

## LIBRARY EFFECTIVENESS AND CREDIBILITY WITH REFERENCE TO NATIONAL ASSESSMENT AND ACCREDITATION COUNCIL

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### ABSTRACT

*An attempt has been made to evaluate the library effectiveness and credibility based on indicator of National Assessment and Accreditation Council for library. Library being hub for all the departments, students and faculty occupies significance in getting better accreditation to the college attached therein. Results are discussed based on the data collected from college libraries of North Karnataka covering 210 colleges.*

**KEYWORDS:** *Library Credibility, Library Effectiveness, Library Performance, Best Practices, National Assessment and Accreditation Council*

### INTRODUCTION

In this knowledge arena, there has been a dramatic change in the scope and pace of technological advances that are contributing substantially to a fundamental shift in library and information products and services, thereby, affect the roles and responsibilities of library professionals. National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) is an autonomous body established by the University Grants Commission (UGC) of India to assess and accredit institutions of higher education in the country based upon the outcome of the recommendations of the National Policy in Education during 1986 to ensure quality of higher education in India. In assessing and accrediting the colleges in the country, NAAC has developed set of indicators for universities and colleges including its library. As per the NAAC standards and guidelines, the performance of college libraries being in research discussion has been measured in four components i.e.

- Management, Administration and Library and Information Services
- Collection and Services provides to users
- Extent of the use of services
- Best practices for college libraries

This study is an attempt to showcase the Library Effectiveness and Credibility with reference to National Assessment and Accreditation Council.

## Objectives

The objectives of the study are to

- To study the inclusion of Vision and Mission Statement in the Colleges
- To understand the availability of library website and
- To determine the librarian's credibility to serve as NSS Coordinator, In-charge Principal and NAAC Coordinator.

## Methodology

In the light of the objectives of the study, survey method using structured questionnaires has been employed to collect the data from the respondent librarians of degree colleges in North Karnataka. Study population includes degree colleges of North Karnataka covering 12 districts and though questionnaires were distributed manually and also using web form, out of 129 Government colleges, 110 colleges have responded with a feedback of 85.27%. Similarly out of 140 private aided colleges, 101 colleges have responded with a feedback of 71.14%.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

### Library Effectiveness and Credibility

National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) advocates for vision and mission statements for colleges in the country. Table 1 shows status of inclusion of Vision Statement in the Colleges both Government and Private aided colleges of North Karnataka.

**Table 1: Inclusion of Vision and Mission Statement in the Colleges**

	Type of Colleges	Vision		Total
		Yes	No	
Government College	Count	73	37	110
	Percentage	66.4%	33.6%	100.0%
Private Aided College	Count	98	3	101
	Percentage	97.0%	3.0%	100.0%
Total	Count	171	40	211
	Percentage	81.0%	19.0%	100.0%

Chi-Square value	DF	Significance	Remarks
32.230	1	0.00	Significant

Table 1 shows Vision Statement of Government Colleges, which is required as per the NAAC parameter. Results found that 66.4% of the government colleges and 97% of Private aided colleges have Vision Statement and thus fulfilling the requirement of NAAC to a greater extent and only 19% of them negate the purpose. Statistically application of Chi-Square Test and its values and level significance significant association between type of colleges and vision statement and hence the null hypothesis "There is no association between type of colleges and vision statement" is rejected.

**Table 2: Availability of Library Website**

	Type of Colleges	Library Website		Total
		Yes	No	
Government College	Count	33	77	110
	Percentage	30.0%	70.0%	100.0%
Private Aided College	Count	29	72	101
	Percentage	28.7%	71.3%	100.0%
Total	Count	62	149	211
	Percentage	29.4%	70.6%	100.0%

Chi-Square value	DF	Significance	Remarks
0.042	1	0.479	Non-Significant

Library website reflects mirror of library holdings and services. It is one of the strategy of Librarians to market its products and services.. Library website is one of the parameters desired by NAAC. It is found from results of table 2 that irrespective of type of colleges, only 29.4% of colleges have library website and thus 70.6% of college libraries do not satisfy NAAC indicator of library website (Table 2).

### College Librarian Credentials

Librarians are on par with Teachers and play significant role in college activities and programs in addition to the responsibility of Librarian. In addition to the regular post of Librarian, they execute the additional responsibility as NSS Coordinator, NAAC Coordinator, In-charge Principal and Member of any Committee of the College effectively. These are the additional credentials from the perspective of evaluation of college library by the NAAC.

**Table 3: Served as NSS Coordinator**

	Type of Colleges		NSS Coordinator		Total
			Yes	No	
Government College	Count	11	99	110	
	Percentage	10.0%	90.0%	100.0%	
Private Aided College	Count	23	78	101	
	Percentage	22.8%	77.2%	100.0%	
Total	Count	34	177	211	
	Percentage	16.1%	83.9%	100.0%	

Chi-Square value	DF	Significance	Remarks
8.890	1	0.012	Significant

It is found from results of table 3 that only 16.1% of respondent college librarians acted as NSS Coordinator and whereas majority of them have not served as NSS Coordinator. Among the Private aided colleges, 22.8% of them acted as NSS coordinator and only 10% in case of government colleges.

**Table 4: Served as In-Charge Principal**

	Type of Colleges		In charge Principal		Total
			Yes	No	
	Government College	Count	34	76	110
		Percentage	30.9%	69.1%	100.0%
	Private Aided College	Count	18	83	101
		Percentage	17.8%	82.2%	100.0%
	Total	Count	52	159	211
		Percentage	24.6%	75.4%	100.0%

Chi-Square value	DF	Significance	Remarks
4.856	1	0.037	Significant

Among the government colleges, 30.9% of librarians served as In-charge Principal and this is a good sign of dynamism among librarians but however only 17.8% of them in private aided colleges served as In-charge Principal. Results of Chi-Square value indicated that there is a significant correlation between type of colleges and librarians serving as In-charge Principal (Table 4).

As per the Maharashtra Government, College Librarians are made as Principal by virtue of their seniority and as such many librarians are not only serving as in-charge principals but also Principal of the colleges. This would be a boost and image credential of librarian as true teacher. Though in Karnataka state, librarians are found to serve only in less than one fourth of colleges as In-charge Principal but there is a need to serve as full time Principal as well.

**Table 5: Served as NAAC Coordinator**

	Type of Colleges		NAAC Coordinator		Total
			Yes	No	
	Government College	Count	45	65	110
		Percentage	40.9%	59.1%	100.0%
	Private Aided College	Count	17	84	101
		Percentage	16.8%	83.2%	100.0%
	Total	Count	62	149	211
		Percentage	29.4%	70.6%	100.0%

Chi-Square value	DF	Significance	Remarks
14.711	1	0.000	Significant

As found in results of table 5, more than 40% of college librarians in Government colleges served as NAAC coordinator while only 16.8% of librarians in Private aided colleges served as NAAC coordinator. So, comparatively in government colleges, librarians are at a higher proportion to serve as NAAC coordinator. Hence results of Chi-Square test support showing association between type of colleges and librarian serving as NAAC coordinator. Thus, statistically results are significant.

## CONCLUSIONS

As many of the college websites do not provide sufficient information about library and as such it is desired to have sufficient information about the library and results calls for developing and designing library website either part of college website domain and if not available at least its own website. In fact, Department of Collegiate Education through NIC has developed common library templates for its website and the librarians need to encash it and make its visibility online.

Results indicate that there is a need to undertake responsibility as NSS Coordinator with other roles as well and this will really boost the image building and impress upon the NAAC. For any college whether it is Government college or Private aided college, it is the dynamism, knowledge and active participation would fetch the role of NAAC coordinator and though its a good beginning taking into consideration wherein only 29.4% of them served as NAAC coordinator, but librarians should achieve and shoulder this responsibility as NAAC coordinator, depicting the strength of librarianship.

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