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AMLEE-2019

National Seminar on Access & Availability of Medical Literature in Electronic Environment

Theme: Digital Transformation in Medical Libraries

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Library and Information Services for Specially Challenged Persons

Shalini Varshney
D. D. Lal

Abstract

Now a day's academic Library services for specially challenged people are not sufficient in India. But in this regard some university libraries take a step for providing library services to specially challenged persons. UNESCO and IFLA provide guidelines for specially challenged persons and Govt of India & University Grant commission also provide guidelines for specially challenged persons. At present in the information technology erawe can provide library facilities to people with disabilities.

This Paper focuses on library and data services for people who are particularly challenged, online digital library for visual handicapped persons and present situation of library who are providing library services to specially challenged persons in India.

Keywords: Specially challenged person, library services, visually handicapped.

Introduction

Disabled persons mean who suffered from permanent injury, illness, or physical or mental condition that restricts everyday activities. The main categories of disability are Visual disabilities, hearing disabilities, learning disabilities and motor disabilities. As indicated by the 2011 Census, there are more than 121 Cr. Populaces and 2.68 Cr people are 'debilitated' which is 2.21% of the all out populace who experience the ill effects of one or different sorts of handicaps.
Among this population large number of specially challenged persons are enrolled in education institutes like school, colleges, university and other and all individuals with disabilities should be entitled to use library services and community facilities to meet the access demands of individuals with disabilities. Libraries speak to various things to various individuals, in structures a spot where moms can take todders to peruse their first stories and to understudies can contemplate, to an administration enabling anybody to acquire a book, get to the web and in writing hunt. Information is essential for all people and the aim of each library is to provide its patrons with the right information at the right time and in the right form. Every user is equal for information as well as library.

Library is the light house of dissemination of information. The current era is considered the data age, due to the information explosion the user wants to access all the literature rapidly to gather knowledge and also in their day to day need for improving living standard. So we can say that libraries and information centres are playing a vital role in the development of society by acting as a bridge between user and their desired information and their information that provide by library is reliable, quick and helpful to the users.

Legislation Acts of Govt of India

1. Government of India, Human Resource Development, Education Department (2005) mentioned its goal in its "Activity Plan for Inclusive Child and Youth with Disabilities Education"' as "Perceiving Education for all kids as a major ideal, to guarantee the incorporation of youngsters and youth with inabilities in all accessible standard instructive settings, by furnishing them with learning condition that is accessible, available, moderate and suitable to help build up their learning and capacities."
2. A large portion of the colleges and establishments in these nations are giving access to data to the impaired people by method for ordering the law, by figuring the national arrangements and subsidizing the libraries and data focuses. They have cutting edge advances to aid the data get to
3. India isn't abandoned far in enabling its handicapped populace. It has given all conceivable help to the people with inabilities either by sanctioning an exceptional Act, Or by implementing a ' National Disability Policy ', or by method for giving reservations in instruction, work, government plans and projects or setting up foundations and associations and some more.
4. Division of Empowerment of people with inabilities (Divyangjan) Ministry of social equity and strengthening, Government of India instituted three enactment acts:
   - ✓ India's Rehabilitation Committee Act, 1992 manages labor enhancement to provide rehabilitation administrations
   - ✓ National Trust for welfare of people with chemical imbalance, cerebral paralysis, mental hindrance and different inability act, 1999 - It has provisions for the legal custody of the four categories and the manufacturing of empowering c ondition for as much free living as can reasonably be anticipated.
   - ✓ Rights of people with inability act, 2016 - (Equal Opportunities, Rights Protection and Full Participation) Act to accommodate training, company, free boundary conditions, public disability, etc.

The Objective of this Study

Following are the main objectives of this study:

- The main objective of this study was to find the status of the Indian library services for visually impaired and physically challenged.
- A quick description about library services for specially challenged persons.
- Description about problems faced by specially challenged persons to access the information and library facilities.
- Emphasize the technologies and facilities available for providing specially challenged persons with their information needs
- Explore the library services for the Specially Challenged Persons presently available

Additionally in the advanced education segment, the University Grants Commission (UGC) is supporting colleges and schools in the nation to include in a custom curriculum exercises to enable in an unexpected way abled people. The UGC had begun the plan of help to colleges/schools for Persons with Special Needs.

Information Required by Specially Challenged Persons

The greater part of the requirements were like other individuals' needs, with certain special cases. The members of the investigation looked for data identified with their visual incapacities, and how to get around in ordinary life circumstances. Different needs were wellbeing, pay and fund, diversion (counting tuning in to talking books), government, buyer, travel, and work data. As far as how the members got their needs met, much relied upon whether the individual lived alone or with another person, for example, a life partner, relative, and overseer. Those with the most in-home help did not require as much outside assistance. Those living alone depended more on companions, relatives, and offices. Family and companions were the frequently utilized

wellspring of data, while radio was likewise referenced as significant. The scientists discovered much energy about the Internet from the members.

Literature Review

Lots of studies were done in Library services for specially challenged persons. Some of them are referred here. Ajay Shanker Mishra, Afsar Ali & Santosh Thakur shows in his study Library information services for print/visually disabled users in ICT Environment (2015),

Problems faced by specially challenged person in Library:

There are some problems which is faced by specially challenged persons in library:

- Lack of trained library professional staff.
- Lack of training or orientation programme.
- Hearing people faced interaction problem with library professionals.
- Lack of proper infrastructure of library.
- Shelves and picture book containers accessible from a wheelchair.
- Comfortable seating area with bright reading light.

Library Services to Specially Challenged Persons:

There are some library services to Specially Challenged persons which is provided in following forms:

- **Sugamya Pustkalya :**
  Sugamya Pustakalya is a largest online library in India for visually challenged and print disabled persons. This library has been created by DAISY Forum of India. Central Government launched Sugamya Pustakalya on 24th August 2016. In this online library more than 2 lakh books are available in different different languages. The link for sugamya Pustkalya is *https://library.daisyindia.org/*

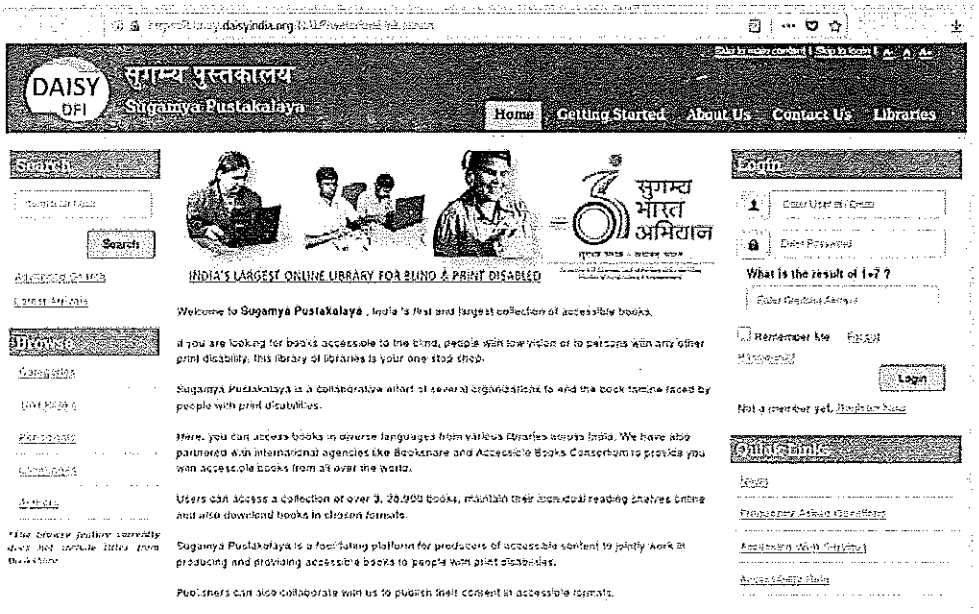

Figure1: Sugamya Pustkalya

- Online Braille library :
  National Institute for the visually handicapped (NIVH) launched the India's 1st online Braille Library at Mumbai. It has 12,000 titles in 14 different languages. Online Braille Library is a joint initiative of National Institute of Visually Handicapped (NIVH) & Xavier's Resource Centre for Visually Challenged, Mumbai. The link for this library is http://www.oblindia.org

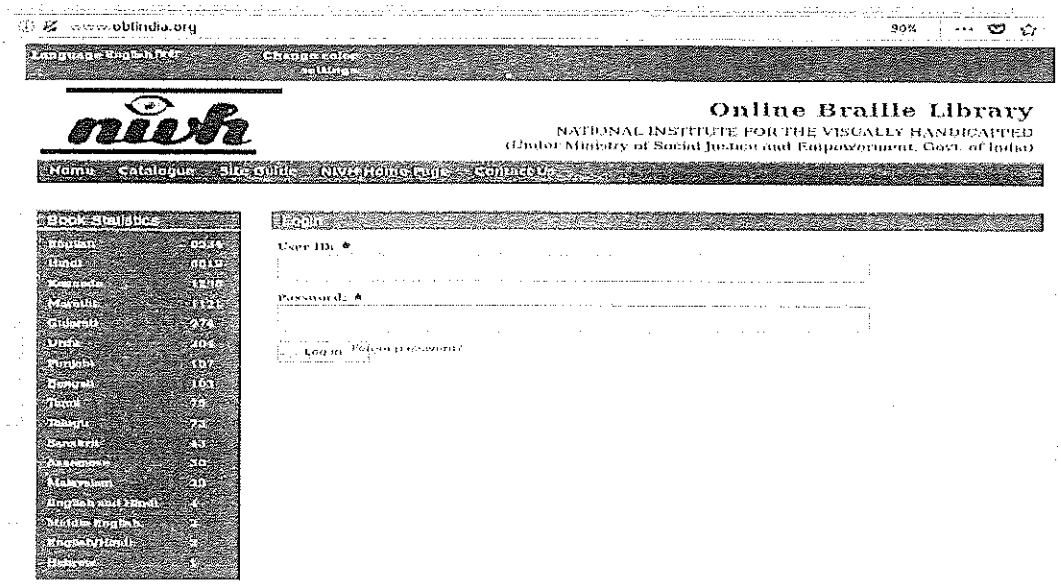

Figure2: Online Braille library

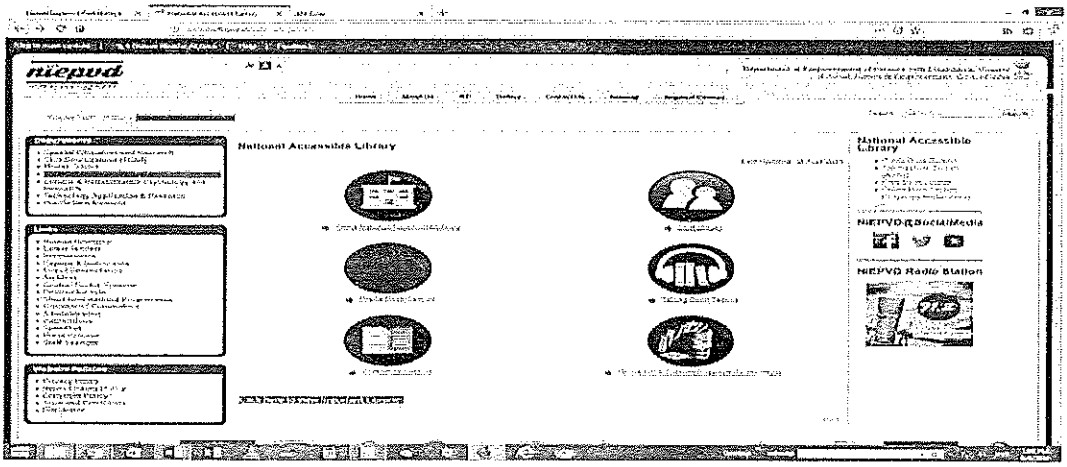

Figure3: Online Braille library

- Braille Book:

  Braille is a system of reading and writing by touch & used by visually handicapped persons. Braille is a system of reading and writing whereby raised dots are used to represent letters which are read by touch. Braille books are appropriate for users who have both visual and hearing impairment.

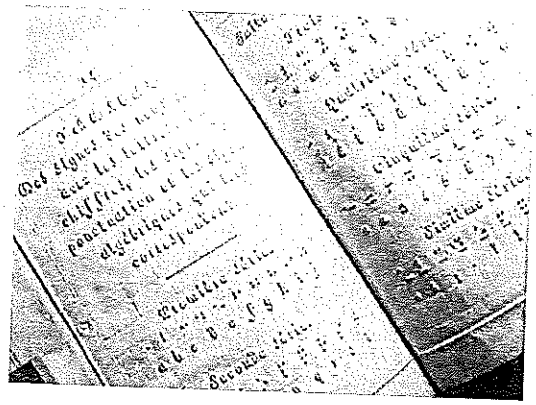

Figure4: Braille Book

- Talking Book:

Talking book is also known as audio book. these are audio versions of books which recorded on cassettes, CD-ROM, DVD and on the internet as e-books. Talking books are mostly used by blind and physically handicapped persons.

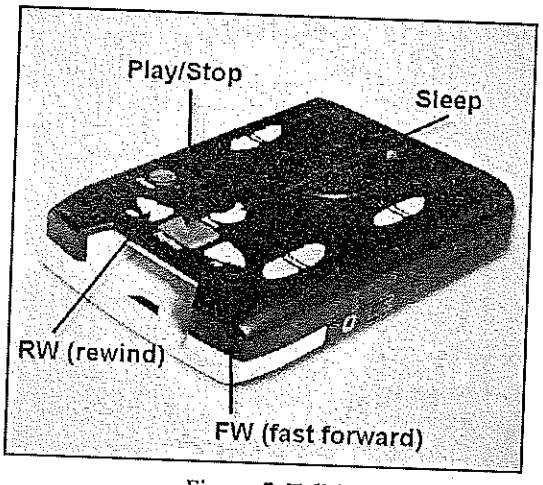

Figure 5: Talking Book

- Talking Newspaper:

  - ✓ Talking newspaper is the audio versions of daily news.
  - ✓ Large printed materials
  - ✓ Documents printed in large fonts for the partially sighted users.

- Electronic Text:

Electronic text is a electronic format of textual information. This text can be store on computer and display on the screen. These are computer text-files. Outwardly disabled client can stack an electronic content in PC and can peruse the content from PC utilizing screen amplifying programming, can print the content in huge print and read it from paper, can peruse the content utilizing braille bar that is appended to the PC and can have the content perused for all to hear by the PC, utilizing a screen peruser.

Libraries are additionally exploiting advances in ICTs to build data access for the outwardly disabled. An expansive scope of ICTs generally called versatile or assistive advancements are currently accessible to give access to data in electronic databases and on the web, giving visually impaired clients equivalent open door as the located.

Some screen reader software (free/commercial) are given in the following table:

Table 1: Screen Reader Software (free/commercial)

S.No.	Screen Reader	Free/Commercial
1.	SAFA (Screen Access for ALL)	Free
2.	NVDA (Non Visual Desktop Access)	Free
3.	System Access to Go	Free
4.	Thunder	Free
5.	JAWS	Commercial
6.	Hal	Commercial
7.	Supernova	Commercial
8.	Window-Eyes	Commercial

Present Situation of Library Services to Specially Challenged Persons in India:

Present situation of Library Services to Specially challenged persons in India are not sufficient. According to web Survey, only some Indian Universities are providing library services to specially challenged Persons. These some universities are given below:

- IIT Bombay
- Jawahar Lal Nehru University, Delhi
- Lucknow University
- University of Calcutta
- Punjab University
- Jammu University
- Delhi University
- Bharathihar University

Guidelines for Library to provide Services to Specially Challenged People:

The following are few guidelines that are required:

1. The accurate reproduction of the contents of a work's published print edition.
2. Encourage all Braille holdings to be included as suitable in domestic or regional catalogues.
3. Board and employees in the education library consider Braille as the literacy tool
4. Libraries create ethical norms and values for coping with employers and bring these norms to the attention of all employees. Staff should be aware of customers ' requirements for privacy issues and the legislative duty of the libraries for which they work.
5. To communicate with blind and visually impaired Braille readers in the society, use Braille as a medium.
6. Promote training programs to provide library services to Specially Challenged Individuals
7. The collection of Library is the core of its service building a collection to satisfy a community's requirements. They require collections that include data about common products to promote lifelong learning or work on the job instructional resource and books for kids and youth to always be included.
8. Promote the accessibility in the society served of library services in Braille.
9. To encourage and invite young Visually impaired in library programs such as story hours literacy debates.
10. In creating and expanding digital collections, library employees and customers should be conscious of the variety of SIW and HIW solutions that print handicapped individuals use.

Conclusion

Based on above study we can say that specially challenged people are important for our society and they are also equivalent to other peoples. Library services to specially challenged people are not critical in India and nor sufficient in India, so we have to need aware to Indian institute for providing special library services to specially challenged persons. This paper describes about the barriers faced by specially challenged persons, special library services to specially challenged persons and present situation of library services to specially challenged persons.

Finally, we can say that library is a social organization that serve information to each and every user equally without any discrimination, library is the hub of learning activity where users can explore the vast amount of information resources. Library should provide the information to every user in an equal way without any discrimination of caste, race, religion and sex. Library is growing organism so every emerging technology should be adopted in the library for providing better services to the user.

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