PERTINENCE OF DIGITAL LIBRARIES IN COMMERCE AND BUSINESS MANAGEMENT DOMAINS

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ABSTRACT
Digital Libraries play a vital role in Commerce and Business Management by catering centralized accessible and dynamic information resources that facilitates decision making, innovation and improving the operational efficiency. They act as knowledge hubs for research, training and strategic planning. They function as centralized repositories of information that improves productivity, streamline operations, and reinforce competitive advantage. The present paper provides an insight into the key roles of digital libraries in Commerce and Business Management, Indian companies using digital libraries and usage of digital library by management and its impact on their decision making

Keywords: *Digital Library, Extract transform and load process, Data warehousing, competitive advantage, centralized repositories, strategic planning.*

Introduction

Digital libraries are very important because they provide universal access to knowledge, reduce costs, and preserve cultural heritage and support education and research in ways that traditional libraries cannot. They democratize information by making resources available anytime, anywhere and help bridge the digital divide. Digital libraries have overcome many limitations of traditional libraries like access which was limited to physical location with anywhere anytime access. Cost is also lowered with digital infrastructure and licensing eliminating high buildings, physical books and staff, preservation of long term through digital archiving. One more important advancement is the searchability with instant keyword based replacing manual catalog search.

A digital library also known as online library, an internet library a digital repository a library without walls or a digital collection is an online database of digital resources that can include text, still images, audio video digital documents or other digital media formats or a library accessible through internet. Wikipedia A digital library is a collection of digital objects such as books, magazines, audio recordings, video recordings and other documents that are accessible electronically.

Review of literature

Daya Patil alnd Priya Ashok suradkar in "digital libraries: an overview" March 2018, discussed definition of digital library its challenges and issues etc. using library access is provided to anyone anytime and in any form.

Neeraj M.S. and B.P.Nirmala. in "The role of digital libraries and emerging technologies in enhancing social work education: a comprehensive analysis" August 2024 the study explored essential role of Artificial Intelligence(AI) and Virtual Reality(VR) in digital libraries. This has transformed social work education by enhancing access to information fostering interdisciplinary learning and promoting evidence based practice. The study also explored essential role of these tools in preparing social work students for complexities of contemporary practice. The paper also addressed ethical considerations surrounding Artificial Intelligence (AI) such as issues of bias, privacy and dependency along with need to contextures these technologies globally.

Umi Nadia Jalalud in Februrary 2025 in "Digital preservation in Digital Libraries: A Systematic Literature review", the study aims to explore digital preservation efforts in digital libraries. Digital libraries must adopt strategies to keep in line with new technologies and practices. Digital preservation has emerged as a crucial component of library setting and key tenet in guaranteeing the preservation of information sources. The study highlights the need for a combined effort involving technology, policies and partners to overcome the obstacles and ensure digital content remains available for future generations aiming to improve digital preservation in a fast changing world

Objectives

- Key roles of Digital Libraries in Commerce and Business Management
- Digital libraries usage in Indian companies thereby deriving solutions to business problems

- Usage of digital library by management and its impact on their decision making

Key roles of Digital Libraries in Commerce and Business Management

Access to information
Digital libraries provide instant access to wide range of journals, business reports, case studies and market data. They facilitate businesses to be updated on global trends, consumer preferences and their behavior. They also help us to be updated on the regulatory norms in various segments or industries of businesses.

Knowledge Sharing
Digital libraries facilitate knowledge sharing across departments, improving collaboration and bringing synergies among the businesses. They also help in reducing duplication of efforts

Growth in E-Commerce
Most of the product information, customer behavior analysis, and supply chain optimization is known through the digital repositories. Digital libraries support online businesses by offering digital resources

Cost efficiency
Digital libraries help businesses achieve cost efficiency by reducing physical resource expenses, streamlining access to information and improving productivity through centralized and scalable knowledge management.

Training and development
They serve as training hubs for employee skill development, bringing access to e-books, tutorials, and corporate knowledge bases. The training and development cost is also reduced to a larger extent due to lower acquisition i.e., subscriptions, licences etc. easy access across the globe round the clock, quick retrieval, collaborations, eco-friendly and reduced printing cost.

Data warehousing
Usage of infrastructure of digital libraries to collect, store, organize and provide access to large volumes of data. Integration with corporate data warehouses allows businesses to combine structured and unstructured information for deeper insights. Digital libraries rely heavily on metadata standards (like Dublin Core, MARC, XML). These metadata structures make it easier to classify, search and retrieve data.

ETL (Extract, Transform, Load) Processes
Data is pulled from various sources like databases, ERP systems, IoT devices, publications. Digital libraries clean and standardize formats like PDFs, text, images, datasets. The processed data is stored in the library's repository ready for retrieval and analysis

Scalable Storage
Cloud-based digital libraries provide scalable storage for massive datasets. This reduces the need for physical servers and aligns with modern data warehouse architectures like snowflake, Redshift, BigQuery.

Access and Query tools
Digital libraries mostly integrate search engines, APIs and query interfaces. Businesses can run analytics, generate reports or feed data into BI tools directly from library

Digital libraries usage in Indian companies thereby deriving solutions to business problems
Several Indian companies are using or providing digital library solutions especially in the education corporate training and publishing sectors.

Company	Sector	Usage of digital libraries
Mintbook	EdTech	Provides cloud based digital libraries for schools, colleges and corporate. Offers e-books, journals and learning resources
National Digital Library of India(NDLI)	Government of India initiative	A massive repository of academic resources accessible to students, researchers and institutions nationwide
DELNET(Developing Library Network)	Non-Profit consortium	Connects over 7,000 libraries across India enabling resource sharing and digital access
Infosys	IT services	Uses digital libraries internally for employee training, knowledge management and continuous learning
Wipro	IT services	Implements digital libraries for corporate learning and professional development

A Pratibha Spandan's Journal

TCS(Tata Consultancy Services)	IT Services	Integrates digital library solutions into its learning platforms for workforce upskilling

Usage of digital library by management and its impact on their decision making

Digital libraries empower managers with data driven insights, resource analytics and curated knowledge to make better decisions in education, corporate training and policy planning. The most impactful usage is in employee skill development. Management uses digital libraries to support evidence based decision making by accessing correct data, analytics and research resources. Many organizations managements like Infosys, TCS and NDLI, DELNET, knimbus are deriving many benefits through digital libraries.

Organization	Digital library use	Decision impact
Infosys	Lex platform with digital library	Managers decide training priorities based on employee learning patterns
TCS	Internal digital library	Supports project managers in accessing technical documentation for faster decision making
NDLI	Academic resource hub	University management decides curriculum expansion based on available digital resources
DELNET	Consortium of libraries	Helps administrators decide interlibrary loan policies and resource sharing
Knimbus	Analytics driven library	Guides subsciprtion decisions and resource allocation

Conclusion

Digital libraries offer huge commerce opportunities through e-content monetization (e-books, journals, data) subscription/micro-payment models, e-learning platforms, e-acquisition or procurement and selling branded merchandise. They also helps in creating new revenue streams, expanding user access beyond physical limits, streamlining operations and fostering innovation in the digital economy by leveraging e-commerce tools for transactions, marketing and customer service.

For commerce, digital libraries fuel innovation in e-commerce, retail and trade. For business management they strengthen organizational learning, improve decision making and enhance competitiveness

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