Information Seeking Behavior among Post Graduate Science Students of KVNN, Arts, Commerce and Science College Nasik, Maharashtra

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Abstract - **The aim of this study is to reveal the information seeking behavior of post graduate students. A well framed questionnaire was used for data collection to accomplish the objectives. The finding revealed that the majority of the students use the information resource for study and research purposes. The study recommended orientation programmes for PG students to make awareness of e-resource and better utilization of the library services.**
Keywords: **Information Seeking Behavior, Post Graduate, Science, Students**

I. INTRODUCTION

The Information Seeking Behavior (ISB) mainly depends upon the attitudes skill and knowledge (ASK) of individual and resources and technologies available around. It varies from person to person, time to time, as well as place to place and moreover it depends on type of information one is seeking to. Hence, it is essential to know the ISB of the users of information. The Present study is an attempt to examine the information seeking behavior of students at KVNN NAIK ACS College Nasik.

II. NEED OF THE STUDY

The role of information is very vital in almost every activities of student's life. Human beings need information in order to implement a plan or a project. The recognition of the behavior of science post graduate students seeking information and their needs about information is not an easy task because students do not pay much attention to available resources. This study is necessary to find out how students seek the information, which channels of information they use while searching for information, what type of library information sources and services they use.

III. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The objectives of the study are as under
1. To study the information seeking behavior post graduate students.
2. To study the barriers in seeking information.
3. To study the utility of Electronic Resources available in library.
4. To study the behavior of library staff with post graduate students.
5. To suggest strategies that improves post graduate students information Seeking Behavior.

IV. RESEARCH QUESTION

The following questions have been formulated for the purpose of the research.
1. What is the need for information of the students?
2. What are the sources of information students are familiar with?
3. What are the problems faced by students while seeking information?

V. STUDY AREA

Information Seeking Behavior of Science faculty Post Graduate students are examined in KVNNAIK Arts, Commerce and Science College, Nasik, affiliated to SAVITRIBAI PHULE PUNE UNIVERSITY, PUNE. There are about 140 science faculty postgraduate students in various departments such as Chemistry, Zoology and Physics.

A. KVNNAIK Arts, Commerce and Science College

KVNNAIK ACS College, Nasik is established in 1998, it has 20 undergraduate and 7 Post graduate departments, out of which 3 are Science post graduate departments. The college covers wide range of rural as well as urban youth. Significant number of its students belongs to the rural, remotely inhabited areas of Nasik district; moreover, many are first generation learners.

VI. LITERATURE REVIEW

The present era is an 'information era'. Science has a special value for the students. Overall development of any nation depends on the development of science and technology of the nation. Information seeking is an essential activity that refers to the way individuals search for and make use of information to fulfil their information needs and requirements. It describes "how users search, get and use information in different contexts (Esew, Makarft, Goshie, and Jimada, 2014).

The study of information seeking behavior can be traced back to the late 1940s. Since then, a large number of studies have been carried out particularly in the developing countries on various aspects of information seeking behavior in Social Sciences, Humanities and Science and Technology. Saikia and Gohain, 2013 revealed that students and research scholars are highly satisfied with the collection and use these online journals both for academic and research purpose.

VII. METHODOLOGY

The study was conducted through questionnaire based survey method. The questionnaire was personally distributed to the students, from the Department of Physics, Chemistry and zoology at KVNN Naik College. It was distributed among 70 students out of which 60 filled in questionnaire with the response rate of 85.71%.
Following Methods were adopted in selecting the sample for conducting this study.

Research Design: Descriptive research
Sampling Method: Convenience sampling
Geographical Area: Nasik (One College) KVN NAIK Arts, Commerce and Science College
Sampling Frame: PG students (Physics, Chemistry, Zoology)
Sampling Period: Academic Year 2018-19
Sample Size: 60
Data Collection Methods: Both primary and secondary data
Instrument Need in Collecting Data: Structured Questionnaire
Statistical Tools: Percentage analysis paragraphs and diagram

VIII. DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

The information given by Post Graduation students is systematically analyzed and presented in following paragraphs and diagram.

A. Administrative Information

As pointed out in table I the questionnaire is filled up by 38 (63.33%) students from first year and 22 (36.66%) students from second year. First years students face problems while seeking information.

TABLE I YEAR WISE DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS

Sl. No.	First Year Respondents	Second Year Respondents
1	38 (63.33%)	22 (36.66%)

B. Library

1. Information Seeking Methods

a. Purpose of Seeking Library Information: From table I the preferred number of respondents 21 (35.00%) of respondents use to write assignment/ research papers, 37 respondents seeking information to exam preparation, 34 (55.83%) of respondents stated to solve immediate practical problems, 31 (51.66%) stated that they seeking the information to updating knowledge, 22 (36.66%) keep up to date for their Career development, 09 (15%) respondents seeking information to general study. Least 09 students seek information for general study.

Table II shows that 30 (50%) P.G. Science students use printed reference sources. 10 (16.66%) students use magazines, and 20 (33.34%) students use newspaper, 12 (20%) use E books, 16 (26.66%)students used e- Journal, 38 (63.33%) use both print and electronic material in library. In students searching behavior the printed sources is more used than e-resources.

In information communication, selection, coordination, and search through the electronic sources is found to be useful; for this library orientation programme should be developed for students.

TABLE II TYPE OF SOURCES RESPONDENT'S READ

Sl. No.	Sources Read	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	Printed Reference sources	30	50%
2	Journal	10	16.66%
3	News paper	20	33.34%
4	E-Books	12	20%
5	E-Journal	16	26.66%
6	Both Print and Electronic	38	63.33%

TABLE III YOU AWARE THROUGH LIBRARY ORIENTATION PROGRAM ABOUT THE RULES, FACILITIES AND SERVICES OF THE LIBRARY

Sl. No.	You aware through Library Orientation Program about the Rules, Facilities and Services of the Library	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	Yes	45	75%
2	No	15	25%

From Table III, 45 (75%) students get the information of library, by library orientation programme. Because of that

25% of students have become aware of library services and facilities. So, it is not only beneficial to keep updated and

standard reading sources but also provides the sources towards the readers. Only then the students will become aware of the rules, regulations and facilities available in the library.

TABLE IV REVISED EDITION LIST OF REFERENCE TO IMPORTANT QUALITY AUTHORS AND PUBLISHERS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE LIBRARY

Sl. No.	Revised Edition List of Reference to Important Quality Authors and Publishers are Available in the Library	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	Yes	28	46.66%
2	No	32	53.33%

From the Table IV 28(46.66%) students experience that the library resource material is being updated by purchasing new books. Whereas 32(53.33%) students experienced that the library resource material are not updated so far as purchasing new books is concerned.

The success of the library depends on the qualitative and updated resource material, availability of best writers and editions of books. This is the reason that the new resource material should be purchased**.**

TABLE V BARRIERS YOU FACE FOR SEEKING INFORMATION

Sl. No.	Barriers you Face for Seeking Information	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	Irregular power supply	24	40%
2	Insufficient library Timing	42	70%
3	Incomplete resources	24	40%
4	Some Information sources are old	30	50%
5	Friends are unwilling to help	28	46.66%

Table V shows that irregular power supply is a major challenge faced by 24(40%) parentage respondents. 70% of respondents get insufficient library liming while seeking information. 24 students says incomplete resources in library. 30(50%) students says some information sources are old.

C. Electronic Resources

1. Use of OPAC for Finding Books: Table VI indicated that the majority of almost 24(39.16%) users are not using the OPAC to find books of other materials which are available in the library whereas the remaining 36(60.00%) users are using the OPAC catalogue effectively to know about the books what they need for their research. Most of the students should use OPAC.

It has been suggested that students should be taught how to search for books. The student confidence should be developed for using the OPAC.

TABLE VI USE OF OPAC FOR FINDING BOOKS

Sl. No.	Use of OPAC	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	Yes	36	60.00%
2	No	24	39.16%
	Total	60	100%

2. Type of E-Resources PG Students Read: Shows that 30 (50%) P.G. Science students use reference books. 10 (16.66%) students use magazines, and 20(33.34%) students use newspaper, 12(20%) use E books, 16(26.66%) use, e-Journal, 38(63.33%) use both print and electronic material in library. In students searching behavior the printed sources is frequently used than other sources. In information communication, selection, coordination, and search the electronic sources are important useful; but to understand this library orientation programme should be developed.

3. Uses of N-List Database in Library: 12(20%) students search for information from the N-list through e-books, while 16(26.66%) students search for information from N-list through Journal, and 33.33(%) students use database and other information tools. Students should download most of the resources from N-List. The technical sessions should be conducted for searching more information e.g., how to seek information through key words search, focus formulation, selection, and information presentation etc.

D. Staff Cooperation

TABLE VII WHICH IS THE STUDENTS OPINION ON BEHAVIOR OF LIBRARY STAFF?

Sl. No.	Which is the Students Opinion on Behavior of Library Staff	No. of Respondents Yes	Percentage
1	Approach of Library Staff	35	58.33%
2	Welcoming & easy to talk-	20	33.33%
3	Available when you need them-	40	66.66%

1. Which Barriers You Face for Seeking Information: Shows that non co-operative library is major challenge

faced by respondents while accessing information. The least number of respondents 20 % opined about the subject knowledge among library staff.

IX. FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

Based on the analysis, the findings of the results are as below.

The first year post graduate students are 38(63.33%) and second year students 22(36.66%) the first year post graduate students are found to be confused while seeking information. They are unaware as to how to seek information for specific purposes. The main purpose of students visiting the library is for preparation of various examinations, carrier development and to complete assignment and research work. The majority of the respondents use the library to solve practical problem 34 (55.83%) while 31(51.66%) use library for updating knowledge.

Most of respondents 30(50.00%) prefer print reference sources, 10(16.66%) used journals and 38(63.33%) respondents prefer both print and electronic format.

It has been found that the majority of the research scholars need training programme /orientation programme to search scientific and technical information. Majority 75% of the respondents stated that the training programs attended by them were useful.

The financial budget of the library should be increased for the postgraduate branches. Information seeking technique should be taught to the student. 44(73.33%) respondents are dependent on the information seeking behavior, 16 (26.66%) students are not dependent on the library.

It was identified that the majority of 36(60.00%) of respondents were using the OPAC whereas 24(40.00%) of respondents were not using OPAC effectively. There are 60% respondents who can use Web OPAC well to find out their required document in the library.

In students searching behavior the printed sources is used than other sources. In information communication, selection, coordination, and search the electronic sources are found to be useful; to understand this a specific library orientation programme should be developed.

Most of the students used reference given by lectures, 28 (46.66 %) students used index for searching information. 24 students follow references and bibliography, 12 students used footnotes, 16 students follow references given by teachers.

X. RECOMMENDATION AND SUGGESTIONS

When purchase the books, the colleges should opt for books by renewed publication and writers. Rather than using the same in multiple copies, libraries should select multiple books of different authors and publication to promote the innovative collection of books in the library. In the library innovative and user friendly services should be initiated.

At the beginning of the new session students must take part in the library orientation program and the library skill classes particularly taught by the library staff. The library professional and supportive staff must always be willing and ready to provide assistance to students who have little or no knowledge of using the library.

Finally, it is concluded that the college librarians, information specialists and library professionals should join hands to develop the information-seeking behavior of users at the global level. The study points to the significance of providing access to quality information resources and eliminate the bottlenecks that hamper easy access to information sources. The administration should develop their strategies in the light of the findings of this study. Most of the students are dependent on library; so, the library should be enriched and developed.

XI. CONCLUSION

It is challenging for the present era librarians to make the resources available and also to disseminate it to the right reader at the right time. Helpful library surroundings increase regular users of the library which can create a positive approach and helping nature of library staff. Importantly, library should provide initial orientation workshops and on-going seminars for student to train them in using resources. So that utilization of resources and services should be maximized. College Libraries can influence students' information seeking behavior by re-evaluating their instructional programmes and stipulation of resources and services. They can take guide by working with library staff to guide students.

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