

INFORMATION SEEKING BEHAVIOUR OF ENGINEERING INSTITUTION FACULTIES IN NORTH MAHARASHTRA UNIVERSITY, JALGAON: A STUDY

Sudhir S. Patil*, Sharmila V. Gadge**, Anil N. Chikate***

Abstract Purpose - In the fast changing information society, the present study is found important and needed in identifying and uncovering the information seeking. The study to examine the Information Seeking Behaviour of Faculties of Engineering Institutions in North Maharashtra University, Jalgaon.

Methodology - This study is based on survey (Questionnaire) method. A structure questionnaire will be designed to collect data from the faculty members of Engineering colleges, keeping in mind the basic objective of the study. Select all colleges under North Maharashtra University, Jalgaon. A total number of 500 questionnaires were distributed among the Faculties of Engineering institution in North Maharashtra University, Jalgaon. A total number of 297 filled questionnaires were returned back by the users.

Findings - It is found that the Purpose of information seeking most of the faculty members are use update their knowledge, frequencies of information seeking most of the faculty members 'are daily use information Prepare for student lecture, information sources generally try use discussion with colleagues. Information sources for research work most of the use is 'Book and Monograph, Impact of IT on information seeking for searching new technology if 'Print and Electronic' both are useful. And face the problem for information seeking is 'Information is too vast'.

Keywords: Information Seeking, Information Seeking Behaviour, Use pattern, Engineering Institution

INTRODUCTION

Information seeking behaviour refers to those activities a person engages in when identifying his or her own need for information, searching for such information in any way and using or transferring of information. Information behaviour is the totality of human behaviour in relation to the sources and channels of information, including both active and passive information seeking and information use. Thus it includes face to face and online communication with others as well as the passive reception of information (Wilson, 2000).

CONCEPT NATURE AND DEFINITION OF INFORMATION

The information need is a factual situation in which, there exists an inseparable interconnection with 'Information' and 'Need'. Information originates and is generated because there exist a need or an interest. The concept of information is

of primary concern. The 'Information' objectively necessary for realizing a function is the objective information. Such 'Information need' of users has to be satisfied.

However, Line has made an attempt to define these terms as under:

Need: what an individual ought to have for his work, his research, his edification, his recreation etc. in the case of a research, a needed item of information is one that would further his research. There may be an implied value judgment in the way the term is used. A need may not be identified as a want. A need is a potential demand.

INFORMATION TYPES

According to Shera (1973) there are six types of information:

- *Conceptual Information:* It is something which refers to ideas, theories and hypothesis regarding the relationship that subsists among the variables in an area.

* Librarian, SSBT's College of Engineering & Technology Bambhori, Jalgaon, Maharashtra, India.
Email: sudhir78_patil@yahoo.com

** Librarian, DDSP Art's Commerce and Science College, Erandol, Jalgaon, Maharashtra, India.

*** Director, Knowledge Resource Centre, KBC North Maharashtra University, Jalgaon, India. Email: anchikate@nmu.ac.in

- *Empirical Information:* It refers to data and experience of research which one draws on its own or gathers from others.
- *Procedural Information:* This refers to the data which may be obtained through various sources and then worked upon and examined.
- *Stimulatory Information:* It is motivated by oneself or the environment.
- *Policy Information:* It refers to the data which is used for the process of decision making.
- *Directive Information:* It refers to the data which is utilized for enhancing effectiveness of group activities.

The qualities of information as listed by Rojas (1982) are accessibility, comprehensiveness, precision, compatibility, timeliness, clarity, flexibility, verifiability, fair and quantifiable etc. Thus, information is comprehensive, which can be used and accessed for generating new knowledge. Precise, accurate, and competitive information is required by researchers or users of the information.

INFORMATION SEEKING BEHAVIOUR

Information seeking behaviour refers to those activities a person engages in when identifying his or her own need for information, searching for such information in any way and using or transferring of information. Information behaviour is the totality of human behaviour in relation to the sources and channels of information, including both active and passive information seeking and information use. Thus it includes face to face and online communication with others as well as the passive reception of information (Wilson, 2000).

MODELS OF INFORMATION SEEKING BEHAVIOUR

Any analysis of the literature of information seeking Behaviour must be based upon same general model of what might be called information and behaviour is a part of Wilson (1981) model shown locates the concepts of information exchange and information use in flow diagram that can be seen as charting the behaviour of an individual faced with the need to find information. Wilson argued that a general model of this kind was useful in identifying areas where additional research could be of value and pointed to the lack of research on information use as an example.

ENGINEERING INSTITUTION

Engineering education in India started during the British era and focused mainly on civil engineering. A brief history

of engineering education in India is available in the Rao Committee report and the Ministry of Human Resource Development website. In all these engineering institutions there exists UG programs and PG program in Engineering subjects and allied courses such as Master of Computer Applications and Master of Business Administration. Most of the Institutions are also provide research programmes.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Information seeking behaviour is one of the greatly researched topics in Library and Information Science and literature is scattered generally across various disciplines, hence a complete review of the entire studies is difficult. But the number of studies has been carried out on the topic 'information seeking behaviour' only a few have attempted proportional studies.

Sankari et. al. (2011) presented information is a necessary requirement of everyday life. Information can be get back from a variety of sources. The Present paper attempts to study the information seeking behaviour of user in V.M.K.V. Engineering College Library, Salem. This study look at several aspects of library use, including the number of times that something happens of visiting the library, satisfaction through the opening hours of the library, library collection and user fulfillment from library services. The users are satisfied with library collections and services, but who want guidance in the use of online information. While document delivery service is being provided on require, the researchers pointed out that it would be useful if the library could provide them with indexing, abstract and interlibrary loan service as well. User training about library using must and should be do something that has been planned as training.

Maryam Salarian (2012) study the user required information and their pattern of active interaction with online search. The objective of this study is to recognize the relationship between users' cognitive style and information seeking. It is to develop the quality of information presentation and users' interactions in the Web by adapting their preferences and specific needs. This paper mostly focuses on the use of the Internet by PG engineering students. The example of this study consists of 50 PG engineering students from the Faculty of Computer Science and Information System in University Technology Malaysia. The result of this study reveals the linear relationship between users' cognitive styles and information seeking.

Ashwani Kumar (2012) identifies the information seeking behaviour of art faculty members at Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh; UP include preferred information, Information types and method of information access. In this study questionnaire structure was used to collect the

information from art faculties of AMU, Aligarh. The findings of this study show that most of the respondents i.e. 85% declared their method of seeking information by consulting a knowledgeable person in the concern field and 75% of faculty members seek information for preparing lectures. It is revealed that 87 % of the art faculty members used text book. On the basis of study it is find out that Internet has been almost universally adopted and google.com was mostly use as the search engine for seeking information by respondents. It is experimental that the majority i.e. 81% of the staff members faced general problem i.e. unavailability of information.

Babariya et al. (2014) discussing the various attitudes and behaviour to seek information received through internet from 100 library and information science (LIS) professionals having different designations in various organizations of different states in India. In technological modern era, this research is helpful to user to keep themselves updated and to provide the detail study and information regarding how many the innovative services like library software, classification and cataloguing schemes, RFID systems and Barcode system are used in library. It also indicating a detailed study on which types of information sources are available in library, which information services are provided and with the access of internet, user can get various information as per their requirements. Further, its showing details study which policy (system) is adopted to attract the more users.

Veena G and Mallaiah (2015) examine the information seeking behaviour of management students (MBA) and teaching staff in Sahyadri Engineering and Management College Library, Adyar, Mangalore. The study adopted a survey method, and data were collected using a questionnaire administered to to150 students and 120 staff randomly. 131 filled questionnaire were returned in students and 97 returned by staff. The finding of the study highlights that guidance require in the effective use of library collections and services was necessary to help the students to fulfill their information needs and requirements, therefore the library should organize various user awareness programme/orientation and training programs for optimum use of available print, electronic resources and improve the information searching skills. The library should facilitate internet connection speed for instant and bulky data at a time. Furthermore, college library as increasing the number of infrastructures i.e. computers, internet connection and other requirements related to access of e-resources.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The problem for the present study is entitled “Information Seeking Behaviour of Engineering Institution Faculties in North Maharashtra University, Jalgaon: A Study”.

SCOPE AND LIMITATIONS

The scope of the study confines to analyses the information requirements for the Faculties of Engineering Institution in North Maharashtra University, Jalgaon. Information seeking behaviour is defined to include aspects like motives and purpose of information of seeking, the natural type of information sought, and the mode and means to access, search, identify and require information and use of their own as well as other libraries.

OBJECTIVE

- To find the purpose of information seeking by the faculties of engineering colleges affiliated to North Maharashtra University, Jalgaon.
- To find the frequency of seeking information by the faculty.
- To analyze the different sources of Information used by faculty to seek the information.
- To find the different resources used by the faculty.
- To find the impact of IT on information seeking pattern of the faculty.
- To understand the problem faced by the faculty in seeking information.

METHODOLOGY

This study is based on survey (Questionnaire) method. A structure questionnaire will be designed to collect data from the faculty members of Engineering colleges, keeping in mind the basic objective of the study. The data will be personally collected from the faculty members. Besides personally visit to the respective libraries and personal interviews will also be conducted with Librarians to assess the problems relating to use of e-resources and seeking behaviour by the faculty members.

The secondary data will be collected from Books, Journals, Magazines, News Paper Articles, Internet Resources, and Ph.D. Thesis etc.

DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

The data was collected with the help of questionnaires. A total number of 500 questionnaires were distributed to faculties of Engineering Institution in North Maharashtra University, Jalgaon. The no. of fulfilled questionnaires i.e. 297 were returned back. The investigator selected filled questionnaire for the analysis of data. The following abbreviations are used for Colleges.

SSBTs – SSBT's College of Engineering & Technology, Bambhori, Jalgaon

GCOEj- Government College of Engineering, Jalgaon

SGDCO – Shri. Gulabrao Deokar College of Engineering, Jalgaon

GFGCOE- Godavari Foundation's Godavari College of Engineering, Jalgaon

KCESC – K.C.E. Societies College of Engineering and Information Technology

GHRES – GHR. Education Society's Raison Institute of Engineering and Management, Jalgaon

SSVPs – SSVP's College of Engineering, Dhule

PGSVp – P.S.G.V.P. Mandal's D.N.Patel College of Engineering, Shahada Dist Nandurbar

SESCo – Sanjay Education Society's College of Engineering, Navalnagar, Dist. Dhule

TMES JT- T.M.E. Society's J.T.Mahajan College of Engineering, Faizpur

NESCO – Nagaon Education Society's College of Engineering, Nagaon, Dist-Dhule

SGCOET- Sant Gadge baba College of Engineering & Technology, Bhusawal

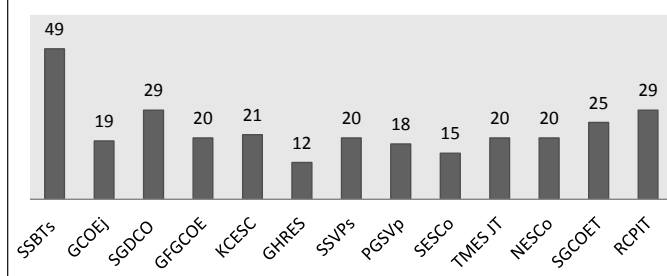
RCPIT – R.C. Patel Institute of Technology, Shirpur

College wise Analysis

Table 1:

Sr. No.	College Name	Respondent	%
1	SSBTs	49	16.49
2	GCOEj	19	6.39
3	SGDCO	29	9.76
4	GFGCOE	20	6.73
5	KCESC	21	7.07
6	GHRES	12	4.04
7	SSVPs	20	6.73
8	PGSVp	18	6.06
9	SESCo	15	5.05
10	TMES JT	20	6.73
11	NESCO	20	6.73
12	SGCOET	25	8.41
13	RCPIT	29	9.76
	Total	297	100

College wise Respondent



The above table shows that SSBT's college faculty 49 (32.66%) highest respondent and GHRES college faculty 12 (8%) lowest respondent.

Designation wise Analysis

Table 2:

Sr. No.	Designation	Respondent	%
1	Assistant Professor	260	87.54
2	Associate Professor	29	9.76
3	Professor	8	2.69
	Total	297	100

Designation wise Respondents



The above table shows that in Assistant Professor 260 (87.54%), Associate Professor 29 (9.76%) and only 8 (2.69%) is Professor are response.

Qualification

Table 3:

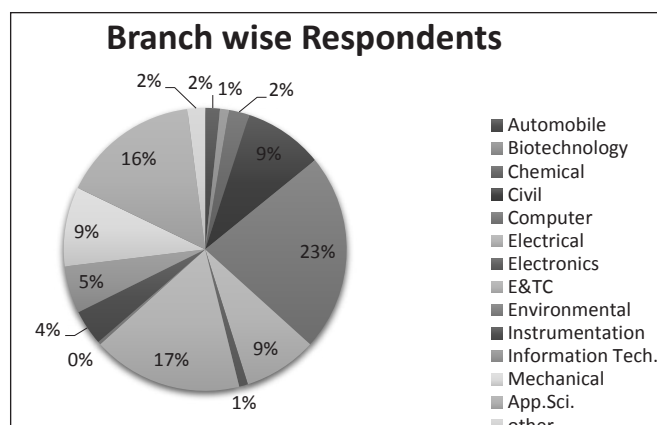
Sr. No.	Qualification	Respondent	%
1	BE/B. Tech	40	13.46
2	ME/M.Tech.	230	77.44
3	Ph.d.	14	4.71
4	Other	13	4.37
	Total	297	100

Branch wise Analysis

Table 4:

Sr. No.	Branch	Respondent	%
1	Automobile	5	1.68
2	Biotechnology	3	1.01
3	Chemical	7	2.35
4	Civil	27	9.09
5	Computer	67	22.55
6	Electrical	25	8.41
7	Electronics	3	1.01
8	E&TC	51	17.17
9	Environmental	1	0.33
10	Instrumentation	12	4.04
11	Information Tech.	16	5.38
12	Mechanical	27	9.09

Sr. No.	Branch	Respondent	%
13	App.Sci.	47	15.82
14	other –	6	2.02
	Total	297	100

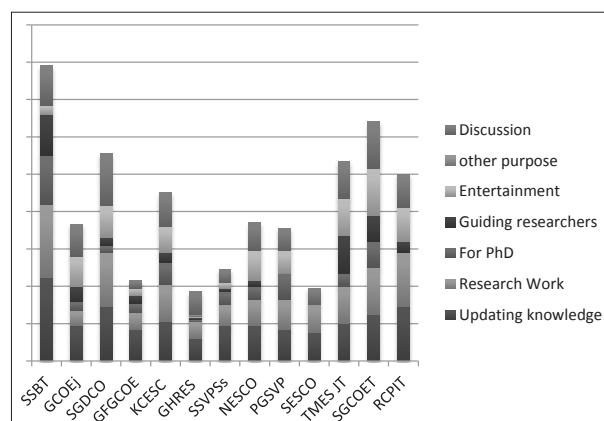


Purpose of Information Seeking

Table 5:

Purpose	SSBTs	GCOEj	SGDCO	GFGCOE	KCESC	GHRES	SSVPSs	NESCO	PGSVP	SESCO	TMES JT	SGCOET	RCPIIT	Total
Updating knowledge	45	19	29	17	21	12	19	19	17	15	20	25	29	287 96.63%
Research Work	39	8	29	9	20	9	11	14	16	15	20	25	29	244 82.15%
For PhD	26	5	4	5	12	1	7	7	14	0	7	14	0	102 34.34%
Guiding researchers	22	8	4	4	5	1	2	3	0	0	20	14	6	89 29.96%
Discussion	21	17	28	4	18	12	7	15	12	9	20	25	18	206 69.36%
Entertainment	5	16	17	4	14	1	3	16	12	0	20	25	18	151 50.84%
Other purpose	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	01

The Table 5 shows that majority of the respondents seek the information for updating their knowledge. Out of total 297 respondents, 287 (96.63%) faculty members agreed that up grading the knowledge was one of the main purposes of seeking the information. Research work was given second priority 244 (82.15%) whereas 206 (69.36%) faculty members seek the information for discussion.



Frequency of Seeking Information

Table 6:

Frequency of Seeking Information	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	1-2 Times/ Semester	Annually	N/A
Prepare for student lecturers	229 7 7.10%	43 14.47%	12 4.04%	7 2.35%	4 2.66%	2 1.33%
Prepare for conference presentation	28 9.42%	19 6.39%	38 12.79%	87 29.29%	101 34.00%	24 8.08%
Determine protocols for laboratory procedures	32 10.77%	27 9.09%	8 2.69%	32 10.77%	66 22.22%	131 44.10%
Research patents	1 0.66%	6 4%	6 4%	9 3.03%	13 4.37%	263 88.55%
Write / research paper for publications	2 1.33%	8 5.33%	22 7.40%	78 26.26%	56 18.85%	131 44.10%
Prepare new research proposal	1 0.66%	5 3.33%	19 6.39%	49 16.49%	75 25.25%	148 49.83%
Professional development/remain current field	29 9.76%	131 44.10%	112 37.71%	18 6.06%	11 3.70%	46 15.48%

Table no 6 highlights as majority of the faculty member as regard to preparing for students lecture, majority of the faculty members i.e. 229 (77.10%) access the information daily. Second Priority i.e. 131 (44.10%) access information

weekly for Professional development/remain current field Whereas 112 (37.71%) faculty members also seek the information Monthly for Professional development/ remain current field.

Information Seeking Sources Generally Try

Table 7:

Information Sources	SSBTs	GCOEj	SGDCO	GFGCOE	KCESC	GHRES	SSVPSs	NESCO	PGSVP	SESCO	TMES JT	SGCOET	RCPIT	Total
Discussion with colleagues	43	19	29	17	21	12	14	18	18	15	20	25	10	261 87.87%
Consult a Knowledgeable person in the field	40	9	29	15	12	2	17	19	17	15	20	25	29	249 83.83%
Discussion with librarian or references staff of your library	24	2	0	7	2	7	6	0	9	0	7	25	0	89 29.96%
Discussion with librarian or references staff of other library	13	1	5	4	3	5	4	0	5	0	6	16	0	62 20.87%
library catalogue	12	15	24	8	5	1	9	15	14	6	20	25	10	164 55.21%
Indexing Journals	32	16	24	9	14	10	14	17	14	6	20	25	10	211 71.14%
Abstracting Journals	36	2	2	6	20	10	9	2	0	0	6	25	10	128 43.09%
Reference from a periodical article	15	6	0	9	17	1	8	2	3	9	20	10	7	107 36.02%
Book Review	30	12	29	12	9	8	9	5	16	14	20	20	10	194 65.31%
Bibliography Produced by library Staff	7	16	9	3	15	11	5	17	10	5	20	0	7	125 42.08%
Any other	1	2	0	1	1	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	19	28 9.42%

Table 7 shows that information sources generally try for seeking information most of the faculty members use the sources of information is 'Discussion with colleagues' that

is 261 (i.e. 87.87%) and Second Priority i.e. 249 (83.83%) seek the information sources generally try to consult Knowledgeable person in the field.

Information Sources for Research Works

Table 8:

Information Sources for Research Work	SSBTs	GCOEJ	SGDCO	GFGCOE	KCESC	GHRES	SSVPSS	NESCO	PGSVP	SESCO	TMES JT	SGCOET	RCPIT	Total
Book/monographs	39	19	29	14	21	12	16	19	17	15	20	25	10	256 86.19%
Scientific technical journals/periodicals	44	5	10	15	18	0	16	8	8	6	20	25	7	182 61.27%
Patents/Reports/standard	18	1	12	8	2	0	10	0	4	0	0	0	0	55 18.51%
Conferences/workshop/Seminar proceedings	27	16	23	14	20	12	14	13	15	9	20	25	7	215 72.39%
Online – journals/Database/Archive	37	16	20	13	20	12	14	16	13	6	20	25	29	241 81.14%
Internet/Intranet sources as audio video	32	18	6	12	20	10	13	9	10	9	19	25	29	194 65.31%
Review articles/Thesis	31	4	0	9	0	0	10	1	5	0	0	9	19	88 29.62%

Table 8 shows that use information sources for research work is 'Book and Monograph' 256 (i.e. 86.19%). Second priority

i.e. 215 (72.3%) conference workshop/Seminar proceedings use information sources for research work.

Impact on New Information Technology on Information Seeking

Table 9:

Impact on IT in Seeking Information	SSBTs	GCOEJ	SGDCO	GFGCOE	KCESC	GHRES	SSVPSS	NESCO	PGSVP	SESCO	TMES JT	SGCOET	RCPIT	Total
Print Copy	3	1	1	2	-	-	4			5				16 5.38%
Electronic Copy	9	-		5	-	-	1							15 5.05%
Both: Print and Electronics	37	18	28	13	21	12	15	20	18	10	20	25	29	266 89.56%

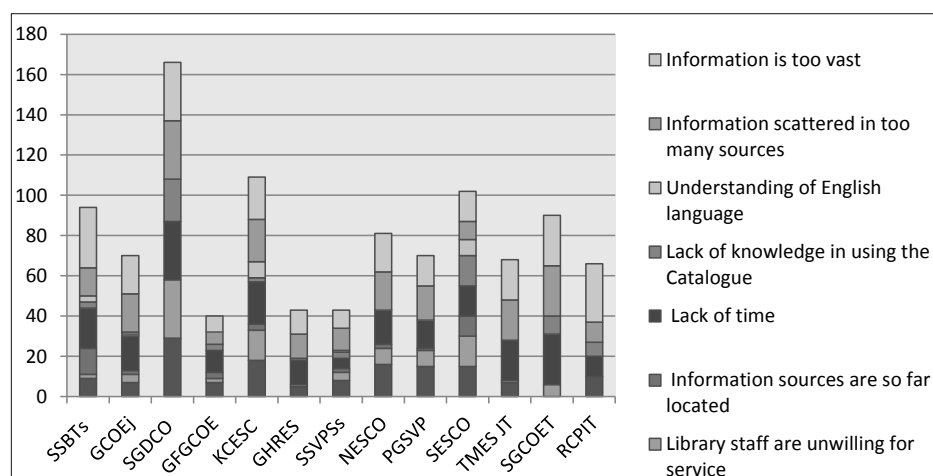
Table 9 shows that impact of IT on information seeking for searching new technology if 'Print and Electronic' both are useful i.e. 266 (89.56%).

Table 10 shows that the highest face the problem for information seeking is 'Information is too vast' i.e. 251 (84.51%) and second priority i.e. 216 (72.72%) problem for seeking information is 'Lack of Time'.

Problem Facing while Information Seeking

Table 10:

Problem Facing while Information Seeking	SSBTs	GCOEj	SGDCO	GFGCOE	KCESC	GHRES	SSVPSS	NESCO	PGSVP	SESCO	TMES JT	SGCOET	RCPIT	Total
Material is not available	9	7	29	7	18	5	8	16	15	15	7	0	10	146 49.15%
Library staff are unwilling for service	2	4	29	2	15	1	4	8	8	15	1	6	0	95 31.98%
Information sources are so far located	13	2	0	3	3	0	2	2	1	10	0	0	0	36 12.12%
Lack of time	20	17	29	11	21	12	5	17	14	15	20	25	10	216 72.72%
Lack of knowledge in using the Catalogue	3	1	21	3	2	1	3	0	0	15	0	9	7	60 20.20%
Understanding of English language	3	1	0	0	8	0	1	0	0	8	0	0	0	21 7.07%
Information scattered in too many sources	14	19	29	6	21	12	11	19	17	9	20	25	10	212 71.38%
Information is too vast	30	19	29	8	21	12	9	19	15	15	20	25	29	251 84.51%



FINDING OF THE STUDY

Based on the analysis of the survey the following findings are arrived which are as follows:

- It is found that the Purpose of information seeking most of the faculty members are use update their knowledge.
- It is found that the frequencies of information seeking most of the faculty members' are daily use information Prepare for student lecture.
- It is found that information sources generally try for seeking information most of the faculty members use discussion with colleagues.

- It is found that use information sources for research work most of the use is 'Book and Monograph'.
- It is found that impact of IT on information seeking for searching new technology if 'Print and Electronic' both are useful.
- It is found that the highest face the problem for information seeking is 'Information is too vast'.

CONCLUSION

The study sought to examine the 'Information Seeking behaviour of Engineering Institution Faculties in North Maharashtra University, Jalgaon: A Study', by talking a

sample from the faculties of engineering institution to get an overview on the Information Seeking behaviour of them. Survey result shows that the Information Seeking is very essential part of Researchers.

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