CHAPTER-1

Introduction
1.1 INTRODUCTION

Animal husbandry is a backbone of agricultural growth in the country and its development needs timely dissemination of knowledge generated and updated across the globe from time to time. Since last decade, drastic change has took place in Veterinary field and research which has resulted in inclusion of new knowledge, skills in syllabus and curriculum of veterinary education system. Veterinary and animal science was well developed in India as early as 1500-500 BC. The world’s first veterinary hospital on record existed in Ashoka’s regime during 304-232 BC (Schwabe, 1978). However, modern veterinary instruction began with a diploma course in 1862 at Pune in an army veterinary school, followed by Bombay (1886), Calcutta (1893), Madras (1903) and Patna (1930). The bachelor of veterinary science degree course was first started at Madras veterinary college in 1935 (Gnanaprakasham, 1998). At the time of independence in 1947, there were only nine veterinary colleges in India. A large number of veterinary colleges were established after independence to transform veterinary education into a mass education system. This can be considered to be the most crucial stage in the development of veterinary education in India. With the enactment of the Indian Veterinary Council Act in 1984 a new era started. The Veterinary Council of India (VCI) has introduced uniform minimum standards for Bachelor of Veterinary Science and Animal Husbandry programmes throughout the country since 1994 (Sasidhar and Reddy, 2012).
Veterinary education is the first stage towards achieving veterinary higher education the libraries attached to this Institution play a significant role in fulfilling objective of veterinary higher education. Education particular at higher levels has been ascribed as a process of learning then teaching. Hutchinson, B (1999) conducted a survey on Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Science Veterinary and found that lack of facility such as staff, professional development, Technical Services, Automation, Equipment and Telecommunications, different services, Management, Budgeting, and Networking. He suggested that library improvements to increase access to and use of library resources for providing better services. Therefore, there is a great need to provide information to support veterinary higher education. Jadhav (2009) made an attempt to highlight the significance of veterinary education in India and emphasized the need to look for comprehensive collection of information resources and sufficient budget needs to be earmarked for print and also e-resources. Information services rendered are basic in nature and due to impact of Information technology, the study suggests for incorporating IT in libraries for rendering services in tune with nascent needs of the academicians and veterinarians in veterinary institutions in the country.

Today's world is of the Digital Veterinary Libraries. Recent development in Veterinary and animal science have created new pressure on the libraries of veterinary universities. They serve the need of Veterinary education, research and extension education. Veterinary library is necessary adjunct of the teacher's aid and researcher’s tools without which the best use in
an effective and efficient manner of his/her time or talent. Veterinary library being an integral part of University must be developed into a dynamic institution where the staff and the students including the research workers put their forward step for advancement of their skills and assistance for change of their attitudes in their desired direction. Veterinary Science is on the threshold of a new era. This new era defines the parameter in which University Libraries are to function for the foreseeable future which is directly related to the Library of concerned university or college. Thus in today's era librarian is concerned with establishment of modern, well developed and well organized university libraries on scientific basis in order to play vital constructive role in the nation building task of veterinary education, research and extension (Surwade, 2012).

American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) reiterates that 'Libraries and information retrieval are essential to veterinary medical education, research, public service, and continuing education. Timely access to information resources, whether through print, electronic media, or other means, must be available to students and faculty. The library shall be administered by a qualified librarian. The college shall have access to the human and physical resources necessary for development of instructional materials'.

In India there are 43 veterinary colleges have established which aims in imparting veterinary and animal science education. The libraries also attached to their colleges cater to the information needs of the Undergraduates, Postgraduates, Scientists and Faculty Members in the field of veterinary and animal husbandry. These libraries have plays an important role especially in
the e-environment which provides a lot of e-resources to support learning, teaching and research activities of the students and faculty. The National Agricultural Innovation Project (NAIP) has funded for establishing the Consortium for e-Resources in Agriculture (CeRA) at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI) in November 2007 for facilitating accessibility of e-resources to all researchers/teachers in the National Agricultural Research System by providing access to online journals and databases which is crucial for having excellence in research and teaching.

User is the key component of any information system and library and as such for library and information science, users are the precious. This is because the success of libraries depends upon the extent of use of libraries by the users. Hence, User studies have been of special interest to librarians since libraries have been recognized as institutions meeting the information needs of the users. According to Wilson (2006) heralds that “apart from information retrieval, there is virtually no other area of information science which has occasioned as much as studies on “user studies”. Ascertaining users’ opinion about library and information resources and services adds a qualitative element to the research studies being undertaken for improving existing library services and for introducing new library services. User Studies, the umbrella term cover various facets under its ambit including information use studies and information seeking behavior, assessment of satisfaction with library and information services.
1.2 NEED FOR THE STUDY

Veterinary profession is a noble profession that deals with animals and has a compassionate predisposition for animals. A veterinarian is a person who not only treats animals but also helps animals to remain in good health. Primary object of a veterinarian is to render service to the community by facilitating health care of animals, ensuring veterinary public health, caring for sick animals and alleviating their sufferings. Whosoever chooses the profession assumes the obligation to conduct oneself in accordance with the noble ideals of serving the dumb and mute creatures. It shall be necessary for a veterinarian to be temperate in all matters of practice of profession and to exercise clear and vigorous application of mind. A veterinarian shall merit the trust and confidence of the clients, rendering their animals with full measure of service and devotion. The Veterinary Council of India is a statutory body of the Government of India framed under an Act of Parliament i.e. Indian Veterinary Council Act, 1984 (52 of 1984). This is an Act to regulate Veterinary practice and Veterinary education.

Institutions of higher education have the main responsibilities of equipping students, researchers and faculty with advanced knowledge and skills providing academic support to its members by ensuring quality based library and information service and assisting in the academic, research and extension activities of the institutions. A well equipped and managed library is an essential prerequisite to achieve this. Education and library are two inseparable indivisible concepts, both being fundamentally and synchronically
related to and co-existent with each other. One cannot be separated from the other, and the existence of one is impossible without the other. None of them is an end in itself; rather both of them together are a means to an ultimate end. The libraries are primarily responsible for the provision of academic information to support learning, teaching, research and extension.

Libraries of Veterinary Colleges have been providing academic support to its members by ensuring quality based library and information service and assisting in the academic, research and extension activities of the institutions. However, numerous problems are faced by these libraries in the Indian context, viz., financial crunch, lack of adequate infrastructure, technological gadgets, manpower, technical competencies, escalating cost of the literature, ever changing needs of the users, devaluation of Indian currency in the international market etc. Moreover, electronic resources relevant to the profession are developing at an unprecedented pace. Academic libraries are considered to be the nerve centers of academic institutions, and must support teaching, research, and other academic programmes. The situation in academic libraries of India is the same as that of academic libraries the world over; however, Indian libraries must provide maximum information with limited resources (Mahajan, 2005).

The existing literature shows that, studies on use of Veterinary College libraries in Indian context are not carried out exclusively in depth but only very few articles have been published especially on the user behavior towards use of information sources in Veterinary College Libraries. During 2012, a study by Jadhav (2012) conducted a study surveying on the current status of Veterinary
College Libraries in India, but no studies on user aspects are done. Sonia Bansal and Nirmal Singh (2013) explored information seeking patterns of researchers of Guru Angad Dev Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (GADVASU), Ludhiana. Devaraj and Stanley (2012) say that it is imperative to regularly monitor the usage of library resources to identify the changing information needs. Hence the study of use of library resources and services in the veterinary colleges occupies significance. Keeping this in view, the study undertakes to study the use of library resources and services offered by veterinary college libraries in South India, as libraries plays a vital role in the university education and research by providing invaluable resource of knowledge.

1.3 STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

“Use of the Library Resources and Services in Veterinary Colleges of South India.”

1.4 OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The objectives of the study are

1.4.1 To understand the use of information resources (print and electronic sources) by teaching faculty, Post-Graduate and Undergraduate students of Veterinary particularly to identify the

1.4.1.1 Time spent on reading information sources

1.4.1.2 Purpose of visiting library

1.4.1.3 Usefulness and importance of information sources to support academic and research activities and
1.4.1.4 Frequency of using information sources

1.4.1.5 Level of satisfaction towards information sources

1.4.2 To determine the method(s) adopted for searching information sources both print and Internet sources particularly:

1.4.2.1 Books

1.4.2.2 Journals

1.4.2.3 Reference Sources

1.4.2.4 CD-ROM Databases

1.4.2.5 Internet

1.4.3 To determine the frequency of using library services in the libraries

1.4.4 To understand the level of satisfaction towards of library services offered to the users and

1.4.5 To know the problems faced in using library resources and services.

1.5 RESEARCH HYPOTHESES

The hypotheses of the study are

1.5.1 Designation of respondents and Use of Information Resources and Services, searching methods and their level of satisfaction in Veterinary College Libraries in South India are not associated to each other,

1.5.2 Gender of respondents and Use of Information Resources and Services, searching methods and their level of satisfaction in Veterinary College Libraries in South India are not associated to each other,
1.5.3 Age of respondents and Use of Information Resources and Services, searching methods and their level of satisfaction in Veterinary College Libraries in South India are not associated to each other,

1.6 RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Research methodology involves starting from general questions, narrowing down to focus on one specific aspect, and designing research to observe and analyze the results of the study, summarize findings, suggest the measures to overcome the research gap and future guidelines for the forthcoming researchers.

1.6.1 Study population

The study population includes Libraries of Veterinary Colleges in South India. There are 15 Veterinary Colleges available in South India, out of that 12 colleges are taken for the study.

**Andhra Pradesh State:**

1. College of Veterinary Science Tirupati
2. College of Veterinary Science, Rajendranagar
3. College of Veterinary Science, Korutla
4. NTR College of Veterinary Science, Gannavaram

**Karnataka State:**

1. Veterinary College, Nandinagar, Bidar
2. Veterinary College, Bangalore
3. Veterinary College, Shimoga
4. Veterinary College, Hassan
Kerala State:

1. College of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Mannuthy
2. College of Veterinary & Animal Sciences, Pookot

Tamil Nadu State:

1. Madras Veterinary College
2. Veterinary College and Research Institute, Namakkal

Out of 15 colleges there were 3 veterinary colleges due to its recent establishment and lack of library staff. the samples may be includes Undergraduates, Post-Graduates, Teaching faculty of Veterinary Colleges in South India.

1.6.2 Sampling

The research study comprises of users of Veterinary Colleges in South India. The researcher has adopted random sampling technique in distributing questionnaire to the user groups comprising of undergraduates, post-graduates and teaching faculty which is shows in Table No 1.1 further The state-wise feedback of questionnaires received from the respondents is shown in Table-1.2.

Table-1.1
State wise Distribution of Questionnaires

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the State</th>
<th>Total No of Users</th>
<th>Questionnaires Received</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Andhra Pradesh State</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>301</td>
<td>60.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karnataka State</td>
<td>714</td>
<td>436</td>
<td>61.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kerala State</td>
<td>299</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>60.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tamil Nadu State</td>
<td>291</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>60.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1804</td>
<td>1092</td>
<td>60.53%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Table-1.2
**College-wise Distribution of Questionnaires**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>Colleges</th>
<th>No. of Questionnaires Distributed</th>
<th>No. of Respondents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I)</td>
<td>Andhra Pradesh State</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>College of Veterinary Science Tirupati</td>
<td>178</td>
<td>107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>College of Veterinary Science, Rajendranagar</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03</td>
<td>College of Veterinary Science, Korutla</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04</td>
<td>NTR College of Veterinary Science, Gannavaram</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II)</td>
<td>Karnataka State</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>Veterinary College, Nandinagar, Bidar</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>Veterinary College, Bangalore</td>
<td>215</td>
<td>128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03</td>
<td>Veterinary College, Shimoga</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04</td>
<td>Veterinary College, Hassan</td>
<td>226</td>
<td>136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III)</td>
<td>Kerala State</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>College of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Mannuthy</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>College of Veterinary &amp; Animal Sciences, Pookot</td>
<td>153</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV)</td>
<td>Tamil Nadu State</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>Madras Veterinary College</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>Veterinary College and Research Institute, Namakkal</td>
<td>181</td>
<td>109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>1804</strong></td>
<td><strong>1092</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 1.6.3 Data Collection and Analysis

Survey research using questionnaire method has been employed to study the collection development, organization, building, infrastructural facilities,
services and user perceptions towards Veterinary College Libraries in South India.

Questionnaire method has been employed for data collection from the respondents of the study. The data so collected has been tabulated and fed into the statistical package viz., SPSS (Statistical Package in Social Sciences) by coding and de-coding the values of questionnaire variable.

To explore the significant association between independent and dependent variables, the null hypotheses have been framed. The four independent variables have been taken for the study i.e. Designation of the Respondents, College wise distribution of the respondents, Age of the respondents and Domicile of the respondents and these variables have been cross tabulated with reference to use of Information Resources and Services, searching methods and their level of satisfaction in Veterinary College Libraries in South India to determine any significant difference exists or not. The null hypotheses so framed have been tested using Chi-Square Test of Independence, Spearman Correlation Co-efficient, T-Test and ANOVA test. For the computation of T-Test and ANOVA, the results of dependent variables have been grouped in three levels viz. low, medium and high and this is based on the scores obtained against each item of expression.

1.7 SCOPE AND LIMITATION OF THE STUDY

The scope of the study is confined to 12 veterinary colleges of South India. The College of Veterinary Science, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad (Andhra Pradesh); College of Veterinary Science, Tirupati Chittoor Dist. (Andhra Pradesh);
Pradesh); N.T.R. College of Veterinary Science, Gannavaram Krishna Dist. (Andhra Pradesh); College of Veterinary Science, Korutla Karim Nagar Dist. (Andhra Pradesh); Madras veterinary college (Tamil Nadu); Veterinary college and research institute Namakkal (Tamil Nadu); Veterinary College, Bangalore (Karnataka); Veterinary College, Bidar (Karnataka); Veterinary College, Shimogga (Karnataka); Veterinary College, Hassan (Karnataka); College of Veterinary & Animal Sciences, Mannuthy (Kerala); College of Veterinary & Animal Sciences, Pookot (Kerala).

The study takes into account only users of the libraries covering undergraduates, post-graduates and teaching faculty. However, the study covers only 12 veterinary colleges out of 15 veterinary institutions and questionnaire tool of socially desired results are the limitations of the study.

1.8 CHAPTERIZATION

The research work has been organized into five chapters.

- Chapter I deals with Introduction, need for the study, statement of the problem, objectives of the study, research hypotheses, methodology, scope and limitation of the study,
- Chapter II deals about Review of Literature covering studies on use of Information Resources and Library Services at national and international level in the field of Veterinary and agricultural sciences,
- Chapter III deals with Veterinary Higher Education System and Libraries providing role of Veterinary Council of India and depicts a profile of Veterinary Colleges in South India,
Chapter IV is analysis and interpretations of library Resources and Services of Veterinary Libraries based on the user responses and testing of hypotheses,

Chapter V provides summary of findings, suggestions, future areas of research and conclusion.

Bibliography is included at the end of chapters arranged alphabetically.

Appendix: Questionnaire
REFERENCES


