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- **Graphic Novels in Schools and Libraries**
- **Universal Design for Learning in Indian Academic Libraries**
- **Information Literacy Skills among Research Scholars**
- **Collection Development Strategies and Policies**
- **Library Services and Facilities in Nursing Institutions**
- **Publication Trends in Quality Assessment and Higher Education in India**
- **Seamless Access to OER in Higher Education Institutions**
- **Transformation in Library Services in B Ed Colleges**



Indian Association of Special Libraries & Information Centres

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of Indian Association of Special Libraries and Information Centres

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CONTENTS

Using Graphic Novels in Schools and Libraries: Challenges, Opportunities and Strategies in Promoting Literacy and Critical Thinking Sarwesh Pareek	163
Universal Design for Learning Principles in Indian Academic Library Services: A Framework for Inclusive Access for Differently-Abled Users Parvin Shaikh Latif Kureshi and J Shivarama	176
Information Literacy Skills among Research Scholars of Universities of Gujarat Manali Desai and Nimesh D Oza	187
Collection Development Policies and Strategies in Digital Era : A Study of College Libraries in Assam Swapnali Saikia and Pronab Kumar Barooah	197
Library Services in Nursing Institutions of Manipur, India : Facilities and Functions in Digital Era Yumlebam Ashakanan Devi and Ch Ibohah Singh	206
A Scientometric Study of Publication Trends in Quality Assessment and Higher Education in India B S Prashantha, M Dorairajan, U S Vijayarajkumar and S Srinivasaragavan	214
Seamless Access to OER for Higher Education Institutions: Leveraging Harvesting Technology Dimple Patel, Sakshi Devi, Poonam Chandel and Rahul Rana	221
Transformation from Traditional Library Services and Facilities : A Survey of Government BEd Colleges in Assam Dhan Maya Chetry and Samika Daulagupu	232

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Using Graphic Novels in Schools and Libraries: Challenges, Opportunities and Strategies in Promoting Literacy and Critical Thinking

Sarwesh Pareek

Abstract

Purpose: This paper aims to explore how graphic novels can be integrated into Indian school education and libraries to enhance literacy, creativity, and students engagement, with a focus on accessibility and awareness among students and teachers.

Design: This study adopts a qualitative case study approach centered on Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan Vidyashram, Pratapnagar. It investigates the process of students developing graphic novels and assesses their influence on reading habits, comprehension, and classroom engagement. Data is drawn from observations, students projects, and teachers feedback.

Findings: The study reveals that graphic novels effectively boost student motivation, reading comprehension, and creative expression. However, their use in Indian schools remains limited due to low awareness and insufficient access. To bridge this gap, the study highlights the need for structured measures such as teacher training, enriched library collections, and creative workshops to support the meaningful integration of graphic novels into the learning environment.

Value: This study presents a unique case from an Indian school context, offering insights into student-led graphic novel creation. It contributes to the limited literature on the educational use of graphic novels in India and provides actionable recommendations for schools and policymakers.

Keywords: Graphic novel; Comics innovation; Reading habit; School Library

Article Type: Survey based

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Universal Design for Learning Principles in Indian Academic Library Services: A Framework for Inclusive Access for Differently-Abled Users

Parvin Shaikh Latif Kureshi and J Shivarama

Abstract

Purpose: This paper aims to examine how Universal Design for Learning (UDL) principles can be applied to library services to create inclusive environments for differently-abled users. The study explores how these principles can guide libraries in improving accessibility through assistive technologies, physical design, and staff training.

Methodology: Using a qualitative and conceptual approach, the study analyses previous literature, official guidelines, and selected case studies from five Indian academic libraries. Information sources including journals, reports, and institutional documents are reviewed to understand current practices, challenges, and strategies for implementing UDL in libraries.

Findings: The results show that UDL principles can significantly enhance the inclusiveness of library services. Libraries that apply assistive tools—such as screen readers, Braille displays, and voice-recognition systems—provide better access and user satisfaction. However, limited funding, lack of trained staff, and low awareness remain barriers to effective implementation. Case studies reveal that initiatives like the National Digital Library of India and TISS accessibility programs represent strong models of UDL in practice.

Value: This paper contributes to the ongoing discussion on inclusive library services by connecting UDL theory with practical examples from India. It highlights that UDL is not only an educational model but also a framework for promoting accessibility, equality, and social justice in information environments.

Keywords: Universal design for learning (UDL); Inclusive Library service; Assistive technology; Differently-abled user; Accessibility; Academic library; Inclusive education; India.

Article Type: Theoretical analysis based

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Information Literacy Skills among Research Scholars of Universities of Gujarat

Manali Desai and Nimesh D Oza

Abstract

Purpose: The purpose of this study is to determine the information literacy skills of research scholars at Gujarat University (GU) in Ahmedabad and Sardar Patel University (SPU) in Vallabh Vidyanagar, Anand. The information literacy skills of research scholars from Gujarat's two most prestigious institutions, Gujarat University (Ahmedabad) and Sardar Patel University (Anand), are compared in this study.

Methodology: The survey approach was determined to be appropriate for the study, along with 100 questionnaires were sent to GU research scholars, of whom 68 completed them, and 100 questionnaires were sent to SPU research scholars, of whom 86 completed them.

Findings: After questionnaire analysis, 50 research scholars from Gujarat University and Sardar Patel University (58.13%) stated that they are highly familiar with utilising or possess the ability to search the Internet for information. GU respondents are more computer literate than SPU respondents. SPU respondents used Google more often than GU respondents. Research scholars from Gujarat University are more knowledgeable than those from Sardar Patel University regarding all information aggregators. GU respondents used Web 2.0 more frequently for personal, professional, and research tasks than SPU respondents. The study identifies important trends in internet usage, digital literacy, and the adoption of tools like Web 2.0 technologies for academic and professional reasons by using a survey technique and examining the replies of 154 scholars. The results highlight how Gujarat University research scholars are more computer literate and use a wider range of information sources than their Sardar Patel University research scholars.

Value: By providing insights into the differences in information literacy across the academic environment, this research offers value and helps policymakers, librarians, and educators create focused interventions to improve researchers' access to information and digital abilities.

Keywords: Information; Information literacy skill; Research scholar; Sardar patel university; Gujarat university.

Article Type: Survey based.

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Collection Development Strategies and Policies in Digital Era : A Study of College Libraries in Assam

Swapnali Saikia and Pronab Kumar Barooah

Abstract

Purpose: The main purpose of this study is to identify the strategies used and the challenges faced in developing library collections in the digital era.

Methodology: With the information explosion and the advent of ICT, numerous subjects and e-resources have been introduced in libraries. This study explores the strategies adopted to select and fulfill user needs in this digital era. A survey method was adopted for the study. Primary data were collected through a structured questionnaire administered to college librarians and library in-charges in colleges across Assam.

Findings: The study found that 85.94% of libraries lack adequate funds for print or e-resources. Furthermore, 71.88% of libraries do not have a Collection Development Policy specifically for print resources, and 89.06% of libraries do not have a Collection Development Policy for e-resources. These findings highlight the problems faced by college libraries in developing their collections. The need for a proper book selection policy and a comprehensive collection development policy is evident to ensure the right book reaches the right person at the right time.

Originality: The present study helps to identify the strategies used and the challenges faced in developing library collections in the digital era. Libraries without a collection development policy risk wasting their budget and developing collections inconsistently and ineffectively.

Keywords: Collection development; Assam; Collection development policy; Library collections; College library.

Article Type: Survey based.

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Library Services in Nursing Institutions of Manipur, India : Facilities and Functions in Digital Era

Yumlembam Ashakanan Devi and Ch Ibohal Singh

Abstract

Purpose: The nursing profession is advancing day by day, at par with other professions. A library plays a crucial role in improving the quality of nursing education. This study is designed to explore the current status of library facilities and services in nursing institutions of Manipur, India.

Methodology: The data collection for this study was conducted through a semi-structured questionnaire distributed among 24 nursing institutions in the state. The libraries were personally visited; interviews and observations were conducted; and opinions of experts in libraries were collected to understand the current scenario of the libraries. Basic statistical techniques have been used for data analysis.

Findings: The study revealed the current library conditions, growth and development, services and functions, activities, facilities, funding system, etc. The study shows a lack of qualified, trained staff in nursing libraries. Most libraries do not use technical tools like classification schemes and cataloguing codes. The automation status of the library is also inferior. ICT integration is needed in nursing libraries to enhance the quality of library services. Almost all the libraries have fewer sections, facilities, and services, and do not provide specific services. The study has suggested that recruiting trained staff, increasing library resources, and providing proper funding for the library will improve the overall development of library services in such institutions of the state.

Originality: The significance of the article enables us to explore the current status of library facilities and services in nursing institutions in Manipur.

Keywords: Facility; Function; Library service; Nursing institution; Manipur.

Type of article: Survey based

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A Scientometric Study of Publication Trends in Quality Assessment and Higher Education in India

B S Prashantha, M Dorairajan, U S Vijayarajkumar and S Srinivasaragavan

Abstract

Purpose: This study is to understand the publication trends in quality assessment and higher education in India

Design: the purpose of the study is to understand the research growth and impact of "Quality Assessment and Higher Education in terms of type of documents, year-wise distribution of research publication, and it has also analysed author productivity, top source of journals, top ten countries and also most frequent word used.

Findings: The findings of the study revealed that a total number of 1194 research papers were produced during the study period. It is found that the year 2010 has the highest research publications (239) and a total of 1009 articles from this type of document, Apparently Medical Education was the most common source of journals, the majority of publications 447 (49.23%) have been published by the United States of America. The term 'Quality' (125) is the most frequent words among the top ten most frequently used word.

Value: The research out of "Quality Assessment and Higher Education" analysed for the period of 2001 to 2010. It helps researchers, educators, policymakers, scientists, economists, database managers to know the strength and weakness in the subject area. And it also helps researchers to do further research in the area of higher education.

Keywords: Higher education; Scientometric; Web of Science; Quality Assessment; Biblioshiny

Article Type: Analysis based

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Seamless Access to OER for Higher Education Institutions: Leveraging Harvesting Technology

Dimple Patel, Sakshi Devi, Poonam Chandel and Rahul Rana

Abstract

Purpose: Libraries of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in India are now mandated with providing access to the open access resources available worldwide to their users on the library or institution website(s). The main objectives of this study were to investigate the methods used by centrally funded HEIs in India to provide access to OER, available across the world; to showcase the effectiveness of metadata harvesting technology in providing OER service at Central University of Himachal Pradesh (CUHP).

Methodology: Mixed methods were used to achieve the objectives set out for the study. Analysis of the websites of the HEIs was done to ascertain which institutions provide such a service and the mode in which this service is provided. OSS platform was employed for building a harvesting based OER service (Sangam) at CUHP. To assess the effectiveness and efficiency of Sangam in comparison to other HEIs, a study with small group of students from select departments was conducted.

Findings : The first phase of the study, revealed that 79.1% of the HEIs offer access to external OER through hyperlinks on institutional website. In the second phase of the study, the authors successfully implemented an OER service for CUHP using metadata harvesting which is available publicly worldwide. Lastly, a study carried out with a select group of users revealed that largely the most preferred interface by students is Sangam in terms of three criteria i.e. user-friendly, time-efficient and effective in relevant information retrieval.

Value : The study corroborated a viable alternative for establishing OER service in an academic institution, to provide a seamless and user-friendly one window access for students, faculty and researchers. This work will be useful and provide supportive documentation for implementation of OER services using harvesting, for libraries across the world.

Keywords: Metadata harvesting; OER service; Open educational resource; Open access; OSS

Paper type: Analysis based

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Transformation from Traditional Library Services and Facilities : A Survey of Government BEd Colleges in Assam

Dhan Maya Chetry and Samika Daulagupu

Abstract

Purpose: The study is conducted to ascertain the availability of numerous information sources, library services, and facilities in the Government BEd College Libraries in Assam.

Methodology: The investigation used a questionnaire-based survey approach, and data were obtained from colleges via Google Form. The collected data were presented in the form of tables.

Findings: The study revealed that 2 colleges out of 7 have existed for more than 50 years, only one college is offering an MEd course, only one library has an automated circulation system, and 6 out of 7 libraries have responded to the lack of funds.

Originality: The original research is valuable in understanding the status of libraries and facilities. The findings of this study might help BEd College librarians, college administrators, and policymakers take the appropriate actions for the libraries' overall development.

Keywords: Academic library, BEd College Library, Library Facility, Library Service, NCTE

Article Type: Survey-Based

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