

Vol 3 Issue 3 Sept 2013

Impact Factor : 1.2018 (GIS)

ISSN No :2231-5063

Monthly Multidisciplinary
Research Journal

*Golden Research
Thoughts*

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RNI MAHMUL/2011/38595

ISSN No.2230-7850

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GRT **INFORMATION NEEDS AND INFORMATION
SEEKING BEHAVIOUR OF TEACHERS OF NIT,
KURUKSHETRA ACCORDING TO THEIR DESIGNATIONS**



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Abstract: The present study attempts to understand about Information Needs and Information Seeking Behaviour of Teachers of NIT, Kurukshetra in reference to their designations. Total 142 questionnaires were distributed among the teachers out of them 114 Teachers responded back. There is significant relationship between Designation of the Teachers and use of periodicals, abstracting services and electronic mail services as a source of information. Professors used periodicals to increase general awareness, Associate Professors used it to update knowledge but the lecturers used it only for research purposes. The study indicated that the Professors used abstracting services frequently and very frequently; Associate Professors used it sometimes whereas lecturer used it rarely. There is no significant relationship between the designations of the teachers and their views about their visit to the Institute library, use of reference material, Statistical Tables, Indexing journals, reference service, indexing services, photocopying service, monographs etc. But the study showed that the Professors and Lecturers used News Papers and its clippings frequently and very frequently. The study highlighted the facts that the teachers did not face any difficulty to acquire information from library.

Keywords: Information Seeking Behaviour, Abstracting & Cataloging Services, Library Collections.

INTRODUCTION:

Presently, information plays an important role all over the world and it has been gaining more and more dependency among the people in their day to day life. The significance of the information can be measured from the vast areas of human activities concerned with application and growth of knowledge; education and training; research and development; decision making and management. Birdan et. al (2003) described that -"the future of each nation as well as that of mankind is based now more than ever before on information and knowledge gained rather than on any other material or resources". A library in itself can't procure all types of information and information resources because of various reasons latent and apparent. The ever growing and changing user's requirements do also affect the nature of availability of the resources in a library.

Before substantiating, it is necessary to understand about the information, information need and information seeking behaviour. Information may be meant "to denote factual data or advice or opinion, a physical object, such as a book or journal, or the channel through which a message is conveyed for example oral or written communication" (Rohde, 1986). Information need as per Wilson and Streatfield (1981) is a subjective, relative concept only in mind of the experiencing individual while Information

seeking behavior refers to the way people search for and utilize information. Girja Kumar (1990) identified the some steps in the process of information seeking behaviour like Identity of Objective, Defining needs, Accessing information system, Establishing source of information, Use of information and Satisfaction/Dissatisfaction etc.

Now a day, the area of research regarding information needs and information seeking behaviour of the users in Library Sciences has been gaining a significant momentum. Because the horizons of library sciences are expanding beyond the physical space and boundaries of knowledge and disciplines. The present study is an attempt to know the information needs and information seeking behaviour of Teachers of NIT, Kurukshetra in context of their designations. It is presumed that higher the designation of a teacher, higher will be the expectations of academic excellence from him.

REVIEW OF LITERATURES

Available literature pertaining to the information needs and information seeking behaviour shows some distinct patterns such as Zhang (1998) revealed that the college library played a vital role in providing information access to the campus community. With regard to the internet services, majority of respondents were satisfied with the

Online Library services. Shanmugam (1999) found that Informal and Interpersonal sources were preferred by the library users. The study highlighted that periodicals, encyclopedias and indexes were not frequently used by the users. Accessibility was considered as the most important external attribute of information. It was also revealed that computers were largely used for typing rather than for seeking and processing information. Majid et. al. (2000) found that research scientists preferred using primary sources of information, particularly journal and review articles. Interaction with professional colleagues was also accounted important for sharing current research information. Majority of the respondents complained that deficient library collections and services were the main problems in keeping them updated. The study conducted by Tripathi and Parsad (2001) denoted that the two groups of scientist namely physical and social scientist have distinct characteristics in reference to the use of media and sources of library. Suriya, Sangeetha and Nambi (2004) found that most of the respondents 61(38.12%) visited the library several times a week to meet their information needs. It was also found in the study that the majority of the respondents 91 (56.87%) confined their focus on their subject only. Purnima and Vikas (2005) found that due to lack of infrastructure in the library, most of the faculty in colleges (except universities) was not aware of the information technology. Similarly, Arua and Chinaka (2011) found that inadequate library space (57.14 %) and un-updated information resources (42.86%) became main hurdles in using the library resources. Another study based on Survey of Boston University (2012) found that majority of the students used the libraries regularly, 51% respondents physically visit the library at least one time in a week, near about 2/3rd respondents access the online services of the libraries at least once a week.

Methodology, Sample Procedure & Techniques of Data Collection: -

The nature of the present study is descriptive & exploratory and the Questionnaire method was employed. Apart from this, secondary data were also used in the present study. This study was carried out among the faculty members of NIT, Kurukshetra in Haryana to know about the library needs and information seeking behaviour among the teachers working different departments on various designations namely Assistant Professors, Associate Professors and Professors. Total 142 questionnaires were distributed among the teaching faculty and only 114 responses received back.

Table-1: Designation of the Teachers & their Frequency of visit in the Institute Library

Designation		visit the Institute Library					Total
		daily	twice a week	weekly	fortnightly	monthly	
Professor		1	10	2	0	7	20
		1.1	7.5	4.0	1.8	5.6	20.0
		2	19	10	4	9	44
Ass. Professor		2.3	16.6	8.9	3.9	12.4	44.0
		3	14	11	6	16	50
Lect.		2.6	18.9	10.1	4.4	14.0	50.0
		6	43	23	10	32	114
Total		6.0	43.0	23.0	10.0	32.0	114.0
Chi-Square Tests		Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)		Table value(.05)	
Pearson Chi-Square		7.628(a)	8			.471	15.51

The table value of Chi-square at 5% probability level for 8 degree of freedom is 15.51. The calculated value of Chi-square (7.628) is less than the table value of Chi-square (15.51). Thus the null hypothesis is accepted and difference between Designations of the teachers and their visit to the Institute library is not significant.

Table-2: Designation of the Teachers & their purpose of visit in the Institute Library

Designation		To use reference material					Total
		very frequently	frequently	sometimes	rarely	never	
Professor		4.4	3.7	3.9	4.7	3.3	20.0
		12	7	9	7	9	44
		9.6	8.1	8.5	10.4	7.3	44.0
Ass. Professor		12	10	10	14	4	50
		11.0	9.2	9.6	11.8	8.3	50.0
Lect.		25	21	22	27	19	114
		25.0	21.0	22.0	27.0	19.0	114.0
Total		25.0	21.0	22.0	27.0	19.0	114.0
Chi-Square Tests		Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)		Table value(.05)	
Pearson Chi-Square		10.383(a)	8			.239	15.51

The table value of Chi-square at 5% probability level for 8 degree of freedom is 15.51. The calculated value of Chi-square (10.383) is lower than the table value of Chi-square (15.51). Thus there is no significant relationship between Designation of the Teachers and their view to use reference material, books and Indexing journals as a source of information.

Table-3: Designation of the Teachers & their Frequency of visit in the Institute Library for using Statistical Tables

Designation		Statistical Tables					Total
		very frequently	frequently	sometimes	rarely	never	
Professor		0	1	2	6	11	20
		1.4	1.6	1.9	7.4	7.7	20.0
		4	5	5	14	16	44
Ass. Professor		3.1	3.5	4.2	16.2	17.0	44.0
		4	3	4	22	17	50
Lect.		3.5	3.9	4.8	18.4	19.3	50.0
		8	9	11	42	44	114
Total		8.0	9.0	11.0	42.0	44.0	114.0
Chi-Square Tests		Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)		Table value(.05)	
Pearson Chi-Square		6.105(a)	8			.635	15.51

The table value of Chi-square at 5% probability level for 8 degree of freedom is 15.51. The calculated value of Chi-square (6.105) is less than the table value of Chi-square (15.51). Thus the null hypothesis is rejected. Therefore, it was noted that Statistical Tables were significantly not used by the teachers of NIT as a source of information.

Table-4: Designation of the Teachers & their Frequency of accessing Abstract Journals in the Institute Library

Designation		Abstracting journals					Total
		very frequently	frequently	sometimes	rarely	never	
Professor		2	1	1	5	11	20
		2.6	1.6	2.1	6.5	7.2	20.0
		5	6	3	14	16	44
Ass. Professor		5.8	3.5	4.6	14.3	15.8	44.0
		8	2	8	18	14	50
Lect.		6.6	3.9	5.3	16.2	18.0	50.0
		15	9	12	37	41	114
Total		15.0	9.0	12.0	37.0	41.0	114.0
Chi-Square Tests		Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)		Table value(.05)	
Pearson Chi-Square		9.595(a)	8			.295	15.51

The table value of Chi-square at 5% probability level for 8 degree of freedom is 15.51. The calculated value of Chi-square (9.595) is less than the table value of Chi-square (15.51). Thus, the Designation of the Teachers and use abstracting journals as a source of information is not significant. Again, the study found that Designation of the

Teachers and use of survey articles, pamphlets, official documents and proceeding of seminars/conference as a source of information is not significant.

Table-5: Designation of the Teachers & their Frequency of using Newspapers and its clipping in the Institute Library

Designation		Newspapers and its clipping					Total
		very frequently	frequently	sometimes	rarely	never	
Professor		3	1	0	3	13	20
		2.5	.9	2.5	6.7	7.5	20.0
	Ass. Professor	2	1	6	17	18	44
Lect.		5.4	1.9	5.4	14.7	16.6	44.0
		9	3	8	18	12	50
		6.1	2.2	6.1	16.7	18.9	50.0
Total		14	5	14	38	43	114
		14.0	5.0	14.0	38.0	43.0	114.0
Chi-Square Tests		Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)	Table value(.05)		
Pearson Chi-Square		16.498(a)	8	.036	15.51		

The table value of Chi-square at 5% probability level for 8 degree of freedom is 15.51. The calculated value of Chi-square (16.498) is higher than the table value of Chi-square (15.51). Thus the null hypothesis is rejected and difference between Designation of the Teachers and used newspaper and clipping as a source of information is significant. The study showed that the Professor and Lecturer used it frequently and very frequently than Assoc. Professor, significantly.

Table-6: Designation of the Teachers & their Frequency of using Monograph etc. in the Institute Library

Designation		Monographs and treatises					Total
		very frequently	sometimes	rarely	never		
Professor		0	2	3	15		20
		.5	2.1	7.2	10.2		20.0
	Ass. Professor	1	4	18	21		44
Lect.		1.2	4.6	15.8	22.4		44.0
		2	6	20	22		50
		1.3	5.3	18.0	25.4		50.0
Total		3	12	41	58		114
		3.0	12.0	41.0	58.0		114.0
Chi-Square Tests		Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)	Table value(.05)		
Pearson Chi-Square		6.906(a)	6	.330	12.59		

The table value of Chi-square at 5% probability level for 6 degree of freedom is 12.59. The calculated value of Chi-square (6.906) is less than the table value of Chi-square (12.59). Thus the null hypothesis is accepted and difference between Designation of the Teachers and their view to use monographs and treatises as a source of information is not significant.

Table-7: Designation of the Teachers & their Frequency of using Catalogue in the Institute Library

Designation		Library catalogue					Total
		very frequently	frequently	sometimes	rarely	never	
Professor		2	3	9	5	1	20
		2.6	9.8	4.4	2.5	.7	20.0
	Ass. Professor	12	22	6	3	1	44
Lect.		5.8	21.6	9.6	5.4	1.5	44.0
		1	31	10	6	2	50
		6.6	24.6	11.0	6.1	1.8	50.0
Total		15	56	25	14	4	114
		15.0	56.0	25.0	14.0	4.0	114.0
Chi-Square Tests		Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)	Table value(.05)		
Pearson Chi-Square		28.359(a)	8	.000	15.51		

The table value of Chi-square at 5% probability level for 8 degree of freedom is 15.51. The calculated value of Chi-square (28.359) is greater than the table value of Chi-square (15.51). Thus the null hypothesis is rejected and difference between the theory and observation is significant. It is found in the study showed that the Professor found

significant on sometimes, rarely and never; Associate Professor on frequently and very frequently whereas lecturer found on frequently and never to use library catalogue as a source of information.

Table-8: Designation of the Teachers & their purpose of using the Periodicals in the Institute Library

Designation		purpose of using periodical				Total
		To Updating Knowledge	To prepare Notes	For General awareness	For Research	
Professor		3	2	11	4	20
		3.5	.5	6.1	1.1	20.0
	Ass. Professor	10	1	11	22	44
Lect.		7.7	1.2	13.5	21.6	44.0
		7	0	13	30	50
		8.8	1.3	15.4	24.6	50.0
Total		20	3	35	56	114
		20.0	3.0	35.0	56.0	114.0
Chi-Square Tests		Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)	Table value(.05)	
Pearson Chi-Square		15.905(a)	6	.014	12.59	

The table value of Chi-square at 5% probability level for 6 degree of freedom is 12.59. The calculated value of Chi-square (15.905) is higher than the table value of Chi-square (12.59). Thus the null hypothesis is rejected. The Professors used periodicals to increase general awareness and to prepare notes; Associate Professors used it for updating knowledge and research purposes whereas the lecturer used only for research purposes.

Table-9: Designation of the Teachers & their Frequency of Visit to the Library for using Circulation Services

Designation		Circulation Service					Total
		very frequently	frequently	sometimes	rarely	never	
Professor		15	3	1	1	0	20
		14.4	3.9	.9	.7	.2	20.0
	Ass. Professor	34	6	2	2	0	44
Lect.		31.6	8.5	1.9	1.5	.4	44.0
		33	13	2	1	1	50
		36.0	9.6	2.2	1.8	.4	50.0
Total		82	22	5	4	1	114
		82.0	22.0	5.0	4.0	1.0	114.0
Chi-Square Tests		Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)	Table value(.05)		
Pearson Chi-Square		4.434(a)	8	.816	15.51		

The table value of Chi-square at 5% probability level for 8 degree of freedom is 15.51. The calculated value of Chi-square (4.434) is lower than the table value of Chi-square (15.51). Thus, there is no significant relationship between Designation of the Teachers and use of Circulation Services.

Table-10: Designation of the Teachers & their Frequency of Visit to the Library for using Abstracting Service

Designation		Abstracting Service					Total
		very frequently	frequently	sometimes	rarely	never	
Professor		2	3	1	3	11	20
		1.1	1.1	3.0	6.5	8.4	20.0
	Ass. Professor	3	1	12	10	18	44
Lect.		2.3	2.3	6.6	14.3	18.5	44.0
		1	2	4	24	19	50
		2.6	2.6	7.5	16.2	21.1	50.0
Total		6	6	17	37	48	114
		6.0	6.0	17.0	37.0	48.0	114.0
Chi-Square Tests		Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)	Table value(.05)		
Pearson Chi-Square		21.884(a)	8	.005	15.51		

The table value of Chi-square at 5% probability level for 8 degree of freedom is 15.51. The calculated value of Chi-square (21.884) is higher than the table value of Chi-square (15.51). Thus the null hypothesis is rejected. It is found in the study that the Professors found significant on frequently, very frequently; Associate Professors on sometimes and very frequently whereas lecturer found on

rarely to use abstracting library service as a source of information. Thus, it can be concluded that Lecturer used abstracting services of library rarely as compared to the Professors and Associate Professors.

Table-11: Designation of the Teachers & their views about the library collection

Designation		consider library collection			Total
		excellent	adequate	fair	
Professors		16	3	1	20
		14.2	4.6	1.2	20.0
	Ass. Professors	34	8	2	44
Lect.		31.3	10.0	2.7	44.0
		31	15	4	50
		35.5	11.4	3.1	50.0
Total		81	26	7	114
		81.0	26.0	7.0	114.0
Chi-Square Tests		Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)	Table value(.05)
Pearson Chi-Square		3.629(a)	4	.458	9.49

The table value of Chi-square at 5% probability level for 4 degree of freedom is= 9.49. The calculated value of Chi-square (3.629) is less than the table value of Chi-square (9.49). Thus the null hypothesis is accepted and difference between Designation of the Teachers and their consideration about library collection is not significant.

Table-12: Designation of the Teachers & their views about the opening hours of the Library

Designation		Library opening hours			Total
		very convenient	fairly convenient	convenient	
Professors		16	0	4	20
		13.5	.9	5.6	20.0
	Ass. Professors	29	0	15	44
Lect.		29.7	1.9	12.4	44.0
		32	5	13	50
		33.8	2.2	14.0	50.0
Total		77	5	32	114
		77.0	5.0	32.0	114.0
Chi-Square Tests		Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)	Table value(.05)
Pearson Chi-Square		8.078(a)	4	.089	9.49

The table value of Chi-square at 5% probability level for 12 degree of freedom is 9.49. The calculated value of Chi-square (8.078) is less than the table value of Chi-square (9.49). Thus the null hypothesis is accepted and difference between Designation of the Teachers and Library opening hours is not significant.

Table-13: Designation of the Teachers & their views about the difficulties faced by them to acquire information from the Library

Designation		Difficulties acquiring information in your fields					Total
		Lack of time	Inadequate Library resources	Information scattered in too many sources	Lack of suitable journals	Any others	
Professors		2	1	10	0		20
		6.8	1.9	1.2	9.8	.2	20.0
	Asso. Professors	15	6	1	21	1	44
Lect.		15.1	4.2	2.7	21.6	.4	44.0
		17	3	5	25	0	50
		17.1	4.8	3.1	24.6	.4	50.0
Total		39	11	7	56	1	114
		39.0	11.0	7.0	56.0	1.0	114.0
Chi-Square Tests		Value	Df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)	Table value(.05)		
Pearson Chi-Square		5.369(a)	8	.718	15.51		

The table value of Chi-square at 5% probability level for 12 degree of freedom is 21.026. The calculated value of Chi-square (10.548) is lower than the table value of Chi-square (21.026). Thus the null hypothesis is accepted

and the difference between the theory and observation is non-significant and there is no significant relationship between Designation of the Teachers and difficulties face by the teachers to acquire information in the field.

CONCLUSION

The study shows that there is no significant relationship between the designations of the teachers and their views about their visit to the Institute library, use of reference material, Indexing journals and monographs etc. The same results were found in using reference service, indexing services, photocopying service and current awareness service as a source of information. It was noted that Statistical Tables were significantly not used by the teachers. But the study showed that the Professors and Lecturer used News Papers and its clippings frequently and very frequently than Assoc. Professors, significantly.

There is significant relationship between Designation of the Teachers and use of periodicals as a source of information. It is noted in the study that the Professors used it to increase general awareness and prepare notes; Associate Professors used it for increase general awareness, updating knowledge and research purposes whereas the lecturer used only for research. It is found in the study that the Professors found significant on frequently, very frequently; Associate Professors on sometimes and very frequently whereas lecturer found on rarely to use abstracting library service as a source of information. Thus, it can be concluded that Lecturer used abstracting services of library rarely as compared to the Professors and Associate Professors. It is found in the study that Professors used email services sometimes whereas Lecturer and Associate Professors used it frequently.

On the other hand, it is also found in the study that there is no significant relation between Designations of the Teachers and to use computerized services of library and to attend conferences/seminar/workshop/lecturers as a source of information by the teachers of NIT, Kurukshetra. It is also found in our study that there is no significant relationship between opening hour of the library and the designation of the teachers. Similar are found in relation to the difficulties face by the teachers to acquire information in their fields.

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