ABSTRACT

The study covers extensive survey of the literature. The availability of GL collections and the method of organizations in the libraries of the Recognised Research Centres of Visvesvaraya Technological University have been analysed on the basis of the responses of the librarians and the personal observation of the situation in the libraries. Attempt is made to capture the responses of the users on the use pattern of GL in these recognized research centres. Here, the users constitute the faculty members engaged in supervising the research programmes and the research scholars who have registered with VTU for doctoral research. The extent of the use of the 6 types of conventional form of GL : theses, dissertations, institutional publications, trade literature, technical reports and proceedings of conferences, seminars and workshops has been studied on the basis of the feedback rendered by the faculty and researchers working in the 65 engineering colleges in Karnataka which are identified for research.

Further, the research systematically covers every aspect involved in building strong need based GL collections useful for research in engineering science and technology. The mode of procurement of GL to the libraries, habits of the faculty in visualizing the recent releases of GL and the trends in exploiting the GL collections available in the local and regional libraries have been depicted with adequate data using tables, diagrams and charts. The research suggests for the creation of databases of GL, resource sharing and development of digital repositories of theses and proceedings of conferences and seminars, for which increased demand is noticed from the user community.

The study also captures the training needs of the working librarians for building GL collections, comprehensively and systematically and also to facilitate access to GL in the network environment. The need of orientation and training of the faculty and researchers has also been projected expecting better access and use of GL collections in the Research Centres of the VTU.