
Role of Periodical Literature among the Post-Graduate Students and Research scholars: A Study

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Abstract

This study is aimed to make an attempt to analyse the Role of periodical literature among the post graduate students and Research Scholars. Questionnaire method was adopted to collect the data. Out of 175 questionnaires only 157 (89.9%) were received from respondents. Out of 157, 92 (58.6%) Male respondents and 65(41.40%) were female respondents. the highest number of respondents 56(35.66%) were gathered the information twice in a week.

Keywords

Periodical literature, Research Scholars, types of periodicals.

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INTRODUCTION

More than 2 centuries the periodical literature plays a vital role in the development of the learned societies for their professional and educational developments. The scholarly journals are more fruitful for the researchers for their concise, up datedness, originality and documented nature. To widen the knowledge in different areas the periodical literature is an important one. The development of information and communication technologies has brought out the tremendous changes in the physical formats and availability of resources. The lacking of mailing problems, finance, subscription agencies are over taken with the help of communication Medias.

The developed countries had their own policies and they provide their research and scientific periodicals through various communications media without any charges for economically under developing countries. The open accessible journals, databases, web portals, subject gate ways, various consortia's, abstracting and indexing services, bibliographic services etc, were providing a different platform for the researchers. The growth of the Information and communication Technologies fills an enormous gap in access to periodical literature. The time consuming processes of searches were withdrawn back.

REVIEW LITERATURE

Kumbar et al. (2007) assessed the extent of use of periodical literature by agriculture scientists. Data was collected from random sample through questionnaire. Survey revealed that 74.35% respondents scanned the current issues of the journals to keep themselves updated with latest developments. Majority of the users considered print journals as better version than electronic journals, as 74.36% chosen print journals and 25.64% opted for electronic version. Authors concluded that proper display of periodicals; informing users about recent arrivals and effective reprographic service are the best ways to serve the users and suggested to encourage users to make use of e-resources. Lawoe (2006)² conducted a study to examine the use of serial collection by students and faculty under name. The Authors examined the adequacy of collection to meet subject needs of users. One-tenth of the registered members were chosen as a sample for survey. Interestingly, undergraduates were using journals significantly, as lecturers were recommending them. This study revealed gaps in collection development

Moghaddam and Talawar (2008)³ identified a growing interest in using electronic journals was found as users had free access to electronic journals at all hours. The users were using electronic journals mainly for research work and PDF format was the most preferred. To study the use of periodicals by scholars at National Library of Veterinary Sciences, Ahmad and Haridasan (2006)⁴ undertook a study, that identified the majority of the users were visiting library daily and used back volumes of periodicals for research purpose. Majority of the users were satisfied with arrangement of current issues of periodicals and arrangement of back volumes.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The present study aims to analysis the Role of periodical literature among the post graduate students and Research scholars in Arts and humanities.

OBJECTIVES

- To analyse the characteristics of the respondent
- To study the frequency of gathering information
- To know the purpose of using periodical literature

- To identify the availability of various of forms of periodical literature
- To examine the types of information gathered by the periodical literature

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The study has been carried out the students of Arts and humanities. The questionnaires were distributed and collected personally to find out the role of periodical literature. Only 175 questionnaires were distributed among the Post graduate students, M.Phil and research scholars belong to Arts and humanities. Out of the total respondents only 157 were returned the questionnaire. The collected data were analysed and inferences made based on standard statistical tools.

ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION:

175 questionnaires were distributed to the PG students, Research scholars. Among 175 only 157 (89.7%) Questionnaires were received and the data were analysed. Table No.1 shows the gender wise distribution and the category wise distribution. Out of 157, 92 (58.6%) Male respondents and 65(41.40%) were female respondents.

Table No.1 Distribution of respondents

Gender	PG	M.Phil	Ph.D	Total
Male	42(26.75%)	18(11.46%)	32(20.38%)	92 (58.6%)
Female	32(20.38%)	14(8.91%)	19(12.10%)	65(41.4%)
Total	74(47.13%)	32(20.38%)	51(32.48%)	157(100%)

From the above table among the 92male respondents, 42(26.75%) were Post graduate students, 18(11.46%) were M.phil students and 32(20.38%) were research sholars. From the total of 65 female respondents, 32(20.38%) were Post graduate students, 14(8.9%) were M.Phil students and 19(12.10%) were Research scholars. From the total of 157 respondents, the post graduate students were highest in number 74(47.13%), 51(32.48%) were Research scholars and 32(20.38%) were M.Phil students which is also the least one.

Table 2: Distribution of respondents by department wise

S.No	Name of the Department	Respondents	Percentage
1	Anthropology	7	4.45
2	Archeology	5	3.18
3	Commerce	16	10.19
4	Sociology	12	7.64
5	Statistics	9	5.73
6	Criminology	14	8.91
7	English	7	4.45
8	Computer science	11	7
9	Economics	17	10.82
10	Education	10	6.36
11	Management	9	5.73
12	Psychology	15	9.55
13	Philosophy	12	7.64
14	Legal studies	13	8.28
	Total	157	99.93

Table 3: Frequency of gathering information

The table 3 Shows that the frequency of gathering information from the periodical literature.

S.No	Frequency	Respondents	Percentage
1	Daily	42	26.75
2	Once a week	35	22.29
3	Twice a week	56	35.66
4	Fortnightly	13	8.28
5	Once a month	11	7
	Total	157	99.98

From the total respondents 42(26.75%) were used to gather the information daily, 35(22.29%) were once in a week, the highest number of respondents 56(35.66%) were gathered the information twice in a week. 13(8.28%) respondents were used fortnightly and 11(7%) only used once in a month.

Table 4: Purpose of using periodical literature

S.No	Purpose	Respondents	%
1	General awareness	17	10.82
2	Updating of information	25	15.92
3	To know the current research and their results	35	22.29
4	To identify the trend of research	28	17.83
5	To know the ongoing research in the relevant areas	21	13.37
6	To avoid duplication in research	19	12.1
7	To interact with the researchers of same interest	12	7.64
	Total	157	99.97

From the table – 4 the purpose of using periodical literature have been analyzed. The highest number of respondents 35(22.29%) were used the periodical literature to know the current research and their results. Because the periodical literature is the primary source of information where the research and their results were documented in the periodicals. So the Students were used to identify the trend of research, to know the ongoing research in the relevant areas, to avoid duplication in research and to interact with the researchers of same interest. More

over the periodical literature were also used to update the information for their interested areas. 28(17.83%) were used to identify the trend of research, 21(13.37%) were used to know the ongoing research in the relevant areas.

Table 5: Identification of various forms of periodical literature

S.No	Various forms	No.of respondents	%	Ranking
1	Indexing and abstracting services	17	10.82	5
2	Bibliographic services	16	10.19	6
3	Open Access journals	35	22.29	1
4	Subject databases	18	11.46	4
5	Print/physical form of journals	27	17.19	3
6	E-Journals	32	20.38	2
7	CD-ROMs	12	7.64	7
	Total		99.97	

From the above table the various forms of availability of Periodical have been tabulated and their ranking also calculated. The Periodical literatures are available in various forms in nature like Indexing and abstracting services, bibliographic services, Open accessible journals, Subject databases, print/physical form of journals, electronic journals and CD-ROMs. Among these types, the respondents were mostly preferred the form of Open accessible journals 35(22.29%) and E-journals 32(20.38%) and more over these two more convenient because of their accessibility. 17(10.82%) respondents were indexing and abstracting services, 16(10.19%) were bibliographic services, 18(11.46%) were subject databases, 27(17.19%) were print/physical form of journals and only 12(7.64%) were used CD-ROMs.

Types of Information gathered

From the below table-6 represent the various types of information gathered from the periodical literature. From the periodical literature, we could identify the theoretical background /basic scientific and technical information, updated results of research, methods, processes and procedures, statistical informations etc.

Table: 6 Types of information gathered

S.No	Types of information	No.of respondents	Percentage
1	current area of research	21	13.37
2	Theoretical background / Basic scientific and Technical Information	15	9.55
3	updated results of research	14	8.9
4	Methods, processes and procedures	19	12.1
5	review of literature	27	17.19
6	Work done in the related areas	32	20.38
7	Statistical Information	11	7
8	Information about previous work done	18	11.46
	Total	157	99.95

Out of 57, the highest number of respondents 32(20.38%) were used to gather the information of work done in the related areas, 19(12.1%) were methods, processes and procedures, 18(11.46%) were information about the previous work done, 14(8.9%) were results of research. Only 11(7%) were used to gather the statistical information.

CONCLUSION

The role of periodical literature is an amazing one to provide the information for the academic communities. Compared with the books the periodical literature is too short and provides the needed current information in the scrutinized form. Due to the development of Information and communication technologies the periodical literature usage has more vitalized in Research. It enriches the research for the socio-economic developments of the under developing countries.

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