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Digital library resources in university libraries in Uttar Pradesh: An analytical study among LIS professionals

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Abstract

Objective of Research: The objective of this paper is to study the use of digital library resource in university because now days every one use online application and connect them self with digitally.

Design/methodology/approach: A sample of 356 respondents includes 148 from deemed university & 208 from state universities were selected by the researcher on the basis of random sampling.

Findings: The study revealed the relevance of digital library in the present context.

Keywords: digital library, university library, deemed university, Uttar Pradesh

Introduction

For the last few decades we saw drastic changes in technology. Due to technological transformation we found different methods of assessment of information, storage & dissemination. Now technology is applicable to each & everywhere therefore sometime we called 21st century as a century of technology. Each & every domain of our life either effected or on the way to effects due to technological development higher education & more precisely the libraries of higher education is one of them. As for as the term digital library is concerned it refers to the digitalization of university libraries. In a study conducted by Schwartz (2000) ^[1] found approx 64 formal and informal definitions of digital libraries. Scholars have defined the concept of digital library in different-different sense. In the development and use of digital libraries there exists different understanding of digital libraries. A librarian define the term 'digital library' as another form of a physical library while computer scientists define the term as a distributed text based on information system. On the hand end user takes the term 'digital libraries' similar to world wide web with improvements in performance, organization, functionality, and usability.

The term 'digital library' also called as digital repository or digital collection is an online platform or database where the objects such as text, still images, audio, video, or other documents are preserve digitally. In digital library objects can be stored on digits such as print or photograph as well as original documents such as word processor files or social media post.

Historical development of Digital library

Digital library is an outcome of technological advancement. However scholars such as Paul Otlet & others also worked in the development of digital libraries. Paul Otlet & Henri La Fontaine's Mundaneum were the two scholars who thought & initiated to make a process, procedure & technique which may help to gather world's knowledge systematically. The concept of digital library came into existence after world war second when American plane dropped a bomb on Hiroshima. Vannevar Bush and J.C.R. Licklider are two contributors who wanted to create a machine that would show the entire world the importance of technology as tool of development rather than destruction. Machine developed by Vannevar Bush and J.C.R. Licklider was called as 'Momex' by the developer. The machine had a desk with two screens, switches, buttons, and a keyboard. Thus individuals would able to access books, study materials or etc. stored in that machine. Later in 1956, Ford Foundation funded Licklider to analyze the role of technology in libraries. Education Resources Information

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Center (ERIC), a database of education citations and abstracts, is an example of early a digital library in the world which was created in 1964 & and made available online through DIALOG in 1969. The term *digital library* was first popularized by the NSF/DARPA/NASA Digital Libraries Initiative in 1994. Initially virtual library was used as a synonyms of digital library but today virtually library used for libraries that are virtual in other senses (such as libraries which aggregate distributed content).

Objectives of the Study

1. To identify the Views on Digital library among LIS Professionals

2. To know the Collection and service Quality of digital libraries of the university
3. To know the Usability and Usability interface of digital libraries in university libraries

Research Methodology

In this research consider only deemed and state university in Utter Pradesh. The researcher collected data through primary & secondary sources as well. Primary data was collected with the help of questionnaire from 356 respondents divided into deemed and state university.

Data Analysis

Table 1: Distribution of Questionnaire

SN	Type of University	Universities	Questionnaire distributed	Responses received	%
1	State University	22	220	148	67.27
2	Deemed University	28	280	208	74.28
	Total	50	500	356	71.2

Demographic Details: The demographic details of the respondents of campus wise were shown in following table.

Table 2: Demographic Details

SN	Description	Respondents	
Type of University			
1	State University	148	39.8
2	Deemed University	208	55.9
Domain			
1	Arts	170	47.75
2	Engineering	70	19.66
3	Medical	55	15.44
4	Others	61	17.13
Status			
1	Superior	39	10.95
2	Subordinate	317	89.04
Gender			
1	Male	230	64.60
2	Female	126	35.39
Qualification			
1	BLIS	13	3.65
2	MLIS	120	33.70
3	M. Phil.	110	30.89
4	Ph. D.	113	31.74
Designation			
1	Librarian	40	10.8
2	Asst. Librarian	302	81.2
3	Others	30	8.1
Overall			
	Total	356	100.00

Among 356 respondents, 230 (64.60%) were male and 126 (35.39%) were female. Similarly there are 40(10.8%) were

librarians. It is followed by 302 (81.2%) were Assistant Librarian and 30(8.1%) were others. Among 356, 39 (10.5%) were superiors and remain 317 (89.04%) were subordinate. There are 148 (39.8%) belongs to state university. It is followed by 208 (55.9%) deemed university and 148 (39.8%) belongs to state university. 170 (47.9%) were Arts domain LIS professionals. Engineering (70, 17.5%); other domain (61, 17.1%) and medical (55, 15.44%). Out of 356, 113 (31.4%) respondents were Ph.D. holders. It is followed by 110 (30.5%) M.Phil. holders, 120(33.6%) MLIS and remaining 13 (3.5%) were BLIS.

Views, Needs and Importance

The opinion of LIS professionals on Use of digital library has been ascertained on four concepts such as “Views, Needs and Importance”; “Technology and Content”; “Use and User” and “Barrier and Future”. These four concepts are the four quadrants of the use and the same has been shown in Figure given below:

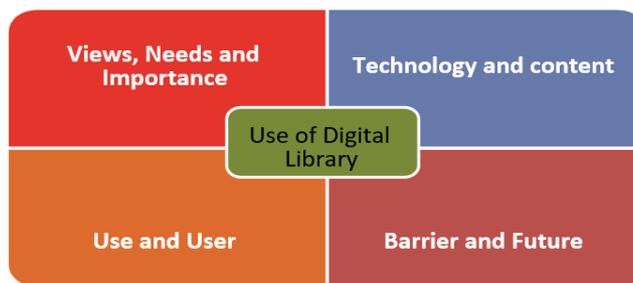


Fig 1: Concepts and factors

Table 3: Concepts and Factors

Views, Needs & Importance	Technology Content	Use and User	Barrier and Future
Views on Digital library, Importance of Digital Library, Effectiveness of Digital Library	Digital library page layout, Technology and site information Digital library website capabilities,	Usability, Usability interface, Collection Quality, Service Quality, System performance, Search and database structure, Types of document, User satisfaction	Reason for digitization, Digital preservation, Challenges for digital media, Skill set of user, Barriers Opinion

Views on Digital Library

The views on digital library have been ascertained on three variables in a five point scale such as *strongly disagree*, *disagree*, *no opinion*, *agree*, and *strongly agree* from the

respondents. The mean and standard deviation were calculated. The ranks were ascertained based on mean and standard deviation. The opinion, mean, standard deviation and rank were shown in Table 4

Table 4: Views on Digital Library

SN	Description	Strongly disagree		Disagree		No Opinion		Agree		Strongly agree		Mean	Std	Rank
		No of respondents	%	No of respondents	%	No of respondents	%	No of respondents	%	No of respondents	%			
1	Something that could be beneficial	12	3.37	12	3.37	120	33.7	164	46	48	13.48	3.83	0.869	2
2	Strategic part of service	0	0	81	22.75	175	49	60	16	40	11.23	3.62	1.133	3
3	An ornamental idea	84	23	120	33.70	108	30	34	9	10	2.8	3.96	0.696	1

Nearly 58.1% of respondents indicated their views for the variable “digital library is something that could be beneficial” has either agreed and strongly agree, 120 (33.7%) respondents has not given any opinion. Only 12 (3.37%) respondents each indicated disagree and strongly disagree. In the case of strategic part of service none of them has specified either strongly disagree or strongly agree. 84 (23.59%) respondent has agreed that digital library is a strategic part of service. Similarly, 175 (49.1%) respondent has no opinion on strategic part of service. Nearly 81 (22.7%) respondents have indicated disagree to strategic part of service. It is surprised to note that 10(2.80%) respondent indicated that strongly agree to ornamental idea. Nearly 34 (9.55%) respondents agreed that

digital library is an ornamental idea. However, 108 (30.33%) respondents have not provided any opinion whereas 120 (33.7%) respondents disagree to the statement that digital library is an ornamental idea. Similarly 84 (23.5%) respondents strongly disagreed that digital library is an ornamental idea. It can be inferred that digital library is not an ornamental idea and something that could be beneficial. Further, it can also infer that digital library is part of library service. The study has been extended to type of university. The mean and standard deviation were calculated based on the respondents’ opinion. The ranks were assigned based on mean and standard deviation. The mean, standard deviation and rank for types of universities were shown in Table 5.

Table 5. Ranking of universities

S. No	Description	State University			Deemed University		
		Mean	Std	Rank	Mean	Std	Rank
1	Something that could be beneficial	3.60	0.879	1	3.61	0.878	1
2	Strategic part of service	2.97	0.699	2	2.97	0.698	2
3	An ornamental idea	2.46	1.145	3	2.44	1.132	3

The state universities respondents mean value for the variable “something that could be beneficial” works out to 3.60 which indicate that variable lies toward agree for the statement. Similarly the mean of Deemed University works out to 3.61. The standard deviation ranges between 0.878 and 0.879 indicates that there has been no much deviation in the respondents opinion. Both State University and Deemed university respondents mean value for the variable “Strategic part of service” works out to 2.97 which indicate that variable lies toward no opinion for the statement. The standard deviation ranges between 0.698 and 0.699 indicates that there has been no much deviation in the respondents opinion.

The state universities respondents mean value for the variable that digital library is an ornamental idea works out to 2.46 which indicate that respondents disagree for the statement. Similarly the mean of Deemed University works out to 2.44 The standard deviation ranges between 1.132 and 1.145 indicates that there has been no much deviation in the respondents opinion. The study has been extended to type domain of university. The mean and standard deviation were calculated based on the respondents’ opinion. The ranks were assigned based on mean and standard deviation. The mean, standard deviation and rank for types of universities were shown in Table 7.6

Table 6. Rank according to types of universities

S. No	Description	Art			Engineering			Medical			Others		
		Mean	Std	Rank	Mean	Std	Rank	Mean	Std	Rank	Mean	Std	Rank
1	Something that could be beneficial	3.62	0.838	1	3.55	0.884	1	3.67	0.806	1	3.61	0.928	1
2	Strategic part of service	2.99	0.699	2	2.91	0.701	2	2.97	0.707	2	3.02	0.700	2
3	An ornamental idea	2.52	1.136	3	2.29	1.071	3	2.33	1.034	3	2.55	1.235	3

The mean value for the variable “something that could be beneficial” of different domain of universities ranges between 3.55 and 3.67 which indicate that variable lies toward agree for the statement. The standard deviation ranges between 0.806 and 0.911 indicates that there has been no much deviation in the respondents opinion. Different domains of universities mean value for the variable “Strategic part of service” ranges between 2.91 and 3.02 which indicates that the respondents has no opinion on this statement. The standard deviation ranges between 0.691 and 0.701 which indicates that there has been no much

deviation in their opinion. Similarly, the mean value for the variable that the digital library is an ornamental idea of different domain of universities ranges between 2.29 and 2.55 which indicates that the respondents disagree with the statement, therefore it can be inferred that digital library is not an ornamental idea. In general it can be inferred that digital library is not an ornamental idea and something that could be beneficial. Further it can also infer that digital library is part of library service irrespective of domain and type of universities.

Finding of the Study

1. 58.1% of respondents indicated their views for the variable “digital library is something that could be beneficial” has either agreed and strongly agree, 120 (33.7%) respondents have not given any opinion.
2. Similarly, 175 (49.1%) respondent has no opinion on strategic part of service. Nearly 81 (22.7%) respondents have indicated disagree to strategic part of service. It is surprised to note that 10(2.80%) respondent indicated that strongly agree to ornamental idea.

Conclusion

The analysis and interpretation of the data collected from the library and information science professional working 23 State Universities and 6 Deemed Universities in Uttar Pradesh on use of Digital library resources among Library professionals have been carried out and presented in this research.

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