Potential of N-List for the Professional Development of College Librarians

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Abstract: _Purpose_: *This paper presents the facts of the N-LIST programme. The professional development of college librarians is essential, as a college librarian's professional quality ensures the best library services to college students, faculty, and other staff. The significance of the N-LIST programme for the professional development of college librarians needs to be diagnosed, as N-LIST has become a prominent resource in higher education.* _Design/methodology/approach_: *The study focuses on finding a term in the N-LIST programme: library and information science professionals, librarians, and library and information science. The data were collected from the N-LIST through a critical investigation. A vital inquiry is arranged in table form for a conclusion.* _Findings_: *The study's significant findings show that the N-LIST programme is the best resource for the professional development of college librarians. The literature is mostly English and available in eBooks, journals, conference proceeding, serials and government documents. Ebrary and Springer ebooks are found to be the major providers of content for the professional development of college librarians.* _Originality/value_: *This is one of the first critical investigations to identify the usability of the N-LIST programme for college librarians with the particular terms. It should help demonstrate the N-LIST programme's value for college librarians.*

Keywords: N-LIST, Professional development, college librarian, Library and Information Science Professionals, Librarian, Library and Information Science

1. Introduction

Performance improvement in any job or profession requires new knowledge and skills, which can only be achieved through enhanced knowledge and skills. Improving knowledge and skills is possible through professional development. In the article Why Professional Development Matters, Mizell H.(2010) said that School teachers or district leaders become effective because they continuously expand their knowledge and skills. Hence, each professional needs to adopt a professional development activity. College Librarians are associated with the intellectual development of college students, faculty and other staff. Professional development is how librarians can enhance their knowledge, which further raises the academic performance of library users.

N-LIST is INFLIBNET's major initiative, launched on May 4, 2010. It provides e-resources in e-journals, e-books, databases, and abstract proceedings. Students, researchers, and faculty members use N-LIST resources. Registered members have their ID and password and can access e-resources directly from the publisher's website. The paper tries to find valuable resources and the N-LIST database's overall potential to develop the college librarian's professionalism.

2. Conceptual Analysis

2.1 Professional Development

This is a technological era; it changes so fast compared to the previous era. Technology is producing continual change. Practitioners of any field need to apply professional development throughout their working lives. Any professional's success depends on highly developed professionalism, which can be achieved through professional development activities. College librarianship is associated with students, teachers, and other college staff. The

development of the college librarian is directly propitiated to the development of these library stakeholders. Desimone L.M. (2009) stated that "Professional development is a set of activities that help educators develop their knowledge, skills, and attitudes to improve their effectiveness and student learning outcomes." Hence, the professional development college librarian does not help only the development of that particular librarian, but it positively impacts those whom that librarian serves. Professional development develops not only the skill and knowledge of the professionals but also the attitude of the professional. The attitude towards working style shows dramatically changed. Guskey T.R. (2000) observed that "when educators' skills and knowledge improved and attitudes changed, the students also showed a change and this change the learning outcomes of the students".

2.2 National Library and Information Services Infrastructure for Scholarly Content (N-LIST)

N-List is the INFLIBNET project, which the UGC, New Delhi, sponsors. It is jointly executed by the e-shodhsindhu consortium, INFLIBNET centre, and INDEST- AICTE consortium. Students, Researchers, and Faculty members of registered colleges benefit from the online resources of N-LIST. The resources are accessed from the server installed in the INFLIBNET Centre. Users can also access the resources directly from the publisher's website. Universities and colleges benefit from N-LIST's selected e-resources. George & et al.. observed that the UGC Infonet Digital Library Consortium and the INDEST-AICTE Consortium are the two consortiums from which e-resources are chosen and provided under the N-LIST programme. Colleges, except for pharmacy, engineering, medical, agriculture, dentistry, and nursing, are eligible to access the resources of N-LIST.

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3. Objective of the Study

1) To discover the topics available in N-LIST for the professional development of the college librarian
2) To find out the format available in N-LIST, which provides content for professional development of the college librarian
3) To identify the language in which content for professional development of the college librarian is available
4) Find out the content provider available for the college librarian's professional development

4. Scope and Limitation of Study

The study is limited to the resources available in N-LIST, and the content is only for the professional development of college librarians.

5. Review of Related Literature

1) Belsare, Sunil, in his paper "Use of N-List program for E-resources and other e-resources to Higher Education Development through Internet," observed that electronic resources are more powerful with the help of internet connectivity, provide a massive amount of resources, and are excellent sources for higher education. According to this study, N-LIST is the best resource for higher education.
2) Pradhan, Sandip wrote an article, "N-List: Effective E-Resources for Academic Research And Development," and found that ICT-based tools are very beneficial for academic and research purposes. N-LIST is a significant evolutionary initiative for researchers and academicians in India. N-LIST provides scholarly e-books and e-journals, and these are helpful to students, faculties and researchers to improve their learning and research development activity. This article recommended that N-LIST is a vital source of information in the academic and research fields.
3) George & et al. wrote an article on the role of the librarian in the use of the N-LIST programme
4) The study was conducted to ascertain science and social science teachers' use of the N-LIST programme. It examined the use pattern and satisfaction level for the programme and found that it has excellent benefits for academic and research purposes. A large amount of information is available democratically for each one. This program is available at a very low price compared to others and is helpful for research and teaching requirements.
5) Solanki, Mahesh wrote an article on the Awareness and Use of the N-List Programme in College Libraries Affiliated with Saurashtra University. He observed that library consortia are a significant tool for libraries during a financial crunch. The consortia can increase the level of higher education in the country.
6) Viresh Hanchinal wrote an article titled "Awareness and Usage Of E-Resources Of N-List Consortium: A Study with Reference to Academic Colleges of Mumbai." The study revealed that proper infrastructure and internet connectivity with appropriate speed increase N-LIST use and enhance its users' knowledge and performance.

The article written on N-LIST shows that it is helpful and will increase the knowledge and performance of its users. It is available at a very low cost, so every college can easily subscribe to it and make it available to each one to get excellent benefits. However, this paper finds the research gap and needs to study whether this programme provides resources for college librarians. So, the study is conducted.

6. Analysis of N-LIST

This paper has dealt with N-LIST's potential for the professional development of college librarians. How many? Which are? N-LIST contains resources that will benefit college librarians' professional development. Some keywords were chosen for the critical investigation of N-LIST. Library and Information Science professionals, librarians, and library and information science are terms searched in the N-LIST, and, according to that investigation, they tried to find which resources are available in N-LIST for the professional development of college librarians.

Term- Library and Information Science Professionals

Suggested topics within this term

S. No.	Title of topic	Number of Resources
1.	Library Science	27
2.	Application Software	14
3.	Information Systems Application (inc. internet)	12
4.	Database Management	22
5.	Information Storage and Retrieval	11
6.	Information Technology	11
7.	Information Science	11
8.	Computers	10
9.	Computer Science	07
10.	E-Commerce	07
11.	Librarians	07
12.	E-Commerce/ E-Business	07
13.	Artifical Intelligence	06
14.	Libraries	06
15.	Research	06
16.	Social Aspect	06
17.	Astronomy	05
18.	Astrophysics	05
19.	Computers and Society	05
20.	Computers and Civilization	05
21.	Data Mining	05
22.	Educational Technology	05
23.	Information Systems and Communication Service	05
24.	Medicine	05
25.	Multimedia Information Systems	05

N-LIST provides content for the professional development of college librarians under twenty-five topics for the term Library and Information Science Professionals. The resources provided under the topic of Library science are 25, followed by other topics.

Format within this term

S. No.	Format	Number of Resources
1.	eBook	103
2.	Electronic	78
3.	Conference Proceeding	06
4.	Journal	01

eBook is a significant format which provides content for the professional development of college librarians under the term Library and Information Science Professionals

Language for this term

S. No.	Language	Number of Resources
1.	English	104
2.	French	01

English is the prominent language of the professional development content for college librarians under the term Library and Information Science Professionals.

Provider for this term

S. No.	Provider	Number of Resources
1.	Springer eBook	51
2.	Ebrary	46
3.	EBSCOHost Ebrary	5
4.	H.W. Wilson	1
5.	Taylor and Francis	1

Springer eBook is the primary content provider followed by Ebrary for the professional development of college librarians under the term Library and Information Science Professionals.

Term - Librarian

Suggested topics within this term

S. No.	Title of topic	Number of Resources
1.	Library Science	68
2.	Libraries	56
3.	Librarians	52
4.	Academic libraries	29
5.	School libraries	23
6.	Effect of technological innovation on	22
7.	History	21
8.	Academic librarians	18
9.	Informational technology	13
10.	Vocational guidance	14
11.	Information literacy	13
12.	Relation with faculty and curriculum	13
13.	Special collection	13
14.	Libraries and society	12
15.	Instructional material centre	11
16.	Libraries and community	11
17.	Books and reading	09
18.	Information storage and retrieval	18
19.	Libraries and electronic publishing	09
20.	Professional ethics	09
21.	Public libraries	09
22.	Public services (libraries)	08
23.	Study and teaching (higher)	08
24.	Young adult's libraries	08
25.	Aims and objectives	07
26	Application software	07
27	Children's libraries	07
28	In-service training	07

Library Science is the suggested topic on the 1st rank that provides content for the professional development of college librarians under the term Librarian.

Format within this term

S. No.	Format	Number of Resources
1.	eBook	251
2.	Electronic	179
3.	Conference Proceeding	04
4.	Journal	26
5.	Serial	02

eBook is the primary format that provides content for the professional development of college librarians under the term Librarian.

Language for this term

S. No.	Language	Number of Resources
1.	English	278
2.	French	01
3.	German	01

English is the prominent language that provides content for the professional development of college librarians under the term Librarian.

Provider for this term

S. No.	Provider	Number of Resources
1.	Ebrary	213
2.	H.W.Wilson	27
3.	Springer eBook	24
4.	South Asia Archive	09
5.	Taylor and Francis	04
6.	JSTOR	01
7.	Sage Knowledge	01

Ebrary is the primary content provider for the professional development of college librarians under the term Librarian.

Term – Library and Information Science

Suggested topics within this term

S. No.	Title of topic	Number of Resources
1.	Information technology	160
2.	Library Science	94
3.	Application software	119
4.	Information systems applications (incl. internet)	112
5.	Information storage and retrieval	191
6.	Artificial Intelligence	93
7.	Computer science	83
8.	Research	78
9.	Database management	145
10.	Information science	71
11.	Computers	66
12.	Computer communication networks	65
13.	Computer communication systems	65
14.	Technological innovations	62
15.	Science	59
16.	Data mining	55
17.	Data processing	54
18.	Library and Information Sciences	54
19.	Social aspects	50
20.	Software engineering	49
21.	Management	47

22.	Management information systems	47
23.	History	45
24.	Social sciences	43
25.	Data Mining and Knowledge Discovery	42
26	Libraries	42

Twenty-six topics are found under Library and Information Science that provide content for the professional development of college librarians. The primary topic, 'Information Technology,' provides that content, followed by Library science and the other twenty-four.

Format within this term

S. No.	Format	Number of Resources
1.	eBook	1367
2.	Electronic	1091
3.	Conference Proceeding	90
4.	Journal	81
5.	Government Document	05

eBooks are the primary format for providing content for the professional development of college librarians under the term 'Library and Information Science.'

Language for this term

S. No.	Language	Number of Resources
1.	English	1429
2.	French	20
3.	German	09
4.	Czech	03
5.	Italian	02
6.	Spanish	02
7.	Bengali	01
8.	Russian	01
9.	Swedish	01

English is the prominent language that provides content for the professional development of college librarians under the term 'Library and Information Science.

Provider for this term

S. No.	Provider	Number of Resources
1.	Ebrary	922
2.	H. W. Wilson	27
3.	Springer eBooks	343
6.	JSTOR	43
7.	EBSCO Host-Net Library	88
8.	Indian Journals	08
9.	South Asia Archive	04
10.	Taylor and Francis	04
11.	McGraw Hill	03
12.	Oxford University Press	03
13.	Cambridge Books	02
14.	Sage knowledge	01

Ebrary is the primary content provider for professional development of college librarians under the term 'Library and Information Science'.

7. Conclusion

The study concluded that the N-LIST programme is the best content provider for the professional development of college librarians. The N-LIST covers many topics related to the professional development of college librarians. Library Science, Information technology, Application software, Artificial intelligence, Database management, and many more topics useful for the professional development of college librarians are available through the N-LIST programme. This content is in various formats, such as e-books, journals, conference proceedings, serials, government documents, etc. English is found to be the primary language used in the content of professional development for college librarians. Ebrary and Springer ebooks are found to be major providers of content for the professional development of college librarians.

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