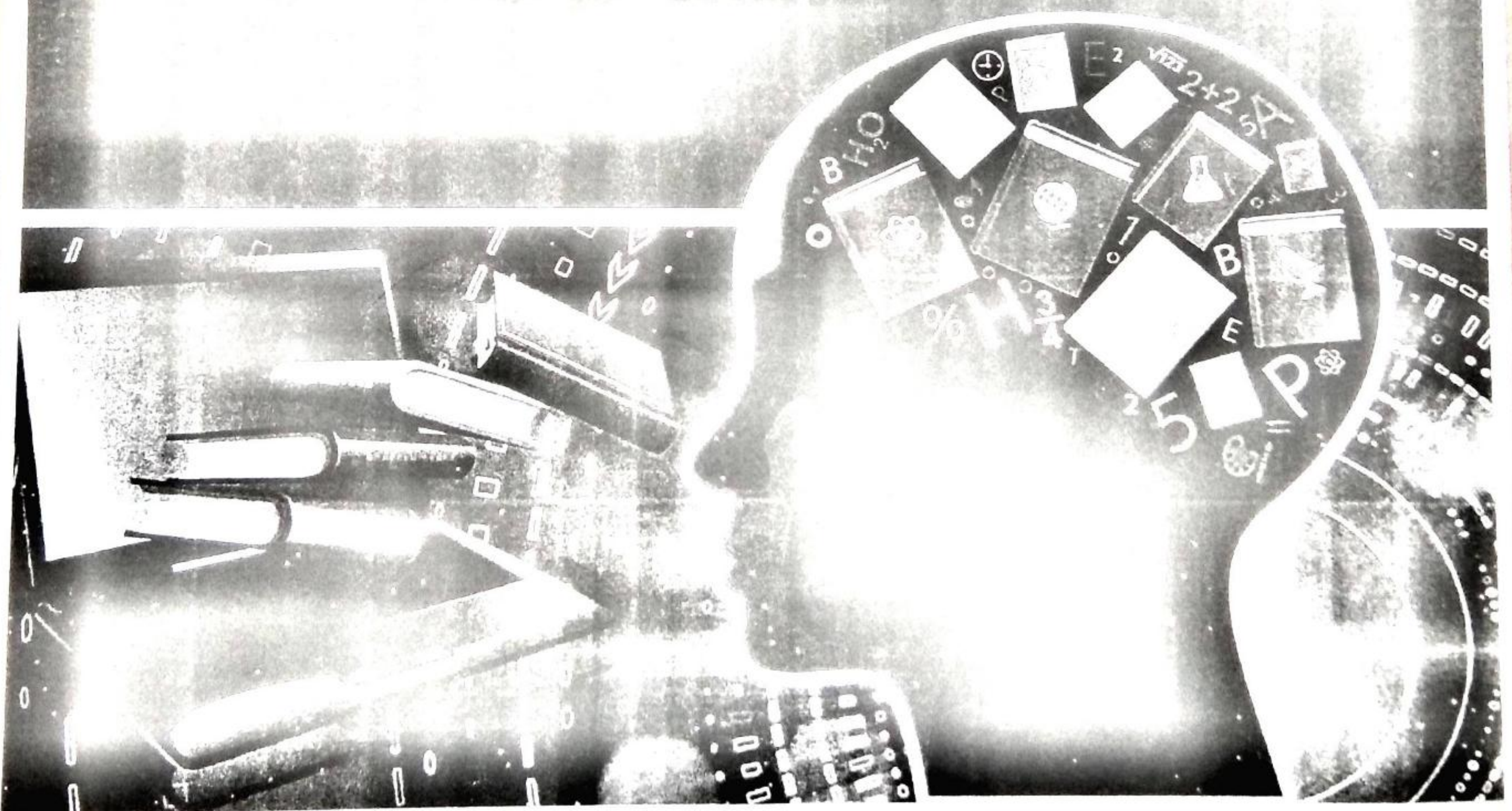


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Multi - Disciplinary Scenario of

LIBRARIES IN HIGHER EDUCATION IN INDIA



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PERSPECTIVES ON THE IMPACT OF ICT TOOLS IN LIBRARY SERVICES

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Abstract

This paper throws light on the impact of ICT tools in library services. It is an attempt to point out the various ICT tools used for the welfare of the libraries. It focuses on inevitable need of ICT, variety of resources, internet as an educational tool, ICT in libraries, impact of ICT on library services.

Keywords: Globalization, ICT, Higher Education

Introduction

Today we are living in an era of globalisation. We are witnessing a tremendous progress in each and every field. Along with it, higher education is no exception of it. So far as the higher education is concerned, library is the soul of the institution. It is a treasure house of knowledge. Education is rapidly changing. It is the need of the time to update the library with ample books. The motive of the library is to provide access to information to its end users. Library is the centre of any institution in higher education. Technological developments in the delivery of virtual learning combined with the pervasiveness of internet connectivity have created a perfect storm for changing how to learn. There are many challenges before the librarian and has to face these challenges. Librarians should have the skill and the handling of the college library.

Information and Communication Technologies have been regarded to have a pervasive influence on the economy as well as other parts of the society. ICT is widely considered as the most important revolution humankind has experienced since the industrial revolution and the development of movable type printing techniques. A country's development depends on the extent of use, speed of access, and skill application of ICT systems. The utilization of Information and Communication Technology has become an indicator of the levels of nation's wealth. Countries, which do prepare for ICT but not use it, are likely to lose their global competitiveness.

According to Majid (2000) "Continuous Professional Development is the systematic method of learning leads to growth and improvement in professional abilities, enabling individual to function successfully in a changing work environment". Weingand (1999) defines "Continuing professional education that takes place once professional qualification is achieved with the intent of maintaining competence or learning new skills". Skill is the most important thing to update the knowledge of a person of any field. Professional development is very

much important for the librarian and also challenging.

Inevitable Need of ICT

Information and Communication Technology plays a very important role in higher education. Today we see that E-learning is the buzz word in the field of higher education. It is the need of time to make such revolution in the library field. ICT is not a new and innovative concept, but it is a way in which education is defined today and more importantly, fostering its relevance in the 21st century. It is the need of time to integrate ICT into higher education. It will definitely access to teachers and students as well. Librarians need to be always vigilant about various demands about the books, periodicals and other resources as well as gadgets to provide state of art amenities for quenching the thirst of knowledge and acquire readers and researchers satisfaction. For verifying so many aspects of ICT oriented libraries catering their services to colleges.

ICT helps to increase knowledge which the learners can make the best use of it. It can influence the way students are taught and how they learn as now the processes are learner driven and not by teachers. Learners are prepared for lifelong as well as contribute to the society. It provides several benefits for all the stakeholders involved in the growth of the country.

Technology tools to library services have brought a lot of changes to library operations thereby making access to knowledge more convenient to user. Networking is the most important, file storage, graphic user interface. Multiple locations are available from anywhere users can consult all library holdings throughout the systematic catalogue, indexing, and abstracting services.

Variety of resources: Technology now allows users to have access to diverse resources i.e. from pure bibliographical records.

Making information available in raw form; Types of information available to users in digital form has continued to grow. Indexing and abstracting; index terms, full-text of articles and books, library catalogue, tables of contents information, full-text and page images.

Internet As An Educational Tool - Internet plays a very important role in education. It is the most advantages tool for learning a lot. It helps to update the latest knowledge regarding various field, library is no exception. In most cases tertiary institutions have linked through internet to facilitate access to safe library facilities for their registered students. Many research



things can be done on internet, from identification of research problem, through literature review data analysis and dissemination. Many educational things like videos on mathematics, science, history. It is worth mention that 160000 students have registered for Stanford's Thrun's free online MOOC course "Introduction to Artificial Intelligence".

ICT in Libraries

ICT has changed the traditional methods of library activities and services providing new ways for teaching, learning and research in higher educational institution. ICT are very useful for storing retrieving, disseminating and organising information by creating websites and databases. This information is published 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 users needs. This section includes studies related to the application of ICT in libraries, both in India and abroad. The first and foremost ICT component which can be adopted in the libraries is the computer for library automation and to have an in-house data base of library holdings in electronic forms. As many primary journals and being published in CD forms. It becomes necessary to equip the libraries to optimise the use of information the E-mail, online retrieval networking, multimedia and internet and other important technologies, which can be used for faster access to information.

As a result, the traditional concept of library is being refined from a place to place to access books to one which houses the advanced media including CD-ROM. Internet and remote access to a wide range of resources. Today, evolution made it possible to capture and storage of multimedia information likes text, audio, still image animation and many more. ICT enables to access these contents which were not possible in conventional setup.

Impact of ICT on Library Services

Advent if printing technology: Resulted in mass production of print documents and enabled democratization of information.

Storage: Help the libraries to preserve the large number of information in compact storage.

Reprographic Technology: Revolutionized the concept of information use as it facilitated to own a copy of relevant portion of library resources.

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Computer: The advent of computer is the biggest technology revolution so far. It has not remained as standalone technology by adopting communication and technology development.

ICT has brought unprecedented changes and transformation to academic library and information services. The impact of ICT characterised on information services by changes in format, content and method of production and contents and methods of production delivery of information products. Emergence of internet as the largest repository of information and knowledge, changed the role of library and information science professional from immediately to vacillator, new tools for dissemination of information and shift from physical to virtual services environment and extinction of conventional information services and emergence of new and innovation web based.

Conclusion

Broadly speaking, it is conclude that a world without information and technology is in vain. Information and technology is playing a very important role in academic field, where library is no exception. Various technological tools are helping a lot in the development of Indian libraries. The provision and use of ICT is part and parcel of entire system to all the students, institutions and information professionals. With the help of ICT to deliver the services of their users is very easy and fast. It can also save time for users and staff. ICT has impact on all spheres of life, with the positive impacts of all things. ICT enabled conventional services of academic libraries are now more better, faster and cheaper with use of ICTs and ICT services. This is a further consequence had impact on the role of librarian changing from intermediary to facilitator.

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