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## ROLE OF (ICT) INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY IN LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICES

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### ABSTRACT

The term ICT is used almost interchangeably with the internet. The internet together with its applications is the infrastructure that brings together people in different place and time zones with multimedia tool for information, communication, data and knowledge management in order to enlarge the range of human capabilities. The librarians in libraries have to apply the tool and techniques of ICT to meet the changing requirement of the user by innovating its procedure and systems. In this 21<sup>st</sup> century information communication technology (ICT) that enable society to create collect, retrieve, consolidate, communicate, manage and process information in multimedia and various digital formats for different purposes of user. Computing and telecommunications technologies like that laptop, PC, CD- ROM, cable TV. Cellular phones and the development in ICT have brought about the merger of the information, communications entertainment, and mass media libraries providing a means of exchanging information to the users anytime, anywhere in the digital format used by computers to the any users.



**KEYWORDS :** *information communication technology (ICT) , interchangeably , mass media libraries , communications entertainment.*

### INTRODUCTION

Information and communication technology (ICT) has been one of the major factor causing changes in the field of library and information science which people or user can communicate, retrieves and disseminate and used information. The role of LIS profession is change from an intermediary to a facilitator and enabler. New tools and technology most useful for dissemination of information in new era the explosion of varied and complex need or users for information in Research and Development activities education and research programs and various other fields of human activities.

ICT are being increasingly used in library & information services for the acquisition processing, dissemination centers have been suing ICT infrastructures and services are not used fully, under sudation of these infrastructures and services has been cause of concern to librarian to Liberian world wide. Library and information network ant local level such as DELNET and CALIBNT and at the national level such as ENVIS, NISSAT and INFLIBNET and others. The development in teaching and research in social science certainly emphasizes the need for well stocked libraries and information centers with proper library and information services and managed by well qualified staff.

### **NEED FOR INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY**

- Information is being generated at every moment today in the present day context information communication technology is needed because of the following reasons.
- Facilitate the storage, access, retrieval and dissemination of information much faster.
- Multi use machine readable records.
- Information communication technology offers a new dimension to share resources among the libraries by creating library net work.
- Space facilitator can be solved by using microform facilities.
- Many users can use a machine readable bibliographic data for various purposes for any number of times.

### **IMPACT OF E-INFORMATION MATERIALS ON LIBRARIES:**

Impacts of digital information materials on libraries are as below;

- Digital information can be cut or copied and pasted from one document into another.
- Digital information may be free cheaper than print equivalents.
- Digital information can be sent in multiple copies simultaneously over information networks in fractions of a minute or even of a second.
- There is no need for users with PCs attached to the network to physically present in the library.

### **CURRENT TRENDS OF ICT IN THE LIBRARY:**

- Universalization –expanding application for the user
- Familization- especially for the young
- Popularization-discussed by everyone everywhere
- Globalization- available around the globe

### **CURRENT ISSUES OF ICT IN THE LIBRARY:**

- Copyright infringement
- Information access and dissemination
- Information privacy
- Censorship
- Impact on reading
- Private versus public sector roles in information systems and services
- Cultural issues in design
- Language distribution and language dominance
- Computer crimes and hackers
- Intellectual property rights

### **Library services related with information communication technology tools:**

#### **INTER LIBRARY LONS**

Developments in E Library and internet technologies have made it possible to automatically update the catalogue record from member library systems distributed searches using a single user interface and value added services. The advent of computers with their ability to process large amounts of information and output in a variety of formats has finally brought the library to the customer in the form of (OPAC) Online Public Access catalogue. Access to the catalogue through computer terminal Librarians can now access catalogues of thousands of libraries across the world using internet. OPAC even shows the current status of a book, whether it is loaned out available on the shelf or lying else where. Another advantage of OPAC I sits ability to display catalogue records in a verity of formats such as AACR2. MARC etc. and the record can be displayed in desired order.

### **INFORMATION SERVICES**

Internet has emerged as the largest repository of knowledge and information containing billions of documents, a major part of which is available free of cost. It means that the library has access more reference tools that are more up to date and chapter. Finding particular information in an electronic reference tool is also very convenient and fast.

### **CURRENT AWARENESS SERVICES**

Internet has enabled a lot of innovations in contents, methods of production and distribution of current awareness products. Tools such as Listserv, Weblog, Webzines and e-newsletters are common. A current awareness service may be as simple as copy of table of contents or a selected from the current issues of journals and other material, and usually organized by subjects. Libraries now compile current awareness bulletins using predefined search strategy and running on the database either on CDROM or online periodically and getting the desired output. Subject to copyrights, the output can also be stored on a local system, and disseminated online (internet, intranet) and offline (print CDROM email).

### **BIBLIOGRAPHIC SERVICE**

Electronic databases also provide unique search feature such as searching on multiple criteria (Author, Subject, Key word, Year of publication, Source, Classification code, etc.) and varieties of display formats and styles. Research and academic libraries browsing through the manual index and abstracts is tedious and time consuming work and does not always produce up to date result.

### **CURRENT AWARENESS SERVICE**

Libraries now compile current awareness bulletins using predefined search strategy and running on the data base either on CDROM or online periodically and getting the desired output. CAS has been important means for keeping the users up to date in their areas of interest. CAS may be as simple as copy of contents or a bulletin containing bibliographic record of article selected from the current issues of journals and other material and usually organized by subjects.

### **REFERENCE SERVICES**

Asynchronous tool such as subject gateway, E-mail, Electronic libraries and FAQs and interactive tool like chat room virtual reference desk and ask me are replacing the convention mean of post phone or in person reference enquiries.

### **CONCLUSIONS**

Information communication technology facilitates speedy library operations, access and delivery of information, services. Research and development on information and its communication has led to a new branch called information communication technology which comprises two major technologies computer and communication. Computer technology is the tool for storing and processing information in digital form. Communication technology helps us transfer and disseminate digital information. Today information seeker wants information in respect of type or format and location of documents. The needed of clientele can be fulfilled effectively and efficiently housekeeping activities and library services. Journals, books, dissertation and theses, course material and patents are some of important sources of information that are now provide 24 hours any where flexibility and convenience of use by multiple users and full text searches and faster delivery.

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