

USE OF LIBRARY MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE (LMS) IN ACADEMIC LIBRARIES: SPECIAL REFERENCE TO JALGAON DISTRICT, MAHARASHTRA

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Abstract *Automation of libraries are jumped after 2005. Most of libraries are prefer proprietary software instead of homemade or open source software. Libman and SOUL 2.0 are popular software packages in this region of country. Lending of books, Cataloguing and OPAC these services are provided through library software package. Libraries are using library software packages smoothly nowadays.*

Keywords: *Library Software, Library Automation, Libman, SOUL*

INTRODUCTION

The computer has turn out to be an essential stipulation in present-day society. Business corporation, organization and government agencies use the computers for various purposes and in diverse activities for instance data processing and management of information system. The computing power is available at comparatively cheaper costs. It has enhanced the use of computers in Indian library and information profession. The use of computers for library and information in India is getting accelerated with dedicated way.

LITERATURE REVIEW

The research-scholars have traced the history of Library management software in India, and noted down the experience of various national and research libraries of using LMS in their researches. Some of the articles are about the various modules used by libraries.

Haravu (1993) overviews the recent developments in library automation and networking in India. It deals with the issues of basic nature and contribution of library automation and networking. It is an on-going debate and discussion on the subject in the country. There is urgent need of getting the things done at maximum speed.

Chowdhury (1994) observes that the automated text retrieval and library management systems have not so far taken expected momentum in Indian libraries. He

presents Indian scenario by presenting a brief overview of 10 selected original packages, namely CATMAN, CDS/ISIS, LIBRARIAN, LibSys, MAITRAYEE, MECSYS, NIRMALS, SANJAY, TULIPS, and WILISYS. On the basis of cost, he prefers CDS/ISIS, along with SANJAY with some further modifications, for most Indian libraries.

Malwad (1995) undertake the survey of readymade software packages which are available in the market for a wide range of applications such as library housekeeping operations, information storage and retrieval. Their abilities vary, prices vary and their versions are getting modified. Selection of suitable software package is a crucial in library automation systems. The selection is based on aims and objectives, explicit requirements of the organization, its environment, budget, users' aptitude.

Singh (2001) studies the present state of computerization in six IIT libraries (Bombay, Delhi, Guwahati, Kanpur, Kharagpur and Madras). He has dealt with the aspects such as hardware, software, applications, databases, CD-ROMs, online search services, networking and marketing of products and services. He takes in to consideration their future plans. The data collection is done through questionnaires. Moreover, the annual reports and other primary documents of the libraries were examined.

Mukhopadhyay (2002) discusses the development of library management software over the past eras. He studies the characteristics and trends of software with special reference to packages available in Indian setting. He compares services

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and facilities incorporated in library automation packages with the help of tables and appendices.

Lihitkar (2011) describes an inclusive features, facilities and services offered by the various library automation software packages in India. The reliability of library software packages is assessed on the basis of their salient features and on the basis of the facilities available in it. As a result, he ranks each facility as per its features. SOUL software stands first among all ten software products. It is followed by Libman and LibSys.

Ansari (2017) highlights the status and application of an automated cataloging system in central university libraries in North India. There are varying levels of progress with respect to application of a cataloging system. The help automation makes the users satisfied by way of easy retrieval. It has removed incongruities and set a inclination for standardization. Besides, staff is found inclined for an automated environment.

Ramesh Babu (2003) examines features provided in online public access catalogue OPACs in Tamil Nadu. It accomplishes that the design and development of OPACs should be reinforced to offer effective access to library resources.

Kapoor (2007) has done the comparative analysis of the functionality of five web-based OPACs available in Indian academic libraries such as the web based OPACs of Libsys, VTLS's iPortal, NewGenLib, Troodon, and Alice for Windows. The web-based OPACs investigated offers wide facilities such as searching by author, title, control number and by keywords. But it lacks of federated search facilities.

OBJECTIVES

- To know the level of library automation in college libraries of Jalgaon district Maharashtra.
- To understand the utility of automated library operations in select college libraries.
- To know about the faculty and student awareness about library automation.

DATA COLLECTION

Jalgaon district is located in North of Maharashtra. Kavayitri Bahinabai Chaudhari North Maharashtra University is located at Jalgaon. The data is collected from aided and non-aided 51 libraries of Arts, Commerce and Science colleges situated in Jalgaon district and affiliated KBCNMU, Jalgaon. The mode of data collection is structured questionnaires, personal visits/observations which are analyzed, interpreted and presented through tables, graphs.

ANALYSIS

Total 51 questionnaires were distributed among all 51 Arts, Commerce and Science colleges. Out of distributed 51 questionnaires 36 questionnaires (71%) are received to the researcher 33 out of 36 colleges (92%), who responded, are found to be using one or another Library Management Software. The majority of colleges are aided (Total number 33-92%) and other are un-aided (Total number 3-8%).

Services Offered by the Targeted Libraries

Table 1

Sr. No.	Services	Facility used in Number of Colleges	%
1	Lending	36	100%
2	Reference	36	100%
3	Inter Library Loan	36	100%
4	Special Bibliographies	11	31%
5	CAS/SDI	15	42%
6	Indexing/Abstracting	13	36%
7	Reprographic	24	66%
8	Literature Search	17	47%
9	Online Information retrieval	22	61%
10	Translation	04	11%
11	Others	04	11%

Availability of Computers in the Library

Table 2

Number of Computers in the Library	Number of Colleges	Percentage
More than 30	01	03
16 to 30	01	03
11 to 15	02	06
6 to 10	13	36
1 to 5	19	52
Total	36	100%

All the colleges have computers but their number varies drastically. Number of computer terminals should be increase in college libraries where very few computers are available for staff and for students.

Automation of Library

The 42% (14) college libraries are automate in between 2011 to 2015. While 11 college libraries (33%) are started automation process in 2006 to 2010. 07 college libraries

(22%) are get automate in 2015 to 2019. Only one college library (03%) is automated in 2001 to 2005.

Sequence of Automation of Different Sections

As per the observation, 25 libraries give 1st preference to cataloguing module while 07 libraries give 2nd preference to it and one library gives 3rd sequence of preference. Circulation is the module where no library gives 1st preference to use, while 10 libraries give 2nd preference and 09 libraries put it on 3rd preference. 07 and 02 libraries are given 4th and 5th preference to use in library. Acquisition module is used with 1st preference by 07 libraries and 2nd preference by 03 libraries. Another 07 libraries give 3rd preference of use. 02 college libraries give 4th preference and another 02 libraries give 5th preference. One library gives 6th preference to acquisition module. OPAC receives 2nd preference by 11 libraries and 3rd preference by 09 libraries. 07 and 01 library give 4th and 5th preference of use. Serial control module is not used at 1st and 2nd preference by any library. 02 libraries use it at 3rd preference and 05 libraries give it 4th preference and 04 use it on 5th preference. One library on 6th position. Administration module is used with 1st preference by one library. None gives 2nd preference to it while 02 libraries give 3rd and 4th preference of use. Whereas 5th and 6th preference given by 07 libraries and 04 libraries respectively.

It is concluded that, all 33 studying libraries use cataloguing module. 29 libraries use circulation while 28 use OPAC. Acquisition and administration are used by 22 and 16 respectively. Serial control is least used module by college libraries in Jalgaon district.

Availability of Internet Connection with Speed

Table 3

Sr. No.	Speed	Number of Colleges	%
1	Less than 02 mbps	03	09
2	02 to 05 mbps	05	15
3	05 mbps to 10 mbps	06	18
4	More than 10 mbps	19	58
	Total	33	100%

Status of Software

Table 4

Sr. No.	Software	Number of Colleges	%
1	Home made	02	06
2	Proprietary	31	94
3	Open Source	00	00
	Total	33	100

Software Used by Colleges in Jalgaon District

Table 5

Sr. No.	Name of Software	No. of Colleges
01	Libman	15
02	SOUL 2.0	09
03	Library Manager	02
04	Autolib	01
05	Dev Soft	01
06	E-granthalay	01
07	Library Management	01
08	Vriddhi	01
09	Homemade	02

Libman and SOUL 2.0 are preferred by the college libraries in Jalgaon district.

Source of Funding for Software

It is observed, 26 libraries (79%) get funding from its parent institute. 06 libraries (18%) get funding from UGC, New Delhi. While one library (03%) using homemade software so funding is not needed to it. State or Central Governments do not offer any kind of financial assistance.

Selection of Criteria of the Software

Table 6

Sr. No.	Criteria of Selection	Number of College	%
1	Based on experience of other libraries	22	67
2	Recommended by computer specialist of your organization	07	21
3	Insistence by library committee/ Head of the Institute	17	53
4	After seeing demonstration of various library software packages in your library/ conferences/exhibition.	18	55
5	Less costly in comparison with other library software	10	30

Libraries follow one or more criterion while selecting the software. The experiences and feedback of the other libraries play crucial role in the selection.

The Nature of the Package Purchase

This table refers, nature of the package purchase by library.

Table 7

Sr. No.	Nature	No. of Colleges	Percentage
1	Integrated software package	32	97
2	Modules of library software package	01	01

Format of Package

30 libraries (91%) get software package in the form of CD, 02 (06%) libraries receive in DVD while one library (03%) in Pen Drive.

Nature of External Support Provided by the Vendor

Table 8

Sr. No.	Nature of Support	Colleges Receiving Support	%
1	Installation Support	33	100
2	Working manual/sample database	25	76
3	Whether the documentation/reference manual is of practical use	31	94
4	Whether the manual has table of contents, glossary, index, example, sample, screen etc.	17	53

Maintenance Support by the Vendor

Table 9

Nature of Maintenance Support	Colleges Receiving Support	%
Any licensing agreement with vendor	23	70
Is there a warranty?	23	70
Did the administration of your organization approve the contract?	24	73
Whether you have entered into annual maintenance contract with vendor	11	33

Nature of Amount of AMC

Table 10

Sr. No.	Nature of Amount (in Rs.)	No. of Colleges	Percentage
1	More than 5000	07	64
2	2000 to 5000	03	27
3	Less than 2000	01	09

07 out of 11 libraries (64%) spend the amount more than Rs. 5000/- as AMC charges; while 03 libraries (27%) spend Rs. 2000 to 5000 as AMC and one college library (09%) spends AMC under Rs. 2000/-. 22 out of 33 of studied college libraries (67%) do not get AMC. This is harmful for their software package. It is suggested that a greater number of college libraries should go for AMC.

Training and Data Conversion

So far as the medium of retrospective conversion of existing documents in library, it is seen that 25 libraries (76%) do retrospective conversion at the college library itself, while 08 libraries (24%) prefer to do it through the vendor.

Working Person in the Institute

Table 11

Statement	Library Staff	%	Other Staff	%
If yes, who did the job?	23	92	02	08

There are 25 libraries have done retrospective conversion at the institute. Above given table shows that 23 libraries (92%) done by staff of library while 02 libraries (08%) got completed this job by other staff of institute.

Cost of Conversion by Vendor

Table 12

Sr. No.	Nature of amount	No. of Colleges	Percentage
1	More than 20000	00	00
2	10000 to 20000	02	25
3	Less than 10000	00	00
4	Free/ Covered under AMC	06	75

25/33 college libraries done retrospective conversion by institute itself. While 08 libraries have done through vendor. This table shows cost of conversion by vendor. 06 libraries (75%) are get done through vendor free of cost or the cost is covered under AMC. 02 libraries (25%) costs it between 10000 to 20000.

Barriers during Retrospective Conversion

29 libraries (88%) does not face any problem during retrospective conversion. While 04 libraries (12%) faced some problems during retrospective conversion.

Time Duration for Retrospective Conversion

Table 13

Sr. No.	Duration of Time	No. of Colleges	Percentage
1	More than 12 months	02	06
2	07 to 12 Months	05	15
3	04 to 06 Months	09	27
4	Up to 03 Months	16	49
5	Not Applicable	01	03
	Total	33	100

Nature of Customization

So far as customization is concerned 30 libraries (91%) have not done customization in software. While 03 libraries (09%) get customization done by supplier according to libraries' requirement.

Nature of Modification of Existing Software

27 libraries receive modification of existing software free of cost while 06 libraries (18%) get modification against payment.

Cost of Software

There is one college (03%) where cost is more than 75000/-06 libraries software costs ranging from 50001 to 75000. While 16 libraries cost is between 25001 to 50000 and 05 libraries cost it 15001 to 25000. 03 colleges spend up to 15000 and 02 colleges get free of cost because it is homemade software.

Updating Software

It is seen that 13 libraries (39%) purchased updated version of software while 20 libraries (61%) are using same version which purchase initially.

Frequency of Software Up Gradation

Table 14

Sr. No.	Frequency	No. of Colleges	Percentage
1	Quarterly	02	15
2	Half-Yearly	01	08

Sr. No.	Frequency	No. of Colleges	Percentage
3	Annual	01	08
4	Bi-annual	01	08
5	Periodical	08	61

Nature of Staff Training

Table 15

Sr. No.	Nature of Staff Training	No. of Colleges	Percentage
1	Free training by supplier	33	-
2	In house	30	91
3	Outside the Organization	03	09

Details of Course Attendance

Table 16

Sr. No.	Duration of Course in Days	No. of Colleges	Percentage
1	01 Day	06	18
2	02 Day	08	24
3	03 Day	10	31
4	04 Day	01	03
5	05 Day	02	06
6	07 Day	06	18

Status of Environment of Software

10 libraries (30%) have single user software with them while 15 (45%) libraries get multi-user software. 08 libraries (25%) having network environment software in library.

Software Facilities

Here analysis is done on various aspects of facilities provided by software.

Script Facilities

Table 17

Statement	Yes	%	No	%
Does it have facility for data entry in various script?	33	100	00	00

This table reveals that all 33 colleges (100%) have facility for data entry in various script.

Facility of Import/Export

Table 18

Statement	Yes	%	No	%
Does it have facility for importing/exporting of records in standard format MARC? CCF?	31	94	02	06

This table reveals that 31 colleges (94%) have facility for importing/exporting of records in standard format like MARC and CCF. While 02 colleges (06%) does not have facility of such.

LAN, WAN Support

Table 19

Statement	Yes	%	No	%
Does it support LAN, WAN?	31	94	02	06

There 31 colleges (94%) provide the facility of LAN, WAN support while 02 (06%) college library software does not have this facility.

Status of Barcode Generation

Table 20

Statement	Yes	%	No	%
Does the library have a provision of Barcode Generation?	29	88	04	12

Status of Internet Connectivity

21 library software (64%) are found to be connected to internet whereas 12 library software (36%) do not.

Status of E-mail Connectivity

13 library software (39%) having the facility of e-mail connectivity while 20 library software (61%) unable to provide this facility.

Status of Web OPAC

Table 21

Statement	Yes	%	No	%
Does the library provide Web OPAC?	18	53	15	47

Status of Cataloguing Website

Table 22

Statement	Yes	%	No	%
Does the library have a facility of cataloguing internet websites?	09	27	24	73

Status of Multimedia

08 library software (24%) have access to multimedia while 25 library software (76%) don't have access to multimedia.

Status of Download

11 library software gives facility to download data from external host and CD-ROM databases while 22 library software (67%) does not have such facility.

Freedom to the Users

24 library software (73%) allow users to customize display format depending on their outset, while 09 library software (27%) does not have this facility.

Provision for User ID's and Password

27 library software (82%) have provision for user ID's and password for it, while 06 library software are not providing this facility.

Supporting to RFID Tag

07 library software (21%) support to RFID tag while 26 library software (79%) does not support RFID tag.

Activities Supported in Package

Table 23

Sr. No.	What are the Activities Supported?	No. of Colleges	Percentage
1	Acquisition	30	91
2	Cataloguing	33	100
3	CAS	14	42
4	Circulation	33	100
5	Serials Control	24	73
6	SDI	05	15
7	OPAC	30	91
8	Information Retrieval	18	54

Services Being Provided through Library Software

Table 24

Statement	Yes	%
Recent Accession List	31	94
SDI/CAS	15	45
Database services	22	67
Bibliographies	20	61
Literature search	15	45
State of art reports	19	58
e-mail services	11	33
Content page service	06	18
Abstract and Indexing service	06	18
Document delivery service	07	21
OPAC	30	91
Web OPAC	12	36

Status of Training and Awareness to the Staff and Students

Programmes for Training and awareness regarding library software to the staff and students of institute are conducted. There are 30 libraries (91%) train and aware its readers while 03 libraries (09%) do not arrange any training session or awareness program.

If Yes, then

Table 25

Sr. No.	How do you Train your Users?	No. of Colleges	Percentage
1	Through Library Orientation Program	27	90
2	Through individual counseling	15	50
3	Through brief training session on use to OPAC and information retrieval	17	57

Feedback on the Performance of Software

Table 26

Sr. No.	Your Overall Opinion about the Function of the Software in Your Library	No. of Colleges	Percentage
1	Highly satisfied	03	09
2	Satisfied	26	79
3	Neutral	03	09
4	Dissatisfied	01	03
5	Highly dissatisfied	00	00
	Total	33	100

This table figure out the feedback on the overall performance of library management software used by library staff. There are 03 libraries (09%) highly satisfied with use of existing library management software. 26 libraries (79%) are satisfied with the use of software. 03 libraries (09%) neutral within use of software. 01 library is dissatisfied with existing software. And none of the studied library is highly dissatisfied with library software.

FINDINGS

After studying and analyzing the collected data, it is found that:

There were very colleges before 1960. Only after it, we can see the new colleges emerging. After the 2000, the professional colleges and traditional colleges do not get financial grant from state government. It is shown that a very few new colleges have come into existence in the two decades of 21st century. Majority of traditional colleges are grant-in-aid in nature.

All traditional services are provided by college libraries in Jalgaon district. Books Circulation, Reference Services and Inter Library Loan are very common services to all academic libraries. Apart from these services, the most of colleges provide reprographic service to their users. Literature search and Online Information Services are also provided as the internet facility is available easily to all colleges and its libraries. CAS/SDI and indexing and abstracting service are also provided by some of the colleges. Translation Service is seldom provided by libraries nowadays.

Almost all the college libraries have Library Management Software (LMS). The study shows that after 2005, library software are installed in libraries. Most of the libraries prefer proprietary software instead of homemade or open source software. Libman by MasterSoft Pvt. Ltd. Nagpur and INFLIBNET's SOUL 2.0 are the two software packages popular among the libraries in Jalgaon. Cataloguing, Circulation and OPAC are the modules which are commonly used by all libraries. While acquisition and serial control module are lesser used by library professionals in Jalgaon district.

Experience of other library professionals of using of library software package is a selection criterion for other libraries while purchasing software package for library. Parent organization and UGC, New Delhi are two primary sources of funding for library software package. Nearly all the libraries purchase integrated library software package instead of purchasing module by module.

Installation support and reference manual of practice are commonly provided by software vendor to libraries. License agreement with vendor is done while vendor gives specific warranty on the software. This kind of support is provided by vendor. It is also shown by study that much lesser libraries sign AMC with the vendor. For smooth functioning of software it is necessary to have AMC contract with vendor. It is recommended that numbers of colleges should go for AMC. Customizations in software should provide by vendor of software package. It is necessary for colleges to give better services to the patrons. Vendors provide the software as per need of libraries; it may be single user or multi-user and may be in a network.

Multiple script facility, LAN/WAN support, Barcode generation are commonly available facilities across the software packages. While Internet and E-mail connectivity, Web-OPAC are found in some of the software packages. Access to multimedia, download data from external hosts and cataloguing of websites are not usually provided in library software packages. Customize display format, creation of User's ID and Password are facilities available in software. Support of RFID tag is not available commonly in software package.

Various services can be provided by library software package. Recent accession list, OPAC, State of art reports are popular among the users of library.

Almost all the libraries make aware to their stakeholders with the library software. It is done through library orientation, individual counseling and organizing training sessions for using OPAC and information retrieval for students and faculty of colleges. It is shown in study that library professionals are satisfied with the library software package and it gives satisfaction to them to provide various services to readers of library.

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