CHAPTER III

LITERATURE SEARCH
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Literature search is intended to obtain information about what work has been carried out previously on the topic. An orderly and logical procedure for conducting literature has been worked out for this purpose. The literature search for the present study was carried out with an intention to find out different shades of the research topic and number of dimensions attached to it. It was carried out on the following lines in two stages.

1. Preliminary search or prior art search.
2. Search proper.

At the first stage of preliminary search, literature search through secondary periodicals like LISA, Current Awareness Abstracts, Library Literature, Information Science Abstracts was done. Searching through the libraries of University of Mumbai, Indian Institute of Technology, British Council, S.N.D.T. Women's University and American Centre helped to identify relevant books, journal articles, and conference proceedings on the topic. The bibliographies found in these sources facilitated to retrieve multiple references. A bibliography on doctoral dissertations submitted to Indian universities was consulted to avoid duplication of research. A list of doctoral dissertations submitted to American universities in Library and Information Science was procured from University Microfilms International U.S.A. to know the trend of
research in U.S.A. in this field. This preparatory work was useful in sharpening the topic of the research.

In the second stage during the course of literature search, following sources were found to be most pertinent for the study.

The proceedings of the three international conferences on Grey Literature held in Amsterdam, Washington and Luxembourg in the years 1993, 1995 and 1997 respectively were the most relevant sources for this study.

The researcher had an opportunity to attend the third international conference on Grey Literature held in Luxembourg in 1997, from where some vital information could be picked up.

On way to Luxembourg, a visit to the British Library Document Supply Centre (BLDSC) at Boston Spa in U.K., was made. The BLDSC has a Special Acquisitions Section for collecting grey literature and it is also the office of SIGLE for U.K. Some useful sources were available from this section. A reading list which was prepared earlier was sent in advance to BLDSC, so that the researcher could refer to some articles on grey literature in the BLDSC 's reading room.

The literature search thus done, is presented under following groups –

1. Grey Literature - General background, historical overview, availability

2. Grey Literature - By types / forms

3. Grey Literature - By subjects
1. Grey Literature— general background, historical overview, availability

Cornish [1] has given a summary of a two day seminar held in York City - Great Britain on 13 - 14 December 1978, organised by the Commission of the European Communities (CEC) in co-operation with the then British Library Lending Division. In this seminar, a broad definition of Grey Literature was agreed upon as "non-conventional literature not issued through normal publication channels and hence access to it is often difficult". Examples of non-conventional literature given by Cornish included reports from both public and private sectors, theses, non-commercially produced conference papers, technical rules and recommendations (official documents), ad-hoc translations and some forms of industrial advertising literature. The members of the seminar felt that unique identification of grey literature documents may be useful. A national centre should take up the responsibility of assigning unique code, document delivery, referral service, printed catalogues and on-line service for grey literature.

Posnett and Baulkwill [2] have attempted to show the importance of grey literature in several specialized fields of knowledge such as
Physics, Chemistry and Biological Sciences. The Nov./Dec. 1982 issue of Aslib Proceedings has published papers presented at the Aslib conference held in London on 24 May 1982, on 'Availability and bibliographic control of non-conventional literature'. In this issue, Auger [3] who was the Chairman of the conference, has referred to the headline in Financial Times which read, "Grey Literature comes in from the cold" and has stated that the starting point for the use of the term was the seminar in York city in December 1978. Wood [4] suggested that instead of bogging down too much in defining the term, "Grey Literature," what is more important is to recognise that a large and increasing percentage of the world's literature is not made available through the publishing trade. King [5] in his article, has defined market research reports, house journals and trade literature and has discussed their availability within U.K. Nuttall [6] has addressed the issue of identification and location of local government information as 'grey' area. Owen [7] has provided information on availability of grey literature on line, at the Greater London Council Library.

Chadwyck-Healey [8] has given an account of the commercial sources for obtaining non-conventional literature. Vickers [9] of IFLA International Office for UAP, has opined that universal availability of grey literature can only be based on efficiency at the national level. Norton[10] has discussed different types of GL and has expressed that advancements in technical developments, availability of small offset litho machines, high speed photo copiers and delays in publication - are some of the reasons for generation of grey literature. Line [11] has endorsed
this view by mentioning that some monographs that would have been
published ten years ago are no longer published now commercially. They
are either not published at all or appear as grey literature. Wood [12]
has highlighted some of the peculiar characteristics of grey literature such
as- small print runs, variable standards of editing and production, poor
publicity and poor bibliographic control. Yet it contains information likely
to be of use to a considerable number of people but according to him,
grey literature is a costly public asset going largely to waste. He has
further stated that the unwillingness and inability on the part of producing
organizations to promote their output of grey literature, leads to the
problems for the producers of secondary services.

Giving an example of IFLA'S UAP programme, in an attempt to solve
the problems of availability and bibliographic control of recorded
knowledge, Vickers and Wood [13] have highlighted some of the BLLD'S
efforts for getting supplementary materials and unpublished articles.
Factors affecting the accessibility of non conventional literature are
discussed by Posentt [14]. Methods used by Land Resources
Development Centre (LRDC) to deal with these problems - both as
producers and users of non-conventional literature are presented in his
article.

The approaches of archivists and librarians to their material are
reflected in Hesselager's [15] article. According to him, most of the
literature which is now defined as grey literature was formerly termed as
archival material. It is suggested that the archivist and librarians may
define their fields in organising the material in the library. Allison [16]
has mentioned that every field has some sort of grey literature. It addresses feasibility studies, aggregates statistics, issues standards, guidelines and plans, but it is not actively marketed. Schmidmaier [17] has drawn attention to the fact that there has always been 'Grey Literature', earlier known as 'Little Literature' and the term represents a sensible replacement for previously used expressions. It must be noted that the grey literature varies from one discipline to another and therefore also from library to library. What is grey for one, may not be so for the other library. Though it is not a new phenomenon in the world as a topic for concern, it is quite young for research.

Hasemann, [18] has given details of efforts made in Europe to collect and control grey literature. The availability of documents through SIGLE; which was studied in a survey, is discussed by him and the SIGLE system is examined in relation to other international systems. This article is based on the paper presented at the second international conference on Interlending and Documents Supply, held in London in November 1990. Wood and Chillag [19] with examples with respect to grey literature varieties such as reports, theses, translations and the supplementary materials have highlighted the efforts of BLDSC and the American agencies such as NTIS, NASA. DOE, and ERIC. Background information about SIGLE is also given.

Smith [20] has provided a state - of - the - art account of grey literature during the period 1986-1990 and how the same is being produced and handled in U.K.. He has expressed that bibliographic control of reports literature is better in U.S.A. than elsewhere in the world.
The categories of GL in his article include reports literature, government publications, local authority documents, translations, theses, conference proceedings and supplementary publications.

In a jointly written article, Wood and Smith [21] have described the background and working of the SIGLE, wherein an attempt has been made to analyse the strengths and weaknesses of the system.

Wessels [22] and Debachere [23] in two separate articles have given reasons for the production of grey literature. In their opinion, there is a need for international co-operation in this area and electronic networks are likely to facilitate the acquisition of grey literature.

2. Grey Literature - types, forms

Grey literature varieties are identified by 'types' or 'forms'. Both these terms are used by authors to convey the same meaning. Farace [24] states that grey literature is not something static but rather it is in some process of change in content and also in format. He uses the term 'Grey Circuit', meaning that the beginning and end of grey literature is difficult to locate. Entry of a particular type of grey literature into the 'grey circuit' can take place at any point.

The different types of grey literature, their use, relevance, importance and obsolescence is discussed by authors in different context.

Woolston [25] in 1953, stated that much of the information derived from government sponsored research in the United States, first appears in the form of technical reports. In this article, importance of unpublished reports is highlighted along with the problems associated in obtaining
them. The author further states that vast amount of technical literature is produced by industry, but there is no uniform policy for its availability and dissemination. Wilson [26] in his letter to the editor on the reports of the Atomic Energy Research Establishment has written that rate of obsolescence of reports literature is very high. His observations are based on a survey carried out to find out the usage of reports literature for a period of 10 years. Drott et al [27] have done a study of 266 little known technical house journals from U.S.A, U.K. and France, which is described by them as 'hidden literature'. The authors concluded with the remarks – and their views were endorsed by subject experts – that the house journals have hidden scientific value and scientists and engineers cannot depend upon the published and easily available material alone.

Thorpe [28] has enumerated the usefulness and value of information obtained through 'Leaflets'. He has suggested that central reference libraries and other libraries should make special efforts and adopt a business like approach to capture this vital source of information because leaflets can effectively satisfy many of community's information needs and can educate people on issues like health, road safety, trading, consumer protection etc.

Butterworth [29] calls pamphlets and leaflets as ephemera and warns that it is dangerous to neglect this vital material. However, he has opined that for national bibliographic control - local libraries should take initiative. He remarks that ignoring this material will be like making a nonsense of the concept of Universal Bibliographic Control. Sridhar [30] has highlighted the practical problems faced in procurement of foreign,
unclassified hard copy reports with reference to access, bibliographic control, economics of buying them and efficiency of suppliers. His views are based on his experience in acquiring technical reports in the subjects of Space Science, Satellite Technology and Energy.

The growing awareness and importance of working papers in the field of economics, gave rise to the setting up of the special collection of economics working papers at Warwick University library - U.K. Fletcher [31] has given an account of the efforts done for setting up the same.

The fourteenth IASLIC conference held at INSDOC - New Delhi, during 26 - 29 Dec. 1983, discussed the theme of 'Grey Literature' and the papers presented at the conference are published in IASLIC special publication No. 23. In this publication, Dasgupta [32] has referred to the DEVSIS study team which studied six selected categories of grey literature i.e., working papers, statistical documents, research reports, seminar papers, government documents and project feasibility reports in the field of Social Sciences. He has suggested a four-tier system for bibliographical control of GL in India in the area of Social Sciences.

Sultan and Rao [33] have given sub-categories of reports and other grey literature varieties generated at National Laboratories. The categories include detailed project reports, process know how, basic and detailed design reports, demonstration reports (confidential), operation and shut-down manuals, technical notes for internal use, as well as theses. Ramchander [34] also has highlighted different varieties of reports such as pre-investment study reports, product profile, reports, project reports and industry profile reports. Satyanarayana [35] in his

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paper, apart from technical reports, has given examples of conference proceedings, theses, translations and internal reports as grey literature varieties. Ganguly [36] has referred varied kinds of official documents as grey literature varieties. He suggests formation of a central agency to take responsibility of their dissemination. The examples of official documents given by him include: reports of committees and commissions, bills, acts, rules, legislative materials, court matters, statistical documents, manuals—all of which provide wide spectrum of information and are usually considered as authentic documents. Pandurangam [37] has given an overview of trade literature as source of information, methods of its organisation and usage.

Karki [38] has provided examples of some less conventional industrial information sources. He has stressed the need for a detailed survey of such sources, their regular and systematic collection, storage and dissemination. Van-der-Heijj's [39] paper discusses the applicability of synopsis publishing principle to grey reports, and attempts that have been made to improve the accessibility and availability of 'grey' scholarly information in the form of synopsis. He concludes with the remarks that synopsis publishing is cost effective, both for users and producers.

Pask [40] has given an account of a study of 198 selected Economics and Business working papers and has pointed out that faculty members view working papers as source of current awareness information which they seek through personal contacts. Collection guidelines for working papers for libraries are proposed in his paper.
John [41] has outlined the generation, collection and organisation of grey literature to meet the information needs of users in the field of project financing. A need for developing network of 'Industrial Promotion Agencies' (IPA's) is emphasised.

Zulu [42] has opined that unpublished reports have advantages over the published ones in being current and complete in coverage - essential for basic and applied research. Reasons for their non-accessibility, poor bibliographic control, lack of policy, poorly trained staff are discussed with a concluding remark that library schools should move away from traditional librarianship and should train personnel for new areas in information management.

3. Grey Literature – by subjects

Aina [43] has given an account of an analytical study conducted at the University of Ibadan on the use of grey literature by Agriculturists in empirical research. Citations of 33 Ph.D. theses were analysed. It was found that 14.2% of the citations referred to are grey literature. Chillag [44] gives a summary of the detailed studies carried out by a number of authors during 15 years, some relating to AGRIS and points out that relatively poor coverage is given to GL in agriculture. He emphasises that development of SIGLE should not deter AGRIS from playing an important role in providing agricultural grey literature. Metcalfe [45] has highlighted CAB's policy regarding non-conventional literature. CAB's information service is a business operation and it is subsidised by the various commonwealth governments. The aims of CAB and AGRIS are
complementary and also they have a close working relationship with FAO. Inclusion of non-conventional literature in CAB abstracts should be cost effective and each participating country, for AGRIS and CAB should select its own subset of GL documents which is internationally relevant. Rolls's [46] paper is based on his experience as an user of agricultural information and how research based innovations in agricultural are communicated to farmers through non-conventional literature. Gooch [47] has touched upon the problem of agricultural information transfer from developed to less developed countries and has stated that expensive scientific literature, which is transmitted from developed countries, is often biased towards cash crops. Information generated in the form of non-conventional literature in one less developed country, may be more useful to other less developed country, than information from outside the less developed countries. Thorpe [48] in his paper, has emphasised that high priority must be attached to the bibliographic control of 'grey' literature in agricultural research in the developing world. Posnnett and Reilly [49] have given an account of the project taken up by the Land Resources Development Centre Library - U.K. for organising its agricultural documents. The analysis has indicated that approximately 75% of the literature in agriculture under consideration could be classed as non-conventional. Further analysis by specific subject categories showed that non conventional literature content for animal science was 64%, forestry 84%, land tenure 83% and soil science 87%. Wood [50] has provided information on the input of grey literature with the agricultural content of some major information services such as ERIC,
NTIS, NASA, INES, DOE in U.S.A. and SIGLE in Europe. It ranges from 3.9% to 45.9%.

Loo [51] had undertaken a literature search on the topic, "Medical and Psychological effects of unemployment", to identify the quantum of conventional and non-conventional literature in it. The analysis of the study revealed, 22% of the literature that was identified through secondary sources, was grey literature. It is characterised by scatter of publishing sources and poor bibliographical details assigned to much of the literature. Smith [52] has presented a perspective from BLDSC, stating that BLDSC has been making informal arrangements to obtain material from a wide range of UK organizations and the biggest group of British reports belong to the research reports of the Economic and Social Science Research Council. Apart from local authority reports and documents issued by government departments, there are reports by the Association of Metropolitan Authorities on topics such as housing, HIV infection, black graduates and labour market recruitment and practice of international policy co-ordination. Papers from the Centre for Economic Policy Research, form an important part of BLDSC's GL collection.

Alberani [53] has described some initiatives taken by the Italian Library Association in the field of grey literature and has provided results of a survey carried out to find out use of grey literature in the Health Sciences. Use of technical reports was highest (68.3%) over other types of GL, followed by proceedings and theses. The percentage of reports issued by intergovernmental organizations like WHO, was relatively high compared to reports produced by single countries.
The types of grey literature used by geo-scientists are enlisted by Bichteler [54]. They use it in the form of field trip guidebooks, state surveys, reports of investigations, memories, special papers, circulars, bulletins etc. which provide information on variety of topics such as oil and gas fields, ground water data, soil surveys, mineral resources, seismic studies and earthquake recordings. Efforts done by American Geological Institute are highlighted in this paper.

Kaniki [55] has studied the needs of 94 agricultural researchers in Zambia and has identified that agricultural researchers need information on choosing cropping methods, types of seeds, diagnosis and treatment of crop diseases, prediction of farming seasons, reasons for poor yields etc. Most of this information is available in unpublished reports. A proper bibliographic control of hidden information in the form of GL will result in quality work.

Auger, [56] a well known authority on the subject, in the third edition of his book on "Information Sources in Grey Literature" has given individual chapters on generation and access to GL on the subjects- Aerospace, Life Sciences, Business and Economics, Education, Energy and Science and Technology and has also discussed some of the forms of GL. Kreitz et al [57] have discussed the control of grey literature in High Energy Physics in the form of preprints, developed through a collaborative effort of librarians and physicists. The paper aims to extend the physics model to other areas of grey literature management.

Cesare and Sala [58] who consider that agricultural economics represent social science (economics) and agriculture as applied
component, have attempted to identify use of different grey literature
documents through an analysis of citations of grey literature in core
agriculture journals.

4. Grey Literature – international scenario / worldwide efforts
in collecting, organising and disseminating grey literature

The generation, bibliographic control, access and availability of GL
is much well organised in Europe due to the establishment of SIGLE. By
1999, 15 European countries have joined SIGLE and are strengthening
the SIGLE database through national level efforts. Much before the
establishment of SIGLE in Europe, in U.S.A., the Centre of Research
Libraries - which is a consortium of colleges, universities and other
libraries, is making efforts to make scholarly information available to the
users of North America since 1949. Other well established institutions
such as NASA, NTIS, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund,
different wings of the United Nations are also active in generating,
collecting and disseminating information in the form of reports literature,
working papers, discussion papers, occasional papers, study reports etc.
Library of Congress has an aggressive policy of collecting grey literature
from different countries. There is an extensive collection of about 4.4
million domestic and foreign technical reports, standards, pamphlets on
different subjects, theses and several papers on history of Aeronautics.

Information about the efforts and activities carried out in individual
countries is presented in the next section.
4.1 Grey Literature - Africa

Literature search reveals that great concern and awareness over the issue of gray literature is found in African countries.

Ambrose [59] in 1984 reported that the Institute of Southern African Studies Documentation Centre, collects GL in Lesotho. The SCOLMA (Standing Conference on Library Materials in Africa) office in London and School of Oriental and African Studies also acquire information on grey literature from Lesotho.

Aina [60], in a paper presented at GL'95 has highlighted major problems for the use of grey literature in Africa, as lack of publicity and accessibility. He has suggested the provision for the International Standard Grey Literature Number (ISGLN) to all types of grey literature produced in Africa.

Ebozoje [61] draws attention to the quantity of GL produced in the form of reports, theses, feasibility studies, project documents and proceedings in Nigeria. These documents are not included in the national bibliography of Nigeria. However, successful collection development of GL, in his opinion, will depend on the identification of generators.

Villars [62] has reviewed efforts in Ghana to effect bibliographic control of GL. Among the other features of grey literature outlined, the paper emphasises the need for having a more global perception and a strategy for resource sharing among the developing countries in the area of grey literature.

Chadzingwa [63] has examined the regional scenario in Southern African countries with respect to social, economic, cultural and political
trends, which determine the type of grey literature produced in Southern Africa. The paper also outlines the market potential for this type of material, as well as their problems and prospects of networking.

Kwafo - Akoto [64, 65, 66] has described in three different articles the efforts of collecting, publicizing and providing access to socio economic grey literature in Botswana, through the National Institute of Development Research and Documentation, at University of Botswana and through the DEVISIS Botswana project.

Sturges [67] has dealt with grey literature in informal information services in Africa with reference to experiments with community services dealing with health, hygiene, child care, cultivation, stock-rearing, trades, crafts & repair work. He has given few examples for appropriate arrangement for the acquisition, repackaging and distribution process, which may act as partial models in informal information services.

4.2 Grey Literature - Soviet Union

Palinkov [68] reports that the term grey literature is not widely used in U.S.S.R., instead it is called as 'Literature of small circulation'. Methods of registration, bibliographic control, modes of access of this literature are discussed in his article.

Zemskov [69] in his paper presented at the 1992 IATUL seminar in Tallinn, Estonia has described the efforts of Russian National Public Library for Science and Technology, (NPLSaT) to acquire literature of limited circulation. He has provided statistics received, on the requests for grey literature between 1988-89 in comparison with 1990-91. The
possibility of creating full text depository of grey literature on CD-ROM is envisaged in yet another paper presented by Zemskov and others [70] at the first international conference on grey literature held in Amsterdam.

Shraiberg [71] has mentioned that the grey literature database at Russian National Public Library for Science and Technology includes unpublished translations, authors' abstracts of dissertations and industrial catalogs. A sample of a record in the database is provided.

Hlava [72] has discussed the state of market place of grey literature in the Soviet Union and its satellites. It is suggested that libraries should obtain GL in steps - as country by country first, and then by discipline.

4.3 Grey Literature - Italy

Alberani [73] has presented a general view of the output of grey literature in administration, education, humanities and science and technology in Italy. It is pointed out that the generally widespread interest of grey literature which covers almost every field, suffers from the lack of standardization in presentation practices. Attention is drawn to Italian input to SIGLE database by creation of an ad-hoc database for grey literature within the Italian National Library service.

Pagamonci [74] points out the central role of the Italian National Research Council (CNR) in national scientific and technological research policy. A brief outline of the organisation of the Italian national authority is given with details on its co-operation and management policies. CNR was
selected in 1985 as the qualified body at the national level for input to SIGLE.

The role and contribution of CNR is further elaborated by Fazio [75] in a paper presented at GL'95, with a mention that the CNR's central library has been entrusted with a task of ensuring Italian participation in the NTIS system. The paper examines the role of CNR library as a producer and distributor of GL in Italy. It highlights it's future plans.

4.4 Grey Literature - Japan

Wattenberg [76] in a paper presented at GL'93 has described how the Governmental information at an early stage of development is important and how different information channels in Japan are active in acquiring the 'grey' forms of government documents.

Obara [77] has given an account of characteristics of different categories of Japanese grey literature and the grey literature oriented information activities in Japan.

Ogawa [78] in a paper presented at GL'95, has analysed the issues related to Japanese grey literature collected by the Japan Information Centre of Science and Technology (JICST). The JICST collects literature in every field of science and technology from about 60 countries around the world and this paper presents the trends in Japanese grey literature in terms of material contents and publishing organizations.
4.5 Grey Literature in other countries

Isolated references are found about the efforts made to acquire, process, disseminate and to achieve bibliographic control of grey literature in different countries.

Raseroka [79] has drawn attention to the fact, that library services in developing countries tend to give over emphasis on collection, processing and storing information received from developed countries. There is no commitment to systematic collection of grey literature which is locally produced, but it is much needed to provide solutions to local problems.

Dewe and Drew [80] examine the role of the collection of printed ephemera maintained by the National Library of Australia, the State libraries of New South Wales and Victoria, and have discussed the efforts of the public library local studies' collection. However, the focus of this article is more on ephemera and less on grey literature, which opens a clear distinction between the two.

Ilse, [81] in a paper presented at the 1992 IATUL seminar in Tallinn, Estonia has described about the domestic grey literature in Finland and the implementation of the Virginia Tech Library System at the Lappeenranta University of Technology library.

Cianelli [82] in a paper presented at GL'95 has highlighted the efforts taken for acquiring and publishing grey literature produced by the nursing profession in Chile and the creation of the Centro Regional Cooperate de BIREME en Entermeria at the Pontificia Universidad Catolica de Chile.
Evans [83] in her paper in GL'95 has touched upon a very peculiar issue of multicultural / multiethnic grey literature which is dominant due to shifting demographics in U.S.A. The diversities in race, nationality, ethnic culture have a lasting impact on all aspects of American life, information on which, is available only through GL. The existence and availability of gray literature with particular reference to African - American perspective is discussed.

Li [84] in a similar attempt has noted the importance of multicultural / multiethnic GL with reference to Asian - American perspective.

5. Grey Literature - international conferences

From 1993, four international conferences on Grey Literature have been held. The first one i.e. GL'93 was held in Amsterdam during 13-15 December 1993. The second one, GL'95 was held in Washington during 2-3 November 1995, the third one, GL'97 at Luxembourg during 13-14 November 1997 and the fourth one was held in Washington from 4-5 October 1999. References to some select articles (which have not been made earlier) from the published proceedings of the first three conferences, are given below.

The GL'93 is popularly known as Weinberg Report 2000. It is named so, as a tribute to Alvin M. Weinberg, who was chairman of United States President's Science Advisory Committee in 1963. He submitted to the President; the famous report, "Science, Government and Information—the responsibilities of the technical community in the transfer of
information.” This conference is dedicated to him. In this conference, delegates from 28 countries presented 40 papers on the state-of-the-art in Grey Literature. Coverage of the sessions ranged from access to GL documents to its role in the electronic environment of future. Discussing about the awareness of GL, Auger [85] emphasised that writers of GL and the organizations which they serve and represent, need to be motivated to contribute details of their output to the appropriate authority as a matter of routine. The users of GL should insist that the organisers of GL produce a system of access and announcement, which is user friendly.

Carroll and Cotter [86], while discussing the definition of Grey Literature, distinguish between ‘Grey Literature’ and ‘Grey Information’. According to them, the term ‘Grey literature’ is coined by documentalists due to the problem of poor bibliographic control and lack of systematic access to full text. However, other forms of information such as numeric data are not packaged as ‘literature’ but are difficult to obtain just like any other grey literature.

Alberani and Pietrangeli [87] have evaluated the actual use of grey literature in the field of Documentation, Information Science and Librarianship through the analysis of citation in journal literature. Luzi [88] has examined the diffusion and distribution of grey literature documents on the on-line databases distributed by DIALOG Information Retrieval Service.

Risseeuw [89] in his paper, outlines the value and accessibility of ad-hoc translations and the role played by the International Translations
Centre. Keil and Lankenau [90] have drawn attention to the vital issue of lack of standardization in producing grey literature.

Sturges [91] has described the situation in Africa as information underload, little purchasing power and weak publishing industry. Pinelli et al's [92] paper has referred to the high amount of money spent on technical reports by U.S. Government with a brief overview of two surveys for investigating the use of U.S. Government's technical reports.

Owen [93] has expressed that with improved access to the Internet in future, GL will be accessed just like any other networked information, and with zero cost for transport, cost effectiveness can be achieved.

The theme of the Second International Conference on Grey Literature GL'95 was, 'Grey Exploitations in the 21st Century.' 26 papers on the topic were presented by delegates from 20 countries. McDermott [94] in the keynote address gave some examples of literature varieties which are 'grey' by design and purpose and touched upon the issue of publications which are appearing originally in electronic format. Similar discussion is highlighted in the paper of Gelfand [95], mentioning that World Wide Web has captured and created new forum for grey literature. Luzi's [96] paper focuses on new channels of communication which spread information, sometimes only in networked environment and how this scenario is changing the traditional features of grey literature.

Kebede [97] has tried to identify the core problems of national information system projects. It looks at the impact of global trends in Development Information System Projects and the problems of access to grey literature. Cruz, Garcia and Lopez [98] have touched upon the
crucial issue of legal deposit legislation under new technology environment and have stated that the new forms of electronic grey literature are much more fluid than the traditional grey literature and the law in this matter is behind reality. Cianelli and Leyton [99] have introduced some key concepts in the criteria for selecting grey literature to be considered by the producers, end users and those involved in managing grey literature. Heer and Farace [100] have presented results of a research project carried out by the Grey Literature Network Service, to determine the usage of the products and services offered by the GreyNet and utility of the Internet as a tool for marketing and advertising.

Cumming [101] has highlighted the role of the World Bank in producing grey literature and accessibility of materials while Perry’s [102] article has provided a brief account of activities of the International Monetary Fund and its contribution to the grey literature area.

The Third International Conference on Grey Literature was held in Luxembourg on 13 and 14 November 1997. The theme of the conference was "Perspective on the Design and Transfer of Scientific and Technical Information." Participants from twenty-four countries presented twenty eight papers. Witte [103] in his keynote address explained the difference between scientific knowledge and practical knowledge and role of grey literature as gateway to new knowledge. Owen [104] of University of Amsterdam has provided a number of characteristics which distinguish the grey literature from published literature and how, due to its peculiar features, this literature has become a specialised branch of the information profession.
Sturges [105] has pointed out the role of social intelligence in decision making in developing countries. He has suggested in his paper, that the information professionals should further refine the contents of grey literature so as to present them to the decision makers in the form of intelligence reports. Pinelli and Golich [106] in a joint paper have presented results of a survey on the readers preferences of NASA technical reports in electronic format.

Evans and Li [107,108] have focussed on access to multicultural / multiethnic grey literature wherein the African - American and Asian - American communities served as their models. Ono [109] has provided results of a survey on collection of technical reports published by Japanese private companies. Stuyts [110] has given an account of the DEGREE (Dissemination of Electronic Grey Files on Economics) project conducted by seven Dutch universities, and how the efforts have resulted in a national WWW homepage for working papers on economics. A summary of the survey of 'UK Theses Online' is given by Friend [111], wherein the information about the formation of University Theses Online Group to explore the possibility of an online service to have an access to theses collection of some U.K. universities is given. Luzi's [112] paper has outlined current trends in the production and distribution of Electronic Prints - E Prints, which represent a new communication pattern of grey literature.

The issue of "Education and Training in the Deployment of Grey Literature and the need for Development of Curriculum and Instructional Programs" has been discussed by Pindlowa [113], Bartel and
Lankenau [114], Gelfand [115] and Hurtado [116]. Aina [117] has presented results of citation analysis of a sample of journals published in Africa. This sample is used for teaching the management of grey literature in library schools in Africa. Companile and Cesare [118] have given a preliminary account of the survey to be conducted in select special libraries in Italy for the development of an educational programme for the management of grey literature documents. Gokhale [119] has suggested Generic Design Science approach to capture different dimensions of grey literature and has shown how the reports literature undergoes cyclic transformation. A new definition of grey literature is also suggested in this paper.

The above exercise on literature search has attempted to bring out some dimensions associated with the topic of grey literature, through its background, availability, types, subjects covered, its diversified nature and role in scholarly communication process, as was planned initially. However, the search reveals that there is still a lack of unanimous agreement about which types to be covered under the term 'Grey Literature', there is a lack of standardisation in bibliographic description of grey literature and its organisation, and there are definitional problems too. The present research work will focus on these issues.

A description on the known varieties of grey literature is presented in the next chapter so as to bring out their peculiarities.
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