



Community information Services in Chandrakona Vidyasagar Mahavidyalaya Central Library: A Study

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Abstract

Libraries have long been endless sources of information for students for centuries this involved row after row of books. However, the face of libraries is changing as content is moving toward a digital platform and Internet access is becoming more of a human necessity than a privilege. Library users and their expectations for services and collections have changed. Among the factors driving change are networked technologies, powerful search engines available to all, social technologies and the digitization of everything. There are many challenges also to be faced by the library profession also while adapting the rapidly changing environment in which librarians are expected to work differently than before. The information society is moving to information age due to more usage of ICT. To manage with the changes library professionals have to transform themselves and their activities using ICT and trends. The libraries transformed different phases of libraries like: temple libraries (oral communications), manuscript Libraries (primitive libraries), Paper / Print Libraries (Traditional libraries), microform libraries, electronic libraries, digital libraries, virtual libraries, networked libraries and cloud libraries etc. These transformations are basically due to application of technologies prevailing during the period. The article concludes with reflections on future developments and the impact of digital technological utilities. It's clear that the library has been a valuable institution for academic purposes as long as pen has been put to paper.

Keywords:

Academic Libraries, Digital technology, Digital Libraries, organizational change, collection development.

Introduction:

Libraries have a very old traditions and functions to support information society to develop culturally and academically strong society with the help of public, academic and special library systems. Education system is well supported by information published in different forms like books, journals, reference material, teaching and research aids and helps in extension of knowledge. Libraries in earlier period were collecting information in different forms like clay tablets, papyrus and due to invention of paper knowledge spread in the form of books etc. and temple or manuscript libraries transform to print media libraries. Libraries provide a useful reference service to the users form the decades in the traditional as well as in the digital libraries also. Libraries provide information as per the demands of users and the technology is used in the changing environment to support the different activities carried out in the libraries.

Now, in the 21st century, with the emergence of ICT & Web 2.0 technologies, a library have a new, more dynamic role in knowledge society and as the individual is affected by ICT. Information and communication technology or (ICT) is extensional term for information technology (IT) that stresses the role of unified communications and the integration of telecommunications (telephone lines and wireless signals), computers as well as necessary enterprise software, middleware, storage, and audio-visual systems, which enable users

to access, store, transmit, and manipulate information. Digital libraries, Institutional repositories and Open Archives are the new trend in the present era, satisfying users' needs for precise information since they have become more information conscious for accessing electronic information compared to different purposes such as academic or research needs.

The introduction to the digital era in libraries, created the need to computerize most of the operations. Technology has changed the way traditional librarians used to do work. Nowadays, librarians use technologies to acquire, catalogue, preserve, diffuse, and provide reference services and so on. This doesn't mean that traditional libraries will stop existing. Traditional libraries as buildings will continue to exist for many years and support the digital libraries. Thus, traditional libraries co-exist with digital libraries. This means that librarians play and will continue to play a significant role in libraries. It is important for librarians to keep a balance between their traditional role and the digital role. Which is also try to transforming traditional library to digital library services in Chandrakona Vidyasagar Mahavidyalaya Central Library.

About Chandrakona Vidyasagar Mahavidyalaya:

Chandrakona was a fourishing place in the 2nd half of the 17th century and in valentijri map it appears as a large village on an unnamed river (the Silai) under the name of Sjandercona. According to tradition, Chandrakona was formerly called Mana & Was held in the eight century A.D. by a Raja named Khaira. In the palmy days of Chandrakona, the town was divided in to many Bazars. It was once a well known centre weaving industry, Brass metal craft & Sangeet gharana. It has seen the Paik & Chuar rebellians. The former importance of the place is shown by several remains & old institutions. Chandrakona was deprived of an institution of higher education & learnig since independence inspite of its rich potential feeder schools, thick population, sociol economic demand, broad coverage of two panchayet Samities & three Municipalities. In the mid of the year 1960's the process for setting up a college was initiated but ceased owing to some dim reasons. To fullfil the aspiration & continuous effort of the people, a number of stalwarts, academicians, Local municipal authority & Social workers came forward with a decision, which came a reality through the establishment of the college on 13th Sept. 1985 in the name of Pandit Iswarchandra Vidyasagar, the pioneer of education movement in Bengal following the recommendation of the Bhabatosh Dutta Cormmission. In its budding stage, without exaggeration that it was built by the geneous help of all classes people of Chandrakona I & II Block & a small part of Keshpur and Garhbeta Block. The then authority of 3 tier Panchayet systems. The Honorable M.P. & M.L.A., the owners of the cold storages were the Chief patrons. We still remember the esteemed guidance & aspiration of Late Prabhash fodikar, the M.I.C. of Information and culture, Govt. of West Bengal, the inaugurator of this College. The College was affiliated in 13-09-85 by the Vidyasagar University as it first affliating college. It was enlisted u/ s 2(f) & I2 (B) of the U.GC. Act in 1994. The College is now running with full swing with the cordial helf of the people, university authority U.G.C. & Govt. of West Bengal.

Objective:

The main objectives of this study are to identify the present situation of Chandrakona Vidyasagar Mahavidyalaya Central Library and to discuss about the various obstacles faced by the authority and staff and to provide suggestion to overcome the problems. To explore how librarians and library users interact with digital material, electronic resources, and online services and review their perceptions towards their benefits and challenges in academic libraries. To explore the use and impact of digital technology in Academic Libraries services all over the World. To study the different areas of library operations and services those are performed through Digital technology in academic libraries. To reflect and critically discuss the impact of these on the role and professional practices of academic library staff and, Provide a Digital Learning Coach for all campuses to support teachers in the design of authentic, learner-driven activities that align with content area standard and use digital tools and resources to maximize active, deep learning. Foster future ready librarians to support the cultivation and broader understanding of the skills that comprise success in a digital age. Provide personalized learning experiences that foster independent learning and accommodate learner differences and needs. Celebrate success in enhancing learning through the use of digital tools and resources. Ensure access to appropriate digital tools and resources to meet the needs of all learners. Facilitate teaching and learning enhanced by digital resources when appropriate. Increase the quality of integration of digital technologies to reflect the modification and redefinition. Provide users-centered

environments equipped with technology and learning resources to meet the individual, diverse needs of all users.

Chandrakona Vidyasagar Mahavidyalaya Library in Digital Era:

In the 21st century, academic libraries have a new role in sharing information to its users. Libraries are not piles of books anymore; the general library environment has been changed from traditional to digital. In Chandrakona Vidyasagar Mahavidyalaya College Library ongoing library automation systems have helped to provide easy access of collections through the use of computerized library catalogues (On-line Public Access Catalog – OPAC) which is more recently try to lead to digital libraries. According to Pandey & Mishra (2014), “Academic libraries are digitizing materials because they know the continuing value of library resources for learning, teaching, research, scholarship, documentation, and public accountability.” Now in this present situation we are playing as services in traditional and some digital format in the help of ICT.

Role of Librarian in this impact:

In the present situation where our users and also society trends towards digitized sickness, then we talk about information literacy we mean teaching skills that include computer skills. According to Kulkarni “there is a need for the library professionals to play significant role in promoting information literacy in digital environment.” In the digital age students, academicians are increasingly referring to online sources to begin their study. With such significant change underway, it is essential that the role of librarians is evolving to keep up with this shift in the study of user behavior.

The perception of the traditional librarian is being overturned as librarians utilize technology to support users. In an academic arena overwhelmed by electronic resources, demonstrating the value of content and using an array of tools in order to do so is part of the librarian’s role to plan collection development. Library roles are clearly becoming multi-fold, with the librarian acting as an educator, marketer, and facilitator to high value content.

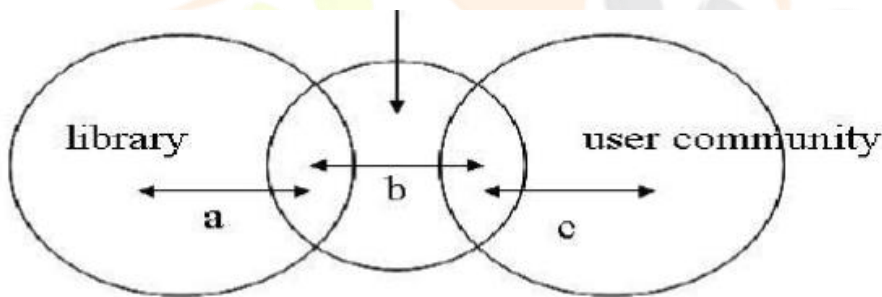


Figure-1: Position of Librarians in a library

Chandrakona Vidyasagar Mahavidyalaya College Library in Digital Era:

The location and provision of information services has dramatically changed over the last three years. Now it is Ongoing process that tries to all Information is electronically accessible from a wide variety of globally distributed information repositories.

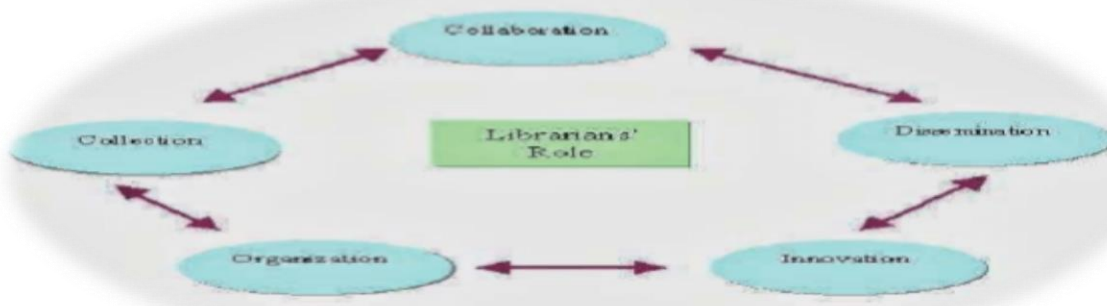


Figure-2: Role of Librarians

Future Trends:

1. Closing the gap between traditional & technology
2. Implementation of Wireless Network
3. Artificial Intelligence
4. Increasing technological work force
5. Increased free time
6. Virtual Education
7. Project-based workforce

Challenges for Academic libraries in Digital Era

The following are the Challenges for Academic libraries in Digital Era

1. Making services engaging to its user.
2. Handling data management tools
3. Demonstrating the value of Librarian
4. Preserving material on a digital scale
5. A growing and diverse spectrum of customers:
6. Developing library policies
7. Role of development towards its users.
9. Becoming familiar with a wide range of digital content

Conclusion

The growth of Information Communication Technology (ICT) has made significant revolution in all the areas of science and technology, which is applicable in the transforming academic library. Internet using is as a tool for searching and retrieving information. Internet tools has become all in one information society. Librarians of this digital era are in the position to change their role as information scientist and to meet the challenges with the searching tools in the knowledge society. So I must enrich my knowledge with information technology developments to browse access and retrieve particular information for me and my users. Though it is ongoing process in the Central Library of Chandrakona Vidyasagar Mahavidyalaya's scenario but it will not be success without the healthy cooperation of college authority. The main problems of this ongoing process are lack of staff and lack of money. In maximum college library, there is no any library budget. Therefore, I conclude that the healthy library service will be established if the authority attitude will change towards the library development in digital era.

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