearing on the awareness and use of City Central Library and its branch libraries.
3. Availability of leisure time has no bearing on their use of City Central Library and its branch libraries.
4. Distance between home and library has no bearing on their use of City Central Library and its branch libraries.
5. Reading habits of women have no bearing on the use of City Central Library and its branch libraries.
6. Information needs of women have no bearing on their use of City Central Library and its branch libraries.
7. Use of Internet and e-media by women has no bearing on their use of City Central Library and its branch libraries.
8. Use of circulating libraries among women has no bearing on their use of City Central Library and its branch libraries.
9. Gender of children has no bearing on the awareness and use of City Central Library and its branch libraries.

1.6 Methodology

As the title of the study indicates, the study is basically a case method of research. The study has been carried out in four parts viz.
a. Use of CCL and its branch libraries by adult users- Survey method of research using structured questionnaire has been used.

b. Use and non-use of CCL and its branch libraries by women: Survey method of research using structured questionnaire has been used.

c. Use and non-use of branch libraries by children: Survey method of research using structured questionnaire has been used.

d. Opinion on library use by women of repute: Interview method of research has been adopted.

In addition to this personal visits were made and also method of observation was adopted to study the problem.

1.7: Study population

Since the study has been carried out in four parts, different study populations have been considered for the study and different sampling techniques were used to choose the study population as indicated below.

Table: 1.1. Characteristics of Study Population

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Study</th>
<th>Study population</th>
<th>Sampling technique</th>
<th>Sample size</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Use of CCL and its branch libraries by adult users</td>
<td>Adult visitors at the time of survey in 13 branch libraries and CCLV</td>
<td>Census</td>
<td>360 male and 61-female users</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Use and non-use of CCL and its branch libraries by women</td>
<td>Women of Vijayapura city (then known as Bijapur). As per provisional report of Census of India, female population was 1, 65,122 of</td>
<td>Multi-strata random sampling</td>
<td>1132 women from 34 wards</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
which 77.51% were literate.

| 3 | Use and non-use of branch libraries by children | a. Children who were actually using the 13 branch libraries at the time of survey  
   b. Children who were playing or found outside the 13 branch libraries at the time of survey | 69 boys & 14 girls  
   194 boys & 77 girls |
| 4 | Opinion on library use by women of repute | Educationists, politicians, administrators, businesswomen, professionals and opinion leaders | Purposive sampling | 47 women |

1.8 Data collection tools:

There are various data collection tools like schedules, observation, questionnaire etc. Structured questionnaires along with structured interview schedule were used as primary data collection tools. However, published primary/secondary sources of information like books, annual reports, websites and various library records were also used to collect the information required.

1.8.1 Development of the questionnaire and interview schedule:

Three different questionnaires were designed for the purpose.

I. A questionnaire was designed in English language to elicit data from the actual users of City Central Library and its branches. The questionnaire was divided into 2 parts and 8 questions were asked. Variables like gender, educational qualification and occupation were used as independent variables. Each of the questions had alternatives with many of the questions needing a specific response while remaining few was of multiple types of responses. Almost all the questions were
structured, barring a few that are of the open type. Likert scale has also been used in few questions to measure the views and preferences of users, including importance of library (Annexure 1).

II. Another questionnaire was designed in Kannada language to elicit data from women of Vijayapura city to elicit data on the use and non use of resources, services and facilities of CCL and its branch libraries. The questionnaire was divided into 3 parts and 87 questions were asked. Variables like age, educational qualification, social category and occupation were used as independent variables. Each of the questions had alternatives with many of the questions needing a specific response while remaining few was of multiple types of responses. Almost all the questions were structured, barring a few that are of the open type. Five point Likert scale has also been used in few questions to measure the effectiveness of library resources services. (Annexure 2).

III. A third questionnaire was designed in English language to elicit data from the children of Vijayapura city to elicit data on the use and non use of resources, services and facilities of branch libraries of CCL, Vijayapura. The questionnaire was divided into 2 parts and 13 questions were asked. Variables like age, nature of schooling, educational qualification of their parents, social clean were used as independent variables. Each of the questions had alternatives with many of the questions needing a specific response while remaining few was of multiple types of responses. Almost all the questions were structured, barring a few that are of the open type. Five point Likert scale has also been used in few questions to measure the views and opinion of library (Annexure 3).
IV. An interview schedule was designed to elicit opinions from the women of repute in the city. Many of the questions were open ended. In all there were 7 questions (Annexure 4).

1.9 Pilot Survey

A. Use of CCL and its branch libraries by adult users: To test the relevance of questionnaire a small representative group of adult users who were actually using the CCL and its branches were considered for pilot survey.

B. Use and non-use of CCL and its branch libraries by women: To test relevance of questions in the questionnaire, a representative group of women from all types of users within the proximity of Ayodhya Nagar (Literacy rate: 100%) of Vijayapura city were considered for pilot survey and draft questionnaire was handed over to them.

C. Use and non-use of branch libraries by children: To test the relevance of questionnaire a small representative group of children including actual users and non-users of branch libraries were considered for pilot survey.

The draft questionnaire was handed over to them. After receiving the questionnaire, duly filled from them, each of the questionnaire was examined to identify the possible problems in answering the questions. Suitable solutions were worked out and accordingly modifications were made. And the final questionnaires were prepared.

D. Two academicians and a business woman were interviewed to test the relevance of interview schedule. Each of the questionnaires was examined to identify the possible problems in answering the questions. Suitable solutions were worked out
and accordingly modifications were made. And the final interview schedule was prepared.

1.10 Final survey:

Once the final questionnaire and interview schedules were ready for distribution, the final survey was conducted for six months from January 2016 to July 2016. Interviews were held between March and May. The survey and interview were conducted in different colonies of 34 wards and 14 branch libraries of in Vijaypura. Personal visits were made to the houses and branch libraries including CCL to collect the data as indicated below

Table 1.2: Characteristics of Category Users

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Users</th>
<th>Selected</th>
<th>Responded (Percentage)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adult users (Actual users)</td>
<td>421</td>
<td>421 (100%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children (Actual users)</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>83 (100%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children (Non users)</td>
<td>271</td>
<td>271 (100%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women (users and non-users)</td>
<td>1240</td>
<td>1132 (91.29%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women of repute</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>47 (78.33%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1.11 Statistical testing

Chi-square test was adopted to validate the data analysis for result and test of independence is applied to test whether or not two attributes are connected. On the basis of contingency table the test for independence of two variables is carried by computing $X^2$. The formula used computation of chi-square is as follows:
\[ \chi = \sum \frac{(f_o - f_e)^2}{f_e} \]

Where, \(f_o\) = the observed frequency

\(f_e\) = the expected frequency in terms of the null hypothesis.

If the actual P value is smaller than the threshold P value (0.05), we say that the difference is statistically significant and that the results of the study do not support the null hypothesis and thus call for rejection of null hypothesis. If the P value is greater than the threshold P value (0.05), then the difference value is statistically non significant and the result support the null hypothesis and thus call for acceptance of null hypothesis

**1.12 Scope and Limitation of the study**

The present study is mainly based on the primary data collected from the sample respondents and the following limitations have been identified.

i. The present study is geographically extended to Vijayapura city.

ii. The study is limited to City Central Library and its branch libraries excluding Dargah branch library and Children library.

iii. The limitation of the methodologies adopted also applies to the study.

**1.13 Operational Definitions**

**A. Woman:** An adult female person above the age of 18 years.

**B. Library Use:** The action of using the resources, facilities and services used for a purpose.

**C. Nonuse:** Failure to use or condition of not being used.
D. City central library: A public library established under the provisions of KPL Act 1965 in an urban area having a population of more than one lakh by the Government of Karnataka. It also includes all the branch libraries established in the geographical viscosity.

E. Digital environment: It is a social setting produced through computer technology associated with Internet wherein the information is available in digital format.

F. BijapurCity: Presently known as Vijayapura the headquarters of Vijayapura district (Formerly Bijapur) of Karnataka state.

G. Public library

   a. A library established or maintained by a Local Library Authority, including the branches and delivery stations of such library;

   b. A library established or maintained by the State Government and declared open to the public;

   c. A library established or maintained by any local authority and declared open to the public;

   d. A library declared to be eligible for aid and receiving aid from the State Government; and includes, any other library notified by the State Government as a public library for the purposes of this Act;
1.14. Chapterization:

The thesis is divided into the following chapters

Chapter –I: Introduction

This chapter introduces the concepts of the study. Need for the study is justified. Further statement of the problem, objectives and hypotheses of the study are enumerated. Methodology used, study population chosen, sampling technique used, data collection tools designed for the purpose, pilot survey and final survey conducted, statistical testing adopted for the study, scope and limitation of the study are also discussed. Finally operational definitions and Chapterization of the study are also enumerated.

Chapter –II: Review of literature

This chapter reviews the related literature on the topic

Chapter –III: City Central Library, Vijayapura- An overview

In this chapter, the history and development of City central Library and its branch libraries has been discussed with special reference to its growth in terms of resources, facilities and services offered.

Chapter- IV. Data analysis and Interpretation of Data

The data is analyzed and interpreted in this chapter in four sections namely

a). Use of City Central Library Vijayapura and Its Branch Libraries by its adults users.

b). Use and non use of branch Libraries of CCL.
c). Use and non use of CCL/ Branch Libraries by women.


Chapter -V Summary of findings, Suggestions and Conclusions

Brief summary of the findings and suggestions based on the results of the survey have been provided in this chapter. Areas of further research have also been identified.

Bibliography:

A bibliography arranged alphabetically by author(s) name is provided in APA format.

Appendices:

Appendix-I: Notification of revenue Secretariat, Government of Karnataka

Appendix-II: Questionnaires used to elicit data from actual adult users, children (actual and non-user) and women (users and non-users) and interview schedule used to interview women of repute have been appended.

Appendix-III: Two research publications have also been appended at the end.
References


http://www.google.co.in/webhp?sourceid=chrome-instaut1&ion=espu=2&ie=UTF-8#9definition%20of%20uses.


