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LIBRARY AUTOMATION: A STUDY REPORT

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Abstract:

The idea of mechanization in libraries has changed the situation of library the executives. It is an ongoing pattern in the improvement and development of library. Mechanization has changed the library activity and its usefulness in to a quick to quicker mode. Customers require not to visit rack to rack to discover a record. They simply get their reports sitting before a work area. Robotization has dispensed with the labor. It is giving programmed benefit. Here this article will examine about the idea of robotization, its prerequisite and different segments mechanizes library. A concise analyzation has experienced about programming bundle which are accessible for computerization purposes.

INTRODUCTION:

Present Generation is experiencing a Science & Technology Era. Due to advancement of Science & Technology, particularly Information Technology everything has gone in to a sea change .Library is not an exception to such change, rather it can be said that the library scenario has been drastically changed in terms of collection, organization and services. Simultaneously, user's demands and attitudes have changed in its kinds. Also the information seeking behavior of user has dynamically changed. They want relevant, authentic information very quickly within a single place at their hand .This concept has posed challenges for library professionals for quick delivery of library services and information. This development in library field has brought the idea of Library Automation.

Automation is defined as the technology related with the design and development of process and system .It minimizes the human labour in their operation and performs the operations which are routine and repetitive in nature. Automation is the name given to an automatic system of working. Automation of library systems leads to better output, cost effective, and ensures better work environment. It is a process that changes the library world in terms of both technologies and involvement of people.

Concept of Library Automation

Library automation encompasses the housekeeping operation of the library which are performed by computers .It can be defined as the application of automatic and semi automatic data processing computers which perform traditional library house keeping activities such as acquisition, circulation, cataloguing,

reference and serial control. Library automation makes materials easier for patrons to locate as well as allowing staff to perform better user services by facilitating a multitude of staff tasks such as acquisitions, cataloguing, circulation and reference. On the other hand, the financial and staff commitment needed to move to an automated system or from one system to another is substantial and long lasting. Automation cannot be approached as a panacea for systemic problems in a library.

Needs for Library Automation

Though library automation has yet to take off by the majority of libraries, it is the proper platform to visualize the services of library. Now a days no user has time to search the required and relevant information from the dense heap of information collection .They have no time to go shelve by shelve to pick up a book . So it necessitated for library automation. In most of libraries are yet to be automated. The various factors that necessitated changing a manually operated library system an automated library system are as follows.

- ♠ Information explosion has resulted in the production of a large amount of literatures in every field of knowledge .Accordingly the print documents are coming to the library in huge numbers which is not possible for a library to manage the collection manually.
- ♠ Record keeping activities of library can be done effectively in automated environment.
- ♠ Issue, return and renewal of books can be performed quickly.
- ♠ Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC) is a powerful tool of library automation
- ♠ Cost effectiveness

What to be automated

All routine works and services of the library can be automated through library automation. Besides in some automation software packages there are provisions for article indexing, abstracting etc. Basically the followings works of library are automated.

- a) Acquisitions related operation such as preparation of list, ordering of books, receiving, accessioning, invoice processing, payment request etc.
- b) Cataloguing of documents such as update title, generation of library cards, generation of barcodes, authority files etc.
- c) Circulation works such as membership registration/cancellation/renewal, issue/return/renewal of documents, fine collection ,reminders etc
- d) Serial Control such as registration of serials, serial details, subscription details, payment details, renewal of serials sec.
- e) Catalogue cards can be held online that is through OPAC

Requirements for Library automation

The basic requirements for any library automation Programmes are software hardware, manpower and finance. These four basic components are discussed below.

Software

The success of library automation mostly depends upon the nature of the software used for the purpose .The different types of available library software are of following types.

- a) In house development software or custom designed
- b) Software packages developed by commercial agencies, organizations and institutions.
- c) Cooperative Ventures.

Conclusion

Presently multi day Library Automation has turned into the popular expression in library calling and has turned into a minimum essential for any libraries. A robotized library can give better library administrations to their clients and can keep up the library all the more appropriately which a manual library can not do. The record keeping exercises and different report age turns out to be simple in a robotized library framework. Be that as it may, the achievement of any library computerization program relies on its legitimate arranging and execution. Subsequently library experts need to take right activities right way.

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