



STUDY OF INFORMATION SEEKING BEHAVIOUR OF UNDER GRADUATE STUDENTS OF BHAIRAVNATH VIDNYAN MAHAVIDYALAYA, KHUTBAV

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ABSTRACT :

Information seeking is the act of obtaining information from existing resources in both human and technological contexts. For this research a survey method was adopted by the researcher. Questionnaire was used as a data collection tool. This method of data collection was used as it enables anonymous and frank response and is economical and time saving. A comprehensive mixed questionnaire was prepared which included both close ended as well as open ended questions. The study found that under graduate students gather information for their academic and educational purpose. This study also found that the many students use printed (Books) sources more than non-print materials. Study reveals that most of the students use library and internet for information search, but many of them face lots of problems while searching information.

KEYWORDS : *Information Seeking Behavior, ISB, Information use, Seeking Behavior, Information Need, Khutbav.*

INTRODUCTION

Information behaviour can be defined as “the totality of human behaviour in relation to resources and channels of information including both active and passive information seeking and use” (Wilson, 2000). Information seeking is the act of obtaining information from existing resources in both human and technological contexts. Information seeking is the process of collecting and receiving information by different means. The means may include published or unpublished materials, communicating with librarians, etc. Many electronic resources are accessible in the library. The increase in information available on the web has affected information seeking behaviour.

Information Seeking Behaviour (ISB) is a broad term, which involves a set of active that an individual takes to express information needs, seek information, evaluate and select information and finally users this information to satisfy his/her information needs.

NEED OF THE STUDY:

The knowledge about the information needs and seeking behaviour of users could play a vital role in meeting their information needs effectively. While scientific and technical web based information continues to grow exponentially, the users working in their field they feel that they are not getting their pinpointed information at proper time. Consequently, the first dimension is to find out the needs to know behaviours of individuals.

Purpose:

1. To find out the information use and seeking behavior of students.
2. To know the purpose of information seeking behavior of under graduate students.

OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY:

- 1) To examine the information seeking behavior of the under graduate students.
- 2) To know the purpose of information seeking behavior of the students.
- 3) To study which information sources are referred by students for seeking information.
- 4) To investigate the different approaches and methods used by students in retrieving information and references from print, electronic and internet sources.

METHODOLOGY:

For this research a survey method was adopted. Population for the research consists of under graduate students of BhairavnathVidnyanMahavidyalaya, Khutbav was selected. And also questionnaire method was used as data collection tool. Researcher was distributed 130 questionnaire to the students among that only 100 questionnaire responded by respondents.

LITERATURE REVIEW:

Literature review is a part of the process of understanding the general problem and its context. The importance of literature review is to the completion of successive enquiries. A literature review is an attempt to identify, locate and synthesize complete research report, article, books and other material about the specific problem or research topic. (Busha and Harter.1980).The literature required for this study was gathering from different kind of information sources.

Patel, Urjita and Chaudhari, B. K. (2015) studied information seeking behaviour of faculty members of the Agriculture Universities in Gujarat. The present study investigate the information seeking behaviour of the post graduate faculty members of the four agricultural Universities of Gujarat. The researcher found the internet is the best source for updating the knowledge and for information seeking. The study found that their purpose of information seeking was to keep up with latest development in the field and evolving innovative ideas. Textbooks are the important resources for teaching and research papers & e-journals are important resources for research.

Fatima, N and Ahmad, N. (2008) had done a survey of information seeking behaviour of student at Ajmad Khan Tibbiya college.They used questionnaire as a data collection tool. Researcher found that text books and journals are the main source of information for their course work also researcher concludes that the guidance in the use of library resources and services is necessary to help students to fulfil their information requirements.

INFORMATION SEEKING BEHAVIOUR:

Information behaviour' is the currently preferred term used to describe the many ways in human beings interacts with information, in particular the ways in which people seek and utilize information. Information behaviour is also the term of art used in library and information science to refer to a sub discipline that engage in a wide range of types of research conducted in order to understand the human relationship to information.

Information Seeking Behaviour Models:

1. Information Seeking Behaviour Model by Wilson (1981)
2. Kuhlthau's Information Search Process Model
3. Anomalous State of Knowledge Model by N.J. Belkin.

Information Need:**Table No. 1**

Option	No. of Students	Percentage (%)
Library	22	22.00 %
Internet	18	18.00%
Library + Internet	54	54.00%
Other	02	02.00%
Total	100	100.00 %

The above table no. 1 shows that, 54 (54%) respondents uses library as well as internet for fulfilling their information needs, followed by 22 (22%) respondents depending only on library, 18 (18%) respondents they rely only on the internet resources for fulfilling information needs while 02 (02%) respondents neither rely on library nor internet for fulfilling their information needs. It can be concluded that nearly 76 (76%) respondents relies on library for fulfilling their information needs.

Purpose of Information Search:**Table No. 2**

Option	No. of Students	Percentage (%)
Assignment	06	06.00 %
Exam Preparation	36	36.00%
Research	08	08.00%
Assignment + Exam Preparation	34	34.00%
Exam Preparation + Research	10	10.00%
Assignment + Exam Preparation + Research	06	06.00%
Total	100	100.00 %

From above table no 2, it is clear that the information seeking behavior of under graduate students is towards academic purpose. The information search is related to their course; since the target is go through the examination.

Preference of Information Search:**Table No. 3**

Option	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	Total
Printed Books	86	04	08	00	02	100
Journals	08	20	48	14	10	100
E-Books	02	20	12	48	18	100
E-Journals	00	08	12	24	56	100
Search Engine	04	48	20	14	14	100

It is clear that the most of the students give first preference for printed books the reason might be that library provides the students with the relevant information required for the completion of their course. Also the information sources are authentic and are recommended by the academic body and the most important is the printed books can be read anywhere without the need of any external device. The reason for giving second preference for the search engine might be the retrieval of information very easy.

Problem face for searching information:**Table No. 4**

Option	No. of Students	Percentage (%)
Yes	80	80.00 %
No	20	20.00%
Total	100	100.00 %

Above table no 4 shows that 80 (80.00%) students they face problem, while searching information and 20 (20.00%) students doesn't have any problem in searching information.

FINDINGS:

Based on the analysis of the data collected the researcher has arrived at certain findings...

1. Most of the students use library and internet for information searching.
2. Most of the students search course, subject and examination related information.
3. The study also reveals that the information seeking behavior of students is towards academic purpose and course related.
4. Maximum students give first preference for printed books.
5. Many students facing problem while searching and getting pinpointed information.
6. Many students are not using other facility such as journals, e-books, e-journals and e-resources.

SUGGESTIONS:

Also based on the findings suggestions are made...

1. The library should conduct the orientation program frequently.
2. Library should conduct the e-resource database orientation program for effective use of e-books, e-journals for students.
3. Efforts should make to help students for searching information in library.

CONCLUSION:

Study reveals that most of the students use library and internet for information search, but many of them face lots of problems while searching information. It is also found that the many students not using other facility such as journals, e-books and e-journals etc. Maximum students are not aware about library procured e-resources and most of them are not aware about their usage.

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