CHAPTER 2: REVIEW OF LITERATURE
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References
2.1 Introduction

The review of related literature is an essential component for any research investigation. This gives necessary input to the investigator to frame the study on the selected topic. As far as the field of information needs and Information seeking behavior of particular group is concerned, a large number of studies have been conducted. The review of literature has certain objectives and it is intended to project the profile of the subject under study. It also identifies key studies and the gaps are to be considered to be filled by this research effort. A review of the related literature reveals the magnitude of the published literature on the study with reference to information seeking behaviour in the context of present investigation. It is observed from the literature survey that there are several in-depth studies have been conducted on the specific aspects of engineering college libraries viz. Information Technology applications, Quality services and awareness, collection development of electronic information resources and some of the contemporary issues arising out of the changing media environment. The researcher has endeavored to go through the some basic studies made in Western countries and Asian countries as well. In order to collect the relevant primary literature on the subject of study the following secondary resources have been used and scanned for the purpose. They are Library and Information Science Abstracts (LISA), JCCC-Info net, Emerald and others.

2.2 Information Seeking Behaviour - USA

A survey of faculty member's attitudes toward library services at the University of Michigan was carried out in 1961 by the Survey Research Centre of the University of Michigan. The purpose of the survey was to ascertain the use of the University library system by faculty members, their opinions about shortcomings in collections, services and facilities, and their ideas about the future development of the library. The Centre reported that the lower ranks (e.g., lecturers, instructors) depend more on the library for their work, are less satisfied with book collection and library services, and are much less likely to have requested library purchases than the higher ranks.

Alien (1970) conducted a study of student and faculty members attitudes and the degree of their utilization of community of collect libraries. He found that there are several variables which affect the use of community college library such as the age of the institution, the attitudes of the faculty members, the attitudes of the students, the geographical location of the institution, and the institution's internal climate.
Gratch (1973) conducted student and faculty use survey of Drake Memorial Library, State University of New York, College at Brockport, to evaluate user perceptions of library effectiveness and to obtain further information about user expectations and requirements. This study was used to identify gaps in total library service. The responses indicated highly figurative student attitude about library services, facilities and staff. Faculty respondents held a very favorable opinion regarding the courtesy of the staff. Overall, student library users and the faculty users surveyed were quite satisfied with facilities, services and staff. No major changes were required but certain continuing efforts were needed; such as the improvement of library atmosphere and the allocation of adequate funds to provide extended users before examination period.

During the 1981 Spring Semester, the Memphis State University (MSU) libraries asked representative groups of library users to give their views about the services, personnel and facilities of the library system in order to evaluate the effectiveness of the libraries. This study indicated that the MSU libraries are effectively meeting the needs of their users. The respondents were of the view that the MSU library plays an important role in the university community. They regard the library facilities and collections as adequate for their needs and the personnel are willing and able to help them.

According to Wilson (1981), information seeking behavior results from the recognition of some need, perceived by the user. The behavior may take several forms; the user may make demands from formal systems such as, libraries, on-line services, information centers or systems which may perform information function. The user also seeks information function. The user also seeks information from other people through "information exchange." The word "exchange" is intended to draw attention to the element of reciprocity, recognized by sociologists and social psychologists, as a fundamental aspect of human interaction.

Stinson and Mueller (1983) studied the Information habits and needs of Alabama health professionals through a professional questionnaire. The study shows relationship between the health professionals, use of various sources and their type of practices, tries size of their primary hospitals and other factors. Some important findings of the study are in addition to medical literature, the typical respondent spent one to five hours each a week in discussion with colleagues. The health professional spent 5-10 hours each year at local professional meetings, and 10-15 hours per year at educational course sponsors by
various medical colleges. Urban health professional shows greater use of MEDLINE than the rural and semi urban one.

**Pelzer and Leysen (1988)** conducted a survey on veterinary medical students at Iowa State University. They were assessed for general use of the veterinary science library and for their information-seeking behaviour. The library was most frequently used for studying and for making photocopies of materials. The typical respondent relied on course textbooks and handouts for current information on unfamiliar topics, instead of using indexes or abstracts for guidance to recent literature. Light use of library information resources raises concern that students are developing an inadequate base of retrieval skills finding information on new procedures, diseases and drugs. No references were found between students with and without formal bibliographic instruction in their approaches to seeing information or in library use.

**Detlefsen (1998)** conducted a survey on the information seeking behaviour of medical and health professionals, as it appears in the published library and information science and medical literature. He discussed the paucity of models for information seeking behaviour that have been tested in health care populations, and the frequently used methods of investigation and data collection methods. A large number of information behaviour research studies were analyzed to determine who does the research and where the research is published.

**Brown (1999)** conducted a survey on the information seeking behaviour of astronomers, chemists, mathematicians, and physicists at the University of Oklahoma, USA, using an electronically distributed questionnaire. All the scientists relied on journal literature to support their research and creative activities. The mathematicians indicated an additional reliance on monographs, preprints and attendance at conferences and zonal communication to support their research activities. All scientists scanned journals to keep abreast of current developments. The majority referred access to journal articles in print, rather than an electronic form.

**Reed and Fanner (2001)** conducted a survey on the information seeking behaviour of teachers and students. This survey also investigated on the financial allocations that universities provide for the purchase of library materials which have not kept pace with the proliferation or published print and electronic materials. Not only do fine arts faculty require books and periodicals for teaching and research, but they also
require, exhibition catalogues, catalogue raisonnés and various media formats. Reports results of a study of Fine Arts faculty members at Texas Tech University to identify the information services sources and materials that faculty members considered important for their teaching, research and creative endeavors, the study investigated the use of library services with regard to areas in which future liaison intervention would be beneficial in resolving their information needs, including the online catalogue, remote access to the online catalogue, interloans, and reserves.

Murphy (2003) conducted a questionnaire survey of interdisciplinary scientists conducting research at The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in Research Triangle Park, North Carolina. The survey was conducted to gain a clearer picture of how the interdisciplinary scientist seeks information, and in particular how the interdisciplinary scientists manages their time in regard to information gathering tasks. Results indicate that many participants have at least some difficulty in keeping up with research in their fields of study in regard to time. As a result, many participants do at least some of their information-gathering in their off-time or delegate certain research responsibilities to others.

Davis (2004) conducted a survey on the URL data by the Cornell University IP address from the American Chemical Society servers. The goal of this work is to better understand the tools used and pathways taken by scientists connect to electronic journals. While various methods of referral were identified in this study, most individuals followed few and consistent pathways each time they connected. The relationship between the number and types of referrals followed an inverse-square law. Whereas the majority of referrals came from established finding tools (library catalog, library journal list, and bibliographic databases, a substantial number of referrals originated from generic Web searches. Scientists are also relying on local alternatives or substitutes such as departmental or personal Web pages with lists of linked publications. The use of electronic mail as a method to refer scientists directly to online articles may be greatly underestimated. Implications for the development of redundant library services such as e-journal lists and the practice of publishers to allow linking from other resources are discussed.
Charles B. Wessel, Nancy H. Tannery, and Barbara A. (2005), conducted a study on Information-seeking behavior and use of information resources by clinical research coordinators. Clinical research coordinators (CRCs) play a crucial role in developing, organizing, and administering many aspects of human research studies and clinical trials taking place at academic medical centers. Though the specific duties of Clinical research coordinators vary, their role is to work closely with principal investigators to provide daily oversight of research studies. Their collected data from survey indicate opportunities and challenges for academic medical center libraries in training and marketing their services to this unique population. Clinical research coordinators, as demonstrated, play a significant role in clinical research, with many helping to protect human subjects from harm. Given their responsibilities, this population may respond positively to initiatives such as, tailored library instruction, and marketing of the value of the librarian expert searcher.

Cecelia M. Brown and Lina Ortega (2005) conducted a study on Information-seeking Behavior of Physical Science Librarians. Their study reveals that Physical science librarians rely on personal communication and online discussion groups for information to enlighten their practice. Scholarly journals appear third on the list of resources used to inform daily activities and are used primarily to support information literacy instruction, subscription decisions, and their own research as well as to learn about best practices in other libraries. The preferred library and information studies journals publish virtually equal proportions of research and non research articles, with the majority of research articles being reports of qualitative surveys without statistical analysis. The popular journals were not those most highly cited, nor were the research articles cited to a greater extent than the non research articles. In essence, the experiences and opinions of colleagues and patrons were found to be of greater value to the practice of physical science librarianship than reports of original research.

Davies, (K) (2007) conducted the study on the information-seeking behaviour of doctors: a review of the evidence, the study shows that a narrative review of the available literature from the past 10 years (1996–2006) that focus on the information seeking behaviour of doctors. The review considers the literature in three sub-themes: Theme 1, the Information Needs of Doctors includes information need, frequency of doctor’s questions and types of information needs; Theme 2, Information Seeking by Doctors embraces pattern of information resource use, time spent searching, barriers to
information searching and information searching skills; Theme 3, Information Sources Utilized by Doctors comprises the number of sources utilized, comparison of information sources consulted, computer usage, ranking of information resources, printed resource use, personal digital assistant (PDA) use, electronic database use and the Internet. The review is wide ranging. It would seem that the traditional methods of face-to-face communication and use of hard-copy evidence still prevail amongst qualified medical staff in the clinical setting. The use of new technologies embracing the new digital age in information provision may influence this in the future. However, for now, it would seem that there is still research to be undertaken to uncover the most effective methods of encouraging clinicians to use the best evidence in everyday practice.

2.3 Information Seeking Behavior - U.K.

Line (1962) conducted a survey on the attitudes of students to the library, as well as on certain aspects of library use at Southampton University. The findings of this survey was that students appeared not to be availing if themselves of the help library staff could give them, even when they were aware of it, and to be making little use of the reference material in the library.

A high proportion of students (60 per cent) reported that they often found that a book they wanted was not on the shelves. They wanted more books confined to the library. It was also found that women were using the catalogue more frequently than men. The students who have open at the university longest and those who use the library most have the most favourable attitudes to the library staff. Line stated that "There is a general impression that students use libraries for less than they ought to and before librarians can change this, they need to find out why." This survey also revealed several other problems and deficiencies on the basis of which a number of changes in library policy and practice were instituted.

A follow-up study by Line and J Tidmarsh (1965) was carried out with a sample of 322 undergraduates. The survey revealed that there was the expected high correlation between the extent of borrowing and readiness to use the catalogue. Two features of the survey call for special comment. The first is the greater use made of libraries by women. They used the university library far more for recreational reading and borrowed more from it for vacations, they used the catalogue more, and were more satisfied with the catalogue entries: they had more confidence in the library staff, but were more reluctant
to ask them queries and were more 'Intimated' by the library on first arrival, more of them attended library tours and seminars. This explanation lies in personality factors; presumably women are on the whole more amenable and perhaps more conscientious than man, more ready to admit they need help and less ready to criticize.

Secondly, social science students showed remarkable improvements over 1962 in such matters as book purchases, use of catalogues as a first resort, personal acquaintance with library staff, estimates of staff helpfulness and willingness to ask them questions and progress in the use of the library and they were well ahead of other faculties in some of these aspects, as well as in their valuation of seminars.

The two surveys are an excellent illustration of the concept of survey, policy evaluation, policy implementation and re-survey-a sequence which is rare in this field.

Urquhart and Schofield (1972) conducted two major surveys to measure readers' failure at the shelf in three university libraries.

The result of this survey will enable the librarians to establish priorities, the difference in rates of failure for different subject areas of the library will call for a reassessment of book purchasing policies. The third use of this survey will have better understanding of reader problems and attitudes.

A study by Harris (1975) of users and use at Newcastle upon Tyne polytechnic library, covered many aspects of library use in terms of subject differences. The results of this study suggested that better library collections are used more extensively (i.e., more uses per users) as well as more Pensively (more uses per document) than are poor collections and provided extensive evidence of a correlation between issues of books and the use of those books within the library.

The many surveys of book borrowing from libraries tell us how many books are borrowed, by persons of varying status and with varying subjects. Data collected from a member of university libraries showed the lengths of time for which students read books it is interesting that comparing one university with another, the amount for devoted to reading, a single book varied much less than did the number of books borrowed. Thus while the mean number of books borrowed per annum varied between 25 and 90 percent per student the mean time spent reading them varied from 2075 to 3.83 hours per book. While this measure of document exposure may be more useful than simple figures of

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number of loans, we are still no wiser as to the effectiveness of the use.

**Forester (1993)** conducted a survey on paper presented at Online Information, the 17th International Online Information Meeting, U.K. He considered the relationship between indexing and hypermedia. He examined models of index structures and indexing procedures and develops a framework for the identification of models. Reports on a field study of the use accountants make of indexes in a long financial services document. Discusses the implications of the study for the design of indexing tools within hypermedia environment.

### 2.4 Information Seeking Behaviour - INDIA

The studies relating to the attitudes of users with special reference to university libraries have been reported below.

**White (1965)** conducted a survey of the University of Delhi Library on the request of the University. Following were the recommendations of Mr. White: "No definitive set of standards for use in developing a university library programme exists. It is recommended that the university consider the applicability of such standards in dealing with local library problems".

That book selection be oriented towards supporting instruction and research. That the resources and services developed according to the instructional and research needs of the university. That the teaching staff and the library staff work closely together to discard obsolete books and to determine in advance what title are to be used intensively enough to require the purchase of additional copies. Physical accommodations should provide ample space for books, readers and workspace for the staff. These accommodations should be attractive, comfortable and well lighted. The idea of bringing together in one building all of the books that belong to a large university was impractical. The problem was not whether to decentralize the resources, but how to do so.

**Krishan Kumar (1968)** conducted a survey concerning teachers and research scholars in the Department of Chemistry, University of Delhi. The important finding of this survey shows that quite a large percentage of research fellows do not use the library as much as they ought to. The majority of the researchers (71 per cent) feel the need to improve their skill in the use of science-technology literature. The research fellows depend much more on the departmental library than the university library. But the
teachers seem to use both libraries about equally. It was found that the existing services being provided by the University have not been published sufficiently. The respondents were in favour of getting photocopying service in the library. The university library should build a sound collection and should try to get all the essential periodicals. The survey has underlined the importance of communication between the librarians and the users. It was interesting to note that many persons showed interest in the training programme for librarians. It was also found that the approach to the services, provided by the libraries used by respondents, was rather critical. On account of change of teaching system it is expected that there will be increase use of the library resources and services.

All this will have important implications for the university library.

Dhyani (1974) conducted a survey of 100 readers at Rajasthan University library, Jaipur. The study revealed that generally the readers showed an interest in using the library at the college level. The users who were surveyed were not clear even about the elementary library terminology. The survey revealed that there was general ignorance about the subject approach of the catalogue. The other finding was ignorance about handing of reference books. The survey recommended that library instruction should be imparted to the students, reference service by competent staff should be given, every member should be given a library handbook, library service should be properly organized, documentation list including current awareness list should be circulated.

A recent university library survey indicated that both librarians and the user community have only imperfect knowledge about each other; supply or provision of library service is made not according to the real demand, no effective demand exists for the major portions of the supplied resources and services and both library resources and library personnel are not fully utilized or employed due to misallocation of resources and manpower. As a result, university libraries are functioning at a sub-optimal level or their effectiveness is not at the required level.

A study measuring the user satisfaction over the important services offered by the central library, Sambalpur university was under taken. The services evaluated covered the document acquisition policy, document delivery service, technical processing and documentation service offered by the library. The users community included only faculty members of the postgraduate teaching departments.

The analysis revealed that the users are partially satisfied over the strength of the
book collection of the library in their respective subject fields. The users are not satisfied with the documents processing and house-keeping services of the library. Further it shows that the users are partially satisfied with the document delivery service of the library. The users are not satisfied over the reading facility offered by the library in its reading rooms. The users trend reveals that the reference and documentation services provided by the library are not satisfactory. Further it shows the personal attention (i.e. delegated search) provided by the library is more or less satisfactory. Each university library should endeavor to bring out 'Inventory of Current Research Projects' on a regular basis to disseminate information about on-going research projects in the university.

Reprography units in university libraries should be strengthened for providing more effective service.

Sana (1978) describes the survey and findings from the point of view of quantum of library use, pressure of demand from various category of users, peak hours of library usage at various service points such as reference, text book binding, etc. The observations noted help in making library services more need oriented and satisfy greater percentage of demand in a better way.

The above studies have turned out to be mostly academic in their content and have not necessarily provided any significant indicators for application in practical context. It may be pointed out that they felt the need of User Studies at Department of Library and Information Science, Osmania University, Hyderabad, organized a seminar on 'International Developments in User Education Studies and User Education' on 22nd June, 1985. The seminar stressed the need of conducting User Studies in Indian University libraries. They further added that the university libraries have to conduct User Studies, so that they can prepare an acquisition policy which may help in acquiring the documents/information required for research.

Different categories of social scientists display some balance in their approach towards 'what information they seek'. They do not tend to differ in respect to 'how they seek their information' in their choice of channels and sources of information (1990). The information seeking behaviour of social scientists in developing and developed countries tend to be different on account of differences in the social systems, infrastructure for collection, storage and utilization of information.
Lahiri (1991) conducted a survey on this paper is the result of a survey conducted during 1987-1988 among the users of the Periodical Section of Manipur University Library to identify their information seeking-behaviour and their accessibility to the holdings of the Section Examines the factors which influence the users in formulating their information-seeking-behaviour. The responses of 162 out of 200 (through a questionnaire) and analyzed with tables, figures and a side reference of the responses received by others in other countries. Concludes with the idea that mutual cooperation between the user-community and the library management and proper understanding between all levels of management (lower middle and higher) could formulate better 'information-marketing' mechanism.

Sridhar (1992) conducted a survey explains the primary information and communication to research and industry, discusses the need for sound, comprehensive and localized user research in India, presents an overview of quantitative and geographical distribution of user-research during the last 40 years, presents a conceptual framework and theoretical background for user research, analyses and reviews selected Indian user studies and concludes by pointing out the need for systematic study of information-seeking behaviour of Indian engineers, technologists and technicians.

Lalitha (1995) made comparative study of the information seeking behaviour of medical and engineering personnel at 5 libraries in Thiruvananthapuram, India. Students, teachers, practitioners and research workers in both fields were surveyed. The findings of the survey are summarized and implications for libraries are discussed. Neither professional group seemed to have completely understood the complex nature of their information needs or their information sources. User education for medical and engineering personnel is clearly needed.

Reddy and Karisiddappa (1997) conducted a survey on information seeking behavior of 160 professional in the field of disabilities in India. The study reveals that informal channels are more used for information gathering. Journals are preferred for formal source of information for preparing course / teaching materials. Books are used more for providing consultation and offering therapeutic / diagnostic services. The true spent in borrowing / reading literature for various purposes has also been studied.

Swarnalatha Devi and Lahiri (1997) made a survey of information seeking behavior of 40 Agricultural scientists working in ICAR, Manipal, College of Agriculture
and Manipur University. The study revealed that the agricultural Scientists seek information for research, experiments and paper writing, most of the scientists prefer 'paper publication' as the better medium for dissemination of their results. A sizeable section however favors other media like 'radio talk' or 'demonstration to the formers' and to a major section of the scientists, Agricultural information available in the state is minimum.

**Tripathi and Prasad, (2001)** conducted a survey which deals with the information seeking behaviour of scientists in physical and social sciences. Highlights various sources and methods followed by the scientists to locate required information. Discusses various types of information and bibliographical sources used by the scientists in the study.

**K.P. Singh and Moirangthem (2010)** conducted a study on “Information Use and Information Seeking Behaviour of Visually Impaired People in Delhi Libraries”. The purpose of this paper is to study the various library services and information sources provided to the visually impaired people in different Braille Libraries and Talking Book Libraries in Delhi and also explore the information needs and information-seeking behavior of this special group of people. For this study, literature survey and review of literature related to the study were made to have a better understanding of the problem and examine the findings of earlier relevant studies. Semi-structured interview was used as a data collection tool to collect the relevant data from the subjects under study. An interview was also conducted with the librarians and professional staffs to study the various information sources available in the libraries. Various library and information services are being provided in the libraries under study. The visually impaired people depend on information sources such as Braille, Audio Books in the form of Cassettes, DAISY Books which are also known as Digital Talking Book and electronic texts. These are important sources of information but their use differ from person to person according to the availability and affordability. Much needs to be done to improve user satisfaction of this special group of people and fulfill their information needs.

**Muhammad Rafiq and Kanwal Ameen (2009)** conducted a study on Information Seeking Behavior and User Satisfaction of University Instructors: A Case Study. Their study shows that future libraries must be more user-centered rather than system-centered. Research in information-seeking behavior and user satisfaction enable
the library to evaluate and realign resources and services according to users' requirements. The survey results supplied the librarians with current data on their targeted user population, which should be used to make important management decisions about collections, services, information formats, use of resources, web search engines and email servers, and the library's physical environment. The library should conduct information-seeking behavior studies at regular intervals to develop effective user-centered library and information services.

N.K. Sheeja,(2010) conducted a study on "Science vs social science: A study of information-seeking behavior and user perceptions of academic researchers", the purpose of the is to examine the information-seeking behavior of science and social science research scholars, including service effectiveness, satisfaction level on different type of sources and various methods adopted by the scholars for keeping up to date. Data were gathered using a questionnaire survey of 200, randomly selected, PhD students of science and social science departments of four universities in Kerala, India. And the findings show that although similarities exist between social science and science PhD students with regard to information-seeking behavior, there are significant differences as well. There is a significant difference between science and social science scholars on the perception of the adequacy of print journals and database collection which are very relevant to the research purposes. There is no significant difference between science and social science scholars on the perception of the adequacy of e-journals, the most used source for keeping up to date. The study proved that scholars of both the fields are dissatisfied with the effectiveness of the library in keeping them up to date with latest developments.

Hemant Kumar Sahu, (2010) undertaken the Research study on “Information Seeking Behavior of Users in Astronomy Information Centers and Libraries in India: The Impact of New Information Technology”. The main objective of surveys is to gather information about astrophysicists needs for information and library services with help of new Information Technology (IT).
Masoom Raza, Sarwat Fatima, and Asho Kumar Upadhyay, (2010) conducted a study on Information Seeking Behaviour of Researchers in Central Drug Research Institute (CDRI), Lucknow. Their study shows that Most researchers visit the library weekly, generally to collect reading material. The OPAC is the most-used resource for searching, and most researchers prefer to search by subject. Literature searches are performed using the library's international network. Most use Internet services for email and face the problem of slow downloading. Photocopying and the OPAC are the most-used services in the library. Newspaper and bibliography services are the most used research services. Most researchers use the library's e-journals, and most attend conferences, seminars, and workshops frequently. Most researchers feel that library staff is helpful and most find the library facilities satisfactory, although a sizable number are not satisfied with the opening hours.

Prasad (1998) noted that non-traditional literature such as unpublished conference and symposia papers, research proposals, policy guidelines, and project reports are also popular among scholars.

Sethi (1990) studied the information-seeking behaviour of social science faculty in Indian universities. Respondents preferred journals, books, government documents and reference sources for meeting their information needs.

Thanuskodi, S (2010) conducted a study on “Library use and information seeking behaviour of Law Faculty members of Central Law College, Salem.” The study shows that the information needs and information seeking behaviour of users are 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 Central Law College, Salem faculty members, information sources preferred by them, methods employed for getting the needed information and their library use pattern. A questionnaire was distributed to 64 law faculty members and 56 filled in questionnaires were returned, giving an overall response rate of 87.5 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. Respondents preferred to first consult their personal collection before resorting to other information providing sources and agencies. On the whole, respondents
perceived the Central Law College library collections, services and facilities as adequate to meet their information needs effectively.

**Padmamma, Radhika and Sunitha (2010)** conducted a study on “Information seeking behaviour of users of PES Institute of Technology and Management, Shimoga: a study” The major purpose of the study was to examine the information seeking behaviour of undergraduate students in the Engineering college libraries. Specifically, the study has made an effort to determine the sources consulted and the general pattern of information gathering system by the staff and the students. The study adopted a descriptive survey design and data was collected using a questionnaire administered to one hundred respondents randomly selected from engineering college of PESITEM in Shimoga District, Karnataka. Major findings from the study include academic information was rated as the predominant information required by the students, while the Internet was rated the most crucial source of most of the academic information required. The paper is product of a recent survey carried out by the authors; hence the findings reported here are original and reflect the current views and practices of information seeking behaviour of PESITM College in Shimoga.

**Kadli J.H., Kumbar B.D. and Hadagali Gururaj (2011)** conducted a study on “Information Seeking Behaviour of Faculty in the ICT Environment: A Study of Commerce Colleges in Mumbai”. The study examines the information seeking behavior of faculty in commerce colleges in Mumbai in detail. It is observed that the faculty is also under pressure to catch up with the changing teaching learning environment. The way the content is being made available in different format, it is not long before a faculty will be helpless, if he does not make efforts to upgrade his skills in accessing them. Libraries can put up an impressive infrastructure; can have learning resources in all formats like print, e-Books, e-Journals, Online databases etc. This will only increase the problems of the faculty if they are not educated on the information skills to access them. The only solution to resolve the problems of information seeking in the ICT environment is to conceive, develop and deliver information literacy (lifelong learning) to faculty. This will not only create a high level of awareness about learning resources, but will also ensure that they are used for improved teaching by faculty.
2.5 Information Seeking Behaviour in other Countries

Two types of information seeking behaviours exploratory behaviour used in keeping up-to-date or obtaining background information and obtaining reciprocal information illustrating new aspects of the problem from a variety of sources had been reported. There are not many studies reported in the literature on information seeking behaviors or information requirements of professionals engaged in the care and management of persons with mental handicap. However, one unique study on information seeking behaviour of new and experienced researchers in special education in the United States investigated the different search techniques adopted by newly trained researchers and more experienced researchers in seeking information which revealed an interesting pattern of the information seeking behaviors of special education researches who rely mostly on their own knowledge and personal files. If these two resource categories are combined, they would become the most used source among four categories mentioned in the survey.

Mick (1980) observed that the information producing and information seeking behaviors are closely linked and are the reasons why most information systems are not better accepted as they fail to provide linkage between the two activities.

Edem (1993) conducted a survey on Reports the results of a questionnaire survey of a random sample of 200 journalists in large towns in Nigeria to determine their information needs and information seeking behaviour patterns. Empirical analysis showed that over 70 per cent of Nigerian journalists are unaware of their information needs. In addition to identifying the barriers inhibiting access to information acquisition, storage and dissemination by journalists, the study shows that the majority of journalists, 76 per cent, do not use library and archival resources, The study recommended aggressive user education of library and archival resources for trainee journalists as a step towards improvement of this situation along with wider use of computerized information handling techniques.

A study on information seeking behaviour, including use of major bibliographic tools by faculty members at the Illinois University at Chicago revealed that over 70 percent of the faculty used index Medicus of MEDLINE (1993). It was also found that there was a wide variation in the number and format of secondary services used by the faculty. The study recommended that training sessions are to be conducted for the users on how to use new formats of bibliographic tools.
Ocholla (1996) conducted a survey on information seeking behaviour by university academics at Moi University, Kenya. A pilot study was conducted and data collected through questionnaires and interviews among 27 academics randomly sampled from: health sciences, information sciences, environmental studies and education faculties. Reports the results which covered: departments and faculties where academics belong, rank and position in the academic, information resources frequently used by academics, gaining knowledge of the existence of information sources, generation of professional ideas, reasons for looking for, where the academics get the information resources they use, and dissemination of information. Makes recommendations to support information provision capacity in a university.

Liao (1998) conducted a survey on reports results of a questionnaire and interview survey to understand the information seeking behaviour of agricultural researchers. The subjects were the agricultural teachers at the National Chiayi Institute of Agriculture, Taiwan. 5 questions were raised: what is the current studying and teaching conditions of the teachers; what kind of studying and teaching situations will cause these information needs; what are the critical ways for the teachers to get needed literature; how ao the teachers use formal information channels; and how do the teachers use informal information channels.

Rahman and Binwal (2000) conducted a survey on Scientists and technologists are major users of libraries and information centres. Reports results of a study of their usage pattern by considering the influence of their background variables, namely, age, gender, qualifications and status. The study sample population consists of 246 scientists and technologists from two major scientific and technical research institutes in Bangladesh. One-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) used to test the hypotheses and the results of the analysis show that the socioeconomic background variables influence the use of libraries and information centres.

Hallmark (2001) conducted a survey on in lengthy interviews of 43 meteorologists at two universities and a research center, the author investigated their methods of seeking information needed for their research, teaching, and current awareness. The primary goals of the study were to determine problems, and challenges encountered by these scientists and to develop a profile of their information needs of particular interest were the effects of the Internet on their information-seeking behavior.
particularly their access and retrieval of electronic journal articles and data. Suggestions for academic science librarians were developed through another series of interviews with successful information professionals. More than ever before, scientific information specialists must make clear their new roles in facilitating the scientific endeavor, especially the constant effort and vigilance required in developing and maintaining library Web sites, so convenient and indispensable to their clientele.

Steinerova and Susol (2007) conducted a study on user information behaviour from a gender perspective in Slovakia. Differences in orientation to information, collaboration style, and use of information were discovered, with the conclusion that gender as a variable can be productive for understanding information processing.

Asemi (2005) surveyed the search habits of Internet users at Isfahan University of Medical Sciences (MUI) in Iran, and found that training would help them obtain useful and relevant information.

Oduwole (1999) conducted a study to examine the impact of an institution's medical library on the clinical decision-making of medical officers in two Nigerian university teaching hospitals and to examine the medical information sources. The major findings revealed a heavy dependence on the journal literature.

Kehinde et al (2010) conducted a study on "Information Seeking Behaviour of Polytechnic Students: The Case of Akanu Ibiam Federal Polytechnic, Unwana Nigeria." This study investigated the information-seeking behaviors of polytechnic students. Five hundred students were randomly selected and a questionnaire was used to gathering data. The findings revealed that academic information is the major reason why students seek information and the library is the major source of information.

Muzammil Tahira (2011) conducted a study on "Seeking Online Information Sources among Science Faculties of Developing Countries". This study reports the trends and practices of seeking online information sources of Science faculties of a university of developing country. The focus was to explore their trends and practices of accessing and using online sources in both modes, i.e. Open Access (OA) and Subscribed Access (SA) to meet their academic and research information. Quantitative design of research, based on a self-completion structured questionnaire survey was used. Surveyed population consisted of whole full time S&T teachers working in the 25 institutions / colleges /
departments of all four S&T faculties viz. Sciences, Life Science, Engineering & Technology and Pharmacy. Total response rate was 71% (156 out of 220 existed members). Frequency measure, descriptive statistics (mean (μ) and further, Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) were used to analyze, interpret and draw conclusions. The survey results report valuable information regarding the digital access culture of this community. Though these are not considered extremely important and nor, are fully exploiting. Yet both modes are playing important and complementing role in meeting the e-scholarly needs of this community. It also discloses that there is no significant difference exists regarding the importance, use of both modes and adequacy level of subscribed sources among faculties. Comparative analyses show no significant difference between the importance and use of these both modes in meeting the e-information. This study is the first account of the utilization of available online modes by Science faculties of university.

Ahmad Bakeri Abu Bakar (2011) conducted a study on “Information Seeking Behaviours of Rural Women in Malaysia”. This study examines the information needs and seeking behaviours of women in a rural setting of Malaysia. The aim of the study is to identify the information needs of women, and to determine the information sources used by women in a rural village, to determine their information seeking behaviours and to identify any access barriers to those sources of information. A sample was selected and given a questionnaire. The return rate was 64 percent. The study revealed that respondents were concerned with information related to food and child education. When seeking information on food and child education, respondents used family or friends and popular magazines as the main sources. When seeking information on food and child education through the Internet most used relevant websites to get information. They also used the online periodicals or magazines. Generally they observed that their village lacks infrastructure, which impedes their success. They suggested the establishment of a mosque library with Internet facilities in their village as a short term solution to their problems.

Emmanual etal (2011) conducted a study on “Information Needs of Policy Makers in Nigeria: The Case of Imo State Civil Service”. A questionnaire was used to conduct a study of the information needs of policy makers/senior civil servants in Imo State Nigeria. Work activities and information needs of the policymakers were identified and resources of government libraries were evaluated. It was discovered that the
government libraries are not adequate in all aspects. They are underfunded. The sources of information and factors affecting access to information needs were identified. Recommendations include the implementation of Information and Communication Technology.

Uloma Doris and Adedamola Adesola (2011) conducted a study on “Comparative Analysis of Students' Information Seeking Behaviour in Adventist Universities: A Survey of Babcock and Solusi Universities”. This study examined the information seeking behaviour of undergraduate students in two Seventh - day Adventist institutions. The population was made up of 4,741 students from three faculties registered during the first semester of 2009/2010 academic session. Stratified random sampling technique was used to select 474 students who took part in the study. A questionnaire adapted from Patitungkho and Deshpande (2005) was used for data collection. Data collected was analyzed using descriptive statistics and Chi-square. Findings reveal that most of the respondents from Babcock University sought information mainly to update knowledge, while majority of the respondents from Solusi University did so for class assignment. Findings also revealed that students from both universities hardly make use of library catalogue or consult librarians/ library staff while seeking information. Based on the findings, the study recommends amongst others, that the universities libraries embark on use of library training skill for students, to ensure that they have the required knowledge that would enable them make maximum use of library resources. Librarians / library staff should also make efforts to reach out to students; this would not only draw the students closer but encourage them to seek their help.

2.6 Conclusion:

The central role of the library profession remains the same, but methods and tools for information storage and retrieval continue to grow and change dramatically. Libraries must understand information-seeking behavior of users to re-engineer their services and provide information efficiently.

The review of literature indicates that no extensive study has been made on the information seeking behaviour of Engineering college teachers in libraries affiliated to Visvesvaraya Technological University, Belgaum. Hence the present study is significant.
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