MOBILE BASED LIBRARY SERVICES IN ACADEMIC LIBRARIES

Ms. Mona S. Yeole
Librarian
J. M. Patel Arts, Commerce and Science College, Bhandara
Email Id : monayeole12@gmail.com

Mrs. Minal S. Bhoyar
Librarian
D. D. Bhoyar College of Arts and Science, Mouda
Email Id : bhoyarminal25@gmail.com

Abstract : In the digital era, Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) has been the composite in driving enormous change and development in academic institutions. Libraries being the pew sanctorum of any institution of upper learning. Now in a smart days, smart phones are charming a crucial a part of lifestyle. During this changing scenario, Mobile Technology are helpful to be of enormous help to libraries towards providing improved user oriented services. Nowadays, Mobile phones became the essential a part of human life for communication and it's helps to students in e-Learning.

Keywords : Mobile library, OPAC, SMS notification.

Introduction :

Mobile technology is developed for communication and online work purpose in covid era. Mobile phones have increased importance in education sector. Mobile phones are becoming more popularity among the youth. All students are very inquisitive about learning and using these technologies. Students can accessing whatever information they required through mobile phones. Most of students are using to internet to known about updated knowledge, e-mails and social networking sites. Mobile devices include laptops, note book computers, net books, cell phones, audio players like M3 Players, cameras and other items. Almost every students features a mobile connected to the web. The use of accessing the web through smart phones are increasing day by day. Mobile phones are supplement to spread of applications, which may support storing, receiving and straightforward access to file and use full information which students require in advancing their studies.

1. Mobile phones and library services :

In information age, the academic libraries are change and it's become a virtual mode. Libraries are intensely curious about channels for dissemination of data, like mobile phones, telephone lines and cellular grids and internet. Academic libraries are challenged in satisfying their user's needs. The web and World Wide Web have made it possible for university teachers, researchers, and students to locate what they have without getting to the library. Mobile phones and e-mail are commanding tools to allow rapid handling and response to the stream of users query from within and out of the library. Academic libraries are to keep

knowledgeable of the dynamically changing needs of their users. Mobile library service is such a specific information services that it are often achieved using the wireless technologies made available to all . Mobile websites offer free SMS to mobile services on the web.

2. Benefits mobile services :

2.1 Interactive Capabilities: The mobile Web offers users to retrieving information quickly and it helps to interrelate library staff to get specific reference far away from library.

2.2 Ability to Access Information: Through the mobile web, user can access information to anywhere at anytime and it'll be of great help for users who cannot visit library face to face and provides endless link to required information resources.

2.3 Time Saving: Mobile devices offer users to browsing and searching library resources. Users no got to wait at library transaction counter to renew/reserve books and thus the time of user is saved.

2.4 Personalized Service: Mobile library service may be a specialized and personalized service that helps to interact library professionals and gain specific references.

2.5 User Participation: Libraries can enrich OPAC by allowing users to comprehend user created content like notes or images uploaded by users.

2.6 Limitless Access: All online resources accessible on their desktop also become accessible through mobiles.

3. Library services via mobile technology :

3.1 SMS notification services- Libraries may provide the alerts on latest notifications, events and notices via SMS. The users can get alerted quickly with notice alerts like alerts on bringing new books, reservation of book etc. Insinuation of arrival of miserable documents by users, informing availability of reserved documents for collection, appraising about overdue books, reminders to return library items, renew books, library circulars, e-journals subscribed, change in timings, information about important events, loan request etc. Such alert notifications are often generated automatically using integrated library management system/software by M-OPAC. SMS messages are often sent to group of users, simultaneously through many free applications and intermediary websites/clients.

3.2 Formal Education,: Distance Learning and E-learning- Students are very versatile in using their mobile phones and various mobile applications. Academic libraries can harness the advantage to steer implementation of library services through mobile devices to support distance learning, formal education, and research activities in e-learning environment by making the knowledge resources ubiquitous.

3.3 Database Browsing- Libraries provide access to a spread of its resources and databases. The users can just enter examine terms and see results that are designed specifically for mobile viewing. This service includes OPAC (online public access catalogue), integrated

Volume - 3 (2023)
Issue - 1 (February)

LIBRARY SCHOLAR
International Peer-Reviewed Journal of Library Science

ISSN
2583-2549

search, and original document search. OCLC"s World Cat Mobile application allows users to search for and find books and other materials available in their local libraries through an internet application they will access from a PDA or a sensible phone.

3.4 E-resources with Mobile Interfaces- through website, Some publishers are delivering e-books (both text and audio) that are accessible via mobile phones. It offers access to a spread of databases and digital resources like e-Books, e-Journals, Web databases, dissertations, audio books, streaming music, films, images and article databases which may be used on mobile. A large collection of audio books are free-and subscription based services are available for download.

3.5 Library guide- Libraries can give users the best of library guide information such as library use guide, question answering service, and library statistics delivering rich content in a way that works best for users. If users have questions and need to contact the librarian for help, they will get a quick response from the library via the mobile device and find the acceptable information needed.

3.6 Mobile document supply- The mobile environment and technology present new opportunities for sending document requests and scanned images and monitoring the use of collections as well as the automation of administrative operations. It can provides electronic funds transfer, supply chain management, e-marketing, online marketing, online transaction processing, electronic data interchange, and automatic inventory management systems.

3.7 Text reference service- If the library receives a high volume of enquiries that need brief responses, like dictionary definitions, facts or service information then Librarians can provide instant answers, and links to articles/references in real time.

3.8 QR Codes on Mobiles- QR code stands for „quick response", and basically two-dimensional bar codes that can contain any alphanumeric text and often used to store URL"s, text, etc., known as „mobile tagging". Data are often translated into a QR code by any QR generator, many of which are available as free download. Users simply enter the info to be translated, and therefore the generator produces the code, which may then be displayed electronically or in printed format. Decoding the knowledge are often through with any mobile camera phone that features a QR reader, which is freely available online for many devices.

4. Advantages of implementation of mobile technology in libraries :

4.1User-friendly- Mobile users are using the facilities on mobile phones like SMS, instant messaging, web browsing, and e-mail to communicate. Most of these features are pre-installed on mobile devices.

4.2 Personalized Service- Personalized service helps users to interact with library staff to know specific information or reference away from library.

4.3 Ability to Access Information- Information access from anywhere at any time will be of great help for users who cannot visit library, in person and provides a constant link to required information resources.

4.4 Time Saving- Users need not record information about resources while browsing and searching library resources or wait at library transaction counter to renew/reserve books and hence the time of the user is saved.

4.5 User Participation- Libraries can develop OPAC by allowing users to include user created content like notes or images uploaded by users.

4.6 Limitless Access- All online resources accessible on their desktop also become accessible through mobiles.

4.7 Access to Print-disabled- Users Mobiles communications help providing services orally to vision-disabled and physically challenged users.

5. Conclusion :

Mobile Technology has developed a very important part of our life. Mobile phones were developed primarily for communication purpose. Mobile phones have gained importance in both the developed and developing countries. The mobile phone is a device that enables users to communicate, connect, transact and innovate. Mobile devices and mobile technologies have potential to facilitate the teaching and learning process in a great way. Mobile applications ropes learning by making library resources more ubiquitous, by bringing new users to the library through increased accessibility to the library resources, and by creating a new thanks to enhance connections between patrons and libraries.

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