

Role of ICT in Library of Agriculture Universities

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INTRODUCTION

The current development in science and technology has led to a new staggering condition about information created in the world. In the present ICT era, it becomes necessary for librarians to use the computers and other devices in the day-to-day work. In this context, the librarians shall possess, in addition to the academic and professional qualifications, certain ICT skills, such as handiness in operating systems, use of application software packages, knowledge of databases and programming, acquaintance in webpage design, library automation software, technical skills, and managerial skills. This survey has been aimed to estimate the level of knowledge on ICT skills by the respondent librarians. This paper analyses various ICT skills possessed by librarians like programming languages, application software packages, Database management system (DBMS), library management software and web design and also finds out the constraints encountered by librarians in acquiring ICT skills. Information is recognized as an important resources and currency of 21st century, but ICT has revolutionized the information handling activities in the library and information centres during the past few years. The information society demands that all the relevant technologies that are involved in information, processing, consolidation, repackaging, communication and retrieval be merged so as to evolve an integrated system capable of providing diversified services.

ICT has the world becomes global village which has changing in to the national information infrastructure. Now communication technology have high revolutionaries in the field of library and information science they facilities collection, storage, organization, processing, presented communication, management, information retrieval and dissemination of information, data with the introduction of new technology.

Library services are expected to use various types of technology to provide information more easily, effectively it reveals the Dr. S.R. Ranganathan's fourth law of library science "To save the time of User/Reader"

What are ICT?

Information, Communication, Technology: ICT are the hardware and software that enable society to create, collect, consolidate and communicate information in multimedia formats and for various purposes.

Information:

Information as a term has been derived from the Latin words *Formatio* and *Forma*. This means giving shape to something and forming a pattern, respectively. Information adds something new to our awareness and removes the vagueness of our ideas. The society gets information of all knowledge divisions through Internet, recorded books, journals, audio- video, files, computer etc. Generally speaking, "Information is that which is transmitted by the act or process of communication, it may be a message, a signal or a stimulus. It assumes a response in the receiving organism and therefore, possesses response potential. Information is seen as "Something constructed by human beings.

Definition of Information:-

"Information means ideas; facts and imaginative works of mind have been communicated, recorded, published and or distributed formally and informally in any format". (ALA Glossary of Library and Information Science (1983)). "Information is knowledge communicated concerning some particular fact, subject or event." (Oxford English Dictionary (1989)).

Communication:-

Etymologically the word "communication" comes from the Latin word *communis*, Meaning common. When we communicate we are trying to establish 'commonness' With someone. That is, we are trying to share information, an idea or an attitude.

According to the Oxford dictionary "communication" is the imparting, conveying

or Conveying or exchanging of ideas, knowledge etc., by means of speech, writing or Any attempt to define communication, has to take into consideration the idea of Mutuality and commonness, an exchange, a shared environment, a social relationship Among the participants and the existence of a common need. Urge, aim or goal.

Technology:-

Technology is an application of science especially to under trial of commercial objective. Technology, the application of scientific knowledge to the practical aims of human life or, as it is sometimes phrased, to the change and manipulation of the human environment.

Information Technology:

Information and Communication Technology (here after briefly regarded as IT) stands for applications of computer aided and electromagnetic media in transmission of information. IT includes computers, TVs and Internet Services. In the form of an equation IT can be expressed as:

IT = Computers + Electronic Communication.

According to ILA Glossary "IT is the application of the computers and other technologies to the acquisition, organization, storage, retrieval and dissemination of information."

ICT has affected and impacted the library services in many ways are following:

1. Library Collection Development
2. Circulation
3. Reference and Information Services
4. Resources Sharing
5. E-journals
6. Periodical Control
7. Internet and CD-ROM facilities
8. CAS and SDI Services and Document supply
9. Telecommunication Technologies,
10. Telephone,
11. Audio-Video Services
12. Library Networks
13. Online retrieval services
14. OPAC *etc.*

In short ICT will help to remove barrier of distance, time and drudgery of repeated manual efforts in library routines. The advancement in technology will continue to improve upon the effectiveness of the libraries and is indispensable for handling message between libraries and library users.

Application of ICT based Library Services

In the context of library services are user of ICT application in library is the collection, storage, organization, retrieval and dissemination of information processes using the technological tools.

- 1 The application of ICT in library function and services makes library smooth, simple, speedy and effort proof. This ultimately will help users.
- 2 The library helps in educating a person and therefore a society. The enlightened society creates enlightened nation. Thus the application of ICT in library directly helps in creating a healthy nation.
- 3 Automation and mechanization of every function of the libraries.
- 4 Compact storage of information, easy accessibility and faster communication.
- 5 Automation library catalogue: increasing numbers of libraries are making their catalogue electronically available over the internet which may extend the use of library resources.
- 6 Document delivery services may be provided electronically using Internet technology.
- 7 E-mails allow users to send messages of files to each other.
- 8 Telnet or remote login-allowing users to log into remote sites.
- 9 FTP and HTTP allowing users to access and retrieve files at remote sites.
- 10 The www allows users to jump from one resource to another in easier way,

without going through gopher style menus.

- 11 The open source initiatives: the open achieves, open source software, institutional and digital repositories.

ICT based E-resource Library Services Provided in Agricultural University Libraries

Users:

- 1 CD-ROM Searching database provides for online access services to library users.
- 2 On-line networking service access to databases would help get newly published information to library users.
- 3 Photocopying service is most of the research libraries have reprographic machines and provide photocopy of any document on demand of library users.
- 4 On-line information services are anticipatory or responsive of library users.
- 5 News clipping scanning service to online newspaper services and some are organization do this by their library.
- 6 On-line reservation service must be provided in all library users.
- 7 Database searching service.
- 8 Audio-Visual service.
- 9 Internet Access service
- 10 E-query Services.
- 11 RFID Technology service.
- 12 Global Mobile Service (GMS)
- 13 Various Security Equipments.
- 14 OPAC service
- 15 Providing access to internet and internet based services.
- 16 Providing access to web based resources.

The Functions of Modern Agricultural University Library User

- 1 Application of wide range of new relevant technologies in Agricultural university Library users.

- 2 Computerization and networking of all Agricultural University Libraries operations, resources and services in users.
- 3 Build appropriate combination of both print and electronic information resources.
- 4 Providing a gateway access to the content of local and global resources and services from users' offices and homes.
- 5 Providing guidance and training in the usage of digital resources.
- 6 Provide responsive products and services to meet the user needs and expectations.

CONCLUSION

ICT is not only a technology but also it manage with the library objectives with the adoption of ICT, Library can face the new and

modern information techniques. ICT play an important role in enhancing efficiency in development of library service. The central role of the library profession remains the same, but methods and tools for information storage and retrieval continue to grow and change dramatically. Libraries must understand information seeking behaviour of users to re-engineer their services and provide information efficiently. The result of this study reveal users who are more or less satisfied with library collections and services, but to train in the use of online information. Although document delivery service is being provided on demand, the researchers pointed out that it would be worthwhile if the library could provide them with indexing, abstracting and interlibrary loan service as well. User's education about library using is must and should be carrying out as a seminar or workshop training.