

Role of Public Libraries in Adult Education: A Survey of Lucknow

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Abstract: The aim of this study is to find the collections, service and ICT infrastructure available in public libraries and also to find out the provision, budget and what type of Adult Education program running in the public libraries of Lucknow. If they are not running any kind of adult education program then what are the reasons and barriers for not providing adult education programs to their users. The study focused on 15 public libraries situated in Lucknow. Questionnaire filled from 15 librarians from 15 public libraries. Data was analyzed as per the response of the librarians. The study result there are only two libraries which were running adult education program in their libraries. There were many barriers and reasons for not running adult education program like lack of staff, infrastructure and funds.

Key Words: Library, Public Library, Adult Education, Adult Literacy, Library Services, Adult Education Programs, Budget, Information Technology, Literacy.

1. INTRODUCTION:

Public Library is a gateway of knowledge. Here, people come read books, newspapers, magazines and participate in cultural development activities for free or some nominal charges.

2. REVIEW OF LITERATURE :

- **Iwhiwhu & Okorodudu (2012)** aimed at investigating the users' level of satisfaction with the public library of Edo State. The study adopted descriptive survey method in which questionnaire and observation research instrument was used. The study result's that users were unsatisfied due to poor stocking of information resources and poor quality services makes it difficult for librarians to achieve the purpose for establishing the library.
- **Nassimbeni & May (2006)** investigated the role of South African public libraries in adult education. Questionnaire was distributed and analyzed as per their responses. The results show that most public libraries do not participate at all in any adult education initiatives: 76.9% do not participate while 23.1% do.
- **Khan (2015)** aimed at investigating the user's perception of services quality provided by the Central Public Library of Bahawalpur. Survey among library users was administered and data was collected with the help of questionnaire. Respondents demanded e-resources of information in the library and suggested that library should provide training programs for the development of users. Study concludes that the overall services quality offered by the Central Public Library of Bahawalpur is satisfactory.
- **Ambo (2005)** had discussed about public libraries' role and value in the age of digital era. The purpose of public libraries is still to further democracy, equality and social justice, increase access to information, disseminate culture and knowledge, contribute to a meaningful and informative leisure time, and act as a communal institution and a social meeting place.
- **Bhardwaj, & Kumar (2016)** study investigates the use and non use of public library services in the digital age with special reference to Kurukshetra district library. For the purpose of the data collection questionnaire research instrument was used. It was observed that a majority of the respondents 51(41.80%) respondents faced problem as lack of time. Reading materials is not available problem faced by the respondents with 22(18.03%).

3. Objectives:

- To find out types of collection, services, ICT infrastructure available in public libraries in Lucknow.
- To find out the provision of Adult Education in the public library of Lucknow.
- To investigate types of adult education programs are organized by public libraries.
- To find out the availability of budget for Adult education programs.
- To find out factors which are barriers in offering Adult Education programs.
- To identify reasons for not offering Adult Education.

4. Scope :

The study covers the Public libraries under the purview of Lucknow city. They are fifteen in number. The names of the fifteen public libraries are as follows:

1. Amir-ud-Daula Public Library (ADPL)
2. Lala Lajpat Rai Public library (LRPL)
3. Rajya Suchna Kendra Library (RSKL)
4. Acharya Ramchandra Shukla Library (ARSL)
5. Buddha Vihar Shanti Upvan Library (BVSUL)
6. Sarvajanik Bal Library (SBL)
7. Acharya Narendra Dev Public Library (ANDPL)
8. Shri Maa Sharda Devi Public Library (SMSDPL)
9. Gandhi Bhavan Library (GBL)
10. Ganga Prasad Verma Smarak Library (GPVSL)
11. Chandra Bhanu Gupta Library (CBGL)
12. Acharya Shiv Dutt Shukla Library (ASDSL)
13. Rajkiya Jila Library (RJL)
14. Young Men's Association Public Library (YMAPL)
15. Laxmanpuri Sarvajanik Library (LSL)

5. Method :

Research Methodology is the path through which researchers need to conduct their research. So, the path adopted in the study is descriptive survey design and data is collected through the survey method. For survey method questionnaire is prepared which contained open-ended and close-ended question. Further, it was analyzed by using statistical techniques frequency and percentages. To provide visual aid to the analysis bar graphs are used to present data.

6. Data Analysis :

Table 1
Name and Address of the Public Library

S.No.	List of Public libraries	Address
1	Amir-ud-Daula Public Library	Kaiserbagh, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
2	Lala Lajpat Rai Public library	Kaiserbagh Officer's Colony, Qaisar Bagh, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
3	Raiya Suchna Kendre Library	66, Mahatma Gandhi Marg, Hazratganj, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
4	Acharya Ramchandra Shukla Library	Mahatma Gandhi Marg, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
5	Bhudha Vihar Shanty Upvan Library	554/224KHA/5, Barha, Alambagh, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
6	Survjanik Baal Library	539, Station Rd, Udaiganj, Husainganj, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh



7	Aacharya Narendra Dev Public Library	10, Ashok Marg, Sadullah Nagar, Narhi, Hazratganj, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
8	Shri Maa Sharda Devi Public Library	Sri Ram Krishna Mission, Vivekanandapuri Hydel Colony, Nirala Nagar, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
9	Ghandhi Bhawan Library	Mahatma Gandhi Marg, Qaisar Bagh, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
10	Ganga Prasad Verma Smarak Library	Jagat Cinema Road, Book Market Rd, Khayali Ganj, Aminabad, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
11	Chandra Bhanu Gupta Library	Pan Dariba Marg, Blunt Square, Cash and Pay Colony, Charbagh, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
12	Aacharya Shiv Datt Shukla Library	Near Kalyan Mandap Mahanagar, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
13	Rajkiya Jila Library	Near City Station, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
14	Young Men's Association Public Library	S-9/2, Nh-25 226005, Chander Nagar Market, Chander Nagar, Alambagh, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
15	Laxmanpuri Sarvjanik Library	8A opp. Dua ka Ghar church, near IT metro station, Mahanagar, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh

Table 1 shows the address of the 15 public libraries situated in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.

Table 2
Collection available in public libraries

S.no	Names	Items	
		Books	Printed Journals
1	ADPL	1	1
2	LRPL	1	0
3	RSKL	1	0
4	ARSL	1	0
5	BVSUL	1	0
6	SBL	1	1
7	ANDPL	1	0
8	SMSDPL	1	1
9	GBL	1	0
10	GPVSL	1	0
11	CBGPL	1	1
12	ASDSL	1	0
13	RJL	1	0
14	YMAPL	1	0
15	LSL	1	0
	Frequency	15	4
	Percentage	100	26.67

Table 2 shows that there is 100% stock of books, an printed journals available in the public libraries. It was also concluded that these libraries didn't have E- Journals Audio Cassettes, Video Cassettes, CD-ROM Databases, DVDs.

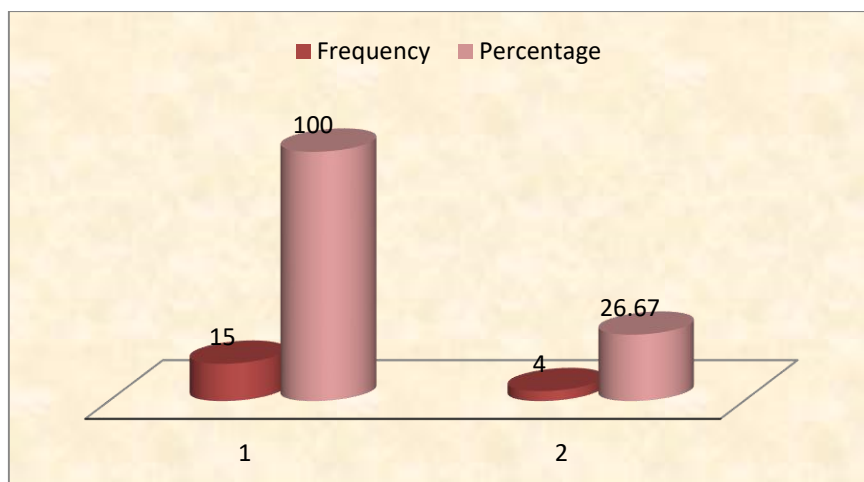


Fig 2
Collection available in public libraries

Table 3
Library and Information Services available in the public libraries

S.no	Names	Services					
		Circulation Service	Reference Service	Photocopy Service	Inter library loan Service	Newspaper Clipping Service	Other
1	ADPL	1	1	1	1	1	1
2	LRPL	1	1	0	1	1	1
3	RSKL	1	1	1	1	1	1
4	ARSL	1	1	1	1	1	1
5	BVSUL	1	1	1	1	1	1
6	SBL	1	1	1	1	1	1
7	ANDPL	1	1	1	1	1	1
8	SMSDPL	1	1	1	0	1	1
9	GBL	1	1	1	0	1	1
10	GPVSL	1	1	0	1	0	1
11	CBGPL	0	1	1	1	1	1
12	ASDSL	1	1		0	1	1
13	RJL	1	1	1	0	1	1
14	YMAPL	1	1	1	0	1	1
15	LSL	1	1	1	1	1	1
	Frequency	13	14	11	9	13	14
	Percentage	86.67	93.33	73.33	60	86.67	93.33

From this table it is shown that 93.33% of libraries are providing reference and other services, 86.67% libraries are making their user avail circulation service and also newspaper clipping service, 73.33% of libraries are providing photocopy service, 60% are proving inter library loans to their users.

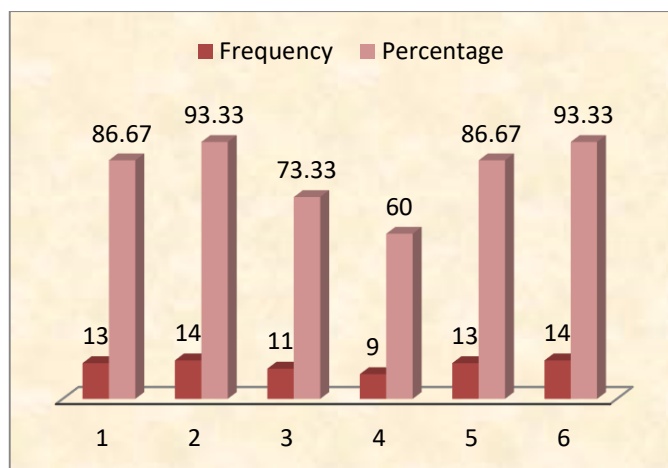


Fig 3
 Services available in the public libraries

Table 4
 ICT services available in public libraries

S.no	Names	Service						
		Current awareness service	SDI service	Library website	Internet service	OPAC	E-mail/Internet facilities	Others
1	ADPL	1	1	1	1	0	1	1
2	LRPL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	RSKL	1	1	0	0	0	1	1
4	ARSL	1	1	0	1	0	1	1
5	BVSUL	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
6	SBL	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
7	ANDPL	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
8	SMSDPL	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
9	GBL	1	1	1	0	0	0	1
10	GPVSL	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
11	CBGPL	1	1	0	0	0	0	1
12	ASDSL	1	1	0	1	0	1	1
13	RJL	1	1	0	1	0	1	1
14	YMAPL	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
15	LSL	1	1	0	1	0	1	1
	Frequency	13	8	4	5	0	5	14
	Percentage	86.67	53.33	26.67	33.33	0	33.33	93.33

Table 4.4 reveals that 86.66% of public libraries are efficient in providing current awareness services to their users. 53.33% libraries are providing SDI services. Only 4 of them have their official website they are- ADPL, ANDPL SMSDPL and GBL which implies 26.67% public libraries have made their official website Also, 33.33% of library providing internet services as well as e-mail facilities and none of them our offering OPAC service.

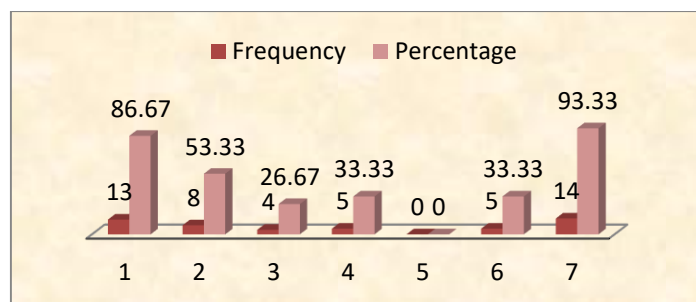


Fig 4
 ICT services available in public libraries

Table 5
 Budgetary Provision for Adult Education

S.no	Names	Provision for adult education program	Budget for adult education program
1	ADPL	0	0
2	LRPL	0	0
3	RSKL	0	0
4	ARSL	0	0
5	BVSUL	0	0
6	SBL	0	0
7	ANDPL	0	0
8	SMSDPL	0	0
9	GBL	0	0
10	GPVSL	0	0
11	CBGPL	0	0
12	ASDSL	0	0
13	RJL	1	1
14	YMAPL	0	0
15	LSL	1	1
	Total	2	2
	Percentage	13.33	13.33

Table 4.5 shows that only two libraries (RSL and LSL) providing provision and budget for adult education, the 13 libraries not providing any provision and budget for adult education. Adult education defined in the Indian context as the education of those who are illiterate in the age group 15-35 years in the skills of literacy, functionality and awareness. It includes learners' awareness of social, economic and political realities and the functional use of the skills learned.

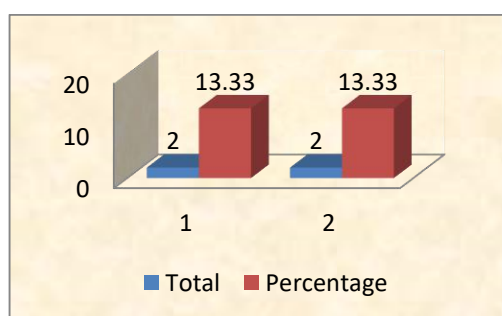


Fig 5
 Provision and budget of Adult Education in the public library



Table 6
Types of adult education programs running in the libraries

S.no	Names	Programs								
		Gram Shikshan Mohim	National Adult Education Programme	Rural Functional Literacy Program	Mass Program for Functional Literacy	Jana Shikshan Nilayams	National Literacy Mission	Continuing Education Program	Total Literacy Campaigns	Post Literacy Campaigns
1	ADPL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	LRPL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	RSKL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	ARSL		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	BVSUL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	SBL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	ANDPL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8	SMSDPL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	GBL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	GPVSL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11	CBGPL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
12	ASDSL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
13	RJL	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
14	YMAPL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15	LSL	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	Frequency	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
	Percentage	13.33	13.33	13.33	13.33	13.33	13.33	13.33	13.33	13.33

The table 4.6 depicts that only two libraries RJL and LSL are running types of Adult Education Programs in their libraries at Lucknow. Public libraries providing 13% of Gram Shikshan Mohim, National Adult Education Programme, Rural Functional Literacy Program, Rural Functional Literacy Program, Jana Shikshan Nilayams, National Literacy Mission , Continuing Education Program, Total Literacy Campaigns and Post Literacy Campaigns. All these types adult education program aims to promote literacy among adults, Treating basic literacy, post literacy and continuing education as one sustained, coherent learning process, and raising their functional capabilities in their occupation and skills of management.

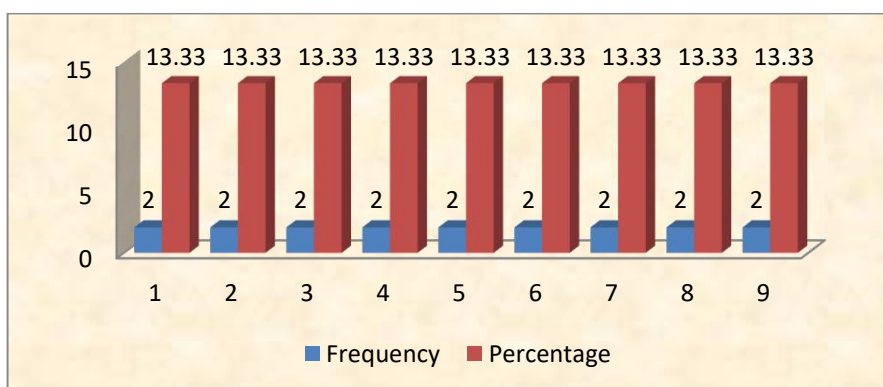


Fig 6
Types of adult education programs running in the libraries

Table 7
Reasons for not offering adult education programs in Lucknow

S.no	Names	Reasons			
		The community served by this outlet does not have a Strong need for adult literacy programs.	The programming in this outlet emphasizes other groups.	This outlet does not have the staff or resources to offer an adult literacy program.	Others
1	ADPL	1	1	1	0
2	LRPL	0	1	0	0
3	RSKL	0	0	0	1
4	ARSL	1	0	0	0
5	BVSUL	0	1	1	0
6	SBL	1	1	1	0
7	ANDPL	1	1	0	0
8	SMSDPL	0	1	0	1
9	GBL	1	1	0	0
10	GPVSL	1	1	1	0
11	CBGPL	1	1	0	0
12	ASDSL	1	1	0	1
13	RJL	0	0	0	0
14	YMAPL	1	0	1	0
15	LSL	0	0	0	0
	Frequency	9	10	5	3
	Percentage	60	66.67	33.33	20

The table 4.7 concluded that 66.67% libraries reasoned that they are not running adult education program as their outlet emphasizes other groups, 60% librarians reasoned that they didn't feel strong need for adult education program, 33.33% reasoned that they didn't have enough resources and staff for organizing the adult education programs, other 20% libraries stated reasons like they have small outlet so they cannot run such a big scale program other reasoned out they are running other programmes for children literacy.

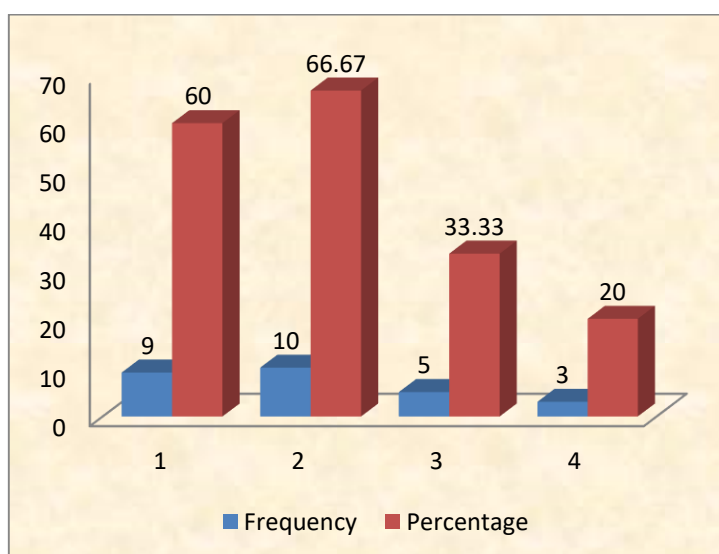


Fig 7
Reasons for not offering adult education programs in Lucknow

Table 8
Barriers in offering adult education programs

S.no	Names	Barriers					
		Lack of library space for adult literacy programs	Lack of staff trained in adult literacy programs	Lack of staff with foreign language skills	Insufficient literacy workbooks and reading materials	Insufficient English as a second language materials	Others
1	ADPL	1	1	1	0	0	0
2	LRPL	1	1	1	0	0	1
3	RSKL	1	1	1	0	0	0
4	ARSL	0	0	1	1	1	0
5	BVSUL	1	1	0	0	0	0
6	SBL	1	1	1	1	1	1
7	ANDPL	1	1	1	1	1	0
8	SMSDPL	1	1	1	1	0	0
9	GBL	1	1	1	0	1	1
10	GPVSL	1	1	1	0	0	0
11	CBGPL	1	1	1	1	0	0
12	ASDSL	1	1	1	1	0	0
13	RJL	0	0	0	0	0	0
14	YMAPL	1	1	1	1	0	0
15	LSL	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Frequency	12	12	12	7	4	3
	Percentage	80	80	80	46.67	26.67	20

Table 4.8 shows 80% of the libraries stated that they are not able to run adult education programmes as their is lack of library space , lack of staff trained in adult literacy programs and they don't have staff with foreign language skills. 46.67% reasoned that they have insufficient literacy workbooks and reading material , 26.67% of libraries do not have sufficient English as a second language materials and 20% of libraries have other reasons for not running adult education programmes.

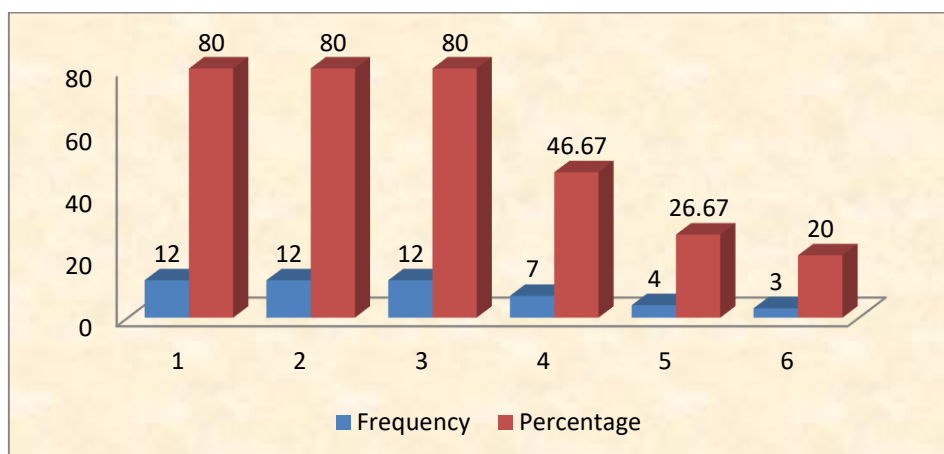


Fig 4.9
Barriers for not offering adult education programs



7. CONCLUSION:

Public libraries are vital institutions, which cannot be separated from education. The provision of public libraries of public libraries is crucial and indispensable to adult education in Lucknow. In Lucknow only 13% adult education programs are running. Only Rajkiya Jila Public Library (RJL) and Laxmanpuri Sarvajanik Library (LSL) are organizing adult education programs. The absence of adult education in public libraries will be negative upon illiterate, neo-literate and semi-literate adults.

8. SUGGESTIONS:

- The sample size was small; only public libraries were taken into account so it could be increased by taking private libraries to wider the area of research.
- The research was confined to public libraries that are in Lucknow only.
- Other variables like other variables like Preschool early Literacy Programs, digitization, etc can also be included to have a broader picture.
- The research is only confined to public libraries. Further, it also be conducted on different types of libraries like special library, college library etc.
- The number of staff members in the public libraries as many of the libraries are not running adult education program due to lack of staff members.

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