

# **LIBRARY AUTOMATION IN CHITWAN**

**A thesis submitted to the  
Central Department of Library and Information Science  
in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the  
Master's Degree in Library and Information Science**

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## LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

This is to certify that Mr. Shiva Prasad Gautam has prepared this thesis entitled  
“**LIBRARY AUTOMATION IN CHITWAN**” under my supervision and guidance. I  
recommend this thesis for final approval and acceptance.

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Bishnu Prasad Aryal

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**LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE**

The thesis entitled " **LIBRARY AUTOMATION IN CHITWAN**" prepared and submitted by Mr. Shiva Prasad Gautam in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Master's Degree in Library and Information Science is hereby accepted and approved.

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Thank you

Shiva Prasad Gautam

## ABSTRACT

The thesis entitled "**LIBRARY AUTOMATION IN CHITWAN**" shows the status of automation of the libraries of Chitwan. The main objectives of the research are, to determine status and the infrastructure availability, to identify the status of automation of the libraries, to find out the problems and the barriers of the automation of the libraries of Chitwan. For this purpose, purposively 6 libraries of Chitwan have been chosen. The research is based on primary data using questionnaire. Data collected has been analyzed and presented with the tables and pie charts. Different 22 national and international literatures have been reviewed during study.

It has been found that most of the libraries have automated the library to save the time where as some of them did it to reduce the space problem and to provide the remote service, most of the libraries have been using Libra software for automation of the library where as few libraries use Midas & Lib info for automation of the library however one library has used WINISIS, most of libraries do not have sufficient infrastructure for automation which have been facing financial, technical and managerial problems, all the libraries have automated the cataloguing area of the library where as only 2 libraries have used automation in circulation as well, but no libraries have used it for acquisitions. Only one library has one skilled man power where as other libraries is run by semi skilled and no skilled manpower. All libraries claimed strong aspects of the library automation are user friendliness, time saving and easy to use however they claimed the automation software lack ILS facilities and some libraries claimed the software is expensive and the software is difficult to handle. Most of the libraries suggested improving the facilities of the software by adding ILS features like acquisition, cataloguing, circulation, serial management and also provide the users service and many more.

So it is recommended that for full fledged automation of the libraries the infrastructures must be developed as well as skilled man power and the financial and managerial support must be increased. As well as ILS like Koha can meet the modern demand of the library users.

# Dedicated to my parents and Friends

## PREFACE

The study has been conducted for the partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master in Library and Information Science (MLISc). This thesis presents an overview of the status of automation of the libraries of Chitwan. Moreover the problem faced by the librarians for implementation of the software. To reach the targeted group of users, quantitative and descriptive research designs have been employed. Data collection and data analysis procedures are the other methods used for the research analysis.

The first chapter of this research deals with the background of the study which includes objectives, statement of problem and organization of the study, as well as the introduction.

Review of literature presenting the relevant studies in the field of Library automation has been presented in the second chapter.

The third chapter is about the focus of the study with the details of the Library automation and the college libraries of chitwan.

Similarly the fourth chapter is about Research Methodology which encompasses research design, population, sampling procedure, data collection and data analysis procedures, etc.

The fifth chapter deals with the detail analysis and presentation of this study.

The sixth or last chapter deals the summary of the findings, conclusion and recommendations for the future improvement of the college libraries.

Shiva Prasad Gautam

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## LIST OF ACRONYMS

ADSL	Asymmetric Digital Subscriber Line
CAN	Computer Association Nepal
CCF	Common Communication Format
CDISIS	Computerized Documentation System/ Integrated Set for Information System
CD-ROM	Compact Disk Read Only Memory
DL	Digital Library
E-books	Electronic Books
E-resources	Electronic Resources
EJFL	Electronic Information for Libraries
E-journals	Electronic Journals
HSBN	Health Science Bibliography of Nepal
ILS	Integrated Library Software
ICT	Information Communication Technology
EJFL	Electronic Information for Libraries
FOSS	Free & Open Source Software
FSF	Free Software Foundation
ICT	Information Communication Technology
INASP	International Network for the Availability of Scientific Publication
MARC	Machine Readable Catalogue
OA	Open Access.
OPAC	Online Public Access Catalogue.
OSS	Open Source software
PERI	Programme for Enhancement of Research Information
TCP/IP	Transmission Control Protocol /Internet Protocol
TU	Tribhuvan University
TUCL	Tribhuvan University Central Library
WWW	World Wide Web



## Chapter-I

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background of the study

Library automation is the application of ICTs in library housekeeping operations such as acquisition, cataloging, circulation and serials control. Integrated Library System (ILS) is an automated library system which shares a common database for all the functional modules of library housekeeping operations i.e. acquisition, cataloging, circulation and serials control. (Pradhan 2010).

Library automation software, integrating all the activities and routines of the library is essential software for the libraries and is referred to as Integrated Library Automation Package (ILAP). An ILAP means an enterprise resource planning system for a library, used to track items owned, orders made, bills paid, and patrons who have borrowed the items. In other words it is one where all the library activities such as acquisitions, cataloguing, circulation, serials, and the Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC) are automated. There are many ILAP available in the market that meets the needs as well as budgets. However, with the open source software movement catching on, a few open source library automation package (LAP) are also available, which are comparable with any commercial LAP. To name a few: Koha, Evergreen, OPAL, Papyrus, Book, OpenBook, OpenBiblio. Among these Koha is the first open source library automation software and is widely used (Anuradha, 2009).

The application of Information Communication Technology (ICT) to almost all spheres of life is no longer a new phenomenon. Shiloba (2005) stated that for libraries and librarians to cope with the information demands by the users they need to have the knowledge, skills and tools in handling digital information. In Nepal, libraries started their automation work with the introduction of CDS/ISIS software developed by UNESCO during the year 1990s. According to Agha (1986) library automation has been a subject of attention since the mid 1970s because of the spreading knowledge of the new technologies. However, there have been challenges and constraints facing library automation. The challenges and / or constraints include, among others: erratic power

inadequate professional librarians to execute the project, absence of maintenance and support agreement, poor ICT infrastructure, poor funding, and poor ICT skills among library staff. Libraries in Nepal are at cross roads in their attempt to automate their operations. With the development of Open Source Software (OSS) in the sector of Integrated Library System (ILS), librarians are also implementing ILS in their library. One of the major issues related to ILS is the deployment of the software. Dependence on software vendors has been of great disadvantage. This is true especially where the library staff input is inadequate in the acquisition and installation, with the library ending up with an inappropriate automated system. Despite these challenges, library workers are enthusiastic about and willing to use new technologies.

Libraries from developing countries like Nepal wanted to use fully-featured library automation system. But when library automation started, the cost of commercial software was very high, and freeware and open sources software for Integrated Library System were not available. The only one software available as a freeware was CDS/ISIS (UNIX based) and WINISIS (CDS/ISIS for windows). It is due to the free availability of the software many libraries in Nepal as well as in this region adopted it without hesitation. However, CDS/ISIS was not prepared for integrated library system. It was designed specifically for automated cataloguing/bibliographic database of a library.

Library automation in Nepal started in the late 1990s has now reached in most of the specialized libraries. Today, there is greater responsibility on the part of the library and information centers to provide the latest and timely information to their users to facilitate improving the quality of education. This cannot be achieved without having an efficient library and information system at its command. Due to availability of open source Integrated Library System (ILS), any library can implement the ILS with a very low cost.

In earlier days, a library seeking to automate was chiefly concerned with its own requirements, priorities. Little consideration was given to networking, and resource sharing. Today, with the development of Internet, resource sharing has become possible. With the development of technologies, greater emphasis is given in resource sharing and user access to library resources through web.

## **Requirements for Successful Library Automation**

For a successful library automation project there is the need for adequate finance, constant power supply, infrastructure, an experienced consultant, and dedicated members of staff and proper training of library staff.

### **Adequate finance**

The authorities were gracious enough to release funds for the automation project for the procurement of software and hardware and training of the staff on the automation project. As soon as it was agreed that the library should go ahead with the automation project provisions were made for all that were required.

### **Constant power supply**

For the automation project to be a success there is need for constant power supply. To ensure this the library was connected to a standby generating set. This is important because without constant and consistent power supply, the project will not be realized and where it is completed it will not be properly operational. The generating set which also ensures the power supply goes off. As a result the library does not have problem with power supply.

### **Infrastructure**

The infrastructure in terms of computer hardware needs to be in place, i.e. having workstations for all the various routine activities. This also involves the networking of the library. Air conditioners are also very important in an automated environment in order to ensure effective cooling of the hardware. All offices in the library have split unit air conditioner except circulation desk.

### **Experienced consultant**

Identifying an experienced consultant on library automation is very important. The reason being that where there are problems with the system such can easily be contacted so that the library does not start what it will not be able to continue.

### **Dedicated members of staff**

For any automation project to be successful there is the need for all members of staff to be dedicated and committed to the project. This can be achieved by regular

communication with staff about what is going on and the need for cooperation in making the project a success story.

#### **Library staff must be computer literate**

For a successful automation programme all library staff must be computer literate. It is before to start training the staff on computer appreciation before embarking on automation. This helps to make the training very easy.

#### **Barriers:**

Following could be the few possible barriers of library automation:

- Fear of adverse impact on employment
- Apprehension that the technology could be too expensive
- The library staff has to undergo extensive training.
- Lack of support from the management, may be owing to budget constraints
- Fifth reason could be retrospective conversion of data.

#### **Selection**

As mentioned earlier, if a library wants to make a beginning; CDS/ISIS is best suited as it involves minimum investment on both hardware and software. Once a database with bibliographic details is developed, the same data can be used for circulation activities. Here the selection of software becomes crucial because CDS/ISIS can efficiently handle only the cataloguing system. Following criteria might help the librarians to select the right software for other housekeeping operations:

- Who are the developers, whether an institution, or reputed company or few individuals. The preference is for institution and second preference is for the reputed company. One has to be skeptical about the software developed by individuals as there will be no continuity
- How many times the software has been revised since the time of its first launch.
- How many parameters are available for each module. More the parameters better will be the flexibility and needs no or minimum customization.



- Whether the software has facility to import bibliographic data available in **UNESCO** format and similarly export of data in this format
- Training and guidance after installation
- Whether available on major operating systems.
- Whether it is web inter faceable
- Whether it can be interfaced with the e-mail system of the campus network.
- Whether it has taken care of Y2K compliant
- How many installations it has got in the country, since when and major **users**
- Whether it can offer OPAC and different rights to different logins

### **Statement of Problem**

Most of the libraries in Nepal are running manually. Manual libraries are failing to **meet** the demand of five laws of the library science. Manual libraries not only hamper **the** work of users but also create confusion in library function. Automation of the library **is** the need of the day. Library automation improves the quality of the library services and **meets** the demand of the five laws of the library science. Automation of the library **improves** the quality of the library services. Library automation is needed to provide **the** library services to the users. Few libraries in Chitwan have started **automation**. However, there are lots of barriers like infrastructures and skilled manpower **shortage**.

### **Objective of the Study**

#### **General Objective-**

The general objective of this research is to determine the current status of Library automation software used in Campus libraries of Chitwan.

#### **Specific Objectives-**

- to determine status and the infrastructure availability of the campus libraries of Chitwan.
- to identify the status of automation of the libraries
- to find out the problems and the barriers of the automation

### **1.1.1 Limitation of the study**

The study is limited to the Campus libraries of Chitwan. Study is only focused on the Campus libraries of Chitwan. Even though there is large number of libraries in Chitwan, these six libraries only have used automation software. The focused libraries for the study are as follows:

1. Birendra Multiple Campus
2. Septagandaki Multiple Campus
3. Balkumari Multiple Campus
4. Sahid Smriti Multiple Campus
5. Chitwan Medical College
6. College of Medical Sciences

### **1.1.2 Significance of the study**

It will help to know about the current status of automation of libraries of Chitwan. It will reveal the picture of features and difficulties of library automation. Similarly the present study helps to be acquainted with the benefits and importance of library automation in the modern era. The students, teachers and the researchers will be benefited from the present study.

### **1.1.3 Definition of the terms/ glossaries.**

#### **Information**

Information has been defined as the structure (or order) of any text which is capable of conveying the image structure of a recipient or as any stimulus that reduces uncertainty.

#### **Database**

A database is simply a store of information appropriately cross-referenced and capable of being interrogated and manipulated. For example, online databases such as Medline, Pubmed and HSBN (Health Science Bibliography of Nepal).

#### **e-mail**

Electronic mail, commonly called e-mail or email, is a method of exchanging digital messages from an author to one or more recipients. Modern email operates across the Internet or other computer networks. Some early email systems required that the author

and the recipient both be online at the same time, in common with instant messaging.

#### Internet

The **Internet** is a global system of interconnecting computer networks that use the **Internet Protocol Suite (TCP/IP)** to serve billions of users worldwide. It is a **network of networks** that consists of millions of private, public, academic, business, and **government networks**, of local to global scope, that are linked by a broad array of **fixed, wireless and optical networking technologies**. The Internet carries a vast range of **information resources and services**, and multimedia content such as the inter-linked **documents of the World Wide Web (WWW)** and the infrastructure to support **electronic mail**.

#### Online Database

An **online database** is a database accessible from a network, including from the Internet.

#### Download

A **download** is a computer file or set of files which is designed to be transferred from a **server to an individual user**. Downloads can take a number of forms, ranging from single **files** distributed by artists as free samples to their loyal fans to entire trade journals **packaged for electronic distribution**. Many people utilize downloads on a regular basis, and there **is a thriving trade in providing hubs** where people can access a wide variety of **downloads**.

#### Search Engine

A **web search engine** is designed to search for information on the World Wide Web and **FTP servers**. The search results are generally presented in a list of results and are often called **hits**. The information may consist of **web pages, images, information and other types of files**. Some search engines also mine data available in **databases or open directories**. Unlike **web directories**, which are maintained by human editors, search engines **operate algorithmically** or are a mixture of algorithmic and human input.

#### Library Automation

**Library automation** is the application of ICTs in library housekeeping operations such as **acquisition, cataloging, circulation and serials control**. Integrated Library System (ILS) is an **automated library system** which shares a common database for all the functional

Library housekeeping operations i.e. acquisition, cataloging, circulation and

A series of horizontal strip of vertical bars used for identifying specific items or users. The bars, which represent numerical data, are read by a bar code reader and interpreted via software or hardware decoders. In libraries, barcodes are affixed to both books and periodicals to assist in circulation and collection control.

#### **Collection**

A complete list in printed or electronic format of the stock held in a particular collection, library, or group of libraries, recording, describing and indexing the resources available.

#### **Bibliographic Database**

A indexed computer or printed source of citations of journal articles and other reports in the literature. Bibliographic citations typically include author, title, source, abstract, and / or related information (including full text in some cases).

#### **1.1 Organization of the study**

Sequence of the topic and sub topics of the study have been organized in suitable manner so that the study will be easy to understand.

This study consists of six chapters.

The 1<sup>st</sup> chapter contains introduction, statement of the problem, objective and limitation of the study as well as significance and the organization of the study part, 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter is related to review of the literature related to this study, 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter denotes the focus of the study. 4<sup>th</sup> chapter contains methodology part, 5<sup>th</sup> chapter presents analysis and presentation of data in two parts, and last 6<sup>th</sup> chapter represents summary, findings and recommendation of this study. Each chapter contains reference.



Agarwal, R. (1986). *Automation in library*. Vij: Delhi, 1986.

Aranda, K.T. (2009). *Enhancing Full text Search Capability in Library Automation Package: A Case Study with Koha and Greenstone Digital Library Software*. Manohar: Delhi, 2009

M.R. (2011). *Koha ILS*. Healthnet Nepal : Kathmandu, 2011.

ITU (2000). *The internet from the top of the world: Nepal case study*. Geneva: ITU.

## Chapter-II

### REVIEW OF LITERATURE

There was a broad array of literature on organizations, technology, and workplace training as well as various related subareas. It provides the reader with a comprehensive point of reference regarding the history and the role of technology in business and its organizations. As one gains some idea of the roots of technology in the business world today, one acquires a strong sense of the variety of technology, and also of its importance and its fundamental necessity.

During review of literature, different kinds of written documents namely books, periodicals, theses, reports, brochures, articles were consulted related to research.

Library automation refers to use of computers in library work including services (Sharma, 1990). Library automation can be of two types: stand-alone system and integrated system. Stand-alone system is basically meant to do only one specific function of the library such as cataloguing (i.e. creating the database of bibliographic records) whereas integrated system can be used in the automation of different functions of library such as acquisition, cataloguing, circulation, etc.

Abdul Rashid (1996) in his article library automation: an overview traces the significant development in the area of library automation library, library management system, information retrieval systems, OPAC, CD ROM and networks. The study also throws light on the advantages of an integrated system.

We find many public/community libraries registered in Nepal; however, most of them exist only in name. Moreover, those which are functional are either poorly equipped and/or do not cater to the needs of a modern society. In fact, there is not a single modern public library in the country that caters the need of various sections of the society. Apart from different public and reference libraries which were established earlier, recently, schools, colleges, universities are also establishing their own academic libraries containing different text-books, reference books, and subscribed journals. New public libraries are being opened in the initiation of local people and assistance of NGOs. There are more than 600 public libraries in Nepal. There are many public/community libraries

registered in Nepal, however, most of them exist only in name and are functioning poorly. In fact, there is not a single modern public library in the country that caters the need of various sections of the society" (CDNLAO, 2008).

Though the latest technology has already penetrated the communication sector and library field, Nepal has not been able to take full advantages of it due to lack of sufficient trained manpower and technical know-how. The history of digitization in Nepal is not so old. German Research Council under Nepal German Manuscript Conservation Project initiated the microfilming step only in around 2030 B.S. This project opened a new arena of digitization in Nepal. Most of the manuscripts, rare books and documents in Department of Archaeology have been microfilmed (Bhandari, 2008).

Development of Koha, an open source ILS, began in 1999, funded by a group of libraries in rural New Zealand that found proprietary software expensive and lacking in needed features (Breeding, 2002; Proffitt, 2002). According to Blake (2000), Koha started out as a "rush job" to replace a system that wasn't Y2K compliant. The libraries licensed the ILS under the GNU GPL to make Koha freely available to other libraries and to avoid tying themselves to a particular software firm for maintenance.

Koha is written in the LAMP paradigm. Early adopters of Koha were programmers who were in some way connected with libraries. Shortly after Koha was released for public download, developers who had independently written library software contributed new features to Koha. In 2002 only two school districts in North America were using it. A lack of compliance with interoperability standards limited the usefulness of the early open source ILS.

A turnkey system for Koha with technical support became commercially available in 2006, which could relieve libraries of installation and maintenance tasks. Koha has increased its scalability and performance by optimization for indexing (Liblime, 2005). Over 250 libraries worldwide use Koha (Breeding, 2007b; Koha Developer Wiki, 2007). Frederick G. Kilgour (1970) provides the history of library computerization from its initiation in 1954 to 1970. He find the first half of the period was devoted to computerization of user oriented subject information retrieval and the second half to

library - oriented procedures. He further reports that online system were being designed and activated at the end.

They have evolved certain guidelines for software acquisition.. While mentioning the parameters which should be taken into consideration before the library software acquisition, they are of the opinion that library software chosen for library automation should be technically sound, user - friendly, compatible to installation and training support, cheaper at the time of initial installation and in its running cost. (Bhat and Govind (1989).

Expenyoung (1997) highlight the span of library automation in the University of Ibadan Library, Nigeria, and also reflects on the World Bank Funded Book Project that started in 1991 which aimed at enhancing research and teaching at the university.

Singh (2000) in his study entitled " automation in libraries : an overview", suggests some check points while go to select the software for their library, check points such as, software programmed, user friendliness, integration, industry standards, customer support and training, price and also suggest that choose software according to present and future needs of the library and information centers.

Patel and Bhargava (2004) in their article "Comparative study of software available in the Indian market for library automation "highlight the present Indian scenario of library automation .They also give a brief overview of some existing Indian software packages Archives, Libman, DLMS, LIBRA, Libsys, Librarian, Maitrayee, Sanjay, Trisha, Vlysis etc. They explain in brief their framework, text retrieval and library management features, their implication in library environment, modules and sub - module.

Gupta (2007) in article 'Automation of library and information system ' elaborates various fields and library activities that could be automated to ensure better performance with great speed and cost effectiveness. He also highlights the per - requisites of implementing automation activities in a library by linking them with a group of local/distance library/information systems .While discussing library activities such as acquisition, indexing, circulation, maintenance, serial control etc. He has made certain



Recommendations to select hardware and software, so that better results of automating libraries can be achieved.

Shanmugam (2007) in her article 'Library automation Challenges' discussing various problems coming before the librarians while going for library automation.

Akintola (1998) provided a progress report of automation at the Adeyemi College of Education Library in Nigeria. The historical development of both the college and the library is given. The various operations which the software can perform, including screens and sub – menus, are also listed. The problems which the automation system is likely to face are discussed and solutions proposed.

Okunribido – Okeoma (1999) examined the major problems associated with managing a library automation project in a developing country. He used the Moi University experience as a case study of the type of problems that a library project manager in a developing country is likely to face. He listed some of the managerial problems as poor infrastructure, shortage of local technical expertise, lack of information technology and shortage of qualified manager. He suggested that training local personnel and supporting the training institutions may partly solve some of the problems. He made further suggestion that management and information technology skills should be incorporated in whatever training programmes may be initiated in a bid to overcome the shortage of local technical expertise.

Mwita (2003) focused on the factors that went into planning for the automation of the University of Dar es Salaam Library. His paper concluded that coordinating and cooperation of the stakeholders is essential to the outcome of the process.

Akpan (2005) carried out a study to find out which library processes had been automated in Ghana's the Balme Library, the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology ( KNUST ) Library and the university of Cape Coast (UCC) Library. HE concluded that university libraries in Ghana have a long way to go to fully automate.

Barnard (1996) emphasized on the need of three stages of library automation viz. Planning, designing and operational. In his study he discusses these aspects in the three stages.

- **On the basis of operational evaluation** i.e. assessment of the manner in which the system function;
- **Organizational impact** i.e. identification and measurement of the benefits to the organization ; and
- **User-staff assessment** i.e. evaluation of attitudes of the users as well as the staff to get the new system.

Since lots of library software packages are available, it is very important and ~~there~~ there must be some criteria for the evaluation and selection of software packages.

Pand and Bhargava (2004) in their article "Comparative study of software available in the Indian market for library automation "highlight the present Indian scenario of library automation .They also give a brief overview of some existing Indian software packages Archives, Libman, DLMS, LIBRA, Libsys, Librarian, Maitrayee, Vysis etc. They explain in brief their framework, text retrieval and library management features, their implication in library environment, modules and sub -

Koha is the first open source ILS. It is used worldwide; its development steered by growing community of libraries collaborating to achieve their technology goals. Koha's impressive feature set continues to evolve and expand to meet the needs of its user base. Koha includes modules of acquisition, cataloguing, circulation, serials, management, branch relationship and more. Due to its various benefits, Maharajgunj (NCM), TUTH, Bir Hospital Librray, TUCL have opted Koha library management software and adopted Koha ILS.

**Library automation** refers to use of computers in library work including services. Library automation can be of two types: stand-alone system and integrated system etc. In Nepal Integrated Library system is hardly used. The use of software is limited to the cataloguing only. The lack of technical manpower and adequate finance the automation of the libraries remains uncompleted in many institutions of Nepal.

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## Chapter-III

### FOCUS OF THE STUDY

#### Library Automation

The application of Information Communication Technology (ICT) to almost all of life is no longer a new phenomenon. Shiloba (2005) stated that for libraries to cope with the information demands by the users they need to have the skills and tools in handling digital information. In Nepal, libraries started automation work with the introduction of CDS/ISIS software developed by Unesco in the year 1990s. According to Agha (1986) library automation has been a subject of concern since the mid 1970s because of the spreading knowledge of the new technology. However, there have been challenges and constraints facing library automation. The challenges and/or constraints include, among others: erratic power, inadequate professional librarians to execute the project, absence of maintenance agreement, poor ICT infrastructure, poor funding, and poor ICT skills among staff. Libraries in Nepal are at cross roads in their attempt to automate their operations. With the development of Open Source Software in the sector of Integrated Library System (ILS), librarians are also implementing ILS in their library. One of the issues related to ILS is the deployment of the software. Dependence on software has been of great disadvantage. This is true especially where the library staff is inadequate in the acquisition and installation, with the library ending up with an inappropriate automated system. Despite these challenges, library workers are optimistic about and willing to use new technologies.

In spite of the challenges automation brings, its benefits outweigh its disadvantages. It is a known fact that automation of library enables easy access to library materials and allows staff to better serve the patrons and facilitate a multitude of tasks such as acquisitions, cataloguing, circulation and reference. When library is computerized there are some intangible benefits that everyone can gain such as Internet searches, database searches, etc. Stated further that the advantages of library automation



include less drudgery, easy generation of records, space saving, web-based access to catalogue, and circulation function.

The advent of the Internet and the Web literally opened up a world of opportunity for the library marketplace and the library profession, which reacted by seeking to leverage the Web to enable libraries to better deliver services to their clients. The web has made possible Web-based OPACs (On-line Public Access Catalog), interoperability of catalog through z39.50 standard.

Even though this question seems to be very fundamental it is essential to emphasize this aspect as the library automation is yet to take off in majority of the Nepali libraries. Secondly, while justifying need for library automation more than cost-effectiveness the benefits derived by the library users become the major consideration. Since library does not happen to be an economic entity such benefits need to be looked at in a different perspective. To appreciate the advantages it becomes necessary to highlight the different levels of library automation. For convenience it can be visualized at four levels:

- Library cataloging system
- Housekeeping operations and networking
- Development of CD-ROM library / products
- E-mail system and internet

The library catalogue or index to the collection forms the base for most of the library activities such as acquisition, reference, bibliographic service, inter-library loan etc. The users of library card catalogue will appreciate how fast is the retrieval, search and printing in automated environment. If the same system is available in network environment, users can have simultaneous access to the same database. From the library staff point of view the cumbersome job of printing the cards and their subsequent filing gets eliminated. Also, it conserves space and saves stationary.

The second level automation will be to use a software which can handle all the housekeeping operations of the library such as acquisition, circulation and serial control thus creating a network within the library or becoming part of the existing network of the

Networking of computers within an organization helps the users to browse the cataloging system from any of the workstation/ terminal.

A very handy technology available for library is the CD-ROM products which can be considered at the third level. The development of CD-ROM collection not only conserves space but also provides multi-user access in network environment. There are many self-tutorial CD-ROMS available with multi-media effect. Libraries facing high incidence of mutilation of materials will benefit from such electronic products. Also people doing empirical research can download data and directly take it to other software platform for analysis and making graphical presentation.

Other technology which libraries can make use of is the e-mail system. This not only reduces the recurring expenditure but also be effective and fast. Sending reminders for non-receipt of journals by e-mail has proved to be very cost-effective. In addition to this, sharing of resources among libraries become easy. Few public domain e-mail software are available and there will be no additional expenditure incurred.

Another technology which has revolutionized the information world is the development of internet. Subscribers of internet, in addition to getting access to various public domain databases and services, will also get free e-mail and fax facility. Some publishers have started giving content pages of journals and libraries having subscription to such journals can also have full text of the articles. Many academic and research institutes have given free access to their working papers.

## 3.2 College Libraries in Chitwan

There is large number of libraries in Chitwan district. Most of the libraries are manually. The public college libraries are the large libraries of the Chitwan district. Because of the lack of the finance and the technical knowhow the libraries are not fully automated. Some of the libraries have just started automation using some software. The major four libraries under study are briefly described below.

### 3.2.1 Birendra Multiple Campus

Birendra Multiple Campus was established on the 1st Baishakh, 2022 BS as 'Birendra Intermediate Arts College', named after late King Birendra, with the initiation and efforts of academicians, social workers, guardians, donors and local institutions

feeling the need of an academic institution of higher education for the growing population of the district after Chitwan was open for settlement in 2011. The college had its hard times in its infancy as it did not have its own building and premises. With a great labor pain it took its birth in Chitwan High School Building at night with 14 students and later it was shifted to a rented house at Narayangarh. With many ups and downs on its course of growth, the college received 10 Bighas of land from HMG in 2028 and in 2032 the college shifted to its own building which was inaugurated by Late Ling Birendra on 6th Marg, 2034 B.S. The college then was capable enough to begin Bachelor level which was materialized in 2035. From 2040, The college started I.Sc. and became the first multiple campus in Chitwan district. The college was expanding physically and academically day by day. In this context the college took a great stride in its academic activity and began Masters Level in Economics in 2045, B.Sc. in 2050, M.A. (Nepali) in 2053 and since then different programmers of Bachelor and Master's Levels began to be added one after another without any interruption. The Journey of this campus that began in 2022 has become a model journey of an academic institution of its kind. In its long course up to now it has been able to enlighten many individuals of different corners of the nation and thus illuminate the whole society with the knowledge, skills and inspiration. We hope, in the days to come, this college will not lag behind to academically lead the society imparting quality education to meet the demands of 21st century.

The campus has a separate modern library facility well equipped with computerized system having specialized software Libra. There are 40510 books of different subjects among them. 10290 in Nepali, 4256 in economics, 2356 in Political science, 4604 in English, 2215 in History, 325 in culture, 3681 in Management, 117 in Education, 2048 in Mathematics, 1945 in Physics, 923 in Chemistry, 615 in Botany, 311 in Biology, 418 in Zoology, 317 in Statistics, 298 in Geography, 1919 in Sociology, 667 in Population, 26 in Philosophy, 209 in Research, 57 in Journalism, 93 in Tourism, 201 Dictionary, 505 in Religion, 25 in Computer Science, 96 in Microbiology, 23 in Environment Science, 26 in Applied Science, 37 in Medical Science, 1907 in Miscellaneous. The library has been running by semiskilled manpower. The students and

the faculties are main users of the library. This library has satisfactory infrastructures for the automation of the library.

### 3.2.2 Saptagandaki Multiple Campus

Saptagandaki Multiple Campus (SMC), established in 1988 (2045 BS), is a leading community campus affiliated with Tribhuvan University. It is situated at Sharadpur Municipality, Chitwan in central development region of Nepal. SMC came into existence through collective endeavor of distinguished academicians, social workers, political figures and general public from the community. Founded with the motto of disseminating quality education basically to the students coming from underprivileged and marginalized groups as well as middle class backgrounds at affordable cost, SMC has grown, both in size and in reputation into one of the leading higher educational institutions of Nepal within short period of its establishment. Nurtured by dedicated and experienced lecturers and efficient working staff, the campus instills the values like compassion, selflessness, dedication, love for fellowmen and above all the thirst for wisdom and knowledge into students and prepares them for the challenges of the modern competitive world. SMC runs classes in different streams and disciplines from Post SLC level to Master's Degree level in three different shifts from dawn to dusk. At the end, SMC feels proud to share the fact that it has been selected as a deserving community campus for the Second Higher Education Project of University Grants Commission on national level assessment.

Renowned social worker, late Ganja Singh Gurung, a resident of Sharadanagar, made an invaluable contribution to SMC by establishing a two-storied library building in loving memory of his late wife Mrs. Krishna Kumari Gurung. The library has a collection of course books, reference books, encyclopedias and sufficient number of other necessary books as well as major contemporary newspapers, magazines and journals. There are two operational sections in the library- Reference Section and Issue Section. Students can borrow two books at a time from the Issue Section on condition that they return the books within 7 days. The Reference Section can be used for consulting study materials that cannot be taken home. This library holds about 28000 books and other documents. The library has been using Libra software for automation.



### **3.2.3 Balkumari Multiple Campus**

Balkumari College, established on 18th September 1986 ( 2nd Aswin 2043), is affiliated to Tribhuvan University and the college has been awarded with Quality Assurance & Accreditation ( QAA) certification by Quality Assurance & Accreditation Committee of University Grants Commission Nepal on 22nd November 2009 ( 7th Mansir 2066). It has already been recognized as an ISO 9001 certified institution for quality management system ( QMS) in July 2008.

Balkumari College is one of the leading colleges imparting education at the University level in Nepal. The college is involved in various innovative programmes apart from teaching regular University curriculum. These programmes are carefully designed to provide students a clear edge in placement or further education. The college has performed well in all disciplines, curricular, extracurricular and co-curricular activities. The library was established in 2043. The holding of the library contains about 38000 books and journals. The library has been using Libifo software for automation.

### **3.2.4 Sahid Smriti Multiple Campus**

Shaheed Smriti Multiple Campus (SSMC) was established in 2037 B.S. in the eastern part of Chitwan district. With a history stretching back over 32 years, providing quality education within a modern educational environment and strong academic staff Shaheed Smriti Multiple campus is strongly identified with its academic excellence and homely environment. Since its inception and foundation, SSMC has assumed a pivotal role in educating marginalized and disadvantaged people of the community. It provides its students with modern educational felicities, retaining and traditional values so that they can compete in the global arena. Consequently, with the mission of developing itself a leading institution that will provide equal opportunity of quality education for all at affordable fee structure, SSMC is gradually developing itself as an outstanding centre of knowledge & academic excellence. Within an intensely competitive environment, the campus has adopted a dynamic, global, creative and communicative approach in education. Now, SSMC has been running classes in different faculties such as Management, Education and Humanities from under graduate to Masters Level. The

campus is fully devoted in producing competent and skilled professionals in the related fields.

SSMC is recognized by university Grant commission (UGC) for its precious academic history and excellent results. UGC has selected this campus for second Higher Education Project to develop the infrastructure and to enhance quality of performance. SSMC is the only community campus of this area which is developing as a unique centre of learning and research where every student can explore his/her career using full potentialities. The college has been awarded with Quality Assurance & Accreditation (QAA) certification by Quality Assurance & Accreditation Committee of University Grants Commission Nepal on 26th June 2013 (12th Ashar 2070). This campus library holds about 15000 books. Most of the books are purchased and some of the books have been gifted. The library has been using Libra software for automation.

### **3.2.5 Chitwan Medical College**

Initiated and managed by renowned medical professionals and practitioners of the country making this Institution peculiarly only one of such kind, Chitwan Medical College (CMC) is providing a world-class medical education to future academics, medical practitioners and health-care professionals at affordable prices. CMC, as an academic and medical centre managed by highly-qualified and reputed experts and professionals, is offering various academic courses. Library with enough text and reference books and journals which helps the students to broaden and upgrade their academic horizon. Library has got enough space which can accommodate 150 students at a time with the facilities of 24 hr free internet (wired and Wi-Fi), photocopy, binding, and book repairing. It generally opens from 8:00 AM to Mid-night. The holding of library contains 6000 books. It has been using MIDAS for library automation.

### **3.2.6 College of Medical Sciences**

The Central Library, a serene and tranquil atmosphere with air conditioned facilities. Fully equipped with reference books apart from the National and International Journals. Apart from this, the library and all the departments are connected to Internet and access the Journals published in the HINARI website which gives access to more than 17000 full text medical journals. The college library also extends services to the

local talents of medicine working in other institutions in the town to meet their requirements. The Library is kept open from 9:00 AM to 10:00 PM on all working days except on Saturday up to 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Beside, the Central library each department maintain departmental libraries for the use of faculty members and students. It has been using WINISIS for library automation.

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## **Chapter-IV**

### **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

#### **4.1 Introduction**

The section on data analysis repeats the research question. These statements directed the key focus of this study, which was to assess the extent of automation of the libraries of Chitwan. The following paragraphs specify methods and procedures used for collecting data and analyzing the required information.

The statistical methods of analysis are descriptive i.e. percentage, mean and tables were used to summarize the data.

#### **4.2 The research design**

Research design is a plan for the collection and analysis of data. It presents a series of guide posts to enable the researcher to progress in the right direction in order to achieve the goal. On the other hand research design is an organized approach. It is an integrated system that guides the researcher formulating, implementing and controlling the study. Useful research design can produce answer to the proposed research question. Design is the overall plan of any proposed activity. The design of research project guides how to conduct the study. A research design defines the procedures for collecting and analyzing data.

This study has tried to investigate the current status of automation of College libraries of Chitwan. Hence descriptive research design has been used. The survey instrument used for data collection is quantitative method through questionnaire and observation was also used to supplement the data the data collected through questionnaire. Primary data has been used for the analysis.

#### **4.3 The population and the sample size**

There is large number of college libraries in Chitwan district. Some of them are, Arunoday Multiple Campus, Birendra Nagar Multiple Campus, Birendra Multiple Campus, Saptagandaki Multiple Campus, Balkumari Multiple Campus, Sahid Smriti Multiple Campus, Chitwan Medical College, College of Medical Sciences, Agriculture & forestry university and so on. However the population frame for this study comprised

only the following 6 large campus libraries of Chitwan.

- Birendra Multiple Campus
- Saptagandaki Multiple Campus
- Balkumari Multiple Campus
- Sahid Smriti Multiple Campus
- Chitwan Medical College
- College of Medical Sciences

#### **4.4 Data collection procedure**

Data was collected through the questionnaire with librarians of the respective libraries. The researcher visited the respective college libraries and collected the data.

#### **4.5 Statistical procedure**

Descriptive statistics were used to analyze and present the results of the survey. Total and percentages of responses were calculated. These are displayed, as appropriate in table and graphic form.

#### **4.6 Data processing**

The analysis is based on responses received from the librarians. After questionnaire, the collected data and information have been organized in a systematic order for analysis like editing, coding, classification etc. The completed filled up questionnaires were checked to remove the possible errors and inconsistencies in the field. In this study, both descriptive and analytical methods have been used for the presentation of collected data and information.

The responses were categorized, tabulated, processed and analyzed using different methods. The data are tabulated and shown in pie diagram.

## Chapter-V

### ANALYSIS AND PRESENTATION

The main purpose of analyzing of the data is to change it from an unprocessed form to an understandable presentation. The analysis of data consists of organizing, tabulating and performing statistical analysis. The presentation of data is the basic organization and classification of data for analysis. After collection of data through questionnaire, analysis and presentation is done in the following section using different statistical tools.

#### 5.1.1 Respondents Profile

Table 5.1 Respondents Profile

S.N	Name of the library	Collection	Staff			Users
			Skilled	Semi skilled	Non skilled	
1	Birendra Multiple Campus	42000	1	1	7	2000
2	Saptagandaki Multiple Campus	28000	0	1	2	1500
3	Balkumari Multiple Campus	38000	0	2	3	1800
4	Sahid Smriti Multiple Campus	15000	0	2	5	2000
5	College of Medical Sciences	12000	0	2	4	1000
6	Chitwan Medical College	6000	0	2	6	800

Table 5.1.1 shows the status of the libraries in Chitwan. It is clear that the libraries do not have skilled manpower and the other physical infrastructure for the smooth running of the library.

Birendra Multiple Campus has got 42000 collections which as only one skilled manpower. It has infrastructures like 15 Computer and Internet in Library. The library has been using Libra software for automation.

Saptagandaki Multiple Campus has got 28000 collections which do not have skilled manpower, 1 semi skilled and 7 non skilled manpower. It has 15 computers in library and 2000 library users. The library has been using Libra software for automation. There are about 1500 library users.

Balkumari Multiple Campus has got 38000 collections which also does not have skilled manpower to operate library. It has 40 computers in library and 1800 library users. The library has been using Lib Info software for automation.

Shahid Smriti Multiple Campus has got 15000 collections. There is no any skilled manpower to operate library. It has 25 computers in library and 2000 library users. The library has been using Libra software for automation.

CMS has got 12000 collections which does not have skilled manpower for library operation. It does not have satisfactory infrastructure like Computer and Internet in Library. The library has been using WINISIS software for automation. It has 1000 users. Chitwan medical college library is also run by semi skilled and non skilled manpower. It has been using Midas software. There are about 800 library users. It also lacks the infrastructures.

### 5.1.2 Infrastructures available –

Table 5.1 Infrastructures available –

S.N	Name of the library	Internet	Hardware		
			Comp uter	Barcode reader	Printer
1	Birendra Multiple Campus	Broad Band	15	1	2
2	Saptagandaki Multiple Campus	ADSL	7	1	1
3	Balkumari Multiple Campus	Broad band	40	1	2
4	Sahid Smriti Multiple Campus	ADSL	25	0	1
5	College of Medical Sciences	Broad band/ wi fi	6	0	1
6	Chitwan Medical College	Broad band/ wi fi	4	0	1

Table 5.1.2 shows the infrastructures in libraries in Chitwan. It is clear that the libraries do not required hardware and the other physical infrastructure for the smooth running of the library.

Birendra Multiple Campus has got infrastructures like 15 Computer and broad band Internet in Library. The library has been barcode reader and printer too.

Saptagandaki Multiple Campus has got 7 computers in library and ADSL Internet connection as well as printer and barcode reader.

Balkumari Multiple Campus has got 40 computers in library and broadband

Internet connection and 2 printers in library.

Shahid Smriti Multiple Campus has got 25 computers in library and no bar code reader however it has got printer for reprography.

CMS does not have satisfactory infrastructure like Computer and Internet in Library. The library has been using WINISIS software for automation.

Chitwan medical college library is also run by semi skilled and non skilled manpower. It has been using Midas software. It also lacks the infrastructures.

## 5.2. Training course to operate software

The respondents were asked whether they took training for operating the software.

**Table 5.2 Training course to operate software**

Course	Frequency	Percent
Short term course	1	17
One day training	4	67
Reading operating manuals	1	16

Source: Field survey, 2013

**Fig. 5.2 Training course to operate software**

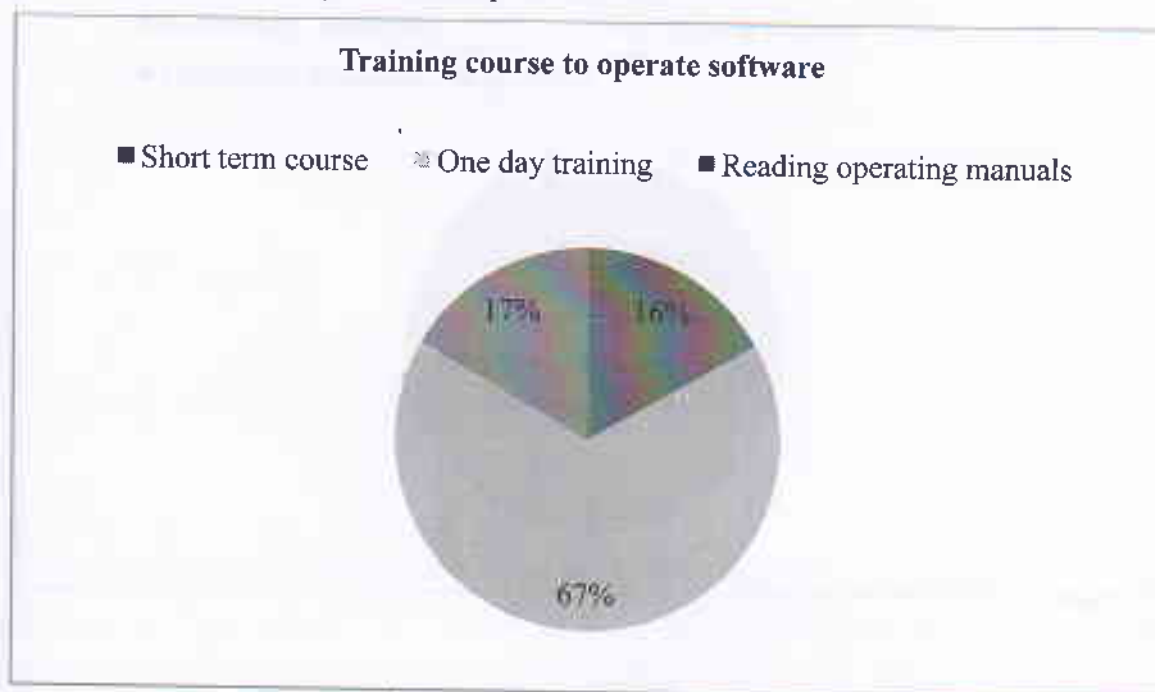




Table 5.2 shows that 67% of the library staff took one day training course, 17 % of library staff took short term course whereas same percentage of the library staff used operating manual for automation.

### 5.3 Plan before automation

The respondents were asked whether they planned before automation-

**Table 5.3 Plan before automation**

Plan	Frequency	Percent
Reviewing Literature	1	16
Searching Internet	1	17
Consulting Local service provider	4	67

Source: Field survey, 2013

**Fig. 5.3 Plan before automation**

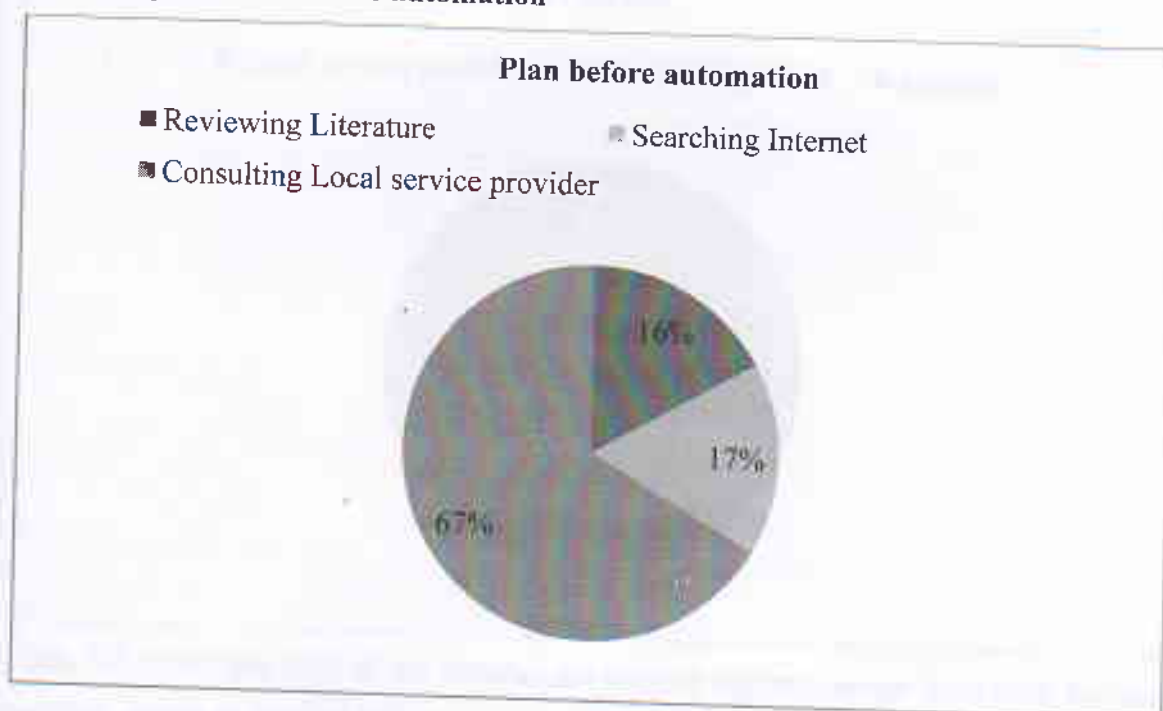


Table 5.3 shows that 67% of libraries planned automation by consulting local service provider where as 17% of the libraries did by reviewing the literatures and same % of the libraries performed it by searching the web pages.

#### 5.4 Support service

The respondents were taking support services from -

**Table 5.4 Support service**

Service	Frequency	Percent
Local service provider	3	50
Discussion groups	1	17
Manual	2	33

Source: Field survey, 2013

**Fig. 5.4 Support service**

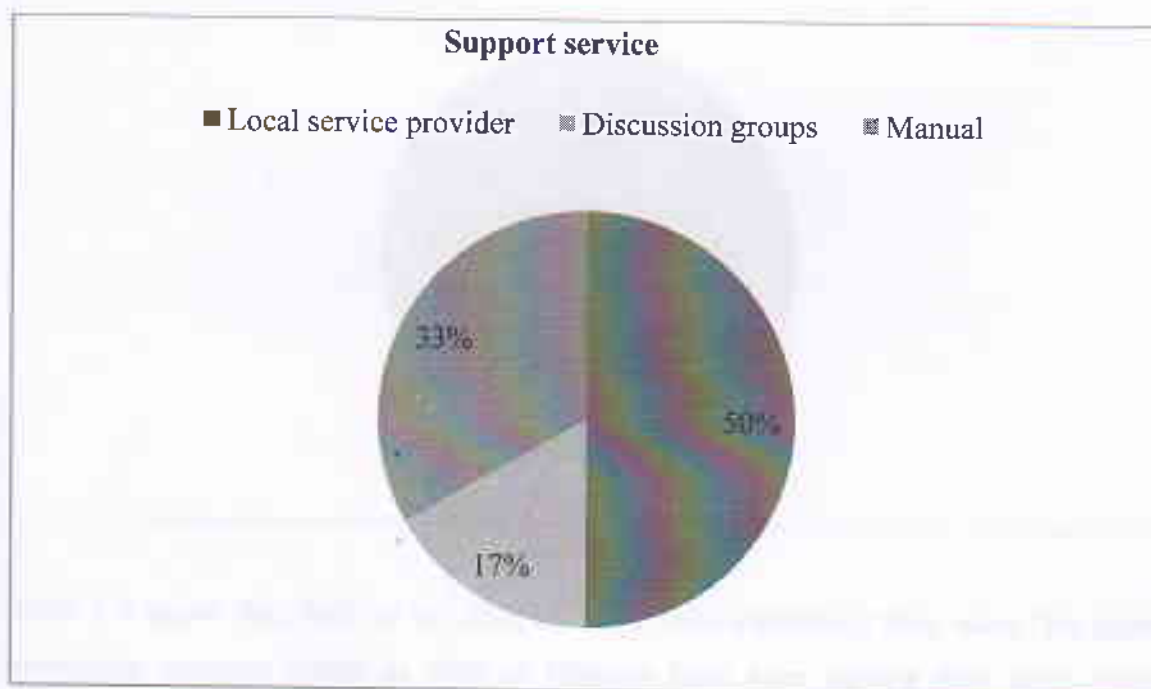


Table 5.4 shows that 50% of the libraries are seeking support service from local service provider where as 33% of the libraries are doing so by themselves with the help of the reading manuals and 17% are taking help of discussion group.



### 5.5 Users being supported

The users of the library are being supported by the following ways-

**Table 5.5 Users being supported**

Method	Frequency	Percent
Discussions group	2	33
Orientation	3	50
On site visit	1	17

Source: Field survey, 2011

**Fig. 5.5 Users being supported**

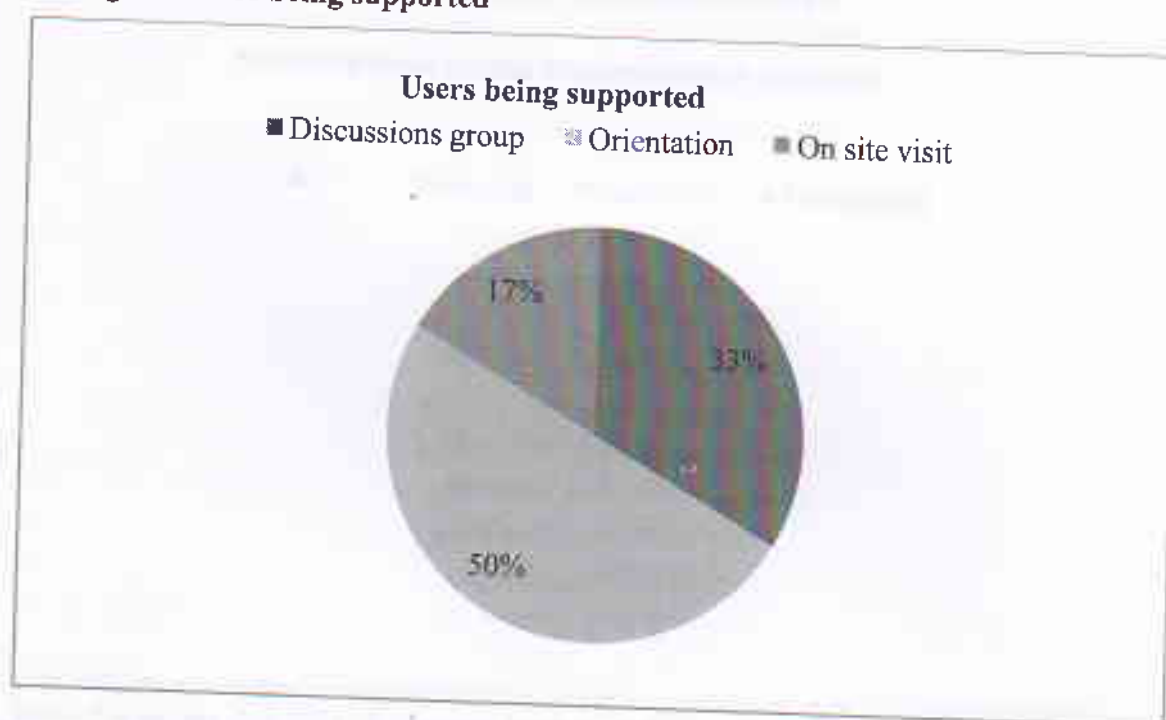


Table 5.5 shows that 50% of the libraries have been supporting their users by users orientation program where as 33% of libraries have been serving their users from discussion group and 17% of the libraries have been serving their users on site visit.

## 5.6 Problems faced during implementation software

Main problems faced during the implementation of the software are -

**Table 5.6 Problems faced during implementation software**

Problem	Frequency	Percent
Financial	3	50
Technical	2	33
Managerial	1	17

Source: Field survey, 2013

**Fig. 5.6 Problems faced during implementation software**

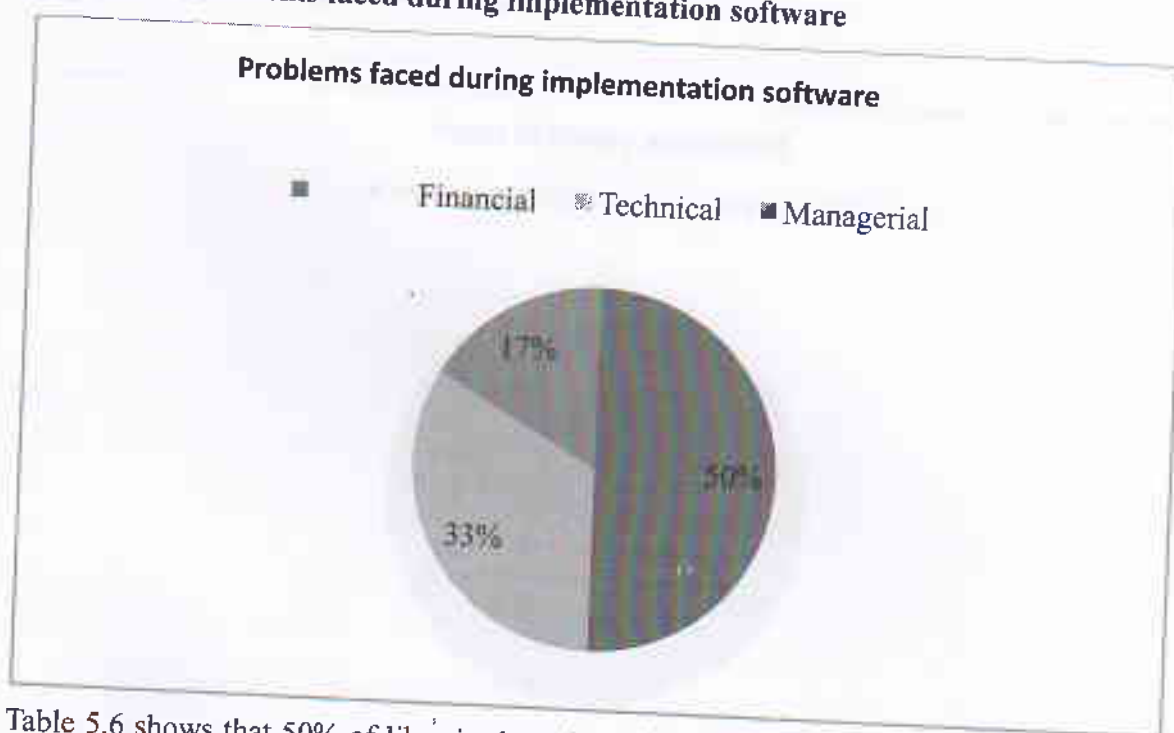


Table 5.6 shows that 50% of libraries have been facing financial problems likewise 33% of libraries have been facing technical problems and 17% of the libraries have been facing managerial problems.

## 5.7 Areas of library automation

The major areas of automation are --

**Table 5.7 Areas of library automation**

Areas	Frequency	Percent
Acquisition	0	0
Circulation	2	33
Cataloguing	4	67

Source: Field survey, 2013

**Fig. 5.7 Areas of library automation**

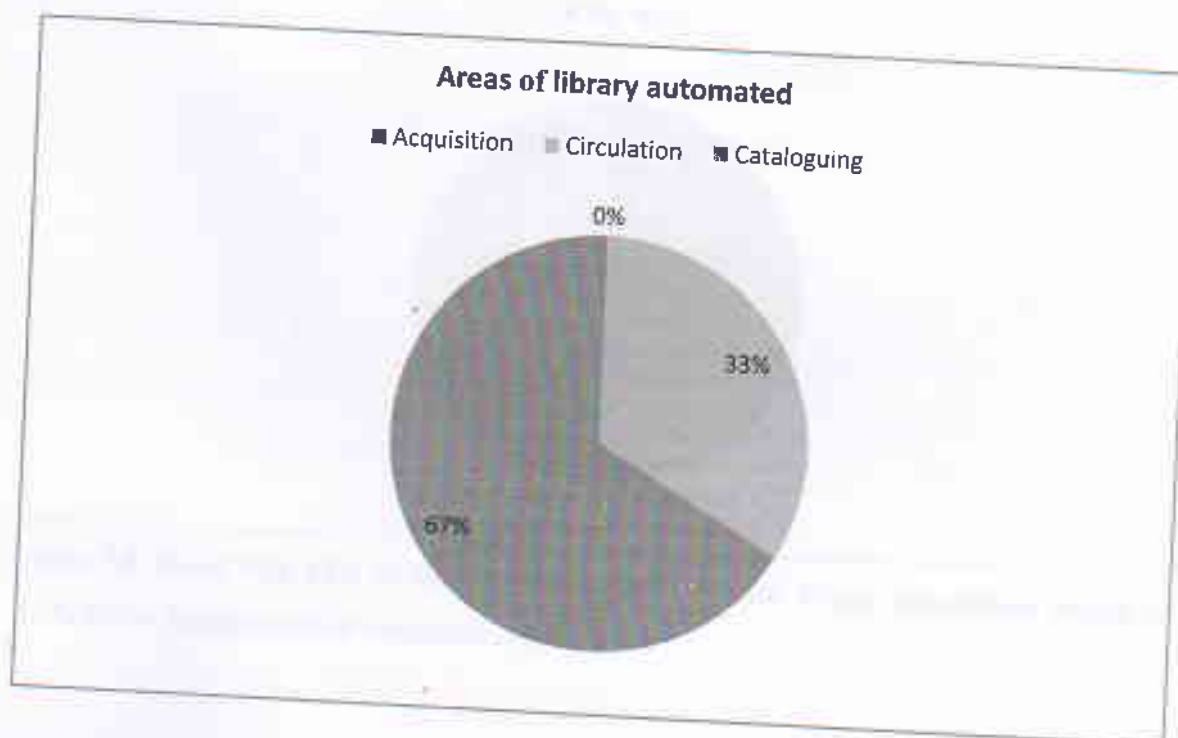


Table 5.7 shows that all the 67% of the libraries have fully automate the cataloguing area of the library however two of them have not used cataloguing facility well where as only 33% of libraries have used automation in circulation as well, but no libraries have used it for acquisitions.

## 5.8 Recommendation

The respondent's recommendation for automation is -

**Table 5.11 Recommendation**

Answer	Frequency	Percent
Yes	5	83
No	1	17

Source: Field survey, 2013

**Fig. 5.8 Recommendation**

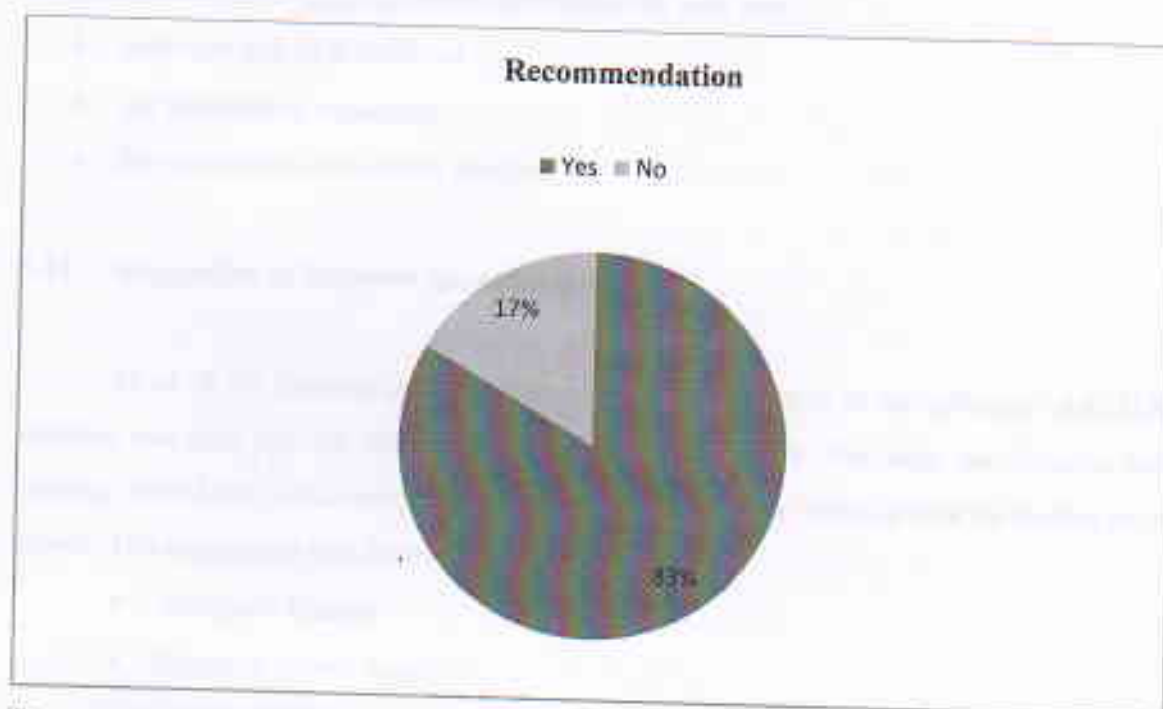


Table 5.8 shows that 83% of the libraries recommend for library automation where as 17% of the libraries do not recommend it.

### **5.9 Strong aspects**

The strong aspects of the software mentioned by user are-

- User friendly
- OPAC facility
- Time saving
- Space saving

### **5.10 Weak aspects**

The weak aspects of the software mentioned by user are-

- software lack ILS facilities
- the software is expansive
- the software is difficult to handle.

### **5.11 Suggestion to improve the automation**

Most of the libraries suggested improving the facilities of the software. Add ILS features and also provide the users service and many more. Similarly the libraries are running out of the infrastructure for automation. Moreover there is lack of skilled man power. The suggestion was focused on the followings -

- Adequate finance
- Constant power supply
- Infrastructure
- Experienced consultant
- Dedicated/trained members of staff

## Chapter-VI

### SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

#### 6.1 Summary

Library automation is the application of ICTs in library housekeeping operations such as acquisition, cataloging, circulation and serials control. Integrated Library System (ILS) is an automated library system which shares a common database for all the functional modules of library housekeeping operations i.e. acquisition, cataloging, circulation and serials control.

Only six libraries of Chitwan were taken purposively following non probability sampling method. The selected libraries are large libraries of Chitwan. The study was mainly based on primary data including few secondary data. Questionnaires were used to collect the data for primary collection of data. The data thus collected were presented on the frequency tables and pie-charts and then analyzed to make the study more precise. The findings of the study and answers to the research questions are summarized as follows-

The study showed that main reason of library automation is- to save the time, to reduce the space problem and to provide the remote service. Major areas of automation are cataloguing and circulation. The study showed that most of the libraries do not have satisfactory infrastructure for library automation, few libraries have somewhat satisfactory infrastructure like technical manpower, hardware, power supply and so on for the automation. The barriers for library automation are apprehension that the technology could be too expensive, the library staff has to undergo extensive training, Lack of support from the management, may be owing to budget constraints and so on.

#### 6.2 Conclusions

Based on data analysis and findings of the research study the following conclusions are drawn.

**1. Main reason of library automation.** It is found that main propose of the automation of the library is to save the time and reduce the space problems. More over



some of the librarians also reported the use of software to provide the OPAC service to the users however it has not been started yet.

**2. Areas of library automated.** The library software used to catalogue the documents. The main area of the automation of the library is cataloguing and circulation. Some of the libraries have planned to use the software for serial management as well. The existing software is able to provide cataloguing facility only.

**3. Infrastructures available.** Most of the libraries in Nepal have been suffering from the lack of adequate infrastructure. It is found that a few libraries have sufficient infrastructures for automation. However, a large number of libraries have been suffering from the lack of the infrastructures.

**4. Barriers.** Main barriers of the automation of the library are adequate budget, technical knowhow, and lack of support from the management committee of the parent organization.

**5. Satisfaction of the users.** Most of the librarians believed that their users are satisfied by their services. However it can be said that because of the lack of the infrastructures and technical man power the users demand is not fulfilled by the services of the library.

### **6.3 Recommendations**

Information technology is very much important for every field. It is not exception in academic field as well. Based on findings and conclusions following recommendations are given below:

**1. Adequate infrastructures.** The parent organizations must allocate the adequate budget to the libraries. Moreover, the librarians have to take the training to operate the software to make the full use of the features developed by those service providers.

**2. OPAC.** The libraries have to provide the online public access catalogue to the users so that the users can take the maximum advantage of the library automation. OPAC not only saves the time of the users but also helps the users to be acquainted with the holdings of the library.

**3. Areas of the automation.** As it has been found that most of the libraries have used the software to catalogue the documents, the areas of the automation is to be

expanded for maximum benefit of the users. The libraries have to make the use of the software in other aspects of the library automation like acquisition, circulation, serial management and digitization of the documents as well.

**4. Extensive training.** The librarians have to take the extensive training for the operation of the software. The basic skill of the software handling is not only sufficient for the full fledge service to the users. Besides the certain degree in library science the extra training of the library automation software is the need of the day for librarians.

**5. Planning before Automation.** The librarians have to do proper planning before automation. They have to identify the features of the software and the need of the users. Support from the parent organization. Most of the librarians do not get sufficient supports from the management of the parent organizations and the authority. The authorities must provide the adequate supports to the librarians so that the library automation can grow.

**6. Use of ILS like KOHA.** Library automation is the application of ICTs in library housekeeping operations such as acquisition, cataloging, circulation and serials control. Integrated Library System (ILS) is an automated library system which shares a common database for all the functional modules of library housekeeping operations i.e. acquisition, cataloging, circulation and serials control. Today, there is greater responsibility on the part of the library and information centers to provide the latest and timely information to their users to facilitate improving the quality of education. This cannot be achieved without having an efficient library and information system at its command. Koha like ILS can be the one of the best options for the libraries having small budget. Koha is currently maintained by a team of software providers and library technology staff from around the globe. It features all major modules expected in a library management system including provision for On-line Public Access Catalogue (OPAC), acquisitions, serials, cataloguing, circulation, budget management, membership management, fines management and other modules associated with a lending library.

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## Appendix A: QUESTIONNAIRE

This questionnaire is a part of my study for preparing a thesis for the fulfillment of the 2nd year course of Masters in Library and Information Science (MLISc). The topic of the thesis is "Library automation in Chitwan"

The purpose of the study is to explore the use library software for conduction of library function. For this reason, I would like to request you to give your valuable information to complete this research. The information received will be kept confidential and used only for research purpose.

### 1. Respondents Profile

Name of the Library

- a. Status of the Library
- b. Establishment of the library
- c. Total Number of staff
  - Skilled
  - Semi skilled
  - Non skilled
- d. Collection
- e. Infrastructure for automation
- f. Users

### 2. Which software is used?

- a. MIDAS
- b. LIBRA
- c. Libinfo
- d. If Any Others specify

### 3. What infrastructures are available in your library for automation?

- A. Internet Connection
- a. Broad band connection

b. Wi Fi

c. ADSL

B. Hardware & Software

a. Computers

b. Printer

c. Barcode reader / Scanner

4. Have you taken any training course to operate software?

a. Not taken

b. Short term course

c. Reading operating manuals

d. One day training

5. How did you plan before automation?

a. Literature review

b. Internet

6. How are you planning to seek support service?

a. Consulting Local service provider

b. Discussion groups

c. Manual

d. If other specify

7. How are customers being supported?

a. Discussions group

b. Telephone

c. On site visit Training

What problems did you face during Automation?



- a. Financial
- b. Technical
- c. Managerial

What areas of library are automated?

- a. Acquisition
- b. Circulation
- c. Cataloguing
- d. Serial Management

10. Do you recommend library automation?

- a. Yes
- b. No

What are the strong aspects of library automation?

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What are the weak aspects?

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If you have any suggestion about automation please mention.

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## Bio Data

## Bio – Data



**Objective:** To establish own self as a professional in respective field  
**Profile :** Working in different educational and social organizations

### Personal Details:

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**Trainings:**  
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PMB Library Management Software  
Digital Library automation

**Experience:**

1. Two years : Library Management in IAAS Lamjung Campus
2. 12 years : H.A. in Lamjung Campus and Rampur Agriculture Campus
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