N-LIST an Institutional Repositories: A Case Study in Golaghat District College Libraries of Assam

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Abstract

This paper discusses the importance of N-LIST repository in a college library. It attempts to highlight the problems and prospects of N-LIST in the application of college library. The study intends to find out the institutional repositories rendered by college libraries in Golaghat District of Assam as well as users satisfaction from the existing services.

Keywords: N-LIST, Institutional Repository, College Libraries

1. Introduction

The development of institutional repositories emerged as a new strategy. N-LIST is one of the National Library and Information Services Infrastructure for Scholarly Content Project Inaugurated by Mr. Kapil Sibal, Union Human Resource and Development (HRD) Minister in 4th May 2010. The centre acts as a nodal agency for networking of libraries and information centres in Universities, Institutions of higher learning and R& D institutions in India with an aim to promote scholarly communication. The N-LIST project provides access to E-Resources to students, researchers and faculty from colleges and other beneficiary institutions through server installed at the INFLIBNET centre. As on July 6th 2014, a total number of 3809 colleges have registered themselves with the N-list programme including Government/Government aided colleges under the section 12B/2F of UGC Act as well as non-aided colleges. An institutional repository is a digital preservation of the intellectual product created by the faculty, research staff, and students of an institution and accessible to end users both within and outside the institution. An effective institutional repository represents collaboration among librarians, information technologists, archives and records managers, faculty and university administrators and policy makers.

2. Objectives of the Study

❖ To find out the present position of institutional repositories in Golaghat District provincialised college libraries of Assam, and

❖ To find out the problems and prospects of N-List in the application of Golaghat district college libraries of Assam.

3. Educational Institutions in Golaghat District

Golaghat District is situated in upper Assam. The total population of Golaghat District is 10,66,888 with a literacy rate of 78.31%. The male literacy rate is 84.20% and female literacy rate is 72.18 % (Economic & Statistical 2011Census Report). Golaghat District has 23 provincialised Schools, 1 Government Higher Secondary School, 4 Junior Colleges (provincialized), 7 Junior College (Concurrence), 121 Provincialized High Schools, 32 Government Recognized High Schools, 45 Non-provincialzed Schools (Report as IAS Office 2013). The nine provincialized

college libraries of Golaghat District have been selected for the purpose of this survey.

4. Methodology

The study adopted the survey approach and comprised of college libraries of Golaghat district of Assam. Purposive sampling was adopted in selecting the college libraries to be surveyed owing to pre-study visits that led to the discovery the present position of Golaghat district college libraries. Thus, a total of nine college libraries were purposively selected. Data was collected using a structured

questionnaire return and copies of the questionnaire were personally administered. Self observation helped to have an idea about the resources of the libraries.

5. Results and Discussions

5.1 College Details

Table 1 presents a list of the selected college libraries. The target participants were the librarians, because they were in the best position to give all the necessary information concerning the issues being considered in the study.

Table 1: Name, Year of establishment, Course Offered and Library Staff of the colleges

Sl No	Name of the college	Year of Establishment	Stream	Professional Staff	Non-Professional Staff
1	Dergaon Kamal Dowerah College	1962	Science, Arts, Commerce	3	4
2	Hemprova Borbora Girls' College	1956	Arts	1	1
3	Golaghat Commerce College	1979	Commerce, Arts	3	3
4	Furkating College	1981	Arts	2	1
5	Debraj Roy College	1949	Science, Arts,	3	2
6	Joya Gogoi College	1991	Arts,	1	1
7	Sarupathar College	1970	Arts, Commerce	2	2
8	Kamar Gaon College	1972	Arts	1	2
9	Jogananda Deva Satradhikar Goswami College	1964	Science, Arts, Commerce	2	2

Table 1 shows the surveyed Colleges, establishment year, stream and professional and non- professional staff of Golaghat District College libraries. Debraj Roy College is the oldest higher educational institution in Golaghat District. All the surveyed college libraries collect only printed books, journals, magazines and daily newspaper. From the table it has observed that Golaghat District College library has very less number of professional library staff in comparison to non- professional staff. Library staffs are very few in numbers in most of the college libraries. The staffs are very important link between the library resources and library users. Due to this, automation is lacking far behind in the col-

leges of Golaghat District. Irregular power supply is also barrier in the library automation of Golaghat District.

5.2 ICT in Golaghat District College Libraries

The ICT has far reaching impact on the modern educational libraries of higher education institutions which elevated the modern day libraries into a very high position. It is seen that all colleges have LAN connected in their library. With the explosion of information, it can be found in electronic format also. So library and information professionals must be skilled in the use of latest technology. (Table 2)

Table: 2: ICT in Golaghat District College Libraries

Sl No	College	Computer	LAN connection	Telephone	Fax
1	Dergaon Kamal Dowarah College	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
2	Hemprova Borbora Girls' College	Yes	Yes	No	No
3	Golaghat Commerce College	Yes	Yes	No	No
4	Furkating College	Yes	Yes	No	No
5	Debraj Roy College	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
6	Joya Gogoi College	Yes	Yes	No	No
7	Sarupathar College	Yes	Yes	No	No
8	Kamar Gaon College	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
9	JDSG College	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

5.3 Infrastructure of surveyed College Libraries

Table 3 shows the infrastructure with regard to Software, Barcode scanner, Internet, Non print material, Institutional repository and Digital Section. Broadband internet service is connected in all college libraries except Sarupathar college. With the explosion of information, it can be found in electronic format also. INFLIBNET has been providing SOUL (Software for university libraries) software free of cost to the college libraries of North East Region. DKD College started the process of automation in the year 2005. Most of the library users are getting benefitted with the services. It is found that D.R. College and D.K.D College have only digital section in Golaghat District. Before a few month, Furkating College has also provided information to users in digital form . It is observed that although computers are available in most of the college but are not used in library operations. Barcode technology is a new concept for most college libraries in Golaghat District. A few College libraries have implemented this technology. Most of the college has not maintained their institutional repository for users in the College library.

Table 3: Infrastructure of surveyed College Libraries

Sl No.	College	Barcode Scanner	Internet	Non- print Material	Repository	Software	Digital Section
1	Dergaon Kamal Dowarah College library	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Soul 1.0	Yes
2	Hemprova Borbora Girls' College library	No	Yes	No	No	Soul 2.0	No
3	Golaghat Commerce College library	Yes	Yes	No	No	Soul 2.0	No
4	Furkating College library	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Soul 1.0	Yes
5	Debraj Roy College library	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Soul 2.0	Yes
6	Joya Gogoi College library	No	Yes	Yes	No	Soul 2.0	No
7	Sarupathar College library	No	No	No	No	Soul 2.0	No
8	Kamar Gaon College library	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Soul 2.0	No
9	JDSG College library	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Soul 2.0	No

5.4 Category of N-LIST Users

It is observation from Table 4 that only two Colleges are not members of N-LIST. Most of the colleges have interested in N-LIST access. D.K.D. College was the first to provide N-list services in Golaghat District College Libraries. The main responsibility of libraries is to increase users need satisfaction and to minimize time loss of the users. N-LIST has given great opportunity to faculty, administration, researchers and students to access information related to their needs. Shodhganga is one of the national repositories of electronic thesis and dissertations in open access mode. Already it has signed with 164 Universities and having more than 15100+ Full-Text thesis. It has also given the opportunity of open access movement through the OJAS (Open Journal Access System) at INFLIBNET centre which hosts the journals published by universities and institutions in open access mode free of cost.

Table 4: Category of N-LIST Users

Sl No	Name of the College	N-list Member	Year of Membership	Users of N-list
1	Dergaon Kamal Dowarah College	Yes	4-4-2011	Faculty, student, Researcher
2	Hemprova Borbora Girls' College	No	—-	———
3	Golaghat Commerce College	No	—-	———
4	Furkating College	Yes	11-8-2011	Faculty, Administration, Researcher, student
5.	Debraj Roy College	Yes	30-7-2013	Faculty, Administration, Researcher ,student
6.	Joya Gogoi College	Yes	2014	Faculty, Administration, Researcher, Student
7.	Sarupathar College	Yes	20-9-2013	Faculty, Administration, Researcher ,student
8.	Kamar Gaon College	Yes	14-09-2012	Faculty, Administration, Researcher ,student
9.	JDSG College	Yes	7-4-2010	Faculty, Administration, Researcher ,student

6. Role of A Librarian

Librarians should take initiatives to create awareness among the library users towards the benefits of e-resources through N-LIST and to teach them how to access e-resources available through N-LIST. For this, the college authorities should make available compulsory training programme on e-resource retrieval skills for the teachers and students. Due to growth of information communication technologies, a librarian should have knowledge to remain in the race of this profession. College librarian should have knowledge and skills in areas such as technology skills, management skill and information skill.

7. Major Findings

The following findings were found during the study:

❖ The collection development policy is limited in most of the college libraries of Golaghat District. All the surveyed college libraries printed books, journal, magazines, newspaper, e-book, e-journal and e-databases in their libraries.

❖ Though the most of the librarians and staffs are qualified they are not well trained with the modern technology.

❖ All colleges libraries have implemented SOUL software for automation of library activities.

❖ Broadband is available only in three college libraries.

❖ Barcode technology has been used for circulation management for saving the time of the users. Other college libraries will be implementing this shortly. They still follow the manual system in their services.

❖ Institutional repositories are available in all college libraries.

❖ Only two of the colleges have maintained digital section.

❖ Five college libraries provide the services of N-LIST programme to faculty, Administration, Researchers and students.

❖ Internet facility is not very good in college libraries of Golaghat District.

❖ Power supply is not available most of the time.

8. Suggestions

❖ The infrastructural facilities should be enhanced for better utilization of N-LIST e-journals.

❖ Training of library staff should be made compulsory for better services to the users.

❖ College authorities should be aware of these services.

❖ N-LIST users should be trained to handle these services and their utility.

9. Conclusion

Institutional Repositories (IR) have opened up opportunity for libraries to collect, preserve and disseminate the institutions' scholarly output. For the optimum utilization of the services, the college libraries must seek for N-LIST membership from INFLIBNET and make a wide publicity among the users. Institutional repositories, along with other self-archiving repositories, create and distribute interoperable preservation systems. Most of Institutional repository initiatives currently being developed rely on user communities to control the input of content. Library consortia will provide a logical infrastructure for implementing institutional repositories via collective development. Consortia are fastest path to proliferating institutional repositories and attaining a critical mass of open access content. Institutional repository systems must be able to support interoperability in order to provide access via multiple search engines and other discovery tools so that users outside the college must be able to find and retrieve information from the repository.

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