

# **CHAPTER 7: FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION**

---

## **Findings and conclusion:**

After a long and intensive analysis it has been investigated that:

- To fulfill the basic objective of Open Learning System successfully it is essential to provide best services to Open Learners at their own specified and favorable conditions.
- Essentially provide consultancy at their own site without being physically present in the campus.
- Provide all material related to the study at learner's site.
- It is essential to provide all library services at Open Learner's site / place.

While checking/testing the hypothesis, the extensive analysis of data shows that

- it is possible to convert library material (documents) in digital format.
- It is possible to design a library's web page and to store digitized information on it, and
- the web based library's information can effectively and efficiently fulfill the library needs of a open learner.

While an extensive study of library and its services during the course of investigation it is found that all services related to the library fall under these categories:

- Document Delivery Service
- Reference Service

- Reprographic Services
- Documentation Services

It has been analyzed that it is not possible to fulfill our present objective until and unless the information professional changes the current infrastructure of a library to make it practically feasible to provide required services while using emerging tools and techniques for dissemination of information. Some of the proposed changes are:

- Acquisition of Digitised Information
- Computer based Processing of Library Material
- Digitization of existing Library Material
- Installation of ideal Web portal of the institution or library
- Make all Digital Information available through University / Library's Web portal
- Provide Web-based Consultancy related to the courses of study and day-to-day matters (On-line Consultancy).
- Check the feed back of users time to time while using ASP technique.

After an extensive research it has investigated that:

1. Most of the students are enrolled in graduate and postgraduate courses.
2. Students enrolled in certificate and diploma courses are mostly completing in professional subjects and are working at the same time.

3. Collected data shows that there is almost equal participation in the learning process by both of the genders.
4. Most of the open learners are from the age group of 35 years and above, this is also investigated that it is due to the specific promotional policies designed by the government for getting promotion benefits.
5. More than 50 percent of the open learners are learning while working at the same time.
6. Open learners from the states where regional language is the basic medium of communication prefer regional/local language.
7. English as a medium of instruction holds less acceptance but it is on the second place having second /optional priority.
8. Most popular medium of instructions among open universities is print media. Radio, television, audio/video cassettes are on the second place, depends on the facilities provided by the specific university.
9. Medium of interaction (student-teacher) is mainly face-to-face, while telephone is on the second position.
10. Most popular medium of interaction among students is telephone.
11. It is investigated that both the learners and the educators are very much curious to adopt new modes of instructions, i.e. E-Mail.

12. It is identified that the usage of library services among open learners is not satisfactory. The main reason investigated is the distance between the learner and the library.
13. Either the university has no web site or it does not provide enough learner based services. But it is investigated that the open learners are very much interested in the new technologies supporting the web-based services.
14. It is essential to provide full text information access of text books through web. The universities where research program are included, reference books and periodicals are equally important.
15. It is investigated to design a library web page having facilities to provide all interactive library services to support distant open learner not only to those having all capabilities but also to those who are suffering from the disabilities.
16. It is investigated to use latest web designing techniques to safe/barred the information from the hackers/unidentified users.
17. It is suggested that ISDN connectivity is better in terms of quality of services and the low expenditures.
18. It is essential to have a good knowledge of the source material.
19. All digitized information should be stored in a centralized digital master file, which must be saved in duplicate on several media.
20. For better resolution it is suggested to capture the photographs with an appropriate Dots Per Inch(DPI), Binary and Bit Depth values.

21. It is suggested to use flatbed scanner for photographic material or transparencies.
22. It is suggested to use digital camera or overhead scanners for bound volumes or over sized flat materials.
23. While choosing scanning equipment it is suggested to check the actual requirements and match them with the capacity of the scanning equipment.
24. While choosing scanning software it is suggested to select a S/W with an ability to run batch scans.
25. Before starting the digitization work it is suggested that a healthy understanding with the copyright owner must be taken place first.
26. While running a big digitization unit, it is suggested to inspect the scanning and the post scanning process and products after a specified duration periodically.
27. It is suggested that after scanning the original document save it in the appropriate format, it may be PDF, GIF, JPEG or any other.
28. It is suggested to use TIFF format for optimization and manipulation purpose.
29. It is investigated that JPEG is a good file format for web-based services because of its widely supported by web browsers.
30. It is suggested that MrSID should be used to store large format cartographic materials.

31. It is suggested that DjVu is a particularly good file format for storing handwritten letters, manuscripts and early printed materials.
32. It is investigated that the Height: 12.65 in., Width: 8.18 in., Brightness: 125 (approx.), Contrast: 130 (approx.), Image Type: Black and White Photo, File Type: JPEG, Image Quality: 600 dpi must be followed for better and uniform results.
33. Before mounting the scanned textual information on to the web it is suggested to convert it in a searchable database using appropriate metadata.

#### **LIMITATIONS AND FURTHER AREA OF RESEARCH:**

The present study is confined to “An Investigation on Web Enabling of Library Material in Open Learning System”, and thus limit its scope to the library-based services provided by open universities only. And thus it is a suggestion to carry on the similar type of work for all other universities, educational institutions and research organizations, as the information seeking behavior of library users is almost similar. Besides this, with meager infrastructure facilities it was a difficult task of conducting research in such a specialized technical area, which is growing rapidly. Thus it is the responsibility of government and other funding agencies to further support this as an important area of research.