

INFORMATION SEEKING BARRIER OF SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL TEACHERS : A CASE STUDY OF HARYANA

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Abstract: The purpose of the study was to investigate barriers affecting information-seeking behavior of PGT in Government as well as private school in Mahendergarh, Jhajjar, Rewari and Gurgaon. Qualitative data are collected using a questionnaire. It was found that the Teachers are facing barrier while searching information are inadequate knowledge about library system and lack knowledge of computer application.

Keywords: Barrier, Information seeking, PGT, Information resources.

1.0 Introduction

Information plays an important role in a person's personal life as well as professional life. Everybody needs information in every step of his/her life. We need information in our daily routine life like administration, management & development. No system can run effectively without information.

Information plays an Abels (2004) mentioned that the frequency of use of Internet in 1998-2000 had greatly increased. A specialist or researcher needs information to keep up to date and well known in his field of specialization. Our nation economic and social growth is depending on information.

Man was born innocent or ignorant; these are the Teachers who played an important role to remove their ignorance. It is rightly said that the teachers are the maker of the nation, as without teachers no nation can develop and can make progress. It is a teacher who imparts education to a person with his knowledge and skill. A teacher is a person who provides education for pupils and students. The role of teacher is often formal and ongoing, carried out at a school or other place of formal education.

The great scientist, doctors, engineers, scholars are only born because of the good teachers. A teacher is the foundation stone upon which every profession flourishes and growth of the nation. If we look at the past there were very prominent teachers such as Guru Dronacharya and Chanakya who played an important role in the Indian history. After parents it is the teacher who directs a person to choose correct path, and to achieve his goals. At such tender age when a student is not able to judge for its wrong and right, they are teachers who help them to build a strong character. Teachers are like the guide to the students who leads them in difficult phases of life and helps them shaping their future and henceforth the future of the nation. Thus the teachers play an important role in building strong nations and assist in the development and growth of the nation.

A teacher is a builder of Nation. A teacher is known for his or her basic and the most important function called teaching. Teaching is the most important function of a teacher. The way of teaching, the methods of teaching and the most important is the kind of the information that he/she has with him/her. The need of information seeking also plays a key role for the teacher to perform their basic function.

Information need of the school teachers are related to the above function – classroom, teaching, current awareness, research and publication. The process of teaching has become very complex in modern time. Computers and internet play very important role in education.

Teachers require information on the subject that they are teaching. This will include mostly theoretical background information. Teachers need to explore new avenues in order to make classroom teaching more interesting, all the time teachers are seeking the kind of information which makes the teaching subject more interesting and also creates the students interest also. New information is born every day and is literally pouring in thought to literature sources as the periodical. This is very true in today's scenario that if a teacher wants to be taken seriously by his student and colleagues he needs to constantly update their existing knowledge. Student's psychology also plays a very important source as student can pose a problem by making it their business to ask difficult questions at practically in every class. Thus the school teacher is required to be thorough and up to date with the subject he is teaching.

2.0 Research Question

2.1 Barrier while information seeking.

1. Have you ever faced barriers in seeking information?

Yes () No ()

If yes, what kinds of barriers were faced in seeking information? (Please choose in order of priority, and number them 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, with 1 being topmost)

- Inadequate knowledge about library system ()
- Inadequate knowledge of computer application ()
- Lack of time and interest ()
- Personal library is adequate ()
- Physical environment of the library ()
- Others (please specify)()

2. Have you received any formal instruction in using library?

Yes () No ()

If yes, how would you assess the adequacy of this instruction? (Please mark one only)

- Excellent
- Very good
- Good
- Fair
- Poor

3.0 Review of Related Literature

Devender Kumar (2009) found in his study information needs of faculty members and research scholars of Chaudhary Charan Singh University, Meerut that they faced difficulties in access because of problem of time to read or look for information in library and lack of library automation. Automation is the key factor in improving library services

Lilley, Spencer Charles (2010) “Information Seeking Behaviour of Maori Secondary School Students” found that the Maori students are using different method for sharing information through social networks. Shanmugam, Ambikapathi (1999) “Information Seeking Behaviour Trainee Teacher in Selected Teacher Training College in Malaysia” based on study of trainees teacher need of information according to the course requirement. Majid, Shafeen (2000) conducted a study on “Information Seeking Behaviour of International Islamic University Malaysia Law Faculty Members” in which the preferable source of information is book. Thanuskodi, S.(2009)found in his study information seeking behavior of law faculty at central law college, Salem under the university of Annamalai, Tamilnadu that they faced problem to access the IT source because lack of awareness about their availability improper selection of materials or unfamiliarity with these product. Email Internet service is mostly used source by the faculty members where as other sources are used by a limited numbers of respondent. The reference staff of library is helping the users to learn the IT source. The faculty members need information for teaching as well as research.

4.0 Objective of the Study

The objective of the present study are as follows

1. To find out the barriers while Teacher searching information.
2. To find out frequency of using library by the Teachers.
3. To find out overall satisfaction while using Library.

5.0 Research Methodology

This study used questionnaire based survey method and include Government as well Private school. A total of 550 questionnaires were distributed to Teachers of senior secondary school Haryana but only 450 were filled. The collected data were analysed and tabulated by employing statistical method. Personnel interview are also collected during the questionnaire were distributed during the session 2012-13.

6.0 Scope and Limitation of the Study

The scope of the study confines to analyse the barrier while information seeking by the school teachers of Board of School Education Haryana as well as C.B.S.E. of different stream.

7.0 Data Analysis and Interpretation

The collected data were analysed and tabulated by employing statistical method.

Table 1. Number of respondent

Sr. No.	Stream	No. of Respondents	% of Respondents
1.	Arts	264	58.7
2.	Commerce	52	11.5
3.	Science.	134	29.8
	Total Respondents	450	100

Table 1 shows that 450 teachers are different Strem. The Arts stream are 264(58.7), Commerce 52(11.5) and science 134(29.8).

Table 2. Barriers while information seeking:-

Sr. no.	Barrier in Information seeking	No. of Respondent	% of Respondent
1	Yes	172	38.22
2	No	278	61.78
3	Total no. of Respondents	450	100

Above table show that only 38.22 % are not facing barrier while searching information. Those who faced barrier while getting information mostly face lack of time & interest and non- availability of relevant subject material.

Table 3. Barrier in Information seeking (N=172)

Sr. no.	Barrier in Information seeking	No. of Respondent	% of Respondent
1	Inadequate knowledge about library system	41	23.84
2	Inadequate knowledge of computer application	42	24.42
3	Lack of time and interest	52	30.23
4	Personal library is adequate	18	10.47
5	Physical environment of the library	19	11.04
6	Totals Respondents	172	100

Above table shows that Teachers are facing barrier while searching information. They are facing inadequate knowledge of library system is 41(23.84%) as well as lack of computer knowledge 42(24.42%). Mostly Teachers have lack of time and interest to use library. But there is non-availability of relevant subject material in library.

8.0 Formal instruction in using library

Sr. No.	Formal instruction in using library	No. of Respondents	% of Respondents
1	Yes	275	61.11
2	No	169	37.56
3	No Response	6	1.33
4	Total Respondents	450	100

Those says yes their details given below (N=275)

Sr. No.	Adequacy of the instruction	No. of Respondents	% of Respondents
1	Excellent	65	23.63
2	Very good	100	36.36
3	Good	95	34.55
4	Fair	15	5.46
5	Poor	0	0
6	Total Respondents	275	100

From the above table that 275(61%) respondents are getting instruction from the library staff.

9.0 Conclusion

The finding of this study are likely to be major importance in ensuring that the future development of such services address such barriers and improves the information-seeking environment. These include inadequate knowledge about library system and lack of knowledge of ICT resources. By providing research based data on preferring of PGT of Government as well as Private school for particular types of information resources and facing barrier and frequency of use library.

There is various barrier that faced by the respondents while seeking information such as non-availability of internet, non-availability of computers, language problems, lack of expert staff, personal barriers, communication channel barriers etc. The study shows that out of 450 respondents 278 have not faced any barrier while seeking information whereas 172 of the respondents faced difficulty in information seeking thus enabling them to get adequate information for various sources. Out of 172 respondents 52 of them have lack of time and interest thus enabling them to make proper use of library. The other barriers faced by the respondents are inadequate knowledge about library system, inadequate knowledge of computer application, physical environment of the library is not appropriate. The study also reveals that out of 450 respondents 275 of the respondents follows the formal instruction in using library.

10.0 References

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