

CHAPTER III

METHODOLOGY

Introduction

Methodology occupies significant place in research which provides the right strategy to solve the research problem, to suggest the feasible solution, and to validate the hypotheses stated. Research design is the conceptual structure within which the research has to be carried out. The research design is an outline of the researcher's plan from framing the hypotheses and operational implications to the final analysis of data. The present study is discussed with a well-organized research design. This chapter is organized into the following headings such as objectives, methodology, sampling design tools used for the study, data analysis, hypotheses, and limitations the study.

Study Area

The study considers the women LIS professionals in government aided & self – financing colleges. The LIS women professional list has been prepared and sample design has been arrived at.

The research work also pinpoints the research gap in ICT and women LIS professionals. This is a systematic and logical step for selecting the right research topic. Further relevant statistical tools have been deployed at variables which need to be compared and tested accordingly for better understanding and clear inference.

3.1. Research Gap

Though there were studies in the chosen topic, a few of them was more related to the present study. Further, the study covered women library professionals with a large population. Most of the studies did not throw light on ICT and skills for e-resources management, keeping the above reasons in

mind, an attempt was made and carried out in the present study accordingly. The e – resources and skills make the women LIS professionals knowledgeable and be ready for executing and performing library routines the library systematically.

3.2. Data collection tool

The following method was used on the basis of objectives and a structured questionnaire to substantiate the objectives. Survey method was conducted to explore the various skills among LIS professionals. Questionnaire consists of socio economic variables, skill level on ICT, automation, digital library and communication. The questionnaire consisted of different aspects of skills, the way they equip to perform and to achieve the institutional goals as a whole. Online questionnaire was designed using *googledocs* and forwarded to LIS forums. The institutes which maintain websites were randomly chosen as sample size so as to complete the research work on time.

3.3. Study Design

There are LIS online forums which update the email ID of LIS professionals. The present survey questionnaires were also sent to LIS forum to cover maximum population of sample group. The term sample group in this study comprises of Women LIS professionals who are all working in academic institutions of Tamil Nadu. The researcher (in person) visited a few institutions where seminar/workshop were conducted and distributed the questionnaires among them. A few questionnaires was also sent through post. Hence, questionnaires have been distributed to 472 library professionals in Tamil Nadu. Only 385 have responded through online and hardcopy both. The sample respondents were selected using stratified random sampling technique.

Sample Population

S. No	Category	Questionnaires received	Percentage of response
1	Government Colleges	9	2.34
2	Government Aided Colleges	26	6.76
3	Self Finance Colleges	350	90.90
Total		385	100

The table indicates the sample group of LIS professionals in different types of institutions. The response rate for the present study was 81.56%.

Classification of responses – Print and online questionnaire

S. No	Category	Print	Online	Total	Percentage
1	Government Colleges	9	0	09	2.34
2	Government Aided Colleges	16	10	26	6.76
3	Self Finance Colleges	35	315	350	90.90
Total		60	325	385	100

It is interesting to claim that most of the respondents gave their opinion through online questionnaire which is a welcoming trend due to e governance and effective implementation of ICT.

4.4. Data analysis

The primary data collected from the sample population were analyzed using Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) software, version 20.0. The statistical analysis techniques like Chi-Square Test, Factor Analysis, KMO and Bartlett's Test, and ANOVA, have been employed depending on the nature of the data collected and applied accordingly.

APA style manual has been used to arrange the sources used and referred in this thesis.