

Chapter – II

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE OF RESPONDENTS AND THEIR GENERAL PERCEPTION OF MUSEUM AND RELATED ISSUES

This chapter presents the demographic profile of the respondents which includes their gender, age, marital status, number of members in the family, educational qualification, languages known, occupation, earning members and family income (annually). It also deals with the analysis and interpretation of the general perception of people about museum and how do they think the museums serve our society. The data also reveals their view on the value of museums to individuals and to our society as a whole, whether they trust the information presented by museum and what gives them confidence in the information provided by museums.

The study presented in this chapter is based on both close ended and open ended questions. The open ended questions include issues such as value of museums, authenticity of information provided by museum, media and library and also the reasons for their viewpoint on aspects like 'If museums did not exist, what our society would miss? Which one they trust more regarding authenticity of information - museums or media? Why? Which one would they prefer for learning - museums or library? Why?' The data analysis and interpretation is done taking into account all these viewpoints presented by the respondents and comparing them with their demographic profiles.

Demographic profile of the Respondents:

1. **Gender** – 929 out of 1503 (61.81%) in our sample were male and 574 (38.19%) were female.

Table II.1- Respondents Gender

Respondents	Male Respondents	Female Respondents
Total	929	574
In %	61.81	38.19

2. **Age** – 1.6% were under18, 6.52% were 18-29 years old, 46.51% were 30 to 39 years old, 42.58% were 40 to 49 years old, 2.4% were 50 to 59 years old and 0.4% were above 60.

Table II.2 – Respondents Age

Respondents	Age					
Age Groups	< 18	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	> 60
Total	24	98	699	640	36	6
In %	1.60	6.52	46.51	42.58	2.40	0.40

3. **Marital Status** – 8.18% were single, 91.82% were married.

Table II.3 – Respondents Marital Status

Respondents	Marital Status	
Category	Single	Married
Total	123	1380
In %	8.18	91.82

4. **Number of members in the family** – 13.57% had family members of two, 34.13% had three member families and 52.3% had a family of four or more.

Table II.4 – Respondents Family Members

Respondents	No. of Members in Family		
Groups	Two	Three	Four or More
Total	204	513	786
In %	13.57	34.13	52.30

5. **Educational Qualification** – 4.19% of the respondents had attended high school, 48.77% completed their graduation and 47.04% of them were post-graduates.

Table II.5 – Respondents Educational Qualification

Respondents	Educational Qualification		
Groups	High School	Graduate	Post Graduate
Total	63	733	707
In %	4.19	48.77	47.04

6. **Languages Known** – 2.33% had the knowledge of one language,13.37% had of two languages, 62.28% had of three languages and 22.02% had of four or more languages.

Table II.6 – Languages Known by Respondents

Respondents	Languages known			
Category	One	Two	Three	4 or more
Total	35	201	936	331
In %	2.33	13.37	62.28	22.02

7. **Occupation** – 5.12% of those surveyed were Students, 55.16% were Service Holders, 17.23% were Business persons, 22.09% were House makers and balance remaining 0.4% were Retired persons.

Table II.7 – Respondent’s Occupation

Respondents	Occupation				
Category	Student	Service	Business	House making	Retired
Total	77	829	259	332	6
In %	5.12	55.16	17.23	22.09	0.40

8. **Earning Members** – 65.8% were having single earning member in the family, 30.01% had double earning members, 3.99% had three earning members and 0.2.% were having four or more earning members.

Table II.8 – Respondent’s Family Earning Members

Respondents	Earning Members			
Groups	One	Two	Three	Four or more
Total	989	451	60	3
In %	65.80	30.01	3.99	0.20

9. **Family Income (annually)** – 23.35% had an income of less than Rs 5.0 Lakhs, 50.10% had an income of Rs 5 -10 Lakhs, 22.36% had an income of Rs 10-20 Lakhs and 4.19% had an income above Rs 20 Lakhs.

Table II.9 - Respondent’s Family Income

Respondents	Family Income			
Groups	< 5 Lacs	5-10 Lacs	10-20 Lacs	> 20 Lacs
Total	351	753	336	63
In %	23.35	50.10	22.36	4.19

Q1. What do you think a museum is?

Some of the responses are quoted as they have been delivered by the respondents. The responses are presented **as written by them, without making any corrections.**

a) Museum is a place to know about our past.

“Museum is any authorised place that relates with things of past. eg pictures, statues, etc.”

“A visiting place by which we can know our pasts & discover unknown facts.”

“Museum is a place where antique pieces depicting past history is reflected.”

“It is a learning resource about the past, rare and valuable things.”

“To show the past style, status, culture and available technology/ knowhow of different phases of a culture.”



“Museum means a place we get to know the history past.”

“Museum is the place to know about the past.”

“Where we can see past history, data's, preserve past records.”

“Museum is a place where we can get evidence of history of any place & we can overcome our doubt.”

“Museum is a place where the past things or any information about past is preserved.”

b) Museum is a place having valuable collection of past civilization.

“A place where the valuable collection of things related a peculiar era or civilization are preserved and exhibited.”

“It is a place which displays objects of historical, scientific and cultural interest of different civilizations.”

“Collection of Articles, related to History, War, Culture & Civilization.”

c) Museum is a place where collection of ancient valuable things/ old items/ historical things/ artefacts are available.

“A place where historical things are available.”

“Museum is a collaction of ancient things/ old items & History & source of inspiration & pride.”

“A building of cultural/historic/scientific value instituted for study, exhibition of articles, etc.”

“An institute which possess the cultural/ historical/ scientific artifacts for study.”

“Collection of ancient items”

“A building where several historical, scientific, artistic things are displayed for general public to view.”

“Museum is the collection of things of past time, different places. It is the collection of things used by different people. Museum shows the customs of different people of different countries.”

“A place where antique articles are displayed which tells us about the lifestyle even 100 years before.”

“Museum is a collection& display of Special/ Rare articles.”

“Museum is an institution that cares for a collection of artefacts, scientific, artistic, cultural & historical object.”

“Collection of various things, materials of past, present, rare objects, common objects, special objects”.

"It is a collection of artefacts from history, science and manmade culture at one place."

"Good of Home of Heritage things."

"Museum is a collection of all kinds of old or unique things. All ancient things which we cannot see normally anywhere."

"Place where historical or artistic objects are kept to display."

"Museum is a collection of valuable and ancient things and sculptures."

"Collections of paints & pictures at one place."

"Museum is a collection of antique things, a knowledge centre for historical events and our past."

"Museum is the collection of things of past time, different places. It is the collection of things used by different people. Museum shows the customs of different people of different countries."

"Collection of rare things related to civilization, science, technology etc."

d) It is a place where beautiful and valuable works of art, science and history are stored and kept for display.

"A building in which objects of interests are stored & displayed."

"Place for valuable objects are kept & shown to the public."

“A museum tells about the history of a country. It is a place where beautiful and valuable works of Art are kept.”

“A building where objects which have historical, scientific or artistic value are kept and shown to the public.”

“A place that houses antiques and other items which are worth preserving and showcasing.”

“A building in which objects of interest are kept and shown to public (e.g. painting, sculptures)”

“A museum is place where rare things are collected and preserved for future generation. Articles and objects of art and technology are kept in one place for general public by an organisation or government.”

“Museum is building where works of art, scientific specimens and other objects of permanent value are kept and displayed.”

“A Museum is repository of artefacts rare collections displayed for public viewing.

Museum is an institution where various objects of scientific, artistic, cultural, historical importance are preserved and made available for public viewing.”

“A place where collection of things of artistic, scientific or historic interest are set up for display.”

"A place that houses antiques and other items which are worth preserving and showcasing."

"A museum is a place where things, objects, which show antiquity, in fields of arts or science etc are exhibited."

"Museum is a place where various things are displayed things are displayed with the information related exhibits like sculptures, paintings, cloths, utensils, animal & bird habitat etc. are displayed."

"A museum is a store house of things of historical importance".

"A place where articles or other subject matters are scientifically preserved and exhibited."

e) Museum is a place for preservation of culture.

"Knowing about our culture".

"Place to preserve culture."

"A place wherein the earlier culture/ things used are preserved."

"Museum favour education over conservation or vice versa."

f) It is a place to gain knowledge.

"Museum is a place of getting knowledge, of discovering unknown facts throught the univers"

"It's a place from where we get bundle of knowledge."

“Knowledge.”

“Museum is a bags of knowledge from which one can borrow ideas for life.”

“Museum is a place where historical things are kept for educational value where mostly historians or students come for information and education.”

“It is like an encyclopaedia. It tells about things we don't know, about the history of a country etc. Museum displays help us to understand our country's culture, it is a place where beautiful or valuable works of art are kept. It is an exciting place where we can see things & see how they are made of, how they work etc.”

“A museum is place for sharing information regarding past, present & new development for future.”

“Knowledge city bank.”

“Museum is a set of various old items which represent the other era's lifestyle. Also it's learning resource for children.”

“Museum is a place where one can obtain knowledge of our past History, culture learning resources and also excitement to see unique things.”

“Place where things or heritage items kept for the knowledge of the future generation.”

“Museum is that place which gives lack of real information about our ancient time.”

“Museum is a place and a medium through which we can see and can know about historical things.”

“A learning resource which enriches our knowledge.”

g) Museum is place where we can enjoy with our family.

“According to me “Museum” is place where our history has been saved. And it is a place where we can enjoy & spend time and get related with our family after stressful working days.”

“Museum is a place to enjoy with family.”

“A great place to visit.”

“It might be a place that you go to socialize with friend, hear a lecture, or visit for entertainment.”

h) Museum is a place which shows our identity.

“Place which shows us who we are and how we were”

“Museum is a place from where one can get glimpses of the times, when we were not there.”

“Museum is something that shows our heritage with clear images.”

i) Museum is a tourist place.

“A place of tourist interest where national heritage is preserved.”

"It is a place from where we propagate culture, learning resources and promotes tourism."

j) Museum is a unique place having unique collection.

"Museum is unique item's collection."

"Museum is a place in which I can see the rare or unique objects."

"A treasure of unique and antique things."

"Permanent exhibition of antique and unique things."

k) Museum connects past with present to build a better future.

"Evidences of past & discovery of new things."

"Museum is a collection of valuable articles that correlates past with the present happenings or activities."

"Collection and display of exhibits related to past, present and models of future with information."

"I think museum is collection & storegee, maintenance of historic & prehistoric elements, kept for future memories."

l) Museum is a place for collection & display of objects having everlasting value.

"A museum is an institution devoted to the procurement, care, study and display of objects of lasting interest or value."

“A museum is an institution that cares for a collection of artefacts and other objects of scientific, artistic, cultural or historical importance and having everlasting value which are available for public viewing.”

m) Museum is a place of collection of unique items of past which are not found elsewhere.

“A museum is a cabin where things which are not available in the market are allowed to be observed.”

“A museum is an institution that cares for a collection of artifacts and other objects of scientific, cultural or historical importance and makes them available for public viewing thru’ exhibits that may be permanent or temporary.”

n) Museum gives authentic identity of our culture, traditions, languages spoken etc.

“Good presentation of history events. The original information and educative, authentic statics.”

o) Museum relates between stages of human life and the world.

“Museum is a relationship between life, community, the nation and the world through the interpretation of objects, experience & environment.”

p) Museum is the place where we can get imaginary ideas with evidence.

"It is a place where objects/ evidences from past era are preserved for present & future references."

"Museum is place where unknown things which you had only heard some you or see with your own eyes."

"Museum tells about the history of a country, it's a place where beautiful & valuable works of art are kept, help us to understand our country's culture, it's like an encyclopaedia, it tells about things which we do not know."

"Access to evidence of past and nature from various places of world."

q) It is a place to relive history.

"It is a place where one can trace back their roots, culture and the era its predecessors lived, shared and experienced. Museum is beyond storing antique pieces and a place to relive history."

"A wow feeling about one ancestors."

"Past historical which is informed to the generation next to come."

"Joint chain of past & present."

"When i think of a museum I realize that i remember old days of the kings."

r) Museum is a boring place.

“Museum is a collection of old, historical things some are interesting and some are Boring.”

“Nothing as i do not like to visit museum.”

s) It is a place of national importance.

“Museum is a source of civic pride, it propagates our past.”

“It is a place where you have the access to past & nature, a learning resource and is a place of civic pride.”

t) It a place having unique collection.

“Museum is a collection of unique things or life that are difficult to make (manufacture) or has survived inspite of different phases of extinction. Such things or life are not found anywhere except museum.”

“Chance to see rare and informative things.”

u) Museum is a national treasure.

“It’s one kind of property of a country.”

The analysis of the responses given by the respondents according to their gender is as follows.

Table II.10 – Gender Wise Responses

Question No. #1 (Out of 1503)	Group	No. of respondents	Male Respondents	Female Respondents
Know your past	A	195	123	72
Collection of things of past civilization	B	76	43	33
Collection of ancient and valuable things	C	229	120	109
Storage and display of artefacts	D	393	282	111
Preservation of culture	E	108	60	48
Gain Knowledge or source of information	F	238	154	84
Place to enjoy with our family	G	9		9
Place to show our identity	H	12	9	3
Blank	I	111	45	66
Tourist place	J	9	9	
Unique place having unique collection	K	24	6	18
Place which connects past with present	L	15	12	3
Institution for the procurement, care, study and display of objects of lasting interest or value	M	21	15	6
Cabin where things which are not available in the market are allowed to be observed	N	6	3	3
Authentic identity of our culture, traditions, languages spoken etc.	O	6		6
Relationship between life, community, the nation and the world thru' the interpretation of objects, experience	P	3	3	
Place to get the imaginary idea with an evidence	Q	18	15	3
Place where one can trace back their roots, culture and the era its predecessors lived, shared and experienced	R	18	18	
Collection of old, historical things some interesting some boring	S	3	3	
Source of civic pride, it propagates our past	T	3	3	

Question No. #1 (Out of 1503)	Group	No. of respondents	Male Respondents	Female Respondents
Collection of unique	U	3	3	
Property of a country	V	3	3	
Total		1503	929	574
in %			61.81	38.19

The responses of the people grouped according to their age groups are as follows.

Table II.11- Age Wise Responses

Question No. #1 (Out of 1503)	Gro up	No. of respon dents	Age					
			< 18	18 - 29	30 - 39	40 - 49	50 - 59	> 60
Know your past	A	195	9	15	81	90		
Collection of things of past civilization	B	75		3	33	36		3
Collection of ancient valuable things	C	231	6	12	102	108	3	
Preservation of culture	E	399	6	39	189	147	18	
Gain Knowledge or source of information	F	108		9	54	45		
Place to enjoy with our family	G	240		15	114	102	9	
Blank	I	9	3	3		3		
Tourist place	J	12			6	6		
Unique place having unique collection	K	111		9	69	33		
Place which connects past with present	L	9				9		
Institution for the procurement, care, study , display of objects of lasting interest or value	M	24			18	6		
Authentic identity	O	15			6	9		
Relationship between life , community, the nation and the world	P	21			6	15		
Place to get the imaginary idea with an evidence	Q	6			6			
Place where one can trace back their roots, culture	R	6				3		3

Question No. #1 (Out of 1503)	Gro up	No. of respon dents	Age					
			< 18	18 - 29	30 - 39	40 - 49	50 - 59	> 60
Museum is a collection of old, historical things some are interesting and some are boring	S	4		1			3	
Source of civic pride	T	4		1		3		
Collection of unique things or life that are difficult to make, has survived in spite of different phases of extinction.	U	4		1	3			
Property of a country	V	3			3			
Total		1503	24	108	699	630	36	6
in %			1.60	7.19	46.51	41.92	2.40	0.40

The responses of the people according to their marital status are as follows.

Table II.12 - Marital Status Wise Responses

Question No. #1 (Out of 1503)	Group	No. of respondents	Marital Status	
			Single	Married
Know your past	A	195	18	177
Collection of things of past civilization	B	75	3	72
Collection of ancient and valuable things	C	231	12	219
Storage and display of artefacts	D	399	45	354
Preservation of culture	E	110	3	107
Gain Knowledge or source of information	F	240	30	210
Place to enjoy with our family	G	9	6	3
Place to show our identity	H	12		12
Blank	I	111		111
Tourist place	J	9		9
Unique place having unique collection	K	24	6	18
Place which connects past with present	L	15		15

Question No. #1 (Out of 1503)	Group	No. of respondents	Marital Status	
			Single	Married
Institution for the procurement, care, study and display of objects of lasting interest or value	M	21		21
Authentic identity of our culture, traditions, languages spoken etc.	O	6		6
Relationship between life , community, the nation and the world through the interpretation of objects, experience & environment	P	3		3
Place to get the imaginary idea with an evidence	Q	18		18
Place where one can trace back their roots, culture and the era its predecessors lived, shared and experienced	R	6		6
Collection of old, historical things some interesting some boring	S	3		3
Source of civic pride	T	3		3
Collection of unique things	U	3		3
Property of a country	V	3		3
Total		1503	123	1380
in %			8.18	91.82

The responses of the people according to the number of members in their family are as follows.

Table II.13 – Family Members Wise Responses

Question No. #1 (Out of 1503)	Group	No. of respond ents	No. of members In Family		
			Two	Three	Four or More
Know your past	A	195	33	61	101
Collection of things of past civilization	B	75	9	21	45
Collection of ancient and valuable things	C	231	54	75	102
Storage and display of artefacts	D	399	45	147	207
Preservation of culture	E	110	12	23	75
Gain Knowledge /source of information	F	240	30	90	120
Place to show our identity	H	12	6		6
Blank	I	111	6	36	69
Tourist place	J	9		3	6
Unique place having unique collection	K	24	6	9	9

Question No. #1 (Out of 1503)	Group	No. of respond ents	No. of members In Family		
			Two	Three	Four or More
Place which connects past with present	L	15		9	6
Institution for the procurement, care, study and display of objects of lasting interest or value	M	21		6	15
Relationship between life , community, the nation and the world through the interpretation of objects, experience & environment	P	3		3	
Place to get the imaginary idea with an evidence	Q	18		9	9
Place where one can trace back their roots, culture and the era its predecessors lived, shared and experienced	R	6			6
Collection of old, historical things some interesting some boring	S	3		3	
Source of civic pride	T	3		3	
Collection of unique things, life difficult to make (manufacture) or has survived in spite of different phases of extinction	U	3		3	
Property of a country	V	3			3
Total		1503	204	513	786
in %			13.57	34.13	52.30

The responses of the people according to their educational qualification are as follows.

Table II.14 – Educational Qualification Wise Responses

Question No. #1 (Out of 1503)	Group	No. of respond ents	Education Qualification		
			High School	Graduate	Post Graduate
Know your past	A	195	12	81	102
Collection of things of past civilization	B	75		33	42
Collection of ancient and valuable things	C	231	6	135	90
Storage and display of artefacts	D	399	12	195	192
Preservation of culture	E	108	3	57	48
Gain Knowledge or source of information	F	240	15	120	105
Place to enjoy with our family	G	9	9		

Question No. #1 (Out of 1503)	Group	No. of respond ents	Education Qualification		
			High School	Graduate	Post Graduate
Place to show our identity	H	12		6	6
Blank	I	111	6	48	57
Tourist place	J	9		6	3
Unique place having unique collection	K	24		12	12
Place which connects past with present	L	15		9	6
A museum is an institution devoted to the procurement, care, study and display of objects of lasting interest or value	M	21		15	6
Cabin where things not available in the market are allowed to be observed	N	6			6
Authentic identity of our culture, traditions, languages spoken etc.	O	6		3	3
Relationship between life , community, the nation and the world through the interpretation of objects, experience & environment	P	3			3
Place to get the imaginary idea with an evidence	Q	18		9	9
Place where one can trace back their roots, culture, era its predecessors lived, shared and experienced	R	6			6
Collection of old, historical things some interesting some boring	S	4	1		3
Source of civic pride	T	4	1	3	
Collection of unique things or life difficult to make or has survived in spite of different phases of extinction.	U	4	1	3	
Property of a country	V	3		3	
Total		1503	66	738	699
in %			4.39	49.10	46.51

The responses of the people according to their languages known are as follows.

Table II.15 – Language Wise Responses

Question No. #1 (Out of 1503)	Group	No. of respond ents	Languages known			
			One	Two	Three	4 or more
Know your past	A	195		30	117	48
Collection of things of past civilization	B	75		15	51	9

Question No. #1 (Out of 1503)	Group	No. of respon dents	Languages known			
			One	Two	Three	4 or more
Collection of ancient and valuable things	C	231	15	30	150	36
Storage and display of artefacts	D	399	9	45	231	114
Preservation of culture	E	108	3	15	63	27
Gain Knowledge or source of information	F	240	6	30	162	42
Place to enjoy with our family	G	9			9	
Place to show our identity	H	12			12	
Blank	I	111	3	15	66	27
Unique place having unique collection	K	9		3	6	
Place which connects past with present	L	15		3	9	3
Institution for the procurement, care, study and display of objects of lasting interest or value	M	21	3	3	3	12
Cabin where things which are not available in the market are allowed to be observed	N	6	6			
Authentic identity of our culture, traditions, languages spoken etc.	O	6			3	3
Relationship between life, community, the nation and the world through the interpretation of objects, experience & environment	P	3		3		
Place to get the imaginary idea with an evidence	Q	18		3	15	
Place where one can trace back their roots, culture and the era its predecessors lived, shared and experienced	R	6			3	3
Collection of old, historical things some interesting some boring	S	4	1		3	
Source of civic pride	T	4	1		3	
Museum is a collection of unique things or life that are difficult to make(manufacture) or has survived inspite of different phases of extinction. Such things or life are not found anywhere except museum	U	4	1		3	
Property of a country	V	3			3	
Total		1503	48	201	921	333
in %			3.19	13.37	61.28	22.16

The responses of the people according to their occupation are as follows.

Table II.16 – Occupation Wise Responses

Question No. #1 (Out of 1503)	Group	No. of respond ents	Occupation				
			Student	Service	Business	House making	Retire d
Know your past	A	195	18	102	42	33	
Collection of things of past civilization	B	75		36	15	24	
Collection of ancient and valuable things	C	231	6	159	21	45	
Storage and display of artefacts	D	399	9	228	60	102	
Preservation of culture	E	108		60	27	21	
Gain Knowledge or source of information	F	240	9	144	42	39	6
Place to enjoy with family	G	9	3	6			
Place to show our identity	H	12		12			
Blank	I	111		60	18	33	
Tourist place	J	9		3	3	3	
Unique place having unique collection	K	24		18	3	3	
Place which connects past with present	L	15		9	6		
Institution for the procurement, care, study and display of objects	M	21		12	6	3	
Cabin where things not available in the market allowed for observation	N	6	3	3			
Authentic identity of our culture	O	6		3		3	
Relationship between life, community, the nation and the world	P	3		3			
Is the place where we can get the imaginary idea with an evidence	Q	18		12		6	
Place where one can trace back their roots, culture	R	6		3	3		
Collection of old, historical things some are interesting and some are boring	S	3		3			

Question No. #1 (Out of 1503)	Group	No. of respond ents	Occupation				
			Student	Service	Business	House making	Retire d
Collection of unique things	U	4	1		3		
Property of a country	V	4	1		3		
Total		1503	51	293	252	315	6
in %			3.39	19.49	16.77	20.96	0.40

The responses of the people according to their earning members are as follows.

Table II.17 – Earning Member Wise Responses

Question No. #1 (Out of 1503)	Group	No. of resp.	Earning Members			
			One	Two	Three	>Four
Know your past	A	195	129	60	6	
Collection of things of past civilization	B	75	54	21		
Collection of ancient and valuable things	C	231	180	48	3	
Storage and display of artefacts	D	399	276	114	6	3
Preservation of culture	E	108	57	48	3	
Gain Knowledge or source of information	F	240	129	81	30	
Place to enjoy with our family	G	9	6	3		
Place to show our identity	H	12	6		6	
Blank	I	111	84	24	3	
Tourist place	J	9	6	3		
Unique place having unique collection	K	24	12	12		
Place which connects past with present	L	15	9	6		
Institution for the procurement, care, study and display of objects of lasting interest or value	M	21	6	12	3	
Cabin where Things not available in the market allowed for obvs.	N	6		6		
Authentic identity of our culture, traditions, languages spoken etc.	O	6	3	3		
Relationship between life , community, the nation and the world through the interpretation of objects, experience & environment	P	3		3		
Place to get the imaginary idea with an evidence	Q	18	18			
Place where one can trace back their roots, culture and the era its predecessors lived, shared and exp.	R	6	6			

Question No. #1 (Out of 1503)	Group	No. of resp.	Earning Members			
			One	Two	Three	>Four
Source of civic pride	T	3	3			
Collection of unique things or life that are difficult to make (manufacture) or has survived inspite of different phases of extinction.	U	3	3			
Property of a country	V	3		3		
Total		1503	989	451	60	3
in %			65.80	30.01	3.99	0.20

Responses of the people according to their family income are as follows.

Table II.18 – Family Income Wise Responses

Question No. #1 (Out of 1503)	Group	No. of resp.	Family Income			
			< 5 Lacs	5-10 Lacs	10-20 Lacs	> 20 Lacs
Know your past	A	195	48	84	48	15
Collection of things of past civilization	B	75	21	39	9	6
Collection of ancient and valuable things	C	231	42	123	54	12
Storage and display of artefacts	D	399	75	201	114	9
Preservation of culture	E	108	15	57	30	6
Gain Knowledge or source of information	F	240	87	108	36	9
Place to enjoy with our family	G	9	3		6	
Place to show our identity	H	12		12		
Blank	I	111	30	54	24	3
Tourist place	J	9	9			
Unique place having unique collection	K	24	12	9	3	
Place which connects past with present	L	15	3	12		
Cabin where Things not available in the market allowed for obsvs.	N	21		21		
Authentic identity of our culture, traditions, languages spoken etc.	O	6		6		
Relationship between life , community, the nation and the world through the interpretation of objects, experience & environment	P	6		3	3	

Question No. #1 (Out of 1503)	Group	No. of resp.	Family Income			
			< 5 Lacs	5-10 Lacs	10-20 Lacs	> 20 Lacs
Place to get the imaginary idea with an evidence	Q	3		3		
Collection of old, historical things some interesting and some boring	S	6		3		3
Source of civic pride	T	4	1	3		
Collection of unique things or life that are difficult to make or has survived inspite of phases of extinction.	U	4	1		3	
Property of a country	V	4	1		3	
Total		1503	354	747	339	63
in %			23.55	49.70	22.55	4.19

Based on analysis and interpretation of the above data, it is found that majority of people consider museum to be a storehouse of rare and valuable collections of our past civilisation, art, science which are systematically preserved and displayed for public viewing. These collections are a source of immense knowledge which gives us an opportunity to relate to our past with the present. Museum is an educational place which showcases past style, status, culture and available technology/knowhow of different phases of a culture.

Even few respondents consider museum to be a source of enjoyment/recreation in addition to its educational values. All of these 9 respondents are female, 6 of them are single. 3 male respondents who are all service persons find some of the museum exhibits to be boring amongst other collections. 6 female respondents think that museums give authentic identity of our culture. 3 male business persons consider museum to be a national property.

The respondents in the age group above 60 think that we can trace back our roots and know about past civilisation from museum. People between the age group 18 to 29 feel that it is mainly a source of knowledge. Most of the people having four member families and three member families think that museum is a place for storage and display of artefacts. They are either graduates or post-graduates and having knowledge of three or more languages. Only 3 persons having four earning members in their family also feel the same. Majority of people having educational qualification up to high school feel that museums are source of knowledge for us. None of the respondents in the income group 5 to 10 lakhs and above 20 lakhs find the museums to be a place to enjoy with their family.

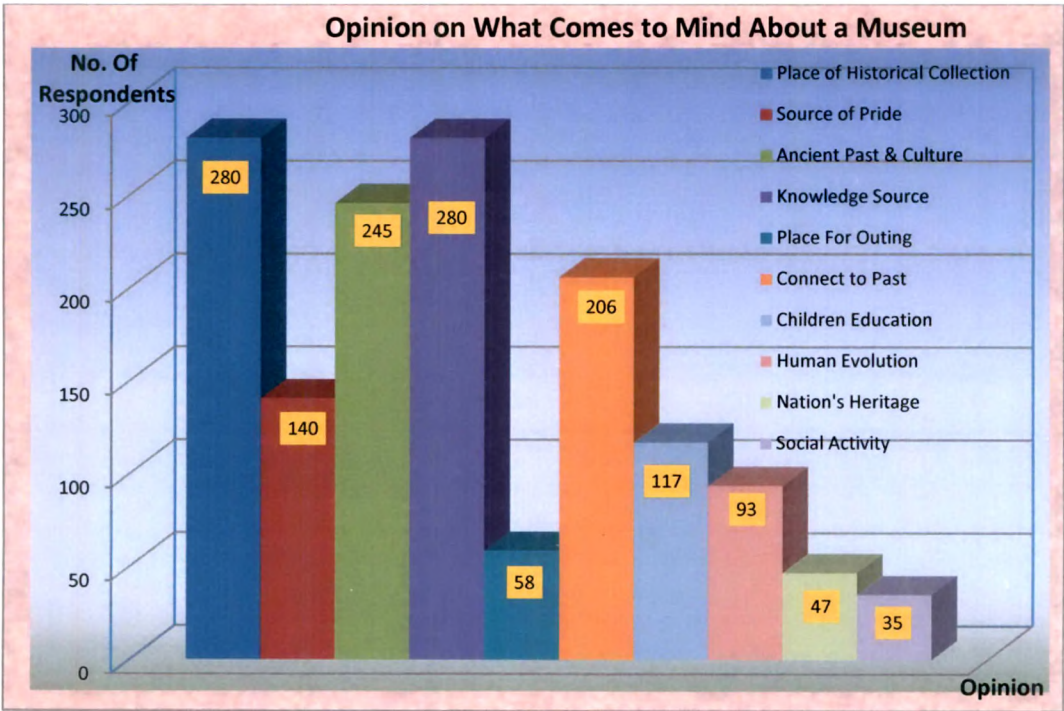
Q2.What comes to your mind when you think of a museum?

- Place of Historical Collection - 280
- Source of Pride - 140
- Ancient Past & Culture - 245
- Knowledge Source - 280
- Place for Outing - 58
- Connect to Past - 206
- Children Education - 117
- Human Evolution - 93
- Nation's Heritage - 47
- Social Activity - 35

Table II.19 – What Do You Think of a Museum?

	Place of Historical Collection	Source of Pride	Ancient Past & Culture	Knowledge Source	Place For Outing	Connect to Past	Child Educa	Huma n Evol	Nation Herit	Social Act
Total	280	140	245	280	58	206	117	93	47	35
In %	18.6	9.3	16.3	18.6	3.8	13.7	7.7	6.1	3.1	2.3

Chart II.1



The above data shows that majority of the people (18.66%) when think of a museum; consider it to be a source of knowledge or a place of historical collection. Many (16.33%) think of it as a place which showcases things related to ancient past, culture and (13.73%) that it connects us to our past. Very few (3.86%) think of it as a place for outing or a place for social activity (2.33%). 9.33% think that it is as a source of pride and 7.8% of the respondents feel that it is a major source of knowledge and information for their children which helps them to relate to their past.

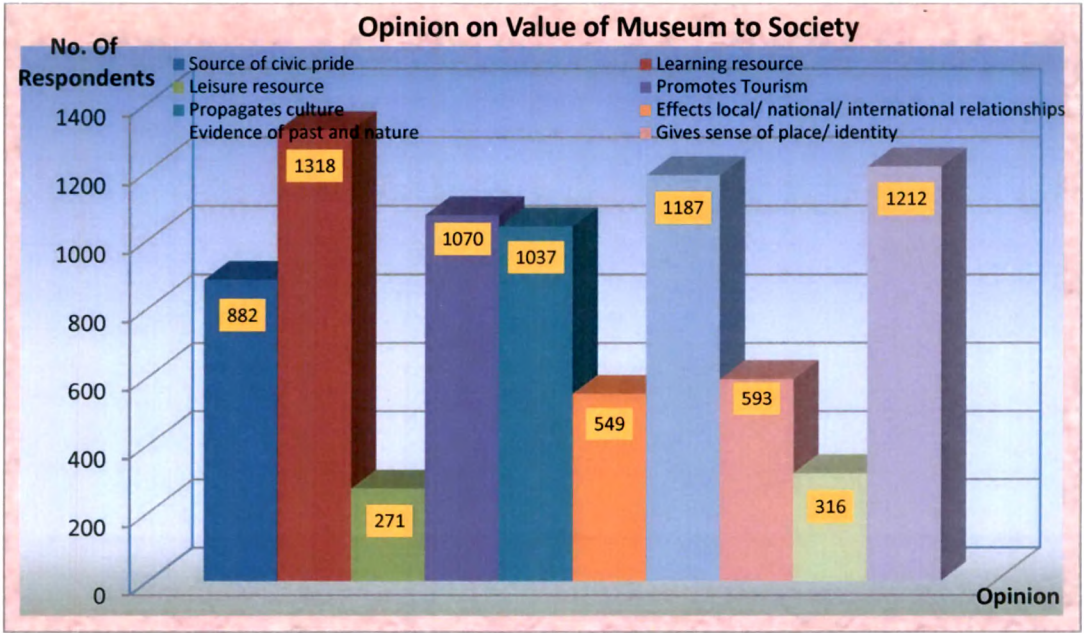
Q3. What do you think is the value of museums to society?

- a) Is a source of civic pride - 882
- b) Learning resource - 1318
- c) Leisure resource - 271
- d) Promotes Tourism - 1070
- e) Propagates culture - 1037
- f) Effects local/ national/ international relationships - 549
- g) Access to evidence of past and nature - 1187
- h) Aids in giving sense of place/ identity - 593
- i) Place for socialising - 316
- j) Preserves culture - 1212

Table II.20 – Value of Museum to Society

	Source of civic pride	Learning resource	Leisure resource	Prom. Tourism	Prop. culture	Local/ national/ international relationships	Evidence of past/ nature	Gives sense of place/ identity	Place for socialising	Preserve culture
Total	882	1318	271	1070	1037	549	1187	593	316	1212
In %	10.45	15.62	3.21	12.69	12.29	6.51	14.08	7.03	3.74	14.37

Chart II.2



The data reveals what people think of the value of museums to our society. The analysis of the above shows that maximum number of people (87.86%) think that it is a major learning resource for the society. 80.8% feel that museums are of value for the society as they preserve our culture and 79.13% think that museums give us access to view evidences of our past and nature. 71.33% consider it to be an institution that promotes tourism and 69.13% think that it propagates our culture throughout the world. Only 18.06 % consider it as a leisure resource and 21.06% feel that it is a place for socialising.

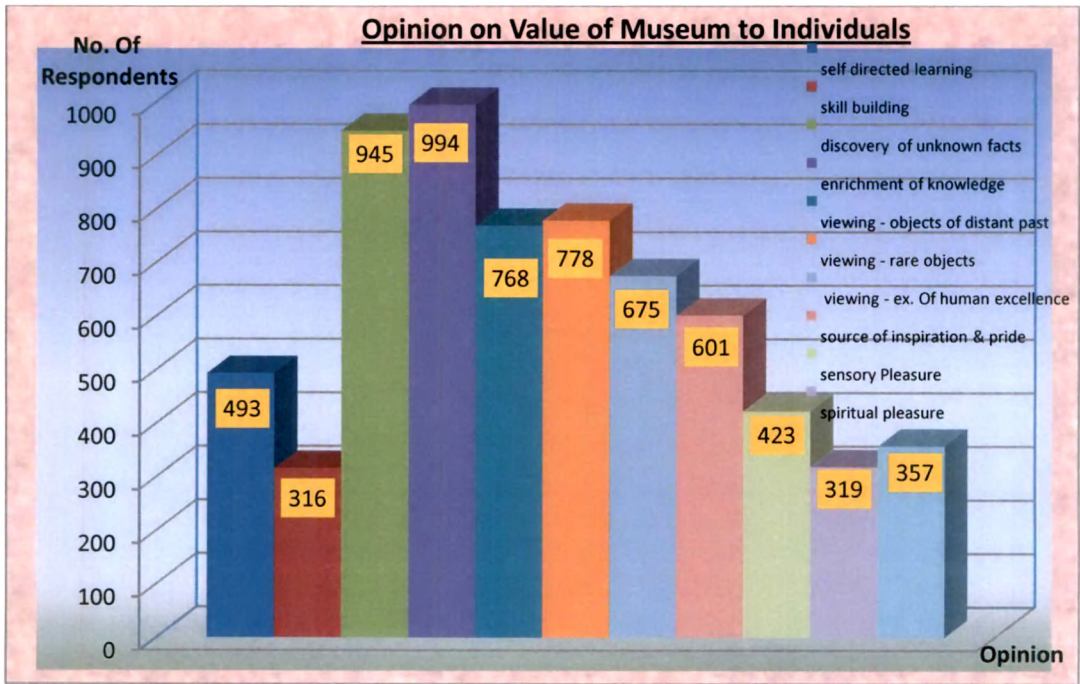
Q5. What is the value of museums to individuals?

- Self-directed learning in a free choice setting - 493
- Skill building - 316
- Discovery of unknown facts - 945
- Enrichment of knowledge - 994
- Excitement of viewing :
 - ❖ Objects from distant past - 768
 - ❖ Rare and unusual objects - 778
 - ❖ Examples of human excellence - 675
- Source of inspiration and pride - 601
- Pleasure
 - ❖ Sensory pleasure - 423
 - ❖ Spiritual pleasure - 319
- Joy/fun -357

Table II.21 – Value of Museums to Individuals

	Self directed learning	skill bldg	discover unknown facts	enrichment of knowledge	viewdistant past obj.	view rare object	View human excel.	inspiration & pride	sensor y Pleasure	spiritual pleasure	Joy/ fun
Total	493	316	945	994	768	778	675	601	423	319	357
In %	7.39	4.73	14.17	14.90	11.52	11.67	10.12	9.02	6.34	4.78	5.36

Chart - II.3



The data analysis and interpretation shows the value of museums to individuals. 66.26% of people think that it is an institution to enrich our knowledge. 63% feel that it a place to discover unknown facts. 51.8% feel that in museums individuals can see rare and unusual objects and for 51.2% it is a place to experience the excitement to view objects from distant past. For 23.8% people museums are a place to enjoy and have fun.

Q6. If museums did not exist, what would our society miss?

- a) Good opportunity of practical knowledge - 135

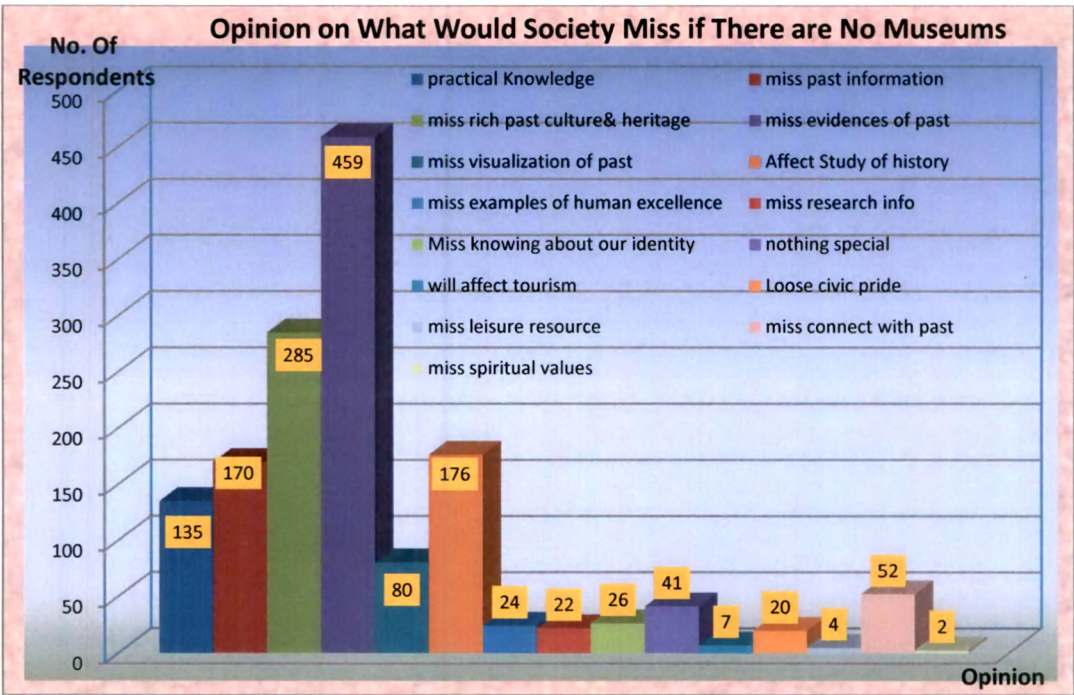
- b) Miss past information - 170
- c) Children would miss rich past culture & heritage - 285
- d) Society would miss the evidences, proves, human excellence, unknown & unusual facts - 459
- e) Could not visualize our past in virtual shape, gain practical knowledge - 80
- f) Study of history, archaeology, arts, civilization & societal development - 176
- g) Would miss the examples of human excellence which increase pride of a nation - 24
- h) Would miss some important information regarding research - 22
- i) Knowing about our identity, origin and values - 26
- j) Nothing special - 41
- k) Tourist attraction, will affect tourism - 7
- l) Source of civic pride - 20
- m) Leisure resource - 4
- n) Connection between our past, present and future - 52
- o) Spiritual values and knowledge - 2

Table II.22 – Opinion on what society will miss if there are no Museums

	practical Knowledge	miss past info	miss rich past culture& heritage	miss evidences of past	miss visualization of past	Affect Study of history	miss examples of human excellence	miss research info
Total	135	170	285	459	80	176	24	22

	Miss knowing about our identity	nothing special	will affect tourism	Loose civic pride	miss leisure resource	miss connect with past	miss spiritual values	
Total	26	41	7	20	4	52	2	

Chart - II.4



The data shows that maximum number of people (30.6%) feel that if museums did not exist then our society would miss the evidences, proves of human excellence, the unknown and unusual facts of the past. Many respondents (19%) think that our children would not be able to know about our rich culture and heritage. According to 11.73% respondents, it provides a good opportunity to study various subjects like history, archaeology, arts, civilization and societal development under the same roof. Only 0.46% feels that if museums did not exist, tourism of the country will get affected.

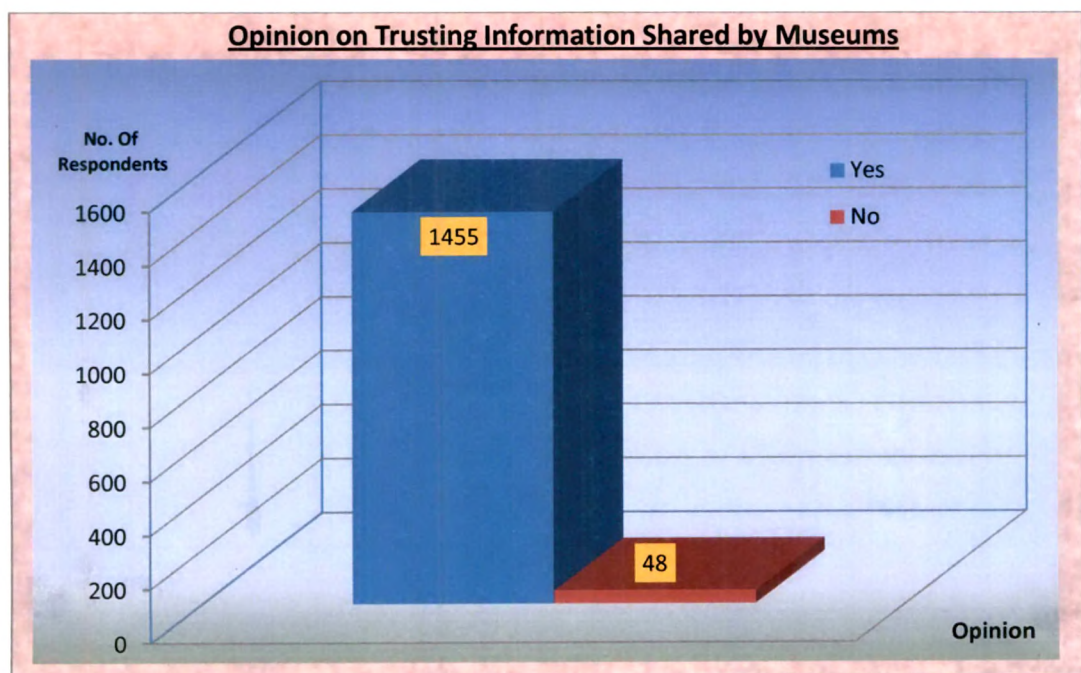
Q7. Do you trust the information presented by museum?

- a) Yes -1455
- b) No - 48

Table - II.23 - Trusting information shared by Museum

	Yes	No
Total	1455	48
In %	96.81	3.19

Chart – II.5



Except a few people, most of the respondents trust the information presented by museums. 48 out of 1503 people who do not trust the information presented by museums have certain other reasons for their viewpoint which are discussed below.

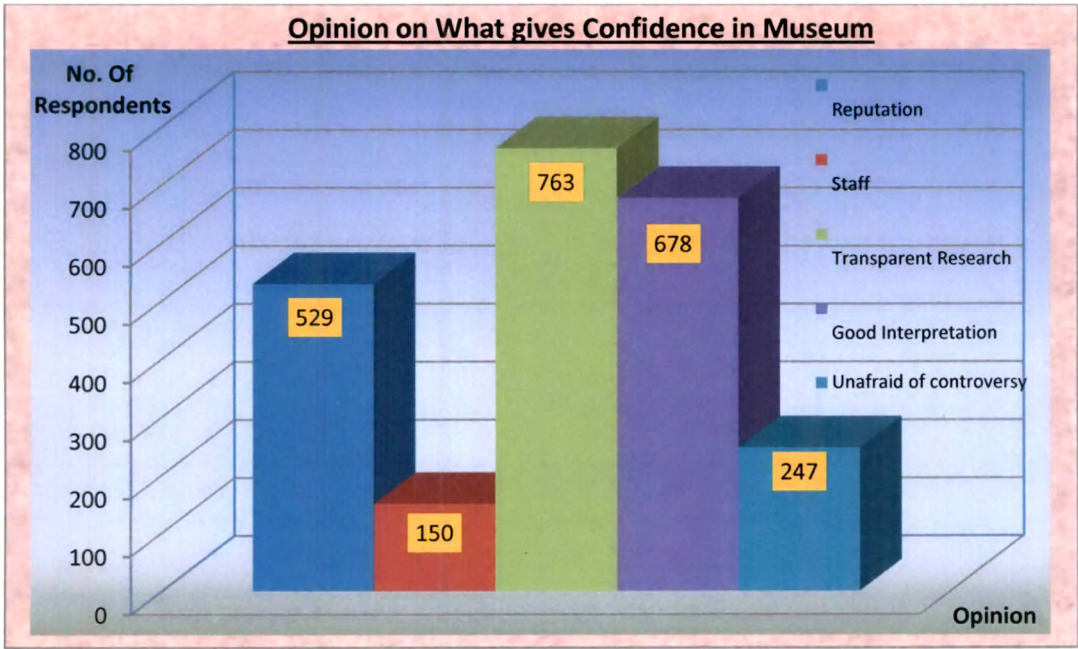
Q8. If 'Yes', what gives you confidence in the museum?

- a) Reputation - 529
- b) Staff - 150
- c) Transparent research - 763
- d) Good interpretation - 678
- e) Unafraid of controversy - 247

Table II.24 – What gives you confidence in Museum

	Reputation	Staff	Transparent Research	Good Interpretation	Unafraid of controversy
Total	529	150	763	678	247
In %	22.36	6.35	32.23	28.63	10.44

Chart - II.6



The data shows that maximum number of people (50.86%) believe that the information provided by museums is trustworthy as it is based on transparent research. 45.2% feel that good interpretation of the exhibits displayed by the museums give them confidence to trust the information presented by them. 35.26% think that museums have a reputation of giving authentic information to society. 16.46% feel that the organization presents unbiased information and is unafraid of any controversy.

Q9. If 'No', state the reasons.

a) Not authentic - 4

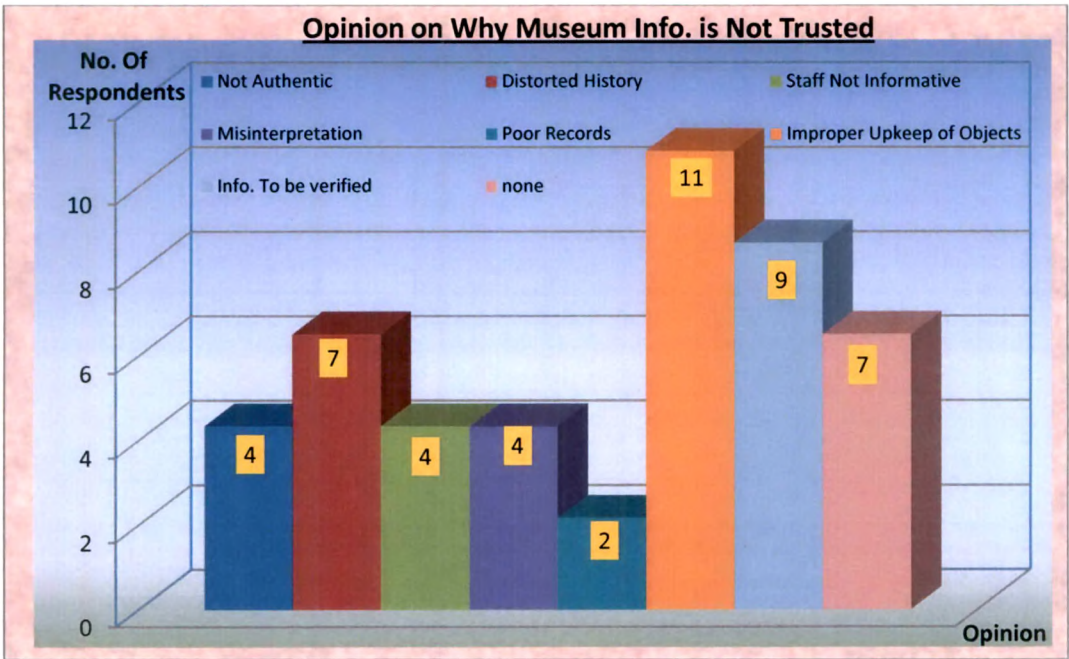
e) Poor records - 2

- b) Distorted history - 7
c) Staff not informative - 4
d) Misinterpretation of history - 4
- f) Improper upkeep of objects - 11
g) Info. needs to be verified - 9
h) None - 7

Table II.25 – Reasons for no trust in Museums info.

	Not Authentic	Distorted History	Staff Not Informative	Mis - interpretation	Poor Records	Improper Upkeep of Objects	Info. To be verified	None
Total	4	7	4	4	2	11	9	7
In %	9.09	13.64	9.09	9.09	4.55	22.73	18.18	13.64

Chart - II.7



The data analysis reveals that the people who do not trust the information provided by museums think that improper maintenance of the exhibits and museum objects lead people to distrust the information provided by them. 9 out of 1500 people think that information needs to be verified rather than believing blindly as sometimes the information provided is due to misinterpretation of some data or distorted history. 7 people have

no reason to provide in particular for their opinion on museum’s information.

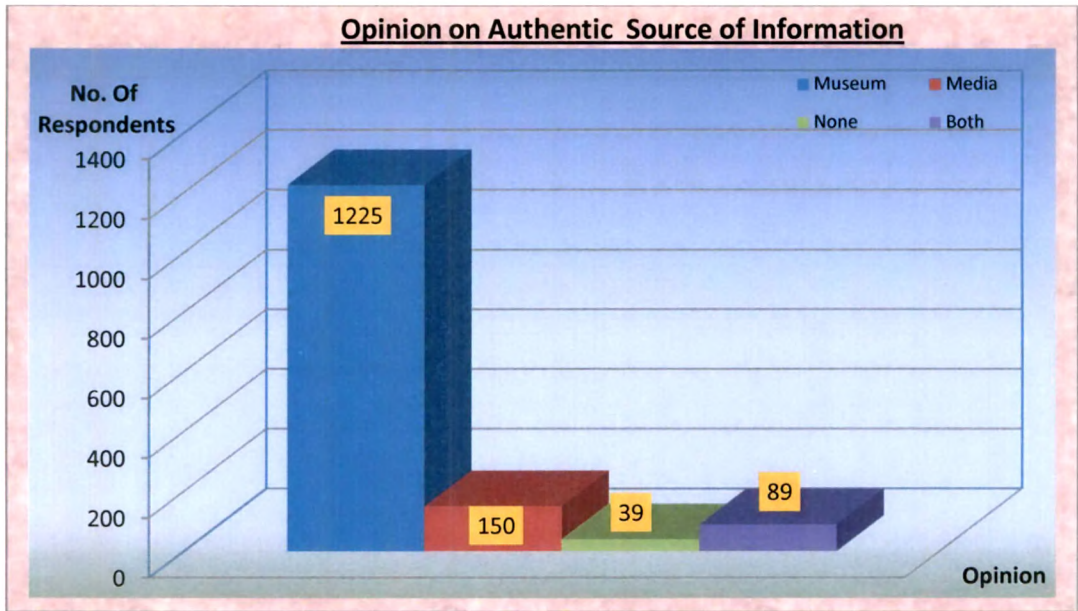
Q10. Which one do you trust more in terms of authenticity of information – Museums or Media? Why?

- a) Museum - 1225
- c) None - 39
- b) Media - 150
- d) Both - 89

Table II.26 – Authentic Source of Info. - Museums or Media

	Museum	Media	None	Both
Total	1225	150	39	89
In %	81.50	9.97	2.60	5.92

Chart - II.8



81.66% trust museums more than media in terms of authentic information as they feel ‘Seeing is believing’, ‘Media gives different opinion of different individual’, ‘It is not created story by someone’, ‘They are unbiased, non-profit organisation, media is big business today’, ‘Do not provide untrue information’, ‘Provides correct information’,

'Live evidences speaks facts of past', 'Having information evidences which can be seen anytime and can be linked with other source of information', 'They are considered as one of the most reliable sources of information in our society since ages, when media was not even well established.', 'Data represented is true & fact with examples', 'Information is based on research and development work', 'Shows evidences of past but media only tells about history, so former is more reliable.', 'Good research work by museums and their committee does good interpretation', 'Does not need publicity like media', 'Provides reliable facts but media makes a hype of nothing and misinterpret things', 'Media sometimes misinterpret things', 'No manipulation, no personal perception', 'Gives latest information, is a combination of useful and harmful to human life. But museum does not harm the society instead gives lot of information about prehistoric life', 'Media is comparatively more biased and with less research', 'Not only preserve the fossils but also provide facts about the same', 'Media can produce any insane information for their profit', 'Media is always under political pressure', 'Museum facts are with proof, media shows too much of everything', 'Results are proven', 'museum shows what it is, no business', 'Source of observation learning', 'proves that some things really existed', 'Information from experts in their fields', 'information does not change like media', 'Past recordings inscribed in stones or coins', 'People are more receptive towards museum', 'Media-facts/ authenticity are distorted', 'Media is manipulative and works for TRPs.'

150 out of 1500 would prefer media over museums for getting authentic information as they think 'Gives information about both past and present', 'Direct evidence', 'Always in touch with present and future',

‘Recent development with proofs’, ‘Media is for most recent information, museum for previous/ old/ past evidence, does not keep on adding the recent things. Once set is set’, ‘gives detailed, updated information’, ‘We can get information at home itself’, ‘Fastest way to get information’, ‘No trust on ASI’, ‘Easy accessibility of information.’ People who believe that both the organizations are equally authentic have told ‘Both have their own way of collecting information.’ People who think that none of these provides authentic information said ‘All are having assumptions’, ‘One should not trust anybody but develop a habit to analyse things in factual prospection.

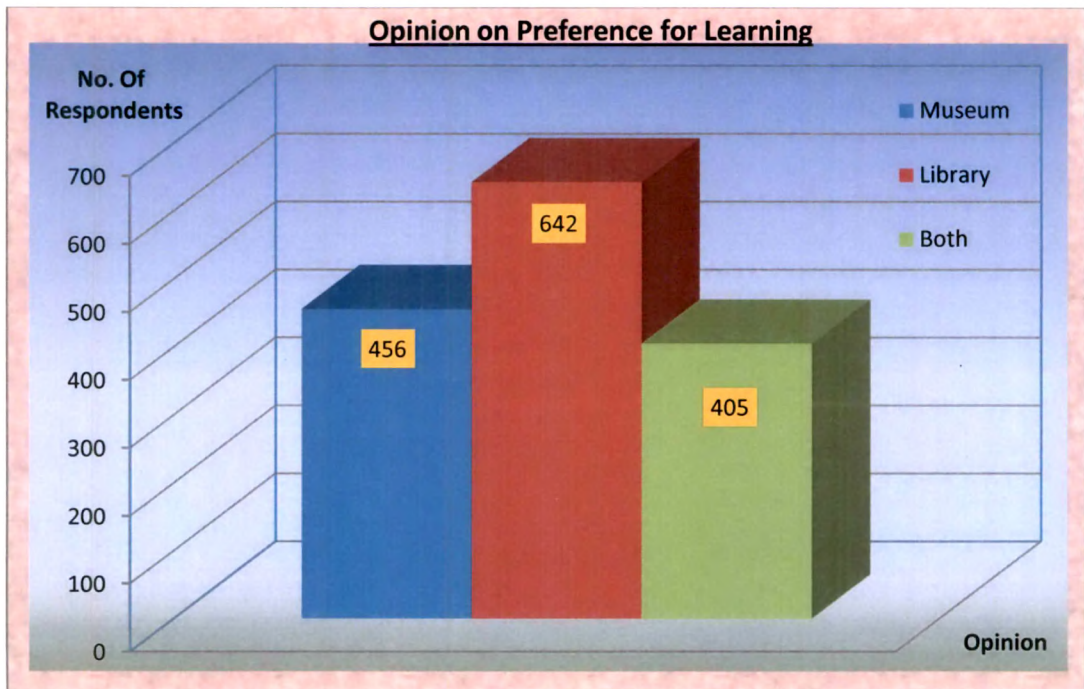
Q11. Which one would you prefer for learning-- Museums or Library?

- a) Museum -1225
- b) Library -150
- c) None - 39
- d) Both - 89

Table II.27- Preference – Museum or Library

	Museum	Library	Both
Total	456	642	405
In %	30.32	42.74	26.94

Chart - II.9



The above data shows that most respondents prefer to learn using library (42.8%) as they feel that in many cases museums do not provide specialised information. Some of their quotes are ‘library gives in depth information on concerned topic with a wide review’, ‘gives more books than museums’, ‘learn about museums and history from books’, ‘in library there is no limitations to learn’, ‘contains all related books related to the items available with museums’, ‘books has references which museum do not have’, ‘we can confirm the things by viewing multiple literature search’, ‘it is more elaborate in information’, ‘museum is a tourist spot and gradually their sights fade away’, ‘provide detailed knowledge in a more organized way, museum has time constraint problem’, ‘museum is only collection but library is collection of book of all prehistoric & current inventions’, ‘huge source of knowledge’, ‘much more organised, informative & reachable’, ‘don't know but love library’,

‘provide detailed historical background of artefacts’, ‘provide more information than museum’, ‘museums have limited capacity’, ‘detailed information, can be read anytime’, ‘see objects of different times and different faculties’, ‘like to read books’, ‘free of cost, long opening hours, accessible’, ‘in museum we see only special things, library you will learn and read everything’, ‘cover more areas’, ‘more silent and equipped with books’, ‘museum in our city is not that advanced’,.

The above data also reveals that 30.4% of people who prefer museums for learning think that ‘In short time we can know more about the past’, ‘like to observe than read’, ‘gives sensory authenticity as seen live, gives/acts as great source of information’, ‘can learn by seeing live examples’, ‘can see the physical display of things or information which can impart long lasting impression’, ‘actual exhibition of objects’, ‘easy way of learning’, ‘it maintains vast data’, ‘visual display always help to remember for long’, ‘observation learning’, ‘provides learning by direct exposure to various items’, ‘gives clear image of history’, ‘gives clear image of history’, ‘gives idea of reality’, ‘advantage of display, library has only material’, ‘there is a guide to explain things unlike library’, ‘In short span we can get reflection of the past’, ‘museums are more interesting than library’, ‘we can see and feel’, ‘easy to understand due to display’.

This chapter discusses the demographic profile of the respondents, their general perception of museums and related issues. The interpretation of the above data shows that there are more male respondents than female. They are mostly in the age group of 30 to 49 years. Majority of these people are married and have four or more members in their family. More

than 48% have a graduate degree and more than 47% possess a post graduate degree. This shows that the respondents are mostly well-educated. Most of the people have knowledge of at least three languages and some have knowledge of even four. More than 55% are service holders, 22.09% are housewives and more than 17% are business persons. Rest negligible percentage is retired persons. Most of the persons (65.8%) have single earning member in their family. Some (30.01%) have two earning members and the rest has three or more earning members. Half of the respondents have a family income between 5-10 lakhs.

The data also reveals that people feel museums are institutions devoted to the procurement, care and display of rare and valuable collections of our past civilisation and culture. Majority of the respondents think that it is a storehouse of immense knowledge which not only helps to connect our past with present but also procures, care, studies and displays our culture and heritage which is of lasting interest and value. It provides us known and unknown information with evidences from past, proves of human excellence through which we can trace back our roots. It is of utmost importance that we preserve these evidences in museums as they aid our children to visualise their past and gain knowledge about their identity, origin and values.

Out of 1503, only 9 people feel that it is a place to enjoy with our family. 3 persons said that sometimes the exhibits are interesting but sometimes they are boring. Museums should take the views of these persons into consideration and organise such interactive, unique events which will be of interest for the visitors and they can have fun and

enjoyment during their visit rather than attending to monotonous activities.

Some persons think that it a source of revenue generation for the government as it is place of tourist attraction which propagates our culture and heritage. Only three persons think that it is a source of civic pride where we can access our past culture. Museums should plan and organise programmes which will boost up its national importance and majority of people start considering it to a place of civic pride along with learning resource. Till now museums have somehow failed to make its identity in the minds of common people as a national property of our country.

A very few persons even feel that is has collection of such unique things that are difficult to manufacture and are not found anywhere else other than the museums. These things are more special as they have survived the different phases of extinction.

People were asked what comes to their mind when they think of a museum. Majority of the people said that it is a place of historical collection which provides us immense knowledge. It helps us to connect to our past, ancient civilization and culture. Excerpts from the responses of some people are given as was said by them.

“Museum means a biography of humanities, civilization, rulers of past & all that things of past, present & futerres (sic)”. “I think, I imagine myself in the past days”, “An ancient building with collection of old monuments /ornaments/objects”, When I think of museum it reveals the history of the

past how people were living what was their attire, what things they were using, "Royal collections, currency, communication devices all are collected and preserved in well manner.", "An old but beautiful building.", "A place which will increase our knowledge."

Some even told that we get to see "The old realities which you have not seen. Seeing things which you have only read. Knowing your culture. Knowing the past." Only a few consider it as a place where they can spend time in their leisure hours with their children. "Taking kids, there, whale skeleton & mummy", "A live picture of various subjects." "Museum educates children to think over for future (sic)." "Taking kids, there, whale skeleton & mummy."

Only 47 people out of 1503 think it to be a national heritage and 140 feel that it is a source of civic pride. "A place of torist interest where national heritage is preserved." (sic) "It is nothing but a source of civic pride." "It gives sense of place or identity."

Some consider it as unique place to connect to our past. "A unique experience rather thrilling experience of what God can create in terms (sic.of) natural habitats(ie animals, birds, etc.) and designs, structure, paintings, etc made by handwork. An experience of creation and love and an (sic.a) belief or vision of what we can create as a representative of God", "A calm and divine place where history comes alive." "The old realities which you have not seen. Seeing things which you have only read."

Some people think of museum as a lonely boring place. “A lonely, big place”, “OLD DILAPTED GOVT.BUILDING”, “Boring”.

When people were asked about the value of museums to society maximum number of people thought that it is a learning resource which showcases objects of past with evidence and promotes tourism. Only 316 out of 1503 feel that it is a place of socialising. Very few consider it as a leisure resource. Museums must organise such programmes so that people can visit museum with their guests and relatives at their leisure hours and can socialise as well as have fun. As individuals, people think that museum is an institution to discover unknown facts by viewing objects of distant past and gain knowledge.

People think that if museums didn't exist, then society will miss evidences of past and proves of human excellence. Our children would miss rich culture and heritage. Only 20 out of 1503 think that we will lose a major source of civic pride.

Except a few, most of the respondents think that the information presented by museum is trustworthy because it is mainly based on transparent research by the staff which is unbiased. Majority would prefer museum over media for getting any authentic information but for updated information on present happenings they would prefer media. This shows the trust and respect of people in the research work and information presented by museums.

For acquiring detailed, specialised knowledge about a subject, maximum number of people would prefer to go to a library. Some (27%) would like

to seek the help of both the institutions for the same as they think 'museums give practical knowledge, while in library we get detailed knowledge/information while reading', 'both are helpful for learning', 'as both are of different footings for learning', 'both have their own importance', 'one is huge source of information other the same with different modes', 'books provide us information, museum preserves remains of the same', 'library is related to different fields, museum related to specific topic', 'from library we get information about museums, from museum we get actual interpretation of facts', 'library gives detailed knowledge & museum gives actual data.'
