



THE AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION SCIENCE AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNITY INFORMATION SCIENCE, (WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO INDIAN STATES)

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ABSTRACT

In the modern era information science is very essential to get information and statistics of various departments like education, agriculture and the service sectors, In the Indian context, majority of Indians are living in rural areas and working in Agriculture or small scale industries. In India 74.3 percent population lives in rural areas and 25.7 percentage population lives in urban areas. The agriculture sector provides livelihood to 64 percent. For the development of the country, it is very important to emphasize on the development of rural community. Information is one of the most important factors for the process of development of any sector especially rural community. Information is birth right of a human being irrespective to the class and creed he/she belongs to. Particularly in a big country like India, information needs to be shared and disseminated to all the citizen of the country. So far, libraries and professionals have been serving the population in a closed framework which needs to be changed in the changing context beyond physical buildings to virtual environment. Anything and everything can be found over Internet and this environmental change has changed the information seeking behaviour of the users.

KEY WORDS: *Community Information Science, Digitalisation Benefits In The Growth Of Library Science In India.*

INTRODUCTION

Information centres are widely present in metro cities in India presently, but most percentage of the village and tribal population lack digital technology facilities to get online access of information science. The guidelines to establish Community Information Centre is as follows. The establishment of Community Information Centre's (CICs) has been envisaged as a means to use the benefits of Information Technology (IT) to raise the socio-economic conditions of the people of India particularly those in the remote areas of the North Eastern states including Sikkim. This proposal is planned as a major initiative from the government to utilize IT as a cutting edge tool of development for the North Eastern states including Sikkim by establishing Community Information Centres in 487 blocks of these 8 states. Out of these, 30 Blocks have already been covered under a pilot project implemented during 2000-2001. These CICs will help the region avail the benefits of global connectivity through Internet and will also help the concerned state governments to plan for IT based citizen-centric applications making govt. services available through CICs. Under the project, computers, peripherals along with VSATs for satellite communication will be placed at designated locations in each block in all the North-Eastern States including Sikkim.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Oxford Companion to the English Language – Library is a collection of books, periodicals and/or other materials, primarily written and printed

Harrods's Librarian's Glossary and Reference Book defines 'Library' as:

(1) a collection of books and other literary material kept for reading, study and consultation.

(2) A place, building, room or rooms set apart for the keeping and use of a collection of books, etc.

(3) A number of books issued by one publisher under a comprehensive title as the 'Loeb Classical Library', and usually having some general characteristic, such as, subject, binding, or typography.

(4) A collection of films, photographs and other non-book materials, plastic or metal tapes, disks and programs. In view of the above definitions, a library is defined as: a. A place in which literary and artistic materials, such as books, periodicals, newspapers, pamphlets, prints, records, tapes and artefacts are kept for reading, reference, or lending. B. a collection of such materials, especially when systematically arranged. c. A room in a private home for such a collection. d. An institution or foundation maintaining such a collection.



RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This research output is the outcome of an overview conducted on use of digital technology and digital applications for the growth of e-resources and information science opportunities to promote e-education, activities and making India strong flexibility in availability of online e-resources in

education, agriculture and service sector in the Indian context experimental approach, with special reference to Karnataka, it uses secondary data for analysis, discussion with expert part of research work.

➤ DATA AND STATISTICS

1. Community Information Centres available in India



The Integrated Community Information Centre Model has to be hosted on the web with user friendly interface containing all the aforesaid information on each area. This has to be maintained purely by a Library and Information should be of high priority and this needs effective coordination and cooperation from the Government, NGO's, Local Self Government and private bodies.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The purpose of this document is to provide a detailed set of instructions to the State Government and related agencies involved in establishing the sites identified for the CICs. This would include site preparation, manpower deployment and running and maintenance of the CICs. The document includes the parameters to be considered for site selection, instructions for civil and electrical work to be executed at the site, role and responsibilities of the Custodian and criteria for manpower recruitment and deployment.

In view of the difficult terrain in some parts of the North-Eastern states it is proposed to set up smaller centre's with basic equipment and limited facilities i.e. Type B CICs.

This will ensure that all areas are given connectivity while considering the problems of available infrastructure in remote areas. These centers will have two computer systems and a printer along with VSAT and necessary communication equipment.

FINDINGS

1. Nearly half of the respondents covered in the study belong to Government Organization (46.8%), followed by NGOs accounting to 28.2% and Local Self Government organization (25%).
2. 33.8 of the department of organization rendering CIS services were established between years 1991 and 2000 and followed by year 1981-1990 (21.1%) and year onwards (19.8%).
3. The departments covered in the study deals with Agriculture sector (34.6%). Education (26.9%), Health and Family welfare (23.1%) and women and Child Welfare (15.4%).
4. Majority of the financial funding to the department and organizations involved in CIS comes mainly



from State Government (82.1%), 44.1% of the financial budget is from the Central Government and 26.9% from the Local Self Governments.

5. 34% of the departments are having libraries in these Community Information Services sectors and the rest 66% of the departments/ organization do not have libraries in their respective departments or organizations. Among them, 33.9% of the libraries forming part of the departments and organization involved in CIS activities are managed by purely library professionals.
6. Majority of libraries handling CIS in their respective departments / organization possess just certificate courses in Library and Information Science (66.6%) and 27.8% of them acquired Bachelor's degree in Library and Information Science.
7. All the Libraries possess books (100%), followed by Reference sources (96.2%) and News paper (84.9%).
8. Among several factors, a conscious patronization of online commerce, online education and an emergence of retail as a dominant market segment have contributed to the unprecedented growth of digitalisation in India.

areas; remote villages in India still don't have access to power, and the availability of funds to allocate computers or modern equipments to utilize information science.

2. North eastern part of India, northern Karnataka and several parts of coastal areas don't have strong economic resources to buy information science related materials, so most of the places depend on central government to get funds.

SCOPE / SUGGESTION

- 15% of the libraries adopt Classification schemes for organizing information resources, while majority of the departments/organizations (94.3%) follow subject wise arrangement of information resources.
- 30.2% of the libraries have prepared Catalogue Cards to help the users in searching the availability of documents in the libraries and among them 56.2% of the libraries have prepared author catalogue cards.
- All the staffs of the libraries strongly agree that there is a need for Catalogues/ Index tools which are the indispensable retrieval tools for their organization.
- Majority of the libraries under study (90.5%) have not automated their libraries.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Information science has played a vital role in India and the world from past decade, but in the modern world is very essential factor for the growth of community information centres, development & innovative phenomenon involves online availability of resources, college intuitions like digital libraries etc, as it provides benefits for the consumers, producers by saving time, students are benefited by the availability of academic resources, availability in lower cost, even free availability of online sources in universities and the educational institutions.
2. Information science has to reach facilities to the last person in the country, rural areas like in online education, to increase in efficiency of availability of online sources in the country.

REFERENCE

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CONCLUSION

Although the Ministry of Rural Development and Information and Communication Technology has earmarked large amount for development of Information Kiosk and development of CI Centres, but based on the findings of the survey made at district, it is evident that the Government and Non-government organization Centres to cater to the information needs of the society. In this context, there is a need for systematic development of Community Information system in order to bridge the digital divide and the roles of libraries to get high significance. It is therefore, the proposed Integrated Community Information Centres Model, would serve the basic purpose of rural and urban society in meeting their timely generic, agricultural, health, women, social and child welfare information.

LIMITATION

1. The Information sciences has not reached the rural areas of the country in India, especially the tribal