Automation Status of District Libraries: Special Reference to North Gujarat

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Abstract: *The growth and development of data and Communication Technology (ICT) is playing vital role within the field of library and knowledge science and library automation especially. The aim of this paper was to showing the Library Automation Status of District Libraries: Special reference to North Gujarat. For this study researcher has used questionnaires and telephonic talk for the data collection of North Gujarat District Libraries. After data collection researcher finds out and concluded that 100% of Libraries are automated. This study also gives which software packages used by libraries and modules used library automation software of north Gujarat district libraries. It is evident from the study out of 5 libraries 5(100%) libraries are using Soul2.0 software, the study mainly focuses on the availability and utilization of Library automation software modules.*

Keywords: Library Automation, District Libraries, North Gujarat Public library, Automation

1. Introduction

Traditionally public libraries are catering to the document needs of their users. Public libraries provide their library and knowledge services to their users by allowing them to possess access and use of books, journals, magazines, maps and atlases, reference books, audiovisual documents, and other printed and non-printed documents. Public libraries need to provide their valuable library and knowledge services to the massive community of society because it comes under their duty of social obligations.

Computers are getting used in every field of act due to its speed, accuracy and capability of huge scale processing. Computers have literally invaded and entered into library and knowledge services for the effective use and for the advantage of the library users. It is space saving device as well because information stored on computer readable devices takes much less space than the conventionally stored systems Libraries and information centers have devised library automation efforts and practices so as to supply their better library and knowledge services to the proper users in right time at the earliest.

2. Definitions

Library Automation
Library automation requires planning, designing and implementation. Library automation reduces the drudgery of repeated manual efforts in routine. The use of library automaton helps in eases and luxury in collection development, storage, administration, processing, preservation, and communication etc. It increases productivity in terms of both works also as in services.
- According to the Webster's dictionary "automation is the technique of making an apparatus, a process or a system operates automatically". In other words, it's the machinery that mathematically manipulates information storing, select, presents and records, input file or internally generated data. Automation word is used for automatic technical process.
- Automation is a technique to make system automated means self active. For these electronic machines are wont to automate the libraries.
- Library automation means machines of application to perform the different routines, repetitive and clerical jobs that involve various functions and services of the libraries (https://www.librarianshipstudies.com/2017/10/library-automation.html).

Definition of Public Library:
The most appropriate definition is given by UNESCO, Book Promotion and Development Division, 7, Place De Fontenoy 75700, Paris (France). This speaks thus,
- The Public Library is a practical demonstration of democracy's faith in universal education as a continuing and life-long process in the appreciation of the achievement of humanity in knowledge and culture;
- The Public Library is the principal means whereby the record of man's universal education as a continuing and life-long process in the appreciation of the achievement of humanity in knowledge and culture; (https://www.ifla.org/files/assets/public-libraries/documents/unesco-public-library-manifesto-1972.pdf).
- The Public Library is the principal means whereby the record of man's thoughts and ideas and the expression of his creative imagination, are made freely available to all; (http://www.lisbdnet.com/public-library/).

3. Literature Review

Literature review mainly focus on methodology and result section of the available study. It is used to explain and summarized current state of knowledge and complete study on particular topic on basis of available literature, which are found from books, magazine, and journals. This type of literature can be found from published and unpublished literature.

Thomas (2001) has studied the state of application of IT in the public library field in India, their future plans and the

problems they face in this process. The findings of the study revealed that 8% of the libraries computerised are two State central libraries, two district libraries and a voluntary organisation library. They are T.S. Central State Library, Chandigarh; H. K. M. State Library, Bhuvaneswar; District Central Library, Coimbatore; City Central Library, South zone, Bangalore; and Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda Library, Bhuvaneswar. Only 28% libraries were planning to automate. The major problem the library encountered was with regard to updating of databases and correctness of entries. **Pradhan (2012)** in her study elaborated on the modernization aspects of management libraries using technologies. The study is focused on resource sharing and automated services in management libraries. **Malik and Mahmood (2013**) focus on automation and digitization in university libraries, it also examine the present status and challenges faced in the process of digitization. Paper also discussed about different aspects of document conversion from print to electronic format. He found that computer technology is inevitable for library. He concluded that digital technology would bridge the gap in digital divide and will work for uplifting the level of knowledge management. **Veeranjaneyulu and others (2017)** studied the present status of Agricultural University libraries in library automation and digitization of libraries. The parameters investigated in the agricultural libraries include the status of automation, the status of digitization, membership in KrishiKosh institutional repository, membership within the AgriCat Union Catalogue, and implementation of RFID technology. The study reveals that 80% of the libraries are automated.

4. Statement of the Problem

The Present study is focusing on 'Automation Status of District Libraries: Special reference to North Gujarat.

5. Purpose of the Study

The purposes of the study are as under:
1) To know the status of library automation of district library of North Gujarat state.
2) Which library software and module is using for Library Automation for the district library of North Gujarat state.
3) Area of Automation of district library of North Gujarat state.
4) Future Automation plan of district library of North Gujarat.

6. Scope of the Study

The present study has been focused only the respondents of district libraries of North Gujarat state.

7. Methodology

The study is mainly focused on status of Library Automation in District library of north Gujarat, survey method was found more suitable for the study. Hence, Survey method was endorsed for the present work. There are two commonly used tools for collecting the data in survey research; the Questionnaire method, and the Interview method. Primarily

questionnaire is used as a major tool in this study. However, this has been complemented with the informal interviews as and when required. The questionnaire were distributed to 5 libraries out of all libraries the study has received all 5 responds.

List of Libraries included in this Study

No.	Name of Library
1.	Government District Library, Palanpur
2.	Government District Library, Himatnagar
3.	Government District Library, Patan
4.	Government District Library, Mehsana
5.	Government District Library, Gandhinagar

Overall Respondents of this study

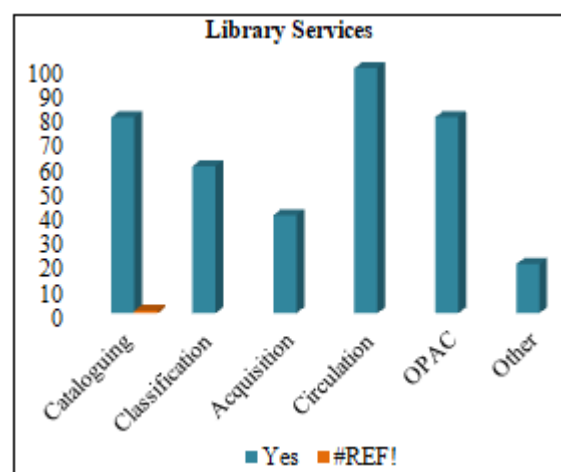|	*Respondents*	*Percentage*
Yes	5	100
No	0	0
Total	**5**	**100**

8. Data Analysis

Table 1- Present Status of Automation Library
Table 1- Present Status of Automation Library

From the research analysis, above table and chart shows that all 5(100%) District libraries of North Gujarat are fully automated.

Module is using for Library Automation:

Table 2: Module is using for Library Automation

Library Services	Yes	Percentage	No	Percentage	Total Percentage
Cataloguing	4	80	1	20	100
Classification	3	60	2	40	100
Acquisition	2	40	3	60	100
Circulation	5	100	0	0	100
OPAC	4	80	1	20	100
Other	1	20	4	80	100

Chart 2- Module is using for Library Automation
The above table and chart shows that
- The all Government District Libraries using computerize "circulation" module for daily rutting works.
- Cataloguing modules 4(80%) are highly used when compared to other modules.

- Acquisition modules 2(40%) are low used when compared to other Library automation modules.
- Classification modules are use which is 3(60%)
- OPAC Modules are use which is 4(80%)
- Only 20% of government District Libraries have any other like R.F.I.D. System available in Library

Library automation Software used:

Table 3: Library automation Software used

Software	Respondents	Percentage
SOUL2.0	5	100
CDS/ISIS	**0**	**0**
WINISIS	0	0
E-Granthalaya	0	0
Libsys	0	0
Any other	0	0
Total	5	100

Chart 3: Library automation Software used

The above table and chart shows that the all Government District Libraries 5(100%) areusing SOUL2.0

Hardware's are available in your library

Table 4: Hardware's are available in your library

Hardware	Yes	Percentage	No	Percentage	Total Percentage
Computer	5	100	0	0	100
Scanners	4	80	1	20	100
Printers	5	100	0	0	100
UPS	5	100	0	0	100
Any Other	2	40	3	60	100

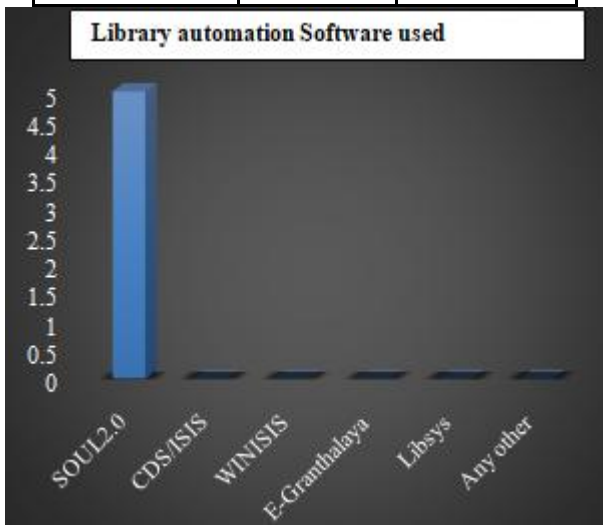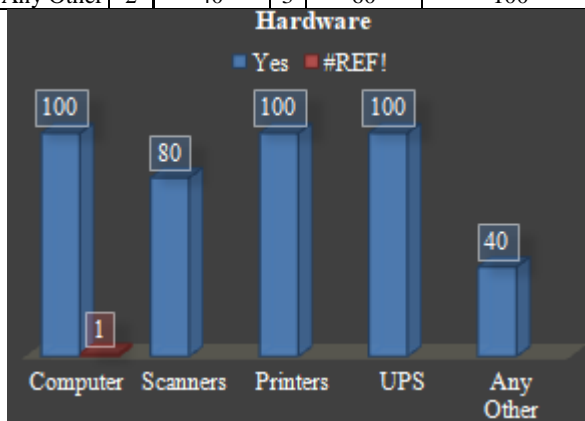**Chart 4:** Hardware's are available in your library

The above table and chart shows that
- The all Government District Libraries have 5(100%) computers, Printer and UPS in their Library.
- Scanners are used 4(80%) Government District Libraries.
- Only 40% of Government District Libraries have any other Hardware like Xerox machine and barcode reader available in Library
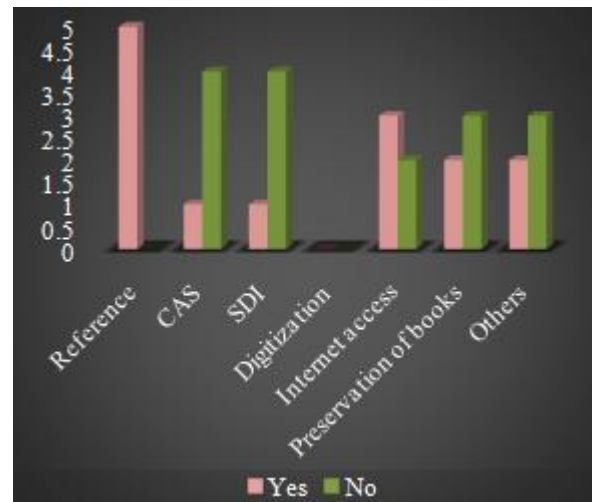
Library Services Providing

Table 5: Library Services Providing

Library services	Yes	Percentage	No	Percentage	Total Percentage
Reference	5	100	0	0	100
CAS	1	20	4	80	100
SDI	1	20	4	80	100
Digitization	0	0	0	0	100
Internet access	3	60	2	40	100
Preservation of books	2	40	3	60	100
Others	2	40	3	60	100

Chart 5: Library Services Providing

Table and chart shows that
- The all Government District Libraries providing reference services for daily routine works.
- Internet access 3(60%) are highly service providing when compared to other library.
- Preservation of books 2(40%) Government library provides this service.
- Only 1(20%) government District Library provides CAS and SDI service.
- Digitization service not any Government District library providing

9. Findings

- All District library of North Gujarat are fully automated.
- About of 5(100%) are using soul2.0 software for automating the Library operations.
- The all Government District Libraries using computerize "circulation" module for daily routine works.
- OPAC and Cataloguing modules are equally use which is 4(80%) is highly used when compared to other modules.
- Classification modules are use which is 3(60%)

- Acquisition modules 2(40%) are low used when compared to other Library automation modules.
- The all Government District Libraries have 5(100%) computers, printer and UPS in their Library.
- Scanners are used 4(80%) Government District libraries.
- Only 40% of Government District Libraries have any other Hardware like Xerox machine and barcode reader available in Library.
- All Government District Libraries providing reference services for daily rutting works.
- Internet access 3(60%) are highly service providing when compared to other library.
- Preservation of books 2(40%) Government District library provides this service.
- Only 2(40%) Government District Library provides CAS and SDI service.
- Zero percent Government District Libraries has digitization service providing.

10. Suggestions

- This suggests reducing the major cost automation process in libraries to use open-source Operating Systems.
- Librarians should use standard cataloguing format which will be helpful for resource sharing and copy cataloguing.
- The campus create awareness among the users about the use of library catalogue (OPAC) for the effective utilization of library resources the facility should be provided with both within and outside
- Librarian should be used Serial control modules which will be helpful for Library
- All the libraries should provide all the services modules of library automation such as Acquisition modules, serial control, technical processing, web OPAC for better utilization of library resources.
- All Government District Library should Provide digitization service to their users

11. Conclusion

Today Library automation is very essential for all the libraries in the present era. The automated library can provide better library services to its users but a manual library can't do it the record-keeping activities and various report generation become very easy in an automated library system. But depends on its proper planning and execution the success of any library automation program Hence library professionals need to take the right initiatives in the right direction. Also, the selection of any software, the library staff should do a proper evaluation of the software Modules for better services.

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