

INFORMATION SEEKING BEHAVIOR OF RESEARCH STUDENTS OF DR. BABASAHEB AMBEDKAR MARATHWADA UNIVERSITY, AURANGABAD.

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Abstract: - *The major purpose of this study was to examine the Information Seeking Behavior of Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar marathwada university Aurangabad. Information seeking behavior is expressed in various forms, from reading printed material to research and experimentation. Information-seeking behavior Play the vital role for developing library collections, upgrading facilities, and improving services to effectively meet the information needs of users. The present era is an era of information and knowledge revolution. Many electronic resources have been made most available in the libraries. The increase in availability of information on the Web has affected Information seeking behavior*

Keywords: Information Seeking Behavior, Information Needs, Information, Research Students, etc.

Introduction:

The aim of the study was to broaden our understanding of Information Seeking Behavior (ISB) by linking patterns of information seeking to personality and approach into psychological characteristics can shed light on variability and patterns in Information–Seeking Behavior.

The present era is the era of information and knowledge revolution. Many electronic resources are available in the library. The increase in information available on the Web has affected information seeking Behavior. Innumerable types

of information, in a large variety of containers and in many different locations, are all available in one place.

In the modern society, the types of information and the media which present them have become manifold and multifarious, offering men and women a vast selection.

Information seeking behavior involves personal reasons for seeking information, the kinds of information which are being sought, and the ways and sources with which needed information is being sought. Information seeking

behavior is expressed in various forms, from reading printed material to research and experimentation. Scholars, students and faculties actively seek current information from the various media available in libraries, e.g. encyclopedias, journals and, more currently, electronic media. .

Abels (2004) 2 mentioned that the frequency of use of the Internet in 1998-2000 had greatly increased. At the same time, expenditures on monographs showed steady increase.

There is a universal assumption that man was born innocent or ignorant and should actively seek knowledge. "Information seeking is thus a natural and necessary mechanism of human existence" (Marchionini, 1995).

Definitions:

1. Information: Data value in planning, decision making and evaluation of any programme. A data that have been subjected to some processing functions capable of answering user's query be it recorded, summarized, or simply collected that would help decision making.

2. Information Seeking Behavior: Information seeking behavior refers to the way people search for and utilize information. Most times student's information seeking behavior involves active or purposeful information seeking as a result of the need to complete course assignments, prepare for class discussions, seminars, workshops, conferences, or write final year research papers.

King defined information seeking behaviors —as a manner in which a user conducts himself in relation to a given information

environment. It is, therefore regarded as essentially a process of interaction between the user and the rest of the information system.

Objectives:

- To examine the awareness and use of library resources of the students.
- To explore the type of information sources used by the students
- To ascertain users opinion regarding usefulness and adequacy of information sources and services.
- To know the purpose of seeking information.

Need of the study:

The nature of information is not easy to describe. Perhaps the most explicit definition in the literature defines information as recorded experience that is used in decision-making. Today, information technology has developed rapidly and has had a huge impact on access to information and on information seeking behavior. Librarian and library-staff have to know and examine the criteria of information seeking and information used by users for providing information services, designing new information systems, intervening in the operation of existing systems, or planning in service programs.

Review of Literature:

The literature survey reveals that the published literatures in this field are numerous and scattered. It was not possible to record all the

literature for this review therefore; few omissions could not be avoided.

Mirian Kakai, R. Ikoja – Odongo and I.M.N. Kigonogo - Bukenya (1998) investigates in her studies the information needs and seeking - behavior of undergraduate students of Makerere University. The study makes recommendations of student's information –seeking behavior and use of information resources.

Asemi, A. (2005), reports a survey on the search habits of Internet users at the Medical University of Isfahan (MUI), a governmental university in Isfahan city, Iran. Efforts are on to find the search requirements related to the use of the Internet information.

Fatima, Nishat and Ahmad, (2008), investigated the information seeking behaviour of college students to find out the awareness and usage of library resources. The findings of the survey indicated the need to increase the usage of library resources and services.

Kakai et al (2004), observed that the information seeking behaviour of students involved active or purposeful information as a result of the need to complete course assignment, prepare for class discussions, seminars, workshops, conferences, and for writing final year research papers.

Wilson (1981) began his article by saying that “apart from information retrieval there is virtually no other area of information science that has occasioned as much research effort and writing as user studies.”

[Shokeen and Kushik](#) (2002) studied about information seeking behaviour of social scientists working in the universities located in Haryana. They reported most of the social scientists visit the library daily. The first preferred method of searching the required information by the social scientists followed by searching through indexing and abstracting periodicals, and citations in articles respectively. The social scientists use current journals followed by books.

Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University is founded in the year of 1958. The state legislature passed the Marathwada University October 1958 to establish and incorporate a teaching and affiliating university at Aurangabad. The act received assent of the governor on May 5 and the university was inaugurated on August 23, 1958.

Marathwada University since in 1958 renamed Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University in January 1994. The facilitation of department there are Arts-11 department science-5 Dept. and commerce-1 dept. and lastly on department of management and other Branch of physical education-1. It is in the Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University (BAMU).

Methodology:

The survey was limited to the students of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad. A questionnaire survey was conducted to collect the information regarding the use of library, online resources, and purpose of

using online resources, satisfaction level of student. A total 185 questionnaires were distributed to student and 164 questionnaires were received, showing an overall response rate of 88.64 percent.

Data Analysis & Interpretation:

The data collected from the students through the questionnaires were analyzed using simple percentage technique. An attempt has been made to analyze the research data collected from students from Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar marathwada university, Aurangabad. 185 questionnaires have been distributed as that was the number of researchers doing their research in various subjects. Out of which 164 researchers gave the response to fill up the questionnaire.

Response rate of users is 88.64%

1 Sex Proportion

Sex proportion is the proportion of males to females in a population. The primary sex proportion is the proportion at the time of conception, secondary sex proportion is the proportion at time of birth, and tertiary sex proportion is the proportion of mature organisms.

| Sr. No. | Sex | Student | Percentage |
|--------------|--------|------------|----------------|
| 1 | Male | 94 | 57.31% |
| 2 | Female | 70 | 42.69% |
| Total | | 164 | 100.00% |

Table No. 1. Sex Proportion

Table no. 1 is show about total number of student of library Of Physical Science department and its show It is confirmed that the present study have out of 164 respondents 94 (57.31%) were Male and 70 (42.69%) were female.

2 Age-Group

Human facial image processing has been an active and interesting research issue for years. Since human faces provide a lot of information, many topics have drawn lots of attentions and thus have been studied intensively in that case present study has analyzed the age group of the respondents.

| Sr. No. | Age Group | Student | Percentage |
|--------------|-----------|------------|----------------|
| 1 | 20-22 | 87 | 53.04% |
| 2 | 23-25 | 63 | 38.42% |
| 3 | Above-25 | 14 | 08.54% |
| Total | | 164 | 100.00% |

Table No. 2 Age Group

The table 2 shows i.e. maximum user are 20-22 in this group, these are (53.04%) of the user, 63 users are in the 23-25 group it is (38.42%) and only 14 users are above 25 age its (08.54%).

3 Frequency of Visit to the Library

Library and Information Centre is a knowledge bank considered to be the heart of the

university enriched with variety of information sources and services in print and electronic format to support learning, teaching and research. Attempts were made to understand the habit of using the library by the students in a university. Table 3 showing the frequency of visits to the library.

| Sr. No. | Frequency | Student | Percentage |
|--------------|-------------------|------------|----------------|
| 1 | Daily | 105 | 64.02% |
| 2 | Trice in a weekly | 36 | 21.96% |
| 3 | Weekly | 14 | 08.54% |
| 4 | Monthly | 9 | 05.48% |
| Total | | 164 | 100.00% |

Table No. 3 Frequency of Visit to the Library

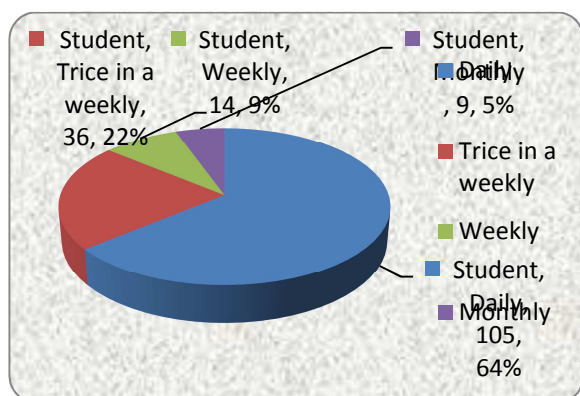


Figure No. 1 Frequency of Visit to the Library

As shown in Table 3 & Fig. no.1, respondents indicated the frequency of visit the library 105 (64.02%) users are visit the library of daily and 36 (21.96%) users are go to the library one time of the trice in a week and 14 (08.54%) users are go to the library in a weekly And 9 users

(05.48%) were visiting the library by monthly respectively.

4 Purpose of Using Library

Library should be viewed as an integral part and parcel of every academicians to encourage, motivate and support not only learning and research but also to develop ideal citizens of the country. Thus, the purpose of visiting the library is equally important for optimization of respondents' knowledge to support their educational endeavor. Table 4 shows the purpose of seeking information by the respondents of the study.

| Sr. No. | Frequency | Student | Percentage |
|--------------|------------------------------|------------|----------------|
| 1 | To gain current Knowledge | 32 | 19.52% |
| 2 | To Find specific Information | 20 | 12.19% |
| 3 | To Read Newspaper | 23 | 14.02% |
| 4 | To Study | 65 | 39.64% |
| 5 | To Avail the Xerox facility | 18 | 10.98% |
| 6 | Any Other | 6 | 03.65% |
| Total | | 164 | 100.00% |

Table No. 4 Purpose of using Library

It is noted from the Table 4 that, about (19.52%) of respondents' purpose of visiting the library is to again current awareness. This is followed by respondents using the library to the

study (39.64%). And (12.19%) of respondents use the library to find specific information & (14.02%) to read newspaper, (10.98%) of respondents use to avail the Xerox facility. Thus general tendency for visiting the library by the students is to any other facilities.

5 Use Library Catalogue

| Sr. No | Feel Library catalogue | Student | Percentage |
|--------------|------------------------|------------|---------------|
| 1 | Satisfactory | 128 | 78.04% |
| 2 | Not Satisfactory | 36 | 21.96% |
| Total | | 164 | 100.00 |

Table No. 5 Use of Library Catalogue

Table 5 shows the students go to the library and its most use the library catalogue, it is 128 (78.04%) users use the library catalogue satisfactory and 36 (21.96%) student use library catalogue not satisfactory.

6 Familiar Kinds of Documents of User

| Sr. No | Kinds of documents | Student | Percentage |
|--------------|-----------------------------------|------------|---------------|
| 1 | Bibliography | 42 | 25.60% |
| 2 | Reference Books | 64 | 39.02 |
| 3 | Subjects Periodical | 32 | 19.52 |
| 4 | Indexing & Abstracting Periodical | 26 | 15.86 |
| Total | | 164 | 100.00 |

Table No. 6 Familiar Kinds of Documents of Uses

Table 6 below indicated the both student are familiar with the book are 42 (25.60%) student are familiar with the bibliography. Reference books are uses in library are the 64 (39.02%) and other 32 (19.52%) use the subject periodical and 26 (15.86%) Use the indexing & abstracting periodical use of the document in the library.

7 Sources of E-Resources

The students were asked to mention the sources they used to access the e-resources.

| Sr. No. | Source | Student | Percentage |
|--------------|--------------------------|------------|---------------|
| 1 | OPAC | 46 | 28.04% |
| 2 | Search Engines | 68 | 41.47% |
| 3 | Websites of Universities | 50 | 30.49% |
| Total | | 164 | 100.00 |

Table No. 7 Sources of E-Resources

Table 7 it is clear from the table that 68 (41.47%) students use Search Engines as source of Accessing e-resources, while 50 (30.49%) students found the source in the form of websites of universities and institutions. The OPAC as a source to access the e-resources got the favors of 46 (28.04%) students. It is evident from the analysis that the majority of the students found the search engines an easy way to get access to e-resources.

8 Frequency of Using E-Resources

The usage of the e-resources amongst the students is yet to pick-up.

| Sr. No. | E-Resources | Frequency (%) | Sometimes (%) | Never (%) |
|---------|--------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1 | Electronic Journal | 20 (43.47%) | 16 (34.78%) | 10 (21.73%) |
| 2 | Electronic Books | 16 (34.78%) | 9 (19.56%) | 21 (54.65%) |
| 3 | Online Database | 14 (30.43%) | 22 (47.82%) | 10 (21.73%) |
| 4 | CD-Rom Database | 10 (21.73%) | 13 (28.26%) | 23 (50.00%) |

Table No. 8 Frequency of Using E-Resources

Table 5.3 shows the frequency of accessed E-resources 20 (43.47%) students used e-journals; 16 (34.78%) used e-books and 14 (30.43%) used online databases and just 10 (21.73%) had CD-ROM databases. While these e-resources had found favors by a few more students who could access them sometimes. However, it is very clear from the Table that majority of the students never used e-resources.

9 Using Internet

| Sr. No. | Using Internet | Student | Percentage |
|---------|------------------|---------|------------|
| 1 | Research Project | 38 | 23.17% |
| 2 | Google | 27 | 16.46% |

| | | | |
|--------------|--------------------|------------|---------------|
| 3 | Face book | 40 | 24.39% |
| 4 | Chatting | 29 | 17.68% |
| 5 | Collected the Data | 25 | 15.24% |
| 6 | Don't use | 5 | 03.05% |
| Total | | 164 | 100.00 |

Table No. 9 Using Internet

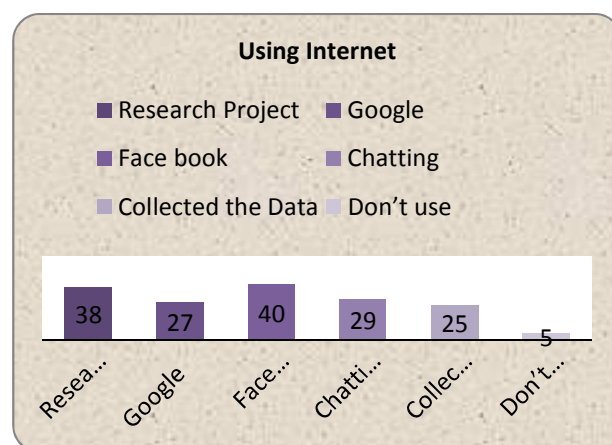


Figure N0.2 Using Internet

It is seen from the table 9 and Fig no. 2 that, quite surprisingly internet is used mainly for fill up Face book 40 (24.39%) than for Research Project 38 (23.17%). However, the other purposes of using internet by the respondents are for Chatting 29 (17.68%), Google 27 (16.46%) and collected the data 25 (15.24%). Thus the result shows that, research projects, communication and downloading programs are the purposes of using internet.

10 Purpose of seeking information

| Sr. No | Purpose | Students | Percentage |
|--------------|----------------------------------|------------|---------------|
| 1 | For preparing class lectures | 30 | 18.29% |
| 2 | For writing and presenting paper | 25 | 15.25% |
| 3 | For doing research work | 46 | 28.04% |
| 4 | For doing Ph.D. | 54 | 32.93% |
| 5 | For entertainment | 9 | 05.49% |
| Total | | 164 | 100.00 |

Table No.10. Purpose of information seeking

As shown in Table 10, respondents indicated the purpose of seeking information. 54 (32.93%) students sought information for doing Ph.D., 46(28.04%) for doing research work, and 30 (18.29%) for preparing class lectures. 25 (15.25%) for writing and presenting paper and lastly very less than 9 (05.49%) for entertainment.

Conclusion:

Certain conclusions can be drawn from the study students at Dr. B.A.M. University, Aurangabad know the importance of information, given the fact that a majority of them seek information to improve their academic

performance. All the respondents are in the habit of using the library and more than half of them visit the library everyday and one-fifth visits the library every alternate day and a very negligible portion does not use the library and they are having their personal book collection. The observation of all results Male is the maximum respondents, the age group of respondents is maximum of the users or students are 22-23. More than 90% researchers are within the age group of 20-25. The purpose of seeking information. 54 (32.93%) students sought information for doing Ph.D. The quite surprisingly internet is used mainly for fill up Face book 40 (24.39%) than for Research Project 38 (23.17%). the frequency of accessed E-resources 20 (43.47%) students used e-journals. 68 (41.47%) students use Search Engines as source of Accessing e-resources. about (19.52%) of respondents' purpose of visiting the library is to again current awareness.

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