CHAPTER III

Research Methodology

Information communication technology (ICT) has brought tremendous changes in all walks of life. Libraries are not exemptions. The present trend of academic libraries is a transition from the document oriented traditional libraries to electronic/digital libraries with the introduction of ICT. This trend has gained momentum in the new millennium and most of the Academic Libraries are implementing ICT to all the Library operations and services to the maximum extent. Using and implementing information communication technology in the library depends largely on the attitude of library professionals toward the digital age.

There is no doubt about the fact that significant changes have taken place in libraries in the developed world due to the application of information communication technology (ICT) in automated cataloguing, circulation systems, online information retrieval, electronic document delivery, and CD-ROM databases. These changes have impact on the users also. The current clientele of libraries need any information on a click of a mouse either locally or online. The present investigation is to analyse how far ICT has changed the environment of the academic libraries. The topic for research is “Impact of Information Communication Technology on the Administration and Functioning of Libraries Affiliated to Madurai Kamaraj University Area”

3.1. Objectives of the study

The major objective of the study is to analyze the pattern of administration and functioning of libraries after implementation of ICT in colleges affiliated to Madurai
Kamaraj University. The set of objectives to be covered in the present study are as follows:

a) To study the present status of libraries in Madurai Kamaraj University affiliated colleges.

b) To highlight the influence of the ICT on the development of the library system.

c) To analyse the various administrative activities and performance services of the libraries in Madurai Kamaraj University affiliated colleges.

d) To evaluate the performance of college libraries from the view of the authorities as well the users of these libraries by carrying out a user study.

e) To study the role played by the college libraries towards the promotion of user services.
3.2 Need for the study

Change is a permanent phenomenon. It is apply to college libraries. Now days higher education developments to change affect the administration as well as functioning of college libraries. During these changes, the librarians have to equip themselves with necessary expertise and managerial capabilities. Effective organizations only can survive in a general phenomena. Libraries, as service institutions have to keep in pace with the changing environment. Hence there is a need to study the administration and functioning of college libraries in the context of implementation of ICT. This will create a good image for the Librarians lest the librarians will be left behind.

3.3 Hypotheses

The investigator has formulated a set of hypotheses to find out the implications of ICT in the administration and functioning of college libraries in Madurai Kamaraj University affiliated colleges. Hypotheses relate to the library setup and the users.

1. The types of college have significant influence on the library Networking Facility services

2. There is no significant difference in the level of ICT based Library services among the category of college.

3. There is no significant difference in the level of attitude about ICT among the three types of college.

4. There is no significant influence on the methods of ICT training for Staff in various types of the colleges
5. The Type of the college factors have no significant influence on the problems faced applying ICT for libraries

3.4. Methodology

This investigation is a survey type aimed at making the case study which is a very popular form adopted for qualitative analysis and involves a careful and complete observation of a social unit. Since four libraries out of the total of 85 libraries affiliated to Madurai Kamaraj University did not respond to the questionnaire due to administrative constraints, this investigation is a survey.

3.5 Data Collection

For the study, researcher personally distributed questionnaire to the librarian for collection of data, this is found suitable for gathering data from a large number of units / respondents / representing a specific population.

3.6. Statistical tools used in this study

This is a descriptive and inferential study encompassing various modes of analysis such as descriptive analysis, tabular analysis, percentage analysis and statistical analysis. The following are the statistical tools used in the study.

1. Mean percentage score
2. Chi-square test
3. Factor Analysis
4. ANOVA F ratio
3.7 Scope of the study:

The study covers the libraries affiliated colleges of Madurai Kamaraj University jurisdiction. The study intends to highlight the significant areas in library administration and functions of the college libraries.