



TO STUDY THE SURVEY OF LIBRARY WORKERS AND LIBRARY SPECIFIC IT APPLICATIONS

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ABSTRACT

More sophisticated tools are always being developed in order to make daily chores easier and more effective. Literature has expanded significantly as a result of the development of information and communication technology. There is now an abundance of reading material as a result of the explosion of knowledge. Libraries now embrace technological convergence due to the rise in patronage and the demand for better library services. Since the invention of computers, libraries have been able to easily manage and offer access to their resources. A variety of electronic devices, including computers, the Internet, barcoding technologies, scanners, RFID (Radio Frequency Identification), etc., are used in library automation. Enhancing access to existing services' data collecting and efficiency is automation's primary purpose. In addition to accessing and retrieving bibliographic data, computers are utilized in libraries to store information. An integrated library automation package is crucial for achieving this goal in addition to serving as a data processing tool. There are a number of open source and commercial automation programs available for libraries. Since the invention of computers, libraries have been able to easily manage and offer access to their resources. In addition to accessing and retrieving bibliographic data, computers are utilized in libraries to store information. To accomplish this goal, an integrated library automation package is necessary in addition to being employed as a data processing tool. Two perspectives—productivity and accessibility—can be used to analyze the fundamental requirements for library automation. Productivity suggests that library staff and patrons will have more time. The investigation's goals were taken into consideration when testing hypotheses and drawing conclusions. Frequency, percentage, means, standard deviation, chi-square, and ANOVA were among the statistical methods utilized. Significant values are acceptable

if they are less than 0.05. The study's findings will help determine the steps that can be done to fully automate college libraries.

KEYWORDS: *Internet, barcoding technologies, scanners, RFID*

1. INTRODUCTION

Since the last few centuries, there has been a great lot of growth, including reforms and the introduction of the most cutting-edge technology in our globe, which have played a crucial part in our lives. All around the world, new research of various kinds is being conducted. As a result, each of these nations is adopting and implementing the most recent techniques from this research and giving their nations, as well as other nations, a broad exposure. Despite the crucial role that technology has played in almost every industry, libraries have evolved into genuine hubs of knowledge and information that provide up-to-date information on technology, trends, and research. The researcher has a master's degree in library and information science and was eager to stay up to date on innovations and changes in the library industry as well as the evolution of libraries over time.

The researchers chose to explore the development, status, and effects of IT (Information Technology) applications in libraries as well as the type of automation software that is being used in our nation after being inspired and motivated by various libraries in India and overseas. Additionally, it shows how traditional libraries evolved into modern ones and then into digital ones. Despite this, it is quite challenging to cover all types of libraries in a given field of study.

The field of libraries and information has been significantly altered by computer and communications technologies. In order to deliver quick, integrated, interactive, and complete services, libraries are now heavily invested in modernizing operations and activities. The idea of a digital library has significantly developed in the same direction as the IT impetus. Due to the use of new information and communication technologies as well as the growing information flow, numerous universities and research institutions have started to establish digital libraries.

Since academic libraries are referred regarded as "knowledge centers," this is their primary goal. These libraries have seen success in various ways. Even in ancient times, traditional libraries served just as warehouses and archives for the records of human culture and knowledge. The agricultural and industrial revolutions, which spread democratic political systems throughout the world, were major factors in the opening of libraries to the public and the availability of library services and materials. Libraries come in a variety of shapes and include a

variety of materials, including print resources, non-book materials, microdocuments, audio visual resources, online resources, and so on. They also offer a variety of services, from informational research to individualized and specialized web-based information services.

Academic libraries are closely related to, and have influenced, both learning and research. Similar to the history of its parent organizations, their history has been one of evolution and change. Features of libraries that are now taken for granted were promoted by pioneers and leaders. Academic libraries have long been known for their responsiveness to the requirements of teachers and students, high standards of service, and durability.

1.1 IMPORTANCE OF LIBRARIES IN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTES

Whether a school, college, or university, the library is an integral part of any educational setting. It is now a crucial component of our educational system. Without libraries, the educational system would be lacking. One of the most crucial components of a school for the growth, development, and acquisition of fundamental skills by a person is the library. Education is supported, inspired, encouraged, and motivated by the library. With the sophisticated application of IT applications, information in libraries nowadays is not only physically present, but also collects, organizes, and distributes reliable information to its users without wasting the users' valuable time.

The libraries of today are a repository for every institution rather than just holding a print collection. There are a wide range of other materials, including electronic books, electronic publications, CDs, DVDs, and audio and visual content. Researching through research is an ongoing activity, and libraries today gather a vast amount of data that customers can use as per their needs requirement. The following are the most significant resources that have been shown to be useful in the field of education for enhancing teaching-learning, communication, and the dissemination of up-to-date information:

- Library professionals such as librarians
- A separate library building with computers and internet access for patrons;
- User-friendly print and electronic resources.

These materials help people become more aware of their abilities, cultures, social values, citizenship, problems, and societal changes. The public library encourages readers to create a habit of reading, which over time inspires patrons. If libraries were to advance, education would follow, and eventually the country would advance. Without a doubt, the neglect of libraries will have a detrimental effect on society. However, the library plays a crucial role in every educational establishment. In the contemporary day, libraries offer an e-learning environment and are

beneficial in improving the characteristics, awareness, and exploitation of information technology applications in libraries.

1.2 STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

In this study, the state of library automation libraries is to be examined. This study examines the usage of electronic resources in the libraries of arts and science colleges, including the state of library services in automated libraries, library networks, electronic access points, electronic databases, and e-journals. One could gauge the availability of electronic sources like DVDs, CDs, audio cassettes, and video cassettes. The status of library automation with regard to book purchase, annual stack verification, access to bibliographic databases, circulation, and OPAC is taken into account in this study.

2. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The current study's identification of ICT and automation practices in the investigated environment's libraries is descriptive in character. The study will be conducted utilizing a structured questionnaire as the method of data collecting. Throughout the study period, the researcher made numerous personal visits to the studied environment; as a result, the researcher's own observations and interactions with the respondents were added to the core data gathering process. Given the descriptive nature of the study and its survey-based methodology, standardized questionnaires for higher education institution library staff and users were employed to gather the necessary information. Personal observation and interviews were also taken into account to further increase the validity and reliability of the study. The collected data has been analyzed using the proper statistical tools and procedures. While any studies is performed, it's miles on any detailed populace. Population manner every and each entity which is to be protected under the examiner or the result of the studies is supposed for those. Population of a observe may be the folks, organizations, items, events, and many others. Inside the gift look at, there are three classes of population i.e. special libraries, their customers and their library staff. General populations of unique libraries are 20, out of which nine unique libraries are of Meerut and eleven libraries are of Ghaziabad.

3. RESULTS AND DATA INTERPRETATION

On this stage, information is provided related to the analysis and justification of the data assembled by the library staff using a separate questionnaire. Here, the researcher attempted to identify the knowledge and skills of library staff members related to information era, their knowledge of library-specific information generating software, the supply of IT skills, their skill on various tools/offers/software related to the library control, and their attitude

towards various aspects of IT programs. The investigation also includes conclusions regarding the library staff's perceptions of the effects of IT on the development of their expertise as well as the challenges and opportunities associated with the use of IT in libraries.

SURVEY OF LIBRARY BODY OF WORKERS

On this stage, information is provided related to the analysis and justification of the data assembled by the library staff using a separate questionnaire. Here, the researcher attempted to identify the knowledge and skills of library staff members related to information era, their knowledge of library-specific information generating software, the supply of IT skills, their skill on various tools/offers/software related to the library control, and their attitude towards various aspects of IT programs. The investigation also includes conclusions regarding the library staff's perceptions of the effects of IT on the development of their expertise as well as the challenges and opportunities associated with the use of IT in libraries.

Distribution of Responses: The core portion of the survey is planned to gather information on variables including location (town), class of workforce, educational level, age, gender, interest, and other factors. The analysis is as follows:

Over all reaction charge: The response rate of the library team members inside the chosen libraries of 20 institutes and businesses in Meerut and Ghaziabad is provided in Table-1. Seventy-six members of the library crew were given questionnaires in all, and sixty-three of them responded, representing an 83% response rate. Lib. professionals, IT experts, and non-specialists all had reaction rates of 88%, 80%, and 76%, respectively.

The response rates for the library employees in Ghaziabad and Meerut were 83% and 80%, respectively. It is clear that compared to other staff categories, library professionals respond at a higher rate. In a similar vein, Meerut's overall response rate is also on the higher side.

TABLE-3.1: OVER ALL RESPONSE RATES

	Questionnaire distributed			Questionnaire Responded			Response rate (%)		
	Meerut	Ghaziabad	Total	Meerut	Ghaziabad	Total	Meerut	Ghaziabad	Total
Lib Professionals	18	25	43	14	25	39	81%	88%	88%

IT Professionals	5	8	13	6	6	12	100%	67%	80%
Non-professionals	12	17	29	10	13	23	80%	73%	76%
Total	35	50	85	30	44	74	83%	80%	82%

City Wise distribution of Responses: the distribution of answers by location. It is clear that more respondents — 60% — came from Ghaziabad than from Meerut, which provided only 40% of the responses.

Category of staff wise distribution of Responses: The information regarding the distribution of answers among the staff categories is shown. It can be shown that of the total responses, 56% come from librarians, 31% come from non-librarians, and 13% come from IT specialists. It demonstrates a greater response rate from librarians. Comparing library professionals to other categories reveals their comparative strength. However, there are plenty of non-library professionals at some libraries.

Educational qualification wise distribution of responses: information about the educational backgrounds of the library employees in the chosen libraries. As can be observed, 29% of library personnel have a Master's degree in librarianship, 13% have a Bachelor's, 8% have a Ph.D., and 6% have a Dip. in Library Science. As a result, just 56% of library staff members have any sort of qualification in library science, while the remaining 44% of staff members are unqualified.

Age Group wise distribution of responses: analyses of the responses obtained by age group. The majority of library employees in the chosen library are found to be between the ages of 40 and 50 (34%) and under 30, respectively. Both 22% and 26% of the personnel are in the 30 to 40 year age range. It demonstrates that the chosen libraries are lacking in young professionals.

Gender wise distribution of responses: The gender distribution of the typical replies from library personnel is shown. 27% of the responses are from women, while 73% of the respondents are men. As a result, there are fewer female employees than there are male employees.

Library Experience wise distribution of professionals: To determine how informed and skilled the library staff is, it is important to understand their experience in the industry. Figure 4.7 reveals that 36% of library personnel have between 10 and 20 years of experience working in libraries. 24 percent of library employees have up to 10

years of experience, 21 percent have between 20 and 30 years, and 19 percent have more than 30 years of experience working in libraries. It demonstrates the depth of the library staff's expertise working there.

Knowledge & Skills: This part makes an effort to comprehend the expertise of the library personnel of the chosen libraries. In the modern environment, it has become crucial for library employees to stay current with information technology advances. The staff's IT expertise and knowledge is a key component in the growth and development of libraries and information centers. The library employees can improve their IT skills through official computer education, training programs, self-study, on-the-job training, etc.

Computer Education of Library Staff: Currently, the majority of library staff members has either completed or is currently pursuing computer education. Figure 4.8 shows an analysis of data about computer education for library staff. According to the graph, out of the selected libraries' sixty-two (62) library staff members, nineteen (19) completed a short-term course, eleven (11) a certificate course, two (2) a diploma course, nine (9) a post-graduate diploma course, and three (03) a degree course. It has been discovered that 18 library employees lack a computer science degree. Figure 4.8 also compares the computer education backgrounds of the library employees in Ghaziabad and Meerut. It is clear that both cities' library staff members have practically identical educational backgrounds. This analysis shows that a significant portion of the library staff in the chosen library has a degree in computer science, and that pattern is practically same for the employees in Ghaziabad and Meerut.

Computer Skills of Library Staff: The level of computer proficiency of library employees was determined using a 5-point scale on many aspects. By determining the mean, the level of computer proficiency of library workers is psychoanalyzed. Table 3.2 shows that the average level of computer proficiency among library staff members is above 3 for basic computer proficiency, computer software, installation and customization of software, computer networking, graphic skills, etc. This indicates that the staff members' proficiency with the aforementioned IT tools is quite high. However, the average competence level in computer hardware, web page programming, and security is below 3, indicating mediocre to subpar computer skills.

TABLE-3.2: COMPUTER SKILLS

Computer Skills	Mean	Std Dev	Rank
Basic Computer Skill (MS Office)	4.485	0.138	1
Working with computer software	4.227	0.149	2

Installation and customization of software	4.227	0.153	3
Computer Networking	4.178	0.132	4
Graphic skills	4.066	0.144	5
Working with Computer Hardware	2.856	0.139	6
Web Page development (HTML, XML etc)	2.620	0.132	7
Computer security	2.316	0.122	8

The results of an analysis of computer proficiency among the various categories of library workers. The statistic shows that IT professionals have greater levels of computer proficiency than librarian professionals and non-professionals in a variety of areas. However, when it comes to computer software, installation and customization, web page construction, and computer security, there are not many notable differences in the computer skills between IT experts and library professionals. However, compared to IT professionals, library professionals have lower levels of technological abilities in the areas of fundamental computer skills (mean 4.485), visual skills, computer networking (mean 4.178), and computer hardware (mean 2.856). Highest std Dev of installation and customization of software (0.153).

Mean score for computer skills at the library (4.485), broken down by staff category. Based on the aforementioned analysis, it was determined that employees in the chosen libraries have good to excellent skills in using computer software, installing and configuring software (4.227), PC networking (4.178), and graphics (4.066), but average to poor skills in using computer hardware, creating websites, and maintaining personal computers. In comparison to library professionals and non-specialists, IT specialists have higher levels of PC proficiency. In libraries, non-specialists have the lowest level of computer aptitude.

Abilities of library team of workers in Library precise data generation applications : The degree of library staff members' IT proficiency was also assessed using a 5-factor scale, with the results based mostly on the mean of the responses, as shown in table. The level of capabilities for searching for information online and digitalization is found to be above three, which is a good stage. However, the mean of abilities on the remaining IT programs is found to be below 4.0, indicating that the library staff's IT program proficiency is either poor or average.

TABLE-3.3: COMPUTER SKILLS**TABLE-3: LIBRARY SPECIFIC IT APPLICATIONS**

Library specific IT applications	Mean	Std Dev	Rank
Information search through Internet	4.097	0.141	1
Digitization	4.016	0.131	2
Database management	2.952	0.15	3
Managing E-Resources	2.806	0.141	4
Open Source software/Open access	2.758	0.131	5
Building Digital library/Institutional repository	2.71	0.129	6
Communal media	2.629	0.14	7
Bar Code Technology	2.532	0.121	8
RFID Technology	2.306	0.112	9

The results of an analysis of skills on several library-specific IT applications among the various categories of library workers. The chart shows that IT professionals have greater levels of ability on several IT applications than library professionals do, including digitization, database management, e-resource management, and internet information search. The level of expertise among library professionals and IT experts is quite similar for the remaining IT applications used in libraries. In comparison to IT experts and library professionals, non-professionals have the lowest skill levels across all IT applications.

Importance of computer skills: On a five-point scale, the respondent's perception of the significance of computer literacy among library staff members was recorded. By determining the mean of the responses for each talent, the same was analysed. Table displays the same experiment's outcome. According to the analysis, the mean relevance of all computer abilities is found to be between 4.254 and 4.416, indicating that respondents believe these skills are crucial for library employees. This table reveals that the relevance of fundamental computer knowledge, software expertise, software installation and modification expertise, and networking expertise is rated higher because the mean is above 4. The importance of the remaining skills is rated lower than that of these skills.

4. CONCLUSION

The use of ICT in the special libraries of Meerut and Ghaziabad has grown to be essential and inevitable in the modern-day era. Benefits of the usage of ICT in offerings could be widely defined in terms financial system, growth & performance.

ICT is having a profound impact on training via opening the whole international of knowledge and allowing coaching and gaining knowledge of to take vicinity past the traditional barriers. The exponential growth and development of internet and using on-line communiqué offer rookies with an interactive mode in a hit way. Time, distance and languages were constantly been hurdles for the formal training machine. After the emergence of statistics era, the technological solutions like, traits in information, communication and computing technologies have made powerful tools to a huge area of the population. Email, cell, video conferencing, satellite TV for PC applications, internet, intranet and www and so on commenced changing the existence forms of present day populace. Journal, route substances & patent are different of essential source of facts that are now obtainable in an electronic form. Using ICT in academic libraries motivated increasing number of freshmen in numerous better education establishments and research publications in journals and books. Imparting enough monetary assistance and technical steerage and support to use ICT will help the instructional libraries to render required exceptional and timely offerings to the library users.

Now all the library authorities understand that there may be no way to escape automation among all the libraries. They're finding numerous methods to finance their library automation tasks. Librarians are also realizing that they cannot stay in one-of-a-kind to the trade; in any other case they will be classified old. Despite the fact that wide ranges of generation/products are available, it's miles vital for librarians to maintain a watch at the trends and to pick appropriate generation relying on the desires. Additionally, it's miles very crucial for librarians to have interaction with laptop specialists because the library automation at all degrees wishes good co- ordination amongst both these professionals.

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