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Digital Information Services : Challenges in academic Library

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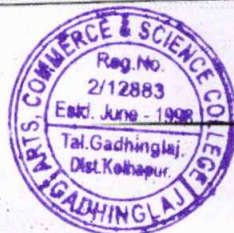
ABSTRACT

The paper focuses on the Digital Information Service (DIS), its scope, opportunities and challenges. Digital Library is an emerging trend in the present information technology era. Different Services provided with the help of digital library and their issues are mentioned. Digital information services, though looks easy to be provided, poses its own challenges in terms of metadata, digital collection development, copyright, preservation, cost, Technology obsolescence, etc., are grouped into different levels, like administration, technology and for the users are being discussed in the paper. It even highlights how the information professionals can meet the challenges.

Keywords: Digital Library, Library Services, Digital Information Services, Information Services.

Introduction:

The main focus of the Digital Information Service is to get the right information to the right user at the right time has been the motto of information professionals. Advancement of information technology and emerging trends in internet has changed the concept of library where the print and paper media are the main components to the new system called "Digital Library". The functions of a digital library are mainly depending upon the computers, communications facilities including equipment used, knowledge and skills of information professional in respect to handling modern technology. Digital Libraries facilitate time and place independent services for users especially if active learning styles become more common



The users have become more information conscious. They need pinpointed, updated, comprehensive and relevant information and data pertaining to their special interests and academic pursuits. This has totally changed the user behaviour with the special reference to the implication of new information technology on libraries.

Meeting the Challenges:

The Challenges of challenges has added new dimension to the roles and responsibilities of the librarians. These days the librarians are not only the custodian of collection but also content analyser for documentary as well as electronic information resources for satisfying the increased information needs of the users. These change aspects from the librarians to be well versed with the recent advances regarding the implementation of information technology. On the librarians, which will provide adequate base to face the challenges more comfortably?

- ü Continuous self updating
- ü Developing a strong professional team in respect libraries
- ü Conducting continuous education and training programs for user and staff
- ü Offer training on particular processes and on new aspects

Conclusion:

Digital Information Services is still in the evolutionary stages. digital libraries offer new challenges to an emerging breed of digital librarians as new opportunities who should combine principal and practice of information management, with rapidly evolving technological developments to create new information products and services. Hence the information professionals have to keep constant watch for newer developments and noticeable changes in the field of their concern. To reliability, the digital library is the most Important and reliable resort, and so knowledge discovery in these types of libraries become a predominant factor.

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