

## **Determine of Information Seeking among Higher Secondary School Level Students Studying in Southern Districts of Chhattisgarh State**

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### **Abstract:**

Studying the information-seeking of users is very important for librarians and information services providers while planning and designing information services provided to them. Demand for information in the field of studies has increased due to the improvement participation in both government-sector and private-sector in education. In this context, this study explores the determents of the information-seeking of student at higher secondary level towards library. The study is an outcome of the research data information obtained from different government authorized bodies concerned to education at school level. The data analyzed with help of latest version of SPSS for appropriates statistical for the description. The findings made in this study reveal that the resource collections in the school libraries are not qualitatively and quantitatively adequate to fulfill the demands students.

### **INTRODUCTION**

Information behavior is the term best encompasses the focus of current study. The information behavior define as human behaviour dealing with generation, communication use and other activities concerned with information such as information-seeking behavior and interactive IR (information retrieval). So information behavior included all accept of human behavior that required to generate, communicate and seek information that to relevant of their needs. There are eight classes of information use: enlightenment, problem understanding, instrumental, factual, conformational, projective, motivational and personal or political. These classes depend on the variety of levels and ways used in viewing problems and anticipated resolutions. Understanding information seeking behaviour, one of the effective ways of conducting user studies, has become topic of research for many information specialists. Disciplines, Educational realms, Professions, Societal groups,

etc. are some of the criteria for restricting observation of information seeking behaviour. Literature review by Murphy (2003) reveals that researchers have given much attention to observe information seeking behaviour in different disciplines.

Information need, seeking and use are areas of fundamental concern to library professionals. But during the past 30 years or so, a considerable body of literature has been produced dealing with the information needs and seeking behaviour of both individuals and groups in a variety of contexts. Earlier studies have found that information seekers use a variety of formal and informal sources with varying emphasis from one discipline to another. This process is influenced by the personality, emotional variables, educational variables and demographic variables of the person who seeks information. The information searching and acquisition process has several components such as passive attention, passive search, active search and ongoing search. Active topics and the ongoing topics are very important in the educational sector, as active information handling is required for the acquisition of knowledge.

The present investigation concerned to newly originated Chhattisgarh state. The literacy rate of state is about 71.04% (Census 2011). The demography graph had shown that population strength of tribe's occupied maximum region of southern district as compared to other region. The education level up to higher secondary in such region is under government or under government undertaking school. The Many a times when the issue of quality in education, more specifically, quality in higher secondary education is being discussed in southern region of Chhattisgarh, focus have always been on the improvement of resources and facilities and quality of awareness in students. In most of the previous studies on quality in higher secondary education, little or no attention has been paid to the way students in higher secondary institutions organize for their learning and its implications for quality. Hence, the way students organize their learning and search for academic information could be considered very crucial to their overall performance. So information seeking behavior in student toward ongoing situation gets more chaotic, especially when students are given assignments and presentations to make. The term of information-seeking behavior was first presented by Wilson (1981), stating that information-seeking results from user's perceived information needs and information seeking itself is the search process and strategy to meet information needs. An abundance of information is available on the topic of information needs and seeking behavior of students. An examination of the literature on Information needs and seeking behaviour begins in the 1970s. Linkages between information seekers and providers were hard to evaluate. Josiah O Ajiboye (2007) conducted a study under title of "University under graduate students information seeking behavior: Implications for quality in higher education in Africa". K.P. Sing and M.P. Satija (2007) conducted a study under title of "Information seeking behavior of agricultural scientist with particular reference to their information seeking strategies" and reached to a conclusion that the villagers' information needs are varied from the townies. The information needs were: 1) needs for appropriate information sources to be used for teaching, 2) to integrate European Union's curriculums since its establishment, and 3) to prepare planning curriculum guide and provide appropriate information and information sources to be used for such planning.

### Objectives of Study

The objectives of the research are as follow:

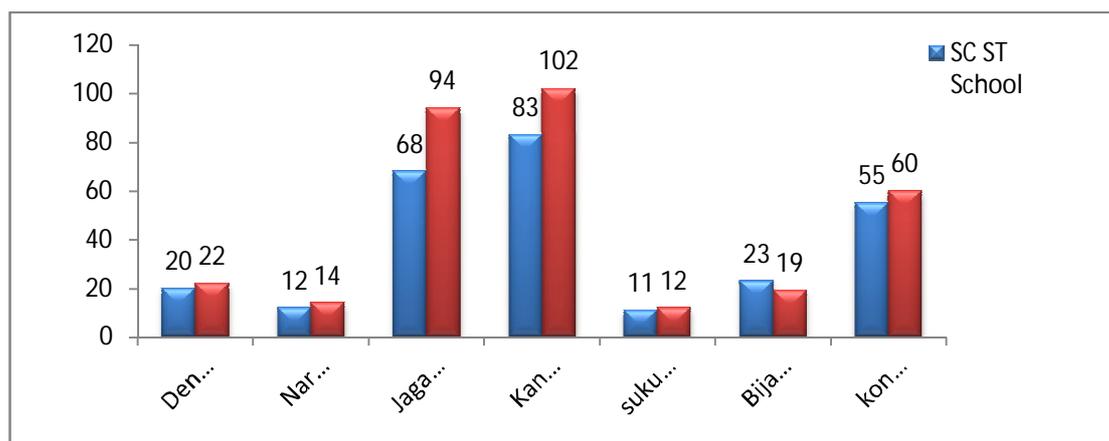
- To investigate the number of library and number of higher secondary school in southern region of Chhattisgarh.
- To determine role of number of libraries in higher secondary school students information seeking nature.
- To determine if there is a correlation exists between information seeking of students verses number of school with library.

### METHODS

This study used data-based survey method. The database was personally getting it from school education department of government of Chhattisgarh 2012 and from department schedule tribes and cast government of Chhattisgarh 2012. The southern schools of chhatisgrah undertaken by both the departments were selected to studies. The district selected for studies include Kanker, Bijapur, Narayanpur, Dentewara, Sukma and Bastar. The collected data were analyzed, classified and tabulated by employing statistical methods.

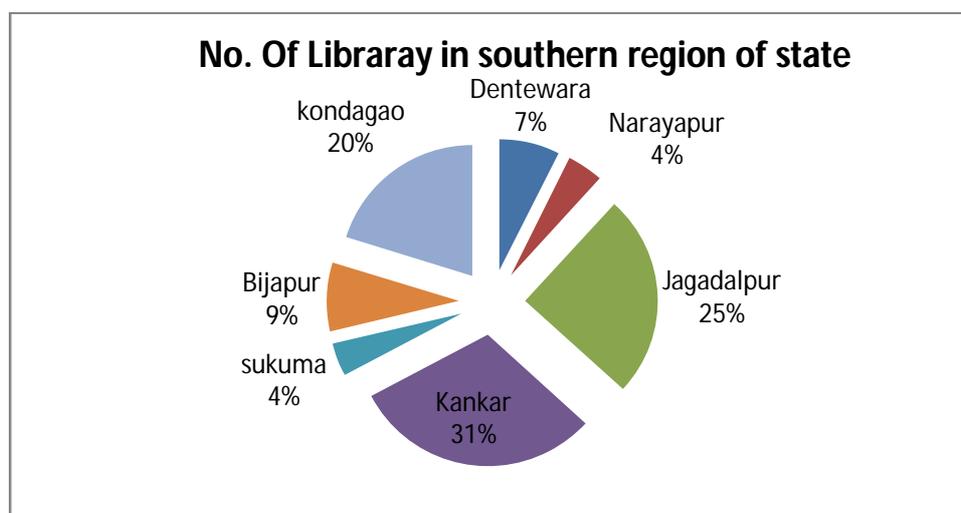
### RESULT AND DISCUSSION

In Chhattisgarh state around 3177 under education department and about 782 schools under SC and ST department are presently running. Out of this in southern region of state higher secondary school sukma and narayanpur have least number higher secondary school i.e., 12 and 14 where as jagadapur and kankar have max number of school 94 and 102, while moderate number of school are present in bijapur, dentewara, kondagao.



**Fig: Number of H. S. School in Southern Region of State**

The percentage contribution of library in each school have same trend of maximum percentage kankar and jagadapur while least in narayanpur and sukuma



**Fig: Number of library in H. S. School in Southern Region of State**

### Information seeking in student

Student's information seeking behaviour largely depends upon teacher's attitude. Students are interesting in good grades and they attempt to figure out what their instructors want in a research paper and just give attention on the number of pages and types of sources. There is often a gap between the instructors' definitions of "good resources" and the students' ability and tendency to find them. Students try their best to find information in a chaotic fashion, using the most familiar resources and focusing on speed and convenience, without giving attention to quality.

Information needs and seeking nature in student depends upon their surrounding environments, frequently used of library and their active participation. So there, surrounding environment, Student participation and ability to use library institution are considered as independent variables and information seeking behavior as dependent variables.

Pearson Correlation Coefficient: Pearson correlation coefficient is a measure of the correlation of two variables X and Y measured on the same object, which is a measure of the tendency of the variables to increase or decrease together. Table (I) is indicating correlations for independent and independent variables

**Table I: Pearson Correlation among Variables**

	No. of School	No. of Library	Surr. Environment	Student Participation
No. of School	1			
No. of Library	.989	1		
Surr. Environment	.325	.348	1	
Student participation	.832	.856	.630	1

**Finding**

As this paper focuses on the relation of on the Information Seeking nature of the students the specific relation between these four variables as the focal point. The analysis is presented in Table 1. Table indicate that correlation analysis revealed there is significant relationship between information seeking nature and the four factors as detailed in the following:

- Information seeking behaviour as a whole was positively correlated with number of library ( $r = 0.989$ ), and student participation ( $r = 0.832$ ).
- Information need of the higher secondary level student was positively related with surrounding environmental ( $r = 0.630$ ) and no. of library ( $r = 0.856$ ) in southern district of Chhattisgarh. It indicates that if surrounding environment is helpful then it creates desired knowledge and curiosity towards awareness of resources, otherwise it will not create positive effects.
- Nature of accessibility of resource in all district of southern region was least correlated with no. of library ( $r=0.348$ ) and positively correlated with conscientiousness ( $r = 0.630$ ).
- Level of satisfaction of the student with regard to their overall information seeking was positively correlated with extraversion ( $r = 0.832$ ), and conscientiousness ( $r = 0.630$ ).

**Conclusion**

Main objective of the study was to determine Information Seeking nature of most concern (students) of southern region of Chhattisgarh state. For the analysis statistical tools correlation were used, study concluded that there are several factors that have significant effect on students. Among these, the leading factors are Educational Surrounding Environment and Student Participation and frequently use of library which have high positive impact on Information Seeking nature of students. If Surrounding Environment is helpful and Student Participation is active, with frequently use of library then it will create culture that enhances the students' information gathering system.

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