REVIEW OF RESEARCH

MODERNIZATION OF COLLEGE LIBRARIES-ISSUES AND CHALLENGES

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ABSTRACT:

Modernization is the introduction of new system for the gradual development of a society. The modern communication technology had led to significant changes in the information environment. This changes have forced the academic libraries to think seriously that how they can meet the challenges of the library in the 21st century. This lead to requirement of reorganizing and monitoring the resources and the library services with the help of information communication technology.

KEYWORDS: *Modernization, industrialization, academic libraries, e-learning, socialization.*

INTRODUCTION :

Modernization means to make something modern or to make something more modern or to make a person or organization to do things in more modern way.

The term modernization does not denote any philosophy or movement, but it only symbolizes a process of change. It is understood as a process which indicates the adoption of the modern ways of life and values. It was also described as a process that changed the society. It is an attempt from the people who are egger to adopt them to the present era. Ways of living conditions, styles in general.

According to M N Sriniivas "

Modernization is normally used in the sense that it is good, he preferred the term Westernisation which indicates the changes brought about in Indian society and culture as a result of over 150 years of British rule.

On the other hand , according to Yogendra Singh, it is broader than the two processes of Sanskritisation and Westernisation. It is not the possession of any one ethnic or cultural group. It belongs to the human as a whole.

Causes :

The following factors are having great role for modernization
i) Social equality:
Ii) Mass communication: The development of mass communication including newspaper, periodicals, magazines, TV, telephones, movies etc. is an important means of spreading modern ideas at a faster rate.

iii) Ideology based on Nationalism: The democratic system can be developed and strengthened along with the development of modernization.
iv)Charismatic leadership :A leader with extraordinary personality can inspire people to accept the modern values and ways of life.
v) Coercive governmental authority: A strong Government can adopt coercive measures to compel people to accept the modern ideas.
vi) Other factors are urbanization and industrialization and universal legal system.

Process:

The key understanding of modernization lies in the thought of it as a set of change that affect the society as a whole. It evolves a transformation of societal, political and economic organizations It applies to the individualist forms of

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organization of the western model as well as to the socialistic pattern of the Indian model. It can be identified that there are many dimensions of this process. The process has its economic, political, educational, technological, military, cultural and other faces.

Its pattern can be described in the following way:

i) It evolves a change from simple, traditional techniques.

ii) Agricultural shift from subsistence farming to commercial framing

iii) Industrial movement from the use of human and animal power towards the use of machine driven by non-human power.

iv) Societal changes from the farm and village centered to that of the industry and city centered one.

ROLE OF EDUCATION IN MODERNIZATION IN INDIA:

In education modernization implies many things. To an educationalist modernization means to spread education to produce educated and skilled citizens and train an adequate and competent intelligentia. To another it implies more teaching aids to make teaching –learning effective.

The followings can be considered as the role of education in modernization:

i) Increased production:

ii) Equalisation of educational opportunity

iii) Promotion of emotion and national integration

iv) Democratic values

v)International understanding

vi)Synthesis between scientific and cultural values.

MODERNIZATION OF LIBRARIES:

i) Libraries in the Pre-industrial age: The traditional libraries in this age had the manuscripts and printed materials were kept in an organized way like cataloging, classification, indexing, abstracting etc. But due to the rapid publication in R& D sector those traditional services were not enough and library professionals were facing to adopt new technologies.

ii) Libraries in the Post-industrial age: Industrialization increased the importance of education and in the post-industrialization period it was known as education industry. With the emerging new subject areas like radio management, programme- anchoring, news anchoring, fashion designing etc. users needed advanced academic tool. Thus the trend in the educational system was fast changing and taking the shelter of ICT application to support online and distance learning. With the introduction of e-learning programme the users were interested in e-publications as well as in internet-based resources. The library professionals were adopting different policies to face the challenges in that new era.

Limitations of traditional libraries: The followings are some of the limitations of traditional libraries:

Printed sources only

More repetitive tasks which needs more staff

Limitations of cataloging

Required more man-power and finance for providing services to the users

Later it was found that applications of new technologies are very effective and suitable to remove these barriers.

Academic libraries – status in ICT era: Academic libraries mainly include the school, college and university libraries which are considered as the heart of the institution. The academic libraries and library professionals are changing constantly since the past few decades by adopting new technologies for providing and handling information. The academic libraries are shifting their collections and services based on e-resources.

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Information technology changed the scenario and eliminated the weaknesses of traditional libraries. The major benefits are:

- Pinpointed information and its delivery quickly in e-form
- Use of internet and network-based information
- On-line search facilities of international databases
- Preservation of rare documents in e-form
- Consortium and subscriptions of e-journal at economical prices
- Efficient management of information and information services to the users.

Factors responsible for modernization of college libraries:

College library is a hub for education and learning for the students.The following factors are mainly responsible for Modernisation of the college libraries:

1. Increasing growth in publications world-wide
2. Raising cost in printed publications
3. Limited and sufficient library budget
4. Demands of pin-pointed and information from the college students and the teacher
5. Globalization of the information and information resources, development of databases etc.

Expectations from the users of the college libraries:

The users of the digital age have the following expectations:

- E-resources along with printed materials
- Active learning facilities
- User centric and customized service
- Wikis, IRs mega information storage at desktop
- Access to information using web tools

Efforts to meet the challenges:

In this present age librarians needs to function in different way to meet the challenges in the profession in the following way:

- Transformation of libraries to gateway of information
- Development of specialized databases in the institution as well as institutional repositories.
- Conducting use surveys for understanding the need
- Following best practices in professions like information and technological literacy initiatives, life-long learning etc.
- Capacity building and acceptance of new skills.

Modernization activities :

Academic libraries are trying to modernize them by automation, using internet, Bar-coding system, Web page library, Blogs. For security RFID, CCTV are mandatory. Current developments in ICT, information storage and retrieval systems, use of internet, web technology have already indicated the future trends ,but still more advanced factors need to be developed like use of open systems, cloud computing, standardization, networking of libraries at mega level using consortium etc.

How to develop a Modern College Library

The aim of library is to provide quality user oriented services in response to information needs of the users. These all require some action plan to develop a modern library. The can be stated as follows:

i) Analysis of the existing structure of the library.
Ii) Identification of the sectors require to be modified
iii) Planning the strategies for modernization

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iv) Estimate the budget

v) Justification to the authority of the parent organization i.e. governing body

vi) Implementation of the plan through some phases such as

-Automation, RFID

-Digital library initiatives

- Virtual library and remote access

- Network library and resource sharing

- Use of social media to reach the target users- Groups can be created in Whatsapp, Facebook for marketing or sharing library services.

vii) Estimate resource to be included
Socialisation of Modern College libraries

Modernisation can not be successful without active implementation of socialization. Suppose modern library has its all resources , technology and tools for using the resources but the users are not aware or so much benefited by all of them Then what will happen, All those efforts will be in vein. To solve this type of problem it is require to marketing of the library services and the active participation of core users and the inclusion of the other users of that particular locality where the library is situated. Different kinds of extension services like literary talks, exhibition can attract the users to the library. Students related activities like career counseling can be attached with library . Academic library may be situated in urban or rural based area the community of that area should be benefited by the library. The should be inspired to use the library resources . That will be one of the best practices and in this way a modern library will be the part of the local society . That is the socialization of the modern library.

CONCLUSION:

The process of modernization includes itself the gradual development of a vast new system of social structure and psychological traits. As a result of a society becomes more productive and prosperous. Academic libraries are considered to be as the temple of knowledge which is a storehouse of information and the librarian as its "Custodian". As the traditional libraries do not fulfill the needs of the present information society, it needs to be modernized in all respect,. But it also should be kept in mind social inclusion is a vital point in modernization. Because if we consider a library is modernized in all respect such as its resources, its technology, tools, it is compulsory for that library to include its social community to be benefited by that library.

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