Chapter 7

FINDINGS, SUGGESTIONS AND CONCLUSIONS
CHAPTER 7
FINDINGS, SUGGESTIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

7.1 Introduction

In this chapter, an attempt has been made to give important findings of the study on Resources and Services of Engineering College Libraries in Karnataka State (vide chapter-5), and on information generation, communication and use of library by engineering faculty in Karnataka: a study (vide chapter-6).

7.2 Findings of the Study

The findings is given under two sections the first section gives the findings on the Resources and Services of Engineering College Libraries in Karnataka State, while the second section deals with information generation, communication and use of library by engineering faculty in Karnataka: a study.

7.2.1 Engineering College Libraries in Karnataka State: A Profile: Summary of Findings

Based on the results from the analysis of the data gathered the following findings have been made:

1. The majority of engineering colleges established after independence and it reached the highest peak during 2001-2002 and the majority of engineering colleges under study have been established during 1971-1980. The potential users of engineering college library are the faculty, research scholars and students.

2. The most of the engineering colleges/institutions belong to private managements with only four being university/government and nine being aided colleges.
3. Working hours in large number of engineering colleges on weekdays ranges between five to ten hours.

4. All the engineering college libraries are having full time professional librarians with master degree in library and information science.

5. The existing staff is inadequate in most of the colleges under the study.

6. Only 14 colleges under the study are functioning in an independent library building. Rest of the college libraries functioning in a part of main building.

7. It is found from the study that the collections of reading materials are good in many colleges under the study. But the collections of non-book material, electronic sources, AV materials etc, are less in number in all the college libraries under the investigation.

8. Almost all the college libraries under the study are subscribing journals for their users benefits. But the subscription to e-journals is very less in all the colleges.

9. The major source of finance to all the college libraries under the study is their concern management. A few colleges are also getting financial assistance from AICTE and state government.

10. Only 40% of the college libraries are automated their libraries, remaining 60% college libraries are yet to start an automation process.
11. 93% of college libraries under the study are classified and catalogued their collection. Majority of the colleges used DDC and AACR2 for classification and cataloguing purpose.

12. Most of the college libraries under the investigation are providing all kinds of information services to their clients.

13. 60% of libraries are having the membership of national network i.e. DELNET. Few colleges are also getting the membership of library consortia i.e. AICTE-INDEST Consortia.

7.2.2 Information Generation, Communication and use of Library by Engineering Faculty in Karnataka: A Study: Summary of Findings

1. Majority of the respondents belongs to the age group of 22-40 years.

2. 47% of respondents having Master degree in their respective subject areas. Where as 24% of respondents are having Ph.D. degree in their concern subjects.

3. Majority of the respondents are under taken research activities either for Doctoral Research or to carry out projects.

4. It is found from the study that the respondents uses books and monographs ‘thrice a week’ and journals ‘once in fortnight’ followed by news paper, internet etc.,

5. Further it is found that books/monographs are ‘very useful’ and Journals, Internet are ‘useful’ information sources among teaching faculty of engineering college libraries.

6. Majority of the respondents collect the information for the purpose of teaching, to keep up-to-date, to update subject knowledge and
general knowledge, to keep abreast of the developments in their field of specialization and research activities.

7. It is found that, most of the teaching faculties are inspired to generate information while reading a book, followed by sitting alone and thinking within themselves, participation in seminars/conferences.

8. 91% of respondents use Internet as an important source of information, 88% of faculties depends on Institute library resources.

9. It is found that, 36% of teaching faculties given priority for ‘recognition to the work’ as helpful factor for information generation.

10. ‘Educations of dependents’ hampers the 52% of the teaching faculty, 48% of teaching faculty are hampered by ‘frequent journey’. ‘Teaching activity’ affects the 36% of teachers; ‘problems with higher officials’ affects 29% of teachers in generation of information.

11. It is found that Assistant Professors have contributed more for communication of information by publishing articles followed by Professors and Lecturers. Only the Professors and Assistant Professors have showed the interest in writing books.

12. Communication of information by Assistant Professors contribution is more comparing to Professors and Lecturers at National and International conferences/ seminars.
13. Majority of respondents use to publish their research findings through periodicals, conference/seminars proceedings and by way of writing the book.

14. Time barriers and financial problems are the important communication barriers encountered by Professors and Assistant Professors, whereas financial problems, lack of facilities such as computer, internet etc., are important communication barriers encountered by Lecturers for communication of information.

15. Further it is found that, most of the engineering faculty communicates ‘once in a week’ with colleagues on their research programmes and ‘daily’ with colleagues in their institutes.

16. Majority of teaching faculty uses ‘catalogue/OPAC’, ‘consult the librarian/library staff’ to locate the reading materials in the library.

17. It is found that large majority of the respondents such as Professors and Assistant Professors visit their respective libraries ‘once in a week’, Lecturers are using the library ‘thrice a week’.

18. Further it is found that irrespective of the place of reading, Lecturers spend more time in reading documents than Professors and Assistant Professors.

19. The study found that 62% faculty are using reference services, followed by 48% reprographic services, 36% internet service etc.,

7.3 Suggestions

Based on the study and keeping in view of the data analysis and interpretation, the following suggestions are put forward for consideration for
improvement of performance of engineering college libraries and inspire the engineering faculty to involve themselves more in information generation and communication activities.

1. The required professional and semi-professional staff should be recruited so as to provide effective information services to the users community.

2. It is observed that a very few college libraries are functioning in their independent building. It is suggested that the concern authorities should take initiation to construct an independent library building in all the colleges.

3. In many colleges there were no library committees, so it is suggested that the college authorities should constitute library committee, which is headed by principal and librarian as convener or member secretary of the committee to look after the day-to-day library activities.

4. Provision to be made to enhance the qualitative collection of information resources including both print and non print versions keeping in view of the number of student and staff strength and the level of courses offered.

5. Adequate funds to be made available to the libraries so as to allocate higher budgets to procure more number of printed and electronic resources of both books and journals.

6. Generous fund to be made available for the up gradation of technology so as to face the future consequences and provision to be made to use the standard library software which can sustain the possible changes from time to time.
7. More efforts to be made to join the National and International consortia so as to use the e-resources for the benefit of library users.

8. Conduct user education programmes to introduce, familiarize and acquaint different sources of information belongs to different subjects of engineering and technology.

9. Lack of infrastructural facilities is hampering the generation and communication of information by the faculties of the engineering colleges in Karnataka. It is suggested that the concern authorities may provide good infrastructural facilities to the faculty members in order to expect more and more information generated and communicated by the faculty members.

7.4 Conclusions

The information generation and communication is the act or continuous process of producing information. Teachers are the dynamic focal point of all activities pertaining to education. The teachers of technical institutions play a vital role in technical teaching in engineering education. Their role in education is more significant. Teaching is the complex activity involving many variables and teachers have to perform number of responsibilities such as teacher, as engineer, supervising research activities and coordinator.

Information generation and communication is the outcome of interaction between the problems and their solutions. It is solely connected with the intelligence and thinking of the individuals. Hence, the impact of the surroundings play a key role on the individuals. Many social factors, family, age, and sex influence the peoples involved in information generation and communication. The personality characteristics such as intelligence, awareness, flexibility and originality also influence the creativity.
For effective generation and communication of information the engineering college faculties need effective information services. While disseminating the information services to the user community the engineering college libraries are able to fulfill its aims and objective with regards to the promoting of advanced learning and research. Extending the active information services by the engineering college libraries to the user community is a very fundamental factor in attaining the quality in engineering college library service systems. It is an important function of the engineering college libraries are to collect and preserve the information sources and then make the same accessible to the users.

There is an urgent need to compile and develop an Indian Engineering Bibliographical Database (IEBD). This can be compiled collaboratively by several key institutions like, All Indian Council for Technical Education (AICTE), Indian Institute of Technologies (IIT's), National Institute of Technologies (NIT's) etc, and the same is made available on web for the better use of the user community. The AICTE-INDEST consortia has to be strengthen and made available to all the engineering colleges, so that all the faculties of the engineering colleges have easy access to the e-journals, e-resources and e-database etc, effectively. Hence, as a result we can expect the better information generation and communication activities among engineering faculties.

There is an increasing rate of innovation and a rapid development in information technologies, which results a remarkable change in job qualification and substantial transformation of library structure. Today engineering college libraries face an era of turbulent change, the sources of which are varied, with some efforts librarian learnt to cope up with the problems that followed along a reasonable, predictable course. Unless librarian learnt to manage dramatic change, it is not be possible for them to survive in today's competitive and networked environment.
Following conclusions are drawn from this study in relation with the framed hypotheses:

1. It is observed that, the frequency of use of information source is not same among Professors, Assistant Professors, and Lecturers. (Hypothesis-1)

2. There is a positive correlation among Professors, Assistant Professors, and Lecturers regarding the usefulness of information sources. (Hypothesis-2)

3. There is a positive reason for information generation among Professors, Assistant Professors, and Lecturers. (Hypothesis-3)

4. With respect to inspiration of information generation cadres are independent attributes. (Hypothesis-4)

5. The engineering faculty unequally uses all the information sources. (Hypothesis-5)

6. All the helpful factors for information generation the cadres are independent attributes. (Hypothesis-6)

7. All the unhelpful factors such as domestic factors, academic and official factors have the different impact on information generation. (Hypothesis-7)

8. There is a positive correlation among the teaching faculties regarding the use of communication pattern. (Hypothesis-8)

9. All the communication barriers encountered by the engineering faculty, the cadres are independent attributes. (Hypothesis-9)
10. There is a positive correlation among engineering faculties regarding the frequency of communication with peoples. (Hypothesis-10)

11. All the access tools used for locating reading materials among engineering faculties are alike. (Hypothesis-11)

12. The frequency of visit to library is unequal among the engineering faculties. (Hypothesis-12)

13. There is an unequal use of library services among the engineering faculties. (Hypothesis-13)