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Resource Sharing Through J-Gate Custom Content Consortia in ICMR Library & Information Centres

Introduction

Information is essential for national development. But the exponential growth of information in recent years has surpassed the ability of individuals and institutions to cope with it. How to tap this wealth of information in a systematic way so that it can be applied to increase knowledge, guide research, and formulate policy has become one of the most pressing problems of the 1980s. Libraries are the traditional repositories of knowledge. For centuries librarians have pursued the unattainable goal of gathering, in a single library, all the resources necessary for information and research in their country or institution. Once a fond hope, this has become an impossible dream. If libraries are to continue to meet the demands of their users, increased cooperation and resource sharing are vital. The need to share resources in order to cope with the increased flow of information is true in all countries, but is most acute in developing countries where resources are limited. Among the many priorities,

information services seldom rate very highly. This means that library budgets are correspondingly low. The rapid escalation in the price of materials, particularly periodicals, also means that already meager library budgets lose purchasing power from year to year. In addition, exchange control regulations in many countries make the purchase of foreign materials very difficult. The physical collection of documents is hindered by the lack of an efficient book trade, and by gaps and delays in reporting new publications in national bibliographies. Lack of facilities for rapid communication among national libraries and documentation centres, inefficient equipment for producing photocopies and microforms, poor telephone and postal services, and restrictive customs regulations also hamper access and exchange of information. Given these problems, resource - sharing, although not a panacea, offers attractive benefits.

Concept and significance of Resource Sharing

'Library Resources' is the term that applies to personnel, material, functions or activities available in a library for satisfying the human needs & demands to acquire their desired knowledge. Library co-operation is a very old concept and a form of resource sharing. The new

object of resource sharing has changed the old concept due to multi-dimensional growth of published documents through R&D activities in recent past, cost of the information, advancement of newly invented technologies for information processing and dissemination, etc.

For better utilization of resources, participating libraries should come together and co-operate in two broad areas: (a) developing the collection on shared basis; and (b) improving services for exploiting such collection. The conventional library is seriously affected by some barriers of information communication, such as indifference of the lending library, conservative attitude, distance, language, cost, time, etc. for inter-library loan. And there are also several constraints to resource sharing in the print environment as it existed till recently: (a) open access to shared

resource is not possible; (b) service depends upon library performance; (c) access to shared resource at a cost; (d) access to shared resource by price hike and devaluation in rupee value; (e) availability of library financial resources not possible; and (f) authenticity of collected information resources on Internet. The development in information science and technology (i.e. computer technology and telecommunication technology) is the only panacea to overcome all the barriers of resource sharing programme.

What is Consortium

It is equally true, as well as applicable, for all types of libraries / information centers not to hold the full stock of information resources or to procure all information which may be in demand by its clientele. Even not a single library/information centre can meet the thrust of knowledge of all the readers from its stock of information up to the fullest extent. To solve this problem library co-operation started long ago, such as, library networks, ILL, document delivery, library consortium etc. which are internationally accepted, but at present the more accepted system of resource sharing is library consortia that has come into existence with a wide coverage. This concept is considered to be a metamorphosis brought by the fast changing information environment

for supporting better library services through joint actions.

According to Oxford English Dictionary "Consortium means temporary cooperation of a number of powers, companies etc. for a common purpose. It is an association of similar type of organization / institution who are engaged for producing and servicing the common things / for providing services for a specific purpose of its users." Library consortium is a "community (a cooperative) of two or more information agencies which have formally agreed to coordinate, cooperate or consolidate certain function" to achieve mutual objectives. It is an association of a group of library to achieve mutually the joint benefits.

[JCCC@ICMR \(http://www.jccc-icmr.informindia.co.in\)](http://www.jccc-icmr.informindia.co.in) :

Resource sharing through J-Gate Custom Content for Consortia:

To encourage resource sharing, ICMR Hqrs. has taken initiative to provide one point access to over 550+ journals subscribed currently by all 24 ICMR's network of library and information centers by subscribing to [JCCC@ICMR](http://www.jccc-icmr.informindia.co.in). It also provides access to 200+ open access biomedical journals and 11,800 journals covered under J-Gate which has also been subscribed by the Council.

In all, journals from over 400 publishers are covered on a single platform. JCCC@ICMR acts as an internal database of all articles published in these subscribed journals for searching and finding the contents in these journals. It provides immediate access to the abstracts and the full text paper is made available by sending an e-mail request to the designated library of the consortium. The other significant features of the database are as follows: Common access to Table of Contents (TOC) and full-text articles for 693 Journals; Common TOC and

Database search facility for both print and online journals, which have scholarly content and are subscribed by the consortium members; Links to abstracts of articles; Links to full-text articles from JCCC interface; Facility to search bibliographic database of articles; Content is mirrored in the server of each participating consortia member; Links to the journals subscribed by each participating consortia member; and E-mail request for photocopies can be sent from one consortia member to the other.

LIBRARY & INFORMATION NETWORKS IN INDIA

ADINET (<http://www.alibnet.org/>):

Title : Ahmedabad Library Network
Sponsor : NISSAT, DSIR (1994) & INFLIBNET
Objective : To bring cooperation among its regional libraries; to develop databases; to integrate scientific and technical information systems
Members : Nine libraries
Services : Library automation; Library holdings; Database in progress

BALNET:

Title : Bangalore Library Network
Sponsor : J.R.D. Tata Memorial Library (1995)
Members : 100 Libraries

BONET:

Title: Bombay Library Network
Sponsor: NISSAT & NCST (1994)
Objective: To promote cooperation among libraries in Bombay
Services: Online catalog; Online document delivery; IRS; Interlibrary loan

CALIBNET:

Title: Calcutta Libraries Network
Sponsor: NISSAT – Govt. of India
Applications: Cataloguing; Serials control; Acquisitions; Circulation
Services: CAS; SDI; Union catalog; Partial database; Editing and

retrieval of records; Full-text document delivery

DELNET (delnet.nic.in/):

Title : Developing Library Network
Sponsor : NISSAT & NIC (1988)
Objective : To promote resource sharing; develop a network of libraries; collect, store, disseminate information
Members : 165 Institutions, 600 Libraries, 15 States in India, 5 from outside India
Services : Resource sharing; Free software; ICE online facility; Books database; Thesis database; Indian specialists database

DESINET :

Title : Defence Science Information Network
Sponsor : DESIDOC, Delhi
Activity : Focus on scientific research and defense communities

INFLIBNET

(www.inflibnet.ac.in/index.jsp):

Title : Information Library Network
Sponsor : UGC (1991)
Connectivity: Computer communication network of universities and R&D; libraries and bibliographic information centres throughout the country
Members : 200 Universities; 400 College Libraries; 200 R&D Libraries

Services : Catalog service; Database services; Document supply services; E-mail; Audio and Video conferencing etc.

MYLIBNET (www.mylibnet.org):

Title : Mysore Library Network

Sponsor : NISSAT (1994)

Objective : Developing software tools; conducting seminar;

workshops/training programs;
conduct surveys

Host Site : CFTRI, Mysore

Members : 116 Institutions

Services : MYLIB Database; E-journals; Food patents; CFTRI Library Bulletin; Public services.

Recent Additions

1. Law relating to intellectual property / Raghbir Singh, Delhi, 2004.
2. Wings of fire: an autobiography / A.P.J. Abdul Kalam & A. Tiwari, Hyderabad, 2004
3. Eats, shoots & leaves: the zero tolerance approach to punctuation / Truss Lynne, London, 2004
4. Davidson's Medicine / Churchill Living Stone, London 2005
5. Quality assurance of pharmaceuticals: a compendium of guidelines and related materials vol.2 / WHO, Geneva, 2004
6. Neuroscience of psychoactive substance use and dependence / WHO, Geneva, 2004
7. IARC monographs on the evaluation of carcinogenic risks to humans, vol. 83: tobacco, smoke and involuntary / WHO, Lyon, 2004
8. Cardiovascular survey methods / WHO, Geneva, 2004
9. Fifth Report on the world nutrition situation: nutrition for improved development outcomes / UNSSCN, Geneva, 2004
10. Young people's health in context: health behavior in school-aged children (HSCB) study; international report / Candace Currie, Geneva, 2004
11. Toman's tuberculosis: case detection, treatment and monitoring-questions and answers / Frieden T., Geneva, 2004
12. Guidelines for conducting community, surveys on injuries and violence / WHO, Geneva, 2004
13. Obstetric protocols for labor ward management / Jaypee, New Delhi, 2005
14. Guidelines for essential trauma care / WHO, Geneva, 2004
15. TB / HIV: a clinical manual / WHO, Geneva, 2004
16. Medical termination of pregnancy: a user's guide to the law / Universal Law, Delhi, 2004
17. Pre-conception and pre-natal diagnostic techniques act: a users guide to the law / Universal Law, Delhi, 2004
18. Alcohol policy: global status report / WHO, Geneva, 2004
19. Immunization in practice: a practical guide for health staff 2004 update / WHO, Geneva, 2004
20. IARC monographs: some drinking water disinfectants and contaminants, including arsenic / IARC, Lyon, 2004

21. Guiding principles for feeding infants and young children during emergencies / WHO, Geneva, 2004
22. Beyond the numbers: reviewing maternal deaths and complications to make pregnancy safer / WHO, Geneva, 2004
23. Regional vaccines policy for South-East Asia region / WHO, New Delhi, 2004
24. The effects of contraception on obstetric outcome / WHO, Geneva, 2004
25. Health, illness and society in the new millennium / Viva Books, New Delhi, 2004

Reference Books

1. Universities Hand Book / AIU, New Delhi, 2004
2. Encyclopedia Britannica Almanac 2005 / Encyclopedia Britannica, Chicago
3. Britannica Year in Review / Encyclopedia Britannica, Chicago, 2004
4. 100 years with Nobel laureates: 100 special articles written by Nobel laureates exclusively for E.B. / Encyclopedia Britannica, New Delhi, 2001
5. The Europa World Year Book / Europa, London, 2004
6. The Statesman's Year Book 2005 / Macmillan, New York World of Learning / Europa, London, 2005
7. World Development Report 2004-05: a better investment climate for everyone / The World Bank, Washington
8. India Development Report 2004-05 / Oxford, New Delhi
9. India 2005: a reference annual
10. Hand Book on Medical Education 2003 / AIU, New Delhi
12. WHO report on global tuberculosis control: surveillance, planning, financing / WHO, Geneva, 2004
13. Laboratory bio-safety manual / WHO, Geneva, 2004

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7. Kumarasamy N., Vallabhaneni Snigdha, Flanigan Timothy P. et al. Clinical profile of HIV in India. *Indian J. of Med. Res.* 2005; 121(4): 377-94
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11. Sharma Anju & Jain N.C. Some web based resources for HIV/AIDS. *Indian J. of Med. Res.* 2005; 121(4): 611-19
12. Grinspoon Steven, Carr Andrew. Cardiovascular risk and body-fat abnormalities in HIV-infected adults. *New England Journal of Medicine* 2005; 1: 48-62
13. Selemogo Mpho. The future of AIDS and ethics of seclusion in the face of an impending danger. *Indian Journal of Medical Ethics* 2005; 1: 14-15

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NEWS

A meeting to review the progress on modernization of ICMR Libraries and Information Centres was held on April 8th 2005 at NIOH, Ahmedabad. Dr. S.S. Murthy Chairman of the Advisory Committee and Shri O. N. Chaddha. Prof. V. Chandrasekhar Rao, Dr. A. Ratnakar, Advisory Committee Members attended the meeting. Dr. K.

Satyanarayana Chief (P&I) & Member Secretary participated in this meeting. There were 19 participants representing ICMR Institute libraries. The major recommendations of the Committee were given below:

Recommendations

(1) Presentation of Progress: It has been noted by the Committee that slide presentations on the progress/achievements/future work made by the participants are varied and not followed proper procedure. The Committee has suggested to design a proforma by the Council to review the progress made by the institutes. The proforma should cover the following:

- a) Areas to be reviewed in terms of modernization are defined,
- b) The work should be assessed qualitatively / quantitatively
- c) Target of work for the next six months to be planned

According to the proforma slide / power point presentations are to be given in brief by the institute representatives.

(2) Staff/Budget/Infrastructural issues: - The Committee has suggested that Directors of the Institutes can only take action for the requirement of staff, budgetary and infra structural problems.

(3) Manpower: - The Committee opined that since there is no provision for additional posts, alternative methods like outsourcing of jobs and adopting apprentice scheme of Govt. of India be implemented.

(4) National Resource Centres: - The Committee members strongly felt the need to create National Resource Centres in specific areas by institutes, based on the specialized area of that particular institute on which the current research work is going on. These centers will help in preserving the valuable information / publications related to that particular institute and share the Information among the sister institutes. Steps should be initiated at the Institute level to collect appropriate inputs, call meeting of experts and get a working draft on the National Resource Centre made and submitted to the Council for consideration

[JCCC@ICMR](#)

The ICMR Hqrs. has organized a training programme on JCCC@ICMR, J-Gate and Proquest Medical Library through Informatics India on 30th March 2005. The main purpose of this training programme was to create awareness among the scientists for wide utilization of these databases.



Congratulations

ICMR Hqrs. Library Staff convey their hearty congratulations to Dr K. Satyanarayana present Chief (P &I) who took over charge as Sr. DDG (Publication & Planning) at ICMR Hqrs. w.e.f 03.05.05