



## **2. An Analytical Study of ICT Based Library and Information Services in Maharashtra University of Health Science Nasik**

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### **ABSTRACT**

Information is dynamic and unending resource that affects all disciplines and all walks of life. ICT has revolutionaries the field of library and information services. ICT has developed to such a stage that it has given access to information at fingertips. UNESCO defines Information Technology as “The scientific, technological and engineering disciplines and the managerial techniques used in information handling and processing; their applications; computers and their interaction with men and machines and associated social, economic and cultural matters.

### **Introduction**

#### **Ict and Academic Libraries: Impacts**

Oyedun (2007) defines academic libraries as those libraries that are mainly found in tertiary institutions, they are established to support learning, teaching and research processes. Over the past twenty seven years, academic libraries have been affected by changes in information and communication technology. The rate of changes is still accelerating in this area. The introduction of various information technology (ICT) trends has led to reorganization, change in work patterns, and demand for new skills, job retraining and reclassification positions. Technological advancement of the past twenty five years, such as the electronic database, online services, CDROMs and

introduction of internet has radically transformed access to information. Rana (2009) opines that ICT holds the key to the success of modernizing information services. Applications of ICT are numerous but it is mainly used in converting the existing paper-print records in the entire process of storage, retrieval and dissemination.

ICT has impacted on every sphere of academic library activity especially in the form of the library collection development strategies. ICT presents an opportunity to provide value-added information services and access to a wide variety of digital based information resources to their clients. Furthermore, academic libraries are also using modern ICTs to automate their core functions, implement efficient and effective

library cooperation and resource sharing networks, implement management information systems, develop institutional repositories of digital local contents, and digital libraries: and initiate ICT based capacity building programmes for library users. In some academic libraries, ICT has brought a special library service to the clients known as embedded librarianship whereby all departments in schools are provided online products/journals are mainly for their faculty, e.g. AGORA etc. The faculty concerned is given a password to access it. Other e-journals available in academic libraries are DOAJ, (that is Directory of Open Access Journal), AEJP (that is African e-journal Project) etc. Information and Communication Technology (ICT) has brought unprecedented changes and transformation to academic library and information services, conventional LIS such as OPAC, users services, reference services, bibliographic services, current awareness services, Document delivery, interlibrary loan, Audio visual services and customer relations can be provided more efficiently and effectively using ICT, as they offer convenient time, place, cost effectiveness, faster and most-up-to-date dissemination and end users involvement in the library and information services process. The impact of ICT characterized on information services by changes in format, contents and method of production and contents and method of production and delivery of information products. Emergence of internet as the largest repository of information and knowledge, changed role of library and information science professionals from intermediary to facilitator, new tools for dissemination of information and shift from physical to virtual services environment and extinction of some conventional information services and emergence of new and innovational web based. Libraries and information centres play an essential role in meeting society's information needs.

Information Technology (IT) in libraries is having a remarkable impact worldwide. It has become a phenomenon that is so pervasive that nearly all academic libraries in Nigeria have begun applying IT. Omekwu (2004) observes that: Information Technology has brought about various forms of libraries and mode of disseminating information. There are now available such libraries as Automated Library, Polymedia Libraries, Electronic Libraries, Virtual Libraries and Digital Libraries. Each of these forms of IT induced Library System has its own specific features, requirements, service mode, and associated problems. Nwalo (2000), observes that the application of IT to library services has brought about tremendous improvement and makes possible more services. Mosuro (2000) reiterates the relevance of IT to library functions and services: Over the years, advances in the area of IT have offered Library and Information Centers more efficient ways of acquiring, organizing, storing and disseminating information. New Information Technologies are becoming an integral component of and have the potential of changing the status quo of libraries and librarianship. Computers as well as other information technology have come to play prominent roles in information management. It is unthinkable that any academic library can function effectively without the appropriate use of IT.

### **Information & Communication Technology (Ict): An Overview**

An education aims to impart knowledge and makes better citizens. Libraries are the repositories of knowledge and constitute an essential part of education having long history, starting with the chained and closed-access libraries of earlier times to the present-day, digital and virtual libraries that use the latest technology for terms of

information through various services. (Mahajan, 2005) Information and communication Technology (ICT) has brought enormous changes in the approach people work and continue living. Each aspect is extremely affected by the information technology. The uprising that happened about half a century back has developed at an exceptional speed of carrying a concept shift in the today's society. Commencing from unconnected structures of a few years ago, we have now started living in a networked surroundings. Even from the wired networks of current history, we have arranged ourselves to wireless networks extended over huge campuses. The field of library and information centres is not an exception to this phenomenon. Fast expansion in Information and Communication Technology (ICT) has distorted the long-established perception of libraries. The traditional libraries in a technology driven knowledge society have undergone huge transformation in relation to the repositories of information, distribution of information, conservation of materials in diverse formats namely print, audio, visual and other multimedia. In this new era, the whole world has become integrated in to a single world system. The arrival and use of fiber optic communication, satellite and internet has resulted in sudden increase of information and globalization eventually. The job of libraries has extended from printed material to that of providing access to wide range of digital information. ICT is used as enabling technology for the acquisition, demonstration, storage, transmission and use of resources in digital form ICT. ICT supports transfer and universal access to information and its proper storage, recovery and arrangement. The explosions of computer and communication technologies, which are referred to information communication technology (ICT), have affected almost all aspects of human life including library.

The emerging trends of information Communication Technology (ICT) and its application explore the opportunity to make more efficient the functions and services of Libraries. This paradigm changes have not only specified new exploratory and innovative thoughts of managing the functions and services of Libraries but also create a extraordinary challenging environment for professionals and information officers to fulfill the astonishing information desire of users and also to manage the unimaginable exploration of electronic information. ICT in Libraries have made easier production, storage, access and easy dissemination of electronic information. Consequently, the user is becoming more demanding in terms of availability of specific, measurable, accurate and timely information.

### **Electronic Resources:**

In this era of Information and Communication Technology (ICT), The "Libraries" are now being to know as with the new identification that is called "Knowledge Resource Centers or Knowledge House" where any scholarly information are available to any user at any time which has been made possible by the services of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) where has information collected, stored, organized, accessed, retrieved and devoured. Here, we cannot forget the words of Humble Prime Minister of India in the context of Digital India Campaign "The world Internet population was 205 million in 2013 and is projected to grow above 300 million by 2015. It indicates the speed of the Digital momentum for the development of any nation. The libraries and knowledge centres are also running in this optimistic direction and are being converted as digital libraries for providing improved service to the users". In the present era almost all libraries are going to on the path to modify their

libraries from “Traditional form to Digital form” whether it is academic, public, or special library. Therefore, in this ICT era the emphasis has shifted from ownership physical resources to access to electronic resources that are globally accessible (Manhas & etc. 2015) Development of Internet has transformed the traditional thinking of users as well as librarians. These days a single search can produced hundreds of thousands of items. So that this incredible searching power of Internet has produced electronic resources or e-resources in the libraries.

**E-Books:** E-book means the book which is available in digital format which is consisting of text, images, or both, readable on computers or other electronic devices. In other words, an eBook is a just like any other book but readers can be used it with the help of electronic devices, like computer, smart phone, I-pad, or some other devices which is specially designed for the reading of the e-books. With the Innovation of the computer and the Internet in the 90s, medium of communicating information and knowledge transformed in the “Digital Form” from the papers. An E-book is an equivalent with change of communication medium. It is a digital medium. The paper is replaced by light screen be it TFT of LCD or its future.

#### **Electronic Journal (E-journals):**

Electronic Journals are the journals which are publishing on the web and access through the Internet. The one of the most advantage of e-journals that it can be accesses multiple. In others words that one electronic article can access in the same time by the multiple users so Internet has ended the boundaries of Information. Furthermore, many journals are available free of cost, anyone can access this e-journals.

#### **E-Database:**

E-database or Electronic database are the database of any type of reading materials. It may consist of books, periodicals, report & thesis and any other relevant reading materials. These materials can be converted in the electronic form that allows access through Intranet of Internet. In this electronic information era, more and more online database in bibliographic as well as full text sources are available and also added up frequently with the growing demand of users.

#### **E-Magazines:**

Electronic magazine is electronic version of a magazine. Users can access e-magazine through internet. Now numerous renowned magazines have been starting their e-prints version such as Times, National Geographic etc. Besides, to see the benefits of electronic publication several renowned publisher has stopped their hardcopy publication and now they are only available in the electronic form.

**E-Newspaper:** E-Newspaper is equivalent to E-magazine. It's available in the form of electronic version. Now, all the prominent newspapers are available in electronic form. Users can easily access e-newspapers and update them self with latest news articles.

#### **Challenges of Using Ict in Libraries**

- a. Constant change of software and hardware
- b. Erratic power supply
- c. Insufficient bandwidth
- d. Lack of technical IT knowledge by library staff
- e. Copyright and intellectual property rights management
- f. Poor funding of ICT infrastructures

## **Review of Literature**

Kaur (2016) studied on Impact of ICT on Libraries of NCR.

In the study she strived to identify as to what extent the libraries of prime institutes in Delhi are benefited with the emergence of ICT based product and services. The prime goals of the study were to discover the current scenario about the digitization in the NCR libraries. The data collected from the fifty education libraries of the region. Kumar (2015) surveyed on ICT facilities and services among Engineering College libraries in Rayalaseema Region of Andhra Pradesh. The study was presenting information on different ICT facilities and services provided in engineering institutions at Rayalaseema Region of Andhra Pradesh. The article had been addressing current status of institutions providing library services such as traditional, electronic, and document delivery services and facilities like hardware, software and communication resources. Questionnaire tool had opted for data collection and 92 Engineering colleges had selected for study in the Region, they all established after 2010. A majority of 72 colleges (88.89%) were responded. Atonring (2015) scrutinized on ICT (Information and Communication Technology) Infrastructure in the University Libraries of Tamil Nadu: Perspectives from Library Professionals. The study revealed ICT applications in Indian University libraries were not achieved elevated. Indian libraries are continue facing the lack of budget, lack of skilled staff, lack of training programmes on the way of implementation ICT application and services in their libraries. The universities have been facing many difficulties to make their libraries fully automated although finally the study concluded that numerous libraries have satisfied with their ICT applications and services

## **Objectives of the Study**

- a) To find out the present status of ICT in Maharashtra university of health science Nasik
- b) To evaluate the role of ICT to help library services and operations in university libraries
- c) To find out computerization services offered in these libraries
- d) To study the problems & prospects of ICT in university libraries
- e) To know about the various library software used in the university libraries
- f) To know utilization and significant effect of ICT in User services

## **Research Methodology**

In this proposed study we will use two type research methodologies like, primary and secondary, in this study include secondary sources data like, books, reference books, journals, Magazine, Papers, research papers, Thesis and newspapers.

## **Statement of Problem**

Today ICT has become the essential part of human beings day to day life. Now, ICT become the heart line of each and every profession including library profession also. With the help of information and communication technology today's libraries are providing exceptional services to their users. Subsequently, the younger generation is the digital generation and they are very comfortable in use of information and communication technology (ICT) in their everyday life as well as for education activities.

## **Scope and Limitation of the Study**

There are many universities in Maharashtra along with a Maharashtra University of health science Nasik University;

It is supposed that all of them are possessing well infrastructure library facilities for the students and the faculty members. It is also supposed that users of the libraries are satisfied with the existing services rendered by the respective libraries in the region but as the ICT is intervening all the times, there are still the chance of improving and adopting new technology time to time. The study will be limited to information communication technology based library and information services in Maharashtra University of health science Nasik.

### **Need of the Present Study**

Since ICT has become an imperative part of higher education and university libraries and with the help of ICT, University libraries have been providing numerous advanced services to users. The users of university libraries are UG, PG and research scholars and they all need advanced information in their respective fields so it is prerequisite for the universities libraries that they try to offer best ICT service to the users. The users of this technology era demand several ICT service such as internet browsing, online database, e-journals, e-books, online lectures programmers, institutional repository, video conferencing etc. While India is moving very fast towards new digital world whereas everything will available in the digital form, in that situation it is necessary to evaluate the ICT application and service which have been providing by university libraries In Maharashtra.

### **Significance of the Present Study**

Education plays an incredible role in the development of any state or any nation. Therefore, we are able to say here that universities of the state are playing an extremely significant role in building up this small hill state.

However, universities are the pictogram of higher education everywhere. The strength and standards of the university are evaluated through its library. The libraries of the universities provide their services to under graduate, post graduate and research scholars along with teachers and staff. Academicians are the major user of the university library and they always need information speedily. Therefore, the resources of university library must be adequately developed and efficiently organized to ensure their maximum utilization. User's particular need or requirement should be the main goal of the libraries and in order to fulfill user's information, libraries must be acquainted with variety of library services.

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