CHAPTER V

MAJOR FINDINGS, OBSERVATIONS & SUGGESTIONS

5.1 INTRODUCTION

In the previous chapter, detailed discussion on the analysis of data collected from the Sanskrit Vidhyapeethas faculty regarding their information needs and information seeking pattern has been presented. In this chapter, the major findings and observations and suggestions based on the outcome of the 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 table and figure numbers.

5.2 FINDINGS AND OBSERVATIONS

5.2.1 Sanskrit Education in India

i. It is found that education in the field of Sanskrit Studies is offered mainly by Two Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeethas and Eight Kendriya Sanskrit Vidhyapeethas under the administrative control of Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan spread all over India (Chapter III) in addition to the Seven State owned Sanskrit Universities. Further education in the field of Sanskrit studies is also offered at the various traditional University departments and colleges (Appendix – D, E, F & G).
ii. The Sanskrit Vidhyapeethas are the specialised institutions for teaching and research in the field of Sanskrit studies. (Chapter III).

5.2.2 Sample size

i. The total faculty in the ten Sanskrit Vidhyapeethas under study comprises of 336, out of which 228 have responded and the response rate is 67.85% (Table 4.1 & Fig 4.1).

5.2.3 Background Information about the Respondents

i. The majority (36%) of the Sanskrit Vidhyapeetha faculty fall in the age group between 41-50 years (Table 4.2 & Fig 4.2) and 84.6% respondents are male faculty (Table 4.3 & Fig 4.3).

ii. While 52.3% are of the samples are Lecturers and 36% are Readers (Table 4.4 & Fig 4.4), 71.9% possess Doctorate Degree (Table 4.5 & Fig 4.5).

iii. Nearly half of the sample has teaching experience above 15 years (Table 4.7 & Fig 4.6), whereas 73.2% do not have any research experience (Table 4.8 & Fig. 4.7).

5.2.4 Library Use

i. In addition to the use of Sanskrit Vidhyapeetha library by the faculty, 87.7% use other libraries (Tables 4.9 & 4.11).
5.2.5 Nature and Types of Information Required

i) ‘Sanskrit books’, ‘newspapers’, review of reference materials are highly sought materials in the rank order as seen from WAM results (Table 4.13).

ii) It is found that there is significant relationship between the nature and type of information sources required and the designation and institutional affiliation of the sample as proved by ANOVA and Chi Square tests (Tables 4.14 – 4.17).

iii) The results of the ANOVA and Chi Square also confirms the findings of Multi Dimensional Scaling (Fig. 4.11) with regard to the nature and types of information sources required by the sample.

5.2.6 Informal and Interpersonal Sources

i) There exist significant relationship between the dependence on Informal and Interpersonal sources with the designation and institutional affiliation of the sample as proved by the ANOVA and Chi Square test (Tables 4.18 - 4.21).

5.2.7 Use of Information materials of the Faculty

i) In the category of broad fields of the Sanskrit studies, Upanishads, Sahitya and Vedanta are the highly ranked subjects by the sample (Table 4.23).
ii) It is found that the English and Hindi journals in the field of Sanskrit study are highly preferred by the sample as proved through WAM, Correlation and proximity matrix tests *(Table 4.24 – 4.26).*

iii) ‘Sanskrit text with commentary’ are highly dependable sources followed by ‘Original Text in Sanskrit’ as revealed in WAM test (Table 4.27).

iv) There exist significant relationship between the dependence on various Sanskrit texts and designation and institutional affiliation of the sample as proved by ANOVA and Chi-Square tests (Tables 4.28 – 4.31).

5.2.8 Motivational factors

(i) ‘Guiding student’s project works/ research scholars and class teaching’ are the major motivational factors for seeking information.

(ii) There is a significant relationship between the motivational factors for information seeking and the designation and institutional affiliation of the sample as proved through ANOVA, Chi-Square and Proximity Matrix tests (Tables 4.32 – 4.36).
(iii) It is also found that designation and institutional affiliation have direct bearing on the motivation for information seeking behaviour. All the variables of motivation one way or the other closely related with the other variables through Proximity Matrix Test (Table 4.36).

5.2.9 Use of Vidyapeetha Libraries

(i) Out of ten types of services being provided by Sanskrit Vidyapeetha Libraries, 'Reference service', 'Lending / borrowing of books' and 'Periodical circulation' are highly ranked services by the faculty under study (Table 4.37).

5.2.10 Delegation of work of information seeking behaviour

(i) Nearly two-thirds of the sample do delegate the task of information seeking either occasionally or frequently or moderately (Table 4.38).

(ii) The 'lack of time' is the major reason cited by the respondents for delegating the work of information seeking (Table 4.39 and Fig. 4.12).

5.2.11 Information Sharing

(i) It is found that 'Sharing information with peers and colleagues' is ranked first as one of the reasons for information sharing (Table 4.42).
i.2.12 Dependence of Library Sources

(i) 'Personal Library' and 'Institutional Library' are highly depended source, both for Teaching and research, which has been proved through Wilcoxon signed Rank Test (*Table 4.43*).

(ii) It is found that consultation with scholars had been given top priority with reference to the dependence of the library sources and designation of the sample. As proved through ANOVA test (*Table 4.44*).

(iii) Further it is found that 'Consulting library catalogue' is highly depended source from the point of Institution Affiliations (*Table 4.45*).

(iv) Bi-variate analysis between dependence on library sources indicates that all the variables thus taken up for the study are highly significance (*Table 4.46*).

(v) It is found that two groups have been formed for the dendrogram of the library sources through cluster analysis namely 'Internal Sources' and 'External Sources' (*Fig. 4.13*).

(vi) There is correlation between the findings of cluster analysis and MDS with regard to the depend on libraries by the sample (*Fig. 4.14*).
5.3 FINDINGS IN RELATION TO HYPOTHESES

i. No uniformity in the information need and information-seeking behaviour among Sanskrit Vidhyapeetha faculty.

ii. Do influence the dependence on respective Libraries for information searching.

iii. Designations of Sanskrit Vidhyapeetha faculty do influence in the use of Libraries and satisfied with the resources of the respective Library.

iv. Dependence on more than one channel of information.

v. Heterogeneity in the motives for information.

vi. Dependence on formal and documentary sources and informal and interpersonal sources are in equal status.

vii. Differences in the degree of relevance and dependence in the nature and type of information sought by Sanskrit Vidhyapeetha faculty, stated in Chapter I, under Section 1.6 are found valid.

5.4 SUGGESTIONS

From the analysis and interpretation of the data and the resulting findings and observations have contributed to the formulation of suggestions as outlined below:
5.4.1 Collection Development

In view of the information requirements of the Sanskrit Vidhyapeetha faculty, it is suggested that the libraries shall plan a functional and effective collection development in the field of Sanskrit studies and allied subjects. It is also suggested to acquire both print media and manuscripts. Further it is suggested that collection comprising of standard reference sources both in Sanskrit and in English related to Sanskrit studies shall be build regularly.

5.4.2 Optimum use of Sanskrit Vidhyapeetha Libraries

In view of the current practices by the Sanskrit Vidhyapeetha faculty utilising the library services with respect to borrowing of books, periodicals, and minimum use of other services, it is suggested that the staff in the libraries shall popularise the other types of services including Information Technology based services and strive to the optimum utilisation of their services. Further it is also suggested that the librarians of the Vidhyapeetha have to conduct user education programme periodically in order to market the variety of services being provided by the Sanskrit Vidhyapeethas.

5.4.3 Digital Library

Realising the recent attempts at the global level towards the establishment of Digital / Virtual libraries, it is suggested that the Sanskrit Vidhyapeetha Libraries shall venture towards this direction. Of course, there may be preliminary obstacles in the Indian context. However, if it is implemented, there would be a better trend in the proper augmentation of the
resources among the Sanskrit Vidhyapeetha Libraries. In this connection it is suggested that the experiences of librarians involved in the design and development of digital libraries for other subjects shall be exploited so as to develop digital library for Sanskrit studies.

5.4.4 Developing Bibliographic Standards for Sanskrit Vidhyapeetha Libraries

In view of the diversified practices in the organisation of cataloguing records among the Vidhyapeetha libraries, and realising the significance of compatibility in the bibliographic standards, it is suggested that all the Sanskrit Vidhyapeetha libraries shall follow uniform standardised practices in creation and maintenance of bibliographic records in the respective libraries that would facilitate better sharing of information in a more fruitful manner. In this connection it is pointed out that, since these are coming under the umbrella of INFLIBNET, the bibliographic formats suggested by INFLIBNET may be considered.

5.4.5 Designing Virtual Union Catalogue for Sanskrit Vidhyapeetha Libraries

In view of the proposed Resource Sharing and Networking Model for the Sanskrit Vidhyapeetha Libraries, it is suggested that a Virtual Union Catalogue may be developed which is a possible alternative to the centralised database of distributed resources among the Sanskrit Vidhyapeetha Libraries. Such a catalogue would not be maintained in a single location but shall be
created in real time by searching each Sanskrit Vidhyapeetha Libraries through Z 39.50 protocol. Moreover this would eliminate the redundancy of record storage as well as the expense of loading and maintaining access to the central catalogue.

5.4.6 Information Marketing

Marketing of information products from the Libraries would fetch good revenue. By considering the probable marketing trend, it is suggested that the Librarians of Sanskrit Vidhyapeetha Libraries in association with the faculty of Sanskrit Vidhyapeetha shall bring out a variety of information products and services to suit the information requirements of Sanskrit researchers and others involved in the utilisation of information in the subject of Sanskrit studies. It is suggested that the faculty in association with the librarian shall undertake the projects such as the publication of manuscripts, preparation of subject catalogue, bringing out of Sanskrit studies, and preparation of commentaries for Sanskrit scriptures that will pave way for income generation.

5.4.7 Development of Library Manpower

In view of the lack of adequate professionally trained information personnel among the Libraries and in view of the proposed Networking and Resource Sharing initiatives, it is urged to develop manpower in a phased manner to meet the dynamic trends in the information handling and management. Further the existing staff shall be given periodic continuing
education programmes by deputing them to the short-term courses conducted by INFLIBNET, DELNET and other professional and academic institutions.

5.4.8 Digitization of old and rare documents

In view of the possible benefits of the digitisation and the trend is towards digitization, it is suggested that the rare and old documents in Sanskrit Studies may be digitised and shared among the Sanskrit Vidhyapeetha libraries. Of course the procedures in the Copy Right and Intellectual Property Rights shall be given due consideration in the process of digitizing the old and rare documents.

5.4.9 Developing Network of Sanskrit Vidhyapeetha Libraries (SANSLIBNET)

The Sanskrit Vidhyapeetha Libraries are unique in nature in terms of collection, storage and services. Currently Sanskrit Vidhyapeetha Libraries are not forming part of any existing networks effectively either at local or national level, it becomes mandatory and obligatory to form a network / consortium of Libraries to exploit the possible benefits of Resource sharing and Networking.
5.5 CONCLUSION

From the point of view of the augmentation of the resources, there is an every need to share the resources among Sanskrit Vidhyapeetha Libraries. Further these centres can be networked in the light of changing trends in the information storage and retrieval. The available Information Communication Technology (ICT) facilities shall also be exploited in this direction. Therefore in the next chapter a prototype network design of Sanskrit Vidhyapeetha Libraries (SANSLIBNET) has been presented that facilitates the proper utilisation of the resources.