"Nature that rolls on her course, and whoever has sufficiently considered the present state of things might certainly conclude as to both the future and the past"

- MONTAIGNE

CHAPTER NINE

CONCLUSION
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The empirical aspect of the study done here is describing the information seeking behaviour and communication pattern of teaching faculty in the context of Regional Engineering Colleges in India. The study presented reasonable observations from others and has formed its own analysis in the light of the collected data using several methods and techniques.

The present study has synthesised the personal, motivational, interpersonal, and environmental factors into a proposal of a integrated model of Information Communication and Information Seeking Behaviour. This model is a proposal and also a humble attempt to show the way for further research in the field.

The results of this study provide rich source of data from which investigation could be taken on various lines. The study raises the issues effecting the information seeking and communication pattern of the engineering faculty and projects a new line of thinking to facilitate the future investigation.

It is not a surprise that, most of the engineering faculty members are hard pressed for time. They depend heavily on informal sources and colleagues. They do not use bibliographic services as effectively as they should. They are not interested in end-user searching of on-line sources but they do employ computer based searching and information retrieval

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system occasionally through the help of library staff or get it done through research students. They are using E-Mail for information contacts and read relatively high industrial material. They value conferences highly and give relatively less importance for journal literature.

The study also showed variations in patterns of information seeking and needs which depend on professional position and available time. This has affected library services to provide information by critically examining role in the research and academic field. The library has to facilitate the faculty by understanding their information needs and problems. The library should aim to provide superlative services to those who need and use its services at large to keep up the knowledge of the faculty instead of providing traditional services.

The study has defined the problems in information seeking and thereby provided some directions to those who are designing systems and techniques for information communication for the purpose of generating a more formal theory from the data. The evidence of comparison illustrated in this piece of research suggests that subject differences in the nature of the work undertaken by the respondents may reset in minor variations in their information seeking behaviours.

The comparison effected in this project has shown that the activities, such as Starting do not occur with the same resources. The engineering faculty rely on starter references, reviews and informal contact including E-Mail and most
differentiating source is industrial information sources like reports, trade catalogues. Chaining references is not exclusive to particular stage in the engineering faculty work but may be undertaken for starting or creating awareness. Browsing as an awareness maintaining activity. And it was mentioned that scanning of journals as their preferred method of keeping up to date. Engineering faculty intend to have a browsing facility by the use of an automated indexing system or to explore a portion of the indexing vocabulary on-line through their computers. The concept of Differentiation between sources to filter material, or the bases of quality level and type of sources are appropriate to the engineering faculty. For Monitoring, the engineering faculty prefer to make use of conference & seminar proceedings, professional journals and computer search update. Extracting is an important aspect of information gathering but it is less significant for the engineering faculty.

There is rather a difference in emphasis in the information seeking behaviour of engineering faculty in comparison to other studies. Nonetheless, what this piece of comparative research has demonstrated is that fundamentally there is no overriding distinction in the information seeking behaviours. The characteristics of engineers and other groups are fundamentally the same.

The communication pattern in engineering is illustrated by a comparison of several channels in this study. Among the sample of 700 faculty members, 656 were clearly communicating through the developmental and multichannel ways of engineering
literature in their nature. The remaining respondents were having particular sets of channels for publication or communication. The information generated by these members would eventually be used to develop new research in their field. Most of the local industries are using the expertise and the research results for their production purpose. For this reason their work can be considered much more valuable in nature.

This study highlights key features of the perceptions of engineers concerning their generation, communication and utilization of information. The high technical performance, high proportion of technological knowledge, good technical management skill and superiority in communicating the information to industries are the features of these engineers and they are the "Technological Gatekeepers" of the modern world of information.

It is hoped to carry out further studies to assess the usefulness of information technology for information seeking and communication patterns of engineers in different fields in detail to refine the features of the Ellis model and to improve the information retrieval services. The knowledge of this study would be of direct use to the library and information services, and also to the managers in deciding how and to whom to offer the best services.

There would be a need to widen the conceptual perspectives of the user and his behaviour. It seems unlikely that communication and information seeking behaviour can be explained by purely "Information" concepts. The concepts that are needed for explanations and to offer suggestions for future directions are to be drawn from a wide variety of fields. In
this country engineers and engineering faculty have ought to imitate the aims and methods of the natural sciences, looking for laws to allow explanation and prediction in human life. There is something of a reconstruction going on in some of the sciences with a renewed interest and felt the need for qualitative research. The shift in focus from quantitative methods to qualitative methods might indicate that the scientists "admit" that the best that can be done is to produce limited generalizations about central tendencies. The proposed focus suggested here would support this proposition by insisting upon the use of qualitative research methods for the development of concepts and theories. It would require that such concepts, models, and theories pay more attention to the behavioural and organizational context of information seeking and further extended and to the totality of types of information needs, information resources, and information transfer mechanisms.

"Information Seeking and Communication" firmly founded upon an understanding of the faculty members (and other users) in the context of their personal, interpersonal, and environmental relations might also be of more use to the information practitioner by indicating innovations and experiments. This is not the purpose of this work, but through understanding and deep knowledge about the faculty members' working in a situation might be a key to serve them better.

What was the central ground for librarians earlier is now also the central ground for computer scientists, systems analysts, management information designers, and what one may call
database entrepreneurs. A sensible response to this from a critical library profession might be to cooperate with these groups and, in addition to this, try to understand, for example, the information seeking behaviour of the faculty members to serve their multifarious needs in a more critical and less laborious way for them. It is found that engineering faculty members looked upon librarians as uncommitted professionals. An orientation towards this direction needs to be emphasised where in the efforts should be made known to the users that Library and Information Professionals are the Inevitable partners in their progress.