Mobile Application and Services in Academic Libraries: A Survey of University Libraries of New Delhi, the Capital City of India

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Over the years mobile phones have been the most popular and widespread personal technology rapidly adopted all over the academic fraternity and in the academic libraries. Mobile Phones are playing a great role in all the activities by providing lot of benefits to students, teachers, parents and Universities itself. The changing educational technology theory, research, and pedagogy are re-conceptualized to provide better opportunities and learning to the students and academic fraternity. The current trend in mobile phone penetration makes it virtually certain that not too far in the future all of the services and applications of libraries will be available on mobile phones.

The paper examines certain important issues related with the effective implementation of mobile phones in academic libraries in New Delhi and provides suggestions to address certain challenges that would help in the implementation of Mobile Libraries.

This proposal reviews the evidence of the role of mobile phone-facilitated m-education and m-libraries in contributing to improved educational outcomes in the University Libraries of New Delhi, India by examining the extent to which the use of mobile phones helped to improve educational outcomes in improving access to education and in promoting new learning. The Academic Libraries under the scope of the survey will include six major universities i.e. University of Delhi, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Indira Gandhi National Open University, Jamia Milia Islamia, Jamia Hamdard University and Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University.

The exploratory study finds out the access to information and knowledge through mobile phones by the students of given Academic Libraries. The proposal finds out the pattern of their current mobile phone usage and their perception on use of mobile phones for various services in their libraries. This paper presents the results of this study and provides a snapshot of the current status which can serve as a foundation to further planning for the implementation of more use of mobile services and applications related activities in Libraries.

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