

CHANGING INFORMATION NEEDS AND USER WAYS

Dr. Sarla P. Nimbhorkar*

* **Librarian**

G.S.G College,
Umardhed, Dist. Yavatmal,
Maharashtra, India.

QR Code



ABSTRACT: - *Libraries play a fundamental role in our society. They are the collectors and stewards of our heritage; they are the organizers of the knowledge in the books. The Primary objective of libraries is to organize and provide access to information. ' In the modern world information has the power to transform the lives of people and nations. National development is influenced by the amount of available information. The idea of an "Information society" is connected to this fact. There are different definitions of "Information Society". Access to information is crucial, and it is influenced by many factors.*

Due to the revolutionary progress in the field of information technology, new electronic media have come into existence. It has posed new challenges before the libraries as they have to match — up with the devices, gadgets and technology of the new age. Even in the scenario of the rise of e-resources, the printed books will not lose their importance. However it has given a realization that information / knowledge is available from sources other than books. Therefore the task and duties of library have changed and expanded as they have to adjust with the new modes of as they have to adjust with the new modes of information distribution and sharing of data.

CHANGES IN TRADITIONAL CONCEPTS:-

- **Books -** The concept of ' book' as a source of knowledge has been replaced by the concepts of 'document' or 'information'.
- **Archives -** The concept of archives has changed due to the inclusion of new formats like film, microfilm, microforms, Audio-video magnetic

tapes, discs, C.D. ROM, online terminals, Telex, Fax machine, Printer, Photocopies. It has change the role of librarian. Appropriate information to the reader in appropriate form and at the correct time is the key task in the new library.

- **Librarian's Work -** The task and scope of library has not remained confined to the four walls of library. Book collection means the

number of books and the supporting mechanics has become outdated concept. Now the term Librarianship has undergone drastic changes. The library has become 'source of knowledge' and 'library science' has become 'the science of increasing knowledge'.

- **Librarian** - The role and requirements of the qualities of librarian have also changed. The traditional rules, duties and responsibilities have changed. Now there is a need of a more responsible librarian who is ready to accept new challenges and make experiments as a librarian.
- **Library Science Training:** - The training of library science is accompanied by the training in information technology. There are constant and continuous changes in the syllabus of library science to meet the new demands. For these purpose seminars, refreshers are organized.
- **The Role of Librarian:** - The role of librarian has been replaced by 'Information Manager'.
- **The Quality of Librarian:** - The educational qualification and standard of the librarian has improved. In many states of India the post of librarian is equivalent to that of a teacher.

CHANGING INFORMATION NEEDS AND USER WAYS

The development of new technology makes direct access to information easier for users, and,

while information skills are required to collect and present that information, in the future there is likely to be less of a role for information workers as intermediaries between users and information sources.

- User need interactive books instead of routine informative books
- Users only need information rather than source of information because going through the source of information is time consuming and our library's fifth law is save the time of reader.
- As the work condition is changing people do not have time to visit the library in its conservative time schedule. So there is need of flexible access of Library.
- Demands for CD and other audio visual material.
 - Users want more information about the places (Libraries) where they can find the book of interest just by using the internet or application without visiting any library
 - Considering the limited financial support available to the research students and individual researchers there is a need of having free and open access to all research journals published at national and international level by the reputed publishers.
 - Reader wants to easy access for getting information in the concern areas. Lots of information is available on the concerned topic but the reader of 21st century prefers subject oriented information by avoiding irrelevant and unnecessary information.

ROLE OF LIBRARY PROFESSIONALS:-

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 a versatile role in different areas of libraries and information centers to meet the expectations and needs of the present situation.

Some of the managerial roles of LIS professionals are:-

- Consortia manager
- Consultant
- Content Manager.
- Facilitator Guide / teacher
- Knowledge manager
- Researcher

LIBRARY SERVICES:-

Library and Information Services are facing many changes and challenges due to the massive development of ICT. Today's environmental pressures are forcing libraries to focus on accelerating technology, innovation, technical complexities, social and legal issues, cost, risk, competence, skills of staff and technology itself. Since the dawn of 21st Century, libraries are facing serious transition. The function of libraries

is changing dramatically due to changes and developments in ICT.

Developments in computers, microelectronics, and communication technologies have radically changed the library and information environment. Gone are the days of stand-alone libraries, in which a library was judged less by the quality of its resources and services than by the number of documents it had available. Traditional libraries were dominated by print publications and the access mechanisms were also by-and-large manual. The paradigm shift from stand-alone libraries to library and information networks, available via the Internet, can provide end-users with a seamless connection to Internet-based services. Moreover, we are surrounded by automated, digital, and virtual libraries as well as by networked data, specialized networks, and library networks. Multimedia and the Internet have further made the job of library and information professionals more challenging. The development of new technology makes direct access to information easier for users, and, while information skills are required to collect and present that information, in the future there is likely to be less of a role for information workers as intermediaries between users and information sources.

While new formats and mechanisms are being developed to cope with this rapidly changing environment, the existing gap between the generation and use of information is further widening in the present situation. A major aim of

user education is therefore to widen the use of a range of library resources, which will enable academics to improve their teaching and research, and students to learn more and achieve better results in their work.

In the print-based environment we spoke of library instruction, bibliographic instruction, and user education programs. Initiation of users, lectures to library users, library tours, pamphlets and brochures, audio-visual aids, and, in a few cases, user education programs were the main tools and techniques for enabling patrons to make good use of the library. These tools and techniques must now be supplemented. End-user training should now be the focus of user education.

CONCLUSION:-

At the end of the 20th century, college and university libraries face enormous challenges and opportunities. As campuses move into the information age, the mission and role of ? The library is being redefined. While the amount of information libraries need to acquire continues to increase, the resources available to do so are insufficient. Moreover, administrators need to assess the relationship between the library and the computer center, as both fight for limited resources.

In the near future, users should expect timely access to quality information. This information must be accurate, relevant,

comprehensive, and engaging. This can be done successfully by incorporating end-user education and training components, in the academic libraries developing continuing professional education and training programs for the library and information professionals, as well as the end-users will have to develop learning attitude and network related competence to us by the information and communication technologies.

REFERENCES:-

- Phadke, D. N., (2006) library Computerization and Modernization, Pune, Universal Publication.
- Dahibhate, N.B., Patil, S.K. and Mugade.V.S. (2014) Digital and virtual libraries: Transformation in libraries and information services. Parameters and perspectives of LIS education, Varanasi ABS Publications.
- Godia, Kundan (2007). Electronic Services in Library and Information Science. New Delhi: Adhyayan Publishers and Distributors.
- Murthy, S.S. (1999) Libraries and Information Services in the Electronic Era, Hyderabad. All India conference of the Indian Library Association.
- Jha, Sumangala (2012) Library Information and Society. Delhi: Globus Press.