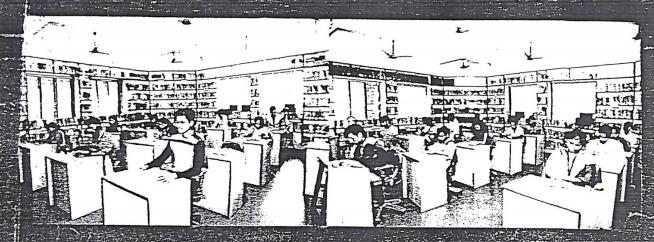The Proceeding of UGC Sponsored Two Day's National Level Workshop on "Library Automation and Use of Advanced Information Communication Technology Tools in Library (LAAICTT 2016)"
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Library Automation and Use of Advanced Information Communication Technology Tools In Library (LAAICTT 2016)

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Mobile Computing and Libraries

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Introduction :

Smart phones, tablets, and cloud computing are converging in the new, rapidly growing field of mobile cloud computing. In less than four years, there will be 1 trillion cloud-ready devices. Mobile computing is transforming how people search, receive and interact with information on a daily basis. In just a few short years smartphone ownership has skyrocketed and popular use of e-readers has been steadily on the rise.

These advanced mobile tools provide portable, instantaneous access to the world of information, across boundaries of subject, discipline and industry Libraries are fully engaged in the process of adapting to increased demand for electronic collections and the on-going acquisition and archiving of born digital content. Supporting mobile access to these resources is the next step, and mobile efforts are under way. These are challenging economic times for libraries to take on new technological initiatives, yet librarians across the country and internationally are seeking creative solutions to providing mobile library services. Information resource centre, research libraries, industry libraries and universities are creating new platform for patron to use the library portal on mobile.

1. Mobile Services in Library:

Current mobile devices are with high speed with 3G and 4G connectivity, Wifi enabled devices with high storage capacity. Considering how technology or the medium affects the information displayed, defining what amount and what type of information is appropriate is an important factor of a successful M-library. Mobile library is defined as 'a vehicle designed, equipped and operated to extend and facilitate access to public library service to those people who do not have reasonably convenient access to a public library' (Kenneally and Payne cited from Library Council of Victoria 2000 : 63)

i) Voice service: It was the first service in mobile terminals. It is mainly used for communication between people and it is the main service mobile.

ii) Short Message Service: Popularly it is known as SMS. This service allows sending text between mobile terminals with a maximum of 160 characters. Despite being short text messages, the service is the most popular in the history of mobile telephony.

iii) Multimedia Service: Current can store and send ringtones, logos, photographs, graphics or music. They have become small multimedia consoles. Multimedia message service is not as popular as SMS

iv) Location service: This service is based on the nature of the GSM (Global System for Mobile Communications) network. The coverage of a network operator is established on the basis of cells; the size of the cells is dependent on the density of antennas.

v) Video service: The 3G terminals allow video calls and audio in real time. In addition, this service lets you send, receive and play video. Based on this service, for instance, you could access to videomonitoring circuit through the mobile device or watch television.

vi) Application on the mobile: Mobile terminals have become small computers, they have an operating system, have storage capacity and it is possible to develop applications running on it. Data service.
For example: e-mail, Facebook, whatsapp, Ubreader etc.

These smart phones are becoming increasingly ubiquitous to make the dream of 'pervasive library' a reality. The mobile phones with operating systems, capability to scan barcodes, text recognition may help libraries to interface with other applications to introduce users to online library transactions, database querying, relevant full-text information download and interactive sessions.

2. Application of mobile in library services:

Mobile devices impacted library services and users. Now the trends towards use the Mobile libraries are important in meeting the information and literacy needs of the populace, consequently improving their education and living standards. (Lucas 2002; Montet 2009).

- Formal education, Distance education and E-learning : Users are very much acquainted in using their mobile devices and various educational applications. Academic libraries have an opportunity to enhance their e-resources and provide their services to mobile enabled content and act as assistive information platform for formal and distance education and E-learning.

- IM (Instant Messaging) for Reference and Referral service : Librarian's desire to offer reference services or other assistive via mobile devices follows naturally from their long- standing efforts to enable patrons to ask questions via e-mail, chat, IM, or SMS service.

- E-resources : Some publisher are already delivering e-books (both audio and text) that are accessible via mobile devices. Puleker e-book viewer from project of Gutenburg provides more than 20,000 free e-books, Mobipocket of Amazon standard e-book reader, Kindle devices, LibVox and OCLC's Net Library etc. Most of the e-book publisher provides 24 X 7 accesses to library subscriber form internet terminals within campus through valid IP address access. Libraries can offer their digital collection, institutional repositories and in-house databases on mobile devices.

- Mobile friendly website: mobile enabled" website will automatically detect what environment each visitor is using to access your website, then display it in the format best for that device. That could be an iPhone, iPad, Blackberry, Android, etc. This helps to attract more users through the mobile devices.

- Ask a Librarian:Frequently asked question and ask a librarian services helps to solve the problems of patron and betterment of library services.Library tours, instruction/induction/orientation programs have been quite significant in bringing the nonusers to libraries and also help the remotely located or users located in different geographical locations.

- Library Application Application plays vital role in mobile library, the app of library site, current updates on website; app is helpful to attract the user population. To register as library users, mobile verification, and no dues certificates etc.
- Catalogue of library: library catalogue application and SMS services helps to make the both way communication. Libraries are required to interact with the software vendors to create mobile compatible WebOPACsFor example, AirPac add-on product will auto detect the type of device you are using and format accordingly the catalogues without graphics for better viewing.
- Qr codes on Mobiles : QR code6 stands for 'quick response', and basically a two-dimensional bar codes that can contain any alphanumeric text and often used to store urls, text, etc., known as 'mobile tagging'. QR codes are used in commercial tracking, logistics, inventory control, and advertising. Data can be translated into a QR code by any QR generator, many of which are available as free download. Users simply enter the data to be translated, and the generator produces the code, which can then be displayed electronically or in printed format. Decoding the information can be done with any mobile camera phone that has a QR reader, which is freely available online for most devices.

3. Advantage:

- User-friendly Aid: Familiarity with their own devices and technology helps the users in accessing information quickly and does not require orientation and training.
- Personalised service · Personalised service helps users to interact with library staff to seek specific information or reference away from library.
- Ability to access information anywhere at any time will be the great opportunity to help users who cannot visit library by providing content link to required information sources.
- Time saving: No waiting period at counter desk to renew, reserve books hence time of user is saved.
- Libraries can enrich OPAC by allowing users to incorporate user created content like book review, notes or images upload by users.
- All online resources accessible on their devices without any limit i.e. limitless access.
- Mobile communications helps providing various library services by voice over content, audio books, storytelling etc. for physically disabled students.

4. Conclusion :

- Due to the advancement of ICT, new technologies and tools are emerging day by day to fulfill the demand of the users. Mobile phones are inevitable tools of ICT. Application of mobile phones to provide library and information services will open new pathway towards this trend. This can be an astonishing means to outreach the users, enabling them to access library resources and services from anywhere any time even when they are on move. For this purpose the use of technology is very essential. Mobile technology has become boon to the libraries. A library may reach the remote users effectively by adopting of mobile technology in its services.

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