

**SUMMARY
AND
CONCLUSION**

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The main effort of individual researcher is manufacturing new information either by formulating new concepts or conceptual integration of existing theories, philosophy and knowledge. A researcher to remain creative should be well informed. To be well informed implies three conditions: the information must exist in a suitable form; we must know where it exists; and we must also know how to find and use it. There is need to understand the information need and seeking behaviour of researcher. It may be mentioned that the researcher themselves create elements to fulfill information needs that are not being satisfied by existing media. These new created elements affects other elements in the system by changing the information dissemination behaviour of the researcher. Such behavioural changes in turn alter the roles of the elements within the system and may, in time, affect a shift in norms. Through such changes the discipline becomes a new information environment that sets the stage for further creation of new elements.

The present study aimed to examine the information seeking behaviour and sources of information used by researchers in the field of Tibetan studies. The data for research was gathered through questionnaire answered by researchers.

The present study was carried out with the main objective to systematically examine the information need and information seeking behaviour of researchers in the field of Tibetan studies. The main objective was split up into specific sub-objectives. The sample of study included researchers

from six major organizations in India devoted to **teaching** and research in the area of Tibetan studies. The questionnaire was designed in order to systematically collect data concerning information needs and seeking behaviour of researchers in the field of Tibetan studies. Out of 350 questionnaire distributed among the researchers, only 219 were received back, making the response rate 62%, out of these only 208 (only 59.4%) were used for data analysis, as rest 11 did not respond well.

The important findings of the study are as follows:

1. The analysis of the respondents revealed that 53.8% of the subjects perform the job of both teaching and research. While 41.8% of the respondents are exclusively associated with research work. Majority of researchers belongs to teachers category. Only 4.3% of the subjects do only teaching work and are not involved in research work.
2. The study concerning frequency of visit to library revealed that 54% of the researchers visit library daily, while 35% of them visit the library occasionally. It can be concluded that majority of researchers are quite conscious about their visit to library. Though 46% of the researchers do not visit the library regularly. Library is considered as a laboratory by the researchers.
3. Regarding use of formal and informal sources, the study revealed that majority of researchers use both formal and informal sources of information. The percentage of researchers using both formal and informal sources is 92.3%.
4. The study of the use of formal sources by researchers in the field of Tibetan studies revealed that the range of formal sources used by

researcher is quite wide. The important formal sources includes : Journals, Textbooks, Manuscripts, Thesis, Abstracts, Bibliographies, Textbooks, Tibetan government publications, etc. The comparative use of the sources revealed that researchers make more use of monograph/textbooks as compared to journals. The respondents also make use of Xylographs/ manuscripts. Researchers heavily depend on the manuscripts for their study and research.

Regarding use of catalogue/ indexes, it can be concluded that researchers are not much in the habit of using catalogues and indexes. The use of research report, theses, dissertations and government publications is not very encouraging. Overall analysis of data reveals that there are lot variations in the extent of use of different formal sources of interaction in the field of Tibetan studies.

5. The use of informal sources revealed that researchers in the field of Tibetan studies heavily exploit personal contacts with their teachers and colleagues for getting information and knowledge, exchange of views and opinions. They find conference/seminar meetings as the favourable occasions for such exchanges. Majority of the researchers do not consult reference librarian.
6. The study relating to kinds of information used by researchers in the field of Tibetan studies revealed that the use of religious knowledge/information is much more as compared to socio-economic information. This makes us to conclude that the discipline of Tibetan studies is religion oriented.

The researches are mainly religion oriented. The researchers besides religious information makes considerable use of factual

information. The researchers make very less use of R & D information. Further they hardly make use of retrospective information.

7. In order to remain current in the field, the researchers in the field of Tibetan studies resort to scanning of the current issues of the periodicals. It is interesting to find that researchers use *current contents* also as the means to remain update in the field. Other important means to remain current in the field commonly resorted by the researchers is exchange of knowledge and experience through personal correspondence and participation in seminar /conference.
8. Regarding the methods used by researchers in seeking information concerning their subject field, it may be mentioned that their information seeking behaviour is no way different from the researchers in other disciplines. In the field of Tibetan studies, the researchers more rely on discussion with colleagues and consultation with guide / supervisor for getting desired information. They make very little use of abstracting and indexing journals. But the main source of getting the information is books. The researchers heavily rely on books. Books are considered to be the major source of primary as well as secondary information. Researches in field of Tibetan studies are still book oriented.
9. The exponential growth in the literature calls for more effective means of bibliographical control over information. The study reveals that researchers are very much satisfied with the bibliographical control in the area of Tibetan studies.

10. The findings regarding the use of bibliographical sources reveals that researchers generally make use of important bibliographical sources like: abstracting journals, documentation list, indexing journals, subject bibliographies, union catalogue etc.
11. Regarding the language preference, it has been found that majority of the researchers in the field of Tibetan studies prefer literature published in Hindi, Sanskrit and Tibetan language. Although sufficient literature is available in English and other western languages.
12. Today Internet provides worldwide access to information and has become very popular. But the findings reveal that researchers in the field of Tibetan studies do not use Internet frequently. Perhaps they do not find much of information of their interest on Internet. The percentage of researchers using Internet is not very encouraging. Further, they are using Internet mainly for e-mail service.
13. The findings relating to use of interlibrary loan service reveals that majority of the researchers in the field of Tibetan studies are not aware of this service. So the use of this service is not very encouraging and satisfactory.
14. The views of researchers regarding the adequacy of information sources in the library reveals that majority of researchers consider it as adequate and satisfactory. Whereas a section of researchers consider it as inadequate and needs improvement.
15. The researchers needs to be supplied with the needed information for creative research. So the research should be backed by information service. The findings regarding the available information service

reveals that the opinion of researchers is quite divided on the issue. Almost 50% of the researchers have demanded improvement in the existing information service meaning thereby that they do not consider it satisfactory / adequate. Quite a large number of books to their credit makes us to conclude that books are also considered as dominant media of communication.

16. Communication is the essence of any discipline. The researchers go for publishing their research outcome mainly in journals. The study of their preference of journals reveal that majority of researchers prefer national level journals for the communication of their research findings. Through quite a good number of researchers favour international journals as the media for communicating their research findings.
17. The success of researcher is judged from the number of publications to his credit. The data revealed that the publication record of researchers in the field of Tibetan studies is quite appreciable. The majority of the publications are in the form of books and articles.
18. Interaction among researchers is considered to be the best method of generating some new concepts and idea particularly in the social science and humanities area. This is reason why the scholars go for attending conferences and seminars. The findings relating to opportunity for attending conferences reveal that the researchers are not satisfied with the opportunity available for attending conferences and seminars. Majority finds that the opportunity is not sufficient.
19. Analysis of hurdles faced by researchers in attending conferences reveals that the more visible hurdles include: Financial, Administrative

and non-availability of time. These problems considerably minimise the chance of attending conferences and seminars by the researchers.

20. The findings relating to degree of interaction among the researchers in the same organisation reveals that the majority of researchers freely interact with each other in the same organisation. They interact according to their need and convenience as they have the opportunity to meet daily or sometimes in the week or month.
21. The findings relating to interaction with researchers of other organisation reveals that the researchers do not get opportunity for frequent interaction with the researchers of other organisations because of the distant location. But in spite of the distant location, the researchers in the field of Tibetan studies does utilize every available opportunity for meaningful interaction with researchers of other organisations.
22. The important core journals identified in the field of Tibetan studies, which are more frequently consulted by the researchers, are as follows:
 - (a) Tibet Journal,
 - (b) Dharma
 - (c) Dhee
 - (d) East and West
 - (e) Indian Journal of Buddhist studies
23. The study revealed that the information channels have a positive role in planning, designing and monitoring of research work. The

information communication has a definite role to play in the growth and development of Tibetan studies as a discipline.

On the basis of findings it may be concluded that, the problems of researchers in the field of Tibetan studies is concerning the identification and access to information sources, inadequacy of information sources, the non-availability of sufficient channels of information to ensure more rapid communication and interaction among the researchers. There has been no organised effort to have effective bibliographical control over the Tibetan literature and information sources. The modern media of communication is yet to take in the field of Tibetan studies in its realm. It may also be concluded that various categories of researchers have distinct characteristics with regard to use of media and sources. Therefore in the light of characteristics, the information systems and services should be tailored to correlate with their characteristics. The researchers do often face problem in getting access to original texts and manuscripts (xylographs) concerning Tibetan studies. The descriptive account of the nature of information need and seeking behaviour of researchers will certainly provide the basis for the planning, designing and development of information systems and services which will effectively cater to the information needs of researchers in the field of Tibetan studies.

SUGGESTIONS :

As this study has been carried out under certain constraints and limitations as already mentioned in chapter – 3. It is suggested that a more comprehensive study may be carried out to further generalise the findings concerning the information needs and seeking behaviour of the researchers in

the field of Tibetan studies. In order to match the information services with the information needs of the researchers, the libraries should go for automating their services and functions. This will ultimately lead to greater satisfaction on the part of the researchers in the field of Tibetan studies. There is need to promote the research in Tibetan studies by using modern methods of library and information science. Networking with other alike libraries would be proved fruitful. Therefore there is need to bring out more modern tools and reference materials on these subjects. It is essential to balance the use of modern research materials and traditional method of study.

