

Evaluation of Web Content of Selected Private Medical College Libraries in Karnataka

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Abstract

The library is the heart of an institute and the library website is like a mirror of a library, it represents the library in digital form with a collection of web pages. The present study includes library websites of private medical colleges in Karnataka. In Karnataka, there are 39 private medical colleges among them 10 colleges are selected for the study. Library websites are selected based on their popularity and richness/resourcefulness of the websites. The study is employing the content analysis research method. The Checklist is used for data collection from the respective library websites. The checklist is prepared by referring to earlier studies conducted by various authors. The Checklist contains 59 points and 8 tables for the convenience of data collection and interpretation. The library websites of private medical colleges in Karnataka are ranked based on the score obtained by the process of data analysis.

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Introduction:

The field of librarianship and libraries are very much influenced by technological developments. After the industrial revolution, there was a drastic change in the field of industries which gave birth to technologies such as computers, and the internet. Information and communication technology (ICT) has a wide range of holding in almost all fields of human beings. Libraries are also influenced by the development of ICT and the World wide web (WWW). Library websites are the result of new technology and have made tremendous changes in the library system. Handling of library manually is quite challenging work; it became easy with the development of library websites. Some professionals feel difficult to cope with new technology they still want to work in a manual environment. But the library websites are opened a new world of modern libraries. library websites increased the possibility of providing remote access to the resources. Library websites are the main platform for accessing library resources, they act as the bridge between the library resources and the patrons. Many library websites are updating with the latest developments, they are providing special services like MOOCs, research support, linking to online free databases and joining consortiums of similar subject fields. Hence, the present study is about to evaluation of the library website content and features of the private medical colleges in Karnataka state.

Literature review:

- The library professionals should inculcate skills and techniques to design a library website. They are undergoing training and use of the internet to improve the library activities frequently. This is leading to fulfilling the institutional goals. (Ayurvedic)

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- The adoption of graphics and templates attracts and motivates the users to enter the library website.(Haridasan & Uwesh, n.d.)
- The libraries provide common content which is present in almost all the academic library websites and only a few websites give priority to other tools such as digital collection, instructional tools etc. They recommend many useful tools which all academic library websites must adopt. They are user-centric design principles, use of strong navigation system, and facilitate search engine optimization and value-added services.(Al-Qallaf & Ridha, 2019)
- The library websites are becoming more user-friendly in the information accessing process. The majority of library web portals are restricted and not included in the current awareness services. (Jange, Angdi, Sami, & Subramaniam, n.d.)
- Most of the medical college library websites in India are not follow the common standard in order to placing the web contents. Home page of the most websites lack ‘search box’ option. The medical college websites are classified under educational institutions websites, but they do not follow a common domain name. (Rekha, 2017)

Objectives:

The studies’ primary objective is to find out the Content and Features provided by the Top private medical college library websites in Karnataka state.

- To know the number of top private medical colleges functioning in Karnataka.
- To know the basic information available on the library website.
- To know the library collection and Library services, Links to other

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resources.

- To evaluate the type of content and features made available on library websites.
- To know the social networking sites provided by the top private medical colleges in Karnataka.
- To know the research supporting facilities provided by the top private medical colleges in Karnataka.
- Evaluate the Deemed Universities Library websites based on a checklist developed for the study.

Methodology:

The present study is using the content analysis research method for analysing the library websites of private medical colleges in Karnataka. Karnataka state has 39 private medical colleges among them 10 colleges were selected for the study. The list of private medical colleges is taken from Wikipedia on July 15, 2022. The library websites are selected based on the convenience of web access. The content analysis research method is used in which a checklist was prepared to collect data. The checklist contains 59 points and is divided into 8 main tables. The data was collected from the respective institute's library websites in July 2022. The collected data was analysed through MS Excel and presented with the help of tables and charts. At the end of the study, based on the score points of library websites secured in the process of data analysing library websites are ranked.

Preparation of checklist :

The checklist is prepared based on previous studies. The eight main tables are as follows:

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1. Domain Name
2. Basic Information
3. Library Sections
4. Library Collection
5. Access to e-resources
6. Information about web Access
7. Library Services
8. Links to SNS

Content Analysis :

Content analysis is a research method it uses a set of procedures to draw a valid conclusion from the text, these conclusions are about the sender of the message. The message itself, or the audience of the message.(Weber, n.d.)

Medical education in Karnataka:

MBBS is a degree in modern scientific medicine established by the Indian medical council act 1956 and continued in the national medical commission act 2019. ("Medical education in India - Wikipedia," n.d.) In the state of Mysore the medical school started in Bangalore city in the year 1917, it was controlled by the senior surgeon of the medical department. Then in the year 1929, the first medical college was started in Bangalore. The college offers an MBBS course. The Bangalore medical college was formed in 1954. Later Kasturba medical college (KMC) at Manipal and the Karnataka medical college at Hubli was started in 1953 and 1956 respectively. By, 1980 there were a total of 12 medical colleges in Karnataka state among them 4 were government and 8 were private. (Jnana Aayoga, 2010) At present 19 government Medical colleges are offering MBBS degrees, and 39 private /deemed medical colleges are providing medical education in Karnataka. ("NEET UG Guidance | Career World," n.d.)

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Scope and Limitations:

Scope and limitations are the blueprints of the study they inform about the coverage and restrict the study within a limited area. Scope and limitations set the outline for the study. Karnataka state has 19 government and 39 private medical colleges. The present study includes only private medical colleges. Out of sixty colleges, popular ten colleges are selected, based on the convenience of web access. In this study evaluation of websites' content and features is done, but the design aspect is not included. Based on the content and features medical library websites are ranked. Table no.1 shows the list of 10 private medical colleges in Karnataka, their place, year of establishment and URL. The information is accessed from Wikipedia and medical college websites in July 2022. The abbreviations of the medical colleges are used in tables for convenience.

Sl. no	Name of the Private medical college	Place	Year of Establishment	URL
1	Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College (JNMC)	Belgaum	1963	https://jnmc.edu/library/
2	JSS Medical College (JSS)	Mysuru, Bangalore		https://www.jssuni.edu.in/JSSWeb/
3	Kasturba Medical College (KMC)	Mangalore, Manipal	1953	https://manipal.edu/mu/campus-life/facilities/libraries-kmc-manipal.html
4	KS Hedge Medical Academy (KSHM)	Mangalore	2009	http://kshemalibrary.yolasite.com/
5	Shri B.M Patil Medical College, Hospital and Research Centre (BMPMC/BLDE)	Bijapur	2008	https://bldedu.ac.in/library/

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6	The Oxford medical college (Oxford)	Bangalore	-	http://www.theoxfordmedical.org/library.htm#
7	Yenepoya University of Health Sciences (Yenepoya)	Mangalore	1999	https://yenepoya.edu.in/academics/centers/central-library
8	Rajarajeswari Medical College (RR)	Bangalore	1992	http://college.rrmch.org/library-information/
9	MS Ramaiah Medical College (MSR)	Bangalore	1979	https://msrhc.ac.in/about-us/facilities/central-library/
10	SDM Medical College (SDM)	Dharwad	2002	https://sdmmmedicalcollege.org/Library-Home

Table 1- List of Private medical colleges in Karnataka. (“List of medical colleges in India - Wikipedia,” n.d.)

Data Analysis and Interpretation :

Domain	No.of. colleges	% age
.edu	4	40%
.com	1	10%
.ac.in	2	20%
.org	3	30%

Table 2- Domain names of Private medical colleges in Karnataka.

The table 2 shows classification of domain names of Private medical colleges in Karnataka. Here, out of ten colleges 4 (40%) colleges domain name is .edu. Three (30%) colleges domain name is .org. Two (20%) colleges domain name is .ac.in and only one (10%) college has domain name as .cm.



Website contents	JNMC	JSS	KM	KSH	BLDE	YEN	RR	MSR	SDM	Oxford	Score
1. About the library	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%
2. Library Timing	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%
3. Mission / Vision statement	✓								✓	✓	30%
4. Library Staff	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	80%
5. Library Rules	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	80%
6. Library Floor map	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%
7. Library News/ Events			✓			✓				✓	30%
8. Membership details	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	80%
9. Copyright	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%
10. Library Committee	✓	✓				✓			✓	✓	50%
11. Library Sections	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	70%
12. Contact	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%
13. Photos	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓			✓	60%
14. Feedback					✓				✓		20%
Total score	85%	71%	50%	64%	78%	71%	42%	57%	85%	92%	

Table 3- Basic information of Private medical colleges in Karnataka.

Table -3 explains about basic information available in the private medical colleges of Karnataka state. All ten (100%) colleges are included information about library, timing, floor map, copyright and contact information. Eight (80%) colleges are having information regarding library staff, library rules and membership details. Seven (70%) colleges are representing Library sections in their library websites. Six (60%) medical colleges include photo gallery. Five (50%) colleges have information regarding library committee. Three (30%) medical college library websites are providing information about Library mission/ vision and Library news / events. Only two (20%) colleges provide feedback facility. Oxford medical college is providing maximum number of basic information out of 14 it has

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Library Sections	JNMC	JSS	KMC	KSH	BLDE	Yenep oya	RR	MSR	SDM	Oxford	Score
1. Digital Library Section	✓	✓			✓	✓				✓	50%
2. Circulation Section	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%
3. Back Volume Section	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	80%
4. Reference Section	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	70%
5. Stack Room	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	70%
Total Score	100%	100%	40%	80%	80%	100%	20%	60%	60%	100%	

Table 4- Library sections of Private medical colleges in karnataka.

The table- 4 explains about library sections of Private medical colleges in Karnataka. All ten (100%) colleges are having circulation section information in their library websites. Eight (80%) colleges included back volume section information. Seven (70%) colleges are with reference section and stack room information. And five (50%) college library websites are providing information regarding digital library section. In this table we can find that JNMC and JSS medical colleges are having information about all five sections of library.

Library collections	JNMC	JSS	KMC	KSH	BLDE	Yenep oya	RR	MSR	SDM	Oxford	Score
1. Book Collection	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%
2. CD/DVD	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%
3. Journals	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%
4. New Arrivals	✓									✓	20%
5. Rare Books		✓								✓	20%
Total Score	80%	80%	60%	60%	60%	60%	60%	60%	60%	100%	

Table 5- Library Collections of Private medical colleges in Karnataka.

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The above table 5 shows information on library collections of Private medical colleges in Karnataka. All ten (100%) medical college library websites are with book collection, CD/DVD and journals information. New arrivals and rare books information is available only in two (20%) medical college library websites of Karnataka. According to this table Oxford medical college is providing all 100% information about library collection.

Access to E-Resources	JNMC	JSS	KMC	KSH	BLDE	Yenepoya	RR	MSR	SDM	Oxford	Score
1. Back Volumes of Journals	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	90%
2. E-Journals subscribed	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%
3. MOOCs	✓	✓			✓			✓			40%
4. Links to E-Databases	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	90%
5. E-Books	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	70%
6. E- Thesis and Dissertations	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		70%
7. Institutional Repository	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓			✓		60%
Total Score	100%	71%	85%	71%	100%	85%	14%	85%	85%	57%	

Table 6- Access to E- Resources of Private medical colleges in Karnataka.

Table-6 provides information regarding Access to E- Resources of Private medical colleges in Karnataka. According to the above table E- Journal information is available in all (100%) the library websites. Back volumes of journals and links to E- databases information is available in nine (90%) college library websites. Seven (70%) library websites are informing about E- books and ETDs. Six (60%) library websites having their own

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Institutional repository. MOOCs are included in four (40%) library websites. This table shows that JNMC and BLDE medical college library websites are having all (100%) feature related to accessing of E- resources which are mentioned in the table.

Web Access	JNMC	JSS	KMC	KSH	BLDE	Yenepoya	RR	MSR	SDM	Oxford	Score
1. Remote access of Library	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					60%
2. Fee-based Databases Online	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	80%
3. Web OPAC	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	90%
4. Virtual Tour	✓				✓						20%
5. MEDLINE	✓	✓	✓	✓							40%
Total Score	100%	80%	80%	80%	60%	60%	20%	40%	20%	40%	

Table 7- Web Access of Private medical colleges in Karnataka.

The table-7 explains the Web Access information of Private medical colleges in Karnataka. Nine (90%) college library websites are providing web OPAC information. Eight (80%) college library websites include information about fee fee-based online databases. Six (60%) college websites provide remote access to the library facility. Four (40%) library websites are linked with the MEDLINE database. Only two (20%) library websites provide virtual tour facilities of the college and the library. According to the above table, JNMC medical college library website is providing all (100%) information which included in the table.

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Library services	JNMC	JSS	KMC	KSH	BLDE	Yenepoya	RR	MSR	SDM	Oxford	Score
1. Library Membership	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	80%
2. Circulation Service	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	80%
3. Research support	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						50%
4. Reprography service	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	90%
5. Book Bank service	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	70%
6. Reference Service	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%
7. Digital Library	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	80%
8. Inter-Library Loan	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓					50%
9. RGUHS/ HELINET	✓			✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	60%
10. Reading Room	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	80%
11. CAS	✓			✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	60%
12. DDS			✓		✓						20%
13. OPAC Facilities	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%
14. DELNET Service	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					60%
15. Extension Service	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	70%
16. Newspaper clipping	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	70%
Total Score	93%	81%	62%	81%	93%	87%	37%	31%	56%	68%	

Table 8- Library services of Private medical colleges in Karnataka.

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The table-8 shows information regarding Library services of Private medical colleges in Karnataka. All ten (100%) college library websites provide reference services and OPAC facilities. The reprography service is included in nine (90%) college library websites. Eight library websites provide information about library membership, circulation service, digital library and reading room facility. Seven (70%) library websites added information about book bank for SC/ST students, extension services and newspaper clipping services. Six (60%) library websites included HELINET, Current awareness service and DELNET services. Five (50%) medical college library websites include information regarding research support and interlibrary loan services. Document delivery service information is least available on the medical college library websites of Karnataka only two (20%) library websites are providing information about DDS.

Social Networking sites	JNMC	JSS	KMC	KSH	BLDE	Yenep oya	RR	MSR	SDM	Oxford	Score
1. Facebook	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓		✓	✓	70%
2. Twitter	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓		✓	✓	70%
3. YouTube	✓	✓	✓				✓		✓	✓	60%
4. Instagram	✓		✓							✓	30%
5. Linked In			✓			✓			✓	✓	40%
6. Google+							✓		✓	✓	30%
Total Score	66%	50%	83%	00	00	50%	66%	00	83%	100%	

Table 9- Social Networking sites of Private medical colleges in Karnataka.

Table -9 explains about Social Networking sites available on the Private medical college library websites in Karnataka. seven (70%) library websites are linked with Facebook and twitter. Six (60%) medical library websites provide access to YouTube. Linked In is available in four (40%) library websites. And only three library websites are providing access to Instagram

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and Google+. Here, Oxford medical college is linked with all six (100%) the social networking sites.

Ranking:

Deemed University Library Websites	Basic Information	Library Sections	Library Collection	Library E-Resources	Information about web Access	Library Services	Social Networking Sites	Total Score (out of 58)	Rank of Websites
JNMC	12	5	4	7	3	15	4	50	1
Oxford	13	5	5	4	2	11	6	46	2
JSS	10	5	4	5	4	13	3	44	3
Yenepoya	10	5	3	6	3	14	3	44	3
BLDE	11	4	3	7	3	15	00	42	4
SDM	12	3	3	6	1	10	5	40	5
KSH	9	4	3	5	4	13	00	38	6
KMC	7	2	3	6	4	10	5	37	7
MSR	8	3	3	6	2	5	00	27	8
RR	6	1	3	1	1	6	4	22	9

Table 10- Ranking of Private medical college library websites in Karnataka.

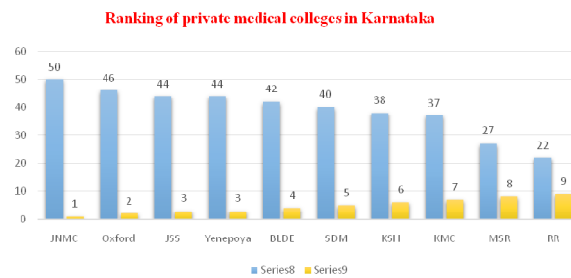


Figure- 2. Ranking of Private medical college library websites in Karnataka.

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Findings:

- JSS and Oxford medical college library websites are having a unique collection of rare books and manuscripts. Which were preserved and maintained in a separate section. They are classified based on their early printing date, historical importance and special character. More than 500 rare books are available in JSS the college library.
- Six medical college library websites provide a service on request that is a research support service. It includes literature search, guidance in writing references and language editing for articles and thesis.
- JNMC medical college library is providing special services like a Binding facility, laptop reading room, and special discussion room for group discussion.
- Oxford medical college library website is presented its future plans this is unique. By reading the future plans the reader will get attracted to the library and its services.
- The above table -10 represents the ranking of private medical college library websites based on the score. According to the table, JNMC medical college library website stands at the top with 50 points out of 59 points. And Rajarajeshwari medical college library website stands last with 22 points.

Suggestions:

- The study reveals that there is no uniformity among the private medical college library websites in Karnataka. Suggestion is to develop uniformity.



- The library websites need to develop more and the library professionals need to know more about the advanced technologies which are using by similar institutions.
- It is suggested to have a dedicated team of professionals to look after the library websites and update it at regularly.

Conclusion:

Library websites of selected private medical colleges in Karnataka state are providing a good amount of information which is necessary for the user community to fulfil the information need of the 21st century. A good library can create a good reader. In the present study, only a few selected private medical college library websites are analysed. A total of sixty private medical colleges are there in Karnataka among them ten are selected for evaluation. The library websites of the above selected medical colleges are not the same they are different from one another. As observed during the study the vision and mission statement of libraries are less available. The feedback facility is provided by only two library websites they are BLDE and Oxford medical college. The library plays an important role in the development of the institution, if the institution is having a well-developed library, then the user community of that college will automatically increase, and the knowledge resource will increase. In situations like global health, emergency to access resources from the library physically is difficult, in such condition's library websites act as the intermedior between the library resources and users. The users can easily access the web resources, access the OPAC and online databases. The study of library websites helps to improve the quality of library websites and helps to compare the library websites with similar library websites.

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