A STUDY AN INFORMATION SEEKING BEHAVIOR OF ENGINEERING STUDENTS AT ANNAMALAI UNIVERSITY, ANNAMALAI NAGAR

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ABSTRACT

The current study discusses a study an Information Seeking Behavior of Engineering Students of Annamalai University Annamalai Nagar. The growth and development need of engineering education moment for budding engineering candidates. The study collected from the questionnaire was studying engineering scholars at Annamalai University, Annamalai Nagar. Totally distributed 100 questionnaires, 87 responders are replied in the survey. The overall 87percent of the students are gathering information, information seeking behavior of the education affiliated information. The study reveals a result of Males (83.91%) and women (16.09%), Frequency of visiting the library are Daily (39.08%) followed by doubly a week (31.03%), Monthly (18.39%) and rarely (11.49%), Place of the accessing Internet in the place in Library (34.48%) followed by Mobile (35.63%), Department(25.29%) and Computer Centre.(4.60%).The majority of the respondents are time spent in the Information Seeking Behavior are "30 Minutes to 1 Hour (36.78%) followed by 2 Hours (32.18%), 3 Hours (21.84%) and further than 3 Hours (9.0%).

Keywords

Information Seeking Behavior, Engineering students, Annamalai University, ICT and Information sources.

1. INTRODUCTION

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) has come so much popular and is most expensively used. It is the pronounced buzzword of the computer assiduity. It has helped people of all walks of life in one way or the other. ICT is the ultramodern wisdom of gathering, storing, manipulating, recycling and communicating asked types of information in a specific terrain. 'Computer technology and 'Communication technology' are the two main supporting pillars of this technology and the impact of these two in the information storage and dissemination is vital. It is next to impossible to deny the importance of Information and Communication Technologies in the educational, cultural, agricultural, scientific and technical areas of the human involvement. Information requirements are adding day by day and day moment each bone is intending to be information acquainted.

Engineering education has due to growing globalization, there is a lot of competition among scholars to succeed and contribute to the growth and development of the country. Engineering scholars select different fields in the areas of computer wisdom, mechanical, electrical, information technology, electronics, civil and numerous further. Scholars gain knowledge and chops from these specializations and apply it in the real-life situation. With the growing challenges in the areas of health, development, energy, climate, technology, etc can be resolved stylish with operation of engineering knowledge.

2. INFORMATION SEEKING BEHAVIOUR

The library and information centers are executed to give technology grounded information resources like, e-books, e-journals, e-databases, e-reports, e-maps, e-theses, enewspapers, CD-ROMs/DVDs, internet, subject gateways, e-learning materials etc., to fulfill the revised morals and norms and standards laid down by the authority. The libraries are equipped to give installations in an electronic terrain which facilitates the improvement of speed of services, number of users served, the quality and quantity of content provided to meet the users demand for their academic study. The emergence of new technologies and government programs have changed the libraries in furnishing the information according to the users need which supports exploration, tutoring and creative conditioning. It is fast, flexible, provides rapid delivery, low cost, compact storehouse and allows interactively. Anybody can access e-resources anytime; from anywhere in the world and keep abreast with the current developments in their field.

"Information seeking behavior is the complex patterns of conduct and relations which people engage in when seeking information of whatever kind and for whatever purpose" (Feather, 1997). Information seeking behavior depends on qualification or educational position of people. Good people need scholarly information in a scholarly form whereas unqualified people need introductory information accessible in simple words.

Wilson (2000) has described information seeking behavior as those conditioning a person may engage in relating his own requirements for the information, searching and using that information. Ranganathan's second law of library wisdom "Every user his/her document/information" cannot be fulfilled until library professionals understand the information needs and information gathering behavior of users. So it is important to know the colorful factors affecting the information seeking behavior of an individual or group of individualities. Thus, library professionals must understand the purpose for which the information is needed, the terrain in which the information operates and users' skills in identifying various channels of demanded information

3. ANNAMALAI UNIVERSITY PROFILE

In the early 1920s, innovated Sri Minakshi College, Sri Minakshi Tamil College and Sri Minakshi Sanskrit College by Rajah Sir S. R. M. Annamalai Chettiar at Chidambaram girdled with 950 acres of land and In 1928, agreed with the Government to handover the below said institution for establishing a University on dated 01.01.1929, established as per Annamalai University Act 1928. This has come into force from September 25, 2013, after carrying the assent of His Excellency, the President of India.

It was accredited with 'A' Grade by **NAAC** in 2014, is one of India's largest public domestic Universities with 10 Faculties and 49 departments of study and has been a colonist in distance education.

 "The NIRF-2021" by the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) has ranked the University in the band 101 - 150 in the University Category, Pharmacy Category the ranking is 16th in India and 40th rank in Medical Category.

3.1. Dr.Sir C.P.Ramaswamy Aiyar Library Profile.

In 1920, started with 200 books and main library was originally housed in the eastern sect of the Executive structure after moved in 1959 opening recently and the Unique Heritage structure was designed by internationally reputed engineers videlicet Messers. Prynne, Abbot, and Davis. The library structure was named Dr.Sir C.P.Ramaswamy Aiyar. On 22nd OCTOBER, 1959 opened by Shri.Bishnuram Medhi, the then Governor of Madras.The total area of about 36,000 sq.ft. The structure is a "H" shaped structure, The access to the Infonet Lab and E-Journals collection are especially for the researchers and staff members for penetrating the Internet installations.

The Library Collection within 11295 number of collections in the Faculty of Engineering and total collection of books with 1,56,297, Ph.D Thesis 1093 numbers, 20 number of published journals, 13 Magazines and the university Library is a member of UGC -INFONET E - Journal Consortium and UGC - INFONET lab is connected with National Knowledge Network (NKN) with the special packing by UGC. The INFLIBNET provides flawless access to further than 50,613+ full text e-journals and 3 bibliographic databases from 16 publishers and aggregators in difference disciplines connected with 65 Systems for using the online access.

4. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Arumugam et.al. (2015) carried out a study **"**Information Seeking Behavior of the Users of Engineering College Libraries in Highway, Chennai: A Study." The present study reveals the Frequency of visit to library, purpose of using library, purpose of using internet, search engines, information sources availability and usage details, Reason using/not using library resources and satisfaction level of the users.

Jeyaprakash and Nirmala (2014) noted an "Information seeking behavior of engineering college faculties and arts college faculties: a comparative study." This study explains to look at the knowledge seeking behavior of faculties between Arts and engineering college resources and the study concentrated on the usage of Library resources among the colleges.

Ravanan (2013) made a study "Web Searching Behaviour of Autonomous College Students in Vellore District: A Survey." The study reveals access information, experience, location, purpose of web searching, favorite browsers, search technique, satisfaction etc. All these factors contribute to the way in which the students and scholars search the web. The tools used for this study is using questionnaires methods, and the data is studied in terms of percentage analysis.

Sankari et.al. (2011) made a study "A study of information seeking behaviour of users of Vinayaka Mission's Kirupananda Variyar Engineering College Library in Salem." It reveals that users are satisfied with resources in library and services, but they are in orientation programme/ user education to access online information. Even though document delivery service is being provided on demand, the researchers pointed using and provide them with indexing, abstracting and interlibrary loan service as well and carried out as a seminar or workshop training for user education.

5. METHODOLOGY

In the present study, the well structured questionnaire is distributed an engineering graduate of studying period at Annamalai University, Annamalai Nagar during the period 2014 to 2015. The questionnaire are filled by engineering students related to information seeking behaviors, the totally 100 questionnaires were distributed, 87 respondents are responded of overall 87 percent.

6. OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

The objectives of the study are below:

- To analyze the Gender category
- To find out the Frequency of visiting the library
- To displays the Place of the accessing Internet
- Time spent in the Information Seeking
- The purpose an Information Seeking Behavior and
- Preferred Sources of Information of accessing a Engineering students

7. LIMITATION

The topic selected for the present study is "Preferred Sources of Information of accessing a Engineering students of Annamalai University, Annmalai Nagar."

8. ANALYSIS OF DATA

8.1. Distribution of Respondents

The present study has 100 questionnaires were distributed studying Engineering students at Annamalai University, Annamalai Nagar. The 87 respondents are responded in the study (87%).

Table.8. 1.Distribution of Respondents

S.No	Distribution of Questionnaire	Respondents	Percentage
1	100	87	87.00

8.2. Distribution of Respondents wise Gender

Table.8.2. Distribution of Respondents wise Gender

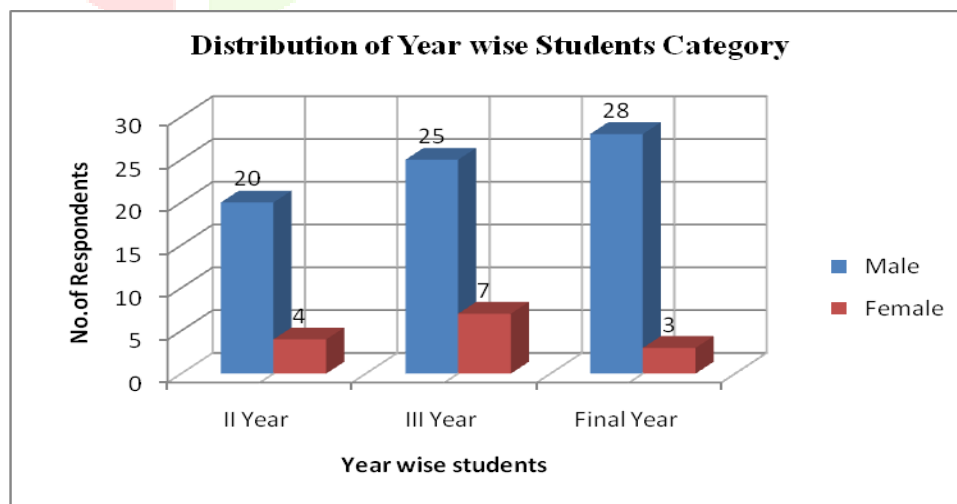| Students	Gender				Total	Percentage
	Male	%	Female	%		
Second Year	20	27.40	4	28.57	24	27.59
Third Year	25	34.25	7	50.00	32	36.78
Final Year	28	38.36	3	21.43	31	35.63
Total	**73**	**83.91**	**14**	**16.09**	**87**	**100.00**

Figure.1

Table.8.2 and figure 1 shows the distribution of Respondents wise Gender. Totally 87 respondents, Males, 73(83.91%) and Females, 14 (16.09%). Second year category level, Male, 20(27.40%) and females, 4 (28.57%). Third year category level, Male, 25 (34.25%) and females, 7 (28.57%). Final year category level, Male, 28 (38.36%) and females, 3 (21.43%).

8.3. Distribution of Frequency of visiting the library

Table 8.3 and figure 2 displays the distribution of Frequency of visiting the library. The majority of the students are using the library are "Daily", 34 (39.08%) followed by "Twice a week", 27 (31.03%), "Monthly", 16 (18.39%) and "rarely", 10 (11.49%). Second year Category level, mostly using the library "Daily", 11(45.83%), Twice a week, 5 (0.83%), Monthly, 2(8.33%) and "rarely", 6 (24%). Third year Category level, mostly using the library "Daily", 15(46.88%), Twice a week, 7 (21.88%), Monthly, 9 (28.13%) and "rarely", 1 (3.13%) and Final year Category level, mostly using the library "Daily", 8 (25.81%), Twice a week, 15 (48.39%), Monthly, 5 (16.13%) and "rarely", 3 (9.68%).

Table. 8.3. Distribution of Frequency of visiting the library

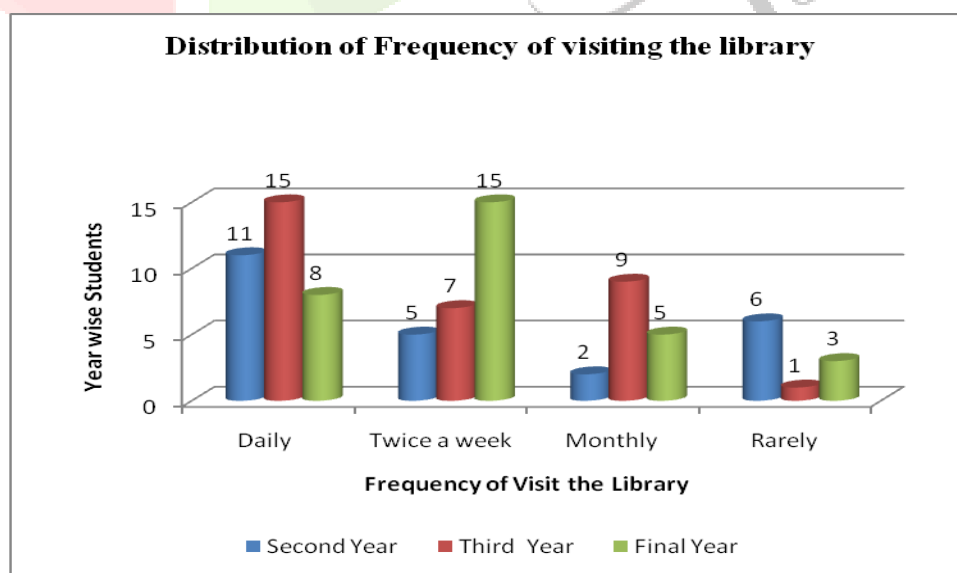| Students	Frequency of visit to library				Total
	Daily	**Twice a week**	**Monthly**	**Rarely**	
II Year	**11**	**5**	**2**	**6**	**24**
	45.83	20.83	8.33	25.00	27.59
III Year	15	7	9	1	32
	46.88	21.88	28.13	3.13	36.78
Final Year	8	15	5	3	31
	25.81	48.39	16.13	9.68	35.63
Total	**34**	**27**	**16**	**10**	**87**
	39.08	**31.03**	**18.39**	**11.49**	**100.00**

Figure.2

8.4.Place of the accessing Internet

Table 8.4 indicates the Place of the accessing Internet. Most of the students are accessing the place in "Library", 30 (34.48%) followed by "Mobile", 31 (35.63%), Department, 22(25.29%) and "Computer Centre", 4.(4.60%).The second year category, most of the students are accessing internet are "Mobile", 10 (41.67%), Library, 8 (33.33%), Department, 5 (20.83%) and Computer centre, 1 (4.17%). The Third year category, most of the students are accessing internet are "Library", Department, 12 (37.50%), "Mobile", 6 (18.75%), and Computer centre, 1 (6.75%).The Final year category, most of the students are accessing internet are "Mobile", 15 (48.39%), "Library", 10 (32.26%), Department, 5 (16.13%), and Computer centre, 1 (3.23%).

Table.8.4. Place of the accessing Internet

Students	Place of accessing Internet				Total
	Library	Department	Mobile	Computer Centre	
Second Year	8	5	10	1	24
	33.33	20.83	41.67	4.17	27.59
Third Year	12	12	6	2	32
	37.50	37.50	18.75	6.25	36.78
Final Year	10	5	15	1	31
	32.26	16.13	48.39	3.23	35.63
Total	30	22	31	4	87
	34.48	25.29	35.63	4.60	100.00

8.5. Time spent in the Information Seeking Behavior

Table 5 examines the time spent in the Information Seeking Behavior. The majority of the students are time spent are "30 Minutes to 1Hour", 32 (36.78%) followed by 2 Hours, 28 (32.18%), 3 Hours, 19 (21.84%) and more than 3 Hours, 8 (9.0%).
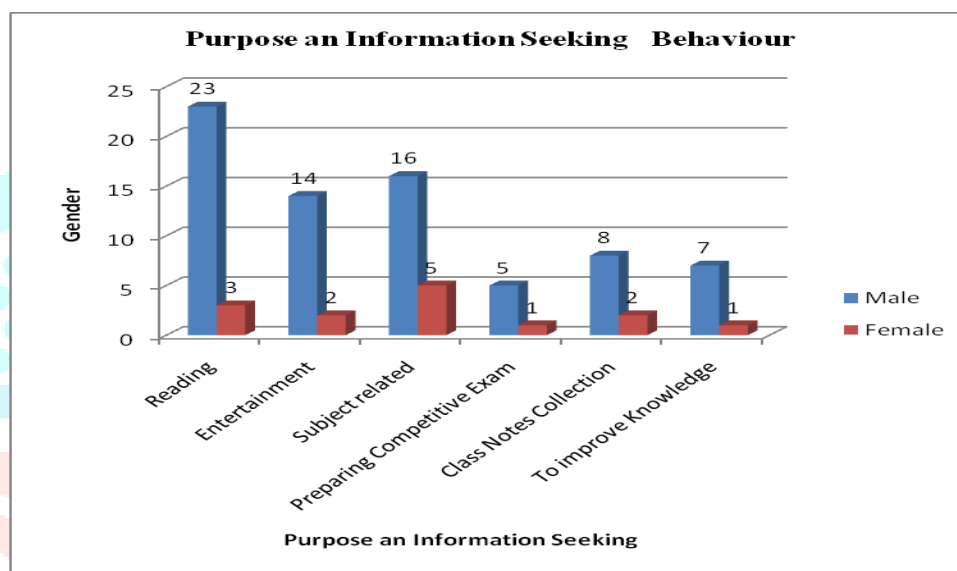
Table.8.5. Time spent in the Information Seeking Behavior

S.No	Time spent in the Information Seeking Behavior	Frequency	Percentage
1	30 Minutes to 1Hour	32	36.78
2	2 Hours	28	32.18
3	3 Hours	19	21.84
4	More than 3 Hours	8	9.20
	Total	87	100.00

8.6. Purpose an Information Seeking Behavior

Table 8.6 and figure 3 denote the Purpose an Information Seeking Behavior. The majority of the respondents are using the purpose "Reading", 26 (9.89%), Subject related, 21 (24.14%), Entertainment, 16 (18.39%), Reference, 10 (11.49%), to improve Knowledge, 8 (9.20%) and Preparing Competitive Examinations, 6 (6.90%). The Gender of Male, majority a using the purpose of "Reading", 23 (31.51%) followed by Subject related, 16 (21.92%), Entertainment, 14 (19.18%), Reference, 8 (10.96%), to improve Knowledge, 7(9.59%) and Preparing Competitive Examinations, 5 (6.85%). The Gender of Female, majority a using the purpose of "Subject related, 5 (35.71%) followed by "Reading", 3 (21.43%) followed by Entertainment, Reference, 2 (14.29%), to improve Knowledge and Preparing Competitive Examinations, 1 (7.14%).

Table.8.6. Purpose an Information Seeking Behavior

Gender	Purpose an Information Seeking Behavior						Total
	Reading	Entertainment	Subject related	Preparing Competitive Examinations	Reference	To improve Knowledge	
Male	23	14	16	5	8	7	73
	31.51	19.18	21.92	6.85	10.96	9.59	83.91
Female	3	2	5	1	2	1	14
	21.43	14.29	35.71	7.14	14.29	7.14	16.09
Total	**26**	**16**	**21**	**6**	**10**	**8**	87
	29.89	**18.39**	**24.14**	**6.90**	**11.49**	**9.20**	100.00

Figure.3

8.7. Preferred Sources of Information

Table 8.7 depicts the preferred Sources of Information. Out of 87 respondents, using the most of the sources of Information are "Frequently", 28 (32.18%) followed by "Occasionally" 26 (29.89%), "Highly", 23 (26.44%) and "rarely", 10 (11.49%). The second year category, Preferred Sources of Information are "Occasionally" 9 (37.50%) followed by "Frequently", 7 (29.17%), "Highly", 5 (20.83%) and "rarely", 3 (12.50%). The Third year category, Preferred Sources of Information are "Occasionally" 12 (37.50%) followed by "Frequently", 8 (25%), "Highly", 7 (21.88%) and "rarely", 5 (15.63%).The final year category, Preferred Sources of Information are "Frequently", 13 (41.94%) followed by "Highly", 11 (35.48%) "Occasionally" 5 (16.13%) and "rarely", 2 (6.45%).

Table 8.7. Preferred Sources of Information of accessing a Engineering students

Information Sources	Preferred Sources of Information				Total
	Occasionally	**Rarely**	**Frequently**	**Highly**	
Second Year	9	3	7	5	24
	37.50	12.50	29.17	20.83	27.59
Third Year	12	5	8	7	32
	37.50	15.63	25.00	21.88	36.78
Final Year	5	2	13	11	31
	16.13	6.45	41.94	35.48	35.63
Total	**26**	**10**	**28**	**23**	**87**
	29.89	**11.49**	**32.18**	**26.44**	**100.00**

Table. 8.7 (a)

Analysis of Variance among the Mean Scores of Preferred Sources of Information by year of student category

Source of Variation	Sum of Squares	Degree of Freedom	Mean of Squares	F -value
Between Groups	948.4	4	237.1	23.71
Within Groups	50	5	10	
Total	998.4	9		

Table value required for df 4 and 5 at 5% level of significance is 5.19.

The above table denotes that the calculated 'F' value is higher than the table value 5.19 at 0.05 level of significance. Hence the null hypothesis is rejected. There is no significant difference among the Mean Scores of Preferred Sources of Information by year of student category.

9. FINDINGS

- Majority of the respondents are Preferred Sources of Information of accessing a Engineering students of Annamalai University, Annamalai Nagar and overall using with 87 percent.
- Majority of the respondents are "Males,"(83.91%) and followed by Females (16.09%).
- Majority of the students are using the library are "Daily", (39.08%) followed by "Twice a week" (31.03%), "Monthly" (18.39%) and "rarely" (11.49%).
- Most of the students are accessing the place in "Library" (34.48%) followed by "Mobile" (35.63%), Department, (25.29%) and "Computer Centre", (4.60%).
- Majority of the respondents are using the purpose "Reading" (9.89%), Subject related (24.14%), Entertainment (18.39%), Reference (11.49%), to improve Knowledge (9.20%) and Preparing Competitive Examinations (6.90%) and final year category, Preferred Sources of Information are "Frequently"(41.94%).
- The second year and third year category, Preferred Sources of Information are "Occasionally" (37.50%), Third year category, Preferred Sources of Information are "Occasionally" 12 (37.50%) followed by "Frequently", 8 (25%), "Highly" (21.88%) and "rarely" (15.63%).

9. CONCLUSION

The purpose of the study reveals a study an Information Seeking Behavior of Engineering Students of Annamalai University Annamalai Nagar. An Engineering Education has lot of changes in recent days for using technology of structure affiliated construction, Electrical and electronics, communication, Information technology and Computer wisdom. The recent change on engineering came from the information and communication technology. The growth of ICTs, connected with internet and dispatches are spreading extensively and pierce the information within a second of time. Information gathering or seeking behavior of engineering scholars are gathering information about study purpose, design related, entertainment operation in current situation, The save the time and space of using ICTs using the information seeking or caters of the information needs in current position we need to engineering education.

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