

Information Use Pattern and Reading Habits among Students of Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha (A Deemed University) , New Delhi : A Case Study

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ABSTRACT

The present paper is based on survey conducted on the information use pattern and readings habits among the students of SLBSRSV, New Delhi.

This paper shows that the majority of students 97.50% preferred books for accessing information and from informal sources 81.25% preferred discussion with colleagues getting desire information. The main purpose of information seeking were updating knowledge. Most of the Students were faced the problem of lack of time while seeking information. 87.50% respondent enjoy reading and majority of 62.50% students said that social media were reduced their reading habits.

INTRODUCTION

Information is a valuable input for social development in the present information society , the quality of life as well as prospects for social change and economic development depend increasingly upon information and its utilization. The user is key component of any information system, the success of an information system depends considerably on how best the system design is based on close and accurate understanding of the users. The community of users may comprise of different categories depending upon their nature of information need and the class they belongs to.

Reading is primarily an intellectual activity and its practice is influenced by many factors like subject background, age, status etc. reading habit is a sort of attribute of a human being. it is a basic tool of education and one of the most important skills in everyday life.

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha :an overview

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha founded in the year 1962 named as Sanskrit Vidyapeetha at Delhi. from the year 1966 Vidyapeetha renamed as Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha. In 1987 UGC granted the status of Deemed to be University.

Today Lal Bahadur Shastri Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha is a unique 'A' grade University accredited by NAAC . it is a premier institute for Sanskrit language and literature, Veda-Vedanta, Culture, Philosophy, Education etc. it offers certificate, diploma, undergraduate, post graduate and research programmes .

The library of the SLBSRSV named as Maha Mhopadhyaya Padam shri Dr.Madan Mishra Granthalaya .it has a rich collection of more than 63000 including books, bound journals, thesis, Encyclopedias , Dissertation Dictionaries etc. covering Sanskrit language and literature, Philosophy, Epics, Astrology ,Education, Culture etc. more than 20 journals are subscribed by the library .the library also provides book bank facility to the needy students it has collection of 4550 books. The library fully automated through LIBSYS software.

Review of Related Literature

Singh and Arora (2013) conducted a study on information seeking needs of political science teachers of college of university of Delhi. the study shows that the most of the teachers visited the libraries 2-3 times in a week for the purpose of getting textbooks and for reading newspapers and magazines.56%teachers were using library to consult the literature for lecture of their class.

Karisiddappa and others (1989) in this studies entitled information use pattern of Indian historians. Investigated the information use pattern of Indian historians as to their use of different information sources : difficulties faced in the use of information and various approaches to locate information.

Reddy and Karisiddappa (1997) conducted a survey on information seeking behavior of 160 medical scientists on the use of formal and informal channels of communication which showed that journals are preferred for formal source on information for preparing course/teaching materials. books are used more for providing consultation and other services .the time spent in reading/borrowing literature for various purpose has also been investigated.

Sharma and Singh (2005) conduct a study Reading habits of faculty members in natural sciences. it is a case study of university of Delhi .the present study on reading habits on faculty members is based on a user survey carried out at university of Delhi .factors affecting the reading habits ,average time spent in library, sources used in library etc were studied. The majority of faculty members' visit the library on a weekly basis .the study also how that the most important purpose of reading by the faculty members is to meet the teaching and research requirements.

Scope and Objectives of the study

The scope of this study is limited to the students (U.G., P.G. and Research scholars) of Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha, (A Deemed University), New Delhi. The study was an attempt to find out the usage pattern of information and reading habits by the students. The main objectives of the study are as follows:

To Identify the various information sources preferred by the students for accessing information.

To Trace out the purpose of seeking information by the students.

To Investigate information needs of the students.

To Find out the problem faced by the students while seeking information.

To Investigate the reading habits among the students.

Research Methodology

The study uses the case study method. a well structured questionnaire was designed and used for collection of data. total 120 questionnaire were distributed to the students of Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha, (A Deemed University), New Delhi. Therefore, a total of 80 filled questionnaires were received back and used for the study.

Data Analysis

Table-1 Distribution of questionnaires and response received (n=120)

Questionnaire	Frequency	Percentage
Questionnaire received	80	66.67
Questionnaire not received	40	33.33
Total distributed	120	100

Table 1 shows that a total 120 questionnaires were distributed and a total of 80 (66.67%) filled questionnaires were received back. and rest of 40 (33.33%) questionnaire were not received.

Table-2 Sex-wise distribution of respondent (n=80)

Gender	Frequency	Percentage
Male	50	62.50
Female	30	37.50
Total	80	100

Table 2 indicates that most of the respondents 50(62.50%) were male and rest of 30 (37.50%) were female .it shows nearly 60:40 reshaw of the gender respondents.

Table-3 Ranking of the formal preferred information sources (n=80)

Reading material	Frequency (%)	Rank
Text books	78 (97.50)	1
Internet /online resources	75 (93.75)	2
Reference books	70 (87.50)	3
Newspaper	65(81.25)	4
Periodicals/magazines	60 (75.00)	5
Dissertation/Thesis	30 (37.50)	6

(Respondent are allowed for indicate preference by 1,2,3,.....etc)

Table -3 shows that the out of 80 respondents 78(97.50%) preferred text books, which is placed at 1st rank which is followed by internet/online resources 75 (93.75%) which is placed at the 2nd rank whereas reference books 70(87.50%), newspapers 65(81.25%), Periodicals/magazines 60 (75.00%), Dissertation/Thesis 30(37.50%) is placed at the 3rd, 4th, 5th, and at the 6th rank respectively.

Table-4 Ranking of the Informal preferred information resources (n=80)

Informal sources	Frequency (%)	Rank
Discussion with colleagues	65 (81.25)	1
Consult with faculty	53 (66.25)	2
Discussion with library staff	44 (55.00)	3
From seminar/conferences	30 (37.50)	4

(Respondent are allowed for indicate preference by 1,2,3....etc)

Table -4 reveals that out of 80 respondents 65(81.25%) preferred to discussion with colleagues for getting needed information, which is placed at 1st rank which is followed by consult with faculty 53 (66.25%) which is placed at the 2nd rank whereas discussion with library staff 44(55.00%), from seminar/conferences 30(37.50%), is placed at the 3rd and 4th rank respectively.

It is concluded that users used informal information sources for seeking information. the majority of the users preferred discussion with colleagues and consulted with faculty members.

Table-5 Main Purpose of seeking information by respondent (n=80)

Purpose	Frequency	Percentage
To prepare for class room	22	27.50
Notes preparation	17	21.25
Updating knowledge	31	38.75
For research purpose	10	12.50
Total	80	100.00

Table 5 reveals the main purpose of information seeking of the respondent .the majority of the respondents 31 (38.75%) were getting information for updating their knowledge. Followed by 22 (27.50%) respondents seeking information for prepare for class room whereas 17(21.25%) respondents seeking information for notes preparation of the respective course. and 10 (12.50%) respondents were seeking information regarding research purpose.

Table-6 Problem encountered while seeking information (n=80)

Problem	Frequency	Percentage
Lack of time	54	67.50
Lack of reading material	18	22.50
Lack of knowledge of library tools and techniques	32	40.00
Lack of library services	04	05.00
Lack of knowledge of information sources	28	35.00

(Multiple responses were allowed)

Table 6 showed the problems faced by the respondents while approach to their needed information. majority of the respondents, i.e.54 (67.50%) faced the problem of lack of time which is followed by 32(40.00%) respondents faced problem due to lack of knowledge of library tools and techniques whereas 28(35.00%) respondent said they have not proper knowledge of different information sources to seek information exactly only 04(05%) respondents said that services of library are less.

Table-7 Information need of the respondents (n=80)

Information needs	Frequency	Percentage
Course related information	63	78.75
Current information about the subject	40	50.00
Information about facts	33	41.25
Information about concepts/meaning	28	35.00

(Multiple responses were allowed)

It is shows that majority of the students 63 (78.75%) need information related for course where as 40(50.00%) students needs current information about the subject followed by 33(41.25%) students need information about the facts and 28(35.00%) students need information relating to concepts/meaning respectively .

Table-8 Opinion about enjoy reading

Opinion	Frequency	Percentage
yes	70	87.50
No	10	12.50
Total	80	100.00

Table 8 shows the most of the respondents 70(87.50%)were enjoying reading and said yes reading is pleasure for me and only 10(12.50%) respondent said no I don't enjoy reading.

Table-9 Frequency of reading

Frequency	No. of Res.	Percentage
Daily	62	77.50
1-2 times in a week	06	07.50
3-4 times in a week	12	15.00
Rare	00	00.00
Total	80	100.00

Table 9 revealed that 62(77.50%) respondents were reading daily followed by 12(15.00%) 3 to 4 times and 06 (07.50%) 1 to 2 times in a week were reading respectively.

Table-10 Time spent on reading per day

Frequency	No. of Res.	Percentage
Less than 1 hour	28	35.00
1-2 hours	31	38.75
2-3 hours	15	18.75
More than 3 hours	06	07.50
Total	80	100.00

This table shows that the majority of respondents 31(38.75%)were spent 1to 2 hours per day on reading which is followed by 28(35.00%)were spent less than 1 hour per day on reading .where 15(18.75%) respondents spent 2-3 hours per day and only 06(07.50%) spent time on reading more than 3 hours per day.

Table-11 Main Purpose for reading

Purpose	Frequency	Percentage
To prepare for course	32	40.00
To gain knowledge	18	22.50
For enjoyment and relaxation	30	37.50
Total	80	100.00

Maximum number of respondents 32(40.00%) and 30(37.50%) were reading to prepare for respective course and to gain knowledge respectively which is followed by 18(22.50%) were reading for enjoyment and relaxation.

Table-12 Barrier for reading

Barriers	Frequency	Percentage
Social media	50	62.50
Gossiping	07	08.75
Lack of time	13	16.25
Lack of interest	10	12.50
Total	80	100.00

Table 12 shows barriers for reading. now a day's social media affects day to day human life, it is reflected on this table the majority of 50 (62.50%) respondents said social media were reduced their reading habits. which is followed by barriers lack of time 13(16.25%)for reading ,10(12.50)lack of interest in reading and 07(08.75)engaged in gossiping with others respectively.

Table-13 preferred mode of reading

Mode of reading	Frequency	Percentage
Print	18	22.50
Digital	14	17.50
Both	48	60.00
Total	80	100.00

Table 13 reflects preferred mode of reading. the majority of respondents 48(60.00%)preferred both print and digital mode of reading followed by 18(22.50%) prefer print and 14(17.50%) prefer digital mode of reading.

Summary of Findings

1. 97.50% and 93.75% students preferred and getting information thorough text books and internet /online resources as formal information sources respectively and it is playing an important role to accessing information.
2. 81.25% students give preference to colleagues and discussion with them and get required information .it is a main source among informal sources. Where Seminar/conferences is lowest medium for receiving information (only 37.50%).
3. Students (38.75%) for updating their knowledge were the main purpose to seeking information and only 12.50%seek information for research purpose.
4. Lack of time were the major problem encountered while seeking information by the students (67.50 %)and only 05% students said that services given by library are less.
5. Most of the students (78.75%) need information relating to their course in which they studied.
6. Majority of students (87.50%) enjoy reading and considered reading is pleasure for us.
7. The frequency of reading of the students were mostly daily basis (77.50%).and rest of the students 1 to 4 times reading in a week .students time spent on per day for reading 0 to 2 hours (73.74%)and only 7.50% spent more than 3 hours .
8. The main purpose for reading were to prepare for course (40.00%)
9. The social media is the biggest barrier for reading as per the study.
10. The students prefer both print as well as digital mode of reading.(60.00%)

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