

**Automation of Academic Libraries: Barrier and its Solution**

**Dr. Pawar Ganpat Ramsing**

Librarian

Shivaji College, Hingoli.

Email. Id. ganpatpawar3@gmail.com

**Mr. Shinde Sainath Bhanudas**

Librarian

Degloor College, Degloor, Dist. Nanded.

Email. Id. sbssaishinde@gmail.com

**Abstract**

The main objective of this paper is to find out the important of library automation in this information technology environment. It can be help to the save the time, space and man power of administrative and library user. The benefits of Library automation are both to the library staff and the users as it level of job stress on the staff timely provision of up to date information to the users. These papers are to portrait the level library automation and reveal the problems faced by the librarians. The technology, both hardware and software would be expensive and unaffordable. The cost of hardware and software depends on the level of automation. From the user point of view cataloguing system is most important and also forms the base for other library activities. This paper disused on, meaning of automation, what is library automation, barriers for library automation and its solution.

**Introduction**

Library Automation is the most important Subject in the today's world. The word Automation is derived from Greek word 'Automose'. Automation means automatic handling of parts between progressive motility processes. Library automation the early 1960 several countries like the USA and UK began to using computers. In this era computerization was improved and better understanding was made between librarians and computer specialists. The main objective of library automation is to free the librarians and library staff and allow them to contribute more meaningfully to disseminate knowledge and information. In fact when we use Computers for collection, Processing, storage and retrieval of information and to other types of works of library with the help of computers is called library automation. Library automation is possible with the help of software and hardware. Today in this information technology era there are many software and hardware available in the markets. But both are very costly, and not easy to handle to library staff as well as to the users. So, due to the lack of library budget it is most important to select and parches those software which is not costly and easy to handle to the library staff and its users.

**Meaning of Automation**

Automation is the creation and application of technologies to produce and deliver goods and services with minimal human intervention. The implementation of automation technologies, techniques and processes improve the efficiency, reliability, and/or speed of many tasks that were previously performed by humans.

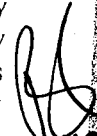

Automation is being used in a number of areas such as manufacturing, transport, utilities, defense, facilities, operations and lately, information technology.

**Library Automation**

Library automation refers to the use of the computer to automate the typical procedures of libraries such as cataloging and circulation. In the process of library automation, a library makes the use of computers and other technologies to support its systems and services. Library automation is the conversion of a library's procedures from manual to computerized, such as from a card catalog to an OPAC, or from manual circulation cards to an integrated library system. Automation is a process of using machinery for easily working and saving human power and time. The main purpose of library automation is to free the librarians and library staff and to allow them to contribute more meaningfully to the spread of knowledge and information. In Library Science automation is 'the technology concerned with the design and development of the process and system that minimizes the necessity of human intervention in their operation.'

**Need & Purpose of Library Automation**

The exponential growth of information has made manual system redundant necessitating requirement of computerized information storage and retrieval. Effective and efficient handling

  
**PRINCIPAL**  
Shivaji College  
Hingoli, Dist. Hingoli  
  
**Assistant**

of huge quantum of information is only possible by using computers, which have the added advantage of being highly accurate, and timely that adds value to information. Use of computers in automating the library routines is specifically useful for the following reasons:

- Much of the works involved in library are repetitive, tedious, and mechanical in nature requiring accurate updating of records in files. The same bibliographic record in a library is used to perform multiple operations. Each operation may concern with individual copies of a title. A bibliographic record created at the time of ordering a document is first used for its acquisition, then for technical processing and subsequently for library OPAC, circulation, binding, etc.
- Automation permits decentralized access to a bibliographic record by multiple users. A staff member in a branch library can verify the status of an order without maintaining duplicate files or without making an enquiry. A user can check to see if a book is out on loan or available on the shelf of the library.
- The application of information technology in libraries results in increased operational efficiency. It ensures ease of functioning, accuracy and economy in human labour with greater speed.
- The library staff, specially the younger ones, finds use of computers interesting and exciting. Use of computers can be a motivating factor for several library staff members.
- The IT increases productivity of library staff. It relieves professional staff from clerical chores so that they can be fruitfully used for user-oriented library services.

#### Advantages of Library Automation

There are some disadvantages of library automation such as:

- Library automation software makes it easier for patrons to use electronic resources, for example by providing barcode scanning or RFID tags that can be used to identify books.
- It reduces the staff workload and increases the efficiency of the library.
- It encompasses the process of replacing traditional, paper-based systems with computers and software.
- It makes information more available and accessible in an easier manner.
- With automation, libraries can save space by not having to keep too many physical books as they need to before.
- It helps libraries save time and money by automating administrative tasks.
- Libraries that use automation need less staff because most tasks are automated.
- Libraries can automate their databases so that there are fewer mistakes and more data accuracy.

#### Advantages of Library Automation

There are some disadvantages of library automation such as:

- A large number of computers should require.
- Librarians should be able to utilize their resources for online access to information.
- A specific interval of library orientation required at a specific interval.
- Electronic devices should be in working condition.
- The quality of internet.

#### Problems

- A supply facility should be there.
- A well trained staff should require.

#### Library Automation

##### Cost

- Hardware and software Costly
- Knowledge of Hardware and software

##### Constraints

- Lack of staff to Handle Technology
- Lack of Information Policies
- Lack of Communication Facility

  
**PRINCIPAL**  
Shivaji College  
Hingoli, Dist. Hingoli



- Data Validation Work
- Utilization of Automation Fund for other Purpose
- Power Backup System
- Lack of skilled manpower and assignment of other duties to staff
- Computer Training and job Assignment
- Lack of Support from college Authority
- Mindset of Library Staff
- Assessment of electronic publications
- Ownership of the electronic Publications
- Training of Professional and end users

#### **Solution of Library Automation**


Need of provide the Economical help for buy best hardware, software and other equipment to the library from Central agencies, (UGC), State, local Government. Libraries should conduct training program time to time for development of library staff. There should be usable on a large variety of machines and be capable of handling different activities in the library. User awareness and orientation is very much needed. The users comprise managerial policy makers as well as the research scholar and regular clientele of a library. All the data or information should be secure with the help difference security tool such as user of antivirus, firewalls and taking a backup of data time to times. Inverter should be used for power backup.

#### **Conclusion**

In this digital Era the library has moved to information Technology Environment. In this era we are going though digital library, electronic library, Web 2.0, tools, Hybrid library, Using the new Technology for library resource Management and Sources. For providing the good library Services and well resource management these is need to provide the skilled management and Economical help for Propose best hardware, software and other equipment which are needed library automation.

#### **References**

1. <https://www.techopedia.com/definition/32099/automation>
2. Michael Levine-Clark, *ALA Glossary of Library and Information Science*, Fourth Edition. (Chicago: American Library Association, 2013).
3. <https://www.librarianshipstudies.com/2017/10/library-automation.html>
4. <https://slimkm.com/blog/library-automation-definition-purpose-and-advantages/>
5. Library automation and networking college libraries (2019), (<http://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in/bitstream>)
6. Library Automation: Commercial and Open and Open Source Software (2019), (<http://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in/bitstream>)
7. Dimple M. Pandya and Maheshbhai Darbar, (2017). Benefits and disadvantage of library automation: A study of academic library users, International Journal of All Research Education and Scientific Methods (IJARESM), Vol. 5 Issue 4.

  
**Assistant Professor**  
Shivaji College, Hingoli.  
Tq. & Dist. Hingoli. (MS.)

  
**PRINCIPAL**  
Shivaji College  
Hingoli, Dist. Hingoli