

Full Length Research

Faculty perception on Library Resources and Services in Hindustan college of engineering and Technology in Coimbatore: A Study

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The study focused on finding the Faculty perception on Library Resources and Services in Hindustan college of engineering and Technology, Coimbatore. The study used a questionnaire and the results revealed that the faculties have a high perception on the collection, services, ICT facilities, and manpower and infrastructure facilities of libraries in this college.

Keywords: Faculty Perception, Library sources and services, Hindusthan College Library.

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INTRODUCTION

It is natural for human beings to evaluate things, events and other people around them. Librarians too indulge in this practice. They have the need to periodically measure the resources and services of their library as a way of ensuring that they are meeting the set objectives of the library.

Librarians have information dissemination as their predominant function. The library has a unique position as a potential educational force. For this role, library holdings are organized for maximum exploitation by users. The effectiveness of a library as an instrument of education is determined by the success with which it is

able to provide the user with information he/she seeks. The library can fulfill this function best by pursuing a policy of constant self evaluation in order to be alert to the changing needs of its users this paper evaluates the Faculty Perception on Library Resources and Services of Hindusthan Institute of Technology, Tamilnadu.

About the College

Hindusthan Institute of Technology was started in the year of 2007 by the great industrialist and

philanthropist, Thiru.T.S.R.Khannaiyann.

The primary objective of the Hindusthan Institute of Technology is to educate and prepare men and women for leadership in industry, government, and educational institutions; to advance the knowledge base of the engineering professions; and to influence the future directions of engineering education and practice.

The College has well-furnished classrooms, state-of-the-art laboratories, computer centers and a well-stocked library. Separate Hostels with all the modern amenities are provided for men and women. The campus consists of lush green lawns, a playground, GYM and also facilities for indoor games. A fleet of vehicles caters to the transport needs.

HIT believes not only in educating the students, but also grooming characters, with moral and ethical values, thus building the nation. Since its inception, the college has been providing world-class facilities & infrastructure in education and learning. The emphasis is on transformational leadership rather than directional leadership. The aim is to establish new trends, introduce innovative training methodologies, and thus guide students towards the road to success.

The College provides ample facilities for development of an integrated personality. It has a fine library containing more than nineteen thousand books. The facilities for playing tennis, basketball and cricket are available on the College Campus. The Gymnasium, the Junior Common Room and the Ladies Common Room provide facilities for gymnastics, badminton, table tennis and other indoor games.

The educational programs in the college emphasize the understanding of fundamental principles and prepare an individual for a lifetime of learning and professional growth. The College offers 6 undergraduate and 4 post graduate courses.

Hindusthan Institute of Technology Central Library:

The library includes 75000 books, 218 national and international periodicals in addition to the project reports. The center aims to facilitate production & dissemination of knowledge, information, insights & intellectual contribution in all areas of education among the academic and business community. The library resource center is fully automated and for this we have specialized user-friendly library software called Libasoft. The center has adopted latest information technologies like CD, DVD, Multimedia Kits, Bar-code Scanners, Text and Graphic Scanners. The user community has access to the entire collection through CD, DVD, and Hard Disk.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Mallaiah, Kumbar and Mudhol (2008) analysed the main

tasks of a library to include collection, storage and distribution of the reading materials keeping in view the user requirements. Out of these three main functions, the collection occupies the most vital position. If the book collection of library is efficient, ideal and could satisfy the needs of the readers, then it would enhance the image of the library. The quantity and quality of the collection are vital in the achievement of the university library's goals and objectives. The efficiency of library is governed by the quantity and quality of its collection.

Moreover, the library acts as a medium of getting latest scientific and technological information either in print or electronic form. University libraries collect varieties of materials for preservation and use of library patrons. These resources include not only traditional print-on paper media like books, journals, newspapers and maps, but also audio visual materials like records, audio cassettes, video cassette and projectors. Libraries maintain collections that include not only printed materials but also art reproductions, maps, photographs, microfiches, CD-ROM, computer software, online databases, Internet, electronic books and e-journals and other media in addition to maintaining collections within library buildings, libraries often feature telecommunications links that provide users with access to information at remote sites (Halsey, 2006).

According to Bello and Musa (2005), they require a fuller knowledge of students' information needs, the characteristics of needed materials, the context of research process in which information needs occur, how information is used and whether users' information needs have been met.

The library within the university today is user-centered as a result of the provision of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) facilities in Nigeria (Onwubiko, 2005). According to Aina (2004b), ICT has radically transformed most of the services provided by a library.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The primary objective of the study is to identify the faculty perception on library Sources and services in Hindusthan Institute of Technology in Coimbatore.

The specific objectives of the study are:

1. To study the demographic details.
2. To ascertain the perception of the faculty on library collection.
3. To identify the perception of services of the libraries.
4. To find out the perception of staff of the libraries.
5. To identify the perception of ICT facilities of the libraries.
6. To determine the hindrances in accessing electronic resources

Purpose of Study

This study was designed to provide approximate estimation of the existing use patterns of Hindustan Institute of Technology Library. It was designed to gather information about the characteristics of Faculty members who use the library and the way in which they make use of its facilities.

Statement of the Problem

The study is restricted to Hindustan College of engineering and Technology in Coimbatore District in Tamil Nadu state and studies the Faculty perception of the adequacy of Library resources and services in the Library, with a view to discovering the awareness on e-resources, and utilization and facing problems while accessing e – resources.etc.

METHODOLOGY

The methodology of this research is based on the exploratory design.

Sources of the Data

The required data for the study was collected from the primary and secondary sources. The primary data was collected from the questionnaires. The secondary data was collected from various sources like books, journals and websites.

Data Collection Instrument

The primary data was collected through questionnaire tool which was carefully designed and tested to analyse the use of library resources by faculty members.

Sampling Instrument

The sampling technique used here is simple random sampling method.

Sample Size

The sample size of this study comprises of 160 faculty members working in Hindustan college of engineering and Technology, Coimbatore.

Sampling Population

This study is conducted among 160 faculty members of the Hindustan college of engineering and Technology, Coimbatore . The response was received from 143 faculties which constitute **75.5%** of response rate.

Analysis and Discussions:

Analysis of the survey carried out by the investigators on the research topic Faculty Perception of the Adequacy of Library Resources and Services of Hindustan college of engineering and Technology, Coimbatore.

The Figure 1 indicates the gender wise distribution of respondents in Hindustan college of engineering and Technology. Male respondents more in number (62%) than the Female Respondents (38%).

The Figure 2 depicts the age wise distribution of the respondents analysis shows that majority 39% of the respondents are with the age of 26 - 30. It also to be noted that 27 % percent of them are with the age of 31 - 35 years and 15% are having the age of more than 40 years.

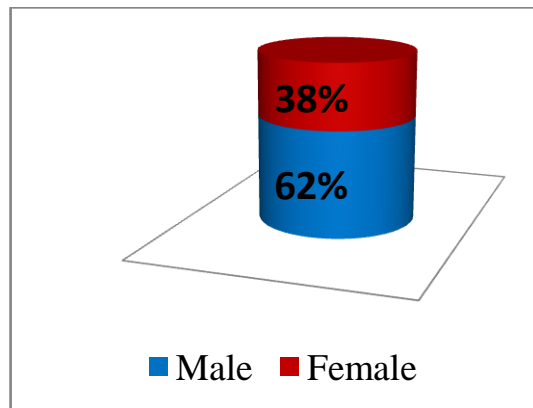
The Figure 3 shows that distribution of respondents according to department. Out of 8 department, 20 questionnaire were distributed to each department. In the case of aeronautical engineering department 13 questionnaire were received, in the case of CSE, 18 received, in the case of ECE, 20 were received, In the case of IT, 15 were received, in the case of Mechanical, 20 received, in the case of Management (19), science & humanity (28), Automobile engineering (20) respectively.

The Figure 4 revealed that the frequency of Library use by the Faculty Members. Majority of the faculty members using the Library in weekly twice (33%). 24% of them using once a week, followed by 13% of them responded for monthly once and 11% of them using occasionally.

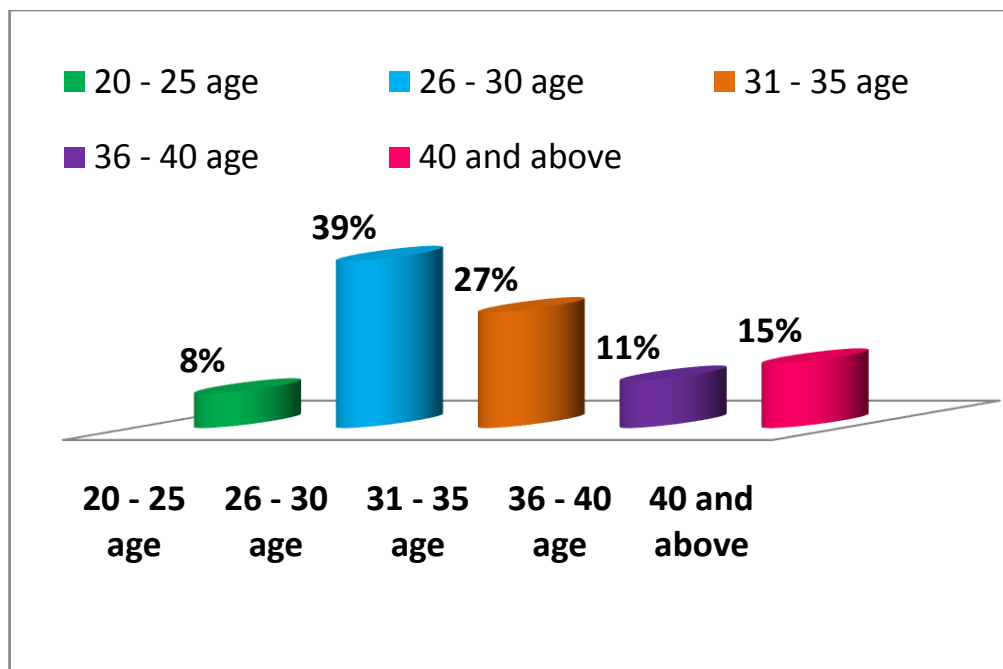
Figure 5 reveals that majority of faculty use the library for the purpose borrowing library materials which account for 31% followed by 26% of them responded for reading news paper and magazines. 18% respondents for preparing lecture, 11% of them for research and paper purpose, 8% of them to gain general Information and finally 6% of them responded for to updates subject knowledge.

Figure 6 clearly explains that the respondents scored their levels of satisfaction with library services as highly satisfied for Internet facilities(85%), journals(83%), OPAC(81%), Books (79%) for library books (79%), Computer/Printer (78%), and highly unsatisfied response rate are gazette (81%), atlases (78%), Abstracts (75%) ,CD ROM (67%) , encyclopedia (65%) respectively.

The academic library often provide a various services apart from Book lending service like SDI, reference service and Inter library loan, Photocopying Service and so on. It is shown by Figure 7, which the highest and lowest response rate for availability of library services. the majority of the Faculty member accepted the availability of library services such as Photocopying service (100%), internet facilities (94%), Answering of users quires (89%), user Education 79%), etc. some of them responded for unavailability of Library services.



Demographic Characteristics of the Respondents: Gender wise Distribution
Figure 1



Age wise Distribution
Figure 2

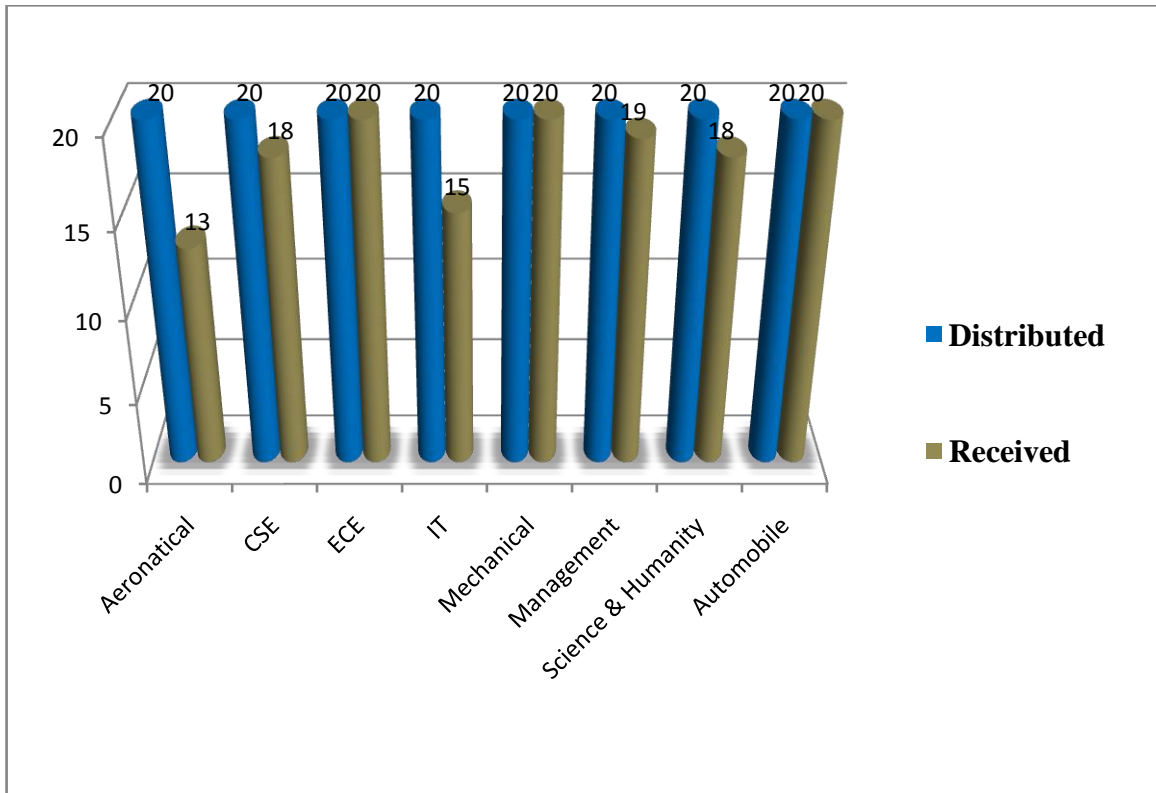
Hindrances in accessing electronic resources.

Figure 8 shows the opinion regarding hindrances in accessing the electronic resources. Majority (47%) of respondents stated that, too much information is retrieved as the main barrier to use electronic resources, followed by 21% of them opined that, time consuming, 13% of them felt that lack of IT knowledge to effectively utilize the services, and 11% of them accepted that they are

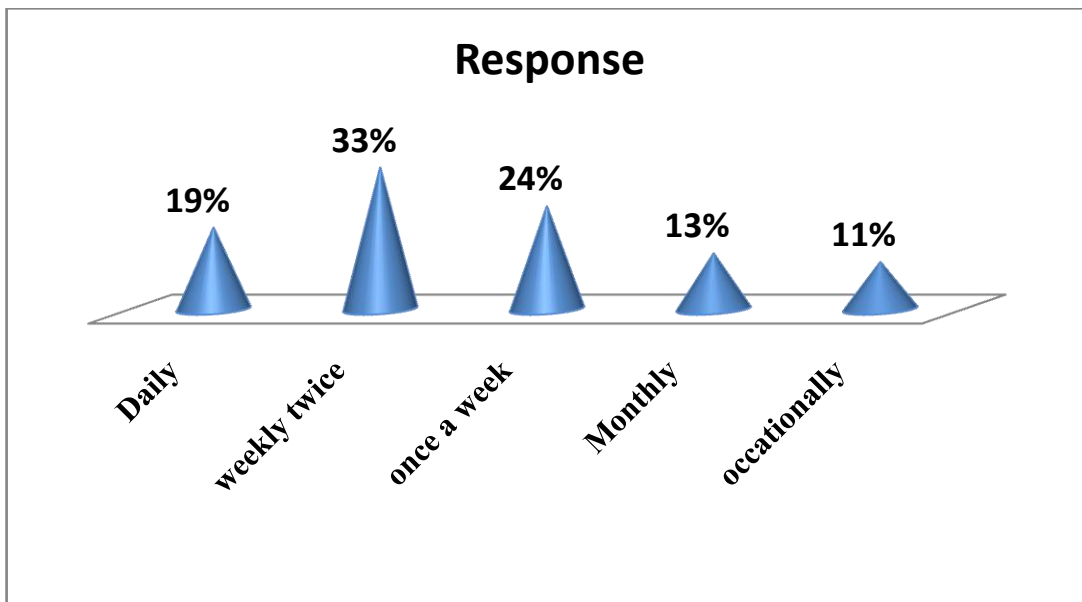
having lack of IT knowledge to effectively utilize the services. 8% respondents stated that, limited access to computers as the main barrier to use electronic resource.

CONCLUSION

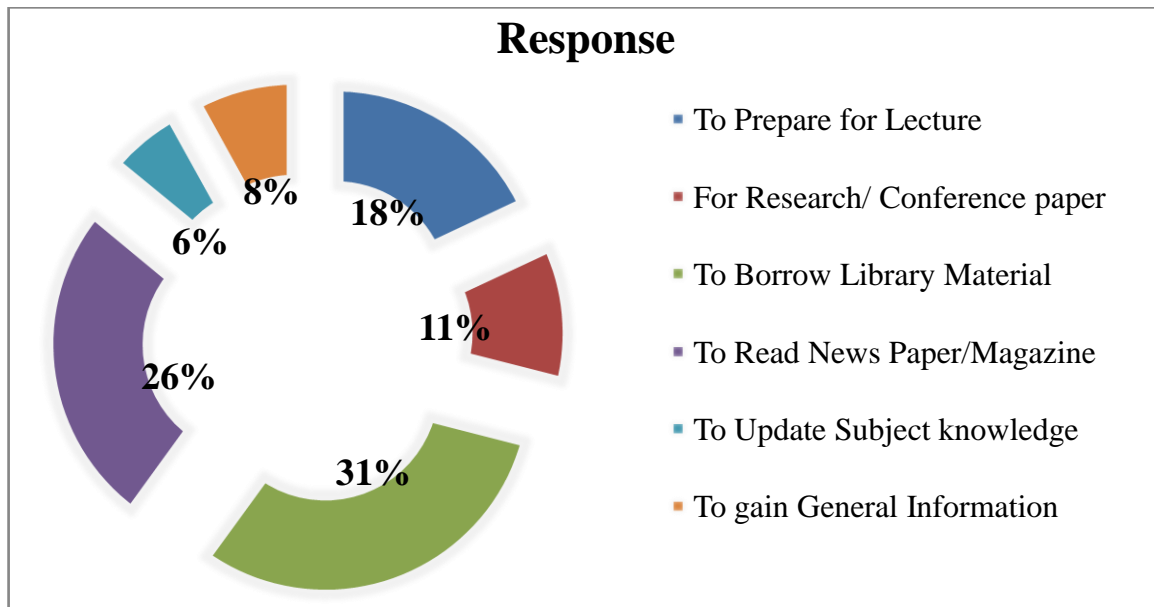
This study discussed the faculty perception on Library



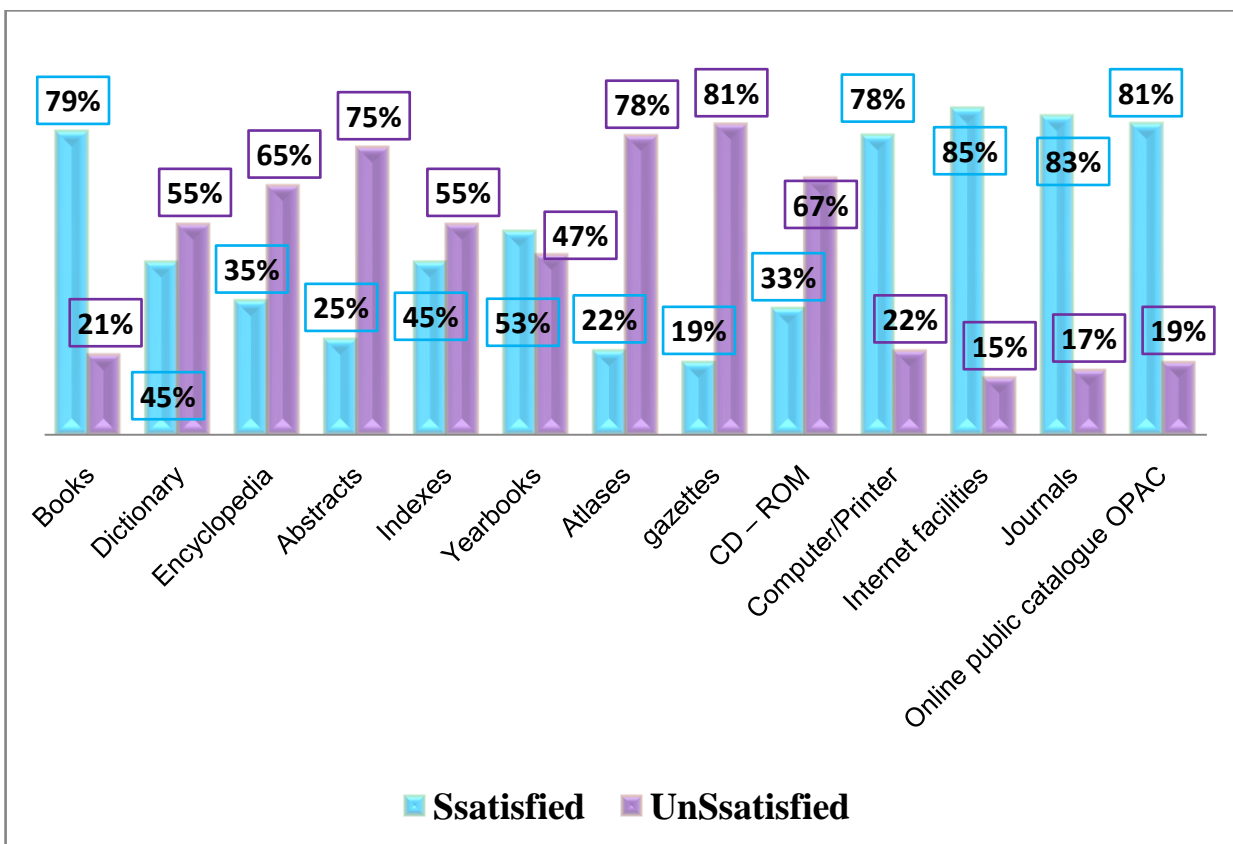
Distribution of Respondents According to department
Figure 3



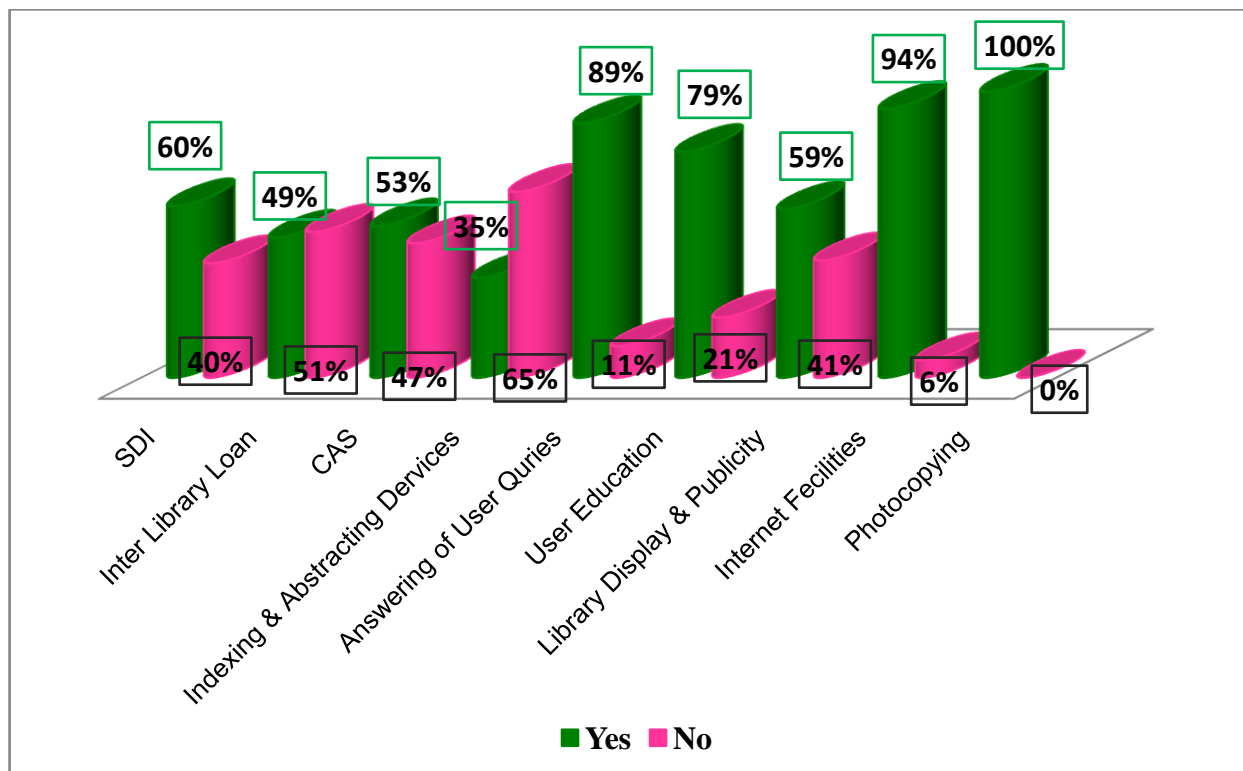
Frequency of Library Use
Figure 4



Purpose of visiting the Library
Figure 5



Satisfaction with library resources
Figure 6



Availability of library services
Figure 7

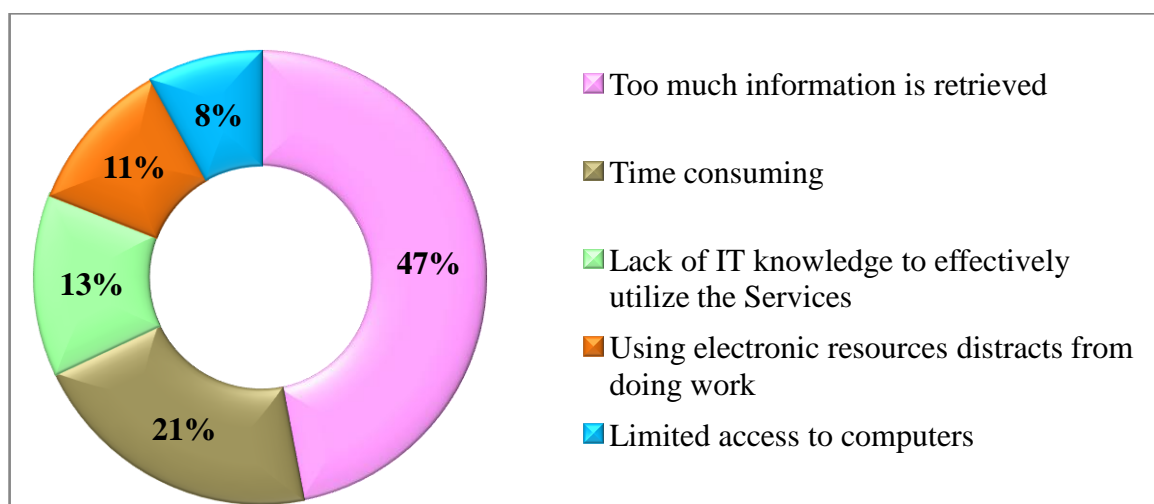


Figure 8

resources and services in Hindustan college of engineering and Technology in Coimbatore. The faculty members are much more interested on using Internet for accessing scientific information in which global level

publications. This study reveals that the maximum number of faculty members are visited the library for preparing seminars, conferences and assignments. From the findings of this study, it was discovered that the

Hindustan college of engineering and Technology library was rendering adequate Internet services, E-mail services, selective dissemination of information (SDI) and online public access catalogue (OPAC), as a result, the lecturers were satisfied with their library.

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