Methodology

Quantitative and quantitative research methods were used in this research. Five university libraries out of 15 automated libraries were purposively selected as the sample of University of Colombo, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, University of Kelaniya, University of Moratuwa and University of Visual and Performing Arts. The reasons responsible for the purposive sampling method were long distance, the limited time frame and insufficient budget allocated for the research.

One structured questionnaire was distributed among selected library staff members. The questionnaire was given to 60 library staff members. (five librarians, fifteen senior assistant librarians, ten assistant librarians, five senior assistant librarians/assistant librarians who were engaged in the cataloguing activities and twenty-five library assistants in selected libraries) to identify formats and levels in Machine Readable Cataloging Standards for Library Automation of University Libraries in Sri Lanka.

Discussion and Findings

Four out of selected five university libraries have used MARC 21 fields in their automated library management systems which are LIBSYS and KOHA. Other library was used Alice for Windows to automate the library. MARC 21 standard had not been used normally in Alice for Windows. What MARC 21 fields they used in their LMS which was quested from five senior assistant librarians/assistant librarians who were engaged in the cataloguing activities through the questionnaire 1. Their responses to questions are given in the Table 01 below.

Table 1: identified MARC 21 fields in automated library management systems

MARC FIELD	FIELD DEFINITION	KOHA			LIBSYS
		U1	U2	U3	U4
000	LEADER	■	■	■	■
003	CONTROL NUMBER IDENTIFIER	■			
008	FIXED-LENGTH DATA ELEMENTS--GENERAL INFORMATION	■	■	■	■
020	INTERNATIONAL STANDARD BOOK NUMBER			■	
041	LANGUAGE CODE	■	■	■	■
080	UNIVERSAL DECIMAL CLASSIFICATION NUMBER		■		
082	DEWEY DECIMAL CLASSIFICATION NUMBER	■		■	■
100	MAIN ENTRY--PERSONAL NAME	■	■	■	■