

**INFORMATION LITERACY AMONG RESEARCH SCHOLARS IN  
THE UNIVERSITIES LOCATED IN LUCKNOW: A SURVEY**

**ABSTRACT**

**FOR THE DEGREE OF**

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**LUCKNOW**  
**प्रज्ञा शील करुणा**  
**ESTABLISHED 1996**

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## ABSTRACT

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The information society is characterized by a constantly increasing volume of information, advancements in information and communication technologies. The traditional concepts of organization, bibliographic description and dissemination of information are to be fine-tuned to the new environment by the library and information professionals. So the LIS professionals working in the environment have to face challenges. Hence it become important for the patrons/clients also to develop skill in information literacy so that they can identify, evaluate and use the relevant information effectively .Information Literacy Program(ILP) is the need of the hour for maximum utilization of these resources in teaching, learning and research.

The delivery of information literacy instruction to students is becoming progressively more important due to the proliferation of electronic resources and the increased use of the internet as an information source. Information literacy is a set of abilities requiring individuals to "recognize when information is needed and have the ability to locate, evaluate, and use effectively the needed information" (Ashore, 2005). Information literacy has also become increasingly important in the contemporary environment of rapid technological change and proliferating information resources. Because of the escalating complexity of this environment, individuals are faced with diverse abundant information choices: in their academic studies: in the workplace, and in their person lives. Information is available throughout libraries, community resources, special interest organizations, media, and the internet. Increasingly, information comes to individuals in unfiltered formats, raising questions about its authenticity, validity, and reliability. In addition, information is available through multiple media, including graphical, rural, and textual, and these pose new challenges for individuals in evaluating and understanding it. The uncertain quality and of information pose large challenges for society.

An information literate individual is able to:

- Determine the extent of information needed;
- Access the needed information effectively and efficiently;

- Evaluate information and its sources critically;
  - Incorporate selected information into one's knowledge base;
  - Use information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose;
  - Understand the economic, legal, and social issues surrounding the use of information;
- and
- Access and use information ethically and legally (ALA 2006).

## **OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY**

- To know research scholars ' ability to identify a variety of types and formats of potential information sources in their research work.
- To study about the ability of research scholars in determining the nature and extend of the information need in their research work.
- To assess the ability of research scholars to search, locate and retrieve information from various information sources.
- To know the opinion of the research scholars about the importance of information literacy and the need for teaching information literacy as part of their curriculum.
- To assess the research scholars knowledge about social, political and legal implication of the use of information.

## **SCOPE OF THE STUDY**

Present study is concerned with the university libraries of Lucknow. The population of Ph.d research scholars only is covered for this study out of the selected university libraries. This study will cover the following university libraries:-

1. Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University.
2. Dr. Ram ManoharLohia National Law University.
3. Dr. Shakuntala Mishra Rehabilitation University.
4. University of Lucknow.

Here it is also mention that Dr. Shakuntala Mishra Rehabilitation University does not have any central Library. The researcher came to know throw other sources information that the new central library building coming up and presentably the university has only departmental library .Therefore while analyzing the data in chapter – 5 , in this tables

where university libraries description is given only three university libraries are described.

## **HYPOTHESES**

- Research scholars are capable to identify the appropriate information sources to collect appropriate information required for their research purposes.
- Research scholars are able to determine the nature and extent of their information needs in their research work.
- Research scholars are able to search, locate and retrieve information from various information sources.
- Research scholars are of the opinion that there is need for including information literacy as part of their curriculum.
- Research scholars are aware about the social, political and legal implication of the use of information.

## **METHODOLOGIES AND WORK PLAN**

- The type of research adopted for the present study is descriptive research which includes surveys and fact-finding enquiries of different kinds. The major purposes of this research is information literacy among PhD scholars of universities in Lucknow. The method is utilize in this research is survey method.

### **1.1 DATA COLLECTION TOOL FOR THE STUDY**

Research tool is a fundamental requirement which determines the validity of research. The study is focus on information literacy and data collected with the help of structured questionnaires, through the organization's websites, personal visits to organizations and informal interviews with the PhD scholars.

## **STRATIFIED SAMPLING**

Stratified Sampling is a type of sampling method in which the total population is divided into smaller groups or strata to complete the sampling process. The strata is formed based on some common characteristics in the population data. After dividing the population into strata, the researcher randomly selects the sample proportionally.

## **SAMPLE SIZE**

The present study was conducted on four universities. A Stratified Sampling Method was used to draw the samples from each university. The Stratified Sampling Method for the study has been decided as 30% of the registered scholars of each universities library, on the basis of this 30% Stratified Sampling Method the sample from each university was drawn.

## **1.2 COLLECTION OF DATA**

For this study the data is collected with the help of structured questionnaires, by interviews of PhD scholars. The questionnaires was filled by PhD scholars from universities selected for study. The questions was frame a according to the objectives of the study. For framing of question following steps was taken into consideration:

- The questions included were relevant to the objectives of the study.
- The questions were simple, clear and to the point.
- The questions was close and open ended.
- The questions were arranged in proper sequential order.

## **1.2 DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION**

The data will be analyzed using various statistical techniques like simple percentage, tabulation, and pie charts or bar diagrams. After collecting the data, suitable tables were prepared in excel, word etc.

## **FINDINGS:-**

**BBAU, LU, RML and SMU Universities are an important mode of communication of ideas and dissertation of knowledge stored in various forms.**

- The analysis of data in the table 5.2.6 clearly indicates that on an average of the respondents 51.57% had more there by observing and practicing ICT skill in sources for developing information Literacy.
- More than 48.42% respondents has been using the evaluation of information sources on examine multiple sources of information therefore, the data clearly indicates the internet of the scholars for information sources on the increased as given in the table 5.2.7.
- More than 47.36 respondents has been using the internet services and resources online databases and therefore, the data clearly indicates the internet of the scholars for using and searching of the internet increased as given in the table 5.2.8.
- As found in the table 5.2.9 the majority of respondents 32.63% have been using the library services on library catalogue and therefore, the data clearly indicates the interest of the scholars for using and library services.
- The library catalogue was found the most peppered Journal articles are searched among the scholars 39.47% responses, followed by database 33.15 and others found negligible preferences of the internet services among the scholars as given in the table.5.2.10.
- The findings of the data as given in the table 5.2.12 that the scholar books 36.84% responses followed by Journal 27.89% and others.
- The findings of the data as given in the table- 5.2.17 reveals the majority of the scholars prefer to use internet services audio 36.31% followed by images is used by 35.26 respondents and others.
- About 33.68% of the respondents expressed their feelings as reflected from the table no. 5.2.13 that the index 32.63, bibliography 16.84 and table of content 16.84 among the scholars in documents/print materials.

## **CONCLUSION**

It is concluded that digital technology provides new opportunities for students and educators to pursue their interests and find educational resources, experiences and courses any time and any place. It is also concluded that Digital Literacy (DL) is the process of teaching and learning about technology and the use of technology. It is the ability to use information and communication technologies to find, evaluate, create, and communicate information, requiring both cognitive and technical skills. The ability to use digital technology, communication tools or network to locate, evaluate, used and create information. The ability to understand the use of information in multiple format from a wide range of source when it is presented via computer. The research study also proclaims that digital literacy is distinct from computer literacy and digital skills. Computer literacy preceded digital literacy, and refers knowledge and skills in using traditional computers (such as desktop PCs and laptops) with a focus on practical skills in using software application packages. Digital skills is a more contemporary term but is limited to practical abilities in using digital devices such as laptops and smart phones. By getting knowledge of Universities BBAU, LU, SMU and RMLU the research scholars has gained knowledge of the awareness of Research Scholars.

## **CHAPTERIZATION:**

### **CHAPTER-1:- INTRODUCTION**

This chapter includes a brief introduction, objectives of the study, its scope, it also gives a briefing of research methodology, the hypothesis and references.

**CHAPTER-2:-REVIEW OF LITERATURE:-** The relevant literature were reviewed and presented in this chapter.

### **CHAPTER-3:- INFORMATION LITERACY**

This chapter includes brief introduction of information literacy, definitions, their types, advantages etc.

#### **CHAPTER-4:- PROFILE OF THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES IN LUCKNOW**

This chapter includes a brief introduction of university libraries in Lucknow establishment, history, collection of library, its staff etc.

#### **CHAPTER-5:- DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION**

This chapter includes the analysis and presentation of data in the table form.

#### **CHAPTER-6:- FINDINGS, CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS**

The data includes analyzed using various statistical techniques like simple percentage, tabulation, and pie charts or bar diagrams.