

ICT BASED LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICES IN CHANGING SCENARIO

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Abstract

Recent developments in Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) have characterized new ways of information generation, managing, and dissemination. The advancements in ICT has only made possible to provide information to the users on fingertips saving time as well cost of getting needed information To use ICT, libraries have changed the way of storage and dissemination of information to the larger extent. This paper gives brief information about the process of developments took place in the libraries with reference to collection and services.

Introduction

Libraries have been transformed with the advent of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) from manual treasure of knowledge to wireless information system with the ocean of resources. The implementation of ICT system in libraries have been felt in many ways starting from acquisition of library resources to provision of ICT based library services to users. The Development of ICT have resulted in the development of electronic resources in very fast way in every field resulting in information explosion. To face the challenge libraries, have to adapt new changes related to collection development, organization of e-resources and provision of certain facilities with the use of technology Also new library services have been developed to provide fast, pinpointed, exhaustive and up to date information needs of users. Thus, the Libraries are now more oriented towards IT Sector and environment is changed from manual library to computerized automated libraries.

A) Change in Library Environment

Collection Development : The adaption and creation of collection development policy to satisfy its users is a huge challenge before library and information centers. This challenge has become more difficult after the invention of internet as so to satisfy techno savvy users. These challenges arise in various forms and changes such as-

i) Books to E books - Development of digital library and to maintain the traditional library as well as a definitely a responsive task for librarian. In library collection, e books are gradually/occupying a significant position due to availability of internet on fingers tips, such an mobiles, pc, laptop and readers. Publishers are also producing large number of e books day by day to compete in electronic environment eg. Springer, Elsevier, Cambridge, University Press etc

ii) Journals to E Journal - The print journals are being transformed into e-journal and online journal. E Journals are stored in CD/DVD and online journal are available through internet. Presently, e-journal have become largest and fastest growing digital collection bar most of the libraries especially for research purpose The advantage of journal that they can be accessed easily and instantly eg. Science direct, Springer etc.

iii) Online Databases - A good number of online databases are available which contain a journal number one or more subject eg. ASME, ASCE, Emeralds Proquestete

B)Change in Access Tools to Retrieve Information Source

i) OPAC- Online Public Access Catalogue is the transformed digital version of traditional catalogue. It display the list of available resource in the library on one click to users in various types such title, author, subject like that of manual catalogue. An OPAC has more access points in comparison to the card catalogue eg ISBN, ISSN and keyword etc. The user can broaden up or narrow down their needs through the use of Boolean operators OR, AND NOT in OPAC, eg. OCLC, World Cat

ii) Online Databases: Various databases are available online through open as pay per as article service.

iii) Web OPAC-Advance online version of OPAC accessible through web is called Web OPAC, it enables user to access the resources available in Library from anywhere, anytime through online medium.

C) Changes in Library Services

i) Circulation - It is the foremost and main goal of Library to provide the information and sources available to the end uses. Earlier, the process was

manual and performed within Four walls of library. With the formation with ICT it is possible to provide this service in automated environment. The user can reserve book in advance without being physically present through online WebOpac services.

ii) Reference service - Now, in ICT environment and through advent of internet and social media, it is possible for Librarian to provide his users reference service in online environment through email, chat, virtual reference desk, and ask me services to satisfy users.

iii) Current Awareness service - In conventional CAS, Librarian had to compile current awareness list and bulletin containing bibliographical records of selected document manually of IT specially has enabled a lot of innovations in content management productions and distribution of current awareness service within shortest possible time. Various online tools such as weblog, webzines list serv are common provide latest information an hot topics.

iv) Online inter library Loan - the concept of inter library loan was evolved to Satisfy the need of user through loan service from other libraries if not available in their own library. With the internet it has become possible to access catalogue opac of members Libraries through webopac. Even the catalogue are also available online far easy access with login webbopac facilities.

v) Scanning- Library and Information center provide its user reprography services.. During this service, user get a duplicate or photocopy of the required document or page of the same. This service is provided through scanner. The requirement document is requested by the user the email or social networking in the form of message, the library and information centre scans the particular document and scan it and attachment in send the copy. In this matter, user need not have to come to library he can get hard copy from soft this when he needs.

D) Advantage of the challenge of ICT of libraries

- 1) Library have got new image as virtual learning center.
- 2) Library are able to provide fast, pin-pointed and exhaustive information in fraction of seconds.
- 3) It is easier to organize resources efficiently and access it when needed.

4) It save physical space of Library which can be used other purpose like reading space etc.

5) Various types of library reports could be generated easily which was tedious work before in manual system.

6) It helped library service professional to develop skills and knowledge among themselves.

7) It has created more job opportunities in library and information field.

E) Disadvantage of ICT challenge in libraries

1) Physical presence of users in Libraries has been reduced.

2) Due to availability of copy paste facilities reading habit of students have reduced which is not a good sign of research.

3) The production and availability of more no. unauthentic resources have contributed to degradation of study and research quality.

Conclusion

The libraries must adopt new forms in collection, development and services to compete with ICT environment. This ICT environment should be accepted with positive attitude by the Librarians because libraries exists for users and ICT is beneficial in many ways to users. Libraries must follow the five laws of library science but in relation with changing ICT environment. It is necessary to reengineer the library service to keep pace with changing needs and demands of the users. So, the Librarians have the challenge not only to gain expertise in these new technologies to satisfy its tech-savvy users but also make them literate about use of newly emerging forms of services. Therefore LIS Professionals shall adopt technology in the Library with change in attitudes, practices and policies to benefit its users.

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