Modern Libraries: A need of present Era

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Abstract: Library plays an important role in providing people with reliable content. Although digital technology growth rapidly in the 21st century, but the importance of library is still there for its users. The rapid growth of information technology has considerably increased our capacity to process information and exponential growth in the information sector. The effect of information technology rises from its hallmarks such as enabling technology which can be applied in a different range of circumstances, the capacity of the technology increased very fast ; and the cost of the technology falling rapidly. Ambience of libraries needs to be changed because the documents of library is moving toward a digital platform and Internet access of library documents is becoming more user friendly. The implementation of modern technology in libraries is very important now.

Keywords: Library, digital , knowledge, information technology.

INTRODUCTION:

The transformation from traditional library to digital library is a latest trend for the libraries in the present world. Digital library development requires in each sector executive and civil-society frameworks, to conjoin in promoting its creation and usage. Basic infrastructure for connectivity and interoperability, including funding, man power, workshop and leadership must be in favour of providing more digital projects . The new generation, which is known as millennials or netizens, is more user friendly in online working environments. The demands of the users have increased rapidly. Currently the users don't want the content with place- based library services as they want library and information services beyond the four walls of the physical library. It is more desirable for the libraries to transform as per the expectations and demands of their user society. Libraries have to implement new technologies for providing innovative information services in order to retain their existing clientele and attract new ones. The fifth law of library science by Dr. S. R. Ranganathan "Library is a growing organism" is true to the environment of the modern library that means a library should be a dynamic institution that is never static in its perception.

Types of Modern Libraries:

According to the mode of services rendered to the readers; libraries are broadly divided into three types:

i. Automated Library
ii. Digital Library
iii. Virtual Library

i.Automated Library: An automated library system usually consists of a number of functional elements, such as acquisitions, circulation, cataloguing, series and an OPAC (Online Public Access Catalogue). An "integrated" library system is an automated system, in which all of the functional elements share a basic bibliographic database. Library work compries of a number of inter-related activities and the data generated during these activities are of repetitive in nature and useful in different sections. The Manual work involves recurring the same task in different sections of a library. The aim of automation is to consolidated these tasks and minimize reprise of work.

ii.Digital Library: Digital library, is an online library, an internet library, a digital repository, or a digital collection of online database of digital objects that can include text, images, audio, video or other digital media formats accessible through the internet . It is also called a repository containing different content types ranging from research papers, reports and newspapers. Institutional repositories are not exactly digital libraries but digital collections that capture, collect, manage, disseminate and preserve scholarly work created by the members of an institution. The open source software movement has created digital library and institutional repository speeded the digital library creation process. Libraries are today playing an important role in the creation of institutional repositories because of open access feature. Digital libraries are store contents in electronic formats and manipulate large collection of these contents in very productive way. Research into digital libraries is research into network information systems, concentrating on how to

develop the necessary infrastructure to effectively manipulate the information on the Net (National science Foundation 1999).

iii.Virtual Library: Virtual library concept has developed with the growth of telecommunication networks, specially the internet. Virtual library is a collection of resources available on one or more computer systems, where a single interface or entry point to the collection is provided online. The virtual library simulated a 'real' library, but it is a product of the virtual world of the internet. Virtual library operates as a nexus of selected information management activities within the organisation, some of them centralised, but most of which happen through the efforts of decentralized staff, resources, systems, and even outside suppliers, which are accessible and dispersed throughout the organization. The Virtual Library has changed the traditional focus of librarians on the selection, cataloguing and management of information resources such as books and periodicals.

MODERN LIBRARY SERVICES:

Access to E-resources: Traditional libraries processed, organized and delivered various print resources like books, journals, newspapers, magazines etc., now they can access their e- forms like e-journals, e-books, e-theses and dissertations and online databases. The libraries subscribe to e-resources and provide access to these resources via Internet. The electronic resources are also known as online resources. They include "born digital" contents which have been produced directly online and print resources in any form either scanned or digitized. Database is refer to a collection of records each of which may have numeric, textual or image- based data..The bibliographical databases provide references to published information like J-Gate, Scopus, etc. and they provide abstracts of the journal papers. The users may read the abstracts and make an informed evoluation of the relative papers for their research needs.

Resource sharing: Resource sharing,as it's name specify the meaning- common use of resources by two or more libraries. It is an effort by libraries to share information resources and services which may be limited or specialized and might not be available with a single library. No library can be self-sufficient because of many reasons like huge information, large numbers of documents, lack of space, shortage of staff etc. So there is a need of resource sharing & for resource sharing form association and networks to share online resources like databases, online journals and books, theses and dissertations. Libraries form an consortia or network to procure and share resources and services. The examples of some consortia are: INDEST (Indian National Digital Library in Engineering Sciences and Technology) https://www.icolc.net/participating-consortia/indest-aicte-consortium-merged-e-shodh-sindhu- INDEST was set up by Ministry of Human Resources and Development in 2003 on the recommendation of an Expert Group appointed by the Ministry.UGC-INFONET Digital Library Consortium http://crl.du.ac.in/Infonetresources.html - The UGC INFONET Digital Library Consortium is major initiative of University Grants Commission (UGC) to bring qualitative change in academic libraries in India.

Remote access: Libraries provide "single sign on" facility to their users for remote access of the resources. In it, a single unique password is provided to the member of library, who can access all the resources of the Library, with logical access to the library.

Union Catalogues and Web OPAC: The union catalogue is a combined library catalogue of a number of libraries describing the collection of libraries. Union catalogues and Web OPACs both are very useful to the library, as they help to find the location and requesting content from other libraries for document delivery and interlibrary loan.

Digital Reference services: Digital reference service is e-reference service, in which the user interact with computers or other Information technology to communicate with specified staff, without being physically present. Different types of communication channels used in digital reference ,these are chat, videoconferencing, e-Mail, voice over IP, or Instant Messaging etc . It is also called as virtual reference service, online reference and remote access reference service.

E- Mail: This is the electronic mail facility which enables messages to be sent from one person's computer to another across over the network. Libraries provide different types of reference services through e- mail. The e-mail address of librarian is given on the library's website, readers can write and ask any assistance for their information needs or any other facet related to library. It is easy to users as they can ask any query related to their interest without physically visiting the library. In online environment, the readers can freely submit their doubt, unlike in face to face conversation in which the users may be hesitant to ask questions and seek help.

FAQ(Frequently Asked Questions):FAQ stands for frequently asked questions. It is a file or list of frequently asked questions with answers in the form of question and answer. The FAQs offer help to the users by giving information on

various perspectives, tasks of the library. The library staff prepares a list of questions which are frequently received by the library staff, provides answers and upload it on the library website. The readers can easily find the FAQs in order to get answers to their queries related to library contents.

Reader Advisory Service: Libraries also offer advisory services to the readers including online book lists. This service provides users with information they need to select a book. It is a value- added service, and fulfil 3rd Law of Library Science(the user with the right book).This service is provided by public libraries for promoting fiction books. This service may also be provided in academic libraries to help the new researchers who want to deep study for their knowledge in a specific field. For provide this service, the reference staff should know about the availability of various titles in any given field. They should be friendly with the library's collection. The reference staff should be capable to convey their advise in a friendly, polite and conversational manner.

Web 2.0 tools: Web 2.0 tools are web- based facilities which allow users to easy access, contribute, describe, web-mediated content in various formats, such as text, video, audio, pictures and graphs. Some of the Web 2.0 based popular websites are Flicker which can be used to share Photos, YouTube for sharing videos, Last.fm for sharing audio, and MySpace for sharing text-based information. These sites allow users to create, describe, post, search, share and communicate online content in various forms. Libraries use Web 2.0 tools are used for imparting information literacy to the users. Libraries can use blogs like promotional tools to inform clients about additions services ,new arrivals and other changes in positive direction in the library services and collections. Libraries share pictures, events and instructions by using podcasts and vodcasts. Libraries are also actively embracing the use of these tools for serving the users and attracting the potential users. These tools help libraries in offering their resources and services to their users in a proactive way.

IM (Instant Messaging) and SMS (Short Text Messaging): Instant messaging allows online communication between two or more people using text based short messages via the web in real time. The reference staff may answer ready reference questions, directions or policy related queries through IM and SMS. The reference staff is required to be very detaied and to the point while responding to the instant messaging (IM) & short text messaging (SMS) queries. If an answer to a query is long, the staff may ask the user to give an e-mail address so he can provide him more information on the particular topic in context or encourage the user to visit the library. The users find IM and SMS helpful for their convenience , quick help.

Creating Finding Tools and Websites: The reference staff creates finding tools and pathfinders for library users. The libraries prepare pathfinders for very common queries raised by the students. The pathfinders may help and refer the users in selecting and locating appropriate reference source, databases, search terms, authoritative current websites, and tips for searching the OPAC for any other additional material.

CONCLUSION:

Information and communication technologies have greatly affected the library systems and services. Traditional libraries should be acquired with these technologies to become modern. In the digitalized era the automated, digital and virtual libraries around the globe is need of today.. A modern library is has print as well as e- resources, and provides traditional printed as well as the IT based services. As digitization initiatives have picked up momentum in the country, there is a need to make consistent national policies and procedures for creation and management of modern libraries.

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