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ABSTRACTS

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Information needs and information seeking behavior of students at higher educational institutes: with special reference to CINEC Maritime campus

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Information is an essential commodity to almost every person in the world. Information needs and information seeking behavior is different from person to person. The understanding information needs and information seeking behavior of various kinds of personal groups is essential as it helps in the planning, implementation and operating of information systems and services provided by a library. This study investigates information needs and information seeking behavior of students at higher educational institutes with special reference to CINEC Maritime campus.

Based on three objectives, the research was conducted. The main objective was to identify the information needs of students in this institute of higher education. Other objectives are to study the information seeking behavior of students with regard to their subject needs, research needs, other information needs and to determine the user satisfaction and ICT application for seeking information.

300 library users from 3000 students in CINEC Maritime campus were taken randomly as respondents. The sample size was 10% of the population. The main research tool was a details questionnaire constructed by researcher under objectives of the study. As well, observation method was used as a primary data collection tool. Dictionaries, encyclopedia, journal articles, databases, text books, e-resources were used as secondary data sources.

The key findings of the study indicate that 50% of students gather information for preparing their lecture notes. Usually they collect information for updating their knowledge. CINEC Maritime campus library is frequently used by students to access information. 80% students search information in English language. Retrieval of information for their needs helps students to improve their IT skills.

Key words: *Information needs, Information seeking behavior, Information resources, Maritime library*

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