

OPEN SOURCE SOFTWARE AND LIBRARIES

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ABSTRACT

In this era of transition from information age to knowledge society, the libraries have much greater challenges to face. The whole insight of library has now changed from collection of books to a single window knowledge bank. This paper discusses the definition and features of open source library management software, criteria of selection of best open source library management software there, advantages and limitations. The paper describes in brief about the feature of NewGenLib open source software is useful for developing digital library and institutional repositories.

KEYWORDS: Open Source Software, Advantages, NewGenLib etc.

INTRODUCTION

In the present era digitalized databases are being compiled in majority of the library services, which are based on information technology as well as resources available in electronic formats. In order to manage all kinds of resources and information, libraries require high quality integrated software, along with cutting edge retrieval tools. However, the high price of such software prevents most of the libraries from using them. So as to deal with this issue and for the benefit of research scholars and the user communities of libraries, different NGOs organizations and individuals have developed software, which are distributed free of cost. Known as free/open source software, these are extensively available on the internet and can download, installed and distributed.

DEFINATIONS

➤ **Software :**

Software means computer instructions or data anything that can be stored electronically is software, in contrast to storage devices and display devices which are called hardware.

➤ **Open source software :**

Open source software (OSS) is computer software with its source code made available with a license in which the copyright holder provides the rights to study, change and distribute the software to anyone and for any purpose open source software may be developed in a collaborative public manner.

ADVANTAGES OF OPEN SOURCE SOFTWARE

Today open source software has become critical for almost every organization. Almost everything requires open source software, be it telecommunication systems, accounting, personal productivity applications, contact management and operating systems amongst others. We have experienced and skilled software engineers who can proficiently build a software system by using open source software. With our expertise in java development, we can also develop application blocks. We also use our system integration services to make sure that the new application that we create can be easily integrated with your existing systems. Outsource open source software development to O2I and benefit from high-quality services at a cost-effective price.

Open source software can have a major impact on your entire organization. There are several advantages of using open source software. The following are a list of the advantages of opting for open source software.

1. Lesser hardware costs

Since Linux and open source solutions are easily portable and compressed, it takes lesser hardware power to carry out the same tasks when compared to the hardware power it takes on servers, such as, Solaris, Windows or workstations. With this less hardware power advantage, you can even use cheaper or older hardware and still get the desired results.

2. High-quality software

Open source software is mostly high-quality software. When you use the open source software, the source code is available. Most open source software is well-designed. Open source software can also be efficiently used in coding. These reasons make open source software an ideal choice for organizations.

3. No vendor lock-in

IT managers in organizations face constant frustration when dealing with vendor lock-ins. lack of portability, expensive license fees and inability to customize software are some of the other disadvantages. Using open source software gives you more freedom and you can effectively address all these disadvantages.

4. Integrated management

By using open source software, you can benefit from integrated management. Open source software uses technologies, such as, common information model (CIM) and web based enterprise management (WBEM). These high-end technologies enable you to integrate and

combine server, application, and service and workstation management. This integration would result in efficient administration.

5. Simple License management

When you use open source software, you would no longer need to worry about licenses. Open source software enables you to install it several times and also use it from any location. You will be free from monitoring, tracking or counting license compliance.

6. Lower software costs

Using open source software can help you minimize your expenses. You can save on licensing fees and maintenance fees. The only expenses that you would encounter would be expenditure for documentation, media and support.

7. Abundant support

You will get ample support when you use open source software. Open source support is mostly freely available and can be easily accessed through online communities. There are also many software companies that provide free online help and also varied levels of paid support. Most organization that creates open source software solutions also provides maintenance and support.

8. Scaling and consolidating

Linux and open source software can be easily scaled. With varied options for clustering, load balancing and open source applications, such as email and database, you can enable your organization to either scale up and achieve higher growth or consolidate and achieve more with less.

OPEN SOURCE PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES

Beta Bigwig

C, C++

Eiffel

Java

Lua

Mono

Perl, PHP

Python

Smalltalk Squeak

OPEN SOURCE SOFTWARE FOR LIBRARIES

Evergreen

Koha

NewGenLib

PMB

E-Prints
Fedora
Ibiblio
Liblime
D-Space
Greenstone

SELECTED OPEN SOURCE SOFTWARE

Major software's developed and available are described briefly along with special features and uses of NewGenLib open source software.

NewGenLib

NewGenLib (New Generation Library) is an integrated library management system developed by Versus Solutions Pvt. Ltd. Domain expertise is provided by Kesavan Institute of Information and Knowledge Management (KIIM) in Hyderabad, India. NewGenLib version 1.0 was released in March 2005. On 9 January 2008, NewGenLib was declared open Source software under GNU General Public License (GPL) License by Versus Solutions. Currently NewGenLib 3.0.3 U2 is the latest version running. Presently about 2500 libraries and information centers are using NewGenLib across the world.

FEATURES

- Functional modules are completely web based. Uses Java Web Start Technology
- Compatibility – Complies with international metadata and interoperability standards: MARC-21, MARC-XML z39.50, SRU/W, OAI-PMH
- Scalable, manageable and efficient
- OS independent
- Windows and Linux flavors available
- Unicode 4.0 complaint
- Easily extensible to support other languages
- Data entry, storage, retrieval in any (Unicode 3.0) language
- Networking – Hierarchical and distributed networks
- Automated email/instant messaging integrated into different functions of the software
- From letters are configurable and use XML – based Open Office templates
- Supports multi – users and multiple security levels
- Allows digital attachments to metadata


CONCLUSION

Libraries with small budgets always consider automation of housekeeping operations as a financial burden due to the high cost of commercial software. However, development of Open Source Software is an effective way to automate library operations without

undertaking substantial financial investment. Libraries are taking up Open Source Software is an effective way to automate library operations without undertaking substantial financial investment. Libraries are taking up Open Source software as a way to reduce the costs of expensive commercial products and as available alternative to the often expensive proprietary library automation systems. The benefits of Open source Software can potentially reduce costs; give users more control and increase software performance. Librarians need to understand open source license for promotion the use of Open Source Software. This is the only way to face the challenges posed by commercial software in the market. It will also increase the autonomy and control of the professional over software solutions. In conclusion, the advent of open source library software as ushered in a revolution in the field of library and information resources management, and has become popular choice for most library and information professionals because of their numerous benefits and useful features.

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Libraries And Human Rights

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ABSTRACT

Libraries have been called on by International Organizations to avoid censorship and to provide access to diverse points of view. Libraries are partially by their unrestricted services to patrons regardless of a person's nationality, social status, or beliefs. The Role of libraries have in providing and protecting intellectual freedom, specific organization, educational practices, ethical statements and policies in the United States will be reviewed.

KEYWORDS: Libraries, Library services, Freedom of Information, Human Rights

INTRODUCTION

Each December 10 as the world celebrates Human Rights Day, the anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948, the world community builds solidarity and a unified vision. Human Rights, the assumption that all Human beings deserve certain rights and dignity by virtue of their human existence, are most eloquently defined in the preamble of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

1. Supporting Documents for Libraries

The UN' agency, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organizations (UNESCO), specifically pointed to public libraries in 1994 when it approved a document entitled the UNESCO Public Library Manifesto. The Manifesto recognize public libraries as places where individuals should be allowed to find and explore information freely. The document defines public libraries and states that public libraries should provide access to all members of a community; that no one should be excluded from services based on his her " age, race, sex, religion, nationality, language or social status". The document goes on to state that public libraries should create inclusive collections and should be free of censorship and influence. " Collections and services should not be subject to any form of ideological, political or religious censorship, nor commercial pressure.

The International Federation of Library Association and Institutions (IFLA) approved a statement in March 1999 that provides even more direction to libraries and librarian in all types of libraries. The document is known as the IFLA statement on Libraries and Intellectual Freedom and includes ethical statements that provided to professional librarians as well as statements that declare and affirm the concepts outline in the Universal Deceleration of Human Rights. " IFLA asserts that a commitment to intellectual freedom is a core responsibility for the library and information profession IFLA there for calls upon libraries and library staff to adhere to the principles of intellectual freedom, uninhibited access to information and freedom of access to information".

Finally, the IFLA statement calls on librarians and the libraries in which they work to be active in many areas. " Libraries contribute to the development and intellectual freedom and help to safeguard basic democratic values and Universal civil rights. Libraries have a responsibility both to guarantee and to facilitate access to expression of knowledge and intellectual activity. To this end, libraries shall acquire, preserve and make available the widestvariety of materials, reflecting the plurality and diversity of society.

2. Collection Development Policies

Collection development policies are unique to each library. The document usually begins with a description of the community that the library serves and outlines the diversity found in the community. The policy includes a description of the collection and describes the library's goals for the collection. It outlines the material that will be collected by a library and the review process librarian will use to make decision about purchasing material for the collection. The policy is approved by the library's governing board, overseeing office, overall supervisor. American libraries frequently include the full text of the freedom to read statement as part of a collection development policy, justifying the policy's national professional support and validity.

3. The Human Need for Information

A minimally good life for a human being is one where she can meet her basic needs. They include needs shared with many other animals for such things as food, shelter, and physical safety. Yet, a life that merely satisfied such basic needs would not be a minimally good life for a human being. The needs person



have as human beings include needs to exercise freely their human capacities for social life, creativity and intellectual activity. None of these interests can be satisfied without access to information is broad and multifaceted, it is possible to distinguish three basic needs that all human beings share and that cannot be satisfied without access to information the need to communicate, the need to deliberate, and the need to know.

The human need to know includes the need for "reliable information about the conditions required for pursuing one's aims and aspirations". The well being to both individuals and groups requires that their actions be based on the best knowledge available. Knowledge that people are unlikely to gain all on their own. Furthermore, human beings have an intrinsic interest in knowledge. Human beings find joy in enquiring and knowing. A life deprived of such experiences would be seriously impoverished.

Conclusion

Educating all people about intellectual freedom and free access to information is one of the most important roles librarians have in democratic societies. The belief that intellectual freedom is a human right and that freedom to access information is a key component of intellectual freedom, however, depends on the beliefs and convictions of the people who live in our communities.

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Application of Social Networking Sites Tools and Services by LIS Professionals in Marathwada Region

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Abstract:

Conducted the study on Application of Social Networking Sites by LIS Professionals from Engineering College Libraries in Marathwada region. Present study has done with the help of survey method. This paper deals with concept of social networking site and views about used of different types of social networking sites tools and services. It can be observed that majority of 38.46% LIS Professionals used SNS tools and service in several times in daily. Majority of 30.55% LIS professionals said that main reasons used SNS tools and service for interact with users. Highest of 22.91% LIS professionals are using SNS tools and service for marketing of library services and products. There are so many social networking sites used by LIS professionals but highest 17.74% LIS professionals using face book. Majority of 31.70% LIS professionals said SNS tools and services are beneficial for to help promoting library services. Maximum of 30.76% LIS professionals said lack of the security and privacy is main barriers to use of SNS tools and service.

Keywords: Social Networking Sites, Face Book, Twitter, You Tube, ICT

1. Introduction

In the recent time information and communication technology (ICTs) has introduced in a historical changes in the area of information communication. Especially internet technology www facilitated to the user to use different social networking sites (SNS) for the different. Internet based services such as face book, twitter, wikis, blogs, you tube, my space, flicker, what's app, LinkedIn and Ning. etc. are communication tools and highlights online connection and sharing among users. These SNS tools and services facilitated to users to connect contribute and share their post. Because of big impact and wide used of SNS by the users, the libraries are thinking seriously towards shifting their traditional services on SNS platform. Worldwide the library and information science (LIS) professionals who are working in different libraries are connecting themselves and their libraries with the SNS sphere and delivering different types of library services to the target users worldwide. The LIS professionals who are working in various libraries are examine potentials of different SNS tools and services regarding how these tools and services can be used for libraries effectively to disseminate library services to the users in social networking environment. Therefore, an attempt is made to know different views regarding using SNS tools and services for their libraries for diverse purposes.

2. Statement of the Research Problem

The problem under investigation is "Application of Social Networking Sites Tools and Services by LIS Professionals in Marathwada Region". The study will evaluate the use and impact of social networking site.



3. Social Networking

A social networking site is an online platform that people use to build social network or social relation with other people who share similar personal or career interest, activities, and background or real-life connections. Social networking site are internet based applications. – Wikipedia.

4. Objectives of the Study

- To know the awareness about different types of SNS tools and services.
- To know the frequency and reasons to use of SNS tools and services.
- To know the barriers use of social networking sites.
- To know future perception about use of SNS Tools and service.

5. Scope and Limitation of the Study

Present study is limited to 15 Engineering College Libraries in Marathwada region which are affiliate to Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad; study is limited only to Engineering College Libraries.

6. Research Methodology

Present study has done with the help of survey method. Survey research is distinguished by its reliance upon the selection of person from large and small population and the making of observation. So that inference can be applied to present population.

7. Data Analysis and Interpretation

For the present study a questionnaire is prepared and survey has taken from Engineering College Libraries in Marathwada region which are affiliated to Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University Aurangabad. There are totals 15 colleges, out of them 13 responses were received. The collected data have been analyzed with using following parameters. Gender wise respondents, designation wise respondents, aware about social networking sites, use social networking sites, frequencies to use social networking sites, reasons to use social networking sites, types of social networking sites, perception about use social networking sites, benefits from using social networking sites and barriers to use of social networking sites.

7.1 Gender Wise Responses

The figure no. 1 shows gender wise responses about use of SNS tools and service. It can be observed that majority of 85% of the respondents are male and 15% are female.

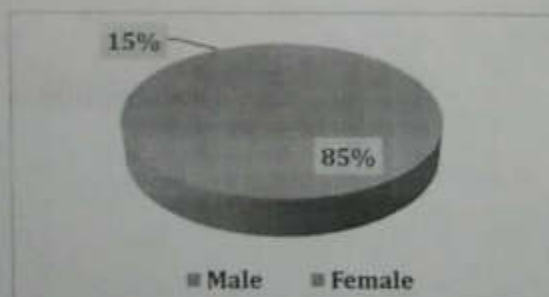


Figure No. 1. Gender Wise Responses



7.2 From When You Use SNS Tools and Service

The figure no. 2 shows from when you use SNS tools and service in your library. It can be observed that majority of 46% respondents used SNS tools and service since two year followed by 23% since one year; 16% three years and 15% four years.

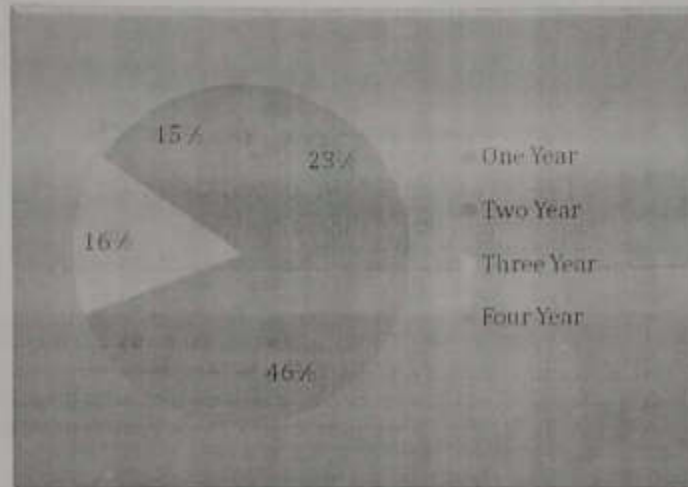


Figure No. 2 from when you use SNS tools and service

7.3 What Are the Frequencies To Use SNS Tools And Service?

The figure no. 3 shows that the frequencies to use of SNS tools and service in your library. It can be observed that majority of 38.46% LIS Professionals used SNS tools and service in several times in daily followed by 23.07% LIS Professionals used so SNS tools and service in several times in week; 15.38% LIS Professionals used SNS tools and service in once in week and several times in months and 7.69% LIS Professionals used SNS tools and service in once in daily.



Figure No. 3 Frequencies to use Social Networking Sites

7.4 Reasons to Use SNS Tools and Service



The can be observed from the figure no. 4 shows that the reasons to use SNS tools and service in your library. Majority of 30.55% LIS professionals said that main reasons used SNS tools and service for interact with users followed by 27.77% LIS professionals used SNS tools and service for communicating information with LIS professionals and for getting feedback from the users, 8.33% for adding extra value in library services and 5.55% LIS professionals used social networking sites for showcase for the library in terms of number of LIS professionals.

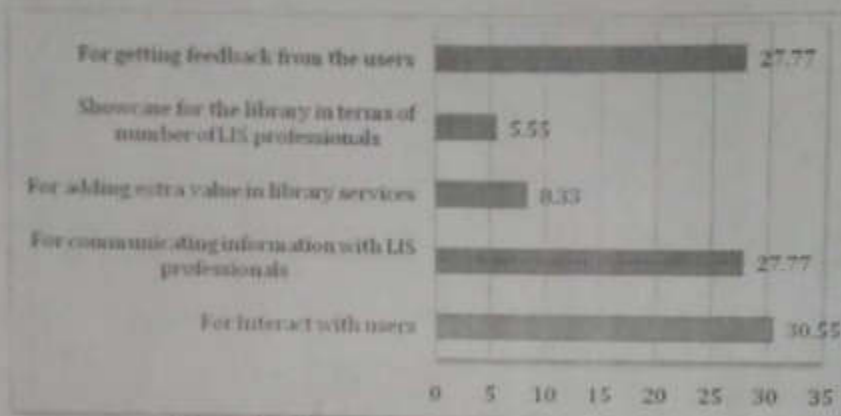


Figure No. 4 Reasons to use SNS tools and service

7.5 Library Services Provided Through SNS Tools and Service

It is necessary to know about which library services are providing to targeted users through SNS tools and service. It can be found that majority of 22.91% LIS professionals are using SNS tools and service for marketing of library services and products followed by 14.58% for library news and updates; 14.58% for resource sharing; 12.50% for Information service; 10.41% for reference services; 8.33% for circulation service and technical service and 4.16% for audio-visual service.

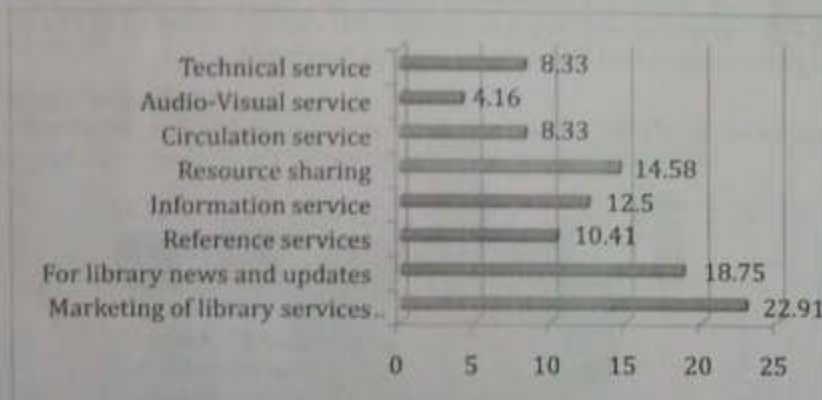


Figure No. 5 Services Provided through SNS Tools and Service

7.6 Used of SNS Tools and Service



While question asked from respondents regarding which types of social networking sites do you used in your library, the responses received from respondents presented through figure no. 6 in which majority of 17.74% LIS professionals using face book followed by 16.12% using twitter and you tube; 9.67% using my space and what's up; 8.06% using wikis and blogs; 6.45% using flicker and LinkedIn and 1.61% using ning SNS tools and service used in library.

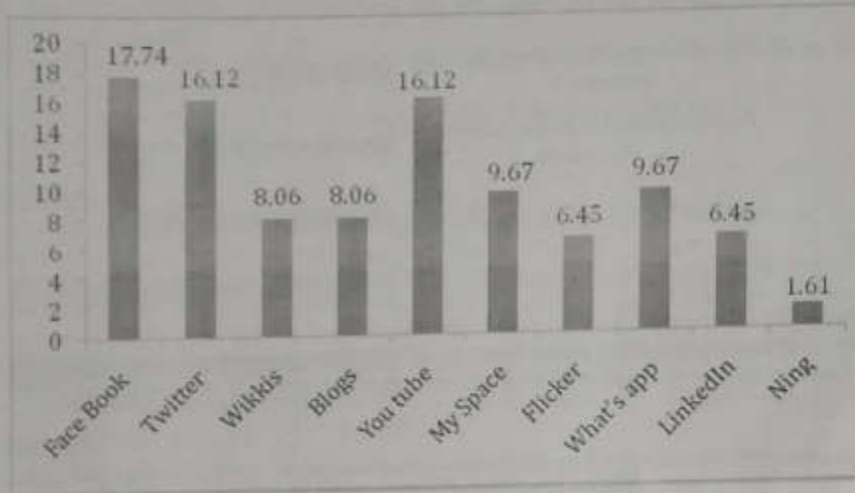


Figure No. 6 Used of SNS Tools and Service

7.7 Future Perception about Use of SNS Tools and Service

While question asked from respondents regarding future perception about use of SNS tools and services in your library, the responses received from respondents presented through figure no. 7 in which majority of 61.53% LIS professionals said SNS tools and services will be fully used for the libraries in future followed by 23.07% said partially used and 7.69% said that rarely and not sure or the libraries in future.

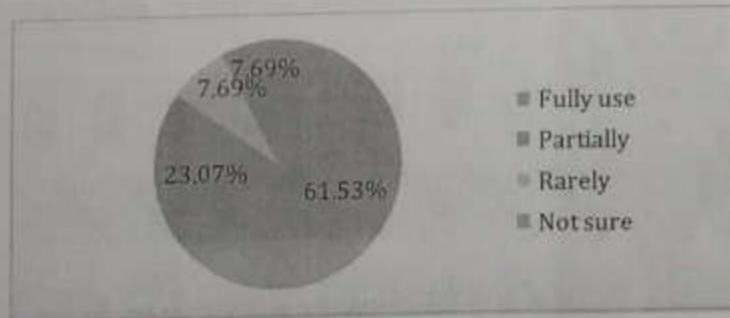


Figure No. 7 SNS Tools and Service Used

7.8 Benefits from Using SNS Tools and Service in the Library

While question asked from respondents regarding benefits from using SNS tools and services in your library, the responses received from respondents presented through figure no. 8 in which majority of



31.70% LIS professionals said SNS tools and services are beneficial for to help promoting library services followed by 29.26% said that this tools are beneficial for to facilitate information sharing; 17.07% said that this tools are beneficial for to helps students to use library; 12.19% said that this tools are helpful to libraries to get closer to the users and 9.75% LIS professionals said that this tools are helpful to find out locating resources in library.

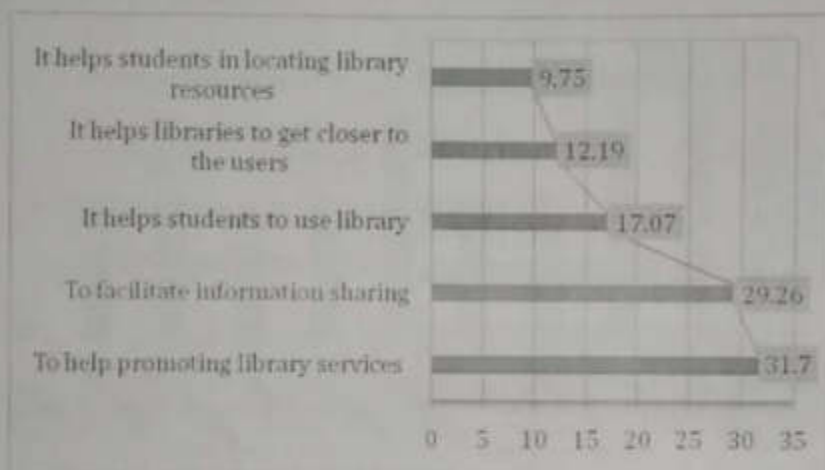


Figure No. 8 Benefits from using SNS Tools and Service

7.9 Barriers to Use of SNS Tools and Service

It can be observed in figure no. 9 in which maximum of 30.76% LIS professionals said lack of the security and privacy is main barriers to used of SNS tools and service followed by 28.20% said luck of the policy to use SNS tools/services; 12.82% said luck of the policy to use SNS tools/services and slow speed of internet; 5.12% said Low interest of librarians in learning and utilizing social media and lack of the attitude and 2.56% LIS professionals said lack of the awareness about SNS tools and inadequate training opportunities for library staff are barriers to used of SNS tools and service.

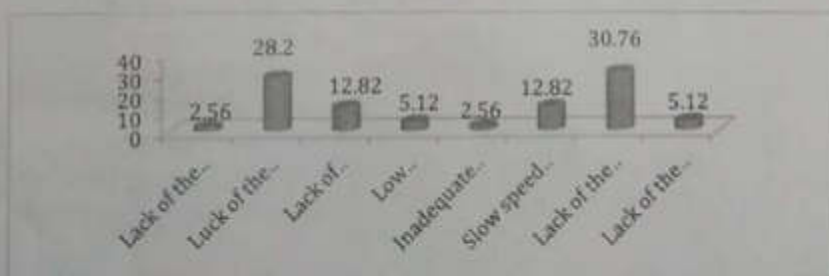


Figure No. 9 Barriers to use of SNS Tools and Service

8. Major Finding

- It can be observed that majority of 38.46% of LIS Professionals used SNS tools and service in several times in daily.



- ↓ Majority of 30.55% LIS professionals said that main reasons used SNS tools and service for interact with users.
- ↓ Majority of 22.91% LIS professionals are using SNS tools and service for marketing of library services and products.
- ↓ Majority of 17.74% LIS professionals using face book.
- ↓ Majority of 61.53% LIS professionals said SNS tools and services will be fully used for the libraries in future.
- ↓ Majority of 31.70% LIS professionals said SNS tools and services are beneficial for to help promoting library services.
- ↓ Maximum of 30.76% LIS professionals said lack of the security and privacy is main barriers to use of SNS tools and service.

9. Conclusion

Social networking sites (SNSs) developed exponentially within the last few years in libraries. Social networking sites are a new technology for libraries. The SNSs presents a new way for success reaching to users and this new technology included special features and designs. This study provides opinion of library and information science professionals regarding usages of SNS tools and services for their libraries. It can be observed that majority of respondents used SNS tools and service since two year. It can be also observed that majority of LIS Professionals used SNS tools and service in several times in daily. The main reason to used SNS tools and service of LIS Professionals is to interact with users.

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Impact of Innovative Technologies in Academic Libraries

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Abstract

Advance information technologies and communication system pose challenges for libraries. The information environment is changing at high speed throughout the world. In libraries, printed resources are being converted into digital resources. Librarians have changed themselves according to the demands of users. Shift from human dependent operations to machine dependency, stand alone system to network computing, print resources to digital resources have compelled the present libraries to adopt new tools and techniques to satisfy the user in the digital age.

Keywords : Innovative Technologies, Use of ICT, Emerging technologies and academic libraries.

Introduction :

Most of academic libraries in Indian Scenario are now trying to use and promote open source resources and technologies in their respective libraries which are accessible to their library users at large. Through these technologies, library wishes to connect to library users with information resources in new ways. In the age of mobile technology, most of the users have a smart phone and with habitual to use different apps, so the QR code technology is also based on smart mobile phones and it will become the easiest way to connect virtual world (information resources on the web) to the physical (user community) world by providing and locate descriptive, useful content at the time of need. QR code technology consisting two parts, first part is software, hardware device like smart phone and printer for generating QR code and second part is application programme like smart phone handy scanner/fixed scanner handy terminals to scan them.

Many case studies have been done in related innovations of library services in last century; academic libraries need to adapting innovation technologies for accessing information easily, leading researchers to suggest that innovation is very difficult, and adaption of innovation is going very poor. The main aim of the library is to meet the teaching, learning and research, also other information needs of its faculties, students and research scholars have too effectively and with efficiency. Academic libraries and library professionals make sure that information provides have to access to reliable, relevant, accurate updated information to the right time, to the right information, of the users. The migration of information from paper to electronic material has replaced the whole nature of the users. The change in the information searching and seeking behavior is the result of the invention of electronic resources was natural. The primary goal of these Initiatives was to adapt existing features and content to mobile devices.

Innovative Technologies :

Libraries have been very important in the new era. Library has a lot of work. That's why there are many libraries now that have already implemented some kind of automation. There is a number of libraries who have already successfully implemented some kind of automated technology. For example, a more futuristic example is Connecticut's Westport library, which recently acquired two robots, Vincent and Nancy, that will be used to help teach coding and computer programming skills.



OUR HERITAGE

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Special Issue on "Sustainable Development Goals"



Best Practices to Provide Innovative Services :

- Campus access to E-resources ex: NLIST
- OPAC search facility for print and e-resources of different publishers with full text
- To conduct orientation programme or user education programme to each department
- Knowledge Sharing Session for all library staff to frequently
- Books classified and organized systematically
- Create library website to connect users with all its content
- Implementations Mobile Applications, barcode and QR Code, etc.
- Open Access to all institutional repositories and e-resources (IR)
- To conduct User Awareness Workshops
- To conducted the library survey and collect the feedback about library services and its infrastructure from the users

Innovative Technology based on Library Services :

- User Orientation Programme
- Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC)
- Self issue and Return using RFID or any other technology
- Online reserve and renew documents
- Alert new Arrivals of Books & Periodicals etc.,
- Alert messages through the library software (Overdue, Fine, etc.)
- Institutional Repositories (IR)
- Scholarly Publications
- Electronic thesis and dissertation (ETDs)
- Research and Project Support Service (RPS)
- Subject and Research Guide
- Library Blog
- User Awareness Workshops

Academic Libraries: Implementation Of Few Innovative Ideas :

To motivate readers to avail library services, make them information literate and to sustain the academic libraries in future and to improvise services along with existing ones.

Restructuring The Library

Readers are motivated to visit the library in person and study if the library infrastructure is cozy, comfortable, and attractive with innovative interior designing, with proper discipline and ready services, which saves their time. Therefore the librarian should reorganise the internal space and provisions according to changing needs of the readers once in a year to increase the utility of the library.

User Friendly

The library should be user friendly. Readers should not hesitate to enter the library and ask the information queries to library staff. All library staff should be cooperative and sufficiently literate to help readers and solve their information queries.

Internet and Wi-Fi Facility

Libraries should extend this access facility to remote users through their personal electronic devices, namely PCs, Mobiles, IPODs etc. and ensuring continuous access to online and digitally preserved material in the library premises.

Personalised Information Services

Libraries should start solving personalized information queries of its research scholars and readers online or via emails.

E-learning

The library can contribute to the learning process right from content creation to delivery.



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conducting e-tutorial and evaluation of project assignments with the close association of the faculty and also by employing new information management strategies.

Conclusion :

In fact, it is now difficult to imagine a world without information technology. The provision and use of ICT is part and parcel of the entire system, to both the students, information professionals and the institutions. With the help of ICT to deliver the services of their user is very easy and fast and also it can save the time of user and staff both. Nowadays ICT has totally changed the concept of library and information center as it was in early days. Libraries are adopting ICT for performing both housekeeping operations as well as for providing services to the library patrons. Application of ICT has added value to the services and libraries are becoming popular among the patrons. With the aid of ICT libraries are actually marching towards achieving the goal of providing pinpointed exhaustive and expeditious information to those who are in need of that information. Information and communication technology is applied for providing information services which are more convenient, better accessible and cost effective.

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ज्ञानाधिष्ठीत समाज आणि ग्रंथालयाची भूमिका

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प्रस्तावना

सध्या जीवनाच्या क्षेत्रात आमूलाग्र बदल घडून येत आहेत. तो बदल सामान्य माणसाला पचविणे अवघड जात आहे. इलेक्ट्रॉनिक मिडिया, ग्रंथालय आणि माहिती केंद्रे, वर्तमानपत्रे, विविध नियतकालिके, इंटरनेट सेवा, प्रकाशित साहित्यातून मोठ्या प्रमाणावर माहिती उपलब्ध होत आहे. ही माहिती अशी असते की, त्यातील एका घटकाचा इतर घटकाशी संबंध जोडता येत नाही. माहितीचा विस्फोट झाला आहे. त्यात एकनुरता नसते, सामान्य माणसाला मुदमकून टाकता वेईत, अशा स्वरूपाचे रोज नवे अहवाल, आकडेवारी, ऑनलाईन नॅथ सादर करतात. वर्तमानपत्रातील नवनवीन बातम्या, आश्चर्य आणि अनुमान सामान्य माणसाला गोंधळात टाकत आहेत.

माहिती तंत्रज्ञान युगात फेलबुक, इन्स्टाग्राम, ट्विटर, व्हाट्सअप या माध्यमांची माहिती संप्रेषित करण्यासाठी मोठ्या प्रमाणात उपयोग होऊ लागला आहे. या वेगवेगळ्या साधनांच्या माध्यमातून माहितीचे आदान-प्रदान करणे अत्यंत आवश्यक झालेले आहे. ही साधने वापरणे जसे आवश्यक झालेले आहे तसे त्याचे दुष्परिणामही जाणवतात. म्हणून ग्रंथालये ही सन्तानंरात व ज्ञाननिर्मितीत उल्लेखनीय कार्यांमुळे त्यांना कमालीचे महत्त्व प्राप्त झाले आहे.

माहितीचा समाज (Information Society)

सर्व बदलांचे रूपांतर माहिती व संप्रेषण तंत्रज्ञानामध्ये होत आहे. म्हणून सध्याचे औद्योगिक समाजाचे नवीन युगात म्हणजे 'ग्लोबल व्हिलेज', 'माहितीचे युग' आणि ध्यानधिष्ठित समाज अशा संकल्पना खड होऊ लागल्या. जागतिक शिक्षण परिषदेने 'माहितीचा समाज आणि ध्यानधिष्ठित समाज' अशा दोन्ही संकल्पनांचा स्वीकार केला.

सर्वप्रथम १९७३ साली डॅनीअल बेल यांनी 'माहिती समाज' ही संकल्पना त्यांच्या 'The coming of Post Industrial Society' या ग्रंथात मांडली. 'ज्ञानावर आधारित सेवा किंवा तात्विक ज्ञान' या दोन पैलूवर नवीन अर्थव्यवस्थेची मध्यवर्ती संरचना आणि माहितीवर समाज अशी मांडणी केली. १९९० च्या दशकात वर्ल्ड वॉर्ड जाईड वेव आणि आय.सी.टी.चा विकास झाला. माहितीचा समाज ही संकल्पना जासकीय व तात्विक विचारसारणीवर बांधणी होत असताना तिचा मुख्य हेतू जागतिक बाजार स्वयं- नियंत्रित करणे हा होता. यामध्ये जागतिक व्यापार संपटक, ऑनरराष्ट्रीय नाणे निर्धी आणि जागतिक बँक या बहुविध संस्थांच्या माध्यमातून जगातील गरीब आणि धीमंत अशी दरी निर्माण होऊन विकसित राष्ट्रांनी तंत्रज्ञानाच्या पायाभूत सुविधा विकास घोरणाचा अवलंब केल्याने दळणवळण उद्योग श्रेजर बाजारावर आला, परंतु उत्तरेकडील बाजार धावण्यास सुरुवात झाली.

ज्ञानाधिष्ठीत समाज (Knowledge Society)

१९९० च्या 'ज्ञानाधिष्ठीत समाज' ही संकल्पना उदयान जाली. 'माहितीचा समाज' या संकल्पनेला पर्याय म्हणून वापरण्यात येऊ लागली. युनेस्कोनी 'ज्ञानाधिष्ठीत समाज संकल्पना संस्थातील घोरणाचा उद्देशून स्वीकारली. फक्त आर्थिक पैलूसाठीच नव्हे तर माहितीचा समाज हा ज्ञानाधिष्ठीत समाजाचा मूलभूत पाया आहे. माहितीचा समाज संकल्पना तांत्रिक शोधाशी निगडित आहे. सामाजिक, आर्थिक, सांस्कृतिक, राजकीय आणि संस्थात्मक रूपांतर आणि विकासात्मक दृष्टिकोण इत्यादी अंग ज्ञानाधिष्ठीत समाजात आहे. ज्ञानाधिष्ठीत समाज संकल्पनेत माहिती समाजाचा प्राधान्य दिले जाते. हा समाज गतिमान आहे. ज्ञान हे आर्थिक वाढीसाठी आवश्यक तर आहेच परंतु समाजातील सर्व घटकांच्या विकासकारिता पोषक आहे.

राष्ट्राच्या विकासामध्ये ग्रंथालयांची भूमिका

मानवाच्या विकास यात्रेविषयी नोबेल पुरस्कार विजेते जोसेफ स्टिगलीट्ज यांनी त्यांच्या "क्रिएटिंग ए लर्निंग सोसायटी" या ग्रंथात जसे म्हटले की " कोणत्याही देशाचा विकास हा त्यामध्ये भांडवली गुंतवणूक किती प्रमाणात होते यावर अवलंबून तसून त्या देशातील लोकांची, समाजाची शिकण्याची आणि ज्ञान घेण्याची किती जिज्ञासा आहे, क्षमता आहे आणि ती कशी आहे यावर अवलंबून असतो. तंत्रज्ञान, शोध आणि माहिती आधारित अर्थव्यवस्था निर्माण होत असून त्यामध्ये ग्रंथालय महत्त्वपूर्ण भूमिका घेऊन राष्ट्र विकासाची समृद्ध वाटचाल तयार करू शकते.



भारत हे वाचनसंस्कृती आणि साहित्यपरंपरा साभालेल राष्ट्र आहे. राष्ट्र विकासातील समृद्ध वाट्यातील ग्रंथालय महत्त्वपूर्ण सहयोग देत आहेत. राष्ट्राच्या शैक्षणिक, राजकीय, सामाजिक, आर्थिक व वैज्ञानिक जगा सर्वत्र क्षेत्रात ग्रंथालय समृद्ध होत आहेत.

ग्रंथालये सांस्कृतिक चळवळीचे केंद्र

समाजात वाचनसंस्कृती रुजविण्यात ग्रंथालयांची मोलाची भूमिका आहे. ग्रंथालयांच्या माध्यमातून विविध देश, प्रांत, संस्कृती आणि समाजातील नवनवीन विचार वाचकांपर्यंत पोहोचविले जातात. ग्रंथालय ही केवळ एक ग्रंथ उपलब्ध करून देणारी इमारत नसते, तर ते सांस्कृतिक चळवळीचे केंद्र असते. राज्यातील अनेक ग्रंथालयांनी आपल्या कार्यातून हे सिद्ध केले आहे. नव्या युगातील ज्ञानाधारीत व्यवस्थेत ज्ञानवान आणि तेबद्दलच सृजाण नागरिक पडविल्यासच तो स्वर्गला सक्षमपणे सामोरा जाऊ शकेल, नव्या पिढीपर्यंत ग्रंथालयाच्या माध्यमातून ज्ञानगंगा पोहोचविल्यासच हे शक्य आहे. ग्रंथांच्या माध्यमातून त्यांच्यात नव्या जाणिवा, आकांक्षा आणि प्रेरणा निर्माण करणे गरजेचे आहे. डॉ.कलाम यांनी म्हटल्याप्रमाणे मुलांचे संगोपन ज्ञानपूरक वातावरणात करणे आवश्यक आहे. तसे वातावरण निर्माण करण्याची जबाबदारी सर्वांची आहे.

संदर्भ :

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