Use and Impact of the Modern ICT in SKIMS Medical College, Bemina, Jammu & Kashmir.

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ABSTRACT: The role of Medical libraries and librarianship are always changing with the development of new technological gadgets and advancement in medical sciences. The emergence of Information & Communication Technology (ICT) has left a great impression on the growth and development of Medical institutions and their libraries worldwide. Today, the library & information science world is witnessing the ongoing transformation in the availability and accessibility of resources and services at a speed of nanoseconds. Thus, it is important to know the status and usage of ICT in Medical College Libraries. The present study is an attempt to examine the use and impact of the modern ICT in SKIMS Medical College Library. In addition the study also aims to attain the following objectives-To find out the current status of library automation in the SKIMS medical college library, to study the use of ICT and e-resources by medical students, , to determine attitude of medical students towards ICT enabled library, to find out the level of awareness of using these digital information resources; To find out the level of satisfaction of users for existing ICT facilities, to find out the problems faced by library users and staff related to ICT. To fulfill the objectives a small structured questionnaire was distributed among the UG and PG medical students who are visiting the Central library frequently and library professionals through Google form to collect the desired data. Besides this, content analysis was also used to gather the previous data about the topic. The result highlights that librarians support ICT applications in their campuses by maintaining different resources and giving access to various online resources. Most of the respondents believed that ICT is essential for their medical education and research. The findings of the study also reveal that the librarians at the beginning face multiple challenges to support and promote ICT because of the lack of proper training, infrastructure and network facility. At the end, the paper also provides some suggestions for strengthen the healthcare education and research by using ICT.

Key words: Technological gadgets, Information & Communication Technology (ICT), e-resources

INTRODUCTION

Every second, information is published in various formats through different applications of information technologies. Throughout history, the introduction of information and communication technologies has affected globally on social, cultural, political aspects of life. The emergence of Information & Communication Technology (ICT) is one of the wonderful gifts of modern science and technology and has left a great impression on the growth and development of libraries and information networks worldwide. Today ICT has created many opportunities and challenges in the provision of library and information services in the health sector around the world. The rapid delivery of knowledge-based resources is having an impact on clinicians, researchers, faculty, medical students, pharmicists work and other health related professionals. It is critical for the development and administration of healthcare services to have timely access to accurate and relevant medical information. With web-accessible databases and resources, users can easily search and identify online full-text journals, books, and other sources, and the information is instantly available at the point of need. The users are now becoming more are more versant with technology which has created the environment where the user itself is the creator arof the content. The libraries and information networks

are playing a vital role in this ICT based society to provide authentically and managed information to their users. The libraries of medical colleges are special kind of libraries and the users of libraries are medical students, teachers, allied staff members and patients, where it is important that the authentic, reliable and more pinpointed information be provided without delay at their doorsteps as the information is concerned to the health of the people. Today, the health and medical educational information resources are very expensive so every library cannot fulfill the needs of the users; moreover, there are other constraints in availability and accessibility of these resources like limited storage capacity, manpower, and day-by-day hike in prices of information resources. Thus, the medical college libraries networks came into existence to solve these problems. The modern medical libraries have started joining hands with various networks to meet the demands of their users.

LITERATURE SURVEY:

The medical college libraries have a crucial role to play directly in the promotion of medical education and health care and indirectly in various health welfare programmes. An attempt is made to examine how far the medical college libraries of Gujarat have been fulfilling there objectives in recent information and communication technological era. A survey was conducted to find out whether these libraries are fully equipped, to serve the user community in modern ICT era? It also examines how ICT infrastructure facility is available in medical colleges of Gujarat to promote this new proposed adventure of the information network for the betterment of user services and resource sharing. In reply to the question asked about the proposed network of medical college libraries of Gujarat, 61% of the respondents were strongly believe that it will be helpful 23% of librarians agreed that whereas 8% of librarians were neutral and 8% of librarians were not agreed that means majority of librarians feels that the proposed network will help in resource sharing says **(Rani&Lal,2019). Bhatt (2017)** conducted a study to find the status of automation and model networking of medical college libraries in Gujarat State of India and exhibits that the medical education aims at developing medical manpower suitable to the needs of the country. **Ali, and Gatiti,**(2020), the COVID-19 pandemic situation in Pakistan highlighted the role of librarian in the educational institutions. The librarian should provide the library services through digital mode along with the traditional library services for the facilitation of users in the schools, colleges, universities & other academic institutions. A recent study conducted by **Kalita,Hira (2021)** says that Medical colleges are the most essential and responsible institution which has been providing the mankind services to the entire world. During this present situation the medical professionals have been providing their selfishness and tireless services to save the life of the people of this society from the deadly Corona virus. **Shariful and Nizamul (2007)** in their study discusses about the factors that have contributed to bring about the change from traditional to ICT based library operations. They further added that ICT is needed in libraries for the following two reasons i.e. in terms of various problems faced by the traditional library system and in terms of various facilities provided by computers and related technologies. **Krubu and Osawaru (2012)** conducted a survey research on the impact of Information and Communication Technology in Nigerian University Libraries. The study draws the impact of ICT on use internet resources, online resources and information and storage retrieval. The intention of the study was to determine the level of automation, the usefulness of ICT resources and the essential skills for using ICT resources. The study exposed that ICT has a massive impact based on its effectiveness.**(Talab & Tajafari 2012)** carried out the survey to recognize and evaluate the impact of ICT on training human resources of library in two university libraries i.e. from India and Iran. The study revealed that ICT training program for library staff was inadequate. Usual training program of ICT should be initiated for library human resources to keep up with ICT rapid development.

SCOPE

The scope of the study is limited to the SKIMS Medical College Library

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The main objective of the study is to examine use and impact of the modern ICT in SKIMS Medical College Library. In addition the study also aims to attain the following objectives

1. To find out the current status of library automation in the SKIMS medical college library
2. To study the use of ICT and e-resources by medical students
3. To determine attitude of medical students towards ICT enabled library,
4. To find out the level of awareness of using these digital information resources;
5. To find out the purpose and frequency of use of ICT
6. To find out the level of satisfaction of users for existing ICT facilities,
7. To find out the problems faced by library users and staff related to ICT.

METHODOLOGY

To fulfil the objectives a small structured questionnaire was distributed among the UG and PG medical students who are visiting the Central library frequently and library professionals through Google form to collect the desired data. Besides this, content analysis was also used to gather the previous data about the topic. The result highlights that librarians

support ICT applications in their campuses by maintaining different resources and giving access to various online resources.
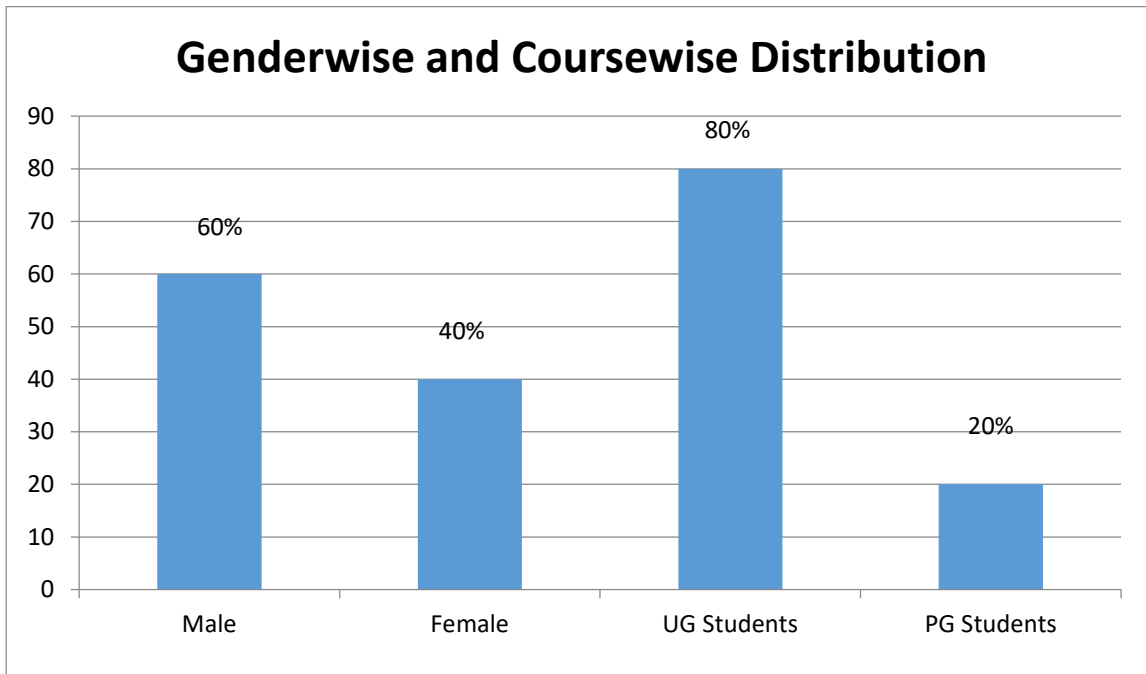
Most of the respondents believed that ICT is essential for their medical education and research.

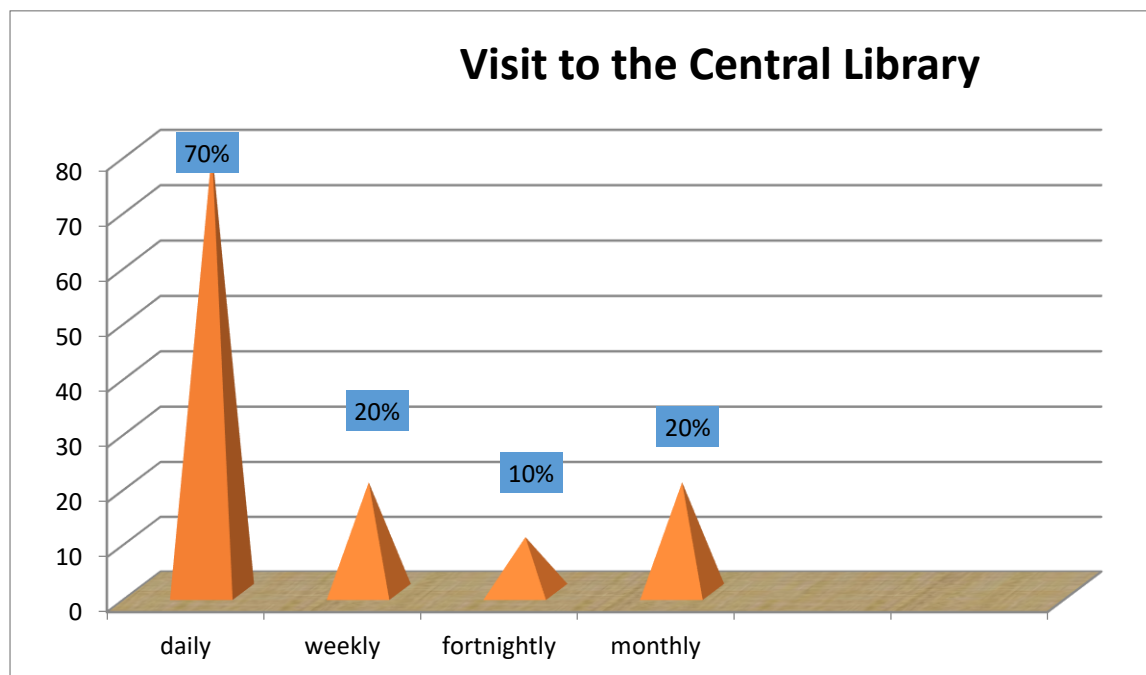## DATA ANALYSIS AND PRESENTATION:

Analysis has been done according to questions of the questionnaire. Simple statistical calculations, tables and figures have been used in analyzing of the collected data. Analysis of the collected data is provided under the following heads

Table 1.1 – Gender wise and Course wise Distribution of Library Users

Gender	Male		Female		Total Respondents	
Library Users	**Nos.**	**%**	**Nos.**	**%**	**Nos.**	**%**
UG Students	120	48	80	32	200	80
PG Students	30	12	20	8	50	20
Total Respondents	150	60	100	40	250	100

Genderwise and Coursewise Distribution

The Table 1.1 and Figure 1.1 show the responses of UG students and PG students of SKIMS Medical College as well as gender wise distribution. Among the total number of 250 respondents, 60% were male and 40% were female. As well as out of 250 respondents, 80 % were UG students and 20% were PG students

Visit to the Central Library

The Figure 1.2 reveals that frequency of visit of users to the central library is varied. Nearly 70% of the users are such who visited the Central Library on daily basis, followed by 20% users who visited the library weekly, 10% users visited fortnightly, and 20% users visited monthly.

Table 1.3 Classification scheme and Software used

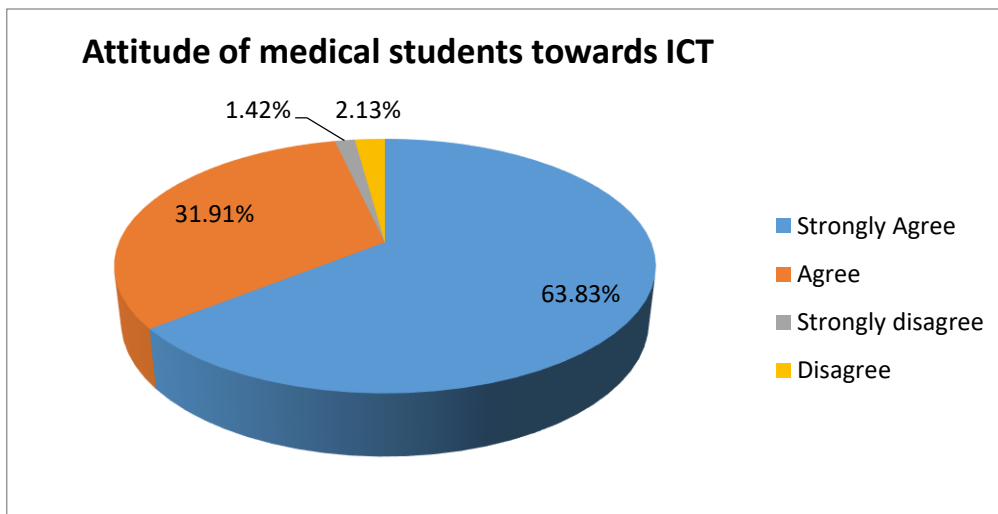| Schemes	Software used for automation	Automation Status
DDC 21st	KOHA	90%

Table 1.3 shows that the SKIMS Medical College Library uses DDC 21st edition to classify the books and are using KOHA as library automation software. The table also shows that 90% of the library collection is automated

Table 1.4: Modules of automation

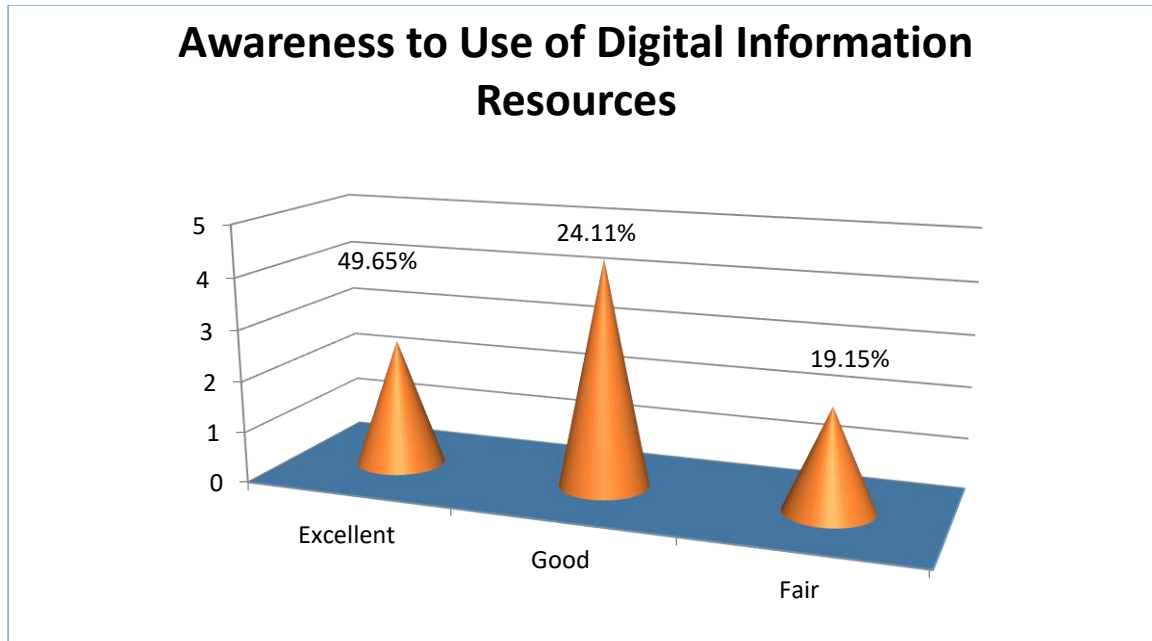| Modules	Whether Automated or not
Circulation	yes
Cataloguing	yes
Serial control	yes
OPAC	Yes

Table 1.4 shows that the SKIMS Medical College Library is automated in all the areas.

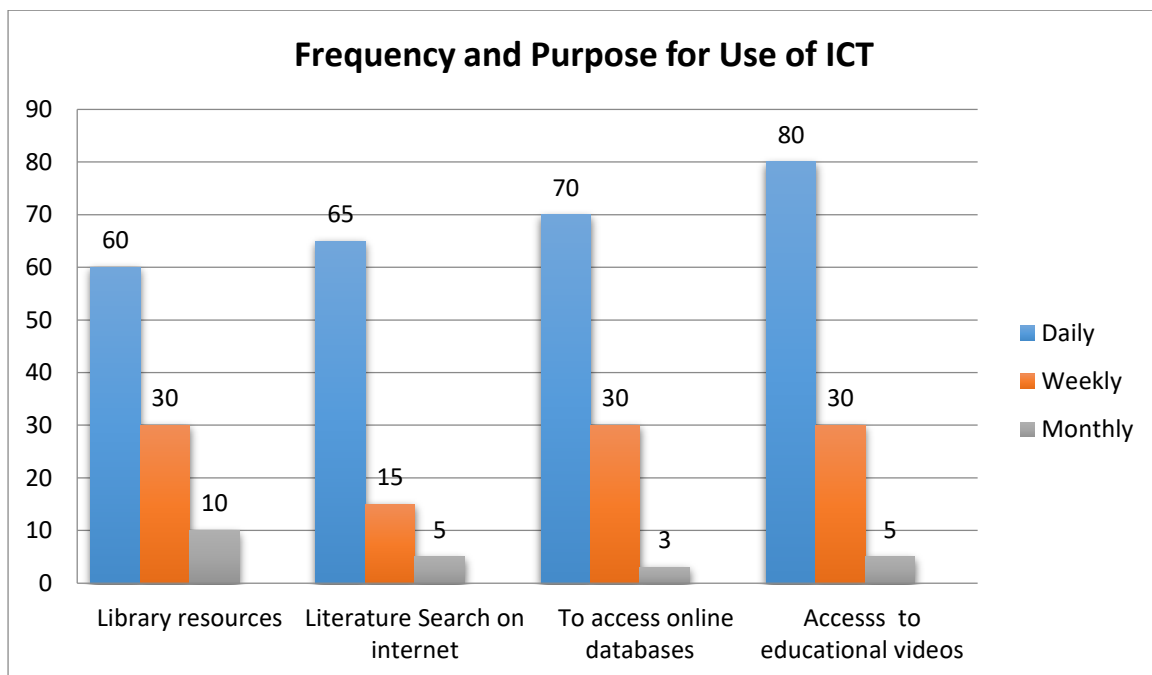**Table 1.5:** Attitude of medical students towards ICT enabled library

The Figure 1.5 shows that all respondents were believed that ICT is essential for medical education and research. Out of 250 respondents, 63.83% respondents were strongly agreed and 31.91% respondents were agreed that the ICT is essential for medical education and research, whereas few respondents were mildly disagreed and strongly disagreed as 2.13%, and 1.42% respectively

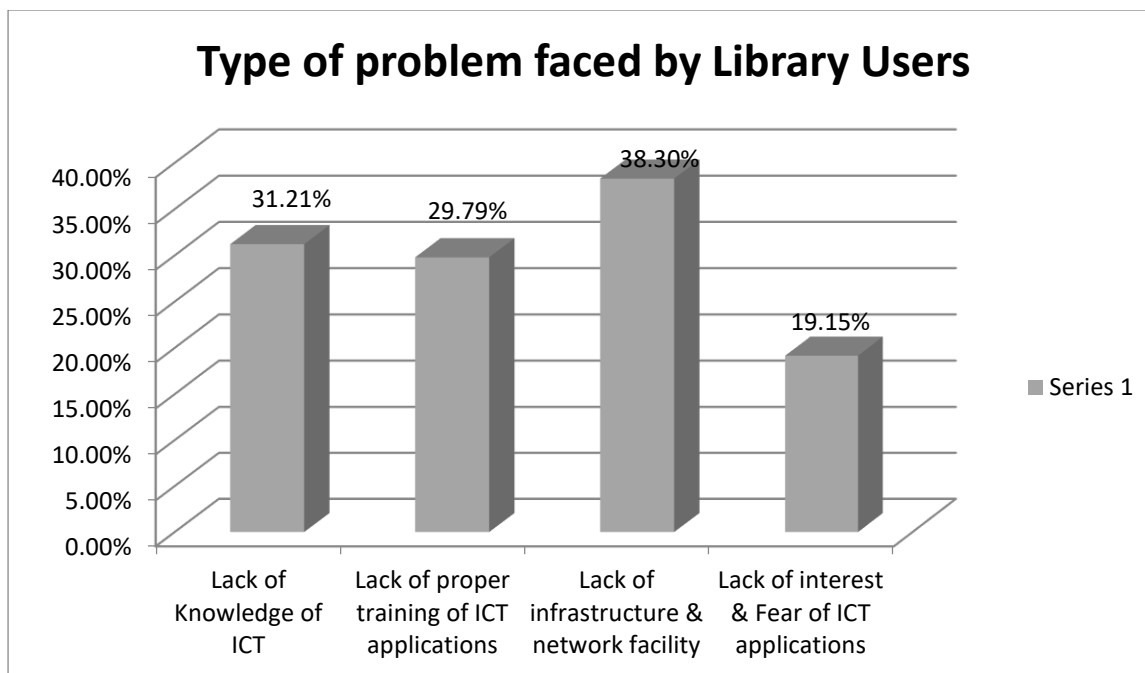**Figure 1.6- Awareness to Use of Digital Information Resources**

The Figure 1.6 depicts that majority of respondents mentioned their level of awareness of using digital information resources positive. Out of 250 respondents, 49.65% respondents mentioned using ICT as Excellent, whereas 24.11% respondents mentioned good and 19.15% respondents mentioned it as fair

Figure 1.7 – Frequency and Purpose for Use of ICT

The Figure 1.7 shows that usage of ICT for various purposes preferred frequency was daily followed by weekly. The Figure illustrated that average daily 60%, weekly 30%, monthly 10% respondents are using ICT to access library resources; similarly 65%, 15% and 5% of the respondents use ICT for the Literature search on internet on daily, weekly and monthly basis. Further 70%, 30% and 3 % of the respondents use ICT tools to access online database for their medical education and 80%,30% and 5% of the respondents use ICT to watch online educational videos on daily, weekly and monthly basis.

Figure 1.8 - Problem Faced in ICT Use

The Figure 1.8 shows that 31.21% respondents were faced the problem of lack of knowledge of ICT, 29.79% respondents were suffered from lack of proper training of ICT applications and 38.30% respondents were faced lack of infrastructure and network facility, whereas 19.15% respondents were faced problem related to lack of interest among library staff as well as fear of ICT applications

Figure 1.9 - Satisfaction Level of Users for Existing ICT Facilities
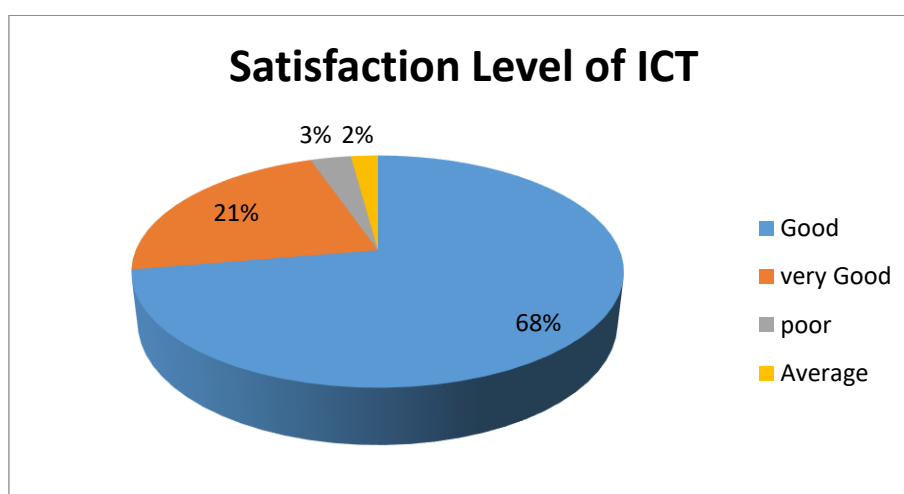

Figure 1.9 reveals that the satisfaction level of use of ICT that 68% respondents were good, 21% respondents were very good, 6% respondents were average, 2% of them poor satisfied, and 3% respondents were very poor satisfied about the level of satisfaction using existing ICT facilities

Findings and Discussion

After a careful analysis and interpretation of the data, the following major findings were noted:

 1. Nearly 70% of users were visited to the Central library premises daily. It shows most of the users are using library for various services like circulation, reference, internet and reading facility etc.

2. More than 90% of the respondents agreed and believed that ICT is essential for medical education and research. The students recognized that ICT tools and techniques should be a part of medical education and research.

 3. 90% of respondents believed that ICT enabled Library services are required and considered it as an integral part of medical education.

4. The result also shows that usage of ICT for various purposes, the preferred frequency was daily and followed by weekly

5. The highest numbers of the respondents use ICT to watch online educational videos on daily, weekly and monthly basis.

6. The study showed that nearly one third of users faced problems in use of ICT due to lack of infrastructure and network facility

7. Most of users are satisfied with use of ICT and existing ICT facilities. The majority of respondents agreed positively about the impact of ICT on library uses and its services.

8. Needs to established proper internet connection in central library to reduce problem of internet connectivity. Extend Wi-Fi facility in campus to access internet and local area network to decrease problem about accessibility.

CONCLUSION

ICT are the part and parcel for the Library and Information Centre's especially medical libraries. Medical libraries are an important part of health care organizations. In the field of medical science development or invention is growing day by day. So the library professionals of the medical organization should be well informed about the latest technology to provide the latest information effectively and efficiently among the medical communities.LIS professionals should be ready to continuously learn new technological skills and effectively utilize modern technologies. Today, ICT provide gateway to access global resources, hence library have to deliver need based innovative user services to improve user satisfaction and to gain user appreciation along with employer recognition. ICT help to enhance the value of library, status and library job satisfaction.

All through, the study made an attempt to examine the usage of ICT services by medical students at central library of SKIMS Medical College & Hospital, Bemina, J&K. The study found that ICT will play major role in medical education and research to provide information to the users. The study also found that most users were privileged to access the huge medical literature available in electronic format. Therefore, the role of librarians and library professionals are shifting from an intermediary to a facilitator.

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