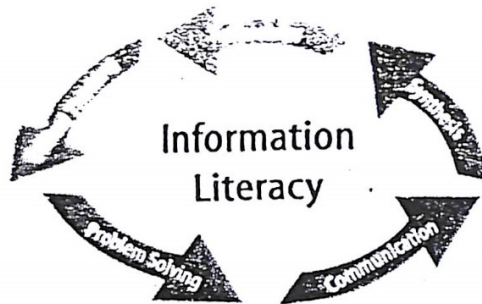


INFORMATION LITERACY IN ACADEMIC LIBRARIES IN DIGITAL ERA

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LIBRARIAN AS AN INFORMATION LITERACY PROMOTER IN EDUCATION

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ABSTRACT

This present paper is an attempt to present how information literacy play vital role in academic scenario to educate the students effectively. This paper discussed the key role and responsibility of librarian in knowledge driven society. The collaborative approach between faculty and librarian leads to overcome the problem of information explosion the partnership between teaching faculty & Librarian helps to bridge the gap of digital divide with Information Literacy programmes.

KEYWORDS: *information Literacy, higher education. ICT*

INTRODUCTION

“Information literacy is a set of abilities requiring individuals to recognize when Information is needed and the ability to locate, evaluates and use effectively the needed information. Information literacy is focused on content, communication, analysis, Information searching, and evaluation whereas information searching and evaluation whereas information technology and increasingly skilled use of it. “A clear understanding need of information and a capability for processing the information to reach the goal and satisfied the urge of information effectively and efficiently with in time, to fulfill this need we require the impart the information literacy program.

Information literacy is important to higher education, as it is part of, and contributors to, lifelong learning. If individuals are able to reason and think critically, and learn how to learn, they will be able to continue to grow intellectually throughout their careers, and contribute to society as informed citizens. An information literate environment is an intellectual platform understanding, finding, evaluate and using information – activities which may be accomplished in part by fluency with information technology, in part by proper investigate methods but

most important, through critical thinking and reasoning. Information Literacy helps in learning abilities, which may use technologies but are ultimately independent of them. Information Literacy is a survival skill in the information age.

1.1 Information Literacy (IL) Origin, Concept and Definitions

Paul Zurkowski, the president of Information Industry Association, in 1974 introduced the concept of information literacy for the first time. He used the term in a proposal submitted to the US national commission on Libraries and Information Science. (NCLIS). In his proposal, he advocated the establishment of a national program aimed at achieving universal information literacy within ten year time frame. The idea was to make individuals and organizations aware of how machine-aided handling systems can help to identify, access, analyze and obtain data and documents needed for problem solving and decision making.

Paul Zurkowski, Defined Information Literacy as "People trained in the application of information resources to their work can be called information literates. They have learned techniques and skills for using the wide range of information tools as well as primary sources in molding information solution to their problems."

American library Association (1998) defined IL as " To be information Literate, a person must be able to recognize when information is needed and have the ability to locate, evaluate, and use effectively needed information . The information literate individuals are those who have learned how to learn." Information Literacy is a survival skill in the Information age.

1.2 Need of Information Literacy

- Access the needed information effectively and efficiently
- Evaluate information and its sources critically
- Incorporate selected information into one's knowledge base
- Use information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose
- Understand the economic, legal, and social issues surrounding the use of information, and access and use information ethically and legally

2. ROLE LIBRARIAN IMPARTING INFORMATION LITERACY

Information & Technology literacy clearly the basic set of the 21 century "This is widely recognized and accepted for all type of workers entry level to top executives. Education is fundamentally information based. That is every aspect of learning & teaching requires the gathering, processing & communication of information. In past education system there was a reliance on punted information resources but this is rapidly changing due to large part to the explosion in information technology & networked information Through web-based, electronic resources & services to information The collaborative approach between faculty and librarian leads to overcome the problem of information explosion the partnership between teaching faculty & Librarian helps to bridge the gap of digital divide A solution would be for teaching-learning resources, research by the work of between librarian & teaching faculty minified so that students are taught to look at a wide range of prospective through a variety of resources find the most reliable up-to-date & authorities resources and to broaden their understanding of the topic IL services and instruction are essentials components of every 21 century library and information programs Whether offering direct instruction to users, providing skill-based help functions on websites delivering one-on-one (physically and virtually) assistance helps to empower the library. Librarian is vital person to imparting Information literacy Programme.

2.1 Role of Librarian as Information Literacy promoter

Librarian has become increasingly more concerned about the need for people to gain information skill so that they can be successful in the information and knowledge society. it helps the society handle the information and new technologies. Librarian has to prepare an information literacy programme that includes basic literacy, Audio-video literacy, Web-literacy, and new technologies. He understand the basic needs of their users, learning style and engage students in actively in teaching and learning process.

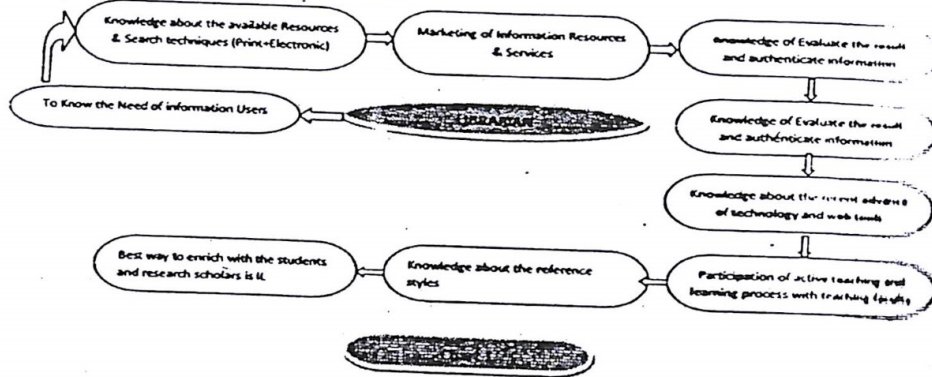


Chart 1 describes that librarian has a prompt knowledge of available resources and technological tools. That knowledge helps to impart the librarian to made successful information literate students and staff in academic scenario.

TABLE 1

Components of IL	Contains of programme	Tools
Entry Level Students and Staff	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introduction of Library 2. Knowledge of information Resources 3. Organization of Library resources 4. Information about available E-resources 5. Information about Library Services 6. Library rules and regulations 7. OPAC and WEBOPAC 	A lecture introducing the for achieving this purpose
PG & research scholars	Searching of Online databases, Open Access information resources and searching tools on internet, Types of resources	Conduct a workshop for hands on experience to develop search strategies
Research Scholars	Writing of research paper, Reference style, Google scholars, Information about research Organization, Interlibrary loan, Copy right issues, Ethical use of information, Ask to librarian service for seeking online information	A lecture and a workshops Online video tour instruction notices to preparing Audio-Video lecture
Staff	Information technology tools, Web tools, Open Source software for education, evaluation of information, Web2.0 tools, Search Engine applications,	Staff academy lecture helps to communicate with the staff and faculty.

- Librarian must use effective marketing techniques to demonstrate the importance of information and technology literacy among the students and staff.
- Through imparting the students, Librarian can make aware the students about the library services.
- The organization of collection in library, Classification scheme and author mark etc. can be shown to students i.e. helpful to search the information sources.
- Identifies the value and differences of potential resources

in a variety of formats (e.g., multimedia, database, webs data set, audio/visual, book)

- Give information about the full text, indexing and abstract databases.
- How to use OPAC and WEBOPAC
- Identifies the purpose and audience of potential resource (e.g., popular vs. scholarly, current vs. historical)
- Web2.0 tools like goggle docs, Storybirds, Shelfar Blogs, Wikis, Podcasting and vodacatsing. RSS feeds, Instar messaging and slide share.
- Constructs a search strategy using appropriate command for the information retrieval system selected (e.g., Boolean operators, truncation, and proximity for search engines internal organizers such as indexes for books) Implements the search strategy in various information retrieval systems using different user interfaces and search engines, with different command languages, protocols, and search parameters.
- Give information about the copy right issues, Open Access publication and Journal Impact factors and Google scholars etc.
- References style and writing methods in research projects, thesis, books and journals.
- How to use Microsoft World for this purpose effectively.
- Librarian can be keep a breast with the changing information technologies development so that they can be first teach the new information formats and networks through workshops and seminars.
- Librarian should be show the demonstration of database features and hand s on searching the database training to students and staff through IL.
- Librarian should be Participates in class-sponsored electronic communication forums designed to encourage discourse on the topic (e.g., e-mail, bulletin boards, chat rooms etc.)

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

Libraries and Librarians act as information literacy agents. Therefore librarian can serve as a agents to help other domains

development and put their information literacy policies, programs and project with the collaboration with the teaching faculty members. The educational scenario also requires intellectually motivated, creative and competitive decision makers who will enable the knowledge organization to endeavor their goals. The utilization of information resources can be habituated and sensitized through the information literacy competency development programmes through and create lifelong learners.

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