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A study on the information seeking behaviour of the students at University of Kalyani, West Bengal, India



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Introduction

- ❑ **The University has completed four decades of commendable service to the development of higher education keeping in view the importance of the outlying rural economy and the needs and aspirations of the youth in the region. The University is presently offering twenty-three postgraduate programmes under four faculties, namely, Science, Arts & Commerce, Education, Engineering Technology & Management.**
- ❑ **This study investigates the sources of information used by students studying at University of Kalyani for their study, the extent to which they are aware and use the library resources, and the assistance they receive in using the library resources**



Information seeking behaviour

- **“Information-seeking” is a term describing the ways individuals seek, evaluate, select, and use information. In the course of seeking new information, the individual may interact with different people, analog tools, and computer-based information systems.**
- **“Information-seeking behavior” is different from the actual “information need.” The “information need” is a subjective, relative concept in the mind of the experiencing individual and is defined as the “recognition of the existence of uncertainty**



Objectives of the study

- To find out the awareness and use of library resources by the students
- To find out the type of information sources used by the students
- To ascertain users' opinion regarding usefulness and adequacy of information sources and services
- To find out the barriers in using library resources and services



Methodology

This study used questionnaire-based survey method, as many similar studies conducted earlier, have also used this method for data collection. This method is also preferred as it was less time consuming and economical for a scattered population. The questionnaires were personally distributed to the students of University of Kalyani at their library and class rooms in the month of March 2009.



Findings

The existing University of Kalyani, Central Library should be well stocked with literature, Journals, textbooks and lecture notes are the most popular sources of information for different course work. It has recommended that latest edition of textbooks and reference material should add in library collection. It has also suggested that internet facility Through CIRM (Centre for Information Resource Management), CD-ROM database of journal archives and reference books should establish. It has recommended that Library should provide initial orientation workshops and ongoing seminars for students to train them in using resources so that they obtain the greatest value from these resources. The Library should also improve information technology based services. More librarians and instruction to assist students at the information seeking stage, so that the information obtained be helpful to students' completion of assignments, presentations, course-work and for study and research as a whole.



Thank You

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