



REVIEW OF RESEARCH

ISSN: 2249-894X

IMPACT FACTOR : 5.7631(UIF)

UGC APPROVED JOURNAL NO. 48514

VOLUME - 8 | ISSUE - 9 | JUNE - 2019



AN EVALUATION OF INFORMATION GATHERING OF LIBRARY SCIENCE FOR INTERNET USERS

Dr. Vivek Chandra Dubey

Librarian, Uttam Institute of Management Studies, Agra (U.P.)

ABSTRACT:

To evaluate the various aspects of information gathering of library science for internet users. the main purpose of study is to discover the awareness of researchers regarding services ,to identify the purpose and type of information sought, to determine the extent of IT application in the library To determine the factors that influence researchers' information needs and information- seeking etc.. The study is explanatory in nature. It is based on document. So historical methods of research has been used.



KEYWORDS: IIT Libraries, Networking, Computer, Hardware, Library Software, Reading Habits and Information Seeking Behaviour and Gathering.

INTRODUCTION :

Information seeking behaviour is a complex activity, requiring access to diverse information resources to deal with work-related, personal, and social information problems. Information-seeking behaviour refers to strategies for locating information, and has three elements: people, information, and systems. Steinerova and Susol (2007) conducted a study on user information behaviour from a gender perspective in Slovakia. Asemi (2005) surveyed the search habits of Internet users at Isfahan University of Medical Sciences (MUI) in Iran, and found that training would help them obtain useful and relevant information. Oduwore (1999) conducted a

study to examine the impact of an institution's medical library on the clinical decision - making of medical officers in two Nigerian University teaching hospitals and to examine the medical information source. Prasad (1998) noted that non-traditional literature such as unpublished conference and symposia papers, research proposals, policy guidelines, and project reports are also popular among scholars. Adedibu, et al., (1997) investigated the information needs of medical students, collecting data on their library orientation and reasons for coming to the library. Sethi (1990) studied the information-seeking behaviour of social science faculty in Indian universities. Respondents

preferred journals, books, government documents and reference sources for meeting their information needs.

The Internet is a computer network made up of thousand of networks worldwide It can be defined as:-

- A network of network based on the transmission of Control Protocol/Internet Protocol.
- A community of people who use and develop those networks.
- A collection of resources that can be reached from those networks.

The components of internet are WWW, E-mail, FTP, Telnet, Chat, Web Pager.

So the present study is of vital importance. The use of internet by the users in research work has improved considerably in India.

DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

The rapid advancement of information communication technology (ICT) has brought a revolutionary change in the information scenario giving rise to number of options to the users' community to handle varied information sources conveniently and effortlessly as a result of which e-resources have become the lively substance to the modern library's reserves in satisfying varied needs of students, teachers, and researchers with minimum risk and time.

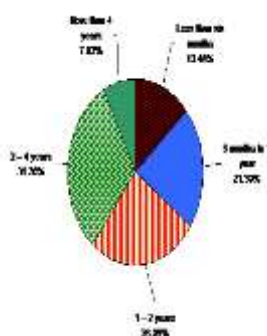
The present study deals with the data, collected through two questionnaires administered to (i) librarian and (ii) the users of different IITs libraries. Statistics collected from the various records have also been analyzed in this paper. The questionnaire distributed to the librarians covers various aspects such as library collection, services usage statistics of different database, and efforts in promoting the e-resources among the users. The questionnaire designed for the users includes questions visit o frequency to visit the library, purpose, awareness about different type of services provided by libraries, relevance of different type of documents, extent of current information needed barriers in the shift from print to electronic media etc.

AWARENESS OF DIGITAL RESOURCES

A questions was frame to know the users awareness about digital resources that whether they know about what are digital resources or not. The responses of users are listed below:

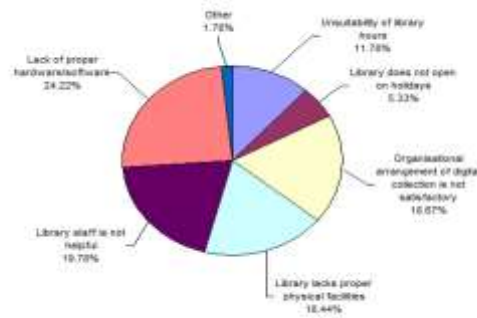
Sl. No.	Awareness	Number	%
1.	Yes	399	86.67
2.	No	51	13.33
	Total	450	100%

The data of the above table reveals that 86.67% of the total users' population of the IITs are well known to the digital resources. But 13.33% are not aware about this. This user community needs to be told and trained to use digital resources to get benefited from it. The tabulated data will be more expressive in pie diagram given below. The use of digital information decreases the cost of distribution and production. The time spent in digital section of library by users, ensures the utility of the resources and satisfaction of the users need. The Data provided in table 45 show the awareness about this section that for how long they have been using this section for their information need.



REASONS FOR NOT VISITING DIGITAL SECTION

The use statistics of any service justify the usefulness of the service. For any service providing agency it is necessary to know these reasons in order to extend its use and making more popular to the service. As far as digital sections' services of the IIT Libraries is concern, the data regarding reasons for not visiting digital section regularly are listed below:

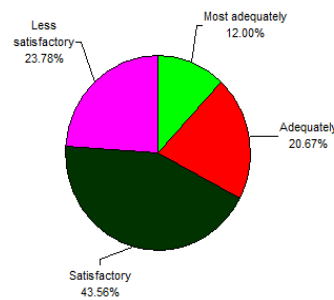


In order to ensure regular visit of users to digital sections librarians should manage to open libraries round the clock, 365 days of the year. The library should be well equipped by proper hardware and software with skilled manpower to handle it. With proper physical facilities the digital section of the library should ensure user friendly organizational arrangement of digital documents. For better behaviour and technical knowledge in handling of digital collection proper training and personality development classes should be organized.

USER'S SATISFACTION

The second law of Library Science says that Every Reader should have his /her books. This is always a relevant law whatever may be the form of document. The digital collection of the library is nothing new but only the media of containing information is different. So in order to develop better collection and services it is necessary that librarian should know the performance of the present collection meeting the requirement of the users. To know the level of requirement fulfilled by the digital collection, a question was designed in questionnaire administered to users. The responses are given below

The Data of the table show that 43.56% of users are satisfied with the digital collection of their respective library. The requirement of 20.67% user is adequately meet out, a 12% user says that their requirement is most adequately satisfied and 23.78% users find it less satisfactory.



Thus the table explains that 3/4 of users' population is happy with the digital collections and it fulfills their requirement. But 1/4 of users' population does not find it adequate to meet out their requirement. As far as second law of Library Science is concern, the librarian should take interest towards these users' requirements and by exploring the weakness in digital collection to meet out the requirement of 1/4th user community, the digital collection should be strengthen. Thus the second law of Library Science should be fulfilled.

COMPARISON BETWEEN DIGITAL & DOCUMENTARY RESOURCES :

Libraries prefer digital resources for many reasons including way to maintain, less processing cost, less space etc. But from users point of view a comparison between digital and documentary resources has been done on several criteria in the given table.

S. No.	Criteria	No. of users	% of users
1.	Time saving	407	90.44
2.	Time consuming	43	9.55
3.	More informative	306	68
4.	Less informative	144	32
5.	Easy in use	177	39.33
6.	Complicated in use	273	60.66
7.	More preferred	123	27.33
8.	Less preferred	327	72.66
9.	More flexible	389	86.44
10.	Less flexible	61	13.55
11.	Easy to handle	399	88.66
12.	Complicated in handling	51	11.33
13.	More effective	259	57.55
14.	Less effective	191	42.44
15.	Easy in access	313	69.55
16.	Complicated in access	137	30.44
17.	Easy to read	96	21.33
18.	Complicated in reading	354	78.66
19.	Economical	409	90.88
20.	Expensive	41	9.11

In the above table comparison shown between digital and documentary sources, it was found that 90.44% user says that digital resources are time saving in comparison to documentary sources, whether 9.55% user say it is time consuming. As far as information contained, it was found that 68% users say it more informative and 32% say less informative. 39.33% of users community find it easy in use but at the same time 60.66% users say it less informative. 27.33% users prefer digital resources and 72.66% prefer documentary resources. 86.44% users say that digital resources are more flexible in comparison to documentary resources whether 13.55% users find it less flexible. 88.66% users responded that digital resources are easy to handle and 11.33% users say it is complicated in handling. The data presented in the Table also show that 57.55% users find it more effective and 42.44% less effective in comparison to documentary sources. Accessing information at the time when it is required is the main issue in the proper utilization of any type of resource. When the question regarding access to these resources was asked 69.55% user responded that digital resources are easy to access but 30.44% uses responded that it is complicated in accessing in comparison to documentary resources. 21.33% users find it easy to read and 78.66% respondents find it complicated in reading. From the economical point of view 90.88% users responded in favour of it that digital resources are economical but 9.11% in favour that it is an expensive affair.

DEVICES FOR COLLECTING INFORMATION :

Digital collection provides opportunity to users to search and collect their required information. There are several digital devices to store the search information in digital form such as Pen-drive, CD/DVD, floppy, etc. The question regarding the selection of storage liking of devices to store the searched information was asked, responses of the users are given in below Table

S. No.	Device	No. of users	% of users
1.	Pen Drive	119	26.44
2.	CD/DVD	103	22.89
3.	Floppy	0	0
4.	Print out	205	45.56
5.	Any other	23	5.11
	Total	450	100%

Above table shown that 45.56% users like to take print out of their searched information. 26.44% user likes to store it in pen-drive, 22.89% in CD/DVD and 5.11% in other devices. The important feature was seen that no one responded that he store his/her information in floppy disk.

In the close examination of the table it seems that near about 1/2 of users community still like to store information in the printed form due to its easiness in usability. Pen-drive is the most popular device to store electronic information and CD/DVD comes after it. Nowadays floppy is no more in use to store information.

REPROGRAPHIC SERVICE :

Reprographic service is a very important library services which saves the time of users while noting facts and figures. For the academic purpose libraries provide limited number of pages to get xeroxed and get used by the users. The question regarding the services availability – the users was interrogated and their responses are listed below that whether they are aware of this or setting this kind of facility or not.

S. No.	Response	No. of users	% of users
1.	Yes	339	75.33
2.	No	111	24.66
	Total	450	100%

The data of the table reveals that 75.33% users are aware about reprographic services provided by their library and 24.66% are not aware of it. It shows the need to educate users about the facilities available in their libraries and how to it benefited from it on order to improve their academic efficacy.

Reprographic services provided to users fall under general categories. Different categories of reprographic services provided by libraries and no of users making use if are listed below in the table.

S. No.	Reprographic Services	No. of users	% of users
1.	Micrographic (Microfilm, microfiche etc)	19	5.60
2.	Audio – visual (sound film, video film etc.)	62	18.28
3.	Photographic (photographic, cdor slides etc)	72	21.23
4.	Photo copying	186	54.89
	Total	339	100%

The data of the above table regarding the use of different kind of reprographic services shows that among the users making use of reprographic services only 5.60% users make use of micrographic services, 18.28% audio – visual reprographic services and 21.23% users use reprographic services to get photographs, color slides etc. But all users we know about reprographic services make use of photocopying facility of the libraries. It reflects that photocopying facility is well known among users as reprographic facility.

PURPOSES OF USING INTERNET

To formulate the policy for acquiring the e-resources the librarian must understand the purposes of using the Internet by their users. In other words it should be known to the librarian whether the users use Internet for emailing, chat purpose or do they have some academic purpose. The librarian also must know the type of information the users seek from the Internet and the type of documents they access to fulfill their requirements for information needed for their study and research. Users were asked to elaborate their choice of documents they access while using the Internet. Responses have been analyzed in the given in below

An analysis of the table shown that highest number of responses i.e. 159 accounting for 35.229% of total population use the Internet for accessing electronic journals followed by downloading services (34%, e-articles (30.00%), online search (21.47%), e-thesis and dissertations, databases (18.44%), e-books (10.66%) and so on.

Further analysis also reveals that most of the respondents use the Internet for academic purpose not just for emailing for chatting.

SUGGESTIONS & RECOMMENDATION OF THE STUDY :

IITs are institution of National importance and handsome amount of budget has been spent to procure different type of resources to fulfill the information needs of its users. Sometimes it remains unutilized or underutilized due to unsuitability to fulfill user exact information need. The present study has been conducted to cater the right approach of the users to gather information of their need. The study was conducted with the purpose to suggest some measures to minimize the cost involved in procuring library resources by the proper understanding of information gathering habits among internet users of IITs in media.

The three elements are essential to users in the evaluation of online information retrieval system: interface design, system performance and collection coverage.

CONCLUSIONS :

The observation of these elements and training of users will enable users to get useful and relevant information. Library professionals on the campus may take initiatives to improve the information searching in the internet process, among internet users or digital resources users. These initiatives can be in terms of formal and informal training specific to information sources skills.

REFERENCES :

- Abrams, M. (Ed.) (1998). World Wide Web : Beyond the Basics, New Jersey : Prentice Hall.
- Auty, C. and Cowan, A. (2000). "The London Mayoral Websites": cyberdemocracy.org.in
- Auty, C. and Nicholas, D. (1998). "British Political Parties and their Web Pages" Aslib Proceedings, 50;(10) Nov/Dec, pp.283-296.
- Bawden D. (1999). "Perspective on Information Overload "Aslib proceedings; 51(8); September, pp.249-255.
- Berghel H. (1997). "Cyberspace 2000 : Dealing with Information Overload Communication of the AMC,40(2),pp.19-24.
- Continental (2000). Continental Research Internet Report 1999-2000, <http://www.Continentalresearch.com/>accessed 12 November, 2000)
- Prasher, R.G. (2003). Indian Libraries in IT Environment. Ludhiana : Medallion Press,pp144-148.
- Subbaram. J.I. (2005) Internet in a nutshell. DESIDOC Bulletin of Information.