

## Use of Mobile Phones, Mobile Technology and Telecommunications in Library Services: a brief introduction

**Prakash K. M**

Chief Librarian

Vydehi Institute of Medical Sciences and Research Centre, Bengaluru.

Email: [prakashkm99@gmail.com](mailto:prakashkm99@gmail.com)

**Dr. G. S.Ramesh Naik**

Chief Librarian

Bengaluru Medical College, Bengaluru.

Email: [gsrameshnaik@gmail.com](mailto:gsrameshnaik@gmail.com)

The mobile phone is a necessary and popular device in everyday life. People have adopted mobile phones more easily than other devices. The main advantages of the mobile phones are that accessing information is easy. Libraries have adopted this technology for providing library services and it is a significant step. The following features of mobile phones are very beneficial from the library point of view:

- Constant connectivity – Web enabled device allows people to access internet around the clock.
- Location awareness – Many devices have Global Positioning System, which makes them aware of where they are on all the time.
- Unlimited access – The mobile websites have facilities for unlimited access which is important and it would enable users read without interruption.
- Interactive facilities – Mobile web user can read / write contents in the palm of their hands.
- People create content, share comments, form connections via social network.
- Access to Print - disabled users such as vision disabled or physically handicapped can use mobiles communications for accessing reading materials.

The paper also discusses the challenges faced by the libraries due to use of mobile phones.

**Keywords:** Mobile Technology, Telecommunication, Telegraph Technology, Library services, Information Sharing, Application Usage.

### Introduction

Communication is the exchange of ideas/ thoughts from one person to another. The traditional library services are now moving to modern library services using mobile phones, what type of infrastructure is required to provide wonderful services and what are the advantages and disadvantages of using this technology in libraries. For the telephone to television, from a computer with internet, every time new invention in communication system observes the changes.

Previously, people necessitate visiting the library to find information, but now they can easily access information on online. The service offered by the library should be re-modeled to cater to the ever changing needs of the user. Innovations in library services are required to meet the people's hunger for information. This mobile services is the extension of digital library in the communication network. Use of mobile services helps the user to transmit the information over a long distance, easy exchange of information between libraries and users, improved ICT services, sending alerts to the users about upcoming events etc.

As the advice anarchy continues to unfold, libraries will agreement with mobile accessories and casework to abutment the advice needs of their users wherever they may be. Adaptable Technology and Libraries is a practical, easy-to-fellow new ability that will hear you through the start-to-finish accomplish for deepending your library's adaptable presence.

**Access to E-Resources:** Students, scholars, Faculty and added agents can admission the Electronic Resources use of adaptable phones. Wi-Fi hotspot of 3G connection, it is acknowledging and acceptable admission to the internet, email and blogs. The congenital in accelerometer automatically adjusts to account or mural views, absolution you get the best angle out of their mobile.

### **Access to Web OPAC**

Many Academic & added Organizational Libraries provides a web- based admission to the archive of books, journals and added account abstract accessible in its collection. Members can as well analysis the cachet of anniversary biik and overdue, etc.

### **Telecommunication**

Telecommunication is the transmission of messages, over significant distances, for the purpose of communication. In earlier times, telecommunications involved the use of visual signals, such as amoke, semaphore telegraphs, signal flags, and optical heliographs, or audio messages via cided drumbeat lung-blown horns or sent by loud whistles, for example.

### **Early Telecommunications**

During the Middle Ages, chains of beacons were commonly used on hilltops as a means of relaying a signal. Beacon chains suffered the drawback that they could only pass of a single bit of information, so the meaning of the message such as “the enemy has been sighted” had to be agreed upon in advance. One notable instance of their use was during the Spanish Armada, when chain relayed a signal from Plymouth to London that signaled the arrival of the Spanish warships.

## Mobile Phones Vs Libraries

Mobile phones are trendier than peoples and it is easily adapted than other technologies. They access information freely from their own devices. In this dynamic world, libraries are adopting these technological changes to deliver the services to the patrons in an effective way. Our libraries must be equipped to take this challenge and put some efforts to make a mobile access to information anytime, anywhere one’s own handled device. Mobile service can meet some needs of the peoples. Libraries are covering library contents in a portable form suitable for a mobile screen and delivering information information with multiple searching features. Libraries will need to become expert in using these devices to enable in using these devices to enable patrons to access information anywhere from anyplace.

## Mobile Library Services

**Voice Services:** voice service is the most basic service supported by mobile phones. It is widely used now.

**Mobile Online Public Access Catalogue:** Libraries are providing access to their OPACs via mobile websites.

**Mobile Collections:** Libraries allow patrons to access their digital media collections that include audio book collections, e-books, videos, and music files.

**Mobile Library Instructions:** Library patrons didn’t have that much of time to attend a workshop or demo classes. Libraries can distribute their knowledge through MP3 or Vedio files that patrons can take with them. A video file can be created to describe the library locations, workshops, reference assistance etc.

**Mobile Databases:** Many database applications are providing search interface for mobile users.

**Mobile Audio Tours:** Libraries can able to make guided tours more convenient for the patrons with busy schedules. For making self-service audio tours available for handled devices.

**SMS Notifications:** Message alerts provide a variety of information, including notification for items available, due data reminders, locations, news about announcements and events.

**SMS References:** Reference service in libraries is increasing virtual. Some libraries provide “Ask-a-Librarian” service to the users, enabling their research questions remotely by text.

**New Arrivals Display:** Mobile gadgets can be used to disseminate the information about newly acquired documents.

**Book Purchase Suggestions:** The librarian can receive the suggestions from the users sent via mobile phones, in such cases user unable to visit the library and didn't write the requirement in a register.

## **Components of Information Technology**

Technological change is becoming a driving force in our society. Information technology is a generic term used for a group of technologies. Following are the major components of information technologies as most relevant in modern library and information system.

## **Application of Mobile service in Libraries**

**Mobile Websites:** Mobile websites are made especially for the screen. Web pages that do not have mobile versions appear. A website formatting can be applied to make it readily viewable on the mobile screen.

**Bulk SMS Software:** Within 10 seconds message can be reached with the bulk SMS. Some of the Bulk SMS providers. Such as Solutions Infini, mVaayoo, SMSChilly etc. are available in India.

**Wi-Fi for Mobile Phones:** Secured Wi-Fi network should be established on campus.

The control can be handed over to the skilled to the skilled library staff. Library users can get the media access control address to access the Wi-Fi in the campus.

## **E-resources with Mobile Interfaces**

Some publishers are already delivering e-books (both text and audio) that are accessible via mobile phones. It offers access to a variety of databases and digital resources such as e-Books, eJournals, Web databases, dissertations, audio books, streaming music, films, images and article databases which can be used on mobile. These collections can either be downloaded from the

library websites on user's own mobile devices or libraries lend mobile devices with the collections already on them. A large collection of audio books both free-and subscription based services are available for download and also transferable to mobile devices. Libraries can make use of multimedia messaging service (MMS) on mobile devices to share photos, videos, and audio. Most of the e-book publishers provide 24x7 access to the library subscriptions from any internet terminal within the campus, as well on mobile devices, such as iPads, Android devices, and Kindle.

## **Future Potential of Mobile Applications in Libraries**

More and more changes are expected within four to five years in the field of mobile technology and its application to libraries. The technology is now available to use phones to read barcodes or RFIDs (radio frequency identifications) in the library, and OPACs are developing GIS (geographical information system) sensitivity and the ability to communicate with users through their mobiles for reservations, fines, late notices, alerts, etc. Mobile Web 2.0 and 3.0 applications for social networking for the library community are available, thus enabling discussions, blogs, wikis and other features beneficial for all library developments. Some issues that the library may wish to examine in house are the library's role in Licensing information products for mobile devices. Hosting or pointing to institutional content intended for mobile devices, e.g. podcasts. Preserving new content types and formats. Providing instruction on the devices themselves, not just access to content. Providing space for new equipment and work styles. Library OPAC system is now mobilized by facility of text message to check the availability and the details of books. Publishers are sending extract from books out via SMS. Websites are now giving the option of sending content to IM addresses and via SMS.

## **Benefits for Using Mobile Web**

Mobile websites is internet in a small screen and thus provides many benefits as its desktop complement such as:

**Constant connectivity** – Web enabled device allows to access internet with around the clock.

**Location Awareness**– Many devices have Global Positioning System, which makes them aware of where they are on all the time.

**Unlimited access** – The mobile websites not only for that have been specially designed for mobile browsing.

**Interactive facilities** – Mobile web user can read / write contents in the palm of their hands. People create content, share comments, form connections via social network.

**Access to Print** - disabled Users Mobiles communications help providing services orally to vision-disabled and physically handicapped users.

## Conclusion

Mobile technology changes the way to access the information from the libraries. It is better technology to support people to get valuable information from library resources. The extension of the use of mobile phones in library services has been a boon recent years. Mobile accessories and casework accession issues of admission of admission to advice in the agenda age. Librarians charge to appreciate added about Adaptable technologies. Librarians have to accumulate clip with this trend and accommodate themselves into the adaptable branch if they ambition to bear added user services. Information and Communication Technology needs, expectations of users and emerging technologies are making LIS professionals to think about new means of approaching the stakeholders. Users want easy and speedy access to relevant information. Application of mobile phones to provide library and information services will open new pathway towards this trend.

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