ROLE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY IN LIBRARY

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Abstract

Information technology is currently taking center stage and transformed the whole world into a global village with a global economy, which is increasingly dependent on the creative management and distribution of information. The enormous advantages it has in easing the delivery of information around the world. The paper discusses the Role of information technology in libraries in the age of knowledge and information societies. It also highlights the problems faced by the academic colleges in Maharashtra and achievements over the years using modern information technologies. Over the past two decades computer base technology have been dominant forces to shape and reshape the services in academic library has to offer. The application of information technology has had a profound impact on the way library resources are being used.

Keywords : Information Technology, Information Centre, Application in rural area

Introduction:

The current era has acquired the name 'information era' the new technologies have accelerated the research and development, and lead to information explosion. This in turn has made impact on storage, retrieval and dissemination of information. The combinations of disciplines covering computer technology, telecommunication technology, Satellite technology, reprographic technology, printing technology and CD-ROM technology have contributed to the emergence of information technology. Man's infinitic capacity for invention and desire for discovery, exploration, and research has lead to rapid growth of technologies and thereby information technology, Information explosion has created problems for proper processing and dissemination of information which can be only be solved with the aid of this information technology. Technologies, especially computer and telecommunication technology have highly revolutionized the field of library and information science. They facilitate collection, storage, organization, processing, analysis, presentation, communication and dissemination of data and information for decision makers using telecommunication and reprography. With the introduction of new information technology, libraries are now expected to use various types of technology to provide information more quickly and in greater volume than before.

The Role of Information Technology in Libraries:

We are living through a revolution in information technology which is transforming the way knowledge is stored and exchanged; touching the very core of our culture. This is era of information explosion in which the large amount of information is being generated at every movement. The ability to collect, store and disseminate the large amount of information needs application · of new technologies. New information has become very vital tool, possessing of which reveals economic and social advantages. In the information technology advancements are also emerging equally fast as the expectation level to cope with the large amount of information. Information technologies are shaping and changing all of our institutions as these are closely related to the mission of libraries and are changing capabilities of libraries.

Academic library or college library is an integral part of the institution. All educational libraries develop and design their collections and services to meet the institutional programme of the institutions. Academic library have been acquiring, processing, circulating and preserving information materials in all media, although emphasis has been on paper base materials such as books and journals. Introduce the information technology in academic libraries has been improved and change the face of information acquisition, processing, dissemination and storage. Information is being acquire both in paper and electronic format and academic libraries are able to convert some of their collections to machine readable format. Information technology has also facilitated networking, creation and accessing of remote electronic data books and wide range of information & product. Use of information technology and access to electronic information network is slowly transforming libraries from book-Centre to information Centre.

Area in library the Information Technology use.

Information technology plays a vital role to set up the modern library in this situation librarian is a key factor to implement the such types of Information Technology in the library, mostly it is found that .the librarians in the academic libraries are interested to control the explosion of information through the use of computers and library software.

Following are the area in the library the information technology use.

(i)   Preservation of information

(ii)   Dissemination of knowledge

Preservation of information

Preservation and control of information is basic and most important work of any library for this work library can use the following hardware & software in the library.

1.   Computer

2.   Library software

3.   Scanner

4.   C D server
5.   Robotic Technology
6.   RFID

Dissemination of knowledge

Dissemination of knowledge is also the important & skilled work which is done by librarian & other library staff with the use of information & communication technology in the library.

- On line public access catalogue
- WEB OPAC
- INTERNET
- E-MAIL
- Bar-code technology
- RFID (security)

Advantages of Information Technology in Library

- Easy access to document
- Universal viewing using a browser.
- Able to access all platforms and handle all clients.
- Data collection and dissemination over the internet is quick.
- Easy to navigate.

Purpose of using Information Technology in Library

- Disseminating searching locating viewing and updating classified and indexed document.
- Providing access to database.
- Mirroring interesting websites to be accessed off-line.

Information Technology Application in Rural Areas libraries in Maharashtra

The most important task for any developing country is to aim at eradication of mass information poverty by spreading the benefit of information technology. In this great adventure many developing countries like India are facing several practical problems. Especially in the college which is in the rural areas · in Maharashtra following problems are generally seen in interim parts of rural areas.

1.   Librarian not interested to apply for Information Technology in library.
2.   Management not interested.
3.   Librarians are failed to communication with Information Technology.
4.   Inadequate development of Information communication Technology in interim parts of rural areas.

Conclusion:

It is up to the individual libraries and information professionals to visualize, plan and execute information technology in the emerging electronic infrastructure. This paper only mentioned the tip of the iceberg, what we have achieved in academic library. A blend of commercial product and locally develop database content on the hands of computer friendly information professional will go a long way in improving the way information is collected, organized, provided and retrieved in this part of the globe.

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