UTILITY AND MANAGEMENT OF ELECTRONIC RESOURCES IN THE LIBRARIES OF ENGINEERING COLLEGES OF ALIGARH DISTRICT, UTTAR PRADESH: A COMPARATIVE STUDY

ABSTRACT

FOR THE DEGREE OF

MASTER OF PHILOSOPHY
IN
LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

SUBMITTED BY
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प्रज्ञा शील करुणा
ESTABLISHED 1996

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Year 2015-2016 **Enroll. No. 1498/15**

Roll No. 101038

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INTRODUCTION:

Electronic resources represent an increasingly significant part of the collection development activities of libraries. Electronic resources refer to those materials that require computer access, whether through a personal computer, mainframe, or handheld mobile device. They may either be accessed remotely by the Internet or locally. Some of the most commonly come across categories are:

- E-journals
- E-books
- Full-text databases
- Indexing and abstracting databases
- Reference databases (biographies, dictionaries, directories, encyclopedias, etc.)
- Numeric and statistical databases
- E-images
- E-audio/visual resources

HISTORY

Early History

In his 2001 report entitled Selection and Presentation of Commercially Available Electronic Resources, Timothy Jewell of the University of

Washington discussed the home-grown and ad hoc management techniques academic libraries were employing to handle the acquisition, licensing, and activation of electronic resources. He concluded that "existing library management systems and software lack important features and functionality" to track electronic resources and that "coordinated efforts to define needs and establish standards may prove to be of broad benefit."

FEATURES OF SYSTEM:

Features of some ERM systems include:

- Supporting acquisition and management of licensed e-resources
- May be integrated into other library system modules or may be a standalone system
- May have a public interface, either separate or integrated into the OPAC
- Providing descriptions of resources at the package (database) level and relate package contents (e.g. e-journals) to the package record
- Encoding and perhaps publicly displaying licensed rights such as e-reserves, course packs, and interlibrary loan
- Tracking electronic resources from point of order through licensing and final access
- Providing information about the data providers, consortial arrangements, access platform
- Providing contact information for all content providers

- Logging problems with resources and providers
- Providing customizable e-mail alerting systems (e.g. notices to managers when actions are expected or required)
- Linking license documents to resource records
- Supports retrieval of SUSHI usage statistics

CURRENT SCENARIO IN TECHNICAL EDUCATION:

Looking at the current status of technical education in India, the education policies should evolve with the changing demands of employability and career prospects. Poising a futuristic outlook, federal and state policies of technical education should revamp on organisation restructuring, strategic revitalisation of functional areas, uniformity and academic reforms to overcome deficiencies in regional imbalances, providing operational freedom and autonomy, backed-up with quality policies and accreditation procedures in place. Furthermore, the education should be strengthened to have a learner-centric pedagogy and should stimulate practical, result-oriented learning to ensure quality-controlled, up-to date, relevant innovative education for all.

RELEVENCE OF THE STUDY:

Electronic resources management is to permit knowledge management to efficiently supervise all electronic resources and web subscription. The present study will help to know the level of management of e-resources. It will also help to identify the problems of management of e-resources and their utility.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM:

The problem chosen for the study is entitled, **"Utility and Management of Electronic Resources in the Libraries of Engineering Colleges of Aligarh District, Uttar Pradesh: A Comparative Study"**. The study will find and compare the various methods of management of e- resources adopted by Engineering Colleges of Aligarh District of Uttar Pradesh and to know the level of management of e- resources. The study is also about to determine the utility of electronic resources among users in library of Engineering Colleges of Aligarh District of Uttar Pradesh.

The fast growing information and communication technologies has led to a remarkable change fostered by the availability of tremendous electronic information resources and services. The 21st century certainly belongs to ICT related innovations and applications in modern institutions including academic libraries. Applications of ICTs have encountered the LIS professionals and users of electronic information with new tasks and challenges. The challenge for academic libraries, library professionals and users, is to become familiar with the application of ICTs in the field of LIS for the purpose of optimum utilization of electronic information resources and services. The user education plays a vital role in providing necessary information and use of techniques to locate and access the electronic information resources.

IMPORTANCE OF THE RESEARCH WORK :

In last two decades many private engineering colleges are permitted to run and spread education in every corner of country. But it is important that library is the heart of all institutions. It proved to be more substantial in life of man. Hence, it has been primarily important and interesting to study status of development and management of engineering college libraries in western vidarbha region. Hence it seemed to be very much relevant and significant to study analytically. It is also valuable to study whether they all fulfils the criteria imposed upon by AICTE or not and to study their objectives about development and levels of standard and also to study available reading materials and facilities providing to the users.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:

- To find out the status of e- resources in the libraries of Engineering Colleges of Aligarh District;
- To explore the various methods of management of e- resources adopted by Engineering Colleges of Aligarh District;
- To identify the problems of management of e- resources in the libraries of Engineering Colleges of Aligarh District; and
- To determine the utility of electronic resources among users in library of Engineering Colleges of Aligarh District.

HYPOTHESES OF THE STUDY:

- All the libraries of Engineering Colleges have adequate collection of electronic resources;
- The management of electronic resources is in good and update condition in the Libraries of Engineering Colleges of Aligarh District;

- The users of Engineering College libraries are familiar with e-resources and prefer to use them; and
- All the librarians are satisfied with the utilization of electronic resources in Engineering Colleges of Aligarh District.

SCOPE OF THE STUDY:

The scope of the study is all the Engineering Colleges of Aligarh District of Uttar Pradesh. There are 13 engineering colleges available in Aligarh District of Uttar Pradesh which is listed below:

- Aligarh College of Engineering and Technology
- Al-Barkaat Institute of Management Studies
- Aligarh College of Pharmacy
- Om Sri Sai College of Pharmacy
- ACN College of Engineering & Management Studies
- Vivekananda College of Technology & Management
- Institute of Technology & Management Aligarh
- SSLD Varshney Girls Engineering College,
- Vision Institute of Technology
- Shivdan Singh Institute of Hotel Management and Catering Technology
- Braj Institute of Management & Technology
- Institute of Information Management & Technology
- SSLD Varshney Institute of Management & Engineering

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY:

The type of research will be used for the present study is descriptive research which includes surveys and fact-finding enquiries of different kinds. The major purpose of the survey will to know the level of utility and management of e-resources with special reference to Engineering Colleges of Aligarh District of Uttar Pradesh at present. The sample of the study will be the librarian and the users of library from the Engineering Colleges of Aligarh District, Uttar Pradesh.

DATA COLLECTION TOOL:

Research tool is a fundamental requirement which determines the validity of research. The study will focus on the management of e-resources and accessible by users and data will be collected with the help of structured questionnaires for librarian and library users, personal visits to all Engineering Colleges of Aligarh District.

The questionnaires will be filled by collage librarian and library users. The questions will frame according to the objectives of the study. For framing of question following steps will be taken into consideration:

- The questions included will be relevant to the study.
- The questions will be simple, clear and to the point.
- The questions will be close and open ended.
- The questions will be arranged in proper sequential order.

REFERENCE STYLE:

The references will be provided according to the "American Psychological Association (APA)" sixth edition of the APA Manual. The prescribed style will be used throughout the dissertation including with the

text. All bibliographical entries including review of literature are presented according to the surname of author in alphabetical order.

TENTATIVE CHAPTERIZATION:

1. Introduction
2. Review of related literature
3. Profile of the libraries of engineering collages of Aligarh District
4. Electronic Resource Management : An Overview
5. Data analysis, Interpretation and findings
6. Conclusion and Suggestions

- Bibliography
- Appendices

CONCLUSION

The world of knowledge must be accessible to any particular end user of any library. This trend is most acceptable and preferred by the academic community. It necessarily implies a change in collection management practices followed by college libraries. There are many studies which reveal that for a considerable span of years, the pace and development of collection management was an unshared domain of the librarian. Collection Development policy is a largely neglected area of research in librarianship. Clark(1976) examined that simple surveys and reporting of statistics of libraries are not enough. He insisted on a well designed experimental research on many of the collection development problems faced by practitioners in decision making.

Now academic librarians feel the pressure of adapting as they have to develop and expand e-resources along with their print collections. E-resources have an impact on collection management policies and collection management functions. They have drawn attention in these two important areas that have been neglected for a lengthy period in many college libraries.

SUGGESTIONS

The success of modern academic libraries depends on how efficiently they capture, create, manage and deliver the electronic information services contained in internal and external databases and websites. Electronic information resources provide opportunities for libraries, professionals and users to access and utilize the services for academic and allied purposes. The remarkable progress in the development of ICTs has created new avenues to libraries in terms of storage, processing, data capture technologies and delivery of information resources. The technological advancements have brought about new changes and modifications in the management of knowledge which is available in the form of electronic resources. The role of ICTs in the in house activities of academic library environment is unlimited and unavoidable since these tools bring all sorts of latest and retrospective information to the users in modern engineering colleges.

The analysis of the data represents the extent and level of utilization of electronic information resources and services by various stakeholders of engineering education, training, research, development, publication and so on. Modern information scientists have emphasized the need for optimum utilization of these resources on the basis of scientific content management

in networked environment. Hence, the present evaluation assumes profound professional significance in the age of information revolution.