

ICT – THE ROAD AHEAD FOR INFORMATION RESOURCE UTILIZATION IN RECENT ERA

Dr. Umesh Patel*

Abstract:

IN the IT era, academic libraries and information center have radically changed the information environment higher education institution started subscribing to Electronic resource to meet the users expectation the paper discussed on impact of electronic resources on the academic libraries. The main aim of this paper was to understand maximum utilization of e-resources in the present context.

* Librarian, SVIT-Vasad.

Introduction:

There has been a more change in the academic libraries due to the revolution in e-resource era. The networked information and access to information resources rather than holdings have become the order of the day, all over the world academic libraries besides, individuals subscribe electronic journals to meet their expectation.

The academic libraries of all sizes and types are embracing digital collection, although most libraries will continue to offer both print and digital collections for many years to come. New purchases and purchases of journals, magazines and abstracting and indexing services are heavily weighted towards digital, while digital books are only beginning to become a present library collection. Libraries prefer digital resources for many reasons such as digital collection save the space and are relatively easy to maintain.

The emergence of IT is one of the wonderful gifts of modern science and technology, which has brought tremendous changes in Library and Information Science. It has opened up a new chapter in library communication and facilitated global access to information crossing the geographical limitations.

Using ICT, libraries are also playing a very important role in facilitating access to global information and knowledge resources.

Components of ICT in Libraries:

ICT came about as a result of the digital conservation of computer technologies, telecommunication technologies and other media communication technologies.

The components of Information Technology, which frequently used in library and information center, are as under:

- Computer Technology
- Communication Technology
- Reprographic, micrographic and printing technology

ICT is the fusion of two important technologies: electronics and communications. The brief account of these Information and Communication Technologies is discussed below:

Computer Technology:-

This technology can be divided into following categories

- Workstations
- Super computers
- Personal computers
- Artificial Intelligences
- Computerized documentation system/integrated set of information system
- In magic
- Minisis
- CD-ROM technology
- Mainframe computers
- Mini computers
- Microchip technology
- Software Technology
- Book
- Libsys

Communication Technology:

Communication or telecommunication technologies are used to transmit information in the form of signals between remote locations, using electrical or electromagnetic media as carries of signals. Communication technologies comprise the following:

- Audio technology
- Motion picture
- Videodisc
- Teletext
- Mobile phone
- E-mail
- Teleconference
- Audio-visual technology
- Cable Television system
- Videotext
- Telephone
- Facsimile transmission
- Voice Mail
- Satellite technology

- Internet
- Wide Area Network
- Network technology
- Local Area Network

Reproduction Technology:

- Reprographic technology
- Printing technology
- Micrographic technology

Functions and Benefits of ICT Based Library system

ICT is used in various fields of library activities. Some of the areas where new technologies can perfectly be used are as follows:

Acquisitions:

- Acquisition / Accession list
- Order file/ report

Serials management:

- Serials check-in/out and claiming
- Union/holding list

Cataloguing/classification:

- Catalogue card/label production
- Retrospective conservation
- On-line catalogue

Circulation:

- Issuing
- Inter library loan
- Reservations
- Over dues

Audio-visual management:

- Audio-visual acquisition/cataloguing

Management:

- Accounting/budgeting
- Word processing/ mailing
- Scheduling/planning
- Statistics/report

Information storage/retrieval:

- Database construction
- Online database searching
- Down loading/ uploading
- Indexing and Abstracting

Reference/ Information services:

- Bibliographic listings
- Library instructions

- Public access/ computer literacy

ICT Based user services

Some library user are adopting electronic habits, making increasing use of the new ICT including computers, the Intranet, Extranet and other technologies. As a result library users are placing new demands on their libraries. They require access to the latest information, updated information resources and access to ICT facilities that they could use in their work.

Use of ICT in libraries enhances users satisfaction. It provides numerous benefits to library users. Some of the benefits are:

- Provide speedy and easy access to information
- Provides remote access to users
- Provides round the clock access to users
- Provides access to unlimited information from different sources
- Provides information flexibility to be used by any individual according to his/her requirements
- Provides increased flexibility
- Facilitates the reformatting and combining of data from different sources.

Libraries are also providing various ICT-based services to their users, including the following

- Provision of Web access to OPACs
- Electronic document delivery
- Networked information resources
- Delivery of information to user desktops
- Online instructions

- Online readers advisory services

ICT in Libraries: Various Challenges:

The use of ICT in libraries has raised a number of challenges:

- Changing role of libraries and librarians
- Funding for libraries
- Copyright management
- Information access
- Preservation of digital information resources
- Legal deposit

Conclusion:

The use of newer, digital ICTs- because of the ability to integrate multiple media, interactivity, flexibility of use and connectivity- are inspiring remarkable transformations in education around the world. These transformations hold promise for the improvement of the lives of the rich and of the poor, whether living in developed and developing countries. Advances in wireless telecommunications, virtual reality, pervasive computing, artificial intelligence, speech recognition and next generation networking technologies promise to remodel today's educational applications as comprehensively as the computer revolutionized yesterday's.

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About Author



Dr. Umesh A Patel holds B. Com (Advance Accounting) from Anand Commerce College, Anand (Sardar Patel University, V V Nagar) in 1986 and completed M Com with Management from Department of Business Studies, S P University, V V Nagar in 1989.

In addition to above he also did Bachelor and Master in Lib. & Inf. Sc. From Department of Lib. & Information Sc., S P University, V V Nagar in 1990 and 1993 respectively.

At present working as Librarian since last 12 years at Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Institute of Technology, Vasad – a premier Engineering Institute of Gujarat. Along with regular duties, he has completed Ph. D (Planning & Use of E – Documents in Engineering College Libraries in Gujarat : A Study) from Dr. Baba Saheb Ambedkar Open University, Ahmedabad. In June 2010. **More over he is also a recognised major guide for the students of PhD in Lib. & Inf. Sc. at Manav Bharti University, Solan and Singhanian University, Jaipur.**