

2020-21

CONTENTS OF ENGLISH PART - I

Sr. No.	Title & Author	Page No.
1	Role of Library in Developing Indian Society Mr. A. L. Bhalerao Asst. Prof. Sameer. More	1-6
2	Use and Implementation of ICT Facilities of Pravara Rural Education Society's Technical Colleges in Ahmednagar District: A study Dr. Anil B. Pawar	7-15
3	Role of Library Developing in Modern Society Prof. Ashok L. Pathade	16-21
4	Impact of COVID -19 on Indian Economy Dr. Bharti Sudarshan Goswami	22-28
5	Public-Private Partnership in Public Administration: The Indian Experience Dr. Biswanath Sarkar	29-35
6	Impact of Covid 19 on the Rural Life Mr. Borase Sudhakar Jagannath	36-40
7	Impact of Covid-19 Pandemic in Indian Economy Dr. Chalindrawar Ganesh Kishanrao	41-47
8	Cloud Computing Dr. D. T. Satpute	48-53
9	Role of library in Developing Indian Society Dr. Hirwe P. S.	54-58
10	State Wise Depiction of Covid-19 in India Dr. Kamble Vilas Janardhan Mr. Borase Sudhakar Jagannath	59-64
11	The Social Impact of Covid-19 Pandemic on India Dr. Kapure Rahul Dnyaneshwar	65-69
12	Impact of COVID -19 Pandemic in Various Indian Sectors Dr. Kharat Pandurang Bhinrao	70-74
13	Impact of Covid-19 on Higher Education in India Dr. Lavleen kaur	75-81

9. Role of library in Developing Indian Society

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Abstract

In this paper discusses the role of libraries developed in Indian society. The traditional library has been transferred to the digital library. The improvement of Information and Communication Technology plays a role in everyday library activities in the world. The libraries develop the role of users of the library and society. The society has followed in many ways and using the libraries. The use of the internet, new trends in books as an important role in the development of society. The library professionals are training and various skills are using the recent trend are academic and up to date in the digital environment.

Keywords: Library, developing Society, Information and Communication Technology

1.1 Introduction

The Indian society has several different meanings. It refers to people living together in a community, sharing common interests, and maybe having distinctive customs and institutions. The term 'society' may also be used to refer to various distinctive cultural groups of people. Put simply, we may view society as an aggregate of individuals living together as interdependent members in a highly structured system of communities

Psychologically, people identify themselves with the idea of being part of an organized group for unity and strength. The purpose of forming people into societies is therefore to provide protection, continuity, security, and identity

Libraries play a fundamental role in our society. They are the collectors and stewards of our heritage; they are organizers of the knowledge in the books they collect – adding value by cataloging, classifying, and describing them; and, as public institutions, they assure equality of access for all citizens. They take the knowledge of the past and present and lay it down for the future.

1.2. Definitional Analysis

1.2.1. Definition of Library

The word 'library' is derived from the Latin word "library" meaning 'a book place'. It originates from the term 'liber' which means 'a book'. According to the Oxford Companion to

the English Language – “Library is a collection of books, periodicals and/or other materials, primarily written and printed.”

Harrod's Librarian's Glossary and Reference Book defines 'Library' as

- 1) A collection of books and other literary material kept for reading, study, and consultation.
- 2) A place, building, room or rooms set apart for the keeping and use of a collection of books, etc.
- 3) A number of books issued by one publisher under a comprehensive title as the 'Loeb Classical Library', and usually having some general characteristic, such as subject, binding, or typography.
- 4) A collection of films, photographs and other non-book materials, plastic or metal tapes, disks, and programs.

1.2.2. Definition of Society

Society is a structured composition of individuals in groups, communities, institutions and associations that exist together for their mutual and for the benefit of humanity. Society may also be viewed as a process of reciprocal, social and complex relationships among all components of the society.

1.3. Collections of the Library Materials

Today collections of library materials are the digitization of digital library, Virtual Library and Hybrid library. The change of library collections in Electronic form books, E-journals, E-Papers and E-archives and all types of periodical material etc. The trend has changed into traditional library had been Digital Library. Digital publishing is developed and various formats of the library materials, for example, Scanning Xerox photo Copy.

1.4. The roles that libraries of the Society

The roles that libraries play in supporting modern societies can be grouped under five major categories below

- I. Higher education
- II. User education
- III. Recreation
- IV. Library as a place and
- V. Societal and cultural.

The societal roles that libraries have come to play include the democratization of information and knowledge, linking people to knowledge and information sources, information,

and awareness services to communities for empowerment. Library as a place has an attraction in itself as a library is used to run and organize academic, social, and cultural activities. Libraries serve as community centers with creative spaces suitable for a number of activities such as organizing cultural activities to promote social harmony. Libraries collect, preserve and conserve documents relating to socio-cultural aspects of the society for future generations. The following table gives in brief functional roles of the library in the society

1.4.1. The Role of the Higher Education

The following roles are as below

- Supporting education,
- teaching research, and training in the society by providing access to knowledge resources, materials and by providing referrals
- Dissemination and distribution of information/
- knowledge stored in such documents to stakeholders in education
- Serving as gateways to the collections of global libraries
- Supporting informal self education and learning

1.4.2. Roles of User education

- Building good reading habits
- Information literacy, computer literacy
- Encouraging use of library collections and services

1.4.3. The Roles of the Recreation

- Supporting the educational, civic, and cultural
- activities of groups and organizations

1.4.4. The Role of the Library as a Place

- Information commons – a library model for learning
- Offering architecturally designed building as a place that inspires interest in every one for academic pursuits

1.4.5. The Role of the Societal and Cultural

- The democratization of information and knowledge in the society
- Linking people to knowledge and information sources
- Giving under-privileged sections of the social awareness about opportunities available in the society for their social and economic development
- Community information resources
- Community awareness about State programmes such as mass literacy

- Organizing cultural activities to promote social harmony such as book discussions, lectures on important topics
- Supporting civic and cultural activities of groups and organizations
- Knowledge preservation for posterity
- Capturing and preserving traditional knowledge and
- Serving as a gateway to local and national government

1.5. Technical Supports

We need to improve the tools for the digitization and indexing of texts, particularly for non-English language and for old materials and fonts. Progress with the technological tools can contribute to reducing costs and to increasing efficiency of digitization. To do this, we need to combine the specialist knowledge in the Member States with the different stakeholder communities – enterprises, libraries and archives, universities and research organizations. Interdisciplinary cooperation in real centers of competence can help us advance the technologies for digitization in the world.

What users want from digital libraries are easy-to-find materials that are the most precise and complete answers to their queries, without having to navigate through pages of results or information on screen. This requires much more sophisticated and automatic indexing of the resources that will be in our future the need for Information and Communication Technology tool of digital libraries – audio, visual, Multimedia, Radio Frequency Technology, and Smart Card etc.

1.6. Library is a part of Developing Society

Libraries as social institutions have become an integral part of society. The library and society are interlinked and interdependent, not mutually exclusive. We all recognize that information plays a significant role in the all round human development, enabling peoples to develop their full potential with appropriate education and skills and preparing them for a transition from the education stage to the work stage. We also recognize that libraries provide the basic conditions for lifelong learning, independent decision-making, and cultural development of the individuals and social groups. Libraries as gateways to knowledge and culture also offer countless learning opportunities that can fuel economic, social, and cultural development.

1.7. The Change of Society

The library users are different types of children, Adult, Teenagers, and Senior Citizens etc. The use of the Internet accesses the online sources of Electronic books, E-journals, E-thesis, E-papers, etc. The communication shared the Electronic mail, Social Networks of Face book,

Twitter, Linked in, etc. The sharing ideas, downloading and uploading youtube, etc. The save the time of the reader in the library and get it the information. The library change of the Society has cultural, Readers Circle, Readers Forum, etc.

1.8. Conclusion

The Library professionals are today use of Information and Communication Technology in various activities of the libraries. A library is a service oriented organization created to facilitate access to learning resources, propagation of basic knowledge, preservation, and dissemination of information, human culture, and civilization. They develop various skills are using library roles. The Internet has connected with many computers and developing the network technology is the right time to use the right information of the reader.

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