STUDENTS SUPPORT SERVICE IN OPEN AND DISTANCE LEARNING: ROLE OF LIBRARY IN LEARNING MANAGEMENT

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INTRODUCTION

The government of India has targeted 30% Gross enrollment Ratio (GER) by 2020-21 and for that the expansion of open and distance education in higher education is very essential. The UGC regulations 2018 regarding open and distance education are stepping stone for the success. However it envisaged number of parameters for the quality of education as well as student’s engagement and utilization of information communication and technology. Library has a greater role in ODL system and it has been discussed in the articles.

LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (LMS)

Learning management system (LMS) is a software application for the administration, documentation, tracking, reporting and delivery of educational courses or training programs. The learning management system concept emerged directly from e-Learning, even though there were other tools, IT or not which have encouraged distance education. Example - Docebo, Adobe Captivate Prime, Litmos LMS, iSpring Learn, Moodle.

CONTENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (CMS)

WordPress is one of the best open source CMS platforms available on the market. Joomla is also another best open source CMS for hosting a blog or any other web publications. Drupal, Thunder, Ghost are popular web content management system in this line.

SELF-LEARNING E-MODULE

Means a modular unit of e-learning material which is inter-alia self-explanatory, self-contained, self-directed at the learner, and amenable to self-evaluation, and enables the learner to acquire the prescribed level of learning in a course of study and includes contents in the form of a combination of the following learning content, namely;

- e-Text Materials,
- Video Lectures,
- Audio-Visual interactive material,
- Virtual Classroom sessions,
- Audio Podcasts,
- Virtual Simulation, and
- Self-Assessment Quizzes or Tests.

SWAYAM (MOOC)

SWAYAM (Study Webs of Active–Learning for Young Aspiring Minds) is a program initiated by Government of India and designed to achieve the three cardinal principles of Education Policy viz., access, equity and quality. The objective of this effort is to take the best teaching learning resources to all, including the most disadvantaged. SWAYAM seeks to bridge the digital divide for students who have hitherto remained untouched by the digital revolution and have not been able to join the mainstream of the knowledge economy. This is done through an indigenous developed IT platform that facilitates hosting of all the courses taught in classrooms to be accessed by anyone, anywhere at any time. All the courses are interactive, prepared by the best teachers in the country and are available, free of cost to the residents in India.

SWAYAM platform is indigenously developed by Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) and All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) with the help of Microsoft and would be ultimately capable of hosting 2000 courses and 80000 hours of learning: covering school, undergraduate, post-graduate, engineering, law and other professional courses.

NPTEL

NPTEL provides E-learning through online Web and Video courses in Engineering, Science and humanities streams. The mission of NPTEL is to enhance the quality of engineering education in the country by providing free online courseware. NPTEL is an acronym for National Programme on Technology Enhanced Learning which is an initiative by seven Indian Institutes of Technology (IIT Bombay, Delhi, Guwahati, Kanpur, Kharagpur, Madras and Roorkee) and Indian Institute of Science (IISc) for creating course contents in engineering and science.

E-RESOURCES FOR SELF-LEARNING

The following are the various popular e-resources available freely open to the users community.

- Sakshat-‘One Stop Education Portal’ (MHRD)
  http://www.sakshat.ac.in/
- Swayam prabha
  Ch-08 (For Science students)
  https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBMvdXXJ7BcZcTKGPp9WxKg
- ePG pathshala
  http://epgp.inflibnet.ac.in/index.php
- eGyanKosh- a National Digital Repository
  http://egyankosh.ac.in/
- Open textbook library
  https://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks/
- National Digital Library
  https://ndl.iitkgp.ac.in/
OER commons
https://www.oercommons.org/

Eacharya
http://eacharya.inflibnet.ac.in/vidya-mitra/

Virtual Labs project, IIT Mumbai
http://www.vlab.co.in/ba_labs_all.php?id=9

PEDAGOGY TRENDS

- Blended Learning
- Flipped Class room
- Learning in Virtual World
- Mobile Assisted Seamless Learning (LASM)

CONCLUSION

Those latest technology in open and distance education can be explored by library and information centres and facilitates the learning to the distance learners as well as its own users. Library plays an important role in learning management of any educational institution similarly library can play a significant role in open and distance education system.

NOTES

3. https://www.ugc.ac.in/pdfnews/7052091_UGC_advertisement_for_DEB.pdf
5. http://vikaspedia.in/education/interactive-resources/digital-learning-resources-1
6. https://swayam.gov.in/