Centre for Information on Language Sciences [CILS](CIIL Library) : From Automated to a Digital Library

R Suman Kumari

Abstract

The paper deals with the initiative taken by the CIIL library for automation. Keeping pace with the digital era and new generation users an effort is made to transform into a digital library which also includes the traditional library services into an electronic information services made available on internet / intranet to users globally engaged in the research of linguistics and languages. The future plan is to create centre library as the "national Information Centre in language and linguistics".

Keywords : Library automation,Indian Languages, Digital Libraries,

1.   Need for a Digital Library

We are surviving in an information age, where shortage of time, complexity of subject and pinpointed, accurate and intellectual needs of new generation users are increasingly with very potential rate. The ultimate solution to fulfill the users is "digital technologies". As the CIIL library holds a large good collection of non-book resources, strong need was felt to handle and manage large amount of digital content by simply providing link, without actually providing the documents.

2.   Centre for Information in Language Sciences (CIIL Library) : Initiative taken for Automation

The CIIL, situated at Mysore was established on 17th of July 1970, as a national institution of advanced research in the area of linguistics and Indian languages. The aims and objectives of the institute is to coordinate the development of Indian languages, to bring about the essential unity of Indian languages through scientific studies, promote inter-disciplinary research, contribute towards emotional integration of the people of India.

The CIIL for the past 35 years has created a legend of its own by producing and archiving studies on 118 Indian languages including 80 tribal languages.

The institute has its seven regional centers is to provide all the states and union territories of the country in implementing three language formula in order to promote national integration through multilingual education.

CILS is a specializes research library on language and linguistic studies. With its collection having 90,000 print and 25,000 non-print focus on linguistics, Indian languages, literature, folklore, anthropology, sociology and its inter-disciplinary areas. The library collection and its regional languages

centers exceed 2 lakhs and more than 60% collection is in Indian languages. The library is spread around 1620 sq ft.

Before initiating the automation project performances of various library software was tested along with its capability to manage Indian Languages. Finally, the software "VIRTUA management system developed by VTLS (Visionary Technology in Library Solutions, from Virginia, USA. This has a branch at NOIDA (UP) India. The present configuration of the package is:

- ◆ Virtua software, version 46.
- ◆ The platform to automate the library is the Sun Fire 280R server.
- ◆ The Solaris operating environment has been pre installed on the system.

The Sun Solaris 10 operating system with 40GB capacity has 256 MB memory and 500 MB disc space.

It is a comprehensive library automation system certified by ISO 9001 having innovative technology and global perspective. Supports MARC (Machine Readable Cataloging).

It is a three tier client/server architecture consisting of-

Database warehousing

UNICODE language support

Network optimized application

The software handles three aspects-

Data management software development and network delivery.

- ◆ Data management – worksheets
- ◆ Software support here refers to UNICODE support.
- ◆ Virtua software has built support with UNICODE. The data could be entered in the original language and sorting and indexing facilities are there in the original language.
- ◆ CIIL has seven centers, networking of libraries is an absolute factor. User can log on to the system with login ID/password security.

Currently, VIRTUA software is being used for house keeping function such as acquisition, serial control, cataloguing, circulation and for bibliographic control, information retrieval, library management applications like stock verification, report generation, communication and networking with other centers, web services provided by the library to its users. It is observed that any information retrieval in Indian languages is a crucial issue. However, VIRTUA software helps to display record in bilingual i.e. English and in original language. The search strategies for the information retrieval from the database is done through (1) Browse search (2) Keyword Search (3) Expert Search (4) Heading Search.

3.   From Automation to a Digital Library

Presently with its infrastructure of fifteen professional / non-professional working in the automation project team there are 19Pc's, two printers, barcode printer, two scanners, one cd share device,

one exabyte secondary storage device. The Sun server is the platform to work using the VTLS software which is housed in the CIIL premises. The internet connection is given to the CIIL from the internet service provider.

The network of CIIL along with its seven regional language centre libraries comprise the total collection of its holding i.e. print & non-print in their regional languages. The main objective is to make available the bibliographic data in the VTLS OPAC under the respective centers which have been automated using the VIRTUA.

On May 5th 2005 the CIIL library was formerly inaugurated by Sri B.S. Baswan the education secretary as a second in India to have a fully digital library at the metadata level. The computerized system allows user to obtain coherent means of access to an organized electronically stored repository of information at their work place itself. It has a good collection of non-book materials like audio-cassettes, video tapes, Cd Roms, microfilm, microfiche, slides, films & maps.

4. Digitization of the Library Resources

In case of books more than 300 books have been digitized which includes rare, out of print books. All the digitized books have link in the OPAC. For the non-book resource like cassette tapes, films, gramophone records, film strips, slide, spools along with the ones which accompanies the book have been digitized from the original form and the link made available in the iportal with multimedia link. The digitization process of these resources have been arranged at the CIIL audio unit which is fully equipped with the latest technology for its conversion into Mp3, CD or DVD with the normal and studio quality. For theses and dissertations which cover contribution in the area of linguistics and Indian languages 360 theses are available in digitized form out of 865 theses.

A specialized newspaper online service is provided regularly from 2004 through VTLS with full text link to the news article. The newspaper collection initiated from 1982 onwards has approximately 30,000 clippings preserved from all the national newspaper subscribed in the area of linguistics, Indian languages, language use in education, administration, mass media, language minorities, political issues etc. Metadata for clippings before 2000 is available in the archive.

Besides the digitization of books, the library has recently taken initiative to digitize important classic reference books in the area of linguistics and convert these PDF format as e-books which are made available on intranet to its users for research purpose. The scanned text is in TIFF format available in PDF using OCR. Each heading and its subheading has bookmarks and links are provided directly from the table of contents to the actual contents.

5. Digital library Services: From traditional to electronic services

Transformed from a traditional to a digital library, various digital services are made available regularly to its users on internet and intranet. The services on internet are Library homepage, Newspaper

clippings, periodicals / new & back issues (journals), New acquisition of books, OPAC, Classical Tamil Digital Library; virtual library is linguistics, M.B. Emeneau bibliography, Late Prof. Prabodh Narayan Singh. The Intranet services include collections of Multimedia, current periodicals, Institutional repository, Map Archives, Theses and Dissertations, CD Database, Online Classification, Gratis, Information sources.

Beside the above additional services are library orientations, inter-library loan & Xerox facilities.

Internet

CIIL library home page:	http://www.ciillibrary.org/
About the library:	http://www.ciillibrary.org/sites/library/index.html Virtual
library in linguistics:	http://www.ciil.org/main/virlib/index1.htm
M.B Emeneau bibliography:	http://www.ciil.org/main/Emeneau/mainindex1.htm
OPAC:	http://www.ciillibrary.org:8000/cgi-n/gw/chameleon/
New acquisition:	http://www.ciil.org/sites/nadd/index.htm
Newspaper clippings:	http://www.ciillibrary.org:8000/
Late Prof. Prabodh Narayan Singh:	http://www.ciillibrary.org/sites/PNScollections
Classical Tamil Digital Library :	http://www.ciillibrary.org/tdl/index.html
Periodicals:	http://www.ciillibrary.org/sites/periodicals
EBSCO:	http://web.ebscohost.com

Intranet

BBLA Home Page:	http://192.168.07/home
Current Journals:	http://192.168.07/journal
Periodicals:	http://192.168.07/indic
Repository:	http://192.168.07/repository
Theses and Dissertation:	http://192.168.07/theses
Map Archives:	http://192.168.07/map/indexl.html
CD database:	http://192.168.07/cddb
Online Classification:	http://192.168.07/tamil
Gratis:	http://192.168.07/gratis
Multimedia:	http://192.168.07/multi_media
Information Sources:	http://192.168.07/info_services

Future Plans

♦ To create a centralized digital library at CIIL of all the documents with parallel information in Indian languages available at CIIL and its seven regional center.

◆ Plan to make an advanced research center in linguistic and Indian language information.

References

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About Author

Dr. R Suman Kumari , Central Institute of Indian Languages(CIIL) (Ministry of HRD), Hunsur Road, Manasagangothri,Mysore-6
Email: sumanr_mys@yahoo.co.in , suman@ciil.stpmy.soft.net