Chapter VI

FINDINGS, SUGGESTIONS AND CONCLUSION

6.1 Findings

The analysis has been made for 1250 respondents, which included 926 male and 324 Female respondents with regard to gender and 800 PG students, 450 Faculty members with regard to academic status from the 10 Arts and Science colleges. The findings of the present study lead to the following observations.

6.1.1 Awareness of ICT based resources and services

The findings of the category-wise distribution of respondent’s awareness of ICT based resources and services reveal the fact that, 75.88 percent of PG students and 90.00 percent of Faculty members were aware E-journals.

The findings of the gender-wise distribution of respondent’s awareness of ICT based resources and services reveal the fact that, 86.61 percent of male and 85.80 percent of Female respondents were aware E-reference sources and services

6.1.2 Awareness Approach to ICT based resources and services

The findings of the distribution of respondent’s awareness approach to ICT based resources and services reveal the fact that, 44.00 percent of respondents were aware of ICT based resources and services through their colleagues/ class fellows.
6.1.3 Time spends for searching / accessing ICT based resources and services

The findings of the distribution of respondents’ time spend for searching/accessing ICT based resources and services reveal the fact that, 32.56 percent of the respondents spend one hour per day for searching/accessing ICT based resources and services.

The findings of the category-wise distribution of respondents’ time spend for searching/accessing ICT based resources and services reveal the fact that, 31.00 percent of PG students spend more than one hour per day and 35.78 percent of Faculty members spend one hour per day.

The findings of the gender-wise distribution of respondents’ time spend for searching/accessing ICT based resources and services reveal the fact that 34.13 percent of male respondents spend more than one hour per day and 50.31 percent of female respondents spend one hour per day for searching/accessing ICT based resources and services.

6.1.4 Frequency of Accessing ICT based Resources and Services

The findings of the distribution of respondents frequency of accessing ICT based resources and services reveal the fact that, 35.36 percent of them access ICT based resources and services twice a week and 5.44 percent of them access monthly.

The findings of the category wise distribution of respondents frequency of accessing ICT based resources and services reveal the fact that, 46.67 percent of faculty members access daily and 36.75 percent of PG students access ICT based resources and services twice a week.
The findings of the gender wise distribution of respondents frequency of accessing ICT based resources and services reveal the fact that, 37.26 percent of male and 29.94 percent of female respondents access ICT based resources and services twice a week.

6.1.5 Adequacy of using ICT based resources

The findings of the distribution of respondent’s adequacy of using ICT based resources reveal the fact that, 686(54.88%) respondent’s always using ICT based resources, 395(31.60%) respondent’s some time using ICT based resources and only 169(13.52%) respondent’s never using ICT based resources.

The findings of the category wise distribution of respondent’s adequacy of using ICT based resources reveal the fact that, 51.50 percent of PG students and 60.89 percent of the faculty members respondents always using ICT based resources.

The findings of the gender-wise distribution of respondent’s adequacy of using ICT based resources reveal the fact that, 56.59 percent of male and 50.00 percent of female respondent’s always using ICT based resources.

6.1.6 Experience in using ICT based resources and services

The findings of the distribution of respondents’ experience in using ICT based resources and services reveal the fact that, 60.80 percent of respondents have been accessing the ICT based resources and services for more than two years.

The findings of the category-wise distribution of respondents experience in using the ICT based resources and services reveal the fact that, 48.88 percent of PG
students 82.00 percent of Faculty members have been accessing the ICT based resources and services for more than two years.

The findings of the gender-wise distribution of respondents’ experience in using ICT based resources and services reveal the fact that, 67.20 percent of male and 41.36 percent of female respondents have been accessing ICT based resources and services for more than two years.

6.1.7 Expertise level in using Computers

The findings of the distribution of respondent’s expertise level in using computers reveal the fact that the majority of the respondents (82.32%) experts to some extent in using computers.

The findings of the category-wise distribution of respondent’s expertise level in using computers reveal the fact that, 668(83.50%) PG students and 361(80.22%) Faculty members are expert to some extent.

The findings of the gender-wise distribution of respondent’s expertise level in using computers reveal the fact that, 799(86.29%) male and 230(70.99%) female respondents are experts to some extent in using computers.

6.1.8 Purpose of using ICT based resources and services

The findings of the distribution of respondents’ Purpose of using ICT based resources and services reveal the fact that, 32.80 percent of the respondents have used ICT based resources and services for their study purpose.

The findings of the category-wise distribution of respondents’ Purpose of using ICT based resources and services reveal the fact that, 48.62 percent of PG
students have used ICT based resources and services for their study purpose and 28.44 percent of Faculty members have used ICT based resources and services for keeping up-to-date information.

The findings of the gender-wise distribution of respondents’ Purpose of using ICT based resources and services reveal the fact that, 323 (34.88%) male and 87 (26.85%) female respondents have used ICT based resources and services for their study purpose.

6.1.9 Confidence level in using ICT based resources and services

The findings of the distribution of respondents confidence level in using ICT based resources and services reveal the fact that, 46.48 percent of respondents were found to be some what good.

The findings of the category wise distribution of respondents confidence level in using ICT based resources and services reveal the fact that, 46.67 faculty members and 46.38 PG students were found to be some what good.

The findings of the gender wise distribution of respondents confidence level in using ICT based resources and services reveal the fact that, 48.92 percent of male and 39.51 percent of female respondents were found to be some what good.

6.1.10 Frequently used ICT based resources

The findings of the distribution of respondent’s frequently used ICT based resources reveal the fact that, e-journals (28.16%) and e-mail (21.76%) were the most used items of the respondents.
The findings of the category wise distribution of respondents frequently used ICT based resources reveal the fact that, 26.25 percent of PG students and 31.26 percent of Faculty members have used e-journals.

The findings of the gender-wise distribution of respondents frequently used ICT based resources reveal the fact that, 25.16 percent of male and 51.28 percent of female respondents used e-journal and e-mail.

6.1.11 Place of access of ICT based resources and services

The findings of the distribution of respondent’s place of access to ICT based resources and services reveal the fact that, 55.68 percent of respondents access the ICT based resources and services at home.

The findings of the category wise distribution of respondent’s place of access to ICT based resources and services reveal the fact that, 49.75 percent of PG students and 66.22 percent of Faculty members access at home.

The findings of the gender-wise distribution of respondent’s place of access to ICT based resources and services reveal the fact that, 60.91 percent of male and 40.74 percent of female respondents access to ICT based resources and services at home.

6.1.12 Place of Preference for accessing ICT based resources and services

The findings of the distribution of respondents’ Place of preference for accessing the ICT based resources and services reveal the fact that, 35.84 percent of respondents feels that convenient hours was the factors.
The findings of the category-wise distribution of respondents’ Place of preference for accessing ICT based resources and services reveal the fact that, 36.38 percent of PG students and 34.89 percent of Faculty members feels that Convenient Hour was the factor.

The findings of the gender-wise distribution of respondents’ Place of preference for accessing ICT based resources and services reveal the fact that, 37.47 percent of male and 31.17 percent of female respondents feels that convenient hours was the factor.

6.1.13 Views on Search Engines used

The findings of the distribution of respondents’ views on search engines used reveal the fact that, 54.88 percent respondents have used Google Search Engine.

The findings of the category-wise distribution of respondents’ views on search engines used reveal the fact that, 55.25 percent of PG students and 54.22 percent of Faculty members have used Google search engine.

The findings of the gender-wise distribution of respondents’ views on search engines used reveal the fact that, 550(59.40%) male and 136(41.98%) female respondents have used Google Search Engine.

6.1.14 Most commonly used Browser

The findings of the distribution of respondents most commonly used browser reveal the fact that, 934(74.72%) respondents use Internet Explorer;
221 (17.68%) respondents use Opera and 59 (4.72%) respondents use Mozilla Firefox.

The findings of the category-wise distribution of respondents most commonly used browser reveal the fact that, 599 (74.88%) PG students and 335 (74.44%) faculty members use Internet Explorer.

The findings of the gender-wise distribution of respondents most commonly used browser reveal the fact that, 729 (78.73%) male and 205 (63.27%) female respondents use Internet Explorer.

6.1.15 Methods used for reading full text ICT based resources

The findings of the distribution of respondent’s methods used for reading full text ICT based resources reveal the fact that, 602 (48.16%) respondent’s used computer screen for reading full text; 486 (38.88%) respondent’s have used print out; 131 (10.48%) respondent’s have used downloading and 31 (2.48%) respondent’s have used others.

The findings of the category-wise distribution of respondent’s methods used for reading full text ICT resources reveal the fact that, 45.25 percent of PG student’s and 53.33 percent of faculty members respondents have used computer screen for reading full text ICT based resources.

The findings of the gender-wise distribution of respondent’s methods used for reading full text ICT based resources reveal the fact that, 57.73 percent of male respondent’s have used computer screen and 44.75 percent of female respondent’s have used print out method for reading full text ICT based resources.
6.1.16 Format preferred to download articles

The findings of the distribution of respondents format preferred to download articles reveal the fact that, 641(51.28%) respondents preferred PDF format; 83(6.64%) respondents preferred HTML; 461(36.88%) respondents preferred word format and 65(5.20%) respondents preferred other format for downloading articles.

The findings of the category-wise distribution of respondents format preferred to download articles reveal the fact that, 391(48.88%) PG students and 250(55.56%) Faculty members preferred PDF format for downloading articles.

The findings of the gender-wise distribution of respondent’s format preferred to download articles reveal the fact that, 562(60.69%) male respondents and 187(57.72%) female respondent’s preferred PDF format and word format for downloading articles.

6.1.17 Benefit of using ICT based resources and services

The findings of the distribution of respondents benefit of using ICT based resources and services reveal the fact that, 35.04 percent of respondents were of the opinion that it is time saving.

The findings of the category wise distribution of respondents benefit of using ICT based resources and services reveal the fact that, 40.00 percent of faculty members and 32.25 percent of PG students were of the opinion that it is time saving.

The findings of the gender wise distribution of respondents benefit of using ICT based resources and services reveal the fact that, 40.50 percent of male and
33.33 percent of female respondents were of the opinion that it is time saving and it is easy to use.

6.1.18 Usefulness of ICT based resources

The findings of the distribution of respondent’s usefulness of ICT based resources reveal the fact that, 340(27.20%) respondent’s opinion that it is very useful, 846(67.68%) respondents’ opinion that it is useful, 55(4.40%) respondent’s opinion that it is average and 9(0.72%) respondent’s opinion that it is not useful.

The findings of the category-wise distribution of respondent’s usefulness of ICT based resources reveal the fact that, 65.25 percent of PG student’s and 72.00 percent of Faculty member’s felt that it is useful.

The findings of the gender-wise distribution of respondents usefulness of ICT based resources reveal the fact that, 69.65 percent of male and 62.04 percent of female respondents are pointed out ICT based resources are useful.

6.1.19 Satisfaction level of ICT based resources

The findings of the distribution of respondent’s satisfaction level of ICT based resources reveal the fact that, 123 (9.84%) respondents are highly satisfied; 484(38.72%) respondents are satisfied; 580(46.40%) respondents are somewhat satisfied 43(3.44%) respondents are dissatisfied and 20 (1.60%) respondents are highly dissatisfied.

The findings of the category-wise distribution of respondent’s satisfaction level of ICT based resources reveal the fact that, 45.75 percent of PG student’s and 47.55 percent of faculty members are some what satisfied.
The findings of the gender-wise distribution of respondent’s satisfaction level of ICT based resources reveal the fact that, 48.92 percent of male and 42.59 percent of female respondents are somewhat satisfied and satisfied.

6.1.20 Rate of access time when search on ICT based resources

The findings of the distribution of respondent’s rate of access time when search on ICT based resources reveal the fact that, 995(79.60%) respondents feels that some what fast; 107(8.56%) respondent’s feels that it is slow; 39(3.12%) respondents feels that it is fast; 90(7.20%) respondents feels that it is very slow and 19(1.52%) respondents feels that it is very fast of access time when search on ICT based resources.

The findings of the category-wise distribution of respondent’s rate of access time when search on ICT based resources reveal that, 81.50 percent of PG student’s and 76.22 percent of Faculty member’s feels that some what fast.

The findings of the gender-wise distribution of respondent’s rate of access time when search on ICT based resources reveal the fact that, 82.83 percent of male and 70.37 percent of female respondents feels that somewhat fast.

6.1.21 Seeking assistance while accessing ICT based resources and services

The findings of the distribution of respondents seeking assistance while accessing ICT based resources and services reveal the fact that, 42.96 percent of the respondents sought assistance from their friends.

The category wise distribution of respondents seeking assistance while accessing ICT based resources and services reveal the fact that, 33.78 percent of
faculty members and 48.13 percent of PG students sought assistance from their friends.

The gender wise distribution of respondents seeking assistance while accessing ICT based resources and services reveal the fact, 46.443 percent of male and 33.02 percent of female respondents sought assistance from their friends.

6.1.22 Opinion on the Necessity of Training

The findings of the distribution of respondent’s opinion on the necessity of training for users to use ICT based resources and services reveal the fact that, 64.72 percent of respondents agreed to enhance the training for users to promote the utilization of ICT based resources and services.

The findings of the distribution of respondents opinion on the necessity of training for users to use ICT based resources and services reveal the fact that, 70.95 percent of male and 46.91 percent of female respondents agreed to enhance the training for users to promote the utilization of ICT based resources and services.

6.1.23 Method of acquiring IT skills

The findings of the distribution of respondent’s method of acquiring IT skills reveal the fact that, 383 (30.64%) respondents acquired IT skills through their friends and colleagues and 467 (37.36%) respondents acquired IT skills.

The findings of the category wise distribution of respondents method of acquiring IT skills reveal the fact that, 342 (42.75%) PG students acquire IT skills through formal training and 136 (30.225) faculty members acquire IT skills through workshops and seminars.
The findings of the gender wise distribution of respondents method of acquiring IT skills reveal the fact that, 335 (36.18%) male and 132(40.74%) female respondents underwent formal training for acquiring IT skills.

**6.1.24 Hindrances faced while accessing ICT based resources**

The findings of the distribution of respondent’s hindrances faced while accessing ICT based resources reveal the fact that, 468(37.44%) respondent’s faced slow access speed; 180(14.40%) respondent’s faced finding relevant information and 133(10.64%) respondents faced accessing full text.

The findings of the category-wise distribution of respondent’s hindrances faced while accessing ICT based resources reveal the fact that, 35.38 percent of PG students the Research scholars respondent’s and 41.11 percent of Faculty members faced slow access speed.

The findings of the gender-wise distribution of respondent’s hindrances faced while accessing ICT based resources reveal the fact that, 43.95 percent of male and 20.68 percent of female respondents faced slow access speed and read from computer.

**6.1.25 Comparison of ICT based resources and services with print sources**

The findings of the distribution of respondents’ comparison of ICT based resources and services print sources reveal the fact that, 882(70.56%) respondents believed that information locating and identifying is most easier.

The findings of the category-status wise distribution of respondents’ comparison of IC T based resources and services with print sources reveal that,
71.63 percent of PG students and 68.67 percent of Faculty members also believed that information locating and identifying is most easier.

The findings of the gender-wise distribution of respondents’ comparison of ICT based resources and services with print sources reveal the fact that, 715(77.21%) male and 167(51.54%) female respondents opined that information locating and identifying is most easier.

6.2 Suggestions

The researcher has made following suggestion:

1. There is a need to increase information awareness among PG students and faculty members.

2. There is a need to motivate the PG students, Research Scholars and Faculty members of arts and science colleges towards the utilization of ICT based resources and services.

3. There is a need to remove the constraints in the process of information seeking through developing information infrastructure facilities.

4. More facilities should be provided for procuring E-documents, E-books and E-journals of benefit of the PG students, and Faculty members of the institutions.

5. Efforts may be taken for efficient and effective campus network.
6. There is a need to conduct special training programme and workshops for PG students, Research Scholars and Faculty members of the arts and science colleges to enable them to learn how to use information technology, the process of retrieval of information and downloading.

7. Increase in the speed of information exchange is necessary to enable users to conduct more advanced search.

6.3 Area for further research

The findings for the present study give scope for further research.

The present study is on the Use of ICT based resources and services by the PG students and Faculty members of arts and science colleges in Cuddalore district. This type of studies may be conducted in colleges affiliated to other universities where ICT based resources and services are available. This type of study may also be conducted in R&D organizations, professional Institutions like Engineering, Medicine and Special Libraries, like ISRO, DRDO, etc. There is need to conduct a similar study among research scholars and academicians with respect to Electronic resources and use behaviors.
6.4 Conclusion

To sum up, this study throws light on the various aspects of the use and user perception of ICT based resources and services in selected arts and science colleges in Cuddalore district.

The Faculty members utilize ICT based resources and services up to the maximum level. This shows that there is significance in educational status of the respondents and its usage. This also reveals that they are familiar with the ICT based resources and services and thereby their productivity increases within a shortest duration. Google is the most commonly used search engine among the users. The user being friendly is the main factor, which influences the use of search engine. It is also observed from this study that the majority of the respondents are satisfied in using the ICT based resources and services. So the use and user perception of ICT based resources and services at this juncture are up to the mark. Hence, it is concluded from this study that the ICT based resources and services has become an indispensable as well as unavoidable commodity for PG Students, Research scholars and Faculty members.