



ISSN: 2230-9926

Available online at <http://www.journalijdr.com>

IJDR

**International Journal of
DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH**

International Journal of Development Research
Vol. 5, Issue, 04, pp. 4242-4243, April, 2015

Full Length Research Article

AN OUTLINE STUDY OF AYURVEDA MEDICAL COLLEGE LIBRARY

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ARTICLE INFO

Article History:

Received 25th January, 2015

Received in revised form

16th February, 2015

Accepted 29th March, 2015

Published online 29th April, 2015

ABSTRACT

In the northern part of India Libraries have existed in some form or the other form early times. The large collections of the early Hindu manuscripts at Nalanda, Taxila, Patliputra and at Vaishali together with the libraries of the Medieval Hindu period at Ujjain, Bnaras, Tanjore and Kashmir are good examples of the existence of ancient libraries in our country. A well equipped and a well managed library is the foundation of modern educational structure. Vaidyaratnam ayurveda college library is the pioneer of private medical colleges.

Key words:

Information,

User pattern,

Ayurveda college library, Users.

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INTRODUCTION

Vaidyaratnam Ayurveda College was founded by the late Ashtavaidyam E.T. Neelakandan Mooss on 2nd October 1976. The College is affiliated to the Kerala University of Health Sciences and offers the course B.A.M.S. degree (Ayurveda acharya). The course is recognized by the Central Council of Indian Medicines (CCIM) and is of duration of 5½ years. Sri. Neelakandan Mooss hailed from the Eledath Thaikkattu Mooss family of Thaikkattussery, Thrissur.

His father, Sri. Narayanan Mooss, was a renowned practitioner and was bestowed the title "Vaidyaratnam" by the then Viceroy of India, Lord Reading in recognition of his meritorious contribution to the medical field. Following his father's footsteps, Sri. Neelakandan Mooss took to Ayurveda and started the Vaidyaratnam Oushadhashala in 1941. Courses offered in this college are, BAMS and Post graduate programme (Ayurveda Vachaspati). The number of seats available for BAMS is 50 students per year. Seats available for PG Kayachikitsa are 4 students per year.

Vaidyaratnam Ayurveda College Library

There is a central Library in the College having the collection of 11492 books and 26 Journals including some of the rarest books in Ayurveda. The Library is in the process of digitalization. The Library has also attached broadband internet facilities for the use of students and teaching faculties. Review of current National and International Journals are available in the library. In addition to the Central Library, all the departments are providing with department libraries. Book Bank Scheme has been implemented in the College Library exclusively for Schedule Caste and Schedule Tribe students with the financial assistance from the Government of India, Ministry of Welfare from 1995-96 academic years onwards. Almost all the fundamental books for the course have been provided in the book bank.

Statement of the problem

Today's libraries face a lack of technical awareness including library automation. Meaningful use of manpower, finance, reading materials, equipment, so as to bring about improvement of library services.

Review of Literature

A literature review is a description of the literature relevant to a particular field or topic. The first step in any investigation

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involves reading what other people have written about the subject under study. Thus a literature review is an evaluative report of information found in the literature related to the selected area of the present study.

Objectives

1. To know the library facilities
2. To collect the data from the library
3. To know the structure of library staff pattern
4. To verify the library users from a week
5. To know the lack of services in the library.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Questionnaire distribution to students, interview methods and observation methods are used for collecting data's.

RESULTS

1. A primary unit library should have three sections, such as, Lending section, Reference section and Reading room facility.
2. There should be an open access system to facilitate browsing through the materials on the shelves.
3. A proper cataloguing and classification system should be observed in this library. So that the library operations take on an effective practical turn with all the readers.
4. The library services must be linked with department library systems, to ensure wider reading materials to the readers.
5. To have sufficient reprographic services
6. Availability of sufficient resources and manpower
7. Library orientation and teaching of library skills
8. Users awareness of library resources

Suggestions

1. There should be automated services to quicken the retrieval and dissemination of information.
2. The librarian should encourage the readers in the use of reference materials
3. There should be at least ten copies of each prescribed book for the use of students
4. Digitalization of the library provides the time saving of the user.

Conclusion

This study has revealed that majority of the users are satisfied with the organization and function of the Library. The educational system today is being challenged even by the educationalists themselves. In this context, the library has become important today, but its growth is still slow. Modern libraries today are considered to be the important sources of information. The use of libraries is no waste of time nor is it a waste of knowledge-rather, libraries help to expand knowledge and put its readers on the right track in solving problems in various spheres of life.

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