



INFORMATION LITERACY IN COLLEGE LIBRARY

Umesh J. Gawande

Shri Sant Gajanan Maharaj Arts

College, Borgaon (Manju) Tq. Dist Akola.

Email-Umeshgawande2020@gmail.com

Introduction:

With the emergence of Information and communication technologies in the 21st century, vast changes have taken place in the field of Higher education, Libraries and Information centres & Library and Information Profession is no Exception to these changes. In this changing complex of Globalization, and Information Explosion, in the higher education sector and the College environment, every student is expected to adapt the sophisticated Information gathering techniques to locate, organize, evaluate and use the information effectively in order to be successful in their Individual endeavours. Here comes the Information Literacy Program, wherein by teaching the Information Literacy Skills to the students makes them an effective user of information in the context of the prevailing education system and also prepares them to cope up with the contemporary learning challenges. The concept of Information Literacy (IL) has been playing a very prominent and significant role among the academic population of Higher education system in India. The idea behind the IL is to make the Individuals and organizations aware of how the machine handling systems can be of great help in identifying, accessing, analysing, and obtaining data and documents needed for problem solving and decision making activities. The IL helps the library users to develop fundamental skills of information use which has become a pre-requisite for every individual to actively participate in the present information technology society. The importance of IL programs bridge the skills and the knowledge gaps among the Library and information professional and the students of the colleges and also act as activators of lifelong learning process which has become the need of the hour today. Information Literacy in a broad concept embraces the Information Skills, ICT Skills, and Library Skills along with the Problem- solving and Cognitive skills, and the attitudes and values that enable student learners to function effectively in the information landscape.

Information Literacy is also a set of Competencies that provide student with a foundation for academic Coursework, effective job performance, active citizenship and lifelong learning. In the Globalization of technology and increase in quantity of information from all sources of information like various types of documents, media and Internet have given rise to the question about the authenticity, credibility, and reliability of information. This uncertain quality and expending quantity of information which has posed huge challenges to information users and the information science professionals can be solved to a great extent through the IL programs and skills acquired by the users during their study.

Definition :

“Information literacy is a set of abilities requiring individuals to recognize when information

is needed and have the ability to locate, evaluate and use effectively the needed information’.

What is information literacy?

What is information literacy and what does it mean to be information literate? The American Library Association defines information literacy as a set of abilities empowering individuals to recognize when information is needed and to be able to locate it, evaluate it, and use it effectively. While information literacy is often talked about on college campuses in terms of doing library research for papers and annotated bibliographies and other sorts of classroom assignments, we use and need information in every aspect of our lives. Think about all of the informal research we do each day. We look up movie and book reviews, how-to videos on YouTube, product reviews, and strategies for parenting. We Google how to fill out some field on our tax forms, we look up job ads and tips on job interviews, how to spell or define some unfamiliar word or acronym. We all have information needs, and being able to effectively identify and meet those needs is at the core information literacy. Being able to differentiate quality information from questionable information is also critical. Is that shocking article your sister posted on social media actually true? What about health advice offered by a friend? What about some surprising statistic you heard cited by a politician or political candidate? The American Library Association asks to think about information literacy in six ways.

1. Authority Is Constructed and Contextual
2. Information Creation as a Process
3. Information Has Value
4. Research as Inquiry
5. Scholarship as Conversation
6. Searching as Strategic Exploration

Benefits of Information Literacy in Colleges Library :

- The major benefit of IL programs to the students in the academic colleges is that of imparting Value skills and Training, which in turn leads to effective and efficient use of the Information Sources and information database for a better and overall educational achievement. In addition the IL is also beneficial to the students which are as follows:
- IL helps the students to explore & learn about the different kinds of resources which include both print and electronic media, how to select the right sources for different tasks and actions.
- IL helps the students to develop the ability to compare, evaluate, and extract the information from different sources and to select the accurate and the most reliable information sources.
- IL helps the students to develop competence in constructing strategies for locating and accessing the required information.
- IL helps the students to develop ability to organize, apply, and communicate information effectively. This skill includes accurate citation, good use of language, and respect for copyright and avoid of plagiarism.
- IL helps the students to develop ability to synthesize and build upon the existing

information and thereby contributing to and creation of new Knowledge.

- IL also helps the students in motivating them to become independent and lifelong Learners.
- Information Literacy is the key to the empowerment, development and happiness.

Components of information Literacy :

According to Lokhande and Gadge components of information Literacy are as follows:

- **Basic Literacy:** Redding and writing, speaking and listening, counting and calculating, perception drawing.
- **Library Literacy:** Library Literacy is too important to every student how the library can help.
- **Media Literacy:** Media Literacy includes an understanding of the many different types of media and the purposes for which they can be used.
- **Technology literacy:** Like basic Literacy, technology literacy is a continuum of skills that can always be improved and like library literacy, students receive technology experience and instruction in a hit or mass fashion depending on which teachers they may have over the years.
- **Visual Literacy:** Visual Literacy means the skills and learning needed to view visual and audio/visual materials. Sceptically, critically and Knowledgably. Visual literacy is the link between. Media literacy and Technology Literacy.

Need of Information Literacy:

Too much information can create a barrier in own lives. The information barrier is products by the huge account of information, the speed at which it comes to as form all direction the need to make fast decision and the felling of anxiety that we are making decision without having all the information that is available or that we need. Information literacy is the solution to solve the information barriers.

IL is very important today owing to ICT and its application in libraries and information centre is Maximum utilization of information resource in teaching, learning and research. An information literacy programme is the need of the hours. It makes the end users competent enough for retrieving information as per their needs

Role of information in college in Library :

Information Literacy in College Library in necessary for both staff and student. The goal of information literacy education is to ensure that student are equipped and encouraged to learn for the range information resources available in the library. In other words they should acquire over a course of stud or through staff development opportunity.

- **Library Activities towards information Literacy:** College Librarian should develop information literacy programmes for users. College librarians can make user awe are of information through following activities.

- **College Prospectus:** inclusion of detailed information regarding procedure process, collection services, rules and regulation etc. in college prospectus which updated yearly.
- **Library Brochures:** Publication of library hand book/ Broachers which includes detailed information regarding library.
- **Book Talk:** 10 to 115 student can be selected to take part in discussion on a specific book and script reading session can be arranged on a specific book.
- **Counselling centre :** Latest information literacy regarding the syllabi of various competitive examination and employment opportunities is provided through this centre.
- **Readers club:** Can be establishing to promote reading culture among the readers.
- **User education program:** This program can be introduced through lecture method and by arranging visits to library.
- **Aids in co-curricular Activities:** Newspaper clipping files and books related to the conducting co-circular activities play an important role in this regard.
- **Book Exhibition:** can be organized to encourage readers to in calculate reading habits among themselves.
- Aid in Education and research work
- Author reader visit program
- Writing wise thought on board dally
- Films. Movie club.
- User Orientation program me.
- Quiz and Debate.
- Best readers award.
- Use of information communication Technology.
- Class room teaching by librarian
- Library visit.

Role of Librarians in Information Literacy :

Information and communication Technologies have changed the complete scenario in libraries. Now a day, library has become point of resource-based learning the role of librarian is changing radically with skills of education paradigms. The impact of moving from text based learning to resource based learning will involve heavier use of library

Materials and a demand for more and a varied media resources, including print and non-print. The librarian is responsible for loading, acquiring, disseminating and tracking information resources of many types. It might include database searching, interlibrary loans, monitoring internet news groups or maintenance of a computerized library information system. Libraries and Librarians play an important role in education of people for effective and efficient information use by teaching them information skills at all levels of education to enable to be informed citizens of the country.

Conclusion:

The college library and implicitly all educational structures faced with challenges due

to the new information and communication development and changes the affect every educational program and process. In present educational reforms are taking place in India to improve educational outcomes and these development causing major changes. Curriculum reforms are necessary because students are demanding improved educational outcome to ensure that they will became competitive. In this context librarians must maximize their potential to be in the position to assume their role in the teaching and learning process.

Each academic has to be in the educational strategies and learning resources to help student develop information literacy skills. It is necessary to have an active and continuing program concerning information access, development and supported by the faculty's makers, librarians and other information providers because we must be willing to promote and share our experience in this information are in support of our institutional educational mission.

We are confidential that suggestion will be accepted to develop and integrate an effective information literacy course because it will be able to enhance students generic abilities, which include problem solving, critical thinking, creativity, communication and presentation their ideas.

References:

- Hisle, david and Webb, K.: Information Literacy Concept: An Open Educational Resource, ECU, 2017.
- Doyle,C.S. .Final Report to National Forum on information literacy,1992.
- Kumar. U. and Kumar. V., Information Literacy in College Libraries: A Birds Eye View, International Journal of library science and Research, Vol.Issue.5,Des.2013,1-6.
- Lokhande R. and Gadge ,:Information Literacy in academic libraries and the student expectation, proceeding of national seminar, on new dimension in library management, Aurqngabad (MS);S.B.E.S. college of science,30th August 2010.
- Tankar, A.: Application of various programmes in college libraries for information literacy amongst college student proceeding of national conference on impact of library and information service in changing era. shirpur : Smt. H.R. Patel arts mahila college: 14-15 March 2011.
- <http://www.ala.org>.