

Marathwada Shikshan Prasarak Mandal's college library automation: A study

Pagore R.B.

Librarian, Dept. of Library Science, Balbhim College Beed, Maharashtra, India

***Corresponding Author:**

Email: pranjeet23@gmail.com

Abstract

In this research paper the study depicts the status of library automation in Marathwada Shikshan Prasarak Mandal Aurangabad College libraries spread in the Marathwada region of Maharashtra state, with a comprehensive analysis. The article discusses the newly emerging trends and developments in the field of library science, the areas covered in this, are available library services and resources, status of library automation, digital library infrastructure, and means and ways for their improvement. The present study evaluates the library automation and services available in the M.S. P. Mandal's college library. Data collected through distribution of questionnaire to 21 colleges but 17 college libraries responded to the questionnaire. The results of the survey are presented and discussed in this paper.

Keywords: Library automation, Computerization, Library service, Software packages.

Introduction

Education is fundamental process of a nation aiming at all round development of learners. For higher education college is the first door of education & among the various types of colleges libraries play the important role in academic activity. Marathwada Shikshan Prasarak Mandal was founded in 1958 under the leadership of Late Shri. Vinayakrao Patil, Ex. Minister for co-operation and Ex. President, Maharashtra Pradesh Congress Committee. The institute was established with the prime object to cater the needs of economically and educationally backward and downtrodden masses of this region. With this object, Marathwada Shikshan Prasarak Mandal runs 124 primary schools, middle schools, colleges, hostels and professional institutes such as pharmacy, law, computer, and IT etc. Recently the institute was duly honored for its achievements in the field of education and social reformation and awarded as an "Excellent Education Society" by the Government of Maharashtra in 2001.

Automation is a process of using the library software for easy and fast working and save the time of user as well as library staff. The main purpose of library

automation is to free librarian and library staff to allow them to contribute more meaningfully to spread of knowledge and information. Library automation involves total computerization of library activities, right from acquisition to management and circulation to reference services, information services, photocopying, microfilming and barcode technologies, creation of database, computerization of library networks and use of telecommunication for information retrieval, RFID Security gate and mobile applications etc. The application of computers, in the day-to-day and repetitive jobs saves a lot of labor and time, speeds up the operations, increases all round productivity and reduces the work stress. The utilization of computers and related techniques, make the provision to provide the right information to right reader at the right time in a right form in a right personal way.

Scope and limitations of the study: The present study is limited to the sample college libraries of Marathwada Shikshan Prasarak Mandal. The 21 colleges are selected for sample, the 21 colleges affiliated to Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University Aurangabad and Swami Ramanand Teerth University, Nanded.

Table 1:

S. No	Name of the college	Year of Establishment
1	Deogiri College, Aurangabad	1960
2	Balbhim College, Beed	1960
3	Shri Shivaji College, Parbhani	1961
4	Vinayakrao Patil Mahavidyalaya, Vaijapur	1968
5	Shri Muktanand College, Gangapur	1970
6	Sundarrao Solanke Mahavidyalaya, Majalgaon	1971
7	R. B. Attal College, Geoai	1971
8	Yashwantrao Chavan Mahavidyalaya, Ambajogai	1972
9	Arts, Commerce & Science College, Kille Dharur	1972
10	Swa. Ramrao Awargaonkar Law College, Beed	1979
11	Shri Shivaji Institute of Pharmacy, Parbhani	1982

12	Shri Shivaji Law College, Parbhani	1983
13	Shivchhatraoati College, Aurangabad	2001
14	Chhatrapati College, Lasur Station	2004
15	DITMS Aurangabad	2006
16	Deogiri Engineering College, Aurnagabad	2009
17	Yashwantrao Chavan Polytechnic College, Beed	2010
18	Jai Prakash Narayan B. Ed College, Beed	2006
19	Swami Vivekanand College, Parali	2009
20	Shri Shivaji Engineering College, Parbhani	2010
21	Shri Shivaji Polytechnics, Parbhani	2011

Need for Library Automation: Library automation has to be taken by majority of libraries to perform computerize services to his users. In modern era user don't have to time for finding document by go shelf to shelf and get the information, so it is necessary to automate the libraries.

1. Information explosion has resulted the large production of literature
2. Improve the quality, speed and effectiveness of services
3. To avoid duplication in housekeeping operation
4. Impact of communication technology and increase number of users.
5. Improve the management of their physical and financial resources
6. OPAC is the powerful tool for library automation
7. Improve library services and to make library administration & management efficient.
8. Increase the processing efficiency than the manual system
9. Providing multimedia and mobile services.
10. User friendly and greater satisfaction.

Objective of the study:

1. To find out the status of library automation.
2. To find out existing manpower in the M. S. P. Mandal's college libraries.
3. To find out the No. of colleges involved in process of automation.
4. To find out various services provided.
5. To find out barriers of automation.
6. To find out user satisfaction.
7. To understand the facilities, collection and services in the library.
8. To study the acquisition procedure for books and periodicals, and technical processing in college libraries.
9. To evaluate the various ICT facilities available in the libraries.

Review of Literature

Realizing the importance of library automation in UG colleges, several studies have been undertaken in regard to the status of library automation, housekeeping activities of library automation modules, the effect, usage and compatibility of software and hardware,

networking, benefits and shortfalls of library automation. Reviews of available studies have been presented in this section

Bretthauer (2001) takes overview of open source software in general. Provides basic information about some of the available open source software for libraries like Koha, Jake, MyLibrary, Prospero. He also describes issues, advantages and drawbacks of open source software.

Dabas, K. C. and Singh (2011) presented their study "automation scenario in university libraries: a study of some selected libraries". The paper attempts to review and audit the present scenario of library automation in nine university libraries in Punjab, Haryana and Chandigarh in the background of yesteryears and expected future. Paper points out that today complete library automation and modernization means digitization of the every bit of information contents. The following paper discusses with scope, objectives, and methodology adopted for collection, presentation, and analysis of data for this paper. Throws light on the availability of hardware and software in respective libraries and examines types and forms of library collection. Gives a brief overview of library automation in historical perspectives in the selected libraries and focuses on library software.

Das and Dhrubajit (2011) explain the standardization in the exchange formats and structure of a database is essential to facilitate exchange of data in efficient and effective way between the libraries. Entitled "MARC 21: The standard exchange format for the 21st Century". The adoption of different standard creates incompatibility in exchanging data which act as a major barrier in the use of bibliographic and related information. Format compatibilities are necessary for computerized cataloguing data and these are being standardized by the ISO. The MARC 21 format is one of the popular standard exchange formats which adhere to ISO 2709 standard and are using majority of the countries in the world.

Barve & Dahibhate (2012) presents an overview of various library related open source software such as library management systems, digital library software, content management systems, knowledge management software, citation management software, journal management systems, next generation OPACs, etc.

Inflibnet (2004) centre published a book on "Library Automation Planning, 2004" library automation refers to the use of computers to serve the needs of library users. The operations of a library get a quantum jump with the introductions of computers. The computers help to provide fast and reliable access to the resources available in the library as well as elsewhere. The application of computers in the library operations avoids repetitive jobs and saves lot of labor, time, speeds up operations, increases use of library resources. Computers are not only used as a tool for processing the data, but also for data storage and accessing.

Kanwer Pal Singh (2014) in his study "Academic Library Automation" states that library automation is must in every degree college as there is tremendous change in library environment. As the networks are spread over in every nook corner of the world there is a need to establish the networking system to meet the demands of the present users. He also emphasizes the establishment of digital libraries in every college. Also insist to make use of the Databases.

Manohar Nanda, (2009) "Library Automation" he explained the study and nature of library automation, and the various libraries automated with different modules in meeting the needs of the library. The tremendous change in using computers in circulation system, online technical support system, automated cataloguing, abstracting and indexing systems, the application of multimedia and the use of networking and the usage of web based sources through internet

Jitender Singh (2003) discussed a comprehensive understanding regarding the process of library automation. The same highlighted the core reasons for automation, and provided basic points to be considered during the process of automation and discussed the issue related with its future maintenance and up-gradation management. The study suggested a deep and proper analysis and study, planning, monitoring, feedback and further discussion to draw new conclusions.

P.S.G. Kumar and C.P. Vashishta (2006) in their paper "Academic libraries in the internet era" convey the major theme of internet in Indian academic libraries is divided into 5 sub themes: academic libraries and access to internet and intranets; information sources on the internet for higher education and research; internet and web search engines; developing library web sites; and education and training for internet.

S. Dhanavandan (2015) in his study "Enriching ICT in Academic Libraries" emphasizes the new opportunities widened by ICT with new technologies and services to serve. He also says that the success in all sectors of society depends on the optimum utilization of information technology through library automation. Also advises to establish infrastructure facilities in degree colleges.

P. Anuradha (2014) in his study "Automation and Networking of Libraries" discuss the plan for college

library automation network is designed based on new technologies available for automation networking consulting the computer science experts.

Methodology

To get the useful information from college library the present study, the following methodology is used.

Selection of Sample: The M.S.P. Mandal's College divided into Marathwada region, The District of Aurangabad, Beed, Osmanabad and Parbhani. There are 21 college libraries in Marathwada region. The Present paper selected 21 college libraries out of 17 by simple random method to examine the present condition of these libraries.

The survey method followed for the study with the help of structured questionnaire designed keeping in the view of the stated objectives. A questionnaire as a tool was compiled and distributed among the college libraries of M.S.P. Mandal. The collected data were analyzed, classified and tabulated by employing simple percentage methods. Data collected through distribution of questionnaire to 21 colleges but 17 college libraries responded to the questionnaire. The questionnaire intended for users consists of questions to elicit their views on use of the library, working hours, library collection, book collection, periodical collection, library services, circulation service, reference service, reprographic service, internet facility, physical facilities, and library staff.

Collection of Data: Questionnaire method is used for collecting the required data for the present study. The questionnaire intended for librarians consists of questions on academic colleges, designation, qualification, librarians, library working hours, access system, library collection, status of library automation, sections, acquisition, classification and cataloguing, services, user education programmes, physical facilities, budget, stock verification, library automation, and library statistics. Copies of the questionnaire are distributed to 21 librarians and collected the filled in copies of the questionnaire personally from librarians.

Data Analysis

Table 2: Status of library automation

S. No.	Status of library Automation	yes	Percentage
1	Fully Automated	12	70.58
2	Partially Automated	3	17.64
3	At the initial stage	2	11.76

Table 2 shows that out of 17 colleges 12 colleges were fully automated with a percentage of 70.58. 3 colleges were partially automated with a percentage of 17.64. 2 colleges were at the initial stage with a percentage of 11.76. The table shows that there is a remarkable progress with the trends.

Table 3: Library software

S. No.	Name of the Software	Yes	Percentage
1	Soul 2.0	2	11.76
2	Libman Master Software 1.0	6	35.29
3	MSPM ERP 1.0	9	52.94

Table 3 shows the use of library software's in their respective colleges. Soul 2.0 software is used in 2 colleges out of the 17 colleges with a percentage of 11.76. LIBMAN is used in 6 colleges with percentage of 35.29. In 11 colleges are using the MSPM ERP software developed by the MSP Mandal's technical staff of the college

Table 4: Library services

S. No.	Library Service	Yes	Percentage
1	Circulation Service	17	100
2	Internet	12	70.58
3	E-mail	17	100
4	Photocopying	11	64.70
5	Bar-coding	12	70.58
6	New arrival list	17	100
7	Digital library	10	58.82
8	Multimedia facility.	8	47.05
9	Mobile service & MOPAC	4	23.52
10	CAS	6	35.29
11	User Education	6	35.29
12	Reference	6	35.29
13	Video conferencing	6	35.29
14	Fax	6	35.29
15	Inter library loan	4	23.52
16	Whatsup(social media)	8	47.05

Table 4 shows the various library services provided. Circulation service is provided in 17 colleges out of the 17 colleges with a percentage of 100. Internet is provided in 12 colleges with a percentage of 70.58. E-mail service is provided in 17 colleges with a percentage of 100. Photocopying is provided in 12 colleges with a percentage of 64.70. Bar-coding is provided only in 12 colleges with a percentage of 70.58. New arrival list service is provided in 17 colleges with a percentage of 100. Digital library service is provided in 10 colleges with a percentage of 58.82. Multimedia facility is provided in 8 colleges with a percentage of 47.05. Mobile service is provided in 04 colleges with a percentage of 23.52. CAS service is provided in 6 colleges with a percentage of 35.29. User Education is given in 6 colleges with a percentage of 35.29. Reference service is provided in 6 colleges with a percentage of 35.29. Video conferencing is provided in 6 colleges with a percentage of 35.29. Fax facility is provided in 6 colleges with a percentage of 35.29. Inter library loan facility is provided in 4 colleges with a percentage of 23.52. What sup service is provided in 8 colleges with a percentage of 47.05.

Table 5: Areas of housekeeping operations

S. No.	Modules	Yes	Percentage
1	Acquisition	12	70.58
2	Cataloguing	12	70.58
3	Circulation	12	70.58
4	Serial Control	12	70.58
5	OPAC	12	70.58
6	Budgeting	15	88.23
7	Administration	08	47.05

Table 5 shows the House keeping operations in their respective colleges. The acquisition module is used in 12 colleges out of the 17 colleges with 70.58 percentages. The cataloguing module is in operation in 12 colleges with 70.58. The circulation module is in operation in 12 colleges with 70.58. The serial control module is in operation in 12 colleges with 70.58. The module OPAC is in operation in 12 colleges with 70.58. The module Budgeting is in 15 colleges with 88.23. The Administration module is in 08 colleges with 47.05.

Table 6: Barriers of library automation

S. No.	Barriers of Automation	Yes	Percentage
1	Lack of Infrastructure	5	29.41
2	Insufficient Funds	6	35.29
3	Lack of Human resources	4	23.52
4	Lack of Training	7	41.17
5	Lack of IT knowledge	9	52.94
6	Poor Maintenance	4	23.52
7	Recurring Power problems	6	35.29
8	Poor Awareness programmes	6	35.29

Table 6 shows the barriers in library automation found in the sample colleges. The barrier, lack of infrastructure is found in 5 colleges out of 14 colleges with 29.41. The barrier, insufficient funds found in 6 colleges out with 35.29. The barrier, lack of human resources found in 4 colleges with 23.52. The barrier, lack of training is found in 7 colleges with 41.17. The barrier lack of IT knowledge is found in 9 colleges with 52.94. The barrier, poor maintenance is found in 4 colleges with 23.52. The barrier, recurring power problems is faced in 6 colleges with 35.29. The barrier, poor awareness is found in 6 colleges with a percentage of 35.29.

Conclusion

In the digitize era library automation has become a necessity for any libraries. An automated library can provide better library services to their users and maintain the library more efficient than manually. The record keeping and report generation become easy by automation. The success of library automation depends on proper planning, work skill of staff, financial support and good library software package.

It is evident from the research point of view; the situation of library automation in 12 college libraries of Marathwada Shikshan Prasarak Mandals is stated to be good. Some colleges are facing problems like insufficient funds, lack of interest in upgrading IT skills and Knowledge. Some newly established colleges are facing power problems. Because the research paper is concerned a good number of colleges are up to the mark keeping abreast of the latest trends and developments in the field of library automation and are fulfilling the needs of library clientele.

Reference

1. Abraham.J.1996."Computers in modernizing Library Information System and Services: Perspectives of Library Automation" International Library Movement;18(3);p.37.
2. Duval, Beverly k. and Main, Linda.1992. "Automated Library Systems: A Librarians Guide and Teaching Manual. Westport": Meckler.
3. Ember, Richard T. 1968. "Automation in Libraries". Oxford, Pergamon Press.
4. Kasiviswanadhan, S. 1998. A practical approach to library automation, Automation in Libraries and Information Retrieval Units" RILISAR Bulletin,4(3);p. 5.
5. Kanwer Pal Singh.2014. "Academic Library Automation". New Delhi, Centrum press, P252-253.
6. Pagore R. B.(2013).emerging trends in academic library Ed. Mr. Patil G. R.(Eds). Problems in library automation (PP.165-168) Jalgaon: Prashant Book House.
7. Tiwari Purushotham 2006. Digital Library APH Publication: New Delhi, P.51.53.
8. Krishna Kumar (1984), Reference Service,4th edition, Delhi, Vikas Publishing House, Calcutta, P.122-126.
9. en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Category: Library automation
10. <http://vpcollege.org/wordpress/library/>
11. <http://deogiricollege.org/library/>
12. Sharma Savitri Devi(2007). Library Automation Software Packages uses in Academic Libraries of Nepal: A Comparative study, National Institute of Science Communication & Information Resources, New Delhi. PP.12-18.
13. A. Laxmana Chary(2013). Library Automation in Under Graduate College Libraries Affiliated to Palamuru University in Mahabubnagar District: Study, Asian Journal of Multidisciplinary Studies. 1(5), P. 2014-19.
14. <https://collegedunia.com/college/58932-marathwada-shikshan-prasarak-mandals-law-college-beed>
15. <http://mspmandal.co.in/Home/Colleges>
16. http://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in/bitstream/10603/155681/13/08_chapter2.pdf
17. <http://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in/bitstream/10603/32001/8/h%20chapter%20-%20ii.pdf>