

USE AND IMPACT OF LIBRARY RESOURCES AT INDIRA GANDHI KRISHI VISHWAVIDYALAYA, RAIPUR

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Abstract

The present study investigates the use and impact of library resources among postgraduate students, research scholars, faculty members, and technical staff at Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwavidyalaya (IGKV), Raipur. A sample of 150 respondents was selected using stratified random sampling. Data was collected through a structured questionnaire and analyzed using percentage analysis and mean score interpretation. The study reveals that users are highly aware of textbooks, reference materials, and digital resources; however, issues such as slow internet connectivity and outdated materials still exist. The findings confirm that library resources positively contribute to users' academic performance, research output, and learning efficiency. The paper concludes with practical suggestions for enhancing ICT infrastructure, digital training, and collection development.

Keywords: *Library resources, Agricultural university library, ICT services, User satisfaction, Digital resources, IGKV Raipur*

1. Introduction

Academic libraries play a vital role in supporting higher education and agricultural research by offering access to authentic and updated knowledge sources. Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwavidyalaya (IGKV), Raipur, is a leading agricultural university in Chhattisgarh, serving students and researchers through rich collections, e-resources, and modern information services. With the expansion of digital platforms and online repositories, user expectations have increased, demanding improved accessibility, ICT facilities, and research-oriented support. This research aims to examine how effectively IGKV library resources are utilized and how they influence academic and research productivity.

2. Review of Literature

Thanuskodi (2012) found that students often depend on printed resources but lack adequate awareness of e-resources.

Patil and Biradar (2018) observed low utilization of digital collections in agricultural universities due to insufficient ICT training.

Vasava, P (2016) reported that research scholars frequently use databases for thesis writing and publishing research articles.

Kaur (2020) emphasized the rising importance of Web-OPAC and digital repositories in supporting academic work.

2.1 Research Gap:

Very limited studies focus on *agricultural universities* specifically, and there is a lack of institution-specific user assessment for IGKV, Raipur. This study addresses this gap.

3. Objective of the Study

To evaluate the use and impact of library resources and services on the academic and research activities of users at Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwavidyalaya (IGKV), Raipur.

4. Hypothesis of the Study

H₀: Library resources and services do not positively influence the academic and research activities of users at IGKV, Raipur.

H₁: Library resources and services positively influence the academic and research activities of users at IGKV, Raipur.

5. Methodology

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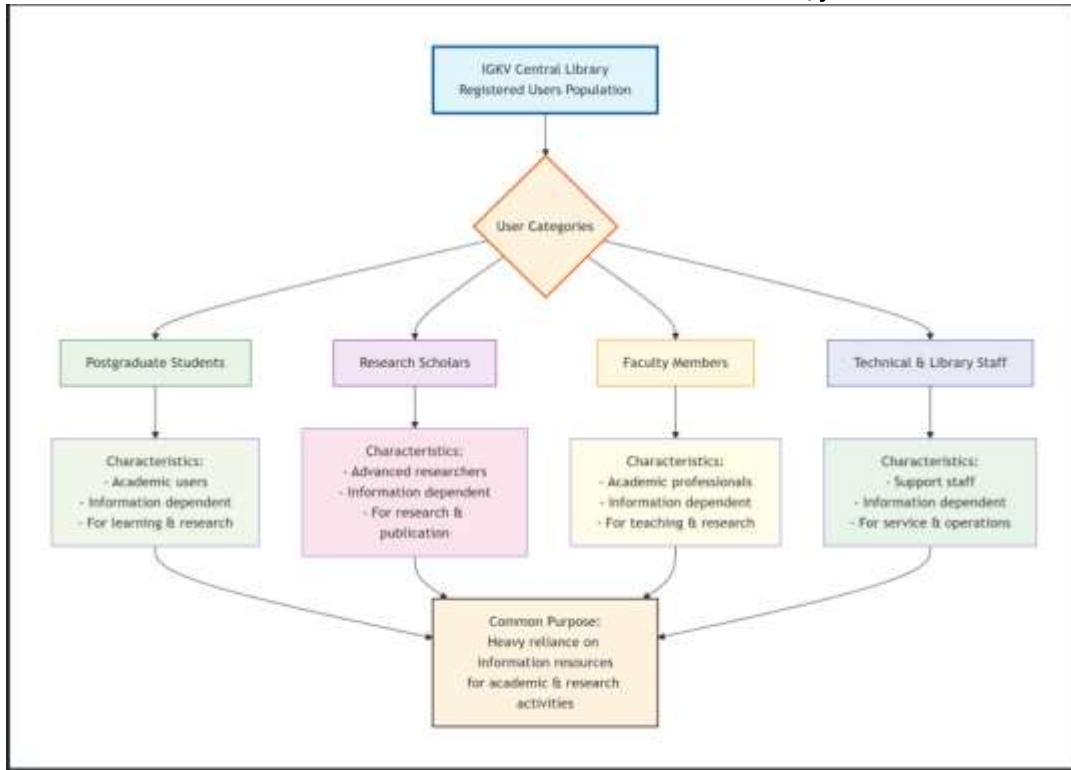
The methodology forms the foundation of any research study as it ensures a systematic and scientific approach to collecting and analyzing data. The present study adopted appropriate research methods to explore the use and impact of library resources at Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwavidyalaya (IGKV), Raipur.

5.1 Research Design

The study employed a descriptive survey research design, which is suitable for understanding the status, behavior, satisfaction level, and opinions of users regarding library resources. This design enables the researcher to collect information and interpret the present conditions related to library service utilization among university users.

5.2 Population of the Study

The population of the present study consisted of all registered users of the Central Library at Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwavidyalaya (IGKV), Raipur. This included postgraduate students enrolled in various agricultural disciplines, research scholars pursuing M.Phil./Ph.D. programmes, faculty members engaged in teaching and research activities, and technical or library staff associated with academic support services. These groups were considered as the core users of library resources and services and, therefore, formed the target population for the investigation.



5.3 Sample Size and Composition

A total of 150 respondents were selected as the sample for the study. The sampling distribution ensured representation from all major user categories proportional to their availability in the university. The composition of the sample is presented below:

User Category	Sample Size	Percentage (%)
PG Students	100	66.67%
Research Scholars	30	20.00%
Faculty Members	15	10.00%
Technical / Library Staff	5	3.33%

Total	150	100%
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5.4 Sampling Technique

The study adopted a stratified random sampling technique, under which the entire population was divided into homogeneous sub-groups (strata) based on user categories such as postgraduate students, research scholars, faculty members, and technical staff. From each stratum, respondents were selected randomly in proportion to their presence in the overall population, ensuring equal representation and minimizing sampling bias. This method allowed the researcher to collect views from all major user groups systematically and enhanced the validity and reliability of the study findings.

5.5 Research Tool

A self-developed structured questionnaire was used as the primary tool for data collection, consisting of closed-ended and rating-scale items designed to capture both quantitative and qualitative perspectives of participants. The tool comprised three major segments: demographic details, awareness and usage of library resources, and satisfaction along with the perceived impact of library services. A 5-point Likert scale was incorporated to measure satisfaction levels, where 1 = Very Poor, 2 = Poor, 3 = Moderate, 4 = Good, and 5 = Excellent. Prior to the final administration, the questionnaire was reviewed and validated by subject experts in Library and Information Science and pilot-tested among a small group of users to ensure clarity, reliability, and suitability for the targeted respondents.

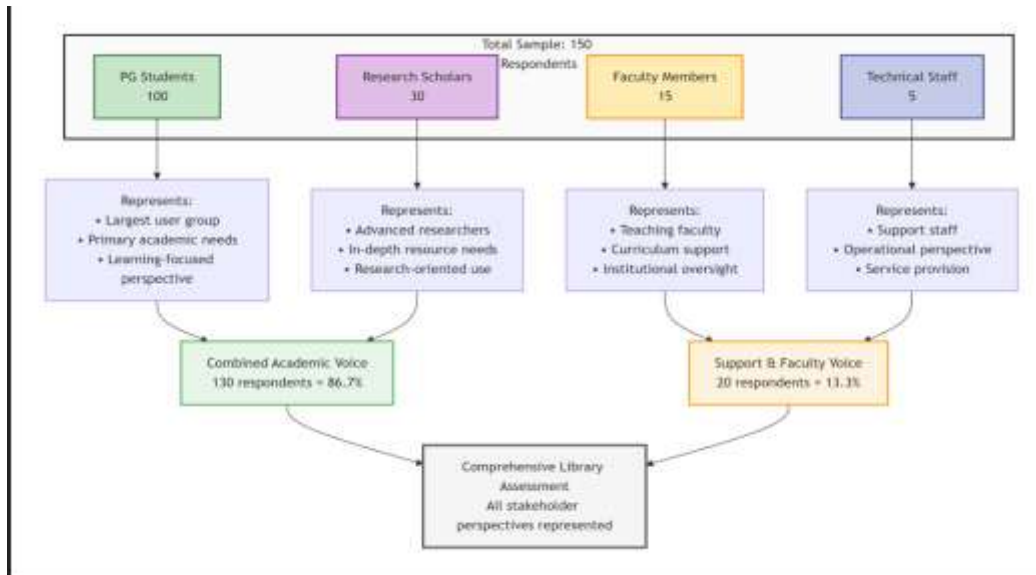
5.6 Procedure of Data Collection

The researcher personally visited the Central Library and respective academic departments of IGKV to administer the questionnaire among postgraduate students, research scholars, faculty members, and technical staff. The purpose of the study was clearly explained to the participants, and they were assured of confidentiality and voluntary participation. Adequate time was provided to fill in responses independently, after which the completed questionnaires were collected, verified, coded, and organized systematically. The data was then tabulated and

prepared for further statistical analysis to ensure accuracy and relevance in the interpretation of findings.

5.7 Statistical Techniques Used

To analyze the collected data, descriptive statistical methods were applied, including percentage analysis for assessing awareness and usage trends, and mean score analysis for evaluating user satisfaction levels and influential factors related to library usage. In addition, graphical representations and tabulated results were incorporated to present the findings clearly and logically. Interpretative descriptions were used to explain the patterns observed in the data, enabling meaningful conclusions to be drawn about the use and impact of library resources at IGKV.



6. Analysis and Interpretation

Table 1

Awareness and Use of Library Resources (N = 150)

Library Resource	Aware (f)	%	Using (f)	%
Textbooks	138	92	135	90

Reference Books	125	83.3	121	80.7
E-Journals	112	74.7	104	69.3
Databases (CeRA)	95	63.3	88	58.7
Web-OPAC	110	73.3	102	68
Institutional Repository	85	56.7	78	52

Interpretation:

Table 1 clearly indicates that a majority of the respondents at IGKV are well aware of and actively using the major library resources available to them. Traditional printed resources such as textbooks (92% awareness, 90% use) and reference books (83.3% awareness, 80.7% use) show the highest levels of utilization, reflecting their continued significance in agricultural education. The awareness and use of e-journals (74.7% and 69.3%) and web-based access tools like Web-OPAC (73.3% and 68%) are also considerably high, suggesting a growing acceptance of digital academic resources among students and research scholars.

However, the table also highlights comparatively lower awareness and use of advanced digital platforms such as institutional repositories (56.7% and 52%) and subject-specific databases like CeRA (63.3% and 58.7%), which indicates that these valuable scholarly resources are still under-utilized. This gap suggests the need for enhanced information literacy training and targeted orientation programs to improve students' digital navigation skills.

Overall, the descriptive evidence shows that while the IGKV library has successfully promoted core print and essential digital resources, greater intervention is required to strengthen awareness and regular use of specialized electronic knowledge systems, which are crucial for higher-level research productivity and academic excellence in agricultural studies.

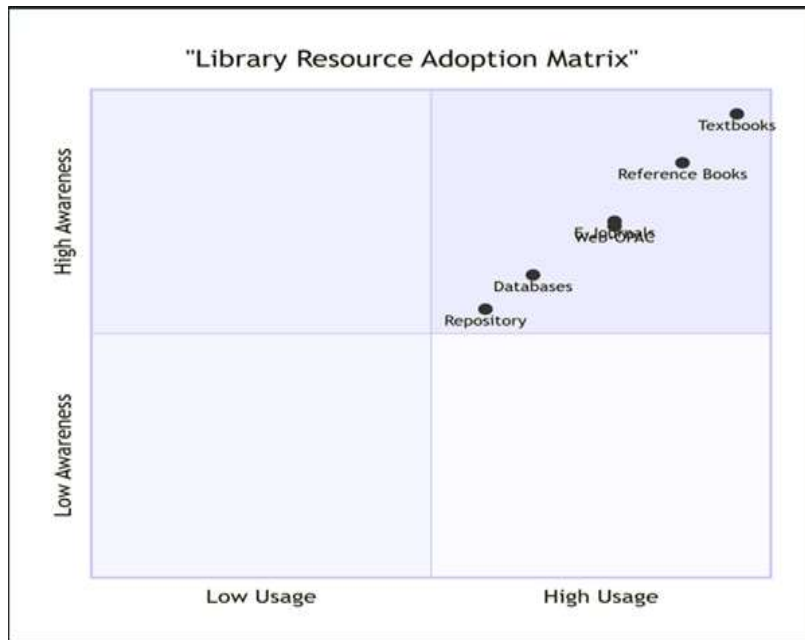
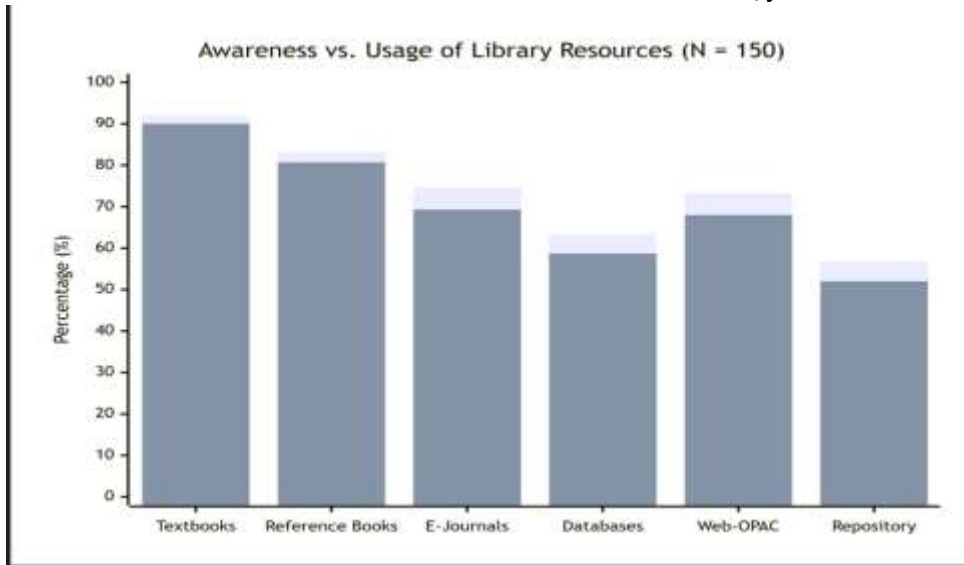


Table 2

Satisfaction with Library Services (Mean Score Analysis)

(Scale: 1 = Very Poor, 5 = Excellent)

Library Services	Mean	Interpretation
Reading Space	4.21	Excellent
Staff Support	4.28	Excellent
E-Resources Access	4.09	Good
Internet Connectivity	3.88	Moderate
Working Hours	3.95	Good

Interpretation:

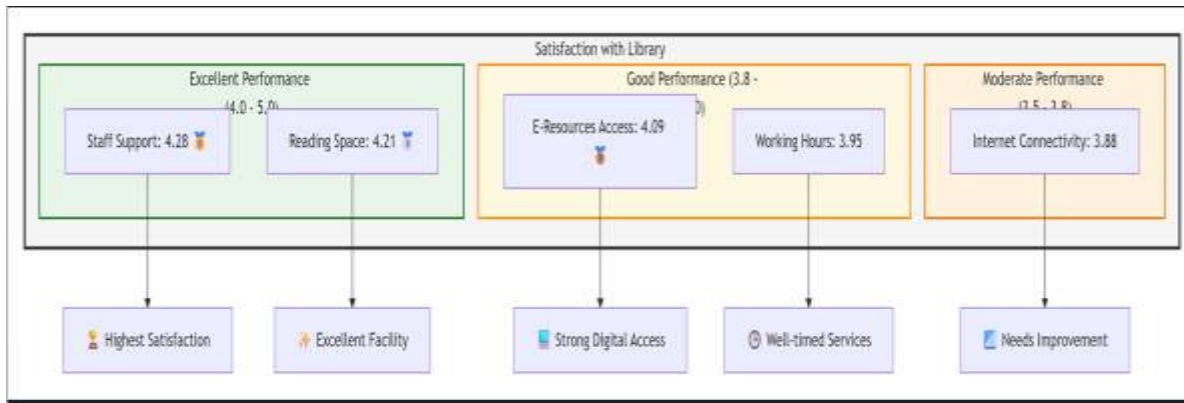
The mean scores presented in the table reflect that users at IGKV hold a generally positive perception toward the quality of library services. The highest satisfaction rating is observed for Staff Support (Mean = 4.28), indicating that library personnel are highly approachable, cooperative, and effectively assist users in accessing necessary resources. Likewise, Reading Space (Mean = 4.21) has been rated as “Excellent,” confirming that the physical environment of the library—such as seating arrangement, lighting, and ventilation—is conducive to focused academic work.

Access to E-Resources (Mean = 4.09) and Working Hours (Mean = 3.95) received “Good” ratings, indicating strong satisfaction overall, but also implying potential to extend digital accessibility and operational time to better accommodate research scholars and students during peak periods such as examinations. The lowest rating was recorded for Internet Connectivity (Mean = 3.88), classified as “Moderate,” revealing a key barrier that directly affects users’ ability to access online journals, databases, and digital catalog systems.

In summary, while the library provides a student-friendly learning environment supported by helpful staff and satisfactory digital access, improvements in network facilities and optimized working hours could significantly enhance users’ research productivity and learning experience.

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These findings reinforce that strengthening ICT infrastructure remains a crucial requirement for achieving holistic library modernization in agricultural universities.



7. Major Findings of the Study

Based on the data analysis and interpretation, the following major findings were derived:

1. **High Awareness of Core Resources:** Users at IGKV demonstrated strong awareness and usage of essential print resources such as textbooks (92%) and reference books (83.3%), confirming their ongoing relevance in agricultural education.
2. **Growing Shift Toward Digital Access:** A considerable percentage of users actively engaged with e-journals (69.3%), Web-OPAC (68%), and databases like CeRA (58.7%), indicating a gradual shift toward digital learning and research support.
3. **Underutilization of Research-Centric Digital Tools:** Institutional repositories and advanced databases were comparatively less accessed (52%–58.7%), reflecting a gap in digital literacy and awareness among users.
4. **Positive Perception of Library Services:** Mean scores above 4.0 for staff support (4.28), reading space (4.21), and e-resource access (4.09) show that users are generally satisfied with the quality of services provided.

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5. Internet Connectivity Remains a Major Limitation: With a mean score of 3.88 (moderate level), users expressed dissatisfaction with network speed, restricting effective use of online resources.
6. Library Usage Linked with Academic Productivity: Users acknowledged that library resources significantly contributed to project work, thesis completion, exam preparation, and teaching–learning activities.
7. Faculty and Researchers Prefer Digital Databases: Faculty members and research scholars showed higher reliance on digital resources compared to postgraduate students, highlighting differing academic needs.
8. Need for Extended Operational Support: Satisfaction score of 3.95 for working hours suggests demand for extended services during peak academic seasons such as examinations and thesis deadlines.
9. Users Expect More Updated and Agriculture-Specific Content: Moderate scores for collection adequacy indicate a need for frequent updates, especially in specialized subject areas aligned with recent developments in agriculture.

These findings collectively show that while the IGKV library effectively supports academic engagement, digital infrastructure enhancement and awareness initiatives are essential to maximize research output and overall learning satisfaction.

8. Suggestions

1. Strengthen ICT infrastructure with high-speed Wi-Fi and more terminals
2. Conduct regular digital literacy workshops, especially for PG students
3. Update collections frequently with latest agriculture-specific content
4. Extend opening hours during exam and thesis submission seasons
5. Promote underutilized resources through orientation and alerts

9. Conclusion

The study concludes that library resources at IGKV, Raipur are effectively supporting academic progress, research enhancement, and self-learning among users. However, increasing digital access and updating collections will maximize the library's impact. Continued improvements in e-services and staff-led resource awareness can significantly elevate user experience and institutional excellence.

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