CHAPTER II
REVIEW OF LITERATURE

2.1. Introduction:
Literature review is very important in the sense that the researcher reviews the literature not only to compare the results with the previous results but also present new and unique dimensions. This chapter presents the literature that has been reported on information needs and gathering habits of school children in digital environment.

2.2. Methodology and resources:
Various primary and secondary sources of information were consulted as listed below:

- EBSCO’s Library, Information Sciences and Technology Abstracts (LISTA) online, 1970-2015.
- Shodha Ganga and ShodhaGanghotri repositories of INFLIBNET available on http://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in/ and http://shodhagangotri.inflibnet.ac.in/
- Full text journals from publisher site www.emeraldinsight.com.

Efforts have been made to identify the existing relevant literature on the problem by scanning, browsing, reading original documents and consulting abstracting sources. Appropriate notes were taken and whenever the original documents were
not available, the relevant information has been culled out from the abstracts for the preparation of the reviews.

2.3 World literature:

2.3.1 before year 2000

On the basis of a user study conducted in Thailand Chavalit (1956) observed that male and female users of public libraries have different reading tastes. Cassell and Weibel (1980) examine the influence of the feminist movement on adult services in US public libraries particularly – designing of bibliographies and displays. More highly developed programmes have involved several community agencies and the use of small grants from state arts and humanities councils, local businesses or foundations. Gundara (1981) considers the role of the public library to satisfy the information needs of Indian and Pakistani women in U.K as a multipurpose information services with particular emphasis on public libraries as a services to meet their daily needs. Bruce notes that (1982) mobile library service characteristics and practices differ widely in Scotland and as such a gender difference was noticed in the use of mobile library services.

Fairer and Felicite (1990) notes the value of community information services to urban black women in South Africa and considers the specific needs of black women in Mamelodi Township, Pretori. Moore(1993) argues for provision of separate reading rooms for women in public libraries, observes that women form the majority of public library users but still make significantly less use of reference library facilities. Quatrela and others (1994) describe programme combining a support group and aerobics class for young women run by the Young Adults Department at the Stratford Library, Connecticut. Describes how the programme, which centered peer counseling, to attract women.
Vavrek (1995) highlights the conditions affecting rural and small libraries in the USA and that libraries were viewed as a place for books and were used primarily by women. Eskola (1995) gives an account of reading habits in Finland based on material from a leisure survey carried out in 1991 by Statistics Finland. Finds that a gender difference exists that has implication in the use of public libraries. 2.3.2 Year 2000 and after

Turner and Kendall (2000) reports on the use made of the Internet facilities at Chester Library by non library members. A questionnaire survey of 178 users revealed substantial use by those aged between 16 and 35, with only slightly higher use by men than by women. Williamson and others (2001) reports results of a survey of nine Australian public libraries, undertaken by the Information and Telecommunications Needs Research (ITNR) group, to determine the degree to which the libraries have provisions for assisting disabled users in using the Internet. It is found that the libraries lack specialized techniques.

Urquhart and Yeoman (2001) examine whether there is a need to consider gender or sex differences as variables in information behavior research and if so how. The categorization of works for most studies, apart from group studies on health information use communicating risk and decision making. The Meta synthesis indicates the importance concepts such as situation, intermediaries, and connecting behavior gender related or, rather likely to be important variables in information behavior. Marcella (2001) describes the results of exploratory survey designed to investigate UK women’s information needs and patterns of information seeking behavior in relation to the European Union. The results explore women’s attitudes to information and its value
to them in the range of different life contexts as well as their use of information agencies and of information and communications technologies. The results shows that women value information highly and that they search for and use a wide range of categories of information in relation to education and their professional and professional life.

The results of a user behavior study conducted by Black and Crann (2002) of 64 men and 167 women volunteers from UK in the public library environment indicate specific aspects of library differences among men and women on general impressions; cuts in services; social exclusion; commercialization; use of computers; public place/private space issues; library staff; and buildings, design and ambience. Foster (2002) reports that since it’s opening in 1919, Manchester’s commercial library has played a vital role in the UK city’s businesses community but it is now facing new challenges along with all other UK public library services of attracting female readers. However Manchester’s central library has adopted a proactive and entrepreneurial strategy to find new users.

Okiy (2005) advocates the use of public library services to empower women in urban and rural areas of Nigeria with political education, enlightenment and awareness and to equip them to counter and equal the dominant position of men in the democratic of Nigeria. Torenli (2006) evaluates digital exclusion from the perspective of women in disadvantaged areas of society of Turkey and suggests removing the inequalities in public usage of ICTs in library in Turkey. The results of a qualitative survey of 184 women library patrons conducted by Fidishun (2007) give insight into why and how they use library and information technology and how they learned to use that technology. Results showed that women are still the ones who bring children to the library and encourage
their use of books. They also value the library as a place of solitude where they can find
books or just are by themselves. Women use a variety of resources outside of the library
to locate information as they make choices about how to find information in everyday
life.

Fishbein and Ajzen (2007) on the basis of a qualitative survey of 184 women
library patrons found that men discuss what services they particularly value, including
traditional services like print books and references, but also their appreciation and use of
internet, including the library’s Web site and database. Further it was also found that
women are still the once who bring the children to the library and encourage their use of
books. Burek and Jennifer (2007) this articles traces historical users of the phrase why
girls go wrong to provide a context for analysis of progressive era reading guidance for
girls and then turns to actual girls, responses to reading. Images of the early acknowledge
contemporary school issues and responded to ensure that the women bookish domains
would be seen as a appropriate venues for adolescent girls.

Agosto, Paone and Ipock (2007) reports the results of a written survey of ninety-
seven female and male adolescents, ages fourteen through seventeen, at two
U.S. public libraries. The results indicated no significant gender difference in the
respondents' reasons for using libraries or in their frequency of information needs. The
only major gender difference was the girls' tendency to rate libraries as more useful in
helping them to meet their personal information needs, making public libraries "female-
friendly spaces" for adolescent girls. Sevidik and Akman (2007) reports the findings of a
survey conducted among Turkish women, The internet plays in their lives, what they
think about it, and how and why, do or don’t. While a small – scale study, it provides
some details on the state of Turkish women living in a metro Politian area. Steinerova and Susol (2007) based on the study of library users in Slovakia as part of a larger research project on the use of information using a large-scale questionnaire survey in 16 academic and research libraries with 793 subjects especially student and educators finds differences among users from both sexes – male and female. Cassell and Weibel (2007) surveyed the status of programming for women in large public libraries of U.S. The National Women's History Month was assumed to provide a legitimizing factor that libraries could use to develop women's programming. Many libraries have indeed developed programming for women during National Women's History Month, but many more have planned women's programming as part of their regular offering of programs.

Applegate (2008) found that there is relatively little research showing the library preferences of adult men and women. A survey of 1, 200 users of an affluent public library, reveal that male patrons in many respects were simply below-average in many areas (fewer visits, fewer services or resources used) but also showed distinctly different choices in a few areas, mainly related to electronic and business-related items. They also are almost completely uninterested in children's areas, a sharp contrast with adult female patrons). Male usage is distinct enough to warrant special attention from library planners.

Yoo and Robbins (2008) investigate how and why middle – aged women use health–related websites based on an integrated model drawn from theories: the uses and gratifications approach from mass communication research, and the theory of planned behavior from social psychology. The results shows that middle- aged woman would be more likely to go to health-related web sites if she has more positive attitude, stronger
motivation concerning gratification, and more confidence regarding her ability to use health-related web sites.

An article reports on the library (2008) in Dammam, Saudi Arabia that allows women to use the facility unaccompanied. The report states that the female students no longer need to be escorted by a male relative as the library is a public place open to everyone and a safety place for women, who use a special area just for them. Prins (2008) advised librarians of South Africa to pay attention to the information needs of women and encourage them to use libraries access points. Poor women can be encouraged to use libraries as sources of information and for individual and group leisure.

Wilson (2008) studies why and how women use the public library and information technology, and how they learned to use the technology. A survey of 184 female library users was conducted at the Chester County Library in Exton, Pennsylvania, USA. Out of the 184 respondents, 42% came to the library monthly, while 36% visited the library weekly. Sixty-two percent of respondents knew they could email the library and 72% knew that they could call the library with questions. As for reasons for library use, the most prominent response was to borrow books rather than buying them. The second most common reason for using the library is related to children's books and programming for children. The library was also used as a place of solitude, where women could find a place and time for themselves. Men came to the library more often than women to study or read. In terms of using technology, the female respondents were fairly tech-savvy. Seventy-four percent of respondents felt comfortable using computers.
2.3.3 Year 2011 and after

Stauffer (2011) describes the campaigning activity of Mormon women for public support of Libraries as institutions that would construct, preserve, and transmit American culture, educate the young, strengthen the home and family, and reform society. Audunson (2011) discusses the potential role of the public library in the lives of immigrant women. The data was elicited through in-depth interviews with nine female immigrants to Norway from Iran, Afghanistan, and Kurdistan. The results indicate that the library plays different roles in the different stages as immigrants.

Virtanen (2011) discusses the Library Patron Survey at the Kokkola City Library-Regional Library. The typical Kokkola Library patron is a woman around 45 years old, according to the survey. Almost half of the patronage of Kokkola Library deals with the borrowing of materials, primarily literature, says the survey. It notes that the survey finds that library use among the respondents was well established, with half visiting the library once a week or a few times a month. The results of the survey showed that the users were satisfied with the accessibility of library services. Okeke and Owoeye (2012) based on a study of the public libraries in Lagos state, Nigeria with regard to resources, services and infrastructure recommended that public libraries should function like community kitchens.

Towsey (2013) observes the significance of private libraries of rural north-east of Scotland, which often served as a practical resource for the wider community, particularly women. Yoshida (2013) investigates the significance of public libraries as educational institutions. The research shows public libraries as mechanisms for empowering women and their learning efforts affirm their identities as independent
women learners. Public libraries are places where lifelong learning is fully achieved in relation to empowering women and their learning efforts affirm their identities as independent women learners.

Hardtke-Flodell, and Puchta (2015) finds that one third of the Berlin inhabitants above the age of 14 actively use Berlin's public libraries. Glusker (2016) compared citizens' perceptions of the benefits of the public libraries who had used them at least once in the previous year in five culturally diverse countries - Finland, Norway, the Netherlands, the United States of America, and South Korea through postal and web surveys. It was noted that by gender, women derived fewer perceived benefits in the work sphere than men. Kalabic and Zabukovec (2016) explore gender differences as one of the variables affecting information seeking behavior. By surveying 112 users (56 male and 56 female) online they found that men, compared to women, are more likely to prepare a plan for information seeking, as well as to spend more time on a specific information source. Additionally, men also experience a higher level of satisfaction at the beginning of the information seeking, and consider themselves as better information searchers in comparison to women. On the contrary women tend to search for information in a group and use the help of a librarian more often than their male counterparts.

2.4 India

2.4.1 Year before 2000

Gupta (1973) based on a user survey of LaxmiBai Nagar branch library of Delhi public library finds that more number of men visit the library compared to women. Sharda (1976) observes that enrolment of women in public libraries is extremely low, the reasons for which include the social and religious legacy of India. Special branch libraries
for women are available but their number is totally inadequate. More mobile units are necessary, particularly in rural areas. Parikh and Broidy (1982) felt that attention to the needs of women as users is disproportionate to the total women population of the country.

Khan and others (1983) in a major study of public libraries use find that women user base is quite low and that men use public libraries more visibly than women. Nagappa, Maheswarappa and Khan (1983) based on a research of public libraries conclude that no specific services were found in public libraries for women. Baliarsingh and Mahapatra (1988) based on a study of 220 users examines their library consciousness, their knowledge of public libraries, frequency of visit, etc. and found no such difference among and women. Asundi and Heitzman (1999) described the condition of public libraries in Bangalore of Karnataka, India, during the 1990s and their position within the larger context of the city’s Urbanization. Describes the client population researched by the services and assesses the ability of the library system to provide relevant sources and services.

2.4.2 Year 2000 and after

Shlvalli (2000) concentrates on the role of role of library in the promotion of women teacher’s reading habits. The simple comprises 5889 women teacher of Goa. The results are based on 2250 returning. On the basis of the findings of the study, a set of six suggestions are made to develop healthy reading habits among the women teacher. Padmamma and others (2001) survey the use of public library services by women in the Chikkmagalore City Central Library, pointed out that 1) Almost all respondents were
satisfied with the collection of books, magazines, and newspapers and 2) the library did not provide the user services such as a new books arrivals display, inter library loan, paper clipping services, reference services, over the night issues, and book exhibition.

Padmamma and Walmiki (2001) carried out a study of city central library, Shimogain Karnataka. This study examines the present situation of public libraries in the city of Shimoga in Karnataka. A survey was conducted by using questionnaire to access the frequency visit, types of information resources used, type of information required and the usefulness of the library in fulfilling information needs of women’s users. The study reveals that less number of women visits the library daily, and they consult variety of information sources to fulfill different information needs. Sinha’s (2002) survey on the non-use and non users of public libraries their establishment, maintenance and development of Indian context, discusses the importance of library legislation and its development in India particularly in the context of Assam.

Based on a study of 200 reader carried out in two branches of Mysore city library Nikam and Rajashekar (2003) found that the electronic media like TV, CDs and DVDs have influenced reading habits of people. Khaiser and Rajashekhar’s (2003) study of 200 readers in two branches of public library of Mysore city to know if Mysorians have the habit of reading or not, revealed that it is a habit irrespective of gender. Ranjith’s survey (2004) of 105 libraries in Kerala revealed that library membership of women was only 30%. Kumbar, Hadagali and Dasankop (2005) elicits the opinions of the housewife’s as the users of the public library in general and city central library (Dharwad) in particular, highlights the major findings of the study and offers some important suggestions for overall important of the library.
Domenic and Nirmala (2005) study the utilization of Poolluvapatti Public library at Coimbatore in Tamil Nadu which revealed that male users aged between 21-30 were frequent visitors, among the visitors to libraries. Chopra and Banerjee (2005) observe that usage of public library services in the Panjab by the female users is significantly low and needs serious attention by the library authorities of the state. Nikkam and Chandrasekhar (2007) have made a detailed survey on all categories of users such as children, young adults, women and old people. The main aim was to find out the level of user satisfactions in relation to the present day professional role of Mysore city public librarians.

Bandyopadhyay (2007) focus on the role of public libraries in enhancing the concept of empowerments and providing health related services for women and examine the specific role of public libraries in West Bengal in these programmes and services. A Study by Biradar and Dharani Kumar (2008) shows that an average of 80% of the rural community at Holehonnur of Karnataka visits the library and utilizes the sources, particularly women and labor community. They visit the library for entertainment purpose. Parvatamma and Reddy’s (2009) survey on use of information resources and services in the public libraries of the Bidar district Karnataka state India shows that a majority of the users were men and women between the age group of 11-30 years and included students unemployed youth are employees in the private sector belonging to lower and middle income group, advocated that public libraries need to take proactive approach in motivating users particularly women to use their resources and services.
2.4.3 Year 2010 and after

Machendranath and Kamble (2010) based on the study of 100 working women of ACC Ltd, Wadi, Gulbarga District; Karnataka, India found that a majority of working women have stressed the need for an adequate and varied reading material. Manorama (2010) based on a survey found that library awareness among public in public library system in Tamilnadu irrespective of gender is good. Preumal and Kalyapermal (2012) conducted a study to know the users perceptions and attitude towards resources and services of the KDCL at Chengalput, revealed that majority of the users are male users aged between 21-25 years group and also majority of the users felt that text books and electronics information sources are inadequate in the library.

Jayakumar and Nikham (2013) focus their study on the attitude and the perception of young adults towards the public libraries in southern Karnataka. The purpose of the study was to find out their attitude towards reading different types of books, library collection and towards the overall public library services and facilities for which opinion was collected through questionnaire. It revealed that the number of adults, in the age group of 21-25, constituted 35% of the total respondents and out of which 77% were male. Sujatha and Chandrasekhar Rao(2016) studies the status of library facilities available to women in Andhra Pradesh and identifies inhabiting factors responsible for under utilization of library services provided to women by state.
2.5 conclusions:

The review of literature shows that quite a large number of studies have been reported. Public libraries in the worldwide have generated many studies from social welfare services to equitable access to information to what libraries will provide in the twenty-first century. There are studies that prove that a gender difference does exist but few studies also report that no such differences are found. Use of public libraries by women users indicates certain differences in demographic patterns among respondent. But in the Indian context after 19990s very few studies have been reported compared to other countries. The issues of gender differences have not been found emphasis and also studies have not been reported on the use and non-use of urban libraries.
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