Chapter-2

REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE

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CHAPTER - II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

2.0 INTRODUCTION

The literature review plays a very important role in the research process. In this chapter, a review of the selected and useful studies related to the research problem has been identified. Various similar research studies related to the present research problem “Information Gathering and Use Habits of Law Libraries with special reference to Law Colleges Formerly and Presently affiliated to the Karnataka University, Dharwad: A Study” has been conducted in India and other countries of the world. These studies are related to the services rendered by the Law college libraries and users of such services, their information seeking behavior, use pattern and user’s satisfaction with the resources and services of libraries, Communication behaviour, Information needs and requirements, Information gathering habits, etc.

This chapter provides an account of the studies carried out by the professionals and the views and opinions of scholars in the field of information seeking behaviour in India as well as in abroad. It covers various aspects of user studies such as communication behaviour, information seeking behaviour, information gathering habits, information needs etc. since there is vast published literature on information seeking behaviour. The attempt has been made here to collect important and related studies on the theme and the same has been presented under different headings and subheadings.
The main purpose of this literature review is to know the earlier studies conducted on information needs and seeking behaviour. But only a few studies are conducted on Law libraries and users of the law libraries but abundant studies are conducted and lot of literature is available in the field of user studies of other faculties apart from legal faculty, and existence of such studies under different headings such as research methods, theories, applications, criticism of previous work, etc. It is extremely difficult to review the entire research done so far on the user studies, highly selected and important studies and their findings relating to Information Seeking Behaviour of faculty and students are selected. All primary, secondary and tertiary sources of information were searched. In locating the relevant information for this topic, apart from the current library science periodicals, the online journals and several other sources were also used. These included journals pertaining to legal education, general and specialized bibliographical tools, abstracts, dissertations and online catalogues of libraries. The electronic resources, such as the Internet, Education Research Information Center (ERIC) indexes, Wilson Web, LISA Plus: Library and Information Science Abstracts (LISA) produced by Bowker-Saur, is an international bibliographic database on Library & Information Science (LIS) etc., and were examined to obtain the current information on the topic. It is found that very few studies were carried out in the field of law and it is further less in India.

The literature review has been built defining its objectives, scope, and the related documents. Huge quantity of literature has been gathered and used as a base for the present research work. The main emphasis of the search was on the literature that dealt with information seeking behaviour of the faculty and students in the field of Law.
The literature has been examined and reviewed under the following subheadings:

- User Studies in Other Countries
- User Studies in India

### 2.1 USER STUDIES CONDUCTED AT THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

The **Whiteman (2014)** study examines the evolving American Bar Association (ABA) Standard 606 and its effects on the collections of academic law libraries. What the twenty-first-century academic law library will look like will depend to a large extent on how the ABA standards respond to the changing realities in the legal academic marketplace. While some are calling for the elimination of the physical academic law library, the more likely outcome is that, in response to the evolving ABA standards and current economic realities, the academic law library will shrink in both physical space and physical holdings, but it will continue to be the center within the law school that helps train and produce the “practice ready” lawyers that are the ostensible goal of current legal education reforms.

**Ogba (2013)** in his study investigates the information seeking behaviour of final year law students in Nigeria. A structured questionnaire and interview methods were used for data gathering in 7 Nigerian Universities. The data was analyzed using frequency distribution, measure of central tendency and dispersion; and Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) and Microsoft Excel as software. The interview was transcribed and arranged into themes for proper analysis. The research findings show that the respondents use print textbooks and Google as major research resources, Academic Law Libraries and Search engines as major research locations while newspaper vendors and public libraries are used as locations for research on newspapers. They were found to possess computer skills.
and lack information skills. Money, MTN (a major telecommunication provider in Nigeria), Library and Information Services (LIS), Law faculty dress code and Nigerian respect views for elders were found as factors to information seeking behaviour of the respondents. This study was concluded by presenting new findings to information seeking behaviour (ISB) amongst Nigerian law students.

The information seeking behaviour of final year law students in Ekiti State University was conducted by Ogba in 2013. The research findings of the study show that the respondents browse library shelves, lack of knowledge about the library services and current resources, use the library for print materials while they browse in cybercafé, avoid the e-library and library facilities and avoid seeking assistance from library staff because they perceive them as being harsh. The respondents were further found to be Google inclined despite numerous complaints and difficulties they face in Google. The barriers found in this study were inadequate resources from the internet search, inability to select right resources needed for research, lack of knowledge on sites to use for information research, money, harshness from library officials and lack of Nigerian resources online. These barriers were found to be affected by lack of information skills, attitude of library staff, and ease in getting resources and bad experiences from previous research. Respondents were also found to lack of information skills in the area of evaluation of resources, copyright and citation skills.

Tung (2013) reveals that today's law schools are threatened by declining enrollments and poor job prospects for graduates. The prominent reformers are exposing functions within the current system and recommending improvements, but many of these proposals misunderstand academic law libraries and their
contributions to student and faculty success. This article examines four possible curricular reforms and suggests ways that law librarians can participate in a comprehensive effort to make legal education more useful.

Walker (2013) article provides a brief history of the evolution of legal education in America, examining the roles of both law libraries and academic support programs. It then offers suggestions for ways to integrate library services with academic support services. The author says that, just as law libraries are a “third place” in the law school academic support is a “third place” for the law libraries. In the first place, they serve as repositories of information, and their entrances are gateways to worlds of knowledge. In the second place, the law libraries help the seekers navigate the labyrinth of information in their quest for knowledge. In a third place, such as in strengthening academic support programs, the law library can be a place where the piers of cognitive bridges are built and reinforced.

Lenz (2013) indicates as state funding diminishes, public law schools moving toward a model of financial self-sufficiency strive to articulate their continuing public mission. The public law school libraries also should take this opportunity to examine and refine their public mission by taking a broader view of their role in supporting their law schools’ public mission, and collaborating with one another and with other state-supported academic libraries to fulfill their public mission on a national basis.

Canick (2013) in his article suggests a new set of filters through which to evaluate the law library services, in particular those that support faculty scholarship. These filters include recent profound changes in legal education and the motivators of today’s law professors. By understanding the needs of self-interested deans and
professors, libraries can fill new roles that are consistent with core values. Libraries can also focus on dissemination and promotion of faculty work, especially through the innovative open access projects.

**Khan and Bhatti (2012)** paper reports the results of a study of information needs and seeking behavior of the law faculty members in the University of Peshawar and its seventeen affiliated law colleges, Khayber Pakhtookhawa (North Western Frontier Post NWFP, Pakistan). Their preferences regarding various information sources, channels, methods, library use patterns, convenient study places, satisfaction level and problems encountered by them in their information needs and seeking have been explored through quantitative survey. A structured questionnaire was designed and distributed among one hundred randomly selected law faculty members. The response rate was 86%. Results of the study revealed that majority of the law faculty member were not satisfied with the provision of libraries in their colleges. Members of the faculty openly expressed their dissatisfaction regarding the resources, services and facilities provided by the law colleges’ libraries. They preferred information in printed form and in English language for preparing lecturers and other academic purposes. The study also found them dissatisfied regarding IT facilities i.e. computers and internet in their libraries. To meet their instant academic and research needs most of them had developed personal collections at homes and offices. A significant number of law faculty members appreciated the cooperative attitude of the library staff. The study suggested the provision of IT based sources and facilities and the assessment of teaching communities’ information needs for planning better users’ oriented services and developing effective library collection.
The major purpose of the paper presented by Yemisi, Janneke and Ocholla (2012) was to investigate the information seeking behaviour of undergraduate law students of a developing country. Specifically, the paper made efforts to globally review the related literature on legal information, library information and its relevance to lawyers and law students, Information Communication Technologies (ICTs) in the legal profession, information services to legal professionals, information needs of law students, information seeking strategy of law students, ICT utilization skills of law students, law students’ utilization of digital libraries, challenges and problems of digital libraries, and legal information seeking behaviour and ICT skills of law students in Nigeria. The results of the reviewed literature reveal that (lawyers) law students do not fully utilize library information resources while seeking information due to lack of exposure to ICTs equipment and or traditional teaching method used in law classes, which do not encourage law students to harness legal information from the university law libraries. Some of the literature reviewed reveals poor electricity power supply, lack of professional and skilled staff, lack of maintenance culture and lack of commitment by staff. It also reveal lack of ICT library resources, staff training deficiencies as challenges faced, and the other contributory factor to why law students lack interest in patronizing the law libraries to seek information.

McCormack (2012) Professor discusses the results of a 2010 survey of academic law library directors in Canada regarding the cancellation of primary source material in their libraries. She identifies the criteria ascertained by the survey for cancellation of print materials and explores whether a shift in format matters to libraries and their users. Price was not a major factor in any decisions to cancel
print legislation. In response to the statement “The price of print legislation is a concern for the library” only 26.6% of academic law libraries said that they agreed or partially agreed. In contrast, 80% of law library directors agreed or partially agreed with the statement, “The price of subscribing to print reporters is a concern for the library”.

Aforo and Lamptey (2012) in their study investigated the information needs and the information seeking behaviour of lecturers in the Faculty of Law, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi, Ghana. The open and close-ended questions on information selection, type of and purpose for seeking information, and problems involved in seeking information were administered to the Law Lecturers. Significant differences in measured parameters were assessed with Pearson’s Chi-square test using Graph Pad Prism version 5.00. The results indicated that the primary purpose for seeking information was to obtain useful materials for research work (75%), background reading (62.5%), and keeping updated with knowledge in their field of specialization (56.3%). The Law Reports, Law Journals, and Textbooks (93.8%, 81.3%, and 81.3%) respectively were said to be the most useful source of information. Preference for information access was mainly electronic resources. The majority (68.8%) of lecturers sought for information daily. All Law lecturers saw the Sir Arku Korsah Law Library as an important place for seeking information; there is a positive correlation between adequacy of library materials and frequency of library visits. The information needs of Law lecturers were diverse but the Law lecturers relied greatly on law reports, law journals and textbooks. The Information professionals could analyze these findings and design, develop, and introduce new library information services for lecturers.
Olorunfemi and Mostert (2012) - the purpose of their study was to examine the information seeking behaviour of the undergraduate law students in a developing country. In this paper, the authors reviewed literature on the information seeking behaviour and ICT utilization skills of law students, taking Nigerian universities' undergraduate law students as a case study. The review focuses on legal information, library information and its relevance to lawyers and law students, Information Communication Technologies (ICTs) in the legal profession, information services for legal professionals, information needs of law students, the information seeking strategy of law students, ICT utilization skills of law students, law students’ utilization of digital libraries, challenges and problems of digital libraries, and legal information seeking behaviour and ICT skills of law students in Nigeria.

Robert’s (2011) article reports results of a recent survey of American Association of Law Libraries respecting non-MARC metadata practices, with a focus on interoperability. The results cover types of collections are described with non-MARC metadata, as well as metadata standards, platforms, and tools. The results suggest substantial, though incomplete, awareness among the respondents of metadata interoperability and the factors that enable it.

Owoeye’s (2011) study reveals that the relevance of ICT adoption and use in the various law firms for effective, efficient and speedy administration of justice, in Lagos State, Nigeria need not to be over emphasized. The practice of legal profession in Nigeria is a challenging one and a quick access to and a retrieval of appropriate legal information by judges, lawyers, researchers etc in the emerging digital age require effective adoption and use of ICT in the law firms. The findings
of the study have revealed that Lagos state law firms are currently making progress towards participating in the global adoption and use of ICT. The paper recommends effective human capacity building and user education programmes for sustainable use of ICT in the Lagos State law firms. Besides, heads or owners of law firms in Lagos State should increase their level of funding towards enhanced participation in the ICT integration. The Federal government should provide an enabling environment such as efficient and stable power supply in addition to the relevant ICT policies to include lower tariff on all the imported ICT equipments, accessories to boost an ICT adoption and use in Nigeria.

Michelle’s (2011) Study examined that the Law libraries are losing ground in the effort to collect and preserve information in the digital age. This is due to the declining budgets, increased user needs, and a caution born from the great responsibility libraries feel to ensure the future access. That caution, though, has caused others, such as Google, to fill the gap with their own solutions. The libraries must contribute actively to the creation of digital collections if they expect to have a voice in future discussions. This article presents a vision of a collaborative, digital academic law library one that will harness users’ collective strengths while still allowing individual collections to prosper. It seeks to identify and answer the thorniest issues—including copyright—surrounding digitization projects. It does not presume to solve all of these issues. It is, however, intended to be a call for collective action—to stop discussing the law library of the future and to start building it.

The results of Khan and Bhatti (2011) research showed the relevance with the findings of studies conducted earlier at an international level. The survey of the
lawyers’ community at District Bar Council, Bahawalpur was conducted by the researcher and the data were collected with the help of a structured, peer-reviewed and pilot-tested questionnaire. Seventy questionnaires were distributed among the lawyers for data collection and 54 questionnaires were filled out by the lawyers. The response rate was 77%. Due to the busy schedule of the lawyers, the researcher faced difficulty in data collection. This study reported that lawyers need information for case preparation and they mostly acquire information from their District Bar library. The results acquired from this research also show that most of the respondents opined that ICT has made information seeking and gathering process easier for them; however, only eleven of the respondents found to use internet and they rated their information retrieval skill as poor. The current research is helpful in understanding the information needs of the lawyers practicing in Sessions Court Bahawalpur. The study suggests that computer training and internet service should be provided to the lawyers for improving their computer skills.

Ossai (2011) studied how the law students utilize information resources in the law library. She submits that most of the law students claim to have heavily used library resources in the course of their academic programs. But the result of Ossai’s study reveals that most of the law students have a difficulty in locating and identifying the suitable library information sources for case law, legislation and journal articles. Ossai submits that ‘law’ students should be assisted to frequently utilize library facilities. Similarly, it can be advocated that law students should be encouraged to spend more time in the library than they spend receiving lectures. This will enable them to make maximum use of the library ICT sources and
services which, in turn, will lead to an increase in their ICT skills and the effective information usage of the information retrieved.

**Yemisi and Janneke (2011)** authors in their article say that law students at the Adekunle Ajasin University are well prepared to use the law library. They have an ability to use the available electronic information resources to retrieve information for their studies. However, the challenges faced are accessing information sources in the law libraries prevents their patronage. According to these authors the challenges faced by the law libraries are lack of current materials hampering efforts to find information, unorganized sources, unhelpful staff who are not electronic literate, prohibition to access the electronic library in the law library, and the library closing too early.

**Davidson (2010)** reveals how do legal scholars seek, discover, and manage information while conducting scholarly research. While the methods of legal research have been well-covered in the literature, the few studies have explored the habits and practices that legal scholars actually employ when doing scholarly research. For the librarians who support scholarly work through collection development, instruction, and personalized services, understanding scholars' research practices is vital. This article addresses gaps between models of legal research and actual research practices, and urges movement toward an empirically grounded understanding of the research habits of legal scholars in order to bridge some of those gaps.

Mr. **Koulikov (2010)** examines the level of coverage that articles originally published in law reviews receive in eight major general academic databases. His findings are very similar to those of other discipline-specific database coverage.
studies, and reveal that coverage varies widely by database, regardless of the database’s claim to cover legal periodicals. This has particular implications for the level of engagement that non-legal scholars have with the literature of the legal academia, and for the potential for meaningful interaction between legal scholars and their peers in other academic fields.

Street and Runyon (2010) in their article examine how academic law libraries can respond to the call for more practice oriented legal education, the authors compared trends in collection management decisions regarding secondary sources at academic and law firm libraries. The results of their survey are followed by recommendations about how the academic and firm librarians can work together to best provide law students with materials they will need in practice.

The research of Tuhumwire and Obura (2010) that examines the information needs and access of particular professional groups in an effort to map their locating and use of information and to enhance information provision to those groups is of paramount importance. Information-seeking is an important part of lawyers’ work and like many other professions the legal profession needs access to many dedicated legal information resources. The need for information is greatly influenced by the age and experience of a lawyer. It is argued that the older a lawyer and the more experienced she/he is in legal practice, the less she/he might need to consult the information sources.

Tenopir et al. (2009) studied the reading patterns of science, social science, technology, and medical university faculty members. The study was restricted to the university science faculty members and their response was compared over time. The data for the study were collected periodically from 1977 to present.
through questionnaire. The study showed that the information seeking and reading patterns of science faculty have changed with the growth of electronic journals. The study also found that the average number of readings per year per science faculty member continues to increase, while the average time spent per reading decreases.

Qureshi et al. (2008) examined the information needs and information seeking behaviour of students of nine universities in Pakistan. The study was carried out with the objective to examine the behaviour of students towards the information, to identify the main sources of information, to determine level of awareness regarding the sources and to establish whether students have had any instruction on use of resources or not. The questionnaire method was the chief instrument for collecting data, and one thousand students responded to the study. The statistical tools like correlation and regression were used to analyze the data. The study found that educational and cultural background, surrounding environment and student participation have a positive impact on the ISB of students. The study also revealed that modern digital libraries, interfaces and web database sources etc also have an influence on students' information seeking behaviour.

Makri, Blandford and Cox (2008) have stated that information-seeking is important for lawyers, who have access to many dedicated electronic resources. However there is a considerable scope for improving the design of these resources to better the support information-seeking. One way of informing the design is to use the information-seeking models as theoretical lenses to analyze users' behaviour with existing systems. However many models, including those informed by studying lawyers, analyze information-seeking at a high level of abstraction and
are only likely to lead to broad-scoped design insights. The authors illustrate that one potentially useful (and lowerlevel) model is Ellis’s - by using it as a lens to analyze and make design suggestions based on the information seeking behaviour of twenty-seven academic lawyers, who were asked to think aloud even as using electronic legal resources to find information for their work. The authors identify similar information-seeking behaviours to those originally found by Ellis and his colleagues in the scientific domains along with several that were not identified in the previous studies such as ‘updating’ (which authors believe is particularly pertinent to legal information-seeking). The article also presents a refinement of Ellis’s model based on the identification of several levels that the behaviours were found to operate at and the identification of sets of mutually exclusive subtypes of behaviours.

The purpose of Jones (2008) study was to develop a conceptual framework for legal information behavior in the law clinic setting. A strong conceptual framework for legal information behavior can be used to improve legal information systems, instruction, and services. This study examined academic law school researchers from a Farm worker Legal Aid Clinic. The student teams were observed in the law clinic as they constructed legal theories and located legal materials. The conceptual framework for this study is Solomon's Discovering Information in Context, which allows for multiple perspectives in gaining a rich, "round" view of information behavior, and puts forth Activity the theory provides a possible tool for exploring how people discover information. The Activity Theory was used to examine the systems, users, and the context of information use in the law clinic.
Lee (2008) argues that the traditional quality criteria for judging law libraries are now inadequate because they no longer capture the vital multiple missions of today's libraries. She suggests ways that law librarians can begin to develop indicia of quality that can adequately evaluate the contemporary law school library and preserve its core missions.

Jamali et al. (2008) investigated two aspects of ISB of Physicists and Astronomers at University College, London. The scope of the study was limited to the techniques adopted by the academics for keeping up-to-date and the methods used for finding articles. One hundred and fourteen people (47.1%) responded to the survey. A self-administered web-based questionnaire was used for eliciting data from the Ph.D students and the staff of the Department of Physics and Astronomy at University College, London. The study shows that even though similarities exist among academics of Physics and Astronomy with regard to ISB, there are considerable differences also. The study outlined the need for and the importance of looking deeper into subject communities within disciplines for a better understanding of the information behaviour of scientists.

Makri, Blandford and Cox (2007) study explores the lawyers, like many user groups; regularly use Google to find information for their work. The authors present the results of a series of interviews with academic and practicing lawyers where they discuss in what situations they use various electronic resources and why. The paper finds lawyers use Google due to a variety of factors, many of which are related to the need to find information quickly. The lawyers also talk about Google with a certain affection not demonstrated when discussing other resources. Although the authors can design the legal resources to emulate Google
or design them based on factors perceived to make Google successful, the paper suggests this is unlikely to better support legal information-seeking. Instead, the paper suggests the importance of taking a number of inter-related trade-offs, related to the factors identified in this study, into account when designing electronic legal resources to help ensure they are useful, usable and used.

**Fowler (2007)** identifies that attorneys can be counted on to have a solid knowledge of state and federal constitutions, statutes and court rules if they access relevant legal information. Beyond that, the scope of each practice determines the specificity of legal information needed for ready reference and research. The attorneys in small firms primarily need access to basic state resources and updates of appellate court rulings. The legal information needs of lawyers vary because of the variety of cases handled and the areas of specialization. The practicing lawyers need access to statutes, acts and decrees that are legislation passed by the government and are basically arranged according to years accompanied with an index.

**Pettinato (2007)** suggests that the academic law librarians are specially equipped to ensure that the law-related government documents are both accessible and understandable. Because of this, they play a valuable role in democracy by contributing to the ideal of the informed citizen. Membership in the Federal Depository Library Program means that the academic law librarians and their patrons will have the resources necessary to work together in creating a more democratic society. The increasing availability of government documents online does not negate this necessity, but instead makes law librarians more valuable and necessary than ever before.
Hinson et al. (2007) pointed out that seventy-eight percent of the lawyers were found agreed that the internet improves their productivity. Eighty-eight per cent of respondents indicated that the internet is useful as a communication tool, whilst 76 percent of the respondents considered the internet to be very important for getting information.

Makri, Blandford and Cox (2006) in their paper describe about the ongoing work which involves examining the information seeking behaviour of legal professionals. This work involves studying the behaviour of both academic and practicing lawyers with the long-term aim of integrating user-centred legal information seeking support into digital law libraries. The authors report the preliminary findings from the initial phase of the study, which comprised a series of semi structured interviews and naturalistic observations of academic law students looking for information that they require for their work. This group of academic lawyers often found it difficult to find the information that they were looking for when using digital law libraries. A potential symptom of this difficulty was that hazy and incorrect knowledge of the digital library system and information sources within the system were rife. This suggests the need for students to understand more about the digital library systems that they use.

Eke (2006) mentioned that ICT is making its impact on different sectors of Nigerian economy, especially in legal profession. Due to the importance of ICT in the development of Nigerian legal system, there is a paradigm shift from acquisition of print information resources to electronic resources in law libraries. For instance, availability of the Internet or related computer network (such as Local Area Network) can provide quick access to relevant legal information in
electronic format in law libraries than is manually possible. Hence, an effective adoption and use of ICT in law libraries will be immensely beneficial for sustainable development in Nigeria by ensuring that relevant and current information is made available for legal practice for enhanced productivity.

French (2006) in his study investigates that the librarians involved in a construction or renovation project must develop a vision for the project, sell that vision to administrators and building professionals, and work to ensure that the completed project meets the library's needs. The author provides a starting point for the librarians wishing to study what has been done in other libraries, become aware of the issues they might face, and prepare themselves for the work ahead.

George et al. (2006) investigated the Information Seeking Behaviour of graduate students of Carnegie Mellon University. The study was carried out to determine the graduate students (masters as well as doctoral) ISB and the use of information for their scholarly activities. A sample of hundred students representing all disciplines was selected and the data was collected by means of in depth structured interviews. The transcript of the interview was coded and analyzed using ATLAS. ti software. The study showed that graduate students' information gathering activity begins with teacher's direction and recommendations. Convenience, lack of sophistication in finding and using resources, course requirement affect their information behaviour. Another finding of the study was that even though internet plays a major role, students continue to use the print resources. The study also reveals that there is a significant variation in the ISB across the disciplines and between programmes. The interesting finding of the study was that the libraries influenced students' ISB.
Milles (2006) argues that the open access movement in legal scholarship fails to address and in fact diverts resources from the real problem facing law libraries today: the soaring costs of non scholarly, commercially published, practitioner-oriented legal publications. He suggests that one solution to this problem is for law schools to redirect some of their resources intellectual capital, reputation, and student labor to publishing legal information for practitioners rather than legal scholars.

Wilson (2006) investigated the nature of ISB in the digital information world. The author explored the behavioural pattern with special reference to electronic databases and the World Wide Web. The different models of ISB were presented and the difficulties in the process of searching were explored. Study provides insights into the seeking behaviour through electronic systems.

Jones (2006) conducted the Contextual Inquiry observations of students and an instructor working in an academic U.S. Legal Aid Clinic. She analysed transcripts and videotapes of the lawyers working with clients and examined the lawyers' LexisNexis and Westlaw search logs and documents produced, with the long-term aim of feeding these findings into the design of a system to support legal information-seeking and use. Her preliminary findings were that these lawyers relied heavily on collaboration with practicing attorneys for assistance and advice and on knowledge management activities involving locating and looking over documents in a client file. She found that although these documents were rarely annotated, the detailed memos were produced when conversations were held with outside experts. Jones concluded that “extensive collaboration and a heavy reliance on informal sources of information such as listservs and the advice of local experts
allowed the students to cope with complex cases which evolved over time”. She suggested that future systems designed to support lawyers in a legal aid clinic such as this should focus on the social nature of legal research by acting as online repositories that facilitate the sharing, annotation and tagging of documents so that they can be located more easily.

**Heinstrom (2005)** investigated the information behaviour from a physiological perspective by relating information seeking to personality traits and study approaches. The author studied the ISB in relation to the five factor personality theory. The study was based on three hundred and five university students who were in the process of writing their master thesis. The research design was quantitative and consisted of three questionnaires. The statistical tools used for analysis include factor, correlation and regression analysis. The main finding of the study was that students information behavior could be grouped into three patterns fast surfing, broad scanning and deep diving, which were linked to personality traits and study approaches.

Despite law students’ reliance on electronic sources for legal research, **Rumsey and Schwartz (2005)** survey confirmed that many journals make their staff members check authors’ citations against paper sources. Rumsey and Schwartz argue that the advent of image-based document collections should change this practice, making life easier for law students and the law school librarians. The technology remains a moving target, making prescriptions difficult. But the authors believe that the image-based legal databases such as those offered by Hein, LexisNexis, and West give the law journals and libraries a way to decrease the burden of cite checking. With a little help from the editors of the Bluebook, some
attention from the journal staff members, and an educational effort by librarians, life will be a little easier for all of us.

Leckie (2005) suggested that “in the literature of LIS and other professionally-oriented disciplines, there has been a strong interest in examining the information-seeking practices of practitioners within various fields of professional work. The studies have examined the information-seeking behaviors and information uses of different professional groups to determine what information practices are embedded within professional work, how those information-related practices function to contribute to the work, and whether or not those practices can be improved or changed for the better.”

Michelle M. Wu (2005) reveals that the libraries have supported multiple formats for decades, from paper and microforms to audiovisual tapes and CDs. However, the newest medium, digital transmission has presented a wider scope of challenges and caused library patrons to question the established and recognized multiformat library. Within the many questions posed, two distinct ones echo repeatedly. The first doubts the need to sustain print in an increasingly digital world, and the second warns of the dangers of relying on a still developing technology. This article examines both of these positions and concludes that abandoning either format would translate into a failure of service to patrons, both present and future.

Asemi (2005) carried out a study to understand the information searching habits of internet users at the Medical University of Isfahan. The aim of the study was to investigate the status of information searching nature of the users on internet. The data was collected using a questionnaire followed by interview with users from five faculties. One hundred and eighty eight persons responded to the study. The
study revealed that students use internet significantly, and it occupies an important place among various sources. The study also observed that electronic media has not replaced print media.

Blackburn et al. (2004) in his survey focused on the ARL (Association of Research Libraries) affiliated law libraries and tried to determine the overall picture of status and tenure for non-director law librarians in those institutions. The data supports the following findings:

A majority (53.5%) of ARL (Association of Research Libraries) affiliated law libraries in the survey offer non-director law librarians faculty or academic status or rank with tenure. By contrast, in all academic law libraries, only a minority (between 27.1% and 43.9%) offer faculty or academic status or rank with tenure to non-directors. This comparison suggests that the non-director law librarians have better access to tenure under ARL-affiliated academic law libraries than the under academic law libraries as a whole. The survey also reveals that so far as faculty governance and participation are concerned, the great majority of non-directors among the surveyed libraries do not participate equally in the law school setting with other faculty members, although the non-directors may have the opportunity to attend law faculty meetings, serve on law school committees, and even vote on limited matters.

Kerins, Madden, and Fulton (2004) studied the information-seeking behavior of law students and engineering students in Ireland using the Leckie model. Semi-structured interviews and problem exercises were used to examine the law students’ information seeking behaviors. They state that “Participants were presented with three queries that they might be asked to complete in a given law
course and were asked to explain how they would locate such information using all of the information resources available to them."

Lenz (2004) argues that in the collection development the librarians should have to play an active role in library faculty services programs. She explores ways they can make valuable contributions to such programs, and examines the importance of interdepartmental collaboration to achieve faculty services goals. The collection development librarians need to assume an expanded role in law library faculty services programs. All library departments are facing new challenges and opportunities as they respond to changes motivated by expanding concepts of collections the proliferation and integration of electronic resources, increased demand for service, and ever-expanding interdisciplinary interests. While faculty services programs have traditionally been in the realm of public services, in the current law library environment, it is unrealistic to expect that any single department will be able to meet the library’s faculty services goals alone.

Davis (2004) in his study titled ‘Information seeking behaviour of Chemists: a transaction log analysis of referral URL’s investigates the tools used and the pathways taken by the chemists in navigating electronic journals. Davis studied the ISB of scientists by analyzing the transaction log’s of the American Chemical society (ACS) for members of the Cornell University community. The study found that scientists use different methods of referrals and number and types of referrals followed an inverse square law. The scientists relied on local alternatives or personnel web page for information.
Jarvis (2004) argues that the law professors want less, not more from law librarians as the twenty-first century unfolds. The author ends with this thought. Change is never easy and dislocations are always wrenching. But the librarians who are serious about their craft will not fight the downsizing and eventual elimination of the library and its staff. Rather, they will embrace the coming demise, for it will mean that the original goal of the libraries to ensure that scholars could find what they needed when they needed it will at long last have been accomplished.

Howard, Lehmann, and Rood's (2003) purpose of the case study was to investigate the information behavior of a group of information users. As a team authors chose to interview three litigation attorneys regarding their information behavior, analyze the results, and compare our findings to those of two other studies of attorneys' information behavior. For this study, three trial lawyers, all practicing for at least 10 years, were interviewed using a survey instrument containing seventeen open-ended questions with some supplemental or clarifying questions. The interviews were tape recorded and transcribed for analysis. Questions were geared to learn more about the following information behaviors of these three lawyers: type of need, type of seeking, information evaluation/avoidance, and the information use. The lawyers have both known item needs and subject needs. Sometimes they know the exact item they need, such as a police report, a contract or case law. Other times, they may have to search by keyword to find the right item; other times, they have to search through thousands of documents in the hopes of something useful.
The three lawyers in this study mirror the lawyers in the other two studies to a great extent, but the influence of technology is clear in the areas where they differ. This could be a chronological issue (the other studies were conducted in 2000 and 2001), or possibly a regional issue, as information professionals in the Pacific Northwest may be more heavily influenced by technology than in other parts of the world. They possess very sophisticated information behavior, with highly developed information management skills. In fact, each one is a unique information management system unto himself.

A random survey of the condition of the University of Kansas Law Library collection was conducted by Mead and Baird (2003). The results were compared with the condition of the other University of Kansas libraries to determine whether the law libraries have similar preservation needs regarding the brittleness and acidity of paper, mutilation, and binding deterioration as general academic libraries.

Briscoe, Selden, and Nyberg (2003) identifies Connecting users to the best available sources of legal information is one of the traditional functions of the law library. These sources now include Web sites, electronic journals, and subscription databases. This article explores the best way to bring these useful Internet resources to the attention of users, concentrating on the pros and cons of using the catalog or the home page.

Reach, Whelan and Flood (2003) reveal the results of a research study on the feasibility and viability of the digital library. Using information derived from surveys of law librarians, legal publishers, and attorneys, they provide a snapshot of the current state of the digital library in a private law firm setting. While a
digital library appears to be feasible, all three survey groups those are lawyers, law librarians, and legal publishers, still see barriers to the medium. The legal publishers still note a strong attachment to the print products, law librarians see digital materials as more costly, and attorneys, while they are slowly embracing fee-based online research, continue to have a strong attachment to print. It certainly appears that federal case law, statutes, and regulations in a law firm collection can be entirely digital, but practice-specific resources, state resources, and treatises still need refinement in the digital world to be viable. The digital library remains more a vision than a reality.

Murphy (2003) conducted a study to gain a clear understanding of how interdisciplinary scientists seek information, and how these scientists manage their time in regard to information gathering habits. The questionnaire method was adopted for the study. One hundred and forty nine (55%) scientists responded to the study. The results of the study indicated that many scientists have some difficulty in keeping up with research in their field of study with regard to time. The study also showed that the interdisciplinary researchers have developed a unique information gathering habit to seek out relevant information.

Justiss (2003) in his survey described in this article sought to assess the proliferation of fee based Web subscriptions in U.S. law school libraries and the impact, if any, of the variables of law school ranking and law school size on such subscriptions. The results clearly indicated that Web subscriptions, if not ubiquitous, are now an integral part of many law school library collections. At least half of the schools responding to the survey subscribed to fifteen of the fifty-two titles, and only three titles on the list had no subscribers whatsoever.
Carter (2002) this article sets out the legal background of tribal sovereignty and offers a justification for increased attention to the third sovereign in American law libraries. The law librarians are asked to think differently about American Indian law and particularly tribal law, to reevaluate the place of these materials within library core collections, and to remold the ways in which librarian provide access through reference readiness, cataloging, and classification. Every specialty within the law librarianship has a role to play in reshaping library professional approach to the legal record of the third sovereign and in helping to make it a more permanent one.

Lewis (2002) has observed that “the library director’s job is to provide complete research for the students, special collections for the alumni, and private libraries for the faculty.” While the three-tiered approach to faculty services librarianship will not create a private library to serve every need, it ideally will give the law faculty the illusion that it does. By keeping abreast of the law faculty’s work and providing reactive and proactive assistance, the librarians can meet ongoing faculty demands as well as encourage professors to avail themselves of services offered by the library more frequently. If successfully employed, the result will be a greater level of faculty satisfaction with the law school library.

Turpening (2002) conducted the on-site surveys of the preservation efforts and priorities of thirty law libraries during 2000–2001. She analyzes the results of these surveys, discusses her observations, and makes recommendations for individual libraries and the leadership of the American Association of Law Libraries.
Leary (2002) describes the vision, energy, imagination, and techniques of the dedicated people who built an eminent foreign law collection at the University of Michigan Law Library. She also uses Michigan as an example to illustrate the development of libraries and librarianship nationally.

Wilkinson (2001) noted that “the information-seeking behavior of lawyers has not been fully investigated empirically.” In open-ended interviews which lasted between 20 minutes and one hour, 180 Canadian lawyers were asked to discuss a problem they had recently encountered. Wilkinson states that law is essentially an information profession, and that the lawyer takes on the role of an intermediary towards the client. She also notes that lawyers overwhelmingly preferred informal sources when engaging in legal problem solving. Wilkinson states that “lawyers are not engaged in information-seeking they are engaged in information production.”

Marshall et al. (2001) observed student participants in an annual law school Moot Court competition in order to gain insight to inform the design of electronic books for legal users used open-ended and semi-structured interviews and “observed the students and faculty interacting with online resources, meeting to coordinate writing and research tasks, and attending classes. The observations took place where the participants normally worked.”

They found “four trends in students' legal research: the continued importance and authority of books research strategies that are link-based rather than search based; the advantage of electronic resources for case evaluation; and alternating use of print and electronic sources.” Students exhibited a tendency to follow and evaluate explicit citations. They note that Full-text search is used to identify a key case at
the outset if none is available, to check breadth and coverage if there is time, and to look for very recent cases.” The students also tended to use a mix of print and online materials, and that “These materials may be maintained institutionally (such as treatises, law books, and journals available through the law library) or they may be a part of a student's personal collection of books and files.

Kuhlthau and Tama (2001) reported a part of a programme of ongoing research based on the model of the Information Search Process (ISP) developed in a series of prior studies by Kuhlthau. This study sought to gain a better understanding of the variety of tasks that involve lawyers as a particular group of information workers, how they use information to accomplish their work, and the role mediators’ play in their process of information seeking and use. The findings revealed that these lawyers frequently were involved in complex tasks that required a constructive process of interpreting, learning and creating. To accomplish these complex tasks, they preferred printed texts over computer databases primarily because computer databases required well-specified requests and did not offer an option for examining a wide range of information at one time. These lawyers called for an active potential role for mediators in ‘just for me’ services. ‘Just for me’ services would encompass designing systems to provide a wider range of access more compatible with the process of construction, applying and developing principles of classification that would offer a more uniform system for organizing and accessing files, and providing direction in filtering the overwhelming amount of information available on electronic resources.

George (2001) suggested that experienced law librarians explain how at the midcareer they continue to find challenges in their jobs and enthusiasm for their
work. Although each offers a personal take, common themes emerge around involvement in profession and community, lifelong learning, and balance of work and private lives.

Bravy and Feather (2001) say that, the impact of the Internet and digital products on libraries has been widely discussed; however, few studies have presented quantitative data that indicate the impact of such products on the use patterns in libraries. The authors present a case study of traditional library use data over ten years in one law library and discuss the implications of these statistics.

Majid and Kassim (2000), in their article "Information-Seeking Behaviour of International Islamic University Malaysia Law Faculty Members" identify that adequate knowledge about the information needs and seeking behaviour of users is vital for developing library collections, services and facilities to meet their information needs effectively. The purpose of this study is to identify the information channels used by the International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM) law faculty members, information sources preferred by them, methods employed for getting the needed information and their library use pattern. A questionnaire was distributed to 80 IIUM law faculty members and 66 filled in questionnaires were returned, giving an overall response rate of 82.5 percent. It was found that respondents used various sources for acquiring the needed information. Books were ranked as the most important source for teaching and research purposes, followed by law reports and statutes. The respondents preferred to first consult their personal collection before resorting to other information providing sources and agencies. The Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC) and CD-ROM were the most frequently used IT-based sources and facilities. E-mail was the most
popular among the Internet-based services and applications. On the whole, respondents perceived IIUM library collections, services and facilities as adequate to meet their information needs effectively.

**Melamut (2000)** examines the advantages and disadvantages of electronic resources, and discusses their copyright implications. He examines prior cases about course packs and considers their likely influence on possible reserve room litigation. He also discusses reserve room policies, as well as where the law in this area is likely to move and what response is necessary by law libraries.

The purpose of **Milunovich's (2000)** article was to analyze issues and trends in law library acquisitions, as identified by recent contributions to the literature in this field. Staying abreast of trends and developments is important because this is a dynamic, rapidly changing area. He proposed the few suggestions of useful resources for staying current.

**Selden (2000)** suggested that, Web-based online public access catalogues (OPACs) enable catalogers to provide hotlinks to Internet-based resources of interest to their patrons. However, this capability is not without its challenges. Ms. Selden explores the local policy considerations associated with the cataloging Internet resources and describes the policy-making process and some Internet cataloging policies used at the University of Colorado Law Library.

**Yuan (1997)** study identifies the LexisNexis Quicklaw database searches of a group of law students over the period of a year. Yuan examined several aspects of their searching behaviour, including the increase of their command and feature repositories, their change in language usage, increase of search speed and change
of learning approaches. Yuan found that experience did not result in searchers making fewer errors or being able to recover from more errors. Yuan also found that although participants with higher levels of Quicklaw database searching experience used a greater variety of commands and features than those with lower levels of experience, some commands remained rarely or never used. He noted that participants were able to accomplish many tasks by knowing a core set of commands and features. As a result of this finding, Yuan suggests that system designers should consider which system features are made explicit to users, which are hidden and how defaults are set. Yuan also suggests the need for improved interface design which provides explicit information of what functionality the system provides for better online help.

Eisenschitz and Walsh (1995) studied on lawyers’ attitudes towards information. In analyzing the results, the researcher found a difference in user’s behavior when solicitors were conducting known item searches and subject searches. In the case of subject search, the solicitor’s expertise could be more useful for evaluating the utility of found materials rather than doing the research himself.

2.2 USER STUDIES IN INDIA

Devendra and Khaiser’s (2014) paper aims to describe the application of Information Technology in the law university libraries in South India. The method adopted for collection of research data from the field was the survey method. As the researcher desired to include all the six law university libraries, no sampling method was adopted and the census population was considered. This study found that Wi-Fi Internet facility was available in only four law university libraries -
National Law School of India University (NLSIU), Karnataka State Law University (KSLU), National University of Advanced Legal Studies (NUALS) and National Academy of Legal Studies and Research (NALSAR). The NLSIU library was the first to automate its collection, in as early as 1996, followed by the NALSAR (2005), the NUALS (2009) and the reaming three (KSLU, Tamil Nadu Dr. Ambedkar Law University (TNALU) and Damodaram Sanjivayya National Law University) in the year 2012. All the libraries selected for the study have a circulation module and online public access catalogue (OPAC) search facility, while the Web OPAC was found in only four libraries (NLSIU, KSLU, TNALU and NALSAR).

Bhardwaj and Madhusudhan (2013) article identifies the various open access resources that are popular in the legal community in India. The findings of the study reveal that majority of respondents are aware of open access resource. The main purposes of using these resources are for case law searching. Majority of the respondents have stated that the legal information available in open access resources are not organized properly and was a hindrance in usage.

Parveen (2013) in her paper reports the results of a study of the information seeking behaviour of faculty members of BPS Women University. Data were collected by using a questionnaire. Google.com was used for searching information by respondents. The majority of respondents faced the common problem while seeking information, that is, unavailability of information. Significant findings are reported with the biggest changes because of increased utilization of electronic methods for searching, sharing, and storing scholarly content, as well as for utilizing library services.
Rai's (2013) Study seeks to examine the information seeking behavior of users of academic law libraries in digital environment. The study helps to understand the basic research habits of legal researchers, problems encountered while accessing digital law library. The law researchers often involve in various complex tasks of drafting, counseling and advocacy and experience considerable problems in satisfying the information need. The timely access of accurate information required is a major factor of performance as a researcher. The librarians understanding with researcher's subject practices are vital element for supporting scholarly research by collection development, research training and reference services. The advent of ICTs as research tool has solved the basic problem relating to gathering and collecting legal literature.

Kaur and Singh's (2013) paper identifies the study of utilization of library resources and services by Assistant Professors of five institutes under the management of The Khalsa College Lyallpur Educational Charitable Trust Jalandhar. It explores various aspects like Frequency of visit to library, purpose of visit to the library, time spent in the library, adequacy of library hours, adequacy of reading space facilities, co-operation of library staff, use of information sources, view about adequacy of library collection, accessing documents, library sources and services, opinion about the attitude of library staff, functions of the library. This study is based on a questionnaire method and is helpful for the library users as well as the staff.

Singh (2013) in his paper presents some results of the user study, conducted in 2013 among the registered users of the Central Library, Dayalbagh Educational
institute (Deemed University), Agra. This study reveals that the usage of library collections, access of e-journals, databases, internet services, OPAC searching, reprography service and user awareness about the shodhganga, shodhgangotri project of INFLIBNET, UGC. The objective of this study is also to examine the levels of user satisfaction with library resources, services and staff. The survey was conducted through a well structured questionnaire taking a random sample of users for data collection. 300 questionnaires were distributed among the central library users (UG & PG students, Research Scholar and Teachers). The users’ response rate was 82 percent. The questionnaires were administered personally among the users of central library during the survey period Jan. to March. 2013. The questionnaire was designed in 8 different sections covering various aspects of library collections uses within the available resources, frequency and purposes of visit, circulation services, user satisfaction, OPAC usage, reprography services, internet usage, digital library and physical condition of library. Further, an attempt has also been made to highlight the findings of the study and a few suggestions have been given based on the opinion of the users.

Umesha and Chandrashekara (2013) study examines that libraries in health sciences or dental sciences are not just collecting or licensing the information resources. They have various task to match the needs like curriculum based learning, research and point of care. The present study tries to understand the information seeking and searching behaviour of dental science professional in Karnataka. This paper tries to find out the suitable information sources available for dental professionals, the areas in which dental professionals are seeking information, and the barriers they are facing in accessing information. The study also observes that seeking and searching behaviour is maximum driven by internet.
search engines like google, very few are able to differentiate between scholarly database and internet search engine. The information availability at free of cost, though not authentic sources (like peer reviewed information) using the internet search engines are drawing more attention, not just because it is simple, it is more because each searcher gets some information whether authentic or otherwise.

Sundareswari (2013) paper reveals that the library plays a very important role in this fast changing go green of publishing. Their role includes identification and selection of information, its organization of management, storage retrieval and dissemination to right users at the right time at right place at right price and in right format. The goal of any academic libraries is to meet the teaching, research and other information needs of the user. The proliferation of the literature on all the subjects, price of journals hike in currency conversion rate and the budget crunch made the libraries depend upon each other. This leads to library co-operation, resource sharing and networks etc. At present, the online databases, E-resources facilitate formation of the colleges for resource sharing among the libraries. Engineering colleges prove to be one of the major solutions to the existing problems of budget crunches among the libraries and information centers. The advent of E-publishing has brought a revolution in journal publication, subscription, access and delivery mechanism. This paper describes various facets in collection development an E-resource in the engineering college libraries.

The paper of Das and Maharana (2013) is an attempt to study the issues of Electronic Information Resources access, awareness and use by science research scholars of Berhampur University, Berhmpur, Odisha with a view to survey the exposure of research scholars to Electronic Information Resources. Also it aims to highlight the problems encountered by the users and suggests some remedial
measures for its improvement. A structured questionnaire was distributed among full time and part time science research scholars, out of which eleven Full Time and twelve Part Time research scholars responded to this survey. The study confirmed that the science research scholars are aware of the e-resources and various types of e-resources, e-databases and e-journals. It suggests for the improvement in the access facilities and most particularly increases the web resources to support their research activities.

Gopabandhu et al. (2013) study explores the use of e-resources by the research scholars of Utkal University (UU) and Sambalpur University (SU). A survey was designed for the purpose to collect the basic information about the level of use of e-resources as well as other factors contributing to associate with their use. A well structured questionnaire was distributed among research scholars to collect the necessary primary data, keeping in view the objectives of the study. The findings clearly reveal that more than 70% researchers in both the universities are using e-resources weekly for the purpose of research. Majority researchers are using e-resources at their departmental labs. Keyword is the most popular search method for searching e-journals among research scholars. However, it is found that slow internet speed is the major problem that would discourage users while using e-resources. The satisfactions of researchers towards the utilization of electronic resources in both the universities are found more significant.

Ganesan and Kaliyaperumal (2013) study was conducted among the dentistry academics of Sri Ramachandra University Library (Medical), Chennai, with applications of the components of these three domains. A systematic questionnaire was designed and administered among the samples drawn by employing a purposive sampling technique. The results of this study indicate that the awareness
programmes of the library are useful to PG students and faculties but not to UG students. On the basis of these results, suggestions have been made to create a single platform that will help access all types of e-resources and frequent conduct of the information literacy programmes on medical literature.

Thanuskodi (2012) study concentrated on the evaluation and the use of electronic resources and services in terms of use and user satisfaction in the Supreme Court Library. The results of the present study show that senior advocates have specialized themselves in criminal law. The study reveals that 3-4 hours of access to internet is quite common among the respondents of government advocates and junior advocates. The analysis shows that senior advocate respondents rank first position with respect to their overall purpose of gathering e-resources, panel advocate respondents the second, government advocates, the third and junior advocates, the last. The study reveals that junior advocate respondents take the first position with respect to their overall problems in accessing e-resources, government advocate respondents, the second, panel advocates the third and senior advocates the last.

Rao and Rao (2012) identify Library and Information Services in famous law schools in India, the quality of service provided and the satisfaction of the user depends a great deal up on the kind of collection made available. The primary mission of the law school library is to meet the information needs of the faculty and students of the institution it supports. In addition to their role in educating future lawyers, the law schools are the major producers of scholarly literature in and rely on Institutional law libraries to provide the resources and support needed for research and publication. And also it suggests that general competencies are
required by librarians employed in all types of libraries, library instruction must also include and emphasize the components of these areas that are specific to law librarianship. And investigates about library management, collection management, organization and classification and subject competencies and the library services those are reference service, current awareness service, document delivery service, selective dissemination of information, reprographic service, inter library loan, bibliographic service, library web services, CD-ROM services etc.

Ranganadham and Surendra Babu (2012) paper identifies that, the information plays a vital role in this digital environment. This has become possible because of the technological advancements and changing information needs of the users. Technology has dominated all spheres of human activity and the libraries are not an exception one. The new storage media has appeared after the invention of storage devices like microforms, magnetic tapes, compact discs etc have found their places in modern libraries and are playing vital role in storage and dissemination of information. Also this study is indented to know the awareness of the students and use of library information resources and services in Osmania University. The study is compiled with the data from questionnaire. The Final results revealed that the adequacy of library resources, opinion on e-resources vs. print sources, reasons for using e-resources, satisfaction on sources of information provisions. In this study, recommendations are made to the collection of Theses, Dissertation should be improved and availed for consultation of students and also awareness should be created on the use of e-resources availability in the University Libraries.
Thanuskodi (2012) says that adequate knowledge about the information needs and seeking behavior of users is vital for developing library collections, services and facilities to meet their information needs effectively. The purpose of this study is to identify the information channels used by the Tamil Nadu Dr. Ambedkar Law University faculty members, information sources preferred by them, methods employed for getting the needed information and their library use pattern. A questionnaire was distributed to 20 Tamil Nadu Dr. Ambedkar Law University faculty members and 18 filled in questionnaires were returned, giving an overall response rate of 90 percent. It was found that the respondents used various sources for acquiring the needed information. Books were ranked as the most important source for teaching and research purposes, followed by law reports and statutes. Respondents preferred to first consult their personal collection before resorting to other information providing sources and agencies. The Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC) and CD-ROM were the most frequently used IT-based sources and facilities. E-mail was the most popular among the Internet-based services and applications. On the whole, the respondents perceived the Tamil Nadu Dr. Ambedkar Law University library collections, services and facilities as adequate to meet their information needs effectively.

Singh's (2012) the study examines the importance, frequency and rank order of information sources in the entire field of agricultural sciences being used by the agricultural scientists. It also studies the degree of usage of various information sources by the agricultural scientists. The leading sources of information for agricultural scientists identified in this study in order of use are: databases, journals; books, research reports, monographs, etc., conversation with colleagues.
and experts, and attending lectures, conferences, seminars, etc were also find to some extent useful sources of information by the agricultural scientists. The study also found that the Agriindex, AGRIS (of FAO), CAB Spectrums (of CABI, Willingford, UK) are the most used indexing and abstracting/databases by the agricultural scientists in all libraries/information centres and ranked one, in terms of frequency of its usage. In the context of difficulties faced by the agricultural scientists, the study argues that there must be regular information literacy programmes to the users in order to maximum use of the library resources.

The major purpose of Siddiqui (2011) study was to examine the Information Seeking Behavior of B. Tech. and M.B.B.S. students in Lucknow. The aim of the study was to broaden the students’ understanding of information seeking to personality and approach in to psychological characteristics can shed light on variability and patterns in information seeking behavior. The Information seeking behavior is expressed in various forms, from reading printed material to research and experimentation. Specifically, the study made an effort to determine the sources consulted and the general pattern of information on gathering system by the student level of study and course of study on the students’ information seeking behaviors.

Kavitha and Vijayakumar (2011) study aims to know the adjudication of the performance by the library users in the colleges affiliated to Bharathiar University, Tamil Nadu. In the present investigation a sample of 100 users were selected randomly from these colleges to measure adjudication of the performance of the users. Questionnaire and structured interview methods were adopted to collect primary data from the respondents. The primary data were collected by conducting
direct structured interviews using questionnaire. The data were analyzed using standard statistical package called SPSS (Statistical Package for Social Science). Result shows that there is a significant difference between adjudication of the performance by the library users amongst the selected colleges.

Thanuskodi (2010) study reveals that adequate knowledge about the information seeking behaviour of users is vital for developing library collections, services and facilities to meet their information needs effectively. The purpose of this study is to identify the information channels used by the junior lawyers of Madras high court. A questionnaire was distributed to 1000 advocates of Madras high court and 710 filled in questionnaires were returned, giving an overall response rate of 71%. It was found that majority of the junior advocate respondents (40.57%) make library visit thrice a week. The junior advocate respondents occupy the fifth position in their overall satisfaction on all legal information networks and fee based e-resources. The junior advocate respondents top the position with respect to their overall problems in accessing e resources as their secured mean score is 3.94 on a 5 point rating scale.

Thanuskodi (2010) describes ongoing work which involves examining the information use pattern of the legal professionals of District Court. The findings indicate that practicing lawyers were using a variety of information sources to satisfy their information needs. Respondents preferred to first consult their personal library before resorting to other information providing sources and agencies. This group of district court lawyers often found it difficult to find the information they were looking for when using digital law libraries. The present study observes that majority of respondents are not aware of e-resources. On the
whole, respondents perceived district bar library collections, services and facilities as adequate to meet their information needs effectively.

Reddy (2010) describes legal information can be acquired, processed, and disseminated through the university law libraries, where library resources, users and information managers interact with each other to transmit 'informational knowledge'. Reddy advocates that it is imperative for a librarian to understand how library resources are searched and used by researching users’ needs to determine their levels of satisfaction with available sources and services.

Balasubramanian P et al (2010) paper investigates, User studies, information-need studies, user satisfaction and dissatisfaction studies, communication behaviour studies, Information use Pattern studies, Choice of materials and preference studies, are all closely related. User studies are fundamental for designing any information system and services. User studies should be undertaken periodically in order to evaluate and update measures for the betterment of collection and services in a library. This paper discusses the Objectives of User studies, User Studies methods, Techniques, Information Seeking Behaviour and Survey Research in Library and Information Science.

Vyas (2010) study reveals that the LLB graduates generally prefer joining private law firms rather than practicing in the courts. Some even join foreign law firms.

Fresh recruits are offered Rs. 10.00 to Rs.12.00 lakhs per annum on an average. Thus they are being paid more than the IIT graduates. Only IIM graduates get more than them. The Academic Law Libraries should continuously exert to give quality service to students and teachers. The libraries should involve in giving reference
service in real time environment. The Web portals should be kept up to date with links to different law librarians to meet once a year and discuss the problems of mutual concern. Moreover, this is the time when author realizes the significance of co-creation which means library services should be designed and developed with the cooperation of users. The study ultimately concludes with the words that number of law universities are increasing it is likely that either UGC opens a separate independent department to look after the needs of law libraries or another body like UGC may be in offing in near future catering to the needs of law universities.

Shrivastava (2009) study explores that the law librarianship, especially the librarianship in judicial institutions, is different from librarianship in any other discipline. This aspect is more appropriately explained by Prof. Igor I. Kavass, when he says that “the reason for law libraries being different from other types of libraries is that they serve a profession which is literally unable to exercise its work without the use of books.” While the librarians in other organizations may convince their users to give them some time for catering to their information requirements, a court librarian has to furnish the desired information at once because the case is being argued in the Court and desired information is needed in the course of the argument. So a law librarian has to provide the information instantly without any excuse. Because of this reason, a law librarian has to be a very alert professional and must develop his or her own tools and expertise to provide the desired information instantly.

Thanuskodi (2009) study revealed that the respondents use IT-based library sources and facilities less frequently compared with printed sources. It might be
due to the lack of awareness about their availability, improper selection of materials, or unfamiliarity with these products. Similarly, it is also noted that email is the most popular Internet application, whereas other Internet-based services and applications are only used by a limited number of respondents. This is a matter of concern, as presently, electronic information sources and the Internet are considered extremely important tools for effective teaching and research. Therefore, the Central Law College library might like to review its electronic information resources.

The study investigated the information needs and information seeking behaviour of the law faculty members at the Central Law College, Salem. The respondents use a variety of information sources for teaching and research. Books and law reports are considered most important. It is interesting to note that, although the respondents perceived the library as effective in meeting their information needs, they prefer to consult their personal collections first.

Mallik and Sen (2008) deals with the basic role played by the libraries of Indian academic law institutes and available basic information sources for resource building. Printed resources have been found to be specialized whereas online information sources are dynamic as they cover wide range of legal information. A webpage based study of the libraries of top twenty Indian academic legal institutes shows that more than half of the Indian premier academic legal institutes do not provide any information regarding their online information resources and thus this may be assumed that they hardly have any online information resources. Eight of the India's top twenty academic legal institutes have well described libraries on the web with a variety of online resources which may be considered as shift change of
libraries from printed information resources building to digital information dependency.

Singh (2007) conducted study to measure the reading habits and varying interests of the faculty members in agriculture field, and also to examine the pattern of library use. The questionnaire method was used to elicit the data which was supplemented by data collected from other sources. One hundred and sixty persons responded to the study. The study showed that faculty members prefer to search by subject, and more than one fourth of the respondents do not use computer based services.

Purnima et al. (2005) examined the information needs, choice and access to information, problems faced by the faculties in Manipur, India. The questionnaire was the tool used for data collection. Nine hundred and seventy college faculties and sixty five university faculty members responded to the survey. The study found that the faculty members seek information for academic purpose and also for writing papers, and most of the faculties are not aware of the emerging technology, digital resources, e-journals and INFLIBNET services. Study underlines the fact that the librarian has a greater role in influencing education standard.

Kumar and Kaur (2004), in their article examine the use of Internet by teachers and students in the Shaheed Bhagat Singh College of Engineering and Technology (SBSCET). The study demonstrates and elaborates the various aspects of Internet use such as frequency of Internet use, methods used for learning Internet skill, most frequently used place for Internet use, purposes for which Internet is used, use of Internet services, ways to browse the information from Internet, negative
and positive aspects of Internet, problems faced by the users and satisfaction level of users with the Internet facilities provided in the college.

Mahapatra and Panda (2001) identified the modes of communication used by working journalists in seeking information from libraries. The authors investigated the principal information sources consulted and the constraints encountered by the working journalists in seeking information. The structured questionnaire method was used for data collection. Two hundred and twenty six (46%) journalists responded to the study. The study showed that majority of working journalists prefer to visit libraries personally for gathering information. The study also revealed that the major constraint faced by working journalists is paucity of time.

Prasad et al. (1998) examined the information seeking activities of social scientists and the physical scientists and the various formal and informal sources of information consulted by them. The scope of the study was limited to the scientists of Banaras Hindu University. The questionnaire method was used for data collection and twenty six scientists belonging to both Physical and Social science disciplines responded. The study revealed that there was significant difference in Information Seeking Behaviour of Physical scientists and Social scientists.

Sasikala (1994) investigated the Information Seeking Behaviour of four hundred and thirty six managers from twenty industrial organizations in Andhra Pradesh. The study was carried out with the aim to understand the ISB of different level of managers namely senior, middle and junior. A pre-tested questionnaire was used for collecting the data. The study found that the managers need data as well as descriptive type information for their information needs. They are not regular
visitors of the library and they satisfy their information needs from sources other than libraries also. They seek information for updating their knowledge, to solve their practical problems and also for their job related issues. The study also revealed difference in searching and using behaviour among the different levels of managers.

2.3 Conclusion

The review of literature was carried out to acquaint with the existing body of knowledge in the area of user study of libraries in general and law libraries in particular. It gave a theoretical background for the study and provided guidelines in the planning of research. The investigator reviewed various international and national level studies to carry out the review of literature. From the literature survey it is clear that the lot of research is being conducted in foreign countries than India.

These kinds of studies will serve to illustrate the approach of gaining an understanding of lawyers and their work in order to inform the design of interactive systems to support this work, and also serve to illustrate that lawyers’ and law students’ information behaviour constitutes more than just their information seeking activities. This suggests the possibilities of taking a holistic approach towards the examination of information needs and seeking behaviour of law library users.
References


