

Functions of Knowledge Resource Centres (Libraries) in ICT ERA

Quazi A.H

Research scholar and Librarian of A.R Kalsekar Polytechnic, Panvel Navi Mumbai, 410206, Maharashtra, India

Abstract

This paper focuses on functions of Knowledge Resource Centres (Libraries). Differences in functioning of traditional Knowledge Resource Centres and ICT based knowledge resource centres (Libraries) are mentioned. Knowledge Resource Centres management systems is also explained. The changing role of Knowledge Resource Centres in ICT Era are well described.

KEYWORDS: Library; KRC; Centres; ICT,

Abbreviation:

KRC: Knowledge Resource Centre.

ICT: Information Communication Technology.

Introduction:

Users tendency are changing towards using information communication technology as well as quick and limited information. Most of the users are not interested to waste the single minute in searching and writing. They are using already searched information, by their friend circle or Knowledge Resource Centres. They don't have much time to get thorough knowledge in respective field. Only some users are keen interested to get thorough knowledge and are ready to spend their time in searching information and knowledge. The main objective of Knowledge Resource Centres are to provide core knowledge to its users as and when required. So it is necessary for knowledge resource centre to change their functions as per the need of its users.

Changing form of Publications:

Information Communication Technology has affected on all the spheres of Human life. ICT takes place as important as food. Knowledge Resource Centres (Libraries) are element of academic life of each and every human being. Before revolution of Information Technology we were reading printed text books to collect the all required information. Now a days we are rarely using printed information. Everyone is in hurry to know everything. Instead of searching the required information through books, we all are busy in searching it on Internet. Most of the persons having their personal android mobile. It is the fact that it is an essential to publish books, journals and other publications through online or in digital form and provide them through Internet only. Knowledge resource centre should be change the way of providing publications.

Changing face of Correspondence or Communication:

Before revolution of ICT we were using letters to communicate, now we are using ICT and rarely using paper for communication. Only legal and official document are sending by post. Sometimes we are using paper to sign and sending the scan copy of that particular document through ICT. If the correspondence is necessary to print, then we are using printed copy and using postal services to send at receiver

end. Sometimes we communicate through cell phones only. Knowledge Resource Centres also using the same pattern for communicating and corresponding to its users and vendors.

Changing mode in provision of KRC services:

It is the need of Knowledge Resource Centres to provide services through online. Instead of manually transaction of books, it should be computerized, KRC (Library) web portal must be available with all information including institutional repositories, E-books, E- journals, knowledge blogs, Internet searching/ browsing, reference service, provision of inter library loan, current awareness service, web OPAC, knowledge consortia, document delivery service, new arrival information and all other services should be provided through ICT.

Collection (Publications) of knowledge resource centres:

Due to users' interest in digital information, the collection of Knowledge Resources Centres must be in hybrid form i.e. print as well as in digital form. Collection of KRC are books, journals, project reports, institutional repositories and other publications, which are useful for their users.

Development of Institutional repositories:

Knowledge resource centre should be establish their institutional repository section on web portal for its users. Syllabus, Question paper and Model answer paper, faculty notes and their PPT's. Staff articles and all institution generated information comes under the institutional repositories.

Change in marketing strategies:

Now a days every user wants their required knowledge within a short span of time without taking extra effort. There is a semester system in education field everywhere in India, so they don't have much time to search from the ocean of knowledge. It is the duty of librarian to use the ICT tools for dissemination of available resources and collection. Another way is conduction of orientation programs among the users.

Change in statutory norms:

Since last two years, AICTE included 25% of books in E- form. They accept the need of users, and start to change knowledge centre's face. They had already started the E-Journals in degree colleges.

Changes in Managing systems:

There is a huge demand of online data from various bodies as well as statutory bodies like AICTE, DTE, MSBTE and local management. Knowledge resource centre is the part of institute, it required to run with institute. ERP system or MIS came into existence. Knowledge resource centres are also using different types of software for administration. Automation is compulsory for all the Knowledge centres.

Overall development of Knowledge resource centre:

Changingscenario of knowledge resource centre in the Era of ICT shows the impact of technology on overall Management, Services, Marketing strategies and all other resources and sources of knowledge resource centres. The way of providing resources are different but knowledge and content are same. Now librarian should ready to

change, to change the face of knowledge resource centre according to the need of the Era.

Active role of Librarian:

Librarian playing an important role to adopt the change in dissemination of information and knowledge. Librarian can promote the knowledge resource centre, services with the help of teaching faculty and ICT tools.

‘Suggestions:

KRC should adopt change with the present scenario.

Strengthen the promoting policies of KRC (library) resources with use of ICT.

Analyse the users need and provide the knowledge through recent tools.

Conclusion:

After observing need of users and current scenario of knowledge resource centre, it is necessary to change with recent tools of information technology and provide the knowledge to its users in real time. It is also observed that it is necessary to create interest of promotion of KRC (library) services among the students. It is necessary to reward selected students and faculty members on library performance (utilization).

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