ICT Applications to Library Sector

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Abstract:
The rudimental aim of this article to show that in the present age of information age. Every human being would relish getting any piece of information as expeditiously as possible, for that we should acclimate with the latest technology & provide the information without wasting a time. In this article we have done a comparative study of ICT applications to library sector withal discussed the impact of information technology revolution on library science. In this context, we forward to look professionals and managers of organizations how to achieve the goal in the current scenario. This paper outlines and discusses the professional skills and compulsory technological skills needed for library science professionals and managers.

Key words:
Information; circulation; electronic library; acquisitions

Introduction:
Today is an information age. Information plays a very consequential role to the society. Every human being needs information to ken what is transpiring around the nation, one and the world. An early age users used to visit libraries and information centers for their information needs because they kenned it was available at print form only. People were not able to purchase every book therefore; they would go to the libraries and information centers to get they’re seeking information. Information generation consumes lot of time, mazuma and energy so it is essential to communicate the incipiently engendered information on time. Revolution of information and communication technology (ICT) and the proliferation of internet technology have opened incipient sources of acquiring cognizance.

Information Technology has become the chief determinant for the progress of any nation; it is breaking all geographical barriers and building incipient linkages through sharing information and exchange, encompassing the entire gamut of human activities and erudition. With the emergence of the Internet, global connectivity; of computers has become an authentic. Internet, E-mail and WWW have emerged as the core and substructure of the information infrastructure. Revolution of Information Technology is not only made it possible to store information in immensely colossal quantity, but additionally communicate it in no time. Due to rapid magnification in Information Technology sector, Hardware and software are being made available in chip cost to the customers who enable the libraries and information centers to their digital resources.

WHY IT APPLICATIONS?
Libraries are moving rapidly towards the electronic method of storage and retrieval. In the recent years, Internet has been the major force, which has led to the electronic versions of library amassments. Due to following reasons IT application plays a vital role. Following are the reasons for why IT applications need in today’s scenario:

1. **Increase in Resource sharing:**
   
   Publication of literature is incrementing day by day; no libraries can purchase each and every literature individually because of inhibited budget. As library resources are constrained, it is only by sharing this source, that libraries can make full utilization of their resources by making them accessible and available to all.

2. **Importance of library networking**
   
   Libraries will be connected through a network. Networking will avail in Amassment development. Development of Union Catalogue, bibliography and database of all libraries at one place will be possible. Eschew duplication of work. Software is sharing. Document distribution accommodation.

3. **Transformation of printed materials**
   
   Printed, materials can be facilely transferred from one place to another through Networking.

4. **Digitized information**
   
   All the information can be digitalized and when ever require, it is facilely retrieve without wasting a time.

5. **User cognizance**
   
   Utilizer vigilance is additionally increased, not only probing his information withal vigilant with different kind of information.

6. **The electronic library**
   
   An electronic library is a type of accommodation that sanctions users, without authentically stepping into the library, to read library books and conduct research at home, in the office, or at school, utilizing the Internet.

**FUNCTIONS OF LIBRARY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**

A library management system, withal kenned as an automated library system is software that has been developed to handle rudimental housekeeping functions of a library as follows:

- Ordering & acquisitions
- Cataloguing
- OPAC and other catalogue forms
- Circulation control
- Serials control
- Management information
- Interlibrary loans
- Community information.
- Creating a Technology Plan

**Ordering and acquisitions**

- Ordering
- Receipting
- Claiming
- Fund accounting
- Enquiries (about the status of orders)
• Reports and statistics (about orders).

Cataloguing
• Data ingestion
• Authority control
• Downloading (of records from other databases)

OPAC and other catalogue forms
• Online access
• Public access interface
• Other catalogue forms
• Internet access.
• Access from remote users over the cyber world.

Circulation control
• Setting parameters
• Issue
• Return
• Renewal
• Fines
• Reservations
• Short-term loans
• Borrower file maintenance
• Enquiries
• Notices
• Reports and statistics

Serials control
• Ordering (placing and renewing subscriptions)
• Receipting (of individual issues)
• Claiming
• Binding (control of items in binding)
• Fund accounting

• Cataloguing (of incipient designations)
• Circulation control (if items are issued or circulated)
• Enquiries (relating to the serials)
• Reports and statistics

Management information
• Various reports and statistics.
• Tools for the analysis of statistical information.

Interlibrary loans
(Similar to circulation control, but customarily with fewer options)
• Data ingress
• Issue
• Return
• Fines.
• Borrower file maintenance (may use circulation control main file)
• Enquiries.
• Reports and statistics

Community information
• Data ingress
• Online access.
• Public access interface

Creating a Technology Plan
• Identification of regimental functions of the library
• Planning for library automation
• Identify key issues influencing the library

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• Define the ultimate outcomes
• Assessment of subsisting technology and accommodations, utilize needs
• Establish priority
• Develop missions, goals and objectives
• Financial and implementation considerations.

Conclusion:

With the prelude of ICT application in the library sector, data of all libraries will be handled with facileness, precision, great speed, high rate and more preponderant quality. It will preserve cost, time and labour of library staff and will avoid duplication of work. All libraries will be connected through networking, hence amassment will be shared. It will additionally avail to adopt the felicitous strategies for ameliorating accumulation building. Union catalogue and cooperative bibliographic accommodations will be introduced. However ICT application/automation and networking is must require for any kind of libraries & information center.

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