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## A Critical Study on: Library Automation System

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**Abstract:** This article focused on the overview of library automation and its impact on library service. Use of computer make a library well organized and also lender quick and error free service. Library automation reduces of repeated manual efforts in library routines and also reduces manpower without decreasing the standard of library services. The explosion of information, storage of space, increasing users and also increasing of digital media use forced a library to use automation software. To automation a library lot of software is there but the use of software depend on according to the size of library .Implementation of online automation software is more advantageous than offline software. Proper funding is necessary for implementing any kind of software, although the 1<sup>st</sup> time it seems to be costly but its a most describable thing for any kind of library to work properly and smoothly. Using automation cataloguing, classification, circulation, serial control, reporting, database management etc.

**Key words:** Library automation, Library service, Library software

**Introduction:** Library is the heart of any society and also it plays a significant role in any institutions. Student, teacher, researcher and also general people learn many things and also explore their knowledge using the library. In the age of information communication technology, library uses a computer for their day to day work and simultaneously providing proper services, no duplication of work and so on. Several factors, some social , some technological and some economical have made it necessary to modernize the library activities. It can organize library resources and process them for effective use of library material. LIBSYS, SOUL, KOHA, etc. Library automation software are there, so a history has to choose software among these according to the size f the library and the features available in the software.

### Library Automation meaning:

The word 'Automation' has been came from a Greek word 'Automate' which means something which has power of spontaneous motion or self movement. The term 'Automation' was first coined by D.S. Harder in 1936.

Automation is a process of using the machinery for housekeeping operation and services in the library that consume time and manpower.

Encyclopaedia of Library and Information science 'Library Automation is the automatic and semiautomatic data processing machines to perform such traditional

library activities as acquisitions, cataloguing, and circulations. These activities are not necessary performed in traditional ways, the activities themselves are those traditionally associated with libraries, library automation may thus be distinguished from related fields' (Kent,1977)

### **Need of Library Automation:**

There are many reasons why library wants to automate. The reasons are following below:

- Digital information can access easily using the computer.
- Most number of users can access more information in very short time using technology in respect of manually.
- Using computer library can retrieve information globally within few minute.
- To avoid duplication of library day to day work
- It reduces manpower so staff can spread more information.
- It is time consuming.
- Traditional methods for handling the information are adequate.
- It offers flexibility.
- It works speedily and accurately.

### **Objectives of Library Automation:**

- Proper use of human resource.
- Implement new services.
- Quick and error free library day to day work.
- Time-saving
- Suitability for resources sharing and networking.
- Budgetary control.

### **Essentials for Library Automation:**

- A good collection of document.
- Proper finance.
- Suitable computer hardware.
- User friendly computer software.
- Staff training.
- User training
- A healthy environment.

### **Automated Library Services:**

Different Types of Library Automation services given below:

- Acquisition.
- Serial control.
- Current awareness service (CAS).

- Selective dissemination of information (SDI).
- Inter library loan.
- Reference service.
- Online search service.
- Indexing service.
- Stock verification.
- Database access

### **Different Types of Library Automation Software:**

First of all the factors determined that is automation needed for this library if yes what kind of software the library can effort to use and what features that software must have, the commonly use software is:

- ❖ **LIBSYS:** LIBSYS is developed by libsys corporation, 1984/ New Delhi. It is fully integrated multi-user library system. LIBSYS supports circulation, cataloguing serial control, OPAC, all kind of library work. It also supports ANSI, MARC21, Z39.50 server , Dublin core, AACR2 etc. standards. Last update version LIBSYS7.
- ❖ **KOHA:** koha was created in January 2000, katipo communications (presently koha communities) for the horowhenus library trust in New Zealand. Koha ia an unconditional gift. Koha based on LAMP architecture. Koha offers a fourth generation web based OPAC, Circulation, and management interface, full MARC 21 and UNIMARC support, branch transfers, self checkout, and integrated z39.50 server for resource sharing. Last update version 17.11.6 / 25 may 2018. Module of koha given billow:
  - Online public Access cataloguing(OPAC)
  - Acquisitions
  - cataloguing
  - classification
  - serials
  - reporting
- ❖ **SOUL:** SOUL software is developed by INFLIBNET centre, 2000/Ahmadabad. SOUL can perform both windows and Linux operating system. It is using client server architecture. Last update version SOUL2.0/2009.
- ❖ **SANJAY:** It is based on CDS/ISIS and it has been developed by DESIDOC for NISSAT/ 1992,It is more user friendly than CDS/ISIS. IT is an integrated package that enhances the capabilities of CDS/ISIS interfacing PASCAL Language. Last version 2.3/2000.

- ❖ GREEN STONE: Developed by University of Waikinto / August 2000. Last Update version 2.08/2017.
- ❖ LIBMAN: LIBMAN is developed by datapro consultancy service, pune. In this package members, issue and return, interlibrary loan, generation of overdue lists, computerization of figures, etc. Are possible.
- ❖ NEWGENLIB: Develop by venus solution/2005. This is user friendly Library management software. Last update version 3.1.2/ 15 may 2015.
- ❖ E-GRANTHALAYA: Develop by INSDOC/2000. Presently Maintained by National Information Centre (NIC). Last update version 4.0 .
- ❖ LIBRA: This software is multi-user, user friendly and multilingual available from Ivy system Ltd., New delhi. It facilitates all kind of housekeeping operation like circulation acquisitions, serial control etc.
- ❖ LIBRIS: It is developed by Frontier information Technology Pvt. Ltd., secunderabad, It is user friendly and menu driven library management system.
- ❖ LIBRARIAN: It is menu driven user friendly software operates both single and multi user. It is developed by soft-Aid, pune. It also provides all housekeeping operations.
- ❖ TRISHNA: It is developed by NISTADS, New Delhi. Trishna is a version of CDS/ISIS. It supports data creation, storage and retrieval in Indian languages.
- ❖ EVERGREEN: Developed by Jaharlal Neharu University (JNU)/sept. 2006,Delhi. Last update version 3.1.2, /27 May 2018.
- ❖ WINISIS; Developed by CDS/ISIS,1995. Version 1.31/ November 1998.
- ❖ AUTOLIB: Developed by Autolib software system/1998.
- ❖ EASYLIB: Developed by Easylib software Pvt. Ltd./1998 The first customer installation of Easylib / March 2001. In the Last 17 years Easylib has been installed more than 500 places.

#### **Advantages of Library Automation:**

Library automation has lots of advantages these are:

- It increases the productivity of work as well as services.

- Time saving.
- Development of human resources.
- Helpful in stock verification.
- Excellent control over circulation.
- Easy to access online documents.
- Reduce workload of library staffs.
- Eliminating human errors while performing in library.

#### **Problems of Library Automation:**

- Lack of fund.
- Lack of the quantity of trend personnel.
- Lack of proper or standard technology.
- Lack of suitable library management software packages.
- Selection of appropriate software packages.
- Lack of organization effort towards library.
- Lack of necessary equipment.
- Lack of proper maintenance and regular update of software.

#### **Conclusion:**

Now a day's library automation is the essential thing for any library. To provide good services at last time only happened in an automated library. But the success of any automated system depends on the proper planning for selecting a software package to automate a library according to the size and services of the library. After selecting software proper execution is needed. Keep the software package up to date for better service.

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