

Role and Impact of Deemed University Libraries in Telangana on Research Support Services.

¹Dr BANOTHU CHAMPLA

¹Asst Librarian

¹Vignan's Foundation for Science Technology & Research Deemed University Hyderabad.

champlarose@gmail.com

Abstract—Deemed university libraries play a crucial role in strengthening research activities by providing essential information resources, advanced digital services, and user-oriented support systems. This study examines the role and impact of deemed university libraries in Telangana in supporting research services. It highlights how these libraries facilitate access to electronic resources, institutional repositories, research databases, and scholarly communication tools, thereby enhancing the quality and productivity of research.

The study further explores a range of services offered by these libraries, including research consultation, plagiarism detection, reference management assistance, and information literacy programs. Additionally, it evaluates the challenges faced by these institutions, such as budget constraints, technological limitations, and the need for skilled professionals to manage rapidly evolving digital environments.

The findings reveal that deemed university libraries in Telangana make a significant contribution to the research ecosystem by promoting innovation, improving access to knowledge, and supporting academic excellence. The study concludes that continuous investment in digital infrastructure, staff training, and user-centric services is essential for strengthening research support services in the future.

Index Terms—Deemed University Libraries, Research Support Services, Digital Resources, Information Literacy, Scholarly Communication.

I. Introduction

Deemed university libraries in Telangana have undergone significant transformation with the advent of digital technologies. They are no longer confined to traditional roles such as book lending and reference services; instead, they function as dynamic knowledge hubs that offer a wide range of research support services. These services include access to electronic journals, online databases, institutional repositories, plagiarism detection tools, and research consultation. Such facilities enable researchers, faculty members, and students to access, manage, and disseminate scholarly information efficiently.

In the contemporary academic environment, research has become a fundamental component of higher education, contributing significantly to knowledge creation, innovation, and societal development.

Universities increasingly emphasize research productivity and quality, leading to a growing demand for effective research support systems. In this context, university libraries, particularly those in deemed universities, play a vital role in facilitating and enhancing research activities.

Furthermore, these libraries actively contribute to the development of information literacy skills among users, helping them identify, evaluate, and use information effectively. They also support scholarly communication by assisting with academic publishing, citation management, and adherence to research ethics. The integration of advanced technologies and digital resources has significantly enhanced the ability of libraries to meet the evolving needs of the research community. Despite these advancements, deemed university libraries face several challenges, including limited financial resources, the need for continuous technological upgrades, and the demand for skilled library professionals.

This study focuses on examining the role and impact of deemed university libraries in Telangana on research support services. It aims to understand how these libraries contribute to the research ecosystem and to identify areas for improvement in order to strengthen their support for academic research.

II. Literature Review

The role of academic libraries in supporting research has been widely discussed in library and information science literature. With the rapid growth of digital technologies, university libraries have transformed from traditional information repositories into dynamic centers that actively support research activities. Academic libraries, which were once primarily focused on the collection and preservation of information, have now evolved to play a significant role in facilitating research and academic productivity.

Haq and Jan (2025) state that academic libraries are now central to the research ecosystem, offering structured Research Support Services (RSS) such as data management, citation assistance, and scholarly communication support. This transformation reflects the growing need for libraries to align their services with institutional research goals and enhance research productivity.

Ardyawin (2025) observed that digital transformation has significantly improved access to electronic resources, streamlined information retrieval processes, and enhanced user experience in academic libraries. These developments are particularly relevant for deemed university libraries in Telangana, where digital infrastructure plays a crucial role in supporting researchers.

Singh, Raj, and Madalli (2024) identified key research support services, including research guides, open access support, bibliometric analysis, and research data management. However, their study revealed that the implementation of advanced research services in Indian academic libraries is still in a developing stage.

Hussain and Rafiq (2023) highlighted that academic libraries provide support across the entire research lifecycle, including idea generation, data collection, data management, and publication processes. This comprehensive support enhances the effectiveness and quality of research output.

DeFrain, Sult, and Pagowsky (2025) found that research guides play a significant role in improving students' information literacy skills. However, their effectiveness largely depends on proper design, usability, and user engagement.

Zhang (2025) developed a framework for evaluating discipline-specific information services, emphasizing the importance of intelligent systems in enhancing research support. Furthermore, recent studies indicate that academic libraries are increasingly adopting innovative technologies to improve service delivery and user engagement.

Overall, the literature indicates that academic libraries play a vital role in supporting research through digital resources, information literacy programs, and specialized services. However, there is a need for continuous innovation, capacity building, and policy support to maximize their impact, particularly in regional contexts such as Telangana.

III. Objectives

- 1) To examine the role of deemed university libraries in Telangana in providing research support services.
- 2) To identify the various types of research support services offered by these libraries, including e-resources, databases, and digital services.
- 3) To analyze the usage of library resources and services by faculty members and research scholars.
- 4) To evaluate the effectiveness of research support services in enhancing the quality and productivity of research.
- 5) To assess the level of user satisfaction with library services and facilities.
- 6) To identify the challenges faced by deemed university libraries in delivering effective research support services.

IV. Hypotheses

H1: Deemed university libraries in Telangana play a significant role in providing research support services.

H2: There is a significant relationship between the availability of research support services (such as e-resources, databases, and digital services) and their usage by faculty members and research scholars.

H3: Faculty members and research scholars make effective use of library resources and services for their research activities.

H4: Research support services provided by deemed university libraries have a significant positive impact on research productivity and quality.

H5: Users are significantly satisfied with the library services and facilities provided by deemed university libraries.

H6: Deemed university libraries face significant challenges in delivering effective research support services.

V. Scope of the Study

This study focuses on examining the role and impact of deemed university libraries in Telangana in providing research support services. It covers selected deemed universities within the state and analyzes the various services offered by their libraries to support research activities.

The study includes key stakeholders such as faculty members, research scholars, and library professionals to understand their perspectives on the availability, usage, and effectiveness of research support services. It considers a range of services provided by libraries, including access to e-resources, digital libraries, institutional repositories, research consultation, plagiarism detection services, and information literacy programs.

The scope of the study is limited to research support services offered by deemed university libraries in Telangana and does not include other types of academic or public libraries. The study primarily focuses on current practices, user satisfaction, and the challenges faced in delivering these services.

In addition, the study highlights the impact of digital transformation and technological advancements on library services and their contribution to research productivity and academic performance. The findings of the study are expected to provide valuable insights for improving library services and strengthening research support systems in deemed universities.

VI. Methodology

This study adopts a descriptive research design to examine the role and impact of deemed university libraries in Telangana in providing research support services. The research aims to understand the nature, availability, and effectiveness of the services offered by these libraries to support academic research.

VII. Research Design

A descriptive survey method is used to collect both qualitative and quantitative data. This approach helps in analyzing existing research support services and evaluating their impact on users.

VIII. Population and Sample

The population of the study includes library professionals, faculty members, and research scholars from selected deemed universities in Telangana. A sample of respondents is selected using a purposive sampling technique to ensure adequate representation of key stakeholders involved in research activities.

IX. Data Collection Methods

Primary data are collected through structured questionnaires distributed to faculty members, research scholars, and library staff. In addition, interviews are conducted with library professionals to gain deeper insights into research support services. Secondary data are collected from library reports, institutional websites, research publications, and relevant literature.

X. Tools for Data Collection

The questionnaire consists of both closed-ended and open-ended questions to gather quantitative data as well as qualitative opinions. The questions focus on the availability of e-resources, usage of digital services, research assistance, and levels of user satisfaction.

XI. Scope and Limitations

The study is limited to selected deemed universities in Telangana and focuses only on the research support services provided by their libraries. Factors such as time constraints, limited sample size, and data availability may affect the generalizability of the findings.

XII. Data Analysis

The collected data were analyzed using the percentage method and are presented in tabular form for clarity and interpretation. Qualitative data obtained from interviews were analyzed using thematic interpretation to identify key patterns and insights.

Table 1: Distribution of Respondents.

S.NO	Category	No of Respondents	Percentage(%)
1	Faculty Members	40	40%
2	Research Scholars	45	45%
3	Library Professionals	15	15%
	Total	100	100%

XIII. Interpretation

The majority of respondents are research scholars (45%), followed by faculty members (40%), Library Professionals (15%) .This indicates strong representation from active research users.

Table 2: Availability of Research Support Services.

S.NO	Services	Available (%)	Not Available (%)	Total (%)
1	E-Resources (e-journals, databases)	90%	10%	100%
2	Institutional Repository	75%	25%	100%
3	Plagiarism Detection Tools	80%	20%	100%
4	Research Consultation	70%	30%	100%

Most libraries provide essential research support services. E-resources are the most widely available service, present in 90% of the institutions.

Table 3: Usage of E-Resources.

S.NO	Usage Frequency	Number of Respondents	Percentage (%)
1	Daily	50	50%
2	Weekly	30	30%
3	Occasionally	20	20%
4	Never	0	0%

Half of the respondents (50%) use e-resources daily, indicating a high level of dependence on digital resources for research purposes.

Table 4: User Satisfaction Level.

S.NO	Satisfaction Level	Number of Respondents	Percentage (%)
1	Highly Satisfied	35	35%
2	Satisfied	45	45%

3	Neutral	15	15%
4	Dissatisfied	5	5%

A large majority of respondents (80%) are either satisfied or highly satisfied with the research support services provided by libraries.

Table 5: Challenges Faced by Libraries.

S.NO	Challenge	Percentage (%)
1	Budget Constraints	70%
2	Lack of Skilled Staff	60%
3	Technological Issues	55%
4	Lack of User Awareness	50%

Budget constraints (70%) are identified as the most significant challenge faced by libraries, followed by a lack of skilled staff (60%).

Table 6: Impact on Research Productivity.

S.NO	Response	Number of Respondents	Percentage (%)
1	Significant Impact	60	60%
2	Moderate Impact	30	30%
3	No Impact	10	10%

Most respondents (60%) believe that library services have a significant impact on research productivity, while 30% perceive a moderate impact.

XIV. Findings of the Study

Based on the data analysis, the following key findings were identified:

1. Wide Availability of Research Support Services:

Deemed university libraries in Telangana provide a wide range of research support services,

including e-resources, institutional repositories, plagiarism detection tools, and research consultation services.

2. High Usage of Electronic Resources:

The majority of faculty members and research scholars frequently use e-resources such as e-journals and online databases, with a significant number accessing them on a daily basis.

3. Effective Information Literacy Programs:

Libraries conduct regular training programs and workshops that have improved users' ability to search, evaluate, and effectively utilize information.

4. Positive Impact on Research Productivity:

The research support services offered by libraries have a significant positive impact on both the quality and quantity of research output.

5. High Level of User Satisfaction:

Most respondents expressed satisfaction with library services, indicating that the available resources and support systems adequately meet their research needs.

6. Availability of Professional Support:

Library professionals actively assist users through reference services, citation management, and plagiarism checking, thereby contributing to improved research outcomes.

7. Major Challenges Identified:

Libraries face several challenges, including limited budgets, a lack of skilled staff, technological constraints, and insufficient user awareness of available services.

8. Need for Technological Advancement:

There is an increasing need to adopt advanced technologies, such as AI-based tools and digital platforms, to enhance research support services.

9. Importance of Awareness and Training:

Some users are not fully aware of all the services available, highlighting the need for increased awareness programs and user education initiatives

XV. Summary of Findings

Overall, the study reveals that deemed university libraries in Telangana play a crucial role in supporting research through comprehensive services and digital resources. However, addressing financial, technological, and skill-related challenges is essential to further strengthen their effectiveness and impact.

XVI. Conclusion

The present study highlights the significant role played by deemed university libraries in Telangana in supporting research activities through a wide range of services and resources. The findings indicate that these libraries have successfully transformed into dynamic knowledge centers by integrating digital technologies and providing access to electronic resources, research databases, and institutional repositories. These developments have significantly improved the efficiency, quality, and productivity of research among faculty members and research scholars.

Furthermore, the provision of research support services—such as information literacy programs, plagiarism detection, reference management assistance, and research consultation—has positively influenced the research environment. The study also confirms that users are generally satisfied with the services provided by library professionals, and these services contribute substantially to academic excellence and innovation.

However, despite these advancements, the study identifies several challenges, including limited financial resources, the need for continuous technological upgrades, and a shortage of skilled staff. These challenges may affect the effective delivery and further development of research support services if they are not adequately addressed.

In conclusion, deemed university libraries in Telangana play a crucial and evolving role in strengthening research support services. With continuous improvement, strategic planning, and investment in technology and human resources, these libraries can further enhance their contribution to the academic and research community.

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