

Book Review

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Consortium approach to resource sharing in an e-environment by Yalagouda M Patil. Jodhpur; Scientific Publishers (India); 2014; xxiv,333; ISBN: 978-81-7233-882-4; Price: Rs. 1250.00

As a result of information/ knowledge explosion, the libraries were forced to develop some ways to serve their users to the optimum level with the limited resources. The best way invented to meet the situation was the way of resource sharing. Libraries have been sharing their resources for a long time. The mode of resource sharing has gone under a transformation with the advent of computers. The libraries started to share their resources in e-environment. Further, Library Consortia were also developed to negotiate with the growing number of publishers and publications.

The book under review is a book on consortium approach to resource sharing in an e-environment. The book is divided into fifteen chapters and supported with two annexure. A brief summary is given in the first chapter called introduction. The second chapter deals with historical aspects, definitions, concept, models and factors affecting resource sharing. Scholarly electronic publishing and e-journals are discussed in detail in chapter 3. The topics covered in the next chapter are introduction, history, objectives, needs and benefits of consortium.

In chapter 5, various consortia types and models have been described. Chapter 6 is devoted to the pricing models of the consortia and consortia licensing is covered in the next chapter. National consortium site licensing has been discussed separately in chapter 8. The consortia and 'Big Deal' is the title of chapter 9, here what, why and added values of 'Big Deal' are discussed.

Negotiations for Library consortia is focused in chapter 10. The next two chapters cover the topics of Library consortia and Technology Infrastructure; and consortia and digital preservation systems. Chapter 13 discusses the consortia mergers and migration alongwith some case studies. Emergence of consortia in India is next in the sequence of chapters, here the author have taken up some Indian Library consortia like: UGC Infonet, INDEST, NKRC, CeRA, FORSA, etc. The last chapter deals with Indian consortia experiences.

This book is such a source which provides all knowledge required for handling the Library Consortia. The book is well written and the vast practical experience of the author clearly reflects from its contents. The book is a very good source on Library Consortia. There are some repetition of things and a few errors here and there. The publisher has given a good shape and design. The book is handy and durable with an excellent binding.