



Status of Digital Library With Special Reference to College Library of Nagaon District (Assam): A Study

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Abstract

This paper discusses the various collection, services, facilities of digital libraries of Nagaon district, Assam. Three libraries are selected for the present study these are- Nowgong Collge, ADP College and Nowgong Girls College. In this study, three libraries are digitized with a good collections materials. It tries to identify the areas to be covered under digital conversion program of in its first phase.

Keywords: Digital library, Assam, College library, Automation.

I. Introduction

In this information age, technologies are playing vital role in academic development as well as socio-economic development. Information and communication Technology is moving so fast to deal with changes & challenges. Academic libraries are increasingly becoming digital conscious. In a digital library collection of every resources and every documents are organized in a digital mode so that user/student can find easily in an electronic mode. 15 years back LIS professional only spoke of automating the library activities. Recent advances in computer' storage & processing, communication technologies, e-products, networking, internet use have brought a revolutionary changes in functioning of the libraries (S.N. Singh).

The concept of digitalization of library materials or the concept of digital library in India was started in mid 1990s According to Gamage C. (2013), "Information seekers are no longer satisfied with only printed materials. They want to supplement the printed information with more dynamic electronic resources. Demands for digital information therefore, are increasing". Clifford Lynch (1995) defines digital library as- "System providing a community of users with coherent access to a large organized repository of information and knowledge. The digital library is not just one entity, but multiple sources are seamlessly integrated."

In India some academic libraries are starting digitization process and some have already started digitization mode. In the same case Assam, some libraries have already made their library in digital form. This study is about the digital library setting in the selected colleges of Nagaon district of Assam will be presented.

II. Objectives

To study the status of digitization in selected college libraries of Nagaon district.

To study about infrastructural services available in those college libraries required for digitization.

To identify the challenges if any, to the development of digital libraries in college libraries of Nagaon district.

III. SCOPE & LIMITATION OF THE STUDY

The study is limited to three college libraries of Nagaon district, Assam. The college libraries under the study are:-

Table 1. Name of colleges

Name of the college	Name of the College Library	Year of establishment
Nowgong College	Mahendranath Maihangdang Dekaphukan Library	1944
Anandaram Dhekial Phookan(ADP) College	Central Library	1959
Nowgong Girls' College	Mahesh Chandra Dev Goswami Library	1962

IV. METHODOLOGY

For the collection of data primary and secondary data were collected. Telephonic interview and personal observation technique were used to collect the data.

V. Data analysis and findings

Table 2 collections of selected libraries

Various collection	Nowgong college	ADP college	Nowgong girls college
Books	59373	49120	43895
Periodicals (Print)	18	27	26
Manuscripts	Nil	Nil	75
Rare Books	165	27	364
Audio Cassettes	Nil	15	48
CD-ROMs/Database	25	123	Nil
Reports	24	25	Nil

Library collection is the main strong point of a library. Table 2 shows that among the three selected college libraries nowgong college has a good collection of books (59373). In the same case ADP college has a good numbers of periodical(27). Only now gong girls college has manuscript collection (75), the other two libraries doesn't have any manuscripts collection. Again now gong college has good amount of rare books(165). Now gong college(25) and ADP college(123) have CD-ROMs. ADP college(15) and again girls college(48) have audio cassettes collection.

Table 3 Services offered by the libraries

Name of the colleges	Services						
	OPAC	ILL	References	SDI	CAS	Photocopy	Scan
Nowgong College	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
ADP College	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Nowgong Girls College	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

Table 3 shows that three of the college libraries have OPAC facility, reference services, SDI services, CAS services, photocopy and scan facility. ILL services offered by ADP college and nowgong college.

Table 4 E-resource collection by digital library

Types of e-resources	Nowgong college	ADP college	Now gong girls college
E-books	Y	Y	Y
E-journals	Y	Y	Y
N-list	Y	Y	Y
E-thesis	Y	Y	N
Online database	Y	Y	Y
Software	Y	Y	Y
Internet	Y	Y	Y

Table 4 shows that e-resources collection of the college libraries have e-books, e-journals, N-list, online database software, internet facility.

VI. Conclusion

Information technology has changed the world and has become one significant instrument for retrieving information a new days. Digitization projects have been important for college libraries aiming the digitization of books manuscripts, theses, dissertations, special collections, which are special in nature. Digitization process would change the scenario of libraries, also in Assam. In this study, three selected libraries should improve the collection of digital resources, improve digital library material, should use digital library software etc. We do hope that in future all remaining colleges will start digitization process so that user will be benefitted from it.

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