Information Access Pattern among Chemistry Teachers in Arts & Science Colleges in Tiruchirappalli Region, Tamilnadu

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Abstract

The study examine the information access pattern among the Chemistry faculties have interested to visit the academic Libraries and other information centers to access the various resources for academic purpose. The Study relates to the nature and importance of the latent aspects of the information use behaviour by the Chemistry teachers in Arts and Science Colleges in Tiruchirappalli region, Tamilnadu. Though it is assumed in information user studies that the employees in general tend to be ready to make use of information source and make an attempt to keep abreast of the information published in various sources.

Keywords: Information seeking; Knowlege; Chemistry faculties, E-resources access; UGC-Infonet.

Introduction

The word Science is derived from Latin (Roman) word "Science" or " Scire" which means knowledge. This meaning was attached to different word in different parts of the world, wherever the pursuit of knowledge became a human activity. Science, in its widest sense is a systematic method of describing and controlling the material world, it is a systematized store of human knowledge about nature. Thus the history of science must include the history of the development of all aspects of knowledge.

Information: Definition

Kent states [1] Information is the feed stock for knowledge. In an ideal world unimpeded flow of information amongst individuals of equal capacity to process the information into knowledge there would be no advantage to be gained by any individual or Group as compared with another by procession of

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Information. "Davis[2] has defined information as"data that has been processed into a form that is meaningful to the recipient and of real perceived value in current or perspective decision.

Review of Literature

Garg and Ashok kumar [3] examine that most of the information scientists collect procedural information for a design or development of the project. Periodicals are highly used to the sources of information gathering and the scientists scan the average numbers of periodicals. Kawtara[4] a conducted a study on research scholars of three universities of Rajasthan to know the views of the scholars on the adequacy of library resources and services. A survey was undertaken by Jasmer singh[5] and hari singh to access the needs expectations of the users of Punjab University Library, Chandigarh. The study examined the adequacy of library collections. The satisfaction of the user with regard to lending, reference and bibliographic services. Ellis[6] analyzed the information seeking behaviour among the social scientists then discussed the use of electronic data based and compute based information online search. Vital Rao[7] has made the study in the information seeking behaviour of the scientists

of the National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad by questionnaire method.

Objectives

1. To observe the distribution of gender-wise respondents

2. To examine the experience of chemistry faculties

3. To know educational qualification of chemistry faculties to seek the information

4. To know the category-wise distribution among the faculties

5. To observe the chemistry faculties for purposes of visit to the library

6. To observe the faculties required the type of information

7. To examine the ranking of formal sources of information need for the chemistry faculties

8. To observe the ranking of e-resources access by the Chemistry faculties

Methodology

This study was made a good attempt to judge the information seeking behavior of chemistry teachers in Arts and Science Institutions in Trichirappalli region, Tamilnadu. About 14 Arts and Science colleges have identified and distributed questionnaire to the Chemistry faculties in Tiruchirappalli region, this study helps to observe the dependence of respondents on information from libraries and other channels. There was used questionnaire method and distributed 100 questionnaires then received 90 questionnaires received from the respondents, after collecting the data analysis were made through the tabulation for further study.

The Questionnaires were distributed among Chemistry teachers in 14 Arts & Science Colleges in Tiruchirappalli region as mentioned below,

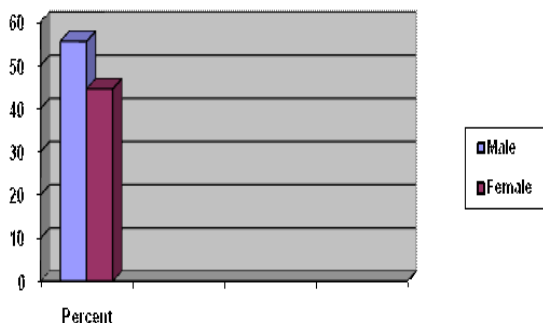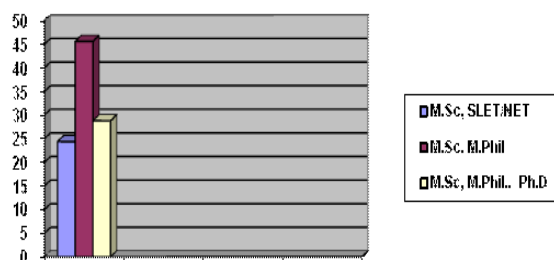| S. No	Name of the College	No. of respondents
1	Bishop Heber College	9
2	Chidambaram Pillai College for women	3
3	Christhuraj college	4
4	EVR College	9
5	Government Nedunchezhiyan College	4
6	Holly Cross College	7
7	Jamal Mohammed College	9
8	Kurinji Arts & Science College	4
9	Kaveri Collge for Women	4
10	National College	8
11	St.Joseph Collge	9
12	Sithalakshmi Ramasamy College	7
13	Srimathi Indhira Gandhi Collge	5
14	Urumu Dhanalakshmi College	7
	Total	90

Analysis and interpretation

The primary data collected through the structured questionnaire from 90 respondents are taken as the base for the analysis and interpretation. The suitable statistical method has been adopted to prove the hypothesis the analyzed data are presented in suitable table form.

Table 1 shown the distribution of respondents based on gender 50 (55.5%) are male members and 40 (44.5%) are female members. Though, questionnaire was distributed equally to both male and female.

The data relating to length of experience of the chemistry faculties are collected through the questionnaire. The table 2 reveal as 68 (75.5%) of respondents have 1 to 10 years of experience. In the second place 10 (11.1%) of the population has 11 to 20 years of experience. 8 (8.8%9) of the respondents have 21-30 years of experience and 4 (4.4%) of the respondents have 31-40 years of experience.

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Table 1: Distribution of Gender-wise respondents

S. No	Gender	Total No. of. Respondents n=90	%
1	Male	50	55.5
2	Female	40	44.5
	Total	**90**	**100**

Figure 1

Table 2: Experience of Chemistry faculties

Experience in years	No. of respondents n=90	%
1-10	68	75.55
11-20	10	11.12
21-30	8	8.88
31-40	4	4.45
Total	**90**	**100**

Table 3: Educational Qualifications of Chemistry faculties

S. No	Qualifications	No. of respondents n=90	Percentage
1	M.Sc, SLET/NET	22	24.44
2	M.Sc, M.Phil.,	42	45.73
3	M.Sc, M.Phil., Ph.D	26	28.93
	Total	**90**	**100**

Table 3 reveals the qualifications attained by the Chemistry was elicited through questionnaire and ascertained with available data from the records shows that 42 (46.6%) or M.Sc, M.Phil., and another 22 (22.45%) sample are M.Sc, chemistry. The rest of the faculties hold 26 (28.8%) or Ph.D holders.

Figure 2

Table 4: Category –wise distribution of faculties

S. No	Designations	Questionnaire distributed	Questionnaire received	Percentage
1	Lecturer (SG) / Reader	42	38	42.31
2	Lecturer (SS)	44	36	39.99
3	Lecturer	23	16	17.70
	Total	**109**	**90**	**100**

The respondents were requested to mentioned the designation 38 (42.2%) are Lecturer (SG)/ Reader, 36 (39.99%) are Lecturer (SS) 16 (17.78) are in Lecturer shown from Table 4.

It is reveal from table 5 that majority of users of all the three groups visit the library to borrow books, followed by refer the periodicals . Thus, books and periodicals are most heavily used items of resources followed by UGC INFONET Journals. About 44.73 % of Lecturer (SG)/Reader, 41.26% of Lecturer (SS) and 31.25% of Lecturer visit the library to browse UGC- INFONET Journals for their information needs. Theses and dissertations were used 36.84 % of Lecturer (SG)/ Reader , 33.33% of Lecturer (SS) and 25% of Lecturer to consult for their research studies.

Table 6 shows the distribution of respondents based on type of information required 24 (26.6%) have ranked review of literature as first on the list of information requirement. The Scientific & Technical information shows 30 (33.3%) first needed type of information. Experiment design as first Source is reveal 28(29.9%). 32 (33.3%) is rank

Table 5: Purpose of Library visit

| S. No	Purpose of library visit	No. of Respondents		
		Lecturer	Lecturer (SS)	Lecturer (SG) /Reader
1	To use/borrow the books	8 (50.0%)	32 (88.8%)	29 (76.31%)
2	To refer the periodicals	7 (43.5%)	27 (75.0%)	24 (63.15)
3	To browse UGC-Infonet journals	5 (31.25%)	15 (41.26%)	17 (44.73)
4	To refer the reference documents	5 (31.25%)	17 (47.22)	19 (50.0%)
5	To refer the theses and dissertations	4 (25.0%)	12 (33.33)	14 (36.84%)

Table 6: Respondents on type of Information required

S. No	Type of Information	Ranking of Respondents				
		1	2	3	4	5
1	Review of Literature	4 (4.4%)	24 (26.6%)	30 (33.3%)	18 (19.9%)	14 (15.5%)
2	Scientific & Technical Information	4 (4.4%)	30 (33.3%)	30 (33.3%)	14 (15.5%)	12 (13.3%)
3	Experiment Design	10 (11.1%)	10 (11.1%)	28 (29.9%)	26 (27.7%)	16 (17.7%)
4	Product / Material / Apparatus information	4 (4.4%)	32 (33.3%)	24 (25.5%)	20 (22.2%)	10 (11.1%)
5	Physical/Technical information	4 (4.4%)	14 (15.5%)	26 (27.7%)	30 (33.3%)	16 (17.7%)
6	Scientific/Technical information	4 (4.4%)	6 (6.6%)	12 13.3%)	42 (43.3%)	26 (27.7%)
7	General information	10 (11.1%)	18 (19.9%)	22 (23.3%)	20 (22.2%)	20 (22.2%)

Table 7: Ranking of formal Sources of information

S. No	Formal Sources	Ranking				
		1	2	3	4	5
1	Books	51 (56.6%)	20 (22.2%)	3 (3.3%)	6 (6.6%)	10 (11.1%)
2	Periodical/ Journals	42 (46.6%)	10 (11.1%)	20 (22.2%)	3 (3.33%)	5 (5.55%)
3	Conference Proceedings	31 (34.4%)	20 (22.2%)	10 (11.1%)	10 (11.1%)	9 (9.99%)
4	Standards/Patents	22 (24.4%)	21 (22.2%)	10 (11.1%)	11 (12.2%)	26 (28.8%)
5	Theses and Dissertations	20 (22.2%)	22 (24.4)	11 (12.2%)	20 (22.2%)	7 (7.7%)

Table 8: Ranking of E-resources access

S. No	E-resources	Ranking		
		1	2	3
1	Internet	52 (57.7%)	20 (22.2%)	18 (19.9%)
2	CD/ROM	34 (37.7%)	32 (35.5%)	34 (37.7%)
3	UGC Infonet consortia	20 (22.2%)	31 (34.4%)	39 (43.3%)

Figure 3
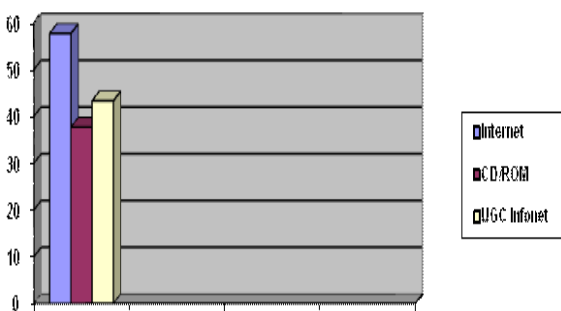
product information/Material/apparatus information information as first rank. 30 (33.3%) rank first Physical/technical information followed by 26 (27.7%). The Scientific/Technical news being ranked first 42 (43.3%) and it followed by26 (27.7%). The General information access by the chemistry faculties it's hold first rank 22 (23.3%).

Table 7 shows, the ranking of formal sources 51 (56.6%) of the respondents rank books as first source of information. 42 (46.6%) and 31 (34.4%) of the respondents rank periodical/Journals and conference proceeding rank first respectively. The Standard/Patent shows as first 22 (24%). Finally, 20 (22.2%) of the respondents rank thesis and dissertations as first.

Table 8 shows the ranking of e-resources as information sources, 57.78% of the respondents rank internet as first information sources 37.78 percent of the respondents rank CD/ROM as first source of information 22.22% of the respondents rank access the e-resources through UGC-Infonet as first source of information.

Conclusion

The study has investigated the primary library should evolve a more liberal policy journals, reports etc., among the users concerned without expecting the Chemistry faculties visiting the libraries consult a document or borrow a document for a limited period. The finding of the present study as well as its data base could serve as starting point for much independent short and long range research projects which may in turn through better light on information seeking behavior of the chemistry faculties in Arts and Science Colleges in Trichirappalli Region.

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