CHAPTER - V
CHAPTER V

MAJOR FINDINGS, OBSERVATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

5.1 INTRODUCTION

In the previous chapter, detailed discussion on the analysis of data collected from the university faculty members from selected six universities regarding their information needs, information seeking patterns and personality traits were presented. In this chapter, the major findings and observations and suggestions based on the outcome of chapter III and IV are highlighted to prove the hypotheses and fulfill the stated objectives in chapter I. The findings and observations are broadly classified under appropriate headings with reference to the concerned tables and figure numbers.

5.2 MAJOR FINDINGS RELATED TO UNIVERSITIES AND UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

5.2.1 Growth of Universities in India

It is found that the total number of universities established in the country as it stands by 2009 is 448 of which the number of traditional universities is as high as 244 (including institutions for specialized studies and as of the remaining institutions, there are 39 central universities, 33 institutions of national importance, and 132 other academic institutions recognized as deemed universities (Table 3.3, Chapter III).

5.2.2 University Libraries taken for the Study

i. Majority of the university libraries remained open more 10 hours per day in all working days, 50% of the university libraries has provided than e-journals access through UGC-INFONET Digital Library Consortium. Most of the university libraries used SOUL (Software for University Libraries) and Library Automation Software (Table 3.7 Chapter III).
5.3 MAJOR FINDINGS ABOUT THE INFORMATION SEEKING

5.3.1 Sample size

i. The total regular university faculty members comprising 838, of which 680 responded and the response rate is 81.00%. (Table 4.1 and Figure 4.1).

5.3.2 Background Information about the Respondents

i. A majority of the respondents (68.9%) are male and only (31.1) are female.
ii. The respondents hail 68.9% five broad age groups (Table 4.3).
iii. Majority of the respondents are “Professors” (46.2%) followed by Assistant Professors (27.4%), Associate Professors (25.1%), Assistant Professors Senior Scale (0.8%) and only (0.1 %) fall in to the Assistant Professor Selection Grade Categories (Table 4.4).
iv. From the Table 4.5, it is noted that 75.2% of the respondents having Ph.D Degree following 20.5% with M.Phil. Degree, 3.4% with Postgraduate and only 1.0% with Post Doctoral Degree. The pictorial representation is given in the Fig. 4.5.

5.3.3 Information Seeking Patterns about the Respondents

i. Most of the respondents (28.7%) visited the library every day, followed by (21.6%) who visited more than once a week and only (4.6%) visited once in a fortnight. (Table 4.6)
ii. The majority of the respondents 37.3% spent their time less than 4 hours per week in a library and only (6.5%) spent 11 to 15 hours per week in the same. (Table 4.7).
iii. Formal Sources such as Books/Monographs, Journals/Periodicals, Reference sources and Internet are used by a majority of the faculty members in the universities which have been also proved in the WAM Test (Tables 4.8).
iv. Informal Sources such as Conversations with colleague, Meetings / Seminar / Conferences / Workshops, E-mail and Consult knowledgeable person are used by the majority of the faculty members in the universities, which have been also proved in the WAM Test (Tables 4.9).
v. Searching tools such as Book Reviews and Card Catalogue are used by a majority of the faculty members in the university libraries as has been also proved in the WAM Test (Tables 4.15).

vi. Nature and types of information required such as Information about current developments in your field, and Review of Literature are used by the majority of the faculty members in the universities has also been proved in the WAM Test (Tables 4.16).

vii. The result of Bi-variate analysis shows that “Information about various works done in your field” Vs “Theoretical background / basic scientific and technical information” are significant. (Table 4.17)

viii. To guide my student projects/research scholars, and to prepare for class teaching are motivated in seeking and collecting information by the majority of the faculty members in the universities. This is also proved in the WAM Test (Tables 4.21) and by Proximity Matrix (Table 4.22)

ix. Faculty members highly depend on the formal and documentary sources such as Books (other than handbooks / reference books), and Reference Books in the university libraries has been proved in the WAM Test (Tables 4.27)."

x. Faculty members highly depend on the informal and interpersonal sources such as Consulting experts in the field, and Professional meetings, seminars, symposia and lectures in the universities. The WAM Test (Tables 4.27) Supports this arguments.

xi. Majority of the faculty members use library services such as Lending of books, and Reference Service in the university libraries as proved in the WAM Test (Tables 4.35).

xii. Majority of the respondents 616 (90.6%) have knowledge about Internet and only 64 (9.4%) do not possess the same as represented in the (Table 4.38).

xiii. Majority of the respondents 129 (19%) used internet facility in the university library and 551 (81%) did not as seen in (Table 4.39).

xiv. Proximity Matrix of Opinion of the Respondents on Computer and its application in Libraries show that the variables, “Getting information what you require quicker due to computer than in the past” and “Have computers and computerized services enhanced your usage of library resources” are similar with a squared distance value of 522 (Table 4.42).
5.4 FINDINGS RELATED PERSONALITY TRAITS ASSESSMENT

i. Five Factor Analysis as shown in the Table 4.59 point that of the 60 items, 57 had their highest loadings on their expected factors, and only five items had loadings of 10 or higher on any of the other factors. The factor loadings were examined to identify those items that met for factor-purity in the present sample. As noted, two traits Conscientiousness and Neuroticism had their highest loadings.

5.5 FINDINGS RELATED TO PERSONALITY AND INFORMATION SEEKING BEHAVIOUR

i. "Agreeableness" has the greatest predictive power as indicated by its coefficient 0.671 followed by "Extraversion" 0.495, "Openness to Experience" 0.381, "Neuroticism" 0.259 and "Conscientiousness" 0.066. This indicates that "Agreeableness" is positively related to the Formal sources used. (Table 4.62).

ii. "Extraversion" has the greatest predictive power as indicated by its coefficient 1.000 followed by "Conscientiousness," "Openness to Experience", "Agreeableness" and "Neuroticism". This indicates that the "Extraversion" is positively related to the Informal sources used. (Table 4.69)

iii. "Neuroticism" has the greatest predictive power as indicated by its coefficient 0.814 followed by "Conscientiousness" 0.658, "Agreeableness" 0.216, "Extraversion" 0.173 and "Openness to Experience" 0.111. This indicates that "Neuroticism" is positively related to the Nature and Types of Information Required (Table 4.70)

iv. "Extraversion" has the greatest predictive power as indicated by its coefficient 0.726 followed by "Agreeableness" 0.594, "Conscientiousness" -0.543, "Neuroticism" 0.268 and "Openness to Experience" 0.069. This indicates that "Agreeableness" is positively related to the Motives in Seeking Information. (Table 4.71).
v. "Conscientiousness" has the greatest predictive power as indicated by its coefficient 0.577 followed by "Extraversion" 0.450, "Neuroticism" -0.450, "Openness to Experience" 0.399 and "Agreeableness" 0.369. This indicates that "Conscientiousness" is positively related to the Dependency on the Formal Documentary Sources. (Table 4.72)

vi. "Extraversion" has the greatest predictive power as indicated by its coefficient 0.590 followed by "Conscientiousness" 0.424, "Openness to Experience" 0.395, "Neuroticism" 0.263 and "Agreeableness" 0.241. This indicates that "Extraversion" is positively related to the Dependency on Informal and Interpersonal. (Table 4.73).

vii. "Extraversion" has the greatest predictive power as indicated by its coefficient 0.683 followed by "Openness to Experience" 0.656, "Agreeableness" 0.439, "Neuroticism" 0.438 and "Conscientiousness" 0.244. This indicates that "Extraversion" is positively related to the Library Services Used (Table 4.74).

5.6 FINDINGS RELATED TO HYPOTHESES

- The hypothesis, "Information seeking behaviour of the respondents is more or less similar" has been proved valid in Chapter IV.

- The hypothesis, "The sources of the information utilized by the faculty members are satisfactory" has been proved valid in Chapter IV.

- The hypothesis, "The services availed by the faculty members in university libraries are satisfactory" has been proved invalid in Chapter IV.

- The hypothesis, "There exists heterogeneity in the motives in seeking and collecting information of the faculty" has been proved invalid in Chapter IV.

- The hypothesis "There exists a positive relation of personality traits of the faculty under study with regard to sources of information used, motives in seeking information, utilize of library services and other" has been proved valid in Chapter IV.
5.7 SUGGESTIONS

From the analysis and interpretation of the data and the resulting findings and observation have contributed to the formulation of suggestions as outlined below:

5.7.1 Collection Building

In view of the information requirements of the faculty members. It is suggested that the university libraries shall plan a functional and effective collection building plan for all disciplines in the universities. It is also suggested to acquire both print and non-print medias.

5.7.2 Optimum use of University Library Services

In view of the current practices by the faculty members utilizing the libraries services with respect to borrowing of books, periodicals, internet services and forecasting services and minimum use of other services, it is suggested that the personnel in the libraries shall popularize the other types of services including information technology based services and strive to the optimum utilization of there services. Further it is also suggested that the librarians of the university libraries have to conduct user education programme periodically in order to market the variety of services being provided by the libraries.

5.7.3 Towards the Implementation ISO (International Organization for Standardization) Standards

It is heartening to note that currently the university libraries to be planned in implementation of ISO standards. It is earnestly urged that the authorities shall be initiated the implementation process of the ISO standards to the university libraries.

5.7.4 Creation of Union Catalogue for University libraries

It is suggested that union catalogue may be developed for the distributed resource among the university libraries. Such a catalogue would not be maintained in a single location but shall be created in real time by searching each library through Z39.50 protocol.
5.7.5 Development of University Library Manpower

In view of the lack of adequate professionally trained information personnel among the university library, it is urged to develop manpower in a phase manner to meet the dynamic trends in the information handling and management. Further the existing staff shall be given periodic continuing education programme by deputing them to the short term courses conducted by NISCAIR, INFLIBNET, DELNET and other professional and academic institutions.

5.7.6 Personality Development

It is suggested that, university has to conduct personality development programmes for the faculty members. The university faculty members shall attend the personality development programme conducted by the University Grants Commission (UGC) and other organizations or through some agency.

5.8. SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER RESEARCH

The investigator, based on the research, identified the following suggestions for further research.

The present study may be extended to cover other faculty members such as engineering, medical, and etc., in general, and other faculty members working in various Universities/Institutions at Costal area and Telangana of Andhra Pradesh, India so that results could be compared.

Many other user-characteristics/attributes including psychological dimensions of information seeking and using need to be identified and their relation with information seeking behaviour of the university faculty members tested.

There is ample scope for finding inter-correlation among various factors within each aspect Information Seeking Behaviour as well as inter-correlation of various aspects of Information Seeking Behaviour.
5.9 CONCLUSION

The successful operation of any library depends to a large extent on the choice of library collections. The choice of the collection is supposed to meet the need and requirements of the patrons. As a result, librarians should be aware of how the faculty members seek information. The first three formal sources preferred by the faculty for seeking information are books/monographs, journals/periodicals and internet. It is also observed that the majority of faculty members sought information for preparing class teaching guides their student’s projects/research, participation in seminars/conferences. Faculty members are using the internet mainly for the purpose of study and research and used for communicate through electronic mail. The problems they faced while seeking information are information scattered in too many sources, materials unavailable, and lack of time, etc.

Two personality traits, conscientiousness and neuroticism have been noted in the majority of faculty members. Among the five personality traits the extraversion and agreeableness as the greatest predicative power over the information seeking behaviour of faculty members.