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INFORMATION LITERACY SKILLS OF LEGAL PRACTITIONERS IN KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA-PAKISTAN: AN EMPIRICAL STUDY

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ABSTRACT

Purpose of the study

The main theme of this study is to explores the information literacy skills of the law practitioners in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa-Pakistan under the heading "Information Literacy Skills of Legal Practitioners in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa-Pakistan: An Empirical Study**."**

Research Method and Procedure

To conduct this quantitative study, the simple random sample approach is used. An adapted questionnaire is distributed among 254 lawyers of Dera Ismail Khan through personal visits and electronic means. The data collected is analyzed through SPSS (Statistical Package for Social Sciences) software.

Delimitations of the study: The study is delimited to the southern district of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa: Dera Ismael Khan.

Key Findings:
Most of the lawyers of District Dera Ismail khan of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa can recognize and understand the needed information. A large number of lawyers are capable of presenting information in both written and electronic forms. They are not comfortable with different legal databases and using various searching and keyword techniques. They have less knowledge of Boolean operator for locating of online information.

Conclusion and Recommendations

Efforts should be made to arrange refresher courses and training workshops on utilization of different legal databases and different search techniques for retrieval of information sources. This practice will enhance the information literacy skills of lawyers that will ultimately result in to a better legal system in the Pakistan.
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Practical implication(s): The findings of the study will motivate the policy makers, authorities of legal forums to restructure the information literacy programs to fulfil the Lawyers' information needs.

Contribution to the knowledge: No significant work has been done on the lawyers' Information literacy skills in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa-Pakistan. It will bring a clear picture of information literacy skills of law practitioners and addressed the problems faced by them during seeking process.
Keyword(s): Information Literacy-Pakistan; Information Literacy-Lawyers; Information Literacy -Law Practitioners-Pakistan, Lawyers-D.I.Khan-Pakistan, Legal Practitioners-Information-Pakistan.

INTRODUCTION

Information literacy is a broader term that includes information management skills, ICT skills, and library utilization skills that enable learners to participate effectively in the information field (Ministry of Education & National Library of New Zealand, 2002). The Standing Conference of National and University Libraries (SCONUL) formulate a framework for the seven pillars of information literacy in 1999 (Bent & Stubbings, 2011). Information literacy comprises seven main attributes: Identify his information need, Assess the exiting information and identify loopholes, Postulates searching strategies for locating information, locate and access information needed, assess the research process and analyze information, arrange information in a professional and best way and acquired knowledge utilize for professional goals (SCONUL 1999). The Chartered Institute of Library & Information Professionals (CILIP) described information literacy as "knowing when and why you need information, where to find it, and how to assess, use, and communicate it in an ethical manner" in the United Kingdom (UK) (Chartered Institute of Library & Information Professionals [CILIP], 2013).

A lawyer or legal practitioner is an individual with a variety of important duties who pleads and advocates clients in legal matters. The lawyer is a person who acts as voices for the clients in the judicial. There are many general legal responsibilities of a lawyer (Exforsys, 2019). According to Historians the profession of law has existed since Ancient Greece, where they provided legal services. Lawyers are specialized in civil law, criminal law and business law (Softschools, 2019).

In modern times, legal questions crop up on a nearly daily basis. Most likely, no one has the time to deal with all of these questions. Having a lawyer to handle one's legal matters is important, and it is one best way to avoid needless burdens (Hood, 2006).

Lawyers are the guardians of individuals. They play a critical role in preserving order in a society. Similarly, lawyers hold a variety of government posts. As a result, they help to maintain and regulate social harmony (Buzzle, 2010).

The Pakistani legal system is based on both English common law and Islamic law. Most of Pakistani lawyers still Anglo-Indian although Islamic law has also become a prominent source of law (Munir, 2008). The judicial system of Pakistan consists of hierarchy in structure. Supreme Court and a Federal Shariat court are established in center and a high courtin each province and federal territory (Art. 175). The district courts are established in each district. There are two types of district courts; civil and criminal courts. The lower courts come under the jurisdiction of high courts (Yilmaz, 2011). The civil courts comprise of District Judge, Additional District Judge, Senior Civil Judge and Civil Judge Class I, II and III. Essentially, the criminal courts include Sessions Judge, Additional Sessions Judge and Judicial Magistrate Class I, II &III.

Dera Ismail Khan is a district situated in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, Pakistan. It has five divisions; Dera Ismail Khan, Daraban, Paroa, Kulachi and Paharpur. The total population of District Dera Ismail Khan is 1627132 according to data collected in the census of 2017. The total male population is 838793, female 788294 and Transgender is 45. From 1998 to 2017 average annual growth rate is 3.29 (Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, 2019). There are 23 district courts and a Peshawar high court bench in district DeraIsmail Khan. There are fifteen civil judges/judicial magistrate, 6 additional districts and session judge, one senior civil judge and one district & session

judge for district Dera Ismail Khan (Peshawar High Court, 2019). There is total 717 lawyers are registered with District Bar Association, Dera Ismail Khan (KP Bar association, 2019).

All these lawyers need information for various purposes and reasons. They need to develop capacities like to identify, locate, retrieve and use information effectively in their profession as a lifelong learner. Information literacy forms the basis for lifelong learning and helps to successfully navigate the present and future landscape of information. The information environment is becoming more complex and changing rapidly, this need information literacy and without some instructional and user orientation programs, lawyers cannot use information properly. Hence researcher has considered that the lawyers in Dera Ismail khan to be assessed for their IL status and improve it on the assessment. Thus, this research study specifically pertains to assessment of IL skills of Lawyers in district Dera Ismail Khan. The change and development in information resources required lawyers to enhance their information literacy skills. Information literate lawyers can facilitate the clients more effectively and smartly because they know how to acquire the legal information necessary for their professions. There is no such study had been conducted in Dera Ismail Khan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. It will obviously help to further improve the IL skills of lawyers in Dera Ismail Khan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Ameen and Ullah (2016) noted that in the recent years user education program have changed from simple instruction to IL instructions. The information technology has a good effect on library profession and library user education programs. Santharooban and Premadasa (2015) suggested a four-part Information literacy model: study, find, use, and examination. Each aspect has a set of information literacy skills that should be learned as part of the student's information literacy training. According to Robinson and Eisenberg (2008) people must constantly define and understand their information needs, locate required tools, use important information correctly, and

critically analyses this information. Crouse and Kasbohm (2005) presented the IL Instruction Modules (ILIM). These instructions include, ERIC database System, online book catalog, finding dissertations, appropriately and ethically and World Wide Web (www) for research).

According to Bruce (2004) Learners can't find the information they need because of poor information literacy skills, so they depend on others to retrieve it. He said that a lack of information literacy skills is a worldwide issue. Muzzammil and Alam (2019) observed that the lawyers used e-journals for the most relevant information of their profession as the most relevant information found in the journals as compared to e-books. Golenko and Siber (2017) suggested lawyers to improve IL skills due to the rapid development of information technology and different search techniques are required to learn to attain information from legal databases. Golenko (2017) advocated for the inclusion of IL programs into the law school'ssyllabus. He suggested the faculty members and librarians must teach information literacy curriculum together. It will improve the information literacy of lawyers to achieve professional goals. Ali, Jawwad and Ahmad (2016) noted that access to the latest decisions of courts and case laws is recognized as the main information needs. The researcher observed that books and law journals are most frequently used for the fulfillment legal information needs.

Khan, S. A. and Bhatti (2011) noted that most lawyers seek assistance from courtrooms libraries for fulfilling the legal information needs necessary for their profession. Hinson et. al (2007) observed seventy-eight percent of lawyers believe that the internet increases their efficiency. Eighty-eight percent of respondents said the internet is useful as a networking tool, and 76 percent said it is very important for gathering information. Brooks (2009) suggested learning some research information literacy skills for new lawyers such as Boolean searching, ability to search for local legal information and reports and knowledge of comprehensive free Websites to find legal

information. In his doctoral thesis, Makri (2009) investigated the knowledge actions of lawyers, leading to the creation of two methods for assessing electronic tools. Haruna and Mabawonku (2001) examined that the latest decisions of the superior courts as their greatest professional information needs for the legal practitioners. The study revealed library as the most heavily consulted information source for professional information. Kuhlthau and Tama (2001) looked at how lawyers search for facts. The findings showed that these lawyers were often engaged in complex tasks, and that to complete these complex tasks, they favored printed texts over computer databases, largely because computer databases demanded well-specified requests and did not allow for the examination of a large amount of data at once. Otike (2000) investigated the legal knowledge needs of Kenyan lawyers. It was pointed out that a lawyer's job is influenced by the legal needs of his or her clients, which in turn affects the lawyer's knowledge needs. The lawyers seek help from the High Court library or other law firms' collections.

Wilkinson (2001) looked at the knowledge sources that lawyers use to solve problems. When it came to gathering facts, it was discovered that lawyers overwhelmingly favored informal sources. Otike (1997) looked into the legal information needs of the general public. He came to the conclusion that the distribution of legal knowledge to the general public in the Third World is still largely unexplored. Eisenschitz and Walsh (1995) investigated the attitudes of lawyers toward facts. According to Hainsworth (1992), appellate judges do not trust and are suspicious of the knowledge they are given. Judges have unique requirements for knowledge organization that are not fulfilled by any scheme. Judges prefer hard copy, and their need for knowledge is influenced by the passage of time.

Govindarajan and Dhanavandan (2019) revealed that most doctors find the information with ease and in less time. They had suggested providing information literacy program to develop the skill

of medical doctors. CLN, CLN and Nwankwo (2018) noted that nurses acquire information through database, magazines and from colleagues. They were lack in information literacy skills so the hospital management should provide information literacy and computer literacy skills training. According to Intas, Kostagiolas, Zavras, Chalari, Sterginnis, Toylia, and Niakas (2017), participants looked for facts for themselves as patients and inpatients, Diet or special dietary requirements, as well as particular diseases, are the most commonly searched topics. According to Mwenda and Njoroge (2017), respondents were looking for information for patient care, in-service presentations, presentations at professional meetings/seminars, scholarship applications, and other professional information needs not specified in the questionnaire. Most nurses in Ekpoma hospitals, according to Onyia and Cln (2016), need information in the areas of diagnosis, drug rehabilitation, health development/current medical care, and medical information on the Internet. The results of this research agree with those of Cogdill (2003), who conducted a study on nursing practitioners' information-related behavior and discovered that most nurses often need information on drug therapy and diagnosis.

According to Onyia and Cln (2016), two-thirds of the respondents suggested that they need medical knowledge from the internet. This study supports the findings of Ajuwon(2006), who reported that the availability of information tools such as computers and the internet provided easy access to recent and accurate clinical research results on everyday medical practice, which nurses can use to develop their skills and gain knowledge of current medical care strategies and breakthroughs. According to Grace and Jeyshankar (2014), curriculum specifications, resource knowledge, and resource availability all influence information seeking behavior. In their report on the information needs of nurses in public health care, Anne, Zoe, Debra, and Rita (2008) discovered that they range from the need to understand public health rules, policies, and laws, to

research results to support Evidence Based Practice, clinical practices, and personal information needs such as work opportunities, investment, and personal hygiene.In their research on the information needs of nurses for successful healthcare delivery in Nigeria, Anyanwu, Oparaku, and Benson (2016) used a case study of the Federal Medical Centre Owerri in Imo State and a sample of 171 nurses. The study's results showed that the nurses had a need for information in order to care for and treat patients, as well as to expand their awareness of the field. Nurses used the internet, journals, and books as their primary sources of information.

Despite this, they continue to consult other medical databases. They use a variety of information sources. O'Leary D.F and Ni Mhaolrunaigh S. (2012) revealed in a study titled the information seeking behavior of nurses; where is information sought and what procedures are followed.

In their research on the information needs and information gathering behavior of doctors in Maiduguri, Nigeria, Ocheibi and Buba (2003) used a total of 225 medical doctors from both government and private hospitals, with 158 questionnaires returned. An inquiry was conducted by Argyri, Kostagiolas, and Diomidous (2014) into the information seeking behavior of nursing staff at a private hospital in Greece. In his research, Aiyayi (2005) discovered that the use of new technology in nursing practise is at the top of the practising nurses' knowledge needs. Immunization came in second place. The vast majority of people were aware of the need. In this regard, there were no major differences between male and female nurses.

According to Dee and Stanley (2005), nursing students and clinical nurses used a variety of health information services to meet their information needs, including databases, portable computers, Internet pages, electronic books and journals, and teleconferences. In a study of nursing practitioners' information needs, Cogdill (2003) discovered that nurses most often required drug therapy and diagnosis-related information. According to Grace and Jeyshankar's (2014) review of

nursing professionals, the majority of users were undergraduates who took full advantage of the library's resources and services. According to Grace and Jeyshankar (2014), users between the ages of 21 and 25 had used the library's facilities and services with a high degree of satisfaction, and only a few of them had moderate difficulty using the library.

OBJCETIVES OF THE STUDY

1. To find out whether the lawyers recognize the needed information.
2. To find out whether the lawyers identify the sources of the needed information.
3. To find out whether the lawyers locate and access the sources of needed information.
4. To find out whether the lawyers evaluate the legal information.
5. To find out whether the lawyers present the acquired information efficiently.

RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHOD

The present research suits to descriptive research method. The method of survey research allows researcher to gather information from the total population using sample methods without assessing the complete population (Busha, 1980).

Population of the study

The total lawyers practicing in the district bar association and the registered members of District bar association Dera Ismail Khan is 717 which is the population of the study. It is not possible to study the complete population of lawyers to arrive at generalizations. Hence researcher has selected sampling technique to makes it possible to draw valid inferences or generalizations on the basis of careful observations of variables within a relatively small proportion of population. The sampling technique used is random selection of legal practitioners. The researcher has prepared a list of all the members of district bar association Dera Ismail Khan. The list obtained from the district bar association deraismail khan office and gets validated with the list available on the website of Khyber Phaktunkhwa Bar Assosiation (https://kpbarassosiation.com.pk).

Sample of the study

It is not possible to conduct research for entire population of the legal practitioners. Since the fixed population of the lawyers is 717 and difficult to review, researcher has considered Morgan table for fixing the sample of lawyers for undertaking study. Based on this table the sample size for a finite population became 254. Total 254 lawyers were contacted for data collection. To determine the sample size for the population of 717, Krejcie and Morgan's table for calculating sample size for a given population is used. The sample size should be 254, according to Appendix. Since the researcher expected a response rate of at least 75%, he chose to send the questionnaire to 300 people.

Data Collection and analysis

The data collection tool used is questionnaire. For data collection of this study, an adapted structured questionnaire of Zakariya Qasmi is used. The questionnaires are circulated among the lawyers to understand the level of IL skills attained by them and the course of action to be needed for improving IL skills. The questionnaire is distributed through personal visits. Telephone calls and electronic means are used as follow up tools. A pilot analysis was carried out. The questionnaires were given to 20 lawyers from the district of Dera Ismail Khan in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa at random. After receiving input from respondents, a few changes to the questionnaire were made before it was finalized. For the data collection a closed ended questionnaire was used by the researcher for study. Questionnaires were distributed through personal visits amongst the lawyers of the Dera Ismail Khan. The collected questionnaires were scrutinized, filtered and analyzed. Phone calls were used for remaining any ambiguity made in the filling of questionnaires by these legal practitioners. The information gathered was directly entered into the SPSS program version 23. With the aid of SPSS software, the researcher ran the required statistical tests. Tables and figures are used to show the findings.

ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF DATA

Demographics

After constant follow-up, 195 lawyers (76.7 percent) responded to the survey. Since all questionnaires were fully filled out and no questionnaires were discarded, a total of 195 (76.7%) answers from lawyers were analyzed. 162 (83.1%) of whom were male and 33 (16.9%) of whom were female. 24 (12.3%) respondents were less than 30 years, 66(33.8%) were between 31 to 35 years, 33 (16.9%) were between 36 to 40 years, 33(16.9%) were between 41 to 45 years, 15(7.7%) were 46 to 50 years, while 24 (12.3%) respondents were above 50 years. The frequency distribution of respondents' academic qualifications shows that 177 (90.8%) were LLB and 18 (9.2%) were LLM. Out of total 99 (50.8%) respondents had professional experience between 1 to 10 years, 54 (27.7%) between 11 to 20 years, 24 (12.3%) were between 21 to 30 years, 12 (6.2%) were between 31 to 40 years and 6 (3.1%) were having experience between 41 to 50 years.

Recognition of the Needed Information

The respondents were asked about the legal practitioner 'ability to recognize the required information. According to the acquired results, majority of the respondents opined that they use printed materials for recognition of information (Mean=4.3077, Std. Deviation=.70176). Most of the respondents mentioned that they can define the information to solve the problems (Mean=3.9846, Std. Deviation=.73553). Most of the respondents said they understand the needed information (Mean= 4.3231, Std. Deviation=.70582). Majority of respondents mentioned that they seldom use information from online resources for recognition of needed information (Mean= 3.7385, Std. Deviation=1.14347). The respondents opined that they always go for help if required to understand the needed information (Mean=3.8154, Std. Deviation=.92879). In the results most of the respondents can determined whether the needed information exists or not (Mean=3.6615, Std. Deviation= .91849). All the respondents can recognize the various sources of information (Mean= 4.2000, Std. Deviation= .70784).

Table 1*: Descriptive Statistics of Respondents' Opinion about ability to recognize the needed Information*

Items	Mean	Std. Deviation
I Use Printed materials for recognition of information.	4.3077	.70176
I define the information needed to meet the requirement and solve the problem.	3.9846	.73553
I understand the needed information.	4.3231	.70582
I use online resources for recognition of needed information.	3.7385	1.14347
I Go for help if required to understand the needed information.	3.8154	.92879
I Determined whether the needed information exists or not.	3.6615	.91849
I Recognize the various sources of information.	4.2000	.70784
N= 195		

Note: strongly Disagree=1, Disagree =2, Neutral =3, Agree =4 and Strongly Agree =5.

Identification of the sources of information

The second question was concerned with the identification of information sources. The data was collected from the respondents using a 5-point Likert scale. According to the findings, law journals (Mean= 4.0), books (Mean= 4.2), reference works (Mean= 4.1), internet websites (Mean= 4.0), newspapers (Mean= 4.3), legislations or laws (Mean= 4.0), and jurisprudence (Mean= 3.8) are the source of information that respondents are most comfortable with and use the most often for required information. Legal Databases (Mean=3.2), Legal Digest (Mean= 3.4), government publications (Mean=3.5), unpublished cases (Mean= 3.2), Conference/Seminars (Mean= 3.1), Audio-Visual Sources (Mean= 3.1), Thesis and Dissertations (Mean= 3.0), and Library Catalogues (Mean= 2.4) are among the sources of knowledge that legal professionals are less familiar and rarely utilize it for identification of needed information.

Table 2: Descriptive Statistics of Respondents' Opinion about the identification of sources of needed Information.

Items	Mean	Std. Deviation
Law Journals	4.0	.922
Books	4.2	.781
Statutes	3.7	.884
Legal Databases	3.2	1.102
Legal Digest	3.4	1.026
Government publications	3.5	.825
Unpublished cases	3.2	.955
Reference works	4.1	.852
Conference /Seminars	3.1	1.113
Internet website	4.0	1.145
Newspapers	4.3	.737
Audio – Visual Sources	3.1	.993
Thesis and Dissertations	3.0	.904
Library Catalogues	2.4	1.180
Jurisprudence	3.8	.992
Legislation or Laws	4.0	.792

N=195

Note: *Never Used=1, Rarely Used =2, Occasionally Used=3 Frequently Used=4 and Most Frequently Used =5.*

Location and access the sources of information

In this part of the survey, respondents were asked to share their experiences that how they locate and access information sources. The table shows that the majority of lawyers can quickly find details about what they are looking for (Mean=4.3), whether online or offline. Their responses indicate that a substantial number of lawyers are able to find and access legal information through reference works (Mean=3.9) and websites (Mean=3.8). They are also adept at finding information using various search engines (Mean=3.8). The respondents mentioned that they

sometimes use law databases (Mean= 3.5) and that they are incompetent at using various

searching and keyword techniques in these databases (Mean=3.2). The table shows that only a

few lawyers are capable of searching library catalogues for information (Mean=2.6) and are

inexperienced at using the Boolean operator to locate information (Mean= 2.6).

Table 3: *Descriptive Statistics of Respondents' Opinion about the Locate and access the sources of needed information.*

Items	Mean	Std. Deviation
I can find what I am looking for	4.3	.626
I can use different law databases to access needed information /articles.	3.5	1.140
I can search through author, subject and title in database.	3.3	1.158
I can make search through keywords in legal database.	3.3	1.131
I can use reference work to locate the legal information.	3.9	.921
I can locate websites to fulfill my information needs.	3.8	1.208
I have understanding about various online searching techniques.	3.2	1.206
I can use different search engines to locate information	3.8	1.229
I can utilize Boolean Operators for online searching	2.6	1.400
I can make search in Library catalog	2.6	1.254
N= 195		

Note: Strongly Disagree=1, Disagree =2, Neutral =3, Agree =4 and Strongly Agree =5.

Evaluation of the information

Fourth part of the questionnaire was about how the lawyers evaluate the information. To take their

opinion about how they evaluate the information, total 10 questions were asked. The given Table

shows that a significant proportion of lawyers in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Dera Ismail Khan can

determine if the information source is reliable one or not (Mean=3.6). They also frequently check

the author's reliability (Mean=3.6). Similarly, a substantial number of lawyers (M=3.8) assess what the information's purpose is. A large number of respondents mentioned that they still check to see if the sources of knowledge are trustworthy (Mean= 3.8) and if they are still trustworthy and not obsolete (Mean= 3.6). Just a small percentage of these practitioners (Mean= 3.1) place a high value on the International Standard Book Number (ISBN) and International Standard Serial Number (ISSN). Few legal professionals pay close attention to the sources of information from which digital or electronic information is obtained and check the type of websites or other sources.

Table 4: Descriptive Statistics of Respondents' Opinion about the Evaluation of the information

Items	Mean	Std. Deviation
Who is responsible for the information?	3.6154	1.07970
Check the author's credentials. Is the author an expert in the field	3.6308	1.00364
What is the purpose of information	3.8615	.92853
When was the information published?	3.6615	.99913
How old is the information? Is it still reliable?	3.6923	1.00908
Is the information of reliable source	3.8000	.86513
Why do You need this information? Does it apply to your professional needs	3.9846	.88793
Can the contents of the information be verified in traditional edited print / electronic sources?	3.6000	1.08124
Is there any standards number on the information (ISBN, ISSN)	3.1231	1.23740
Where did the information come from? (edu.,gov., com., mil.org.)	2.8154	1.32648
N =195		

Presentation of the information

Table 5 clearly shows that the majority of lawyers in Dera Ismail Khan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (M= 4.18) can exchange and send information via email. Similarly, the majority of respondents in the next section (Mean= 3.8) are able to exchange information on social media. The table also showed that a significant number of lawyers (Mean= 3.8) can present information in both written and electronic formats. They have the ability to digitize information and present it in digital format (Mean=3.7). The hierarchical structure also reveals that many lawyers have a good understanding of various platforms and can exchange information through online discussion groups and professional platforms (Mean= 3.7). The number of lawyers who can use Drop Box and cloud services for storage and sharing information is very small (Mean= 2.7).

Table 5: Descriptive Statistics of Respondents' Opinion about the Presentation of the information

Items	Mean	Std. Deviation
I can present the information for representing the clients in courts	4.1	.977
I can digitize the information.	3.7	1.286
I can send information through email.	4.0	1.069
I can present the information in digital and in printed format.	3.8	1.156
I can share the information on the social media.	3.8	1.092
I can share the information on online discussion groups and professional platforms.	3.7	1.108
I have the knowledge about Drop Box services	2.7	1.240
I have the knowledge about Cloud services	2.6	1.303
N=195		

Note: Never Used=1, Rarely Used =2, Occasionally Used=3 Frequently Used =4 and Most Frequently Used =5.

Major findings of the study

Recognition the Information

According to the acquired results, majority of the respondent opined that they can recognize the information in printed form. Most of the respondents mentioned that they are good in the

definition of needed information to solve the professional problems. Most of the respondents said they understand the needed information and mentioned that they seldom use information from online resources for recognition of needed information. The respondents opined that they always go for help if required to understand the needed information. In the results it is clear that most of the respondents are clear about the existence of needed information and recognize the various sources of information. The findings of the study related to part one prove that most of the lawyers of District Dera Ismail khan of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa can recognize and understand the needed information.

Identification of the sources of information

The second part of the questionnaire is about lawyer's ability to identify the information sources. According to the findings, law journals, books, reference works, internet websites, newspapers, legislations or laws, and jurisprudence are the source of information that respondents are most comfortable with and use the most often for required information. Legal Databases, Legal Digest, government publications, unpublished cases, Conference/Seminars, Audio-Visual Sources, Thesis and Dissertations, and Library Catalogues are among the sources of knowledge that legal professionals are less familiar and rarely utilize it for identification of needed information.

Location and access the sources of needed information

The majority of lawyers can quickly find details about what they are looking for, whether online or offline. A substantial number of lawyers are able to find and access legal information through reference works and websites. They are also adept at finding information using various search engines. The respondents mentioned that they sometimes use law databases and that they are incompetent at using various searching and keyword techniques in these databases. Only a few

lawyers are capable of searching library catalogues for information and are inexperienced at using the Boolean operator to locate information.

Evaluation of needed information

A large number of lawyers in Dera Ismail Khan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, decide if the information is accurate or not. They even verify the author's credibility on a regular basis. Similarly, a large number of lawyers evaluate the information's intent. A significant number of respondents said that they still check to see if information sources are reliable and if they are still reliable and not outdated. The International Standard Book Number (ISBN) and International Standard Serial Number (ISSN) are only used by a limited percentage of these practitioners. Few legal professionals pay careful attention to the origin of digital or electronic content, whether it comes from an educational website ("edu."), the government (gov.), a commercial company (com.) or another source.

Presentation of the needed information

The majority of lawyers in Dera Ismail Khan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, can exchange and send information via email, according to the study's findings. Similarly, the majority of respondents would use social media to share information. The findings also revealed that a large number of lawyers are capable of presenting information in both written and electronic forms. The number of lawyers who can use Drop Box and other cloud storage and sharing services is extremely limited.

Conclusion

Lawyers of the Dera Ismail Khan district facing very few obstacles of recognition of the sources of required information. Similarly the lawyers have good skills in identification of various

sources of information. In location and accessing of information, the lawyers have good skills and knowledge about reference works and different search engines. They are not comfortable with different legal databases and using various searching and keyword techniques. They have less knowledge of Boolean operator for locating of online information. As for as the presentation of information is concerned, the lawyers have excellent command on social media and in sending emails, but they have no skills about the Drop Box and cloud computing for data sharing. Some Training workshops and seminars on Information Technology can improve the understanding of lawyers about these concepts.

Recommendations

1. Workshops and seminars on the less familiar sources can enhance their knowledge about these information sources. Lawyers can consult librarian for better understanding of library catalogue which will be very helpful to enhance their IL skills.

2. Arranging refresher courses and training workshops on utilization of different legal databases and different search techniques for locating of information sources can enhance the information literacy skills of lawyers.

3. A workshop on copyright and information literacy skills will help lawyers improve their understanding of the (ISBN) International Standard Book Number and (ISSN) International Standard Serial Number.

4. According to the results, lawyers clearly use email for data sharing, but they are less familiar with drop box and cloud storage. Lawyers' problems can be resolved with proper training in information technology.

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