

## **Adequacy of Collection in The Kendriya Vidyalayas of Chennai Region**

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**Abstract** - *This study explores the adequacy of library collections in the Kendriya Vidyalayas of Chennai Region. Seven schools from Chennai region were selected for the study. Questionnaire-based survey method was used for the study. Data analysis revealed that the resources available in the Kendriya Vidyalaya libraries are appropriate and relevant to satisfy the needs of the student community. The study observed that majority of the students are satisfied with the overall collection of the Kendriya Vidyalaya libraries of Chennai region. The study noted that the library collection is adequate to support the syllabus.*

**Keywords:** Kendriya Vidyalaya, School Library, Collection assessment, Library Collection, Collection adequacy.

### **1. Introduction**

School libraries exist to augment the acquirement of information and knowledge by their clientele through the supply of reading materials (book and non-book) for teaching and learning activities in an educational environment. A school library occupies an important place in nurturing the reading habit of students and dissemination of information to the patrons. It has to meet the varied and rising needs of students and staff and help them in their day to day learning and teaching needs.

The main objective of a school library is to provide materials that will inspire the students to acquire knowledge, develop appreciation, moral values and ethical standards. The library materials should guide them in taking informed judgments; develop the skills in students and to read and think critically.

The adequacy of a school library collection cannot be decided upon by the number of collection alone. The adequacy of each school library should be judged by the terms of its programs. Each library should support a particular program of the parent institution it serves. It depends upon various factors like quality of the books, size of the collection, syllabus, curriculum of the parent organization etc.

## **2. Objectives of the Study**

The present study aims to evaluate the collection of books in Kendriya Vidyalaya libraries of Chennai Region.

- To ascertain the availability of books per student in the library as per the Kendriya Vidyalaya library policy.
- To find out the students opinion about the library resources.
- To find out the level of satisfaction regarding library collection.
- To determine the adequacy of collection to support the syllabus.

## **3. Literature Review**

Clapp and Jordan (1965) asserted that the adequacy of library collection cannot be ascertained by the number of volumes alone. Every academic library must be evaluated according to its own setting instead of comparing against standard set of norms. Every library should satisfy the particular educational program. They derived a formula for calculating the minimum size to achieve adequacy based on the student body, staff body, curriculum, geographical location of the campus, method of instruction and availability of suitable place for study in the campus.

Majid et al. (1998) studied the adequacy of collection in the Malaysian Agricultural Universities and concluded that the libraries are providing sufficient material for the scientists needs, but they found that there is a disparity among the libraries in adequacy of different kind of materials. It was also found that the involvement of the library users in selection of material improved the library effectiveness in their information needs. They also discussed on the idea of library cooperation by way of resource sharing between other agricultural libraries.

Negahban et al. (2011) assessed the user adequacy and services of library collection among the research scholars of University of Mysore and found that the magazine and newspaper collection to be adequate. The reference books, dissertations and thesis collection were found to be moderately adequate and the non book materials like maps, charts and atlases and the electronic resources were inadequate.

## **4. Methodology**

Questionnaire-based survey design was used for the data collection. Several studies related to the topic were referred and examined to develop the questionnaire. Seven of the oldest Kendriya Vidyalayas in Chennai Region were selected for the study and in each school survey was done with 30 students studying in classes 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>. A total of 210 questionnaires were distributed and all the 210 respondents were returned. The data collected through questionnaire was analysed through percentage analysis. There are 41 Kendriya Vidyalayas in Chennai region, but the study is limited to only seven schools of Chennai region.

## 5. Analysis and Interpretation

As per the Kendriya Vidyalaya library guidelines-2015 every school library should have a minimum of 5 books per student in their collection. Even the newly opened school should have a collection of 1500 books. Table 1 shows the total collection available in the Kendriya Vidyalayas of Chennai region.

**Table 1: Availability of collection per student**

Sl. No.	Name of the Kendriya Vidyalaya	Year of Establishment	Total Collection	Students Strength	No. of collection available per
1	KV Gill Nagar	1965	8000	750	11
2	KV HVF Avadi	1966	14466	2102	7
3	KV IIT Chennai	1964	13000	1598	8
4	KV No.1 Madurai	1966	22970	2432	9
5	KV AFS Avadi	1964	13000	1973	7
6	KV Coimbatore	1966	23589	2017	12
7	KV OFT Trichy	1966	11002	1980	6

Source: Library statistics and school website

From the table 1 it is evident that all the schools are holding the minimum number of collection as necessitated by the Kendriya Vidyalaya library guidelines-2015. Kendriya Vidyalaya Coimbatore is holding the maximum number of collection with 12 books per student. It is followed by Kendriya Vidyalaya Gill Nagar with 11 books per student. The least number of 6 books per student is held by Kendriya Vidyalaya OFT Trichy.

**Table 2: Purpose of visiting the library (N = 210)**

S.No.	Particulars	No. of Students	Percentage
1.	Reading Newspapers	29	13.8
2.	Reading Magazines	117	55.7
3.	Reference	73	34.8
4.	Borrowing Books	90	42.9
5.	Browsing the Internet	10	4.8

Table 2 shows the purpose of the students visit to the library. 55.7 % of students visited the library for reading magazines, followed by 42.9% of the students who visited the library for borrowing books. 34.8% of students visited the library for reference purposes, 13.8% of students visited the library for reading newspapers. 4.8% of students visited the library for using the internet. It is evident that most of the students visited the library for reading magazines.

**Table 3: Students opinion about library resources**

S. No.	Particulars	Almost Always	Frequently	Sometimes	Occasionally	Hardly Ever	Responded	Percentage
1.	Resources are appropriate for course needs	71 (33.8)	86 (40.9)	50 (23.8)	3 (1.4)	0	210	100
2.	Resources are up to date and relevant	89 (42.3)	85 (40.4)	29 (13.8)	7 (3.3)	0	210	100
3.	Resources are easy to find	78 (37.1)	78 (37.1)	49 (23.3)	5 (2.3)	0	210	100
4.	Resources are readily available when needed	79 (37.6)	73 (34.7)	44 (20.9)	14 (6.6)	0	210	100

Respondents were asked to provide their appraisal regarding library resources by using five-point Likert scale. Table 3 shows the assessment of library resources by the students of the Kendriya Vidyalayas of Chennai region.

**Appropriateness of resources for course needs:**

33.8% of the respondents felt that the resources are almost always appropriate for the course needs and 40.9% of respondents felt that the resources are frequently appropriate for their course needs. 23.8% of the respondents felt that it is sometimes appropriate and 1.4% of the respondents felt that it is occasionally appropriate.

**Up datedness and relevancy of resources:**

42.3% of the respondents felt that the resources are almost always relevant, 40.4% of the respondents felt that the resources are frequently relevant, 13.8% of the respondents felt that resources are somewhat relevant and 3.3% of the respondents felt that the resources are occasionally relevant.

**Ease of finding the resources:**

37.1% of the respondents felt that the resources are almost always easy to find another 37.1% of the respondents felt that the resources are frequently easy to find, 23.3% of the respondents felt that the resources are somewhat easy to find and 2.3% of the respondents felt that the resources are occasionally easy to find.

**Availability of resources:**

37.6 of the respondents felt that the resources are almost always available when needed, 34.7 of the respondents felt that the resources are frequently available when needed, 20.9% of the respondents felt that the resources are somewhat available when needed and 6.6% of the respondents felt that the resources are occasionally available when needed.

**Table 4: Level of satisfaction of students regarding school library collection**

S. No.	Particulars	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	Responded	Percentage
1.	Text Books	68 (32.3)	97 (46.1)	35 (16.1)	6 (2.8)	4 (1.9)	210	100
2.	Subject Books	71 (33.8)	86 (40.9)	42 (20.0)	8 (3.8)	3 (1.4)	210	100
3.	Reference Books	106 (50.4)	66 (31.4)	24 (11.4)	9 (4.2)	5 (2.3)	210	100
4.	Periodicals	52 (24.7)	100 (47.6)	51 (24.2)	6 (2.8)	1 (0.4)	210	100
5.	Newspapers	135 (64.2)	55 (26.1)	13 (6.1)	5 (2.3)	2 (0.9)	210	100
6.	Overall Collection	92 (43.8)	87 (41.4)	21 (10.0)	3 (1.4)	7 (3.3)	210	100

Respondents were asked to provide their appraisal regarding level of satisfaction with respect to their school library collection by using a five-point Likert scale. Table 4 shows the level of satisfaction as assessed by the students of Kendriya Vidyalayas of Chennai region.

#### **Text Books:**

From the above analysis it is found that 46.1% respondents are satisfied, 32.3% respondents are very satisfied, 16.1% respondents are neutral, 2.8% are dissatisfied and 1.9% respondents are very dissatisfied regarding the text books collection in the Kendriya Vidyalaya libraries of Chennai region.

#### **Subject Books:**

The analysis reveals that 40.9% respondents are satisfied, 33.8% respondents are very satisfied, 20% respondents are neutral, 3.8% respondents are dissatisfied and 1.4% respondents are very dissatisfied regarding the subject books collection in the Kendriya Vidyalaya libraries of Chennai region.

#### **Reference Books:**

With regards to reference books the study reveals that 50.4% respondents are very satisfied, 31.4% respondents are satisfied, 11.4% respondents are neither satisfied nor dissatisfied, 4.2% respondents are dissatisfied and 2.3% respondents are very dissatisfied.

#### **Periodicals:**

About periodicals collection 47.6% respondents feel satisfied, 24.7% feel very satisfied, 24.2% respondents feel neither satisfied nor dissatisfied, 2.8% respondents feel dissatisfied nor 0.4% respondents feel very dissatisfied.

#### **Newspapers:**

64.2% of the respondents are very satisfied regarding the newspaper collection available in the libraries. Whereas 26.1% of the respondents feel satisfied, 6.1% of the respondents feel

neither satisfied nor dissatisfied, 2.3% of the respondents feel dissatisfied and 0.9% of the respondents feel very dissatisfied with the newspaper collection.

### **Overall Collection:**

The analysis of the overall collection reveals that 43.8% of respondents feel very satisfied with the collection, 41.4% of respondents feel satisfied, 10% of respondents felt neither satisfied nor dissatisfied, 1.4% of respondent feel dissatisfied and 3.3% of the respondents feel very dissatisfied with the overall collection of the Kendriya Vidyalaya libraries of Chennai region.

**Table 5: Adequacy of library collection to support the syllabus**

S.No.	Particulars	Frequency	Percentage
1	Strongly Agree	44	21.0
2	Agree	122	58.1
3	Undecided	31	14.8
4	Disagree	6	2.9
5	Strongly Disagree	7	3.3
	Total	210	100.0

Regarding the question about adequacy of collection, analysis of the table 5 shows that 58.1% of respondents agree that the collection is adequate to support the syllabus. 21.0% of the respondents strongly agree, 14.8% of the respondents are undecided, 2.9% of the respondents disagree and 3.3% respondents strongly disagreed to the statement that the “library collection is adequate to support the syllabus”.

### **6. Conclusion:**

The adequacy of a school library collection may be difficult to determine by any single method of evaluation. The difficulty arises from the variables involved in evaluating the adequacy of any collection. The notion here is that every user is different and his/her need is also different. To satisfy every user in collection aspect is a difficult task. In any case, the effort to recognize and evaluate the factors which affect the adequacy of collection in academic circumstances expose gaps in our knowledge, to fill the gaps which are found research may usefully be aimed at. Though there are limitations, based on the data collected the following tentative assertions can be made:

- The student to book ratio as mentioned by the Kendriya Vidyalaya library guidelines-2015 is adhered by all the schools under study.
- The majority of the students (55.7%) visit the library for reading magazines followed by 42.9% of the students who visit the library for borrowing of books.
- About the resources available in the library majority of the respondents indicated that the resources are appropriate, relevant and easily available when needed.
- The studies observed that majority of the students are satisfied with the overall collection of the Kendriya Vidyalaya libraries of Chennai region.

- As far as periodicals are concerned 33 percent of students felt very satisfied and 42 percent of the students felt satisfied with the magazine collection. Newspaper collection is rated very satisfied by 68 percent of the students and another 23 percent rated the collection as satisfied.
- As regards to adequacy of collection the study shows that 58.1% of respondents agree that the collection is adequate to support the syllabus and 21% of the respondents strongly agree that the library collection in Kendriya Vidyalayas of Chennai region are adequate to support the syllabus.

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