



Library Resources and Services for Prison Inmates: A Study of Aligarh Prison Library

Reena Rani

Research Scholar, Department of Lib. & Inf. Science
Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra
E-mail- reenarulezz@gmail.com

Dr. (Mrs.) Ashu Shokeen

Professor & Chairperson
Department of Library & Information Science
Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra

Abstract

The study focuses on the prison library resources and services for prison inmates in Aligarh district prison library. The main objectives of the study is to understand the purpose and frequency of using the prison library, information needs of the prisoners, information sources used by the inmates and to examine the satisfaction of prisoners with the prison library resources and services. Data for the study was collected via a well-structured questionnaire that was administered to 110 users of prison library. Out of 110, a total of 103 questionnaires were completed and returned back by respondents, showing an overall response rate of 93.63 percent. The collected data was analysed with the help of SPSS (Statistical Package for the Social Sciences) and Microsoft Excel by applying various statistical techniques. Findings reveal that majority of the respondents need information related to Health, Education, Legal and Religion. The results of the study indicate that 67.0% respondents are satisfied with the collection of fiction books, 75.7% are satisfied with the working hours of the library and 62.5% are satisfied with the reading hall. Lack of time and insufficient collection is the main reason for not visiting the library daily. This study suggests that the library collection should be strengthened keeping in view that the information needs of the prisoners.

Keywords: Prison Library, Jail library, Information Needs, Library Resources & Services, Prisoner's satisfaction

Introduction

Prison Libraries serving to prisoners leads to an increase in positive behaviours in inmates obtaining library services .they seek to library services for themselves while in prison and for their families after their release. It is very important for the prison department to provide libraries in prisons. By using these library services convicts as well as under trials could be integrated into the society in a respectful and civilized manner after their release. Providing of library facilities to prisoners will lead to a more humanitarian approach towards them and this will create a positive environment conducive for their reformatory treatment. The overall objective of reform and rehabilitation is pursued reform activities like cultural programs, vocational training programs, literacy programs etc. are to be undertaken through library services. Prison libraries serve both prisoners and the

public by helping to educate prisoners, reduce recidivism and improving family bonds through reading. Research shows a correlation between education and reduced recidivism and libraries play an important role in supporting education. Prison libraries provide a space for inmates to meet with others with common interests. Through limited funding some prison libraries are diligent in providing programming such programs include, book clubs and community service projects. Many inmates utilize the library as a means of escape from the reality of their current situations. One of the many services provided by a prison librarian is to have conversation with the inmates regarding the reason they are in their current situation. After which, the librarian will make catalogue suggestions to the inmate that will give them guidance in future decision making. Many prisoners express negative

views about education due to negative attitudes, if they participate in formal education their mind sets will also change positively. Some others may be well educated and learning opportunities which allow them to explore and develop their interest by utilising these library services.

Prisoners may also be lacking in essential life skills, social skills and a range of employability skills, all of which are necessary both to navigate daily prison life and life after release. Prison libraries should only be concerned with contributing to the desistance of prisoners it has been influenced very strongly prisoners have little contact with family and friends who often play a key role in fostering self-belief and motivation. The experience of incarceration often limits opportunities for hope and the motivation to change it is hard for prisoners to imagine a changed future in a positive environment. Incarceration can be an isolating experience and many prisoners suffer from poor mental health depression and substance abuse. Levels of self-harm and suicide are higher than the general population prison can be a volatile and stressful environment in which to live. Through libraries we may have chance to get below mentioned outcomes.

- Stress will be reduced and improvement in their well being
- It has chance to develop their ability to cope with stressful situation.
- A constructive use of time whilst incarcerated.
- Creativity and enjoyment
- To Develop understanding of individual health and mental health
- Its increase engagement in other prison programs or activities.
- New perspectives of themselves, their past actions and their current situation.
- Increase autonomy and agency in our environment of control and discipline.

Prisons in Uttar Pradesh

Uttar Pradesh is the state in northern part of the country. It is the most populated state in India. The state is divided into 18 divisions and 75 districts. There are 72 Jails situated i.e., 5 Central Jails, 62 District

Jails, 2 Sub Jails, 1 Women Jail and 2 Special Jails.

District Prison, Aligarh

District Prison, Aligarh was established in 1810 and falls under Agra Zone. At the time of data collection, there were 3759 prisoners consisting 508 Convicts and 3251 Under-trials.

Tenure of imprisonment (Convicted Inmates)

Sr. No.	Tenure of Imprisonment	Male	Female	Total
1	Life Imprisonment	344	18	362
2	More than 10 years	119	06	125
3	5-10 years	13	-	13
4	1-5 years	03	-	03
5	Less than 1 year	05	-	05

Educational and Vocational Programs, Meditational and Recreational Programs, Prisoner Inmates Calling System (PICS), Public Address System, Modern Mulakat System, Prisoner's De-Addiction and Reformatory Programs etc. activities run by the prison. NIOS & IGNOU centre is established at the prison. Inmates are grabbing the opportunity of education from NIOS/IGNOU centre. Under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, educated Inmates teach the illiterates. Education, meditation camps, De-addiction camps, religious camps, sports activities, and counseling programs are organized on regular basis in the Aligarh prison to enable the prisoners to become better citizens, capable of rehabilitating themselves.

Prison Library, Aligarh

A library was established in 2017 with the efforts of BIMTECH (Ranganathan Society for Social Welfare and Library Development) for the inmates. The library is open throughout the year from 7.00 am to 6.00 pm. Library has a collection of 2856 books on Fiction, poetry, drama, moral education, religion, character building and current affairs. The library subscribes 04 National Newspapers in Hindi and English languages. Seating capacity of the library is 20 persons at a time. Register system is used for circulation of books.

Prison library has been conducted prisoner's correctional educational programs such as religious program, literacy program, health

awareness program, life skill training, counselling session for drug & alcohol addicts, recreational programs, sports and community-based program etc. The librarian suggestions regarding improvement of collection is adding more literature on religion, fiction, health and legal books etc. Educated Inmates are assigned the duty to run the library. They are doing their best in imparting knowledge to other inmates. Awareness programmes are organized for the prisoners from time to time.

Review of Literature

Farjana, Islam and Mahfuz (2020) conducted a study entitled “Exploring the current status of a prison library: A case study of Naogaon District prison library”. This study focuses on the present condition of Naogaon district prison library. The aims of the study are to identify the present condition of Naogaon district prison library, problems faced by the library and relationship of prison library with other libraries. A structured questionnaire was distributed to the library. The survey data were collected from 24 prisoners and prison staff. Primary data were also collected from prisoners and prison authority through direct interview. The paper identified the lack of library professionals and reading materials, lack of awareness programs, overcrowded accommodation, absence of library policy, lack of library fund and no separate reading area are the major problems of Naogaon prison library.

Aliyu, Mustafa and Nasir (2018) conducted a study on “Rehabilitation program in Nigerian prison services: salient issues on its effectiveness”. The aim of the study was to examine the challenges facing rehabilitation, in line with improved standards of rehabilitating the prisoners, to enhance good levels of correctional rehabilitation competitiveness in the state which would sustain them economically and prevent recidivism, organize increased productivity of the inmate. Qualitative research design was adopted for the study. Data was collected with the Interview Schedule for prison staffs and Interview Guide for selected group of people. This was delivered to 10 respondents, comprising both males and females in the community. The implication of this study is to contribute to a

better rehabilitation program for the inmate by informing the authority about the challenges faced by inmates, prison staffs and social workers in rehabilitation program.

Chandani (2019) investigated “information needs of prison inmates, accessibility and utilization of library and information resources in the context of prison libraries in Sri Lanka”. Objective of the study was to find out the information resources and services available in prisons, utilization of information resources and services, access to information resources and services, satisfaction with information resources and services and information needs of inmates. For this study Survey method was adopted while a structured questionnaire was used for data collection. For this study simple random sampling technique was adopted. The study shows these resources and services were fully utilized by the inmates. The study also shows that prisoners have information needs which are to be met through the information resources provided by prison library.

Emasealu (2019) conducted a study entitled “Attitude of inmates towards the prison library”. The main objectives of the study were to define the attitude of inmates towards the prison library and its effect on their psychological wellbeing. Questionnaire method was adopted for data collection. Questionnaire was divided into two parts: attitude scale and psychological wellbeing scale. The result shows that inmates in both prisons have positive attitude towards the prison library, and they are also psychologically adjusted in prison.

Objectives of the study

The objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To determine the information needs of the prisoners.
2. To examine the frequency and purpose of prison library visit.
3. To determine the information sources used by the prisoners
4. To determine the satisfaction level of the inmates towards Aligarh district prison library resources & services.

Research Methodology

The present study focuses on the prison library resources and services for prison inmates in Aligarh district prison library.

Primary data were collected from district prison library, Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh. Questionnaire method was used for data collection. Three questionnaires were prepared for garner data: First questionnaire to gather information from the inmates, the second questionnaire to gather information from the Librarian/in-charge and the third questionnaire to gather information from prison officials. Total 110 questionnaires were distributed among the inmates out of which 103 were found fit for analysis.

Data Analysis

Table 1: Demographic Profile of Respondents

	Respondents	Percentage (%)
Gender		
Male	79	76.7
Female	24	23.3
Total	103	100.0
Age Group		
Below 30 Years	64	62.1
31-45 Years	22	21.4
46-60 Years	12	11.7
60 Years and above	5	4.9
Total	103	100.0
Marital status		
Married	49	47.6
Single	34	33.0
Widow/Widower	19	18.4
Divorcee	1	1.0
Total	103	100.0
Level of Education		
Primary	7	6.8
High School	33	32.0
Sr. Sec. School	10	9.7
Graduate	44	42.7
Post Graduate	7	6.8
Never Attended School	2	1.9
Total	103	100.0

Table 1 shows the demographic profile of the prisoners. 79 (76.7%) respondents are males and 24 (23.3%) are females. The majority of the respondents i.e., 64 (62.1%) are in the age group of 'below 30years' followed by 22 (21.4%) and 12 (11.7%) who are in the age group of '31-45 years' and '46-60 years' respectively. Whereas least number of respondents i.e., 5 (4.9%) are in the age group of 'more than 60 years'.

The marital status of the respondents shows that most of the respondents i.e., 49 (47.6%) are married followed by 34 (33.0%) and 19

(18.4%) are single and Widow/Widower. Whereas only 1 (1.0%) respondent who is Divorcee. Most of the respondents i.e., 44 (42.7%) who are 'Graduate' followed by 33 (32.0%) and 10 (9.7%) have completed their 'High School standard education' and 'Sr. Secondary education' respectively. Whereas least number of respondents i.e., 2 (1.9%) who 'Never Attended School' before imprisonment.

Table 2: Professional Background of Prisoners

Status	Respondents	Percentage (%)
Student	32	31.1
Housewife	10	10.7
Professional/Business Man	41	39.8
Unemployed	10	9.7
Employed	9	8.7
Total	103	100.0

Table 2 shows that the majority of the respondents i.e., 41 (39.8%) were 'Professional/Businessman' followed by 32 (31.1%) and 10 (10.7%) who were 'students' and were in 'Housewives' before coming to the prison respectively. However, least number of the respondents i.e., 9 (8.7%) were 'employed' before coming to the prison.

Table 3: Years of Imprisonment

Years	Respondents	Percentage (%)
Below 2 years	48	46.6
2-4 Years	24	23.3
4-6 Years	17	16.5
6-8 Years	7	6.8
8-10 Years	6	5.8
Above 10 Years	1	1.0
Total	103	100.0

Table 3 shows that the majority of the respondents i.e., 48 (46.6%) are living in the prison for less than 2 years followed by 24 (23.3%), 16 (16.5%) and 7 (6.8%) respondents who are living in prison for 2-4 years, 4-6 years and 6-8 years respectively. However, only 1 (1.0%) respondents is living in prison for above 10 years.

Table 4: Current status of prisoners

Status	Respondents	Percentage (%)
Remand/Under-trial	72	69.9
Sentenced	31	30.1
Total	103	100.0

Table 4 shows the current status of the remand/undertrial followed by 31 (30.1%) prisoners. 72 (69.9%) prisoners are on who were sentenced.

Table 5: Information Needs of Prisoners

Information Needs	Strongly Disagree		Disagree		Neither Agree Nor Disagree		Agree		Strongly Agree		Mean	Std. Deviation	Rank
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%			
Health	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	4	3.9%	34	33.0%	65	63.1%	4.59	.56	1
Educational	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	10	9.7%	24	23.3%	69	67.0%	4.57	.66	2
Legal	1	1.0%	1	1.0%	4	3.9%	31	30.1%	66	64.1%	4.55	.71	3
Religion	0	0.0%	1	1.0%	4	3.9%	38	36.9%	60	58.3%	4.52	.62	4
Financial need	1	1.0%	1	1.0%	12	11.7%	41	39.8%	48	46.6%	4.30	.79	5
Recreational	1	1.0%	1	1.0%	11	10.7%	44	42.7%	46	44.7%	4.29	.77	6

Table 5 shows that majority of the respondents need information related to 'Health' as ranked 1st with mean value i.e., 4.59 (SD=.56) and followed by 'Educational', 'Legal', and 'Religion' with

the mean values i.e., 4.57 (SD=.66), 4.55 (SD=.710) and 4.52 (SD=.62) and ranked 2nd, 3rd and 4th respectively. However 'Recreational' is the least required need and ranked last having mean i.e., 4.29 (SD=.77).

Table 6: Frequency of using prison Library

Frequency	Respondents	Percent
Daily	16	15.5
Weekly	15	14.6
Fortnightly	4	3.9
Monthly	14	13.6
Occasionally	54	52.4
Total	103	100.0

Table 6 shows that majority of the respondents i.e., 54 (52.4%) visit the library 'Occasionally' followed by 16 (15.5%) and 15 (14.6%) prisoners who visit the library

'Daily' and 'Weekly' respectively. However, least number of respondents i.e., 4 (3.9%) visit the library 'Occasionally'

Table 7: Purpose of using Prison Library

Purpose	Never		Rarely		Sometimes		Frequently		Always		Mean	Std. Deviation	Rank
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%			
Reading Books	1	1.0%	1	1.0%	8	7.8%	17	16.5%	76	73.8%	4.61	.75	1
Borrow/Return Books	2	1.9%	1	1.0%	12	11.7%	21	20.4%	67	65.0%	4.46	.88	2
Consult Reference material	3	2.9%	1	1.0%	13	12.6%	43	41.7%	43	41.7%	4.18	.90	3
Consult audio/video material	8	7.8%	7	6.8%	14	13.6%	27	26.2%	47	45.6%	3.95	1.25	4
Reading Magazine/Newspapers	20	19.4%	5	4.9%	11	10.7%	27	26.2%	40	38.8%	3.60	1.51	5
Book Exhibition	46	44.7%	14	13.6%	21	20.4%	10	9.7%	12	11.7%	2.30	1.42	6
Use computer (if available)	83	80.6%	8	7.8%	7	6.8%	3	2.9%	2	1.9%	1.38	.88	7

Table 7 shows that majority of the respondents prefer to visit the library for 'Reading Books' as ranked 1st with mean value i.e., 4.61 (SD=0.75) followed by the respondents who visit the library for 'Borrow/Return the Books', 'Consult Reference material', 'Consult audio/ video material' and 'Reading

Magazines/Newspapers' having mean values 4.46 (SD=0.88) and 4.18 (SD=0.90), 3.95 (SD=1.25) and 3.60 (SD=1.51) and ranked 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th respectively. However, least number of respondents visit the library for 'Use of computer' as ranked 7th with mean value 1.38 (SD=0.88).

Table 8: Reasons for not visiting the Library Regularly

Reason	Strongly Disagree		Disagree		Neither Agree Nor Disagree		Agree		Strongly Agree		Mean	Std. Deviation	Rank
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%			
Lack of time	29	28.2%	6	5.8%	16	15.5%	37	35.9%	15	14.6%	3.03	1.46	1
Insufficient Collection	20	19.4%	16	15.5%	32	31.1%	29	28.2%	6	5.8%	2.85	1.20	2
Having own books	38	36.9%	7	6.8%	18	17.5%	33	32.0%	7	6.8%	2.65	1.42	3
Inconvenient Arrangement of Books	17	16.5%	39	37.9%	30	29.1%	13	12.6%	4	3.9%	2.50	1.03	4
Poor staff service	20	19.4%	36	35.0%	28	27.2%	18	17.5%	1	1.0%	2.46	1.02	5
Inconvenient Working Hours	23	22.3%	32	31.1%	32	31.1%	14	13.6%	2	1.9%	2.42	1.04	6
Non-availability of internet	53	51.5%	8	7.8%	14	13.6%	18	17.5%	10	9.7%	2.26	1.47	7

Table 8 shows that majority of the respondents reported 'Lack of Time' as the main reason for not visiting the library regularly and this category ranked 1st with a mean value 3.03 (SD=1.46) followed by 'Insufficient Collection', 'Having own books' and 'Inconvenient Arrangement of

Books' as reported by respondents having mean values 2.85 (SD=1.20), 2.65 (SD=1.42) and 2.50 (SD=1.03) and ranked 2nd, 3rd and 4th respectively. However 'Non-availability of internet' ranked 7th as reported by respondents having mean values i.e., 2.26 (SD=1.47).

Table 9: Advantages of Visiting the Prison Library

Benefits	Very Little Extent		Little Extent		Some Extent		Great Extent		Very Great Extent		Mean	Std. Deviation	Rank
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%			
Developed new skills	6	5.8%	5	4.9%	45	43.7%	39	37.9%	8	7.8%	3.37	.91	1
Obtained new ideas	5	4.9%	2	1.9%	51	49.5%	33	32.0%	12	11.7%	3.44	.90	2
Get information for further learning	3	2.9%	2	1.9%	63	61.2%	29	28.2%	6	5.8%	3.32	.74	3
Get information for health /Business /Community	7	6.8%	4	3.9%	62	60.2%	24	23.3%	6	5.8%	3.17	.86	4

Table 9 shows that majority of the respondents think that prison library helps in ‘developing new skills’ as ranked 1st with the mean value 3.37 (SD=0.91) followed by ‘obtain new ideas’ and ‘get information for further learning’ ranked as 2nd and 3rd having mean values 3.44 (SD=0.90) and 3.32

(SD=0.74) respectively. However, the least number of respondents have given the opinion that they ‘get helpful information for Health/Business/Community’ from the prison library ranked as 4th with a mean value of 3.17 (SD=0.86).

Table 10: Information sources used by the prisoners

Information sources	Never		Very Rarely		Rarely		Occasionally		Frequently		Very Frequently		Mean	Std. Deviation	Rank
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%			
Books	0	0.0%	8	7.8%	2	1.9%	55	53.4%	19	18.4%	19	18.4%	3.38	1.05	1
Newspaper	2	1.9%	5	4.9%	6	5.8%	50	48.5%	22	21.4%	18	17.5%	3.35	1.10	2
Magazines	3	2.9%	4	3.9%	8	7.8%	54	52.4%	19	18.4%	15	14.6%	3.23	1.10	3
Reference Sources	7	6.8%	61	59.2%	5	4.9%	20	19.4%	5	4.9%	5	4.9%	1.71	1.27	4

Table 10 shows that majority of the respondents read ‘Books’ very frequently, as ranked 1st having a mean value of 3.38 (SD=1.05) followed by ‘Newspapers’ and ‘Magazines’ read very frequently having

mean values 3.35 (SD=1.10) & 3.23 (SD=1.10) and ranked 2nd and 3rd respectively. However ‘Reference Sources’ has been ranked 4th with the least mean value i.e., 1.71 (SD=1.27).

Table 11: Satisfaction with the Collection

Type of collection	Very Dissatisfied		Dissatisfied		Undecided		Satisfied		Very Satisfied		Mean	Std. Deviation	Rank
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%			
Fiction Books	2	1.9%	1	1.0%	14	13.6%	69	67.0%	17	16.5%	3.95	.71	1
General Books	1	1.0%	10	9.7%	10	9.7%	64	62.1%	18	17.5%	3.85	.85	2
Magazines	7	6.8%	2	1.9%	13	12.6%	73	70.9%	8	7.8%	3.71	.90	3
Reference books	1	1.0%	9	8.7%	21	20.4%	64	62.1%	8	7.8%	3.67	.78	4
Audio/video material	6	5.8%	26	25.2%	18	17.5%	48	46.6%	5	4.9%	3.19	1.05	5
Newspapers	6	5.8%	26	25.2%	18	17.5%	48	46.6%	5	4.9%	3.18	1.05	6

Table 11 shows that the majority of the respondents are satisfied with the collection of ‘Fiction Books’ as ranked 1st having highest mean value i.e., 3.95 (SD=.71) followed by ‘General Books’, ‘Magazines’ and ‘Reference books’ ranked as 2nd, 3rd and

4th with mean values i.e., 3.85 (SD=0.85), 3.71 (SD=0.90) and 3.67 (SD=0.78) respectively. However, very few respondents are satisfied with the ‘Newspapers’ ranked as 6th with mean value 3.18 (SD=1.05).

Table 12: Satisfaction with the Prison Library Services

Services	Very Dissatisfied		Dissatisfied		Undecided		Satisfied		Very Satisfied		Mean	Std. Deviation	Rank
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%			
Library Services													

Working Hours	1	1.0%	1	1.0%	17	16.5%	78	75.7%	6	5.8%	3.84	.57	1
Circulation	1	1.0%	2	1.9%	17	16.5%	77	74.8%	6	5.8%	3.83	.60	2
Counseling/ Consultancy	3	2.9%	9	8.7%	33	32.0%	56	54.4%	2	1.9%	3.44	.80	3
Career guidance (if provided)	5	4.9%	10	9.7%	35	34.0%	51	49.5%	2	1.9%	3.34	.86	4
Workshop, Seminar, training, and other activities	17	16.5%	5	4.9%	21	20.4%	54	52.4%	6	5.8%	3.26	1.18	5
Reference Service	23	22.3%	11	10.7%	30	29.1%	31	30.1%	8	7.8%	2.90	1.27	6

Table 12 shows that the majority of the respondents i.e., 78 (75.7%) are satisfied with the 'working hours' of the library as ranked 1st with a mean value 3.84 (SD=0.57) followed by 'Circulation' and 'Counseling/ Consultancy' which have been ranked 2nd and

3rd with mean values. 3.53 (SD=.98) and 3.51 (SD=1.00) respectively. However, the satisfaction level with the 'Reference Service' is low among the prisoners as ranked 6th with mean value 2.90 (SD=1.27).

Table 13: Satisfaction with Prison Library Staff

Satisfaction with Library Staff	Very Dissatisfied		Dissatisfied		Undecided		Satisfied		Very Satisfied		Mean	Std. Deviation	Rank
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%			
Staff Knowledge	2	1.9%	4	3.9%	35	34.0%	53	51.5%	9	8.7%	3.61	.78	1
Librarian's Responsiveness	1	1.0%	5	4.9%	35	34.0%	55	53.4%	7	6.8%	3.60	.73	2
Staff Helpfulness	2	1.9%	4	3.9%	42	40.8%	50	48.5%	5	4.9%	3.50	.71	3

Table 13 shows that majority of the respondents are satisfied with the 'Staff Knowledge' as ranked 1st with a mean value of 3.61 (SD=0.78) followed by 'Librarian's

'Responsiveness' and 'Staff Helpfulness' ranked 2nd and 3rd with mean values 3.60 (SD=0.73) and 3.50 (SD=0.71) respectively.

Table 14: Satisfaction towards Prison Library's Infrastructure

Satisfaction towards Infrastructure	Very Dissatisfied		Dissatisfied		Undecided		Satisfied		Very Satisfied		Mean	Std. Deviation	Rank
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%			
Reading hall	1	1.0%	2	1.9%	26	25.2%	62	60.2%	12	11.7%	3.80	.70	1
Seating arrangement	1	1.0%	4	3.9%	26	25.2%	58	56.3%	14	13.6%	3.78	.76	2
Cleanliness	1	1.0%	1	1.0%	29	28.2%	64	62.1%	8	7.8%	3.75	.65	3
Library Building	1	1.0%	0	0.0%	31	30.1%	64	62.1%	7	6.8%	3.74	.62	4

Lighting and ventilation	4	3.9%	4	3.9%	28	27.2%	6	60.2%	5	4.9%	3.58	.81	5
--------------------------	---	------	---	------	----	-------	---	-------	---	------	------	-----	---

Table 14 shows that the majority of the respondents are satisfied with the 'Reading hall' of the library as ranked 1st with a mean value of 3.80 (SD=0.70) followed by the respondents who are satisfied with 'Seating arrangement' as ranked 2nd with mean value 3.78 (SD=0.76). However, the least number of respondents are satisfied with the 'Lighting and ventilation' as ranked 5th with the mean value of 3.58 (SD=.81).

Findings of the study

1. 79 (76.7%) respondents are males and 24 (23.3%) are females. (Table-1)
2. The majority of the respondents i.e., 64 (62.1%) are in the age group of 'below 30years' whereas the least number of respondents i.e., 5 (4.9%) are in the age group of 'more than 60 years'. (Table-1)
3. Majority of the respondents i.e., 49 (47.6%) are married followed by 34 (33.0%) whereas only 1(1.0%) respondent who is Divorcee. (Table-1)
4. Majority of the respondents i.e., 44 (42.7%) who are 'Graduate' whereas the least number of respondents i.e., 2 (1.9%) who 'Never Attended School' before imprisonment. (Table-1)
5. Majority of the respondents i.e., 31 (50%) were 'Professional/Businessman' whereas only 1 (1.6%) respondent was 'Unemployed' before coming to the prison. (Table-2)
6. Majority of the respondents i.e., 26(41.9%) have been living in the prison for less than 2 years whereas the least number of respondents i.e., 1(1.6%) has been living in the prison for more than 10 years. (Table-3)
7. 72 (69.9%) prisoners are on remand/undertrial followed by 31 (30.1%) who were sentenced. (Table-4)
8. Majority of the respondents need information related to 'Health' as ranked 1st with mean value i.e., 4.59 (SD=.568) whereas "Recreational' is the least required need and ranked last having mean i.e., 4.29 (SD=.775). (Table-5)
9. Majority of the respondents i.e., 54 (52.4%) respondents visit the library 'Occasionally' whereas the least number of respondents i.e., 4 (3.9%) visit the library 'Occasionally'. (Table-6)
10. Highest number of the respondents prefer to visit the library for 'Reading Books' as ranked 1st with mean value i.e., 4.61 (SD=0.75). However, SD=1.25) and 3.60 (SD=1.51) and ranked 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th respectively. However, least number of respondents visit the library for 'Use of computer' as ranked 7th with mean value 1.38 (SD=0.88). (Table-7)
11. 'Lack of Time' is the 1st ranked reason for not visiting the library daily with the mean value i.e., 3.03 (SD=1.46) whereas 'Non-availability of internet' ranked 7th as reported by respondents having mean values i.e., 2.26 (SD=1.47). (Table-8)
12. Majority of the respondents have given the opinion that they 'developing new skills' and 'Obtain new ideas' from the prison library these responses have been ranked 1st and 2nd respectively. However, the least number of respondents are of the opinion that prison library helps in 'get helpful information for Health/Business/Community' and ranked 4th. (Table-9)
13. Majority of the respondents read 'Books' very frequently, as ranked 1st having a mean value of 3.38 (SD=1.05). However, values 3.35 (SD=1.10) & 3.23 (SD=1.10) and ranked 2nd and 3rd respectively. However 'Reference Sources' has been ranked 4th with the least mean value i.e., 1.71 (SD=1.27). (Table-10)

14. Majority of the respondents are satisfied with the collection of 'Fiction Books' as ranked 1st having highest mean value i.e., 3.95 (SD=.71) whereas very few respondents are satisfied with the 'Newspapers' ranked as 6th with mean value 3.18 (SD=1.05). (Table-11)
15. Majority of the respondents i.e., 78 (75.7%) are satisfied with the 'working hours' of the library as ranked 1st with a mean value 3.84 (SD=0.57). However, the satisfaction level with the 'Reference Service' is low among the prisoners as ranked 6th with mean value 2.90 (SD=1.27). (Table-12)
16. majority of the respondents are satisfied with the 'Staff Knowledge' as ranked 1st with a mean value of 3.61 (SD=0.78) followed by 'Librarian's Responsiveness' and 'Staff Helpfulness' ranked 2nd and 3rd with mean values 3.60 (SD=0.73) and 3.50 (SD=0.71) respectively. (Table-13)
17. Majority of the respondents are satisfied with the 'Reading hall' of the library as ranked 1st with a mean value of 3.80 (SD=0.70). However, the least number of respondents are satisfied with the 'Lighting and ventilation' as ranked 5th with the mean value of 3.58 (SD=.81). (Table-14)

Conclusion

Findings of the study reveal that majority of the respondents need information related to health followed by education, legal and religion. The results of the study indicate that 67.0% respondents are satisfied with the collection of fiction books, 75.7% are satisfied with the working hours of the library and 62.5% are satisfied with the reading hall of the prison library. Lack of time and insufficient collection is the main reason for not visiting the library daily. Majority of the inmates replied that prison library helps in developing new skills and they get information for further learning. This study suggests that the library collection should be

improved keeping in view that the information needs of the prisoners.

References:

1. American Library Association. (2010). —Prisoner's Right to Read. Intellectual Freedom Manual. Retrieved from <http://www.ifmanual.org/prisoners>.
2. Emasealu, H. U. (2019). Attitude of inmates towards the prison library. *Brazilian Journal of Information Science: Research Trends*, 13(2), 78-91. doi:10.36311/19811640.2019.v13n2.08.p78
3. Aliyu, K. A., Mustaffa, J., & Nasir, N. (2018). Rehabilitation Programme in Nigerian Prison Services: Salient Issues on Its Effectiveness. *International Journal of Current Innovation Research*, 4(4(A)), 1132-1136. doi:https://journalijcir.com/sites/default/files/issue-files/00565-A-2018_0.pdf
4. Farjana, I., Islam, M., & Mahfuz, N. I. (2020). Exploring the current status of a prison library: A case study of Naogaon district prison library. *The Eastern Librarian*, 25(2), 13-24. <https://doi.org/http://www.lab.org.bd/journal>
5. Chandani, J. G. (2019). Information needs, accessibility and utilization in prison library context of Sri Lanka. *International Journal of Multidisciplinary Research and Development*, 6(11), 150-155. <https://doi.org/http://dr.lib.sjp.ac.lk/handle/123456789/8490>
6. Lehmann, V. (2000). The Prison Library: A Vital Link to Education, Rehabilitation, and Recreation. *Education Libraries*, 24(1), 5-10.
7. Ministry of Home Affairs. (2003). Model Prison Manual for the Superintendence and Management of Prisons in India. Retrieved from Bureau of Police Research and Development: <http://bprd.nic.in/WriteReadData/userfiles/file/5230647148-Model%20Prison%20Manual.pdf>

8. Ministry of Home Affairs. (2014). Prison Statistics of India: National Crime Record Bureau, New Delhi, Government of India. Retrieved from <https://ncrb.gov.in/statpublications/pri/prison2014/prisonstat2014rev1.htm> (retrieved January 12, 2020)
9. Retrieved from: <http://upprison.gov.in/article/en/Population-of-PrisonersDated-20.12.2021>
10. Retrieved from: <http://upprison.gov.in/pages/en/topmanagement/notice-related-to-prisons/en-range-wise-list-of-prisons> Dated 20.12.2021