

Information Seeking Behaviour Of Faculty Members Of College Of Horticultur, Anantharajupeta, Kadapa Dt

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ABSTRACT

The Current study looks at information seeking behaving of faculty members of College of Horticulture, Anantharajupeta. Kadapa dist. A.P. Today, Resources are not totally subject to the libraries, for getting the most recent, current, refreshed and required data. The employees are utilizing different printed and non-print material for getting the information for their advanced study. It is observed that there are absolute 38 members are present at College of Horticulture. The major information needs of the faculty for teaching and presentations. Faculty members are utilizing web search tools and on-line data sets alongside the printed material. This paper additionally examines on information needs and use of electronic sources, issues in tracking down data and fulfillment of workforce for library assets and administrations. Here researcher had developed questionnaires' and were distributed among the of faculty members for data collection. After data collection the researcher find out that most of the members are depended on Internet, e-resources and Newspaper to keep update with latest information.

KEYWORDS:

Information needs, Information seeking behaviour, Faculty members, Information sources, College of Horticulture.

INTRODUCTION:

Information is recognized as the as a basic need for individuals for development and society in general. Due to exponential growth of the information it is very difficult nowadays to trace and retrieve the information. Under-standing the data needs of library users is necessary for planning to render high quality and prompt services. Subsequently, to stay up with the changing data need, data focuses need to utilize the cutting edge innovations and present more current information frameworks for recovery and dispersal process. Information seeking behavior is the way people or users of information seek documents or information and the way they go about searching their required information

by following a complex pattern of actions and procedures. Information seeking behavior is nothing but strategies to locate the information of their need. The current study was confirmed to the information seeking behavior of faculty members of the College of Horticulture, Anantharajupeta.

Review of Literature:

Review of Literature plays a vital role. It is practically impossible to review the complete body of user analysis. In addition to the Library Personnel many important contributions are made by psychologists, sociologists, behavioural scientists and others. As a result, the literature is scattered across many disciplines and it is difficult to procure the required information. Review related study guide the researcher to have a comprehensive idea. The discoveries of the previous examinations would direct the researcher in setting the targets and empower to assess the legitimacy of the findings

Kuffalikar and Mahakulkar (2003) analyzed the information-seeking behavior of users of Nagpur University and found that internet surfing, conferences/seminars/workshops/refresher courses have widely helped the users in seeking current, updated information in their respective fields. The study also reported that user dependence was more on informal modes of communication than the formal.

Geetha (2004) in her study on the information needs and information-gathering behavior of research scholars in the Pure Science departments of the University of Kerala found that the collection of reference sources, indexing and abstracting sources, as well as computer-based information sources in the Kerala University library system was only partially adequate to meet research scholars' needs.

Prabakaran (2010) studied the information access patterns of faculty in Arts and Science Colleges in Chidambaram. The study revealed that more than one- third of the respondents visited the library daily, and nearly one-fifth visited the library once in a week. About half of the respondents visited the library to prepare for class, while more than one-fifth did so to update their knowledge. Nearly half of the respondents used television as a source of information, and just over forty percent used the internet. Nearly half of the respondents used College Library, with smaller numbers using departmental, public, special, university, district central and personal libraries. Most of the respondents were not satisfied with the library catalogue as a means of information retrieval.

Jayadev Kadli (2011) investigated the information seeking behaviour of the faculty members of Commerce Colleges in Mumbai in the changing ICT environment. The faculty members seek out information to keep abreast of current developments in their field through reading current issues of print journals/magazines, reading latest books etc.

Thilagavathi, T and Thirunavukkarasu, A (2015) are studied the information needs and

seeking behaviour of faculty members of Avinashilingam University, Coimbatore. The faculty seek Books, journals and internet are the primary resources of information. The findings of the study show that overflowing of information, low internet speed, and lack of support from library staff are the problems faced by the faculty members while seeking information

Oak, M and Patil, S (2014). The present work is conducted to study the information seeking behaviour of MES's institutions. The users are having their own information needs for the purpose of completing their research work including their research projects, preparation for teaching as well as presentations etc. Application of SDI services also required for which can help the faculty members in getting the required information.

Research Methodology:

Data for this study was collected by questionnaire method among the faculty members of the College of Horticulture. A questionnaire based survey method was adopted to gather the data from the Faculty Members

Statement of the Problem:

The faculty members need the information for class preparation, lecturing, publishing of papers of their subject especially in the current scenario. Present study is focusing on information seeking behavior of faculty members of College of Horticulture

Purpose of the Study:

The motivation behind this study is to find the responses to the accompanying questions.

- (1) To review the data needs of the faculty.
- (2) To review the issues experienced while seeking the information.
- (3) To find the awareness of faculty about the availability of sources.

Scope of the study:

The present study has focused information seeking behavior of the teaching staff of the College of Horticulture, Anantharajupeta,

Data Analysis and Interpretation:

Data Collection:

The data is collected from the faculty members of College of Horticulture getting the information regarding their information seeking behavior.

Response Rate:

Category	Questionnaire circulated	Questionnaire Response	percentage
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Faculty members	38	32	84.21%
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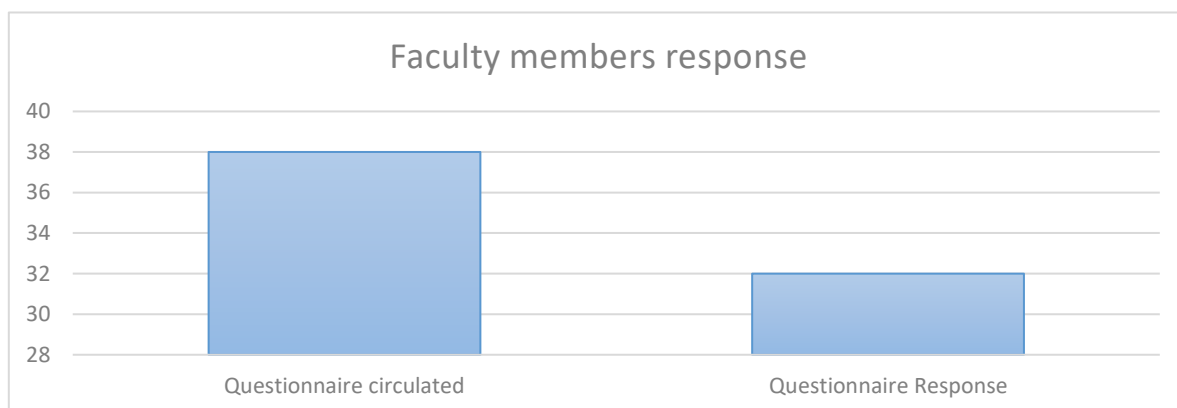


Chart:1 Faculty response rate.

There are total 38 faculty members in College of Horticulture. During the study the questionnaires are distributed to the entire 38 faculty members. The study has received total 32 (84.21%) response.

❖ **Gender**

The questionnaire circulated to all 38 faculty members of which 18 male and 14 female members are there.

Table: 2 Gender

Gender	Total	Percentage
Male	18	56.25 %
Female	14	43.75 %
Total	32	100 %

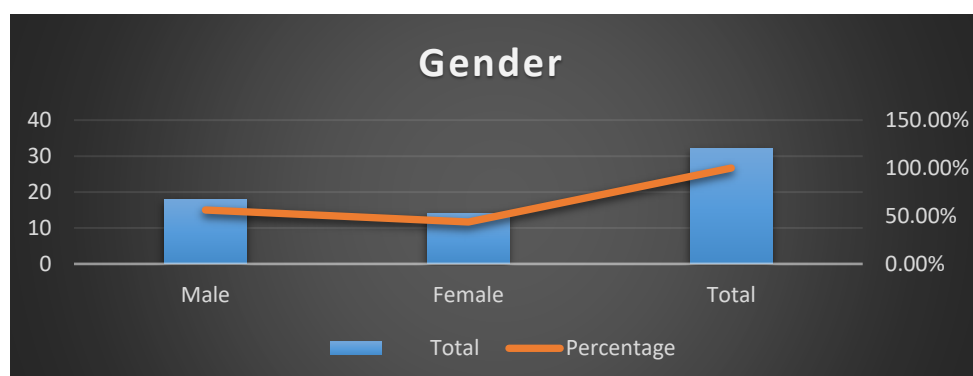


Chart: 2 Gender ratio.

Table 1 has analyzed the total 32 responses of the faculty members from 18 (56.25 %) male and 14 (43.75%) female faculty in this college.

❖ **Use of Information Sources**

Data collected from faculty members about the different information sources of data they are using.

Table: 3 Use of information sources

S. No.	Information Source	No. of Response	Percentage
1	Books	32	100.00 %
2	Indexing and Abstracting Journals	00	00.00 %
3	Journals	28	87.5 %
4	Reference Sources	26	81.25%
5	Conference abstracts	00	00.00 %
6	E-Journals / Database	27	84.38%
7	Internet / online Resource	32	100.00 %

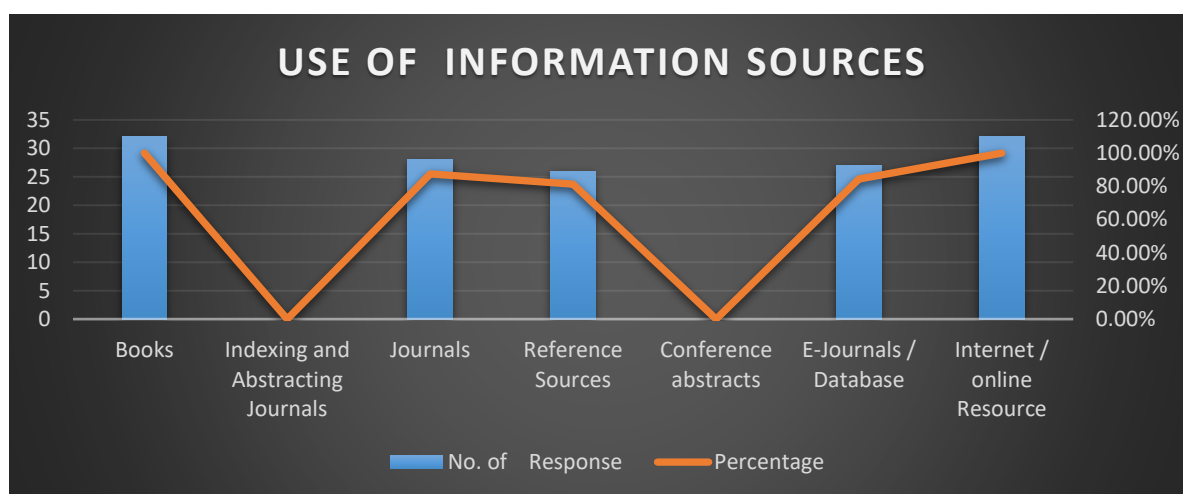


Chart:3 Use of information sources

Most of Books and Internet/online resources 32 (100%) to be the top most preferred information sources used by faculty. Second most Journals 28(87.5%) most preferred information source. On the other, E-journals/Database 27(84.38%), and Reference Sources 26(81.25%) preferred information sources. No one faculty use Indexing/abstracting journal and Conference abstract preferred for information source.

❖ **Format of Information Source**

Data collected from the faculty members about the different formats of the data they are

utilizing while seeking the information.

Table: 4 Format of Information Source preferred by Faculty

S. No.	Format of Information sources	No. of Response	Percentage
1	Print only	9	28.13 %
2	Electronics only	7	21.87 %
3	Both	16	50.00 %

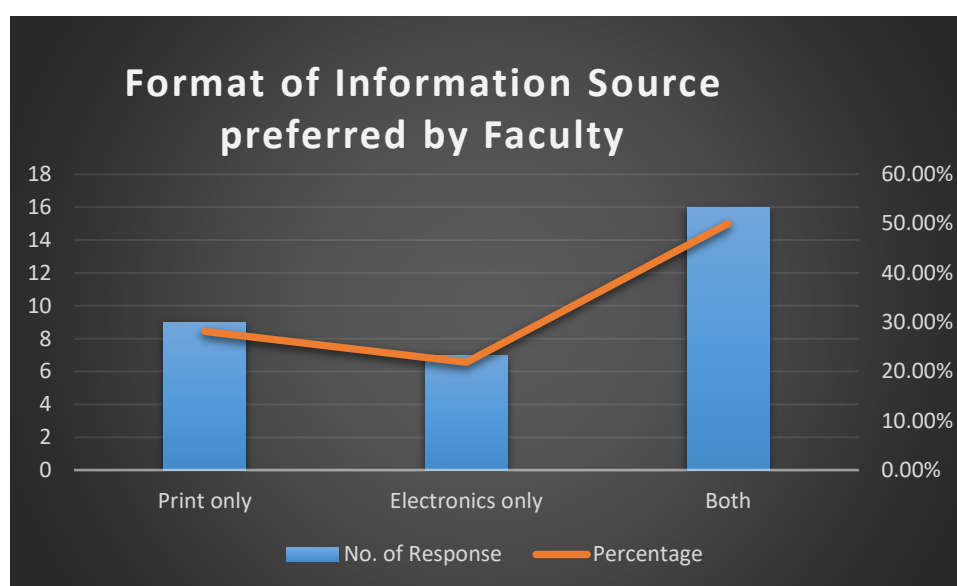


Chart: 4 Format of Information Source preferred by Faculty

As shown in Table -3 16 (50%) respondents preferred to use information sources in both format. 9(28.13%) respondents preferred to use information sources in print format only and just 7(21.87%) respondents preferred to use electronic format only.

❖ **Methods of Information Seeking adopted by Faculty.**

Data collected from the faculty about the different methods adopted to update with the latest information.

Table: 5 Methods of Information Seeking adopted by Faculty

S. No.	Update with latest Information n	No. of Response	Percentage
1	Current Issues of Journals	9	28.13 %
2	Tables of Content	22	68.75 %
3	CAS/SDI	11	34.38 %
4	Newspaper	32	100.00 %
5	Personal Communication	26	81.25 %

6	Internet	32	100.00 %
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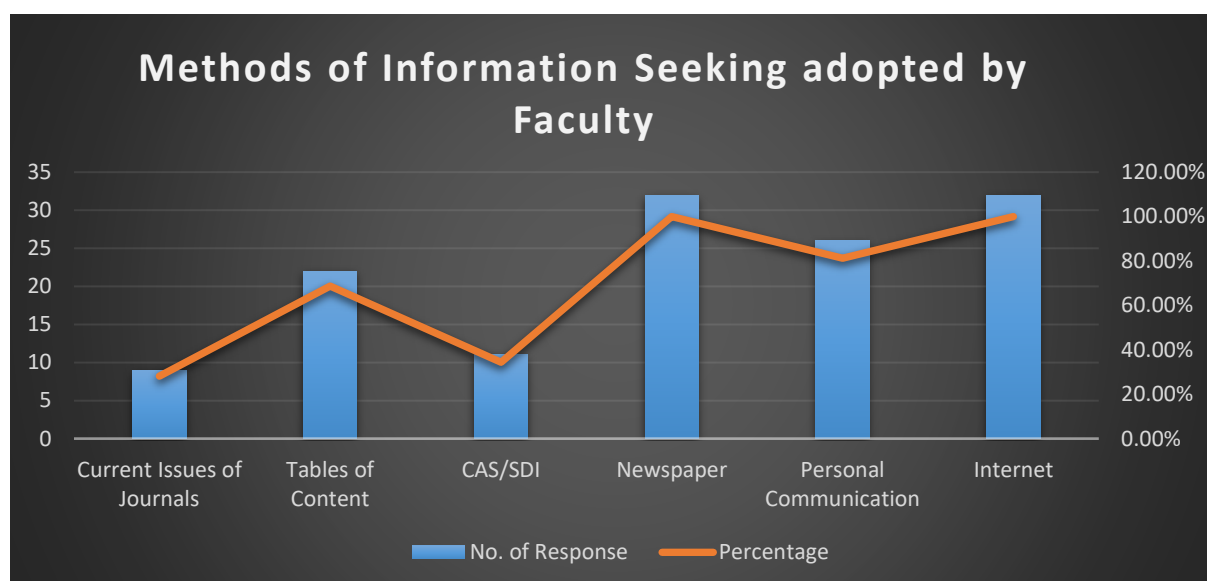


Chart: 5 Methods of Information Seeking adopted by Faculty

As shown in Table-4 the majority of faculty 32(100%)prefer to keep themselves update by internet and newspapers. Second majority of faculty 26(81.25%) prefer to personal communication, 22(68.75%) faculty prefer table of content, CAS/SDI prefer by 11(34.38%) faculty and Current issue of journal by9(28.13%) faculty to keep update latest information.

❖ **Purpose of Information seeking**

Data collected from the faculty about the various purposes of the information seeking.

Table: 6 Purpose of Information Seeking

S. No.	Purpose of Information seeking	No. of Response	Percentage
1	Teaching	32	100.00 %
2	Research work	11	34.38 %
3	Writing and Presenting Papers	18	56.25 %
4	General Awareness	22	68.75 %
5	Updating knowledge	30	93.75 %
6	Discussions with professional colleagues	31	96.87 %
7	Reading purpose	28	87.5%

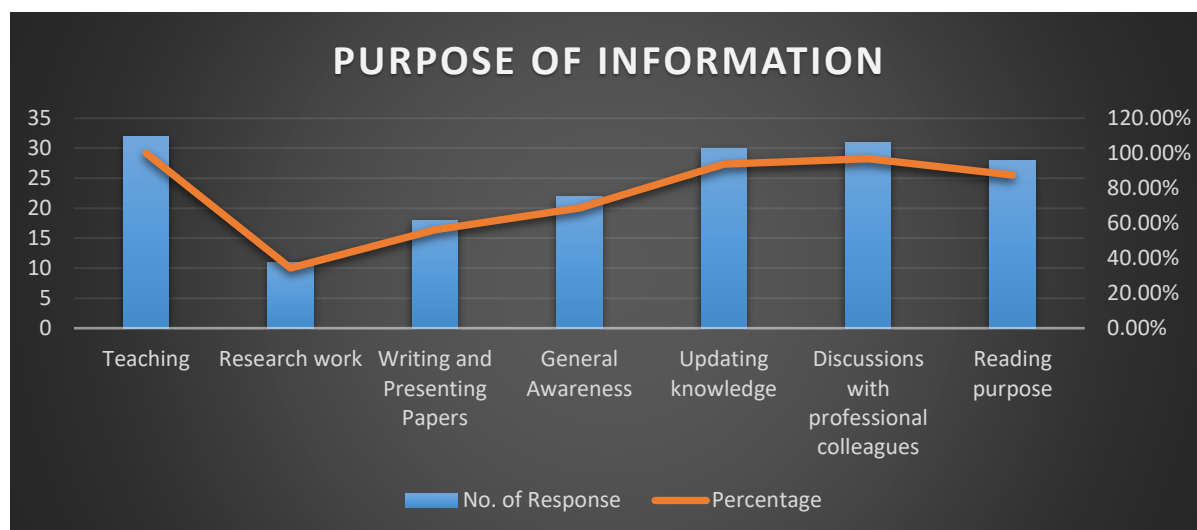


Chart: 6 Purpose of Information Seeking

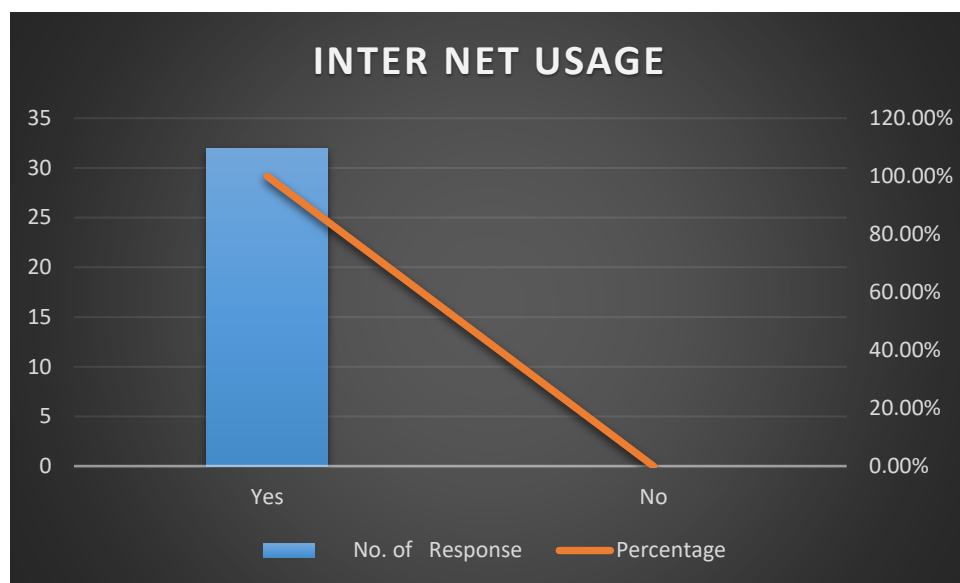
As shown in Table – 5 the majority of faculty 32(100%) say the purpose of information seeking isto prepare for teaching. More respondents 31(96.87%) faculty Discussions with professional col-leagues, 30(93.75%) faculty updating knowledge, 28(87.5%) faculty purpose for reading purpose, 22(68.75%) faculty general awareness, 18(56.25%)faculty use to information in writing and presenting papers. Very few 11(34.38%) faculty seek information for research work.

❖ **Use of Internet**

Data collected from the faculty members about the usage of internet for the purpose of information

Table: 7 Use of Internet

S. No.	Use of Internet	No. of Response	Percentage
1	Yes	32	100.00 %
2	No	00	000.00 %



Table

Chart: 7 Use of Internet

As shown in Table-6 very high majority of respondents 32(100%) using internet. Now a day it's a basic requirement for every faculty.

❖ **Awareness about various types of electronic resources available in their subjects.**

Data collected from the faculty members about the awareness of various electronic resources available in their respective subject

Table: 8 Awareness about Electronic resources

S. No.	Types of e-resource used	No. of Response	Percentage
1	e-journals	22	68.75 %
2	e- books	25	78.12 %
3	Database	18	56.25 %
4	Gateways	10	31.25 %
5	Portals	10	31.25 %
6	Search engines	32	100.00 %

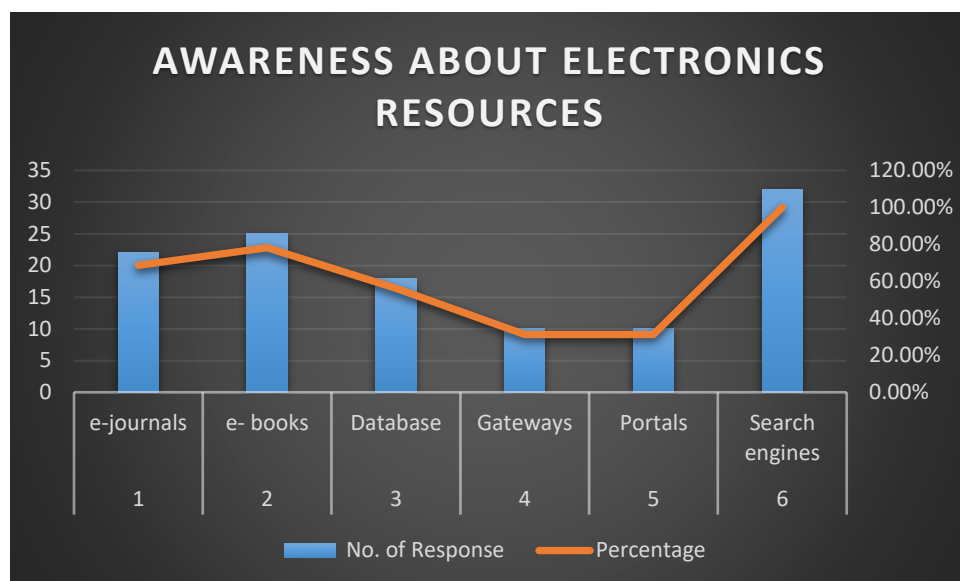


Chart: 8 Awareness about Electronic resources

As shown in Table-7 32(100%) use of search engines to be the top known information resource being familiar among majority of faculty.25(78.12%)faculty followed e-Books,22(68.75%)followed e-journals,18(56.25%) use data base. Portals and gateways are the least used resources i.e. 10(31.25%).

❖ **Times Spent on Information Browsing per Day**

Data collected from the faculty about the time spent on browsing for searching the required information.

Table: 9Times Spent on Information Browsing per Day

S. No.	Time spent	No. of Response	Percentage
1	0-2 Hours	25	78.13 %
2	3-5 Hours	7	21.87 %
3	6-8 Hours	00	00.00 %
4	Above 8 Hours	00	00.00 %

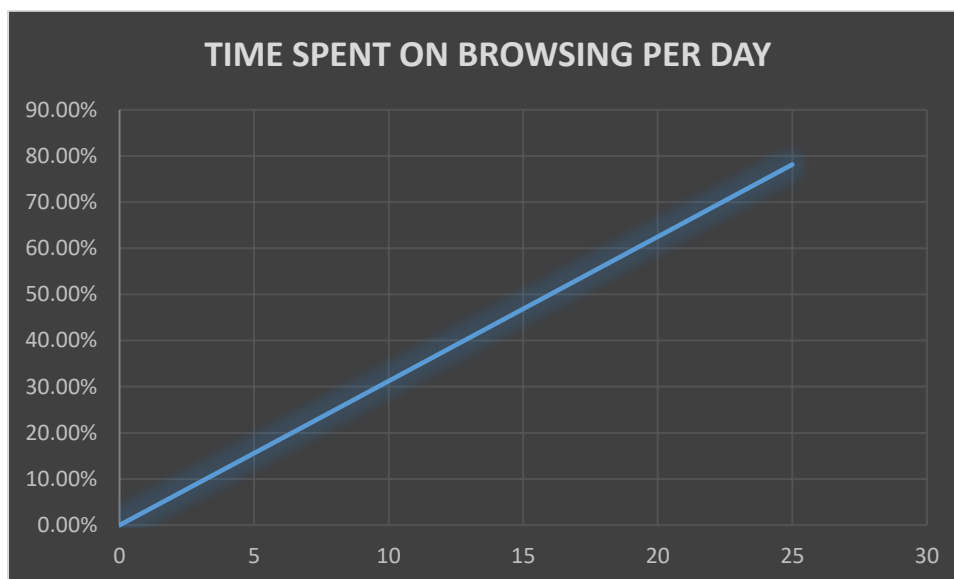


Chart: 9Times Spent on Information Browsing per Day

The majority of respondents 25(78.13%) faculty search information up to maximum of 2 hours per day. while as just 7(21.87%) faculty search information for 3-5 hours per day. No one faculty search information for 6-8 hours and more than 8 hours perday.

❖ **Satisfaction with Electronic Resource Usage**

Data collected from the faculty about different levels of satisfaction of electronic Resources usage

Table: 10 Satisfaction for e-Resource Usage

S.No..	Satisfaction	No. of Response	Percentage
1	Satisfied	22	68.75 %
2	Fully Satisfied	10	31.25 %
3	Not Satisfied	00	00.00 %

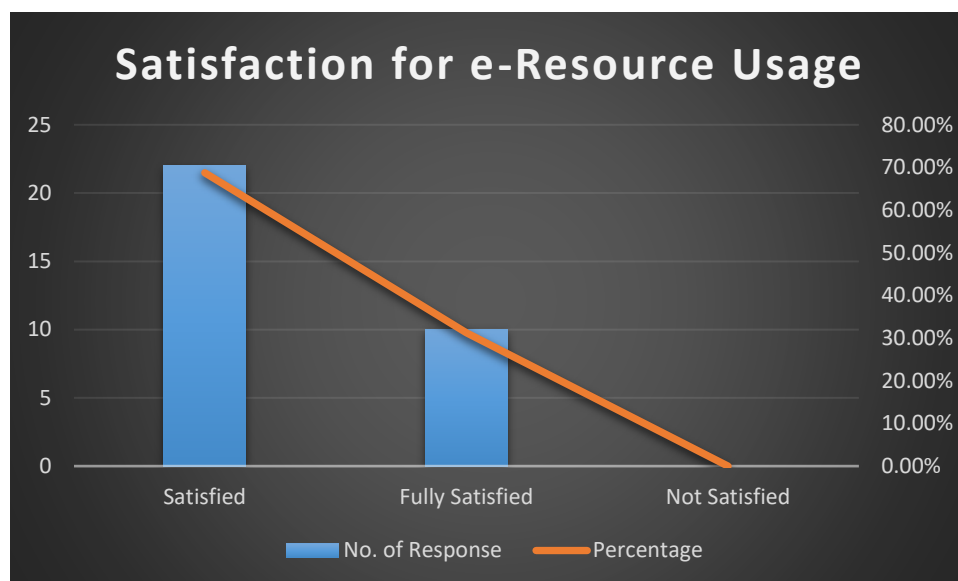


Chart: 10 Satisfaction for e-Resource Usage

Table-9 shown that majority of respondents 22(68.75%) faculty are satisfied with the usage of Electronics resources and 10(31.25%) of faculty fully satisfied with the use of electronics resources.

❖ **Major Problems Faced by the Faculty in Using Electronic Resources**

Data collected from the faculty about the different problems encountered while using the electronic resources.

Table: 11 Problems Faced by the Faculty Using E-Resources

S. No.	Major Problems Faced	No. of Response	Percentage
1	Electricity Disruption	14	43.75%
2	Library/Computer Lab	25	78.12%
3	Information is too vast	18	56.25%
4	Poor information searching skills	22	68.75%
5	Lack of Time	32	100.00%
6	Subscription to less journal sources	20	62.50%
7	Slow internet Connectivity	21	81.25%
8	Defaulting in finding the relevant information	23	71.87%
9	Do not know how to use electronic resources	10	31.25%

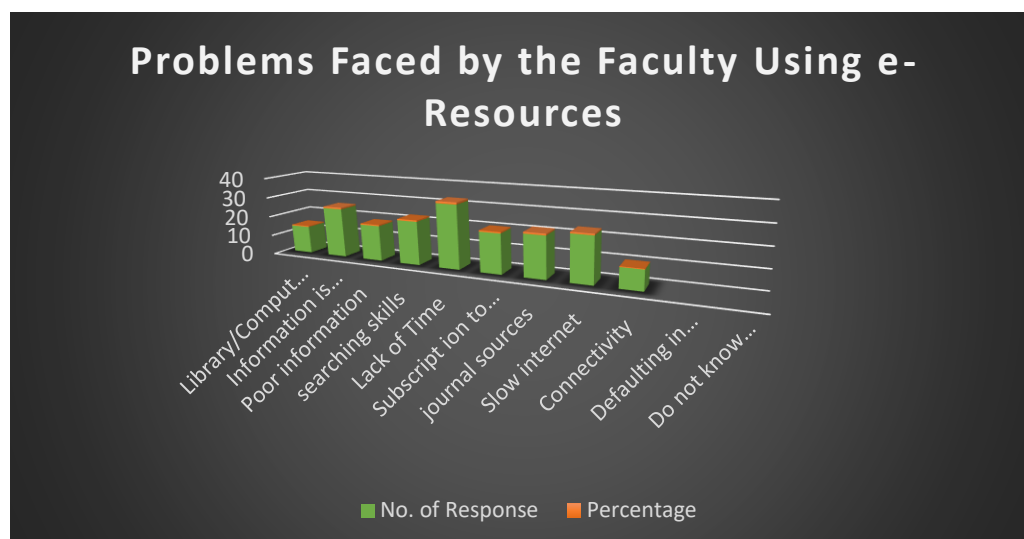


Chart: 11 Problems Faced by the Faculty UsingE-Resources

The faculty members of College of Horticulture were asked to mention the problem they faced while seeking information. Table-10 shows that the majority of faculty members 32(100%) respondents the same com-mon problems of lack of time. 21(81.25%) faculty faced slow internet connectivity, 25(78.12%) facultyfaced incompleteLibrary/Computer Lab, 23(71.87%)faced find the relevant information, 22(68.75%) faculty faced poor information searching skills, 14(43.75%) Faculty faced problems Electricity disruption, 12(37.50%) faculty faced information is too west and 10(31.25%) faculty do not knowhow to use electronic resources.

Different Methods adopted to resolve the problems

Data collected from the faculty members about the various methods adopted to overcome the information seeking problems

Table: 12 Methods adopted to resolve the problems.

No	Resolve Information-seeking problems	No. of Response	Percentage
1	I make use of more than library	21	65.62 %
2	I prefer an individual, in depend work	14	43.75 %
3	I take supporting my colleagues	26	81.25 %
4	I make use of search engines on internet	32	100.00 %
5	I learn how to use electronic resources	7	21.87 %
6	I will make efforts to learn internet search skills	11	34.37 %

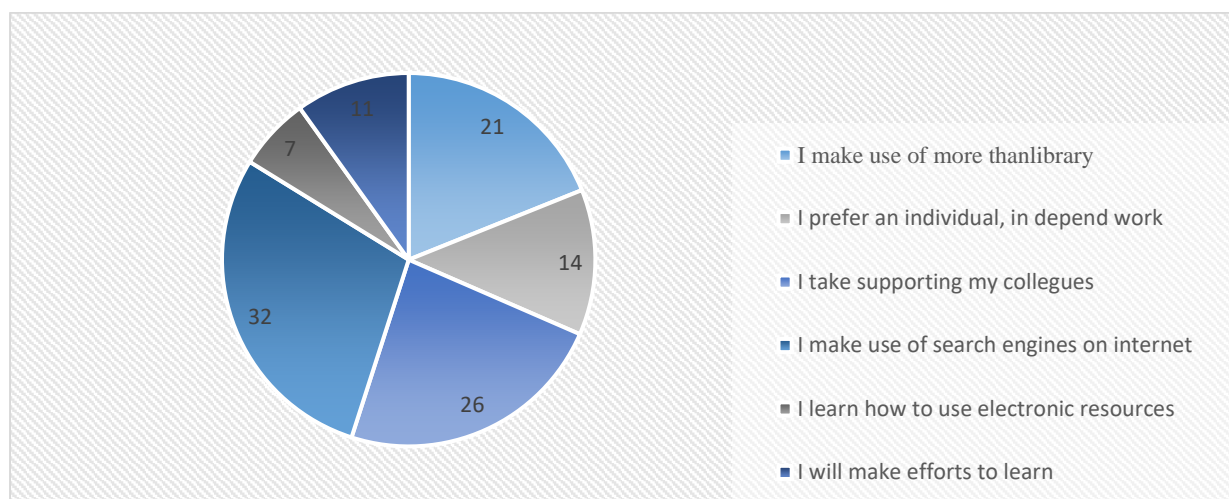


Chart: 12 Methods adopted to resolve the problems

There are different methods used by the faculty members to solve the information seeking problems. Majority of faculty 32 (100%) search engines on internet and minimum 7(21.87%) faculty learn how to use of electronic resources. 26 (81.25%) faculty take supporting his colleagues, 21(65.62%) faculty use of more than library resolve his information seeking problems, 14(43.75%) faculty prefer an individual, in depend work and 11(34.37%) faculty make effortsto learn internet search skills.

Summary of findings

- Books and internet is the major sources of information for most of the faculty (100%).
- 50% of faculty prefer both print and electronic formats of information
- 100% faculty update latest information with help of newspaper and internet.
- Majority of the faculty (100%) seek the information for the teaching purpose
- All faculty members use internet for their needs
- Search engines are the known information resources for majority of the faculty.
- 78.13% of faculty spent maximum 2 hours' time in library for browsing information
- Majority of the faculty (68.75%) satisfied with electronics resource usage.
- Lake of time is the major hurdle to use the e-resources for the faculty
- 100% faculty members use the search engines on internet to meet the information needs when ever need arise.

Conclusion:

Libraries are the places where knowledge is stored. Each library's success is reliant on its resources and retrieval techniques. Knowing the users' needs for information is the librarian's primary responsibility. The collection ought to satisfy the user's needs. The introduction of computers and information technology changed the world of libraries and information services and brought about significant changes in how consumers seek out information. The study presents its conclusions regarding the influence of contemporary technology on users' information-seeking behavior. According to the survey, practically all faculty members have

changed in how they seek for and receive knowledge. The faculty's strategy for finding and retrieving knowledge information has changed as a result of electronic resources. Internet is the most important and useful media for the information needs of the faculty.

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