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Information Seeking Behaviour of Agricultural Science Students: A Study at CCS Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar, India

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ABSTRACT

The main purpose of this study is to investigate the information seeking behaviour of postgraduate students who are studying in different agricultural science disciplines at Chaudhary Charan Singh Haryana Agricultural University (CCS HAU), Hisar, India. In the study, it was also try to determine what the information requirements of the targeted respondents are, and to determine their awareness of library services available to them currently. For data collection, survey method was adopted with the aid of structured questionnaire. The data were collected over a period of 20 days between January and February 2021. Total 200 postgraduate students, who were studying in different agricultural sciences departments were approached randomly and shared questionnaires to them in the library premises. Out of total 200, 177 valid questionnaires were collected and considered for final analysis, which representing the response rate @88.5 percent. The study found that library & its resources (44.64 percent), and Internet & social media are the two main sources of information seeking for the respondents. More than 70 percent respondents were preferred to search their required information from electronic information resources due to easy to search and use, whereas, around 39 percent of the respondents seeking information for preparing examination and 23.72 percent respondents seeking information for preparing class assignments. About 70 percent of the respondents were quite satisfied with the staff of the library, whereas, 14.12 percent respondents were rated staff behaviour and support as excellent. 50.84 percent respondents were opined that the services and facilities provided by the university library has very effective and plays a very important role in their academic and research work. The outcome of this research would help the similar type of other institutions of the country as well as of other countries to understand the changing needs and behaviour of students and researchers and to develop information resources and services in their premises.

KEYWORDS: *Information needs, Information seeking behaviour, Information retrieval, Agricultural libraries, CCSHAU, Hisar.*

INTRODUCTION

This is the era of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and the revolution of ICT across the globe made tremendous changes in all sections of the society. Information is vital and essential element for decision making, hence it can be said that information is a vital source for success and is a decisive factor in the development of a nation. Further, information has become the basic requirement for present human being. Information is an important key resource for any organization especially for educational organizations. The importance of information not only lies in its provision but in accessibility and utilization for effective development of an information society. Similarly, the advances in ICTs have decisively changed the libraries and their learning environment. The rapid development of electronic information environment, web based information service; and the abundance of sources and pathways compelled information providers to absorb new technologies and methods for information storage and dissemination of information. Sritharan (2017) quoted the statement of Connaway, Dickey & Redford (2015) in his work that "libraries and information professionals should enhance the library resources as well as the services, while the information users-built workflows in the library environment". Wilson (2008) said that "whatever the future holds for any of these issues, it seems likely the need to understand how people search for and use information is likely to continue and as technologies change and information services continue to develop the understanding gained may become more and more important for the effective design of systems and services". In another study, Obst (1998) said "to serve the information needs of their clients appropriately, any library must understand how they use the Internet, what advantages and disadvantages they experience, and most of all, what they expect from the library regarding the Internet".

In this digital era, most of the libraries are facing various issues particularly with regard to budget. Libraries have very limited resources to satisfy the multifarious information needs of all the users. Therefore, libraries have to build their collection, which meets the users' informational requirements within the limited budget. All the information resources and services should be based on the information needs of the users and their information needs can only be assessed with the help of user studies. A library can only provide quality services, if it knows the information needs and information seeking behaviour of the users.

Therefore, a study has been conducted to evaluate the information needs and seeking behaviour of postgraduate students studying in different agricultural science departments of CCS Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar (India).

INFORMATION SEEKING BEHAVIOUR

Information seeking behaviour is a broad term, which involves a set of action that an individual takes to express information needs, seek information, evaluate and select information, and finally uses this information to satisfy his/her information needs. The concept of information needs has been first coined and discussed by an American Information Scientist Robert Taylor in 1962 in his work "The process of asking questions" published in the journal of "American Society of Information Science (JASIS), which was later on changed to "Journal of American Society of Information Science and Technology (JASIST).

According to Krikelas (1983), information seeking behaviour refers to "any activity of an individual that is under taken to identify a message that satisfies a perceived need".

Girija Kumar (1990) has emphasised that "information seeking behaviour is mainly concerned with, who needs, what kind of information, and for what reasons, and how information is found, evaluated and used, and how their needs can be identified and satisfied".

Wilson (2000) defines that "information seeking behaviour is the purposive seeking for information as a consequence of a need to satisfy some goal. In the course of seeking the individual may

interact with manual information system or with computer based system."

In view of above, it can be said that information seeking behaviour is mainly concerned with who needs what kind of information and for what reasons, how information is found, evaluated, and how these needs can be identified and satisfied.

LITERATURE REVIEW

In order to understand the concept and to determine the information seeking behavior among library users, the researcher explored the various studies conducted in past across the globe from various print and electronic resources. It is not possible to include all the studies, hence, some of the studies have been reviewed are as follows:

Ali & Jan (2020) conducted a study at University of Kashmir to explore the information seeking behavior of the post graduate students in this digital environment and noticed that application of ICT in libraries has greatly influenced the information seeking behaviour of postgraduate social science students in University of Kashmir; however, majority of the respondents prefer to use print resources as compare to e-resources.A study was conducted by Bindhu & Balasubramanian (2019) to know the Information Seeking behaviors of women library users in the university libraries of South Tamil Nadu and found that majority of the respondents visit library to collect information for their career development, while majority of the respondents prefer to use e-resources to update their knowledge as well current information about their subjects. In another study, conducted by Howlader & Islam (2019) at Dhaka University, Bangladesh, to know the information seeking behaviour of undergraduate students and explored that most of the undergraduates needed academic and job-related information, however, explored that information skills of undergraduates' were poor and even most of them were not aware about the library resources. Suleiman, Abdulkadir & Isah (2019) conducted a study to explore the information seeking behaviour of library patrons in academic libraries in Kaduna State, Nigeria and found that the library users were more interested in using resources such as media

resources, books / e-books, journal /e-journals, *etc.*, and this was because of sufficient awareness made, while lack of support from library staff and the problem of the network were found the main obstacle for library patrons.To find out the information seeking behaviors, attitudes, and choices of academic chemists of four Canadian University institutions, Gordon *et al.* (2018) revealed that 13.9 percent chemists were successfully keeping up-to-date, and 50.6 percent chemists responded that they were somewhat successful while seeking their desired information from the libraries; while, a significant number of chemists (35.5%) indicated that they were unsuccessful and could do better in remaining current with information. Amritpal Kaur & Payare Lal (2016) conducted a study to know the information seeking behavior of different types of users of Southern Punjab (India) and found that majority of the library users needed information to support their academic programmes and to pass their various examinations, while competition books and text books were the main sources of information for the respondents.

A study was conducted by Patel & Chaudhari (2015) to know the information seeking behaviour of faculty members of the agriculture universities in Gujarat state of India and found that the main purpose of information seeking for all the respondents was to keep up with latest development in their concerned field and evolving innovative ideas/ techniques, whereas, information scattered in too many sources, too many classes and administrative work were found the main problems faced by the respondents, which creates hurdles in using library and their desired information and resources. Bhattacharjee, Sinha & Bhattacharjee (2014) conducted a study to explore the information needs and information seeking behavior of college library users of Cachar District, Assam and revealed that majority of the respondents visit library to keep them up-to-date on the subject of interest but it was also noticed by the researchers that information seeking and gathering was a challenging task to these college library users as most of the library has limited resources, lack of proper training among users and proper infrastructure in the college libraries of Cachar District of Assam was one of the vital factors in the usage of

Internet, e-resources and e-journals in college libraries in particular and other college libraries of North Eastern Regions of India in general. In a special study was conducted by Ahmed G.T. & Vinayagamoorthy (2013) at universities and colleges located in Academic City, Dubai, UAE to know the information seeking behavior of business school students and researchers found that the free information resources in electronic form available on Internet were the most preferred information resources by the business students and the reason behind this fact is that the e-resources are easy to search and use, whereas, majority of the students were of the opinion that their institution libraries have enough information sources that they need for their informational needs and the students were quiet satisfied with the services provided by the library. Haines *et al.* (2010) conducted a study in the University of Vermont College of Medicine to explore the information-seeking behaviour of basic science researchers and revealed that the basic science researchers used a variety of information resources ranging from popular Internet search engines to highly technical databases, however, the researchers were using very less traditional library services and instead performed many traditional library functions internally. In an another survey study conducted by Fatima & Ahmad (2008) to explore the information seeking behavior of the students at Ajmal Khan Tibbiya College, Aligarh Muslim University reveled that majority of the students used newspapers followed by the use of books and journals, whereas, career development was the most preferred response for seeking information for 50 percent of the respondents, followed by problem solving, keeping up-to-date and the need to write an article or research paper.

In recent past, there was no study conducted at agricultural universities in India to know the information needs and seeking behavior of agricultural students' particularly postgraduate students. Therefore, to know the status of information behavior in agricultural universities in India, it was planned to conduct a pilot study at Chaudhary Charan Singh Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar (India).

CCS HAU, HISAR

"After the division of Punjab State, the first established university in Haryana State in 1970 is Haryana Agricultural University, which is one of the Asia's biggest agricultural universities. In 1991, it was renamed after India's seventh Prime Minister Chaudhary Charan Singh. Thus, now it is known as Chaudhary Charan Singh Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar. The university covers an area of 8,645 Acres, out of which, 7,219 acres at main campus and 1,426 acres at sub-campuses. The University has five constituent colleges in its main campus with various departments, *i.e.*, College of Agriculture (COA), College of Home Science (COHS), College of Agriculture Engineering & Technology (COAE & T), College of Basic Science & Humanities (COBS & H), and College of Fisheries Science (COFS). The University has two more constituent colleges in its outstation campuses other than these five colleges situated in main campus, *i.e.*, College of Agriculture, Kaul (COAK) and College of Agriculture, Bawal (COAB). The University is affiliated to Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)" (CCS HAU, 2021).

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Knowing the behavior of retrieving or seeking information, allows library users to use the library effectively and efficiently without difficulty, but it appears that many users do not seem to be using the library to seek information they require, this necessitated one to ask whether it was due to lack of awareness and utilization of library resources/services, lack of network problem and lack of assistance of library staff to library patrons" (Suleiman, 2019). Therefore, this study intends to investigate the problems of information seeking behavior of library users (Agricultural Science Postgraduate Students) in Chaudhary Charan Singh Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar (India).

OBJECTIVES

The prime objective of the present study is to determine the information seeking behavior of postgraduate agricultural science students of Chaudhary Charan Singh Haryana Agricultural University (CCS HAU), Hisar,

India. However, the following specific objectives of the study are noted below:

- To assess the awareness among the respondents about the use of library, information and resources of CCS HAU, Hisar
- To identify the types of information resources and services required by the respondents
- To identify the types of information resources used by the respondents
- To know the extent of utilization of library resources and services by the respondents
- To discover the problems encountered by the respondents during information seeking or library use
- To identify the factors or reasons that affected information seeking
- To ascertain users' opinion regarding usefulness and adequacy of information sources and services, and
- To assess the level of satisfaction among the respondents about the library resources and services

SCOPE AND LIMITATION OF THE STUDY

The scope of the present study is limited to explore the information needs and information seeking behaviour of postgraduate students, who were studying in different agricultural science disciplines at Chaudhary Charan Singh

Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar (India).

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

A questionnaire based survey was conducted to identify the information needs and information seeking behaviour of postgraduate students of Chaudhary Charan Singh Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar. In the month of January - February, 2021, two hundred questionnaires were distributed randomly in the premises of Nehru Library, CCS HAU, Hisar among the postgraduate students. Simple random sampling method was used for distribution of questionnaires.The students who were approached to get the data were studying in different agricultural sciences departments. Out of total 200, 177 properly filled questionnaires were collected and considered for final analysis, which represents the overall response rate @88.5 percent. The collected data was presented in tabular form was analyzed statistically by using simple frequency count and simple percentage analysis through MS-Excel in order to get some insight about the objectives framed for the present study.

DATA ANALYSIS

The data have been presented, compared and analysed by using following tables:

Table 1: Gender wise distribution of respondents

Sr. No.	Gender	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Male	96	54.23
2.	Female	81	45.77
Total		**177**	**100**

The data given in Table 1 highlights the gender wise distribution of respondents who were participated in the survey positively. It

was noticed that out of total 177 respondents, 54.23 percent male students and 45.77 percent female students participated in the survey.

Table 2: Frequency of visit to the library

Sr. No.	Frequency of visit	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Almost daily	43	24.30
2.	Once in a week	57	32.20
3.	Once in a month	36	20.34
4.	Several times	24	13.56
5.	Occasionally	17	09.60
Total		**177**	**100**

The Table 2 reveals the frequency of visit of respondents to the library by the respondents. It was noticed that more than 32 percent of the respondents were visiting the library once in a week and 24.30 percent were visiting the library daily for various purposes while 20.34 percent of the respondents were visiting the library once in a month, followed by several times (13.56 percent) and occasionally (9.60 percent) respectively. The analysis shows that most of the users were prefer to use library on weekly basis.

Table 3: Purpose of visiting to the library

Sr. No.	Purpose of visit	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Issue/Return of books	78	44.08
2.	To consult reference books	21	11.86
3.	To prepare class notes	37	20.90
4.	To read newspaper and novels	20	11.30
5.	To update knowledge	21	11.86
Total		**177**	**100**

Respondents were asked to indicate their various purposes of visiting/using the library. The above given Table 3 shows the various purposes of visiting to the library and reveals that a very good number of respondents (44.08 percent) were preferred to visit the library for issue/return of books, whereas, 20.90 percent respondents visit to the library to prepare their class notes. Another side, equal number of respondents (11.86 percent) were preferred to visit the library either to consult reference books or to update their knowledge in their concerned subjects or field of interest, while 11.30 percent respondents were visiting the library to read newspapers and novels.

Table 4: Time spent per week for information gathering

Sr. No.	Time spent	Frequency	Percentage
1.	<5 hours	107	60.46
2.	6-10 hours	52	29.38
3.	11-20 hours	18	10.16
4.	>20 hours	-	-
Total		**177**	**100**

The Table 4 shows the time spent per week by the respondents for gathering required information from the library. It was observed by the researcher that maximum number of students (60.46 percent) spent upto five hours in the library for gathering required information, whereas, 29.38 percent of the respondents spent 6-10 hours and 10.16 percent spent 11-20 hours in the library. Interestingly, it was found that no respondents were using the library for long hours (more than 20 hours) in a week.

Table 5: Place of use of Internet

Sr. No.	Use of Internet	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Department/Dept. Lab.	39	22.04
2.	Library	93	52.54
3.	Home	31	17.52
4.	Internet cafe	14	07.90
Total		**177**	**100**

Respondents were asked whether they use Internet in the library, home or from other location for accessing their required information. Table 5 shows place of use of Internet by the respondents. Most of the respondents 52.54 percent of the respondents were using the Internet in the library premises, whereas distantly followed department

concerned or departmental computer laboratory (22.04 percent) and home (17.52 percent) while less than 10 percent of respondents were using internet at Internet café (7.90 percent). From the data analysis, it is revealed that the most preferred location for Internet use is the library for maximum number of respondents.

Table 6: Purpose of information-seeking

Sr. No.	Purpose	Frequency	Percentage
1.	For class assignments	42	23.72
2.	For examination	68	38.42
3.	To update subject knowledge	25	14.12
4.	For entertainment	19	10.74
5.	To prepare for competition examination	23	13.00
Total		**177**	**100**

The Table 6 demonstrated the various purposes of information seeking by the respondents. It was observed that nearly 40 percent (38.42 percent) of the respondents were seeking information for preparing examination and nearly 25 percent (23.72 percent) respondents were seeking information for preparing class assignments, followed by to update subject knowledge (14.12 percent), preparing for competition examination (13 percent) and for entertainment (10.74 percent) respectively. So, preparing for examination and class assignments were the main purposes for information seeking of the respondents.

Table 7: Main sources of information seeking

Sr. No.	Sources*	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Library and its resources	79	44.64
2.	Television	14	07.90
3.	Radio	10	05.64
4.	Internet and social media	77	43.50
5.	Newspapers	33	18.64
6.	Classes or course	46	25.98
7.	Friends	25	14.12

Multiple responses allowed

Respondents were also asked to highlight their main sources of information seeking. It is observed from the Table 7 that library and its resources (44.64 percent) and, Internet and social media (43.50 percent) were the main sources of information seeking for the respondents distantly followed by Classes and course matter (26 percent). On the other hand, other main resources used by the respondents were newspapers (18.64 percent), friends (14.12 percent), television (7.90 percent) and radio (5.64 percent) respectively. This analysis shows that library resources and Internet were the main sources of information used by the most of the respondents.

Table 8: Preferred search option

Sr. No.	Search option	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Print resources	53	29.94
2.	Electronic resources	124	70.06
Total		**177**	**100**

Respondents were asked to indicate their preference of searching information from either print resources or electronic resources. The data given in Table 8 shows that more than 70 percent respondents (70.06 percent) were preferred to search their required information from electronic information resources, while print information resources

were preferred only by nearly 30 percent of the respondents (29.94 percent). The analysis shows that digital/electronic information resources are the most preferred format for accessing required information as compared to print resources because electronic resources are easy to use and anyone can access at anytime and from anywhere as per the convenience.

Table 9: Barriers faced in receiving information

Sr. No.	Barriers*	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Lack of time	66	37.28
2.	Inadequate knowledge about library system	45	25.42
3.	Inadequate knowledge of computer applications	59	33.33
4.	Physical environment of the library	21	11.86
5.	Inadequate resources in library	14	07.90
6.	Inadequate knowledge about search techniques	50	28.24
7.	Library opening hours	-	-

Multiple responses allowed

The status of various barriers faced by the respondents during information receiving are presented in the Table 9 and it was observed from the data that 37.28 percent of the respondents were facing the problem of lack of time, whereas, 33.33 percent respondents reported that they have inadequate knowledge of computer applications. On the other hand, 28.24 percent of the respondents were reported that they have inadequate knowledge about search techniques on search engines, while 25.42 percent were reported that they had inadequate knowledge about the library system followed by physical environment of the library (11.86 percent) and inadequate knowledge about search techniques (7.90 percent), respectively.

Table 10: Perception towards library staff

Sr. No.	Barriers	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Excellent	25	14.12
2.	Very good	61	34.46
3.	Good	62	35.04
4.	Fair	24	13.56
5.	Poor	05	02.82
Total		**177**	**100**

The respondents were asked to indicate their perception about the library staff. Nearly 70 percent of the respondents were quite satisfied with the staff of the library as the data reflected in the Table 10, whereas, 14.12 percent respondents were rated staff behaviour and support as excellent. On the other hand, 13.56 percent of the respondents rated staff as fair; while a very little number of respondents (2.82 percent) were not satisfied with the library staff as they rated poor.

Table 11: Methods used in searching information sources in the library

Sr. No.	Methods	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Consult library catalogue/OPAC	77	43.50
2.	Approach to Librarian/Incharge of Division	16	09.06
3.	Directly browse to shelves	18	10.16
4.	Seek help from fellow students	20	11.30
5.	Bibliographic and Citation database	22	12.42
6.	Knowledgebase web portal	24	13.56
Total		**177**	**100**

The data given in Table 11 highlights the methods used in searching information sources in the library by the respondents and it was noticed by the researchers that 43.50 percent of the respondents were consulted library catalogue/OPAC for their required information, while 13.56 percent respondents were followed knowledgebase web portal.

Another side, 12.42 percent of the respondents were using bibliographic and citation database for their informational requirement, whereas, 11.30 percent respondents were sought help from their fellow students, followed by directly browse to shelves (10.16 percent) and approach to library/In-charge of division (9.06 percent) respectively.

Table 12: Overall effectiveness of University Library

Sr. No.	Effectiveness	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Very effective	90	50.84
2.	Effective	58	32.78
3.	Somewhat effective	22	12.42
4.	Ineffective	07	03.96
5.	Very ineffective	-	-
Total		**177**	**100**

The respondents were asked to indicate their opinion about overall effectiveness of University Library of CCS HAU, Hisar in their academic and research arena. The data given in the Table 12 shows that more than half of the respondents (50.84%) were in the opinion that the services and facilities provided by the University Library were very effective and played a very important role in their academic

and research work while 32.78 percent respondents opined that university library has effective distantly followed by somewhat effective (12.42%). A very less number of respondents (3.96%) opened it as very ineffective. The analysis shows that most of the respondents were positive and opined that the university library has playing effective role in their academic and research work.

Table 13: Satisfaction towards information sources and services

Sr. No.	Satisfaction*	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Appropriate print sources of information available in the library	150	84.74
2.	Library staff support for information seeking	80	45.20
3.	Good photocopy facility available in library for information support	150	84.74
4.	Impact of information communication technology on information seeking behavior	98	55.36
5.	Efforts to sort out the information barriers	48	27.12
6.	Appropriate information from all documentary and non-documentary sources and library staff	71	40.12

Multiple responses allowed

The Table 13 highlights the satisfaction of respondents towards information sources and services provided by the university library. It was found from the study that more than 84 percent of the respondents (84.74 percent) were satisfied with appropriate print sources of information as well as good photocopy facility available in the library for information support, while 55.36 percent respondents were in the opinion that there is a wide impact of information communication technology on

their information seeking behaviour. On the other hand, 45.20 percent respondents were satisfied with the fact that library staff always supported for their information seeking, whereas, 40.12 percent respondents were satisfied with appropriate information from all documentary and non-documentary sources and library staff, followed by doing best efforts to sort out the information barriers (27.12 percent).

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

The major findings of the present study are:

*   It was found that more than 32 percent of the respondents were visiting the library once in a week and 24.30 percent were visited the library daily for various purposes.
*   The researchers also found that 44.08 percent respondents were preferred to visiting the library for issue/return of books, whereas, 20.90 percent respondents visited to the library to prepare their class notes as vast informational material were available in the university library.
*   It was revealed by the researchers that 60.46 percent respondents spent upto five hours in a week in the library for gathering required academic and research information.
*   More than half (52.54 percent) of the respondents were using the Internet in the library premises, whereas, 22.04 percent respondents were using Internet in the computer laboratory of their department.
*   Around 39 percent of the respondents sought information for preparing examination and 23.72 percent respondents seeking information for preparing class assignments.
*   It was observed by the researchers that library and its resources (44.64 percent) and, Internet and social media (43.50 percent each) are the main sources of information seeking for most of the respondents.
*   More than 70 percent respondents were preferred to search their required information from electronic information resources due to easy to search and use, while print information resources were preferred only by 30 percent of the respondents.
*   More than 37.28 percent of the respondents were facing the problem of lack of time, whereas, 33.33 percent respondents reported that they have inadequate knowledge of computer applications.
*   About 70 percent of the respondents were quite satisfied with the staff of the library, whereas, 14.12 percent respondents were rated staff behaviour and support as excellent.

*   It was noticed by the researchers that 43.50 percent of the respondents were consulted library catalogue/OPAC for their required information, while 13.56 percent of the respondents were accessing knowledgebase web portal.
*   Half of the respondents (50.84 percent) were in the opinion that the services and facilities provided by the university library has very effective and plays a very important role in their academic and research work.
*   The researchers also noticed that more than 84 percent of the respondents were satisfied with appropriate print sources of information as well as good photocopy facility available in the library for information support.
*   More than 55 percent of the respondents were in the opinion that there is a wide impact of information communication technology on their information seeking behaviour.

SUGGESTIONS

Based on the findings, some of the suggestions can be opined as given below:

During the study, it was found by the researchers that some of the postgraduate students were facing the problem of using the computer applications during searching their required academic and research related information from library OPAC/WebOPAC and databases. Therefore, it can be suggested that concerned library authority have to organise training programs on regular basis so that students/ research scholars can understand the use of information communication technology application easily and can also learn how to search information effectively from online databases and Internet. Further, it can also be suggested that library staff should have to come forward willingly to help the students in search of their required information and resources from print as well as electronic resources so that utmost users' satisfaction could be achieved.

CONCLUSION AND IMPLICATION

The innovation in Information and Communication Technology (ICT) applications and its implementation in libraries and academia led explosion in

electronic agricultural information due to which rapid changes in the information seeking behaviour of agricultural students and fraternity has been noticed, particularly in the last two decades. The present study is an effort to know the information seeking behaviour of postgraduate students of Chaudhary Charan Singh Haryana Agricultural University (CCS HAU), Hisar, India. The study explores the various aspects of information seeking behaviour of the agricultural students. The findings of the study demonstrate that most of the postgraduate students are aware about ICT applications and prefer to search their required information from electronic resources. Most of the students are visiting the library mainly to issue/return books as well as for searching academic and research related information from electronic resources offered by the library. However, the respondents are also in the view that they have less skill to search the required information from electronic resources. Electronic resources have a great impact on information seeking behaviour of agricultural postgraduate students so it is imperative that the availability of more computers with proper Internet access facility, more electronic information resources, proper training on information retrieval would be the best solution for optimization of use of electronic information resources and utmost satisfaction of the users.

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