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STATUS OF ENGINEERING COLLEGE LIBRARIES OF KARNAL, HARYANA

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Abstract:

This paper brings to light the status, use and availability of Information Technology infrastructure facilities in the engineering college libraries of Karnal. Presently in our country, most of the Libraries are at different phases of advancement in the use of Informational Technology Applications. The applications of IT in academic atmosphere in Karnal enhance regularly in the current decades. It describes also the current status of reading material, use of IT applications, library automation, software package, Internet and networking facilities, computer based services and library consortium in the selected engineering college libraries.

KEY WORDS:

IT applications, Information technology, Engineering college libraries, Haryana.

PURPOSE OF THE STUDY:

The purpose of this paper is to examine the status of engineering college libraries with special reference to Karnal district, Haryana

To know about state-of-the art and present scenario of engineering college libraries.

To investigate the current status of IT applications using in the libraries.

To know about the availability of information technology facilities, use of computer based services, OPAC, networking, software package used and subscription of library consortium are the main objectives of the study.

INTRODUCTION:

The academic institutions and their libraries play an important role to providing the collection in print and online, to support both curricular and co-curricular needs of the users. Library provides such an environment where users either alone or in groups may work on developing the powers of mind, attitudes and moral and intellectual values. At present, we are living in the information and communication technology age, where libraries known as Digital Library. With the advent of IT applications the library has become a very common source for information seekers. It provides the remote access at worldwide level at a very faster rate. The fast growth of information and communication technology particularly in IT applications the modern library has changed the traditional methods of research, storage, retrieval and communication of information. In fact, the libraries are an integral part of teaching learning process in the academic institutions for accessing and retrieving of information.

In the (ICT) information communication and technology era the concept of college library has been totally diversified. A college library must have appropriate resources like information technology, ICT

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infrastructure, OPAC, internet access and other automated service, along with these services and resources the users may be served effectively and efficiently. (Sharma, C. and Singh, M. 2011).

SCOPE OF THE STUDY:

The study is limited to the selected engineering colleges located in Karnal city of Haryana. These are listed in table as under:

Sr. No.	Name of Engineering college/Engineering Colleges	Abbreviation
1	Doon Valley Group of Institutes	DVGI
2	Naraini Group of Institutions	NGI
3	RPIIT Engineering college	RPIIT
4	Karnal Institute of Technology and Management	KITM
5	MM Group of Institutions	MMGI

METHODOLOGY/APPROACH:

The study was conducted through questionnaire - based survey. A structured questionnaire with multiple choices questions, considered according to the objectives, was distributed to the librarians of the fifth engineering colleges – DVGI, NGI, RPIIT, KITM and MMGI with a request to fill up it. The relevant data was collected from the colleges and analyzed and taken in suitable method.

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE:

Sharma and Bala (2012) conducted a study on the status of engineering college libraries of Kurukshetra District, Haryana. The data was collected through questionnaire based survey. The study indicates that all the respondents use some kind of IT tools, particularly the internet. The majority of the respondents (32.40%) are using CAS and most of the college libraries are using the computer based service i.e internet browsing. The result shows also that the majority of the engineering colleges have UGC Info-net library consortium. Sharma, Chetan and Rajender Kumar (2010) conducted a study on Status of Textile Engineering College Libraries in Haryana, India. A structured questionnaire was designated to collect the data. They found that total collection of Technological Institute of Textile and Science library is nearly three times more than Panipat Institute of Textile & Science library. They also found that both the librarians are satisfied with the available budget. Both libraries offers Current Awareness Service and photocopy services. They have compared the IT infrastructure. TITS library uses window 95/98/2000 and UNIX whereas PIET uses window XP. Both libraries have LAN connectivity and are member of INDEST-AICTE Consortium. Walia, Ruchi and Krishan Gopal (2008) conducted a study on Status of School Libraries in Kurukshetra an analytical study. The survey conducted shows that all the libraries are lacking some of the important features like good collection of text and reference books, infrastructure, proper environment and most concerned of the authority for library development. Some libraries are computerised but some libraries due to lack of manpower or financial resources, concept of computerized library is not initiated. Most of the school libraries have no provision for circulation of knowledge material. So that due to limited manpower and financial restrictions, library functioning is highly hampered. Cholin (2005) provides an overview of information technology implementation in different university libraries in India that provides effective access to resources available within universities and elsewhere. This study was an attempt to understand the use of information technology in university libraries by studying the status of information technology applications in Indian university libraries at various levels. The survey method was used to study the application of information technology in the Indian Universities. The factors studied include IT infrastructure-hardware, software, network tools, database development, etc. The study reveals that the university libraries in India are at various stages of development in the application of information technology tools in their day-to-day activities.

DISCUSSION:

The data obtained through the questionnaire and from various engineering college libraries and analyzed here under. The data is presented and evaluated using tables and figures in suitable method.

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Table -1. Reading materials in Libraries

Name of Colleges	Books	Periodical	CDs/AVM	E-Journals	E-Database	Any other
DVGI	65238	620	1409	269	1	---
NGI	9526	70	500	1184	---	---
RPIIT	31700	105	1860	600	---	---
KITM	13664	24	250	600	---	---
MMGI	7793	60	515	600	---	---

Table - 1 disclose that the DVGI library has the largest collection of books i.e. 65238, followed by RPIIT with 31700 books, KITM with 13664 books, NGI with 9526 books and MMGI has the collection of 7793 books. The maximum periodicals are found in DVGI library with 620 periodicals followed by RPIIT with 105, NGI 70, MMGI with 60 and KITM has 24 periodicals only. Maximum CDs are found in RPIIT library with 1860 followed by DVGI with 1402 CDs, MMGI with 515 CDs, NGI with 500 CDs and KITM library with 250 CDs. The NGI library has the largest collection of e-Journals i.e. 1184, followed by RPIIT, KITM and MMGI libraries has the same collection with 600 and DVGI library with only 269 e-Journals. NGI, RPIIT, KITM and MMGI libraries have no electronic database except DVGI library.

Table - 2. Library Automation

Name of Colleges	Is Library Automated?	Year of Library Automation	Which Activity Automated First?
DVGI	Yes	2006	Acquisition, OPAC & Circulation
NGI	Yes	2010	Acquisition
RPIIT	Yes	2012	Acquisition
KITM	Yes	2008	Acquisition & Circulation
MMGI	No	---	---

Table – 2 shows that all the engineering college libraries have automated all its house-keeping operations except MMGI library. DVGI library was the first who started library automation in 2006 followed by KITM library in 2008, NGI in 2010 and RPIIT is the last one to start library automation in 2012. DVGI and KITM automated their acquisition, OPAC and circulation. NGI and RPIIT automated their activity of acquisition.

Table - 3. Use of Software Packages

Name of Colleges	Specific Library Software Package				General Purpose Software Package		
	CDs/ISIS	Libsys	Alice for window	Any other	MS-Office	D Base III/IV	Any other
DVGI	---	---	---	The Library	Yes	Yes	---
NGI	---	---	---	iLib	Yes	---	---
RPIIT	---	---	---	E-Granthalay	Yes	---	---
KITM	---	---	---	DELSOFT	Yes	---	---
MMGI	---	---	---	---	Yes	Yes	---

Table- 3 reveals that the facilities of specific library software package CDs/ISIS, Libsys and Alice for Window are not available in the entire engineering college libraries. All the libraries except MMGI have in-house built software i.e DVGI with The Library, KITM with DELSOFT, NGI with iLib and RPIIT with e-Granthalay. In general software package all the college libraries are using MS-Office. Dbase III/IV facility is available only in DVGI and MMGI.

Table - 4 Operating System used in Libraries

Name of Colleges	MS-DOS	Window 7	Window XP	UNIX	LINUX	Any other
DVGI	---	Yes	Yes	No	No	---
NGI	---	Yes	Yes	No	---	---
RPIIT	---	Yes	Yes	---	---	---
KITM	Yes	Yes	Yes	---	Yes	---
MMGI	---	Yes	Yes	---	---	---

Table 4 shows KITM library uses the MS-DOS operating system. All the engineering college libraries have window based operating system. None of the college libraries have UNIX system. KITM library has the facility of LINUX operating system.

Table – 5. Use of Computer house-keeping Operations

Name of colleges	Acquisition	Classification	Cataloguing	Circulation	Serial Management
DVGI	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
NGI	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
RPIIT	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
KITM	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	---
MMGI	---	---	---	---	---

Table – 5 shows that the majority of the engineering college libraries are using computer for acquisition work, classification for various documents and circulation activities except MMGI. DVGI, NGI and RPIIT libraries are using computer in serial management except KITM and MMGI.

Figure – 1. Computer Based Services

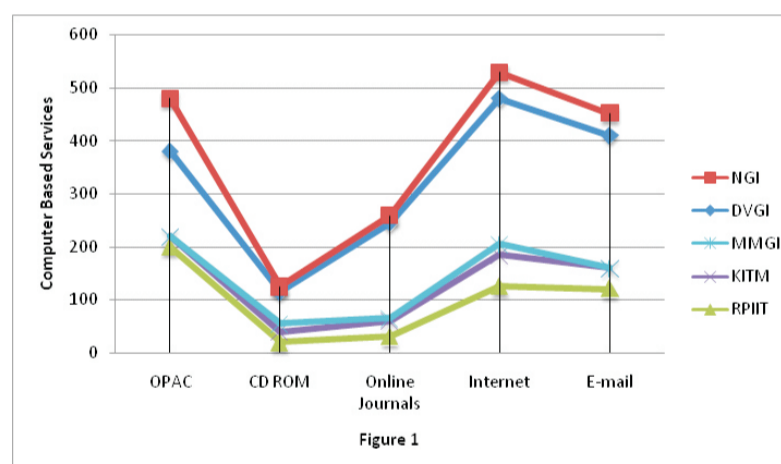


Figure – 1 highlights that the users of most of the engineering college libraries except MMGI are using OPAC services in the libraries. The users of all the engineering college are using computer based services i.e. CDs ROM, online Journals, internet and e-mail. The details are mentioned in figure 1 with the number of users. MMGI is not using the OPAC and e-mail facility in the library.

Table - 6. Use of Networking in Libraries

Name of Colleges	LAN (Yes/No)	Type of Network	Media Used	Nos. of Ports on hub
DVGI	Yes	LAN/WAN (wifi)	---	7
NGI	Yes	LAN	Cat-6	5
RPIIT	Yes	LAN	Patch Code	8
KITM	Yes	LAN	---	8
MMGI	Yes	LAN	---	2

Table-6 shows that the LAN facility is available in all the engineering college libraries. DVGI library is using both LAN and WAN networking facility. NGI library is using cat-6, RPIIT is using with patch code cable and DVGI library use wifi media for networking. Maximum number of ports (8) on hub are found in RPIIT and KITM followed by DVGI with (7) ports, NGI with (5) ports and MMGI with (2) ports.

Figure – 2. Library Consortium

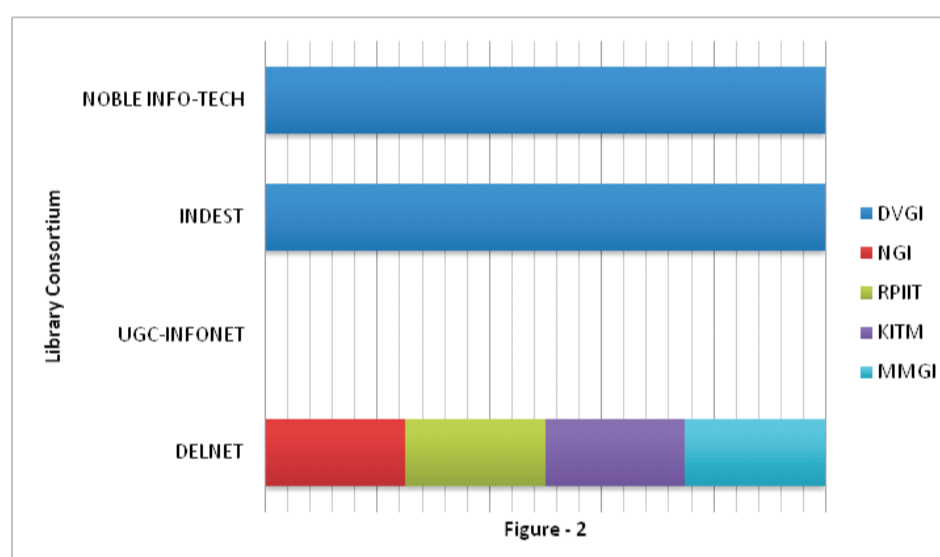


Figure - 2 highlights that all the engineering college libraries have membership of library consortium. DVGI has INDEST and Noble Info-tech consortium, NGI, RPIIT, KITM and MMGI libraries has the membership of DELNET to use the online Journals. All of the libraries are paying amount for subscription of consortium.

FINDINGS:

Highest reading materials including books, periodicals, CDs/Audio visual material and electronic database are available in the DVGI library.

Maximum engineering college have automated their libraries to improve the quality of services given to the users. Only MMGI has not automated his library so far.

No one any library is using standardise library application software. Only in-house built library application software is using most of the libraries except MMGI.

General software package MS-Office is used by all the engineering college libraries. Dbase III/IV facility is active only in DVGI and MMGI.

The majority of the engineering college libraries are using computer in library for house-keeping operations and minimum in KITM library. MMGI library has not used the computer for house-keeping operation.

Most of the engineering college libraries except are using computer based services and minimum in MMGI

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library. MMGI library is not using the OPAC and e-mail facility in the library. Maximum ports (8) on hubs are set up in RPIIT and KITM. All the engineering college libraries are using window based operating system. Most of the engineering college libraries are having DELNET membership. Only DVGI library is having the membership of INDEST Consortium. None of the library has UGC-INFONET Consortium membership.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1.Special funds provision should be made in the annual budget for improve the status and IT infrastructure facilities in the libraries.
- 2.For optimum use of books, e-resources, applications of IT infrastructure and provide opportunity to open access to all documents should be provided.
- 3.Users orientation programme needs to be started.
- 4.All colleges should become part of UGC-INFONET Consortium in order to provide access to online Journals and books.
- 5.The high-quality software package with anti-virus should also be properly installed in the libraries as well as computer centre.
- 6.The Wi-Fi facility should also make available in the libraries.
- 7.There should be no time limit and users should freely access to the internet even in their free times.
- 8.Well qualified and experienced technical staff should be there in the internet section as well as computer centre to solve the user's problems.
- 9.The power backup tool should be provided as it save the user's data for the duration of an unexpected power cut.

CONCLUSION:

The main purpose of this study has been to identify the status and use of the application of information technology in engineering college libraries situated in Karnal, Haryana. It can be concluded the information technology applications in different sections of house-keeping operations, OPAC, Library automation and networking activities carried out in these college libraries. It covers also software package used and subscription of library consortium by the libraries. Mainly the IT applications help to provide the timely information and facilitate the remote access to database. Thus the management supports, staff co-operation, play a vital role in developing efficiency in library services in these engineering college libraries.

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