

Role of Information Technology in Library

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Abstract

This article deals with the impact of the Information technologies on globalization and its role of bringing decision makers together and it discuss the importance of internet as a tool for development. In this paper information Technology is meant to cover the internet. It highlights about the interent, internet services and internet access tools.

Key words

Internet Services, Information Technology.

We are living in the age of information, which is available in many formats in vast volume. The advancement in technology has facilitated the dissemination of information in large amount and greater speed. Recent developments in Information Technology forced a traditional to new methods of operation for Libraries.

Information Technology is genetic term used to denote activities connected with Computer based processing, storage and transfer of information. It includes microprocessors, cable access television, fiber optics, satellites, teletext, word processing, electronic mail, video, robotic and such others. The components of information technology are computers, telecommunications, storage technologies, databases, information systems etc.

Library collection has ranged from clay tablets to papyrus sheets, paper documents and silicon chips, optical and magnetic disc and so on. In every age libraries have used the latest technology. The application of information

technologies for operation and services in libraries has been increasing. Information Technology brought in libraries to speed by their activities.(Kaur and Sajita, 2007).

Internet

In the advancement of Information Technology Internet will be acting as a media to get, to provide and to compile information to the benefit of academic community. The Internet played dynamic role in activating the technology. Internet technology in the contemporary times has brought out the whole universe of knowledge on a single platform, enable the user community to download any type of information from anywhere across the world, irrespective of the physical location. Library automation is an inevitable activity for any library and Information center to enable the users to travel across the information world and there by make them think globally and act locally.

The Internet has its origin in the US Defence Department's ARPANET (Advanced Research Project Agency Network), one of the fore runners of the Internet, which has now made this world an electronic global village. It was started originally in US in 1969 as defence project. The Internet is often referred to as the network of networks, a communication medium made possible by computer and networks. It can be defined as:

- * Information Super Highway.
- * A worldwide Channel of Communication.
- * A Large store of information.

Services of the Internet

Email

The most important of all services available in the Internet is the electronic mail (e-mail). It has become one of the most widely used services on the Internet, it is a tool where messages are

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transmitted and received through a network. It provides a fast, cheap and convenient means of sending messages from individuals to other individuals or groups. Although E-mail was originally designed for communication between a pair of individuals, it has been extended to provide communication among a group with a Computer Program.

Each participating individual or organization in the net has a personal file in the network called the mailbox, which is identified by an address known as an e-mail address. There is a surety of the delivery of mail. If the mail cannot be delivered due to some reason then the undelivered mail bounces back to the sender.

Bulleting Board Services (BBS):

The major bulletin board service available on the Internet is known as Network News. Bulletin Board Service is an electronic message system for reading and posting of messages. It facilitates e-mail as well as chatting forum on topics with less expense and sometimes free to callers. Netnews consists of thousands of individual bulletin board on topics as diverse as education, hobbies, science, politics, Entertainment and employment opportunities.

Telenet:

The Internet's remote login service is called a TELNET. It is a facility by which one can log on to a remote computer or network. One can telnet into huge databases to do research or even telnet into the Libraries around the world to check their catalogues. It can also be used to access commercial databases to search the resources available on Internet through its navigation tools. Telnet is a simple programme created by the National center for super computing Applications (NCSA) that uses TCP/IP to provide connection onto another computer. Using Telnet you can contact a host machine by typing a host name or IP member and can transfer files, from the TCP/IP host to your own computer and access databases.

File Transfer Protocol (FTP):

FTP permits a user to transfer a copy of data file across the Internet from one computer to another. Information is stored on thousands of computers all around the world in their own file systems. These files can be transferred from

the remote computers to the personal computers by a program in Internet called File Transfer Protocol (FTP). When using FTP, a user establishes communication with a remote computer and obtains authorization by sending a login and a password. The user can list the file available on the remote computer, request a copy of a particular file or send a copy of a local file. (Kumbar, 2002)

Usenet:

Usenet stands for users network. It is the largest discussion forum throughout the world. Thousands of discussion groups make Usenet. These are called Newsgroups. Actually they are electronic Bulletin Board Services associated with Internet, which facilitate exchange of views, comments, on particular topics. Special software packages are available to use the Usenet and to be Usenet site. By this, the newsgroup mail can be uploaded or downloaded. (Mahapatra, 2004)

Internet Access Tools

Archie

Archie is a collection of servers which can easily search for information at different anonymous FTP sites on the Internet and makes that information available to users.

Gopher

Gopher is software that connects a variety of computers, information data and information databases on the Internet and displays them as a series of same items.

Veronica

Veronica is a search tool that allows one to quickly scan gopher for particular files and directories.

Mosaic

Mosaic is a web browser which provides an easy way to access audio, video, text and graphics.

Wide Area Information System- It is a client-server based distributed hypertext multimedia, an information system on the Internet.

WWW

Web is a client server-based distributed hypertext multi-media information system.

Internet Search Engine-Heterogeneously organized information resources on the Internet is making it very difficult for anyone to search, locate and timely access the required information. There are some programs that help the searcher to browse/surf the net website and locate and timely access the required information.(Sarasvathy and Giddah, 2007)

Conclusion

Information Technology has brought about dramatic changes in the way libraries function in the nature of services offered and the organizational structure of Libraries. The Internet played dynamic role in actuality the technologies. The internet which is probably one of the most Significant Scientific achievement of this century, enables users all over the world to internet with each other.

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NOTES AND NEWS

Mr. A. Omkar Murthy was awarded Ph.D. Degree in Library and Information Science by Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati for the thesis entitled "**BIBLIOMETRIC STUDY OF CITATIONS IN PH.D. THESES IN GEOGRAPHY**" under supervision of Prof. V. Pulla Reddy (Professor & Head), Dept. of Library and Information Science, Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh.