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MOBILE LIBRARY AND SERVICES: A NEW TREND IN LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

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ABSTRACT

The library plays an important role in the field of education and research. With the help of this application, the user can access a number of different databases and information from all over. In the traditional library concepts, users are a physical presence for information access during library opening hours. But in the web technology world library services become more technical and prompt. So users can access any information from anywhere. Not necessary to go physically and no time restriction. With the help of information technology and web-based library services, all the information and contents are available on the desktop/mobile. Digital library services and internet library services are the terms used for web-based library services. Web-based library services are mainly provided by the library portal. It provides integrated access to the library various databases. It collects all useful information resources into a single web page that allows users to select and view their resources. The paper is shortly discussing the mobile applications (mobile app) and its uses in library and information science services. The paper also discussing the features of the mobile app and also its benefits and drawbacks. Also discussing its reliability, security, and cost. The paper also discussing the need for a mobile library and future plan.

Keywords: A mobile app, library app, benefits and drawbacks, smartphones, Information communication technology etc.

INTRODUCTION:

Information communication technology like the internet and WWW changes the function and format of library and information centre. The progress of web-based services changes the library from physical to virtual. The library is changing its old format, library and

information centre has changed from traditional view to modern technological view. Some of the libraries are in the transforming process. As the libraries are changes from the old format to digital, technological format, The main purpose of the mobile app is to provide a fast and easy

way to access the information. It is not possible for the traditional library to provide information as fast so today's libraries change its shape and developed as an information centre. The main purpose is as per the Dr Ranganathan Fourth Law "save the time of the user. The role of library and librarian must be changed for providing the best service to the library users. Due to the emergence of Information communication technology from last two decades we see that computer, laptops are used every in offices, schools and all sectors even in day to day life also and information seeker collect information through web WWW. Now as per the survey of International telecommunication agency, United Nation 4.68 billion mobile users are in the world. And in India, there are about 650 million mobile phone users and just over 300 million of them have a smartphone, according to technology consultancy Counterpoint Research. These statistics are true. The rise in mobile technology and smart / I - phone peoples uses internet on mobile. The internet access statistics on a smartphone is more than a desktop. Now smartphones do not use only for calling, SMS but also for multiple applications like e-mail, internet etc. The mobile device has social media tools,

information tools, entertainment tools etc. so all the information are on the palm of your hand. So information professionals discover mobile device as a way to connect user community. The reason behind creating a mobile app is to provide library information like library database, to view library account, electronic resource access as fast as people think. The most important features of library mobile app are that due to the mobile app we present our library globally. The mobile app can help today's student by providing access to library electronic resources, OPAC, Library news, learning materials etc.

APPLICATION(App):

The app is a short application or software that uses in the mobile device. Mobile maker companies produced more advanced technology in the mobile device as compared to basic features phones. The smartphone is an example of one of them which offers multiple applications to users and tablet is a lightweight mobile computer with touch screen. Different app tools are needed for different phones like Apple smartphone app developed by C programming language and android phone app developed by Java programming languages. In general Mobile App is application or software that uses on a

mobile device. Library mobile apps that provide access to Library e-resource list, OPAC, information of a library, news email, social networking sites, newspapers

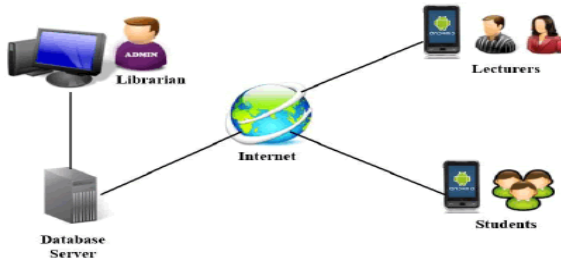


Fig. 2 System Architecture of Mobile Library

FEATURES OF A MOBILE APP:

- 1) Mobile applications are set of program that uses on a mobile device.
- 2) The app gives permission to users to access specific services without an opening a browser.
- 3) Security is the main topic, in any mobile app, there is no leak of information allowed. We maintain and update the mobile app as per our convenience.
- 4) The mobile app has analytical features, with the basis of these features we get information about users searching behaviour and we update the app as per users demand. Simple for handling, accessed easily by users to all content, simply log in and the mobile

application does not have loading or speed problems, due to this mobile apps become popular.

ADVANTAGES OF A MOBILE APP TO LIBRARY AND INFORMATION USRS:

With the help of mobile app library users utilize following library services like

- 1) Library users easily access the library catalogue, library accounts.
- 2) Also, know the library hours and library current status.
- 3) Contact information of libraries and ask a librarian.
- 4) Links to library databases and resources. News about library events.
- 5) Also link to multimedia sites and educational sites, newspaper sites, the information providing sites etc.
- 6) Through the library mobile app, library members know about the library collections.
- 7) library users borrow books through the library mobile app.
- 8) library users also see the status of the books and the duration of renewal and return.

9) library users also give their feedback, suggestions about books, journals, and library other services.

In the early days, there is some objection regarding a mobile app that it takes users away from the library sources and resources but it's a necessity of time to library and information centre to have library mobile app due to the emergence of technology in every field.

MOBILE APPLICATION (APP) AND LIBRARY PROFESSIONALS:

Today's number of academic libraries, universities library, technical institution, and libraries developed their own library app to spread the information to all users. Library users get library information without a computer, and they believe through mobile apps they easily access to information. The mobile app technology provides better facility to library users and fulfils the information needs of a new user. Libraries and information professionals integrate library catalogue called Web OPAC, patron accounts, library hours, rules and regulation, bulletin board, newsletters, upcoming workshop lecture and more to mobile users. Designing a library mobile app is a great opportunity for libraries and professionals to

transform user services with recent technological trends. Mobile applications help to access Library electronic resources. Library mobile apps connect library and library users and also able to reach out to more users.

CONCLUSION:

The main purpose of the library is to provide quality services to satisfy users with the right information at the right time. It's a necessity of time for the library to upgrade with new technologies. New technology like mobile app provides easy, fast and suitable information related library to users.

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