

Management of Information Communication Technology (ICT) Based Library & Information Services in B.Ed. College of Rajasthan

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ABSTRACT

This article reports the results of a study of the Information Communication Technology (ICT) Based Library & Information services in B.Ed. Colleges of Rajasthan. The data collected by a well structured questionnaire from 31 B.Ed. College Libraries in Rajasthan. Results show that most of the Libraries have good collection of CD-Rom, E-Journals and e-Books along with Audio –Video records. The status of Libraries in these colleges is found that few of them are fully automated with LMS viz. SOUL, KOHA and e-granthalaya, some are partially automated and maximum are working manually. B.Ed. College Libraries using Classification system is DDC 19th edition or CC 6th edition, Cataloguing System is based on AACR-II, and MARC, Circulation system using both Browne and Newark and Barcode with single card, Computerized and other, Form of Catalogue using Card, Computerized and other. Most of the Libraries are well connected with network facility. Maximum users of their libraries are satisfied with the online services and resources provided by the Library staff as and when desired.

Keywords: Information and Communication System, Library Science, Software,

Introduction

ICT has affected almost all areas of libraries. The ICT application tools and techniques are essential for providing efficient and effective library and information services to the users. The purpose of this study is to examine the Information Communication Technology (ICT) Based Library & Information services in B.Ed. College of Rajasthan An appraisal in terms of library functions, services. Data gathering tools use include questionnaires, observations and interviews for collecting the data from the selected 31 B.Ed. College's libraries of Rajasthan. The results from the study reveal that a majority of the surveyed library professionals found that computerization has made a positive effect which has improved the image of the B.Ed. libraries. ICT not only affect the technical services of libraries, but also shapes the library services that are offered to the library users. ICT and ICT enabled: (i) Profiling of the users; (ii) information products and resources; (iii) information services have come to the rescue of Library information Professionals in a big way in meeting such a challenge.

Information and communications technology (ICT) is often used as an extended synonym for information technology (IT), but is a more specific term 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.

The phrase ICT had been used by academic researchers since the 1980s, but it became popular after it was used in a report to the UK government by Dennis Stevenson in 1997 and in the revised National Curriculum for England, Wales and Northern Ireland in 2000.

The term ICT is now also used to refer to the convergence of audio-visual and telephone networks with computer networks through a single cabling or link system. There are large economic incentives (huge cost savings due to elimination of the telephone network) to merge the audio-visual, building

management and telephone network with the computer network system using a single unified system of cabling, signal distribution and management.

The term Infocommunications is sometimes used interchangeably with ICT. In fact Information and communication is the expansion of telecommunications with information processing and content handling functions on a common digital technology base.

ICT and B.Ed. College Libraries

The present study under investigation plans to have comprehensive coverage of B.Ed. College Libraries of Rajasthan for proper understanding of status and effect of technology. The collective responses from library professionals about the Information Communication Technology (ICT) Based Library & Information services in B.Ed. College of Rajasthan an appraisal:

Need And Purpose Of Information Technology In Libraries

The application of information technology in libraries results in increased operational efficiency. The IT increases productivity of library staff. It relieves professional staff from ordinary jobs that involves a lot of duplication so that they can be fruitfully used for user-oriented library services. It improves quality of services rendered by the library. Use of information technology ensures ease of functioning, accuracy and economy in human labor with greater speed. The exponential growth of information has made manual system redundant giving way to computerized information storage and retrieval tools. Effective and efficient handling of huge quantum of information is only possible by using computers, which have the added advantage of being highly accurate and efficient that adds value to information. Moreover, the technology also helps in rendering services that were hitherto not possible using traditional means. The new information technology facilitates improved management of physical and financial resources. The advances in technology and its availability at lower cost, has also raised expectations of users from librarians and libraries. The new Information technology, on one hand, facilitate wider access to information for the library Users, on other hand, it facilitates wider dissemination of information products and Services generated by the library. The availability of networks facilitates resource sharing and high-speed communication with other libraries. IT has changed the library and information science area. Expensive buildings, valuable IT infrastructure, costly IT services and Collection, high salaried staff and multipurpose users satisfaction level. IT services are broadly accepted by library staff members and users and positive results.

Research Methodology

This survey includes 31 B.Ed. college Libraries from B.Ed. Colleges in Rajasthan. The data collected through the questionnaire was analyzed with the help of the computer. The analyzed data was used for the conclusion of the present study. At the outset a preliminary questionnaire was developed. The outline was discussed with the researcher's guide, faculty members and college librarians of B.Ed. College. After discussion the questionnaire was developed and given a trial run among the B.Ed. College Libraries. At last the questionnaires were circulated to all the B.Ed. College Libraries of Rajasthan.

The final questionnaire was sent to all the B.Ed. College of Rajasthan along with a request letter and a self-addressed stamped envelope. The questionnaire were not received within one month were given reminders and they were pursued for sending their responses.

B.Ed. library within the reach of the researcher were visited personally and distributed questionnaire to respective respondents and passed on necessary instructions related to the filling up of a questionnaire. The present scholar assured that the information given by them would be used for the research purpose only. The researcher could finally 31 fully filled by the B.Ed. College Librarians as per instructions.

Data Analysis:

The data collected through the questionnaire was analyzed with the help of the computer. The analyzed data was used for the conclusion of the present study.

Findings

1. ICT On Document Collection Development

ICT has had a fundamental result on Library collection development and its management. In the past, the word library collection has referred to print materials. Today a library collection goes the print materials and includes the CD-ROM, online Database, E-journals, E-Books, Audio- Video. These are the additional sources of collection development that also decrease the space requirements of the Library.

E-Resources play the vital and viable role to cater the needs of information seekers in the process of advancement of society in present environment. E-Resources include such as CD-ROM Databases, Online Databases, World Wide Web, Consortia based Services, E-Journals, OPAC, E-Books and Audio-Video

Table 1 show that E- Resources in the B.Ed. colleges Libraries of Rajasthan. Many E-books, E-journals and E-databases are freely available on the internet and these are reducing the financial crisis and space requirements of the libraries. E-resources can be multiplied or accessed at multiple locations easily.

According to Table-1 20 Libraries have CD-Rom Database, 12 libraries have Online Databases, 20 Libraries have E-Journals, 11 libraries have E-Books and 14 libraries have Audio –Video collections.

2. E-RESOURCES IN B.ED. LIBRARY

Table 2 shows that 14 (45.16 %) college have CD-Rom database out of 31 colleges. 12(38.71%) college have Online databases. 12 (38.71%) college have WWW. 09 (29.03%) college have Consortia Based Services. 20 (64.52%) college have E-Journals. 08(25.81%) college have OPAC. 11 (35.48%) college have E-Books. 14 (45.16 %) college have Audio- Video.

Table No. 1 E- Resources in B.Ed. Library

S. No.		Yes	%	No	%
1	CD-Rom Databases	14	45.16	17	54.84
2	Online Databases	12	38.71	19	61.29
3	WWW	12	38.71	19	61.29
4	Consortia Based Services	9	29.03	22	70.97
5	E-Journals	20	64.52	11	35.48
6	OPAC	8	25.81	23	74.19
7	E-Books	11	35.48	20	64.52
8	Audio- Video	14	45.16	17	54.84

3. Effect of IT On Services

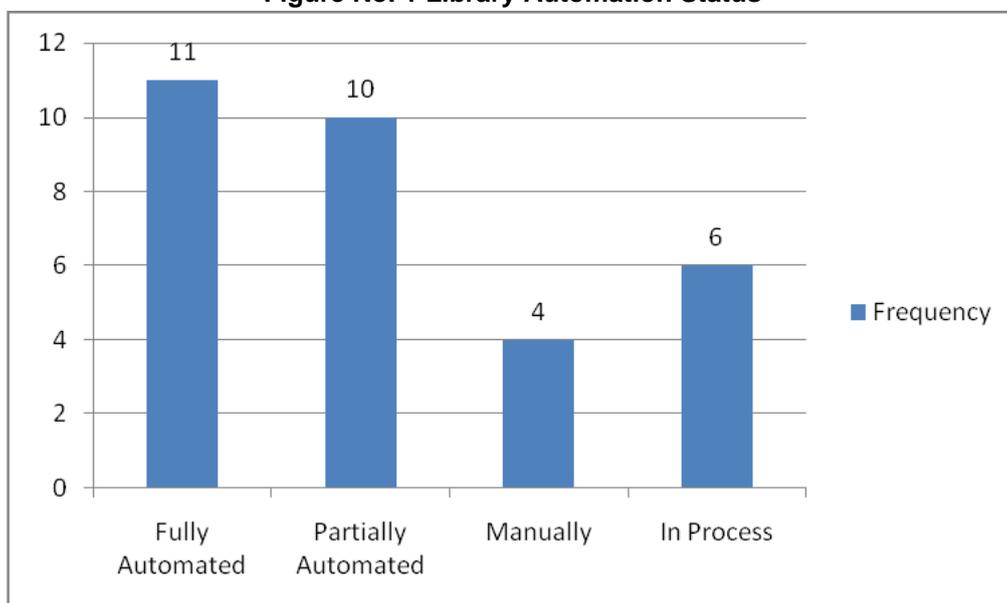
IT serves as a powerful tool in the management of library operations. The most important area in which the effect of IT and visible changes is library automation. The need for automation arises to decrease the effort and time required for these jobs. Table 3 shows the level of Library automation in B.Ed. Colleges Libraries of Rajasthan.

Table 3 it is clear that out of 31 college 11 college (35.48%) are Fully Automated, 10 college (32.26%) are Partially automated, 04 college (12.90%) manually and 06 college (19.35%) are in Process of automation.

Table No. 2 Statistical Analysis Library Automation Status

Automation Status	Frequency	Percentage
Fully Automated	11	35.48
Partially Automated	10	32.26
Manually	4	12.90
In Process	6	19.35
Total	31	100.00

Figure No. 1 Library Automation Status



3. Technical Treatment Of Collection

From the Table 4 it is clear that Some B.Ed. College uses Classification, Cataloguing, Charging system and form of Catalogue.

Analysis of data of Table 4 has been done in that 31 B.Ed. College use Classification system CC, DDC, UDC, Other and No classification (03, 15, 03, 01, 09) (9.68%, 48.39%, 9.68%, 3.23%, 29.03%) and Cataloguing System CCC, AACR, Other and No cataloguing (07, 09, 04, 11) (22.58%, 29.03%, 12.90%, 35.48%) and Circulation system use Browne, Newark, Register, Computerized, other (04, 06, 04, 17) (12.90%, 19.35%, 12.90%, 54.84%) and Form of Catalogue use Card, Computerized, Other, (12, 13, 06) (38.71%, 41.94%, 19.35%). (See Table 4)

Table No. 4 Statistical Analysis of Technical Treatment

Statistical Analysis of Technical Treatment		
Name of Technical Work	No. of B.Ed. College	%
1. Classification		
CC	3	9.68
DDC	15	48.39
UDC	3	9.68
Others	1	3.23
No classification	9	29.03
2. Cataloguing		
	No. of B.Ed. College	%

CCC	7	22.58
AACR	9	29.03
Others	4	12.90
No Cataloguing	11	35.48
3. Circulation(Charging System)		
	No. of B.Ed. College	%
Browne	4	12.90
Newark	6	19.35
Register	4	12.90
Computerized	17	54.84
4. Form of Catalogue		
	No. of B.Ed. College	%
Card	12	38.71
Computerized	13	41.94
Others	6	19.35

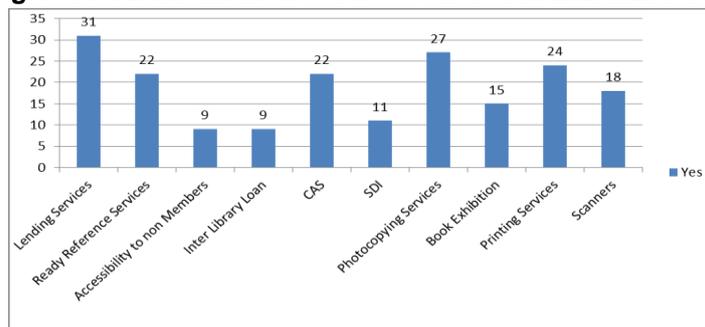
4. Information Services Offered In B.Ed. Libraries

Table 5 shows that 31 (100 %) college provides lending services. 22 (70.97 %) college provides Ready reference services. 09 (29.03 %) college provides Accessibility to nonmembers and Inter library Loan facility. 22 (70.97 %) college provides CAS services. 11(35.48 %) college provides SDI services. 27 (87.10 %) college provides Photocopying Services. 15 (48.39 %) college provides Book Exhibition. 24 (77.42 %) college provides Printing Services and 18 (58.06 %) college provides Scanners services.

Table No. 5 Information Services offered in B.Ed. Libraries

Information Services offered in B.Ed. Libraries	Yes	%
Lending Services	31	100
Ready Reference Services	22	70.97
Accessibility to non Members	9	29.03
Inter Library Loan	9	29.03
CAS	22	70.97
SDI	11	35.48
Photocopying Services	27	87.1
Book Exhibition	15	48.39
Printing Services	24	77.42
Scanners	18	58.06

Figure No. 2 Information Services offered in B.Ed. Libraries



5. Library Network

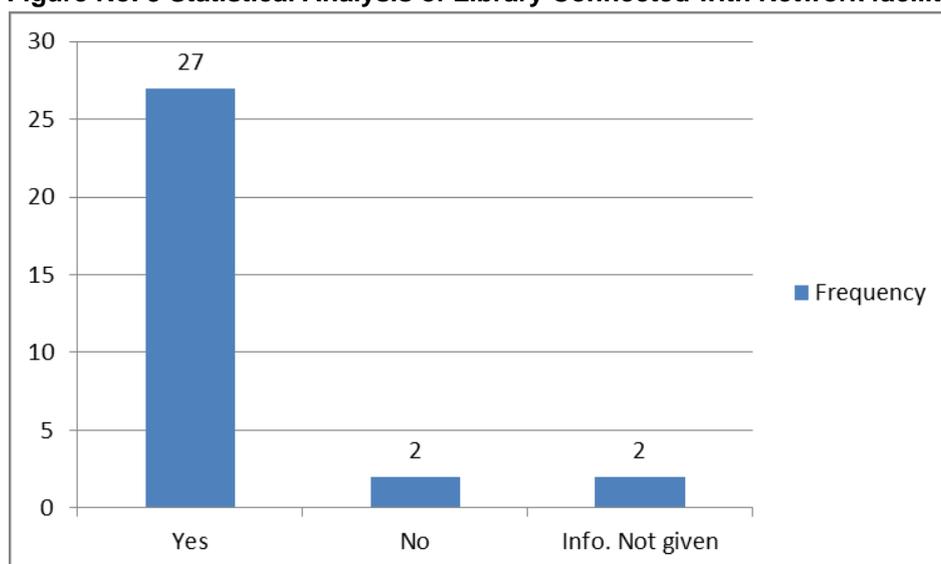
Library networks and consortium libraries are now able to provide information resources to users, if information/ documents are not available in their collection.

From the Table 6 is that clear 27 B.Ed. colleges Library (87.10 %) connected with network facility and only 02 B.Ed. colleges Library (6.45 %) not connected with network facility and 02 B.Ed. colleges Library (6.45 %) do not provide related information.

Table No. 6 Statistical Analysis of Library Connected with Network facility

	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	27	87.10
No	2	6.45
Info. Not given	2	6.45

Figure No. 3 Statistical Analysis of Library Connected with Network facility



6. ICT Based Library Services

Table 7 shows that only 02 (6.45 %) colleges are not providing any services. 05 (16.13 %) college providing electronic services. 04 (12.19 %) colleges arriving major information services. 06 (19.35 %) college giving ask the Librarian and 14 (45.16 %) colleges library are facilitating OPAC and consortia used services.

Table No. 7 Analysis of ICT Based Library Services

S. No.	Library Consortia	Frequency	Percentage
1	OPAC	14	45.16
2	Electronic mail services	5	16.13
3	Information Services	4	12.9
4	Ask the Librarian	6	19.35
5	Others	2	6.45
	Total	31	100.00

7. Reprography And Printing Facilities

The technology of reprography makes a big impact on the document delivery systems. These facilities help the users to get the copies of the documents and to duplicate rare/torn books. This helps in

reducing the library budget spent on purchase of back issues of journals or reprints and to preserve the handwritten manuscripts. It also helps in resource sharing and saving users time.

8. Statistical Analysis Of Library Staff

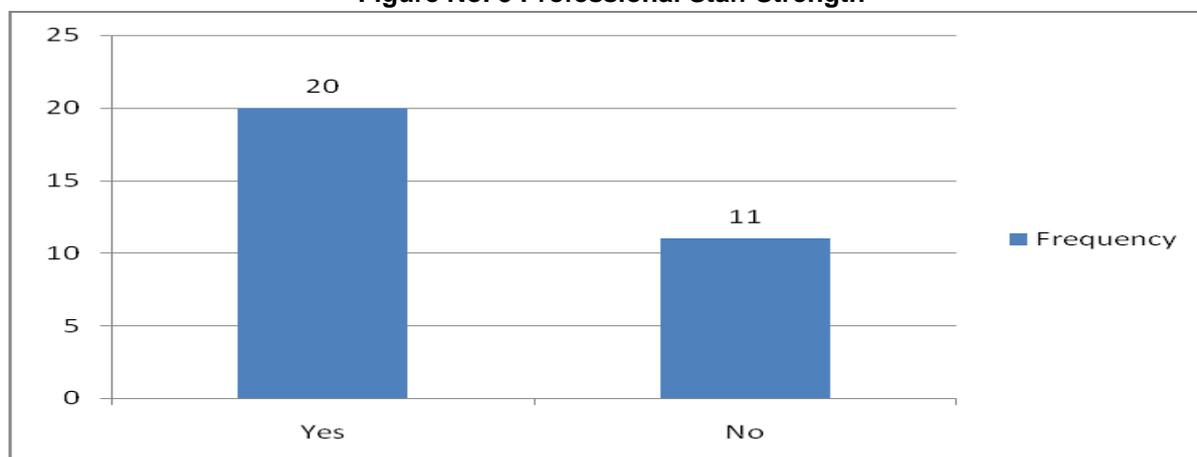
In the current age of information technology the duties and functions of library professionals have changed.

Table 9 presents in order to solicit the views of the college libraries about the strength of library staff a question was asked from them as to whether the exiting strength of library staff is sufficient or not. The responses have been sorted out and manipulated in Table 9 which shows that maximum of 20 (64.52%) B.Ed. College libraries Professional staff strength enough and 11 (35.48%) B.Ed. College suffers lack of staff.

Table No.9 Statistical Analysis of Library Staff Strength in B.Ed. College Libraries

Professional staff Strength		
Sufficient or not	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	20	64.52
No	11	35.48
Total	31	100

Figure No. 5 Professional Staff Strength



During this millennium the Information will be crucial resource for society; this has a bearing on the activities of the library, adoption of new technology inevitable to cope up with the ever increasing information. Information technology is to play an important role in the work of the society and library and Information centers. The success of any library depends, to large extent, on the effective organization of the house keeping activities. Automated library system offers convenient more flexible and comprehensive storage and retrieval of Information than manual system. Future libraries need to adopt a more particularly structure, as impact of Information Technology cannot be contained within one section of its service. In the years ahead, the quality of library and Information service will be largely determined by librarians skills and imagination bringing into balance the needs, priorities, technology and funding. Growing Information coupled with the changing life styles and demands of clientele offers a wide array of challenge to libraries.

Application of IT in modern libraries is helpful to obtain the right information at the right time in the right place and at the right cost. Improves the status of the library and it reduces the work load of the library professions. Finally we can conclude with T.S.Elliot's 'Choruses' from Rock' poem.

*Where is the wisdom we have lost in knowledge?
Where is the knowledge we have lost in Information?
Where is the Information we have lost in Library?
And where is the new one we have gain from Information Technology.*

Suggestions

The following suggestions are recommended based on the research study-

1. The qualified library and information science professionals should be appointed in the colleges. Library science schools and teaching departments across the country have to take significant steps to revise the library science curriculum, and incorporate significant changes to achieve the demands and challenges of the library science profession.
2. The libraries should develop the collections, services and ICT infrastructure Facilities to provide effective services to the users. B.Ed. College libraries of Rajasthan need to separate their budgets to initiate the action on IT applications, library automation and updated IT infrastructures for which the libraries require generous funds under specific heads for the procurement of hardware and its maintenance, software and collection development of electronic resources.
3. The libraries should be allocated sufficient finance in order to introduce new services and also to improve the existing services.
4. It is very important that the success of any new system or service is based on the adequate knowledge, skills of staff members. Therefore, the librarians and library staff should be properly trained when a new service or technology is introduced in the libraries.
5. It is suggested that the librarians should develop their attitudes to share the library resources among other libraries in a systematic way.
6. The librarians working in B.Ed. colleges should have more commitment and interest in taking new initiative for providing better library services and products.
7. It is suggested that the libraries purchase more E-resources such as a E-books and E-journals. The library staff should try accessing free E-resources available on Intranet or college domain for the benefit of users.
8. To develop competitive personnel in technologically advanced world, high priority must be given to develop competence in IT applications, Library management and soft skills in library professionals, by the colleges/ institutions and administrators and library associations.
9. It also is recommended that every B.Ed. college Libraries in Rajasthan should have both print and electronic resources of Information and they should be member of at least of any one library networks or consortiums.

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