

THE ROLE OF ICT INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES IN COLLEGE LIBRARIES

Mohammad Ahmad Siddiqui
Research Scholar
Library Science

Asian International University Imphal, Manipur

Abstract

ICT is essential to the quicker delivery of library resources to their patrons. The growth of information resources and services is adversely impacted by the absence of ICT infrastructure in college libraries. One more obstacle to providing consumers with timely information services is the absence of ICT-savvy library staff. The ongoing expansion of the library is halted by insufficient funds for its development. The impact of information and communication technologies (ICT) on college libraries is examined in this study. It draws attention to the difficulties that libraries encounter as a result of infrastructure-related issues, such as unequal resource distribution, inadequate funding, antiquated technology, and compatibility problems.

Keywords: *ICT, Library, Infrastructure, Information, Communication, Technology.*

1. INTRODUCTION

Information and communication technologies, or ICTs for short, are those that empower information access by means of telecommunication. However it for the most part focuses on communication technologies, it is tantamount to information technology (IT). PDAs, remote organizations, the Web, and other communication gadgets fall under this classification. Albeit scholastic researchers have been utilizing the expression "ICT" since the 1980s, it acquired prominence after Dennis Stevenson involved it in a report to the UK government in 1997 and in the 2000 update of the Public Educational program for England, Ridges, and Northern Ireland. ICT has provided society with an extensive variety of new communication prospects during the most recent couple of many years. For example, voice over IP (VoIP), video conferencing, and texting permit people to talk continuously with individuals in far off nations. Using present day ICT, individuals may now talk with others anyplace on the planet as though they were nearby,

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making a "worldwide town."

"Gifted staff with different ICT capacities are required for the libraries to take on new and state of the art technologies. The level of capability of the staff in involving ICT capacities for library experts to handle an assortment of library exercises and completely utilize this potential is one of the basic components for the effective execution of ICT. Most of library experts come up short on fundamental ICT abilities practically speaking, which frustrates them from completely using this potential in library organization. Libraries should utilize an adequate number of individuals with top to bottom understanding of ICT application in libraries.

1.1. Information and Communication Technology (ICT) for Libraries

How much information accessible didn't increment as it does now, and libraries had the option to organize the items physically. Notwithstanding, there has been a colossal progression of information since The Second Great War, which is ordinarily alluded to as the "information blast." Information materials are being created and utilized in steadily expanding sums, both on paper and non-print media (like compositions, books, diaries, reports, movies, circles, and tapes). In a 1984 limited time leaflet, Xerox Organization expressed that "recorded information has multiplied during the most recent twelve years." It will twofold again in the following ten. It is important to process, store, and recover this huge measure of data depending on the situation. Handling the issue by hand isn't plausible because of its sheer multifaceted nature and immensity. Experts working in libraries and information are increasingly more compelled to handle information with the help of robotized and semiautomated gadgets. There are two impacts of the cutting-edge progressions in information technology. Most importantly, the targets of the information calling have generally moved from "more information" to "precise, modern, and opportune information" as a rising measure of information turns out to be effectively accessible in machine-comprehensible structure. Second, given the developing pervasiveness of PC based information arrangement, curators and other information experts need to keep awake to date on the latest progressions in technology.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

Lata & Singh (2014) analyzed the province of ICT infrastructure in Wellbeing Information

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Frameworks, looking at white papers, specialized reports, research writes about the connection among ICT and general wellbeing, strategy issues, assessments in this field, and prior planning activities of ICT in the wellbeing area in agricultural countries.

Seena & Pillai Sudhier (2014)Most of library experts (88.6%) are capable with the Windows working framework, though 51.9% of experts have a sensible understanding of overseeing electronic assets, as indicated by a concentrate on ICT abilities among library experts at the Kerala College library framework. Of Web 2.0 technologies, 69.1% of experts utilized wishes frequently, while 85.9% of experts utilized email or texting on visit.

Praveen Kumar (2013)Research on the utilization of ICT in state libraries in Chandigarh and Haryana reached the resolution that one of the best and productive purposes of ICT is library computerization.

Ruan & Qiang (2013)found the monetary variations between the Eastern and Western Districts of China and completed a review to decide the capability of information technology in scholastic libraries' asset partaking in Western China. As per the review, information sharing assets are bountiful in Eastern China, while they are scant in Western Districts on account of subsidizing imperatives. Albeit the focal government gives satisfactory subsidizing toward the eastern area, the western piece of China comes up short on. Subsequently, there are issues with ICT infrastructure for understudies in Western China. There is areas of strength for a for the focal government to utilize CALIS to expand the nation's turn of events and progress by giving the western region similar measure of financing and ICT infrastructure as the eastern locales.

Vanden Elzen& Roush (2013)analyzed the instructive gaming contributions accessible at college libraries. It is essential for understudies' advanced education, so scholastic libraries should effectively draw in with them by consolidating gaming programs as well as focusing on teaching them about the assets accessible. The concentrate also analyzes the joining of games in scholastic libraries situated in Wisconsin, USA. The college library staff has been actually coordinating games into library outreach programs. By giving this sort of video gaming in college libraries, it really shows to understudies the outcomes that might be accomplished. It explores the showcasing technique, client effect, and cooperation for game preparation.

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3. HISTORY OF ICT APPLICATIONS IN LIBRARIES

Contrasted with different countries, the US outlived its trailblazers in library robotization. Punch Card technology was made during the 1930s by Herman Hollerith of the US Registration Agency with help from Dr. Jolul Show Billings. Ralph Parker carried out the Hollerith Punch Card framework in 1936 at the College of Texas to oversee library dissemination. By the mid-1940s, the technology was being tried for sequential record control. Punch Cards were utilized by the Library of Congress to present a book index in 1950. The US created the principal library robotization during the 1960s. Coordinated chips and capacity gadgets were likewise made during the 1970s, and online library networks RLIN and WLN were sent off. The 1980s saw a huge ascent in the use of PCs in libraries. The market saw the presentation of various library mechanization bundles as well as Disc ROMs with databases, information, and programming in the last part of the 1980s. The 1990s saw the start of PC organizing improvement. The library computerization framework has been impacted by the fast progression of technology, which has prompted the utilization of innovative administrations and security frameworks to get information sources and administrations.

4. INFRASTRUCTURAL PROBLEMS FACED WHILE USING ICTS

Table 1: Infrastructural problems faced while using ICTs

Infrastructural Problems	Percentage of users			Average percentage of users
	PG	FM	AS	
Uneven Distribution	24.38	43.81	27.31	31.78
Insufficient Resources	28.91	6.19	54.49	29.86
Outdated Infrastructure	13.82	24.95	0.00	13.01
Compatibility issues	19.08	6.36	18.20	14.43
Others	13.81	18.69	0.00	10.92

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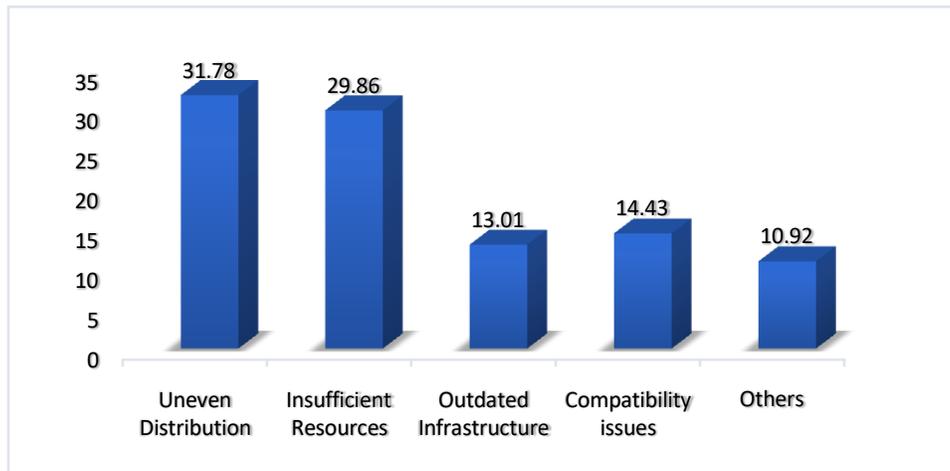


Figure 1: Average percentage of Users

Data on infrastructure challenges that arise when employing ICTs are shown in Table 1, which is divided into categories such as uneven distribution, inadequate resources, obsolete infrastructure, compatibility concerns, and other issues. Each problem's percentage among users is shown, along with subcategories for several user groups (PG, FM, and AS) and an average % for all groups. Across all user groups, uneven distribution seems to be a major concern; FM users are most affected (43.81%). Another common problem is a lack of resources, especially for AS users (54.49%). Compatibility difficulties are more common between user groups, while PG and FM users are more impacted by outdated infrastructure than AS users. There are also documented miscellaneous issues, the most common of which are reported by FM users (18.69%).

5. CONCLUSION

This study's conclusion highlights the critical role that ICT plays in college libraries while also recognizing the constraints brought on by inadequate infrastructure. Significant obstacles that reduce the effectiveness of ICT services include old technology, compatibility problems, unequal resource allocation, and inadequate funding. In order to guarantee the ongoing growth and accessibility of ICT services in college libraries and, eventually, improve the educational experience for instructors and students, it is imperative that these infrastructure difficulties be addressed.

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