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Implementation of Mobile Technology in Academic Library of Siliguri Subdivision Govt. Aided General Degree Colleges: A Study

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Abstract: *This paper highlights the present trends and developments for using mobile technology in academic libraries which has its grate impact on the libraries of the modern society. The library and information services are rapidly changing and it has developed in the 21st century more effectively in the digital era. Libraries have the well opportunity to extend new different types of library services to users. The digital technology has made it easy to store, use, share immediately and instantly by the users demands. The main purpose of this study is to implement mobile technology in academic library of siliguri subdivision in general degree colleges generally and particularly effective utilize in libraries and library services.*

Keywords: ICT, Mobile Technology, Academic Library, Library Resources. E-Resource, Library services.

1. Introduction:

Today we are living in 21st century which is called digital era where the use of ICT is increasing very rapidly. So every field possesses its own development with the carve of its innovation. Depending on it the scenario of the present library has taken up a new look & shape with the digitized form of documents leaving its physical perceive. By using mobile technologies we can access information with an ease and timely from the library. This paper will focus on the present trends and developments for using mobile impact on the libraries in the modern societies.

2. Objective of the study:

- ◆ To know the use of mobile technology in academic library in Siliguri sub-division Govt. Aided General Degree Colleges.
- ◆ To know what are the services and facilities can be provided by using mobile technology.
- ◆ To know various problems encountered in accessing through mobile technology.
- ◆ To study use of Mobile technology by the library users.
- ◆ To identify the purposes of mobile technology.

3. Methodology:

The purpose of this paper is to examine the implementation or use of mobile technology in academic libraries. The information for the study was collected from the respective college websites

(library), requests to teachers and librarians, telephonic conversation, and personal contacts.

4. Technology:

Technology is the collection of techniques, skill methods process used in the production of services or in the achievement of objects such as scientific investigation. A good number of technologies are available in the market with this mobile technology can be implemented in academic library.

4.1 Mobile Technology:

Application of mobile technology in library services is the need of the hour. Interaction with the user community can be achieved due to the advancement in mobile technology. Mobile technology is a boon for the information seekers and libraries who are busy with their continuous innovation work. Mobile phones like smart phones, PDA, cell phone; tablet and so on for information seeking people from child to adults shows them to access internet, email, text messaging and integrations among themselves with comfortably. Because with the handsets technology is bearable easily with the users & researchers at their respective place and works. So, it can be said that if libraries adopt this technology and to provide various types of services to the users, it will make the users benefitted and libraries will be very fruitful to the users. To use of mobile technology is a rethink and remodel the library services to its present users.

The 2009 Horizon Report states, "Third party applications for all kinds of tasks can now be

developed once and ported to a variety of mobile platforms, increasing their availability. It is these applications that are making mobiles such an indispensable part of our lives. Tools for study, productivity, task management, and more have been integrated into a single device that we grab along with car keys and wallet (New Media Consortium, 2009).”

5. Types of mobile technology:

A mobile device is a small computing device, typically small enough to be handheld, having a display screen with touch input and/or a miniature keyboard.

5.1 PDA:

A personal digital assistant (PDA) is a mobile device which known as personal data assistant functions as a personal information manager. It is a software term that prompts the user of a computer to provide quick reference to contact and other lists.

5.2 Smart Phones:

A Smartphone is an advanced personal computer operating system with other features which are useful for mobile phones. Smart phones are pocket-sizes cell which is easily bearable and acts a lot of tasks combined with other tasks.

5.3 Cell Phones:

A mobile phone is a portable one which can make and receive calls over a radio frequency carrier while the user is moving within a telephone service area. Most modern cell phone services use a cellular network architecture is called cellular telephones or cell phone.

5.4 Tablet:

Tablet is a mobile computer with a touch screen display, circuitry in a single device. Tablets come equipped with sensors, including cameras, a microphone, and an accelerometer, and the touch screen display uses the recognition of finger or stylus gestures replacing the usage of the mouse and keyboard.

6. Advantages of Mobile Technology:

6.1 User Friendly: Mobile technology is user friendly hand held technology and bearable, anybody can handle it.

6.2 Personalized Services: Through mobile technology user can solved their personal activities according to their needs.

6.3 Saves Time: User can access the library e-resources through mobile technology from the library and outside of the library, by these user saves their valuable time which fulfils the 4th law of Dr. S. R. Ranganathan.

6.4 No Geographical Barrier: Through this technology user can access the libraries e-resources from anywhere.

6.5 Active User Participation: Through designing of mobile based website library makes it more interactive by adding chat, rooms, blog, social media etc.

6.6 Quick Feedback: User can give quick feedback related to library service and get quick response related to their quires.

6.7 Limitless Access: The mobile web encompasses not only those sites that have been specially designed for mobile browsing, but also the World Wide Web.

6.8 Location Awareness: Mobile communication enables libraries to offer location-based services/content through global positioning system (GPS) capabilities.

7. Disadvantages of Mobile Technology:

- ◆ The unskilled library staffs are not well known to the use of mobile technology.
- ◆ So, we are able to see that mobile phones don't seem to be solely helpful, however they're conjointly harmful.
- ◆ Well, it'll not be wrong to mention that none of the technologies is harmful naturally.
- ◆ Always using mobile technology by the users, they loose their creativity of the mind.
- ◆ For the advantage of mobile technology and its used by the users which makes them very lazy to visit the library.
- ◆ Some noticeable ear and brain diseases have surfaced because of the overuse of those devices.

8. Services through mobile technology in academic library:

Library is an educational center where the user likes students; Research Scholars, Professors, Professionals and Knowledgeable persons come to the library to study the documents and acquire knowledge to improve themselves day by day. By using developed knowledge they produce new innovations for the use of future generation. In continuation to this attempt the following services may be provided through mobile technology.

8.1 Access of e-resources:

E-resources of libraries user can access to full text e-journal, e-magazine, and e-newspaper content as well as links to titles held in print.

8.2 MOPAC Services:

User will be able to know if the book is available in the library or not by MOPAC. It will be easier for the user to check about the library collection of the library holdings.

8.3 Browsing services:

With the help of mobile technology users can browse e-resources and databases of the library.

8.4 SMS-MMS and Flash Messages:

Using mobile technology libraries can send alert services to its users regarding the latest arrival documents, due date of books, Acknowledging the user about renewal of a book and other library related services through Short Message Service (SMS) - Multimedia Messaging Service (MMS) and flash messages.

8.5 QR Services:

QR stands for Quick Response, is the trademark for a type of matrix barcode or two dimensional barcode which contains any alpha-numeric information know as mobile tagging.

8.6 Learning services:

Academic libraries provide e-resources and learning through mobile technology to promote e-learning, distance education and other learning activities.

8.7 Reference Services:

Library users can ask to librarians anything during the live chat or texting with mobiles. The reference services can be provided with the help of sending and receiving SMS. Immediate feedback is also possible from the user's side.

8.8 Orientation Programme:

Library can provide a good orientation programme services for the user alerting them send SMS through mobile phones.

8.9 Link Services:

Library offer link services when a user wants to search a page. The user can just send a request for demanding of a particular link for a document. This will save the time of the users and will get the correct information without any hesitation.

8.10 Mobile library instruction:

Library users who don't have the time or inclination to attend an onsite workshop can still get the most out of library resources by accessing classes and tutorials on their mobile devices. Libraries can distribute their knowledge of and expertise in library systems and materials via MP3 and video files that patrons can take with them.

8.11 News and Events:

Information on job openings, varieties of scholarly competition, library events such as orientations

program, stock verification, book recall, lectures on special topic, news in relation to scholarly work, awards and so on can be given using mobile devices in order to update the user's knowledge.

9. The Present Scenario of Academic libraries in general degree colleges in Siliguri sub-division:

Conducting the survey of the following general degree colleges we came to know that the libraries on the usages some library management software but except mobile technology which has great impact on the present emerging trends.

Sl. No.	Name of the Colleges Libraries	Used Mobile Technology	Used Others Technology / LMS Software
1	Siliguri College	No	Soul
2	Siliguri College of Commerce	No	CDS/ISIS, Soul
3	Suryasen Mahavidyalaya	No	
4	Siliguri Mahila Mahavidyalaya	No	
5	Munsi Prem Chand College	No	No
7	Kalipada Ghosh Tarai Mahavidyalaya	No	Soul
8	Naxalbari College	No	No

This college has lack of awareness of use of mobile technology, lack of awareness of implementation of mobile technology, unskilled technical staff and so on.

At recent times all the mentioned academic libraries have acquired different types of documents thinking of the user best uses of these which are provided to them implementing some library management software to record their library holdings. By this users are aware of the library physical documents but can't knowledgeable of its inside prevailed contents.

Considering all these technologies which have already been implemented to provide the best services to the users of the library holdings. With these technologies if the libraries also include mobile technology to provide such services, users will be very benefited as well as the uses of library will be very significant. It is known to all that library is a social institution, being a social institution it plays an essential role in the society. Now mobile is a handheld technology and it is used

almost by every users and the services of the library are provided to the users through this, the users will be very attractive towards the libraries.

10. Suggestion:

- Our prime motto is that if these college libraries implement mobile technology in the library services student will be very benefited by this.
- Library can offer workshops, orientation and training programme to their staff.
- Users of the library like Student, research scholar and faculties are trained how to use of mobile technology.

11. Conclusion:

Mobile technologies are inevitable tools for information communication. Human beings in a society use mobile technology to communicate

view, facts, conversations, in general information. The dissemination of processed information is a common factor in a civilized society.

There is going influence of mobile technology and its services in libraries. Raise issue of access to information in the digital era. Mobile technology has become boon to the libraries. A library may reach the remote users effectively by adopting of mobile technology in its services.

In light of trends toward more widespread use of mobile technology devices and smart phones, it makes sense for libraries to provide access to their collections and services in ways that work well with mobile technology. Finally it can be said that use of mobile technology in the modern libraries will take a shift from its root position to the new digitized society.

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