Resources and Services in Select Deemed University Libraries in Tamil Nadu: A Study

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Abstract

This paper discusses the roll of select Deemed University Libraries in Tamil Nadu. The role of academic Libraries fulfills its functions as the heart of any academic institutions. The deemed University library's huge investment in E-resources has a direct impact on the productivity of an institution. Where the students have good access to E-Resources and also good E-Services and effectively they can access the e-resources in 24 hours irrespective of building opening hours. From this study it spotlights the E-resources and E-services available in the selected Deemed Universities in Tamilnadu. This study is an attempt to bring out the library infrastructure and facilities, offered number of e-resources, e-services and library software and database available in deemed university libraries. Based upon the findings, it is suggested to reinforce the collection development of electronic resources and effective services to further boost up for the research and development activities.

Keywords

Academic Library, Deemed University, E-Resource, E-Service.

Electronic access

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INTRODUCTION

In this competitive world the quality of education with good infrastructural facility and high standard academia is mandatory. Competitions among the educational institution compel to furnish high-quality infrastructure and world class education to attract the students' eagerness for knowledge. This high standard higher education institution in a specific area of study can be declared by the Central Government on the recommendation of the University Grants Commission and conferred the status of "Deemed-to-be-University" under Section(3) of UGC Act, of 1956 of an institution. This Deemed-to-be-University enjoy academic status and privileges of a university and are offering education and research facility in various disciplines such as Medical Education, Physical Education, Fisheries Education, Languages, Social Sciences, Population sciences, Dairy Research, Forest Research, Armament Technology, Maritime Education, Yoga, Music and Information Technology etc., The establishment of Standard Library contributed directly to the University's academic mission and to equipping students and researchers with the skills and knowledge they wish to achieve academically and their employable capability. Good quality of library resources and services can help and attract the students to maintain the academic flyers and contribute to the prestige of the University. Revolutionize in higher education, the new student-centered paradigm and new learning and teaching approaches have also created a need for a transformation of the roles and responsibilities not only for librarians but also for libraries. This study deals with three deemed university libraries in Tamilnadu namely, GandhiGram Rural Institute-Deemed University, in Dindigul, Kalasalingam Academy of Research and Education -Deemed University, in Krishnan Koil, and Karunya University, in Coimbatore District.

PROFILE OF THE UNIVERSITIES

Gandhigram Rural Institute (GRI) was founded in the year 1956 by team of dedicated disciples and contemporaries of the father of our nation MahatmaGandhi, Dr. T.S.Soundaram and Dr. G. Ramachandran. This Institute has developed academic programmes in Rural Development, Rural Economics and Extension Education, Rural Oriented Sciences, Cooperation, Development Administration, Rural Sociology, English and Communicative Studies and Tamil and Indian Languages. The work

of the Institute invited national consideration and the "Ministry of Education" on the recommendation of University Grants Commission, conferred the status of a Deemed-to-be-University on the Institute under Section (3) of the UGC Act of 1956, on 3rd August, 1976. This institution started like a spark, has developed into a big educational complex offered various programmes and attracted students from various parts of the country. The Gandhigram Rural Institute has a campus of nearly 200 acres in the rural setting, nestling in one of the enclaves of the beautiful Sirumalai range in Dindigul District. To its west are chains of mountains including the beautiful Kodaikanal Hill Station. It has at present about 2300 students and 125 teaching and 250 non-teaching staff. The panorama of nature surrounding Gandhi gram Institute is pleasing to the eye and inspiring the soul.

Kalasalingam Academy of Research and Education (KARE) formerly started as Aulmigu Kalasalingam College of Engineering in 1984 by Kalasalingam and Anandam Ammal charities and affiliated to Madurai Kamaraj University. It emerges to the status of Deemed-to-be University on 10-10-2006. Spread over a total area of 65 acres and with built-in area of 21,59,274 sq.ft. in a pleasant green campus at the foot hills of the Western Ghats in rural background of Krishnan Koil, Virudhunagar District. Kalasalingam Academy of Research and Education (KARE) has total student strength of 4710 and it offers 28 undergraduate programmes, 47 Postgraduate programmes and 24 Research Programmes in various disciplines not only in Engineering field but also in Science and Humanities.

The Karunya Institute of Technology and Science was established as a private self-financing engineering College on 4th October 1986 by Dr. D.G.S. Dhinakaran and his son Paul Dinakaran. In the year 2004 the Institute was awarded the Deemed-to-be-University in recognition of its academic excellence by the Government of India, Ministry of Human Resources Development, and subsequently renamed as Karunya University under Section (3) of the UGC Act, 1956. Karunya University is a co-educational, fully residential, Technological University imparting holistic education to develop the body, mind and spirit of the students. Karunya University is located 25 kms away from Coimbatore surrounded by an array of green clothing; sky scraping mountains of the Western Ghats in a natural environment has a campus of nearly 720 acres in a serene location. Karunya University offers 12 Undergraduate Programme, Post Graduate Programmes by 32 schools, 5 integrated programmes and also offering various research programmes

Table 1: Description of the University

Name of the University	Abbre viation	Website Address	Year of Estd.	Year of Deemed to be University	Campus Area and located District
Gandhi Gram Rural Institute - Deemed University	GRI	www.Gandhigram ruraluniversity.ac. in	1956	03-08-1976	200 acres, Dindigul District
Kalasalingam Academy of Research and Education – Deemed University	KARE	www.kalasalingam univertiy.ac.in	1984	10-10-2006	65 acres, Virudhunagar District
Karunya University	KU	www.karunya.edu. in	1986	23-06-2004	720 acres, Coimbatore District.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Previous studies related to the usage of e-resources and services in academic and deemed university libraries are: Ramakrishna K(2016) in his study on "Library Resources and Services of Deemed University Libraries in Andhra Pradesh, India" reveals that the deemed university libraries are maintaining good infrastructure, good number of e-resources and services for academic and research purpose. Mehar Singh and Ajay Kumar Arora (2015) in their study on "Library Resources and Services in the Selected University Libraries of Haryana, India" discuss about the collection development, library

activities such as working hours, membership enrolment, electronic resources and service to the users of the library for enhance their skill in imparting their knowledge and employability. Vinod Kumar Singh(2013) in his study on "Use of E-Resources and Services by Users at Indian Institute of Management Bangalore: A Study" expose that electronic sources of information are highly useful for the research, teaching and learning process and he suggests that regular orientation and training programme should be conducted for the better use of electronic sources. Mariraj, M (2013) carried out a study on" Use of Electronic resources and electronic information access by the faculty and students of selected Management schools of Tamilnadu" A prototype model based on the perception and practices. Dastforoush and Venkatesha (2011) in their study on "Dependency on Electronic and Print Journals: A Case Study" discuss that majority of the research scholars and faculty members are depending electronic resource for their education and teaching learning process.

OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

- To know the infrastructure of the library facility in the deemed university library
- To know the E-resources and E-services available in the deemed university library
- To identify the software installed and the internet speed for the purpose of literature search
- To know the strength of print and electronic resources of the library

METHODOLOGY

This study deals with three deemed university libraries in Tamilnadu namely Gandhigram Rural Institute-Deemed University, Dindigul; Kalasalingam Academy of Research and Education-Deemed University, Krishnan Koil; and Karunya University, Coimbatore.

Table 2: Working Hours of the Deemed University Libraries

Name	Monday to Friday	Saturday	Sunday
GRI	9.00a.m. to 9.00p.m.	9.00a.m. to 5.00 p.m.	9.00a.m. to 1.00p.m.
KARE	9.00a.m. to 9.00p.m.	9.30a.m. to 5.00p.m.	Holiday
Karunya University	8.00a.m. to 11.00p.m.	8.00a.m. to.7.00p.m.	Holiday

Table 2 shows that working hours of the library in GRI maximum opening hours Monday to Friday 9.00am. to 9p.m. Saturday 9.00a.m. to 5p.m. and Sunday 9.00a.m. to 1p.m; in Kalasalingam opening hours of the Library is Monday to Friday 9.00a.m. to 9pm Saturday 9.30a.m. to 5pm and Sunday remains holiday and in Karunya University Opening hours of the library is Monday to Friday 8.00 am to 11p.m. Saturday 8.00 am to 7.00p.m. and Sunday and other public holidays remains holiday.

Table 3: Holdings Of The Deemed University Libraries

Holdings	GRI	KARE	KU
Books	165700	80951	102000
Current Periodicals	240	342	221
Back Volumes	4253	3363	8220
Reference Collection	45500	5070	5400
Ph.D Thesis	710	106	166
Dissertations and Project reports	7377	5256	2403
CD/DVD collections	1600	6227	3700
Book Bank	2012	3117	2103

Table 3 shows the holding of the three deemed university libraries Books and GRI have 165700 Books; 240 Current Periodicals, 4253 Back volumes 45500 Reference Collection, 710 Ph.D. Thesis, 7377 Dissertations and Project Reports, 1600, DVD/CD Collections and 2012 Book Bank collections. Kalasalingam University have 80951 Books; 342 Current Periodicals, 3363 Back volumes 5070 Reference Collection, 106 Ph.D. Thesis, 2403 Dissertations and Project Reports, 6227, DVD/CD Collections and 3117 Book Bank collections and Karunya University have 102000 Books; 221 Current Periodicals, 8220 Back volumes 5400 Reference Collection, 166 Ph.D. Thesis, 2403 Dissertations and Project Reports, 3700 DVD/CD Collections and 2103 Book Bank collections.

Table 4: Library Space And Seating Capacity

Space	GRI	KARE	KU
Area of space	12,600 sq.ft.	1,01,822 sq.ft.	2986.83 sq.m.
Seating capacity	For 150 users	For 500 users	For 525 users

To attract the students community and research scholars deemed university libraries flourish in a congenial manner. Table 4 indicates that the Universities have the vast area such as the Gandhigram University have the built up area of 12,600sq.ft., and also have the seating capacity of 150 users; Kalasalingam Deemed University have area of space 1,01,822sq.ft., and the seating capacity meets 500 users and the Karunya University have the area of space of 2986.83 sq.m., and also have the seating capacity of 525 users.

Table 5: Books Lending Facility

Category	GRI	KARE	KU
UG STUDENTS	2	2	2
PG STUDENTS	3	4	5
M.PHIL SCHOLARS	4	4	10
PH.D. SCHOLARS	5	4	10
FACULTIES	10	10	10

Table 5 shows the lending facilities in the deemed university libraries to its members. All the students enrolled and the faculties and non-teaching staff are members of their libraries which they are belong. GRI University issues books for UG Student 2 books, PG student 3 books, M.Phil. Scholars 4 books and Ph.D. Scholars 5 books and for Faculties 10 books, like wise in Kalasalingam University issues books for UG Student 2 books, PG student 4 books, M.Phil. Scholars 4 books and Ph.D. Scholars 4 books and for Faculties 10 books and the Karunya University issues books for UG Student 2 books, PG student 5 books, M.Phil. Scholars 10 books and Ph.D. Scholars 10 books and for Faculties 10 books.

Table 6: University Libraries Staff Position

Staff Position	GRI	KARE	KU
University Librarian	--	1	1
Deputy Librarian	1	1	1
Assistant Librarian	2	1	1
Technical Assistant	--	1	4
Library Assistant	--	2	2

Staff position is very much essential for the effective service of the University Libraries. From the Table 6: it shows university libraries staff position, first GRI University has One Deputy Librarian and 2 Assistant Librarians, Kalasalingam University has One University Librarian, One Deputy Librarian, 1 Assistant Librarian, One Technical Assistant and 2 Library Assistants and Karunya University has One University Librarian, One Deputy Librarian, 1 Assistant Librarian, 4 Technical Assistants and 2 Library Assistants to manage the activities of the library.

Table 7: Library Automation Facility

Automation of Library	GRI	KARE	KU
Library Software	KOHA	MODERNLIB	AUTOLIB
No. of computers	40	5	32
Internet Speed	1GBPS	1GBPS	10MBPS

Table 7 shows the library automation facility established by the University Libraries; GRI University Library install KOHA software and 40 computers available and the internet speed is 1GBPS with and in Kalasalinga University library install the MODERN LIB software and the library has 5 computers and internet speed is 1GBPS and in Karunya University Library installs AUTOLIB Software, the number of computers 32 with internet speed is 10MBPS.

Table 8. E-Resources in the University Library

e-Resources	GRI	KARE	KU
UGC-INFONET – e-shodhsindhu	Yes	Yes	Yes
DELNET	Yes	Yes	Yes
INDIA STAT.com	Yes	Yes	Yes
National Digital Library	Yes	Yes	Yes
E-Thesis and Dissertation	Yes	Yes	Yes
Digital Library	Yes	Yes	Yes
Library Website	Yes	Yes	Yes
OPAC	Yes	Yes	Yes
Science Direct	Yes	Yes	Yes
IEEE	Yes	Yes	Yes
EBSCO	Yes	Yes	Yes
Emerald	Yes	Yes	Yes
Scopus	Yes	Yes	Yes
Springer link	Yes	Yes	Yes
Proquest e-books	Yes	Yes	Yes
Nature	Yes	Yes	Yes
JSTOR	Yes	Yes	Yes

Taylor and Francis	Yes	Yes	Yes
NMICT		Yes	
List of e.sakshat e-content repositories		Yes	
CEC-e-content		Yes	
E-Pathsala		Yes	
NPTEL Engg.Media Content		Yes	
Spoken tutorial		Yes	
A view Virtual Classroom		Yes	

E- Resources in the deemed university libraries attract and create very excitement to access resources to their teaching, learning and research process. In Table 7 e-resources are UGC-INFONET – e-shodhsindhu, DELNET, INDIA STAT.com, National Digital Library, Library Website, OPAC, Science Direct, IEEE, EBSCO, Emerald, Scopus, Springer link, Proquest e-books, Nature, JSTOR and Taylor and Francis. In Kalasalingam University's available e-resources are UGC-INFONET – e-shodhsindhu, DELNET, INDIA STAT.com, National Digital Library, Library Website, OPAC, Science Direct, IEEE, EBSCO, Emerald, Scopus, Springer link, Proquest e-books, Nature, JSTOR and Taylor and Francis, NMICT, List of e-sakshat e-content repositories, CEC e-content, E. Pathsala, NPTEL Engg Media Content, Spoken Tutorial and A View Virtual Classroom. And in Karunya University's available e-resources are UGC-INFONET – e-shodhsindhu, DELNET, INDIA STAT.com, National Digital Library, Library Website, OPAC, Science Direct, IEEE, EBSCO, Emerald, Scopus, Springer link, Proquest e-books, Nature, JSTOR and Taylor and Francis. Huge investments on e-resources in Deemed University Libraries make further strength to its library holdings.

Table 9: services fecilititates in deemed university library

e-Resources	GRI	KARE	KU
Reference Service	Yes	Yes	Yes
Computerized circulation of books	Yes	Yes	Yes
Online Public Access Catalogue	Yes	Yes	Yes
Internet Services	Yes	Yes	Yes
Online Book Database Search	Yes	Yes	Yes
Online Serial Database Search	Yes	Yes	Yes
CD ROM Collection Access	Yes	Yes	Yes
Book Reservation facility	Yes	Yes	Yes
Book Renewal Facility	Yes	Yes	Yes
Digital Library Repository	Yes	Yes	Yes
Resource Collection for competitive Examinations	Yes	Yes	Yes
User awareness programme on the use of e-resources	Yes	Yes	Yes
Book lending	Yes	Yes	Yes
photocopying	Yes	Yes	Yes
Reference service	Yes	Yes	Yes
Current awareness service	Yes	Yes	Yes
Selective dissemination of information	Yes	Yes	Yes
Web Bibliography compilation	Yes	Yes	Yes
Identification of relevant website	Yes	Yes	Yes
Net information downloading	Yes	Yes	Yes
CD writing	Yes	Yes	Yes

Table 8 : shows various services provided in Deemed University Libraries. All the selected three University Libraries Provide services such traditional as well as e-services like Reference Service, Computerized circulation of books, Online Public Access Catalogue, Internet Services, Online Book Database Search, Online Serial Database Search, CD ROM Collection Access, Book Reservation facility, Book Renewal Facility, Digital Library Repository, Resource Collection for competitive Examinations, User awareness programme on the use of e-resources, Book lending, photocopying, Reference service, Current awareness service, Selective dissemination of information, Web Bibliography compilation, Identification of relevant website, Net information downloading and CD writing services.

FINDINGS AND SUGGESSIONS

This study reveals that the Deemed University's Libraries have the world class infrastructure. Area of

space and seating capacity invite the students and faculties to occupy their place to experience their place to acquire knowledge. Investment on electronic resources create a center of attention to the users to achieve more awareness attain their goal; strengthen the velocity of the University. It is suggested to procure more journals in regional language and arrange frequent training programme to access the resources.

CONCLUSION

From this study, it highlights the infrastructure of the Deemed University Libraries area of space, seating capacity in the library, available e-resources and various services, library automation software, internet speed, staff position, and working hours of the library. To attain the Vision and Mission the Deemed University libraries played an imperative role in fabricating the future citizens with enlightenment of their knowledge.

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