"ICT FACILITIES AND SERVICES OF COLLEGE LIBRARIES"

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Introduction :

The information and communication Technologies (ICT) have brought revolutionary changes in handling delivering and storage of information. The transition of traditional library collections so digital or virtual collections presented the librarian with new opportunities and challenges. The internet, especially WWW has given the librarian a new dynamic role to play in the society and protocols, collaborative, multimedia, standards and protocols, architecture, world wide web has revolutionized the way people access information and has opened up new possibilities in areas such as digital libraries, virtual libraries, efficient information retrieval and dissemination. Our world continues to become increasingly complex, interconnected, and dynamic. There are more people and institutions; they engage in more relationships and exchange of information; and the rates information exchange continue to grow, because of developments in technology and the importance of information to human and technical development, we live in an information society in which more people must manage more information, which in turn requires more technological support, which both demands and creates more information. The general consequences of the information society are threefold; larger volumes of information, new forms and aggregations of information and new tools for working with information.

The application of ICT on library basically employs on its routine functions likeacquisition,technical processing, circulation, periodical management, stock verification,digitization andother maintenance works of the library. To save the time of the user as wellas library workers,nowadays, computerization work is very much important for the library.ICT provides suchplatform through which librarians can provide enhanced and very muchimproved libraryservices to their users well in time. In present day scenario, libraries, aswell as librarians, haveto face many challenges, some of them are:

- Change in the information needs of the users
- Change in the information habit of the users
- The openness of libraries to people (with OPAC, Websites, & Social Networks), and
- Networking which has made possible to expand access to resources.

To cope up with the above-mentioned challenges, the libraries have to employ ICT Infrastructure. Another side, libraries have shown progress over the past few years dueto the application of ICT based tools and technologies in their services & facilities.

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Information Technology :

Information technology has been making such an impact on various sectors of human activities that the present period has come to be called as information age. Development in information technology has changed the way in which information is stored job that is has affected the trinity of library, i.e.the staff, resources and users. Introduction of innovation like networking, internet, internet and video conferencing has created a multifaceted potential for libraries. I.T. has altered the mode of publication in such a way that along with the traditional print based sources of information, we are getting flooded with a lot of attractive electronic form of publication. The most significant advantage of electronic resources is that, they can be accessed from anywhere, anytime and any numbers of people to find their desired information. Information technology is an amalgamation of computer technology, communication, printing and reprography technology. In the information age academic libraries have to gear up to meet the challenges of ever increasing volume of information, decreasing ability of libraries for comprehensive acquisition of document, growing demands and increasing number of users and complex and multi-faceted user requirements to overcome these related problems, cooperation and sharing of information resources through networks assume Importance. It plays a vital role in enhancing the capabilities of libraries &information centre towards achieving satisfaction of their client.

It is pertinent to discuss the active role played by telecommunication in information processing the communication technology landline of sight and satellite communication has made the world a "Global Village' rapid development in the field of super highway technology in recent years has paved the revolutionary changes in different section including libraries. In addition to computer advancement, telecom & addition-visual technology has given the way to new possibilities in information handled by the libraries.

Why I.T. Required for libraries :

After II world war, huge amount of information in the form of books and other printed material has been produced, which has resulted into exponential of information pollution instead of information explosion. The libraries have found it very difficult to acquire, arrange and disseminate the information in traditional ways. So libraries are compelled to plan, organize and communicate the huge information according the needs of users with the help of I.T the information is no longer confined to books and documents in the custody of individual or educational institutions, now it has embraced audio-visual, multimedia with collar motion and three dimensions features etc. Application of modern technology viz computer and communication are bringing all these to the doorstep if the people. There are various electronics/ computer based information which are available for the libraries like online and offline resources compact disk(CDs), and the internet and due to this development in current scenario application of I.T seems mist for libraries Creation of database is the foremost step in application of I.T in libraries. For creation of the database, library has to select suitable Software package, keeping in mind the day to day activities of libraries viz, acquisition, cataloguing, circulation, serial control OPAC, administration, indexing, abstracting, current activities services, (CAS) and selective dissemination of information (SDI) etc.

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To cape up with the current development, and fulfilling the thirst of the users. The various factors which has contributed the application of information technology in libraries are :

I. Rapid growth in the information our put and its usage has made it impossible to store and organize information using conventional methods. Now a day's most of the documents are available in machine-readable format therefore the application of information technologies is necessary.

II. It is no longer possible for any library to collect all the published information. So with the help of IT, resource sharing can be done easily.

III. By using modern information technology in the libraries, efficiency of the staff can be increase and better advanced services may be provided to the users.

IV. Implementation on barcodes and RFID based services; libraries can satisfy maximum no of users in very short spanpf time.

V. Due to information explosion, literature search using manual methods is a very difficult, tedious and time consuming job where as computerized storage and retrieval of information make it faster and efficient.

VI. Now in libraries, it is very difficult to provide, inter library loan, translation, Anticipatory services, including preparation and annotated lists, abstract bulletin board, news summaries and other information retrieval services manually. Where as by the help of modern information technology above mentioned services can be provided in a very less time.

I.T. and Library Services :

It is established fact that IT has brought the revolution in the field of library and information science, as we have already mentioned that all library house-keeping activities like procurement, processing, organization and dissemination of information service are based on computer, communication and reprographic technologies, which has facilitated the following services being provided to the users more effectively vizards.

References services, Bibliographic Service, Referral Services, OPAC, Current Awareness Services, Document Delivery Service, Selective Dissemination Of Information (SID), Barcode Base/RFID Based Services, user orientation program, in-house personal training, Resources sharing and other service.

Such facilities, being extended to the academicians, researcher and library users to find their required information without any barriers, are possible only because of I.T application in library and information centres.

Objectives of the study :

1. To find out variety of technologies used for information storage, viz, macroforms, audio visual materials and such other storage technologies;

2. To know the availability of different types of computers in college libraries.

3. To findout different library software packages used in libraries – in house, commercial or otherwise other software's form different agencies:

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4. To know CD-ROM databases, fax, E-Mail and Internet facilitates available in libraries:

5. To identify problem related to procurement and use of various technologies;

6. To assess the acceptance of the use of technologies and libraries by library staff;

7. To know the training and orientation facilities provided to library staff and users of these technologies;

8. To find out special incentives introduced if any to motivate the staff and users to promote adoption and use of information technologies.

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