

The Role of Libraries in Academic Institutes and Universities of India: A Survey of Online Portals

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ABSTRACT

An online survey has been made to study the role of Libraries in prestigious Institute and University web portals of India. Leading Institute and University portals of India have been studied and evaluated with the functioning of Libraries for dissemination of knowledge resources in the parent Institution. Many of academic Institutions & Universities have now been bringing Libraries under top Header as Library / Central Library / e -Resources / Digital Library / Library & Information Center / e -Library etc. at par with Teaching, Research and Education system of learning. The study suggests that many Libraries of Institution/ University are envisaged by facilities / central facilities / infrastructure / quick links / student/ campus / facilities / life/ student welfare / student corner/ popular links / information desk / student information / services / support facilities / explore facilities / fraternities either at the Header or Footer side of Institutional web portals for awareness & location. Besides library abilities, librarians must have multidisciplinary academic interactive skills to deliver lectures, promote educational trainings and decision making power to recommend procurement plans for any resources/items / services and works in the meeting with Chairman. The study implicates there is need to implement Library Resource Learning Center, Digital Resource Learning Centre, Educational Resource Learning Centre etc. With the adoption of trending technologies, the concept of Library and Information Science (LIS) subject has also been metamorphosed and contemplating with ICT based Library Management and Information Services (LMIS) ensuring parity and compatibility with existing work culture of any Library / E - library / Digital Library/ Mobile Library system and services. The study highlights library at the executive levels, many of the Institutions and Universities are more concerned with designations like Director General / Director / Deputy Director / Professor / Assistant Professor (LIS) , Chief Librarian/ Librarian / University Librarian / Head Librarian / Deputy Librarian / Associate Librarian/ Asstt Librarian & Library officer / Officer In charge to justify the works of Library Management and Information Services. With seamless participation of multidisciplinary academic teachers/officers can streamline parity of job structure with equal opportunities and accountability to support and justify common administrative work culture of library system and services irrespective of Library and Information Science (LIS) subject concerned. Libraries should not remain with collections or warehouse of resources but also execute efficient, effective services among user, for this, a celebration of Digital Library Literacy day may be organized to ensure awareness of digital library services along

with inculcation of reading habits in digital environment so that optimum utilization of resources could be attained effectively among users.

KEYWORDS: LIS, LMIS, Digital Library Literacy day, Librarian, Asst Professor (LIS), Digital Learning Resources (DLR), Warehouse of Resources, School Library, Private University Library, Public Library, UGC, Education

INTRODUCTION

Most of the prestigious Institutions / Organizations are mainly confined to teaching, research and education system of learning, the libraries concerned to any institutions are the intrinsic element of education system where teachers / student are not only indulged with teaching and research learning activities but also self involved with library learning system with Educational Learning Resources (ELR) consisting of print books / eBooks / e- journals / e-databases / e-theses / e-courses / e-manuals / e-reports / e-audiovisuals/ e-catalogue / print journals/e -proceedings / e-skills / e-lectures / e-resources/library awareness trainings and other approved library consortia /educational materials along with Wi-Fi Internet & other ICT infrastructures being required for digital access at par with curriculum courses being adopted, running and implemented by academic council /board / senate / committee by the institutions.

The library of any Institute / organization plays an important role in collection, preservation and dissemination of conventional documents/digital resources by faster means of automated information storage and retrieval mechanism. In higher education, the library is not only discharging delivery of scientific, academic and research information but also plays an intrinsic role in the development and modernization of digital infrastructure with changing aids of technological ICT devices to large number of users/ patrons. The primary mission of any Library, University Library, Central Library, e-Library / Library Resource Learning Center, Digital Resource Learning Center/Knowledge Learning Center / Research Resource Learning Center /Educational Resource Learning Center / Library and Information Learning Center etc. have to provide adequate support and awareness for teaching, research and education programs by

maximizing trainings on Digital Learning Resources (DLR) to teachers, scientists, students, researchers, and other users seeking information. Library should not be with collections or warehouse of resources but also execute efficient services among users, for this a celebration of Digital Library Literacy day may be organized to ensure digital library awareness, effective services and inculcation of reading habits in digital environment so that optimum utilization of resources could be attained timely among users.

It is worth to mention, the credibility of any education in the Institutes / Organizations depends on optimum utilization of Library Resource based services:-

- Education is not the learning of facts, but the training of mind to think
 - The only thing you absolutely have to know is the location of the library
 - Measure of intelligence is the ability to change
- Albert Einstein**

Likewise, besides teacher's incredible dissemination of knowledge skills (Academic / Research / Tacit), the library learning center would promote a vital role in the process of self learning educational resources by making capability to think, learn, review, revise and update with enhanced knowledge resources. It is well said:-

प्रज्ञाश्रुको बहुभिर्ज्योषिष्यते प्रज्ञा एको बलवान् दुर्बलोषिपी
-महाभारत शांतिपर्व

(Meaning: A wise man remains silent even when he is with many; a wise man is strong even when he is alone.)

यस्यामतं तस्य मतं मतं यस्य न वेद सः।
- केनोपनिषद्

(Meaning: The one who says he could know but is wise, the one who says I could know but is ignorant)

Rangnathan S. R. (1963) in his fourth law's of Library Science conceptual thoughts (*Save The Time of Reader*). In context to present time values, the credibility of Librarians and efficiency of library management and information services depends upon tailor made effective services and user-interactive training programmes to get optimum utilization of learning resources timely. Purpose of any Libraries or Librarians has to adopt *save the time of reader* to get accountability and accessibility of Library Management and Information Services supporting teaching, research and educational requirements.

Blaxter and Blaxter (1973) in his opinion, Users who request Librarians to procure information are members of the same community who produce information.

Bundy A (1999) also discussed in context to wide range of university library mission in Australia and other countries and focused on providing information services and resources to enhance research, and teaching and learning.

Smith K R and Beverly P. Lynch (1999) discussed about changing nature of library jobs in academic library and suggested with variable librarian leadership was more common in 1998 as Reference Librarian in multidiscipline subjects.

Linda O'Brien (2005) in her article described about E-research Libraries have been adopted traditionally central to the research endeavor, managing and preserving scholarly resources, with increase in digital format accessible to the researcher[

Clifford Lynch (2006) explained the changing concept of digital libraries in context to information flow and information landscapes in research libraries of higher education.

Imogen Garner (2006) Academic libraries have always been part of their mission support for research within the university

Senthur Velmurugan (2012) discussed about academic libraries that education and library are like sisters and not separated from each other and suggested to take ample efforts for betterment and improvement of library by the committee / commissions in comparison to higher education of developed countries.

Das J B (2017) suggested that library plays vital role, in education and quality of education depends on quality of library

Murugan K (2018) also emphasized the participation of ICT is playing an intrinsic role in transforming the traditional library into digital library with changing trends of users conceptualizing future needs of modern library and society .

Michael Flierl, et al. (2019) Academic libraries are integral part of teaching and learning system in any universities and colleges, Academic Librarians are capable to engage faculty developers for discussions rather than concerned with information literacy.

METHOD

A survey method has been carried out for study and examines the status of Libraries in prestigious academic Institutes, Universities and Schools with the aid of public portals. (*Online websites searched through Google*)Online websites of prestigious portals have been taken for studies in context to status of libraries and librarians in academic institutions. Detailed survey of web portals of leading Institutes, Universities and Schools have been summarized in Table 1

Table 1: Status of Libraries and Librarians in Academic Institutions/ Organization of India

Categories of Online prestigious universities / institutions / organizations/	Librarian / Administrator/Director	Professor in charge / officer in charge / Director	Academic Status of Library	Resource learning centers / e learning/ e resources /Academic Libraries	Infra structure/ facilities/ campus facilities / central facilities	student/ quick links/information desk quick links / student/ support facilities /explore fraternities / Amenities etc	Library Website / webpage website
IIT ,Madras	Librarian / Asstt Librarian		Yes				Yes
IIT, Mumbai	Librarian / Asstt Librarian		Yes				Yes
IIT, Kharagpur	Librarian/ Asstt Librarian		Yes				Yes
AIIMS'S Rishikesh, Patna New Delhi Gorakhpur , Bhopal, Kalyani, Bibinagar	Senior Librarian / Librarian	Chairman& Professor I/C Library	Yes				
Punjab University	Dy Librarian	Librarian Professor in charge	Yes				Yes / UL
Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore	Deputy Librarian/ Asstt Librarian		Yes				Yes
Jio Institute, Navi Mumbai	Librarian		Yes	Yes			Yes
Nationals Library Kolkata	Principle Library Information Officer	Director General					Yes
Delhi Public Library	Chairman & Library Information Officer /Dy Director	Director General		Yes			
INFLIBNET, Ahmadabad	Scientist (LIS)	Director					Yes
University of Rajasthan , Jaipur	Dy Librarian	Director Professor					Yes
Khuda Baksh Oriental Library,	Librarian	Director					Yes

(Patna) Raza Library (Rampur) etc							
Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts,, New Delhi	Director (LIS)			Yes			Yes
Asiatic Society Library, Mumbai etc		Director					
Swami Keshwananad Agricultural University, Bikaner	Librarian (LIS) (Professor)						
Dravidian University Kuppam Acharya N G Ranga Agricultural University, Guntur	Professor & Librarian / Asstt. Professor(LIS)			Yes	Yes		Unive rsity Librar y
CCS Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar	Professor (LIS)	University Librarian (Professor In charge					
Panjab Agricultural University	Associate Librarian	University Librarian Professor In charge			University Library		
IIT's Hyderabad, Gandhinagar, Dhanbad, BHU, Kanpur, Delhi, Roorki, Guhawti, Tirupati etc	Librarian/ Dy Librarian/ Asstt Librarian					Yes	Yes
AIIMS , Raipur					Yes		
SMS Medical College, Jaipur	Head Librarian /Dy Librarian / Asstt Librarian	Professor In charge					
JIPMAR, Pondicherry	Librarian	Professor I/C Library					Yes
AIIMS'S at Patna, Jodhpur, Bhopal, Raipur, Nagpur, Gorakhpur, Bhatinda, Kalyani, Bibinagar,	Librarian / Asstt Librarian	Chairman & Professor I/C Library			Yes		Yes

Mangalgiri, BHU, IIMS, KGMC Lucknow, SMS medical, college Jaipur, AFMC, Pune etc							
Central University of Kerala	Librarian			Yes			Yes
Nalanda University, Rajgir	Dy Librarian						Yes
BHU, Varanasi, Delhi University	Librarian/ Asstt Librarian					Yes	CL
Central universities's Pondicherry university, Anantpur, Jharkhand, Vishva Bharti, Kolkata, AMU, JNU, JMI, University of Allahabad	Librarian /Asstt Librarian						Yes
Bhim Rao Ambedkar University Lucknow, University of Hyderabad etc	Asstt Librarian				Yes		
Central universities 's Haryana, Tamilnadu, Punjab, Kerala, kalaburgi, Rajasthan, , etc	Librarian / Asstt Librarian				Yes		Yes
Indira Gandhi National Tribal University, Amarkantak	Deputy Librarian/ Asstt Librarian	VC Chairman				Central Library	Librar y
Anand Agriculture University, Rajendra Prasad Central Agriculture University	\Librarian					Yes (Lib e resources)	
AAU, Assam	Librarian				Yes		
HAU, GPAUT,	Librarian				University		

Orissa University of Agriculture and Technology					Library		
Agricultural universities – KAU, (Thrissur) UAS Dharwad, MPUAT (Udaipur), SKNAU, (Jobner), CSAUAT (Kanpur) JNKVV, (Jabalpur) VNMKV, (Parbhani) ANDUA & T (Ayodhya), CAU, (Imphal)	University Librarian / Librarian Asstt Librarian	University Librarian/ Librarian			Yes		YES
IARI, TNAU, RPCAU, AAU	Librarian					Yes Library e-resources	UL
NDRI, (Karnal)	Librarian	Professor In charge				Yes	Yes
BARC (Mumbai)						Yes /CL	Yes
IISER Pune, Mohali, Tirupati, etc	Librarian / Library Officer (NTS)						Yes
Scientific Institutions: IASRI, NDRI, ICSSR, NISCAIR, ICSSR (New Delhi)	Librarian / Technical Staff (Library)			Yes			Yes
ICMR (New Delhi), CCMB, ICRISAT (Hyderabad)					Yes		
ICAR (New Delhi)	Librarian					Yes	Yes
NAARM, Hyderabad				Yes			Yes
Govt Schools: Kendriya Vidyalaya Sanghathan, Navodaya Vidyalaya	Librarian				Yes		
British Council Library	Librarian						DL
Connemara	Librarian						Yes

Public Library							
Gitam University, Parul university Amity University Jaipur, Manipal University Jaipur, Prem ji Ajj University, Bangalore, Jain university Adani University, MSRUAS, Bangalore, Lovely Professional University, Amrita Vishva Vidyapeetham, Coimbatore	Librarian / Asst Librarian				Yes		Yes

DL Digital Library; CL= Central Library; Yes= Available; LIS = Library & Information Science; AIIMS = All Indian Institute of Medical Sciences; IIT = Indian Institute of Technology; UL = University Library / Librarian TGT trained graduate teachers; NTS = Non Teaching Staff DL= Digital Library

OBJECTIVES

1. To study the concept of Libraries in leading academic Institutes/ Organizations.
2. To search extent of scope of academic communication in Libraries and by Librarians in parent organization/ campus.
3. To study the academic and administrative structure of Librarians in prestigious Institutes / Organizations
4. To study the role of Librarian in organization in context to student and faculty
5. To study the role of Librarian / Officer In charge / Professor in the Library Management and Information Services (LMIS) in Libraries.

STUDY AND INTERPRETATIONS

Vision of Library in Academic Institutions / Universities / Organizations with Teaching & Research and Education - Units/Facility/Division/Other Academic Units

The study depicts that that many Institutions have incorporated Libraries under academic

units/ facility / division mentioned with *Top Header* menu of main portal as Library / Central Library / e- resources / Digital Library / Library & Information Centre/e-library at par with teaching, research and education system of learning. Among all, following Institutes have given seamless equal opportunity of academic status to libraries in their web portals (Table No. 1) Besides these ,the libraries of parent institutes have separate University Library / Central Library /Library & Information Centre to access Digital Learning Resources :

- Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) of Madras , Mumbai & Kharagpur
- AIIMS of Rishikesh, Patna, New Delhi, Gorakhpur , Bhopal, Kalyani & Bibinagar,
- Panjab University , Chandigarh
- IISC, Bangalore and
- Jio Institute, Navi Mumbai

Librarians must be well equipped to deliver lectures promote educational trainings and impart physical cum digital learning environment and develop a centers of Library Resource Awareness Services, Digital Library Learning's to support the curriculum and the

research activities and to get optimum utilization of library resources among university faculty and students. It is necessary to mention that many of the Institutes / Universities have started comprehensive course of *Library and Information Services* in the UG/PG curriculum (non credit course).

Metamorphism of Traditional Library System and Services into Concept of E- Learning / Learning Resource Centre / E Library Digital Library / Digital Resource Learning Center Etc

Many of the Academic Institutions are using concept of Libraries under *e-Learning / Resources / Library Resources / e- Resources / Learning Resource Center / Central Library Resources / Library& Information Center/ Digital Library etc.* (Table 1). It seems with changing technologies, the traditional concept of Library / Central Library / University Library have now been *metamorphosed* with conceptual model of Resource Learning Centers / e- Library / Digital Library etc. Most of them have own library portals to access online resources to students / users and faculty. Some of them are:

- Indira Gandhi Nationals Centre for Arts, New Delhi ,
- Central of University of Kerala
- Scientific Institutions- IASRI, Delhi, NDRI, Karnal, ICSSR, NISCAIR, New Delhi and NAARM, Hyderabad etc.

Role of Academic Professors/ Directors /Administrative Officers /Assistant Professors /Officer in Charges/Teachers in the Management Of central Library / Library Services

Besides library abilities, Librarians must have conversant with multidiscipline academic interactive skills to deliver lectures, promote educational learning resource trainings and decision making power to review and recommend procurement plans for any resources/ items / services and works in the meetings with Chairman/Academic Professors .

Further with changing concept of technologies, the concept of *Library and Information Science*

(LIS) subject has also been metamorphosed and contemplating with ICT based *Library Management and Information Services* (LMIS) which ensures parity and compatibility with existing work culture of any Library / Central Library / E - library system and services . Study highlights, library at the executive levels, many of the Institutions and Universities are more concerned with *designation* of Director General /Director/ Deputy Director/ Professor / Assistant Professor (LIS), Chief Librarian/ Librarian / University Librarian / Head Librarian / Deputy Librarian / Associate Librarian/ Assistant Librarian & Library officer / Officer In charge to support and justify the works of *Library Management and Information Services*.

With seamless *participation of multidisciplinary academic teachers/officers* which could streamline *parity of job structure with equal opportunity and accountability to justify* common administrative work culture of library system and services irrespective of *Library and Information Science (LIS)* subject concerned.

It is worth to mention about many Institutes / Agricultural Universities of India have included comprehensive course, *Library and Information Services* in the UG/PG curriculum (non credit course)by implementing such courses may streamline and justify the necessity of teachers (*Assistant Professor*) of LIS subject (UGC norms) at par with other multidisciplinary academic teaching post . Some of the universities like A N G Ranga Agricultural University, Guntur and Dravidian University, Kuppam have included Assistant Professor (LIS) post for Central library / Library. So there is need of LIS subject to teach in UG/PG curriculum of university / college at par with Assistant Professors.

Role of Librarian's In Schools

The web portal studies of Kendriya Vidyalaya and Navodaya Vidyalaya schools highlights libraries are the basic infrastructure or facilities of school , however looking to the present school education system and working function of single Librarian's (TGT Cadre) with students capacity of 1000 or more seems more responsibility for managing the daily routine

works of library along with other academic /cultural / sports activities. The Librarian's in school education system have responsibility with adequate number of students and teachers, it would be suggested, and the School Librarians must have better opportunities at par with school teachers.

According to the Oxford English Dictionary, plagiarism is "the wrongful appropriation or purloining, and publication as one's own, of the ideas or the expression of the ideas of another" According to the Oxford English Dictionary, plagiarism is "the wrongful appropriation or purloining, and publication as one's own, of the ideas or the expression of the ideas of another" to stop or to eliminate students cheating, copying and modifying documents when they know that they will be found (Asim et al., 2011, Plagtracker)

Role of Libraries in Private Institutes / Universities

Most of the private Institutes / universities have well developed central / digital / e library libraries with qualified staff. The study of web portals of private Institutes / universities reveal that the libraries are intrinsic part of basic infrastructure / facilities / central facilities of university education system, however Jio Institute Navi Mumbai have incorporated Libraries under academic status along with concept of Resource Learning Center.

In nut shell, the Libraries engaged to Institutes and Universities are an integral part of teaching, research and educational learning system. Librarians play a crucial role in communication and academic awareness of resources in digital learning environment to all faculty and students both. Many Institutes/ Universities of India have started comprehensive course, *Library and Information Services* in the UG/PG curriculum (non credit course), by implementing such courses may streamline and justify the necessity of teachers (*Assistant Professor*) of LIS subject (UGC norms) at par with any other multidisciplinary academic teachers. Library is not simply a warehouse of books or as a source of information but it is a treasure of

multidisciplinary knowledge learning resources, making essential tools which could ignite and inspire large number of users to indulge and activate their mind for creativity of nascent knowledge and wisdom.

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