



Research Paper

ICT Use in college library services: A case study

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Abstract:

The advancement of the Information Communication Technology (ICT) environment has brought incredible changes in the library and Information science, and subsequently the roles and expectations of library professionals. Today in the digital age handling and storing work of library professionals is absolutely changed. Users should have knowledge of computers, networking, content management, information analysis, internet surfing, digital resources, websites, and the organization of collected data. It is important that library staff and users ought to change and upgrade themselves as per the requirement of time. The paper discusses the impact of emerging changes in academic libraries it discusses the need for acquiring core competencies and new skills to manage modern-day academic libraries.

Keywords: ICT, College Library, Library Services, Users.

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I. Introduction:

The transition from traditional library collections to digital library collections presented the librarian with new opportunities. The traditional role of librarians, i.e., acquiring, organizing, preserving the documents, and helping the users locate the information needed has changed. In the last decades of the 20th century with advances in computers, the internet, and the World Wide Web this picture has rapidly changed. The paper collections have given place to networked, computer residents, user searchable collections like bibliographic databases, and OPAC obliterating the need for the user to visit the library building.

Today librarians have the opportunity to use modern tools to provide quicker, exhaustive, and more sophisticated services to users. Databases and reference sources can be queried via the internet and the world wide web; remote library catalog can be accessed on desktops, newsgroups, and mailing disallowing to discuss various issues quickly and electronic mail (email) allows the librarian to find out and contact those who might be able to help in solving the problems. Perhaps no innovation has impacted the library profession greatly like the internet, www, and networked resources. This has changed the fundamental roles, paradises, images, and culture of libraries and library professionals.

The information available in various formats such as texts, numeric, graphics, video, audio, images, etc. now can be captured, stored retrieved, and delivered with the collaboration of computing and telecommunication technologies. In this situation, the librarian is called upon to assume new roles and perform tasks like guiding, facilitating, sifting information resources and providing the access to the information. For this study, there were 6 colleges and 572 students in *Pathardi* and *Shevgaontahasil* at *Ahmednagar* district, Maharashtra.

Impact :

Information technology has a wide-ranging impact on library and information work. Libraries and archives contain much information that is unique. Placing digital information on a network makes it available to everybody. May digital libraries or electronic publications are maintained at a single central site, perhaps with a few duplicate copies strategically placed around the world. IT power can be used to find information.

Objectives :

- a. To assess the ICT need of students or users of college libraries.
- b. To compare the allocation of ICT services provided by different colleges of Study area.

- c. Encourage to students for using ICT for their study.

Methodology:

The methodology chosen for conducting the study consists of the library survey questionnaire method, statistical method, interview, observation verification of records, and secondary data from the literature survey.

Hypothesis :

- a. Maximum college libraries use ICT for college library services.
b. Students were aware of ICT services in the college library
c. New technology is adopted for college library services.

Significant of topic :

Modern ICT tools have changed traditional teaching methods and made distance learning education more effective and efficient by providing multimedia data repositories that can serve as continuously changing up-to-date information. ICT facility is closer cooperation among libraries and distance learning communities. E-learning can be described as online learning, virtual learning, distributed learning, network, and web-based learning.

Definition :

According to Webster's New Encyclopaedia, information technology is the collective term for the various technologies involved in the processing and transmission of information. They include commuting telecommunication and microelectronics.

UNESCO defines Information Technology as scientific technologies and engineering disciplines and the management techniques used in information handling and processing, their applications, computers, and their interaction with men and machines and associated social, economic, and cultural matters.

According to the ALA Glossary of Library and Information Science, Information Technology is the application of computers and other technologies to the acquisition, organization, storage retrieval, and dissemination of information.

Analysis :

1. The researcher has gone through 6 college libraries and 572 undergraduate students. These college libraries are affiliated with *Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune*. For research purposes, the researcher distributed 600 questionnaires to students above them 572 (95.33%) responded. A total of 28 (4.67%) students have not responded to the researcher filling out the questionnaire.

2. Users Male/ Female –for this research there were 349(61.1%) male students and 223 (38.9%) female students.

3. The computerization of the library in the study area is almost completed. All the necessary work of the library is working with ICT. Only one college library was not computerized because of funding problems (non-grant college).

4. Frequency of library visits- a user of the library may not be always aware of his needs. Users visit the library for their educational needs like to borrow textbooks and references for their study. He also comes to a library to get new and latest knowledge from new papers, periodicals, etc. their frequency of visiting the library is different. The researcher found that 59 (10.31%) students visit the library every day. 312 (54.54%) students visit the library weekly. 111(19.040%) students visit the library 2-3 times a week and 90(15.73%) students visit the library monthly.

5. Sources used for getting information- till most users of the library thought that they could use and enjoy the writing of an author, editor, or online information. Books were not able to communicate the latest scientific thought. As a result, the importance of scientific prodigals increased. The available information shows that used printed materials students were 412 (72.20%), and 132 (23.07%) students used other sources for getting information.

6. Purpose to visit the library- the third law of library science says that every book in the library gets its reader. So all books in the library can be best used. 203 (35.48%) students visit the library for newspaper reading purposes. 107 (18.70%) students visited the library for reading journals. For issuing and returning the book 480 (83.91%) students visit the library. 57 (9.96%) students mentioned that they visit a library to keep up-to-date knowledge in the subject. 91. (15.90%) students visit the library for reference and reprography services. 110 (19.23%) students visit the library for browsing the internet, and 69 (12.06%) students visit the library to access e-resources and e-journals from the library.

7. Awareness about the availability of e-resources in libraries- academic libraries can play a major role in information technology implementation. The users come in, gain access to the information by means of

inspecting the library's holdings. In this research area 425 (74.30%) students use e-resources through the library and 147 (26.70%) students were not aware of this.

8. MSCIT or any computer handling course completed- the capabilities of today's computers and other equipment are being combined into multipurpose, integrated workstations capable of handling text calculations, voice communications, graphic design, and video display. In the next few years, we should use rapid progress in several areas, so everyone should have training in handling computers. In the study area, there were computer applications. 321 (56.11%) can handle the computer or have training in computer applications. 251 (43.89%) students have not taken any course in a computer literacy program.

9. Use of CD/DVD for educational purposes – electronic information resources in CD format include abstracting and indexing services, encyclopedias, dictionaries, yearbooks, back volumes, and many other reference works. In the study area 489 (85.48%) students were using CD/DVD and 83 (14.52%) students were not interested in using this technology for study purposes.

10. Wi-Fi service in the library – Wi-Fi technology has been playing a vital role in the day-to-day transactions of the information society. For research or preparing a project, this facility is very important for a student on a college campus or in the library building. In the study area 403 (63%) students said that they use this facility, and 169 (37%) students have not used this service.

II. Conclusion:

In the technological sea of knowledge, academic librarians and their teams have a very important role to play as they have to satisfy the critical multidimensional information needs of their users. They have to use those technological tools with which the user is comfortable in order to sustain the customer-driven market. There is a need to equip them with core competencies and emerging skills required for service delivery in the electronic information environment. The fourth law of Ranganathan i.e. saves the time of the user. However today the changing perception of users and technological advancements have forced academic libraries to introduce new services based on user interest. Thus, it is time to convert the generic skill of traditional to ICT which must be continuously updated so as to meet the need for changing service delivery mechanisms.

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