

PROJECT SUMMARY

Title of Project	Proposed Project For Digital Library And Information Centre For SIAS
Location	Social Advancement Foundation of India (SAFI), East Vazhayoor P.O., Via Ramanattukara, Malappuram Dist., Kerala, South India .
Objective	The Project Aims At Developing Digital Library And Information Centre For SIAS.
Duration	Phase I - One and half years. Phase II - Six months.
Executing Agency	Social Advancement Foundation of India (SAFI) Razia Nagar, Vazhayoor East P.O Ramanattukara Via Malappuram-673 633 Kerala, S. India
Project Cost	Phase I - Rs. 70, 00,000.00 (Rupees Seventy lakhs only) Phase II - Rs. 30, 00,000.00 (Rupees Thirty lakhs only)

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20.02.08

A BRIEF OUTLINE OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT FOR DIGITAL LIBRARY AND INFORMATION CENTRE FOR SIAS

Introduction

In the modern world of knowledge society it is very much a stunning reality. More than the transmission of the accumulated traditional knowledge, the generation of new knowledge and new technologies and processes have acquired paramount importance. No society or nation can be deemed to be strong or vibrant, if it is not in the forefront of knowledge generation in the modern world characterized by the explosive growth of knowledge. **SAFI**, thus envisages the creation of a community more enlightened and resilient than ever before, a community that will share the riches of the earth equally with others in every sphere of activity, helping the emergence of competent leaders in every field.

In any academic setting, the Library and Information Centre (LIC) plays a pivotal role in supplementing and complementing the teaching and learning process by assuring seamless access to a variety of information, towards meeting the ever increasing information needs of the academic community. Pertinent and nascent information is crucial to present-day learning and for the furtherance of education.

The LIC of Safi Institute of Advanced Study (SIAS) aims at providing state-of-the-art information resources and value added information services on all areas of disciplines as envisaged and envisioned by the institution and related disciplines including information technology. A holistic approach has to be conceptualized to cater to the ever growing and uncompromising information and intellectual requirements of the students, faculty and researchers.

Modern libraries have the advantage of being strategically positioned towards modern setting right from the starting point so that the fruits of technological advantages, both in the field of information technology and management as well as information sciences, could be leveraged to the fullest extent.

The Learning Resource Centre

The Library and Information Centre (LIC) is envisaged BY SIAS as a collaborator in improving access to information and knowledge supporting the institutional learning, research and operational activities of its faculty, students and the research community. It has to be a dynamic center of knowledge and culture, serving as a conduit for recorded information in all its forms In pursuit of its endeavour, the LIC will serve as an outstanding knowledge repository.

Objectives

The basic objective of the LIC is to satisfy all information needs and educational requirements of the academic community at SIAS. This goal can further be elaborated as two phases follows:

PHASE I

1. A suitable building for the library has to be constructed.
2. Library should have an audio-visual theatre attached to it.

PHASE II

1. Selecting, acquiring, organizing and preserving reference documents of general nature, on subjects taught in the institution and on allied subjects.
2. Provision of modern library and information services.
3. Provision of state-of-the-art network infrastructure and system connectivity for providing Internet Service to access global information.
4. Adequate library/information system to support learning. Students, faculty and staff can access on-line catalogue and local web based products from LIC, office, home or remote site.
5. Provision of information through coordinated resource sharing between and among institutions of higher education.

Library and Information Services

The LIC is able to offer three functional levels of services:

At the minimum level, the LIC disseminates information and documents acquired, answers reference questions, directs users needing details on research information to appropriate sources and handles routing of journals or circulation of contents of journals received to keep the users informed of current developments in the field.

At the intermediary level, LIC offers complex literature searches in specific subject fields, compiles extensive retrospective bibliographies, selects and transfers relevant research materials in anticipation of demands, produces Current Awareness Bulletins or Selective Dissemination of information (SDI) based on user's profile.

At higher level, LIC offers highly specialized consideration and repackaging services that involve analysis, synthesis and evaluation of information and presentation of these in a form required by the users. The final output may be a critical bibliography, evaluation and exhaustive state of the art reports. But, special staff with the subject backgrounds is required to attend the work at higher level.

The first level of service has to be provided by the LIC of the institute. The second and third level of services can be taken up in later stage when research activities are in a full swing.

Activities and Services undertaken

- Provision of Documents
- Reference Service
- Information Service
- CD based Information Services
- Retrospective Bibliographic Search Services
- Current Awareness Services
- Selective Dissemination of Information
- Reprographic Services
- Orientation to Users
- Storage of Information Sources

Library Automation

The LIC has to be automated using client/server platform right from the beginning so that the information retrieval process and house keeping activities such as acquisition of information sources, journal subscription, cataloguing and circulation of documents etc. will be as per international standards and specifications. Bar code based library transactions have to be provided.

Publishing Unit

It will be appropriate to host a desktop publishing (DTP) unit in the LIC so that the Institute can publish quality documentation for its activities, reports, and proposals, and press releases. DTP helps the LIC in outreaching the community with its campus-wide presence in terms of regular flyers, brochures, newsletters etc.

Information Infrastructure

Core Resources (Print/Digital)

- Books/E-Books
- Journals
- Aggregated information
- Online Journals
- Statistics
- Reference Sources
- Online References
- Audio/Video Resources

- Digital Library
- Data bases (A/I/F)
- CD Net server (Local Repository)
- Standards/Patents/Cases/Reports
- Online Catalogues

Information Technology Infrastructure

The LIC has to be provided with sufficient IT infrastructure, that is sufficient numbers of servers, computers, printers, scanners and a broad band Internet connectivity.

The hardware required is:

Sl No	Item Description	Remarks
1	Servers	Web server, Email Server, OPAC Server
2	System with multimedia/DVD/Video Conferencing Facilities	-
3	CD-Net Server	-
4	Clients/Computer nodes	-
5	Printers	DM, Laser, Inkjet
6	Scanner	High -end
7	Barcode Scanners	-
8	CD Writers	-
9	UPS	20 K V (approx.)
10	Computer Accessories	As per Requirements

Local Area Network (LAN)

The LIC will need broadband network facility on campus to provide quality digital information services, which will comprise not only digital full-text, but also audio and video, all in digital formats. The computerised information services of the LIC and the digital catalogue have to be accessible to the entire campus. It is there for recommended to have a structured Campus LAN with high-end switches and cat-5/7UTP/Fibre-optics (OFC) cables wherever necessary.

Internet Connectivity

Internet is an integral part of the LIC in offering cutting edge information services and operations. The LIC will need a broad band Internet connection, with at least 512Kbps-2 Mbps leased-line facilities.

Communication Infrastructure required for LI C is given below:

SI No	Item Description	Quantity	Remarks
1	Internet connectivity	---	Leased Line preferred
2	Modems	2	If necessary

Access Control and E-Security

Smart card based access control systems and library transactions are the state-of-art in the field. E-Security, based on Electronic Smart Gate Technology, Capable of checking pilferage from the library could also be considered.

Software

The essential software required by the LIC are:

SI No	Item Description	Quantity
1	Library Management Software	1
2	Digital Library Software	1
3	CD-Net Management Software	1
4	DTP Software	1
5	Database/Relational Management System	1
6	Firewall Software	1
7	Anti Virus Software	1
8	Anti-Spam Software	1
9	Anti-Pornography Software	1

Library Furniture

The Library furniture plays a very important role in giving the LIC a long lasting Impact among the User Community. Ergonomic aspects are to be seriously considered while following aesthetic finishing and durable models. Above all, the furniture sourced should be effective and efficient for the users as well as the library staff. The following furniture have to be procured:

- Circulation Counters
- Library Stacks
- Journal Display Racks
- Reading Tables and Chairs
- Carrels with computer workstation facility

- Newspaper Reading stands
- New Additions Display Shelves

Manpower Requirements

Men, Machine and Materials are of equal importance in any organization for the smooth functioning and progress of the system. Therefore proper attention has to be paid to the staffing of LIC both qualitatively and quantitatively because the proper functioning and attainment of goals would very largely depend on the staff. Sufficient numbers of subordinate supporting staff such as sweepers, cleaners, security etc. required for the LIC also have to be provided.

LIC Finance Estimation

Budget allocation for the LIC involves a considerable amount of planning, analysing and coordination in order to fulfill mandates and goals of the library. The capital expenditure for the LIC includes the sourcing of Furniture, Hardware, communication requirements, Software and the Information base, which includes the print as well as the digital versions of documents

Capital Expenditure of the Digital Library and Information Centre

PHASE I

Sl. No	Item Description	Approx. Cost (Rs in Lakhs)	Remarks
1	Library and Information Centre	50	This covers the approximate cost involved in the construction of the building.
2	Audio visual theatre	20	Includes LCD Projectors, Computers, Filing cabinets, Furnitures, Accessories etc
Total		Rs.70 Lakhs.(Rupees Seventy Lakhs Only)	

PHASE II

Sl. No	Item Description	Approx. Cost (Rs in Lakhs)	Remarks
1	Library Furniture	10	Includes the Circulation Desk, Stacks for books/journals/bound volumes, Workstation furniture, Reference shelves, Office Furniture, Computer tables etc.
2	Hardware	3	Includes servers, Multimedia Computers,

			Workstations, CD-Net Server, Printers, , Scanners, Accessories etc
3	Software	3	Includes software for Library Management, Digital Library, Firewall, Anti-Virus, CD-Net Management, Anti-Spam etc.
4	Communication	1	Includes the Internet connectivity-2 Mbps
5	Reprography	3	Includes Xerox Machines, Digital Copying Machines etc
6	Information Sources/Documents	10	Includes Print and Digital Information Sources
Total		Rs. 30 Lakhs. (Rupees Thirty Lakhs Only)	

Project Implementation

The project is to be implemented in two phases. The first phase will be completed with in 18 months and the second phase will be completed in 6 months time. LIC will be dedicated in the name of the donors or their nominee.

Conclusion

In the Information age academic libraries have to gear up to meet the challenges of the ever increasing volume of information, spiraling costs of information sources, decreasing ability for comprehensive acquisition of documents, growing demands of users, and the complex and multifaceted user requirements. To overcome these and related problems, the application of information and communication technology in every operations and services of the LIC as well as the Co-operative and sharing information resources through networking of libraries with similar objectives assume importance.
