Evaluation of Library Websites of Women Colleges Affiliated to the University of Delhi: A Content Analysis

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Abstract

A website represents an essential source of information for all institutions, a channel for further dissemination of information and services, and a means of describing all other aspects of the institution and its people. Looking at college library websites will identify what content is possible. Further, the assessment may improve the content on existing sites to better present information to library users in a rich and relevant way. A checklist has been devised to analyse the contents of chosen websites for data collection. The present study will analyse the contents of the library websites of five colleges for women under the University of Delhi. The present study examines the nature of information found in the women's college library websites under Delhi University. With the help of a content evaluation checklist, the authors present the method based on a previous research paper. The study showed that a maximum number of women's college library websites mentioned information about the library, library hours, library services, library rules and regulations, and collection of books and journals.

Keywords: Content Analysis; Websites; College Libraries; University of Delhi

Introduction

The websites of college and university libraries are essential for allowing users to obtain the necessary services. The websites give consumers access to various library resources and provide instructions on using the data. College libraries are essential for their research, teaching, and learning functions. By collecting, organizing, conserving, and enabling access to printed and electronic information materials, College libraries are indispensable for students to augment learning and for staff to conduct training and research activities. Academic library websites should have information on digital collections, electronic databases, online catalogues, library tools, and tutorials (Khan & Mustafa, 2023; Sife & Tandika, 2014). By increasing the availability of information resources, college library websites help guide academic institutions

in meeting their goals. Ensuring that the content of the College library websites provides an exhaustive list of library collections and services to the users is therefore imperative.

Review of literature: Past studies

In their 2010 study, **Haneefa and Venugopal** examined the "content of national library websites of Asia." The outcome demonstrates that the content and appearance of national library websites in Asian nations follow a similar trend. Web 2.0 features have only been implemented on six national library websites. They recommended that the website offer library patrons a cooperative conversation and information exchange venue.

Kumar and Bansal (2014) evaluated eight IIT library websites' design and content quality. They discovered that most IIT libraries provide e-resources, services, and helpful information on their websites, including details about their staff, policies, and working hours. The library's webpages have been updated regularly to enable their community to search for the necessary information. Libraries at IITs advertise their collections, information products, and services on their websites. Through their websites, the libraries build a close contact with their patrons.

In their study, **Baro et al. (2014)** examined Web 2.0 tools and their use in African university libraries. They collected data from 140 librarians at 16 university libraries using questionnaires. In addition to using Facebook, blogs, instant messaging, and wikis regularly, they discovered that most academic librarians know Web 2.0.

Manjunatha (2016) looked at the content of eight specialized library websites based in Bengaluru. He discovered that just two libraries provide a list of printed journals—information that should be accessible on every library website, yet half of the library websites lack it. The library's website is an outside resource for users in the digital age. Hence, library staff and the user community become more important.

Brahma and Verma (2018) methodically evaluated domain authority, web pages, and links to estimate the online impact rankings of six Indian public library websites. According to the research, Khuda Baksh Oriental Public Library has the most vital domain authority and the most cumulative number of web pages. Only two chosen libraries met internal links, passing contacts, and internal equity requirements.

In their study, **Seshaiah and Rekha (2019)** examine the resources, services, and additional information found on the library websites of 246 engineering colleges in Andhra Pradesh. The research results show that most college library websites provide details about their collections, hours of operation, and digital resources. Nevertheless, consistency must be maintained to

ensure user satisfaction. Other elements like FAQs, web 2.0 tools, digital library, and feedback service have been utilized carelessly.

Rahman & Batcha (2020) recommended that the College library improve its online services and organize library orientation sessions regularly to guarantee that library resources and services, particularly electronic resources, are effectively utilized.

Ramteke and Chikate (2024) pointed out in their article that online services have caused a revolution in how libraries work, from finding and accessing resources to helping users and connecting with the community. Digital tech now allows libraries to offer services that are easy to use, available to everyone, and work well for their users. As tech keeps changing, libraries will use new tools and ways to improve their services and get their daily work done in the digital age.

Objectives

- The years of establishment of women's college libraries under the University of Delhi.
- The general information available on their library websites.
- Examine the contents and information available on the selected women's college libraries of the University of Delhi.
- Identify social networking websites through which this site is connected.
- Rank the colleges by library website under the affiliation of the University of Delhi.

Methodology and Scope

Data were observed from five women's colleges' library websites found under the University of Delhi: Miranda House, Maitreyi College, Janaki Devi College, Kamala Nehru College, and Laxmibai College. A checklist has been developed and used for collecting library website data, with former works of the researchers (Wani, G. A., 2021; Haridasan & Uwesh, 2014) as reference; these data were analysed using Microsoft Excel and presented in tables. The data for this study were collected from March 25 to April 10, 2025.

Findings and Analysis

The research from March 25 to April 10, 2025, endeavoured to collect information from college sites to explore the library's contents. The second phase evaluated the websites using specific parameters on a checklist basis. The information was subsequently tabulated, and a checkmark method was used, whereby a tick "✓ " was assigned for Yes (1), indicating the existence of a library website feature within the present study. At the same time, a cross "×" represented No (0).

Table 1: Establishment Year of Colleges

Name of Colleges	Establishment year	Website
Miranda House	(1948).	https://www.mirandahouse.ac.in/library/aboutlibrary.php
Maitreyi	1967	https://www.maitreyi.ac.in/library/libraryhome
Janaki Devi College	1960	https://jdm.du.ac.in/library2.html
Kamala Nehru College	1964	http://knclibrary.saraswatilib.com/
LaxmiBai College	(1965).	https://lakshmibaicollege.in/index.php/library

This table reveals that Miranda House is the oldest college and Maitreyi is the newest college among the five colleges.

Table2. General Information about the college libraries

S. No.	General Information	Miranda House	Maitreyi College	Janaki Devi College	Kamala Nehru College	Laxmibai College	%
1	History	✓	x	x	✓	x	40
2	Mission Statement	x	x	x	x	x	0
3	Location	✓	✓	x	x	x	40
4	Library Hours	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	80
5	Library Rules	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	80
6	News & Events	x	✓	✓	x	x	40
7	Membership	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100
8	Library Staff	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100
9	Date of Updation	x	x	x	x	x	0
10	Contact Us	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	80

''✓'' (Available) and ''X'' (Not Available)

This table shows that all the college libraries (100%) provide information concerning membership and Library staff. The four college libraries offer information concerning library hours, contact information, and rules (80%). In contrast, none offer information about their history, mission, statement, and date of updating of the websites.

Table 3: Library resources and services

S. No.	Library Resources and Services	Miranda House	Maitreyi College	Janaki Devi College	Kamala Nehru College	Laxmibai College
1	OPAC/WEBOPAC	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
2	E-Journals	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
3	Books	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
4	Periodicals	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
5	N-List	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
6	Delnet	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
7	Remote Access	✓	x	x	✓	x
8	Question papers	x	✓	✓	✓	x
9	Link to other websites	x	✓	x	x	x
10	ILL/DDS	✓	✓	✓	x	x

''✓'' (Available) and ''X'' (Not Available)

The table indicates the library collections of the college libraries on their websites. All the women's college libraries have given details regarding books, periodicals, E-Journals, N-List, Delnet, and OPAC/WEBOPAC. On the other hand, all libraries have remote access to the collection. It also reveals that only three college libraries offer users question papers and inter-library loan facilities, and only one college library website provides a link to other websites for finding information.

Table 4: Web 2.0 Tools

Social Networking sites	Miranda House	Maitreyi College	Janaki Devi College	Kamala Nehru College	Laxmibai College
Facebook	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Blog	x	x	x	x	x
Twitter	✓	x	✓	✓	✓
Instagram	✓	x	✓	✓	x
YouTube	✓	*x*	✓	x	✓
Total Score (Out of 5)	4	1	4	3	3

Table 4 reveals that Facebook is available in all the college libraries. The other Web 2.0 tools, i.e., Twitter, are provided by four college libraries, i.e., 80%, followed by YouTube channels

and Instagram, i.e., 60%. However, it also indicates that no library website provides a blog channel for users.

Table 5: Library Collections

S. No.		Library Collection	Miranda House	Maitreyi College	Janaki Devi College	Kamala Nehru College	Laxmibai College
1		Reference collection	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
2		Textbooks	*x*	✓	x	✓	✓
3		Newspapers	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
4		Print Journals	✓	✓	✓	✓	x
5		New Arrivals	✓	✓	✓	x	x
6		Map/Charts	x	x	x	x	x
7		Book Bank Materials	✓	x	✓	✓	x
8		e-databases	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
		Total Score (Out of 8)	6	6	6	6	4

Table 5 illustrates that all of the chosen college libraries have (100%) made available information about the available Reference collections, Newspapers, Print Journals, and E-databases on the website. Only three (60%) have shown the notice on 'Book Bank Material' and a recent new title addition on their sites. None of the college libraries has made the information available for maps/charts.

Table 6: Ranking of the colleges based on their library website content

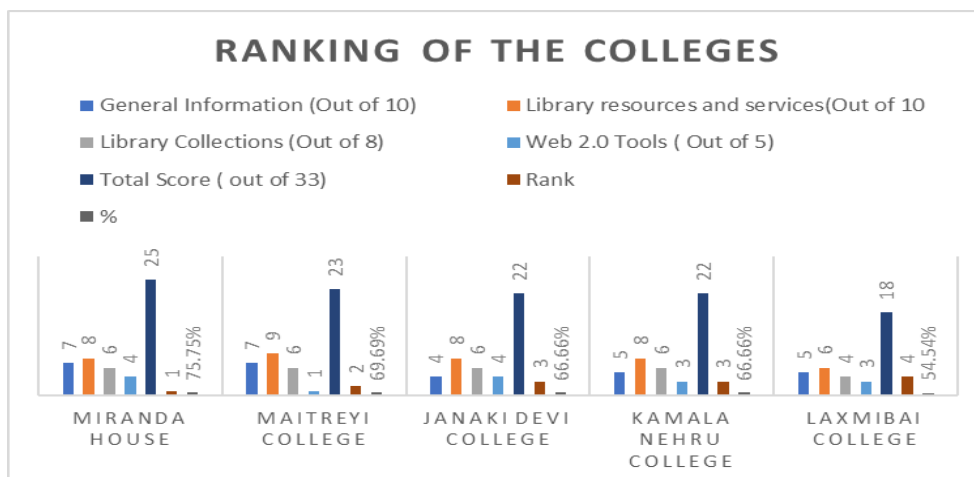|	Miranda House	Maitreyi College	Janaki Devi College	Kamala Nehru College	Laxmibai College
General Information (Out of 10)	7	7	4	5	5
Library resources and services (Out of 10	8	9	8	8	6
Library Collections (Out of 8)	6	6	6	6	4
Web 2.0 Tools (Out of 5)	4	1	4	3	3
Total Score (out of 33)	25	23	22	22	18
Rank	1	2	3	3	4
%	75.75%	69.69%	66.66%	66.66%	54.54%

Fig.1

Table 6, Figure 1, indicates that library websites of the Miranda House came out on top with 25 (75.75%) out of 33; Maitreyi College came in second with 23 (69.69%); Janaki Devi College and KNC each had 22 (66.66%), while Laxmibai College had the lowest result of 18 (54.54%).

Discussion and Conclusion

The Internet has become an essential aspect of our everyday existence. Without utilizing it, we cannot consider the spread of information. In today's digital environment, the library website is a valuable source for information. It is viewed as a platform via which people acquire diverse items. Websites of colleges associated with the University of Delhi show that libraries provide the same information about library services, collections, and connections to electronic resources. Users can search the collection by author, title, subject, publisher, and keyword through the OPAC. We currently rely on the internet to find the information. As a result, it offers a wealth of information in a single portal. College libraries should feel motivated to refresh their websites and periodically share new content. The college library's webpages require greater dynamism and interactivity by utilizing Web 2.0 or Web 3.0 technologies, which can enhance user experience, improve accessibility, and foster community engagement. Library websites should provide instant messaging, RSS feeds, digital reference services, and FAQs to allow users to connect and engage directly with the system.

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