ICT in Academic Library Services for Sustainable Development

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Abstract:

The study presents the needs of library services in information and communication sustainable for the libraries and the information centers. ICT plays a vital role in all fields especially in library and information centers .The (ICT) has transferred the library services all around the world, nowadays most of the information recorded in electronic format. A library service in ICT environment has availed the libraries to keep pace with the latest development.This has additionally facilitated precision, flexibility and reliability in the library and information centre. This has additionally reduce the perpetual work and preserve them and brings precision and speed & keeps material safe.

Keywords: ICT, ICT Library Services, Sustainable Development.

Introduction:

In the modern era of information technology, ICT is the most powerful media to users to provide better services in academic libraries. As a result, educational system of most countries in the world try to keep up with the rapid development to ICT and its implementation in education. With the advent of ICT introduce new system like e- learning, video conferencing , e- classroom , virtual classroom , e- resources etc. Libraries are the most important source of knowledge, and ICT information communication technology plays an important role in storage, disseminate of information. in the year of 1950's an invention of the computer brought a drastic changes in the scenario, different application of ICT started in libraries work. This also affected the mode of learning and publishing and developed a better form of digitized documents. The nature of libraries and users are also changed from offline mode to online mode. In the previous years the libraries were ecofriendly with printed documents and other reading materials, but there were constraints of place in the development of libraries due to increasing research activities and publishing, that problem was solved by electronic gadgets in the libraries. As every new invention has advantage and disadvantages, so this digitization to have an adverse effect on the environment due to the use of electronic gadgets in the process of digitization that posses a hazardous impact on the environment. Sustainable development of the digitized libraries is necessary for the betterment of environment.

Definition of ICT:

* ICT refers as a technology that is used to handle communications processes such as telecommunications, broadcast media, intelligent building management systems, audio-visual processing and transmission systems, and network - based control and monitoring functions (Techopedia, 2020).

* ICT is defined as a diverse set of technological tools and resources used to transmit, store, create, share, or exchange information. These technological tools and resources include computers, the Internet (websites, blogs and emails), live broadcasting technologies (radio, television, and webcasting), recorded broadcasting technologies (podcasting, audio and video players, and storage devices), and telephone (fixed or mobile, satellite, video-conferencing, etc.).

* According to IGI Global (2020), ICT refers to technologies that provide access to information through telecommunications and focuses on communication technologies. This includes the Internet, wireless networks, mobile phones, and other means of communication. ICT is the technology that supports activities involving information. Such activities include gathering, processing, storing, and presenting data. Increasingly, these activities also involve collaboration and communication.

Concept of Sustainable Development:

* Sustainable development is an organizing principle for meeting human development goals while also sustaining the ability of natural systems to provide the natural resources and ecosystem services on which the economy and society depend.

* Sustainable development is the idea that human societies must live and meet their needs without [...]

compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. The "official" definition of sustainable development was developed for the first time in the Brundtland Report in 1987.

• Sustainable Development is a revolutionary concept that is, unfortunately, extremely difficult to define pragmatically. The concept of sustainable development is one that is arguably multi-disciplinary, complex, and systematic, yet defining the concept is without a doubt a great task. Sustainabledevelopmentwasaterm first coined in 1980, when the intent of the concept was merely basic (ANON,2011).

• Sustainable development can be defined as development that meets the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs (UNESCO, 2015).

• The concept of sustainable development is rooted in three main pillars that aim to achieve inclusive growth as well as create shared prosperity for the current generation and to continue to meet the needs of future generations (Team Leverage Edu, 2020).

ICT Libraries for Sustainable Development:

The advent of ICT is indeed a boost to the library services as it now assists many librarians to use their ICT potentials to reach out to library users. Some of the ICT-based services that are provided by libraries as follows:
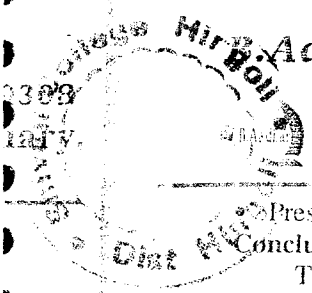
1. Electronic Document Delivery: Libraries implement ICT-based interlibrary lending system, through the use of electronic networks for documents delivery. The Document Delivery Service (DDS) enables a library to use copies of research papers or other research document, from other libraries. It includes journal articles or other documents in digital format and they delivered to library user.

2. Online Instruction / User Education: There is implementation of online based bibliographic or library user programs such as online tutorials on searching online resources and virtual tours of library collections. Libraries can also use internet.

3. Online Readers Advisory Services: Libraries now implement web-based reader advisory services to informing users about new acquisitions, reviews recommendations and so on in using the web.

4. Networked Information Resources: Libraries now provide users with access to networked information such as database, electronic journals and other publications from various publishers.

5. Electronic Mail (E-mail): This is the most widely used resource of the internet. It is used for sending and receiving of messages known as mails. The messages are communicated through electronic device. E-mail enables faster and cheaper organizational communication.

6. World Wide Web (WWW): This is also an internet-based resource. Websites help individuals, organizations or institutions find products or information and transacts business. Relevant information is made available to members of the public through the websites of many organizations or institutions. Being on the web, places any nation or organization on the right cause of speedy and sustainable development in line with emergence of changes in technology.

7. Video Conferencing: This enables people at different locations to hold conferences by data communication network. It is convenient and less expensive for conducting a conference between two or more participants situated at different remote location.

8. Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC): It is the computer form of library catalogue to access information materials in the library. It is an online database of materials held by a library or group of libraries. It is a computerized library catalogue made available to the public. Most OPACs are accessible over the internet to users all over the world.

The roles of libraries towards sustainable development are:

• Promotion of universal literacy, inclusive of media literacy, information literacy, and digital literacy.

• Bridging information gaps and helping government and non governmental organizations understand local information needs and indigenous knowledge.

• Advancing digital inclusion through unrestricted access to information and communication technologies (ICT) and dedicated staff to help people develop new digital skills.

• Supporting research efforts aimed at innovation and development.

* Preserving and providing access to the rich cultural heritage of the world.

Conclusion

The study concluded that ICT is a generic term that refers to the technologies that are used to collect, store, edit, and communicate information in various formats. Libraries have become one of the institutions mostly used to manage, disseminate, and preserve knowledge. The library's collection comprises both the physical materials and all digital or electronic information resources and services that the library provides. However, libraries are playing a very important role in facilitating access to global information and knowledge resources. The aim of libraries is to provide services that satisfy their users needs and the incorporation of ICT into library services has provided libraries with a great opportunity to do so.

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