Information Literacy in the College Libraries : A Point of View

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Due to development in Science and Technology today, there have been rapid increase in creation of the reading materials. Day to day, we can find that, there is a creation of information through different sources. The College Librarian has to provide such information to the Students, Teachers, ResearchScholars, in a speedy manner. The Librarian has to provide such information to every reader personally but it may not be possible due to busy schedule of the Library. The educational program Information Literacy is being prepared from the year 1980. The information Literacy is notan earlier for of the tabulated course work taught in the educational Library.

When the student crosses the boundary of school education and enters into the world of college life, he needs guidance. They need itbecause; they have to face the competition in the various exams and needs to do practice to deal with it. The students take admission in the college with an aim to build career. The University plans various courses to assist the students to face such challenges. The teachers too help and guide the students and try to take out something good out of them. The class room teaching does not help much to the students to sustain in the competitive world and they need to be self reliant in gaining knowledge at their own. Therefore, the college library should be oriented to the direction so that the students derive much benefit from the Library. The today's need is to make student aware of this information explosion and make them literate in this regard.

What is information?

The knowledge of events in the past, present and future and its written or arithmetic reflection any form is called knowledge.

According to Hopes, the knowledge and information arises out of the analysis of the facts with experience of the thought process, imagination and other psychological things.

The facts which have occurred in the past, present and future and affected the thinking process and imagination give a rise to the social welfare and develop the thought process. The need of this proce is more considering the technological development and information explosion. Therefore, each a everyone need to be aware of the information Literacy.

The Characteristics of the Information

a)   If is trustworthy.
b)   If is meaningful
c)   It contains surprising elements
d)   It conforms to the tradition of early knowledge.
e)   It is dynamic.

What is (Information) Literacy?

Literacy means knowledge about importance, usefulness & utility of any factor. It also mea reading writing and knowledge about arithmetic.

The Information Literacy consists of two words information & Literacy whch means informati Literacy.

Need of the Information Literacy

The following are the reasons for Information Literacy :

a)   Ignorance of the readers about the information tools.
b)   Quick spread of information
c)   Information Explosion.
d)   Variety in information sources.
e)   Use of new resources in limited time
f)   Use of new tools and Technology in the Library.

All the information tools in the library need to be fully utilized. No information sources are to ignored, as any information may contain some knowledge. The reader should not be deprived of s such knowledge. Therefore, it is necessary that, the college Library should implement Information Litera

The Methods of Implementing Information Literacy in the College Libraries

The following methods are generally adopted:

a) To divide the group of readers and to provide them information about the books and facilities personally

b) To publish the information brochure of the Library, "KNOW YOUR LIBRARY".

To prepare the slides on the information about the Library and to show it to the students in the class rooms, making them information literate.

Organisation of the Library Information Literacy

In the today's world of technological development, it has become necessary to execute the program of Library information Literacy to develop the character of the readers and complete the Library process with a view to develop reading habits among the readers. Various programs are organized in which the information about e-books, e-journals, e-governance & e-commerce and available sources is disseminated to the readers through the following ways.

a) **Library Guidance** : The reader in the Library is to be provided with the information about the Library of the beginning of the session. The Librarian should personally visit the class rooms and should provide information to the newly admitted students about the available resources in the Library, like Literature, Journals, Magazines, and Newspaper etc. This will lead to maximum footfalls in the Library and readers will come to know the rules of the Library and its usages.

b) **Organisation of Workshop** : A workshop of 2-3 hours may be organized to introduce the new technology and concept, to the students by the experts in the field. This will solve some of their problems.

c) **Books Exhibition** : The Books Exhibition helps the students and research scholars to know about the sources available in the Library in the sphere of entertainment; and information. The book exhibition is the solid medium for this purpose.

d) **Guidance about Employment and Career** : Various advertisements appearing in the Newspapers are pasted in the notice Board. What course would be beneficial for career enhancement can be determined and this will attract the student to the Library.

e) **Guidance about Competitive Exams** : In the today's world, there is competition in every field. The Library will provide information to its readers. What book is to be referred to what exam and what book is available for what exam need to be informed to the students and readers. Once in a year, competitive exam practice is conducted.

f) **Readers' Forum** : The Readers' Forum is to be established of the regular visitors to the Library. Through this forum, programs like, competitive exams, debate competition, Essay contests, reading competition etc. are organized. This will pave the way for growth in reading habits and students will make most of the use of Library.

g) **Internet** : The computer Literacy in the today's competitive world, has carved a niche in the information age. The students are taught to use internet for the educational purpose which includes, software, credit, debit, ATM e-banking, e-Journals, and other information about the subjects like Tourist Education, Scientific and also entertainment.

h) **Transaction of Books** : Issue and receipt of books is an important function of the Library. Every student of the college is made the member of the Library and they are made familiar to the rules of the Library and made Information Literate.

i) **New Arrival** : The new arrivals of books and Journals are displayed in the Library. This published list gives the information to the students and makes them information Literate.

j) **Information about Seminars, Conferences and Workshops** : The information about the Seminars, Conferences and Workshops are given to the readers and the concerned e-mail, website and Brochure is displayed on the Notice Board. Through this information, the readers can send their papers and attend the activities.

Capabilities Developed Through the Information Literacy

The following capabilities are developed :

a) **Tools Literacy**: The capability to use electronic media like use of reference books LD-ROM, Computer and printer are developed.

b) **Resource Literacy**: This helps to understand the nature of information in its shape and place and can be used on hide and offline.

c) **Research Literacy** : The Researcher develops the capacity to make use of information Technology to prepare Project Reports and gather other information.

Information Literacy makes it strong and powerful

The following objectives are achieved through information Literacy:

Information Literacy:

In the today's developing age, the work of the college librarian has become totally paperless and he has to provide services based on the modern tools and technology. For this, he has to use his knowledge and expertise in forwarding the information to the readers. He should have skills and ability to influence the readers. The valuation and analysis of his requirement from the readers need to be obtained and presented to the readers. All these factors will always make the readers information literate. This will also help him to develop various capabilities and he will use the Library lifelong effectively for the best of its use.

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