



## Information Seeking Behavior of Law graduate Students in affiliated Law institute of GGSIPU Delhi: A Study

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### Abstract:

Since information seeking behavior is so close to human nature, it is particularly difficult to assess. Numerous ideas on the various information-seeking behaviors of various groups have been developed by social science. Information seeking behavior studies have become more difficult due to the explosion of information and the improvement of various information sources and media. Through an analysis of the many ways in which law students want information, this essay attempted to provide a very empirical understanding of the information seeking behavior of law students.

**Keyword:** Information Education, Information seeking behavior (ISB), Reading Habits, Legal Information, GGSIPU.

### 1- Introduction:

The Service value. A society based on information eventually becomes one based on knowledge. "Information seeking is a conscious effort to acquire information in response to a need or gap in your knowledge," said Donald Case (2008). The term "information seeking behavior" (ISB) refers to the intentional and unconscious human demand for knowledge as well as the actions used to find, discover, recognize, assess, and utilize the information sources in order to satisfy their information need.

An application of ISB is to identify patterns in the supply and demand for information about a certain topic. In order to provide high-quality legal education and, ultimately, information-savvy legal professionals for effective judicial services throughout the nation, ISB in law and jurisprudential science is crucial. The goal of the current study is to determine how common ISB is among legal students enrolled at Delhi's Northern legal College.

### 2. Delhi at a Glimpse

Delhi, the capital of India has a strong historical background. It was ruled by some of the most powerful emperors in Indian history. The history of the city is as old as the epic Mahabharata. The town was known as Indraprastha, where Pandavas used to live. Directorate of Education divides Delhi region into 12 districts and 28 zones with hierarchy from district to zones. Each district consist one or more zones in it with District Education Officer as the head of education, similarly each zone has Zonal Education Officer to command the education department of zonal level. National Law University is situated in Delhi apart from many universities are imparting graduation and post-graduation, research, doctorate degree in different specialization law courses through their constituent colleges. Delhi NCR is the professional hub of northern part of India

#### • Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University (GGSIPU),

located in Delhi, India, is renowned for its excellent law colleges that provide quality legal education. Some of the top law colleges affiliated with GGSIPU include the University School of Law and Legal Studies (USLLS) and the Amity Law School.

These institutions offer a diverse range of undergraduate and postgraduate programs in law, attracting students from across the country. With a strong emphasis on practical exposure, rigorous academic curriculum, and experienced faculty, GGSIPU's law colleges are highly regarded for producing competent legal professionals and nurturing a deep understanding of the legal field.

### 3. Literature Reviews

Paramjeet Kaur Wailia and deepthi khatri (2023) entitled the information seeking behavior of college students surveying twelve colleges affiliated to the University of Delhi. Different variable sets were used to analyse the undergraduates' reading habits, information needs, information search and information use behavior. Total 506

undergraduate students of different disciplines such as sciences, social sciences and humanities were selected as a sample applying multistage and stratified sampling techniques. These are used in more often printed less often electronic format for reading purpose. Although, the massive use of mobile technology and social media have made rapid transformation in information search and access and majority students' access online information to get the quick overview of the different terms and concepts. Whereas, printed books are still preferred by undergraduate students for completing their assignments, preparing for exams and also for general reading. The present study aimed to examine the various aspects of information seeking behavior of college students of University of Delhi considering the different variables set. This study was an attempt to understand the information needs of the students pertaining to the various categories of information sources in different formats, their awareness on the degree of reliability in the use print and electronic resources and use of variety of search strategies so that the results may help the library and information managers to build the library collection accordingly for its maximum utilization and promote and develop information literacy skills among students to enable them to identify and evaluate the quality, accuracy and reliability of different information sources for their education and learning.

**Suresh , N. and Thanuskodi (2022)** it examined the impact of COVID-19 lockdown on the reading habit of Law Students in Tamil Nadu. A descriptive survey method was adopted and an online web-based questionnaire was used to collect data for the study. The total response collected for the study is 464 and 65.52% of respondents are female. It was found that there was a significant development in the reading habit of Law Students in Tamilnadu during the COVID-19 pandemic lockdown. It was revealed that most Law Students in Tamilnadu used a mobile phone (96.8%) to read during the lockdown. It was shown the challenges in reading during the lockdown, which include Heavy use of social media, Laziness, Work/home burden, lack of motivation, and non-availability of resources. It was concluded that COVID-19 lockdown has a positive influence on the reading habits of most Law Students in Tamailnadu and the findings of this study will provide understanding into the reading habits of these law students and necessary recommendations will be made.

**Dadaczynski, Kevin (2021)** Digital Health Literacy and Web-Based Information-Seeking Behaviors of University Students in Germany during the COVID-19 Pandemic: Cross-sectional Survey Study Digital communication technologies are playing an important role in the health communication strategies of governments and public health authorities during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Roberto Martinez Mateo (2021)** In a society that is becoming more and more globalized, it is essential to promote teaching processes that enable the meaningful acquisition of knowledge, emphasizing the learning of English, as the main goal of the teachers. Reading in education is the paradigm of culture and is part of the language learning process. Nevertheless, its practice has declined in recent years. Consequently, through this Project, intending to motivate the Reading frequency, we intend to take a deeper look into the role of technologies to foster the Reading habit in a foreign language, highlighting the importance of reading for student cognitive development. Puncak Alam Jamiah Baba, Faiza Rostam Affendi, (2020) the ability to read is crucial as reading affects the intellectual and emotional growth of an individual. Those who read well have more chances of widening their mental horizons and better opportunities for success. Hence, this paper is an attempt to understand the reading habits and attitudes of the students in the Faculty of Education in University Technology Mara, Puncak Alam. The research findings through quantitative analysis revealed that the students had an overall positive attitude towards academic and leisure reading as they read academically and leisurely daily or at least once a week. Apart from that, digital materials are considered better compared to printed texts when it comes to the students' preference and its availability. Ismail Olatunji Adeyemi Pinheiro LP,(2020) The recent pandemic disease, COVID-19, brought about a measure that involves every individual staying at home in Nigeria. This had various effects on the different activities and habits of an average Nigerian. This study examined the influence of COVID-19 lockdown on the reading habit of Nigerians using Lagos State inhabitants as a case study.

A descriptive survey design was adopted and a simple random sampling technique was used. A web-based questionnaire was adopted to collect data for the study owing to the risk paper questionnaire could pose. The Cronbach's Alpha Reliability coefficient is 0.80. The total response collected for the study is 416. It was found that there was a significant improvement in the reading habit of Nigerians during the lockdown. It was revealed that most Nigerians used phone to read during the lockdown. It was shown that more than half of the respondents had challenges in reading during the lockdown, which include cost of resources, non-availability of resources, lack of motivation, and heavy usage of social media. It was concluded that COVID-19 lockdown has a positive influence on reading habits of Nigerians. **Chembe, Kaluba and Felesia Mulauzi (2019)** the information needs and seeking behaviour of users is imperative in developing effective information systems and services to meet their information needs. Lawyers and Judges heavily depend on appropriate and reliable evidence in the administration of sound justice. There were more undergraduate degree holders that participated in this study and the less experienced was more available for the study than those with many years of experience in the job, it was reported by the respondents that they encountered a number of problems in their quest for information including difficult to find latest information, information not readily available, lack of information diversity, information not easily accessible and poor internet connectivity.

**Klinefelter & Sampson (2014)** Law libraries or legal information centers are present in private environments, such as

law firms and corporations, as well as in governmental institutions. Governmental law libraries include the library of congress and law libraries at state, court, and country institutions. The types of public services can vary, depending on the type of law library. To meet the needs of the parent institution, levels of service differ among libraries. Whatever the level of technology, the circulation system is crucial for maintaining order and control over the library collection. Some law libraries maintain a reserve collection for highly used items that have limited circulation; this function often tied to circulation. In special collection departments, staff members generally provide services at a higher level than in other areas of the library.

**Kadli and Hanchinal (2015)**, in their study “Information seeking behavior of Law students in the changing Digital Environment” In this study impact on teaching, learning and research methods of higher education worldwide. The new technologies have facilitated smooth and systematic transformation of data in digital format. The study mainly concentrates on frequency of visit to the library, purpose of ISB, computer acquaintance, amount of time spend on information Collect, problems face in information seeking etc. majority students use law database. **Onwuchekwa (2013)**, in his study on “Exploring the Information Seeking Behavior of Final Year Law Students in Ekiti State”. This study is a follow up to previous study on the information seeking behavior of Final year law students in South Western Nigerian Universities which was a framework of Wilson’s 1999 model of information seeking behavior. A discursive face-face interview method which was unstructured in style was used to gather data from 25 final year law students of 2012/2013 class in Ekiti State University. A naturalistic approach was also involved as a methodology thus students were observed while they research for their resources. The interview was transcribed and arranged into themes for proper analysis. The research findings show that the respondents browse library shelves, lack knowledge of library services and current resources, use the library for print materials while they browse in cybercafé, avoid the e-library and library facilities and avoid seeking assistance from library staff because they perceive them as being harsh. Respondents were further found to be Google inclined despite numerous complaints and difficulties they face in Google. **Khan, Bhatti and Khan (2011)**, in their study “Information-Seeking Behavior of Law Practitioners: A Survey of Bahawalpur City, The article discusses information-seeking behavior among practitioners of law, focusing on the results of a survey of lawyers in Bahawalpur, Pakistan. According to the article, questionnaires distributed among lawyers of the District Bar Association Session Court in Bahawalpur suggested that lawyers seek information for case preparation, improving personal knowledge, and for research. The role of information and communication technologies including internet search engines in information-seeking behavior is considered.

### Objectives

- To find out ISB of the Law students of institute in GGSIPU Delhi
- To know the main purpose of ISB.
- To find out awareness of the library services.
- To find out the awareness and use of library resources by the Law students.
- To Identify the Problems of Law students in Libraries in accessing Legal Information.
- To know the level of Information literacy among Law students.
- To trace out the Reading habits of Law Students.
- To developed Policy decision for framing /Designing information system

### 5. Methodology

This study will be a descriptive survey aimed at methodically elucidating the legal students' usage of legal information sources and their behavioral patterns in relation to the law school at GGSIPU Delhi. An organized questionnaire will be used to gather empirical data for the planned study, and the investigator will also conduct interviews and make observations.

### 6. Scope and Limitation

The study will be confined only to the Law students of institute in GGSIPU Delhi. Although there are a good number of other institutions of legal studies are available in northern Delhi, these institutions under study are the premiere institutions as far the quality of education is concerned and therefore, the results of the study will be a meaningful knowledge.

### 7. Hypotheses

1. Selected law school students at GGSIPU Delhi get equitable access to significant legal knowledge sources.
2. There is a notable increase in the legal information literacy of law students.
3. There hasn't been much of an impact on access to legal e-information resources.
4. The ways in which law students at the various study institutions search out information varied significantly.

### 8. Data analysis

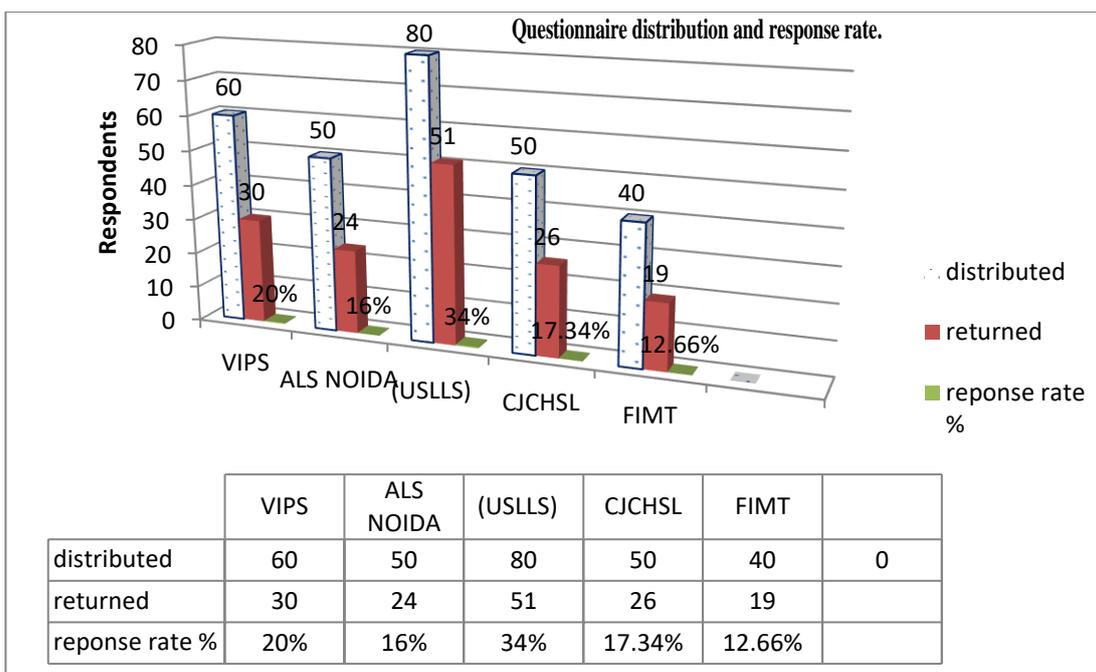
An analysis of the number of respondents used for this study is indicated in *Table 1*. The target population comprises Law students of selected institute in GGSIPU Delhi Studies who are library user's total numbers of distribution of questionnaire 240 respondent Out of thirteen Law institute under the Guru Govind Singh Indrapastha

University ,Dwarka new Delhi only cover the five law institute of GGSIPU Delhi.

**8.1-Table 1: Questionnaire distribution and response rate.**

	Law Institute under GGSIPU	Copies of Questionnaire		Response rate (%)
		Distributed	Returned	
1	The Vivekananda Institute of Professional Studies (VIPS) (2000)	60	30	20%
2	Amity Law School, Noida (ALS)	50	24	16%
3	University School of Law and Legal Studies, Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University (USLLS) (2001)	80	51	34%
4	Chanderprabhu Jain College Of Higher Studies & School of Law (CJCHSL)	50	26	17.34%
5	Fairfield Institute of Management & Technology (FIMT)	40	19	12.66%
	Total	240	150	100%

- (VIPS) The Vivekananda Institute of Professional Studies
- (ALS) Amity Law School, Noida
- (USLLS) University School of Law and Legal Studies,
- (CJCHSL) Chanderprabhu Jain College Of Higher Studies & School of Law
- (FIMT) Fairfield Institute of Management & Technology



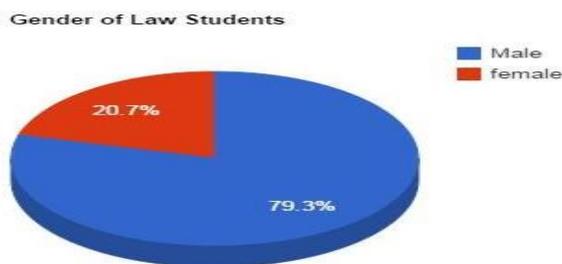
**(Graph 1 Questionnaire distribution and response rate)**

**8.2- Gender of the Respondents of Law students**

In total 150 respondents responded against the questionnaire, of which 119 were male and 31 were female (Table 2). Total no's of respondent in Law students of selected institute in GGSIPU Delhi of Gender Male and Female. In the time of data collection the female candidate are hesitated after convince they give their data.

**Tables 2 Frequency Distribution of Respondent's Gender**

Gender	Frequency	Percentage
male	119	79.34 %
Female	31	20.66 %

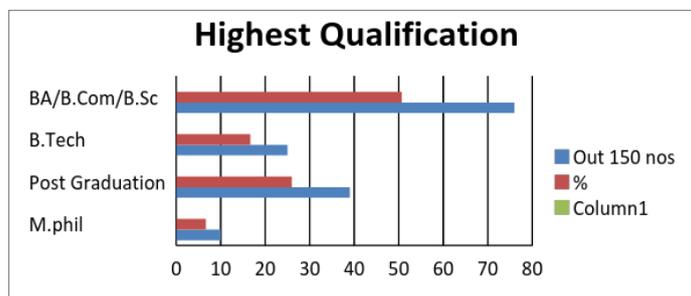


(Graph 2: Frequency Distribution of Respondent's Gender)

**8.3- Table 3 Highest Qualification before take Law Admission**

Before take Law admission academic Qualification of the Respondents Frequency distribution of respondents' academic qualification presented in Table 3, shows that Ten (6.67%) were M.phil, Thirty Nine ( 26 %) were P G, Twenty Five of the respondents (16.67 %) were B.Tech and Seventy Five (50.66%) were BA/B.Com/B.Sc.

Highest Qualification	Out 150 no's	%
M.Phil.	10	6.67%
Post-Graduation	39	26%
B.Tech	25	16.67%
BA/B.Com/B.Sc	76	50.66

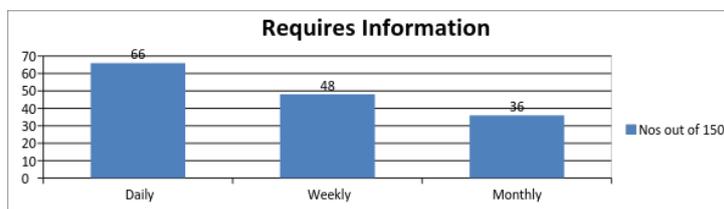


(Graph 3: Highest Qualification before take Law Admission)

**8.4- Table 4 Frequency of Information required for Law students**

Requires Information	Nos out of 150 specified
Daily	66
Weekly	48
Monthly	36

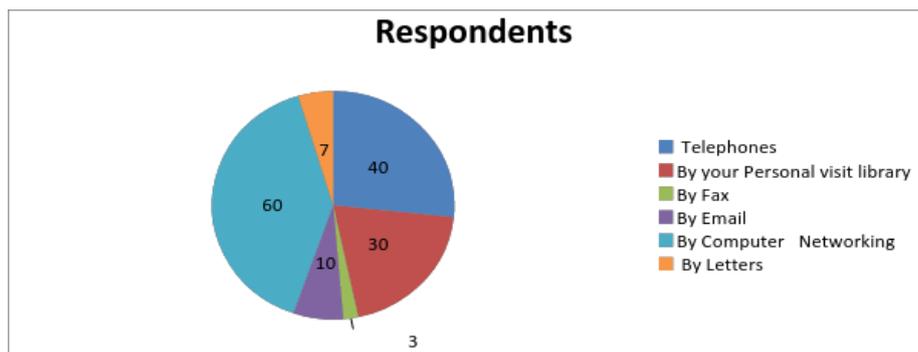
Table 4 requires information of the law student in different college of law students. Most of the get weekly information 48 is highest point of out of 150 students.



(Graph4: Frequency of Information required for Law students)

**8.5- Table 5 Mode of Information Required.**

Information need	Respondents reply medium of information
Telephones	40
By your Personal visit library	30
By Fax	3
By Emails	10
By Computer Networking	60
By Letters	7
Total	150



(Graph 5: Mode of Information Required)

**8.6- Table 6 mode of getting online information**

Online Information	Respondent reply the mode of getting online information
Internet	105
E-Books	20
E- journals	15
Law database	5
Any other source	5

**Table 8.7 Personal Reading habits**

**Table8.7.1** How often you visit your institutional Library

Visit library	No of Respondent
Frequently	35
Occasionally	65
Seldom	30
Any other Frequency	20

**Table 8.7.2:** Get Reading materials

Require Reading Materials	No of respondent
From your Institutional Libraries	16
From library not belong to your parents institutions	4
By Personal purchases	98
By borrowing professional College/ seniors	22
Any other Sources	10

**Table 8.7.3:** Spend Time in the Library each day

Spend time in Libraries	No of respondent
Less than 1 hours	35
1 to 2 hours	65
More than 4 hours	15
Not certain	17
Not at all	13

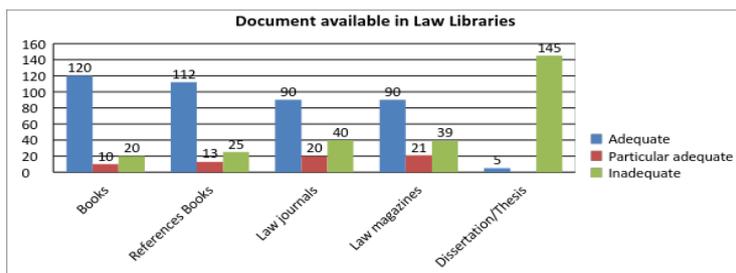
**Table-8.7.4:** Personal books stock at Home

Personal books	No of Respondent
Nil	3
Less than 5 books	40
6 to 10 books	57
10 to 20 books	36
More than 20	14

9. Library Services

Table 9.1 Document available in the selected institute in GGSIPU Libraries

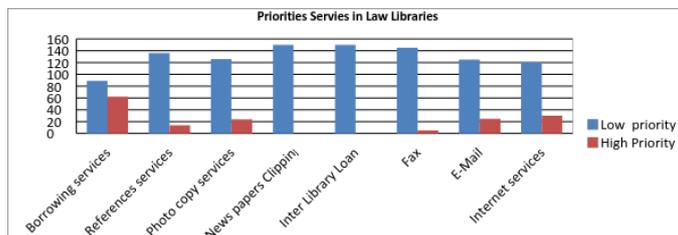
Document	Respondent		
	Adequate	Partly	Inadequate
Books	120	10	20
References Books	112	13	25
Law journals	90	20	40
Law magazines	90	21	39
Dissertation/Thesis s	05	00	145



(Graph 9.1 Document available in the institute in GGSIPU Libraries)

Table 8.1 and Graph 8.1 show that, in the institute of law colleges in GGSIPU document available in the law Libraries 120 respondent books adequate facility and totally zero in the inadequate the Thesis/ Dissertation.

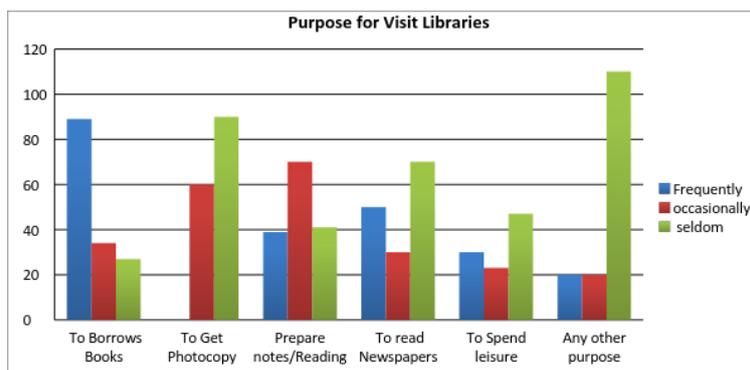
Table 9.2: Services are using priority basis in law Libraries



(Graph 9.2: Services are using priority basis in law Libraries)

Table-9.3: Purpose for visit the libraries/ information centers

Purpose for Visit Library	Frequently	occasionally	seldom
To Borrows Books	89	34	27
To Get Photocopy	00	60	90
Prepare notes/Reading	39	70	41
To read Newspapers	50	30	70
To Spend leisure	30	23	47
Any other purpose	20	20	110



(Graph -9.3: Purpose for visit the libraries/ information centers)

### Findings:

- Legal information sources have a rather low information literacy rate
- Students' awareness of various legal databases and websites is lacking.
- Law students possess excellent reading habits.
- Special Law Libraries can have a customized version of the Comprehensive Library system.
- The primary source of information for acquiring data is still books.
- It is encouraged that law students use the library to check out books rather than buying or downloading them in soft copy to meet their information needs.
- Men are more likely than women to seek information on legal studies.
- An awareness/user orientation program has to include instructions on how to utilize online legal resources.
- The majority of GGSIPU Delhi's youth would like to pursue legal studies after completing their degree programs.
- The average amount of personal books that people own at home.

### Conclusion

Legal research training has long ago seen substantial advancements. Delhi's legal system fundamentally requires a robust legal information system in order to meet the needs of the student body. The suggested study aims to reveal the current situation and future needs of law colleges in the northern districts of Delhi about legal knowledge.

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