Chapter V

Summary of Findings and Suggestions
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Summary of Findings and Suggestions

This chapter deals with summary of findings and suggestions for further execution based on the analysis and interpretation made in the analysis chapter. The major findings are listed out below with the broad categories like ICT Skills, Library Services, Resource Sharing and Library networking including attitudes and barriers towards networking.

5.1 ICT INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITIES

- The study found that there is an adequate information and communication infrastructure facilities available in the surveyed government aided and some of the self-financing college libraries whereas the government college libraries are having inadequate ICT infrastructure facilities to deliver information products and services to the user community. It needs that the respective management and authorities are need to concentrate on libraries to develop infrastructure facilities.

The same has been discussed and supported by the earlier studies (Nyamboga, 2002 and Walmiki, 2009) that the university libraries in Karnataka were lagging behind in the application of ICT especially lack of sufficient hardware and software facilities and do not have adequate internet nodes and bandwidth. (Ani, 2005) found that the major obstacles that influence effective adoption of ICT were inadequate funds and the limited electric infrastructure in the university libraries in Nigeria. (Arup, 2010) also found that the college libraries are still in the state of infancy with regard to ICT applications in libraries due to inadequate funds, lack of IT skills among the library professionals etc.,
5.2 ICT SKILLS

- The study found that office automation (25.7%) has been given predominance by all the librarians of surveyed colleges. It is also revealed from the study that 43.8 per cent of librarians from autonomous and 20.4 percent of librarians from non-autonomous institutions are having high level of ICT skills in office automation, library automation and networking, institutional repositories and web-technologies. Least importance has been given to content management system (7.1%), networking technologies (2.9%) and learning management system (4.3%) by the librarians in acquiring skills. The same has been discussed and supported in the earlier study conducted (Babu, 2007) on ICT skills among librarians in engineering educational institutions in Tamil Nadu and (Thomas, 2010 and Hajar, 2010) suggested in their study that the librarians should be technology-savvy and eager to learn adopt new technology developments for the benefit of the users.

5.3 LIBRARY SERVICES

- The study found that all the college libraries affiliated to Bharathidasan University are providing manual lending service to user community and 37.1 per cent of colleges are providing computer based library services in their libraries. It is further found that 43.8 per cent of autonomous institutions are providing OPAC services and 22.2 per cent of non-autonomous institutions are providing computer based reference services. Least importance has been given to computer based document delivery services among the surveyed colleges.

- The study found that 20 per cent of college libraries are providing ICT / Web based services to users. It is further found that no libraries belong to government colleges are provided any ICT based services. It is indicated that 37.5 per cent of government aided colleges are providing CD-ROM database services, newspaper clipping service and internet service respectively in the libraries whereas 18.6 percent of self-finance colleges are providing newspaper clipping service and internet service in the libraries. Least importance has been
given to ask librarian, e-mail / list forum, online database services and web-OPAC services.

- The study revealed that only few libraries affiliated to Bharathidasan University (7.1%) are providing ADD-on services to their user community. It is further found that 18.8 per cent of autonomous colleges are providing mobile-based services to the users whereas 5.6 per cent of non-autonomous institutions are providing library web-blog and portal service in the libraries. It is also revealed that a very few government aided colleges (18.8%) are providing mobile based services and 7 per cent of self-finance colleges are providing library web-blog/portal services in their respective libraries. The study further identified that no government colleges are provided any add-on services to the users. It needs that the libraries of the university area to introduce and familiarize web-based open access tools among the user community in accessing information.

   The same has been discussed and supported for the adoption of library services such as internet services, mobile based services, chat services, cloud computing services, intuitional repository services, digital library services, web-OPAC services for the benefit of user community in the earlier studies by (silva, 2009, Borang, 2008, Tung, 2007 and Srinivasa, 2010)

5.4. **RESOURCE SHARING**

- The study found the general opinion on library networking and resource sharing programme among the surveyed college librarians. It is revealed that 93.8 per cent of librarians from autonomous institutions and 92.6 per cent of librarians from non-autonomous institutions are interested to share their resources under this library network programme.

- The study found the willingness to share library resources under the library network programme. It is revealed that 51.4% of librarians have strongly agreed to share their books under this network programme. It is followed by periodicals (41.4%), magazine and back volumes (34.3%). It is further found that 37.5 per cent of librarians working in autonomous institutions have strongly
agreed to share their theses and dissertations with other libraries under this network, whereas 42.6 percent of librarians from non-autonomous institutions have strongly agreed to share their e-journals with other libraries under this network. It is further found that 45.5 percent of librarians working in government colleges have strongly agreed to share their e-learning resources with other libraries, while 37.5 per cent of librarians working in the government aided colleges have strongly agreed to share their e-books, e-journals and e-theses and dissertations with other libraries under this network programme. Least importance has been given to theses and dissertations by 27.1 per cent of librarians.

- The study found the willingness to share expertise and participation in academic activities it is revealed that 62.5 per cent of librarians working in the autonomous institutions have strongly agreed to participate in library staff training and development activities with other libraries under this network programme, whereas 44.4 percent of librarians working in non-autonomous institutions have strongly agreed to share their expertise with other college libraries.

5.5 LIBRARY NETWORKS

- The study found the reasons for joining the library network programme. It is revealed that 97.1 per cent of librarians have joined the library networks to develop library infrastructure facilities in the libraries. It is followed by the ‘save the time of the users’ and training of users and staff (94.3%)’ to join the network. It is found that among the various reasons to join the library network, inter-library loan (82.9%) is preferred as comparatively by less number of librarians, this shows that the libraries wanted to make use of the network for technical, management and ICT practices rather conventional inter-library loan process.

- The study found the participation in the library network programme it is revealed that DELNET programme has been widely used by the college
libraries (20%) affiliated to Bharathidasan University. It is followed by UGC-INFONET (15.7%) and N-LIST (12.9%). It is also found that 43.8 per cent of autonomous institutions are widely using UGC-INFONET and N-LIST programme in the libraries whereas 14.8 per cent of non-autonomous institutions are widely using DELNET programme in the libraries. The study found that awareness has to be made among the college libraries of the study area to make use of N-LIST programme as it is a great source to access more than 2000 scholarly journals and 6000 text books of reputed academic publishers at the cost of the government initiated through National Knowledge Network.

- The study found the preferred method for resource activities it is indentified that 74.3 percent of librarians prefer face-to-face method for resource sharing activities and it’s followed by web-based method (68.6%). The very few libraries (62.9%) are preferred Postal / courier method for resource sharing activities.

- The study also found the attitudes of librarians towards library network and resource sharing programme it is revealed that 87.5 per cent of librarians working in autonomous institutions have strongly agreed that the library-networking programme improves the library services, whereas 55.6% of librarians working in non-autonomous institutions have strongly agreed that the library-networking programme improves the library services and it is followed by it provides adequate facilities in the libraries and it supports research and development activities in the libraries. It is further found that only (10%) of librarians have expressed that it creates conflict among the librarians and it may not create impact on library environment’. It shows that there is a positive attitude among the majority of the college librarians towards implementing the library network in the study area.

Several studies were also discussed and supported for the library network programme in the libraries (Liu, 2000, Sivaraj, 2008 and Chandrasekar, 2005) indicated that establishment of library network can increase the
interlibrary sharing of resources, maximize the use of resources for the benefit of students and faculty and modernization of libraries to develop communication facilities, teaching and learning, information access and transfer. (Okon, 2005) also proposed a library network model for Nigerian university libraries by conducting a feasibility study.

- The study further found the barriers of library network programme in the surveyed college libraries. It is revealed that all the librarians working in government colleges have expressed their barriers towards library network programme were lack of financial resources, lack of infrastructure facility and lack of awareness programme in the libraries and 75 per cent of librarians working in government aided colleges have expressed their barriers of library networking were lack of trained human resources and lack of financial resources available in the libraries, while 86 per cent of librarians working in self-financing colleges have expressed their barriers of library networking were lack of financial resources.

The same has been discussed in the previous studies (Ani, 2005 and Chakraborty, 2005 and Mishra, 2001) that inadequate funds and limited ICT infrastructure, lack of manpower and lack of training in ICT and lack of awareness among the librarians are the major obstacles for the implementation of ICT and network based library services in various library environments.

5.6 HYPOTHESES TESTED

The following hypotheses on the major variables of the research has been formulated and tested in the analysis part are listed with their results (i) There is a significant difference in ICT infrastructure facility in college libraries affiliated to Bharathidasan University. (ii) There is a significant difference among the library and information science professionals in the affiliated colleges with regard to ICT skills. (iii) There is a significant difference among the college libraries in library and information services and (iv) There is a positive attitude among the library and information science professionals in colleges towards networking and resource sharing. The chi-square test has proved all the hypotheses.
5.6.1 ICT INFRASTRUCTURE

- The hypothesis states that “there is a significant difference in ICT infrastructure facilities among the libraries of ‘Autonomous’ and ‘Non-Autonomous’ institutions” has been proved (Table 3.4.1.1 and 3.4.2.1).
- The hypothesis states that “there is a significant difference in ICT infrastructure facilities among the libraries of ‘Government’, ‘Government Aided’ and ‘Self-Finance’ institutions” has been proved (Table 3.4.3.1, 3.4.4.1 and 3.4.5.1).

5.6.2 ICT SKILLS

- The hypothesis states that “there is no significant difference in ICT skills among librarians of ‘Autonomous’ and ‘Non-Autonomous’ institutions” has been tested with chi-square and proved (Table 4.3).
- The hypothesis states that “there is a significant difference in ICT skills among the librarians of ‘Government’, ‘Government Aided’ and ‘Self-Finance’ institutions” has been tested with chi-square and proved (Table 4.4).

5.6.3 SERVICES

5.6.3.1 MANUAL SERVICE

- The Hypothesis states that “there is no significant difference in library services among libraries of ‘Autonomous’, and ‘Non-Autonomous’ institutions” has been tested with chi-square and proved (Table 4.7).
- The Hypothesis states “there is a significant difference in library services among libraries of ‘Government’, ‘Government Aided’ and ‘Self-Finance’ institutions” has been tested with chi-square and proved (Table 4.8).

5.6.3.2 COMPUTERIZED SERVICES

- The hypothesis states that “there is a significant difference in computerized services among libraries of ‘Autonomous’, and ‘Non-Autonomous’ institutions” has been tested with chi-square test and proved (Table 4.11)
• The hypothesis states that “there is a significant difference in ICT skills among librarians of ‘Government’, ‘Government Aided’ and ‘Self-Finance’ institutions” has been tested with chi-square test and proved (Table 4.12).

5.6.3.3 ICT / WEB BASED SERVICES

• The Hypothesis states that “there is no significant difference in ICT based services among libraries of ‘Autonomous’ and ‘Non-Autonomous institutions’” has been tested with chi-square and proved (Table 4.15).

• The Hypothesis states that “there is a significant difference in ICT based services among libraries of ‘Government’, ‘Government Aided’ and ‘Self-Finance’ institutions” has been tested with chi-square and proved (Table 4.16).

5.6.3.4 ADD-ON SERVICES

• The hypothesis states that “there is no significant difference in Add-on services among libraries of ‘Autonomous’, and ‘Non-Autonomous’ institutions” has been tested with chi-square and proved (Table 4.19).

• The hypothesis states that “there is no significant difference in Add-on services among libraries of ‘Government’, ‘Government Aided’ and ‘Self-Finance’ institutions” has been tested with chi-square and proved (Table 4.20).

5.6.4 RESOURCE SHARING

5.6.4.1 OPINION

• The Hypothesis states that “there is no significant difference in the opinions of resource sharing activities among the librarians of ‘Autonomous’, and ‘Non-Autonomous’ institutions” has been tested with chi-square and proved (Table 4.23).

• The Hypothesis states that “there is a significant difference in opinion of resource sharing activities among the librarians of ‘Government’, ‘Government Aided’ and ‘Self-Finance’ institutions” has been tested with chi-square and proved (Table 4.24).
5.6.4.2. WILLINGNESS TO SHARE PRINTED RESOURCES

- The Hypothesis states that “there is a significant difference in willingness to share printed resources among libraries of ‘Autonomous’, and ‘Non-Autonomous institutions’” has been tested and proved (Table 4.26).

- The hypothesis states that there is a significant difference in willingness to share printed resources among libraries of ‘Government’, ‘Government Aided’ and ‘Self-Finance’ institutions” has been tested with chi-square and proved (Table 4.27).

5.6.4.3 WILLINGNESS TO SHARE E-RESOURCES

- The Hypothesis states that “there is no significant difference in sharing of e-resources among libraries of ‘Autonomous’ and Non-Autonomous’ institutions” has been tested with chi-square and proved (Table 4.29).

- The hypothesis states that “there is a significant difference in willingness to share e-resources among libraries of ‘Government’, ‘Government Aided’ and ‘Self-Finance’ institutions” has been tested with chi-square and proved (Table 4.30).

5.6.4.4 WILLINGNESS TO SHARE EXPERTISE AND PARTICIPATE IN THE SHARE ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

- The Hypothesis states that “there is a significant difference in sharing of expertise and participate in academic activities among the libraries of ‘Autonomous’ and ‘Non-Autonomous’ institutions” has been tested with chi-square and proved (Table 4.32).

- The Hypothesis states that there is a significant difference in sharing of expertise and participate in academic activities among the librarians of ‘Government’, ‘Government Aided’ and ‘Self-Finance’ institutions” has been tested with chi-square and proved (Table 4.33).
5.6.4.5 ATTITUDE TOWARDS LIBRARY NETWORKING

- The Hypothesis states that “there is no significant difference in attitude towards library network and resource programme among librarians of ‘Autonomous’ and ‘Non-Autonomous’ institutions” has been tested with chi-square and proved (Table 4.46)

5.6.4.6 BARRIERS OF LIBRARY NETWORK

- The Hypothesis states that “there is no significant difference in barriers towards library network programme among the libraries of ‘Autonomous’ and ‘Non-Autonomous’ institutions” has been tested with chi-square and proved (Table 4.51)

- The hypothesis states that “there is a significant difference in barriers towards library network programme among the libraries of ‘Government’, ‘Government Aided’ and ‘Self-Finance’ institutions” has been tested with chi-square and proved (Table 4.52)

5.7. SUGGESTIONS

The following suggestions are recommended based on the research study. They are;

1. The qualified library and information science professionals should be appointed in the colleges particularly in self-finance arts and science colleges.

2. The libraries should develop the collections, services and ICT infrastructure facilities to provide effective services to the users.

3. The libraries should be allocated sufficient finance in order to introduce new services and also to improve the existing services.

4. It is very important that the success of any new system or service is based on the adequate knowledge, skills of staff members. Therefore, the librarians and library staff should be properly trained when a new service or technology is introduced in the libraries.
5. It is suggested that the librarians should develop their attitudes to share the library resources among other libraries in a systematic way.

6. The senior librarians working in government and government aided colleges should have more commitment and interest in taking new initiative for providing better library services and products.

5.8 CONCLUSION

The findings indicate that there is an adequate ICT infrastructure facility, library resources, manpower available in the ‘Autonomous and ‘Non-Autonomous’ institutions, similarly ‘Government’, Government Aided’ and ‘Self-financing’ institutions too. The findings also show that out of the 70 respondents, 65 of them representing 92.9 per cent of the total respondents are interested to participate in the library network also to share their library resources. Therefore the prototype design has been suggested for establishing the BHARATHILIBNET and the same is discussed in the chapter six.