

ABOUT THE BOOK

This edited volume provides various diverse and vital perspectives on open access (OA) issues. This volume focuses on the viewpoints of researchers, librarians, information professionals, publishers, and library users in India. This volume provides an excellent overview of open access publishing and its benefits. Open access (OA) helps readers find, retrieve, read and use the research they need. At the same time, it allows authors to enlarge their audience and amplify their impact. Those are the main benefits. But these benefits lead to others. If OA helps readers and authors of research, it helps advance research itself and all the benefits that depend on research. In the case of the sciences, that can mean new medicines and valuable technologies. In these circumstances the editors were collected 58 papers from Library and Information Science Professionals from the National level and titled on Innovative Librarianship: Accelerating Open Access. Contents are edited suitably in order to appreciate the professionals. This edited volume consists of 59 papers from Library and Information Science Professionals under five themes such as, i) Open Access Landscape, ii) Implications for Scholarly Communication, iii) Open Access Tools and Technologies, iv) Open Educational Resources and v) User Studies and User Education.

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Dr. S. Dhanavandan

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Information Seeking Behaviour of Faculty Members in the Electronic Environment: A Study

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Introduction

Information Seeking is an essential human activity. It is as old as the human race. Early people looked for information to hunt, fish, farm and to protect themselves. Currently, “it is still an important part of human activities, ranging from decision making and problem solving through resource allocation and system management” (Prekop, 2002).

Information Seeking Behavior can be described as an individual's way and manner of gathering and sourcing for information for personal use, knowledge updating and development. Information Seeking is also an essential activity in the academic environment. It is associated with every task faculty perform, such as teaching, research and service. “The emerging tools of the information age ... allow individuals to search for, obtain, integrate, analyze, evaluate, experience, and create new information with greater ease and timeliness than at any time in the past.” (Swan and Hicks, 2007)

Review of Literature

Hemantha Kumar and Uma Jagannath (2019) wrote an article “ Information seeking behaviour of faculty members of agricultural universities in Karnataka: A case study.” The study shows, out of 691 respondents data was collected from the six universities with different academic positions viz., Assistant Professor, Associate Professor and Professor. The highest respondents KVAFSU-B 205, UAS-B 128, UHS-B 122, UAS-D 101, UAHS-S 74 and lastly UAS-R 61 in the study.



Bharadwaj and Javed Khan (2016) carried out a study “Information seeking Behaviors in electronic environment. The growth and development of ICT and availability of information in the electronic media has created an opportunity for global access to information. It is defined the a resource which requires computer access or any electronic product that delivers a collection of data, be it tats referring to full text data bases, electronic journals, image collection and other multimedia products . The study concludes the use of electronic resources in different fields, types of e-resources, purpose and advantages and disadvantages of e-resources in context of information seeking behaviour.

Murugan (2015) published an article “Utilization of E- Resources by Faculty and Students of Universal College of Engineering and Technology, Vallioor, Tamil Nadu: A Study.” The use of the survey method questionnaire tool were adopted together data for the study. Among the 80 respondents, students (62.50%) and faculty members (37.50 %) were assessing E-resources. It is concluded that 14 respondents E-journals are using faculty (54%), using students (50%) of the study.

Mamun (2013) analyze “A Study of Information Needs and Seeking Behavior of Faculty Members of Darul Ihsan University in Bangladesh.” Use of electronic information resources for research purposes, their perception of electronic and print materials and the problems faced by the faculty members during information search. The study to make samples, given to the limitation of the statistical population, based on the tools for gathering data some questionnaires including 26 open and closed questions set in accordance with the survey’s critical queries of the seeking Behaviour.

Suriya et al. (2004) analyze a article “research on information seeking behavior of faculty members from Government Arts Colleges in Cuddalore District.” The study reveals a most of the respondents 61 (38.12 %) used to visit the library several times a week to meet their information needs. Regarding the type of search made by the respondents, majority of the respondents made their search by subject (57%).

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The following objectives are framed

1. To identify the Faculty Members of the Institutions
2. To examine the category wise respondents
3. To analyze the Institutions and category of using an Information Seeking Behaviour
 1. To displays the Frequency of visit to the Library.
 2. To find out any Reason for using Library wise Respondents
 3. To posses the formal documentary sources required /Needs wise respondents
 4. What is the e-resources required/Used by Respondents and

5. To evaluate the satisfaction levels of the purpose of Information Seeking behaviour

Methodology

The study is Information Seeking Behaviour of Faculty Members in the Electronic Environment: A Study with Special Reference to selected Area of Tirunelveli Arts and Science Colleges Affiliated to Manonmanium Sundaranar University. A questionnaire based survey method is used and 150 questionnaires were distributed to the six Institutions working faculty members out of which 130 have responded in the survey.

Data Analysis of the study

Data in table 1 explains the distribution of the Institutions wise Respondents and figure.1. The six institutions namely St.John's College, Palayamkottai, Sri Paramakalyani College, Alwarkurichi, Ambai Arts College, Ambasamudram, Thiruvalluvar College, Papanasam, Sri Sarada College for Women Sarada Nagar and Government. College of Arts & Science, Surandai .Totally 150 questionnaires were distributed and 130 respondents are responded in the survey.

Table.1 Distribution of the Institutions wise Respondents

S.No	Name of the Institutions	No.of Respondents	Percentage
1	St.John's College, Palayamkottai	24	19.00
2	Sri Paramakalyani College, Alwarkurichi	22	16.00
3	Ambai Arts College, Ambasamudram	17	13.00
4	Thiruvalluvar College, Papanasam	21	17.00
5	Sri Sarada College for Women Sarada Nagar	22	17.00
6	Government. College of Arts & Science, Surandai	24	18.00
	Total	130	100.00

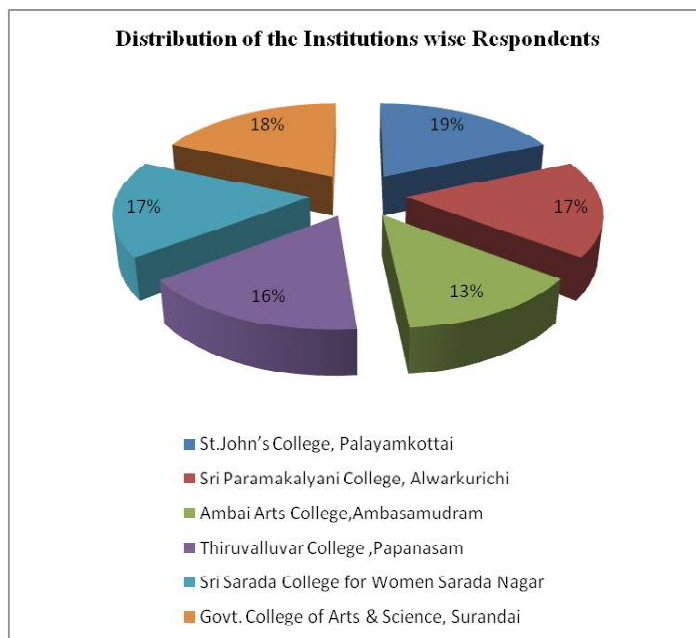


Figure.1

Category wise Respondents

Table 2 explains the Category wise Respondents. Out of 130 respondents, Assistant Professor, 85 (65.38%), Associate Professor, 45 (34.62%).

Table.2. Category wise Respondents

S.No	Category	Frequency	Percentage
1	Assistant Professor	85	65.38
2	Associate Professor	45	34.62
	Total	130	100.00

Institution wise Category of the Respondents

Institution wise Category of the Respondents is shown in table 3. The six institutions namely are St. John's College, Palayamkottai, Assistant Professor, 14 (58.33%) followed by Associate Professor, 10 (41.67%). Sri Paramakalyani College, Alwarkurichi, Assistant Professor, 16 (72.73%) followed by Associate Professor, 6 (27.27%). Ambai Arts College, Ambasamudram, Assistant Professor, 12 (70.58%) followed by Associate Professor, 5 (29.42%). Thiruvalluvar College, Papanasam, Assistant Professor, 16 (76.19%) followed by Associate Professor, 5 (23.81%). Sri Sarada College for Women Sarada Nagar, Assistant

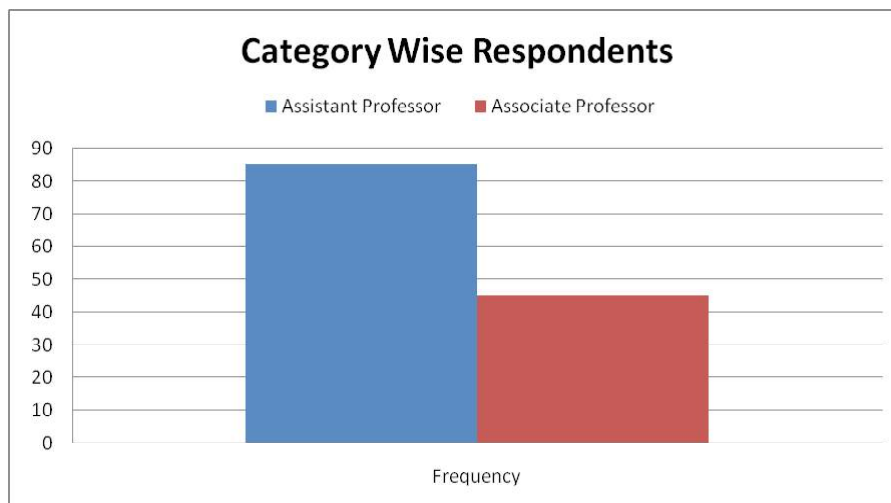


Figure 2

Professor, 16 (72.73%) followed by Associate Professor, 6 (27.27%) Govt. College of Arts & Science, Surandai , Assistant Professor, 12 (50%) followed by Associate Professor, 12 (50%).

Table.3. Institution wise Category of the Respondents

S.No	Name of the Institution	Assistant Professor	Associate Professor	Total
1	St.John's College, Palayamkottai	14	10	24
		58.33%	41.67%	18.46%
2	Sri Paramakalyani College, Alwarkurichi	16	6	22
		72.73%	27.27%	16.92%
3	Ambai Arts College, Ambasamudram	12	5	17
		70.58%	29.42%	13.08%
4	Thiruvalluvar College, Papanasam	16	5	21
		76.19%	23.81%	16.15%
5	Sri Sarada College for Women Sarada Nagar	16	6	22
		72.73%	27.27%	16.92%
6	Govt. College of Arts & Science, Surandai	12	12	24
		50.00%	50.00%	18.46%
	Total	86	44	130
		66.15%	33.85%	100.00%

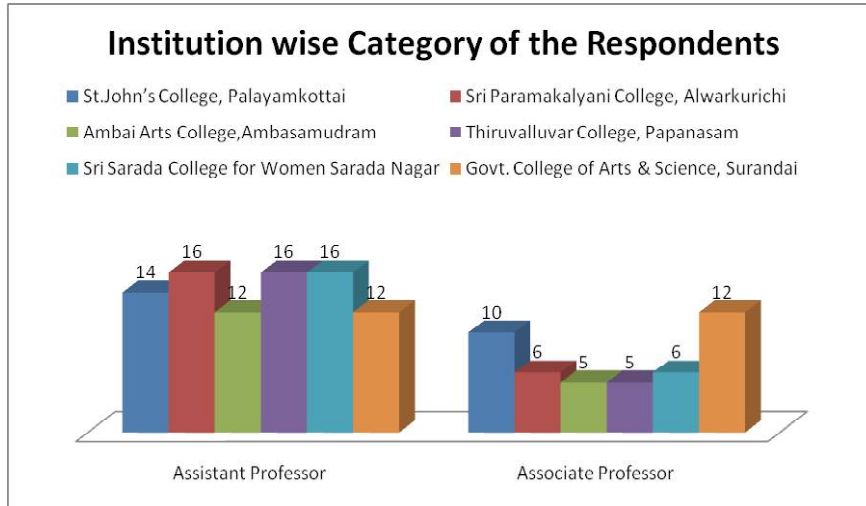


Figure 3.

Table.4. Gender wise Category of Respondents

S.No	Category	Gender		Total
		Male	Female	
1	Assistant Professor	46(62.16%)	40(71.43%)	86(66.15%)
2	Associate Professor	28(37.84%)	16(28.57%)	44(33.85%)
	Total	74 (56.92%)	56 (43.08%)	130 (100.00%)

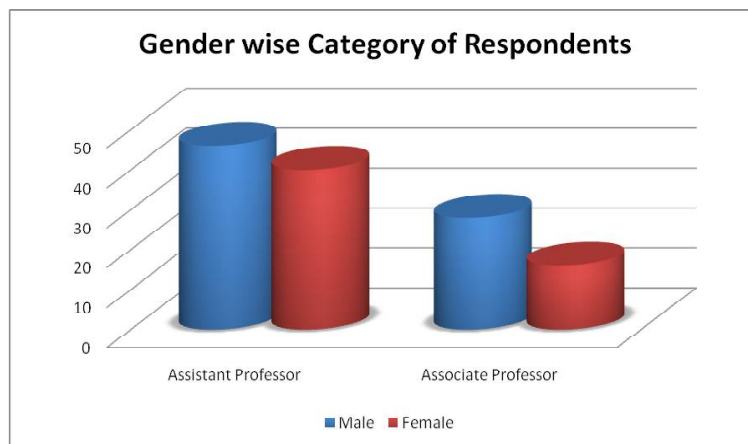


Figure.4

Table 4 and figure 4 presents the Gender wise Category of Respondents. The four category of the respondents are Assistant Professor of Male, 41 (52.56%) followed by Female, 37 (47.44%), Associate Professor of Male, 24 (63.16%) followed by Female, 14 (36.84%), Professor of Male, 1(100%) and Other Category of Male, 8 (61.54%) followed by Female, 5 (38.46%).

Frequency of the Visit to College Library

Table 5 highlights the frequency of the visit to College Library. Among the four category of the respondents are frequency of the Visit to College Library ,24 (18.46%) followed by weekly, 35 (26.92%), More than one week, 17 (13.08%), Fortnight, 15 (11.54%), Monthly, 20 (15.38%), Rarely, 18 (13.85%) and never, 1 (0.77%).

Table.5. Frequency of the Visit to College Library

S.No	Category	Frequency	Percentage
1	Every day	24	18.46
2	Weekly	35	26.92
3	More than one week	17	13.08
4	Fortnight	15	11.54
5	Monthly	20	15.38
6	Rarely	18	13.85
7	Never	1	0.77
	Total	130	100.00

Any Reason for using Library wise Respondents

Table 6 reveals the reason for using library wise Respondents. Among the four category of the respondents, Assistant Professor level of the convenient to my Place, 25 (32.05%) followed by Library usually possess the needed Information, 21 (26.92%), Library Staff Members are Friendly, 8 (10.26%), Staff Members help me to what I need, 13 (16.67%), Needed Information cannot get elsewhere, 5 (6.41%), Internet facility Available, 8 (10.26%) and More number of E-resources Collection and Services available, 9 (11.54%). Associate Professor level of the convenient to my Place, 6 (15.79%) followed by Library usually possess the needed Information, 9 (23.68%), Library Staff Members are Friendly, 7 (18.42%), Staff Members help me to what I need, 4 (10.52%), Needed Information cannot get elsewhere, 4 (10.52%), Internet facility Available, 6(15.79%) and More number of E-resources Collection and Services available, 5 (13.15%)

Table.6. Any Reason for using Library wise Respondents

Category	The Reason for using Library							Total
	Convenient to my Place	Library usually possess the needed Information	Library Staff Members are Friendly	Library Staff Members help me to what I need	Library Staff Members cannot get elsewhere	Internet facility Available	More number of E-resources Collection and Services available	
Assistant Professor	25	21	8	13	5	8	9	89
	32.05%	26.92%	10.26%	16.67%	6.41%	10.26%	11.54%	68.46%
Associate Professor	6	9	7	4	4	6	5	41
	15.79%	23.68%	18.42%	10.52%	10.52%	15.79%	13.15%	31.54%
Total	31	30	15	17	9	14	14	130
	23.85%	23.08%	11.54%	13.08%	6.92%	10.77%	10.77%	100.00%

Table.7. The formal Documentary sources required /Needs

Category	The formal Documentary sources required /Needs										Total				
	Text Books	Encyclopaedias	Dictionaries	Journals- Periodicals	News-papers/ Magazine	Technical Reports	Proceedings of Conferences/Seminars/Symposia	Fiction	Project reports	Theses/ Dissertations		Reference Books	Indices/ Abstracts	Bibliographies	
Assistant Professor	30	7	5	14	12	1	1	1	1	2	5	4	1	1	84
	35.71%	8.33%	5.95%	16.67%	14.28%	1.19%	1.19%	1.19%	1.19%	2.38%	5.95%	4.76%	1.19%	1.19%	64.61%
Associate Professor	11	7	3	3	6	2	2	2	1	5	2	1	1	1	46
	23.91%	15.21%	6.52%	6.52%	13.04%	4.34%	4.34%	4.34%	2.17%	10.86%	4.34%	2.17%	2.17%	2.17%	35.39%
Total	41	14	8	17	18	3	3	3	3	10	6	2	2	2	130
	31.54%	10.77%	6.15%	13.08%	13.85%	2.31%	2.31%	2.31%	2.31%	7.69%	4.62%	1.54%	1.54%	1.54%	100.00%

7. The formal Documentary sources required /Needs

Table 7 investigates the formal Documentary sources required /Needs of Information seeking behaviour. The Assistant Professor Category level, in the formal Documentary sources is using the majority of the respondents “Text Books”, 30 (35.71%) followed by “Encyclopaedia”, 7 (8.33%), “Dictionaries”, 5 (5.95%), “Journals/Periodicals” 14(16.67%), “Newspaper Magazines” 12(14.28%), Technical Reports 1 (1.19%), Proceedings of Conference/Seminars/ Symposia 1 (1.19%), Fiction 1 (1.19%), Project Report 2(2.38%), Thesis 5 (5.95%), Reference Books 4 (4.76%) Indices/Abstract 1 (1.19%) and Bibliographies 1 (1.19%). Associate Professor Category level, in the formal Documentary sources is using the majority of the respondents “Text Books”, 11 (23.91%) followed by “Encyclopaedia”, 7 (15.21%), “Dictionaries” ,3 (6.52%), “Journals/Periodicals” 3(6.52%), “Newspaper Magazines” 6(13.04%), Technical Reports 3 (2.31%), Proceedings of Conference/Seminars/ Symposia 3 (2.31%), Fiction 3 (2.31%), Project Report 3(2.31%), Thesis 10 (7.69%), Reference Books 6 (4.62%) Indices/Abstract 2 (1.54%) and Bibliographies 2 (1.54%).

Table 8 denotes List of E-resources required/Used by Respondents. The Assistant Professor Category Level, majority of the respondents are using the E-Journal 13 (15.29%), E-Archives 8 (9.41%), E-Manuscripts 4 (4.41%), E-Book 9 (10.59%), E-magazine/Newspaper 16 (18.82%) followed by E-research report 3 (3.53), E-Bibliographic Database 9 (10.59), E-Full Text Database 9 (10.59%) and CD-ROM Database 3 (3.53%), WWW 8 (9.41), Library Website 5 (5.88), OPAC 3 (3.53%) .Associate Professor Category Level, majority of the respondents are using the E-Journal 9 (20.00%), E-Archives 7 (15.56%), E-Manuscripts 3 (6.67%), E-Books 9 (20.00%), E-magazine/Newspaper 5 (11.11%) followed by E-research report 2 (4.44), E-Bibliographic Database 1 (2.22), E-Full Text Database 3 (6.67%) and CD-ROM Database 2 (2.44%), Library Website 2 (4.44), OPAC 2 (4.44%)

Table 9 examines the satisfaction level of the purpose of Information Seeking. Assistant Professor Category Level, “Not all important” 13 (15.29%), Slightly important 15 (17.65%) , Moderately 11 (12.94%), Very Important 28 (32.94%), Extremely Important 18 (21.18%) Associate Professor Category Level, , “Not all important” 5 (11.11%), Slightly important 5 (11.11%) , Moderately 5 (11.11%), Very Important 22 (48.89%), Extremely Important 8 (17.78%)

Table 8. List of E-resources required/Used by Respondents

Category	E - resources required/Used by Respondents											Total	
	E- journal	E- archives	E-manu scripts	E-books	E-maga- zine/ News paper	E- research report	E-biblio- graphic database	E- full text database	CD- ROM database	www	Library Website		OPAC
Assistant Professor	13	8	4	9	16	3	4	9	3	8	5	3	85
	15.29%	9.41%	4.71%	10.59%	18.82%	3.53%	4.71%	10.59%	3.53%	9.41%	5.88%	3.53%	65.38%
Associate Professor	9	7	3	9	5	2	1	3	2	0	2	2	45
	20.00%	15.56%	6.67%	20.00%	11.11%	4.44%	2.22%	6.67%	4.44%	0.00	4.44%	4.44%	34.62%
Total	22	15	13	12	21	5	5	12	5	8	7	5	130
	16.92%	11.54%	10.00%	9.23%	16.15%	3.85%	3.85%	9.23%	3.85%	6.15%	5.38%	3.85%	100.00%

Table.9. Satisfaction level of the purpose of Information Seeking

Category	Satisfaction level of the purpose of Information Seeking					Total
	Not all Important	Slightly Important	Moderately	Very Important	Extremely Important	
Assistant Professor	13 15.29%	15 17.65%	11 12.94%	28 32.94%	18 21.18%	85 65.38%
Associate Professor	5 11.11%	5 11.11%	5 11.11%	22 48.89%	8 17.78%	45 34.62%
Total	18 13.85%	20 15.38%	16 12.31%	50 38.46%	26 20.00%	130 100.00%

Findings

- ✓ This study reveals the usages of library for referring printed resource are declining.
- ✓ The usage of E-Resources through Library or through their smart phones day by day as we are moving towards Digital Era.
- ✓ The youngsters (Assistant Professors) are very eager to utilize the E-Resources like E-Books, E-Journals etc.
- ✓ In the Electronic Environment textbooks are frequently accessed by the staff members to handle their classes then E-Journals also referred by them frequently.
- ✓ N-LIST is the main consortium for majority colleges to access E-Journals and E-Books.

Conclusion & Suggestion

- ✓ As we are moving towards the paperless society, the knowledge of accessing E-Resources are very essentials for the faculty members.
- ✓ At Present most of the publishers has stopped the printed version of Journals and also Books.
- ✓ The Indian Academy of Science (IAS) previously published more than 10 Journals in print version.
- ✓ Now IAS is publishing “Current Science” and “Resonance Journal of Science and Education” only in printed form, other journals are published in online only.
- ✓ Proper training must be given to the elder staff members to make use of online E-Resources

- ✓ Library usage by the staff members will make to be compulsory at least for 15 minutes daily for the up gradation of the staff members and also to enhance the quality of Education

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