

CHAPTER – VI

FINDINGS, CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

6.1 FINDINGS

The findings of this present study leads to the following concluding remarks:

6.1.1 Profile of information seekers in selected universities

The characteristics of information seekers in selected nine universities. Out 704 respondents, gender wise analysis, 375 (53.3 %) male and 329 (46.7 %) female respondents were selected for this study.

- ❖ More than fifty percentage of respondents were been the below 35 years age group,
- ❖ More than 25 percents of them are between the age group of 36 to 45 years age groups and remaining 18 percentage of respondents were the age groups of above 46 years.

The results shows the young generation has more interested to improved their research activities for getting current information and further academic developments for themselves.

- ❖ Out of 704 respondents 367 (52.1%) of users were belong to rural regions and the remaining 337 users are hail from urban areas.

Since most of the users were rural based, they tried to developing themselves equally to the urban area people.

- ❖ 373 (52.9 %) respondents were selected from Social Science faculty and
- ❖ 331 (47.1 %) respondents were from Science faculty.

Status wise respondents were; Assistant professor (11.93 %), Associate professor (6.53 %), Professors (5.26 %) and Research Scholars (76.28 %) selected.

6.1.2 Respondents dependency on their university library

The result of gender wise, 56.68 percentage of respondents were totally dependent on their university library. 38.64 percentages of respondents (male and female) were Dependent to some extent level of usage of their university library. Below 5 percentage of respondents were not dependent on their university library.

53.6 percent of male and 60.18 percent of female respondents were ‘totally depending’ on their university library at high level. 41.87 percent of male and 34.95 percent of female users were ‘dependent to some extent’ level. Equal number of respondents from male and female were ‘Not dependent’ on their university library for their usage.

Faculty wise analysis, more than 56.68 percentage of Social science and Science faculty respondents were ‘totally dependent’ on their university library. Followed by the Social Science faculty respondents only having highest number of respondents ‘dependent to some extent’ and ‘not dependent’ on their university library.

Status wise, 60.91 percentage of respondents were 'totally dependent' on their university library, among these research scholars is highest. Remaining respondents from various cadre of their status wise were 'dependent to some extent' on their university library for their usage. It could be noted that majority of respondents were frequently used their university libraries. Very less number of respondents were mentioned not dependent library, it indicate that they may use some other alternative sources on their residence behalf of their university library.

6.1.3 Capability in using levels of computer on selected respondents

63.92 percentage of the respondents were 'expert' level to using computer for accessing electronic resources. 31.53 percentage of respondents were having 'petite knowledge' of using computer. Very little number of respondents was 'complete neophyte' in using computer for accessing information.

Gender wise, 62.13 percent of male and 65.96 percent of female respondents were their IT skills is expert, below 5 percent of respondents having petite knowledge and complete neophyte.

Faculty wise analysis, 62.5 percent of Social Science and Science faculty respondents were having the IT skills in expert level and petite knowledge. 30.97 percentage of Science faculty respondents were mentioned they have petite knowledge level of using computers.

Status wise analysis, research scholars respondents were the highest in the stage of expert, petite knowledge and complete neophyte level of using computer, followed by Assistant professors, Associate professors and Professors.

It could be noted that majority of respondents were been the expert level of handling computer.

6.1.4 Usage of Electronic Information Sources

By overall respondents were preferred the usage of electronic information sources of gender wise result is 96.31 percent of them were preferred the Social Network and 93.89 percent of them were preferred online searching.

By faculty wise result is 99.15 percent of them were preferred the Social Network and 98.15 percent of them were preferred online searching.

Status wise analysis, OPAC, E-Journals, Social Network, Web page creation and online databases are preferred electronic resources services. Research scholars respondents, preferred the services of OPAC, E-Journals, Web page creation and Social network. Assistant professor respondents were mentioned the services of OPAC, Online databases, Open source software and online searching; Associate professor respondents were mentioned the services of social network, E – Journals, Open source software and OPAC and Professor respondents were mentioned the services of OPAC, Social Network, E-journals, Bibliographic data, Web page creation and open source software.

It concludes most of respondents were preferred for accessing from their university library electronic resources is OPAC searching, Social Network, E journals, online searching, Bibliographic data and Full text sources.

6.1.5 Preferred Web Browsers

Gender wise analysis result is 96.59 percent of respondents were preferred the Internet Explorer, 90.20 percent of them were Opera, 88.78 percent of them were Google Chrome and 87.93 percent of them were preferred Mozilla fire fox web browsers.

Faculty wise analysis result is, 98.15 percent of them were preferred the web browser of Internet explorer, 97.44 percent of them preferred Opera, 96.16 percent of them preferred Mozilla fire fox, 94.89 percent of them preferred Google chrome web browser.

Status wise analysis result is, 98.29 percent of them were preferred the web browser of Internet explorer, 96.59 percent of them preferred Mozilla fire fox, 96.16 percent of them preferred Opera web browser.

It could be noticed that majority of the library users were mentioned to use the web browsers of Internet explorer, Opera, Google chrome, Mozilla fire fox and Netscape Navigator for their online searching.

6.1.6 Frequent Usage of Search Engines

Gender wise analysis result is 98.72 percent of respondents were preferred the Google search engine, 95.17 percent of them were Yahoo, 91.62 percent of them were Ask Jeeves and 90.91 percent of them were preferred Alta vista search engines.

Faculty wise analysis result is, 98.01 percent of respondents were preferred the Google search engine, 96.45 percent of them were Yahoo, 88.64 percent of them were Ask Jeeves and 83.95 percent of them were preferred Alta vista search engines.

Status wise analysis result is, 98.86 percent of respondents were preferred the Google search engine, 96.73 percent of them were Yahoo, 97.01 percent of them were Ask Jeeves and 95.74 percent of them were preferred Alta vista search engines.

It could be noticed that majority of the library users (more than 90 %) were have interest of using search engines for exploring their information through internet are Google, Yahoo, Ask Jeeves, Alta Vista, MSN, Lycos, Sify and Rediff. Remaining search engines Dogpile, Webcrawler, Bing, Amfibi, Scrub the web, Search Hippo, Metacrawler, Excite, Cuil, Hotbot, All The Web, Galaxy, Gigablast, Alexa, AOL search, Business.com, Ixquick and others were used by the selected respondents at low level. Gender wise analysis also the search engines of Google, Yahoo and Ask Jeeves are popularly used. Faculty wise analyse also earned the same result.

6.1.7 Features for Preferred Search Engines

Analysis of search engine features result is 95.17 percent of respondents were accessed the familiar search engines are for its expertise, 90.2 percent of them preferred for its relevance subject information and 83.1 percent of them preferred for user friendly.

More than 80 percent of respondents were preferred the search engines feature for its Simple Search strategy and its fast connectivity. More than 70 percents of respondents were preferred for access sources its social networks facility. More than 60 percents of respondents were preferred these search engines for its Free access sources and Time consuming. More than 50 percents of respondents were preferred for its communication amenities. More than 40 percents of respondents were preferred the specific search engines for its business information. More than 30 percents of respondents were preferred such kind of search engines for its entertainment and its regional language facility and below 30 percents of respondents were preferred for other factors.

It could be noted that from this analysis, the respondents were used the search engines (Google, Yahoo, Alta vista and Ask Jeeves) for their features of its Expertise, Relevance subject information, User friendly and simple search strategy.

6.1.8 Frequency of Accessing Library

Analyses of frequency of accessing their university library, by overall respondents, more than 65.91 percents of respondents were daily visit to library for their academic purpose and accessed the electronic information. 13.92 percent of respondents were used their university library an alternative day. 8.52 percent of respondents were frequent visit of their library for twice in a week. 6.25 percent of respondents were frequency visit of their university library at thrice in a week and once a week. Below 5 percents of respondents were accessed their library for electronic resources at once in a month.

6.1.9 Places of accessing internet connectivity for E - Resources

The sample respondents were given answer they could access their internet connectivity at multiple places. 98.72 percent of respondents were accessing place for internet connectivity on their university library, 95.17 percent of respondents were chosen the place for accessing their internet connectivity through wi-fi, 67.76 percent of respondents were having internet connectivity to their residence place, 83.81 percent of respondents were chosen internet connectivity place of their department, 73.86 percent of them were private browsing centre, through their mobile networking and internet connectivity of their friend's place. 54.26 percent of them were accessing through mobile network and 58.81 percent of them were accessing through their friend's place.

It could be derived the result is, accessed internet connectivity at their university library is, 78.72 percent of respondents from Gender wise analysis, 95.17 percent of them were from faculty wise analysis and 96.45 percent of respondents were from status wise analysis.

6.1.10 Reason for Accessing E Resources

The respondents given preferred placed of their university library for accessing the internet connectivity for reasons of, 94.89 percent of its Swiftness, 89.77 percent of Open access for download, 82.1 percent of them for Economic consistence, 70.03 percent of them for Uninterrupted power supply, 72.44 percent of them for Comfortability, 60.23 percent of them for Convenience, 53.98 percent of them for novelty, 49.72 percent of them for Time saving, 45.03 percent of them for Higher bandwidth, 40.06 percent of them for Availability significance

information, 38.21 percent of them for Subscription facility, 42.33 percent of them for discuss with experts, 29.55 percent of them for Learn new techniques and 27.56 percent of them for access other reasons.

Gender wise analysis of reason for accessing E –resources for its Swiftness, followed by Open access, Economic consistence, Power supply, comfortability, convenience, Novelty, time saving, higher bandwidth and availability significance information. As the same results were found from this analyses of faculty wise and status wise respectively.

6.1.11 Purposes of accessing E-resources

Among the total respondents more than 90 percents of respondents were accessing purposes of electronic resources for getting their General awareness and current information. More than 80 percent of respondents were mentioned the purpose for access E-resources for their Research work and Preparing Seminar / conference notes and Current information. Above 60 percent of respondents were accessing the purpose of electronic resources for preparing articles, General activity and Enhancing knowledge in their fields. Above 50 percent of respondents were accessing the purpose of electronic resources for preparing competitive exams and purpose for to satisfy the thirst for reading / need. More than 40 percent of respondents were mentioned the purpose for Subscription regularity, referred their related subjects and aware of current arrival. Above 30 percent of respondents were mentioned their purpose of Promoting relevant skills, Decision making and knowing current technical implementation. More than 20 percent of respondents were mentioned the reason for other purposes. The same

results were found from the analysis of gender wise, faculty wise and status wise respectively.

6.1.12 Supporting manners while accessing e resources

It found from this supporting manners (from many ways) while accessing the electronic resources analysis result is, more than 90 percentage of respondents were mentioned the supporting manners while accessing electronic resources at their individual skills and getting assist from Library staffs. More than 80 percent of respondents were getting support from their colleagues. More than 70 percent of respondents were getting support from private net café staffs. More than 60 percent of respondents were getting support from their friends. More than 20 percent of respondents were getting support from user manual, helping assistance from browsing, Discuss through mobile, discuss through chat with experts and from other supporting manners. As the same results were found from the analysis of gender, faculty and status wise respectively.

6.1.13. Experience of ICT skills in accessing e resources

Experience of ICT skills for accessing electronic resources analysis result is, 54.4 percentage of respondents were mentioned current learner, 15.91 percent of respondents were recently learnt how to use, 4.97 percent of them were have less than a year learn skill, 4.26 percent of them were have one year skill, 4.4 percent of them were have two years' experience, 5.68 percent of them were have three years' experience and 10.37 percent of them were have more than three years' experience of the ICT skills. As the same results were found from the analysis of gender, faculty and status wise respectively.

6.1.14. Methods adopted for acquiring IT skills for searching E-resources

Among 704 respondents, more than half of the respondents were mentioned first rank to the methods adopted for acquiring IT skills in given methods. 25 percent of them preferred second rank, 10 percent of them preferred third rank, 8 percent of them preferred fourth rank and less than 6 percent of them preferred fifth rank.

Ranks are given by the respondents for the methods of skills is formal training is first rank, attending workshop / seminar is second rank, trial and error method is third rank, basic degree / allied subject is fourth rank, colleagues. Friends is fifth rank and training at private centre is sixth rank. The same result were derived from the analysis of gender wise, faculty wise and status wise respectively.

6.1.15. Preferred Download File Formats

Among 704 respondents, more than 50 percent of respondents were mentioned first rank to the preferable downloading the different file formats, 30 percent of them preferred second rank, 12 percent of them preferred third rank, 4 percent of them preferred fourth rank and less than 4 percent of them preferred fifth rank.

Ranks are given by the respondents for the download PDF is first rank, Compressed format (Zip) is 2nd rank, MS Excel is 3rd rank, XML is 4th rank, PPT is 5th rank, and remaining file formats (HTML, MS Word, Notepad, Images, Audio, Video and Animation) are in above sixth rank positions for downloading.

The same result were derived from the analysis of gender wise, faculty wise and status wise respectively.

6.1.16. Preferred Storage Devices for Preservation

Ranks are given by the respondents for the storage devices of USB Flash pen drive is first rank, CD / DVD is second rank, Online Network storage is third rank, Hard drive is fourth rank, SD (memory card) is fifth rank and oPod is sixth rank. The same result were derived from the analysis of gender wise, faculty wise and status wise respectively.

Among 704 respondents, more than 50 percent of respondents were preferred the storage device of USB flash drive, more than 20 percent of respondents were preferred the storage device of CD / DVD, more than 10 percent of respondents were preferred the storage device of online network storage, more than 5 percent of respondents were preferred the storage device of Hard drive and SD (memory card) and less than 5 percent of respondents were preferred the storage device of ipod respectively. Same results derived from the gender wise, faculty wise and status wise analysis respectively.

6.1.17. Influence of E- Resources on Academic Efficiency

Ranks are given by the respondents for the influence on academic efficiency of Developed competency is first rank, Proceed research process is second rank, referring to scientific & technical reports is third rank, organising conference / seminar / workshop is fourth rank, updating subject knowledge is

fifth rank. The same result were derived from the analysis of gender wise, faculty wise and status wise respectively.

50 percent of respondents were mentioned to access the E resources on their academic efficiency to 'developed competency', 43 percent of respondents were mentioned to access the E resources on their academic efficiency to 'proceed research process', 40.48 percent of respondents were mentioned to access the E resources on their academic efficiency to 'Referring to Scientific & Technical reports', 38.77 percent of respondents were mentioned to access the E resources on their academic efficiency to 'organizing conference / Seminars / Workshops' and 'Updating subject knowledge' and 32.8 percent of respondents were mentioned to access the E resources on their academic efficiency to other purposes. Same results derived from the gender wise, faculty wise and status wise analysis respectively.

6.1.18. Problems Faced While Accessing E – Resources By Selected Respondents

Ranks are given by the respondents for the problems faced while accessing electronic resources of limited terminals is first rank, Time consuming is second rank, Password restriction is third rank, inconvenience usage is fourth rank, slow speed is fifth rank, Lack of IT skill is sixth rank, difficulty access on particular websites is 7th rank, frequently hanging system is 8th rank, lack of awareness about way of access is 9th rank, virus attack is 10th rank, power changeability to 11th rank, and they give the reasons of downloaded restriction, copy right protection, storage facilities, file preservation, deviating navigator, more links made confuse,

and language barrier. The same result were derived from the analysis of gender wise, faculty wise and status wise respectively.

It inferred from the above analysis most of respondents were mentioned the facing problems while accessing the electronic resources is 'Limited terminals', 'Time Consuming', 'Password restriction' and 'Inconvenient usage electronic format'. Same results derived from the gender wise, faculty wise and status wise analysis respectively.

6.2 SUGGESTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The information need of the respondents need is somewhat shallow centred only on thesis and seminars Because of the shallowness of both their information need and information seeking behaviour the students do not follow any observed rational pattern. It is suggested that the present pattern respondents in selected universities. It should instil in them effective and purposive information seeking behaviour.

The researcher has made the following suggestions:

1. More number of computers with latest configurations may be installed for the end users.
2. Fast internet access may be provided to the user
3. Frequent training facilities may be provided to the users to keep themselves abreast of the latest information and technologies.
4. To make respondents information seeking behaviour purposive
5. Efforts may be taken for efficient and effective campus network

6. Proper provision for downloading and printing facilities may be provided for the researchers.
7. Increase in the speed of information exchange is necessary to enable users to conduct more advanced search.
8. Orientation programmes for the new users may be provided at the beginning of every year.
9. To evolve teaching methods to enhance students' information seeking behaviour
10. Evaluate information seeking behaviour in the changing environment and
11. To find current role of libraries in information seeking.

6.2.1 FOR FUTURE STUDY

A similar study may be conducted in special libraries. This study can be extended to other faculties of study also. A comparative study regarding the usage of electronic information resources among universities or states may be undertaken; respondents socio economic background and technological part also may be included in this study. A study can be conducted among various faculties within the university; the impact of electronic resources usage on distance education learners may also be studied.

6.3 CONCLUSION

To sum up this study reveals that the various faze of electronic resources usage among selected Kerala universities faculty and research scholars. The socio economic background results shows the young generation has more interested to improved their research activities for getting current information and further academic developments for themselves. Generally more than half of the

respondents were totally dependent on their university library for their usage and among the total respondents (gender wise, faculty wise and status wise) more than half of the respondents were expert to using computer. Above 50 percents of respondents were frequent usages of electronic services providing by their university library; such that OPAC, Bibliographic data, online searching. Full text sources, e-book, e journals, Subject gateway, online data bases, online shopping, Social network and alerting services, online subscription and software development. More than half of the respondents were preferred the familiar web browsers (Internet Explorer, Opera and Mozilla fire fox web browsers) for their accessing electronic resources. The selected respondents' (more than 90 %) interest of using familiar search engines for exploring their information through internet are Google, Yahoo. Majority (more than 80 %) of respondents were mentioned the features for preferred search engines for its expertise, relevance subject information, user friendly, Simple Search strategy and its fast connectivity.

Generally overall respondents, more than 40 percents of respondents were daily visit to library for their academic purpose and accessed the electronic information. Out of 704 respondents, more than 90 percents of respondents were accessing place for internet connectivity on their university library. Among 3698 respondents, more than 90 percents of respondents were accessing the reason for its Swiftness, Open access for download, Economic consistence, uninterrupted power supply, Comfortability and their Convenience. More than 90 percents of respondents were accessing purposes of electronic resources for getting their

General awareness, Research work, Preparing Seminar / conference notes and Current information.

Majority (more than 60 %) of respondents were accessing electronic resources at their individual skills. More than 80 %) of respondents were having experience of ICT skill in accessing electronic resource is more than three years. More than 90 percent respondents were adopted for acquiring IT skills for searching electronic resources in the methods of formal training, trial and error method, Attending workshop / seminar. Selected respondents were given the preference of downloading file formats in PDF format, HTML, PPT, Notepad and MS Excel. Majority (90 %) of respondents were given preference of preserving their files through the storage devices of USB Flash Drivers, CD / DVD and Online network storage. Influences of electronic resources on their academic efficiency for their research process, for developed competency, Knowledge developments and Organizing conference / seminar / workshop. Most (more than 90 %) of the respondents were mentioned the major problem of Power changeability, deviating navigator, Virus attack, Frequent hanging systems and Slow accessing speed of Internet. Users still depend on books and periodicals for getting information. This study also suggests some measures to achieve effective and efficient use of electronic resources by university respondents.