

## EFFECT OF INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY IN LIBRARIES AND SKILL NEEDED FOR LIBRARIAN PROFESSIONAL IN MODERN ERA

**Vandana Jalindar Ambhore \***

\* **Librarian,**  
Govt. Arts & Science  
College,  
Aurangabad,  
Maharashtra,  
India.

QR Code



**ABSTRACT:** - *Technology is the major driving force for change. Today Computer and related technologies has brought revolutionary changes in the whole world of information. Information and communication Technology (ICT) has affected almost every sector of our life. bringing a change in the case of people's think, interaction etc. This revolutionary change is also true in the case of libraries and information centres. Libraries are being transitioned from the four walls to the cyber environment. Library resources are being transformed from print to digital and web resources. Information has been disseminated speedily around the globe due to advanced means of telecommunication. Therefore, it is being used extensively and has resulted in tremendous growth of information. The growing ICT-driven information services have posed challenges to library and information professionals. In this paper the author focus the ICT application, challenges & skill required by the library profession.*

**KEY WORDS** – ICT technology, ICT in libraries, Impact of ICTs on Libraries, Challenges in ICT, Skills for ICT.

### INTRODUCTION

Modern information and communication technology have created a global village because of information revolution and the consequent computer based messaging system, and electronic networks for access to information and library services. ICT is a growing phenomenon in the society. Library is a dynamic and evolving enterprise in education. The trend now is information and communication technology, library and information have undergone various

stages on transformation, storage and retrieval of information application in delivering library services. Such as oral tradition, letters, and figures on leaves and skins, while the librarians then were custodians. Ranganathan(1957) says in his five laws of librarianship which cut across all ages that “Library is a growing organism” Notably, Information and communication technology is an electronic means of capturing, processing, storing and disseminating information (Adeyemi, 2005; Marshall, 2000 ). For Okentunji (2000),

information communication technology facilitates access to electronic information which has become invaluable in complementing traditional library resources. Several studies have adequately addressed the impact of ICT facilities in library operation and more have seen the need to use ICT facilities, especially in areas of creating digital libraries (be it in virtual format or on CD-ROM) in order to make access to information or document faster and easier for users at lesser cost than it used to be when using the traditional manual system.

### **WHAT IS INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES (ICTS)**

ICTs are computer related hardware and software that enable to create, collect, consolidate and disseminate information in multimedia formats for various purposes. ICT development have brought the merger of the computing information, communications, entertainment, massmedia industries, for providing a means of exchanging information in digital format.

The German ministry of development and economic co operation defines ICT as:-

“All those technical instruments and set ups that transform all kinds of information...through the intelligent linking of hardware,software& transformation nets.”

### **ICT IN LIBRARIES**

ICT has changed the traditional methods of library activities and services providing new dimensions for teaching, learning and research in higher educational institutions. With the help of ICT tools, it is possible to store, retrieve, disseminate and organize information by creating websites and databases. Information is now published both electronically and by print making it accessible to users according to their demands. It is important to assess the ICT applications in library and information centres in the context of changing user needs.

### **IMPACT OF ICTS ON LIBRARIES**

1. Anywhere anytime availability
2. Global reach
3. Cost effective
4. Directo to the end user
5. Change in role of ‘librarians’ - as ‘facilitators’
6. Networking and sharing of information resources
7. Online access & file transfer
8. Information cretion in digital formats
9. Transfer of digital information from remote sites Libraries will be not only be networked, but also stocked with core collection (multimedia). Applications of ICTs in libraries will have access to global information and will also become digital and virtual.

## IMPACT OF ICTS ON LIBRARY OPERATIONS

ICT based library activities	ICT based library services
Data processing	CD –ROM searching
Communication	Online searching & information servs
Circulation	Online networking
Cataloguing	News clippings & scanning
Bibliography	Online reservations
Serial control	Subject database
Preparing in- house database, etc.	OPAC , etc.

## IMPACT OF ICTS ON USERS

1. Increases the level of digital literacy/ e-literacy
2. Increases demand for better and faster access to information
3. Aggravates discrepancies between the information rich and the poor

## CHALLENGES IN ICT ENVIRONMENT:

The use of ICT in libraries has raised a number of challenges. These includes-

1. Funding for libraries: Due to severe budget cuts and high prices for books and journal subscription, libraries are faced with no options but to reduce expenditures on books and journal subscriptions. The introduction and use of ICTs in libraries has not made the

situation any better. Money is required to maintain and upgrade the equipment and software license fees, pay for access to electronic journals and online databases , pay for internet connections etc.

2. Copyright management: digitization and provision of access to digital collections accessed via electronic networks, especially the internet is presenting bigger challenges to librarian .Unlike print based documents, digital based information resources can be accessed from anywhere via electronic networks, copied several times, manipulated (i.e. edited, modified, repackaged, etc) or deleted. The ease at which digital information resources can be copied and manipulated may result in governments, under pressure from information producers, to put in place rigid copyright laws in which the rights of the right holder are increased at the expense of users and this may affect the provision of access to digital information sources in libraries.
3. Information access: Whereas libraries generally contain and provide access to selected information resources, this is not the case with information accessed on the Web. Distribution of pornographic materials and information produced for deliberate disinformation is very easy to do on the Web and this presents problems to many libraries on how to exclude access to such types of information, especially on Internet workstations located in libraries.

4. Preservation of digital information resources:  
The Print based library and archives environment as opposed to the digital information environment has evolved over centuries. Preservation methods and formats for print based documents have also been developed and tested. There are print based documents that are over 2000 years old in the world today and can still be read. The digital information era is in its infancy and already some of the information is stored in formats or media that cannot be accessed or read.
5. Legal deposit: In the print based environment, producers of publications are required by law to deposit copies of their documents with the national library or national archives or any agency designated to receive and preserve such publications. In the digital information environment the situation in many countries is still not clear as to who is responsible for the long-term preservation of digital information resources.

## CHANGING ROLES OF LIS PROFESSIONALS

Presently, librarians are playing an integrated role beyond their traditional job. In a fast changing world, there are new demands and influences on libraries and information centers. Using modern technologies, libraries all over the world are now shifting their emphasis from traditional to multidimensional work force. As a corollary to

this, LIS professionals are supposed to play versatile role in different areas of libraries and information centers to meet the expectations and needs of the present situation.

**Advocate:** LIS professionals act as lawyer when they deal with the issue relating to law such as copyright law, intellectual property right, etc. Librarian champion the cause of academic libraries through various advocacy programs to promote the library and resources. They can communicate news about the library through newsletters, web sites and memos to parents and staff. Their job is to keep principals and teachers up to date on what is happening in the library and to promote library activities and special projects. —Schools are learning communities encompassing students, teachers, administrators and parents. Librarians must Communicate the mission, goals and objectives of the resource centre to the entire user community.

**Consortia manager:** The LIS professional for Consortium operations is responsible for coordinating and overseeing consortium operations, including strategic planning, systems development and project management. Related responsibilities include facilitating communication among the participating libraries. In addition to these responsibilities, the Librarian for Consortium Operations acts as the consortium's representative with vendors for contracted products and services.

**Collection Developer:** Collection development of E-resources in ICT environment is an essential activity of modern libraries. Hence the librarian have to play an important role in collection building to supports a specific subject area by providing teaching support and internet based materials to the users.

### SKILLS REQUIRED FOR THE NEW AGE LIS PROFESSIONALS

The ICT environment of the 21st century will demand a range of skills from Library and Information Science (LIS) professionals, including:

1. **Technical skills :** In ICT environment the librarian need to develop extraordinary access skills. Professional are required technical skills, which are to be emphasized in modern era, skills required to shift analyze, synthesis assimilate, internet and reformulate the information accessed and retrieved.
2. **Competency into recent advancement:** Competencies required for a librarian in the management of libraries in the modern era are Internet ,navigation, browsing, creating, home page , content conversion downloading techniques, digital preservation and storage web authoring, multimedia indexing ,cataloging and classification of digital documents ,online optical information, conversion of print media into digital media

,development of machine readable catalogue records etc.

3. **Managerial skills :** In the modern era the managerial skill expected from Librarian is quite extensive. The managerial skills required for working in the ICT environment include financial management, operation management, marketing management and human resource management. Librarian needs to have managerial skill for information management in team. A sort of leadership as well as fellowship is required to work in teams.

4. **Communication and training skills :** Librarians in ICT era must have the ability to communicate with users as well staff and understand the needs of users of a variety of ethnic, racial and language backgrounds, Training and teaching skills, ability to design and implement new services ability to evaluate the library services is become an essential part of his service.

### CONCLUSION:

In the Modern World the role of the LIS professional is adapting to changing technologies. Information environment and customers' expectations. Library professionals are increasingly responsible not only to provide traditional library information services but also to deliver online information services according to the actual user needs. Librarians need to keep up with their users expectations to survive and

service them . A librarian needs to become information knowledge navigators who distill data into usable information.

In the 21<sup>st</sup> century everyone is going through many occupational changes to face the future challenges. Information and Communication Technology has transformed the role of not only libraries but also library professionals in the changing environment in which they now work. Library professionals are functioning under great pressure to become more efficient to deliver more effective services to the users. As the role of LIS professionals is changing to face the new challenges posed by ICT , they must be stay at the forefront of innovation in the library world. LIS professionals need to be confident and competent that they can prepare for new challenges, deal with emerging technologies, manage change effectively and claim new professionals' roles. A well-informed competent and creative LIS professionals shall play multiple evolving roles in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

## REFERENCES:

1. Venkata Ramana , P. (2006) . The Changing Role of Librarian in a challenging Dynamic web environment . 4<sup>th</sup> International Convention CALIBER, 2-4 Feb,2006 170-178.
2. Md. Shriful Islam and Md.Nazmul Islam (2006). Information and Communication Technology in Libraies : A New

Dimension in Librarianship, Asian Journal of Information technology ,5(8):809-817.

3. Nattar , S.(2010) . Emerging technologies and skill needed for Librraians in the Digital Environment,Journal of Library and Information technology,6(1) 19-25.
4. Mendhe,Ravindra and Deshmukh, shamakant (2011) Role of Librarian in ICT Environment in Library In an Electronic Era : Redifining the role of Librraian Ed.by Jaya Barvevadia,Jaipur,Aadi publication.68-75.
5. Garad, Madhukar and Bankar Nilima (2013) Challenges and changing role of librarians in ICT environment , paper presented at Proceddings of National Cobference-2013 at Vaijapur ,Aurangabad 22 &23 August,2013.
6. Sharma, P.L. (2005). Changing role of librarians in digital library Era and need of professional skills, efficiency & competency. Retrieved from <http://hdl.handle.net/1849/407>.
7. Cooper, A. (1998) . Managing change to enhance technological orientation and

Knowledge among library staff. The  
Electronic Library 16:4,247- 52.

8. Australian Library and Information  
Association [ALIA], (2005). Retrieved from  
<http://www.alia.org.au/policies/core.knowledge.html>
9. [http://www.igi-global.com/chapter/impact-  
ict-changing-roles-librarian/72467](http://www.igi-global.com/chapter/impact-ict-changing-roles-librarian/72467)
10. [http://www.theijes.com/papers/v2-  
i8/Part.1/G0281037043.pdf](http://www.theijes.com/papers/v2-i8/Part.1/G0281037043.pdf)
11. [http://ijsr.net/archive/v3i3/MDIwMTM5M  
DQ%3D.pdf](http://ijsr.net/archive/v3i3/MDIwMTM5MDQ%3D.pdf)
12. [http://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in/bitstream/  
10603/3137/11/11\\_chapter%202.pdf](http://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in/bitstream/10603/3137/11/11_chapter%202.pdf)
13. [http://nopr.niscair.res.in/bitstream/123456  
789/13914/1/ALIS%2059\(1\)%207-15.pdf](http://nopr.niscair.res.in/bitstream/123456789/13914/1/ALIS%2059(1)%207-15.pdf)

(reg para)