APPLICATION OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY IN THE LIBRARY

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ABSTRACT

The present article gives an overview application of Information Technology in the library. Information Technology plays a vital role in the library. Library can not achieve their aim of growth and high standard knowledge without IT. Information Technology has changed library and information services globally. Information is a base for all the developmental activity. Library is an accumulation of knowledge and service agencies. The author defines the library in briefly. The article highlights importance of IT in the library because Information Technology is very important for management, planning, decision making, research work etc and it provides current information to users. Library automation and library software discuss in this article. The author also tells the need for automation. Library software consist LIBSYS, SOUL and CDS/ISIS. These softwares have been defined by the author. The author also discusses housekeeping operation. The author observes that Digital library is very important these days. Multimedia and Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) explain briefly in this article. Internet which provides access to communication services and information resources to millions of users around the globe also define in this article. The author highlights the need of Information Technology in library. Conclusions and valuable suggestions are given in the last.

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Introduction

Information Technology

Information Technology is the combination of microelectronics-based computer technology and modern communication technology for the collection, organization, analysis and dissemination of information in all forms such as sound, text, graphics, animation and video. IT has already become the symbol of development and it is influencing all spheres of human development. All the techniques and tools, human beings have so for developed, for making information transfer efficient, flexible and transparent can be brought under the purview of IT. The progress being made in the fields of computer technology, communication technology and digital content creation are integrated or converged to form what is called IT. Modern computer is a machine that collect, process, store and disseminate information. Library is also place, where information is collected, processed, stored and disseminated. Today information plays a very important role in our working and everyday lives. It is only because of the availability of computer and computer networks; it became possible to manage information very efficiently. Information Technology enables libraries to provide most efficient and specialized information services.

Library

Library is a place where books, newspapers, periodicals, manuscripts, maps charts, microform etc, are kept for reading. Library is an accumulation of knowledge and service agencies. It disseminate the information one phase to another. Library preserved the records and these records are very useful and beneficial for society. Library and society are inter-linked and it is very important for every aspects of society. Library is used to transfer knowledge generation to generation. Library is a treasure house of Knowledge. It is as the heart of any institution. Users can read these documents without any distinction and they can increase their knowledge with help of library. Knowledge is a power. Important role of library such as development of education, maintain the culture, improvement in the society, create the discipline, economic development, welfare the society, research work etc. It is also very significance to democracy,

positive attitude, past, present, future. It can remove illiteracy, corruption, poverty, unemployment in the society. It provides knowledge in society and it bright the society by the knowledge.

Library plays prominent role in the society. It is a placid place and everyone can read here without any disturbance. Everyone likes to sit in the library because they can increase their knowledge. Human being can misguide to anyone but library is a faithful place and it cannot misguide the user. Library can baulk the indiscipline in the society. User can read in the library uniformity. People can mystique personality with help of library. Corruption, unemployment can be removed by library. We can applaud the library in every field. It is very luminous place for society. User can reach accurate consequence by library. They can ransack new thing in library so we can say that, library is marvelous place. It gives liberty everyone. Importance of library can not overlook. It can pander the person in every place so library is a paramount. Library brace the user who come in the library and user can not be fiasco because it provides the direction to user. Success can procure by the library. It is not extravagant place for anybody. It can not pester the life of person it gives the direction the person and we presume that it can change the life of users. Library comprises maximum documents and user can get any document in easy way. Library does not disdain as race, religion and caste and everyone is equal in the library. Ultimately, library is very significant for society. The time we spend in the library is the most rewarding us. Anyone can take momentous decision with help of library. The growth in library has a very salutary effect. Library is very lucrative for the society.

Application of Information Technology in the Library

Information technology now plays an important role in improving the library facilities. Information Technology is very indispensable for the society. IT is used to transfer information one phase to another. IT can change the life of persons. IT is very important for management, planning, and decision making. It provides current information to persons. User can get any information with help of IT. It is also beneficial for education, success of users. Recreation is possible through IT. It is helpful for research work Some of Library Packages are: LIBSYS, CDS/ISIS, and SOUL. Large data can be handled with ease and accuracy with help of IT. It avoids duplication work and easy to use. Data can be used again and again by this. It increases

efficiency and speed in operation. Computers system lend in updating the record files much more quickly and easily than in the manual system. IT saves time in storing the information, information handling, information processing, information retrieval etc. because all these functions are done at enormous speed. Inputting the records in the system in machine readable form provides them greater protection against loses of these records by fire, earthquake and other natural disasters. There is no need for increasing the manpower. IT improves cooperation and resource sharing among libraries. It provides current information easy way. It disseminates information very high level and earlier. It provides better service to the users and provides more accurate records. It helps save the money. IT has made profound impact on the libraries and their working. A computer can be used repetitively to process information. IT plays a very important role in preserving and communicating the knowledge to the user of library. It saves precious time and helpful in the easy integration of various activities within a library and between libraries in a network. It increases the variety of services offered by the libraries from time to time. It helps in save time, space, energy and financial resources. The access to electronic resources is very easy and it is multiple accesses. IT provides facility to search across a wide range of journal articles and other links. The information provided is up to date and of good quality. It reduces lot of paper work. It helps to save time, space, energy and resources. It facilitates cooperation and resource sharing through library network. It facilitates faster information communication. It can store huge amount of data and it is highly consistent.

Library Automation

Library automation means the use of computers in the routine and important services of a library. It is also related to minimize the intervenes of human activities and maximizes the uses of latest technology. Library automation saves time in storing the information, information handling, information processing, information retrieval etc. It improves co-operation and resource sharing among libraries. It helps the library authority in proper planning and decision making process for managing its library and collections.

Need for Automation

The automation of library is a developing country like India is a matter of serious consideration because of the difficulties experienced in transfer of technology is seen as one of the crucial factors in dissemination of information. Information is both fugitive and a truly international resource, available to those equipped to receive and absorb it. The great demand for information both by individuals and the society and widespread availability of computers coupled with decreasing cost has enabled the building of large computerized information systems. The application of new information technology ensures that useful information will be made available to users effectively at faster speeds and saves valuable time of the users.

Library Software

The success of library automation systems are depending upon the features of software application. A large number of software is available today's to automate the library. Most popular softwares are given below.

LIBSYS :-   LIBSYS is an integrated library management software package designed and developed by LIBSYS corporation New Delhi. It was initially developed in COBOL language but now converted in C language and supports almost all the activities of library related to acquisition, circulation, cataloguing, serial control, articles indexing abstracting, OPAC etc. It is easy to operate and the library staff can begin to use it quickly without any pre-requisite programming/computer skill.

SOUL: -The SOUL (Software for University Libraries) is windows based, state-of-the-art library automation software designed and developed by the INFLIBNET centre, an IUC of university grants commission Ahmedabad. Soul software is very powerful tool that is suitable for any library including university and college libraries and can also be used in special or public libraries. The software comprises following modules: - Acquisition, Catalogue, Circulation, OPAC, Serial Control and Administration.

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CDS/ISIS: - Computerized Document System/ Integrated Set of Information System) is advanced non-numerical information storage and retrieval software developed by UNESCO. CDS/ISIS is an entirely different software package used by all over the world.

Application in house keeping operations such as:

Acquisition

Classification

Cataloguing

Indexes and Thesauri

Circulation

Stock-taking

Serial Control

Digital Library

A digital library is a library in which a significant proportion of the resources are available in machine readable format accessible by means of computers. The digital libraries are electronic libraries having large and diverse repositories of electronic objects. Digital library supports library functions such as circulation, serial control, acquisition control, stock maintenance and other routine office works and developing in-house database. It accesses national and international journals which are being published only in machine-readable form. It provides facility for networking and resources sharing. It supports multimedia components.

Multimedia

Multimedia is simply multiple forms of media integrated together. Multimedia is any combination of text, graphic art, sound, animation and video transmitted by the computer or other electronic means to its users. It is useful at home, in business, institutions, libraries etc. It aids in video-conferencing and allows creating, editing, retrieving and storing the information. It helps the users in providing all the information from different media and saves space. Large numbers of reference sources are now available on multimedia CD-ROM for use in the libraries.

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It can be used as an instructional medium in the libraries. It makes new and innovative library services possible.

Radio Frequency Identification (RFID)

Radio Frequency Identification is one of the most exciting new library technologies in years. RFID is a means of identifying a person or an object by using a radio frequency transmission. These wireless automatic identification data capture systems allow for non-contact reading or writing of data, and they are highly effective in manufacturing and other hostile environments where bar code labels cannot survive. RFID is the latest technology to be used in library theft detection systems. It is the complete security and inventory management package for modern libraries. It is a combination of radio-frequency-based technology and microchip technology.

Internet

The Internet is a huge network of computer, which links many different types of computers all over the world. It provides access to communication services and information resources to millions of users around the globe. Internet is used to send and receive e-mail, download files, play games, online shopping, online conferencing etc. Internet has become a tool of a researcher and very much a part of academic work in institutions. Internet is very indispensable in the library. It has always been the trend that libraries have to cope up with and incorporate the advances in technology to give the latest information in a fashion that is acceptable by the users. User can search new thing by internet. Internet is also helpful for communication. The use of internet in libraries can be seen in the following areas: Acquisition, collection development, bibliographic services, OPACs, consultant services, academic sites and library schools.

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Need of Information Technology in library

The manual performances of library functions were getting difficult. Documents are increasing in library but space is very less so information technology is very obligatory in library. IT can perform functions very accurately. Searching of information, compilation of bibliographies, and preparation of current awareness bulletins, indexing and sorting can be processed by Information Technology in a few hours. It saves the time and keeps maximum information in less space. Information retrieval is also possible by IT.

Conclusions and Suggestions

IT is an electronic technology used for collecting, storing, processing and communicating information. IT is a combination of computers and telecommunications technologies. Library is a place where books, newspapers, periodicals, manuscripts, maps charts, microform etc, are kept for reading. Library plays important role in the society. Information technology is very indispensable in the library. Various softwares are used in the library. Digital library are growing these days. Multimedia is also very useful in library activities. RFID is a new technology which is used in library. Internet is very helpful in the library. Application of IT in the library plays important role in the library. In this way, IT is very useful and beneficial in library.

It is suggested that library should use more funds on IT. Administrative guideline is also necessary in the libraries to reduce the wasteful expenditure. It is suggested that Information Technology should be increased in the library. Library should provide training the whole staff so that staff can help the users according to their requirement. It is suggested that libraries provide maximum services to the users so that users can save their time and maximum users can come in the libraries. Library should make planning in advance for the development of the library. Library should purchases good software for library. Library should be totally digital form.

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