

Disabling Knowledge from Libraries...? Enabling Information...

It is a well-known fact that libraries are considered as a storehouse of knowledge and is also true. However, in the era of knowledge explosion, information about the availability of knowledge has gained more importance than knowledge. The foremost objective of the information superhighway is to lead towards desired knowledge. The most common information superhighway is through a library. The libraries need to be more focused on their services related to information dissemination rather than offering knowledge base services. The information is key to the knowledge and hence, it is utmost important to strengthen the information services and to make the libraries information enabled place rather than a storehouse of knowledge. In an electronic age, knowledge is stored in the digital format and can be accessed from anywhere, without actually having it. The essential aspect is having 'information on access' then any user can reach to the desired knowledge not necessarily to be located in the library. The knowledge is a secondary part of the library and information is a primary part of the library. In this context, empowering libraries to make them more and more to information enabled is essential, though it may result in disabling knowledge from libraries. All, the activities of the libraries need to be focused towards information enabled library. Under such circumstances, the proficiency in using the Computer and Information Technology is an indispensable quality for every library professional whether he is at the top or bottom level in the entire system of the library. The important feature of the library service is its authenticity and which need to be cultured always. The Data, Information, and Knowledge are the part of the cyclic process, the data get generated into information and information leads to knowledge. Enabling information is key to the knowledge. Hence, the libraries need to be developed as a storehouse or more appropriately powerhouse of 'Information Access' rather than to become a storehouse of outdated knowledge. Only then the term library will be truly represented as an Information Centre and librarian as an Information Scientists.

Editor