

# A study on Awareness and Utilizations of Book Index of the Research Scholars with reference to selected Arts and Science Colleges in Coimbatore City

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**ABSTRACT:** Higher education is touted to lead lot of benefits, including financial security and prosperous career, college education providing better job opportunities and comfortable lifestyle. Research studies like M.Phil., and Ph.D., scholars are in need of more details and knowledge for their research work. In the connection of research work, Book index helps the scholars to find materials for their saving time. Book Index available at the end of the text books, it is given by the authors. Book Index helps the readers to get the specific words and study materials simply without refer the content and other in details which available in the book. The researcher adopted convenient sampling method for this study to collect the data. The researcher suggested that the researcher scholars spending more time in the institutions, while spending time they could make use of the book index. The book index available at the end of the text books, this book index could keep after the content pages which is available before chapters. If the publishers do this, the readers could utilize more useful to find specific words. This study concluded that the utilization of book index is very less. The Teaching faculties, Research supervisors and subject experts are should educate about the awareness and regular usage of book index.

**KeyWords:** Book Index, Higher education, Usage of academic resources, Book learning and Research scholars.

## Introduction

India is the third place about largest higher education system in the global, after United States and China. Our higher education body is University Grants Commission (UGC), which enforced its standards, it advises our Government, its coordinates the centre and state. Higher education is touted to lead lot of benefits, including financial security and prosperous career, college education providing better job opportunities and comfortable lifestyle. Higher education could give focal point of knowledge and applications, an institution which will make great contribution to the economic growth and development through fostering innovation and increasing higher skills. Our education system provides the required knowledge to the youth especially school and college students. Text books containing the information what we need. Books available in general and academics libraries, general library is open to all, academic libraries using by the students and scholars. Research give solution to the particular problems, the research scholars should identify the problems and give solution for that, they are in need of past information to conduct research. The information is ready available in the books, periodicals and e-sources, these are available in the academic libraries.

Traditionally Text books are using as a standard source of information's for all formal studies, all subjects and it is an instrumentation for teaching and learning process. Reading books creates, confidence, knowledge and security for all inexperienced teachers who have find adapting existing text books challenging.

There is no ideal textbook for every subject teachers in need of refer more number of books, the same for students also to fulfill their requirements. Apart from the regular class, teachers are in need of more knowledge to convey to the students. M.Phil and Ph.D., scholars are in need of more details and knowledge for their research work. Book index helps the scholars to find the required materials, it save their time. The scholars should aware and know the books index benefits. This present study conducted in Coimbatore City to find the level of awareness and utilization of book index.

## Origins and meanings of Book Index

Index is nothing but "that which points out" and "to show", is derived from the identical Latin word. In 1398 the meaning of the word index as "forefinger, pointer", which is included in the Oxford English

Dictionary. The indexing is not an easy job of the authors, it is gateway to their information, the users should utilize this index to reach their requirements, for this, ISO standard gives guidelines. It should include content, organization and formation of indexes and covers the choice and form of heading, subheading used in the index entries. The book index should be made with name, place and things in alphabetical order with page number with relevant each topics, it is road map to the text book. The well made book index could help the reader to get information quickly.

### **Book Index**

Book index available at the end of the text books, it is given by the authors. It helps the readers to get the study materials easily without refer the content and other details which available in the book. Readers could reach the materials without refer the chapter scheme, but this book index helps them to reach the appropriate topic. These topics are uploaded in computer systems in some leading educational institutions made it available like electronic book index. Electronic books index much useful to the users get the books, the book number and rack number also uploaded. It is helps the researchers to get materials, but the awareness and utilizations are not much among the under and post graduate students. Teachers use to give the text books with page number to take photo copy.

Bedadyuti Sahoo and Ashok Kumar (2018) in this article it can be stated that, indexing and abstracting services are more significant for ready reference services. It is extremely a delivery helpful to the users' of all discipline and helps in providing wide support for different domain areas. It helps the authors to submit their articles being choosy before submission. , Book indexing is not only helpful to the students, teachers, researchers, but also it is much important to disseminate knowledge in one platform to all performers. The study conducted for research scholars to find the awareness and utilization of Book index.

### **Research Gap**

The researchers understand the importance of reading books and get search information through books index. Books are major sources for learning and get knowledge, lot of studies were carried out by various researchers, but there were very limited studies carried out by the researcher in this study area. The researchers have taken this change as research gap to conduct study on awareness and utilization of book index.

### **Objectives**

The following are the objectives of this present study

- To present the Book index and the socio economic factors of the sample respondents.
- To find the level of awareness of Book index.
- To find the level of utilization and relationship of Book index with socio economic factors.

### **Research methodology - Sample Design**

The researcher selected Coimbatore City for this study, Coimbatore has many leading industries, educational institutions, hospital and has pleasant climate. Many students are from nearby district are prefer Coimbatore for higher studies. There are many institutions has got autonomous status to give best education to the students, the researcher selected only autonomous arts and science colleges which functioning in City limit were taken for this study. The researcher adopted convenient sampling method for this study to collect the data. The researcher collected data during the Month of February 2019.

The researcher prepared one hundred and fifty questionnaires and issued various Autonomous Arts and Science Colleges in Coimbatore City, selected M.Phil, and Ph.D., scholars in all categories. Only one hundred and forty questionnaires were collected back, two questionnaires were incomplete, finally the researcher taken one hundred and thirty eight for this study.

### **Tools and Techniques**

The researcher used percentage analysis, it helps to understand the socio economic factors of the sample research scholars, chart used to represent the table but it helps to compare the categories. Correlation adopted to find the relationship between the variables i.e. socio economic factors and level of utilizations.

### **Analysis and Interpretation**

#### **Percentage analysis**

Percentage analysis is basic tool, the same time it helps to understand the number of respondents in each category and help to compare with other categories.

#### **Research Paper**

**Table 1: Age group of the research scholars**

Sl. No.	Age group	Number of research scholars	Percentage
1	Up to 25 years	46	33.33
2	26 years to 30 years	64	46.38
3	Above 30 years	28	20.29
Total		138	100

Source: Survey data

Table No.1 presents the age group of the research scholars, forty six (33.33%) sample research scholars are come under the age group of up to 25 years. Sixty four (46.38%) sample research scholars are come between 26 years and 30 years and remaining twenty eight (20.29%) sample research scholars are above 30 years old. Majority of the sample research scholars are between 26 years and 30 years.

**Table 2: Gender of the research scholars**

Sl. No.	Gender	Number of research scholars	Percentage
1	Male	57	41.30
2	Female	81	58.70
Total		138	100

Source: Survey data

The above table No.2 shows the gender of the sample research scholars, fifty seven (41.30%) sample research scholars are male and remaining eighty one (58.70%) sample research scholars are female. Majority (58.70%) of the sample research scholars are female.

**Table 3: Marital status of the research scholars**

Sl. No.	Marital Status	Number of research scholars	Percentage
1	Single	102	73.91
2	Married	36	26.09
Total		138	100

Source: Survey data

Table No.3 shows the marital status of the sample research scholars, many scholars are doing M.Phil., and Ph.D., program after their marriage. One hundred and two (73.91%) sample research scholars are single and remaining thirty six (26.09%) sample research scholars are married. Majority (73.91%) of the sample research scholars are single.

**Table 4: Course of the research scholars**

Sl. No.	Course	Number of research scholars	Percentage
1	M.Phil.	71	51.45
2	Ph.D.	67	48.55
Total		138	100

Source: Survey data

Table No.4 presents the course details of the sample research scholars, seventy one (51.45%) sample research scholars are doing M.Phil., and remaining sixty seven (48.55%) sample research scholars are doing Ph.D. Majority (51.45%) of the sample research scholars are doing M.Phil. degree.

**Table 5: Category of the research scholars**

Sl. No.	Category	M.Phil.	Ph.D.
1	Full time	45 (63.38%)	17 (25.37%)
2	Part time	26 (36.62%)	50 (74.63%)
Total		71	67

Source: Survey data

The above table No.5 shows the category which they are doing M.Phil or Ph.D. out of seventy one sample researcher scholars forty five (63.38%) sample research scholars are doing full time M.Phil. and remaining twenty six (36.62%) sample research scholars are doing part time M.Phil. out of sixty seven Ph.D. scholars, seventeen (25.37%) sample research scholars are doing full time and remaining fifty (74.63%) sample research scholars are doing part time Ph.D.

**Table 6: Course of the research scholars**

Sl. No.	Course	Number of research scholars	Percentage
1	Commerce	57	41.30
2	Computer Science	33	23.91
3	Mathematics	8	5.80
4	Bio Science	12	8.70
5	Management	28	20.29
Total		138	100

**Source: Survey data**

Table No.6 shows the course which they are doing, fifty seven (41.30%) sample research scholars are doing Commerce, thirty three (23.91%) sample research scholars are doing compute science, eight (5.80%) sample research scholars are doing Mathematics. Twelve (8.70%) sample research scholars are doing Bio sciences and remaining twenty eight (20.29%) sample research scholars are doing Management programme. Majority (41.30%) of the research scholars are Commerce.

**Table 7: Level of awareness of the research scholars**

Sl. No.	Major	Highly aware	Aware	Not aware	Total
1	Commerce	24 (42.11%)	31 (54.39%)	2 (3.50%)	57
2	Computer Science	18 (54.55%)	12 (36.36%)	3 (9.09%)	33
3	Mathematics	5 (62.50%)	2 (25.00%)	1 (12.50%)	8
4	Bio Science	8 (66.67%)	3 (25.00%)	1 (8.33%)	12
5	Management	9 (32.14%)	15 (53.57%)	4 (14.29%)	28
Total		64 (46.38%)	63 (45.65%)	11 (7.97%)	138

**Source: Survey data**

Table No.7 shows the level of awareness of Book index of the sample research scholars. The research has taken three category of awareness level, i.e. high aware, aware and not aware, and course wise. Out of 57 Commerce scholars 24 scholars are highly aware, 31 one scholar are aware and 2 scholars are not aware of Book index. Out of 33 scholars, 18 scholars are highly aware, 12 scholars are aware and 3 scholars are not aware of Book index those are Computer Science. Out of 8 Mathematics scholars, 5 scholars are highly aware, 2 scholars are aware of Book index and 1 scholar not aware of Book index. Out of 12 Bio science scholars 5 scholars are highly aware, 3 scholars are aware and 1 scholar not aware of Book index. Out of 28 Management scholars 9 scholars are highly aware, 15 scholars are aware and 4 scholars are not aware of Book index. The sample scholars those are not aware of Book index were not taken to further analysis, only 127 sample scholars were taken to find the level of utilization of Book index.

**Table 8: Level of utilization of the research scholars**

Sl. No.	Major	Number of research scholars	Percentage
1	Highly utilized	30	23.62
2	Just utilized	79	62.20
3	Not utilized	18	14.18
Total		127	100

**Source: Survey data**

The above table No.8 shows the utilization of Book index of the sample research scholars, out of one hundred and twenty seven sample research scholars, thirty (23.62%) scholars are highly utilized the Book index. Seventy nine (62.20%) scholars are just utilized the Book index and remaining eighteen (14.18%) scholars not utilizing Book index. Majority (62.20%) of the research scholars are just utilizing Book index, need more awareness and utilizing Book index.

**Correlation - Relationship between the socio economic factors and utilization of Book Index**

The researcher developed seven variables used five point likert scale. The total score taken and applied correlation to find the relationship.

**Table 9: Correlation – Socio Economic Factors and level of Utilization**

		Gender	Age	Category	Course	Level of Utilization
<b>Gender</b>	Pearson Correlation	1				
	P - Value					
	N	127				
<b>Age</b>	Pearson Correlation	<b>-.761**</b>	1			
	P - Value	.001				
	N	127	127			
<b>Category</b>	Pearson Correlation	-.018	<b>-.509**</b>	1		
	P - Value	.716	.001			
	N	127	127	127		
<b>Course</b>	Pearson Correlation	<b>.792**</b>	<b>-.542**</b>	-.081	1	
	P - Value	.001	.001	.183		
	N	127	127	127	127	
<b>Level of Utilization</b>	Pearson Correlation	<b>.902**</b>	<b>-.542**</b>	<b>.871*</b>	<b>.649**</b>	1
	P - Value	.001	.001	.001	.001	
	N	127	127	127	127	127

\*\* . Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

\* . Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).

**Source: Computed data**

Table No.9 shows the correlation output, the relationship between the socio economic factors and level of utilization of Book index gender (.902) and course (.649) has positive and significant relationship with utilization of Book index at 1% significant level.

The age group (-.542) has negative and significant relationship with utilization of Book index at 1% significant level. It shows that age group is not influence the research scholars, whether they are less than 25 years or above 25 years, once they enter as scholars invariably studying for their research program and utilizing Book index to find notes. The category (.871) has positive and significant correlation with utilization of Book index at 5% significant level.

**Findings**

The following are the findings of this present study.

1. Age group shows the experience in education of the sample respondents, the age groups up to 30 years were taken for this study. Majority of the sample research scholars are between 26 years and 30 years, the mean score of age group is 28.50 and standard deviation is 2.887.
2. The male and female people are equally studying and female prefer job, male prefer job and business. In the study area majority (58.70%) of the sample research scholars are female, male are getting job and start business after post graduate.
3. Getting marriage after education is suitable for all male and female, but very few candidates are come for higher education after marriage. The married people having lot of constrains. Research program is different from under graduate and post graduate, in this study majority (73.91%) of the sample research scholars are single.
4. Ph.D. is highest degree in India, getting research supervisor and colleges / university for Ph.D. admission is very different for some courses, M.Phil., is available in all colleges and university it is easy to get, in this study area the majority (51.45%) of the sample research scholars are doing M.Phil.

5. While data collection the researcher has got Commerce, Computer Science, Bio science, Mathematics and Management scholars, Commerce, Computer Science and Management courses are available in all colleges, the majority (41.30%) of the research scholars are from Commerce disciple.
6. The researcher finally taken one hundred and twenty seven, out of them only thirty research scholars are utilizing book index, seventy nine just utilized. Eighteen scholars are aware of book index but not utilizing. So, need more utilization.

### Suggestions

The following are the suggestions given by the researcher to the scholars and publishers.

- ✓ Very limited scholars are using the book index for their research work; the scholars could share the advantages and utilization of book index with their academic communities. The researcher scholars spending more time in the institutions, during the period they could make use of the book index.
- ✓ The book index available at the end of the text books, this book index could keep after the content pages which is available before chapters. If the publishers do this, the readers could utilize more.
- ✓ Knowledge sharing not only from leaders to subordinates, it's happens through friends. The scholars could use the time and share knowledge about book reading, using index and searching materials.
- ✓ Librarian and Library staff members should have an understanding the importance of book index in the Text books. They should educate the information seekers to get information through the book index.

### Conclusion

Books are assets to the individuals, it has more life. Books could share by the students and get back if required. The image and content might be stored in the readers mind, the recollect of materials are possible. The books reading is best than electronic books, this study concluded that the utilization of book index is very less. The teaching staff, guide and experts should educate the scholars about the awareness of book index.

Electronic books available and sharing through whatsapp, email and other social media mode, the number of pages are not big constrain while sharing electronic books. Need of smart phone for all to share the books and need big mobile screen to read the e-books. E-books are in need of electronic device and power supply; it is not possible for all the readers. The readers could not read all the pages which are available in the electronic study materials. Their search are very limited and the not read beyond their requirement.

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