

A STUDY OF INFORMATION SEEKING BEHAVIOR OF USERS OF SAI INSTITUTE OF ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY COLLEGE IN AURANGABAD.

Kharat Shilpa Vikram*

Dr. Siddiqui Eraj Azeeza**

* Ph.D. Research Scholar,
DLIS,
Dr. B. A. M. University,
Aurangabad, Maharashtra,
India.

** Librarian,
Dr. Rafiq Zakaria College
for Women,
Aurangabad, Maharashtra,
India.

QR Code



ABSTRACT: -

Information is valuable because it can affect behavior, a decision, or an outcome. Thus the concept of information becomes closely related to notions of constraint, communication, control data, form, education, knowledge, meaning, and understanding. Information can be obtained or retrieved from a variety of sources. Information providers like the library and information centers need to be aware of their users' information requirements as well as their information seeking and information retrieving methods in order that they might be able to provide better services. This paper attempts to study the information seeking behavior of users in SIET Engineering College Library, Aurangabad. This study examines several aspects of library use, including frequency of visiting the library, satisfaction with the opening hours of the library, library collection and user satisfaction from library services. The study also covers the use of reference sources in the library.

KEYWORDS: Information Seeking Behavior, Library Resources.

INTRODUCTION

Library is the soul of any college. In the library there are many types of users where getting the right information in the library. The main goal s of library is to provide information, exhaustive and expeditious information to users. In the library there are many recorded information in printed and electronic form are gathered in the library and qualified personnel are recruited to establish purposive contact between the users and

the information embodied in a verity of documents. Information is available in different forms of documents. In any type of libraries users are play very important role.

CONCEPT OF INFORMATION

Information is any propagation of cause and effect within a system. Information is conveyed either as the content of a message or through direct or indirect observation of

something. That which is perceived can be construed as a message in its own right, and in that sense, information is always conveyed as the content of a message. The simple meaning of Information in a restricted science is a sensible Statement, opinion, fact, concept of ideas, or an association of statements, opinions or ideas. According to Davis and Olson (1985) "information is data that has been processed into a form that is meaningful to the recipient and is of real or perceived value in current or prospective action or decisions".

CONCEPT OF INFORMATION SEEKING BEHAVIOR:

Information seeking behavior refers to the way people search for and utilize information. The term was coined by Wilson in his 1981 paper, on the grounds that the then current 'information needs' was unhelpful as a basis for a research agenda, since 'need' could not be directly observed, while how people behaved in seeking information could be observed and investigated. In 2000, Wilson, described information behavior as the totality of human behavior in relation to sources and channels of information, including both active and passive information-seeking, and information use. He described information seeking behavior as purposive seeking of information as a consequence of a need to satisfy some goal. Information seeking behavior is the micro-level of behavior employed by the searcher in interacting with information systems of all kinds, be it between the seeker and the system, or

the pure method of creating and following up on a search.

LITERATURE REVIEW:

Pareek, A. K and Rana, M. S (2013)⁵ opines that information seeking behavior as the process of information acquiring, using and implementing information. In the case of academicians, researchers and students it is even more important because they all need right and update information for their research need. Information seeking behavior is a broad term, it involves a set of actions that takes by individuals or groups to show their information need, seek information, check and select the information to fulfill their requirement or information needs. A study conducted by Basha, I and others (2013)⁶ in India reveals that the primary purposes of seeking information by the engineering students are to keep abreast to current information in their subject field to obtain educational excellence. For this purpose the students refer latest periodicals. Kumar, K and Tholkappian, S (2013)⁷ had made a research on information seeking behavior of library users in women's educational institutions library users in Vellore district, Tamil Nadu mentioned that the successful operation of any library depends to a large extent on the choice of library collection. To acquire necessary materials the librarians should be aware of how the library users seek information. A research was conducted by Shakeel Ahmed, G. T and Vinayagamoorthy, P (2013)⁸ regarding information seeking behavior of business school students in the universities and

colleges located in Academic City, Dubai, UAE. It revealed that the major sources used by the students are for academic purposes and the main resources used are internet and electronic media. Padnzamma, S and others (2010) examined the information seeking behavior of undergraduate students in the engineering college libraries and found that internet is the predominant information source utilized by the students.

OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY:

The major objectives of the study are to find out:

- To identify the users with their frequency of library visit.
- To identify the users with the time spent in the library.
- To identify the users with the purposes of seeking information.
- To identify the users by their usage of formal information sources.
- To identify the users by their usage of e-resources.

HYPOTHESIS:

- There is a significant difference among the respondents
- by their frequency of library visit with regard to the type of users.
- There is a significant difference among the respondents by the hours spent in a single visit for reference with regard to the type of users.

- There is a significant difference among the respondents by the purpose of seeking information with regard to the type of users.
- There is a significant difference among the respondents by using formal information sources with regard to the type of users.

METHODOLOGY:

Random sampling technique was used in this study. Accordingly the questionnaires were administered to the users of the library and responses of the users were solicited. A total of 60 questionnaires were distributed to the students and faculty members of SIET Engineering College, Aurangabad. Out of which 12 questionnaire were rejected due to incomplete information and 48 questionnaires taken into account for the study. The collected data from the respondents, the data were checked and analyzed according to objectives.

DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION:

Table 1. Gender wise response.

GENDER	RESPONSE	PERCENTAGE
Male	46	76.66
Female	14	23.33
Total =	60	100%

A total of 60 questionnaires were distributed to the students and faculty members of SIET Engineering College, Aurangabad. Out of which 12 questionnaire were rejected due to incomplete information and 48 questionnaires taken into account for the study.

Table 2 Frequency of library visit.

Library users								
Frequency of Library	Faculty		Students				Total	Per%
	Senior	Lecturer	FE	SE	TE	BE		
Daily	8	3	2	4	7	6	30	50%
Once in a week	2	2	2	2	4	4	16	26.66%
Twice in a week	4	1	0	1	2	1	9	15%
Three in a week	2	0	2	0	0	0	4	6.66%
Occasionally	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1.66%
Total =	16	06	06	08	13	11	60	100%

Respondents spend more time in library for collecting information for their technical work and other related works. An effort was made to find out whether they spent more hours in each visit. Above table .2 shows the frequency of library visit as more daily 50% use library resources.

Table 3. Hours spent in a single visit.

Library users								
Library Hours	Faculty		Students				Total	Per%
	Senior Lecturer	Lecturer	FE	SE	TE	BE		
Less than 1 hrs.	3	9	2	4	7	6	30	51%
2 hrs.	2	2	2	2	4	4	16	26.66%
3hrs	1	4	0	1	2	1	9	15%
More than 5hrs.	0	2	2	0	0	0	4	6.66%
Total =	05	17	06	08	13	11	60	100%

Table 3 shows that the respondents with regard to hours spent in a single visit to the library less than 1hrs.

Table 4 Purpose of seeking information.

Seeking Information	Faculty		Students				Total Per%	
	Senior	Lecturer	FE	SE	TE	BE		
For carrier development	4	9	2	3	7	6	30	51%
To solve immediate problem	2	2	2	2	4	4	16	26.66%
To keep up to date	1	4	0	1	2	1	9	15%
To write article and research papers	1	2	2	0	0	0	4	6.66%
Total =	08	17	06	05	13	11	60	100%

Table 4 that the majority of the respondents seeking the information for the purpose of the career development 51% to solve immediate problem, 26.66% to keep up to date, 15% to write an article/research papers. Most of the respondents have not preferred to seek the information for writing article/research papers.

CONCLUSION

Thus, it may conclude that the results of this study reveal users are satisfied with library collections and services, the users pointed out that it would be worthwhile if the library could provide them with all sources and service as well. Libraries must understand information-seeking behavior of users to re-engineer their services and provide information efficiently.

REFERENCES

- Abdoulaye (K). Information Seeking Behavior of African Students in Malaysia a
- Research study. Information Development. 18; 3; 2002; 191-196.
- Behavior amongst Doctors and Nurses: a short review of the literature. Health
- Information and Libraries Journal. 27; 1; 2010; 2-10.
- Biradar, (B.S.) Sampath Kumar (B.T.) and Padma (G.T.). Information Seeking
- Behavior of D.V.S. Polytechnic Collage Library Users: a case study. Kelpro Bulletin.
- 5; 2; 2001; 6-9.
- Chandel (A.S.) Saraf (Veena). Studies in Information Seeking Behaviour and Use:
- Need for Paradigm Change. Journal of Library and Information Science. 27; 2; 2002;
- 153-171.
- Hari Krishna Reddy, S. and Karisiddappa, C.R. 1997. Information seeking behavior: survey of the professional I the field of disabilities with

special reference to mental handicap in India.
Annals of library science and documentation.

- Wimberley, Stephen, et al.1998. Users persistence in scanning lists of references” College and Research Libraries: 149-151.
- . Kim, K.K. 1990 “Task characteristics, decentralization and the success of hospital information systems”. Information and Management, 19(2):83-93.
- Horner, J. and Thirlwall, D.1989. Online searching and the university researcher” Journal of Academic Librarianship, 14(4):225-230.
- Bawden, D. and Robinson. K.1997. Information behavior I nursing specialists: a case study of Mid-wiferey. Journal of Information Science. 23:407-421.