ROLE OF LIBRARIANS IN PROMOTING EMERGING ICT ENVIRONMENT

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ABSTRACT

The paper focuses on the role played by librarians in promoting the emerging ICT environment to users who are unaware of the modern services in library. Librarians should provide or make available all required modern services to the users, reader's, research scholar, faculty members and students. This paper describes about varies consideration for designing suitable technology practices and services, analyzing the needs and requirements of users from time to time through appropriate method.

INTRODUCTION

The impact of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) is enormous and global in its magnitude. ICT profoundly affected library operations, information resources, services, staff skills requirements and user expectations. The proper exploitation of new technologies in library is no longer a matter of choice but a matter of survival in an era of rapidly changing technology global knowledge society. The versatility and power of ICT includes accommodation of increase workload, achievement of greater efficiency in improving existing services, ability for generation of new services, facilitating cooperation and in providing for an integrated approach without regard to format, location or medium through which it is served, "one stop information shopping" in the quest for quality and productivity in information services and products.

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Trend:-

ICT has been identified as a trending tool that can enhance multifaceted development globally. ICT concerned with storage, retrieval, manipulation, transmission or receipt of digital data. Importantly, it is focused with the ways these different uses can work with each other effectively and efficiently. ICT is a technology that transmits, stores, creates, displays,

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shares, or exchange information by electronic means. ICT is modern science of gathering, storing, manipulating, processing and communicating desired types of information. The libraries and Librarians must adopt ICT to be a successful part of information environment.

Appli cation of ICT:-

E-Learning:- an advanced system for learning through ICT becoming an engine of innovation for users. It is widely used to promote distance education in an effective way.

E-Resources:- part of "Invisible Web" which is essentially information accessible through the internet. Most E-Resources subscribed by librarians contain password protected web contents available only to staff and students via library portal such as e-books, e-journals and newspaper.

Wi-Fi and RFID Technology:- used for preventing theft of books, articles, searching of books misplaced, tools used as stock verification, controlling issue and return of books.

Subject Gateways:- designed to help users locate high quality information available on internet. These are typically, data bases of detailed metadata records describe Internet resources and offer a hyperlink to resource.

Portals and Vortals:- Portal typically has search engines,free email and chat rooms. Vortal is a vertical portal. Vortal is a website that provides a gateway or portal to information related to a particular industry such as healthcare, insurance, automobile or food manufacturing.

E-Literacy:- has ability to locate, evaluate, manage and use information from a range of sources for problem-solving, decision- making and research.

IPR:- Intellectual property Right (IPR) , the field of IP law is essentially the protection from theft of virtually all intangible products of human intellect or creativity.

Reprography Service:- technology of reprography made a big impact on the document delivery system. Most of research libraries have reprographic machines and provide photocopy of any document on demand.

Newspaper Clipping Scanning service:- Print media is useful for research needs but many organization and individuals are turning to online newspaper clipping services and some organization do this by library.

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On-line Services:- allows to reserve books and journals which are on order, being processed by Library or on loan to another reader.

Database Searching Service:-   `provide the users with exact information they need, depending on their interest profile, from collection of major national and international databases.

Library Audio-Video Service:- media libraries and large academic and public libraries hold audio visual material such asDVD, films, pictures and photographs etc.

Internet Access:- internet enabled terminals are provided in library that can be used for internet access and email etc.

E-question Services:- E-Query service is Web- enabled contemporary reference service offered to the registered members of the Library together handle queries received in person or by e-mail.

Web OPAC Service:- Online public access catalogue (OPAC) , when made available on Web is called Web OPAC. While searching library collection using OPAC , we can use operators like, OR, NOT and make query more specific. It is to know that management libraries surveyed available on Web.

Web 2.0 services:- It is next generation of web. It is knowledge environment where human interaction generate content that is published, managed used through network application in a service oriented architecture. It is all about interaction collaboration and social networking.

Library 2.0 services:- it is the application of the concept 2.0 coined by Librarian Michel Casey in Sept.2005. It is model for Library service that encourages constant and purposeful change inviting user participation in creation of both physical and virtual services.

Automated library catalogue, increasing number of libraries are making their catalogue electronically availability over the internet which may extend the use of library.

Gopher a text only, non graphic method of receive internet document which have interpenetrated into the World Wide Web.

These services are enabled to economize the services from single platform, to avoid duplication of subscription to strengthen the services of networking and encouraging research and development by providing information in easy accessible way.

Skills and Knowledge required by Librarian as information provider are as follows:-

Librarian is a mediator between user and graphic records that previous generation have produced and goal of librarian is to maximize the social utility of these records for the benefits of academic libraries, students, research scholar, etc.

He has to act as facilitator, advisor, consultant, instructor, searcher, researcher, evaluator, organizer, preserver, promoter, communicator, technical experts as well as manager and visionary.

Must aware of value of information, develop interest in co-operation and co-ordination in building and sharing of information.

Re-inventing require dedication, motivation, decision making and knowledge in available field, standardization in methods and procedures of providing information.

Follow technology based learning and teaching (TLT). Computer Assisted learning (CAL) is need of hour.

Developed capacity to evaluate the precise requirements of the users besides having knowledge of how to access theworld resources available online.

Improve their skills via good quality education library programs, practical training, seminars and conferences.

Expert knowledge of information resources and their proper evaluation in different formats and media both onsite and remote to support instructional program.

Understanding information intricacies of the process of information transfer and special understanding of information barriers.

Provide information that directly answera queries rather than providing document that answers it.

Ability to retrieve valuable information from huge sea of open multicultural, multilingual, almost uncontrolled and ever-growing repository of information.

Re-inventing skills required to appreciate influx of new technologies into library services.
Must understand users and their social, emotional and intellectual needs.

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Explore new approaches and methods applicable to various aspects of library services and add value to existing practices or add new practices adopting for end user benefit in providing new and improved services.

CONCLUSION:-

Librarians efforts of use of technology in designing and delivering the information products and services in library has always yielded good results to users. It is quite understandable that ICT environment can provide both users and librarian with sustainable and seamless access to knowledge, course content, information resources and services, all from integrated service point. ICT and many more best and innovative practices and services can retain and attract users, students, research scholar and faculty members in the library. Library professionals have to recognize the expanding nature of technological changes and challenges that they face in today's time of ICT and realize to improve the range of professional competencies required to adapt and manage the changing technology successfully.

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