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Investigating the Problems Being Faced by the Judicial Libraries Users: A Quantitative Study Conducted in Malakand Division Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan

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Abstract: Overall, judicial libraries play a critical role in supporting the legal profession, promoting access to justice, and preserving the history of the law and the judicial system. Therefore, the major aim of this research was to investigate the problems being faced by judicial library users in the Malakand division of KPK. To meet the objective of the research, the researcher employed a quantitative research design with a closed-ended survey questionnaire for the purpose of collecting data. The data were collected from Judges and Advocates. There were 310 participants who participated in this study. According to the statistics of the participants, there were 243 males and 67 females. The statistics suggest that the majority of the participants were males. The collected data were analyzed by SPSS software, t-test, and ANOVA test. The problems found by the researcher include a lack of computer terminals in the digital library, libraries' Lack of prescribed textbooks, Slow internet speed, special skills required to use legal resources, Non-availability of law-related digital resources, Library Location of books very difficult, Lack of trained or professional staff in the library, Lack of knowledge regarding availability of electronic resources and services, No subscription for desired journals, Printing, and Scanning and photocopy problems, and Lack of OPAC facility.

Introduction

The purpose of this study was to investigate the problems being faced by judicial library users. Mostly judicial libraries are used by lawyers and judges who are connected with the field of law. Akinyemi (2017) argues that judicial libraries are those that are typically found on a court's grounds. They are frequently called court libraries. They were primarily created to assist judges, magistrates, and attorneys in organizing their case files and administering justice.

Uwaechina (2019) opined that to improve rapid and simple access to legal information resources for the efficient administration of justice, the judiciary primarily relies on law

libraries. The mission of the judiciary library is to promptly and expertly direct legal professionals to information resources and aid them in the swift administration of justice. Additionally, judicial libraries must efficiently and promptly provide courts and the general public with access to extensive and current legal resources as well as aid all users with their research and provide bibliographic assistance, instructional programs, and legal reference services. According to Shumaker (2009), a judicial library offers specialized information resources on a particular subject, caters to a niche clientele, and offers that clientele specialized services. Therefore, the

availability and administration of information resources in specialized libraries are essential to any fruitful administrative, research, and teaching endeavors inside their parent organizations. One of the goals underlying the creation of any library, special libraries included, has been to provide information resources that would satisfy the information demands of users in a library. Judicial libraries serve as change agents and leaders by disseminating the knowledge required to assist their organizations in achieving their objectives (Sharmila, 2022). The significance of judicial libraries prompted researchers to investigate the issue of how libraries and library resources may successfully meet the needs of their users.

The Objective of the Study

The aim of this study was to investigate problems being faced by judicial library users in Malakand Division, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The study not only investigates problems but, in response to the research problem, in light of data analysis, suggests solutions to these problems.

Literature Review

Barkindo, & Ibrahim (2021) found that the accessibility of data suggests that the libraries no longer have catalogue playing cards to ease accessibility, for effortless get entry to statistics sources, they furnished direct offerings thru the provision of the desk of contents to judges and they additionally grant identity and problem index. It additionally indicates that there is no coverage governing the technique of accessibility in the federal excessive courtroom libraries. Virtually each and every discipline of activity is affected by means of the influence of fast technological development. However, the federal excessive courtroom libraries are left behind.

Barkindo, & Ibrahim (2021b) additionally stated the range of challenges confronting the company and retrieval of data assets in the Federal High Court Libraries in the North-Eastern Zone of Nigeria. The findings generated

from the data analysis indicate, amongst different things, that none of the libraries used any variety of classification gadgets for the company of their facts resources, as an alternative, they use identity and problem index. Information Description and preparations are achieved in accordance with the vast difficulty region of every item. The learning concludes that Virtually every subject of recreation is affected by way of the have an effect on of fast technological development however, the federal excessive court docket libraries are left behind.

Barkindo (2021) observed in the research that there was once a shortage of IT services in their institutional libraries. Most of them additionally complained about the unavailability of cutting-edge computer systems and speedy net services in their libraries. In order to meet their instantaneous tutorial and lookup needs, most of the regulation college participants had developed their private collections at houses and workplaces, which potentially means that their institutional regulation libraries have been incapable of imparting them the required data associated with their tutorial and lookup needs. Law academicians cautioned that in order to fulfil the facts and wishes of customers, trendy series must be improved in regulation libraries. Moreover, library authorities cited that the allocation of the annual finances for series improvement in the regulation library needs to additionally be accelerated in order to preserve tempo with the altering instructional wishes of users. It used to be additionally located that get right of entry to the HEC digital library was once now not accessible in the libraries of the affiliated regulation universities, which wishes to be prolonged to all the affiliated felony institutions. Moreover, all respondents unanimously expressed that the association of person training packages can impact expanding library utilization in the felony institutional of the province.

Khan & Bashir (2017) found that there is a dire want to revitalize educational regulation libraries

in KPK. The find out about recommends few suggestions. Despite the reality that these tips would appear hypothetical to be applied in sensible terms, however, there nonetheless stays a hope that if these had been carried out in partial shape, then it would honestly region a suitable have an effect on on the effectiveness of tutorial regulation libraries in KPK. Based on the findings of the find out about, some of the hints are as under; they advocated that Peshawar University has to formulate rigorous plans for all affiliated felony establishments to comply with the pointers as furnished in the affiliation guidelines affiliation policies 2001 (amended)}. In order to improve the degree of criminal schooling in Pakistan, all felony institutions and regulation faculties have to make sure of compliance with the directions of the Supreme Court.

A mechanism must be devised in session with stakeholders of the affiliated criminal establishments to consider and decorate the sources and assets of affiliated institutions in line with the college guidelines and regulations. There is a want to supply share to exclusive our bodies to regularize and standardize the affairs of prison training devices in KPK. Shareholders may additionally encompass HEC, PBC, representatives of the affiliated establishments, and PLA. There is a want to take indispensable initiatives for the enhancement of educational regulation libraries in KPK. These initiatives may additionally consist of the institution of perfect regulation library setup, the appointment of librarians, provision of enough budget, acquisition of new variations of books, subscription of ultra-modern and reputed regulation journals, provision of present-day variations of computer systems and quick web facility in regulation libraries, get entry to HEC digital library and employer of statistics literacy programs.

Eze-Onwuzuruike, & Uwaechina (2019) concluded in their research that there is no doubt that judicial libraries make contributions positively to the regulation career by imparting

applicable data sources and offerings to criminal practitioners. It has been cited that in order to discharge their ordinary roles, judicial libraries are fraught with troubles and challenges which preclude them from performing their offerings as expected. In the mild of these challenges, guidelines aimed at enhancing judicial library services. These hints, when carried out, will enhance judicial library patronage and personal satisfaction.

Literature Gap

Khan and Bhatti (2014) aimed to observe the determinants of educational regulation of libraries' use, collections, and offerings amongst the school individuals of the University of Peshawar, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan. They, in there, learned about using a quantitative research methodology and well-structured questionnaire for information series to look at regulation libraries' usage, series, and offerings from the college participants of 19 regulation colleges, which includes Law College, University of Peshawar, and 18 affiliated regulation faculties located in the specific geographical place of the province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan.

They concluded that most of the school participants use regulation libraries for the difficulty and return of books and seek advice from textbooks for their education and different tutorial activities. The common consequence observed by the researcher is the usage, collections, and offerings of regulation libraries as someway satisfactory.

Again in 2017, with the topic, The want of strategic – based totally measures for enhancing educational regulation libraries in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan: a perspective performed lookup and located that most of the regulation faculties do now not pay interest toward the improvement of their institutional libraries. Outdated collections, shortage of records and conversation applied sciences and budgetary issues, inactive roles of regulating our bodies and expert associations, constrained roles of expert

library staff, constrained get right of entry to the Higher Education Commission digital library, absence of appropriate library setup and ethical responsibilities and duties of institutional administrations in the direction of the improvement of educational regulation libraries have been the foremost challenges. Jamshed et al. (2020), with the topic "Lawyers' Usage Patterns of District Bar Law Library of Multan," investigated that the majority of legal professionals use the District Bar regulation library to resolve their problems associated with legal proceedings. Major troubles confronted by way of them in the library are no availability of expert librarians and no education applications to use the regulated library resources. The learn about recommends that there is a dire want to have an expert regulation librarian in the District regulation library of Multan. Comprehensive literature has not been found in Pakistan regarding judicial libraries. The literature on general libraries is in bulk, but this judiciary library-related literature is very rare. Very little amount of literature has been found on the topic. This topic, consequently, is very important in respect of judiciary librarianship. Judicial Libraries are there in Pakistan, but these libraries need many improvements and innovations. Improvements without research are not possible. Therefore, the researcher has aimed to conduct research on this topic. Most of the above-mentioned researchers used quantitative research methodology in their research. Therefore, the researcher in this study has used quantitative research methodology.

Research Method

The aim of this study was to investigate the problems being faced by judicial library users in the Malakand division of KP. The research was conducted to investigate major problems being faced by judiciary library users and to find out the solution to the problem through which libraries can satisfactorily be furnished to meet the needs of judicial libraries.

In data collection, a survey questionnaire comprising closed-ended questions was used. The questionnaire was designed in collaboration with the supervisor. A questionnaire, along with a cover letter stating the purpose of data collection, the aim of the research, and the significance of the research, was disbursed among the participants. The participants, in accordance with the ethics of research, were taken into confidence that their data would only be used for this research and would be kept unidentified.

The Data were collected from posted Judges in the District judiciary and active Advocates working in the Bar Association of Malakand division. There are 1500 advocates and 100 judges working in the 9 districts of Malakand Bar associations, out of which 278 advocates and 30 judges have been included in the sampling. So the sampling of this study is comprised of 32 judges and 278 advocates, and 310 participants in total. The analysis of the data is presented in figures and tables.

Data Analysis

Demographic Information

The demographic information covers the information regarding information about the gender of respondents, age of respondents, qualification of respondents, district of respondents, profession of respondents, and experiences of respondents.

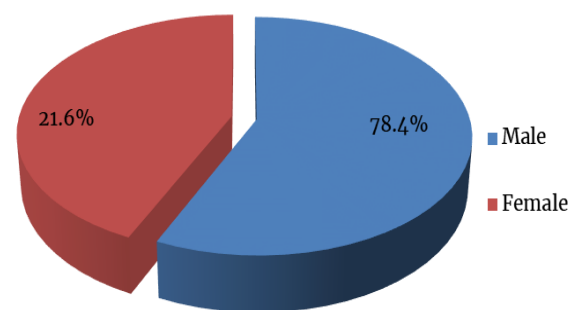
Genders of Respondents

Table 1

Gender Profile

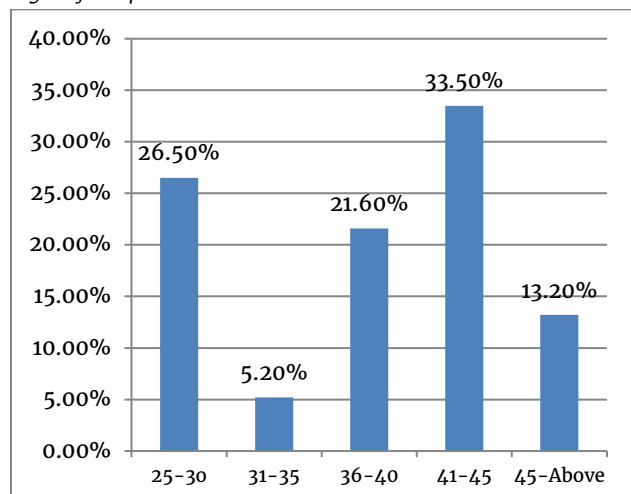
Gender	Frequency	Percentage
Female	67	21.6
Male	243	78.4
Total	310	100.0

To know the gender of the respondents, the respondents were asked to mention their gender. The analysis of the data shows that there were N= 243 (78.4%) males and N= 67 (21.6%) females who participated in the study.

Figure 1*Genders of Respondents***Age of Respondents****Table 2***Age of respondents*

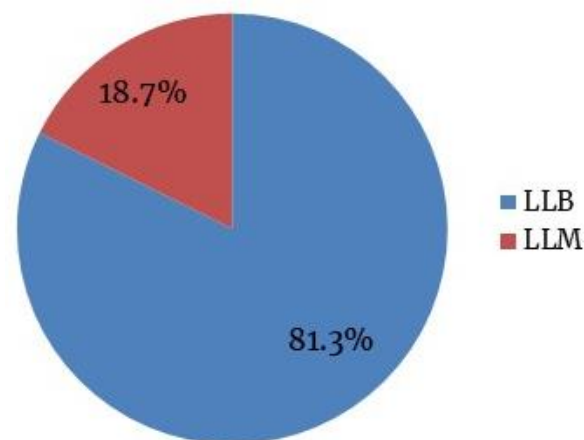
Age Group	Frequency	Percentage
25-30	82	26.5
31-35	16	5.2
36-40	67	21.6
41-45	104	33.5
Above	41	13.2
Total	310	100.0

The analysis of the data shows that there were N= 82(26.5%) respondents between the age of 25-30, N=16 (5.2%) between the age of 31-35, N= 67 (21.6%) between the age of 36-40, N=104(33.5%) between, 41-45, and N=41(13.2%) respondents were above 45. The analysis of the data shows that the majority of the respondents were between the age of N=104(33.5%).

Figure 2*Age of respondents***Qualifications of Respondents****Table 3***Qualification of respondents*

Qualification	Frequency	Percentage
LLB	352	81.3
LLM	58	18.7
Total	310	100.0

To determine the qualification of the respondents, the respondents were asked to mention their qualifications in the questionnaire. The respondents of the study had two types of qualifications, LLB and LLM. N= 252 (81.3%) participants were LLB and N=58 (18.7%) participants were LLM. Figure 4.3 Qualifications of the Respondents.

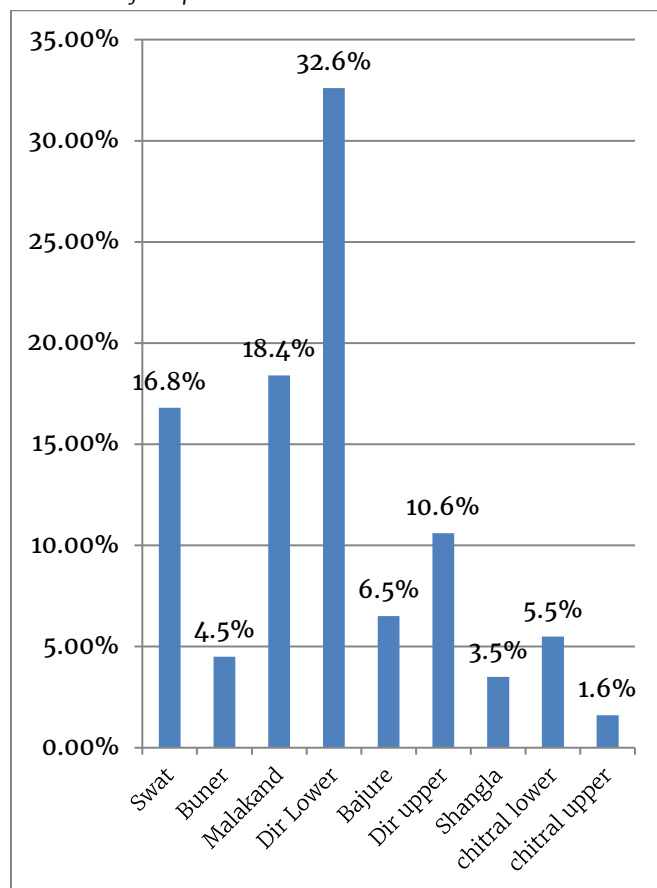
Figure 2*Qualification of respondents***Districts of Respondents****Table 4***Districts of respondents*

Districts	Frequency	Percentage
Swat	52	16.8
Buner	14	4.5
Malakand	57	18.4
Dir lower	101	32.6
Dir upper	33	10.6
Shangla	11	3.5
Chitral Lower	17	5.5
Chitral upper	5	1.6
Bajure	20	6.5
Total	310	100.0

The districts of the respondents were asked in the questionnaire. The analysis of the data shows that the respondents of the study were from, Swat N= 52 (16.8%), Malakand N=57 (16.4%), Dir (Lower) N=101 (32.6%), Chitral lower N= 17 (5.5%), Chitral (Upper) N=5 (1.6%), Bajur N=20 (6.5%), Buner N=14 (4.5%), and there were N=11 (3.5%) participants from Shangla. The analysis of the data shows that the maximum number of participants was from Dir Lower N=101 (32.6%).

Figure 4

Districts of respondents



Professions of the Respondents

Table 5

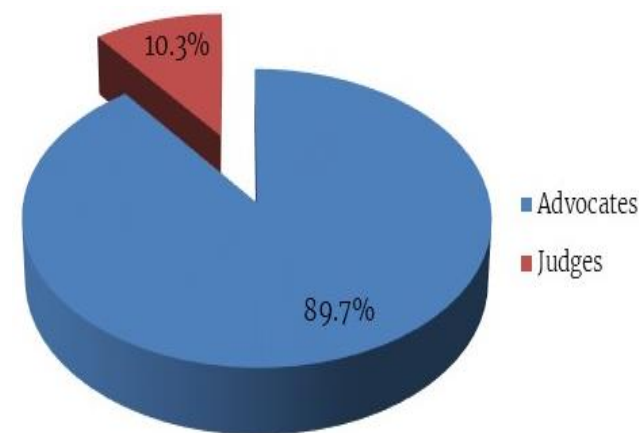
Professions of respondents

Profession	Frequency	Percentage
Advocates	278	89.7
Judges	32	10.3
Total	310	100.0

There were 310 respondents in the study, out of which N= 32 (10.3%) were Judges and N= 278(89.7%) advocates. The analysis of the data shows that the majority of respondents were advocates.

Figure 5

Professions of Respondents



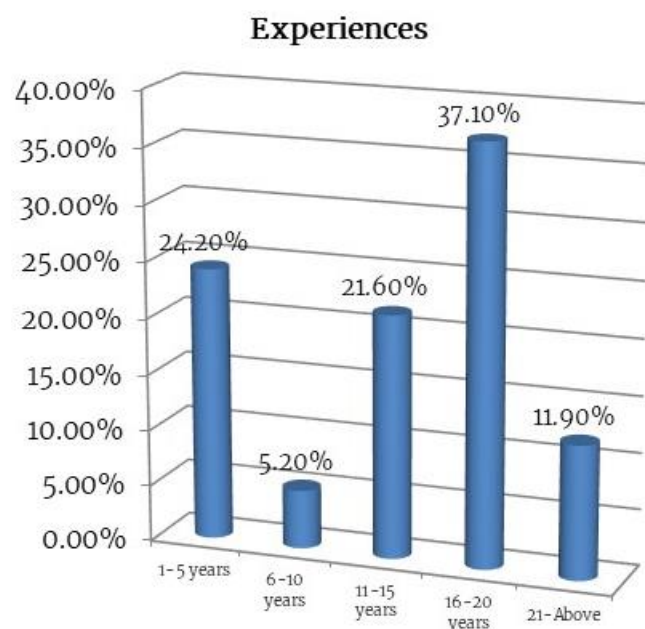
Experiences of Respondents

Table 6

Experience of Respondents

Experience	Frequency	Percentage
1-5	75	24.2
6-10	16	5.2
11-15	67	21.6
16-20	115	37.1
Above	37	11.9
Total	310	100.0

The experience of the respondents regarding their profession was asked. The analysis of the data shows that N=75 (24.2%) respondents were having experience between 1-5 years, N=16(5.2%), between 6-10 years, N=67(21.6%) between 11-15 years, N=115 (37.1%), and N=37 (11.9%) respondents were having experience above 21 years. The analysis of the data shows that the maximum number of respondents was 16-20 years

Figure 6*Experiences of the respondents*

Section D: Problems Being Faced by Judicial Library Users

The section was to investigate problems faced by users. These problems were associated with judicial libraries. The analysis of the data shows that the users were uncertain in terms that there

are lack of computer terminals in the digital libraries ($M=3.47$) however, the users also agreed that the libraries Lack prescribed textbooks ($M=.3.52$), and the users of libraries who participated in this study also agreed that Slow internet speed ($M=3.67$). against the item, special skills are required to use legal resources, respondents were uncertain ($M=3.44$), the respondents of the study were also uncertain about the items, Non-availability of law-related digital resources in the Library ($M=3.41$), Location of books very difficult($M=3.18$), Lack of trained or professional staff in the library ($M=3.29$), and Lack of knowledge regarding availability of electronic resources and services($M=.3.37$), the respondents were uncertain regarding the items, No subscription for desired journals($M=2.90$), Printing and Scanning and photocopy problems($M=2.46$)but respondents agreed that there is Lack of OPAC facility($M=4.26$). The analysis of the data presented in Table (7) shows that the majority of the respondents were uncertain about the items in the questionnaire which describe problems associated with judicial libraries. But it does not mean if they were undecided, the problem does not exist, the problem is there.

Table 7*Problems Being Faced by Judicial Library Users*

Sr. No	Statement	Mean	Std. Dev.
1	Lack of computer terminals in digital library	3.47	1.32535
2	Lack of prescribed textbooks	3.52	1.38382
3	Slow internet speed	3.67	1.38708
4	Special skills are required to use legal resources	3.44	1.46628
5	Non-availability of law-related digital resources in the Library	3.41	1.45121
6	Location of books is very difficult	3.18	1.41932
7	Lack of trained or professional staff in the library	3.29	1.48650
8	Lack of knowledge regarding the availability of electronic resources and services	3.37	1.48871
9	No subscription for desired journals	2.90	1.46585
10	Printing, Scanning and photocopy problems	2.46	1.59100
11	Lack of OPAC facility	4.26	1.30442

Scale: Strongly Disagree, Disagree, Uncertain, Strongly Agree, Agree

Independent T-test: Gender-Based Differences Regarding problems being faced by library users

Independent t-test was applied to determine gender-based differences regarding the problems being faced by judicial library users. Based on the provided information, it was found that there were two groups being compared, one group of 243 participants identified as male, and another group of 67 participants identified as female. The t-value mentioned in the table suggests that there is no significant difference

between the two groups, with the female group having a higher mean score. The p-value of .000 indicates that this difference is statistically significant and unlikely to be due to chance. Therefore, based on this information, it can be interpreted that on average, females scored higher than males on whatever measure is being used in this study. However, without additional information about the study and the measure being used, it is difficult to draw further conclusions.

Table 8

Statement	Mean		t-value	Sig (2-tail)
	Male (243)	Female (67)		
Lack of computer terminals in digital library	3.3663	3.6866	-1.730	.085
Lack of prescribed textbook	3.3663	3.6866	-1.730	.085
Slow internet speed	3.4074	3.7910	-2.191	.029
Special skills are required to use legal resources	3.4074	3.6418	-1.288	.199
Non-availability of law-related digital resources in the Library	3.4486	3.7164	-1.425	.155
Location of books is very difficult	3.4321	3.7164	-1.526	.128
Lack of trained or professional staff in the library	3.3992	3.6716	-1.518	.130
Lack of knowledge regarding the availability of electronic	3.4609	3.7015	-1.290	.198
No subscription for desired Journal	3.3333	3.5672	-1.265	.207
Printing, Scanning and Photocopy Problems	3.2881	3.6716	-2.106	.036
Lack of OPAC facility	3.2716	3.4776	-1.099	.273

Level of significance <.05; Sig (2.tail) =P-Value

Independent T-test: Profession-based DIFFERENCES Regarding problems being faced by library users

Independent sample t-test was used to examine the judicial library user's differences in the views of judiciary professionals about the satisfaction level with the current status of library resources. The results revealed that there is no significant

difference between the opinions of advocates and judges of students. There was no great difference between the mean score of advocates and judges users. However, the high mean scores of both types of respondents showed that the views about the use of institutional repository software in libraries among advocates and judges were nearly equivalent.

Table 9

Differences based on professions

Statement	Mean		t-value	Sig (2-tail)
	Advocate (252)	Judges (58)		
Lack of computer terminals in digital library	3.4173	3.5938	-.702	.483
Lack of prescribed textbook	3.4173	3.5938	-.702	.483
Slow internet speed	3.4784	3.5938	-.483	.629
Special skills are required to use legal resources	3.4460	3.5625	-.472	.637
Non-availability of law-related digital resources in the Library	3.4892	3.6563	-.655	.513
Location of books is very difficult	3.4784	3.6250	-.580	.562
Lack of trained or professional staff in the library	3.4388	3.6250	-.765	.445
Lack of knowledge regarding the availability of electronic resources and services	3.4928	3.6875	-.770	.442
No subscription for desired Journal	3.3597	3.5938	-.935	.351
Printing, Scanning and photocopy Problems	3.3453	3.5938	-1.003	.317
Lack of OPAC facility	3.2914	3.5313	-.945	.345

Level of significance <.05; Sig (2.tail) =P-Value

Independent T-test: Qualification-Based Differences Regarding problems being faced by library users

Independent t-test was used to determine the difference on the basis of qualification. The analysis of the results shows that the opinions of LLB and LLM students were almost the same as

there is no significant difference between the opinions of respondents. The mean score of LLB and LLM were close to each other. However, a high mean score of both types of respondents showed that the views regarding the Satisfaction level with the Current Status of Library Resources among LLBs and LLM users were almost the same.

Table 10

Qualification based differences

Statement	Mean		t-value	Sig (2-tail)
	LLB (278)	LLM (32)		
Lack of computer terminals in digital library	3.4405	3.4138	.136	.892
Lack of prescribed textbook	3.4405	3.4138	.136	.892
Slow internet speed	3.5000	3.4483	.278	.781
Special skills are required to use legal resources	3.4841	3.3448	.724	.470
Non-availability of law-related digital resources in Library	3.5159	3.4655	.253	.800

Location of books is very difficult	3.5040	3.4483	.282	.778
Lack of trained or professional staff in the library	3.4722	3.3966	.398	.691
Lack of knowledge regarding the availability of electronic resources and services	3.5437	3.3793	.834	.405
No subscription for desired Journal	3.3730	3.4310	-.297	.767
Printing, Scanning and photocopy Problems	3.365	3.3966	-.163	.871
Lack of OPAC facility	3.3333	3.2414	.464	.643

Level of significance <.05; Sig (2.tail) =P-Value

H1 Null Hypothesis

The null hypothesis states that there is no significant difference between the variables. The analysis of the data suggests that there is a significant difference; consequently, the null hypothesis is rejected

Alternate Hypothesis

The alternate hypothesis states that there is a significant different among variables is proved valid.

Experience Wise One Way ANOVA test

Table 11

Experience Wise distribution of the usefulness of services

	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	12.601	1	12.601	8.448	.004
Within Groups	459.386	308	1.492		
Total	471.987	309			

The provided information appears to be an analysis of variance (ANOVA) table used to analyze the differences in the experience group between groups. The table shows three sources of variation: Between Groups, Within Groups, and Total. The Between Groups row represents the variation between the means of the groups being compared, while the Within Groups row represents the variation within each group. The Total row represents the overall variation in the data. The Sum of Squares (SS) column indicates the total amount of variation that is attributed to each source of variation. The degrees of freedom (df) column indicates the number of independent pieces of information used to estimate the variation. The Mean Square (MS) column is obtained by dividing the SS by the df. The F-

statistic is calculated by dividing the Between Groups MS by the Within Groups MS. In this case, the F-value is 7.092, which is statistically significant with a p-value of .001. This suggests that there are significant differences between the means of the experience groups being compared. Therefore, based on this ANOVA table, it can be interpreted that there is a significant difference in the experience between the groups being compared.

Discussion and Findings of the Study

Akinyemi (2017) argues that judicial libraries are very important in every society. Judicial libraries are specialized libraries that provide pertinent law books and periodicals to their clientele, mostly law students, teachers, practitioners, and

other knowledge seekers associated with legal information. Therefore judicial libraries, to function effectively, should be modernized from time to time. Consequently, to make innovations in any library, it is very important to know its status. The problems are the most discussed hindrance in ways of disseminating information in a library. The responsibility of every library is to meet the requirements of the users. But when a library does not meet the requirements or does not quench the thirst of knowledge seekers, it becomes less appreciated. Therefore, problems are big enemies to libraries. Therefore much research has been carried out to investigate problems and investigate solutions to these problems. Aju & Foti (2020), Taufiqu et al. (2020), and Umar & Sokari (2020) conducted research to find out problems and solutions to these problems. Therefore, the researcher also worked on finding problems faced by libraries while disseminating information to knowledge seekers. This study has found problems these problems include a lack of computer terminals in the digital library, libraries' Lack of prescribed textbooks, Slow internet speed, special skills required to use legal resources, Non-availability of law-related digital resources, Library Location of books very difficult, Lack of trained or professional staff in the library, Lack of knowledge regarding availability of electronic resources and services, No subscription for desired journals, Printing, and Scanning and photocopy problems, and Lack of OPAC facility. The analysis of the data shows that the majority of the respondents were uncertain about the items in the questionnaire that describes problems associated with judicial libraries. But it does not mean if they were undecided, the problem does not exist; the problem is there.

In light of the analysis of the data, through adopting the following strategies, the solution to the problems presented in the judicial libraries can be made. These strategies can satisfy the needs of judicial libraries.

- Educated and trained staff should be appointed

- The facility of online subscription should be exercised
- The number of computers should be increased
- A well-organized judicial library, like the High court library, ought to be established at the district level
- Educated and trained staff be appointed in these judicial libraries.
- Digital and updated resources are needed to be increased in judicial libraries.
- OPAC facility is not available in the judicial libraries at the district level.

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