

Information use among M.Phil Scholars in Bishop Heber College: A Case Study

*(Mrs) J.ELDINE ROMELLA

Assistant Professor, Department of Library and Information Science

Bishop Heber College, Trichy-17.

**P.BABY

M.Phil Scholar, Department of Library and Information Science

Bishop Heber College, Trichy-17.

Abstract:

In the information and knowledge revolution era, people are more aware of the sources they needed. Information seeking has become the primary way of life. This paper studies the information use among M.Phil Scholars of Bishop Heber College, Trichy. This study analysis the purpose, importance and use of Library sources by M.Phil Scholars, if further analyses the barriers of seeking information in the library. This is a descriptive study, the researcher distributed a structured questionnaires to 75 M.Phil Scholars and 60 received among them. Majority of the respondents gave positive answers on usage of information sources from the library.

Keyword: Information, Information Resources, Channels of Information, Stages

I. Introduction

“Information” is used in a broader sense as well in the world of information behavior research. The term is generally assumed to cover all instances where people interact with their environment in any such way that leaves some impression on them that is ads or changes their knowledge store.

In fact, probably the largest amount of all information taken in by human beings is that received passively—simply through being aware that is absorbed in the context of daily living.

Information can be encoded into various forms for transmission and interpretation (for example information may be encoded into a sequence of signs, or transmitted via a sequence of signals). It can also be encrypted for safe storage and communication.

Information is valuable because it can affect behavior, a decision, or an outcome. Information is all around and next to matter and energy. It is the most important and common entity in this world. It moves the world. Being a much over used term, it is least understood and there is no consensual definition of it. But its properties are numerous and well recognized.

II. Definition

According to Martyn “information need is not a psychological state of mind rather it is an Objective need oriented towards particular tasks, problem etc.,”

III. Role of information

Information has been defined as a flow; hence communication is its essence. Information and its communication are vital for the following reasons.

- a) To create a survival mechanism of defense and protection at all levels.
- b) To be a basis for cooperation in society which in essence is interdependence and cooperation. It is used in large scale to coordinate and control the activities of people for their collective survival, safety, welling and progress.
- c) To gain and maintain power over others
- d) To dominate other species, and manipulate nature: humans preside over this earth and space.

IV. Channels of information

- Interpersonal channels of information communication
- Social political meetings as channels of information
- Marketplaces as channels of information
- Modern Channels
- Audio visual channels

V. Information Seeking Stages

- Initiation
- Selection
- Exploration
- Formulation
- Presentation
- Collection.

VI. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

1. Finarya Legoh (2019) Communication, publication or promotion to public can be categorized as paid news or unpaid news. Paid news represents advertorial, commercial information, promotion of products, etc., while unpaid news is information available in newspapers, magazines, websites or blogs. In line with the rapid development of ICT, social media and networking are also being used to propagate information to the public quickly. They can lead to positive impact, but certain news created/generated can lead to significant negative impacts.

2. Sen B.K. (2018) indicates the elements of a title page, and portrays an ideal title Page of a research article. Not providing information about the article on the title page leads to wastage of time as page numbers are to be searched. Opines that providing ideal title page for a research article should be the goal of every research periodical.

3. Nazir Ahmad Bhat (2018) assesses the preference of users with regard to print and electronic information resources in agricultural libraries of north India and to identify the preferred mode of access thereof. The

required data were collected, employing questionnaires and through telephonic surveys. Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS) was used for analyzing the data. The level of association between the user preference and the corresponding variable was derived through Chi Squared Text. It is found that the users of agricultural libraries in north India use information resources almost equally both in print and electronic forms, although online resources are favored over print as they are 'easy to search and retrieve', 'easy and quick to Access' and 'more up-to-date' than their print counterparts.

VII. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

a. AIM OF THE STUDY

The Aim of the study is to find out the Information use among the M.phil Scholars in Bishop Heber College, Trichy.

b. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- ✓ To find out information use among the M.phil Scholars,
- ✓ To find out the awareness and use of library resources by the M.phil Scholars,
- ✓ To find out the type of information sources used by the Scholars,
- ✓ To find out level of usage of the information resources,
- ✓ To ascertain user's opinion on usefulness and adequacy of information sources and services.

c. HYPOTHESIS

1. There is an association between gender and overall level of usage of information sources.
2. There is an association between programme of study and overall level of usage of information sources.

d. QUESTIONNAIRE AND SAMPLE

A well designed questionnaire was prepared with demographic and research questions 75 questionnaire were distributed among the M.phil Scholars. Out of 75, 60 students responded positively. The entire 60 questionnaires were taken for the analysis and interpretation; thus the percentage of response was 60.

VIII. ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

1. Analysis of Gender

S.No	GENDER	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
1.	Male	26	43.3%
2.	Female	34	56.7%
	Total	60	100%

The above table shows the gender percentage of respondents 56.7% of respondents are male and 43% of respondents are females.

2. Analysis of the Course of Study

S.No.	Course	Frequency	Percentage
1	Arts	23	38.3%
2	Science	37	61.7%
	Total	60	100%

The table show the course major of the respondents. 38.3 % are from Arts course and 61.7% of respondents are from science course.

3. Nature of Program

S.NO	NATURE OF PROGRAM	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
1	Aided	31	51.7%
2	Self-Finance	29	48.3%
	Total	60	100%

The table shows the Respondents of Nature of Program. 51.7% of respondents are Aided and 48.3% of respondents are Self-Finance.

4. T-Test with gender and overall level of usage of information sources

GENDE R	N	MEAN	STD. DEVIATION	STATISTICAL INFERENCE
Female	49	32.18	6.849	t=1.225 Df=83 P=0.224 P>0.05 Not Significant
Male	36	33.97	6.367	

The 't' test with regard to the variable gender and overall level of use of information resources reveal that there is no significant association among the two of them, thus it is proved that the above hypotheses are rejected.

5. T-Test with Programme of Study and overall level of usage of information

Programme of Study	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Statistical Inference
Arts	44	32.41	5.970	t=0.760 Df=83 P=0.449 P>0.05 Not Significant
Science	41	33.51	7.379	

The 't' test with regard to the variable program of study and overall level of use of information resources reveal that there is no significant association among the two, thus it is proved that the above hypotheses is rejected.

IX. Findings

- 57.6% of respondents are Females.
- 51.8 of the students belong to Arts stream.
- More than half of the students (50.6%) from Aided section.
- 57.6% of the students are using textbooks.
- 50.6% of the respondents are satisfied with using journals/magazines.
- 54.1% are using project reports which are highly preferred
- 45.9% of respondents feel that the theses and dissertation are very useful resources.
- 47.1% of respondents feel that the resources at library and discussion with friends are useful.
- 47.1% of respondents have attended the library training and orientation programs.
- More than half of respondents (54.1%) have attended the library seminars and workshops.
- More than half (56.5%) are using telephone calls.
- More than half (56.5%) are using e-mail for sharing information.
- 49.4% respondents are using the internet.
- More than half (56.5%) are using social networks.
- More than half (52.9%) are using E-journals.
- 45.9% are using E-books.

X. Conclusion

Information seeking is a primary activity of life. People seek information to deepen and broaden their understanding of the world around them. When information seeking in libraries is placed in a larger context of learning, the user's perspective becomes an essential component in information provision. When the user's experience in the process of learning from information does not match the way the system is designed to provide information, serious problems arise. Librarians should understand the user's perspective to design more effective information services. Students of higher education need information for the enrichment of their educational experience. The present study has revealed that Post Graduate Students rely on internet for information search than Library resources. More than half of the students use email, e-journals and social networks for information sharing.

XI. REFERENCE

1. Finarya Legoh (2019), Transformation of news in digital information era, *Journal of Scientific Temper*, Vol. 7(1&2), P.P. 87-97
2. Sen B.K. (2018), Short Communication, *Annals of Library and Information Studies*, Vol.65, P.P.268-270.
3. Nazir Ahmad Bhatt (2018), Assessment of user preference to information resources in agricultural libraries in north India, *Annals of Library and Information Studies*, Vol.65,P.P.96-99.

