

# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of the Study:

For thousands of years people are seeking, making sense of, and using information in order to manage their work, solve their problems or simply survive. The rapid growth of information made available during the last decades has further emphasized our dependence on information. Information seeking behaviour can be defined as “the totality of human behaviour in relation to source and channels of information on both active and passive information seeking and use” (Wilson 1997a, 39). According to Wilson a general model of information behaviour needs to include at least the following three elements:

- ) an information need and its drivers, i.e., the factors that give rise to an individual’s perception of need;
- ) the factors that affect the individual’s response to the perception of need; and
- ) the processes or actions involved in that response (Wilson 1997a, 39).

The origin of information retrieval research can be traced back to 1953 when separate tests were carried out in Britain and US evaluating the performance of the then controversial uniterm systems devised by Mortimer Taube, which was represented documents by single terms taken from titles or abstracts, against more conventional approaches to subject indexing and retrieval (Ellis, 1996:1). Information retrieval has been treated, by and large, as a subject field covering both the representation and retrieval sides of information (Sparck Jones & Willett, 1997). The retrieval dimension is further referred to as information access, information seeking and information searching. These terms can be considered as synonyms for seeking. However, each of them does have its different orientation with regard to implications. The term information access emphasizes the aspect of getting or obtaining information. In contrast, the focus of information seeking is placed on the user who is actively involved in the process. As for information searching, the center of attention appears to be on how to look for information (Chu, 2009: 13). Information seeking behaviour is the behaviour of an individual to get some information to fulfill his/her subjective ‘information needs’ in other words, it is the self-help process in which the users

attempt to find information on their own. The information seekers always try to get the information according to their desire (Shrestha, 1983: 126). Information seeking is an everywhere human activity. Human beings are basically active and goal-oriented and willing to get information about themselves and the world. By ability to seek and acquire required information, today they are called wish and best creature of the universe. Their actions are directed by intentions, expectations and response. They maintain knowledge in memory in hierarchically organized structures, schemes, and new knowledge is constructed on the basis of previously learned knowledge. This process of construction has features in common for every human being but the contents are individual (Tailor, 1991: 219). Whether gathering data for work or merely making sense of everyday life, looking for information is a basic behavior that shapes our lives. Information needs and seeking is a central part of research in Humanities and Social Science field too. It has been pointed out that information seeking and use should be studied as a whole. Use of information has been studied in information as studies in scientific communication, for example citation analysis. There has been an effort to explore the question of use by studies in use and relevance of different information channels and sources (Schilling, 1995: 176-183). To obtain better knowledge about human information behaviour there is a need for a more holistic view which takes contextual aspects in to account in the research in information behaviour (Vakkari, 1994: 1-23).

There are various types of research. Basically fundamental, applied and action researches are famous. Research & Development (R&D) is a systematic and objective analysis and recording of controlled observations that may lead to the developments of generalizations principles or theories, resulting in prediction and possibly ultimate control of events. A research is the process of a systematic and in-depth study or search of any particular topic, subject or area of investigation backed by the collection, compilation, presentation and interpretation of relevant details or data. It is a careful search or inquiry into any subject matter, which is an endeavor to discover or find out valuable facts, which will be useful for further application or utilization (Joshi, 2003: 4).

A PhD is an advanced academic degree awarded by universities. In most English-speaking countries, the PhD is the highest degree one can earn. The PhD or equivalent

has become a requirement for a career as a university professor or researcher in most fields. The academic level of degrees known as a doctorate of philosophy varies according to the country and time period.

The detailed requirements for award of a PhD degree vary throughout the world. In some countries (the US, Canada, Denmark, for example), most universities require coursework in addition to research for PhD degrees. In other countries (such as the UK) there is generally no such condition. It is not uncommon, however, for individual universities or departments to specify additional requirements for students not already in possession of a master's degree or equivalent or higher.

A PhD report is that work done by the PhD scholar who completed the physical document of writing on the related subject or its related fields. It is the product of deep investigation and reading on the subject matter. No one can escape on the subject when she/he involved on the PhD research.

Tribhuvan University (TU), a pioneering institution of higher education in Nepal, named after late King Tribhuvan, is situated in Kirtipur, a small ancient town located five kilometers away from downtown Kathmandu, capital city of Nepal. The exact date of PhD programme started by TU is not available in the documents. According to the office of the Dean, Humanities and Social Science faculty approximately from Vikram Sambat 2022 Nepali department started to PhD programme on the university. Now, out of 21 central departments under the Humanities and Social Science; 19 are running this programme under the direct supervision of the Dean office.

Tribhuvan University Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, the 19 departments' are running PhD programme as follows:

Culture, Economics, English, Geography, Hindi, History, Home Science, Journalism and Mass Communication, Linguistics, Maithili, Nepali, Nepal Bhasha, Political Science, Population Studies, Psychology, Rural Development, Sanskrit, Sociology/Anthropology and Statistics Studies. Out of 21 departments Buddhist Studies and Library & Information Science departments have no PhD program until academic year of 2010/11.

Out of 21 departments 4 departments have some requirements too for the PhD registration. Economics, English, Nepali and Population Studies departments seek the M.Phil on hand. Departments who seek the M.Phil for PhD are running M.Phil programme too.

In some countries requiring coursework, there is usually a prescribed minimum amount of study- typically two to three years full time, or a set number of credit hours which must take place before submission of a thesis. This requirement is usually waived for those submitting a portfolio of peer-reviewed published work. The candidate may also be required to successfully complete a certain number of additional, advanced courses relevant to his or her area of specialization.

In Nepal a Masters degree is required to gain admission to a doctoral program. In some subjects, doing a Masters in Philosophy (M.Phil) is a prerequisite to start PhD. For some it is not compulsory. (<http://www.findaphd.com>: 2010).

### **1.1.1 Information**

Information is an idea, a symbol or a set of symbols, which has the potential and processed data which conveys significant or specific meaning about something. It means congregation of data organized into systems of ideas which make sense in that they convey more than mere enumeration of the separate data (Rab, S.F.: 1994).

### **1.1.2 Seeking of Information:**

Information is all power today. No one can survive without information in this age. Information has ability to develop the whole field. Human seek the information for betterment of knowledge. The ultimate aim to seek information is for Research and Development (R&D). Without the R&D the development is impossible. So, for betterment on his/her knowledge or field: people seek information frequently. The focus of information seeking is placed on the user who is actively involved in the process. As for information searching, the center of attention appears to be on how to look for information (Chu, 2009: 13).

Need and use are regarded as cognate terms. S.N. Singh (1979) quotes the statement of Rowly and Turner. According to them “need is generally conceived as describing

what an individual ought to have, for his/her work, education, recreation etc. Pinpointing a need implies a value judgment; one person may regard a piece of information as vital, while another, in the same situation may attain the same goal without it.”

### **1.1.3 Information Seeking behaviour**

Information seeking behaviour is a broad term, which involves a set of actions that an individual takes to express information need, seek information, evaluate and select information and finally uses this information to satisfy her/his information needs. Various factors may determine the information seeking behaviour of an individual or a group of individuals. It is therefore, desirable to understand the purpose for which information is required, the environment in which the user operates user’s skill in identifying the needed information, channels and sources preferred for acquiring information and barriers information (Fatima & Ahmad, 2008: 14-44).

It is the behaviour of an individual to get some information to fulfill his/her subjective ‘information needs’. In other words, it is the self-help process in which the users attempt to find information on their own. The seekers of information always try to get the information according to their desire (Shrestha, 1983).

Information seeking behavior refers to the way people search for and utilize information. Most times student’s information seeking behavior involves active or purposeful information seeking as a result of the need to complete course assignments, prepare for class discussions, seminars, workshops, conferences, or write final year research papers. Fister, (1992:168) noted that undergraduate students are smart people, but find the university library to be a threatening place and find the process of research intimidating. Unfortunately they do not learn the basic information skills. They end up using trial and error methods of research that limits their capabilities to satisfy their needs. Wilson’s 1996 model notes that in the process of seeking information, problems are encountered. Taylor (1990) noted that after interacting with the information sources (like in a library), what a user actually needs may not tally with what is practically available, due to constraints either within the stock or due to the users own inability. Mellon (1986) noted that undergraduates

encounter barriers like library anxiety. User's perceptions of the library and its programs also act as an intervening variable to information utilization in the library.

According to Chu (2009) information seeking behaviour is the attention of users appears to be on how to look for information. People seek the information in various forms and formats. For this they are facing problems and are developing seeking tools simultaneously.

#### **1.1.4 Information Explosion:**

The rapid growth on the field of information is most challenging case for seeking information today. According to P.S.G. Kumar, 1998, Information on humanities and social science field is doubling every ten to twelve years.

Since the invention of printing, there has been a continuous revolution in the generation, transfer and communication of information. Information in fact has been growing at an exponential rate which is often referred to as "information explosion". Information is carried and communicated through various media. These can broadly be categorized into two- the 'documentary media', and the 'non documentary media'. In the documentary media book production more than doubled in a decade. Presently more than 10,000 titles are published every working day and thus, more than 3 million in a year. The production of periodicals rose from 10,000 titles in 1900 AD to 1, 70,000 titles in 1971 AD (P.S.G. Kumar, 1998).

#### **1.1.5 Why people seek the information:**

Human being is brave, wish and enthusiastic in the universe. They bear challenge and enjoy the result. So far, people are keen to know everything. To know everything there is need of information and it can be achieved by seeking ([www.google.com](http://www.google.com). Retrieved on 3 May 2011).

#### **1.1.6 Tools for seeking information:**

Tools for searching and retrieving information are mainly two; i.e. manual and mechanize. Manual tools are traditional and they have feature of rigidity on updating. While mechanized tools do not bear rigidity but they have also some limitations. Need

of skilled manpower, regular power supply for their operation, regularity for updating are some of the limitations of mechanized tools.

There are various methods to find out or locate information from a library collection. Users seek information from the collection using one or more ways at their convenience. Mainly users are using manual and mechanized tools for retrieving of needed information. The different methods used by the users to fulfill their information needs are terms as the methods of information seeking. These are:

- ) Direct search book/periodicals on the shelves.
- ) Consult the card catalogue.
- ) Consult the librarian.
- ) Consult the classmates.
- ) Consult the faculty.
- ) Library Databases.
- ) Consult the internet.
- ) Networking etc.

Manual tools are used by libraries in the earlier as well as today. They are catalogue, classification no., index, abstracts etc. On the other hand, the mechanized tools are used by libraries as well as users in the time of today. They are computer databases, internet, networking etc. They support heavily to identify, retrieve and acquire not only for information seeker but much more supportive for librarians too. Today, by the help of manual tools, all information are acquiring on various libraries of Nepal. By the use of classification system the scientific management of library materials is possible (Bhattarai, 2066 B.S.: 15).

### **Manual Tools:**

#### **a. Catalogue:**

Cataloguing is one of the oldest library crafts. Catalogues were first prepared to serve as inventory list. The functions of these were later extended to serve as tools to help locate books. Additional features necessary to perform retrieval functions were developed rather slowly through trial and error (Krishan Kumar, 1991: 293). Today

catalogue has various forms and formats according to user needs and library operation.

The library clientele may use the collection of the library either for study or research or reference. At a given time, a user may not find all the documents on the shelf. Therefore, in order to know about the complete collection, reliance has to be placed on a dependable tool called the library catalogue.

**b. Classification:**

Classification is a process of grouping. It involves putting together like entities and separating unlike entities. Library classification is concerned with documents, and the aim is to arrange these in the most helpful and permanent order. It provides formal access to the documents in a library (Krishan Kumar, 1988: 4-5).

Keeping view in the question of utility, Sayers (1964), defines library classification as “the arrangement of books on shelves, or description of them, in the manner which is most useful to those who read.”

**c. Abstract:**

The enormous growth on literature is all problems today. To find the related document; the occupied user today can not read the whole document. Keeping necessary hand on this problem, library and information center started to serve the user through abstracting service. Catalogue and classification no. only guide the user into location of documents not the content. Abstracting service gives the summary of the literature. To conserve the time and energy of user, the selection will have to be accurate so that nothing irrelevant is retrieved and no relevant document is left out (Prasher, R.G., 1991: 119).

An abstract is a brief and accurate statement of the contents of a document. It is a condensation that presents succinctly the objectives, scope and findings of a document (Meizell, R.E. et. al., 1971: 1).

Abstracts are prepared in various forms and formats according to their need and purposes.



**d. Index:**

In order to connect the seeker of information with the source of information there exist a control system, comprising of some operational tools. Once the information-bearing documents are acquired and the store of information is built up, its organization and control becomes necessary.

Without this organization and control, the store of information has no meaning, as it can not be put to use. An indexing system usually is used to exercise such control. It facilitates the literature searching activity and informs about the existence or non existence of documents in response to the requests of the users (Prasher, R.G., 1991: 92).

**e. Special Services:**

Modern age entertain various retrieval tools of information. Most of them benefit for individual and some of them also serve the groups of user. Selective Dissemination of Information (SDI) serves the individual user on the root and serves the groups later. Current Awareness Service (CAS) serves the group of user as well as individual user together. SDI is intended to keep a seeker of information equal with the latest developments in his/her field of interest. It serves only for an individual. It seems like against the modern Scientific Management (SM), later emphasizes on cooperation instead of individualism. But in gist it is the service for special user of seeker of information i.e. researchers. To provide certain information to a special user to his/her interest or research purpose is well known as SDI service. It can aware the user but individually. It serves individual or group of individual for same interest of users or researchers. To provide SDI service is to keep aware a user with current information on his/her subject interest. (Niraula, 2010: 46).

**f. Bibliography:**

Bibliography is the list of books or articles about a particular subject or by a particular author. It is the study of documents in book form or any other physical form in all its aspects. Although books constitute the major holding of the library, documents in other physical forms are increasing in number. The objectives of the library are to preserve the documents, organize the documents in proper order and to make the documents available to the users. Bibliographies are different types they are: General

bibliography, subject bibliography, author bibliography, selective bibliography, personal bibliography, bibliography of bibliography etc (Mahapatra & Chakrabarti, 1999).

### **Mechanized Tools**

Mechanized tools are easy and various features to operate. Library database to all networking system are easier, time savers and economic by expenditure too. They need some qualified and trained staff for operation. The user side too must have the quality to operate of database and networking (Foruzan, B. A., 2003: 64).

#### **a. Library Databases:**

Library databases are the main information retrieving tools today. The rigidity of the manual information seeking tools does not occur on these tools. Library databases are various in the market now a days according to user-friendly-ness to purchase rate. They can operate easily and share the documents from different places.

#### **b. Internet:**

Internet is the network of network. It is the store house of information. Each and every subject's information is available in the internet. Stored information on internet is easy to search, find, acquire and use as preferred. Internet is now a days well known as www or world wide web.

#### **c. Networking:**

Network is a set of devices (often referred to as nodes) connected by media links. A node can be a computer, printer, or any other device capable of sending and or receiving data generated by other nodes on the network. The links connecting the devices are often called communication channels (Forouzan, 2003). In networking system usually a wire is connected for data sharing.

### **1.1.7 Content:**

The collection of library materials for retrieval of information or knowledge is referred as the content that is housed in or served by library. Collection of literature, retrieval or seeking content is the chief element of searching. No content no seeking.

With exciting convergence of content, technology and global collaboration, it has become clear that while technology is of vital significance, it is only a tool, content has been considered to be just as important as technology; if not more. In other words, with all the rich information resources in the world, if they are not digitally available, they will not be able to be accessed, retrieved, shared and enriched on the web for end users (Gautam, 2008: 9).

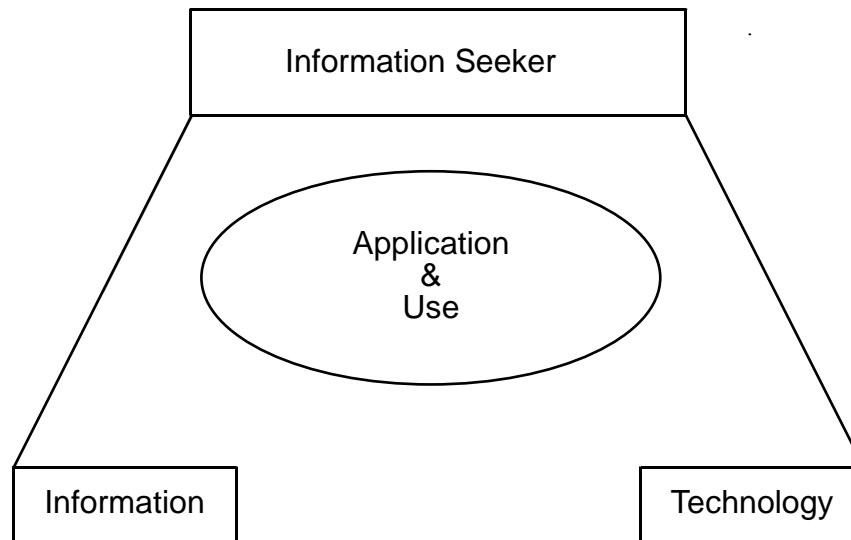


Figure: Relationship among content, technology and user in information seeking process (especially in digital age).

In the manual techniques documents are stored and retrieved manually while in the digital environment, most libraries provide digitized and purchased resources such as database, networking resources etc. to seek the information.

## 1.2 Statement of the Problem

Information seeking tools are varies now a days, but they are not using properly under the PhD research scholars work. They are supportive for the R & D but the proper knowledge about use of it is highly concerned message today. Information itself can not be retrieved own self, but the various information seeking tools are making available them for information seeker or researchers, by information specialists. So, researcher concludes:

- ) the researchers have not appropriate way to gain needed information;
- ) libraries could not be maintain their tools (catalogue, classification number, database, etc.) in right format;

) there are varieties on tools used by Nepalese libraries so, need of uniformity is always massive.

### **1.3 Objectives of the study**

The objectives of study are:-

- a. to find out the necessity of information seeking behaviour of PhD scholars.
- b. to evaluate the use of information retrieval tools; their effectiveness and user satisfaction with tools.
- c. to gauge the difficulties while seeking information.

### **1.4 Limitation and Scope of the study**

The first limitation is that so far no one has completed the research on 'information seeking behaviour of PhD scholars' just to create an authentic source of information for further investigation in Nepal. This study of information seeking behaviour of PhD students under the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, TU is limited in the Kathmandu valley's researchers who are involved in completion of their research. The researcher started to study from October, 2010 to May 2011.

### **1.5 Significance of the study**

Even though research is conducted everywhere nowadays, separating limited examples the Nepalese researchers are working on critical condition. Without the proper research the development is impossible. Therefore, this study shall be of a great significance in the context of TU Faculty of Humanities and Social Science and it shall help much more in future studies on the subject. The researcher hopes that; it shall be equally helpful for information creators, distributors, writers, authors, and users as well as even to the librarians in understanding the subject and title to arrange in their system and using it practically.

A subset of this is information seeking behaviour, which here is understood as the intentional seeking of information for a specific purpose or to fulfill a particular need. This research will give both the theoretical models and the methods to be able to understand others' or carry out their own research in this increasingly important field.

Information nowadays mainly retrieved from the manual and mechanized source. In manual source the seeking process of information is slow, lengthy and boring. While mechanized scheme does not bear those limitations. The limitation of mechanized type of information seeking behaviour needed only the literacy on the mechanical tools and so on.

Studies have been conducted from the 1940s and the perspective was first the view of information systems. This research tradition has been called the system oriented paradigm. In those studies the aim has been to obtain knowledge to support organizational development and administrative decision-making. The approach has been criticized because of insufficient theories, concepts and research methods and because it hasn't taken into consideration the needs of the information-seeking persons. In analysis of data quantitative methods usually has been used (Wilson, 1994).

## **1.6 Definition of the Terms**

**Content:** The informational resource housed in or served through information; i.e. books, periodicals, journals, CDs, DVDs, websites etc.

**Information:** Information is an idea, a symbol or a set of symbols, which has the potential and processed data which conveys significant or specific meaning about something.

**Information Explosion:** Since the invention of printing, there has been a continuous revolution in the generation, transfer and communication of information. By the various activities in the field of research and development (R&D) the growing rate of information is high. Information in fact has been growing at an exponential rate which is often referred to as "information explosion".

**Information Seeking Behaviour:** Information seeking behaviour is the self-help process in which the users attempt to find information on their own. It is the behaviour of an individual to get some information to fulfill his/her subjective 'information needs'.

**Library:** A library is a collection of information in different forms printed, non-printed, published, unpublished materials, including audio visual. The collected materials are catalogued and arranged to ease users for information search.

**Manual Tools:** Manual tools are those devices which support to conclude the work as the helping device manually. They are handled manually.

**Mechanized Tools:** Mechanized tools are those devices which support to conclude the work as the helping device with technology. They are handled simultaneously with the computer, peripheral devices, network and so on.

**M.Phil:** Master in Philosophy. Pre required qualification of research study for the PhD registration. It is not mandatory to start PhD in some countries while some have compulsory. Tribhuvan University is not clear about the prerequisite for PhD by M.Phil. Some departments require it for registration of PhD while some not.

**PhD Report:** A PhD report is that work done by the PhD scholar who completed the physical document of writing on the related subject or its related fields. It is the product of deep investigation and reading on the subject matter. No one can escape on the subject when s/he involved on the PhD research.

**PhD Scholar:** The researcher who is involved to complete his/her academic doctoral degree.

**Researcher:** People who works as an investigator on the special topics of his/her interest or concerned topics.

**Retrieval of Information:** To acquire the needed information by various methods and techniques. In the mean time; today it is vary ease to retrieve the information by the help of technology.

**Seeking of Information:** The focus of information seeking is placed on the user, who is actively involved in the process. As for information searching, the center of attention appears to be on how to look for information.

**Tools:** Tools are those devices which support to conclude the work as the helping device.

**TU:** Tribhuvan University. One of the oldest and reputed university of Nepal. Largest in the number of studied students in the country.

**User:** The consumer or navigator or seeker of information.

### **1.7 Organization of the Study:**

The researcher has followed the standard format provided by Central Department of Library and Information Science, TU.

First chapter deals with the introduction of the study, under which background of the study, statement of the problem, objectives of the study, scope and limitation of the study, significance of the study, definitions of terms and organization of the study are incorporated.

The second chapter includes literature review.

The third chapter, focus of the study, is mainly devoted for understanding of the subject where the study is specifically and minutely presented on the aspects or objectives of TU and specially the services and their facilities of five academic library of its. Under this chapter five libraries and their services for the PhD scholars is described in detail.

Research methodology, research design, population, data collection procedure and data analysis procedure are discussed in fourth chapter.

The fifth chapter shows the sketch of analyzed data, their presentation and interpretation to evaluate either the set objectives are positively met or not.

Sixth, the final chapter deals with summaries, conclusions and recommendations of the finding.

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## **CHAPTER 2**

### **REVIEW OF LITERATURE**

The world wide scenario of the researches in the field of Library and Information Science (LIS) are held heavily on the Internet, but Nepalese researchers especially students of Masters in Library and Information Science, TU, are very conscious of the strengths of conventional publications too. By the result of this combination on the research; we are lucky to acquire for both types of literature. Nepalese researchers use books, periodicals, articles, papers, thesis (published or unpublished), journals, magazines and paper presented at conferences. Not only that they use the Internet heavily for their research purposes.

Information historically has been seen as something required for work but yet separate from work itself and this view must be challenged (Reddy and Dourish, 2002). As Lamb and Kling (2003) point out; users seldom see themselves as users but as professional working to complete a task or to solve problem.

Karki (2002) has implied the urgent need of e-mail, Internet, WAN, MAN and standard library software to create electronic databases in various libraries to share content amongst them. He emphasizes imparting technological education for the modern library practitioners by various education and training providing institutions. His suggestion indicates the training on technological area for the learners of the information seeker is must.

Baughmen (1982) studied the use of academic library by researchers in the social science at five universities in the greater Boston area. It was set up that majority of researchers used the library between one and five times during the development of their personal, but that the resources of the library were not a factor in the development of their research proposals; while researchers used campus libraries during the course of their information from other sources. Another important finding was that they ranked their personal collections first for information materials in support of their research activity, with their campus library or libraries ranked second.

(Shrestha, 1984) has offered a good lesson in her research. She found that the information seeking behaviour of students in terms of methods adopted to seek information have strong bearing upon the level of awareness, intensity of information

needs and perception regarding the adequacy of library collection. Under the present state of information dissemination service, librarians would remain the most favored and effective sources of information for the needy few. Survey states that for over 80 percent of teachers more than 89 percent of students, textbooks were the most frequently used sources of information.

Providing access to knowledge resources through strengthening information infrastructure and the networks; promoting and adopting open access literature, open learning resources, open courseware, and open source software. Focal point in this focus area is literacy, language, translation, libraries, knowledge networks and knowledge portals. (Ghosh, 2008: 248).

According to Dhungana and Dangol (2008), digitization work of conventional knowledge of Nepal helps the world readers to have easy access on variety of hidden subjects. At the same time, the users of information will be aware about the originality of information or knowledge. Number of information users is growing worldwide from individual level to organization level (Dhungana & Dangol, 2008: 192). They focus to grab the opportunity of technology in library and information centers for betterment to distribute the needed information from the available information within the library or its network.

Eighty percent of the social science students were successful in finding books on the shelves. Only twenty percent sometimes failed to find the books on the shelves they need. However fifty five percent of the engineering students were rarely disappointed. The major problems were the inadequate use of reference materials and the library staff. It was concluded the survey that the student must be confident that the library staff is both competent and willing to help him, and must be able to seek this help with a complete absence of self-consciousness or diffidence (Line, 1963).

The empowerment of governments and non-governments organizations to information generation, acquisition and dissemination. Acquisition and access of...related information should not only be gathered but also made available to relevant users in various formats suitable for use. Training in the use and management of ...related documents should be emphasized (Dhungana, 2006).

Varalakshmi (2008) emphasized that the libraries are the knowledge bases that are concerned with connecting the explicit information available in different communication media to the end users. Hence librarian can play a supportive role in establishing relationships of the members, maintain organizational relationships, and transfer the implicit knowledge. Dulal (2008) advocated organization and retrieval of information is through classification, subject catalogue, subject indexing and controlled vocabulary is easy and effective.

Rebeca Baldae Napiere (1980) has given a different fact in his paper that senior students used the library more frequently than the faculty members. Most of the respondents needed general background type of information for curricular purposes or in connection with on-going projects. The primary object of the students and faculty members in seeking information was to acquire specific information needed for work in progress. The result shows that their information gathering sources user their colleagues, their peers, and printed sources of information found in libraries. They preferred to use the abstracting service, periodicals, text books and bibliography. About 45% consulted the card catalogue to identify the needed sources. They also tended to consult the librarian to locate sources of information. Both groups of respondents were relatively satisfied with the resources of the VISCA library for their information search. Most of the respondents indicated that the information sources were fairly adequate or adequate and that they were relatively successful in their literature search. VISCA faculty members seem to use other library aside from the VISCA library.

Many of the studies in information science concerning aspects in university students' information behaviour has described students' use of library services and problems in using those services (Sison, 1977). Wilson, dividing the research field of information needs and uses in system studies and user studies, subsumes the studies conducted until the beginning of the seventies under the general heading of library surveys in his review of research in information needs and uses. Also attitudes of students towards libraries and their staff and the extent to which students buy books has been explored in the surveys. These studies report that students seldom buy books, they have difficulties in using libraries and they often use the neighboring public library and that seminars on library use have little effect (Wilson 1994).

Information seeking behaviours of researchers can be helped by the library too. With the tremendous growth of scientific literature overload and save the time and energy of the users by the effort of library. With the help of dynamic and enthusiastic librarian the information seeker can benefit in various way inside library and also outside to library. The SDI Service is also very much helpful to distance learning by the exploitation of the internet and other various digital medium such as microfilms, microfiche, CDs, computers, websites, e-mail, social networks etc (Niraula, 2010: 46).

Eeva-Liisa Eskola quotes Höglund & Thorstéinsdóttir's findings it says: During the last decades the interest in students' library use and information behaviour has increased mainly because of the increase in student numbers and libraries needs to meet their clients' demands in the best possible way. Studies of students' attitudes to and use of university libraries has been conducted in several countries. Findings from earlier studies concerning students problems in trying to use the library are validated in the studies performed in 80's and 90's.

Instruction and study are always based on some conception of learning. Two main traditions in the conceptions of learning are the empirical/behavioural and the constructivist conceptions. The constructivist conception of learning has during the last decades challenged the behavioural one (Von Wright, 1994).

Bhandary (2008) explored how millennium development goals can be achieved with the help of free flow of information is possible when mechanized tools are used. The knowledge transfer from one society to the next needy one through a CD-ROM or a DVD about the production to marketing in digitized format helps much to acquire new technology in a new society. The whole amount of cost on designing training manuals, the time invested and transportation costs with logistic support for the trainers and participants will be decreased miraculously by the digitization technology. It is clear that the benefits form new electronic technology are immeasurable if the stockholders of development use it properly...It is easily accessible and portable to disseminate as and when necessary basis (Bhandary, 2008: 61).

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## CHAPTER 3

### FOCUS OF THE STUDY

#### 3.1 Information Seeking Behaviour:

Information seeking behaviour is a broad term, which involves a set of actions that an individual takes to express information need, seek information, evaluate and select information and finally uses this information to satisfy her/his information needs. It is a psychological aspect of a human being i.e. it is a self help process in which the users attempt to find needed information.

To study the behaviour of the PhD scholar is to study of their attitudinal nature. Various factors may determine the information seeking behaviour of an individual or a group of individuals. It is a psychological concept. It is therefore, desirable to understand the purpose for which information is required, the environment in which the user operates user's skill in identifying the needed information, channels and sources preferred for acquiring information and barriers information. Libraries are the well known place for the seeking of information. Libraries acquire, manage, preserve, disseminate and make available for the users. PhD scholars of TU seek the needed information from libraries for their research work. In this research PhD scholars are how acquiring the needed information from libraries of TU is discussed mainly. For that, different features and facilities provided by five libraries of TU are discussed in detail.

#### 3.2 Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences TU:

The main objective of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences (FoHSS) TU, is to produce trained and specialized manpower in both basic and applied areas of humanities, social sciences, and fine arts. At present, there are 30 constituent and around 274 affiliated campuses/colleges under this faculty. The number of affiliated colleges is increasing steadily. Office of the Dean offers educational and academic cooperation to these campuses. There are **twenty one** central departments with specialized study area. These are: Buddhist Studies, Culture, Economics, English, Geography, Hindi, History, Home Science, Journalism and Mass Communication,

Library and Information Science, Linguistics, Maithili, Nepali, Nepal Bhasha, Political Science, Population Studies, Psychology, Rural Development, Sanskrit, Sociology/Anthropology and Statistics Studies. Master Level programmes are conducted under all central departments. Besides, M.A. in two subjects has begun recently: Conflict, Peace and Development from 2007 and Master in Fine Arts in 2009. Nine other subjects are taught at Bachelor's level only. These include Dance, Film Studies, International Languages, Music, Painting, Philosophy, Sculpture, Social work, and Urdu. In addition, Statistics and Mathematics are also taught at the Bachelor's Level under the Institute of Science and Technology. The faculty offers Certificate (Phasing out), Bachelor's, and Master's Level courses in most of the areas mentioned above. The faculty also conducts research methodology courses and provides supervision for full-time study leading to the PhD degree.

This faculty also offers special one-year postgraduate courses in Women's Studies, in Library Science (course not running while Master in Library and Information Science started at 2059 B.S.), in Buddhist Studies, in Population Studies, in Counseling Psychology, and Nepal American Studies (under the Central Department of English).

**Other details regarding the Faculty include:** Office of the Dean offers educational and academic cooperation to these central departments as well as to other subjects that are introduced at Bachelor's Level only in accordance with TU regulations.

- \* Office of the Dean is also proactive in creation of the Faculty Board, and Standing Committees and Subject Committees for different disciplines.
- \* When constituent or affiliated colleges propose to add new subject(s) and/or upgrade the levels and programmes, the Office of the Dean takes necessary steps and procedures to evaluate the capacity, capability, and other requirements.
- \* Office of the Dean has also introduced M.Phil programmes in Economics, English, Population Studies and Nepali since 2007.
- \* Office of the Dean conducts PhD programmes in coordination with the concerned central departments and with the help of specialists.

The researchers are conducting their researchers basically depending on five researcher library of TU. They are: Tribhuvan University Central Library (TUCL), The Centre for Economic Development and Administration (CEDA), Centre for Nepal and Asian Studies (CNAS), Research Centre for Applied Science and

Technology (RECAST) and Research Centre for Educational Innovation and Development (CERID).

### **3.2.1 Tribhuvan University Central Library (TUCL):**

Tribhuvan University Central Library (TUCL) was established along with the University in 1959. It began with a collection of 1,200 volumes of books. Now, the collection exceeds 3,50,000 volumes of books. In addition, there are more than 25,000 back volumes of periodicals. Over 450 titles of periodicals are received every year on subscription or as gifts. Many philanthropists and bibliophiles have contributed this library to grow into its present size. It is the largest library in the country in terms of space, collection and the number of members.

Even though, TUCL is an academic library established to support the teaching, study and research programmes of the university, it has extended its services beyond the limit of the university campus. Apparently, having few public libraries in the valley and respecting the need and sentiments of all the concerned, the TUCL started rendering services by offering memberships to the general public as well as to the foreigners residing in Nepal. **Objectives:**

- ) To fulfill the teaching-related and research needs of the university
- ) To provide materials both in conventional and electronic formats and to furnish an environment conducive to study and research
- ) To encourage membership and promote information literacy, relationship and lifelong learning
- ) To preserve the intellectual heritage of the nation
- ) To promote resource sharing, networking and exchange of documents and databases.
- ) To provide documentation and information services and to bring relevant publications.

- ) To help to develop libraries and promote scholarly standards, guidelines and practices
- ) To promote professional expertise in information management and to conduct training in librarianship.

And in addition, the library also serves the government ministries and foreign diplomatic missions. Therefore it functions also as a public library and to some extent as a National library.

Since 1965, the TUCL has also been working as the Depository Library in Nepal for the United Nations' Organization and other International Organizations' publications. A separate section **UN Depository Collection section** containing more than 25,000 volumes has been set up to house the publications received from these organizations.

Since the beginning of January 2000, the library has also started functioning as the **ISBN National Agency** in Nepal to distribute International Standard Book Numbers for the books published in Nepal.

In addition to the usual services, i.e., books circulation, Reference service and Special collections services, the TUCL also brings out Publications relevant to various subjects.

The library has maintained the traditional system of card catalogues for searching the materials. Since 1995, it has been providing in-house computer database searching facilities through OPAC (Online Public Access Catalogue) computer terminals to search the existing records of the library. The work of retrospective conversion of the card catalogues into computer records has yet to be done. Recently, TUCL is using KOHA software for the searching the materials on abstract as well as full text.

### **3.2.2 The Centre for Economic Development and Administration (CEDA):**

The Centre for Economic Development and Administration (CEDA) was established on May 15, 1969 under a tripartite agreement between His Majesty's Government of Nepal, Tribhuvan University and the Ford Foundation. Started as an autonomous institution, the Centre was integrated into Tribhuvan University and given the status

of research centre on December 15, 1975 after the National Education System Plan (NESP) was implemented. **Objectives:**

- ) To assist the policy makers in formulating and implementing the development policies, plans and programs;
- ) To provide the policy makers with conceptual, empirical and value premise for shaping the development policies, plans and programs;
- ) To recommend the policy makers/alternative policies, ideas and options;
- ) To foster intelligent and informed discussions on the issues and problems in the Nepalese public affair so as to promote and establish an enlightened, conscious and influential public opinion;
- ) To help various agencies of the Tribhuvan University in their diverse programs and to enhance their role in the national development: and
- ) To engage oneself with international collaboration in the study and pursuit of development changes.

CEDA has been serving as a policy-research centre contributing towards the national development policies and strategies. The Centre's activities are basically confined to research, consultancy and training programs. The Centre to its credit has publications that are well received by both national and international agencies.

### **3.2.3 Center for Nepal and Asian Studies (CNAS):**

**CNAS** Originally established as the Institute of Nepal Studies in 1969, it was renamed as the Institute of Nepal and Asian Studies in 1972 to carry out both teaching and research activities. In 1977, the Institute was converted into a purely research centre baptizing it as the Centre for Nepal and Asian Studies (CNAS). CNAS is a statutory research centre under Tribhuvan University for conducting independent research and deliberation on issues and studies in **social sciences**. The main substantive activity at the Centre is carried out by the research wings called Faculty while the administrative and documentation centre provide support services. CNAS is a multi-disciplinary research centre with a team of 16 full-time researchers. **Objectives:**

- ) To study political, social, economic, humanitarian and other challenges of national integration from diverse disciplinary perspectives;
- ) To promote and undertake studies on current development issues, ethnic diversities, gender, migration, sociolinguistic and cultural studies of Nepal and other Asian countries;
- ) To encourage and maintain international academic exchange, affiliation and coordination of research activities of Nepali and foreign scholars; and
- ) To organize national and international seminars and conferences and disseminate its research publications.

Research Priority: The following are the priority areas of the Centre's research:

- ) Study and assess the social response to development programs and its implications in terms of various policy options;
- ) Examine localized Nepali societies to arrive at fuller appreciation and understanding of traditional cultures that contribute to national identity;
- ) Conflict studies, security of small states, politics, development and inter-state relations in South Asia; and
- ) Area studies, particularly political economic and strategic developments in the near proximity regions of Asia.

Recently CNAS conducted three day methodology class targeting M.Phil and PhD researchers in Humanities and Social Sciences. For this programme CNAS had received financial support from University Grand Commission (UGC).

**3.2.4 Research Centre for Applied Science and Technology (RECAST):** The Research Centre for Applied Science and Technology (RECAST) is the only institution of Tribhuvan University that conducts research, development and dissemination in Applied Science and Technology.

Established in September 8, 1977, RECAST functioned as a secretariat to the National Council for Science and Technology (NCST) till June 1999. It is designated as national focal point of Asia-Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology (APCTT) of

the UNESCAP and UNISIST/ Focal point of ASTINFO. The centre is headed by the Executive Director. **Objectives:**

- ) to undertake research for the identification, development, conservation, utilization and dissemination of indigenous technology;
- ) to search and identify foreign technologies appropriate to Nepal and explore their prospects for technology transfer and adaptation.
- ) to conduct research in basic and applied sciences.

### **3.2.5 Research Centre for Educational Innovation and Development (CERID):**

Since its establishment in January 1978, **CERID** has been working for the development of education in Nepal, especially focusing on the need for achieving academic excellence in the education system. In line with this, CERID's activities are directed towards educational innovation, issue-based research and need-based training programmes. Moreover, CERID has devoted itself to piloting innovative ideas that bear on national educational issues and concerns, and disseminating research outcomes. **Objectives:**

- ) to undertake research activities in various critical aspects of school and higher education,
- ) to carry out action research projects focused on linking education to development,
- ) to organize training programmes, research-based and professional development activities, and
- ) to disseminate and share experiences and information by organizing seminars/workshops and by publishing research reports, journals, etc.

Humanities and Social Science students of TU are mainly using those libraries. TUCL, CEDA and CNAS have various books, journals, thesis, periodicals, audio visuals, news clippings, abstracts, full texts etc. on Humanities and Social Sciences. Those materials are exploiting by the researchers' heavily.

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## CHAPTER 4

### RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

After establishing the universal concept on information seeking behaviour the researcher selected the information seeker of TU, who are involved in completion of their PhD (Doctor of Philosophy) research. Then the researcher collected information on the various technological tools to seek information they need. This work is quantitative research in nature and it does not exhibit direct control over the studied variable. Indeed a non experimental research is a study that does not involve any intervention or experiment. Methodology is necessary for finding out the objectives. The study used informal interview with researchers and administrators of library to identify the actual statement of problems.

#### **4.1 Source of Data:**

The researcher used both the primary and secondary sources of the data.

##### **4.1.1 Primary Sources:**

Primary data were collected in the field survey through questionnaire. Questionnaires were divided into 3 categories i.e. services, tools or methods and operational perspectives. For questionnaire see appendix 1.

##### **4.1.2 Secondary Sources:**

The researcher consulted various books on library and information, thesis, internet, reports, records, encyclopedias, journals etc.

#### **4.2 Population of the Study:**

The populations of the study were mainly those researchers, who are involved in PhD program under Faculty of Humanities and Social Science, TU. The effectiveness measured through the following qualitative variables: Flexibility, Easy retrieval and Economy.

### **4.3 Tools for data collection:**

Questionnaire:

Set of questionnaire were prepared to elicit the information seeking behaviour of PhD scholars. The questionnaire had 2 parts including a cover letter clarifying about the task. Part I was to be filled up with personal information of the respondent and part II consist the actual questionnaire.

The set of questionnaire are given in appendix 1.

Interview:

To fulfill the objectives of the research, the researcher had followed indirect interview method with the population of the study. The indirect interview with the PhD scholars helped to carry out this research more authentic and valuable. The researcher exploited various ideas by the population as they were also researchers. The recorded interview was evaluated in the process of analysis.

### **4.4 Process of Data Analysis:**

To measure the collected data cross tabulation and percentage tools were used. The analysis is based on the 27 responses of the PhD scholars of Humanities and Social Sciences, Tribhuvan University. For variation in research work; the researcher collected the data from various PhD scholars of Humanities and Social Sciences, TU. Among 27 respondents, 9 from English, 9 from Nepali, 6 from Economics, Population, History and Linguistics from each one were evaluated. The researcher used only those scholars who are involved to carry out their research inside TU Kirtipur. PhD scholars of TU under the Faculty of Humanities and Social Science are working outside to Kathmandu valley too, but this work does not treat them. The analysis are presented on table and find out is given on a paragraph followed by table. Most important tables are further presented in diagram.

## CHAPTER 5

### ANALYSIS PRESENTATION AND INTERPRETATION OF DATA

In this descriptive study, data are collected from PhD scholars of Humanities and Social Sciences, TU Kirtipur. In this regard two parts of questionnaire were prepared and distributed. The first part was used for collecting personal information of the population of the study. The second part was used for collecting data related to information seeking behaviour of PhD scholars under the Humanities and Social Science, TU. The responses of PhD scholars under the Faculty of Humanities and Social Science, TU are illustrated in following tables and diagrams:

**Table-5.1- Status of questionnaire distributed and returned (Department wise):**

Department	Returned questionnaire	Not returned questionnaire	Total
English	9	2	11
Nepali	9	1	10
Economics	6	1	7
Linguistics	1	1	2
Population	1	-	1
History	1	-	1
Total	27	5	32

*Source: Field Survey (2010)*

Table and figure show the distributed questionnaire for data collection. Out of 32 questionnaires distributed, 27 are returned by different FoHSS, TU.

Status of questionnaire distributed and returned (Department wise):

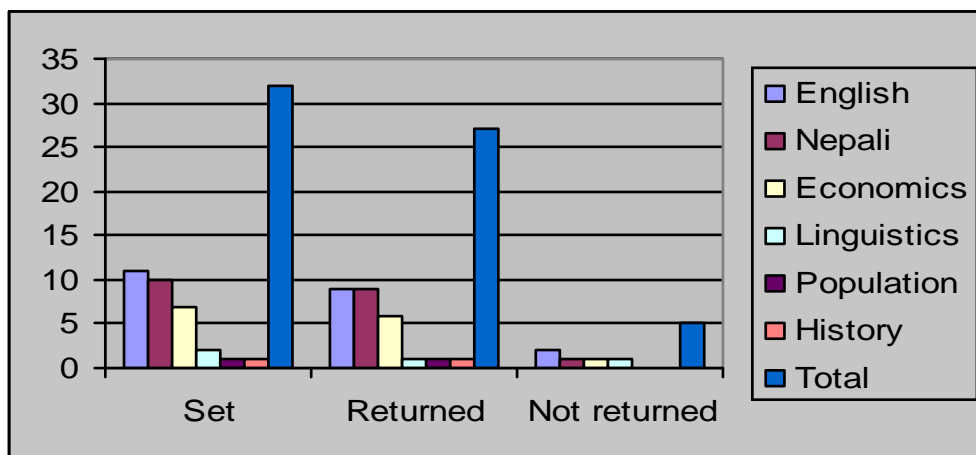


Fig. 1

Table -5.2 – Use of library for research work.

Use	Frequency	Percentage
Daily	0	0
In alternate day	7	26
Weekly	13	48
Sometimes	7	26
Total	27	100

Source: Field Survey (2010)

The table indicates that 48% researchers were attending library once a week, 26% in alternate day and 26% sometimes.

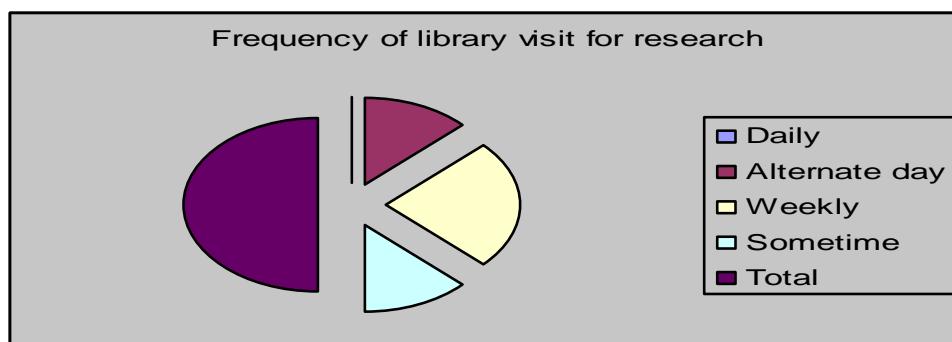


Fig. 2

**Table –5.3 – Reason of use**

Reason	Frequency	Percentage
Because of need	9	33
Because of priority	13	48
Its unfamiliarity	5	19
Total	27	100

*Source: Field Survey (2010)*

Table 5.3 shows that 48% social Science researchers use the library according to their priorities, (33%) use the library according to their needed and 19% use the library lesser in number by the reason of its unfamiliarity.

**Table – 5.4- Retrieval time in library**

Time	Frequency	Percentage
Less than 1 hour	1	4
1 to 2 hours	9	33
2 to 3 hours	11	41
More than 3 hours	6	22
Total	27	100

*Source: Field Survey (2010)*

Regarding the duration of library use most respondents 41% used the library two to three hours, 33% respondents used it one to two hours, 22% respondents used more than three hours and only 4% respondents used the library less than 1 hour in one time.

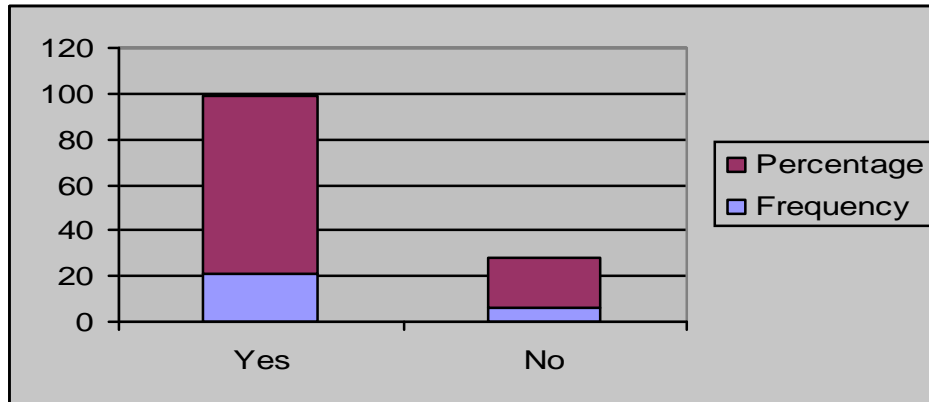
**Table – 5.5 – Member of special library**

Member	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	6	22
No	21	78
Total	27	100

*Source: Field Survey (2010)*

This table indicates that large numbers of researcher 78% have no any membership of special library in social science field. While 22% have taken membership of special library somehow.

**Member of special library**

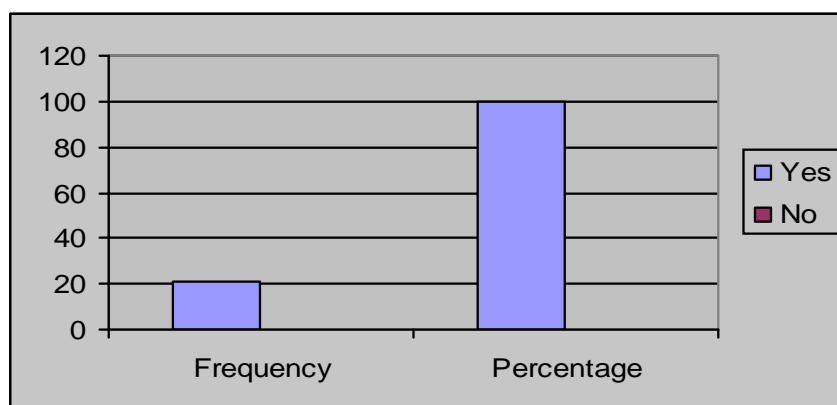


**Fig. 3**

**Table –5.6 – Necessity felt**

Necessity	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	21	100
No	0	0
Total	21	100

*Source: Field Survey (2010)*



**Fig. 4**

100% respondents who have no any membership of social science library felt necessity of membership. But they have no membership; table 7 shows the reason of not taken a membership.

**Table –5.7- Plan of membership**

Plan	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	16	76
No	5	24
Total	21	100

Source: Field Survey (2010)

Out of 21 respondents they have no any membership of special library 16 (76%) have a plan to become a member in near future. While 5 (24%) have no any plan about this.

**Table –5.8– Reason of membership not taken**

Reason	Frequency	Percentage
lack of special library	20	95
Lack of knowledge	1	5
Total	21	100

Source: Field Survey (2010)

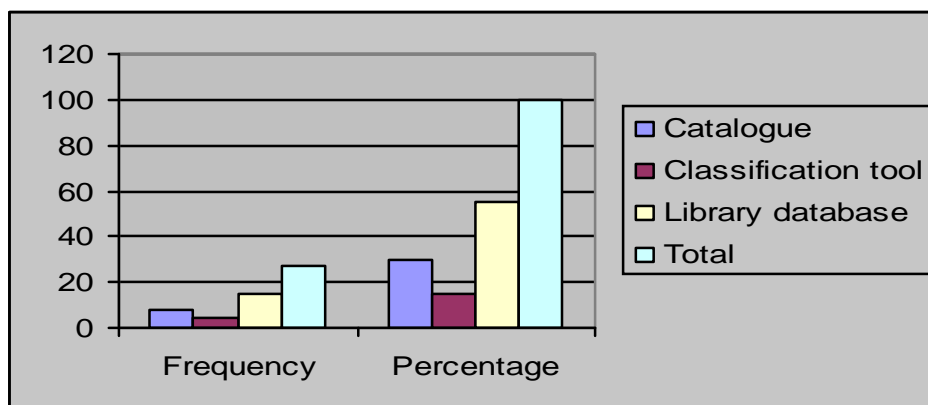
95% of them (who have no membership of special library) had not taken membership yet is because of unavailability of special library in their locality. 5% of them have not taken it because of lack of knowledge.

**Table –5.9– Easy system for information**

Easy system	Frequency	Percentage
Catalogue	8	30
Classification tool	4	15
Library database	15	55
Total	27	100

Source: Field Survey (2010)

From the above table it shows that majority 55% of the population felt easy the library database to acquire their needs followed by 30% catalogue and 15%



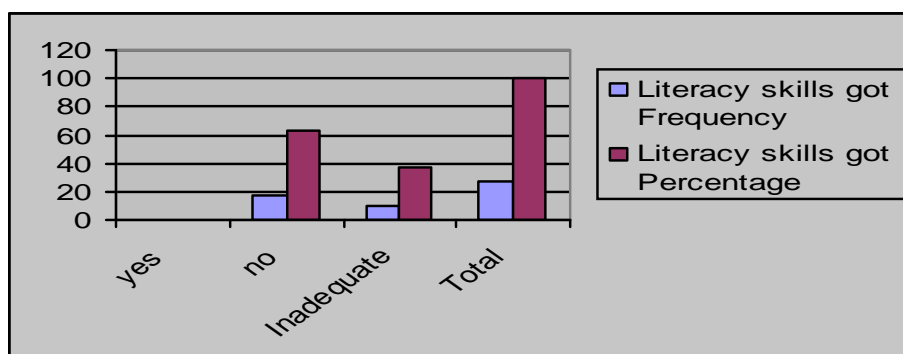
**Fig. 5**

Classification tools. Mechanized tools are highly easy for their need.

**Table -5.10- Literacy skills got**

Literacy skills	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	0	0
No	17	63
Inadequate	10	37
Total	27	100

Source: Field Survey (2010)



**Fig. 6**

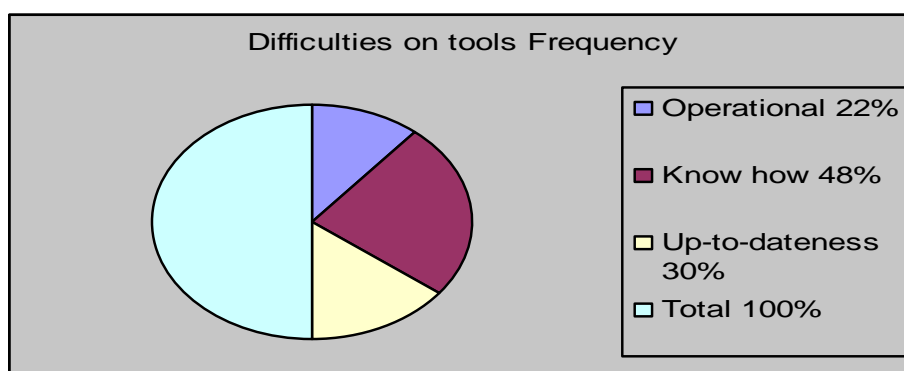
The role of library seems vital for above question. 63% respondents have not got any literacy skills i.e. orientation for acquire information they need. Thirty-seven percentages got library orientation but it was not sufficient for their information queries.



**Table -5.11– Difficulties on tools**

Difficulties	Frequency	Percentage
Operational	6	22
Know how	13	48
Up-to-dateness	8	30
Total	27	100

*Source: Field Survey (2010)*



**Fig. 7**

Existing tools in 5 academic library of TU have some difficulties too. 48% population shows know how problem on them. It shows they have not got any orientation on method of information retrieval. 30% of them commented on the up-to-date-ness of such a tools while 22% respondents find operational (not working easily) problems.

**Table –5.12- Difficulties on seeking information**

Difficulties	Frequency	Percentage
Language	3	11
System of catalogue	14	52
Software	10	37
Total	27	100

*Source: Field Survey (2010)*

Regarding the difficulties on seeking information 52% felt the system of catalogue card is not easy. For the same question 37% are not satisfied with software which library used and 11% find varies on language. System of catalogue, software and

language used by 5 academic library of TU, they serve for special users of social science departments have not uniformity. That was the main difficulty of users.

**Table –5.13- Mostly used tool**

Tool	Frequency	Percentage
Manual	11	41
Mechanized	3	11
Both	13	48
Total	27	100

*Source: Field Survey (2010)*

Forty-eight percentages of social science researchers used manual and mechanized tools both together, 41% use manual tools only and only 11% of them use mechanical tools only for searching the needed information in library.

**Table -5.14– Mostly used manual tool**

Manual tool	Frequency	Percentage
Catalogue	14	58
Classification tool	6	25
Index	1	4
Abstract	3	13
Total	24	100

*Source: Field Survey (2010)*

Regarding the use of manual tools 58% of respondents use catalogue card, 25% classification tools i.e. classification number directly, 13% abstracts and 4% indexes too.

**Table –5.15- Reason to do so**

Reason	Frequency	Percentage
Because of familiarity	9	37.5
Because of its easiness	6	25
Because of exactness	9	37.5
Total	24	100

*Source: Field Survey (2010)*

37.5% of respondents use them because of familiarity followed by exactness to find needed information in same percentage i.e. 37.5% and 25% use manual tools because of easiness.

**Table –5.16– Mostly used mechanized tool**

Mechanized tool	Frequency	Percentage
Library database	13	81
Networking	0	0
OPAC	3	19
Total	16	100

*Source: Field Survey (2010)*

Regarding the use of mechanical method 81% respondents were used library database while 0% (no one) used networking and only 19% used online public access catalogue (OPAC).

**Table –5.17- Reason to do so.**

Reason	Frequency	Percentage
Because of familiarity	8	50
Because of its easiness	3	19
Because of exactness	5	31
Total	16	100

*Source: Field Survey (2010)*

Fifty percentages of respondents use mechanical method because of its familiarity, 31% by the reason exactness to get information and 19% of them by the cause of easiness.

**Table -5.18- Main obstacle on needs**

Main obstacle	Frequency	Percentage
Library hours	9	33
Lack of knowledge on IT	10	37
Cost of materials	8	30
Total	27	100

Source: Field Survey (2010)

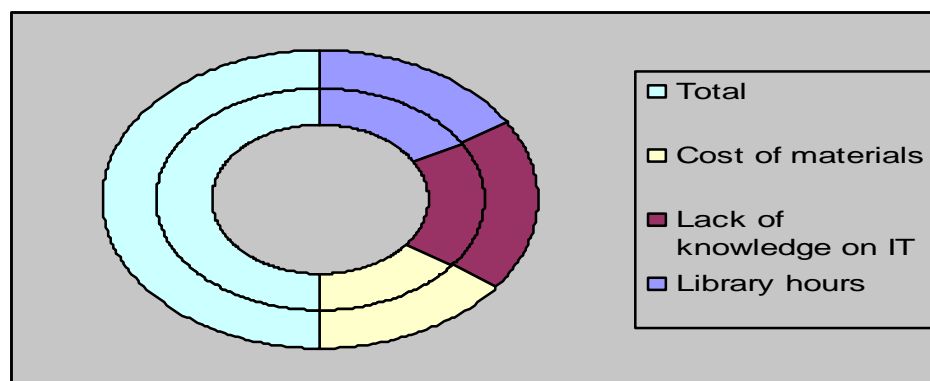


Fig. 8

Main obstacle to fulfill the need of social science researchers they felt that 37% of them lack of proper knowledge on information technology, 33% library hours they spent and 30% on cost of materials.

**Table –5.19- Most easy tool**

Easy tool	Frequency	Percentage
Manual	4	15
Mechanized	11	41
Both	12	44
Total	27	100

Source: Field Survey (2010)

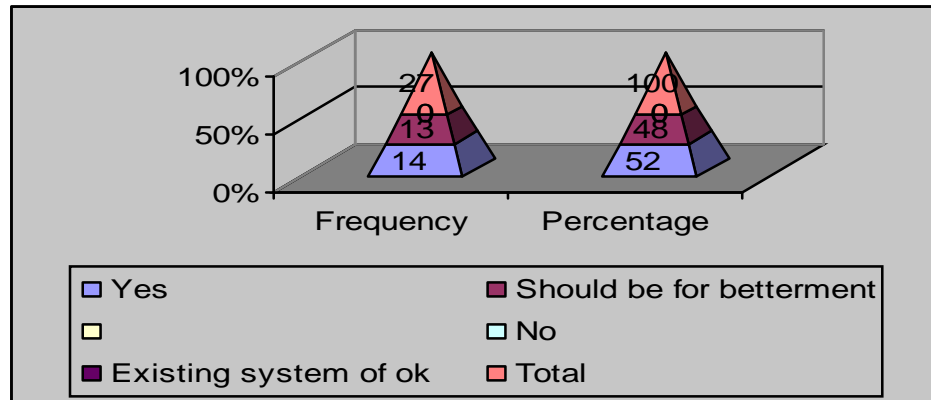
On the comparison of tools (method) manual and mechanized 44% respondents feel easy on both methods, 41% on mechanical and only 15% on manual methods are preferred.

**Table –5.20- Need of changing environment**

Changing environment	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	14	52
Should be for betterment	13	48
No	0	0
Existing system is ok	0	0
Total	27	100

Source: Field Survey (2010)

The users of 5 academic libraries of TU want to changing environment on searching information. And 48% (13) want the changing environment for betterment. It shows that 0% (no one) is satisfied by current system.



**Fig. 9**

**Table -5.21- Reason to think so**

Reason	Frequency	Percentage
Familiarity	2	7
Easiness	6	22
Exactness for information	19	71
Total	27	100

*Source: Field Survey (2010)*

Seventy percentages of them think changing environment for betterment on exactness of needed information, 22% for easiness and 7% for familiar system.

## CHAPTER 6

### SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

#### 6.1 Summary:

The hectic schedule of users' today is main problem for the study and research. People want to read more and deeply but their time limitation always ties to escape from this. To overcome from this problem, library and information centers of 21<sup>st</sup> century can help them highly. The analyzed data shows that most of the researchers- who are the special users of humanities and social science field- have no any membership of such a library. The lack of such type of library is the main cause. Tribhuvan University itself if want to make a serious reader on FoHSS need to arrange the library by the perspectives of social science.

This descriptive study was conducted in Faculty of Humanities and Social Science researchers of TU inside Kathmandu valley.

Information was collected by questionnaire and research questions. Most of the researchers of Tribhuvan University, faculty of Humanities and Social Science were self oriented researchers. 67% of researchers represent the 2 department's i. e. English and Nepali. 22% of them are from Economics department and 4% from each department of Linguistics, Population Studies and History. The flow of researchers on PhD programme in English and Nepali subject is enormously high on the comparison of other subjects.

#### 6.2 Conclusions:

The study was conducted to find out the information seeking behaviour of PhD scholars of FoHSS TU. Based on data analysis and findings of the research study the following conclusions are given:

- ) The researchers use library according to either their need or priorities.
- ) Out of 27 respondents 9 are from Nepali and 9 from English. While 9 others are from Economics, Linguistics, Population Studies and History. It shows that in the research area language or literature sector in Nepal highly attracts the students.

- ) There is no uniformity on the use of library time for same types of users too. 41% of the users spent time more than 3 hours in a day while 4% users spent only less than 1 hour in library.
- ) By the lack of special library 78% of the users have no any membership of such types of information center.
- ) Out of 21 respondents who have no any membership of special library, all of them felt the necessity of it to complete their research properly.
- ) The library orientation rendered by library of TU is not sufficient. 63% respondents have not got any orientation while 37% got it but not ample.
- ) The existing tools have problems on the up-to-dateness. Manual tools have rigidity for update so it does not help for researcher. 48% respondents felt know how on the service tools.
- ) In manual tools 58% use catalogue card for information retrieve. It is used highly because of its familiarity. Mechanized tools (database) are using by 81% users but it does not support highly as expected. The result, users operate the manual tools.
- ) Technologically we are at the phase of start, so it always hampers the advancement of library services. Lack of knowledge on information technology (IT) decrease the performance of the library of TU too.
- ) 52% of users are keen to see changed environment on the library they are using. And 48% demanded for the betterment of the existing system to seek information.

Up-to-a-minute information, backed-up by its manual services rendered by library is the demand of this new era. Technologically advanced library attracts the researchers for their work. No users of the library tend to follow the manual resources i.e. they try to access digitally developed materials.

The behaviour of users occurs various on the time and places in different way. The information center or library of today should be able to know their various interests and catch them. Without proper understanding of users the system followed by library shows worthless result. The gap between information generator/ publisher and the

ultimate user is narrowed by the well managed library. For this qualified and dedicated staff of library is prerequisite thing.

In addition well understand behaviour of targeted group indeed help existing libraries and assist students in understanding more about information seeking behaviour. It signifies the importance of information seeking techniques through various tools such as: cataloguing, indexing, abstracting, online catalogue, digital information retrieval tools and so on.

Having well behaviour of information seeking, a PhD scholar can handle his/her research properly within the root.

### **6.3 Recommendations:**

Information access is a very positive component of developing human status in the less developed countries. Governments, non-governmental organizations, educational institutions and independent organizations need to be empowered so that information generation, acquisition and distribution can be improved. Think tank house like Tribhuvan University and such academic institutions, are responsible for generation of authentic and heavily equipped information on the area of the subject need to be equipped with necessary tools and human resources to under take research that positively influence the whole national development not only language and literature but all related subjects.

FoHSS TU can help and shows the way to national development on the economic perspectives to cultural, heritage, political, language, literature, population etc. The faculty can make an authentic voice on the related subjects and make it mandatory for practice and implementation. Research is fact finding process on the related area so, it helps to analyze the past and plan for the future. For this TU should be given emphasis on serious research work and make them an environment for publications. Dissemination of information in paper as well as online should be emphasized through library to other mass media technique. Training in the use and management of library materials for users to library staff should be given first priorities.

The main areas for improvement are found as follows:



1. Adequate techniques to find information by library should be provided on regular intervals.
2. Library should meet the needs of the users for their research works.
3. Current latest development on information technology should be implemented with enthusiastic manpower on library.
4. Library hours should be uniform on all library of TU, so users can select various libraries at the same time.
5. Electronic operating tools for information searching should be provided in libraries for accessing social science information.
6. IT training should be provided for all PhD researchers.
7. Online access to journals of social sciences in all libraries of TU.
8. Online Databases for social science information.
9. Online search facilities of catalogue.
10. Uniformity on catalogue and classification tools should be followed on all library of TU.
11. Special library (Social science collection centers) should be established for users.
12. Inter library loan system should be implemented strictly on all libraries.
13. Users should be encouraged to read inside the library. So that they can find needed information without delay.
14. Language difficulties, system of catalogue and software difficulties should be changed into user familiarity.
15. By giving top priorities for the IT, system should be implemented.

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## Appendix: 1

### Questionnaire for study and find out its objectives

#### **“Information seeking behaviour of PhD scholars under the Humanities and Social Science, TU”**

*Dear Respondents!*

*On the above topic the researcher is going to write a thesis for master’s degree in Library and Information Science, TU. The researcher, with due respect to you, expects get exact information. Information provided is not used otherwise except for the thesis and is confidential. Your help is highly acknowledged.*

Thanking you

*Ramesh Niraula*

The Researcher

#### **Part I**

Your Name:

PhD scholars of .....Department.

Sex:

Address:

#### **Part II**

For library users (who seek the information) for their research under the Humanities and Social Science, TU.

Please tick [ ] any of the correct points/provide information.

#### **A. Service**

1. How many times do you use library for your research purpose?
  - a) Daily
  - b) In alternate day
  - c) Weekly
  - d) Sometime
2. Why do you do so?
  - a) Because of need
  - b) Because of priority
  - c) Because of its unfamiliarity

3. How much time do you spend for information retrieval in a library (in one time)?
  - a) Less than 1 hour
  - b) 1 to 2 hours
  - c) 2 to 3 hours
  - d) More than 3 hours
4. Are you a member of special library i.e. Social Science literature collection center?
  - a) Yes
  - b) No
5. If not, have you felt the necessity of membership?
  - a) Yes
  - b) No
6. If yes, what is our plan to be a member?
  - a) Have plan to be a member in near future
  - b) No any plan
7. Why you are not member of social science library till now?
  - a) By the lack of social science library in locality
  - b) Lack of knowledge
  - c) Lack of time

## **B. Method**

1. Which one system of library used by you is easy for acquire information?
  - a) Catalogue
  - b) Classification tool
  - c) Library database
2. Did you get any literacy skills to operate the existing tools by library; which you used?
  - a) Yes
  - b) No
  - c) Inadequate
3. What are the difficulties of existing tools used by you?
  - a) Operational
  - b) Know how
  - c) Up-to-dateness

4. What difficulties are you faced while seeking information?
  - a) Language
  - b) System of Catalogue
  - c) Software
5. Which tool for acquiring information are you using mostly?
  - a) Manual
  - b) Mechanized
  - c) Both of them
6. Which manual tool to acquire information do you use often?
  - a) Catalogue
  - b) Classification tools
  - c) Index
  - d) Abstract
7. Why do you do so?
  - a) Because of familiarity
  - b) Because of easiness
  - c) because of exactness to find the needed information
8. Which mechanized tool to acquire information do you use often?
  - a) Library Database
  - b) Networking
  - c) Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC)
9. Why do you do so?
  - a) Because of familiarity
  - b) Because of easiness
  - c) Because of exactness to find the needed information

### **C. Operational**

1. Being a social Science student what is the main obstacle in fulfilling the information needs of you?
  - a) Library hours you used
  - b) Lack of knowledge on technology
  - c) Cost of materials
2. Which tool is easy to acquire needed information?
  - a) Manual
  - b) Mechanized
  - c) Both of them
3. Do you think the changing environment for seeking information on the library which you use often?
  - a) Yes
  - b) It should be for betterment on seeking information
  - c) No
  - d) Existing system is ok
4. Why do you think so?
  - a) Because of familiarity
  - b) Because of easiness
  - c) Because of exactness to find the needed information



## **CURRICULUM VITAE**



### **A- Summary:**

- ) More than three years of progressively experienced on Library Management field.
- ) Completed Masters Degree in library and Information Science (M.Lib.) in First Division.
- ) Experience in media, reporting and editing printing newspaper, planning, managing, and coordinating activities.
- ) Computer Literate with latest development on web.
- ) Precise working ideas in changing environment.

### **B- Personal Details:**

**Name:** RAMESH NIRAULA

**Pseudo name:** Safar Niraula

**Place of Birth:** Kuvinde VDC-3, Hacheka, Khotang

**Permanent Address:** Inaruwa Municipality-10, Sunsari Koshi Zone, Nepal

**Temporary Address:** Basundhara, Kathmandu

**Contact No.:** 9849029625

**E-mail:** orameshg@gmail.com

**Date of Birth:** 03 March

**Nationality:** Nepali

**Sex:** Male

**Material Status:** Single

**C- Academic Qualification:**

2010: Masters degree in Library and Information Science from TU.

2007: Bachelor's degree in Political Science and Nepali literature from Ratna Rajya Laxmi Campus, Kathmandu (TU).

2003: Intermediate in Economics, Political Science and Culture from Sunsari Multiple Campus, Inaruwa (TU).

2000: S.L.C. from Government of Nepal.

**D- Experiences:**

) Librarian at Janamaitri Multiple Campus, Kuleshwor, Kathmandu. From Chaitra 2067 to till date.

) Librarian at IGNOU, Kathmandu. From September 10, 2010 to April 2011.

) Author: More than one dozen articles published about library professionalism at INFOLIB, Voice of Library and other journals in English as well as Nepali language.

) Various articles published in National Daily papers (like Annapurna Post, Madhuparka Literary magazine etc.)

) Senior Reporter Development Times Economic Monthly 2006-2008.

) Research in various NGO's and INGO's about their activities for Kamaiyas sector. (Research was coordination with Martin Chautari, Thapatali, Kathmandu.) etc.

**E- Trainings:**

) Two months news writing training from Gorkhapatra National Daily.

) International Conference on Information and Knowledge Management (ICIKM) 2008 Kathmandu. (3 days conference on Knowledge management).

) One day training on Blood Donation Motivation Program (Organized by Nepal Red Cross Society, Kathmandu District Chapter July 2010.)

) Three months basic computer training (Microsoft Office Word, Excel, Email-Internet, PowerPoint etc.)

- ) Six months advanced diploma in Computer Application Software (Windows, Word, Excel, Access, HTML, DHTML, Graphic, Internet, Email & Utilities etc.)

**F- Involvement:**

- ) President: Library and Information Science Students' Association (LISSA), Central Department of Library and Information Science, TU, Kirtipur, Kathmandu (2009-2010).
- ) Vice President: LISSA (2008-2009).
- ) Editor-in-Chief: INFOLIB (A research oriented journal of Library Science profession) Vol. 3, No. 3, May 2010.
- ) Editor: INFOLIB Vol. 2, No. 2, January 2009.
- ) Editor: College Kalam Literary Magazine, 2006-2007.
- ) General Member- Nepal Red Cross Society, Kathmandu District Chapter.

**G- Hobbies:**

- ) Reading books and newspapers, Visit different places and its people.
- ) To be a good Social Worker.
- ) Visit various informative sites on Internet.
- ) Social Service interaction with different people for Community development.

**H- Languages:**

- ) Nepali, English, Maithili etc. (communicable)